

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.



1. Name of Property

Historic name: Walden, Micajah House

Other names/site number: _____

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & number: 3909 E. 276th Street

City or town: Atlanta State: IN County: Hamilton

Not For Publication: Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

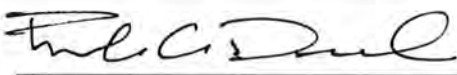
I hereby certify that this x nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property x meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___ national ___ statewide x local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

XA ___B xC ___D

	<u>ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF PRES. SERVICES</u>	<u>4.25.19</u>
Signature of certifying official/Title:		Date
<u>Indiana DNR-Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology</u>		
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government		

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.	
Signature of commenting official:	Date
Title :	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

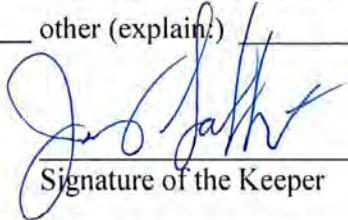
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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain): _____


Signature of the Keeper

5.31.2019

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

MID-19TH CENTURY: Greek Revival

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: CONCRETE
walls: METAL: Aluminum
CONCRETE
roof: ASPHALT
other: _____

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Micajah Walden House was constructed c. 1850 in what became known as the Roberts Settlement of northern Hamilton County. The house sits on a rectangular farmstead on the south side of East 276th Street. The house sits toward the back (south) of the lot with a long gravel drive that extends along the east side of the property. While the property also features two non-contributing modern outbuildings, the Greek Revival/double-pen house is the main feature of the site.

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Narrative Description

The Micajah Walden House is located on a rectangular homestead lot with two non-contributing modern outbuildings. The house was constructed c. 1850 in what became known as the Roberts Settlement of northern Hamilton County. The homestead features a long gravel drive that extends along the east side of the property to the east side of the house (photo 0006). Several large Silver Maple trees are along the east and north perimeter of the lawn surrounding the house. Modern livestock fencing is located on the west side of the property. A barnyard with barn, chicken house, and silo were once located in the northwest part of the property. The house is the only extant historic resource on the property.

Micajah Walden House, c. 1850. Contributing. Double-Pen/Greek Revival
Exterior, photos 0001-0005

The one-and-a-half story house has a panel-faced concrete block foundation (c. 1920) and walls with aluminum siding. Windows are 6/6 wood with simple flat entablature hoods. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The front part of the house (approximately 30' wide by 25' deep, photo 0001) was constructed first and has a wood entablature composed of tall frieze boards and side gables with cornice returns. The entablature features wood moldings near its base to form an architrave and a simple cyma board at the top of the frieze board. The eaves feature wood soffits and fascia with ogee molding at the top of the fascia. A one-story gabled rear wing (approximately 12' wide by 26' long, photos 0004-0005) was added to the east half of the back (south) wall early in the history of the home. It also has 6/6 wood windows but they feature simple trim boards and not formal hoods. The wing has narrow overhanging eaves with wood soffits and fascia on its west slope and aluminum soffits, fascia and gutters on its east slope.

The front façade (north wall, photo 0002) features six bays and is symmetrically arranged with four windows and two entryways. The two outside and inside bays feature windows with the entryways in the two remaining bays. The east entry features a two-panel wood door with a window in its top half. Sidelights with a panel in their lower half flank the door and a wide, short transom extends over the door and sidelights. The west entry is identical except the door is divided into four panels and does not have a window (see photo 0003 for detail). The middle two windows are flanked by wide pilasters on the outside edge and narrow pilasters on the inside edge. Wood panels composed of horizontal planks are below the two windows in the center bays. A horizontal belt of wood between the center bays forms a continuation of the window sills and creates two panels, composed of horizontal planks, between the windows. The wide pilasters may have been part of entry surrounds for the doorways, but the outside pilasters of the surrounds were covered by posts when a front porch was added c. 1875. The wall east and west of the porch, where the outside bays are located, is covered with aluminum siding.

A porch was added to the front façade c. 1875 (see photo 0002, and 0003 for detail). It is centered with the middle four bays and features a concrete block foundation and concrete floor with a simple concrete step in front of each door. The porch's front elevation is divided into four

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bays by square chamfered wood columns with trim that creates simple capitals. Segmental wood arches with a jigsawn scalloped bottom edge rest on the posts. The arches have small scroll-like keys. Large wood scroll brackets are at the top of each post and support the porch eaves. Two raised quatrefoils are applied to the spandrel over each arch. The side walls of the porch feature engaged columns against the house and no arches. The porch has a pent roof attached to the entablature at the top of the first floor wall. The roof has wood soffits and fascia, which is cut into a triangular shape on the side walls of the porch. The roof is covered with asphalt. A wide dormer was added to the front slope of the façade c. 1920 and is centered over the middle two bays of the first floor. It is covered with clapboards and corner boards and features four 2/1 wood windows on its front wall. The dormer has a shed roof and wood fascia (photo 0001).

The east wall has two metal foundation vents (left side of photo 0001). The first floor has two windows; one is centered in the wall and the other is centered in the north half (both located in the living room). While the fenestration is not symmetrical, the original location of the staircase in the southeast corner of the house would indicate that there likely was never a window centered in the south half of the east wall. A window is centered in the east gable. The west wall has a metal foundation vent in its north half (left side of photo 0004). The only fenestration in the west wall is a window centered in the gable. It is unknown if any windows were located in the first floor of the west wall; historic cabinetry lines the west wall of the bedroom and there is no indication of a window in the storage room's west wall (this had been a bathroom when indoor plumbing was introduced to the house c. 1940, but has since been converted to a storage room). The back (south) wall features two windows that are covered with plywood (left side of photo 0004). The east half of the wall is covered by the rear wing. A brick chimney, partially parged with cement, is centered on the back slope of the roof near the ridge. It is approximately four feet tall and has a metal spark guard on top.

The rear wing has two windows in its east wall (photo 0005). A three-panel wood door (c. 1920) with window in its top half is in the north end of the east wall. A small wood stoop (c. 2000) with wood railings and steps is off the door. A matching door is located in the south end of the east wall; while visible from inside, it has been covered by aluminum siding on the exterior of the house. The rear wing's west wall has three windows and a door in its north end generally matching the placement of fenestration of the east wall (middle of photo 0004). The southernmost window has been covered with wood and is blocked from view on the inside by a fiberglass shower. The door (c. 1900) is wood with two panels and a window in its top half that is divided into three panes of glass. A tall concrete block chimney (c. 1920) is centered in the west wall. The exposed portion of the rear wing's south gable is covered with aluminum siding.

A gabled smoke/well house was attached to the south end of the rear wing c. 1920 (left side of photo 0005). It is approximately 12' wide by 14' deep and its walls are of concrete block partially parged with cement (mostly confined to the south wall). The east and west walls are void of fenestration. The south wall features a small wood rectangular window with wood sill and lintel; the window is covered with wood but its sash is visible from inside. The south gable is covered with wide clapboards and a small square of plywood. The asphalt-shingled roof has a slightly shallower pitch than the rear wing. The eaves on the west slope have exposed rafter tails while they are enclosed with aluminum soffit and fascia on the east slope.

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Interior, photos 0007-0018

The original part of the home's first floor is divided into two equally-sized rooms across the front (north) end and a long narrow (nine feet deep) room across the back end. A small storage room is in the southwest corner of the original house and a staircase is in the east end of the long narrow room. The first floor has oak floors covered with carpets in the front two rooms. The walls and ceilings are plaster. Doorways and windows have simple poplar casings. A narrow piece of trim at the top of the vertical boards gives the appearance of pilasters supporting lintels (a detail of this is seen on the left side of photo 0009). The east room is the living room and features a modern wood-burning stove in its southwest interior corner. A wide entryway is east of the wood-burning stove in the south wall. A three-panel wood door with transom is north of the wood-burning stove in the west wall of the east room (left side of photo 0008). The north wall features the front entry with its sidelights and transom and has flanking windows (photo 0008). The entire assembly of the north wall's fenestration is composed of wood pilasters dividing the openings and an entablature that extends across the entire top. The west room is the bedroom and features a stained wood-covered east wall and ceiling (c. 1920, photo 0007). A wide band of wood is around the perimeter of the room at the top of the walls (c. 1920). Two three-panel wood doors with transoms are in the east and west ends of the south wall. The west door leads to a small storage room while the east door leads to a narrow room along the south side of the original house. The west wall of the west room features unpainted, built-in cabinetry in three bays that are divided by painted wood pilasters and topped by an entablature (left side of photo 0007). The middle bay features lower cabinets with a pair of two-panel doors. Two short drawers in a darker stain with wood knobs are between the lower and upper cabinets. The upper cabinets have a pair of glass-fronted doors and three wood shelves. The flanking bays have upper and lower cabinets each with pairs of two-panel doors. The cabinetry is built with mortise and tenon pegged construction and features Eastlake style hardware. The north wall features an entry from the front porch with its sidelights and transom and has flanking windows (right side of photo 0007). Similar to the living room, the entire assembly of the north wall's fenestration is composed of painted wood pilasters dividing the openings and an entablature that extends across the entire top.

The long narrow room in the south side of the first floor contains a shallow built-in cabinet near the center of its south wall, just west of the entry to the rear wing (photo 0009). The cabinet has a pair of glass-fronted doors and a wood shelf. The furnace for the house is against the north wall of the room, just west of the wide opening that leads to the living room. The east wall of the narrow room features a set of four wood steps that start the staircase to the second floor in the south corner of the room (photo 0010). A short two-panel wood door are at the top of the steps and encloses the staircase. While it is unknown how much of the woodwork in the house has a faux-grain painted finish, this staircase door does on its inside face (photo 0011). A short door of planks is in the north end of the east wall and leads to a small closet under the stairs. The staircase is wood with winders that turn back to the north from the door. The walls and a part of the ceiling of the stairway are covered with barn siding (c. 2000). The small storage room in the southwest corner of the first floor is about seven feet wide by nine feet deep and is accessed through the bedroom. It has a window in its south wall that has been covered with wood.

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The second floor was originally divided into two nearly equal rooms, though a third (front) room with the dormer was added c. 1920 (photo 0016). The north and south walls of the second floor are sloped with knee walls that enclose the outside edge except for the dormer room where the ceiling is only slightly sloped at the outside (north) edge (photos 0015, 0017-0018). The staircase is located in the southeast corner of the east room. A small two-panel wood door is located in the south knee wall of the east room (right side of photo 0017). An early wall-mounted hanging board with spindles is between the small door and staircase. The northwest corner of the east room is cut out to create the front room. A five-panel wood door to the front room is in the south wall of the cut out (right side of photo 0016). East of the cut out area is another small door of planks in the north wall. A door to the east room is centered in the west wall and a brick chimney is south of the door, which is composed of planks (left side of photo 0015). The floors throughout the second floor are of poplar and the walls and ceilings are plaster. The second floor has short poplar baseboards and simple casings. The door and window casings of the front room are dark-stained pine (photo 0016). A ceiling-mounted light (c. 1920) with frosted glass shade is in the east room.

The rear wing is one long open room with a doorway from the southeast corner of the original house near the staircase (photos 0012-0013). A small partition wall was created in the south end of the wing to create a partial bathroom enclosure (right side of photo 0013). The wing has a pine floor and its walls are covered with paneling. An acoustic tile ceiling is suspended just below a plaster ceiling. Windows and door casings are simple wood trim boards; floors have tall, simple baseboards. Exterior doors are located in the northwest, northeast, and southeast corners of the wing (described in the exterior description). A wide door to the smoke/well house is in the east end of the south wall of the room (photo 0014). The door is composed of wood planks and may be original to the house but from another location. The room features c. 1950 kitchen cabinets (left side of photo 0013) on its east wall and modern bathroom fixtures in the southwest corner of the room.

The smoke/well house addition is one room with two concrete steps that lead from a doorway in the southeast corner of the rear wing (photo 0014). The addition has a concrete floor and its north wall and ceiling are covered with pine planks. The remaining walls are covered with insulation and wallboard. Metal hooks and a small vented opening is in the center of the ceiling.

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Livestock Shed, 2000. Non-contributing.

Seen on the right side of photo 0006.

The 12' by 24' metal-sided building has a shed roof, also covered in metal. The front wall (facing east) has two pairs of wood doors with wood cross-bracing. It is located west of the house. Because the building was constructed after the period of significance, it is non-contributing.

Pole Building Garage, 2008. Non-contributing.

Seen in the background, left side of photo 0006.

The 32' by 62' metal-sided building has a concrete floor, side gables and a metal roof. The front wall (facing north) has two large metal garage doors in its east half and a large metal garage door in its west end. Two metal doors are centered between the garage doors. It is located directly behind (south) of the house. Because the building was constructed after the period of significance, it is non-contributing.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

ETHNIC HERITAGE: BLACK

Period of Significance

C. 1850-C. 1920

c. 1850-1874

Significant Dates

Significant Person (last name, first name)

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder (last name, first name)

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Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance for architecture begins c. 1850, the estimated year the Walden House was constructed. The period ends c. 1920, about the time the concrete block well house/smoke house was constructed at the south end of the rear ell. This was also about the time the dormer was constructed on the front of the house. While these features post-date the time of Walden's residence at the house, they demonstrate the evolving use of the house into the early 1900s.

The period of significance for ethnic heritage begins c. 1850, the believed date of construction, and ends in 1874, the date the house was no longer owned by a Roberts Settlement African-American family.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

Not applicable

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Micajah Walden House is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places under criterion A due to its association with an early, free African-American settlement. The house was constructed about 1850 by Micajah Walden for his family and was part of the Roberts Settlement of free, mixed African-American and Native American families. The property is also eligible under criterion C due to the example of a double-pen house constructed in the Greek Revival style. The house has classic features of the style and well-preserved interior features of an early vernacular rural home.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

ARCHITECTURE

Greek Revival Style

The Walden House is an example of the Greek Revival style in most of its principle architectural features, though its simple application may be considered a transitional nod from the Federal style to the Greek Revival. Greek Revival was the dominant style of American domestic architecture between about 1830-1850 during which its popularity led it to be called the "National Style". The style was particularly common in areas of rapid development during the 1830s-1850s. There was increasing interest in classical buildings in the United States at the

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close of the 18th century based on Roman and earlier Greek examples found through archaeological investigations. As a young democracy, Americans sought to find precedents to establish their democratic ideals in the form of its architecture. Rome, and particularly Greece, provided these precedents because of their early experiments in democracy.¹ Two factors enhanced the Greek influence in the United States: the Grecian war for independence during the 1820s and 1830s and the American War of 1812. The Grecian war found sympathetic citizens in the United States and the American war with the British in 1812 lessened the interest in British architecture.² The Greek Revival style seemed only appropriate for a nation undergoing a new experiment in governing and democracy, that had philosophical roots based on Grecian models of governing.

Features of the Greek Revival style are treatments near roof lines of porches or main house mimicking the Doric entablature, with trim boards creating the architrave, frieze, and cornice. These are usually visually supported by corner pilasters or physically supported by simplified Doric columns on porches, creating a temple-like image. The cornice detail may or may not return across the face of the gabled ends. Where the cornice returns across its entire face it creates a triangular pediment; often a broken cornice return is located on the gabled end suggesting the pediment but not fully articulating it. The most common window detail in Greek Revival is a simple flat hood with a piece of trim at its top implying a narrow cornice. Small pediments and hoods with “ears” are also common. These features are usually present for door surrounds as well. Doors frequently had side lites and/or transom windows and were typically centered on the front façade. Door and window openings were also typically symmetrically arranged. Windows were commonly some configuration of double-hung windows with multiple panes in their sashes.

The Walden House is a simple example of the Greek Revival style applied to a house built in the double-pen plan (essentially two primary side-by-side rooms). The house has an intact entablature form at its eave line that continues on the face of its side gables with cornice returns (seen in photo 0001). The front façade also has window openings that are symmetrically arranged with 6/6 double-hung windows (photo 0002). The windows have simple flat hoods with a piece of trim at its top implying a narrow cornice. The dual front entries are divided into three parts with wood door, side-lites and transom (detail seen in photo 0003). The entries lack a formal surround, possibly due to the construction of a porch in the 1870s, however, pilasters are implied and work in unison with trim boards and a paneled appearance around the two windows centered between the entries. This provides an overall formal appearance to the fenestration on the front façade. The most notable Greek Revival detail in the interior of the house are the wood moldings with pilasters and ears or label lintels creating surrounds for doors and windows in the original/front part of the house on the first floor (see photos 0007-0009).

The house is also an example of the double-pen plan more often associated with Upland South building traditions. The double-pen house is deeply rooted in early middle-to-southern Atlantic Coastal development from Colonial times through the 1800s. It is thought the house type

¹ McAlester, pg. 182, 184

² McAlester, pg. 182

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evolved from single-pen construction of cabins and small frame homes with a single room and typically side-gabled walls. As families grew, or wealth was obtained, the single-pen was added to with an equal-sized room to one end or the other to create two full rooms. These single or double-pen houses frequently featured front porches and pent-roof extensions across the back of the homes for added space. And most typically, the double-pen house featured two entries on the front façade, one into each of the main rooms. The house type may also include a second half-floor for sleeping rooms. All of these common features of the double-pen house are attributes of the Micajah Walden House, but it does not appear that the Walden House was constructed first as a single-pen with a second room added later. Walden had owned the property since the late 1830s and probably had constructed a log cabin in which they lived until they could construct the current home. An important architectural feature found in these types of houses is the enclosed staircase with winders in the southeast corner of the original home (photos 0010-0011). It demonstrates a vernacular design approach for providing access to second floor sleeping rooms. Rather than a grand central stair or open staircase with balustrade, Walden employed a technique found in more primitive house types like single-pen log cabins. Rear ells are less common on this type of house, but it and the front porch were likely added in the later part of the 19th century after Walden sold the house to Albert Langolf, a German immigrant, in 1874. See photos 0002, 0004 for porch and rear ell.

Micajah Walden's place of nativity, North Carolina, prior to his relocation to Roberts Settlement likely influenced the c. 1850 family home. Walden would have been familiar with the double-pen house, as were many other settlers of Hamilton County who had moved from Virginia and the Carolinas in the first half of the 19th century. It is not known if Walden built the house, but Quaker carpenters would have known the form as well. Many of these Jackson Township settlers were Quakers who were opposed to the institution of slavery in the South and had been making in-roads to the Indiana wilderness. This was even before statehood and ultimately influenced the outcome of whether the state would be a slave state or free. Quaker settlements occurred through Wayne, Henry, Hamilton, Hendricks and Howard Counties during the 1810s-1840s. This included the town of Westfield in southern Hamilton County, and other outlying rural areas. This settlement pattern is important to note because of the concentration of double-pen houses in the county is likely tied directly to these pioneer settlers from North Carolina. These counties also were easily accessed from the National Road, a known route of Quaker migration. There are approximately two dozen examples of double-pen houses in Hamilton County, all dating from between about 1830 and 1860. This is a relatively high number compared with other Indiana counties that did not experience the same demographic migration. Similarly, Hendricks County had many Quaker settlers. Hendricks County had 36 double-pen houses when surveyed in 1989.

Westfield, the town settled by Quakers in the 1830s, has three examples of double-pen houses. Clay Township, also in the south part of the county, has four examples of double-pen houses. Other townships have one-to-three examples each that are typically part of a rural homestead. Jackson Township, where the Walden House is located, has just one other example which is also located in Roberts Settlement. The Ansel Roberts house, now significantly altered, was built on 276th East about 1860. Accounts from the Roberts Settlement indicate that most of the early homes were log cabins (probably single or double-pen), and that they were replaced by the 1880s

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by frame houses. By that time, other house types and styles would have come into popularity. It is possible that Walden reaped the benefits of agricultural success earlier than others and followed the house pattern still engrained in his background.

Many of the county's examples of double-pen houses are vernacular and do not have features of 19th century architectural styles. This is what elevates the importance of the Walden House. Micajah Walden included features of the Greek Revival style to provide some formality and sophistication to the home. He would have seen this exhibited in many of the mid-19th century buildings being constructed in the area while he was building his home c. 1850. About ten homes built in Jackson Township, up to about 1855, used features of the Greek Revival style in their design. Again, most of these were farmhouses in rural parts of the township with features applied to other popular house types like I-houses, central-passage houses, and hall-and-parlor homes. Most of these types feature side-gables on which cornice returns, like those built on the Walden House, are attached.

The features of the house that were most likely constructed by Albert Langolf or his daughter after Micajah Walden sold the home in 1874 include a rear ell, front porch, and shed dormer on the front façade (photo 0001). The ell and porch may have been added at the same time, but appear to date early in their construction. Oral history from the Langolf family indicates that Albert Langolf built the house, which is not the case, but may have been reinterpreted over the years as Langolf's construction of the large ell and front Victorian porch. The ell has very simple, primitive features of 6/6 windows and standard trim. The porch has more elaborate jigsaw features, probably shipped by railroad, that include scroll brackets and jigsaw skirts to the porch arcade. The style is broadly interpreted as Italianate. The beautifully-executed built-in wood casework on the west wall of the first floor bedroom may have also been added by Langolf since it would seem to fit that period of construction (1870s, photo 0007) over the more primitive features of a 1850s farmhouse. Features that were added by Albert Langolf's daughter, Lizzie Stroud, after she inherited the home in the first decade of the 20th century include the bungalow-like shed dormer on the front façade (photo 0001) and the concrete block room at the back of the ell (photo 0005). While these features likely post-date Micajah Walden's ownership of the home, they have come to provide significance in their own right to the overall architectural evolution and character of the house.

ETHNIC HERITAGE

The Walden House is one of few tangible reminders of Hamilton County's most important pre-Civil War African American settlement. The house was constructed by Micajah Walden, an African-American, in a rural enclave of African-Americans that became known as Roberts Settlement. The settlement was one of few settlements in Indiana created by "free people of color", the term used for African-Americans who were not slaves. Micajah Walden was one of three men sent to survey land in northern Hamilton County for the purpose of relocating several of their families to a new region in Indiana. Originating from Northampton County, North Carolina, the extended families of these free people of color had already migrated to Rush County, Indiana where they had established Beech Settlement near Carthage in the late 1820s-

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early 1830s. Pressed for more agricultural land and increasing numbers of free people of color migrating to Beech, the scouting party made up of Walden, Hansel and Elijah Roberts, related through a later marriage, traveled to Jackson Township, Hamilton County in 1835 and purchased large tracts of land by 1838. Several other men from Beech Settlement joined them, cleared land and built cabins in anticipation of relocating their families to the new community. Significantly, these families came to Indiana before the state adopted Article XIII of the new 1851 constitution, which forbade free blacks from settling in Indiana. While this hampered extensive growth of places like Roberts Settlement, they managed to grow and prosper anyway.

Many of the pioneers of Roberts Settlement were related and traced their lineage to James Roberts, a valet hired by an Englishman named Lord Roberts while in Africa during the mid-1700s. The Englishman returned to his North Carolina plantation with Roberts, who had assumed his employer's name. On a return trip to England, the plantation owner died and the estate was inherited by Roberts. Roberts married a Cherokee woman and their descendants continued to work the original plantation into the early 1800s. Life had become increasingly difficult in the South for free African-Americans. The Nat Turner slave rebellion in Virginia in 1831 enraged southern whites and even free African-Americans were increasingly persecuted and in danger of being captured and sold into slavery. These pressures created a migration of African-Americans into the northwest frontier and the newer states of Ohio and Indiana. Often they sought out areas in or around communities of Quakers and Wesley Methodists, both religious denominations who adamantly opposed slavery. These white communities would be tolerant of their African-American neighbors, sympathetic to their cause, and provided some level of security from marauding posses of bounty hunters for slave owners in the South. This was true of the settlements in Rush County and Hamilton County, where both of these religious denominations had established communities. In Hamilton County, the town of Westfield had been settled by Quakers in the early 1830s and the town of Boxley had been settled by Wesley Methodists about the same time. The relationship of Quakers and free African Americans constitutes an important historic trend in Hamilton County.

Micajah Walden was born to Drewry and Elizabeth (Harris) Walden in about 1808. Drewry was born to free African-Americans in Surry County, Virginia in 1762, and married Elizabeth Harris, a free African-American from Northampton County, North Carolina, while serving in the North Carolina Militia during the American Revolution. Drewry and Elizabeth Walden had a large family and split their estate in North Carolina among their heirs. Micajah, who had married Mary Corby about 1826, and his brother, Bryant Walden, were two heads of households in the newly-formed Roberts Settlement in Indiana. Prior to settling in Hamilton County, Micajah had purchased 40 acres in Rush County (Beech Settlement) through the land office in Indianapolis in 1834. Micajah Walden then purchased 120 acres in Hamilton County by 1840 and Bryant Walden also owned 40 acres by the same time. The southeast corner of Micajah's property and the northwest corner of Bryant's property touched in section 17, Jackson Township. Elijah and Hansel Roberts owned property to the east (adjoining Micajah's property line) and to the west (removed by a quarter section) in 1840. Hansel Roberts owned the largest tract of land with 240 acres. There were five African-American households in the Roberts Settlement in 1840; these included families by the name of Winburn and Rhoads. They were referred to in the 1915 Hamilton County History as peaceable, hard-working, and law-abiding men. The number of

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households increased to sixteen in 1850 with a population of 111. By 1854, the land owned by African-Americans had increased to 1,124 acres. Cultivation of the acreage by landowners and hired, landless farmers increased wealth in the community and the primitive log dwellings first built in the late 1830s gave way to frame houses.

Micajah and Mary Walden were listed in the 1850 census with six children: Sampson (23), Mariah (21), Paterson (20), Elizabeth (17), Nancy (15), and Mary (12). Sampson's birthplace was listed as Indiana (about 1827), indicating the family had probably already settled at Beech Settlement in Rush County. Micajah Walden was listed as a farmer while his sons, Sampson and Paterson, were listed as laborer and pump maker, respectively. The family members were listed as "mulatto" under race, as were many others in the settlement with only a few listed as "black". The 1860 census lists Micajah, single, under the last name "Waldren". Mary, his first wife, had passed away by this time. Their daughter, Jane (16), was the only child living in the home. His son Peter (probably Paterson, 28) and his wife, Sarah J. (20), had a daughter, Emily C. (2) living near Micajah. Micajah Walden was listed as a farmer with real estate valued at \$2300 and his personal estate was valued at \$250. Peter's occupation was listed as carpenter.

Important community developments occurred in Roberts Settlement during the 1850s-1860s. The community was centered on religious life and most adhered to the African Methodist Episcopal denomination. A log church had been constructed early in the settlement's history (1838), but as prosperity for the community increased, the log structure was replaced by a frame building in 1858. It came to be known as Roberts Chapel, located on land owned by Hansel Roberts. Baptisms for congregants were held in Cicero Creek behind the church. Education for the settlement's children was satisfied with the construction of a subscription school just south and east of the church during the 1850s. It served the African-American population, taught by African-American teachers, until 1914 when it was closed. The chapel remains today, however, the school was razed. The community also established two cemeteries, one at Roberts Chapel and the other, Hurley Cemetery, is much smaller and was near the schoolhouse. Growth of the settlement continued into the 1860s and was said to have prospered during the Civil War due to the need for farm products raised in the settlement. By 1860, there were 31 houses and 180 residents in the settlement. Several of the settlement's men enlisted in the 28th U.S. Colored Infantry during the war.

Roberts Settlement reached its zenith during the second half of the 19th century, particularly with the rise of agricultural innovations. By the 1880s, the population had exploded to over 400 residents and covered a few thousand acres. The 1880 Hamilton County History said the residents proved themselves sturdy pioneers and skillful farmers that kept pace with their white neighbors. However, the success and population of the community became its gradual undoing. During the 1890s, farms were becoming so marginalized in size due to inheritance and fracturing that farming alone no longer proved as prosperous as it had. In 1907, of the original 960 acres owned by African-Americans in 1837-1838, 700 acres were still owned by their descendants and added to that were another 627 acres. The population declined from 762 in 1880 to 500 in 1890 and remained at 504 in 1900. Though the settlement's population declined, there were still a number of African-American families living in the community in 1915. As the population relocated to urban areas in search of employment, those younger people left at the settlement

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found it increasingly difficult to find marriage partners, which further escalated an exodus. Due to the success of the community in the late 19th century, many of its second or third generation left to attend institutions of higher learning. By 1950, descendants of Roberts Settlement pioneers boasted 11 clergy, 26 educators, 3 people engaged in the practice of law, 8 doctors, and 6 people engaged in politics. By 1976, only a few African-American families remained in or around the settlement.

On December 20, 1869, Micajah and Nancy (his second wife) Walden sold 24 acres to Flavius Roberts and nine days later, sold 21 acres to James Thompson. These parcels of land were located in section 8 of Jackson Township, on the north side of 276th, which had been known as Driver's Pike—the main route through the settlement. These smaller parcels were part of the original 120 acre parcel purchased by Walden. On January 2, 1874, the Waldens sold 60 acres that included the farmstead and house for \$2200 to Albert Langolf, a German immigrant. In each of these transactions, Micajah Walden had signed his name, but Nancy used an “x” for her mark, showing that Micajah could write, likely similar to the other free African-American men who had owned land in North Carolina. The Waldens retained ownership of about 20 acres of land south of the 60 acre parcel, but it did not appear to contain a residence.

The 1870 census shows Micajah had remarried to Nancy Roberts in about 1862 (age 43 in 1870, also born in North Carolina). His adult daughter, Jane, was living with them. Nancy was the daughter of Anthony and Elizabeth Roberts, of the old North Carolina Roberts family. Also in the household are three younger children: Albert (7), Clarissa (6), and Charles (5). The real estate value was \$1600 and the personal estate was valued at \$400. The value likely fell due to selling about 40 acres of land in 1869. Peter Walden's family continued to grow with the addition of children: Martha, Summer, Ulisses, and Schuyler. While Micajah's family members were listed as white, Peter's family members were listed as mulattos. The 1880 census shows Micajah and Nancy and children: Albert (17), Clarissa (15), Charles (14), and Livia (9). The daughter, Jane (40) continued to live with them. Though they had moved from their original home, their residence was still located in Jackson Township in 1880. They lived, at least briefly, in Adams Township east of Boxleytown during the mid-1870s. The son, Peter Walden (death date unknown) is buried in Hurley Cemetery, while his wife, Sarah J. died at the age of 43 in 1883 and is buried in Roberts Cemetery. Also buried at Roberts Cemetery is Peter and Sarah's daughter Oliva (age 16, died in 1887). The only other Walden buried in Hurley Cemetery is Nolley(?) who died in 1870 and was 80 years old. The stone carries a masonic symbol, so it is believed this is the grave of a male. The relationship to the Waldens is unknown. It is undetermined where Micajah or his wives are buried. Descendants with the Walden name continued to live in the settlement into the early 1900s, probably through Micajah's son, Peter. Walden siblings Edna, Beecher, and Zimri attended the schoolhouse, then known as District No. 5 School. Beecher and Zimri served in World War I.

Other pre-Civil War African-American settlements in Indiana include a small familial settlement by the name of Basset, who was an African-American Baptist minister in southern Howard County. One of the Basset descendants married into the Roberts Settlement by the late 1800s. In Randolph County, where a large migration of Quakers occurred, three settlements of African-Americans developed beginning in about 1822, moving up from Wayne County. Vigo County,

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on Indiana's western side, also included a settlement prior to 1840 near Terre Haute. Gibson County included a settlement of African-Americans at Lyle's Station. Rush and Tipton Counties included small settlements, including the Beech Settlement near Carthage. And Grant County included a settlement of about 240 acres known as the Weaver Settlement.

While no African-American families remain in Roberts Settlement today, descendants of the community continue to hold reunions at Roberts Chapel and visit the graves of their ancestors at the two community cemeteries. Other than Roberts Chapel, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, only the Micajah Walden House exhibits sufficient historic integrity of its features and context as the home of one of the settlement's first surveyors and pioneers. It also pre-dates the chapel and therefore is the oldest extant resource from this pioneer settlement, except for the graves of those pioneers who died in the first decade of its founding. Though historic siding has been covered and additions were made by subsequent owners of non-African-American descent, the unique story of Walden and his association with the Roberts Settlement elevates the significance of the house beyond its architecture as the oldest and one of the last vestiges of a once-thriving agricultural enclave of free people of color in Indiana.

Developmental History/Additional historic context information

Albert Langolf purchased the Walden House and farm consisting 60 acres from Micajah Walden at the beginning of 1874. Langolf emigrated from Germany in 1851 at the age of 23. He married Magdalena (Lena) Yunker, also born in Germany, in 1853 in Cincinnati. They had ten children, four of whom still lived with the parents in 1900: William, Henry, Lizzie, and Otto. Albert farmed the property into the early 1900s. Their sons, William and Otto, worked in a tin mill in 1900. Henry worked on the farm. There were still a number of African-American descendants of the Roberts Settlement still living in the community at this time who were close neighbors to the Langolfs. These included members of the Gilliam, Sweat, Winburn, and Roberts families. The Langolfs were likely responsible for adding the rear ell to the house and the front porch (photos 0001, 0004) about 1875. Albert Langolf died in 1904 and was buried in Arcadia. Magdalena died in 1908.

After the death of her parents, Lizzie inherited the home. Lizzie was born in 1864. She married Daniel Stroud in 1904 and moved to Bryan, Ohio, then returned to live at her parents' home by 1910. After the death of her husband, Daniel, she remarried Charles Hiatt in 1917. Lizzie divorced her second husband and remained single and lived at the farm into the 1930s. It was likely during Lizzie's ownership that the dormer was added to the façade (photo 0002) and the concrete block room was added to the back of the house (photo 0005). Her brother, Otto, and his family lived next door and farmed. Several of the African-American families remained neighbors during Lizzie's time at the house. Lizzie had an older gentleman named Clarence Marshall who also lived at the farm in 1920 and was a hired hand. While she continued some farming on the property into the 1920s, her main occupation was cook for a hospital by 1930. She had moved to Indianapolis by 1940 continuing in the same occupation. Lizzie Stroud died in 1956 and was buried at Arcadia Cemetery.

Walden, Micajah House
Name of Property

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9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Atlas and Plat Book of Hamilton County, Indiana. Noblesville: The Enterprise Printing & Publishing Co., 1922.

Cline & McHaffie, The People's Guide/Directory of Hamilton Co., Ind. Indianapolis: Indianapolis Printing and Publishing House, 1874.

Conkling, Edgar C. *Roberts Settlement: A Mixed-blood Agricultural Community*. Dissertation for University of Chicago, 1957.

Federal Census: 1840, 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930, 1940

Haines, John F. History of Hamilton County, Indiana: Her People, Industries and Institutions. Indianapolis: B. F. Bowen & Co., Inc., 1915.

Hamilton County Deed Records: February 1870-December 1870 & May 1871-March 1874

Helm, Thomas B. History of Hamilton County, Indiana. Chicago: Kingman Brothers, 1880.

Historic Sites and Structures of Hamilton County, Indiana. Indianapolis: Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana, 1992.

Illustrated Historical Atlas of the State of Indiana. Chicago: Baskin, Forster & Co., 1876.

Jakle, John A. Common Houses in America's Small Towns. Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press, 1989.

McAlester, Virginia & Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, New York, 2006.

Noblesville Public Library clippings file: Roberts Settlement (topic)

Vincent, Stephen A. Southern Seed, Northern Soil: African-American Farm Communities in the Midwest 1765-1900. Indianapolis: Indiana University Press, 1999.

Walden, Micajah House
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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): 057-020-05024

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 2.25 acres

Use the UTM system

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

- 1. Zone: 16 Easting: 577002 Northing: 4449116
- 2. Zone: Easting: Northing:

Walden, Micajah House
Name of Property

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3. Zone: Easting: Northing:

4. Zone: Easting : Northing:

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Beginning at a point approximately 1,850 feet west of the intersection of East 276th Street and Cal Carson Road, on the south side of East 276th Street, face south and follow a line 572 feet to the southeast corner of the property. Then turn west and follow a line 172 feet to the southwest corner of the property. Turn north and follow a line 572 feet to the northwest corner of the property on the south side of East 276th Street, then turn east and follow a line 172 feet on the south side of East 276th Street to the northeast corner of the property, or the place of beginning. Also, refer to attached scale boundary map.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The Micajah Walden House sits on a homestead parcel cut off from the larger acreage/farm once associated with the house. No other historic resources are extant that are associated with Micajah Walden or the farm as it was developed through subsequent owners. The property parcel described above includes only the homestead and is a single parcel owned by one entity.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Kurt West Garner
organization: Indiana Landmarks, PIP
street & number: 12954 6th Road
city or town: Plymouth state: IN zip code: 46563
e-mail kwgarner@kwgarner.com
telephone: 574-936-0613
date: October 1, 2017

Walden, Micajah House
Name of Property

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Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 3000x2000 at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Walden, Micajah House
City or Vicinity: Atlanta
County: Hamilton State: Indiana
Photographer: Kurt West Garner
Date Photographed: July 25, 2017

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Front (north) and east facades, looking southwest

1 of 18.

Name of Property: Walden, Micajah House

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Front (north) façade, looking south

2 of 18.

Walden, Micajah House
Name of Property

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County and State

Name of Property: Walden, Micajah House

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Front (north) façade porch and entry detail, looking south

3 of 18.

Name of Property: Walden, Micajah House

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: West façade of original house and rear ell, looking northeast

4 of 18.

Name of Property: Walden, Micajah House

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: South (back) and east facades of rear ell, looking northwest

5 of 18.

Name of Property: Walden, Micajah House

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southwest toward homestead from County Road 276 and gravel drive

6 of 18.

Name of Property: Walden, Micajah House

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: First floor bedroom, looking northwest toward front entry and cabinets

7 of 18.

Name of Property: Walden, Micajah House

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Living room, looking north toward front entry

8 of 18.

Name of Property: Walden, Micajah House

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Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southwest in room at back of original house from living room

9 of 18.

Name of Property: Walden, Micajah House

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking east toward enclosed staircase, original part of house

10 of 18.

Name of Property: Walden, Micajah House

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southeast into enclosed staircase in original part of house

11 of 18.

Name of Property: Walden, Micajah House

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking north in kitchen of rear ell toward original part of house

12 of 18.

Name of Property: Walden, Micajah House

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking south in kitchen of rear ell toward block room addition

13 of 18.

Name of Property: Walden, Micajah House

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking south into block room addition on south end of rear ell

14 of 18.

Name of Property: Walden, Micajah House

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Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northwest in east bedroom of second floor

15 of 18.

Name of Property: Walden, Micajah House

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking north in small bedroom with front dormer on second floor

16 of 18.

Name of Property: Walden, Micajah House

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking east in east bedroom toward stairway landing on second floor

17 of 18.

Name of Property: Walden, Micajah House

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking east toward east bedroom from west bedroom of second floor

18 of 18.

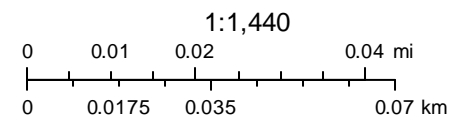
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Micajah Walden House Boundary Map

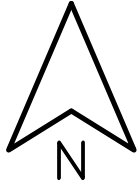


December 17, 2018



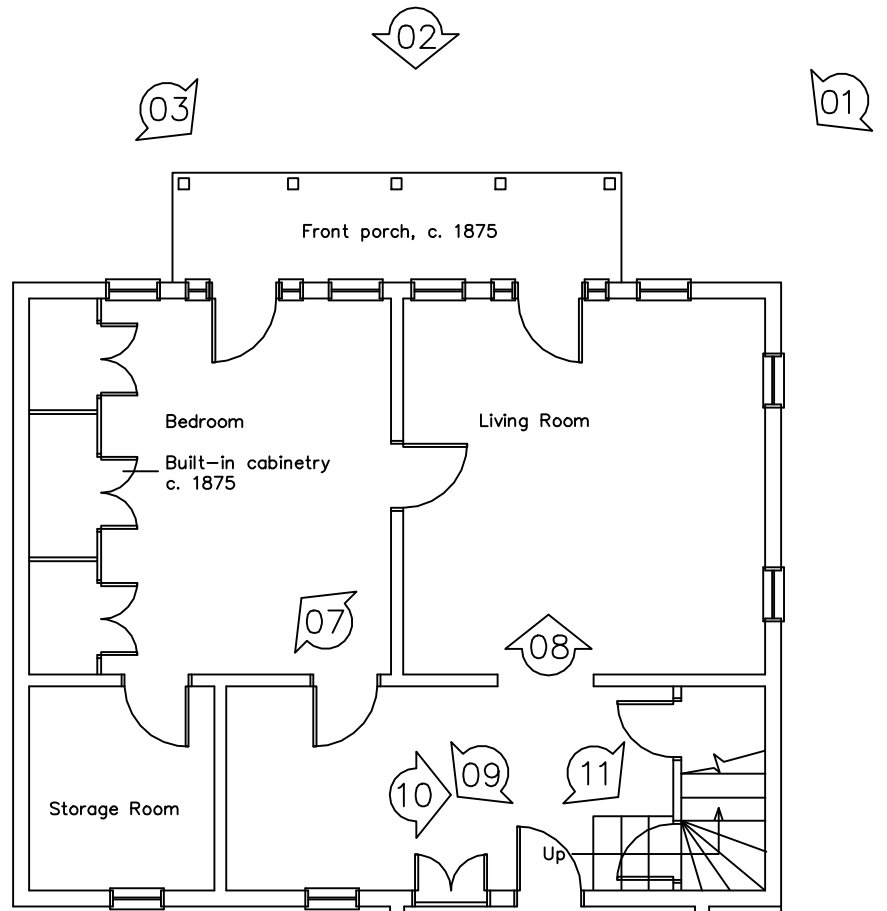
Author: Hamilton County

Hamilton County compiled this map. Although strict accuracy standards have been employed, Hamilton County does not warrant or guarantee the accuracy of the information contained herein and disclaims any and all liability resulting from any error or omission.



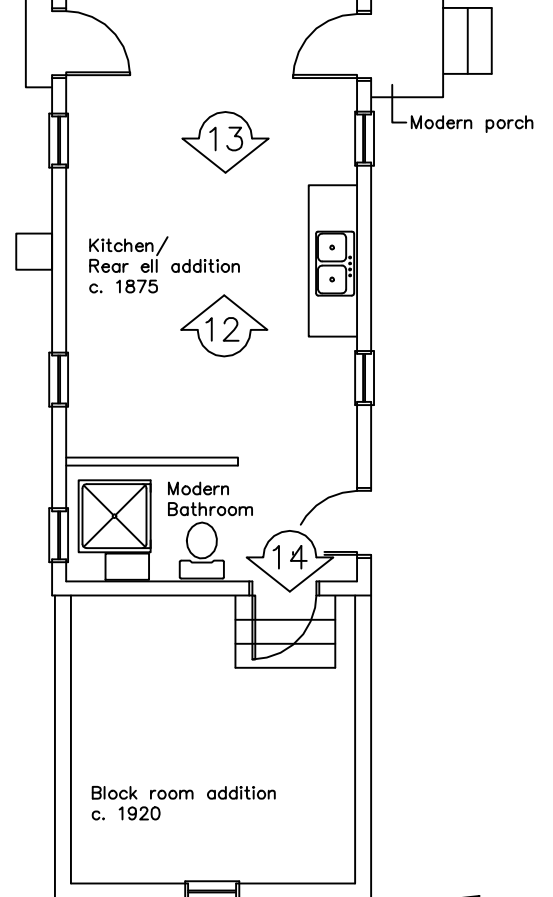
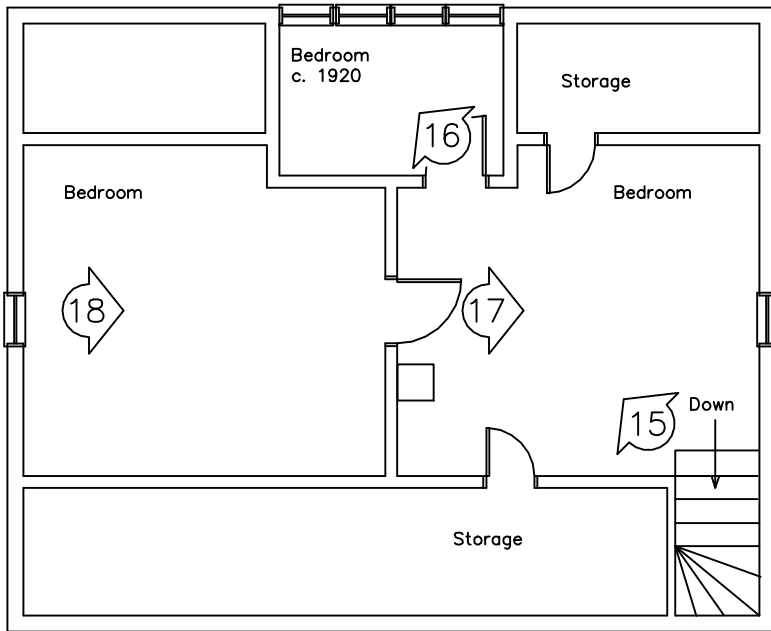
06 Photograph 06 is taken from end of driveway by road, see site plan

00 = Photograph



FIRST FLOOR

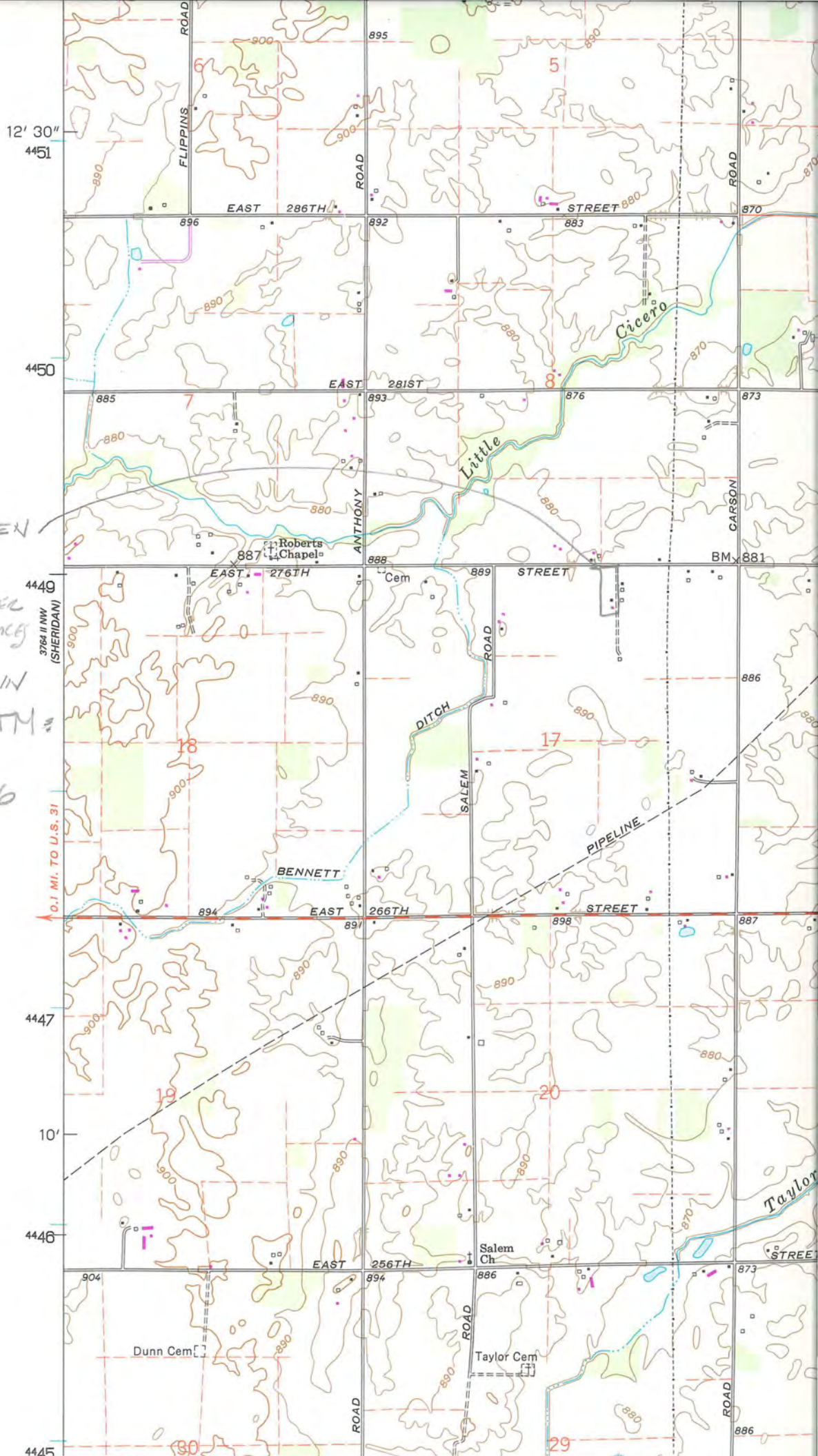
SECOND FLOOR



MICAJAH WALDEN HOUSE
 National Register of Historic Places
 Roberts Settlement, Jackson Twp., Hamilton County, IN
 2.25 acres
 Floor plans approx. scale: 1/8" = 1'-0"

05

Michajon Walden
House
National Register
of Historic Place
Hamilton Co. IN
NAD 83 UTM =
16 517002
4449116



















What Happens in Cambridge Falls
Stays in Cambridge Falls





















UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action: Nomination

Property Name: Walden, Micajah, House

Multiple Name: _____

State & County: INDIANA, Hamilton

Date Received: 5/1/2019 Date of Pending List: 5/16/2019 Date of 16th Day: 5/31/2019 Date of 45th Day: 6/17/2019 Date of Weekly List: _____

Reference number: SG100004042

Nominator: SHPO

Reason For Review: _____

X Accept Return Reject 5/31/2019 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments: Despite the aluminum siding, this distinctive double pen house still retains elements of Greek revival style and a remarkably intact interior. More importantly, it is directly associated with a colony of Freemen who settled in the area in the 1935-1850 timeframe. It is the only known extant house of the Roberts Colony still extant.

Recommendation/ Criteria: Accept / A & C

Reviewer Jim Gabbert Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2275 Date _____

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.

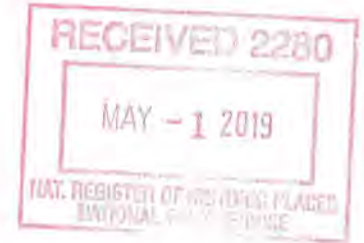


Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology • 402 W. Washington Street, W274 • Indianapolis, IN 46204-2739
Phone 317-232-1646 • Fax 317-232-0693 • dhp@dnr.IN.gov • www.IN.gov/dnr/historic



April 25, 2019

Ms. Joy Beasley
Keeper of the National Register
National Register of Historic Places
Mail Stop 7228
1849 C St, NW
Washington, D.C. 20240



Re: Micajah Walden House, Hamilton County, Indiana

Dear Ms. Beasley,

Enclosed is a National Register of Historic Places nomination for the Micajah Walden House, Hamilton County, Indiana. The Indiana Historic Preservation Review Board reviewed the application and voted to recommend its approval to the National Register of Historic Places.

The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the Micajah Walden House, Hamilton County, Indiana to the National Register of Historic Places.

Please address any questions you or your staff may have about this nomination to my National Register staff members, Paul Diebold or Holly Tate.

Sincerely,

Cameron F. Clark
State Historic Preservation Officer

CFC:PCD:pcd

enclosure: nomination package