

AS LISTED

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For NPS use only

received

date entered

**1. Name**

historic Historic Resources of Keyser Township (Partial Inventory:

and/or common Architectural and Engineered Structures)

**2. Location**

street &amp; number Keyser Township N/A not for publication

city, town Garrett X vicinity of

state Indiana code 018 county DeKalb code 033

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Multiple Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industrial
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name Multiple ownership (see individual property data)

street &amp; number

city, town N/A vicinity of state

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. DeKalb County Recorder

street &amp; number DeKalb County Courthouse

city, town Auburn state Indiana

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**Mountz residence (in Garrett Historic District)  
title Listed on National Register has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☒ nodate September 11, 1979 ☒ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records National Park Service

city, town Washington, state D.C.

## 7. Description

### Condition

☐ excellent  
☒ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

### Check one

☒ original site  
☐ moved      date \_\_\_\_\_

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Keyser Township, DeKalb County, Indiana, is a gently rolling prairie which was originally covered by a climax forest of native hardwoods, of which only isolated stands of second-growth forest remain. This woodland was originally punctuated by a large tamarack swamp in the central part of the township, directly to the west of Garrett; both the construction of the railroad line and the drainage of the area for agricultural use began to reduce this wetland in the late 19th century, until today only isolated lowlands remain. The first settler in the county was John Houlton, who arrived in Franklin Township in 1833. By 1837 the Indian trail which crosses the northern part of Keyser Township had become the Goshen-Defiance State Road (today's Indiana 8), and served as the channel for settlers arriving from the Western Reserve of Ohio. Also in 1837, another State Road was run North and South to connect Fort Wayne with Coldwater, Michigan; this was the ancestor of today's Interstate 69. Along these routes a rural community sprang up which has left its legacy in the fine Greek Revival farmhouses which are found along those corridors (Properties 1 through 3). These structures established as the architectural norms of the area simple rectangular massing combined with almost ponderously proportioned classical detail.

This classical tradition in local building was initially only slightly modified by infusions of picturesque concepts associated with the Italianate style, such as the asymmetrical massing of Property 4, and the use of hipped, rather than gabled roofs, as in Properties 4 through 9, as well as the use of segmental arches for openings in masonry structures, as in Properties, 6, 7, and 9. It was not until the arrival of the railroad in the 1870s that local building took on more of the trappings of the later picturesque modes, such as elaborately molded ornament for cornice and porch trim (cf. the description of the Garrett Historic District, Property 21, and Properties 10 through 14).

The arrival of the railroad is, in fact, the central event in the development not only of local architectural types, but of every facet of the life of the community. From the day in October, 1874, that Washington Cowen, of the Baltimore Land and Improvement Company, completed the purchase of 12 farms totaling 604 1/4 acres (under the guise of buying farms on which to settle his sons) as the site of the Baltimore, Pittsburgh, and Chicago Railroad's Division Headquarters, the development of the area was inextricably entwined with the westward growth of what is today the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad of the Chessie System. In 1875 the railroad's Chief Engineer, Beverly Randolph, surveyed a gridiron plan for the town to be named after railroad President John W. Garrett; the principal streets of the town were named after Randolph and other officers of the company (see Maps 1, 2). In the fall of that same year, the sale of lots began, and the railroad offered prizes for babies born in the town; Indiana Garrett Quigley, son of a switchman, was awarded a silver mug in September, 1875. Within a year of the sale of the first lot in April, 1875, 150 buildings had been constructed; on December 18, 1875, the Town of Garrett was incorporated, and had a population of 257. Since Garrett and the rail line straddled the line between Richland and Butler Townships, the DeKalb County Commissioners, in April, 1876, combined the adjacent halves of the townships to create Keyser Township, which was named after William Keyser, the railroad's Second Vice President (see Maps 3, 4). By 1913, the year of peak employment at the Chicago Division car shops, Garrett had become the social and cultural nexus of the area, as illustrated in 1906 by the fact that the Chicago and Toledo Traction Line was extended from Fort Wayne to Garrett, with mere branch lines to the neighboring communities, including the County Seat, Auburn.

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1839–1939 Builder/Architect Various

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The historic resources of Keyser Township are significant as the tangible evidence of the area's earliest development as an agricultural community (Properties 1-3), the growth and fruition of that rural community (Properties 4-19), and the impact of the coming of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad upon that community (Properties 20, 21). The development of the area was initially a westward expansion of the rural settlement patterns in the Western Reserve (1833-1874), but this was intensified and overlaid in urban and industrial forms by rail communication (1875-1940). The resources cited embrace all areas of community life, including agriculture (Properties 1-10), commerce (Property 21, numbers, 2, 4, 5, 21 and 22), community planning (Property 21), education (Properties 17, 18), engineering (Property 20), politics (Property 21, number 20), religion (Properties 15, 16, and 21, numbers 23, 24), social and humanitarian concerns (Property 21, number 16), theater (Property 21, number 26), and transportation (Property 20 and 21, numbers 1, 3). The area has much interpretive information yet to offer, both in terms of the prehistoric archaeology of the entire area and the historic archaeology of such known sites as the grounds of the former B & O car shops (in Property 21), as well as the entire matter of the social and cultural ramifications of the railroad corporation's role as both the proprietary creator of Garrett and the bonds of shared experience which its role as primary employer fostered. Such study could do much to interpret the social, cultural, and technological changes associated with the Industrial Revolution as it affected both this northeastern Indiana community and the midwest in general.



## 9. Major Bibliographical References

History of DeKalb County, Indiana. Chicago, Interstate Publishing Co., 1885  
History of DeKalb County, Indiana. Indianapolis, B. F. Bowen Co., 1914  
Garrett's Golden Jubilee. Garrett Fall Festival and Homecoming Committee, 1924  
Garrett Centennial History. Garrett Historical Society, 1975.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property See individual and district property data

Quadrangle name Auburn, Corunna, Garrett, Waterloo

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References See individual and district property data

A 

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Zone Easting Northing

B 

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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

Parts of Keyser Township, DeKalb County, Indiana, as noted on individual and district property data.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
N/A			

state	code	county	code
N/A			

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Craig Leonard, Historic Preservation Consultant for

organization Garrett Historical Society

date October, 1982

street & number 521 West Market Street

telephone 219/824-4010

city or town Bluffton

state Indiana 46714

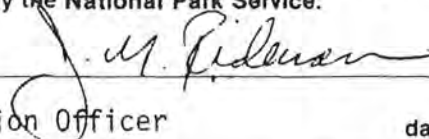
## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature



title Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer

date 3-15-83

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration



**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Continuation sheet

Item number 2

Page 1

INCLUSIVE STREET NUMBERS FOR PROPERTIES IN THE GARRETT HISTORIC DISTRICT

North-South Streets listed in order from East to West

1. Britton Street: 120 North to 418 South, even numbers only
2. Harrison Street: 120 North to 419 South inclusive
3. Walsh Street: 120 North to 419 South inclusive, 500 South to 618 South even numbers only
4. Lee Street: 220 North to 719 South inclusive
5. Franklin Street: 120 North to 719 South inclusive
6. Randolph Street: 220 North to 919 South inclusive
7. Cowen Street: 120 North to 914 South inclusive, 915 South to 919 South odd numbers only
8. Peters Street: 120 North to 619 South inclusive
9. Ijams Street: 120 North to 619 South inclusive
10. Guilford Street: 120 North to 619 South inclusive
11. Johnston Street: 120 North to 619 South inclusive
12. Hamsher Street: 119 North to 619 South, odd numbers only

East-West Streets listed in order from North to South

1. Quincy Street: 517 East to 120 West inclusive
2. King Street: 517 East to 617 West inclusive
3. Keyser Street: 517 East to 621 West inclusive
4. Houston Street: 520 East to 621 West inclusive
5. Edgerton Street: 520 East to 621 West inclusive
6. Dennis Street: 520 East to 316 East, even numbers only, 315 East to 621 West inclusive
7. McHenry Street: 320 East to 621 West inclusive
8. Warfield Street: 320 East to 204 West inclusive, 206 West to 620 West, even numbers only
9. First Avenue: 322 East to 110 East, even numbers only, 109 East to 204 West inclusive
10. Second Avenue: 109 East to 204 West inclusive
11. Third Avenue: 108 East to 120 West, even numbers only

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HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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Although the role of the railroad as a cultural force is most clearly seen in the structures within Garrett itself, rural architecture also reflected the new availability of architectural patterns and elements such as mass-produced ornament which could be added to conventionalized forms (Properties 10 through 14) and new easily manufactured materials such as cast stone (Properties 12, 16). Even such simple structures as the rural school evolved from simple brick boxes to stylish Colonial Revival (Property 17) and Richardsonian Romanesque (Property 18) designs. Similarly, the introduction of more sophisticated construction technology and prefabrication which made possible the rail network (Property 20) could also be expressed in the packaged design and timber arches of the county infirmary's barn (Property 19). By the early 20th century, most of the elements of the present community had emerged, and remain as the tangible evidence of these developments.

Survey Methodology

The properties included in this nomination were selected as a result of a survey conducted by the Garrett Historical Society, which sponsored the project, with the assistance of its consultant, Craig Leonard,\* in August and September of 1979. The Society initially expressed a desire to include only those properties possessing a high degree of architectural integrity and historical associations. Due to the lack of funds to carry out the necessary survey work, it was also decided that archeological sites could not be included, and that the nomination would thus be limited to architectural and engineered structures. Architectural integrity was measured in the following manner: in order to be included in the survey, properties had to possess at least two of three characteristics in each of two categories:

General

1. original exterior surface exposed
2. original fenestration pattern intact
3. original mass and roofline discernible

Detail

1. original roof and wall trim intact ( cornice, frieze, window trim)
2. original window sash and exterior doors intact
3. original porch trim intact

During August, 1979, the consultant and Mary Mountz, Chairperson of the Nomination Committee, drove all township roads, located all structures, and photographed all the properties which met these criteria (cf. the Garrett District entry for boundary selection discussion). These results were then reported to the full committee, which ratified the property selection and conducted research of the history of each property. The materials thus obtained were then put into nomination form by the consultant.

\* Craig Leonard is an historical architect.

(11/78)

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Upon completion of historical research, preparation of the nomination forms, and photography of properties by a local photographer, the Garrett Historical Society held a public meeting October 4, 1979, to explain the ramifications of the listing of properties on the National Register. In advance of this meeting, all owners of individually cited township properties were contacted by mail to notify them of the meeting, and articles about the project appeared both before and after the meeting in the Garrett Clipper and the Auburn Star, the two local newspapers.

The completed nomination was presented to the Indiana SHPO staff in November, 1979, together with notes as to which of the individual property owners had objected to their possible inclusion in the nomination.

The Historic Resources of Keyser Township include the following:

- ✓1. Henry Shull Farmhouse Inn 5-6
- ✓2. Gump House 5-6
- ✓3. William Fountain House 5-6
- ✓4. Orin Clark House 5-6
- ✓5. Edward Kelham House 5-6
- ✓6. Samuel DePew House
- ✓7. Breechbill/Davidson House 5-6
- ✓8. Joseph Bowman Farmhouse 5-6
- ✓9. J. H. Haag House 5-6
- ✓10. Charles Lehmbach Farmstead 5-6
- ✓11. Henry Peters House 5-6
- ✓12. Samuel Bevier House 5-6
- ✓13. John Wilderson House 5-6
- ✓14. Rakestraw House 5-6
- ✓15. Brethren Church in Christ 5-6
- ✓16. Altona Baptist Church
- ✓17. Keyser Township District School 5
- ✓18. Keyser Township District School 8 5-6
- ✓19. DeKalb County Home Barn 5-6
- ✓20. Altona Bridge COUNCIL #120
- ✓21. Garrett Historic District. 5-6



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INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY

1.

NAME: Henry Shull farmhouse inn

LOCATION: County Road 11-A near Interstate 69

OWNER: Irene D. Odenkirk

ADDRESS: 5582 County Road 11-A, Auburn, Indiana 46706

DESCRIPTION: One and one-half story ell-shaped mass with low gabled roof has fluted corner pilasters beneath unadorned frieze and broad projecting eave which returns on gable ends. Four bay facade (East) has transomed, sidelighted entry in second from South bay enframed by fluted pilasters beneath lintel which matches frieze of entablature. Modern additions include siding, exposed chimney on South gable end, and furthest rear wing.

SIGNIFICANCE: Excellent local example of Greek Revival, built by Jacob Shull for Henry Shull in 1839 as a farmhouse and inn.

ACREAGE: Less than one acre

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Part of the North Half of the Southwest Quarter of Section 12, Township 33, Range 12 East, and consisting of the cited structure and a perimeter extending 20 feet in all directions around it.

QUADRANGLE SHEET: Auburn

UTM COORDINATES: 16/65988 0/457657 0

*demolished*

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INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY

2.

NAME: Gump House

LOCATION: On the North side of Indiana 8 just East of the County Line

OWNER: Forrest Gump and Minnie Gump, c/o James Haynes

ADDRESS: Rural Route 1, Garrett, Indiana 46738

DESCRIPTION: Two-story gabled rectangular mass with regular fenestration consisting of two over two sash set in smooth surrounds. Walls are clapboarded and feature unfluted Doric corner pilasters supporting a wide frieze beneath broad boxed eaves which return on the gable ends. Fenestration of five-bay facade (South) interrupted by modern picture window in three Eastern bays and removal of entrance. Modern entry provided in South bay of East elevation.

SIGNIFICANCE: Similarity to adjacent William Fountain house (Property 4) suggests that this large Greek Revival example is a product of common ownership, presumably built c. 1854.

ACREAGE: Less than one acre.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Part of the South end of the East half of the Northwest Quarter of Section 29, Township 34, Range 12 East, and consisting of the cited structure and a perimeter extending 20 feet from its foundations in all directions.

QUADRANGLE SHEET: Garrett

UTM COORDINATES: 16/651400/4580765

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INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY

3.

NAME: William Fountain House

LOCATION: On the North side of Indiana 8 just West of County Road 3.

OWNER: William Fountain Estate, c/o Dekalb County Clerk

ADDRESS: Courthouse, Auburn, Indiana 46706

DESCRIPTION: Two-story gabled rectangular mass with regular fenestration consisting of one over one sash set in smooth surrounds. Walls feature unfluted Doric corner pilasters supporting a wide frieze beneath broad boxed eaves which return on the gable ends. Center bay of five-bay facade (South) has door flanked by smooth pilasters beneath modern one-bay porch. Removal of original chimneys from within end walls shown by breaks in standing-seam metal roofing; modern exposed cinder block chimney has been added to East gable. One-story rectangular garage to rear is frame with same style entablature as house, suggesting that it is an original outbuilding.

SIGNIFICANCE: Large Greek Revival example built in 1854 by Lincolnshire emigrant William Fountain, who arrived in Dekalb County in 1848. Property is still entangled in probate of his estate.

ACREAGE: Less than one acre.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Part of the South half of the East half of the Northeast Quarter of Section 29, Township 34, Range 12 East, and consisting of the cited structure and a perimeter extending 20 feet in all directions from its foundation.

QUADRANGLE SHEET: Garrett

UTM COORDINATES: 16/652450/4580790



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INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY

4.

NAME: Orin Clark House

LOCATION: Southwest corner of the intersection of County Roads 48 and 3.

OWNER: Melvin Kelham and Helen Mae Kelham

ADDRESS: 306-1/2 South Cowen Street, Garrett, Indiana 46738

DESCRIPTION: Two-story hip-roofed, ell-shaped main block with gabled one-story rear wing extended from rear (East) of ell. Rear wing has recessed alcove porch on North side; interior of porch is finished with wainscot beneath plastered walls and ceiling. Corners of mass are finished with unfluted Doric pilasters beneath wide, plain frieze and plain boxed eave. Main entry in center of North elevation of ell leg is a single panelled leaf enframed by unfluted Doric pilasters and lintel with raking soffit and cornice. Enframements of regular fenestration have smooth surrounds and pedimented caps with recessed Tympana. The house has few modern alterations, and has lost only the alcove porch from the front of the ell and the posts of the rear recessed porch.

SIGNIFICANCE: This house, built in 1870, uniquely illustrates the use of Italianate form with Greek Revival details. Orin Clark arrived in Keyser Township in the 1830's, and built this house to replace his original cabin. In 1875 Clark built the first house in the new town of Garrett.

ACREAGE: Less than one acre.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Part of the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 5, Township 33, Range 12 East, and consisting of the cited structure and a perimeter extending 20 feet in all directions from its foundations.

QUADRANGLE SHEET: Garrett

UTM COORDINATES: 16/652575/4579100

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INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY

5.

NAME: Edward Kelham House

LOCATION: North side of County Road 48 just East of the County Line.

OWNER: Joan Kelham

ADDRESS: Rural Route 2, Garrett, Indiana 46738

DESCRIPTION: Two-story hip-roofed mass with unfluted corner pilasters and plain frieze beneath simple boxed eave. Enframements of regular fenestration have smooth surrounds, raked caps with cornice molds, and four over four sash. Entry on East side is enframed by fluted pilasters and deep lintel with raking cornice. One-story hip-roofed Colonial Revival porch supported by Tuscan colonnettes on plain dies extends across South elevation to shelter large two over two sash added at same time. Modern alterations are minimal. Interior contains many original furnishings.

SIGNIFICANCE: Edward Kelham arrived in America from Lincolnshire in 1849; in 1857 he settled here. Apparently, he replaced his cabin with the present house c. 1870. He later was elected a county commissioner in 1878. The house is one of the earliest Italianate examples in the area; the design combines Greek Revival details with an Italianate form. The present owner is Mr. Kelham's great-granddaughter.

ACREAGE: Less than one acre.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Part of the West Half of the Southwest Quarter of Section 8, Township 33, Range 12 East, and consisting of the cited structure and a perimeter extending 20 feet in all directions from its foundation.

QUADRANGLE SHEET: Garrett

UTM COORDINATES: 16/651510/4579195

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### INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY

6.

NAME: Samuel DePew House

LOCATION: County Road 40 just West of County Road 5

OWNER: Ralph DePew and Helen DePew

ADDRESS: Rural Route 2, Avilla, Indiana 46710

DESCRIPTION: Two-story cubic mass with a high hipped roof whose ridge parallels the facade (North). The four-bay facade has paired central doorways capped by low segmental arches in the same manner as the fenestration. Eave is a broad simple projection without frieze. Original chimneys partially intact in centers of East and West elevations.

SIGNIFICANCE: Juxtaposition of Federal "I" form with Italianate openings and Queen Anne roof. Farm begun in 1855 by Joseph DePew, whose son Samuel built this house in 1887 to replace a log cabin. The present owner is Samuel DePew's grandson.

ACREAGE: Less than one acre.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Part of the East part of the Northeast Quarter of Section 30, Township 34, Range 12 East, and consisting of the cited structure and a perimeter extending 20 feet in all directions from its foundations.

QUADRANGLE SHEET: Corunna

UTM COORDINATES: 16/652405/4582 180.



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### INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY

7.

NAME: Breechbill/Davidson House

LOCATION: Northwest of intersection of County Road 7 and Indiana 8

OWNER: Edith Davidson and Esther Davidson

ADDRESS: Rural Route 1, Garrett, Indiana 46738

DESCRIPTION: Two-story hip-roofed mass composed of cubic front block with rectangular rear wing extending to rear (Southwest) to provide alcove for one-story back porch on Northwest. Regular fenestration composed of two bays each floor on each wall surface is interrupted only on facade (East) by paired central doorways. All openings capped with segmental wall arches. One-story hip-roofed porch in center of facade has replaced an original one-story porch which extended completely across the facade. Back porch is supported by original turned posts.

SIGNIFICANCE: Example of Italianate form which incorporates Federal nuances of "I" house facade and placement of rear service wing. Front block constructed in 1889 by Jacob Breechbill; Henry Davidson added the rear wing in 1908. The present owners are granddaughters of Jacob Breechbill and have retained some of his original furnishings. The owners of the property have always been associated with the adjacent Brethren Church in Christ.

ACREAGE: Less than one acre.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Part of the West side of the Southwest Quarter of Section 28, Township 34, Range 12 East, and consisting of the cited structure and a perimeter extending 20 feet from its foundation in all directions.

QUADRANGLE SHEET: Garrett

UTM COORDINATES: 16/654245/4580930

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INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY

8.

NAME: Joseph Bowman farmhouse

LOCATION: Southwest corner, intersection of County Roads 19 and 40.

OWNER: Carl Ellert and Pearl Ellert

ADDRESS: Rural Route 3, Auburn, Indiana 46706

DESCRIPTION: Two-story ell-shaped gabled mass with simple projecting eaves. One-story polygonal bay is centered on gable end of one wing. Regular fenestration capped by flat stone lintels in the form of fractable pediments supported by ancons. One-story porch between wings now replaced by modern stoop and metal awning; modern two-story framing projects from Southwest corner.

SIGNIFICANCE: Masonry example of Italianate style built in 1875 shows evidence of stylistic sophistication introduced by the coming of the railroad in that same year.

ACREAGE: Less than one acre

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Part of the Southwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 26, Township 34, Range 12 East, and consisting of the cited structure and a perimeter extending 20 feet in all directions from its foundation.

QUADRANGLE SHEET: Waterloo

UTM COORDINATES: 16/659000/4582610

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INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY

9.

NAME: J. H. Haag House

LOCATION: On the South side of County road 54 just West of Indiana 327

OWNER: Stanley and Rose Winters

ADDRESS: Rural Route 1, Box 130, Garrett, Indiana 46738

DESCRIPTION: Two story gabled rectangular mass crossed at its midpoint by a two story gabled wing. Smooth brick walls are punctuated by segmental-arched fenestration pattern of two bays on gable end walls and one bay centered over two bays on side walls. Alcoves formed on either side of the cross wing on the facade (North) were originally filled by one story shed-roofed porches supported by stop-chamfered wood posts (and probably trimmed with sawn ornament); only the porch and posts on the Northeast remain. Gables each ornamented by an oculus window at the apex; roofline has only plain projecting eaves, no frieze.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local masonry example of cottage form with Italianate details( c.f. Property 10 and Property 21, Numbers 7 and 10). House built c. 1875 by J. H. Haag. The similarity to uncited brick dwellings in the Garrett district suggests this house is the work of local builder G. W. Werntz, who operated a local brickyard.

ACREAGE: Less than one acre.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Part of the North half of the Southwest quarter of Section 10, Township 33, Range 12 East, consisting of the cited property and a perimeter extending 20 feet in all directions from its foundation.

QUADRANGLE SHEET: Garrett

UTM COORDINATES: 16/656040/4576800



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10.

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY

NAME: Charles Lehmbach farmstead

LOCATION: County Road 15 just North of County Road 52

OWNER: Howard W. Schulthess and Leroy K. Schulthess

ADDRESS: 410 West Michigan Street, LaGrange, Indiana 46761

DESCRIPTION: Two-story tee-shaped gabled mass with one-story shed-roofed addition behind cross wing. The three sides of the projecting wing of the facade are wrapped by a one-story porch supported by turned posts. Regular fenestration is capped by flat classical lintels. Siding is covered with asbestos shingles.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local example of cottage form with Queen Anne details (porch, interior woodwork). House built in 1911 to replace a log cabin. Finishes include interior woodwork of cherry cut on the site. Present owners are grandsons of the original owner.

ACREAGE: Less than one acre.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Part of the North Half of the Southwest Quarter of Section 2, Township 33, Range 12 East, and consisting of the cited structure and a perimeter extending 20 feet in all directions from its foundation (does not include any outbuildings).

QUADRANGLE SHEET: Auburn

UTM COORDINATES: 16/65755 0/457836 0.

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INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY

11.

NAME: Henry Peters House

LOCATION: 201 North Sixth Street, Garrett, Indiana

OWNER: Robert Parker and Edna Parker

ADDRESS: 201 North Sixth Street, Garrett, Indiana 46738

DESCRIPTION: Cubical two-story hip-roofed mass with projecting end gables on Northeast and Southwest corners. The structure has regular fenestration with smooth surrounds and one over one sash; the walls are clapboarded and trimmed with plain boards at the corners and frieze. The eaves are plain boxed projections and return within the end gables. A two bay porch standing on a cast stone block base and supported by battered square piers extends across the facade (West) and is covered by a low hipped roof with plain projecting eaves over a plain architrave.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local Colonial Revival example built in 1910 by Henry Peters, a machinist at the B & O carshops and also a test driver for the Imp Car Co. of Auburn. The house has always been owned and occupied by B & O personnel--first Peters, then John Kleeman, Jr., crossing watchman and manager of the B & O water treatment plant; now by Robert Parker, B & O conductor and local railroad historian.

ACREAGE: Less than one acre.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DISCRIPTION: Lot 1, block 14, Lot 2, block 14 of Tolland's Addition.

QUADRANGLE SHEET: Auburn

UTM REFERENCE: 16-657300-4579295.

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### INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY

12.

NAME: Samuel Bevier House

LOCATION: Southwest corner of the intersection of County roads 52 and 11.

OWNER: David and Karleen Miller

ADDRESS: Rural Route 1, Garrett, Indiana 46738

DESCRIPTION: Cubical two story hip-roofed mass with projecting end gables on Southeast and Northwest corners. The house has regular fenestration with smooth surrounds and one over one sash; the walls are constructed of smooth-faced, rusticated ashlar blocks of cast stone. The walls are topped by a plain frieze and boxed eave; the edge of the roof has original pole gutters. A two bay porch extends across the facade (East), and has a plain architrave supported by cast stone Tuscan columns.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local Colonial Revival example built in 1905 by B. & O. engineer Samuel Bevier. Local example of cubic Queen Anne massing rendered in cast stone (c.f. also Property 11 of same form and Property 16 for use of same material).

ACREAGE: Less than one acre.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Part of the Northeast quarter of the Northeast quarter of Section 9, Range 33, Township 33, Range 12 East, consisting of the cited property and a perimeter extending 20 feet in all directions from its foundation.

QUADRANGLE SHEET: Garrett

UTM COORDINATES: 16/65585 0/4577610

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INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY

13.

NAME: John Wilderson House

LOCATION: 1349 South Cowen Street, Garrett, Indiana

OWNER: David Ferguson and Evelyn Ferguson

ADDRESS: 1349 South Cowen Street, Garrett, Indiana 46738

DESCRIPTION: Two-story ell-shapped, gabled mass has regular fenestration with smooth surrounds and one over one sash; walls are clapboarded and trimmed at the corners and frieze with plain boards. Plain boxed eave continues across gables as pent-roof form. A five bay porch standing on a cast stone base wraps the North and West sides of the ell, and is supported by unfluted Tuscan columns beneath a blank architrave and plain boxed eaves. A one-story enclosed porch extends across the rear of the ell (East). With the exception of a changed kitchen window, the house is intact both inside and out.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local Colonial Revival example built in 1909 by John Wilderson.

ACREAGE: Less than one acre.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Part of the West half of the Northwest Quarter of Section 10, Township 33, Range 12 East, consisting of the cited structure and a perimeter extending 20 feet in all directions from its foundation.

QUADRANGLE SHEET: Garrett

UTM COORDINATES: 16/655920/4577345



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## INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY

14.

NAME: Rakestraw House

LOCATION: On County Road 19 just North of Indiana 8

OWNER: James R. Habig

ADDRESS: <sup>123</sup>327 East Seventh Street, Auburn, Indiana 46706

DESCRIPTION: One and a half story rectangular mass whose low-pitched gabled roof includes beneath its sweep both the body of the house and a porch which extends across the facade (East). The front third of the house is slightly wider than the remainder, and the projecting side bays are treated as lesser gables with one rake engaged by the gables of the main roof. The front rake of the main roof is mostly displaced by a large shed-roofed dormer whose front has two groups of three windows widely spaced. The front porch has a base and rail made of rock-faced ashlar cast stone blocks on which stand four elephantine piers with battered sides. Within the porch a central door is flanked by large front windows. Although the front wall under the porch is clad in stucco, the remainder of the exterior walls are clad in cedar shingles. Openings have plain wide enframements and the walls are trimmed with a plain wide frieze and wide projecting eaves with beaded car siding soffits. A modern garage has been added to the rear (West).

SIGNIFICANCE: This farm was started by Amos Rakestraw about 1880, and the present farmhouse would have been built by his son about 1915; the farm was in the Rakestraw family until the mid-1950's. This is the only intact local example of a Craftsman bungalow style farmhouse in the town-ship.

ACREAGE: Less than one acre.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Part of the North half of the Southeast quarter of Section 26, Township 34, Range 12 East, consisting of the cited structure and a perimeter extending 20 feet in all directions from its foundation.

QUADRANGLE SHEET: Auburn

UTM COORDINATES: 16/659 040/4581340.

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INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY

15.

*in Christ*  
NAME: Brethren Church ~~in Christ~~

LOCATION: On County Road 7 just North of Indiana 8

OWNER: Trustees of the Brethren Church in Christ

ADDRESS: ~~Rural Route 1~~, Garrett, Indiana 46738  
*4395 CR 7*

DESCRIPTION: Steeply gabled one and a half story rectangular mass with square two story tower centered on the facade (West). Bays of smooth masonry walls are separated by pilasters; center of each bay has a single lancet-arched window with four over four sash set in smooth surround. Similar openings are provided in the base of the tower for paired panelled doors of entry and above, for belfry openings. An oculus window is set in the front of the tower over a dedication plaque, and the tower has a bellcast hipped roof. A modern one story masonry addition extends from the rear gable (East). The structure is surrounded by and faces an annex to a cemetery.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local example of the Gothic Revival style built in 1882. Architecturally significant as an example of the persistence of simple forms more common for religious structures of the 1840's-1870's, with ultimate derivation from the Ecclesiological Movement. A very similar structure, the First Baptist Church (1876) is still standing in Garrett, but is greatly altered.

ACREAGE: Less than one acre.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Part of the West half of the Southwest quarter of Section 28, Township 34, Range 12 East, consisting of the cited structure and a perimeter extending 20 feet in all directions from its foundation (does not include the cemetery).

QUADRANGLE SHEET: Garrett

UTM COORDINATES: 16/654310/4581250

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INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY

16.

NAME: Altona Baptist Church

LOCATION: South side of County Road 48 on the West edge of Altona.

OWNER: TRUSTEES OF BIBLE TABERNACLE CHURCH OF GOD, c/o William Andrews

ADDRESS: 1208 West Quincy Street, Garrett, Indiana 46738

DESCRIPTION: Steeply gabled rectangular mass with facade gable (North) crowned by stepped parapet gable and intersected on Northeast corner by castellated square bell tower. South end of roof is hipped and intersected at corners by gabled cross wings which terminate in stepped parapet gables. Corners of tower and wall bays are punctuated by Gothic pilasters; fenestration consists of lancet-arched opening on facade gable with opalescent glass infill and flat-topped pairs of openings with one over one clear-glazed sash on side walls.

SIGNIFICANCE: Built in 1919 as Altona Baptist Church, and used as such until 1978, this is one of the few local examples of cast stone construction built for non-domestic use.

VEREAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Part of Section 5, Township 33, Range 12, consisting of the cited structure and a perimeter extending 20 feet from its foundation in all directions.

QUADRANGLE SHEET: Garrett

UTM COORDINATES: 16/654235/4579170

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### INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY

17.

NAME: Keyser Township District School 5

LOCATION: North side of County Road 54 just West of Indiana 327.

OWNER: Calvary Ministries, Inc.

ADDRESS: 1400 West Washington Center Road, Fort Wayne, Indiana 46800

DESCRIPTION: One-story tee-shaped gabled mass whose smooth brick walls are punctuated by corner pilasters and corbel table. Regular fenestration set in smooth openings capped by flat header coursing. End gables (East and West) have oculus windows with quadrant keystones. Entablature has plain frieze board beneath broad boxed eave which returns on gables. Entry is recessed behind round-arched opening in projecting frontispiece (South). Dedicatory inscription is set in wall above arch and beneath corbelled bracketing at top of wall. Belfry atop projecting wing is now enclosed, but outline is otherwise intact. Most of the windows have been covered with opaque panels.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local example of Colonial Revival style, unusual for use in a non-domestic context.

ACREAGE: Less than one acre.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Part of the Southwest corner of the Northwest Quarter of Section 10, Township 33, Range 12 East, consisting of the cited structure and a perimeter extending 20 feet from its foundation in all directions.

QUADRANGLE SHEET: Garrett

UTM COORDINATES: 16/656060/4576850



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INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY

18.

NAME: Keyser Township School 8

LOCATION: East Quincy Street (County Road 48)

OWNER: Von Tharp and Mabel Tharp

ADDRESS: 1209 South Jackson Street, Auburn, Indiana 46706

DESCRIPTION: One and one-half story rectangular mass with steep hipped roof and raised basement. Projecting frontispiece on facade (North) consists of superimposed fractable gables framing entry set into segmental-arched recess. Window openings have been blocked down, belfry removed. Dedicatory plaque on spandrel over entry. Built in 1914, in use as school until 1956, when converted into apartments.

SIGNIFICANCE: Late example of Richardsonian Romanesque institutional structure.

ACREAGE: Less than one acre.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Block 18, Lots 1 and 2 of Toland's Addition.

QUADRANGLE SHEET: Auburn

UTM COORDINATES: 16/6574 90/4579300

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INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY

19.

NAME: Dekalb County Home - barn

LOCATION: On the South side of County Road 40 between County Roads 19 and 36-A.

OWNER: Dekalb County Commissioners

ADDRESS: Courthouse, Auburn, Indiana 46706

DESCRIPTION: Three and one-half story tee-shaped mass whose frame upper stories stand on the ashlar rubble walls of the first floor. The second (Main) level is approached by an earthen ramp on the North. The walls of the superstructure are sided with plain boards, and the gabled roof is a pointed arch section with bellcast eaves. The sliding doors on the North side are adorned with diamond-shaped windows which are now filled with opaque panels.

SIGNIFICANCE: Built in 1908; roofline is a good local example of the structural sophistication found in early 20th Century agricultural buildings.

ACREAGE: Two acres immediately surrounding barn

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Part of the Northeast Quarter, Section 25, Township 33, Range 12., consisting of the cited structure and a perimeter extending 20 feet in all directions from its foundation.

QUADRANGLE SHEET: Waterloo

UTM COORDINATES: 16/660295/4582560

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INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY

20.

NAME: Altona Bridge

LOCATION: On County Road 7 just North of County Road 48.

OWNER: Baltimore and Ohio Railroad

ADDRESS: c/o General Tax Commissioner, 2 North Charles Street,  
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

DESCRIPTION: Bridge consisting of four simple spans totalling 107 feet in length over the eight tracks of the B & O Railroad yard. The spans stand on piers of open wooden trusswork at either side of the tracks and a similar openwork pier of steel which stands in the yard. The end spans are inclined approaches with wooden guardrails; the south-central span has open steel trusswork rails, and the north-central span has plate beam sides.

SIGNIFICANCE: This longest bridge structure in Dekalb County was built in 1918 and substantially repaired in 1943. It is the last remaining major engineered structure (other than the tracks themselves) associated with the B & O carshops in Garrett.

ACREAGE: Less than one acre.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: The bridge structure and its approach embankments, including a perimeter extending 20 feet to either side of the span and 20 feet in all directions from either end of the bridge.

QUADRANGLE SHEET: Garrett

UTM COORDINATES: 16/654350/4579320

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HISTORIC DISTRICT

21.

NAME: Garrett Historic District

LOCATION: approximately 100 blocks in the central part of Garrett, Indiana

OWNER: multiple ownership

DESCRIPTION: Garrett is situated on a gently rolling prairie in the center of Keyser Township (Photo 1). The city has a regular gridiron plan of square blocks, most of which is located to the South of the rail corridor. Although the original plat of the town extended only two blocks North of the tracks and three blocks South (Map 3), the majority of the present town had been platted by 1880, and both the population and size of Garrett have remained largely unchanged since the peak of rail activity in 1913 (Map 5). Most of the district's buildings date from no later than the first quarter of the twentieth century; the closing of the major part of the car shops in 1926 effectively marked the end of the period of historical development. The boundaries of the Garrett Historic District have been selected to define that area built up during the era 1875-1926 and containing the most physically compact, contiguous collection of structures which possess both historical associations with that period and a high level of architectural integrity, both as individual structures and as a district unit. Areas of historic fabric in which a majority of the structures have been greatly altered or which are largely composed of later development have been excluded, and isolated structures in such areas have been nominated as individual properties (see district plan, Map 6, and Garrett Quadrangle sheet).

Garrett's site was selected by the Baltimore, Pittsburgh, and Chicago Railroad on the basis of the distance a locomotive of 1875 could travel East from Chicago before needing to refill its boilers. The railroad established car repair shops there as headquarters of its Chicago Division (Map 4); by 1913 Garrett had a population of 5,000, and the shops employed 2,000 men (Photo 2). With the wane of steam power, however, the shops were gradually demolished; in 1968 the last major structure, a roundhouse, was destroyed (Photos 3,4). Two related structures, the brick passenger depot and a frame freight house, still stand along the tracks opposite the shop site (Photo 5) and in proximity to the commercial area to the South, along either side of Randolph Street (Photo 6). Although the days when the depot and the shops were the center of community life have passed (Photo 7),



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virtually every household in Garrett has some association with the railroad, sometimes through several generations. In that sense, the District can almost be considered a thematic area.

The majority of the District is composed of residential structures (90 percent) dating from 1875 onward, with the majority built no later than the peak year of the car shops, 1913 (Photos 8,9). The edges of the District contain a scattering of Craftsman and Bungalow houses built during the 1920's (Photo 10).

The earliest structures in the District are the 1875 frame Gothic freighthouse (Property 1), and two brick structures, the 1880 passenger depot (Property 3), and the 1875 commercial block which was erected by John King, First Vice-President of the Baltimore and Ohio (Property 2). These Italianate structures, as well as the slightly later Bicknell (1885)\* and Widmer (1893) Blocks (Properties 4 and 5), are characterized by smooth masonry wall planes, broken by patterns of regular fenestration and punctuated by stylized classical ornament. The galvanized iron ornament of the latter two structures was produced by George Mesker and Sons of Evansville, Indiana, and aptly illustrates the architectural sophistication which became possible with the availability of rail freight service.

Rail connections made possible not only the importation of the architectural elements themselves, but of pattern designs to be used in their local manufacture. This is particularly the case for residential structures, in which simple rectangular gabled forms derived from the earlier Federal and Greek Revival modes found generally in the area (cf. Township Properties 1 through 8) or ell- and tee-shaped forms from the cottage Gothic and Italian modes (cf. Township Properties 9 through 14) were successively given the decorative dress of later architectural styles.

The Italianate phase of this development is represented by the 1880 home of John Paul (Property 6) and the two-story bracketed cottage built by Frank Britton in 1884 (Property 7). The depressed, ogee-arched reveals in the pedimented window caps of the latter house are notable as a feature which appears on many houses in not only the district, but in the surrounding township and nearby Auburn, as well, evidence of a common authorship or, perhaps, manufacture.

\* Demolished 1981

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21. (Page 3)

With the exception of religious structures and isolated details, Gothic made few inroads into the classical traditions represented by the Greek Revival and Italianate architecture of that area. One domestic exception is the house built in 1886 by Emanuel Thumma, Garrett's second Mayor (Property 8); though its steeply pitched Gothic roof and the pointed head molds of the windows are unusually combined with an Italianate porch and a mansarded bay window as concessions to prevailing taste.

A continuation of classical discipline was made by the Colonial Revival style which became popular in the 1890's. The Samuel Johnston House (Property 9) demonstrates the persistence of the cottage form even to the late date of 1907, when it could be trimmed with simplified classical enframements and wrapped with a porch of Tuscan columns. Similarly, the house built in 1910 by Edward McKennan and which was home for 40 years to noted author and pre-historic archeologist Cameron Parks is a restrained classicized cottage whose porch of battered square posts standing on a cast stone base is one of the few local references to the Richardsonian Romanesque (Property 10).

The local use of Romanesque or Queen Anne medieval references is basically limited to the forms, rather than the details, of the houses. The use of cubic masses containing pinwheel plans and crowned by steeply-pitched hipped roofs is usually seen in combination with the classical detailing of the Colonial Revival mode. Even the seemingly medieval verticality of the house built in 1899 by local baker T. A. Smith (Property 11) is, after all, a design with a Georgian gambrel roof.

More locally typical combinations are the use of a steep hip roof with projecting end gables seen in the 1891 Fred Wood House (Property 12) or the broadly gabled cubic forms of the 1899 home built for the B & O Division Superintendent (Property 13), the 1896 George Novinger House (Property 14) or the house built in 1912 by Charles Searfoss (Property 15) and later owned by educator Will Franks, namesake of the elementary school. These four properties all combine cubic Queen Anne massing with such Colonial Revival devices as the use of cornices with shaped modillions, porches supported by Tuscan columns or Tuscan colonnettes on panelled dies, and simple classical enframements around both interior and exterior openings. Seldom seen are such Queen Anne features as shingled gables or wall surfaces, turned or tracery ornaments on

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21. (Page 4)

porches or gables, or irregular patterns of fenestration. The finest local example of the use of the Colonial Revival for both form and details is the Sacred Heart Hospital (Property 16), which was built in 1902. Its horseshoe-shaped mass is symmetrically punctuated by projecting gabled wings which enframe Tuscan galleries above the rusticated coursing of its first two floors; the walls are crowned by a modillionated cornice beneath a low-pitched gabled roof.

Definite inroads were made against this classical tradition, however, by the influence of the Craftsman and Bungalow styles in the early 20th Century, which also witnessed the peak of the community's growth in connection with the B & O shops. The first inkling of this can be seen in the plain hipped roof of the Colonial Revival design built in 1910 by B & O engineer John Cogley (Property 17). A complete expression of the Bungalow's emphasis on low-pitched gabled roofs with broad eaves superimposed on the facade can be seen in the 1913 home of Charles Abell (Property 18), who built several other houses in the development of southwest Garrett. The abandonment of this formal device in later Bungalow examples is exemplified by the house which B & O counsel H. W. Mountz built for his daughter and son-in-law George Carroll in 1922 (Property 19). Although the ridgeline is no longer perpendicular to the street, the roof with its eyebrow dormers remains the dominant formal element, embracing both the house and porch.

This geometric simplification and reduction of ornament to surface pattern and texture can be seen in several of the institutional and commercial structures. The bold rectangular mass of the City Hall (Property 20) designed in 1913 by the Elkhart, Indiana, architects Ellwood and Ellwood is made a Tudor design by the use of flat lancet arches of header coursing over openings, eave brackets which resemble hammer-beam trusses, and multi-lighted upper sash. Only the main entrance and the caps of the pilasters on the facade approach the complexity of their late medieval English sources.

A similar simplification of an Italian Renaissance device can be seen on the frontispiece of the Garrett Carnegie Library (Property 21). This 1914 building, design sketch 16 offered by the Library Board of Chicago, is a simple hip-roofed tapestry brick box made elegant by the addition of a projecting central bay whose shallow loggia of Tuscan columns supports an entablature which arches over the recessed entry.



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The 1915 Houser Block (Property 22) continues the theme of geometric ornament with its use of limestone stringcourses, pilaster caps, and bracketed cornice used on a tapestry brick wall surface to create a subtle polychrome effect enhanced by the textural richness of panelled brick coursing to define such classical elements as panelled pilasters and the frieze of the entablature. An additional, exotic reference is seen in the facade's bay windows, whose bracketed canopies covered with clay tile roofs connote the Spanish Mission style which was then current.

Two religious structures, the 1913 World Episcopal Methodist Church (Property 23) and the 1928 St. Joseph's Catholic Church (Property 24), are worthy of inclusion here for their architectural merit as further local illustrations of this eclectic trend. The Methodist Church makes reference to English Gothic with its castellated, limestone-trimmed tapestry brick form in much the same way that the City Hall refers to slightly later English precedents; the Church is the ecclesiastic equivalent of the City Hall, and it is more successful by virtue of the religious associations inherent in the use of Gothic forms; certainly, like the City Hall, the design of the Methodist Church relies upon few accurate historic details for its success. By contrast, the Italian Gothic design of St. Joseph's Catholic Church completely re-creates both the form and all the details of its historic models with almost archeological accuracy, a tangible testimony not only to the perfection of architectural knowledge, but also to the communication and transportation systems whose existence in the community are implied as well.

In the simplified classical ornament of the U. S. Post Office (Property 25), designed for Garrett in 1936 by architect Louis A. Simon, and in the formal symmetry and cubic massing of the 1939 Gala Theater (Property 26) built by Alex Kalafat, the continuation of the dialogue between form and ornament can be seen in the more recent terms of the Art Deco style. In their incorporation of ornament into their respective forms, these structures represent a culmination of development away from the use of ornament as applique freely combined with conventionalized forms, and mark the local arrival of a later variety of architectural development.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE 29

21. (Page 6)

As initially noted, the Garrett Historic District boundaries have been selected to define the area possessing the highest concentration of structures which have a high degree of architectural integrity and historical associations. Although areas composed primarily of greatly altered historic structures or later development have been excluded, the district nonetheless includes most of the town. This is explained by the fact that since the present population of Garrett is little more than it was during the peak years of railroad activity, the area has been overbuilt for many years since that time, and there has been little incentive for suburban development. Most new construction has taken the form of infill in the areas developed historically (Photos 9, 10), resulting in a city with few vacant areas inside the gridiron plan. Modern intrusions into the district area have thus taken several forms which directly affect historic structures. The most serious problem has been the demolition of large buildings brought on by the loss of their original uses, and the lack of new ways to utilize them; this is exemplified by the loss of the entire car shop complex (Photos 2, 3, 4). Another aspect of this problem is illustrated by the case in which the large Colonial Revival home of Dr. Thompson at King and Cowen Streets was replaced by a new building of the same approximate size, rather than making adaptive use of the house (Photo 11). More commonly, however, losses have been characterized by a change to less intensive use of a site, as in the case of the 1875 Garrett Hotel at Randolph and Keyser Streets, which was razed for a service station (Photo 12), and several instances of houses demolished to make way for commercial structures (Photos 13, 14). However, the most common form of intrusion upon the character of the district is the unsympathetic remodelling of the historic structures themselves. Some examples, such as the rear wing added to St. Joseph's Catholic Church, may gain their own historic value in time (Photo 15). Although many, including the removal of detail during the siding of houses or the remodeling of storefronts, may not be entirely reversible (Photos 16, 17), fortunately many more are of a more superficial nature, and can in time be remedied. That the existence of these intrusions has been noted, moreover, should not be cause to see them out of proportion to their context, which is that of a still largely homogeneous group of structures, few vacant lots, and more intrusions in terms of scale and material than of usage (Photos 18, 19). Such observations also are apart from the social homogeneity of the district, which is based upon the large number of families who share a common heritage of association with the railroad over several generations. Both the Garrett Centennial of 1975 and the U.S. Bicentennial the following year did much to renew awareness of these common bonds which define the character of Garrett, and these events have also led to renewed interest in the tangible record of the railroad community.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

30

21. (Page 7)

**SIGNIFICANCE:** In summary, the architectural examples to be found in the Garrett Historic District offer tangible evidence of the cultural and social development fostered by the railroad. They illustrate both the persistence of certain plan and form arrangements in a rural community, the role of the railroad as an importer of fashions through which these forms were kept of current appearance, and the resulting microcosm of the larger society which such communication created.

**ACREAGE:** Approximately 283 acres.

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:** The following lands and plats in the city of Garrett, Indiana:

All land South of Railroad Street and North of Quincy Street between extensions of Hamsher and Britton Streets;

Blocks 15 thru 33 of the Original Plat;

Blocks 34 thru 58 of Cowen's First Addition;

Blocks 59 thru 80 of Keyser's First Addition;

Blocks 1 thru 6 of South Park Addition;

All of Vanada's Addition;

All of Wells' First Addition;

All of Wells' Second Addition;

Lots 1 thru 8 of Hill's Addition;

Blocks 4 thru 9 of Thomas' South Addition.

**QUADRANGLE SHEET:** Garrett

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 31

21. (Page 8)

For the most part, the boundaries of the Garrett Historic District do not include modern intrusions into the historic fabric of the town. The principal forms of intrusion within the district are the modernizations which the historic structures themselves have undergone in recent years. Because the population of the present town is little different than that of the peak years of the car shops, the town has been overbuilt for many years, and there has been little incentive for new construction. A plenitude of vacant land on the fringes of the town, particularly on the East towards Auburn, has absorbed the development of suburban housing which took place after World War II. The most significant modern intrusion within the district was the demolition of the 1875 Garrett Hotel at the Southeast corner of Randolph and Keyser Streets in the late 1960's for the construction of a gas station. Another form of intrusion has been the complete demolition of the B & O car shop structures, which began in the late Fifties and was culminated in 1968 by demolition of the 1875 roundhouse, which was the first permanent structure associated with the development of the shops. Today only the passenger depot, freight house, and knocker shops remain.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
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Continuation sheet

Item number 10

Page 32

21. (Page 9 ) Garrett Historic District

UTM References: An irregular polygon defined by the following points:

- A. 16/655330/4579465
- B. 16/656470/4579495
- C. 16/656495/4578700
- D. 16/656290/4578690
- E. 16/656305/4578390
- F. 16/656045/4578385
- G. 16/656050/4578155
- H. 16/655880/4578155
- I. 16/655880/4578205
- J. 16/655850/4578210
- K. 16/655840/4578460
- L. 16/655360/4578450



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ITEM NUMBER 11 PAGE 33

All photographs of individual properties and properties within the Garrett Historic District, as well as Photos 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 were taken in November, 1979, by Kenneth F. Smith; the negatives of these photographs are available at KFS Studios, 113 North Randolph Street, Garrett, Indiana, 46738.

Photographs 2, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, and 19 were taken in June, 1982, by Craig Leonard; the negatives of these photographs are available at 521 West Market Street, Bluffton, Indiana, 46714.

Final



EXP. 12/31/84

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 10/13

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name Keyser Township MRA  
State Indiana

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

- |                                  |                                     |            |                            |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Shull, Henry, Farmhouse Inn   | Entered in the<br>National Register | for Keeper | <u>Melvin Byers</u> 5/6/83 |
|                                  |                                     | Attest     | _____                      |
| 2. Gump House                    | Entered in the<br>National Register | for Keeper | <u>Melvin Byers</u> 5/6/83 |
|                                  |                                     | Attest     | _____                      |
| 3. Fountain, William, House      | Entered in the<br>National Register | for Keeper | <u>Melvin Byers</u> 5/6/83 |
|                                  |                                     | Attest     | _____                      |
| 4. Clark, Orin, House            | Entered in the<br>National Register | for Keeper | <u>Melvin Byers</u> 5/6/83 |
|                                  |                                     | Attest     | _____                      |
| 5. Kelham, Edward, House         | Entered in the<br>National Register | for Keeper | <u>Melvin Byers</u> 5/6/83 |
|                                  |                                     | Attest     | _____                      |
| 6. DePew, Samuel, House          | Substantive Review                  | Keeper     | <u>et</u> 5                |
|                                  |                                     | Attest     | _____                      |
| 7. Breechbill-Davidson House     | Entered in the<br>National Register | for Keeper | <u>Melvin Byers</u> 5/6/83 |
|                                  |                                     | Attest     | _____                      |
| 8. Bowman, Joseph, Farmhouse     | Entered in the<br>National Register | for Keeper | <u>Melvin Byers</u> 5/6/83 |
|                                  |                                     | Attest     | _____                      |
| 9. Haag, J. H., House            | Entered in the<br>National Register | for Keeper | <u>Melvin Byers</u> 5/6/83 |
|                                  |                                     | Attest     | _____                      |
| 10. Lehmbach, Charles, Farmstead | Entered in the<br>National Register | for Keeper | <u>Melvin Byers</u> 5/6/83 |
|                                  |                                     | Attest     | _____                      |

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

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received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 243

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

Name Keyser Township MRA  
State Indiana

Nomination/Type of Review

11. Peters, Henry, House

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Date/Signature

Delores Byers 5/6/83

Attest

12. Bevier, Samuel, House

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byers 5/6/83

Attest

13. Wilderson, John, House

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byers 5/6/83

Attest

14. Rakestraw House

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byers 5/6/83

Attest

15. Brethren in Christ Church

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byers 5/6/83

Attest

16. Altona Baptist Church

Substantive Review

Keeper

not

Attest

17. Keyser Township District  
School 5

Keeper

T

Attest

18. Keyser Township School 8

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byers 5/6/83

Attest

19. DeKalb County Home and Barn

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byers 5/6/83

Attest

20. Altona Bridge

DOE/OWNER OBJECTION

Substantive Review

Keeper

5

Attest



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

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date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 3 of 3

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

Name Keyser Township MRA

State Indiana

Nomination/Type of Review

21. Garrett Historic District

Entered in the  
National Register

for  
Keeper

Date/Signature

Delores Byers 5/6/83

Attest

22.

Keeper

Attest

23.

Keeper

Attest

24.

Keeper

Attest

25.

Keeper

Attest

26.

Keeper

Attest

27.

Keeper

Attest

28.

Keeper

Attest

29.

Keeper

Attest

30.

Keeper

Attest



KEYSER TOWNSHIP M.R.H.D.  
Dekalb County, Indiana

Photo 1. General aerial view  
of Garrett looking North

O. SHOPS, GARRETT, IND.

DRAWING LOANED BY GARRETT





KEYSER TOWNSHIP M.R.H.D.  
DeKalb County, Indiana

Photo 2. General view looking North  
of the car shops, drawn in  
1907 for the Garrett Clipper  
for its masthead. Collection  
Garrett Historical Society



KEYSER TOWNSHIP M.R.H.D.  
DeKalb County, Indiana

Photo 3. General aerial view  
looking East over the  
site of the B. & O. shops





KEYSER TOWNSHIP M.R.H.D.  
DeKalb County, Indiana

Photo 4. Aerial view looking East  
over the site of the 1875  
brick roundhouse



KEYSER TOWNSHIP M.R.H.D.  
DeKalb County, Indiana

Photo 5. General view looking  
Northwest of the passenger  
depot (left) and freight-  
house (right)





KEYSER TOWNSHIP M.R.H.D.  
DeKalb County, Indiana

Photo 6. General view looking South  
towards Garrett business  
district along Randolph St.  
and its relationship to the  
B. & O. freighthouse (left)

OT, GARRETT, IND.



KEYSER TOWNSHIP M.R.H.D.  
Dekalb County, Indiana

Photo 7. View of the West elevation  
of the passenger depot  
prior to 1910 remodelling,  
which added a full second  
story to the building





KEYSER TOWNSHIP M.R.H.D.  
DeKalb County, Indiana

Photo 8. General view of houses  
along the West side of the  
600 block of South Randolph  
Street, Garrett

E-6



KEYSER TOWNSHIP M.R.H.D.  
Dekalb County, Indiana

Photo 9. General view looking  
Northeast at the inter-  
section of Houston and  
Franklin Streets, Garrett

4-6





KEYSER TOWNSHIP M.R.H.D.  
DeKalb County, Indiana

Photo 10. General view looking South-  
east at the intersection of  
King and Britton Streets,  
Garrett

1-6



KEYSER TOWNSHIP M.R.H.D.  
DeKalb County, Indiana

Photo 11 General view looking  
Northwest of the Garrett  
State Bank built on the  
site of the Thompson house  
at King & Cowen Streets





KEYSER TOWNSHIP M.R.H.D.  
DeKalb County, Indiana

Photo 12 General view looking  
Southeast of the site of  
the Garrett Hotel at Keyser  
and Randolph Streets,  
razed for a gas station



KEYSER TOWNSHIP M.R.H.D.  
DeKalb County, Indiana

Photo 13 General view looking  
Northwest of a modern  
commercial building at  
King and Peters Streets,  
on the edge of downtown



KEYSER TOWNSHIP M.R.H.D.  
DeKalb County, Indiana

Photo 14 General view looking  
Southwest of a modern  
commercial building at  
Randolph & Frederick  
Streets, in an otherwise  
residential area





KEYSER TOWNSHIP M.R.H.D.  
DeKalb County, Indiana

Photo 15 General view looking  
Southwest of the modern  
rear wing of St. Joseph's  
Catholic Church at Peters  
and Houston Streets



KEYSER TOWNSHIP M.R.H.D.  
DeKalb County, Indiana

Photo 16 General view looking South  
of houses on Houston Street  
between Franklin & Lee  
Streets, typical of greatly  
altered historic houses in  
the Garrett district





KEYSER TOWNSHIP M.R.H.D.  
DeKalb County, Indiana

Photo 17 General view looking East  
on the 100 block of North  
Randolph Street of a group  
of typically altered his-  
toric commercial buildings



KEYSER TOWNSHIP M.R.H.D.  
DeKalb County, Indiana

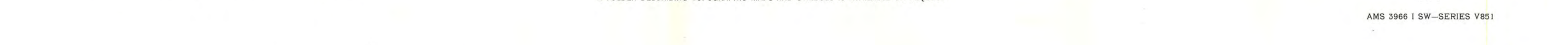
Photo 18 General view looking South-  
west at Cowen & Edgerton  
Streets of modern infill  
in a historic residential  
area. The house on the  
right is Property 7, the  
Frank Britton House (1884).



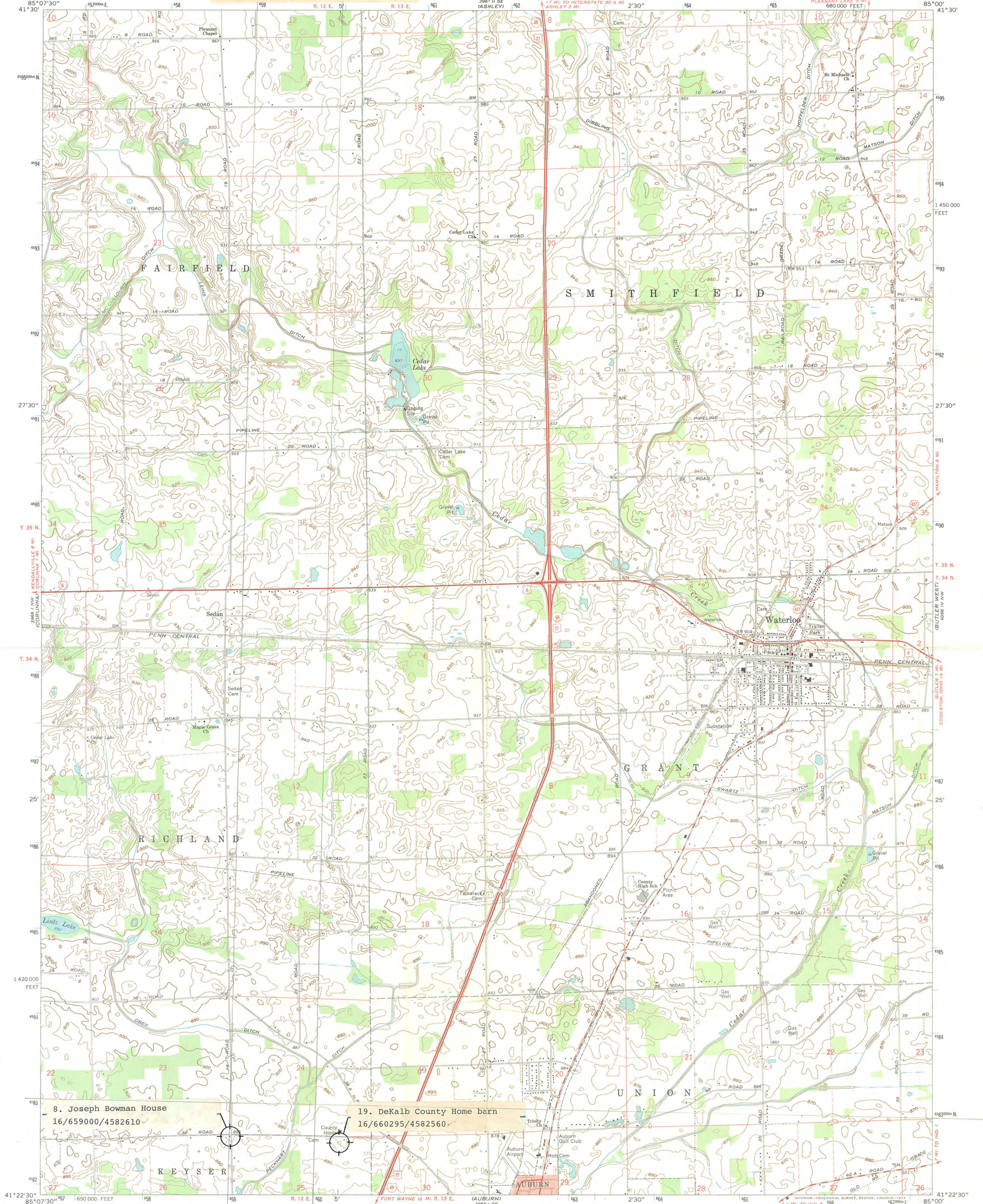
KEYSER TOWNSHIP M.R.H.D.  
DeKalb County, Indiana

Photo 19 General view looking Southwest at McHenry & Johnston Streets of modern infill in the area of the district edge, near Property 18, the Frank Abell House (1913).









8. Joseph Bowman House  
16/659000/4582610

19. DeKalb County Home barn  
16/660295/4582560

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Control by USGS and USC&GS

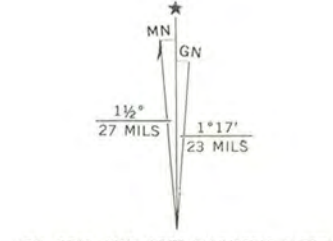
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taken 1951. Topography by planimetric surveys 1957  
Revised from aerial photographs taken 1972. Field checked 1973

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Indiana coordinate system, east zone  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
zone 16, shown in blue

Depth curves and soundings compiled from USGS-Indiana  
Department of Natural Resources lake charts

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where  
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked

Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown



SCALE 1:24 000  
CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET  
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
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A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

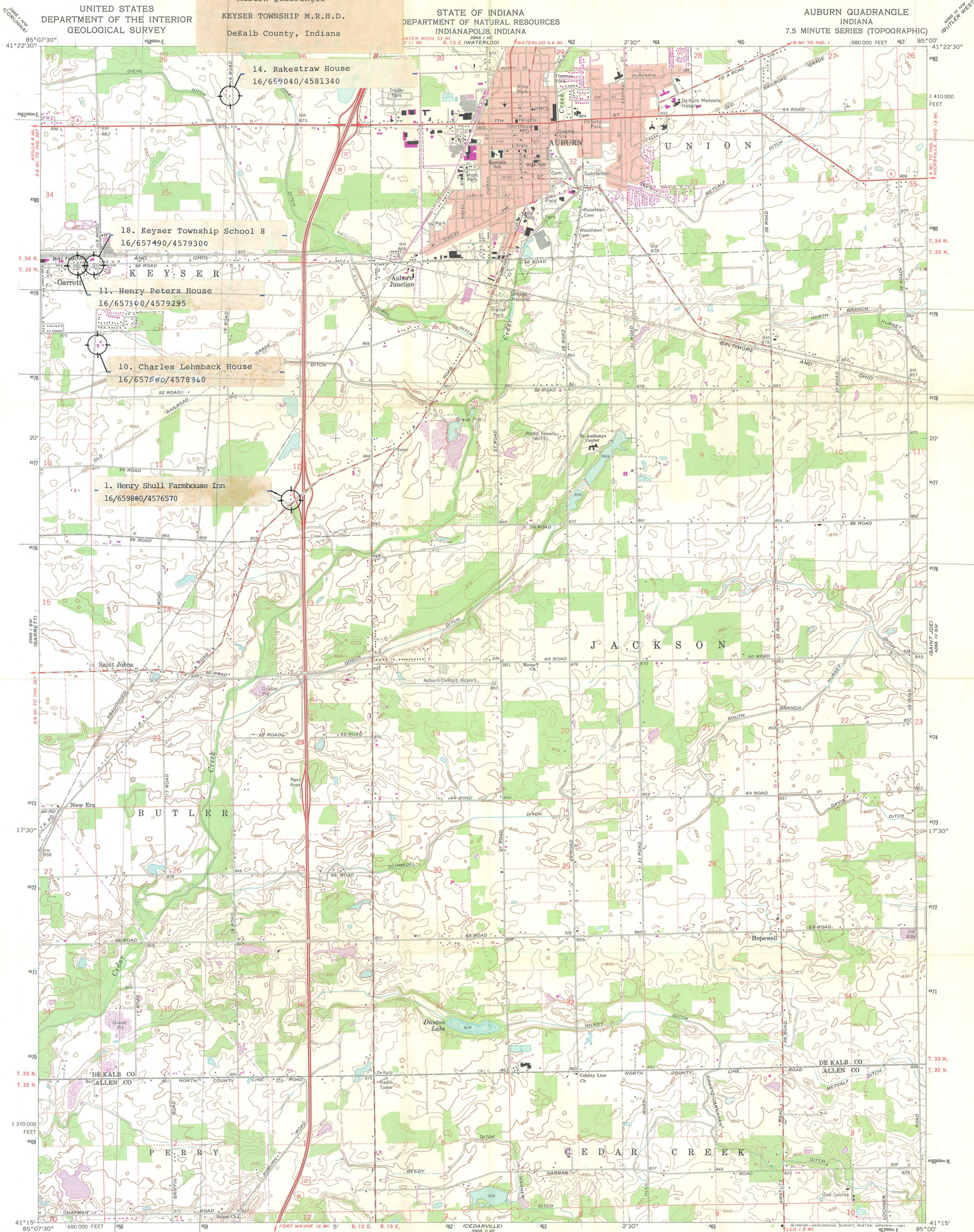
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Secondary highway, hard surface  
Unimproved road  
Interstate Route  
U.S. Route  
State Route

WATERLOO, IND.  
N4122.5—W8500.7.5

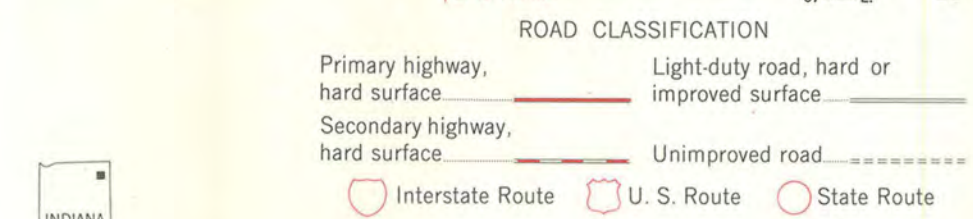
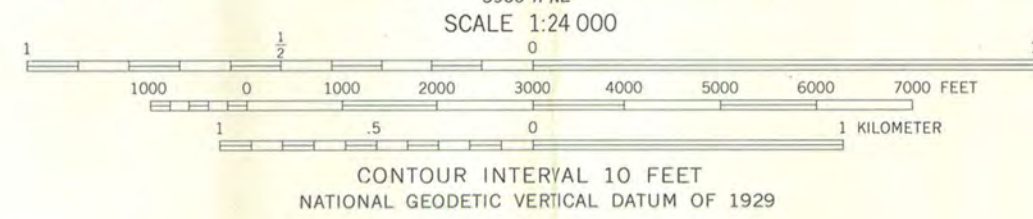
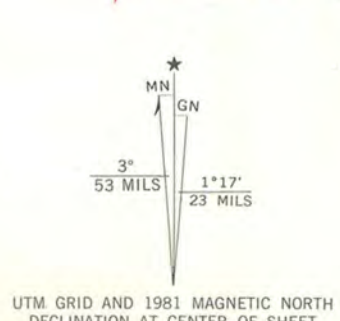
1973

AMS 3966 1 NE—SERIES W851



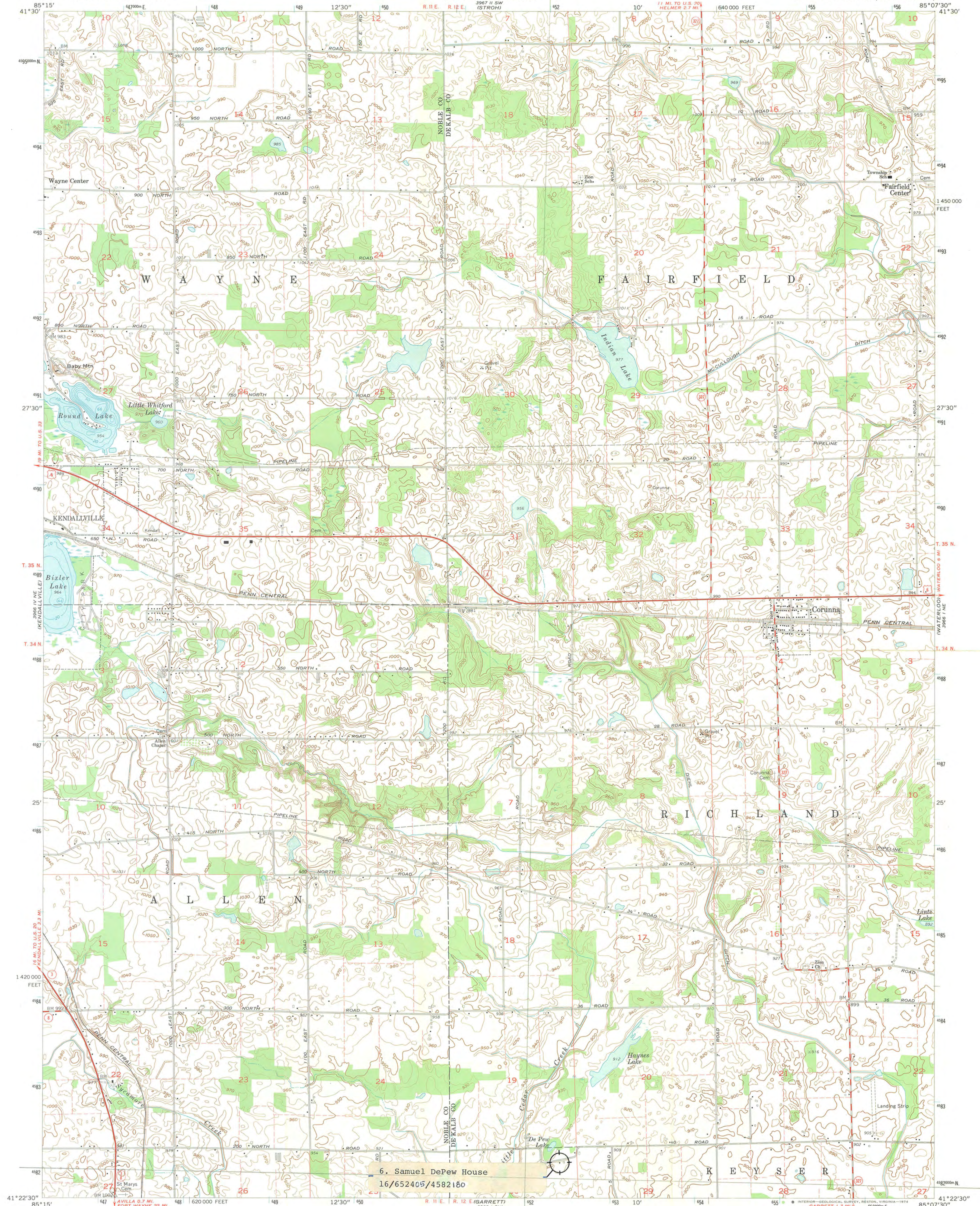


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Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs  
taken 1950. Topography by planimetric surveys 1955 and 1957  
Revised from aerial photographs taken 1972. Field checked 1973  
Polyconic projection. 10,000-foot grid ticks based on Indiana coordinate  
system, east zone. 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator  
grid ticks, zone 16, shown in blue. 1927 North American Datum  
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983 move the  
projection lines 2 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks  
Depth curves and soundings compiled from USGS-Indiana  
Department of Natural Resources lake charts  
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where  
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked  
Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown

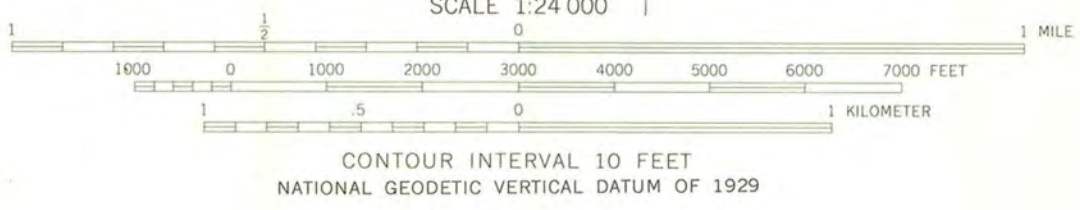
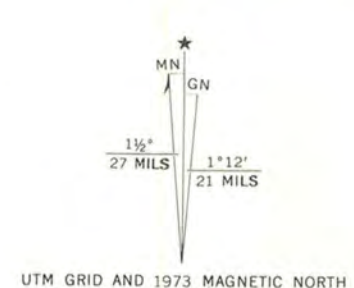


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A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST  
Revisions shown in purple and woodland compiled in  
cooperation with State of Indiana agencies from aerial  
photographs taken 1979 and other sources. This  
information not field checked. Map edited 1981  
AUBURN, IND.  
N4115-W8500/7.5  
1973  
PHOTOREVISED 1981  
DMA 3966 I SE-SERIES V851

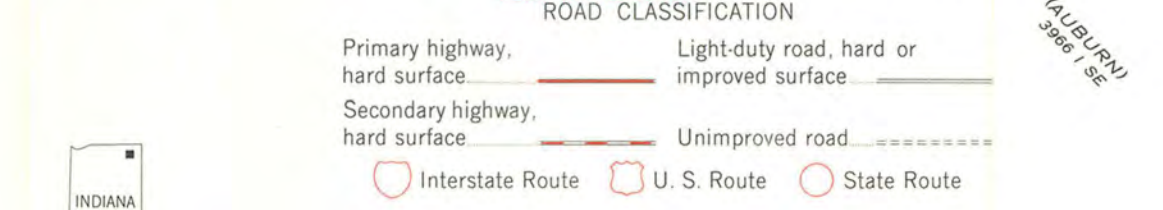




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Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1951. Topography by planetable surveys 1955. Revised from aerial photographs taken 1972. Field checked 1973  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Indiana coordinate system, east zone  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 16, shown in blue  
Depth curves and soundings compiled from USGS-Indiana Department of Natural Resources lake charts  
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



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A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



CORUNNA, IND.  
N4122.5-W8507.5/7.5

1973

AMS 3966 I NW-SERIES V851



# STATE OF INDIANA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

JAMES M. RIDENOUR  
DIRECTOR



INDIANAPOLIS, 46204

Division of Historic Preservation  
and Archaeology  
202 North Alabama Street  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

March 16, 1983

Carol D. Shull  
Acting Chief of Registration  
D O I  
W 434  
Washington, D.C. 20243

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed is a National Register nomination for the Historic Resources of Keyser Township, DeKalb County, Indiana.

Please note that this is a multiple resource nomination, including 20 individual properties, and one historic district. We received one notarized objection, for the Altona Bridge (property #20). A copy of that letter is attached.

Very truly yours,

Richard A. Gantz  
Director  
Division of Historic Preservation  
and Archaeology

RAG:NJL:hdw

Enclosures





Note to file

64000192

Keyser Township MRA

Indiana

This cover was accepted in 1983.

The file was scanned and transferred to the National Archives.

However, the file was incomplete. The Indiana State Historic Preservation Office provided a complete copy in 2019.