

CONTINUATION SHEET

A. M. Kennedy Home and  
Covered Bridges of Rush County

Page 4

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NAME: Kennedy, Archibald M., House  
LOCATION: County Road 200 North  
OWNER: Andrew Ariens  
ADDRESS R. 7, Rushville, Indiana 46173

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DESCRIPTION

The A. M. Kennedy Home is a rectangular, Italianate structure of painted brick. The house is characterized by the use of arches on the front and rear porches, as well as the windows of the front elevation. The house is of the Italianate mode, with a gabled roof, central pediment, and columned, two-story front porch. The arch form appears again in the raking trim of the gable ends, an unusual treatment.

The low basement level is penetrated by square window openings.

The five bay main facade includes two-over-two, doublehung sash windows. The rounded arched windows are surmounted by corbelled rowlock arched window hoods with small corbelled stops. The sills are supported by small brackets at each end. The doors of the first and second stories are accented by paired arched windows, as well as an arched tympanum.

The central, two-story porch is graced by a series of square columns and pilasters. These columns are connected by a series of round arches accented at the spandrels and centers by brackets. The non-original second story columns are of wrought iron, connected by the arches, as on the first story.

A wide cornice trims the roof eaves and serves as a raking trim for the pediment. The cornice turns the corner to grace the gable end of the elevation with an arch instead of the usual straight raking trim. The cornice is heavily accented by double brackets. The gabled roof includes a brick chimney at each end.

The rear elevation includes a 1½ story wing with an arcade on the first floor and arched windows on the enclosed upper level. The arched window hoods with corbel stops of the front elevation are repeated on the rear elevation.

SIGNIFICANCE

The A. M. Kennedy house is significant as the residence of one of Indiana's most prolific builders of covered bridges. The two story, Italianate structure was built of brick made from Kennedy's own land, probably soon after his arrival in Rush County in 1864. The two story pedimented front porch adds a classical character to the building. According to Wilbur Peat, Indiana Houses of the Nineteenth Century, this stylistic combination of Greek or Federal elements with Italianate was a phenomenon of Indiana house building in the 1850's and 60's, thus contributing to the architectural significance of this house. The liberal use of arches on the exterior anticipates the arches used on the Kennedy bridges.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

QUADRANGLE NAME: Mays, Indiana

ACREAGE: Less than one acre

QUADRANGLE SCALE: 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES:

16 / 637240 / 4388585  
Zone Easting Northing

CONTINUATION SHEET

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Page 5

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Geographical Data (Continued)  
Archibald M. Kennedy House

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION:

A part of the Northwest Quarter of Section 27, Township 14 North, Range 10 East, Commencing at a point where County Road 200 North intersects with a driveway just east of the house; thence 136 feet along the west edge of the driveway; thence 102 feet west; thence north to the southern right-of-way of County Road 200 North; thence east to the place of beginning.