NAME
3914 West 161st Avenue

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS
3914 West 161st Avenue

CITY
Lowell

TOWNSHIP
Cedar Creek

OWNERSHIP
Ronnie Jo and Tina Vitoux

TAX PARCEL NUMBER
45-20-07-176-004.000-007;
45-20-07-176-003.000-007

YEAR BUILT
1889

SOURCE
Lake County Assessor (2013)

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE
No Discernible Style

PROPERTY TYPE
Domestic

FOUNDATION
Concrete

WALLS
Vinyl

ROOF
Asphalt shingle

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The property at 3914 West 161st Avenue consists of five buildings constructed between 1889 and 1960: the main house, two garages, one shed, and one silo. The property also contains a non-historic prefabricated house constructed in 1999. Located on the north side of West 161st Avenue, the property sits on 1.43 acres. Non-historic houses are located in its immediate vicinity to the east, west, and south across West 161st Avenue. Grassy lawn surrounds the property and mature deciduous trees are interspersed throughout the property.

The main house, built in 1889, is the southernmost building on the property. It is a two-story, upright-and-wing house of no discernible style clad in vinyl siding on a concrete foundation. Oriented south and parallel to West 161st Avenue, the house is characterized by replacement aluminum windows on all elevations that are flanked by inoperable vinyl shutters. The roof is covered in asphalt shingles.

The main house's south-facing facade is defined by its two-story gable-front portion at the east end, perpendicular to the projecting one-and-a-half-story, two-bay, side-gabled wing. The two-story gable-front portion contains paired six-over-six, double-hung windows at the first and second stories, and its west gable roofline extends downward to intersect the projecting wing's roof. The projecting wing comprises a small porch and interior room that project south beyond the gable-front portion. This room, likely a later addition, is clad in brick veneer at a height approximately midway across the facade. Above the brick is a large tripartite window composed of a single light fixed window flanked by four-over-four, double-hung sashes. West of the interior room, the small integrated porch comprises square posts and railings that support the roof above. The porch shades paired six-over-six, double-hung sash windows.

The main house's west side elevation comprises the wing's asymmetrical gabled-end with the roof sloping gradually toward the south-facing facade. Three windows are located on this elevation: two six-over-six, double-hung sash windows of varying sizes at the first story and a one-over-one, double-hung sash window at the second story. The main house's east side elevation comprises the two-story gable-

front portion and contains two first story windows similar to those on the west elevation. The north rear elevation contains windows flanking a back door on the house's wing section. A false barn vent is located at the center of the wing's roof ridgeline.

An additional non-historic house is located northwest of the main house. This small gable-front house was built in 1999 and appears to be of prefabricated construction on a concrete foundation. It is oriented on an east-west axis parallel to West 161st Avenue. The walls are vinyl and windows are one-over-one, double-hung sash or fixed. An entry door is located on its east-facing facade, and an additional door is located on its north side elevation.

Two garages are located on the property, north of the main house; both date to 1960. Immediately north of and perpendicular to the main house is a small, rectangular garage clad with vertical boards and a gabled metal roof. The windowless garage contains a wide opening on its south elevation and an entry door on its north rear elevation.

North of the small garage is a larger garage that accommodates three vehicles. Oriented to the west, the smaller front-gabled southernmost section is clad with vertical boards and contains a garage door in its west elevation. Its south side elevation has small windows and a door, and its east rear elevation is windowless. Its north elevation is attached to the garage's taller northernmost side-gabled section, which is also oriented west. This larger section contains similar materials and has two large garage door openings on its west elevation. Its north side and east rear elevations are windowless. The garage has an asphalt-shingled roof.

Immediately north of the combined garage building is a now-defunct concrete silo with a deteriorated roofline. The silo's roof is no longer extant.

Directly west of the silo is a small asphalt-shingled gable-roofed wooden shed. The shed is open on its south and east elevations, with the roof above supported by posts along those elevations. The remaining elevations are windowless. Its north rear elevation has a small shed-roofed addition.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The main upright-and-wing house at 3914 West 161st Avenue was constructed in 1889, the silo in 1940, the other outbuildings in 1960, and the additional prefabricated house in 1999. The 1922 Lake County plat map indicates the original 98.3 acres of land belonged to C. Childers. It is possible the main dwelling was constructed by Cyril Childers, the grandson of early Lake County settler, Thomas Childers, but it is unclear whether Cyril resided in the Lowell area. The Thomas Childers family settled in School Grove in 1834; their first cabin was near what is now 221st Avenue. Thomas Childers had several grandchildren and over thirty great-grandchildren.

With the exception of the house and silo, the property contains no visible remnants of its original agricultural use or the original farmsteads of the Childers families. Its original agricultural use is unknown, although given the presence of the silo, it is likely the farm produced corn or other crops in addition to raising livestock on a small-scale. A 1956 aerial photograph of the property shows the farmhouse, silo, and a large barn near the silo. The large barn is no longer extant. The 1956 aerial photograph as well as a 1966 Cedar Creek plat map indicates that the entire 98.3 acres of land was owned by Bernard Fetters at this time. By 1985, the land had been subdivided, with the parcel containing the main dwelling then belonging to Jack Lord. The Schweitzer family later purchased the parcel and subdivided it further, eventually transferring the parcel containing the main dwelling to the Vitoux family.

The period between 1850 and 1900 is generally considered to be Indiana's golden age of agriculture as subsistence farming transitioned to large-scale operations. Transportation and technological improvements allowed farmers to bring their corn crops and livestock, primarily cattle and hogs, to

faraway markets. Early agricultural education also contributed to this period of agricultural growth at the state and local levels. In 1851, the State Board of Agriculture was created to provide farmers with agricultural guidance in the form of local county agricultural societies. These county agricultural societies, as well as county fairs, provided farmstead improvement methods and techniques directly to farmers. Additionally, they exposed farmers to "book farming," which included essays on the topics of crops, drainage, machinery, and farmstead improvements. As a result, agricultural practice improved throughout the state and the State Board of Agriculture lent support for the Morrill Act passed by Congress in 1862. This act created the foundation for grant colleges and universities geared toward teaching agriculture and mechanical arts nationwide. These educational efforts and transportation improvements characterizing the state's agricultural boom did not reach the tri-creek area until the Monon Railroad was constructed through Cedar Creek Township in the 1880s. Also aiding agricultural growth in the tri-creek area were increased efforts to drain the marshlands and dig ditches to create arable land. An extensive drainage system began in the 1870s, continuing through the early part of the twentieth century, contributed greatly to agricultural growth. As a result, a large number of the county's farms date from the late nineteenth or early twentieth century. The original farm at 3914 West 161st Avenue was constructed towards the end of this period.

At the beginning of the twentieth century, few Lake County farmers owned tractors, used chemical fertilizers, or practiced crop rotation to avoid depleting soil nutrients despite a statewide trend toward these practices. Strides in agricultural education, focused on fertilizer, began in the 1880s and 1890s. These experiments began at the state's first land grant university, Purdue University. As the benefits of fertilizer to future crops became apparent, bulletins were published that instructed farmers on the application and benefits of fertilizer, its future effects to crops, and the best crops to fertilize (wheat and corn over oats). With the dissemination of these bulletins, further promoted by local agricultural organizations, farmers began to invest in commercial plant foods and liming soils between 1890 and 1900. These practices were more readily adopted by farmers statewide by 1910 than in Lake County, but as they became more commonplace, Lake County farmers began to adopt the new planting and fertilizer techniques as well as new machinery during the 1920s and 1930s. These practices streamlined farming practices and increased productivity. This was further supported by local agricultural education offered by the Lowell High School, which had a three-year course in agriculture specifically designed for its rural pupils. The course of study partially relied on the study of agricultural bulletins and focused on plants and crops, soils, gardening, fruit growing, livestock, dairying, poultry, and feeding. Consequently, as new machinery was adopted, farm shops and implement or machine sheds were erected on the farms to repair and house equipment, store tools, and generally maintain the farmstead. One of the most basic and popular implement sheds was a three-sided building with the fourth side entirely open; sometimes old, unused barns on the property, simple wood-frame structures with open sides, or lean-tos attached to other farm buildings were used to protect farm equipment. The former farm at 3914 West 161st Avenue no longer retains any of its farm buildings from this earlier time period.

These improvements in agricultural practices and education led to a higher standard of living in rural communities as running water and electricity started to become available to rural residents and crop productivity significantly increased. Produce and food became less expensive for rural and urban residents and in increase in agricultural input initially benefited the nation during World War I. Farmers were able to supply food to families at home and to members of the military, resulting in an increased demand for goods and an economic boom. Increased profits during this time period led to farmers purchasing more land and seeking ways to continue to improve farming methods and machinery. However, after the war, prices for goods began to decline and farmers found themselves with a surplus of crops as they could produce more than what could be consumed. This resulted in the construction of silos on farmsteads to store surplus crops, in addition to the silos needed for winter livestock feed. Between 1917 and 1918, approximately ten thousand silos were constructed in the state.

The former farm's extant silo is the only remaining agricultural building on the property and its later construction date of 1940 represents the wide use of silos by that period of time. Silos became popular around the turn of the nineteenth century for the purpose of feeding livestock in the winter. They were first constructed of wood in a square shape. These first silos were sometimes built at the corner of a barn but they reduced available area for livestock or hay storage. They also were not as practical as the later round silos because the silage did not get packed into the corners, allowing air to get in and rot the contents. Square silos fell out of favor by the 1920s as round, concrete and glazed tile silos came into widespread use. Concrete was more popular than tile because it was easier to use and it could be poured in any vertical size. The property's silo is a typical example of the round, concrete tile silo.

The house at 3914 West 161st Avenue is a modest, altered, and typical example of a late nineteenth century upright-and-wing house. This form evolved from the gable-front house out of a need for additional space and is predominantly found in the Great Lakes region. The gable-front was a dominant house type that rose to popularity throughout the United States during the Greek Revival era and was a dominant, often unornamented, folk form in rural areas well beyond the antebellum era. The upright-and-wing house is characterized by a one or one-and-one-half-story wing attached to the two-story gable-front portion of the house, forming a T-shape. Early examples of upright-and-wing houses feature heavy friezes, cornice returns, and classical entries due to the Greek Revival influence of the period. After that period, the upright-and-wing house is generally unornamented. The house at 3914 West 161st Avenue is a modest upright-and-wing example of no discernible style. The house retains its basic form; however, the front porch is likely a later addition and the house has otherwise undergone several significant alterations that include vinyl siding, a newer concrete foundation, and window replacements. Additional changes include the gable-front portion's roof extending to the roof above the porch as well as the false barn vent located above the wing section.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The property at 3914 West 161st Avenue was evaluated for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criteria A, B, and C using guidelines set forth in the NRHP Bulletin "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation."

The formerly active farmstead at 3914 West 161st Avenue was established after extensive transportation and drainage efforts occurred in Cedar Creek Township in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, reflecting a countywide trend of farmstead establishment in this period. However, the farm appears to be typical of its period. Furthermore, most of the original farm outbuildings have been demolished and replaced, and the original large farm parcel has been subdivided over time and no longer conveys its local historically significant agricultural associations. Therefore, it is not eligible under Criterion A.

Although the property at 3914 West 161st Avenue is associated with the Childers family who was among the early settlers and farmers of Cedar Creek Township, the property no longer conveys that association as no original agricultural buildings other than the house are extant. Therefore, the property at 3914 West 161st Avenue is not eligible under Criterion B.

The house at 3914 West 161st Avenue is a modest, altered, and typical example of a late-nineteenth century upright-and-wing house. The house retains its basic form; however, it has undergone several significant alterations that include vinyl siding, a newer concrete foundation, and window replacements. Additionally, the house's associated farmstead outbuildings have been lost and replaced over time. The buildings' type, style, and features do not indicate architectural or historical significance, and are not distinctive examples of the type or style in Lake County. Therefore, the property at 3914 West 161st Avenue is not eligible under Criterion C.

The property at 3914 West 161st Avenue was evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the property at 3914 West 161st Avenue is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

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Photo 1 – 3914 West 161st Avenue

Facing northeast to 1898 main house facade and west elevation (at right), small garage (at center), 1999 house (at left), silo (at left), and shed (at far left)

Photo 2 – 3914 West 161st Avenue

Facing north to main house facade

Map – 3914 West 161st Avenue

NAME
16066 Hendricks Street

OTHER NAME(S)
Cedar Creek Township School; Jones Schoolhouse

STREET ADDRESS	CITY	TOWNSHIP
16066 Hendricks Street	Lowell	Cedar Creek

OWNERSHIP	TAX PARCEL NUMBER
William Miller Tr	45-20-07-251-008.000-007

YEAR BUILT	SOURCE
1900	Lake County Assessor (2013); Lake County IHSSI (1994)

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE	PROPERTY TYPE
No Discernible Style	Domestic

FOUNDATION	WALLS	ROOF
Concrete	Brick	Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The one-story, T-shaped house at 16066 Hendricks Street is a former one-room schoolhouse clad in brick on a concrete foundation. The house is located at the northwest corner of Hendricks Street and West 161st Avenue on a five-acre parcel. Non-historic, recently constructed houses are located in its immediate vicinity to the north, south, and east. The property is landscaped with large shrubs, evergreens, and deciduous trees, primarily near and around the house and garage. Two approximately two-story tall evergreens obstruct views to the house facade.

The house's most prominent feature is its steeply pitched hipped roof with an interior chimney centered on the ridge; the chimney does not appear to be original. The east-facing facade is largely obscured by large evergreens, but in plan view it is clear that the facade has a projecting bay with a cross-gabled roof. This projecting bay gives the building its T shape and divides the facade into three bays. The projecting center bay contains the house's main door. The projecting bay's north and south elevations contain identical paired, double-hung replacement windows. The facade's north bay has a single double-hung sash window. The facade's south bay has a large, tripartite window consisting of one square fixed pane flanked by double-hung sash windows with two horizontal lights in each sash.

The south side elevation contains a similar tripartite window as well as a paired window. Between them is an exterior cellar door centered on this elevation. The west rear elevation has an off-centered gable-roofed bay that projects from this elevation. This bay is not as prominent as that on the facade, and is likely not original. It is clad in vertical wood boards with an asphalt-shingled roof. Centered in this bay is a door flanked by a small window on each side. Overall, the house is plainly detailed and terminates in an asphalt-shingled roof.

The property also has a small gable-roofed detached garage southwest of the house and a gable-roofed barn northwest of the house. The detached garage is clad in vertical wood boards with an asphalt-shingled roof. Its two-car garage door on the south elevation opens to a short driveway off West 161st

Avenue. Along the garage's north rear elevation beneath the roof is an open full-width porch used for firewood storage. A separate driveway along the garage's west elevation leads to the wood-clad, asphalt-shingled, gable-roofed barn at the property's north boundary. Its south elevation contains two garage door openings while the north elevation contains a sliding door opening and an entry door; the east and west elevations contain no door or window openings.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The former one-room schoolhouse and barn at 16066 Hendricks Street were constructed in 1900, while the detached garage was built in 1935. The property was previously surveyed and rated "Contributing" in the 1996 Lake County Interim Report. The Interim Report assigned a rating of "Non-Contributing," "Contributing," "Notable," or "Outstanding" to surveyed properties based on their historical significance, architectural merit, environment, and integrity. For the purposes of the Interim Report, these ratings were based upon the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Criteria for Evaluation, but were not substitutes for final NRHP eligibility determinations. Also, because 17 years have passed since this report, many properties have undergone alterations that are not considered in the report's assessments. Properties rated "Non-Contributing" were only included in the Interim Report if they were located within an existing or potential historic district and would not be considered NRHP-eligible. A "Contributing" rating was assigned to those properties that met the 50 years of age or older criterion but were not individually significant enough to be NRHP eligible; however, these resources could be considered NRHP-eligible as part of a historic district. A "Notable" rating meant the property did not merit an "Outstanding" rating but was still above-average in its historic or architectural significance and could be NRHP-eligible upon further investigation. An "Outstanding" rating meant the property retained enough historic or architectural significance that it was already listed in or should be considered for individual listing in the NRHP. For the purposes of this report's evaluation, the "Contributing"-rated property at 16066 Hendricks Street is being assessed individually and not as part of a rural historic district.

At the time of its survey, the building was identified as a one-room schoolhouse called the Cedar Creek Township School. Its survey form notes the building is a typical example of a turn-of-the-century district school building. It also noted the house had cornice returns and a door pediment and pilasters; these elements may still be present but this portion of the building is obscured due to the trees. The building retains its overall T-plan form but appears to have mid-twentieth century replacement windows as well as a non-historic chimney, which reflect its conversion to residential purposes.

Additional research indicates this brick one-room schoolhouse replaced an earlier frame one-room schoolhouse known as the Jones School House. This replacement is also sometimes referred to as the Jones School House. The earlier frame schoolhouse was constructed in 1859 in an early pioneer community originally settled and named Pleasant Grove by the Bryant family in 1834. In the late nineteenth century prior to its replacement, the frame schoolhouse was used as a Sunday school. Research did not reveal when the one-room schoolhouse was converted into a private house; however, the 1935 detached garage and research indicates this conversion occurred in the early to mid-1930s. By 1936, Cedar Creek Township is listed as having only four schools: Lowell Elementary, Shelby, Oak Hill, and Lowell High School.

This former schoolhouse is one of a few remaining schoolhouses in Lake County associated with the county's early public education system, which is representative of the development of the state's educational systems. Indiana's Land Ordinance Act of 1785 allowed for the leasing of public land to schools, however, the free public schools system did not emerge as the dominant education system until the 1850s. When settlers established themselves in a frontier region in Indiana, a school was often one of the first institutions established in a rural community. These early schools—referred to as subscription schools—operated because families with children worked together to find a qualified teacher and paid a yearly fee per pupil to fund the schools. This method of school funding lasted through the late 1840s and into the 1850s when state-level educational reforms began to occur, first with an 1848 state referendum

favoring free schools and in 1849 with the General Assembly passing a school law mandating a state and local tax-supported educational system for Indiana. This was further supported by a re-drafting of the Indiana Constitution in 1851, which called for a free common school system. Following this, a State Superintendent of Public Instruction and State Board of Education were established and local governments appropriated tax money to support township schools, replacing the need for subscription schools. As school boards became established, standards were set for teachers and curriculum. These changes to the educational system primarily occurred in urban areas as rural townships felt the burden of additional local taxes and only limited state funds were used to fund rural schools. These funding limitations continued through the Civil War until the state's General Assembly passed several acts affirming and upholding the authority of rural school districts and municipalities to tax for educational purposes; the Supreme Court reaffirmed this authority in 1885. During this time, tax money was used to construct school buildings and libraries, and the standard one to two-room schoolhouse rose to prominence, as did the district school system, which was a decentralized network of schools. This model brought the schools close to, and within walking distance, of its pupils and were usually located on land donated by local farmers. This continued to dominate educational building design in rural areas through the late nineteenth and early twentieth century.

Population growth during this era, along with the development of transportation systems, diminished the need for schoolhouses to be located within walking distance of a student's home. Educational trends shifted toward school consolidation; schoolhouses were closed in favor of a larger school, usually located in the largest community within a township. Between 1890 and 1900, roughly 4,000 schoolhouses nationwide were abandoned. Once abandoned, these district schoolhouses were converted into residences, farm storage buildings, or churches. By the 1930s, Lake County experienced significantly increased school enrollment throughout the county due to increased industrial expansion, improved transportation, and a residential shift from the cities to suburban and rural areas. These changes contributed to the abandonment of the one-room schoolhouse in favor of the larger consolidated district schools. School architecture also changed as a sprawling modern Ranch style consisting of multiple rooms for distinct functions came into being.

The former schoolhouse at 16066 Hendricks Street is a later example of the rural one-room, T-plan district schoolhouse and appears to be similar to other one-room schoolhouses constructed in Indiana as discussed and documented in the NRHP Multiple Property Registration Form, "Indiana's Public Common and High Schools." Developing out of the vernacular building traditions of Anglo-American settlers, schoolhouses were originally constructed in the gable-front form. This dominant form was typified by a gable roof, rectangular plan, symmetrical proportions, uniform window distribution, and one classroom. Some gable-front schoolhouses also incorporated Greek Revival, Gothic Revival, or Italianate style exterior details. The earliest schoolhouses were constructed of round or hewn logs, followed by balloon frame construction with clapboard siding beginning in the 1850s. Later examples were constructed of solid masonry, such as brick, and were minimally elaborated. Masonry one-room schoolhouses were typical in Indiana. Earlier interiors consisted only of the classroom while later examples had cloakrooms or storage closets formed by internal partitions.

In the 1870s and 1880s, builders began experimenting with new schoolhouse forms, such as the T-plan, which changed the orientation of the schoolhouse. In the T-plan schoolhouse, the vestibule or cloakroom was treated as a separate unit and placed on the long side of the building. Two intersecting gabled blocks formed the T-plan with the vestibule being the smaller of the blocks. The T-plan schoolhouse at 16066 Hendricks Street is a typical example of the T-plan form clad in brick, although its main block has a steeply pitched hipped roof intersected by the gable-roofed vestibule. It is minimally ornamented and also has a rear vestibule-like addition. Its interior has likely been extensively reconfigured to accommodate its present residential use.

There has been an approximately five-acre parcel at this location since at least 1920. It is unknown when the schoolhouse was closed for educational purposes and converted into a residential property, but it may have occurred around 1935 when the detached garage was constructed, signaling a residential use. The property was owned from at least 1985 until 2012 by William Miller; there is no information on earlier ownership. William H. Miller, a resident of Lowell, Indiana, died on January 11, 2011, at the age of 89. He was survived by two sons, William H. Miller III and Robert Miller, six grandchildren and one great-grandchild. The property was transferred to Robert T. Miller, Trustee, on February 8, 2012. The property is classified as single-family residential by the Lake County Assessor.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The house at 16066 Hendricks Street was evaluated for listing in the NRHP under Criteria A, B, and C using guidelines set forth in the NRHP Bulletin "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation" and the NRHP Multiple Property Registration Form "Indiana's Public Common and High Schools."

The NRHP Multiple Property Registration Form suggests that one-room schoolhouses meet the following requirements to be considered eligible for listing in the NRHP:

- Should be in their original location;
- Should retain their exterior massing, form, and pattern of openings and convey basic integrity;
- Should retain interior integrity, though conversion to other uses does not necessarily preclude significance. The single classroom should remain intact with no partition walls and other educational uses should be intact, including cloakrooms, chalkboards, and ventilation devices;
- Should not be significantly altered by large additions changing the simple appearance of a one-room schoolhouse;
- Should retain original, intact exterior materials; and
- Should retain association as a one-room schoolhouse through documentation as a publicly funded, built, and maintained district school system.

The former schoolhouse at 16066 Hendricks Street is a late example of the state's and county's decentralized district school system, common to rural areas that required schoolhouses be located within walking distance of its pupils. The decentralized district school system utilized the one-room schoolhouse, which was a common form throughout the state's rural areas in the mid to late nineteenth century. This model began to fall out of favor in the 1890s as the consolidated central school system became popular and schoolhouses constructed during this time were abandoned in large numbers up to and through the early 1900s. These abandoned schools were sometimes demolished, but in many instances, they were converted into residential, religious, or agricultural storage uses. This former schoolhouse is a late example of this transition as it was constructed ca. 1900 when many schoolhouses were already being abandoned in the state. It is unknown when this schoolhouse was converted into a residential property, but it may have occurred in the pre-World War II period due to the construction of the property's detached garage. It is not a representative example of the shift from a decentralized school system to a consolidated school system as it occurred much later than others like it, and therefore, does not meet the

requirements of the Multiple Property Registration Form. Furthermore, research did not reveal it to be the first schoolhouse constructed in the county nor did research reveal any significant contributions to local education. Therefore, it is not eligible under Criterion A.

The house at 16066 Hendricks Street is not associated with any families who were among the early settlers and farmers of Cedar Creek Township nor is it associated with any locally significant educators. Therefore, the house at 16066 Hendricks Street is not eligible under Criterion B.

The house at 16066 Hendricks Street is a modest turn-of-the-century one-room schoolhouse building converted into a house. The interior has likely been extensively altered to accommodate its residential use and the original one-room classroom likely no longer exists due to this conversion. The building retains its original brick exterior and basic T-plan form but has undergone several exterior alterations that include large replacement picture windows on the facade and south side elevation, indicative of its residential use, an asphalt-shingled roof, and likely, a non-historic concrete block chimney. Due to these alterations, the former one-room schoolhouse does not meet the requirements of the Multiple Property Registration Form. The property's detached garage and storage barn also detract from its association as a schoolhouse building. The building retains its overall massing, form, exterior masonry, and simple wood door surround on the facade, but its modest features as well as its common vernacular T-plan form do not indicate architectural or historical significance, and it does not appear to be a distinctive example of a former schoolhouse or residence in Lake County. Therefore, the house at 16066 Hendricks Street is not eligible under Criterion C.

The house at 16066 Hendricks Street was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the house at 16066 Hendricks Street is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

SOURCES
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Photo 1 – 16066 Hendricks Street

Facing northwest to facade and south elevation

Photo 2 – 16066 Hendricks Street

Facing west to facade

Photo 3 – 16066 Hendricks Street

Facing southwest to facade and north elevation

Photo 4 – 16066 Hendricks Street

Facing southwest to facade

Map – 16066 Hendricks Street

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NAME
Henry Surprise House

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS
16709 Holtz Road

CITY
Lowell

TOWNSHIP
Cedar Creek

OWNERSHIP
Robert and Mary Jensen

TAX PARCEL NUMBER
45-20-18-200-003.000-007

YEAR BUILT
1910

SOURCE
Lake County Assessor (2013)

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE
No Discernible Style

PROPERTY TYPE
Agriculture

FOUNDATION
Concrete block

WALLS
Vinyl

ROOF
Asphalt shingle

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The property comprising the Henry Surprise House is an early twentieth century farmstead located on the east side of Holtz Road on approximately 68 acres. The farmstead's extant buildings include its modest upright-and-wing house and two small sheds, all constructed ca. 1910; two non-historic pole barns and an above-ground pool are also located on the property. Off Holtz Road, the driveway runs along the house's north elevation. The immediate farmstead property is surrounded by grassy lawn and contains mature deciduous and evergreen trees. The remainder of the property comprises an agricultural field and the property's north and south boundaries are delineated by a deciduous tree line. Non-historic, recently constructed houses are located south of the property along West 169th Avenue and a future development is planned directly west of the house across Holtz Road.

The ca. 1910 Henry Surprise House is a modest and altered upright-and-wing house of no discernible style. It is clad in vinyl siding on a concrete block foundation resembling ashlar stone blocks; its roof has asphalt shingles. Facing west, the facade comprises a two-story, gable-front upright section intersected by a one-and-one-half-story, side-gable wing. The upright section contains paired four-over-four, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash windows with non-operable vinyl shutters at the first and second stories. Perpendicular to the north elevation of the upright section, the one-and-one-half-story, side-gable wing comprises an enclosed, screened, partial-width porch defined by a concrete foundation and half-wall. The porch contains a central screen door entrance reached by three wood steps with wrought iron railings. The door is flanked on each side by four vinyl-framed screen windows; three of these screen windows are located on the porch's north side elevation. The porch's shed roof extends from the wing's side-gable roof, which comprises two gable dormers with four-over-four, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash windows.

The north side elevation contains a brick chimney dividing the two bays of windows at each story. The windows consist of four-over-four, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sashes in each bay. The east rear elevation comprises the two-story upright section and the one-and-one-half-story wing, which projects slightly beyond the upright. The upright section contains a single four-over-four, double-hung, vinyl-sash

window at each story. The wing contains an entry door flanked by two small replacement vinyl-sash windows and a larger four-over-four, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash window to the north. Above the door is a single gable roof dormer with a four-over-four, double-hung, vinyl-sash window. The south side elevation comprises two bays on the first story and three bays on the second story. Each bay contains four-over-four, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash windows.

A small asphalt-shingled, gable-roof shed constructed ca. 1910 is located just northeast of the house. It sits on a concrete foundation and is clad with vinyl siding. Its south elevation contains an entry door and no window openings. The east elevation contains a small fixed window and entry door while the west elevation contains three small fixed windows. The north elevation contains no window or door openings. A second ca. 1910 gable-roof shed comprised of the same materials is located just southeast of the house. This shed contains an entry door on its north elevation; all other elevations contain no window or door openings.

A large non-historic pole barn is located along the north side of the driveway and northeast of the house. It sits on a concrete foundation with metal-clad walls and a metal gable roof. Its identical gabled east and west elevations contain sliding double doors. Its south elevation contains an overhead garage door, an entry door and two sets of paired windows. Its north elevation contains paired windows and a small sliding door.

Southeast of this pole barn at the east terminus of the driveway is a second non-historic pole barn composed of the same materials. Its north elevation contains sliding double doors and its west elevation contains a single entry door. The south and east elevation contain no door or window openings.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The farmstead at 16709 Holtz Road consists of the Henry Surprise House and two sheds constructed in 1910 and two non-historic pole barns constructed in 1970 and 2005. The original upright-and-wing house was built by Henry Surprise, who likely inherited the land from his father, Peter Surprise. Peter Surprise moved his family to Lake County in 1833, making the family among the earliest settlers in Cedar Creek Township. Surprise moved from Chesterfield, New York to the Kankakee River in Illinois and followed Cedar Creek upstream to what is now Lake Dalecarlia (see Survey ID 129). He claimed 800 acres and constructed a cabin on the site. Near Peter Surprise's land claim, a small settlement called Pleasant Grove grew around the present-day intersection of West 161st Avenue and Hendricks Road, and included a school, a store, several mills, and the land holdings of pioneer families. Over time, the Surprise family became one of the largest landholders in the tri-creek area. A portion of Surprise family land was used to develop Lake Dalecarlia in 1927.

Henry Surprise was the oldest son of Peter Surprise and he helped found the Lowell National Bank in 1903. Two of Henry's three sons worked in the bank; Albert was identified as a director and employee who helped the bank grow, and Jasper Surprise was, in 1952, an officer of the bank. In total, Henry Surprise owned 534 acres in Cedar Creek Township; in addition to his land holdings, Henry Surprise was a successful stock dealer and broker. The Henry Surprise farm consisted of approximately 380 acres of land on both sides of Holtz Road. When his son Albert Surprise inherited the property, he continued its agricultural use. Albert Surprise transferred the property to his brother Jasper Surprise in the mid-twentieth century. Soon after, the land was acquired by the Hayden family, who continued farming the surrounding land. In recent years, the land has been purchased and farmed by the Jensen family; the house and its outbuildings are no longer the operational headquarters of the surrounding land's farming activities.

West Creek, Cedar Creek, and Eagle Creek were all established as townships in 1839, although the earliest pioneers began arriving and settling the land known as the tri-creek area in the early 1830s, like Peter Surprise. This early settlement period was characterized by fur trapping, hunting, and subsistence

farming, aided by the construction of several saw and grist mills. The settlers first planted corn, which became a mainstay of the local economy, even as crops diversified in later years to include wheat and soybeans. Corn provided food for the settlers as well as the livestock, and was also used as a means of trade. However, due to the extensive marshlands and prairie, and the late arrival of the railroad in the tri-creek area, farming on a large scale did not occur until the late nineteenth century. This was much later than other areas in Indiana that experienced major changes in agricultural practice and prosperity from the 1840s to 1860s due to advancements in transportation by canals and railroads and improvements in agricultural education.

The Henry Surprise farmstead was established during the period between 1850 and 1900, which is generally considered to be Indiana's golden age of agriculture as subsistence farming transitioned to large-scale operations. Transportation and technological improvements allowed farmers to bring their corn crops and livestock, primarily cattle and hogs, to faraway markets. Early agricultural education also contributed to this period of agricultural growth at the state and local levels. In 1851, the State Board of Agriculture was created to provide farmers with agricultural guidance in the form of local county agricultural societies. These county agricultural societies, as well as county fairs, provided farmstead improvement methods and techniques directly to farmers. Additionally, they exposed farmers to "book farming," which included essays on the topics of crops, drainage, machinery, and farmstead improvements. As a result, agricultural practice improved throughout the state and the State Board of Agriculture lent support for the Morrill Act passed by Congress in 1862. This act created the foundation for grant colleges and universities geared toward teaching agriculture and mechanical arts nationwide. These educational efforts and transportation improvements characterizing the state's agricultural boom did not reach the tri-creek area until the Monon Railroad was constructed through Cedar Creek Township in the 1880s. Also aiding agricultural growth in the tri-creek area were increased efforts to drain the marshlands and dig ditches to create arable land. An extensive drainage system began in the 1870s, continuing through the early part of the twentieth century, contributed greatly to agricultural growth. As a result, a large number of the county's farms date from the late nineteenth or early twentieth century.

At the beginning of the twentieth century, few Lake County farmers owned tractors, used chemical fertilizers, or practiced crop rotation to avoid depleting soil nutrients despite a statewide trend toward these practices. Strides in agricultural education, focused on fertilizer, began in the 1880s and 1890s. These experiments began at the state's first land grant university, Purdue University. As the benefits of fertilizer to future crops became apparent, bulletins were published that instructed farmers on the application and benefits of fertilizer, its future effects to crops, and the best crops to fertilize (wheat and corn over oats). With the dissemination of these bulletins, further promoted by local agricultural organizations, farmers began to invest in commercial plant foods and liming soils between 1890 and 1900. These practices were more readily adopted by farmers statewide by 1910 than in Lake County, but as they became more commonplace, Lake County farmers began to adopt the new planting and fertilizer techniques as well as new machinery during the 1920s and 1930s. These practices streamlined farming practices and increased productivity. This was further supported by local agricultural education offered by the Lowell High School, which had a three-year course in agriculture specifically designed for its rural pupils. The course of study partially relied on the study of agricultural bulletins and focused on plants and crops, soils, gardening, fruit growing, livestock, dairying, poultry, and feeding. Consequently, as new machinery was adopted, farm shops and implement or machine sheds were erected on the farms to repair and house equipment, store tools, and generally maintain the farmstead. One of the most basic and popular implement sheds was a three-sided building with the fourth side entirely open; sometimes old, unused barns on the property, simple wood-frame structures with open sides, or lean-tos attached to other farm buildings were used to protect farm equipment. This farmstead does not retain any agricultural outbuildings like these.

These improvements in agricultural practices and education led to a higher standard of living in rural

communities as running water and electricity started to become available to rural residents and crop productivity significantly increased. Produce and food became less expensive for rural and urban residents and in increase in agricultural input initially benefited the nation during World War I. Farmers were able to supply food to families at home and to members of the military, resulting in an increased demand for goods and an economic boom. Increased profits during this time period led to farmers purchasing more land and seeking ways to continue to improve farming methods and machinery. However, after the war, prices for goods began to decline and farmers found themselves with a surplus of crops as they could produce more than what could be consumed. This resulted in the construction of silos on farmsteads to store surplus crops, in addition to the silos needed for winter livestock feed. Between 1917 and 1918, approximately ten thousand silos were constructed in the state.

During the Great Depression, Congress passed the Agricultural Adjustment Act in 1933. The act played an important role in improving Indiana's agricultural economy through the installation of a wheat allotment program. Additionally, the Rural Electrification Administration, a program enacted by the New Deal, significantly impacted rural residents as approximately 24,000 farms received electricity. This was supported by the state's Rural Electric Membership Corporation in 1935 to distribute electricity to rural areas. By 1965, 99 percent of the state's farms were electrified, ending rural isolation and increasing farmers' productivity and efficiency.

In addition to corn, farmers also raised livestock. In Lake County, beef cattle farming rose to prominence in the early 1860s, spurred by increased demand, the development of refrigerated railcars, and later, the construction of a slaughterhouse in nearby Hammond, close to Chicago and railroad lines. At first, farmers raised a variety of livestock but eventually began to specialize in the 1920s due to the expense of raising a combination of animals that required specific buildings and care. Farmers focused on hogs and chickens or solely on dairy cows or beef cattle. This shifting focus to particular breeds was supported and improved by increased knowledge about livestock nutrition and the use of genetics for better breeding results that was disseminated by the local county fair and agricultural bulletins. Improved technologies for the care of livestock, such as automated feeding systems and milking systems, also contributed to this specialization. Research did not reveal the types of agricultural activities that took place on the Henry Surprise farmstead.

In the 1950s and 1960s, most farmers stopped practicing crop rotation and began to grow corn continuously because the crops did not deplete soil nutrients and improved fertilization techniques came into use. Additionally, rows of corn crops were planted closer together, increasing the output of crops and contributing to the decline of crop rotation. New mechanized and specialized equipment, like the mechanical corn picker, cultivator, planter, and mowers, and automated feeding and milking systems, and farming practices, like a new process of corn, wheat, and soybean field shelling and knowledge of nutrition and genetics of livestock, began to supersede the need for human labor. These improvements to crop and livestock varieties allowed farmers to engage in well-rounded agricultural practices on a scale never before seen. Despite these advances, the amount of farmland statewide and nationwide experienced a small decrease due to a shift from agriculture and industry to suburban and urban centers. This shift included suburban residential growth in rural areas, the development of state highways, the expansion of industrial areas, and the development of shopping centers.

The property was previously surveyed and rated "Contributing" in the 1996 Lake County Interim Report. The Interim Report assigned a rating of "Non-Contributing," "Contributing," "Notable," or "Outstanding" to surveyed properties based on their historical significance, architectural merit, environment, and integrity. For the purposes of the Interim Report, these ratings were based upon the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Criteria for Evaluation, but were not substitutes for final NRHP eligibility determinations. Also, because 17 years have passed since this report, many properties have undergone alterations that are not considered in the report's assessments. Properties rated "Non-Contributing" were only included

in the Interim Report if they were located within an existing or potential historic district and would not be considered NRHP-eligible. A “Contributing” rating was assigned to those properties that met the 50 years of age or older criterion but were not individually significant enough to be NRHP eligible; however, these resources could be considered NRHP-eligible as part of a historic district. A “Notable” rating meant the property did not merit an “Outstanding” rating but was still above-average in its historic or architectural significance and could be NRHP-eligible upon further investigation. An “Outstanding” rating meant the property retained enough historic or architectural significance that it was already listed in or should be considered for individual listing in the NRHP. For the purposes of this report’s evaluation, the “Contributing”-rated Henry Surprise House is being assessed individually and not as part of a rural historic district.

At that time, the house was identified as a typical early twentieth century house with wood clapboard siding. The wing was identified as having two dormers on each elevation; however, the 1956 aerial photograph indicates one dormer on the east elevation, consistent with its present-day appearance. The survey also identified a drive-through corncrib barn present on the property, although recent surveys have indicated that the corncrib barn has been demolished and replaced with the large metal barn. Additionally, since the survey, the house has been clad in replacement vinyl siding.

The property is currently classified as a cash grain/general farm by the Lake County Assessor; however, with the exception of the house, the property contains no visible remnants of its original early twentieth century agricultural uses or the original farmstead of the Henry Surprise family. A 1956 aerial photograph of the property shows the farmhouse and its rear east elevation addition, and the two sheds. The photograph also indicates the farmstead included several other agricultural outbuildings that have since been demolished: a small house with a pyramidal roof, small sheds, two large barns, and a drive-through corncrib barn. Fencing was also present and surrounded the farm outbuildings.

The Henry Surprise House was originally constructed as a two-story upright-and-wing house. This form evolved from the gable-front house out of a need for additional space and is predominantly found in the Great Lakes region. The gable-front was a dominant house type that rose to popularity throughout the United States during the Greek Revival era and was a dominant, often unornamented, folk form in rural areas well beyond the antebellum era. The upright-and-wing house is characterized by a one or one-and-one-half-story wing attached to the two-story gable-front portion of the house, forming a T-shape. Early examples of upright-and-wing houses feature heavy friezes, cornice returns, and classical entries due to the Greek Revival influence of the period. After that period, the upright-and-wing house is generally unornamented. The Henry Surprise House is a modest upright-and-wing example with few additions and no discernible style. Its basic form remains but is altered by changes to the wing and the addition of vinyl siding and replacement windows.

The property retains two sheds that may have been used to support farm operations. These structures were generally smaller than the farmhouse and barn and devoted to a specific function, such as food storage and preparation as well as agricultural produce storage. Many of the farmstead’s outbuildings were used in the preparation and storage of food for human consumption. This included smokehouses for curing meat, milk houses to keep dairy products cool, insulated warm houses for the storage of canned goods year-round, and summer kitchens to remove unwanted heat, odors, or fire risks from the main farmhouse. Typically, these outbuildings were rectangular in plan and of frame, brick, or concrete block construction. From the 1920s through the 1940s, glazed tile was a popular and sanitary construction material used in their construction. Most outbuildings were free-standing, but summer kitchens were either free-standing or attached to the rear of the farmhouse by a covered breezeway.

The property also contains two non-historic pole barns, which were typically constructed in the Post World War II period as cost-effective structures for farmers. In that period, barn building techniques

dramatically changed and traditional building techniques were superseded by the construction of pole barns and prefabricated structures. These were commonly constructed of treated wood posts and corrugated steel, respectively, and clad in corrugated sheet metal.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The Henry Surprise House was evaluated for listing in the NRHP under Criteria A, B, and C using guidelines set forth in the NRHP Bulletin "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation."

The Henry Surprise House was established after extensive transportation and drainage efforts occurred in Cedar Creek Township in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, reflecting a countywide trend of farmstead establishment in this period. However, the original farmstead was typical of its period. The property no longer conveys its agriculture past because the majority of its original agricultural buildings have been demolished with the exception of two small sheds and the altered farmhouse. Therefore, the property is not eligible under Criterion A.

Although the Henry Surprise House is associated with the Surprise family, who were among the early settlers and farmers of Cedar Creek Township, the property no longer conveys that association as none of the original farmstead buildings other than the house and two small sheds exist. Additionally, the house is neither the Surprise family's first house in the area nor one of the family's earliest. The property no longer conveys any historically significant associations with the productive lives of any of the Surprise family members, and therefore, the Henry Surprise House is not eligible under Criterion B.

The Henry Surprise House is a modest, altered, and typical example of an early twentieth century upright-and-wing house of no discernible style. The house retains its basic form, but has undergone a series of modifications in recent years including vinyl cladding, replacement vinyl windows, an enclosed facade porch, and roof dormers. Originally part of a developed farmstead, the property's agricultural outbuildings have been demolished over time, leaving only the ca. 1910 house and two sheds and two non-historic pole barns. The farmhouse and sheds do not indicate architectural or historical significance, nor are they distinctive examples of their type or style. The overall farmstead property no longer conveys its early twentieth century farm context due to the demolition of most of its original agricultural outbuildings. Therefore, the Henry Surprise House is not eligible under Criterion C.

The Henry Surprise House was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the Henry Surprise House is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

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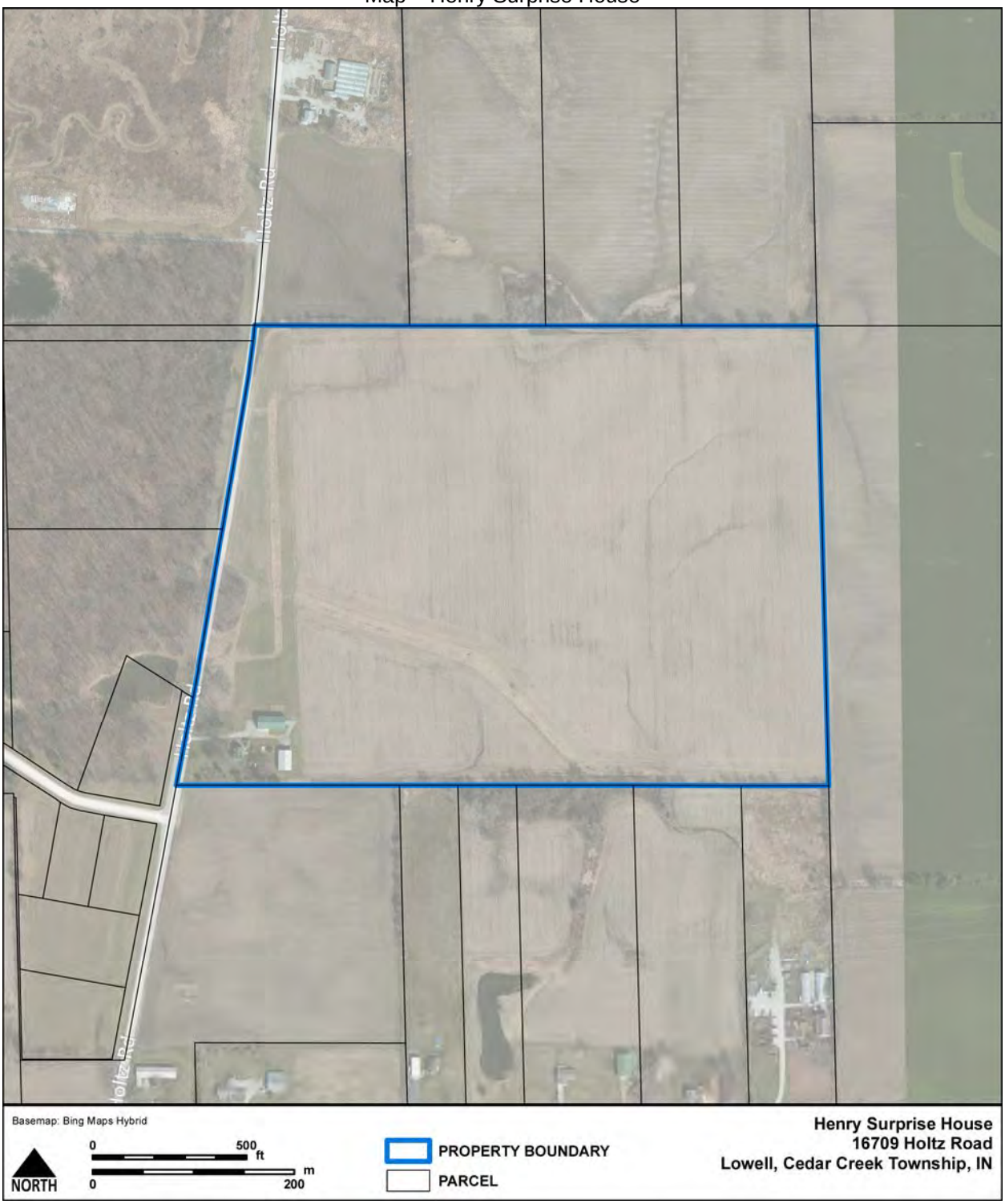
Photo 1 – Henry Surprise House

Facing east to Henry Surprise House and non-historic pole barn

Photo 2 – Henry Surprise House

Facing east to house facade

Map – Henry Surprise House



NAME
Fredericks House

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS	CITY	TOWNSHIP
16819 Holtz Road	Lowell	Cedar Creek

OWNERSHIP	TAX PARCEL NUMBER
George E. and Jean E. Hulsey, Tr	45-20-18-200-004.000-007

YEAR BUILT	SOURCE
1905	Lake County Assessor (2013)

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE	PROPERTY TYPE
No Discernible Style	Agriculture

FOUNDATION	WALLS	ROOF
Concrete, brick	Vinyl, concrete	Asphalt shingle, metal

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The property comprising the Fredericks House is an early twentieth century farmstead located at the northeast corner of Holtz Road and West 169th Avenue on approximately 19 acres spanning both sides of Holtz Road. The farmstead's extant buildings include its modest and altered gabled-ell farmhouse constructed in 1905, a silo constructed in 1910, and a pole barn with attached milk house constructed in 1962. Off Holtz Road, the driveway bisects the buildings with the farmhouse located along its south side and the agricultural buildings along its north side. The immediate farmstead property is surrounded by grassy lawn and mature deciduous trees; the farmhouse has ornamental foundation plantings. The remainder of the property comprises agricultural fields and the property's north, south, and west boundaries are partially delineated by deciduous tree lines. Non-historic, recently constructed houses are located just east of the property along West 169th Avenue and southwest across Holtz Road.

Along the south side of the driveway, the ca. 1905 Fredericks House is a modest and altered two-story, gabled-ell house of no discernible style modified by multiple additions that form a cruciform-shaped plan. The house sits on a brick foundation and is clad in vinyl siding with an asphalt-shingled roof. All window openings are framed by a simple wood surround. Facing west, the facade comprises the gable-front portion intersected on its south elevation by the side-gabled ell. The gable-front's first story comprises a double-hung, vinyl-sash window on the facade and a double-hung, vinyl-sash window on each of its chamfered northwest and southwest corners. The gable-front's second story forms a small overhang above the first story's chamfered corners and contains paired, one-over-one, double-hung, vinyl-sash windows. The ell contains no window openings and is defined by a one-story, shed-roofed enclosed porch located in the perpendicular intersection formed by the gable front and ell. The porch has a wood foundation, flooring, and steps with spindle wood posts supporting its shed roof. Vinyl siding infills the spaces between the spindle posts. The enclosed porch's west elevation contains three contiguous one-over-one, double-hung, aluminum-sash windows while the south elevation contains the screen entry door flanked by narrow sidelights.

The south side elevation has a slightly projecting oriel window on its first story, supported by three small

decorative brackets and covered by a wood-shingled hipped roof. The oriel contains paired one-over-one, double-hung, vinyl-sash windows. The second story contains paired one-over-one, double-hung, vinyl-sash windows. The house's steep roof pitch, chamfered corners on the gable-front section, and oriel window hint at Queen Anne style influences.

The east rear elevation comprises the gable-front and ell sections. The gable-front contains paired double-hung, vinyl-sash windows at each story while the ell contains no window or door openings. A small single room addition with a steeply pitched shed roof is located within the L formed by the gable-front and ell. It does not appear to contain any window or door openings.

The north side elevation comprises a large one-and-one-half-story addition clad in vinyl siding with a steeply pitched gable roof. Its west elevation contains a single one-over-one, double-hung, vinyl-sash window. Its north elevation contains four double-hung, vinyl-sash windows on the first story and two double-hung, vinyl-sash windows on the second story. Its east elevation comprises a projecting one-story, steeply pitched shed-roofed addition whose east elevation contains an off-centered door with one window opening to the north and three contiguous window openings to the south. The addition's south elevation contains a paired window opening.

Along the north side of the driveway is a long one-story, gable-roof pole barn with an attached milk house, both constructed ca. 1962. The pole barn sits on a concrete foundation with wood siding covered by metal cladding; its roof is similarly clad in metal. Its gabled west elevation contains a single central entry door while the south elevation comprises two large double-sliding doors and the attached milk house at its westernmost end. The milk house is a one-story, concrete block, gable-roof building; its roof is clad in corrugated metal. The milk house's west elevation contains three aluminum-sash windows with a single vertical mullion while its east elevation contains a metal entry door and two aluminum-sash windows with vertical mullions. Its south elevation contains no window or door openings and a single small metal flue. The pole barn's east elevation contains no window or door openings and its north elevation contains a large sliding door and eight windows indicating interior stalls along this elevation.

The property's extant ca. 1910 silo is located in the L formed by the milk house and pole barn but is not attached to either of these buildings. The silo is constructed of reinforced concrete with no extant roof. South of the silo is a small open-front wood shed of unknown construction date. The shed has an asphalt-shingled shed roof, and contains no openings outside of its open-faced south elevation.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The farmstead at 16819 Holtz Road consists of the Fredericks House constructed in 1905, the silo in 1910, and the pole barn and milk house in 1962. A small farm was established at this location in the early twentieth century by the Fredericks Family. A. Fredericks sold the farm to his son in 1928; he lost it to the bank during the Great Depression. It was acquired by the Abramson family in 1935. The Abramson family is recognized as one of the earliest settlers in the Eagle Creek area, though research did not show the family to have attained much prominence in the community. Research did not yield information about the Frederick family. During the mid-twentieth century, the small farm was transferred to the Hulsey family.

The Fredericks House and farmstead was established just after the period between 1850 and 1900, which is generally considered to be Indiana's golden age of agriculture as subsistence farming transitioned to large-scale operations. Transportation and technological improvements allowed farmers to bring their corn crops and livestock, primarily cattle and hogs, to faraway markets. Early agricultural education also contributed to this period of agricultural growth at the state and local levels. In 1851, the State Board of Agriculture was created to provide farmers with agricultural guidance in the form of local county agricultural societies. These county agricultural societies, as well as county fairs, provided farmstead improvement methods and techniques directly to farmers. Additionally, they exposed farmers

to “book farming,” which included essays on the topics of crops, drainage, machinery, and farmstead improvements. As a result, agricultural practice improved throughout the state and the State Board of Agriculture lent support for the Morrill Act passed by Congress in 1862. This act created the foundation for grant colleges and universities geared toward teaching agriculture and mechanical arts nationwide. These educational efforts and transportation improvements characterizing the state’s agricultural boom did not reach the tri-creek area until the Monon Railroad was constructed through Cedar Creek Township in the 1880s. Also aiding agricultural growth in the tri-creek area were increased efforts to drain the marshlands and dig ditches to create arable land. An extensive drainage system began in the 1870s, continuing through the early part of the twentieth century, contributed greatly to agricultural growth. As a result, a large number of the county’s farms, like the subject property, date from the late nineteenth or early twentieth century.

At the beginning of the twentieth century, few Lake County farmers owned tractors, used chemical fertilizers, or practiced crop rotation to avoid depleting soil nutrients despite a statewide trend toward these practices. Strides in agricultural education, focused on fertilizer, began in the 1880s and 1890s. These experiments began at the state’s first land grant university, Purdue University. As the benefits of fertilizer to future crops became apparent, bulletins were published that instructed farmers on the application and benefits of fertilizer, its future effects to crops, and the best crops to fertilize (wheat and corn over oats). With the dissemination of these bulletins, further promoted by local agricultural organizations, farmers began to invest in commercial plant foods and liming soils between 1890 and 1900. These practices were more readily adopted by farmers statewide by 1910 than in Lake County, but as they became more commonplace, Lake County farmers began to adopt the new planting and fertilizer techniques as well as new machinery during the 1920s and 1930s. These practices streamlined farming practices and increased productivity. This was further supported by local agricultural education offered by the Lowell High School, which had a three-year course in agriculture specifically designed for its rural pupils. The course of study partially relied on the study of agricultural bulletins and focused on plants and crops, soils, gardening, fruit growing, livestock, dairying, poultry, and feeding. Consequently, as new machinery was adopted, farm shops and implement or machine sheds were erected on the farms to repair and house equipment, store tools, and generally maintain the farmstead. One of the most basic and popular implement sheds was a three-sided building with the fourth side entirely open; sometimes old, unused barns on the property, simple wood-frame structures with open sides, or lean-tos attached to other farm buildings were used to protect farm equipment. This farmstead does not retain any agricultural outbuildings like these.

These improvements in agricultural practices and education led to a higher standard of living in rural communities as running water and electricity started to become available to rural residents and crop productivity significantly increased. Produce and food became less expensive for rural and urban residents and in increase in agricultural input initially benefited the nation during World War I. Farmers were able to supply food to families at home and to members of the military, resulting in an increased demand for goods and an economic boom. Increased profits during this time period led to farmers purchasing more land and seeking ways to continue to improve farming methods and machinery. However, after the war, prices for goods began to decline and farmers found themselves with a surplus of crops as they could produce more than what could be consumed. This resulted in the construction of silos on farmsteads to store surplus crops, in addition to the silos needed for winter livestock feed. Between 1917 and 1918, approximately ten thousand silos were constructed in the state.

During the Great Depression, Congress passed the Agricultural Adjustment Act in 1933. The act played an important role in improving Indiana’s agricultural economy through the installation of a wheat allotment program. Additionally, the Rural Electrification Administration, a program enacted by the New Deal, significantly impacted rural residents as approximately 24,000 farms received electricity. This was supported by the state’s Rural Electric Membership Corporation in 1935 to distribute electricity to rural

areas. By 1965, 99 percent of the state's farms were electrified, ending rural isolation and increasing farmers' productivity and efficiency.

In addition to corn, farmers also raised livestock. In Lake County, beef cattle farming rose to prominence in the early 1860s, spurred by increased demand, the development of refrigerated railcars, and later, the construction of a slaughterhouse in nearby Hammond, close to Chicago and railroad lines. At first, farmers raised a variety of livestock but eventually began to specialize in the 1920s due to the expense of raising a combination of animals that required specific buildings and care. Farmers focused on hogs and chickens or solely on dairy cows or beef cattle. This shifting focus to particular breeds was supported and improved by increased knowledge about livestock nutrition and the use of genetics for better breeding results that was disseminated by the local county fair and agricultural bulletins. Improved technologies for the care of livestock, such as automated feeding systems and milking systems, also contributed to this specialization. Research did not reveal the types of agricultural activities that took place on the Fredericks farmstead, however, the presence of the large pole barn and milk house indicate it was used for small scale dairy farming in the mid-twentieth century.

In the early twentieth century, the dairy industry was booming in Indiana, particularly in northern Indiana, which supplied milk to nearby Chicago. During the 1920s, farmers with large cattle herds began using automated milking and watering machines and transported canned milk, a process completed on the farm, to other cities via the Monon Railroad. This line was known as the "milk run," which stopped daily at the milk stand in the nearby town of Lowell through the 1920s. After this time, county dairies began to pick up milk directly from farms by truck. Dairy farms were characterized by a number of related outbuildings that supported dairy operations, such as dairy barns, milk houses, milking barns, grain silos, manure pits, stockyards, bull barns, and hay barns. The dairy barn was used to house and feed the dairy cows. They typically had a gambrel roof, roof ventilators and dormers, and multiple windows along the side elevations; many also had attached silos. The milking barn was located close to the dairy barn and sited within an integrated system of pens, stockyards, and pastures. It could be a separate building or a segregated room within a larger barn. Sited close to the dairy and milking barns, the milk house was a rectangular building with a gabled roof and constructed of concrete or tile blocks with no ventilation. The well-insulated milk house was a dedicated space used for cooling and storing milk before it was taken to market. The farmstead appears to have engaged in dairy farming in the mid-twentieth century, but it does not appear to have been a large scale operation or one that influenced dairy farming in the community.

In the 1950s and 1960s, most farmers stopped practicing crop rotation and began to grow corn continuously because the crops did not deplete soil nutrients and improved fertilization techniques came into use. Additionally, rows of corn crops were planted closer together, increasing the output of crops and contributing to the decline of crop rotation. New mechanized and specialized equipment, like the mechanical corn picker, cultivator, planter, and mowers, and automated feeding and milking systems, and farming practices, like a new process of corn, wheat, and soybean field shelling and knowledge of nutrition and genetics of livestock, began to supersede the need for human labor. These improvements to crop and livestock varieties allowed farmers to engage in well-rounded agricultural practices on a scale never before seen. Despite these advances, the amount of farmland statewide and nationwide experienced a small decrease due to a shift from agriculture and industry to suburban and urban centers. This shift included suburban residential growth in rural areas, the development of state highways, the expansion of industrial areas, and the development of shopping centers.

The property is classified as a cash grain/general farm by the Lake County Assessor; however, with the exception of the house and silo, the property contains no visible remnants of its original and larger agricultural use or the farmsteads of either the Frederick or Abramson families. A 1956 aerial photograph of the property shows the farmhouse and a large barn that is no longer extant. Plat maps also indicate that the original farm has been subdivided and developed over the years.

The Fredericks House was originally constructed as a two-story gabled-ell house, though subsequent additions gave the farmhouse a cruciform shape. This is a variation of the gable-front house, which was a dominant house type that rose to popularity throughout the United States during the Greek Revival era. In Lake County, the gable-front and its subtype, the gabled-ell, were constructed as early as the mid-nineteenth century up through the early twentieth century. The gabled-ell is a gable-front house with a side extension (or ell), forming an L-shaped plan. The ell is sometimes an addition built after the original gable-front house. They can be one, one-and-one-half, or two stories in height with the ell being the same height as the gable-front portion of the house. The gabled-ell in rural areas is generally unornamented, particularly later examples after the antebellum era. The Fredericks House is a modest and altered gabled-ell example of no discernible style with subtle Queen Anne influences whose basic form remains but is altered by various additions, changes to cladding, and window replacements.

The property was previously surveyed and rated “Contributing” in the 1996 Lake County Interim Report. The Interim Report assigned a rating of “Non-Contributing,” “Contributing,” “Notable,” or “Outstanding” to surveyed properties based on their historical significance, architectural merit, environment, and integrity. For the purposes of the Interim Report, these ratings were based upon the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Criteria for Evaluation, but were not substitutes for final NRHP eligibility determinations. Also, because 17 years have passed since this report, many properties have undergone alterations that are not considered in the report’s assessments. Properties rated “Non-Contributing” were only included in the Interim Report if they were located within an existing or potential historic district and would not be considered NRHP-eligible. A “Contributing” rating was assigned to those properties that met the 50 years of age or older criterion but were not individually significant enough to be NRHP eligible; however, these resources could be considered NRHP-eligible as part of a historic district. A “Notable” rating meant the property did not merit an “Outstanding” rating but was still above-average in its historic or architectural significance and could be NRHP-eligible upon further investigation. An “Outstanding” rating meant the property retained enough historic or architectural significance that it was already listed in or should be considered for individual listing in the NRHP. For the purposes of this report’s evaluation, the “Contributing”-rated property Frederick House is being assessed individually and not as part of a rural historic district.

At that time, the house was identified as a typical early twentieth century house with a subtle Queen Anne influence. It had wood clapboard siding covered by vinyl siding. The two rear porch additions were constructed in the 1930s and 1975 and the north side elevation addition in the 1940s over a well and pump. The farmstead’s original agricultural outbuildings included a large barn north of the house that burned down in the 1960s and was replaced by the metal pole barn; a drive-through corncrib barn demolished 1975; and a Works Progress Administration (WPA) privy that burned down in the 1970s and was reconstructed on the original concrete slab.

The property also contains a pole barn, which was typically constructed in the Post World War II period as cost-effective structures for farmers. In that period, barn building techniques dramatically changed and traditional building techniques were superseded by the construction of pole barns and prefabricated structures. These were commonly constructed of treated wood posts and corrugated steel, respectively, and clad in corrugated sheet metal. This pole barn appears to be a typical example of its period, as does its attached contemporary milk house, and neither are distinctive examples.

NRHP STATUS	DATE LISTED
Not Eligible	N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The Fredericks House was evaluated for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criteria A, B, and C using guidelines set forth in the NRHP Bulletin "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation."

The Fredericks House is was established after extensive transportation and drainage efforts occurred in Cedar Creek Township in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, reflecting a countywide trend of farmstead establishment in this period. However, the farmstead appears to be typical of its period. The property is also associated with mid-twentieth century dairy farming in Lake County; however, research did not reveal this property to have significant contributions to dairy farming. Furthermore, many of the property's original agricultural outbuildings from its period of establishment have been demolished. The farm no longer reflects its original agricultural associations. Therefore, it is not eligible under Criterion A.

Although the Fredericks House is associated with the Abramson family who was among the early settlers and farmers of Eagle Creek Township, as well as the Fredericks family, the property no longer conveys those associations as the only extant buildings from their periods of association are the altered farmhouse and the defunct silo. Furthermore, research did not reveal any historically significant associations with the productive lives of any Fredericks or Abramson family members, and therefore, the Fredericks House is not eligible under Criterion B.

The Fredericks House is a modest, altered, and typical example of an early twentieth century gabled-ell house. The house retains its basic form but it has been extensively modified by the enclosed facade porch, north elevation addition, and east elevation additions. Though the house retains some simple stylistic elements, such as the small oriel window, chamfered corners on its gable-front section, simple spindlework, and a steep roof pitch, its additions and replacement materials, such as vinyl siding and windows, contribute to its greatly diminished integrity. Furthermore, the remaining agricultural outbuildings are typical examples and do not indicate architectural or historical significance. They date to various periods and do not indicate a distinct period of architectural development or a consistent long-term evolution of the property. Therefore, the Fredericks House is not eligible under Criterion C.

The Fredericks House was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the Fredericks House is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

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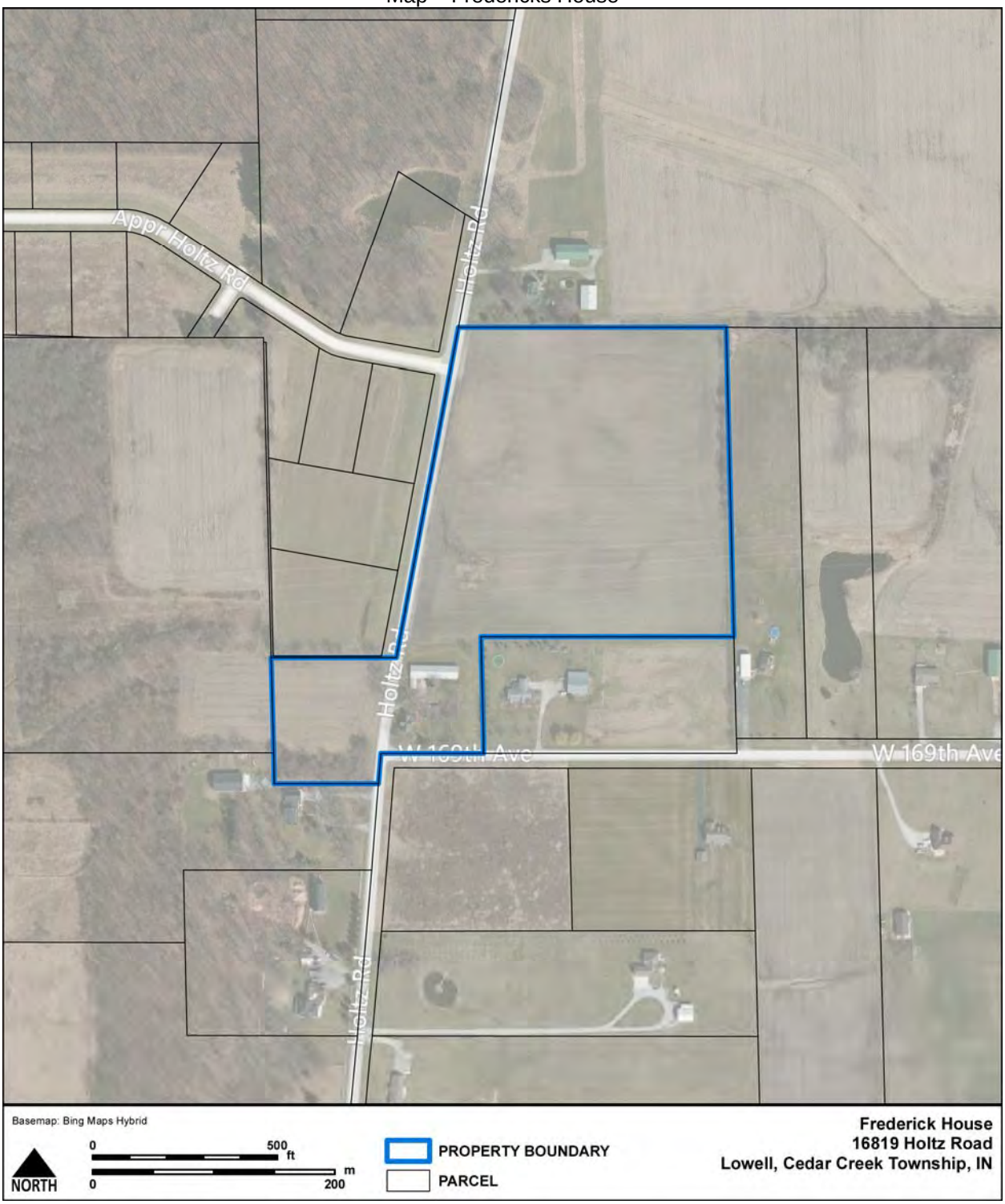
Photo 1 – Fredericks House

Facing northeast to house facade and south elevation

Photo 2 – Fredericks House

Facing northeast to pole barn with attached milk house and silo

Map – Fredericks House



NAME
17105 Mount Street

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS
17105 Mount Street

CITY
Lowell

TOWNSHIP
Cedar Creek

OWNERSHIP
Larry and Delores Rosinko

TAX PARCEL NUMBER
45-19-13-476-004.000-007

YEAR BUILT
1940

SOURCE
Lake County Assessor (2013)

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE
No Discernible Style

PROPERTY TYPE
Domestic

FOUNDATION
Concrete Block

WALLS
Concrete Block

ROOF
Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The house at 17105 Mount Street is a one-and-one-half-story, side-gabled house with a full-width front porch; both the house and the porch are constructed of rock-faced concrete block. The rectangular-plan house is located on the east side of Mount Street on a 10-acre parcel of land. A mixture of historic and modern development is found on both sides of Mount Street in the vicinity of this house. Grassy lawn surrounds the house and mature deciduous trees line the driveway and are interspersed throughout the front lawn. An agricultural field is located east of the house.

The house is distinguished by the use of concrete block as the predominant building material for both the house and porch. The concrete block's finish is predominantly rock-faced, although a flat-faced block meant to mimic ashlar cut stone is used to create contrasting quoins at each corner of the house; a more decorative wreath-faced design is used below the house's roof eaves at the cornice. Beyond the use of ornamental concrete block as a primary building material, the house is unremarkable. It is a rectangular plan house of no discernible type or style.

A hipped-roof front porch extends across the full width of the west-facing facade and partially wraps around the south side elevation. The porch roof is supported by square wood columns set on a porch railing of ornamental concrete block. The asymmetrical, three-bay facade comprises an entrance door in the off-centered central bay flanked by one-over-one, double-hung, vinyl-sash windows in the outer bays. The one-over-one windows are likely replacements and are simply detailed.

The south side elevation's first story contains a one-over-one, double-hung, vinyl-sash window and a side door at ground level. Its upper half-story contains a one-over-one, double-hung, vinyl-sash window in the gable end. The north side elevation's two-bay first story contains a one-over-one, double-hung, vinyl-sash window in each bay, close to the house's corners, while the upper half-story contains a one-over-one, double-hung, vinyl-sash window in the gable end. The east rear elevation contains two off-centered windows. A brick chimney is centered on the ridge of the roof. The side-gabled roof is clad in asphalt shingles.

A non-historic metal pole barn, which also functions as a garage, is located southeast of the house.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The house at 17105 Mount Street was likely constructed in the 1920s, as indicated by its building materials, although the Lake County Assessor websites gives a construction date of 1940. The property's pole barn was constructed in 1999. This parcel has had a variety of owners throughout the twentieth century, and it appears that the present 10-acre parcel was for many years part of a larger 80 to 160-acre property. No information was discovered about ownership of this parcel prior to 1920. In 1920, an 80-acre parcel on Mount Street in this location was owned by Frank Strickland. In 1966, a 160-acre parcel in this location was owned by M. Gould and P. and G. Call. In 1976, a smaller parcel at the northeast corner of West 173rd and Mount Street was owned by George Call, et al. No acreage is given for this plot on the plat map, but it appears to be about 60 to 80 acres. By 1985, the property had been subdivided further; the smallest lot was a 10 acre parcel in this location with the house, which in 1985 was owned by J. W. Lange. The surrounding subdivided properties were and still are owned by various entities. The 10-acre parcel on which the house is located is currently owned by Larry and Delores Rosinko, who have owned it since September 1, 1998.

Of all of the names associated with the ownership of this property, the only one for which any information was found was that of Frank Strickland. The 1909 City Directory for Lake County listed Frank Strickland, an auctioneer, and Mrs. Frank Strickland, who lived in Cedar Creek Township on Rural Route 4. A Frank Strickland of Lake County was born in 1866 and died in 1951 at the age of 85. It is possible that the house at 17105 Mount Street was built by Frank Strickland. Research did not reveal any additional information about Frank Strickland or the Strickland family.

The property at 17105 Mount Street is classified as a cash grain/general farm by the Lake County Assessor; the non-historic pole barn also on the property may indicate this agricultural use, although pole barns are also commonly used for storage. However, research did not reveal this property to have been a farm in its history. The house is constructed of ornamental concrete block, which was widely used from about 1890 through the 1930s. It was primarily used for foundations, outbuildings, and other utilitarian structures such as garages, gas stations and small factories, although entire houses were built of this material. There was no predominant style for houses built of ornamental concrete block, but a concrete block house could be built in any of the house types or styles popular in the period 1900-1930, and could be bungalows or four square houses, finished with Colonial Revival or Classical details.

Ornamental concrete block was designed to imitate, primarily, dressed stone; in fact, one of the most common finishes was known as "artificial stone." This resemblance to stone helped make ornamental concrete block attractive to homeowners, in large part because it was less expensive than the stone it imitated and more durable than either wood or brick. Available in a variety of decorative faces, such as dressed stone, cobblestones, and brick, ornamental concrete block appealed to a variety of tastes. Because concrete could be molded into a variety of shapes, such as columns, porch balusters, porch railings, and even under-porch lattice work, it was also a popular material for porches, which were a common architectural feature in the early decades of the twentieth century.

Concrete had been widely used by the Romans. Although it largely diminished as a building material for many centuries, it never completely disappeared. Made of a mixture of cements, sand, and aggregate (such as stones), concrete again became a viable building material with the introduction of Portland cement in the late nineteenth century. In 1900, an inventor named Harmon S. Palmer received a patent for a cast-iron machine that made concrete blocks. In the following decades, Sears, Roebuck and Company sold machines for making ornamental concrete block. These machines, which made blocks one-at-a-time, could be purchased for as little as $60. Other companies sold similar machines, which were targeted to "do-it-yourself" homeowners and farmers, as well as small-scale contractors and

developers. Part of the appeal of concrete block was that it was quick, inexpensive, and easy to use in construction. The standard face plate on all machines sold by Sears was known as “artificial stone,” which resembled quarried stone. However, the machines had interchangeable face plates which enabled the concrete block to be molded into a variety of decorative shapes. In addition to artificial stone, common designs included pressed brick, cobblestone, and water table. More decorative faces included egg-and-dart, daisy belt, scroll, rope face, and wreath face. Ornamental concrete block could be used anywhere that stone or brick was used, and was cheaper than the former and more durable than the latter. It was also fireproof, which made it an appealing choice for garages, gas stations and industrial buildings. After the 1930s, concrete blocks were made by automatic machines. This had the advantage of standardizing the size of the blocks; on the other, the automatic machines were only able to produce the smooth-faced concrete block that is common today, and the use of ornamental concrete block all but disappeared. The house at 17105 Mount Street is a modest example of a vernacular house built of ornamental concrete block. Its basic form remains intact, and there have been only minor alterations, such as the addition of storm windows. It is not known if other examples exist in Lake County, but numerous examples exist nationwide.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The house at 17105 Mount Street was evaluated for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criteria A, B, and C using guidelines set forth in the NRHP Bulletin “How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation.”

The house at 17105 Mount Street is not known to be associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of United States history, and therefore, it is not eligible under Criterion A.

The house at 17105 Mount Street is associated with Frank Strickland, a local auctioneer. However, research did not reveal any historically significant associations with the productive life of Frank Strickland, and therefore, the house at 17105 Mount Street is not eligible under Criterion B.

The house at 17105 Mount Street is a modest example of an early twentieth century house of no discernible style constructed entirely of ornamental concrete block. The house’s concrete block incorporates quoins and wreath designs but these do not indicate architectural significance. The house’s type and style are not distinctive and do not indicate architectural significance. Therefore, the house at 17105 Mount Street is not eligible under Criterion C.

The house at 17105 Mount Street was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the house at 17105 Mount Street is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

SOURCES

Lake County Assessor. 2013. *Lake County Surveyor GIS Website*.

Lake County City Directory. 1909

Plat Maps. 1926. Sidwell Studio. *Plat Books of Indiana Counties, Volume 3*.

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Plat Maps. 1985. Wille & Stiener Associates. *1985 Plat Book. Lake County, Indiana*.

Plat Maps. 1996. Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District. *1996 Plat Book. Lake County, Indiana.*

Plat Maps. 2005. *2005 Plat Book. Lake County, Indiana.*

Photo 1 – 17105 Mount Street

Facing northeast to house facade and south elevation.

Photo 2 – 17105 Mount Street

Facing northeast to house facade and south side elevation. Garage/pole barn and shed are also visible.

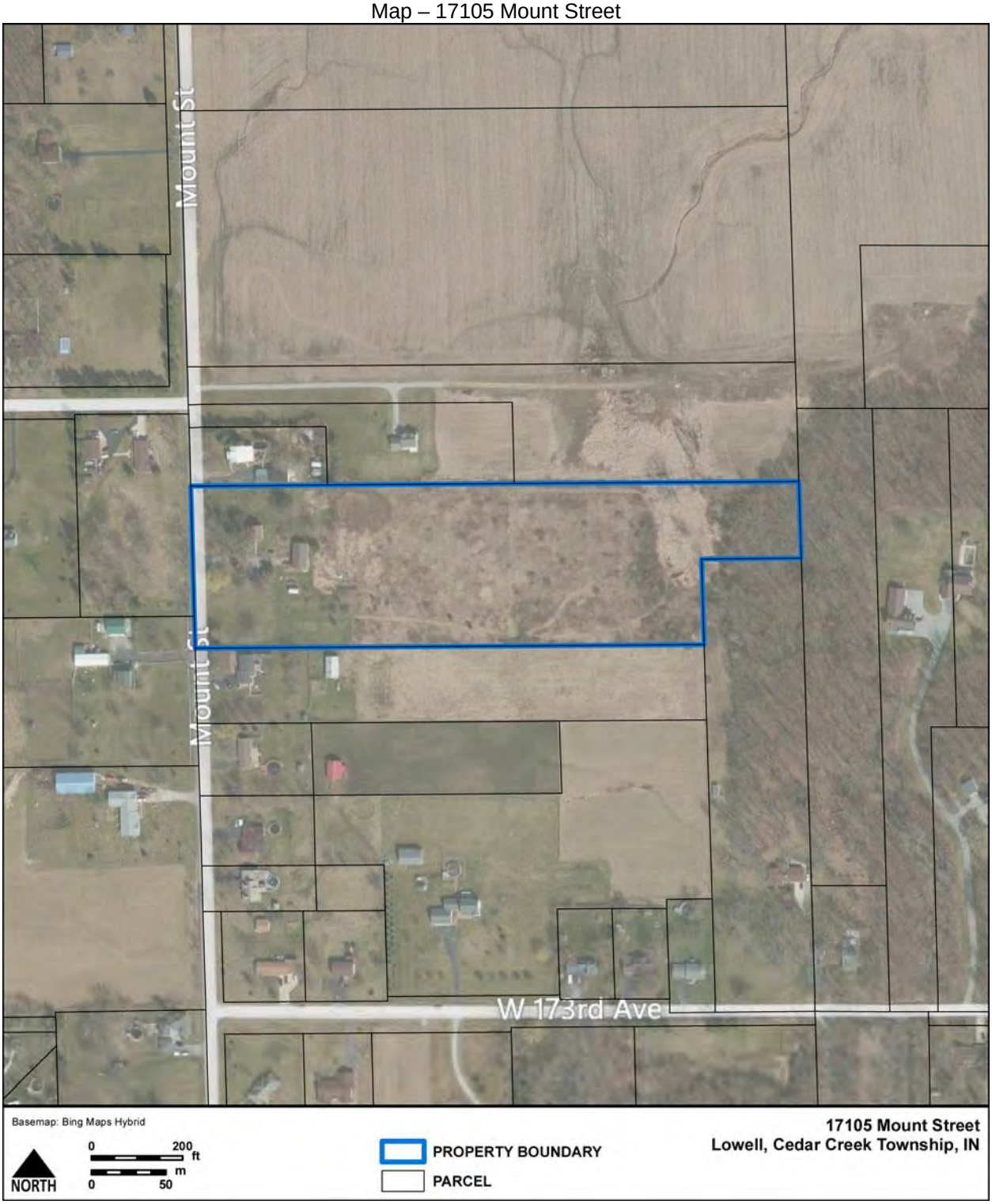
Photo 3 – 17105 Mount Street

Facing southeast to house facade and north side elevation

Photo 4 – 17105 Mount Street

Facing southeast to house facade and north side elevation

Map – 17105 Mount Street



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NAME
4905 West 173rd Avenue

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS
4905 West 173rd Avenue

CITY
Lowell

TOWNSHIP
West Creek

OWNERSHIP
William C. and Joyce A. Smolik, Trustees

TAX PARCEL NUMBER
45-19-24-226-004.000-007

YEAR BUILT
1915

SOURCE
Lake County Assessor (2013)

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE
No Discernible Style

PROPERTY TYPE
Domestic

FOUNDATION
Concrete Block

WALLS
Wood

ROOF
Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The one-story, square-shaped house at 4905 West 173rd Avenue is a modest pyramidal house clad in wood clapboard siding on a decorative concrete block foundation. The house is located on the south side of West 173rd Avenue on a 2.23 acre parcel of land and surrounded by mature trees. Modern development is found immediately west of this house, with a similar collection of recent houses on the north side of West 173rd Avenue. To the east, non-historic houses are also located between this property and Redwing Lake. A grassy lawn and mature deciduous trees surround the house.

This modest house is distinguished by its pyramidal roof. The north-facing facade is further characterized by a partial-width front porch, which is under the main roof of the house. The porch is found on the eastern two-thirds of the facade; the easternmost portion of the porch is enclosed. Three contiguous screens complete the enclosure and identical screens continue on the majority of the south side elevation. In the center of the facade, which is recessed, is a set of paired one-over-one, double-hung sash windows with aluminum storm windows; adjacent to the windows is the main entrance which consists of a modern full light storm door. This part of the porch has turned wooden porch posts and porch railing supports. The posts are finished with fan-shaped spindle work brackets reminiscent of Eastlake detailing. The facade's west bay has a set of three contiguous windows contained in one opening; they are two-over-one, double-hung sash windows behind single light wood storm windows. The foundation is cast or molded concrete block called that resembles rough-cut stone. This type of concrete block was popular in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries as an inexpensive alternative to stone, and the concrete was more durable than wood. The asphalt-shingled pyramidal roof has shallow eaves supported by exposed rafter tails.

The south, east, and west elevations were not accessible during the survey.

The property also contains a utility shed and a small gable-roofed barn. These were also not accessible during the survey.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The house at 4905 West 173rd Avenue was constructed ca. 1915, as was the utility shed and barn. The house is currently owned by William C. and Joyce A. Smolik, Trustees. According to the Lake County Assessor's information, this parcel is also identified as "Pinewood Manor Lot 1" and the adjacent east parcel is identified as Pinewood Manor Lot 2. No information was discovered about Pinewood Manor, but it is possible that it was a planned subdivision that was never fully built out.

It is possible the house at 4905 West 173rd Avenue was originally built by Carl Hornor (or Homan or Horman or Harman), who owned an L-shaped, 100-acre parcel in this location in 1920. There was an Amos Hornor identified in the 1904 *Encyclopedia of Genealogy and Biography of Lake County, Indiana* as being an early settler in Lake County, but according to the encyclopedia, he was the last in his family line in the county.

In 1976, the 10-acre parcel at this location was identified as "R&P (illegible)," possibly Burman. In 1985, the same parcel was labeled "P.B." and in 1996, it was owned by "G.B." The larger parcels that make up Pinewood Manor were owned in 1996 by Joseph E. and Roberta Kormendy, who owned 21 acres in this location. Their property adjoined a 30.6-acre parcel owned by Edmund P. and Karen J. Kormendy, which now comprises East Meadow Estates. No information was discovered about the Kormendy family, but the name appears on these parcels in 1966, 1976, and 1985.

The house was constructed as a one-story pyramidal house. This was a common vernacular house type in the post-railroad era that was less expensive to build than side-gabled houses due to the more complex roof framing needing fewer long-spanning rafters. The form is characterized by a nearly square plan with a steeply pitched equilateral hipped, or pyramidal, roof. The roof pitch and placement of porches often varied. In the rural Midwest, one-story pyramidal houses were less common than the two-story examples, which started to replace the traditional and less spacious I-house in rural areas from about 1905 to 1930. At the same time, the two-story pyramidal house also became popular in urban areas, taking the form of the American Foursquare. The American Foursquare is also sometimes classified as vernacular Prairie, cornbelt cube, or Midwest box for its rural location. It was frequently distinguished by Colonial Revival, Neoclassical, Prairie, Tudor, or, Craftsman influenced stylistic detailing unlike their rural counterparts, which remained relatively plain. The American Foursquare also typically had a low-pitched, hipped roof with attic dormers; wide, enclosed eaves; and a one-story porch spanning the width of the facade. The house is a modest pyramidal example of no discernible style whose basic form remains. Its only ornamentation is the front porch detail, which includes replacement turned porch posts, turned spindles in the porch railing, applied brackets, and latticework at ground level.

All of this applied detail is of uncertain date, but was present when the property was previously surveyed and rated "Contributing" in the 1996 Lake County Interim Report. The Interim Report assigned a rating of "Non-Contributing," "Contributing," "Notable," or "Outstanding" to surveyed properties based on their historical significance, architectural merit, environment, and integrity. For the purposes of the Interim Report, these ratings were based upon the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Criteria for Evaluation, but were not substitutes for final NRHP eligibility determinations. Also, because 17 years have passed since this report, many properties have undergone alterations that are not considered in the report's assessments. Properties rated "Non-Contributing" were only included in the Interim Report if they were located within an existing or potential historic district and would not be considered NRHP-eligible. A "Contributing" rating was assigned to those properties that met the 50 years of age or older criterion but were not individually significant enough to be NRHP eligible; however, these resources could be considered NRHP-eligible as part of a historic district. A "Notable" rating meant the property did not merit an "Outstanding" rating but was still above-average in its historic or architectural significance and could be NRHP-eligible upon further investigation. An "Outstanding" rating meant the property retained enough historic or architectural significance that it was already listed in or should be considered for individual listing in the NRHP. For the purposes of this report's evaluation, the "Contributing"-rated house

at 4905 West 173rd Avenue is being assessed individually and not as part of a rural historic district.

The house appears to have been little altered since it was documented in the mid-1990s. At that time, the front porch details and its screened section were identified as new and recent additions. The house also retains original wood storm windows on some openings, and mid-twentieth century aluminum storm windows on other openings.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The house at 4905 West 173rd Avenue was evaluated for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criteria A, B, and C using guidelines set forth in the NRHP Bulletin "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation."

The house at 4905 West 173rd Avenue is not known to be associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of United States history, and therefore, it is not eligible under Criterion A.

The house at 4905 West 173rd Avenue appears to be associated with the Hornor family, who were early settlers of Cedar Creek Township. However, research did not reveal any historically significant associations with the productive lives of any members of the Hornor family, and therefore, the house at 4905 West 173rd Avenue is not eligible under Criterion B.

The house at 4905 West 173rd Avenue is a modest example of an early twentieth century pyramidal house. Although the house has some applied decorative detailing on the front porch, these additions are not original to the house. Though largely intact and retaining its basic pyramidal form, the house is a basic and modest example of its type and its features do not indicate any architectural significance. It is not a distinctive example of the type in Lake County, and therefore, the house at 4905 West 173rd Avenue is not eligible under Criterion C.

The house at 4905 West 173rd Avenue was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the house at 4905 West 173rd Avenue is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

SOURCES
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Plat Maps. 1985. Wille & Stiener Associates. *1985 Plat Book. Lake County, Indiana*.

Plat Maps. 1996. Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District. *1996 Plat Book. Lake County, Indiana.*

Plat Maps. 2005. *2005 Plat Book. Lake County, Indiana.*

Photo 1 – 4905 West 173rd Avenue

Facing south to house facade and east elevation

Map – 4905 West 173rd Avenue

NAME
4608 West 173rd Avenue

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS
4608 West 173rd Avenue

CITY
Lowell

TOWNSHIP
West Creek

OWNERSHIP
Charles A. and Patsy M.A. Blissett

TAX PARCEL NUMBER
45-20-18-351-006.000-007

YEAR BUILT
1928

SOURCE
Lake County Assessor (2013)

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE
Craftsman Bungalow

PROPERTY TYPE
Domestic

FOUNDATION
Concrete Block

WALLS
Vinyl

ROOF
Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The one-and-one-half-story, rectangular plan house at 4608 West 173rd Avenue is a modest Craftsman Bungalow clad in vinyl siding on a concrete block foundation with an asphalt-shingled roof. The house is located on the north side of West 173rd Avenue on approximately one acre. Non-historic houses are located in its immediate vicinity to the west on the north side of West 173rd Avenue and to the east on the south side of West 173rd Avenue.

The house's south-facing facade has an enclosed, full-width front porch on the first story under the house's main roof. The porch has three sets of four contiguous single pane windows. The facade is further distinguished by a shed-roofed dormer centered on the side-gabled roof. The dormer retains its original three-over-one, double-hung, wood-sash windows, a window type often found on Craftsman houses and bungalows. All of these features – the side-gabled roof, the centered shed-roofed dormer, and the full-width front porch – are characteristic of Craftsman bungalows, as are the side eaves.

The house's east side elevation has a rusticated concrete foundation. Its first story contains a projecting shed-roofed bay window at its south end and a bow window at its north end; between them is a paired six-over-one, double-hung, wood-sash window and a smaller six-over-one, double-hung, wood-sash window. The bay window's north and south elevations contain a single there-over-one, double-hung, wood-sash window while its east elevation contains a contiguous band of four three-over-one, double-hung, wood-sash ribbon windows. The bow window contains three one-over-one, double-hung, vinyl-sash windows. The second story contains paired three-over-one, double-hung, wood-sash windows in its gable end. Exposed rafter tails support and ornament the gable end.

The house's west side elevation contains an entry door leading into the enclosed front porch at the south end. The entry door is flanked by tall side lights and has a small wood porch with simple wood railings. Next to and north of the entrance is a three-over-one, double-hung, wood-sash window at the first story and a projecting shed-roofed bay window. The bay window contains a contiguous band of three three-

over-one, double-hung, wood-wash ribbon windows on its west elevation. A three-over-one, double-hung, wood-sash window is located between the first and second stories at the west elevation's north end. The second story contains paired three-over-one, double-hung, wood-sash windows in its gable end. Exposed rafter tails support and ornament the gable end. The north rear elevation was not accessible during survey, but has a hipped roof porch along the first story.

A driveway and detached garage are located west of the house. The detached two-car garage is clad in brick and has an aluminum garage door on its south elevation while its east and west elevations are clad in vinyl siding with no window or door openings. The garage terminates in a steeply pitched, asphalt-shingled, pyramidal roof.

The property is surrounded by grassy lawn and mature deciduous trees. Several shrubs and small evergreens are planted along the house's facade, west side elevation foundation, and the property driveway.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The house at 4608 West 173rd Avenue was constructed ca. 1928 and the detached garage was built ca. 1932. The house was likely built by Jasper M. "Jap" Surprise, who owned approximately 145 acres in this location in 1920. He built the house for his second wife, Lillian. Jasper Surprise was the grandson of Peter Surprise who, with his wife Rosanna or LaRose, came to Lake County ca. 1835, settling in what was to become Cedar Creek Township. Peter Surprise and his family were the first white settlers in this part of Lake County. Peter's oldest son, Henry, helped found the Lowell National Bank in 1903. Two of Henry's three sons worked in the bank; Albert was identified as a director and employee who helped the bank grow, and Jasper Surprise was, in 1952, an officer of the bank. Henry Surprise owned 534 acres in Cedar Creek Township; in addition to his land holdings, Henry Surprise was a successful stock dealer and broker. The Surprise family continued to own at least two farmsteads elsewhere in Cedar Creek Township through at least the mid-1950s, including one occupied by Delbert Hayden and his wife Mabel Surprise Hayden. It is not clear what the relationship is between Mable and Henry or Jasper, as she is not listed as a child of Peter or Henry in available family histories.

The property in Section 18 of Cedar Creek Township was owned by the Surprise family until at least 1976, when 96 acres were owned by Jasper's widow Lillian. By 1985, the 96-acre parcel was owned by Roy and Irene Solomon, who owned at least 81.8 acres here until 2005. Since 1978, Charles A. and Patsy M.A. Blissett have owned the 1.043 acre parcel that includes this house. The property is classified as single-family residential property by the Lake County Assessor.

The house is a typical example of a bungalow, a house type that was common throughout the United States from ca. 1910 to 1935. Bungalows are usually square or rectangular, one to one-and-one-half-story cottages with large, often full-width, rectilinear front porches. Bungalows are usually modest houses and are characterized by natural materials. Bungalows are often associated with the Craftsman style, the popularity of which coincided with the popularity of the bungalow house type. The popularity of both bungalows and the Craftsman style were spread by pattern books, popular magazines, and mail order housing companies such as Sears, Roebuck and Gordon-Van Tine. The bungalow was especially appealing to the country's burgeoning middle class in rural and urban areas because it was inexpensive to build, fashionable, and modest in scale. The house at 4608 West 173rd Avenue has only a few details that are suggestive of the Craftsman style, most notably the three-over-one windows, which are commonly found on houses from this time period, and deep eaves.

The property was previously surveyed and rated "Contributing" in the 1996 Lake County Interim Report. The Interim Report assigned a rating of "Non-Contributing," "Contributing," "Notable," or "Outstanding" to surveyed properties based on their historical significance, architectural merit, environment, and integrity. For the purposes of the Interim Report, these ratings were based upon the National Register of Historic

Places (NRHP) Criteria for Evaluation, but were not substitutes for final NRHP eligibility determinations. Also, because 17 years have passed since this report, many properties have undergone alterations that are not considered in the report's assessments. Properties rated "Non-Contributing" were only included in the Interim Report if they were located within an existing or potential historic district and would not be considered NRHP-eligible. A "Contributing" rating was assigned to those properties that met the 50 years of age or older criterion but were not individually significant enough to be NRHP eligible; however, these resources could be considered NRHP-eligible as part of a historic district. A "Notable" rating meant the property did not merit an "Outstanding" rating but was still above-average in its historic or architectural significance and could be NRHP-eligible upon further investigation. An "Outstanding" rating meant the property retained enough historic or architectural significance that it was already listed in or should be considered for individual listing in the NRHP. For the purposes of this report's evaluation, the "Contributing"-rated property at 4608 West 173rd Avenue is being assessed individually and not as part of a rural historic district. At that time, the house was identified as having features characteristic of Craftsman houses, such as simple, wide bracketing and deep eaves. The front porch was enclosed at that time and the house had been covered with aluminum siding. Since that survey, the house has been re-clad in vinyl siding and the brackets are no longer extant.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The house at 4608 West 173rd Avenue was evaluated for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criteria A, B, and C using guidelines set forth in the NRHP Bulletin "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation."

The house at 4608 West 173rd Avenue is not known to be associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of United States history, and therefore, it is not eligible under Criterion A.

The house at 4608 West 173rd Avenue was constructed in ca.1932 by Jasper Surprise, a descendent of the locally prominent Surprise family, who were the first white settlers of Cedar Creek Township in ca. 1835. Although Jasper was a descendent of early township settlers, this house is not associated or representative of the early Surprise family settlers. Further, research did not reveal Jasper Surprise to have made historically significant contributions in Lake County. Therefore, the house at 4608 West 173rd Avenue is not eligible under Criterion B.

The house at 4608 West 173rd Avenue is a modest, altered, and typical example of an early twentieth century Craftsman bungalow, a style that was built throughout the nation in the 1920s and 30s. The house retains some Craftsman elements, particularly the three-over-one sash windows and deep eaves; however, the house has been altered with the addition of vinyl siding and the enclosure of the front porch. The building's type, style, and features do not indicate architectural or historical significance, and it is not a distinctive example of the type or style in Lake County. Therefore, the house at 4608 West 173rd Avenue is not eligible under Criterion C.

The house at 4608 West 173rd Avenue was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this

assessment.

Therefore, the house at 4608 West 173rd Avenue is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

SOURCES
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Plat Maps. 1985. Wille & Stiener Associates. *1985 Plat Book. Lake County, Indiana*.

Plat Maps. 1996. Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District. *1996 Plat Book. Lake County, Indiana.*

Plat Maps. 2005. *2005 Plat Book. Lake County, Indiana.*

Photo 1 – 4608 West 173rd Avenue

Facing north to house facade. Garage is also visible

Photo 2 – 4608 West 173rd Avenue

Facing northwest to house facade and east side elevation

Photo 3 – 4608 West 173rd Avenue

Facing northeast to facade and west side elevation. Garage is also visible

Map – 4608 West 173rd Avenue

NAME
17404 Holtz Road

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS	CITY	TOWNSHIP
17404 Holtz Road	Lowell	Cedar Creek

OWNERSHIP	TAX PARCEL NUMBER
Marcia A. Shurte, Trustee	45-20-19-126-002.000-007

YEAR BUILT	SOURCE
1910	Lake County Assessor (2013)

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE	PROPERTY TYPE
No Discernible Style	Domestic

FOUNDATION	WALLS	ROOF
Concrete	Vinyl	Asphalt shingle

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The house at 17404 Holtz Road is a modest two-story, gable-front house of no discernible style with a two-story hipped roof wing along its north elevation. The house is clad in vinyl siding on a concrete foundation. A garage with similar siding and foundation is located northwest of the house. The property is located on the west side of Holtz Road on 22.88 acres of land. Non-historic houses are located in its immediate vicinity to the north and east across Holtz Road. The house is surrounded by grassy lawn and mature deciduous trees; agricultural fields are located south of the house. The property's west boundary backs to Redwing Lake and more recently constructed houses are located north and northeast of the property.

The house's east-facing facade comprises the two-story gable-front portion that is perpendicular to the projecting two-story hipped roof wing at the west end of the gable-front's north side elevation. Projecting from the gable-front's first story is a one-story, hipped roof front porch enclosed by triple-hung sash ribbon windows that wrap around the porch's south, east, and north elevations. Above the enclosed porch at the second story are two one-over-one, double-hung, vinyl-sash windows. The two-bay wing's east elevation contains one-over-one, double-hung, vinyl-sash windows at both stories. The wing's second story slightly overhangs its first story. A single brick chimney rises above the wing's north side elevation.

The house's south side elevation consists of a projecting one-story, hipped roof addition with one-over-one, double-hung sash windows on its east, south, and west elevations. Above the addition's roof, the gable-front's south side elevation contains two one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash windows at the second story. On the house's west rear elevation, the front-gabled portion is set back from the perpendicular wing, which is comprised of one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash windows. At the gable-front portion's first story is a small gabled porch roof above a rear entrance to the house.

Northwest of the house is a gable-roofed garage with small shed-roofed additions on its south and west

elevations. The garage door is located on the east elevation and to the garage door's south is a small entry door and window set back from the garage door. Two similar windows are located on the garage's south side elevation. The west rear elevation contains two shed additions with small square windows. North of the garage is a small gable-roofed rectangular shed with a door on its south elevation.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The house, garage, and shed at 17404 Holtz Road were constructed ca. 1910 and were likely constructed by the Horner family, who were possibly one of the earliest families to settle in the Lake County area, arriving near Cedar Lake in approximately 1835. A 1920 plat map indicates the original 98-acre parcel at 17404 Holtz Road belonged to the Horner family at that time; however, the 1909 city directory does not list Horner as among the Three Creeks area residents. The property was then acquired by the Shurte family in ca. 1928; the family continues to own the property today.

The land acquired by the Shurte family sits on the banks of Redwing Lake, also called Shurte's Marsh. Lewis "Lew" Shurte, inspired by friends who raised silver foxes on Prince Edward Island, Canada, began his own silver fox farm on the original 98-acre property. Initially a small operation, the fox farm grew to approximately twenty-five fox pairs and their offspring, which were kept in pens throughout the property. Pelts were shipped to the New York Fur Auction and a few products were sold locally. The farm's presence gave Holtz Road the name Fox Farm Road. A drop in the price of furs coupled with increasing operating costs eventually caused the farm to cease operation. Lew Shurte died in 1954 and his wife Vernal became head of household. Plat maps indicate the property has been held by the Shurte family since they obtained it from the Horners in the early twentieth century, though the land has since been subdivided and sold from the original 98-acre parcel. The parcel is now 22.88 acres.

The property is classified as a cash grain/general farm by the Lake County Assessor; however, with the exception of the house, the property contains no visible remnants of its original agricultural use. A 1956 aerial photograph of the property shows the house's south side elevation and no indication that the enclosed porch addition on the east-facing facade had yet been constructed. Additionally, the aerial photograph shows the garage without its current additions, and a large barn west of the house that no longer remains. A fenced-in area north of the house is also present in the aerial photograph.

The period between 1850 and 1900 is generally considered to be Indiana's golden age of agriculture as subsistence farming transitioned to large-scale operations. Transportation and technological improvements allowed farmers to bring their corn crops and livestock, primarily cattle and hogs, to faraway markets. Early agricultural education also contributed to this period of agricultural growth at the state and local levels. In 1851, the State Board of Agriculture was created to provide farmers with agricultural guidance in the form of local county agricultural societies. These county agricultural societies, as well as county fairs, provided farmstead improvement methods and techniques directly to farmers. Additionally, they exposed farmers to "book farming," which included essays on the topics of crops, drainage, machinery, and farmstead improvements. As a result, agricultural practice improved throughout the state and the State Board of Agriculture lent support for the Morrill Act passed by Congress in 1862. This act created the foundation for grant colleges and universities geared toward teaching agriculture and mechanical arts nationwide. These educational efforts and transportation improvements characterizing the state's agricultural boom did not reach the tri-creek area until the Monon Railroad was constructed through Cedar Creek Township in the 1880s. Also aiding agricultural growth in the tri-creek area were increased efforts to drain the marshlands and dig ditches to create arable land. An extensive drainage system began in the 1870s, continuing through the early part of the twentieth century, contributed greatly to agricultural growth. As a result, a large number of the county's farms date from the late nineteenth or early twentieth century, including the property at 17404 Holtz Road; however, it is unknown if other agricultural activities, other than fox farming, occurred on the property.

In addition to crops, farmers also raised livestock. In Lake County, beef cattle farming rose to prominence

in the early 1860s, spurred by increased demand, the development of refrigerated railcars, and later, the construction of a slaughterhouse in nearby Hammond, close to Chicago and railroad lines. At first, farmers raised a variety of livestock but eventually began to specialize in the 1920s due to the expense of raising a combination of animals that required specific buildings and care. Farmers focused on hogs and chickens or solely on dairy cows or beef cattle. This shifting focus to particular breeds was supported and improved by increased knowledge about livestock nutrition and the use of genetics for better breeding results that was disseminated by the local county fair and agricultural bulletins. Improved technologies for the care of livestock, such as automated feeding systems and milking systems, also contributed to this specialization. The property at 17404 Holtz Road is an example of this breed specialization with its history of fox farming as other types of livestock raising does not appear to have taken place on the property.

The house at 17404 Holtz Road was originally constructed as a two-story gable-front house. This was a dominant house type that rose to popularity throughout the United States during the Greek Revival era when buildings were designed to be reminiscent of Greek temples. Located at the gabled end, the principal facade forms a triangle beneath the gable front and mimics the classical pediment of a Greek temple. When the facade is fully adorned in Greek Revival ornamentation, the gable-front house is called a Temple-Front. Generally, as settlers moved westward and adopted the gable-front form, these stylistic characteristics diminished and unornamented examples prevailed well beyond the antebellum era, particularly in the Great Lakes region. In Lake County, it was constructed as early as the mid-nineteenth century up through the early twentieth century and became a dominant folk form common in rural areas. The house at 17404 Holtz Road is a modest and altered gable-front example of no discernible style whose basic form remains but is altered by several large additions on its north, south, and east-facing elevations. The house has also been clad in replacement vinyl siding and the original windows replaced by vinyl sashes.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The house at 17404 Holtz Road was evaluated for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criteria A, B, and C using guidelines set forth in the NRHP Bulletin “How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation.”

The house at 17404 Holtz Road was established after extensive transportation and drainage efforts occurred in Cedar Creek Township in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, reflecting a countywide trend of farmstead establishment in this period. However, the extant house appears to be typical of its period. Although the property was associated with fox farming in Lake County, it no longer retains any original farmstead buildings that convey this historical association, and therefore, it is not eligible under Criterion A.

Although the house at 17404 Holtz Road is associated with the Horner family, who were possibly among the early settlers and farmers of the Lake County area, as well as the Shurte family, who were involved in fox farming, the property no longer conveys that association as no original farmstead buildings other than the house are extant. Therefore, the house at 17404 Holtz Road is not eligible under Criterion B.

The house at 17404 Holtz Road is a modest, altered, and typical example of an early twentieth century gable-front house. The house retains few of its original features, as much of the house has been altered through additions, vinyl siding, and window replacements. The building's type, style, and features do not indicate architectural or historical significance, and it is not a distinctive example of the type or style in Lake County. Additionally, farm buildings and pens associated with the Shurte family's fox farm have been lost. Therefore, the house at 17404 Holtz Road is not eligible under Criterion C.

The house at 17404 Holtz Road was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the house at 1704 Holtz Road is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

SOURCES
Drury, John. 1956. *This is Lake County, Indiana*. Chicago, IL: Inland Photo Co.

Lake County Assessor. 2013. *Lake County Surveyor GIS Website*.

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Photo 1 – 17404 Holtz Road

Facing northwest to east-facing facade and east elevation of garage

Map – 17404 Holtz Road

NAME
15112 Grant Street

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS
15112 Grant Street

CITY
Crown Point

TOWNSHIP
Cedar Creek

OWNERSHIP
Paul V. Hein, Trust and Nancy M. Hein, Trust

TAX PARCEL NUMBER
45-20-05-200-002.000-007; 45-20-05-200-001.000-007

YEAR BUILT
1896

SOURCE
Lake County Assessor (2013)

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE
No Discernible Style

PROPERTY TYPE
Agriculture

FOUNDATION
Fieldstone, Concrete

WALLS
Vinyl

ROOF
Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The property at 15112 Grant Street is a late nineteenth century farmstead located on approximately 154 acres on the west side of Grant Street. The farmstead's buildings range in date from ca. 1896 to 1960 and consist of the farmhouse, drive-through corncrib barn, transverse-frame barn with attached silo and lean-to addition, and pole barn. Off of Grant Street, the driveway runs along the south side of the farmhouse, curves around to the east side of the pole barn and drive-through corncrib barn, and terminates at the north side of the English barn.

Along the north side of the driveway, the ca. 1896 farmhouse is a modest two-story, gable-front house of no discernible style with a one-story, side-gable wing addition at its north elevation. The original gable-front sits on a fieldstone foundation while the wing addition sits on a concrete block foundation; both are clad in vinyl siding and have an asphalt-shingled roof. Facing east, the house's facade is defined by its original gable-front and the perpendicular north elevation wing. The gable-front's three-bay first story contains an entry door with a concrete stoop and curved metal awning in the middle bay and a one-over-one, double-hung, aluminum-sash window in the outer bays. The two-bay second story contains a one-over-one, double-hung, aluminum-sash window in each bay. The gable-front's north side elevation entirely comprises the side-gable wing. The wing's facade comprises center paired one-over-one, double-hung, aluminum-sash windows while its north side and west rear elevations comprise two one-over-one, double-hung, aluminum-sash windows.

The gable-front's west rear elevation is identical to the facade and also contains a wood deck addition with a sidewalk leading south to the driveway. Its south side elevation comprises three unevenly spaced one-over-one, double-hung, aluminum-sash windows on the first story and two of the same windows on the second story.

A one-story, gable-roof pole barn constructed ca. 1960 is located along the west side of the driveway and southeast of the house. It sits on a concrete foundation with metal-clad walls and roof. Its east elevation

onto the driveway contains a large off-center sliding door while its west elevation contains no door or window openings. Its gabled south elevation contains sliding double doors while its gabled north elevation contains two small evenly spaced window openings. Five skylights are evenly spaced across the roof's east and west elevations.

Immediately south of the pole barn is the ca. 1910 drive-through corncrib barn, which sits on a concrete foundation with metal-clad walls and roof. Its identical east and west elevations contain sliding double doors and no window openings. The north and south elevations are devoid of window or door openings.

At the driveway's southern terminus is the ca. 1910 two-story, gable-roof transverse-frame barn with an attached ca. 1910 silo and two shed-roof additions. The barn sits on a concrete foundation with wood siding and a metal-clad roof. Its east elevation contains two small window openings flanking a central sliding door entrance on the first story with a hayloft door on the second story. An entirely open shed-roof addition composed of wood posts supporting a metal shed roof, extends across the east elevation. The north elevation contains two window openings and an entry door. The west elevation contains two window openings. The south elevation comprises a round concrete silo at the east end and a partially enclosed shed addition. The addition is clad in wood siding with a metal-clad shed roof. Its enclosed west end contains two small window openings on its west elevation. The open portion comprises two simple posts supporting the shed roof. The barn's roof contains five evenly spaced skylights across the south elevation.

A grassy lawn surrounds the farmstead property and the farmhouse is immediately surrounded by mature deciduous trees on its east and west elevations and beyond that, by an L-shaped line of evergreen trees at its north and west elevations. Spring Run Creek runs northwest to southeast through the west portion of the farm, dividing its agricultural fields; its banks are lined by mature deciduous trees and shrubbery. The property contains three distinct fields delineated by low shrubbery and trees. A tree line runs along the property's north and west boundaries.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The property at 15112 Grant Street appears to be an active farmstead whose extant farm buildings were constructed as follows: the farmhouse ca. 1896; the drive-through corncrib barn, transverse-frame barn, two shed-roof additions, and silo ca. 1910; and the pole barn ca. 1960. Although the Lake County Assessor dates the shed-roof additions to 1910, a 1956 aerial photograph shows they were not present at that time. The farmstead also had a smaller transverse-frame barn along the east side of the driveway and another outbuilding where the pole barn is now located. The aerial also shows the farmhouse had its north elevation wing addition by 1956, but it appears to have had a different window configuration. The majority of the trees surrounding the farmhouse are also a post-1956 addition to the property.

The farmstead was likely established around the time the house was constructed in 1896. Research did not reveal who established the farm. In 1920, Mary Homeier owned a 160-acre parcel in this location. William Homeier, relationship unknown to Mary, owned the property in 1956, which was rented or managed by Wilber A. Schultz. In 1966, Charles W. Gibson owned a 157-acre parcel here. In 1976, the parcel was split into two 78.5-acre parcels; Paul and Nancy Hein owned the south parcel with the farmstead and Lawrence and Florence Hein owned the north parcel. Since 1996, Paul and Nancy Hein have owned both parcels, which are held in a trust under both their names. Research did not reveal any additional information about any of the property's owners.

The farmstead at 15112 Grant Street was established during the period between 1850 and 1900, which is generally considered to be Indiana's golden age of agriculture as subsistence farming transitioned to large-scale operations. Transportation and technological improvements allowed farmers to bring their corn crops and livestock, primarily cattle and hogs, to faraway markets. Early agricultural education also contributed to this period of agricultural growth at the state and local levels. In 1851, the State Board of

Agriculture was created to provide farmers with agricultural guidance in the form of local county agricultural societies. These county agricultural societies, as well as county fairs, provided farmstead improvement methods and techniques directly to farmers. Additionally, they exposed farmers to “book farming,” which included essays on the topics of crops, drainage, machinery, and farmstead improvements. As a result, agricultural practice improved throughout the state and the State Board of Agriculture lent support for the Morrill Act passed by Congress in 1862. This act created the foundation for grant colleges and universities geared toward teaching agriculture and mechanical arts nationwide. These educational efforts and transportation improvements characterizing the state’s agricultural boom did not reach the tri-creek area until the Monon Railroad was constructed through Cedar Creek Township in the 1880s. Also aiding agricultural growth in the tri-creek area were increased efforts to drain the marshlands and dig ditches to create arable land. An extensive drainage system began in the 1870s, continuing through the early part of the twentieth century, contributed greatly to agricultural growth. As a result, a large number of the county’s farms, like the subject farmstead, date from the late nineteenth or early twentieth century.

At the beginning of the twentieth century, few Lake County farmers owned tractors, used chemical fertilizers, or practiced crop rotation to avoid depleting soil nutrients despite a statewide trend toward these practices. Strides in agricultural education, focused on fertilizer, began in the 1880s and 1890s. These experiments began at the state’s first land grant university, Purdue University. As the benefits of fertilizer to future crops became apparent, bulletins were published that instructed farmers on the application and benefits of fertilizer, its future effects to crops, and the best crops to fertilize (wheat and corn over oats). With the dissemination of these bulletins, further promoted by local agricultural organizations, farmers began to invest in commercial plant foods and liming soils between 1890 and 1900. These practices were more readily adopted by farmers statewide by 1910 than in Lake County, but as they became more commonplace, Lake County farmers began to adopt the new planting and fertilizer techniques as well as new machinery during the 1920s and 1930s. These practices streamlined farming practices and increased productivity. This was further supported by local agricultural education offered by the Lowell High School, which had a three-year course in agriculture specifically designed for its rural pupils. The course of study partially relied on the study of agricultural bulletins and focused on plants and crops, soils, gardening, fruit growing, livestock, dairying, poultry, and feeding. Consequently, as new machinery was adopted, farm shops and implement or machine sheds were erected on the farms to repair and house equipment, store tools, and generally maintain the farmstead. One of the most basic and popular implement sheds was a three-sided building with the fourth side entirely open; sometimes old, unused barns on the property, simple wood-frame structures with open sides, or lean-tos attached to other farm buildings were used to protect farm equipment.

These improvements in agricultural practices and education led to a higher standard of living in rural communities as running water and electricity started to become available to rural residents and crop productivity significantly increased. Produce and food became less expensive for rural and urban residents and in increase in agricultural input initially benefited the nation during World War I. Farmers were able to supply food to families at home and to members of the military, resulting in an increased demand for goods and an economic boom. Increased profits during this time period led to farmers purchasing more land and seeking ways to continue to improve farming methods and machinery. However, after the war, prices for goods began to decline and farmers found themselves with a surplus of crops as they could produce more than what could be consumed. This resulted in the construction of silos on farmsteads to store surplus crops, in addition to the silos needed for winter livestock feed. Between 1917 and 1918, approximately ten thousand silos were constructed in the state.

In addition to corn, farmers also raised livestock. In Lake County, beef cattle farming rose to prominence in the early 1860s, spurred by increased demand, the development of refrigerated railcars, and later, the construction of a slaughterhouse in nearby Hammond, close to Chicago and railroad lines. At first,

farmers raised a variety of livestock but eventually began to specialize in the 1920s due to the expense of raising a combination of animals that required specific buildings and care. Farmers focused on hogs and chickens or solely on dairy cows or beef cattle. This shifting focus to particular breeds was supported and improved by increased knowledge about livestock nutrition and the use of genetics for better breeding results that was disseminated by the local county fair and agricultural bulletins. Improved technologies for the care of livestock, such as automated feeding systems and milking systems, also contributed to this specialization. Research did not reveal the farmstead at 15112 Grant Street to have specialized in a particular livestock breed or engage in any specific agricultural activities.

In the 1950s and 1960s, most farmers stopped practicing crop rotation and began to grow corn continuously because the crops did not deplete soil nutrients and improved fertilization techniques came into use. Additionally, rows of corn crops were planted closer together, increasing the output of crops and contributing to the decline of crop rotation. New mechanized and specialized equipment, like the mechanical corn picker, cultivator, planter, and mowers, and automated feeding and milking systems, and farming practices, like a new process of corn, wheat, and soybean field shelling and knowledge of nutrition and genetics of livestock, began to supersede the need for human labor. These improvements to crop and livestock varieties allowed farmers to engage in well-rounded agricultural practices on a scale never before seen. Despite these advances, the amount of farmland statewide and nationwide experienced a small decrease due to a shift from agriculture and industry to suburban and urban centers. This shift included suburban residential growth in rural areas, the development of state highways, the expansion of industrial areas, and the development of shopping centers.

The property was previously surveyed and rated “Contributing” in the 1996 Lake County Interim Report. The Interim Report assigned a rating of “Non-Contributing,” “Contributing,” “Notable,” or “Outstanding” to surveyed properties based on their historical significance, architectural merit, environment, and integrity. For the purposes of the Interim Report, these ratings were based upon the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Criteria for Evaluation, but were not substitutes for final NRHP eligibility determinations. Also, because 17 years have passed since this report, many properties have undergone alterations that are not considered in the report’s assessments. Properties rated “Non-Contributing” were only included in the Interim Report if they were located within an existing or potential historic district and would not be considered NRHP-eligible. A “Contributing” rating was assigned to those properties that met the 50 years of age or older criterion but were not individually significant enough to be NRHP eligible; however, these resources could be considered NRHP-eligible as part of a historic district. A “Notable” rating meant the property did not merit an “Outstanding” rating but was still above-average in its historic or architectural significance and could be NRHP-eligible upon further investigation. An “Outstanding” rating meant the property retained enough historic or architectural significance that it was already listed in or should be considered for individual listing in the NRHP. For the purposes of this report’s evaluation, the “Contributing”-rated property at 15112 Grant Street is being assessed individually and not as part of a rural historic district.

At that time, the property was identified as a typical turn-of-the-century gable-front house and barn. The farmhouse was clad in wood clapboard, which has been replaced with vinyl siding, and the transverse-frame barn had the east elevation shed-roof addition. The property also contained an east-west fence located between the farmhouse and transverse-frame barn; it has since been removed.

The farmhouse was originally constructed as a two-story gable-front house. This was a dominant house type that rose to popularity throughout the United States during the Greek Revival era when buildings were designed to be reminiscent of Greek temples. Located at the gabled end, the principal facade forms a triangle beneath the gable front and mimics the classical pediment of a Greek temple. When the facade is fully adorned in Greek Revival ornamentation, the gable-front house is called a Temple-Front. Generally, as settlers moved westward and adopted the gable-front form, these stylistic characteristics

diminished and unornamented examples prevailed well beyond the antebellum era, particularly in the Great Lakes region. In Lake County, it was constructed as early as the mid-nineteenth century up through the early twentieth century and became a dominant folk form common in rural areas. The farmhouse at 15112 Grant Street is a modest and altered gable-front example whose gable-front form is partially obscured by a north elevation wing addition. The windows appear to be aluminum replacements from the mid-twentieth century while the vinyl siding is newer.

The farmstead's ca. 1910 transverse-frame barn is a basic example that has been altered by shed-roof additions along its east and south elevations. The transverse-frame barn evolved from a basic single-crib log structure. The single-crib barn was one square or rectangular crib of log construction with a gable roof. It was used for grain storage and stabling animals. The single-crib barn evolved into the double-crib and four-crib barns as farmers needed additional space. These barn types used the single-crib barn as a basic unit and added additional cribs to create the double- or four-crib barns. The four-crib barn had cribs at each corner with a common roof and intersecting aisles forming a cross. The transverse-frame barn evolved from the four-crib barn, but is of frame construction and has a closed-off cross aisle with stalls or cribs built along the wall. The transverse-frame barn entrances are located at each gable end so that wagons could be driven through the barn. Each side of the barn was lined by storage cribs or stables.

Attached to the transverse-frame barn is a round concrete silo that no longer retains its roof. Silos became popular around the turn of the nineteenth century for the purpose of feeding livestock in the winter. They were first constructed of wood in a square shape. These first silos were sometimes built at the corner of a barn but they reduced available area for livestock or hay storage. They also were not as practical as the later round silos because the silage did not get packed into the corners, allowing air to get in and rot the contents. Square silos fell out of favor by the 1920s as round, concrete and glazed tile silos came into widespread use. Concrete was more popular than tile because it was easier to use and it could be poured in any vertical size. Curved tiles were more fragile and the curvature determined the silo's size. Metal silos also became popular and few wooden silos exist in Indiana today.

The farmstead also retains its ca. 1910 drive-through corncrib barn. Corn cribs were constructed on the farmstead to hold agricultural produce and feed. Corn cribs were typically constructed of wire mesh or slatted wood cribs to allow air to circulate around the corn. Found in large numbers throughout northern Indiana and generally dating from the early twentieth century, the corn crib barn in Lake County is descended from the single crib barn. They comprise a series of wooden-slat cribs, usually three on each side of the central aisle. The cupola provides headroom for the interior mechanized elevator. The farmstead's corncrib barn is a typical example that has been clad in non-historic metal materials.

The farmstead's pole barn is a typical example of a pole barn constructed in the post-World War II when barn building techniques dramatically changed and traditional building techniques were superseded by the construction of pole barns and prefabricated structures, which were more cost-effective for farmers. These were commonly constructed of treated wood posts and corrugated steel, respectively, and clad in corrugated sheet metal.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION

The farmstead at 15112 Grant Street was evaluated for listing in the NRHP under Criteria A, B, and C using guidelines set forth in the NRHP Bulletin "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation."

The farmstead at 15112 Grant Street was established after extensive transportation and drainage efforts occurred in Cedar Creek Township in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, reflecting a countywide trend of farmstead establishment in this period. However, the farm appears to be typical of its period. It also does not appear to have engaged in any particular type of farming and its extant buildings are all basic examples of agricultural outbuildings of this period. Therefore, it is not eligible under Criterion A.

Research did not reveal the farmstead at 15112 Grant Street to be associated with the lives of persons significant in the past. No additional information was found regarding its association with the Homeier, Gibson, or Hein families, and therefore, the farmstead at 15112 Grant Street is not eligible under Criterion B.

The farmstead at 15112 Grant Street's remaining transverse-frame barn, drive-through corncrib barn, and pole barn are largely intact and still convey their historic appearance and original use, though the corncrib barn has been clad in replacement materials. However, these buildings are not distinctive examples of their type and they do not exhibit any architectural significance. The farmhouse's original gable-front form has been altered with the addition of a north elevation wing as well as by replacement vinyl siding and aluminum-sash windows. Furthermore, the overall farmstead has lost a couple of its original outbuildings and its extant agricultural buildings do not convey its association as a particular type of farm or as a working farm. Therefore, the farmstead at 15112 Grant Street is not eligible under Criterion C.

The farmstead at 15112 Grant Street was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the farmstead at 15112 Grant Street is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY

N/A

SOURCES

Drury, John. 1956. *This is Lake County, Indiana*. Chicago, IL: Inland Photo Co.

Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana. July 1994a. *Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory: Lake County Interim Report. Farm on Grant Street, Cedar Creek Township.* On file at the Indiana Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology. Indianapolis, Indiana. http://indiamond6.ulib.iupui.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/IHSSI/id/11882

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Plat Maps. 2005. *2005 Plat Book. Lake County, Indiana.*

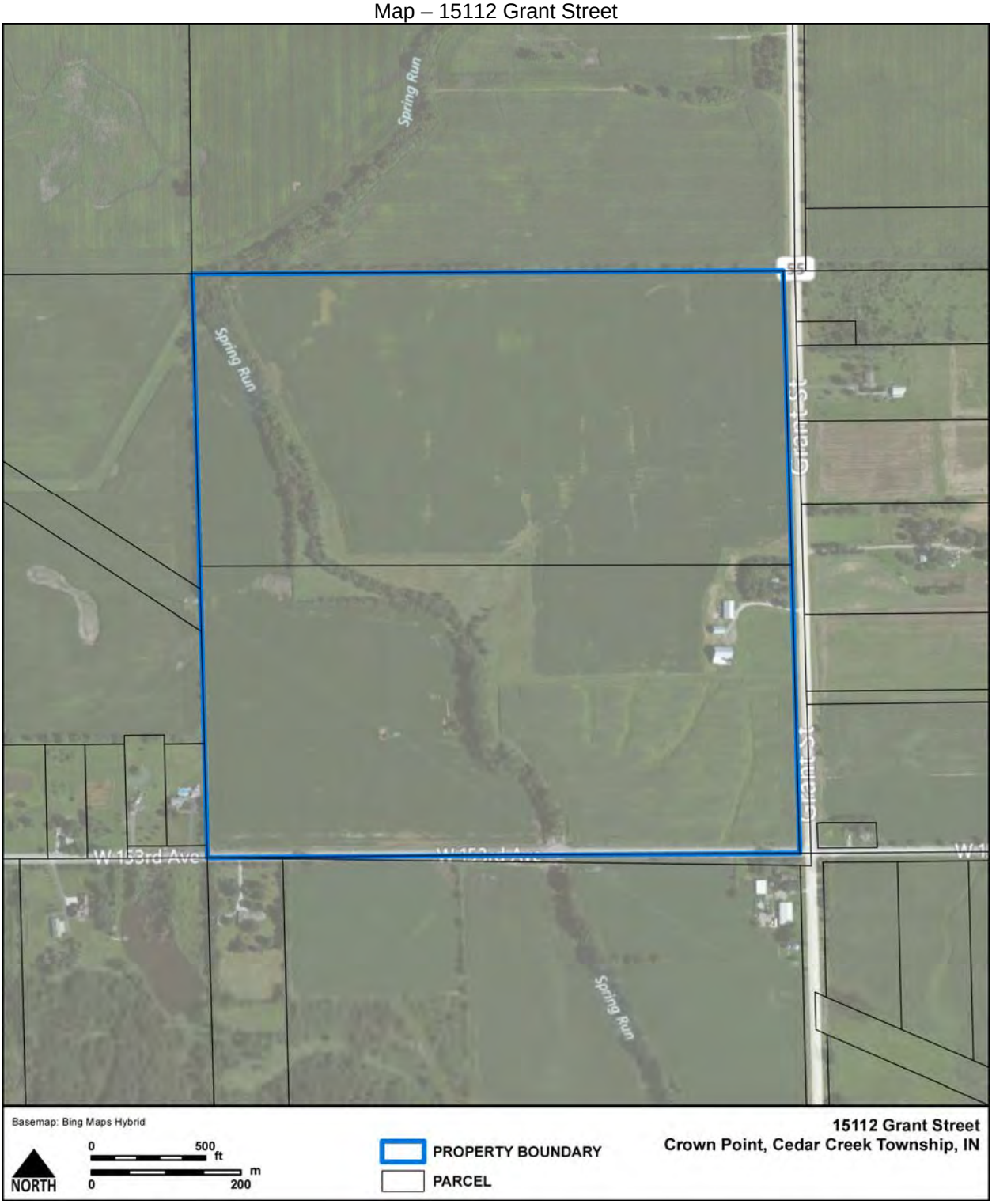
Photo 1 – 15112 Grant Street

Facing west to farmstead

Photo 2 – 15112 Grant Street

Facing west to farmhouse facade

Map – 15112 Grant Street



NAME
Rust House

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS	CITY	TOWNSHIP
925 West 153rd Avenue	Crown Point	Cedar Creek

OWNERSHIP	TAX PARCEL NUMBER
Jerry and Cynthia Swinson	45-20-04-326-002.000-007

YEAR BUILT	SOURCE
1915	Lake County Assessor (2013)

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE	PROPERTY TYPE
No Discernible Style	Domestic

FOUNDATION	WALLS	ROOF
Concrete	Vinyl	Asphalt shingle

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The two-story Rust House is a modest and significantly altered gabled-ell house of no discernible style with multiple additions along on its facade, east side elevation, and south rear elevation. The house sits on a concrete foundation with vinyl siding and an asphalt-shingled roof. All of the house's windows have fixed, replacement vinyl shutters. A grassy lawn surrounds the house and its driveway is located along the house's east elevation off West 153rd Avenue. The house is located on the south side of West 153rd Avenue on 2.5 acres of land and is surrounded by grassy lawn, mature deciduous trees, and ornamental foundation plantings. Non-historic, recently constructed houses are located in its immediate vicinity to the east and west and agricultural fields are located immediately north across West 153rd Avenue.

Facing north, the facade is defined by a two-story, gable-front portion intersected on its east side elevation by a perpendicular two-story, side-gabled ell. The gable-front portion contains a square fixed-light, replacement vinyl window at the first and second stories while the ell contains a single one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash window at its second story. A one-story, half-hipped addition is located at the intersection formed by the gable-front portion and ell; its facade is flush with the gable-front facade. The addition's facade contains a ribbon of three contiguous one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash windows. Its east side elevation contains an entry door with a two-step concrete stoop.

The east side elevation of the two-story ell comprises a ribbon of three contiguous one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash windows at the first story. The second story contains a square fixed-light, replacement vinyl window. The south rear elevation comprises a single one-over-one, double-hung, vinyl-sash window on the gable-front portion and a brick chimney at its juncture with the ell. The majority of the south rear elevation is obstructed by a one-story, gabled addition that extends across the south rear elevation and projects slightly beyond the house's east side elevation. The addition's two-bay east side elevation contains an entry door in the south bay and paired one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash windows in the north bay. A partial-width porch extends across the addition's east side elevation and wraps around to the south rear elevation. The porch is composed of wood decking, spindle

wood railings, and wood posts supporting the shed roof extending from the addition's gabled roof. The addition's south rear elevation contains four one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash windows while its west side elevation contains two one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash windows.

The house's west side elevation comprises two bays at each story. Each bay contains a one-over-one, double-hung, vinyl-sash window.

Southeast of the house, the property also contains a non-historic rectangular, side-gabled garage oriented parallel to West 153rd Avenue. The garage has metal walls and a metal roof with openings on its north elevation.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The Rust House was constructed ca. 1915 on the south side of West 153rd Avenue, near the center of the Rust family's former 160-acre farm that was located on both sides of West 153rd Avenue. The farm was originally established by Jay Crawford in the late nineteenth century and was purchased by Henry Rust and his wife, Sophia Rust, in 1916. Henry Rust was a German immigrant who came to Illinois in 1882 and moved to Indiana in 1891. He was a landscape architect who learned his trade in his native Germany as a young boy. Upon moving to the farmstead in 1916, he planted a variety of evergreens and began professionally landscaping in 1920 all over Lake County. He eventually established Rust Nursery, which was a successful landscaping business. He and his wife had two children and his son, George Rust joined him in the nursery and landscaping business; George eventually assumed operations of the business, along with his son Gene. Plat maps indicate that members of the Rust family have subdivided the farmstead over time, substantially increasing land divisions after 1966. By 1985, the property fell out of Rust family ownership, although several members of the family currently own surrounding parcels. Recent property assessor data indicates the Rust House is now owned by the Swinson family whose potential relation to the Rust family is undetermined.

A 1956 aerial photograph of the farmstead indicates it remained intact through the mid-twentieth century. Surrounding the house were numerous farm outbuildings including barns and sheds clustered together in a relatively isolated stretch of West 153rd Avenue. These agricultural buildings have since been demolished. On the north side of West 153rd Avenue, the property included several plots of evergreen trees, which were part of the Rust Nursery business. The farmstead boundaries were also completely surrounded by tree lines of evergreens planted by Henry Rust. The west tree line still partially exists on one of the subdivided parcels as do some of the ornamental plantings; however, most of the original plantings by Henry Rust and Rust Nursery are gone. By the late twentieth century, the land was subdivided, with some parcels sold outside the family. This resulted in new construction proximate to the original ca. 1915 farmstead and the current parcel decreasing in size to 2.5 acres. Major agricultural activities have appeared to cease and a ca. 1995 garage has been constructed southeast of the house.

The Rust property was established during the period between 1850 and 1900, which is generally considered to be Indiana's golden age of agriculture as subsistence farming transitioned to large-scale operations. Transportation and technological improvements allowed farmers to bring their corn crops and livestock, primarily cattle and hogs, to faraway markets. Early agricultural education also contributed to this period of agricultural growth at the state and local levels. In 1851, the State Board of Agriculture was created to provide farmers with agricultural guidance in the form of local county agricultural societies. These county agricultural societies, as well as county fairs, provided farmstead improvement methods and techniques directly to farmers. Additionally, they exposed farmers to "book farming," which included essays on the topics of crops, drainage, machinery, and farmstead improvements. As a result, agricultural practice improved throughout the state and the State Board of Agriculture lent support for the Morrill Act passed by Congress in 1862. This act created the foundation for grant colleges and universities geared toward teaching agriculture and mechanical arts nationwide. These educational efforts and transportation improvements characterizing the state's agricultural boom did not reach the tri-

creek area until the Monon Railroad was constructed through Cedar Creek Township in the 1880s. Also aiding agricultural growth in the tri-creek area were increased efforts to drain the marshlands and dig ditches to create arable land. An extensive drainage system began in the 1870s, continuing through the early part of the twentieth century, contributed greatly to agricultural growth. As a result, a large number of the county's farms, including the Rust House's original farmstead, date from the late nineteenth or early twentieth century.

At the beginning of the twentieth century, few Lake County farmers owned tractors, used chemical fertilizers, or practiced crop rotation to avoid depleting soil nutrients despite a statewide trend toward these practices. Strides in agricultural education, focused on fertilizer, began in the 1880s and 1890s. These experiments began at the state's first land grant university, Purdue University. As the benefits of fertilizer to future crops became apparent, bulletins were published that instructed farmers on the application and benefits of fertilizer, its future effects to crops, and the best crops to fertilize (wheat and corn over oats). With the dissemination of these bulletins, further promoted by local agricultural organizations, farmers began to invest in commercial plant foods and liming soils between 1890 and 1900. These practices were more readily adopted by farmers statewide by 1910 than in Lake County, but as they became more commonplace, Lake County farmers began to adopt the new planting and fertilizer techniques as well as new machinery during the 1920s and 1930s. These practices streamlined farming practices and increased productivity. This was further supported by local agricultural education offered by the Lowell High School, which had a three-year course in agriculture specifically designed for its rural pupils. The course of study partially relied on the study of agricultural bulletins and focused on plants and crops, soils, gardening, fruit growing, livestock, dairying, poultry, and feeding. Consequently, as new machinery was adopted, farm shops and implement or machine sheds were erected on the farms to repair and house equipment, store tools, and generally maintain the farmstead. One of the most basic and popular implement sheds was a three-sided building with the fourth side entirely open; sometimes old, unused barns on the property, simple wood-frame structures with open sides, or lean-tos attached to other farm buildings were used to protect farm equipment. Research did not reveal the agricultural activities undertaken by the Rust family on this property and it is unknown the crop types or livestock that the family raised.

These improvements in agricultural practices and education led to a higher standard of living in rural communities as running water and electricity started to become available to rural residents and crop productivity significantly increased. Produce and food became less expensive for rural and urban residents and in increase in agricultural input initially benefited the nation during World War I. Farmers were able to supply food to families at home and to members of the military, resulting in an increased demand for goods and an economic boom. Increased profits during this time period led to farmers purchasing more land and seeking ways to continue to improve farming methods and machinery. However, after the war, prices for goods began to decline and farmers found themselves with a surplus of crops as they could produce more than what could be consumed. This resulted in the construction of silos on farmsteads to store surplus crops, in addition to the silos needed for winter livestock feed. Between 1917 and 1918, approximately ten thousand silos were constructed in the state.

During the Great Depression, Congress passed the Agricultural Adjustment Act in 1933. The act played an important role in improving Indiana's agricultural economy through the installation of a wheat allotment program. Additionally, the Rural Electrification Administration, a program enacted by the New Deal, significantly impacted rural residents as approximately 24,000 farms received electricity. This was supported by the state's Rural Electric Membership Corporation in 1935 to distribute electricity to rural areas. By 1965, 99 percent of the state's farms were electrified, ending rural isolation and increasing farmers' productivity and efficiency.

In addition to corn, farmers also raised livestock. In Lake County, beef cattle farming rose to prominence

in the early 1860s, spurred by increased demand, the development of refrigerated railcars, and later, the construction of a slaughterhouse in nearby Hammond, close to Chicago and railroad lines. At first, farmers raised a variety of livestock but eventually began to specialize in the 1920s due to the expense of raising a combination of animals that required specific buildings and care. Farmers focused on hogs and chickens or solely on dairy cows or beef cattle. This shifting focus to particular breeds was supported and improved by increased knowledge about livestock nutrition and the use of genetics for better breeding results that was disseminated by the local county fair and agricultural bulletins. Improved technologies for the care of livestock, such as automated feeding systems and milking systems, also contributed to this specialization.

In the 1950s and 1960s, most farmers stopped practicing crop rotation and began to grow corn continuously because the crops did not deplete soil nutrients and improved fertilization techniques came into use. Additionally, rows of corn crops were planted closer together, increasing the output of crops and contributing to the decline of crop rotation. New mechanized and specialized equipment, like the mechanical corn picker, cultivator, planter, and mowers, and automated feeding and milking systems, and farming practices, like a new process of corn, wheat, and soybean field shelling and knowledge of nutrition and genetics of livestock, began to supersede the need for human labor. These improvements to crop and livestock varieties allowed farmers to engage in well-rounded agricultural practices on a scale never before seen. Despite these advances, the amount of farmland statewide and nationwide experienced a small decrease due to a shift from agriculture and industry to suburban and urban centers. This shift included suburban residential growth in rural areas, the development of state highways, the expansion of industrial areas, and the development of shopping centers. Research did not reveal when the Rust House farmstead ceased agricultural activities, but it may have occurred immediately after this shifting period of development given the land subdivision that occurred around this time.

The Rust House was originally constructed as a two-story gabled-ell house. This is a variation of the gable-front house, which was a dominant house type that rose to popularity throughout the United States during the Greek Revival era. In Lake County, the gable-front and its subtype, the gabled-ell, were constructed as early as the mid-nineteenth century up through the early twentieth century. The gabled-ell is a gable-front house with a side extension (or ell), forming an L-shaped plan. The ell is sometimes an addition built after the original gable-front house. They can be one, one-and-one-half, or two stories in height with the ell being the same height as the gable-front portion of the house. The gabled-ell in rural areas is generally unornamented, particularly later examples after the antebellum era. The Rust House is a modest and altered gabled-ell example of no discernible style. Although its basic form is discernible, large additions alter its form and original design intent. The house is further altered by replacement materials, such as vinyl siding and vinyl-sash windows, and non-historic fenestration patterns. The facade addition was likely a porch that was enclosed to serve as the house's main entrance.

The property was previously surveyed and rated "Contributing" in the 1996 Lake County Interim Report. The Interim Report assigned a rating of "Non-Contributing," "Contributing," "Notable," or "Outstanding" to surveyed properties based on their historical significance, architectural merit, environment, and integrity. For the purposes of the Interim Report, these ratings were based upon the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Criteria for Evaluation, but were not substitutes for final NRHP eligibility determinations. Also, because 17 years have passed since this report, many properties have undergone alterations that are not considered in the report's assessments. Properties rated "Non-Contributing" were only included in the Interim Report if they were located within an existing or potential historic district and would not be considered NRHP-eligible. A "Contributing" rating was assigned to those properties that met the 50 years of age or older criterion but were not individually significant enough to be NRHP eligible; however, these resources could be considered NRHP-eligible as part of a historic district. A "Notable" rating meant the property did not merit an "Outstanding" rating but was still above-average in its historic or architectural significance and could be NRHP-eligible upon further investigation. An "Outstanding" rating meant the

property retained enough historic or architectural significance that it was already listed in or should be considered for individual listing in the NRHP. For the purposes of this report's evaluation, the "Contributing"-rated Rust House is being assessed individually and not as part of a rural historic district.

At that time, the house was identified as a typical early twentieth century house with vinyl siding. The facade's one-story, half-hipped-roof addition was identified as likely a former porch. At the time of the survey, the house's large, rear addition and partial-width porch did not exist. The survey also identified the concrete foundation as a replacement covering the original fieldstone or brick foundation; the non-historic square windows were also in place at this time.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The Rust House was evaluated for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criteria A, B, and C using the guidelines set forth in the NRHP Bulletin "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation."

The Rust House was established after extensive transportation and drainage efforts occurred in Cedar Creek Township in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, reflecting a countywide trend of farmstead establishment in this period. However, the farmstead, which is no longer active, appears to be typical of its period. It also does not appear to be associated with any agricultural trends in Lake County, such as dairy farming or livestock specialization. Furthermore, the Rust House and demolished farmstead was once part of the Rust Nursery, a prominent nursery and landscaping business in the tri-creek area. However, the majority of the buildings associated with this enterprise have been demolished and the nursery's plantings and landscaping are a fraction of what they once were. The property no longer conveys its agricultural past or its associations as the nursery business, and therefore, the property is not eligible under Criterion A.

The Rust House is associated with Henry Rust and the Rust family, who established a landscaping and nursery business, Rust Nursery, and provided landscaping throughout Lake County. However, the property no longer conveys this association because the majority of the original farmstead buildings, nursery buildings, and nursery plantings and landscaping have been demolished. The significant subdivision of the property also contributes to the property no longer conveying this association. The property remained in the Rust family for approximately 70 years; however, due to the extensive alterations to the property since their association with it, the property no longer conveys its associations with the productive lives of any members of the Rust family. Therefore, the Rust House is not eligible under Criterion B.

The Rust House is a modest, typical, and significantly altered example of an early twentieth century gabled-ell house of no discernible style. The house's basic form can be distinguished but subsequent large additions and modifications have altered its original form and design intent. The house has been clad in replacement materials, such as vinyl siding, vinyl shutters, and vinyl windows, and its fenestration pattern has been altered. The house's type, style, and features do not indicate architectural or historical significance, and it is not a distinctive example of the type or style in Lake County. Furthermore, the

property no longer retains any of its original agricultural buildings or landscaping features related to the Rust Nursery. Therefore, the Rust House is not eligible under Criterion C.

The Rust House was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the Rust House is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

SOURCES
Drury, John. 1956. *This is Lake County, Indiana*. Chicago, IL: Inland Photo Co.

Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana. April 5, 1994. *Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory: Lake County Interim Report. 925 E. 153rd Ave., Cedar Creek Township.* On file at the Indiana Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology. Indianapolis, Indiana. http://indiamond6.ulib.iupui.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/IHSSI/id/11882

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Photo 1 – Rust House

Facing south to house facade and north elevation

Photo 2 – Rust House

Facing southwest to facade and east side elevation

Map – Rust House

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NAME
Rosenthal Valley Farm

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS
600 West 153rd Avenue

CITY
Crown Point

TOWNSHIP
Cedar Creek

OWNERSHIP
Rosenthal Valley Farm, LLP;
Joel L. Claus and Toni L.
Rosenthal-Claus

TAX PARCEL NUMBER
45-20-04-201-001.000-007;
45-20-04-251-002.000-007;
45-20-04-276-001.000-007;
45-20-04-401-001.000-007;
45-20-04-401-002.000-007;
45-20-04-426-001.000-007

YEAR BUILT
1900

SOURCE
Lake County Assessor (2013)

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE
No Discernible Style

PROPERTY TYPE
Agriculture

FOUNDATION
Concrete

WALLS
Vinyl

ROOF
Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The Rosenthal Valley Farm is located on 158 acres that crosses 153rd Avenue; a small cluster of farm buildings and a residence is located north of the road and is surrounded by cleared and cultivated fields, with other small farmsteads in the vicinity; to the east is a residential subdivision of recently constructed homes. The building cluster sits close to the road in a small grove of mature deciduous trees. A driveway leads to the buildings. Select portions of the property were not accessible during the survey.

The farmhouse, built in 1900, has been substantially altered and is of no discernible style or form. It is two stories in height and clad in replacement vinyl siding on a concrete foundation. The building orientation has been changed, and the entrances are now contained on the south elevation, which essentially has become the facade, although it previously was a side elevation. Replacement vinyl windows are located throughout the house and window configurations consists of six-over-six, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sashes; three-over-one, double-hung, wood-sashes; and fixed single light windows. The building has a cross-gable form with a single-story gable extension to the east. The complex roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The south elevation comprises a two-story side-gable wing, a front-facing gable portion with a tall exterior brick chimney, and a one-story side-gable addition. On the south elevation, an entry door is located on the one-story addition and a second entry door is located on a small gable-front addition projecting from the two-story side-gable wing portion. The windows are unevenly spaced on the two-story side-gable wing; two windows flank the brick chimney on the gable-front at each story; and two windows flank the entry door on the one-story addition.

An array of agricultural buildings dating from 1900-1979 are present on the property. The most dominant older agricultural building is the gambrel-roof barn, which is located along the east side of the driveway

and southeast of the farmhouse. It is clad in wood siding and has small windows. Composite shingles cover the roof. The barn's identical north and south elevations comprise two small windows on the firs story and two small windows in the gambrel end flanking a small opening to the hayloft. The barn's west elevation contains four windows and an entrance. The barn's east elevation comprises a one-story, shed-roof addition that may have been a milking parlor. It is clad in metal siding and roofing and has a sliding door opening on its north elevation. A small one-story, gable-roof shed is located near the barn's west elevation. It is constructed of concrete block with an asphalt-shingle roof. It has a wood entry door and small window on its south elevation and a small window on its west elevation. A tall concrete stave silo with a metal hemispherical roof is located north of the barn. Gable-roof pole barns, cylindrical grain bins, a detached garage, and various sheds are also found on the property to the west of the residence. The property also contains a non-historic mobile home constructed ca. 1979.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The Rosenthal family has owned this property for more than one hundred years. The farmstead was originally established in 1869, likely by Henry F. Rosenthal's father. Henry F. Rosenthal owned the farm in 1900, living there with his wife, children, and mother. He continued to farm the property at least until 1940, and by 1956, his son Melvin owned the property, which was 180 acres. The property was subdivided, but the farmstead remains in the family and is 158 acres in size. The farm currently grows grain and raises livestock. A 1956 photograph of the farm shows that select agricultural buildings have been demolished while other buildings have been constructed since that time.

In 1976, the property was recognized as a Centennial Hoosier Homestead for having been owned by the same family for one hundred years or more and for its contributions to the economic, cultural, and social advancement of Indiana. Garry and Helen Rosenthal applied for the designation.

West Creek, Cedar Creek, and Eagle Creek were all established as townships in 1839, although the earliest pioneers began arriving and settling the land known as the tri-creek area in the early 1830s. This early settlement period was characterized by fur trapping, hunting, and subsistence farming, aided by the construction of several saw and grist mills. The settlers first planted corn, which became a mainstay of the local economy, even as crops diversified in later years to include wheat and soybeans. Corn provided food for the settlers as well as the livestock, and was also used as a means of trade. However, due to the extensive marshlands and prairie, and the late arrival of the railroad in the tri-creek area, farming on a large scale did not occur until the late nineteenth century. This was much later than other areas in Indiana that experienced major changes in agricultural practice and prosperity from the 1840s to 1860s due to advancements in transportation by canals and railroads and improvements in agricultural education.

The Rosenthal Valley Farm was established during the period between 1850 and 1900, which is generally considered to be Indiana's golden age of agriculture as subsistence farming transitioned to large-scale operations. Transportation and technological improvements allowed farmers to bring their corn crops and livestock, primarily cattle and hogs, to faraway markets. Early agricultural education also contributed to this period of agricultural growth at the state and local levels. In 1851, the State Board of Agriculture was created to provide farmers with agricultural guidance in the form of local county agricultural societies. These county agricultural societies, as well as county fairs, provided farmstead improvement methods and techniques directly to farmers. Additionally, they exposed farmers to "book farming," which included essays on the topics of crops, drainage, machinery, and farmstead improvements. As a result, agricultural practice improved throughout the state and the State Board of Agriculture lent support for the Morrill Act passed by Congress in 1862. This act created the foundation for grant colleges and universities geared toward teaching agriculture and mechanical arts nationwide. These educational efforts and transportation improvements characterizing the state's agricultural boom did not reach the tri-creek area until the Monon Railroad was constructed through Cedar Creek Township in the 1880s. Also aiding agricultural growth in the tri-creek area were increased efforts to drain the marshlands and dig ditches to create arable land. An extensive drainage system began in the 1870s,

continuing through the early part of the twentieth century, contributed greatly to agricultural growth. As a result, a large number of the county's farms date from the late nineteenth or early twentieth century.

At the beginning of the twentieth century, few Lake County farmers owned tractors, used chemical fertilizers, or practiced crop rotation to avoid depleting soil nutrients despite a statewide trend toward these practices. Strides in agricultural education, focused on fertilizer, began in the 1880s and 1890s. These experiments began at the state's first land grant university, Purdue University. As the benefits of fertilizer to future crops became apparent, bulletins were published that instructed farmers on the application and benefits of fertilizer, its future effects to crops, and the best crops to fertilize (wheat and corn over oats). With the dissemination of these bulletins, further promoted by local agricultural organizations, farmers began to invest in commercial plant foods and liming soils between 1890 and 1900. These practices were more readily adopted by farmers statewide by 1910 than in Lake County, but as they became more commonplace, Lake County farmers began to adopt the new planting and fertilizer techniques as well as new machinery during the 1920s and 1930s. These practices streamlined farming practices and increased productivity. This was further supported by local agricultural education offered by the Lowell High School, which had a three-year course in agriculture specifically designed for its rural pupils. The course of study partially relied on the study of agricultural bulletins and focused on plants and crops, soils, gardening, fruit growing, livestock, dairying, poultry, and feeding. Consequently, as new machinery was adopted, farm shops and implement or machine sheds were erected on the farms to repair and house equipment, store tools, and generally maintain the farmstead. One of the most basic and popular implement sheds was a three-sided building with the fourth side entirely open; sometimes old, unused barns on the property, simple wood-frame structures with open sides, or lean-tos attached to other farm buildings were used to protect farm equipment.

These improvements in agricultural practices and education led to a higher standard of living in rural communities as running water and electricity started to become available to rural residents and crop productivity significantly increased. Produce and food became less expensive for rural and urban residents and in increase in agricultural input initially benefited the nation during World War I. Farmers were able to supply food to families at home and to members of the military, resulting in an increased demand for goods and an economic boom. Increased profits during this time period led to farmers purchasing more land and seeking ways to continue to improve farming methods and machinery. However, after the war, prices for goods began to decline and farmers found themselves with a surplus of crops as they could produce more than what could be consumed. This resulted in the construction of silos on farmsteads to store surplus crops, in addition to the silos needed for winter livestock feed. Between 1917 and 1918, approximately ten thousand silos were constructed in the state.

During the Great Depression, Congress passed the Agricultural Adjustment Act in 1933. The act played an important role in improving Indiana's agricultural economy through the installation of a wheat allotment program. Additionally, the Rural Electrification Administration, a program enacted by the New Deal, significantly impacted rural residents as approximately 24,000 farms received electricity. This was supported by the state's Rural Electric Membership Corporation in 1935 to distribute electricity to rural areas. By 1965, 99 percent of the state's farms were electrified, ending rural isolation and increasing farmers' productivity and efficiency.

In addition to corn, farmers also raised livestock. In Lake County, beef cattle farming rose to prominence in the early 1860s, spurred by increased demand, the development of refrigerated railcars, and later, the construction of a slaughterhouse in nearby Hammond, close to Chicago and railroad lines. At first, farmers raised a variety of livestock but eventually began to specialize in the 1920s due to the expense of raising a combination of animals that required specific buildings and care. Farmers focused on hogs and chickens or solely on dairy cows or beef cattle. This shifting focus to particular breeds was supported and improved by increased knowledge about livestock nutrition and the use of genetics for better breeding

results that was disseminated by the local county fair and agricultural bulletins. Improved technologies for the care of livestock, such as automated feeding systems and milking systems, also contributed to this specialization. Research did not reveal the type of agricultural activities that occurred on this farmstead.

In the early twentieth century, the dairy industry was booming in Indiana, particularly in northern Indiana, which supplied milk to nearby Chicago. During the 1920s, farmers with large cattle herds began using automated milking and watering machines and transported canned milk, a process completed on the farm, to other cities via the Monon Railroad. This line was known as the “milk run,” which stopped daily at the milk stand in the nearby town of Lowell through the 1920s. After this time, county dairies began to pick up milk directly from farms by truck. Dairy farms were characterized by a number of related outbuildings that supported dairy operations, such as dairy barns, milk houses, milking barns, grain silos, manure pits, stockyards, bull barns, and hay barns. The dairy barn was used to house and feed the dairy cows. They typically had a gambrel roof, roof ventilators and dormers, and multiple windows along the side elevations; many also had attached silos. The milking barn was located close to the dairy barn and sited within an integrated system of pens, stockyards, and pastures. It could be a separate building or a segregated room within a larger barn. Sited close to the dairy and milking barns, the milk house was a rectangular building with a gabled roof and constructed of concrete or tile blocks with no ventilation. The well-insulated milk house was a dedicated space used for cooling and storing milk before it was taken to market.

In the 1950s and 1960s, most farmers stopped practicing crop rotation and began to grow corn continuously because the crops did not deplete soil nutrients and improved fertilization techniques came into use. Additionally, rows of corn crops were planted closer together, increasing the output of crops and contributing to the decline of crop rotation. New mechanized and specialized equipment, like the mechanical corn picker, cultivator, planter, and mowers, and automated feeding and milking systems, and farming practices, like a new process of corn, wheat, and soybean field shelling and knowledge of nutrition and genetics of livestock, began to supersede the need for human labor. These improvements to crop and livestock varieties allowed farmers to engage in well-rounded agricultural practices on a scale never before seen. Despite these advances, the amount of farmland statewide and nationwide experienced a small decrease due to a shift from agriculture and industry to suburban and urban centers. This shift included suburban residential growth in rural areas, the development of state highways, the expansion of industrial areas, and the development of shopping centers.

The farmstead’s farmhouse has been significantly altered by additions and replacement materials and no longer conveys its original appearance or form. It may have been a gabled-ell or T-plan form, both of which were variations of the gable-front house. The gable-front house was a dominant house type that rose to popularity throughout the United States during the Greek Revival era. In Lake County, the gable-front and its subtypes, the gabled-ell and T-plan, were constructed as early as the mid-nineteenth century up through the early twentieth century. The gabled-ell is a gable-front house with a side extension (or ell), forming an L-shaped plan. The ell is sometimes an addition built after the original gable-front house. They can be one, one-and-one-half, or two stories in height with the ell being the same height as the gable-front portion of the house. The T-plan is a gable-front house with a perpendicular rear section that forms a T-shaped footprint. These range in height with the front and rear portions being the same height. These forms in rural areas are generally unornamented, particularly later examples after the antebellum era.

The farmstead’s extant agricultural outbuildings postdate its period of establishment and are all basic examples of their types. In particular, the silo and gambrel-roof barn are basic examples that do not indicate any architectural significance. Silos became popular around the turn of the nineteenth century for the purpose of feeding livestock in the winter. They were first constructed of wood in a square shape. These first silos were sometimes built at the corner of a barn but they reduced available area for livestock or hay storage. They also were not as practical as the later round silos because the silage did not get

packed into the corners, allowing air to get in and rot the contents. Square silos fell out of favor by the 1920s as round, concrete and glazed tile silos came into widespread use. Concrete was more popular than tile because it was easier to use and it could be poured in any vertical size. Curved tiles were more fragile and the curvature determined the silo's size. Metal silos also became popular and few wooden silos exist in Indiana today.

In Lake County, the predominant dairy or livestock barn form is the gambrel-roof barn, which is distinguished by a narrow width to length ratio and a gambrel roof. Other dairy barn forms include the Wisconsin dairy barn, English barn, basement barn, German barn, and round roof barn, although these are less commonly found in Lake County. The gambrel-roof dairy barn was typically aligned north and south to allow for maximum lighting and located close enough to other dairy farming structures for efficient operation, but far enough away to reduce the danger of spreading fire. The dairy barn was also typically located southeast of the house, or west or southwest of the house but at a greater distance to alleviate odors at the farmhouse given prevailing wind patterns. Typically two stories in Lake County, the dairy barn's primary entrance, consisting of double doors, was located in the gambrel end; sometimes, it was located on the long sides of the barns. The dairy barn also had a low main floor ceiling, two rows of stanchions, multiple closely spaced windows on the long side of the barn, a large hay mow with gambrel end hay door and hay hood, roof dormers, and roof ventilators. The gambrel roof shape was the most popular for increasing hay storage capacity in the barn's hay mow, which was sometimes divided into two areas to store hay and straw. The roof ventilators were essential to properly ventilate the dairy barn to prevent the spread of bovine tuberculosis and other diseases to humans. Farmers also frequently located silos near the dairy barns or directly attached them to the barn to easily feed cattle over the winter because the silos were used to store green crops, or silage. Inside the dairy barn, the cows were confined to individual stalls, sometimes shared by the farm's horses. All dairy barns had a dedicated space where raw milk was handled, either incorporated into the barn's original design, as an addition to the barn, or as an entirely separate building. These were called the milk room or milk house. Strict milk sanitation laws required the milk house to be completely separated from the stable area if it was not detached. Many dairy barns also had feed rooms where feed was chopped, ground, mixed, and stored. These were located on the main level or in the hay mow. Feed was originally prepared by hand but as cattle herds grew larger, technology improved, and labor became more expensive, farmers turned to mechanized feed handling to improve productivity and cut costs. Research did not reveal whether this farmstead engaged in dairy farming.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The Rosenthal Valley Farm was evaluated for listing in the NRHP under Criteria A, B, and C using guidelines set forth in the NRHP Bulletin "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation."

The Rosenthal Valley Farm is associated with farming in the region; however, changes to the residence, the demolition of older buildings, and the construction of a subset of new buildings in the 1970s has resulted in a complex that does not clearly convey a historic association with a distinct period of farming. Furthermore, it no longer retains any buildings from its establishment period in the mid-to-late nineteenth century. Therefore, it is not eligible under Criterion A.

The Rosenthal Valley Farm is associated with the Rosenthal family, who settled in Cedar Creek Township in the mid-nineteenth century and continuously owned and farmed the land for approximately 100 years. The property was recognized as a Centennial Hoosier Homestead in 1976 for its continuous one hundred year association with the Rosenthal family; however, this impressive and honorary designation does not equate to NRHP eligibility because it does not consider the historic or architectural significance or integrity of the property, which are required for NRHP-eligible properties. The Hoosier Homestead program is a separate designation process than the NRHP program and only recognizes families with farms that have been owned by the same family for 100 years or more. It is not based upon the same criteria for evaluation and significance as the NRHP. Although the property has remained in the Rosenthal family for a significant period of time and is associated with their family's settlement in Cedar Creek Township, research did not show them to be among the first settlers of the township or reveal any known historically significant associations with the productive lives of any members of the Rosenthal family. Therefore, the Rosenthal Valley Farm is not eligible under Criterion B.

The Rosenthal Valley Farm is primarily a collection of altered and recently constructed common agricultural and residential buildings. The complex does not have architectural merit or integrity due to changes to the buildings, recent construction, and demolition, which has resulted in a design vocabulary that lacks cohesion or demonstrates an architectural association with a period in time. Therefore, the Rosenthal Valley Farm is not eligible under Criterion C.

The Rosenthal Valley Farm was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the Rosenthal Valley Farm is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

SOURCES
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US Census Bureau. 1880.

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Photo 1 – Rosenthal Valley Farm

Facing northeast to farmstead

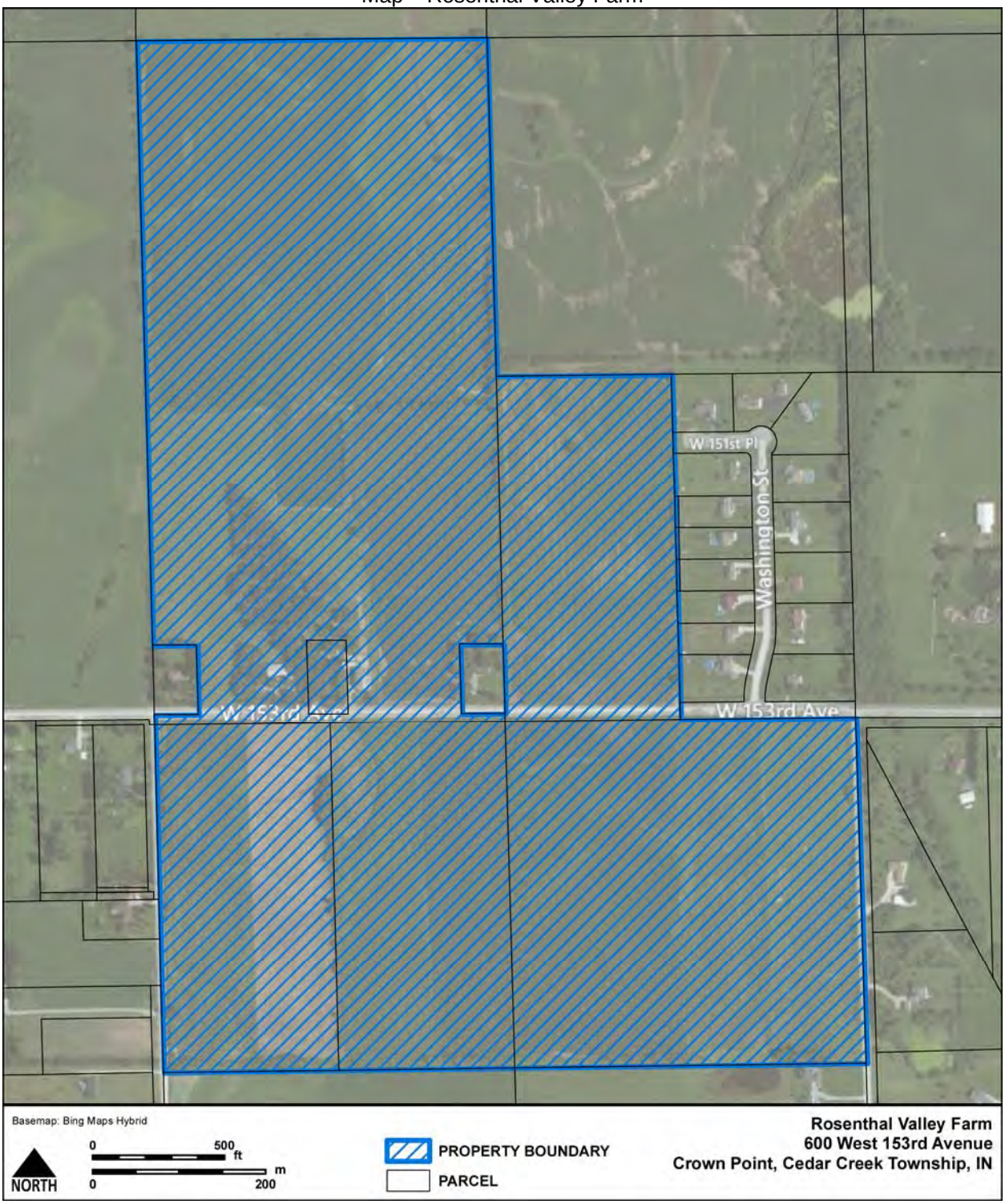
Photo 2 – Rosenthal Valley Farm

Facing north to farmhouse facade and Hoosier Homestead plaque

Photo 3 – Rosenthal Valley Farm

Facing northeast to Wisconsin dairy barn with attached milk house and lean-to shed, silo, and detached garage

Map – Rosenthal Valley Farm



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NAME
306 East 153rd Avenue

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS
306 East 153rd Avenue

CITY
Crown Point

TOWNSHIP
Eagle Creek

OWNERSHIP
J. William Naylor, et al.

TAX PARCEL NUMBER
45-20-03-100-005.000-012

YEAR BUILT
1890-1900

SOURCE
Lake County Assessor (2013)

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE
No Discernible Style

PROPERTY TYPE
Domestic

FOUNDATION
Concrete

WALLS
Vinyl

ROOF
Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The property at 306 East 153rd Avenue is a late-nineteenth to early twentieth century farmstead consisting of a modest gabled-ell house constructed ca. 1890-1900 and barns, a garage, and a Quonset hut structure constructed between 1900 and 1960. The farmstead is located on the north side of East 153rd Avenue on approximately 5 acres. It is located in an area that is still primarily rural, with farmsteads located to the west and southwest of this parcel. A modern subdivision and non-historic houses are located further west on East 153rd Avenue.

The ca. 1890-1900 two-story, T-shaped house is a modest gabled-ell house of no discernible style; it has been substantially altered, with several additions on the east, west, and north elevations. The house is clad in vinyl siding on a concrete foundation. The house's west-facing facade is defined by a centered front-gabled wing. The main entrance is located in a one-story, shed-roof area, which most likely was originally a front porch. This area is located in the intersection formed by the gable front and wing. Simple concrete steps and a concrete slab porch lead to the front entrance; the door is a modern replacement. In the center of the west gabled bay, at the first floor level, is a modern replacement casement window which is approximately 1' high; the sill of this window is approximately 4' above the level of the poured concrete foundation. The size and placement of this window suggest that this opening has not retained its original dimensions and proportions. Above this window, at the second floor level, are two double-hung, vinyl-sash windows with grid inserts intended to replicate the look of multi-light historic wood windows. The windows are offset by a plainly detailed surround. The gable end eaves are supported by triangular, vinyl brackets, which suggest the presence of historic decorative brackets under the vinyl. The foundation under the projecting bay contains simple rectangular basement windows.

The two-story south side elevation's first story features a modern replacement bay window with an asphalt-shingled shed roof. The sash in this bay contains snap-in grids. The second story contains paired replacement double-hung, vinyl-sash windows with grid inserts intended to replicate the look of multi-light historic wood windows. The windows are offset by a plainly detailed surround. The eaves in the south-facing gable end are also supported by vinyl brackets.

The symmetrical south side elevation reveals a one-story shed roof addition on the east rear elevation; this addition was built into the intersection on this elevation, mirroring the addition on the west-facing facade. This east rear elevation addition has casement type replacement windows centered in the southernmost bay. The central bay has paired modern, multi-light doors at the first story. This opening likely was not originally a door. The second floor contains a single double-hung sash modern replacement window. The gable end eaves are supported by triangular vinyl brackets.

The house's north side elevation features a large one-and-a-half-story addition with an asymmetrical gabled roof. On the east rear elevation, the addition projects 1'-2' feet from the mass of the original structure; it features a small casement window under the eaves. On the north side elevation, the addition has a grade-level entrance with a modern replacement door and a pent roof. A one-over-one, double-hung sash window is located at the first floor level, while a small square opening is found at the peak of the roof. A basement window with three vertical lights suggests that this part of the house was built in the 1920s or 1930s, when these types of basement windows were used; a similar window is visible on the east side of this addition. On the west elevation, this addition is recessed. It contains a double-hung, vinyl-sash window similar to those found elsewhere on the structure. The house terminates in an asphalt-shingled roof.

The property also contains a large, approximately 1700 square feet, ca. 1900 gambrel-roof barn with a silo immediately west of the house; this structure is now sided with vertical metal siding and has an asphalt-shingled roof. Its south elevation comprises two Dutch doors trimmed with X-shaped decorative members on either side of a large sliding door, which is also detailed with X-shaped members. An open shed-roof addition is located along the entirety of the barn's south elevation and is supported by simple wood posts. A gambrel-roof dormer pierces the lean-to's shed roof. The identical east and west elevations feature two doors with similar X-shaped members at the ground level; above each of these openings is a similarly-detailed door. A hayloft opening also contains a door with the X-shaped member. The north elevation has sliding doors with no detailing. The barn's roof has a small decorative cupola along the ridgeline. Located at the barn's southwest corner, the adjacent round silo is constructed of concrete and has no roof.

Directly north of the house is a ca. 1940 concrete block, side-gabled building that is a combination garage and shed. The building is constructed of concrete block from the foundation to the gable ends, which are clad in wood siding and have octagonal vents; its roof has asphalt shingles. Its three-bay south elevation contains a one-car garage door on the east bay, a multi-light fixed window in the middle bay, and a door in the west bay. Its west elevation has a single wood door opening while the north elevation contains three evenly spaced window openings. Along the east elevation is a shed-roof structure that now appears to be used as a screened-in porch.

North of the garage is a second large gambrel-roof barn constructed ca. 1950 that appears to have originally been a dairy barn. It is constructed of concrete block and partially clad in wood siding in its gambrel ends. The roof is clad in corrugated sheet metal. The barn no longer retains much of its siding and roof materials and no longer appears to be used. Its south elevation contains several large openings at the ground level and one-and-one-half story. The west elevation contains two window openings on the first story and two hayloft doors in the gambrel end. The north elevation contains no door or window openings. The east elevation contains one door centered on the first story and a hayloft door directly above. The east elevation of the barn is fenced and opens into a grass yard that also contains a ca. 1960 Quonset hut. The Quonset hut's walls and roof are clad entirely in sheet metal. Its identical curved north and south elevation contain no window or door openings while the identical east and west elevations contain large double sliding doors below a hayloft opening in the gable end.

South of the Quonset hut is a completely open shed structure comprised of wood posts supporting an asphalt-shingled gable roof. A modern circular above-ground pool is located southeast of this building.

The house sits on a grass lawn with deciduous trees and evergreen foundation plantings. The property's driveway runs along the west side of the house with the majority of the extant outbuildings located along its east side; the large gambrel-roof barn and silo are located along its west side.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The farmstead at 306 East 153rd Avenue consists of a house constructed ca. 1890-1900 and outbuildings constructed between 1900 and 1960. The house was likely built by either Jay S. Crawford or William Meusching. Little is known about either man, but the property appears to have been purchased by Meusching from Crawford in 1891. The farm consisted of an L-shaped parcel of approximately 119 acres north of 153rd Avenue. By 1920, the property (now 116 acres) was owned by Henry Werble; there is little information available about Mr. Werble and his family. The owner in 1956 was Norbert Huseman; Mr. Huseman and his wife Dorothy owned the property until 1997. At that time, a five-acre parcel was sold to J. William Naylor, who continues to own the smaller parcel with the house and outbuildings. The land surrounding the buildings is owned by Dorothy Huseman, trustee. The parcel now owned by Mrs. Huseman is a total of 135.7 acres; this larger parcel includes the 39 acre tract in the ell of the Huseman property, which has been owned by the Huseman family since the mid-1980s.

The property is classified as a cash grain/general farm by the Lake County Assessor; the remaining buildings on the property are remnants of this original agricultural use. A 1956 aerial photograph of the property shows the farmstead in roughly the same configuration that now exists with the house and majority of outbuildings along the east side of the driveway and the large gambrel-roof barn along its west side. However, the Quonset hut is not present in the aerial photograph and the large gambrel-roof barn's shed addition along the south elevation was partially enclosed and did not have a dormer on its shed roof; it also did not have a cupola on its roof. Further, the barn's details, such as the X-shaped members and Dutch doors, do not appear to be present. The farmstead also had at least two additional smaller outbuildings that have since been demolished and several intersecting farm lanes that no longer exist toward its north boundary near the smaller gambrel-roof barn. The property also had at least three separate farm lanes that no longer exist that led to its former adjacent fields; these were located along the east side of the farmhouse, at a diagonal from the larger gambrel-roof barn, and along the north side of the larger gambrel-roof barn.

The farm's establishment at the turn-of-century is reflective of the agricultural and transportation improvements in Lake County that encouraged agricultural growth at that time. The period between 1850 and 1900 is generally considered to be Indiana's golden age of agriculture as subsistence farming transitioned to large-scale operations. Transportation and technological improvements allowed farmers to bring their corn crops and livestock, primarily cattle and hogs, to faraway markets. Early agricultural education also contributed to this period of agricultural growth at the state and local levels. In 1851, the State Board of Agriculture was created to provide farmers with agricultural guidance in the form of local county agricultural societies. These county agricultural societies, as well as county fairs, provided farmstead improvement methods and techniques directly to farmers. Additionally, they exposed farmers to "book farming," which included essays on the topics of crops, drainage, machinery, and farmstead improvements. As a result, agricultural practice improved throughout the state and the State Board of Agriculture lent support for the Morrill Act passed by Congress in 1862. This act created the foundation for grant colleges and universities geared toward teaching agriculture and mechanical arts nationwide. These educational efforts and transportation improvements characterizing the state's agricultural boom did not reach the tri-creek area until the Monon Railroad was constructed through Cedar Creek Township in the 1880s. Also aiding agricultural growth in the tri-creek area were increased efforts to drain the marshlands and dig ditches to create arable land. An extensive drainage system began in the 1870s, continuing through the early part of the twentieth century, contributed greatly to agricultural growth. As a

result, a large number of the county's farms, including the one at 306 East 153rd Avenue, date from the late nineteenth or early twentieth century.

The main barn has an estimated construction date of 1900, but has been updated with replacement materials and exterior finishes. The unfinished interior suggests that it was used as a working barn until recently. It appears to be constructed of hardwood post and beam construction members, which is consistent with its estimated age. Its decorative cupola, X-shaped members, and Dutch doors all appear to have been added to the barn in the recent years and likely when it was re-sided. The gambrel dormer on its shed addition is also a non-historic feature. The smaller gambrel barn retains its overall form but has lost much of its original siding and is in a state of disrepair.

The farmstead, which is no longer actively functioning as a farm, may have been a dairy farm at one time, given the presence of its two gambrel-roof barns, which resemble the predominant Wisconsin dairy barn form found in Lake County. The Wisconsin dairy barn was typically aligned north and south to allow for maximum lighting and located close enough to other dairy farming structures for efficient operation, but far enough away to reduce the danger of spreading fire. The dairy barn was also typically located southeast of the house, or west or southwest of the house but at a greater distance to alleviate odors at the farmhouse given prevailing wind patterns. Typically two stories in Lake County, the dairy barn's primary entrance, consisting of double doors, was located in the gambrel end; sometimes, it was located on the long sides of the barns. The dairy barn also had a low main floor ceiling, two rows of stanchions, multiple closely spaced windows on the long side of the barn, a large hay mow with gambrel end hay door and hay hood, roof dormers, and roof ventilators. The gambrel roof shape was the most popular for increasing hay storage capacity in the barn's hay mow, which was sometimes divided into two areas to store hay and straw. The roof ventilators were essential to properly ventilate the dairy barn to prevent the spread of bovine tuberculosis and other diseases to humans. Farmers also frequently located silos near the dairy barns, like the silo on this farmstead property, or directly attached them to the barn to easily feed cattle over the winter because the silos were used to store green crops, or silage. The farmstead's silo is a typical example of the concrete silos constructed during the early twentieth century. Inside the dairy barn, the cows were confined to individual stalls, sometimes shared by the farm's horses. All dairy barns had a dedicated space where raw milk was handled, either incorporated into the barn's original design, as an addition to the barn, or as an entirely separate building. These were called the milk room or milk house. Strict milk sanitation laws required the milk house to be completely separated from the stable area if it was not detached. This farmstead does not have an extant milk house. Many dairy barns also had feed rooms where feed was chopped, ground, mixed, and stored. These were located on the main level or in the hay mow. Feed was originally prepared by hand but as cattle herds grew larger, technology improved, and labor became more expensive, farmers turned to mechanized feed handling to improve productivity and cut costs.

The larger gambrel-roof barn's shed addition was likely constructed to house the farm's agricultural equipment, which became an important part of farming crops. At the beginning of the twentieth century, few Lake County farmers owned tractors, used chemical fertilizers, or practiced crop rotation to avoid depleting soil nutrients despite a statewide trend toward these practices. Strides in agricultural education, focused on fertilizer, began in the 1880s and 1890s. These experiments began at the state's first land grant university, Purdue University. As the benefits of fertilizer to future crops became apparent, bulletins were published that instructed farmers on the application and benefits of fertilizer, its future effects to crops, and the best crops to fertilize (wheat and corn over oats). With the dissemination of these bulletins, further promoted by local agricultural organizations, farmers began to invest in commercial plant foods and liming soils between 1890 and 1900. These practices were more readily adopted by farmers statewide by 1910 than in Lake County, but as they became more commonplace, Lake County farmers began to adopt the new planting and fertilizer techniques as well as new machinery during the 1920s and 1930s. These practices streamlined farming practices and increased productivity. This was further

supported by local agricultural education offered by the Lowell High School, which had a three-year course in agriculture specifically designed for its rural pupils. The course of study partially relied on the study of agricultural bulletins and focused on plants and crops, soils, gardening, fruit growing, livestock, dairying, poultry, and feeding. Consequently, as new machinery was adopted, farm shops and implement or machine sheds were erected on the farms to repair and house equipment, store tools, and generally maintain the farmstead. One of the most basic and popular implement sheds was a three-sided building with the fourth side entirely open; sometimes old, unused barns on the property, simple wood-frame structures with open sides, or lean-tos attached to other farm buildings were used to protect farm equipment. The barn's shed addition is typical of these implement sheds and has been altered since it was first constructed to be completely open.

The house currently is of no discernible style and its original detail is no longer extant; however, its massing suggests that it was originally constructed in the Folk Victorian style, a common style throughout the United States from ca. 1870 to 1910. It was spread by the growth of the railroad system, which made heavy woodworking machinery that produced inexpensive pre-cut Victorian-era trim available at local trade centers. Builders attached the pre-cut pieces onto traditional vernacular house types and homeowners updated older vernacular houses with applied pieces or new Victorian-era porches. The style is defined by simple Victorian-era decorative detailing on vernacular house types, most frequently with Italianate or Queen Anne inspired details applied to the porch, cornice line, and gables, when present. Most have Queen Anne spindlework detailing and lace-like spandrels. The house at 306 East 153rd Avenue was most likely always a modest example of the Folk Victorian style, but the additions, infill, and replacement materials have drastically altered its historic appearance and any Folk Victorian details that may have been on the house are no longer present.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The house at 306 East 153rd Avenue was evaluated for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criteria A, B, and C using guidelines set forth in the NRHP Bulletin "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation."

The property at 306 East 153rd Avenue was established during the late nineteenth century during a period when a large number of farms were established in Eagle Creek Township due to improvements in the local transportation system and the implementation of an extensive drainage system of the Kankakee Marsh that created arable land. However, the formerly active farmstead appears to be a typical example of farms established in this period. The farm also appears to have been associated with local dairy farming given its extant dairy barns; however, the farm does not retain any other buildings associated with dairy farming, such as the milk house, and its extant barns have been significantly altered by replacement materials and non-historic features. The farm is no longer agriculturally active and its extant outbuildings appear to be used for other purposes. This property appears to have been a typical farm established during this period and research did not reveal it to have made significant contributions to either farmstead establishment or dairy farming in Lake County. Therefore, it is not eligible under Criterion A.

Research did not reveal the property at 306 East 153rd Avenue to be to be associated with significant persons, and therefore, it is not eligible under Criterion B.

The house and main barn at 306 East 153rd Avenue have undergone several significant alterations that include vinyl siding, a one-story rear addition, an in-filled porch, and replacement windows and doors of the house and metal siding and replacement doors of the barn. The overall farm also appears to have been altered since its establishment, as several smaller outbuildings have since been demolished and farm lanes leading to former adjacent fields no longer exist. The extant buildings' type, style, and features do not indicate architectural or historical significance, and they are not distinctive examples of the type or style in Lake County. Furthermore, the former farmstead no longer conveys its association as a working farm. Therefore, the property at 306 East 153rd Avenue is not eligible under Criterion C.

The house at 306 East 153rd Avenue was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the house at 306 East 153rd Avenue is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

SOURCES
Drury, John. 1956. *This is Lake County, Indiana*. Chicago, IL: Inland Photo Co.

Lake County Assessor. 2013. *Lake County Surveyor GIS Website*.

Lake County City Directory. 1909

Minnesota Department of Transportation. June 2005. *Historic Context Study of Minnesota Farms, 1820-1960*.

Plat Maps. 1926. Sidwell Studio. *Plat Books of Indiana Counties, Volume 3*.

Plat Maps. 1966. County Plat & Directory Co., Inc. *Lake County, Indiana. Official Farm Plat Book and Directory*.

Plat Maps. 1976. *Three-Creek Bicentennial Book.*

Plat Maps. 1985. Wille & Stiener Associates. *1985 Plat Book. Lake County, Indiana*.

Plat Maps. 1996. Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District. *1996 Plat Book. Lake County, Indiana.*

Plat Maps. 2005. *2005 Plat Book. Lake County, Indiana.*

Photo 1 – 306 East 153rd Avenue

Facing northeast to house facade and south elevation. Quonset hut and lean-to addition are also visible.

Photo 2 – 306 East 153rd Avenue

Facing northeast to south elevation of barn with lean-to and silo. Garage is also visible.

Map – 306 East 153rd Avenue

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NAME
801 East 153rd Avenue

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS
801 East 153rd Avenue

CITY
Crown Point

TOWNSHIP
Eagle Creek

OWNERSHIP
Zern E. and Mary A. Hayden; Terri H. Reedner Buening; Scott R. Hayden; Carol D. Hayden

TAX PARCEL NUMBER
45-20-03-326-002.000-012;
45-30-03-301-003.000-012;
45-20-03-351-006-000-012;
45-20-10-100-009.000-012;
45-20-10-100-010.000-012

YEAR BUILT
1856

SOURCE
Lake County Assessor (2013)

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE
No Discernible Style

PROPERTY TYPE
Agriculture

FOUNDATION
Concrete

WALLS
Vinyl

ROOF
Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The property at 801 East 153rd Avenue is mid-nineteenth century farmstead located on approximately 223 acres on the south side of East 153rd Avenue. The farmstead's remaining buildings date from 1856 to 1974 and consist of a farmhouse, two pole barns, two detached garages, several utility sheds, and several grain bins. Off of East 153rd Avenue, the driveway bisects the farmstead's buildings, with the farmhouse, two utility sheds, a detached garage, and two non-historic pole barns located on east west side and two utility sheds, a detached garage, and a grain bin located on its west side. A stand of mature trees lines the west side of the driveway and several mature deciduous trees are planted north, east, and south of the farmhouse. The farmstead's buildings are immediately surrounded by grassy lawn and agricultural fields with visible field patterns are located in the farmstead's immediate vicinity to the east, west, and south, and north across East 153rd Avenue.

Located along the west side of the driveway, the ca. 1856 farmhouse is a two-story gabled-ell house of no discernible style defined by several additions located on its facade and east and south elevations. The farmhouse is clad in vinyl siding on a concrete foundation and has a replacement asphalt-shingle roof. Facing north, the facade comprises the two-story gable-front intersected by the two-story, side-gable ell. The gable-front comprises a contiguous band of three fixed vinyl-sash windows on the first story and a single one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash window on the second story. The gable-front's west side elevation comprises the side-gable ell, which contains two one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash windows on the second story and a one-story, half-hipped roof enclosed porch addition on the first story. The enclosed porch addition comprises three bays on the facade; the middle bay contains the facade entry door while the outer bays contain a single one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash window.

The ell's west side elevation no window or door openings on the first story while its second story contains two unevenly spaced one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash windows. The ell's south rear elevation comprises a large one-story, gable-roof addition. The addition's west elevation contains a single one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash window and two large sliding sash windows. Its south elevation contains an off-center door opening to a small patio and three large sliding-sash windows. Its east elevation contains a single large sliding-sash window and an entry door.

The south rear elevation of the gable-front comprises a one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash window on the second story; the first story was not visible during survey. The gable-front's east side elevation comprises two one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash windows on the second story and a large one-story, side-gable addition on its first story. The addition contains two one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash windows on its north elevation while its east elevation contains a single, off-center, one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash window. The south elevation was not accessible during survey.

Immediately southeast of the farmhouse is a ca. 1954 one-story, L-shaped, side-gable detached garage. It sits on a concrete foundation with vinyl siding and an asphalt-shingle roof. Its south elevation comprises two two-car garage door openings on its main portion and two one-car garage door openings on its projecting ell. Its east elevation contains no window or door openings while its north elevation contains six window openings. Its west elevation contains an entry door and a single window opening.

South of the detached garage is a one-story, gable-roof pole barn clad in corrugated metal siding and roofing. The Lake County Assessor dates the building to ca. 1930, but based on its form and the widespread use of pole barns in the mid-twentieth century and later, this pole barn may date to that period. Its north and east elevations contain centrally located large sliding double doors; an entry door is also located on the east elevation. Its south and east elevations contain no window or door openings. A small one-story utility shed is located west of the pole barn. It is clad in vinyl siding with an asphalt-shingle gable roof and likely dates to 1930 based on available assessor data. Its north elevation contains an entry door while its west elevation contains a small window opening. Its south elevation comprises a small gabled addition and its east elevation contains no openings.

Southwest of the pole barn is a second one-story utility shed that is clad in vinyl siding with an asphalt-shingle roof. It is slightly larger than the previously described shed and may date to ca. 1954 based on available assessor data. Its north elevation contains a single entry door while its identical east and west elevations contain three small window openings. Immediately south of this shed is a one-story, side-gable pole barn clad in metal siding and roofing. The Lake County Assessor dates the building to ca. 1930, but based on its form and the widespread use of pole barns in the mid-twentieth century and later, this pole barn may date to that period. Its south elevation contains is partially open at the east end and the rest of the elevation contains two large door openings. No window or door openings are located on its east, west, and north elevations.

Along the west side of the driveway, two larger one-story, gable-roof sheds are located next to each other. Both are clad in vinyl siding with asphalt-shingle roofs. The northernmost shed likely dates to 1938 given the steeper pitch of its gable roof. Its south elevation contains an entrance and a small window. Its east and west elevations contain two small window openings. Its north elevation contains a small opening in its gable end. Immediately southwest and perpendicular to this shed is the second shed that was likely constructed ca. 1954 given its wider pitched gable roof. Its east elevation contains an entry door and window opening. Its south elevation contains three window openings and its north elevation contains four window openings. Its east elevation contains two window openings. A non-historic cylindrical metal grain bin is located south of the second shed.

A fourth shed building is located the furthest south along the west side of the driveway, near the second pole barn. It is a one-story, vinyl-clad building, date of construction unknown. Its east elevation contains a door opening and a window opening, its south elevation contains two window openings, and its west elevation contains one window opening; no openings are on the north elevation.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The property at 801 East 153rd Avenue is currently an active farmstead. According to tax parcel data, the land is farmed as a cash grain/general farm. Many of the original agricultural outbuildings have been demolished, but several of the buildings dating from the early to mid-twentieth century are intact. The extant outbuildings were constructed as follows: the farmhouse in 1856, five utility sheds—two in 1930, one in 1938, one in 1954, and one in 1968, two pole barns in 1930, a detached garage in 1954, and a grain bin in 1974. According to a 1956 aerial photograph, the farmstead once had a ca. 1930 Midwest three-portal barn, large grain bin, utility shed, and additional outbuildings that have since been demolished. Additionally, a stand of mature trees lining the east edge of the farmstead complex and partially lining the property's north boundary have been removed. The farmstead has retained its original acreage, with a substantial amount of acres being added over the years. According to an 1891 plat map, the farm was 160 acres. Currently, the property is approximately 223 acres.

The original owners of the farm are unknown and it is unclear who originally established the farm when the farmhouse was constructed in the mid-nineteenth century. By 1891, the property was owned by the Rosenthal family, but it is not known if they were the original settlers who improved the land and constructed the farmhouse. At this time, the farmstead was approximately 160 acres. By 1920, more acres were acquired—totaling 260—and the property was owned by W. and K. Gentleman. Prior to 1956, the farm was purchased by Glen and Rita Hayden, who moved from West Creek Township to farm the land. Glen was a descendant of Nehemiah and Harriet Kitchel Hayden, who were among the earliest settlers to arrive in West Creek Township in 1837. By 1956, the farm was comprised of 239 acres. The Hayden's farmstead totaled 198 acres in 1976.

By 1985, the 192 acre property was owned by the Lowell National Bank and by 1996, the 183 acre property was owned by the NBD Bank Trust. By 2005, the farm was again under the ownership of the Hayden family. Glen and Rita's son Zern Hayden, along with his wife Mary, owned approximately 183 acres. Currently, Zern and Mary Hayden own the approximately 223 acre farm, along with several Hayden family members who retain a portion of the farm. Additional information about the Gentleman or Hayden families was not uncovered.

West Creek, Cedar Creek, and Eagle Creek were all established as townships in 1839, although the earliest pioneers began arriving and settling the land known as the tri-creek area in the early 1830s. This early settlement period was characterized by fur trapping, hunting, and subsistence farming, aided by the construction of several saw and grist mills. The settlers first planted corn, which became a mainstay of the local economy, even as crops diversified in later years to include wheat and soybeans. Corn provided food for the settlers as well as the livestock, and was also used as a means of trade. However, due to the extensive marshlands and prairie, and the late arrival of the railroad in the tri-creek area, farming on a large scale did not occur until the late nineteenth century. This was much later than other areas in Indiana that experienced major changes in agricultural practice and prosperity from the 1840s to 1860s due to advancements in transportation by canals and railroads and improvements in agricultural education.

The farmstead at 801 East 153rd Avenue was established during the period between 1850 and 1900, which is generally considered to be Indiana's golden age of agriculture as subsistence farming transitioned to large-scale operations. Transportation and technological improvements allowed farmers to bring their corn crops and livestock, primarily cattle and hogs, to faraway markets. Early agricultural education also contributed to this period of agricultural growth at the state and local levels. In 1851, the State Board of Agriculture was created to provide farmers with agricultural guidance in the form of local

county agricultural societies. These county agricultural societies, as well as county fairs, provided farmstead improvement methods and techniques directly to farmers. Additionally, they exposed farmers to "book farming," which included essays on the topics of crops, drainage, machinery, and farmstead improvements. As a result, agricultural practice improved throughout the state and the State Board of Agriculture lent support for the Morrill Act passed by Congress in 1862. This act created the foundation for grant colleges and universities geared toward teaching agriculture and mechanical arts nationwide. These educational efforts and transportation improvements characterizing the state's agricultural boom did not reach the tri-creek area until the Monon Railroad was constructed through Cedar Creek Township in the 1880s. Also aiding agricultural growth in the tri-creek area were increased efforts to drain the marshlands and dig ditches to create arable land. An extensive drainage system began in the 1870s, continuing through the early part of the twentieth century, contributed greatly to agricultural growth. As a result, a large number of the county's farms date from the late nineteenth or early twentieth century.

At the beginning of the twentieth century, few Lake County farmers owned tractors, used chemical fertilizers, or practiced crop rotation to avoid depleting soil nutrients despite a statewide trend toward these practices. Strides in agricultural education, focused on fertilizer, began in the 1880s and 1890s. These experiments began at the state's first land grant university, Purdue University. As the benefits of fertilizer to future crops became apparent, bulletins were published that instructed farmers on the application and benefits of fertilizer, its future effects to crops, and the best crops to fertilize (wheat and corn over oats). With the dissemination of these bulletins, further promoted by local agricultural organizations, farmers began to invest in commercial plant foods and liming soils between 1890 and 1900. These practices were more readily adopted by farmers statewide by 1910 than in Lake County, but as they became more commonplace, Lake County farmers began to adopt the new planting and fertilizer techniques as well as new machinery during the 1920s and 1930s. These practices streamlined farming practices and increased productivity. This was further supported by local agricultural education offered by the Lowell High School, which had a three-year course in agriculture specifically designed for its rural pupils. The course of study partially relied on the study of agricultural bulletins and focused on plants and crops, soils, gardening, fruit growing, livestock, dairying, poultry, and feeding. Consequently, as new machinery was adopted, farm shops and implement or machine sheds were erected on the farms to repair and house equipment, store tools, and generally maintain the farmstead. One of the most basic and popular implement sheds was a three-sided building with the fourth side entirely open; sometimes old, unused barns on the property, simple wood-frame structures with open sides, or lean-tos attached to other farm buildings were used to protect farm equipment.

These improvements in agricultural practices and education led to a higher standard of living in rural communities as running water and electricity started to become available to rural residents and crop productivity significantly increased. Produce and food became less expensive for rural and urban residents and in increase in agricultural input initially benefited the nation during World War I. Farmers were able to supply food to families at home and to members of the military, resulting in an increased demand for goods and an economic boom. Increased profits during this time period led to farmers purchasing more land and seeking ways to continue to improve farming methods and machinery. However, after the war, prices for goods began to decline and farmers found themselves with a surplus of crops as they could produce more than what could be consumed. This resulted in the construction of silos on farmsteads to store surplus crops, in addition to the silos needed for winter livestock feed. Between 1917 and 1918, approximately ten thousand silos were constructed in the state.

During the Great Depression, Congress passed the Agricultural Adjustment Act in 1933. The act played an important role in improving Indiana's agricultural economy through the installation of a wheat allotment program. Additionally, the Rural Electrification Administration, a program enacted by the New Deal, significantly impacted rural residents as approximately 24,000 farms received electricity. This was supported by the state's Rural Electric Membership Corporation in 1935 to distribute electricity to rural

areas. By 1965, 99 percent of the state's farms were electrified, ending rural isolation and increasing farmers' productivity and efficiency.

In addition to corn, farmers also raised livestock. In Lake County, beef cattle farming rose to prominence in the early 1860s, spurred by increased demand, the development of refrigerated railcars, and later, the construction of a slaughterhouse in nearby Hammond, close to Chicago and railroad lines. At first, farmers raised a variety of livestock but eventually began to specialize in the 1920s due to the expense of raising a combination of animals that required specific buildings and care. Farmers focused on hogs and chickens or solely on dairy cows or beef cattle. This shifting focus to particular breeds was supported and improved by increased knowledge about livestock nutrition and the use of genetics for better breeding results that was disseminated by the local county fair and agricultural bulletins. Improved technologies for the care of livestock, such as automated feeding systems and milking systems, also contributed to this specialization. Research did not reveal the types of agricultural activities that occurred on this farmstead.

In the 1950s and 1960s, most farmers stopped practicing crop rotation and began to grow corn continuously because the crops did not deplete soil nutrients and improved fertilization techniques came into use. Additionally, rows of corn crops were planted closer together, increasing the output of crops and contributing to the decline of crop rotation. New mechanized and specialized equipment, like the mechanical corn picker, cultivator, planter, and mowers, and automated feeding and milking systems, and farming practices, like a new process of corn, wheat, and soybean field shelling and knowledge of nutrition and genetics of livestock, began to supersede the need for human labor. These improvements to crop and livestock varieties allowed farmers to engage in well-rounded agricultural practices on a scale never before seen. Despite these advances, the amount of farmland statewide and nationwide experienced a small decrease due to a shift from agriculture and industry to suburban and urban centers. This shift included suburban residential growth in rural areas, the development of state highways, the expansion of industrial areas, and the development of shopping centers.

The farmhouse at 801 East 153rd Avenue was originally constructed as a two-story gabled-ell house. This is a variation of the gable-front house, which was a dominant house type that rose to popularity throughout the United States during the Greek Revival era. In Lake County, the gable-front and its subtype, the gabled-ell, were constructed as early as the mid-nineteenth century up through the early twentieth century. The gabled-ell is a gable-front house with a side extension (or ell), forming an L-shaped plan. The ell is sometimes an addition built after the original gable-front house. They can be one, one-and-one-half, or two stories in height with the ell being the same height as the gable-front portion of the house. The gabled-ell in rural areas is generally unornamented, particularly later examples after the antebellum era. This farmhouse is a modest and altered gabled-ell example of no discernible style whose basic form is obscured by additions to its north, east, and south elevations. The house has also been clad in non-historic vinyl siding and has replacement vinyl-sash windows and doors.

The farmstead's two pole barns are basic examples of those constructed in the post-World War II era when barn building techniques dramatically changed. Traditional building techniques were superseded by the construction of pole barns and prefabricated structures, which were more cost-effective for farmers. These were commonly constructed of treated wood posts and corrugated steel, respectively, and clad in corrugated sheet metal.

NRHP STATUS	DATE LISTED
Not Eligible	N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The farmstead at 801 East 153rd Avenue was evaluated for listing in the NRHP under Criteria A, B, and C using guidelines set forth in the NRHP Bulletin "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation."

The farmstead at 801 East 153rd Avenue was established after extensive transportation and drainage efforts occurred in Eagle Creek Township in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, reflecting a countywide trend of farmstead establishment in this period. However, the farmstead appears to be typical of its period and research did not reveal this property to have made significant contributions to the agricultural history of Lake County. Furthermore, many of the farmstead's original agricultural outbuildings from its period of establishment have been demolished and replaced by modern pole barns, and the property no longer reflects its original agricultural associations. Therefore, the farmstead at 801 East 153rd Avenue is not eligible under Criterion A.

The farmstead at 801 East 153rd Avenue is associated with the Rosenthal, Gentleman, and Hayden families, who were engaged in agricultural activities during their ownership of the farmstead property. Although the Haydens are descendents of Nehemiah and Harriet Hayden, who were among the earliest settlers of West Creek Township, this Eagle Creek Township farmstead does not retain any historically significant associations with the Hayden family's settlement in Lake County. Furthermore, research did not reveal any further information about either of these families and the productive lives of its family members are not known to have any historically significant associations. Therefore, the farmstead at 801 East 153rd Avenue is not eligible under Criterion B.

The farmhouse and its extant agricultural outbuildings continue to convey their original use; however all are basic examples of their respective types. The modest gabled-ell farmhouse of no discernible style is significantly altered by a one-story enclosed porch addition to the facade, a one-story addition to the east elevation, and a one-story addition to the south elevation, along with replacement materials including vinyl siding and vinyl-sash windows. The extant outbuildings have also been clad in replacement vinyl siding. Furthermore, these outbuildings are not distinctive examples of their type and they do not exhibit any architectural significance. The farmstead retains no original outbuildings from its establishment period and its original Midwest three-portal barn, grain bin, a utility shed, and a barn or detached garage of historic age have been demolished. Therefore, the farmstead at 801 East 153rd Avenue is not eligible under Criterion C.

The farmstead at 801 East 153rd Street was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the farmstead at 801 East 153rd Street is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

SOURCES
Drury, John. 1956. *This is Lake County, Indiana*. Chicago, IL: Inland Photo Co.

Lake County Assessor. 2013. *Lake County Surveyor GIS Website*.

Minnesota Department of Transportation. June 2005. *Historic Context Study of Minnesota Farms, 1820-*

1960.

Plat Maps. 1891. Northwest Indiana Genealogical Society. November, 2007. *1891 Plat Book for Appraisers of Real Estate. Lake County, Indiana.*

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Plat Maps. 1966. County Plat & Directory Co., Inc. *Lake County, Indiana. Official Farm Plat Book and Directory*.

Plat Maps. 1976. *Three-Creek Bicentennial Book.*

Plat Maps. 1985. Wille & Stiener Associates. *1985 Plat Book. Lake County, Indiana*.

Plat Maps. 1996. Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District. *1996 Plat Book. Lake County, Indiana.*

Plat Maps. 2005. *2005 Plat Book. Lake County, Indiana.*

US Census Bureau. 1940.

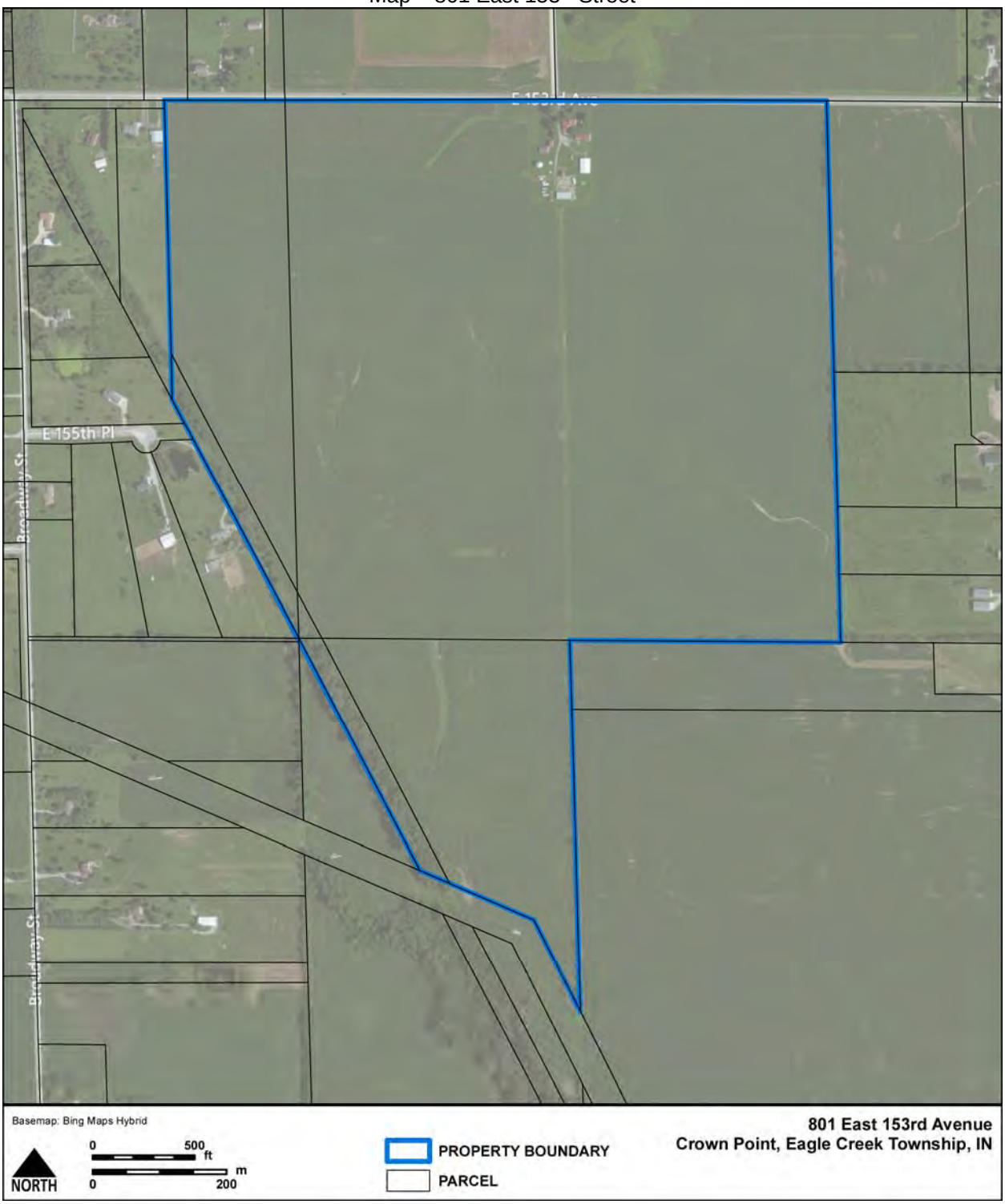
Photo 1 – 801 East 153rd Street

Facing southwest to farmhouse facade and east side elevation

Photo 2 – 801 East 153rd Street

Facing southeast to farmstead

Map – 801 East 153rd Street



NAME
1801 West 159th Avenue

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS
1801 West 159th Avenue

CITY
Crown Point

TOWNSHIP
Cedar Creek

OWNERSHIP
Sean D. and Laura Weller

TAX PARCEL NUMBER
45-20-08-200-009.000-007

YEAR BUILT
1900

SOURCE
Lake County Assessor (2013)

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE
No Discernible Style

PROPERTY TYPE
Agriculture

FOUNDATION
Brick, concrete

WALLS
Vinyl, metal

ROOF
Asphalt, metal

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The property at 1801 West 159th Avenue is an early twentieth century farmstead located on 6.9 acres on the south side of West 159th Avenue. The farmstead consists of a cross-gabled farmhouse constructed ca. 1900 and agricultural buildings ranging in date from 1910 to 1973, which include a Wisconsin dairy barn with an attached milk house, silo, and shed addition as well as a grain bin and two pole barns. Off of West 159th Avenue, the driveway runs along the west side of the farmhouse and terminates at the Wisconsin dairy barn and one of the pole barns. A short row of evergreen trees runs along the west side of the driveway. Spring Run Creek runs through the property, near its west and part of its south boundaries; agricultural fields are located adjacent to its east and south boundaries. The house and agricultural buildings are surrounded by grassy lawn.

Along the east side of the driveway, the ca. 1900 farmhouse is a two-story, square, cross-gable house of no discernible style modified by a wraparound porch addition on the facade and west side elevation and an enclosed shed roof addition on the south rear elevation. The house is distinguished by its integrated cross gables on the side elevations. The house sits on a brick foundation with replacement vinyl siding and an asphalt-shingle roof. The north-facing, three-bay facade consists of a slightly off-center replacement entry door in the middle bay flanked by a one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash window in each of the outer bays on the first story. The second story comprises a one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash window in each of the bays. The gable end contains a single one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash window. A one-story, shed-roof, full-width porch extends across the facade and wraps around the entirety of the west side elevation. The porch is constructed of wood decking and simple wood posts support the porch roof.

The east side elevation comprises three, unevenly spaced bays. A large expanse of vinyl siding is located between the two northernmost bays and the southernmost bay. The two northernmost bays each contain a one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash window at each story while the southernmost bay contains a smaller one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash window at each story. The gable end dormer contains a single one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash window. The west side

elevation is similarly fenestrated.

The south rear elevation comprises two one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash windows at the second story and a single one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash window in the gable end. The first story is defined by a one-story, shed-roof addition on a wood post foundation. The addition's south elevation contains four one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash windows and a recessed rear entry at the southwest corner. Its east side elevation contains a one-over-one, double-hung, vinyl-sash replacement window.

A one-story, front-gable non-historic ca. 1973 pole barn is located directly south of the farmhouse near the terminus of the driveway. It sits on a concrete foundation with corrugated aluminum-clad walls and a metal roof. Its gabled west elevation contains a two-car overhead garage door while its east rear elevation contains two sliding vinyl-sash windows. The north elevation contains an entry door and one sliding vinyl-sash window. The south elevation was not accessible.

East of the pole barn is a ca. 1940 cylindrical, metal grain bin and a non-historic ca. 1973 one-story, metal-clad pole barn. The pole barn comprises a large sliding door on its gabled west elevation and south elevation. Its north elevation contains an entry door and sliding-sash window and is enclosed by a livestock enclosure.

The Wisconsin dairy barn complex, which includes the ca. 1910 barn, ca. 1940 milk house, ca. 1913 silo, and ca. 1940 partially enclosed shed-roof addition, is located at the south terminus of the driveway and southwest of the house. The two-story, gambrel roof Wisconsin dairy barn is clad in corrugated aluminum siding with an asphalt-shingled roof. Two metal ventilators surmount the roof ridgeline. The north elevation comprises two four-light windows at the first story and in the gambrel end near the east and west building corners. The west elevation is defined by a cylindrical concrete silo attached to a one-story, shed roof addition along its south half. The concrete silo has no roof. The partially enclosed shed roof addition has no openings on its north elevation, two small window openings on its west elevation, and the south elevation is completely open. The south elevation contains identical fenestration to the north elevation and also contains sliding double doors on the first story. The east elevation comprises an attached one-story, concrete block, gable roof milk house flanked by four-light windows. The milk house's north and south elevations contain two window openings and the gabled east elevation contains an entry door.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The property at 1801 West 159th Avenue appears to be an active farmstead that was established in the early twentieth century. The extant buildings were constructed as follows: the house ca. 1900; the Wisconsin dairy barn ca. 1910; the silo ca. 1913; the milk house, grain bin, and lean-to shed addition ca. 1940; and the pole barns ca. 1973. A 1956 aerial photograph shows the farmstead originally had a second smaller barn just east of the extant Wisconsin dairy barn and several smaller outbuildings; these were replaced by the two non-historic pole barns. The aerial photograph does not show the farmhouse in sufficient detail and it is unknown when the porch and rear additions were added to the house.

The farmstead was likely established ca. 1900 by Mathias Seramur when the house was constructed. His father, John Seramur, settled in the area in the 1870s, possibly on the adjacent west 180-acre parcel that has since been subdivided. Mathias Seramur lived at the home farm until 1900 when he is listed at this location. Mathias and his wife, Angeline Seramur, were engaged in general farming in this location until 1933 upon his death. The Seramurs were local farmers and research did not reveal any additional information about Mathias Seramur or his family. It is unknown if the property stayed in the Seramur family following Mathias' death but in 1940, it was rented by Martin and Dora Krapf according to United States census data. In the late 1950s, the farmstead was subdivided into a 79-acre farmstead parcel, a 40-acre parcel on the north side of West 159th Avenue (see Survey ID 210), and the remaining 41 acres

became part of a neighboring Lake County Trust Company parcel. The Krapfs lived on the farmstead property through 1977. Martin Krapf died in 1977 and his wife inherited the property. She remarried in 1982 and the property is listed under her new name, Dora Stender, from 1985 to 2001. During this time the property consisted of 74 acres. By 2005, the farmstead property had been further subdivided into a 9-acre parcel owned by Sean Weller and today it consists of 6.9 acres still owned by Sean Weller.

The period between 1850 and 1900 is generally considered to be Indiana's golden age of agriculture as subsistence farming transitioned to large-scale operations. Transportation and technological improvements allowed farmers to bring their corn crops and livestock, primarily cattle and hogs, to faraway markets. Early agricultural education also contributed to this period of agricultural growth at the state and local levels. In 1851, the State Board of Agriculture was created to provide farmers with agricultural guidance in the form of local county agricultural societies. These county agricultural societies, as well as county fairs, provided farmstead improvement methods and techniques directly to farmers. Additionally, they exposed farmers to "book farming," which included essays on the topics of crops, drainage, machinery, and farmstead improvements. As a result, agricultural practice improved throughout the state and the State Board of Agriculture lent support for the Morrill Act passed by Congress in 1862. This act created the foundation for grant colleges and universities geared toward teaching agriculture and mechanical arts nationwide. These educational efforts and transportation improvements characterizing the state's agricultural boom did not reach the tri-creek area until the Monon Railroad was constructed through Cedar Creek Township in the 1880s. Also aiding agricultural growth in the tri-creek area were increased efforts to drain the marshlands and dig ditches to create arable land. An extensive drainage system began in the 1870s, continuing through the early part of the twentieth century, contributed greatly to agricultural growth. As a result, a large number of the county's farms date from the late nineteenth or early twentieth century.

At the beginning of the twentieth century, few Lake County farmers owned tractors, used chemical fertilizers, or practiced crop rotation to avoid depleting soil nutrients despite a statewide trend toward these practices. Strides in agricultural education, focused on fertilizer, began in the 1880s and 1890s. These experiments began at the state's first land grant university, Purdue University. As the benefits of fertilizer to future crops became apparent, bulletins were published that instructed farmers on the application and benefits of fertilizer, its future effects to crops, and the best crops to fertilize (wheat and corn over oats). With the dissemination of these bulletins, further promoted by local agricultural organizations, farmers began to invest in commercial plant foods and liming soils between 1890 and 1900. These practices were more readily adopted by farmers statewide by 1910 than in Lake County, but as they became more commonplace, Lake County farmers began to adopt the new planting and fertilizer techniques as well as new machinery during the 1920s and 1930s. These practices streamlined farming practices and increased productivity. This was further supported by local agricultural education offered by the Lowell High School, which had a three-year course in agriculture specifically designed for its rural pupils. The course of study partially relied on the study of agricultural bulletins and focused on plants and crops, soils, gardening, fruit growing, livestock, dairying, poultry, and feeding. Consequently, as new machinery was adopted, farm shops and implement or machine sheds were erected on the farms to repair and house equipment, store tools, and generally maintain the farmstead. One of the most basic and popular implement sheds was a three-sided building with the fourth side entirely open; sometimes old, unused barns on the property, simple wood-frame structures with open sides, or lean-tos attached to other farm buildings were used to protect farm equipment.

These improvements in agricultural practices and education led to a higher standard of living in rural communities as running water and electricity started to become available to rural residents and crop productivity significantly increased. Produce and food became less expensive for rural and urban residents and in increase in agricultural input initially benefited the nation during World War I. Farmers were able to supply food to families at home and to members of the military, resulting in an increased

demand for goods and an economic boom. Increased profits during this time period led to farmers purchasing more land and seeking ways to continue to improve farming methods and machinery. However, after the war, prices for goods began to decline and farmers found themselves with a surplus of crops as they could produce more than what could be consumed. This resulted in the construction of silos on farmsteads to store surplus crops, in addition to the silos needed for winter livestock feed. Between 1917 and 1918, approximately ten thousand silos were constructed in the state.

In addition to corn, farmers also raised livestock. In Lake County, beef cattle farming rose to prominence in the early 1860s, spurred by increased demand, the development of refrigerated railcars, and later, the construction of a slaughterhouse in nearby Hammond, close to Chicago and railroad lines. At first, farmers raised a variety of livestock but eventually began to specialize in the 1920s due to the expense of raising a combination of animals that required specific buildings and care. Farmers focused on hogs and chickens or solely on dairy cows or beef cattle. This shifting focus to particular breeds was supported and improved by increased knowledge about livestock nutrition and the use of genetics for better breeding results that was disseminated by the local county fair and agricultural bulletins. Improved technologies for the care of livestock, such as automated feeding systems and milking systems, also contributed to this specialization.

The farmstead is classified as a dairy farm by the Lake County Assessor and its extant Wisconsin dairy barn complex indicates this specialization. In the early twentieth century, the dairy industry was booming in Indiana, particularly in northern Indiana, which supplied milk to nearby Chicago. During the 1920s, farmers with large cattle herds began using automated milking and watering machines and transported milk in milk cans, a process completed on the farm, to other cities via the Monon Railroad. This line was known as the “milk run,” which stopped daily at the milk stand in the nearby town of Lowell through the 1920s. After this time, county dairies began to pick up milk directly from farms by truck. Dairy farms were characterized by a number of related outbuildings that supported dairy operations, such as dairy barns, milk houses, milking barns, grain silos, manure pits, stockyards, bull barns, and hay barns. The dairy barn was used to house and feed the dairy cows. They typically had a gambrel roof, roof ventilators and dormers, and multiple windows along the side elevations; many also had attached silos. The milking barn was located close to the dairy barn and sited within an integrated system of pens, stockyards, and pastures. It could be a separate building or a segregated room within a larger barn. Sited close to the dairy and milking barns, the milk house was a rectangular building with a gabled roof and constructed of concrete or tile blocks with no ventilation. The well-insulated milk house was a dedicated space used for cooling and storing milk before it was taken to market.

The farmstead retains its Wisconsin dairy barn, milk house, and silo, which are typical examples of their type and do not indicate any architectural significance. In Lake County, the predominant dairy or livestock barn form is the Wisconsin barn, which is distinguished by a narrow width to length ratio and a gambrel roof. Other dairy barn forms include the English barn, basement barn, German barn, and round roof barn, although these are less commonly found in Lake County. The Wisconsin dairy barn was typically aligned north and south to allow for maximum lighting and located close enough to other dairy farming structures for efficient operation, but far enough away to reduce the danger of spreading fire. The dairy barn was also typically located southeast of the house, or west or southwest of the house but at a greater distance to alleviate odors at the farmhouse given prevailing wind patterns. Typically two stories in Lake County, the dairy barn’s primary entrance, consisting of double doors, was located in the gambrel end; sometimes, it was located on the long sides of the barns. The dairy barn also had a low main floor ceiling, two rows of stanchions, multiple closely spaced windows on the long side of the barn, a large hay mow with gambrel end hay door and hay hood, roof dormers, and roof ventilators. The gambrel roof shape was the most popular for increasing hay storage capacity in the barn’s hay mow, which was sometimes divided into two areas to store hay and straw. The roof ventilators were essential to properly ventilate the dairy barn to prevent the spread of bovine tuberculosis and other diseases to humans. Farmers also

frequently located silos near the dairy barns or directly attached them to the barn to easily feed cattle over the winter because the silos were used to store green crops, or silage. Inside the dairy barn, the cows were confined to individual stalls, sometimes shared by the farm's horses. All dairy barns had a dedicated space where raw milk was handled, either incorporated into the barn's original design, as an addition to the barn, or as an entirely separate building. These were called the milk room or milk house. Strict milk sanitation laws required the milk house to be completely separated from the stable area if it was not detached. Many dairy barns also had feed rooms where feed was chopped, ground, mixed, and stored. These were located on the main level or in the hay mow. Feed was originally prepared by hand but as cattle herds grew larger, technology improved, and labor became more expensive, farmers turned to mechanized feed handling to improve productivity and cut costs.

The farmstead's silo is a typical example of the round, concrete tile silo. Silos became popular around the turn of the nineteenth century for the purpose of feeding livestock in the winter. They were first constructed of wood in a square shape. These first silos were sometimes built at the corner of a barn but they reduced available area for livestock or hay storage. They also were not as practical as the later round silos because the silage did not get packed into the corners, allowing air to get in and rot the contents. Square silos fell out of favor by the 1920s as round, concrete and glazed tile silos came into widespread use. Concrete was more popular than tile because it was easier to use and it could be poured in any vertical size.

The farmstead also contains two non-historic pole barns, which are typical examples of agricultural outbuildings constructed in the post-World War II when barn building techniques dramatically changed. Traditional building techniques were superseded by the construction of pole barns and prefabricated structures, which were more cost-effective for farmers. These were commonly constructed of treated wood posts and corrugated steel, respectively, and clad in corrugated sheet metal.

The farmstead's cross-gabled farmhouse with its gable-front facade and integrated cross-gabled dormers on the side elevations appears to be a later variation of the vernacular gable-front house at the turn-of-the-century. The gable-front house was a dominant house type that rose to popularity throughout the United States during the Greek Revival era when buildings were designed to be reminiscent of Greek temples. Located at the gabled end, the principal facade forms a triangle beneath the gable front and mimics the classical pediment of a Greek temple. When the facade is fully adorned in Greek Revival ornamentation, the gable-front house is called a Temple-Front. Generally, as settlers moved westward and adopted the gable-front form, these stylistic characteristics diminished and unornamented examples prevailed well beyond the antebellum era, particularly in the Great Lakes region. In Lake County, it was constructed as early as the mid-nineteenth century up through the early twentieth century and became a dominant folk form common in rural areas. The cross-gabled farmhouse is a basic example of its type and has no discernible architectural style. It has been altered by the additions of a non-historic wraparound front porch and enclosed shed roof south rear elevation addition. The date of these additions is unknown. The fenestration on the east side elevation also appears to have been altered given its asymmetry. The house has also been clad in replacement vinyl siding and its windows have replacement vinyl sashes.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION

The farmstead at 1801 West 159th Avenue was evaluated for listing in the NRHP under Criteria A, B, and C using guidelines set forth in the NRHP Bulletin "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation."

The farmstead at 1801 West 159th Avenue was established after extensive transportation and drainage efforts occurred in Cedar Creek Township in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, reflecting a countywide trend of farmstead establishment in this period. However, the farm appears to be typical of its period. The farmstead is also associated with dairy farming in Lake County, but research did not reveal it to have made significant contributions to either farmstead establishment or dairy farming in Lake County. Therefore, it is not eligible under Criterion A.

The farmstead at 1801 West 159th Avenue is associated with the Seramur family, who settled in Cedar Creek Township in the 1870s. Its members were engaged in general farming in the township. Research did not reveal any historically significant associations with the productive lives of any members of the Seramur family, and therefore, the farmstead at 1801 West 159th Avenue is not eligible under Criterion B.

The farmstead at 1801 West 159th Avenue retains its original cross-gable farmhouse and agricultural outbuildings. The house is a modest, altered, and typical example of a cross-gable house of no discernible style. Its basic form is altered by a front porch and rear additions and its cladding and window materials have been replaced. It does not appear to be a distinctive example of its type, and does not exhibit any architectural significance. The farmstead's original Wisconsin dairy barn, milk house, and silo appear to be largely intact and still convey their historic appearance and original use. However, they are not distinctive examples of their type and they do not exhibit any architectural significance. The overall farm appears to be a typical example of its period and its design is not distinctive. Therefore, the farmstead at 1801 West 159th Avenue is not eligible under Criterion C.

The farmstead at 1801 West 159th Avenue was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the farmstead at 1801 West 159th Avenue is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY

N/A

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Photo 1 – 1801 West 159th Avenue

Facing southwest to farmstead from West 159th Avenue

Photo 2 – 1801 West 159th Avenue

Facing south to farmhouse facade

Map – 1801 West 159th Avenue

NAME
1802 West 159th Avenue

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS
1802 West 159th Avenue

CITY
Crown Point

TOWNSHIP
Cedar Creek

OWNERSHIP
James Everett Mitchell and Karla Koch Mitchell

TAX PARCEL NUMBER
45-20-08-200-008.000-007

YEAR BUILT
1958

SOURCE
Lake County Assessor (2013)

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE
No Discernible Style

PROPERTY TYPE
Agriculture

FOUNDATION
Concrete

WALLS
Concrete, vinyl, metal

ROOF
Asphalt, metal

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The property at 1802 West 159th Avenue is a mid-twentieth century farmstead located on approximately 20 acres at the northwest corner of West 159th Avenue and Grant Street. The farmstead retains its original 1958 split-level house and its 1958 agricultural buildings that consist of a round-roof dairy barn and a pole barn. The property also contains a non-historic detached garage constructed in 1972 and two non-historic pole barns constructed in 1972 and 2001. Off of West 159th Avenue, two driveways lead to the farmstead's buildings, connecting to an east-west driveway along the buildings' south elevations, which are mostly oriented in a straight line. The ca. 2001 non-historic pole barn is located at the farmstead's east end while the ca. 1958 split-level house is located at its west end. The farmstead is bound by Spring Run Creek and a stand of mature deciduous trees along its west and part of its north boundaries while a tree line runs along its east boundary at Grant Street; a fence runs along its south boundary. Within the farmstead property are three separate livestock enclosures; a round enclosure is located at the south end of the property between the two driveways and the adjacent second and third enclosures are located north of the house. The house and agricultural buildings are surrounded by grassy lawn.

At the west end of the farmstead, the modest multi-story, side-gabled split-level house of no discernible style is characterized by a two-story central section intercepted at mid-height by a one-story wing at its west elevation. The house also has a one-story, side-gabled addition on its east elevation. The house is clad in vinyl siding and the south-facing facade is distinguished by brick cladding on the two-story section's first story and halfway up the east elevation addition. The south-facing facade consists of two one-over-one, double-hung, vinyl-sash windows flanking a wide, two-story, brick chimney on the one-story west wing. The chimney rises above the wing's roof, which extends over the front porch supported by wood posts. On the two-story central section, the facade comprises two bays that each contain paired one-over-one, double-hung, vinyl-sash windows on the first story; the three-bay second story comprises a one-over-one, double-hung, vinyl-sash window in the middle bay flanked by paired one-over-one, double-hung, vinyl-sash windows in the outer bays.

The facade is further defined by the one-story, side-gable addition on the house's east elevation. It comprises a single one-over-one, double-hung, vinyl-sash window on the facade; a stone chimney and a side entry door on its east side elevation; and no window or door openings on its north rear elevation. A small pyramidal cupola surmounts its roof ridgeline.

Above the east elevation addition, the two-story section's east side elevation comprises two one-over-one, double-hung, vinyl-sash windows. The north rear elevation of the two-story central section consists of evenly spaced one-over-one, double-hung, vinyl-sash windows on the first and second stories while the one-story west wing consists of a rear entry door. The house has an asphalt-shingled roof with slightly overhanging eaves.

The non-historic detached garage is located next to and east of the house. It is clad in vinyl siding with an asphalt-shingled side-gabled roof. Its south elevation has two two-car overhead garage doors, an entry door on its west elevation, two windows on its north elevation, and one window on its east elevation.

Further east is a round-roof dairy barn and a non-historic pole barn. The two-story round-roof dairy barn comprises concrete blocks on its first story while the second story is clad in vinyl siding. The three-bay south elevation consists of wood sliding double doors in the middle bay flanked by fixed pane windows in the outer bays on the first story; the second story comprises a small hayloft door opening in the middle bay flanked by two small one-over-one, double-hung windows. The east side elevation contains two door openings while the west side elevation contains a single entry door and a window opening. The north rear elevation comprises wood sliding double doors on the first story and two small one-over-one, double-hung windows on the second story. The barn's round roof is covered in asphalt shingled round roof contains two ventilators along the ridgeline. The non-historic pole barn is a one-story, side-gabled building clad in corrugated aluminum siding with a metal roof. It has two overhead garage door openings on its west elevation and no other door or window openings on the remaining elevations.

East of these two barns is a large one-story, front-gabled non-historic pole barn. It is clad in corrugated aluminum siding with a metal roof. Its south elevation contains a large sliding door and a small window opening. The east side elevation contains three evenly spaced window openings while the west side elevation contains two window openings and an entry door. The north rear elevation contains a large sliding door and an entry door.

North of these five buildings is a one-story, side-gabled pole barn clad in corrugated aluminum siding. Its three-bay south elevation comprises a sliding door in the middle bay flanked by two larger sliding doors in the outer bays. The identical east and west side elevations contain no window or door openings. The north rear elevation contains a single window opening near the west end of the building. Its metal roof has three semi-opaque skylights on the south and north elevations. The two livestock enclosures surround the building's east, west, and north elevations, and portions of its south elevation.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The property at 1802 West 159th Avenue appears to be an active farmstead that was established in the late 1950s. The extant buildings were constructed as follows: the house, round-roofed dairy barn, and pole barn in 1958, the non-historic detached garage in 1972, and the non-historic pole barns in 1972 and 2001. It is unknown if any other agricultural buildings were once present on the property.

The farmstead was likely established in 1958 when the split-level house and barns were constructed. Based on plat maps, the property was subdivided from the Seramur family's 160-acre farm, which extended across the north and south sides of West 159th Avenue (see Survey ID 209). The farmstead may have been established by James and Marguerite Leininger who owned the then-40 acre property in 1966. They retained ownership until 1985, when the property was owned by Robert W. and Jane

Hughley. In 1996, Doug and Mary Chung owned the property. Between 1996 and 2005, the property was subdivided into a 21.9-acre parcel, on which the farmstead is located, and an 18.1-acre parcel that is along the west side of Spring Run Creek. Since 2005, James Everett Mitchell and Karla Koch have owned the property. Research did not reveal any additional information about any of the property's past owners.

Based on the type of extant agricultural buildings and its current livestock use, the farmstead appears to have been a small-scale dairy farm. In Lake County, beef cattle farming rose to prominence in the early 1860s, spurred by increased demand, the development of refrigerated railcars, and later, the construction of a slaughterhouse in nearby Hammond, close to Chicago and railroad lines. At first, farmers raised a variety of livestock but eventually began to specialize in the 1920s due to the expense of raising a combination of animals that required specific buildings and care. Farmers focused on hogs and chickens or solely on dairy cows or beef cattle. This shifting focus to particular breeds was supported and improved by increased knowledge about livestock nutrition and the use of genetics for better breeding results that was disseminated by the local county fair and agricultural bulletins. Improved technologies for the care of livestock, such as automated feeding systems and milking systems, also contributed to this specialization.

In the early twentieth century, the dairy industry was booming in Indiana, particularly in northern Indiana, which supplied milk to nearby Chicago. During the 1920s, farmers with large cattle herds began using automated milking and watering machines and transported milk in metal milk cans, a process completed on the farm, to other cities via the Monon Railroad. This line was known as the "milk run," which stopped daily at the milk stand in the nearby town of Lowell through the 1920s. After this time, county dairies began to pick up milk directly from farms by truck. Dairy farms were characterized by a number of related outbuildings that supported dairy operations, such as dairy barns, milk houses, milking barns, grain silos, manure pits, stockyards, bull barns, and hay barns. The dairy barn was used to house and feed the dairy cows. They typically had a gambrel roof, roof ventilators and dormers, and multiple windows along the side elevations; many also had attached silos. The round-roof barn is less commonly found in Lake County but is typically characterized by a round arched roof with a large hay mow, like the dairy barn found on this farm at 1802 West 159th Avenue. The milking barn was located close to the dairy barn and sited within an integrated system of pens, stockyards, and pastures. It could be a separate building or a segregated room within a larger barn. Sited close to the dairy and milking barns, the milk house was a rectangular building with a gabled roof and constructed of concrete or tile blocks with no ventilation. The well-insulated milk house was a dedicated space used for cooling and storing milk before it was taken to market. This farmstead does not retain any other dairy-specific agricultural buildings and is a later example of dairy farming in Lake County.

The farmstead also contains one original and two non-historic pole barns, which are typical examples of agricultural outbuildings constructed in the post-World War II when barn building techniques dramatically changed. Traditional building techniques were superseded by the construction of pole barns and prefabricated structures, which were more cost-effective for farmers. These were commonly constructed of treated wood posts and corrugated steel, respectively, and clad in corrugated sheet metal.

The farmstead at West 159th Avenue was established during the period in the 1950s and 1960s when most farmers stopped practicing crop rotation and began to grow corn continuously because the crops did not deplete soil nutrients and improved fertilization techniques came into use. Additionally, rows of corn crops were planted closer together, increasing the output of crops and contributing to the decline of crop rotation. New mechanized and specialized equipment, like the mechanical corn picker, cultivator, planter, and mowers, and automated feeding and milking systems, and farming practices, like a new process of corn, wheat, and soybean field shelling and knowledge of nutrition and genetics of livestock, began to supersede the need for human labor. These improvements to crop and livestock varieties

allowed farmers to engage in well-rounded agricultural practices on a scale never before seen. Despite these advances, the amount of farmland statewide and nationwide experienced a small decrease due to a shift from agriculture and industry to suburban and urban centers. This shift included suburban residential growth in rural areas, the development of state highways, the expansion of industrial areas, and the development of shopping centers.

The farmstead's house was constructed as a split-level house, a common house type in the post-World War II era. The split-level was a simple form constructed in large numbers during the postwar period. It is characterized by a two-story unit intercepted at mid-height by a one-story wing to make three floor levels of interior space. The house is further characterized by horizontal lines, a low-pitched roof, overhanging eaves, a combination of siding materials, and sometimes incorporated applied stylistic features, such as Colonial Revival or Contemporary style details. The split-level form allowed families to have three types of interior spaces on separate levels: quiet living areas, noisy living and service areas, and sleeping areas. In rural areas, like the Ranch house, the split-level house were built in small clusters or by themselves oriented to and along major roads or on large farmsteads. In some cases, split-level houses replaced original farmhouses as they fell into disrepair or became expensive to maintain; in some instances, new split-level houses co-existed with the original farmhouses on farmsteads. The farmstead's house is a modest and typical split-level example of no discernible style whose basic form remains but is altered by the one-story east wing addition. The house is distinguished by a wide, prominent facade chimney and two cladding materials, but does not otherwise have any stylistic applied or integrated detail.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The farmstead at 1802 West 159th Avenue was evaluated for listing in the NRHP under Criteria A, B, and C using guidelines set forth in the NRHP Bulletin "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation."

The farmstead at 1802 West 159th Avenue was established in the mid-twentieth century during a period of improvements in agricultural techniques, technology, and equipment. However, the farm appears to be typical of its period and does not appear to incorporate these agricultural improvements in its design or function. It is also associated with dairy farming in Lake County but the farmstead is a later example that appears to have existed on a small-scale and does not appear to have made any historically significant contributions. Therefore, it is not eligible under Criterion A.

Background research did not indicate any associations with the lives of persons significant in the past, and therefore, the farmstead at 1802 West 159th Avenue is not eligible under Criterion B.

The farmstead at 1802 West 159th Avenue retains its original split-level house and agricultural outbuildings. The house is a modest, altered, and typical example of a split-level house of no discernible style. Its basic form is altered by a one-story wing addition and it does not appear to be a distinctive example of its type, and therefore, it does not exhibit any architectural significance. The farmstead's original round-roof dairy barn and pole barn appear to be largely intact and still convey their historic appearance and original use. However, they are not distinctive examples of their type and they do not

exhibit any architectural significance. The overall farm appears to be a typical example of its period and its design is not distinctive. Therefore, the farmstead at 1802 West 159th Avenue is not eligible under Criterion C.

The farmstead at 1802 West 159th Avenue was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the farmstead at 1802 West 159th Avenue is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

SOURCES
Drury, John. 1956. *This is Lake County, Indiana*. Chicago, IL: Inland Photo Co.

Lake County Assessor. 2013. *Lake County Surveyor GIS Website*.

Minnesota Department of Transportation. June 2005. *Historic Context Study of Minnesota Farms, 1820-1960*.

Plat Maps. 1926. Sidwell Studio. *Plat Books of Indiana Counties, Volume 3*.

Plat Maps. 1966. County Plat & Directory Co., Inc. *Lake County, Indiana. Official Farm Plat Book and Directory*.

Plat Maps. 1976. *Three-Creek Bicentennial Book.*

Plat Maps. 1985. Wille & Stiener Associates. *1985 Plat Book. Lake County, Indiana*.

Plat Maps. 1996. Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District. *1996 Plat Book. Lake County, Indiana.*

Plat Maps. 2005. *2005 Plat Book. Lake County, Indiana.*

US Census Bureau. 1900.

US Census Bureau. 1910.

US Census Bureau. 1920.

US Census Bureau. 1930.

US Census Bureau. 1940.

Photo 1 – 1802 West 159th Avenue

Facing north to farmstead; split-level house at left, round-roofed dairy barn at right

Map – 1802 West 159th Avenue

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NAME
15715 Harrison Street

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS	CITY	TOWNSHIP
15715 Harrison Street	Crown Point	Cedar Creek

OWNERSHIP	TAX PARCEL NUMBER
Nina L. Kretz	45-20-09-200-001.000-007

YEAR BUILT	SOURCE
1900	Lake County Assessor (2013)

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE	PROPERTY TYPE
No Discernible Style	Agriculture

FOUNDATION	WALLS	ROOF
Concrete	Vinyl	Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The farmstead at 15715 Harrison Street is located on 5 acres on the east side of Harrison Street; the parcel contains the building cluster, but is surrounded by cultivated fields west across Harrison Street and south. A diagonal driveway extends to the northwest from the road through the farm buildings. Select areas of the property were not accessible during survey. Mature deciduous trees surround the house and some recent landscaping is located to the southwest of the house.

The house and silo were the earliest constructed buildings on the property, dating to 1900. Along the north side of the driveway, the house is of no discernible style and comprises a two-story, gable-front portion intersected along it south elevation by one-story, side-gable addition. The house sits on a rusticated concrete block foundation and is clad in vinyl siding; the roof has asphalt shingles. It has been substantially altered and its original features have been obscured by the application of vinyl siding, additions, and altered fenestration patterns. The house has no apparent facade, but it entrance is located on the south elevation of the one-story addition. It is reached by a recently constructed elevated wood porch with steps. The entrance is located in a single-story, shed-roof addition. A storm door obscures the entrance door. This elevation, as well as others, contains irregularly placed vinyl windows of various sizes and configurations. These include fixed pane, double hung, and octagonal forms. The one-story addition's roof has an interior brick chimney. The house's east elevation comprises the addition and gable-front. The addition contains a door to a large wood deck and the gable-front contains two window openings on the first story and a window opening in the gable end. The north elevation was not accessible during survey.

The silo remains on the property, but its cylindrical shape no longer retains its roof. It is located east of the house near the Wisconsin dairy barn. Eight grain bins, all metal cylinders with conical roofs, are located to the east of the house. Four date to 1910, while the remaining ones were added more recently through 2007.

A detached garage and a milk house were built in 1910. These buildings are all similar modest buildings

of frame or concrete-block construction with gable roofs. The detached garage is constructed concrete block with a corrugated metal-clad roof and is located southeast of the house. It contains a single one-car garage door opening, an entry door, and a small window on its south elevation. The milk house is located along the south side of the driveway, south of the detached garage. It is small wood-clad building with asphalt shingles cladding the roof, which contains two small gable vents. Its four-bay north elevation contains two wooden doors in the outer bays and two four-light wood-framed windows in the middle bays. The east and west elevations contain a single window opening.

Directly east of the milk house is the farmstead's two-story, gambrel-roof dairy barn constructed in 1920, possibly replacing an earlier dairy barn. It is of frame construction with various pedestrian and larger sliding doors on the long side of the barn on the west elevation. This elevation also contains several window openings on the first story and two openings on the second story to the hayloft. The east elevation contains a corrugated metal-clad, shed-roof extension, likely a milking parlor. The south and north elevations contain no first story openings and two small openings in the gambrel end. The gambrel roof is covered in composite shingles and a metal ventilator is located on the ridge line.

A one-story pole barn and wooden barn were built in 1938. The pole barn is constructed of corrugated metal with a gable roof. The wood barn has wood siding and an asphalt-shingle roof. These two buildings are located east of the house and contain sliding entry doors in their gabled elevations.

Immediately north of the Wisconsin dairy barn is a one-story pole barn built in 1960. It is of corrugated metal construction with a gable roof and contains a sliding double door entrance on its west elevation.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The earliest known owner of this property was William Woodke, who farmed the land with the help of Walter Northrup in 1910. In 1920, William's wife Sophia lived with him on the property, which then totaled 230 acres. In 1930, the Saberniak family, Michael and Sophia and children Esther and Delbert, owned the land; Michael's father also lived with them. Because the wife in this family was also named Sophia, it is possible that William Woodke passed away and Sophia Woodke remarried. The property stayed in this family until at least 1976 and remaining at around the same acreage. By 1985, Albert Henry owned the property, which was then 40 acres. Since 2005, Nina Kretz has owned the now 5-acre property. A 1956 aerial photograph of the property shows that numerous agricultural buildings that once occupied the property are no longer extant.

The farmstead at 15715 Harrison Street was likely established at the end of the period between 1850 and 1900, which is generally considered to be Indiana's golden age of agriculture as subsistence farming transitioned to large-scale operations. Transportation and technological improvements allowed farmers to bring their corn crops and livestock, primarily cattle and hogs, to faraway markets. Early agricultural education also contributed to this period of agricultural growth at the state and local levels. In 1851, the State Board of Agriculture was created to provide farmers with agricultural guidance in the form of local county agricultural societies. These county agricultural societies, as well as county fairs, provided farmstead improvement methods and techniques directly to farmers. Additionally, they exposed farmers to "book farming," which included essays on the topics of crops, drainage, machinery, and farmstead improvements. As a result, agricultural practice improved throughout the state and the State Board of Agriculture lent support for the Morrill Act passed by Congress in 1862. This act created the foundation for grant colleges and universities geared toward teaching agriculture and mechanical arts nationwide. These educational efforts and transportation improvements characterizing the state's agricultural boom did not reach the tri-creek area until the Monon Railroad was constructed through Cedar Creek Township in the 1880s. Also aiding agricultural growth in the tri-creek area were increased efforts to drain the marshlands and dig ditches to create arable land. An extensive drainage system began in the 1870s, continuing through the early part of the twentieth century, contributed greatly to agricultural growth. As a result, a large number of the county's farms, including the subject property, date from the late nineteenth

or early twentieth century.

At the beginning of the twentieth century, few Lake County farmers owned tractors, used chemical fertilizers, or practiced crop rotation to avoid depleting soil nutrients despite a statewide trend toward these practices. Strides in agricultural education, focused on fertilizer, began in the 1880s and 1890s. These experiments began at the state's first land grant university, Purdue University. As the benefits of fertilizer to future crops became apparent, bulletins were published that instructed farmers on the application and benefits of fertilizer, its future effects to crops, and the best crops to fertilize (wheat and corn over oats). With the dissemination of these bulletins, further promoted by local agricultural organizations, farmers began to invest in commercial plant foods and liming soils between 1890 and 1900. These practices were more readily adopted by farmers statewide by 1910 than in Lake County, but as they became more commonplace, Lake County farmers began to adopt the new planting and fertilizer techniques as well as new machinery during the 1920s and 1930s. These practices streamlined farming practices and increased productivity. This was further supported by local agricultural education offered by the Lowell High School, which had a three-year course in agriculture specifically designed for its rural pupils. The course of study partially relied on the study of agricultural bulletins and focused on plants and crops, soils, gardening, fruit growing, livestock, dairying, poultry, and feeding. Consequently, as new machinery was adopted, farm shops and implement or machine sheds were erected on the farms to repair and house equipment, store tools, and generally maintain the farmstead. One of the most basic and popular implement sheds was a three-sided building with the fourth side entirely open; sometimes old, unused barns on the property, simple wood-frame structures with open sides, or lean-tos attached to other farm buildings were used to protect farm equipment.

These improvements in agricultural practices and education led to a higher standard of living in rural communities as running water and electricity started to become available to rural residents and crop productivity significantly increased. Produce and food became less expensive for rural and urban residents and in increase in agricultural input initially benefited the nation during World War I. Farmers were able to supply food to families at home and to members of the military, resulting in an increased demand for goods and an economic boom. Increased profits during this time period led to farmers purchasing more land and seeking ways to continue to improve farming methods and machinery. However, after the war, prices for goods began to decline and farmers found themselves with a surplus of crops as they could produce more than what could be consumed. This resulted in the construction of silos on farmsteads to store surplus crops, in addition to the silos needed for winter livestock feed. Between 1917 and 1918, approximately ten thousand silos were constructed in the state.

During the Great Depression, Congress passed the Agricultural Adjustment Act in 1933. The act played an important role in improving Indiana's agricultural economy through the installation of a wheat allotment program. Additionally, the Rural Electrification Administration, a program enacted by the New Deal, significantly impacted rural residents as approximately 24,000 farms received electricity. This was supported by the state's Rural Electric Membership Corporation in 1935 to distribute electricity to rural areas. By 1965, 99 percent of the state's farms were electrified, ending rural isolation and increasing farmers' productivity and efficiency.

In addition to corn, farmers also raised livestock. In Lake County, beef cattle farming rose to prominence in the early 1860s, spurred by increased demand, the development of refrigerated railcars, and later, the construction of a slaughterhouse in nearby Hammond, close to Chicago and railroad lines. At first, farmers raised a variety of livestock but eventually began to specialize in the 1920s due to the expense of raising a combination of animals that required specific buildings and care. Farmers focused on hogs and chickens or solely on dairy cows or beef cattle. This shifting focus to particular breeds was supported and improved by increased knowledge about livestock nutrition and the use of genetics for better breeding results that was disseminated by the local county fair and agricultural bulletins. Improved technologies for

the care of livestock, such as automated feeding systems and milking systems, also contributed to this specialization. Research did not reveal the type of agricultural activities that occurred on this farmstead, but given the presence of the Wisconsin dairy barn and milk house, the farmstead likely engaged in some level of dairy farming in its history. The farmstead also retains eight grain bins and it likely produced crops that we kept in these bins.

In the early twentieth century, the dairy industry was booming in Indiana, particularly in northern Indiana, which supplied milk to nearby Chicago. During the 1920s, farmers with large cattle herds began using automated milking and watering machines and transported milk in metal milk cans, a process completed on the farm, to other cities via the Monon Railroad. This line was known as the “milk run,” which stopped daily at the milk stand in the nearby town of Lowell through the 1920s. After this time, county dairies began to pick up milk directly from farms by truck. Dairy farms were characterized by a number of related outbuildings that supported dairy operations, such as dairy barns, milk houses, milking barns, grain silos, manure pits, stockyards, bull barns, and hay barns. The dairy barn was used to house and feed the dairy cows. They typically had a gambrel roof, roof ventilators and dormers, and multiple windows along the side elevations; many also had attached silos. The milking barn was located close to the dairy barn and sited within an integrated system of pens, stockyards, and pastures. It could be a separate building or a segregated room within a larger barn. Sited close to the dairy and milking barns, the milk house was a rectangular building with a gabled roof and constructed of concrete or tile blocks with no ventilation. The well-insulated milk house was a dedicated space used for cooling and storing milk before it was taken to market.

The farmstead retains its Wisconsin dairy barn and milk house, which are basic examples of their type and are not architecturally distinct. In Lake County, the predominant dairy or livestock barn form is the Wisconsin barn, which is distinguished by a narrow width to length ratio and a gambrel roof. Other dairy barn forms include the English barn, basement barn, German barn, and round roof barn, although these are less commonly found in Lake County. The Wisconsin dairy barn was typically aligned north and south to allow for maximum lighting and located close enough to other dairy farming structures for efficient operation, but far enough away to reduce the danger of spreading fire. The dairy barn was also typically located southeast of the house, or west or southwest of the house but at a greater distance to alleviate odors at the farmhouse given prevailing wind patterns. Typically two stories in Lake County, the dairy barn’s primary entrance, consisting of double doors, was located in the gambrel end; sometimes, it was located on the long sides of the barns. The dairy barn also had a low main floor ceiling, two rows of stanchions, multiple closely spaced windows on the long side of the barn, a large hay mow with gambrel end hay door and hay hood, roof dormers, and roof ventilators. The gambrel roof shape was the most popular for increasing hay storage capacity in the barn’s hay mow, which was sometimes divided into two areas to store hay and straw. The roof ventilators were essential to properly ventilate the dairy barn to prevent the spread of bovine tuberculosis and other diseases to humans. Farmers also frequently located silos near the dairy barns or directly attached them to the barn to easily feed cattle over the winter because the silos were used to store green crops, or silage. Inside the dairy barn, the cows were confined to individual stalls, sometimes shared by the farm’s horses. All dairy barns had a dedicated space where raw milk was handled, either incorporated into the barn’s original design, as an addition to the barn, or as an entirely separate building. These were called the milk room or milk house. Strict milk sanitation laws required the milk house to be completely separated from the stable area if it was not detached. Many dairy barns also had feed rooms where feed was chopped, ground, mixed, and stored. These were located on the main level or in the hay mow. Feed was originally prepared by hand but as cattle herds grew larger, technology improved, and labor became more expensive, farmers turned to mechanized feed handling to improve productivity and cut costs.

In the 1950s and 1960s, most farmers stopped practicing crop rotation and began to grow corn continuously because the crops did not deplete soil nutrients and improved fertilization techniques came

into use. Additionally, rows of corn crops were planted closer together, increasing the output of crops and contributing to the decline of crop rotation. New mechanized and specialized equipment, like the mechanical corn picker, cultivator, planter, and mowers, and automated feeding and milking systems, and farming practices, like a new process of corn, wheat, and soybean field shelling and knowledge of nutrition and genetics of livestock, began to supersede the need for human labor. These improvements to crop and livestock varieties allowed farmers to engage in well-rounded agricultural practices on a scale never before seen. Despite these advances, the amount of farmland statewide and nationwide experienced a small decrease due to a shift from agriculture and industry to suburban and urban centers. This shift included suburban residential growth in rural areas, the development of state highways, the expansion of industrial areas, and the development of shopping centers.

The farmhouse is of no discernible style or form and has been significantly altered by replacement materials and additions. The farmstead's extant agricultural outbuildings are all basic examples of their types. The farmstead's pole barns are basic examples that represent an economical and practical choice for farmers constructing new agricultural buildings during the Post-World War II when barn building techniques dramatically changed. Traditional building techniques were superseded by the construction of pole barns and prefabricated structures, which were more cost-effective for farmers. These were commonly constructed of treated wood posts and corrugated steel, respectively, and clad in corrugated sheet metal.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The farmstead at 15715 Harrison Street was evaluated for listing in the NRHP under Criteria A, B, and C using guidelines set forth in the NRHP Bulletin "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation."

The farmstead at 15715 Harrison Street is associated with farming in the region. However, numerous changes to the property, including demolition of historic buildings, construction of new buildings and structures, and alterations to the farmhouse, diminish the property's ability to convey this association. Therefore, it is not eligible under Criterion A.

The farmstead at 15715 Harrison Street is not associated with persons significant in the past. Research did not indicate that any of the owners or occupants were locally important. Therefore, the farmstead at 15715 Harrison Street is not eligible under Criterion B.

The farmstead at 15715 Harrison Street is not architecturally significant. It is typical of the many altered farmsteads in the area. Historic photographs indicate that numerous older buildings are no longer extant, and new structures have also been built on the property. The farmhouse does not retain any character-defining features; original design components have been removed or obscured. This includes the application of siding and replacement windows. Therefore, the farmstead at 15715 Harrison Street is not eligible under Criterion C.

The farmstead at 15715 Harrison Street was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this

assessment.

Therefore, the farmstead at 15715 Harrison Street is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

SOURCES
Drury, John. 1956. *This is Lake County, Indiana*. Chicago, IL: Inland Photo Co.

Lake County Assessor. 2013. *Lake County Surveyor GIS Website*.

Minnesota Department of Transportation. June 2005. *Historic Context Study of Minnesota Farms, 1820-1960*.

Plat Maps. 1926. Sidwell Studio. *Plat Books of Indiana Counties, Volume 3*.

Plat Maps. 1966. County Plat & Directory Co., Inc. *Lake County, Indiana. Official Farm Plat Book and Directory*.

Plat Maps. 1976. *Three-Creek Bicentennial Book.*

Plat Maps. 1985. Wille & Stiener Associates. *1985 Plat Book. Lake County, Indiana*.

Plat Maps. 1996. Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District. *1996 Plat Book. Lake County, Indiana.*

Plat Maps. 2005. *2005 Plat Book. Lake County, Indiana.*

US Census Bureau. 1910.

US Census Bureau. 1920.

US Census Bureau. 1930.

US Census Bureau. 1940.

Photo 1 – 15715 Harrison Street

Facing northeast to farmstead

Photo 2 – 15715 Harrison Street

Facing northeast to farmhouse's west and south elevations

Photo 3 – 15715 Harrison Street

Facing north to detached garage; farmhouse's south elevation visible at left

Photo 4 – 15715 Harrison Street

Facing southeast to Wisconsin dairy barn (silo visible behind it) and milk house

Photo 5 – 15715 Harrison Street

Facing southeast to pole barn and grain bins

Photo 6 – 15715 Harrison Street

Facing northwest to grain bins and wood pole barn

Photo 7 – 15715 Harrison Street

Facing northeast to pole barn and shed

Map – 15715 Harrison Street

NAME
730 West 163rd Avenue

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS	CITY	TOWNSHIP
730 West 163rd Avenue	Lowell	Cedar Creek

OWNERSHIP	TAX PARCEL NUMBER
Gerald Kretz	45-20-09-401-001.000-007

YEAR BUILT	SOURCE
1910	Lake County Assessor (2013)

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE	PROPERTY TYPE
No Discernible Style	Agriculture

FOUNDATION	WALLS	ROOF
Concrete	Vinyl	Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The property at 730 West 163rd Avenue is an early twentieth century farmstead located on approximately 80 acres on the north side of West 163rd Avenue; it is an active farm. The farmstead's buildings range in date from 1910 to 2007 and consist of the farmhouse, five pole barns, a hog barn, a small milk house, a gambrel-roofed barn, one silo, and five grain bins. Off of West 163rd Avenue, the farm's main driveway bisects the farmstead's buildings, with the farmhouse, milk house, and two pole barns on its west side and the remaining buildings on its east side. An additional driveway enters the property from Harrison Street, and a tree line of mature deciduous trees exists along the property's west boundary at Harrison Street.

Along the west side of the main drive, the ca. 1924 farmhouse is a two-story, gambrel-front house of no discernible style. The house is clad in vinyl siding on a concrete foundation and has an asphalt-shingle roof. Although the house's prominent Dutch gambrel roof is indicative of Colonial Revival influences, other elements of the style are absent. Facing south to West 163rd Avenue, the nearly symmetrical three-bay facade comprises an off-center front door in the central bay flanked by a nine-over-nine, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash windows in the outer bays. A hipped roof supported by four wood posts covers a small concrete front porch located at the facade's center. Above the hipped roof porch, paired nine-over-nine, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash windows are centrally located on the second story. An interior brick chimney is located at the house's center.

The west side elevation contains two nine-over-nine, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash windows while the east side elevation contains a small, projecting entryway at its center; above the entryway is a roof dormer. The north rear elevation contains two nine-over-nine, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash windows on the first story and paired nine-over-nine, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash windows on the second story. An above-ground swimming pool with a wood deck is located east of the house and a ca.1910 milk house is located immediately northeast of the house. The one-story gable-roof milk house sits on a concrete foundation and is covered by a metal roof. The milk house contains an entry door on its south elevation; no other window or door openings are present on the building.

North of the farmhouse is a ca. 1960 pole barn oriented perpendicular to West 163rd Avenue. It rests on a concrete foundation and is clad in metal with a metal gable roof. Its south elevation contains a wide opening with sliding metal doors; no other elevations contain window or door openings. An open-front, shed-roof addition is attached to the pole barn's east elevation and extends the length of the pole barn. It is also clad in metal on its walls and roof.

Northeast of this pole barn is a second ca. 1960 pole barn that sits on a concrete foundation. It is clad with metal siding and covered with a metal gable roof. A large opening is located on the pole barn's south elevation with sliding metal doors; no other window or door openings are present on the pole barn.

Along the east side of the main driveway are the farmstead's remaining agricultural buildings. A smaller third ca. 1960 pole barn is located directly east of the second pole barn. It sits on a concrete foundation, is clad with metal siding, and covered with a metal gable roof. Its south elevation contains a large opening with sliding metal doors; no other window or door openings are present on the pole barn.

Directly south of the small third pole barn is a large ca. 1910 two-story gambrel-roof barn oriented perpendicular to West 163rd Avenue. The barn is clad with wood siding and covered with a metal gambrel roof. Its east and west elevations contain large sliding doors flanked by an entry door and a small window opening; near the roof, two small additional window openings are present. The barn's north and south elevations are largely identical and contain square openings to the hayloft in the gambrel end. Slightly deteriorated, the barn's exterior wood cladding is missing in several locations.

Immediately south of the gambrel-roof barn is a fourth small ca. 1960 pole barn that sits on a concrete foundation with metal-clad walls and a metal gable roof. Its north elevation contains an off-center door opening, its west elevation contains a central entry door flanked by two windows, and its south elevation contains a wide entry with a metal door and a window opening. East of this pole barn is a fifth large ca. 2007 pole barn with its own driveway off of West 163rd Avenue. It sits on a concrete foundation, is clad with metal siding, and covered with a metal gable roof. The barn is entirely windowless; a large opening covered by sliding metal doors is located on the barn's south elevation.

Between these pole barns is a ca. 1910 one-story wood hog house oriented parallel to West 163rd Avenue. The hog house appears in a deteriorated state with wood siding and an asphalt-shingle shed roof. In the immediate vicinity of the hog house, between the two pole barns, are five cylindrical metal grain bins with hemispherical roofs and one small metal silo constructed ca. 1960.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The property at 730 West 163rd Avenue is an active farmstead whose extant buildings were constructed as follows: the farmhouse ca. 1924, the milk house ca. 1910, the gambrel-roofed barn ca. 1910, the hog house ca. 1910, and the grain bins and silo ca. 1960. Additionally, five large pole barns dominate the property and were constructed from 1960 to 2007. According to a 1956 aerial photograph of the property, the farmstead originally contained various outbuildings that are no longer extant and were replaced by the property's present pole barns. It is unknown when these buildings were demolished. Additionally, the farmstead consisted of 80 acres; in 1956, it was 120 acres; in 1976, it was 80 acres; in 1996, it was 140 acres, and in 2013, 110 acres.

The farmstead was likely constructed by Benjamin J. Gifford who came to the area in 1891 after acquiring 36,000 acres of swampland throughout Lake and Jasper counties. Gifford grew up in Kendall County, Illinois with his parents Freeman and Cornelia Gifford, New Jersey natives who homesteaded in the Midwest in 1838. Gifford was raised in a pioneer lifestyle and eventually became a lawyer. In 1861, he volunteered for service in the Union Army and served under General Ulysses S. Grant. Upon acquiring his 36,000 acres in Lake and Jasper counties, Gifford divided the land into 80, 160, and 320 acre farms

and established sets of farm buildings throughout his holdings.

While drilling for a well near Gifford, Indiana, Benjamin Gifford discovered oil and built a refinery there in 1899. Gifford then opened the Chicago and Wabash Valley Railroad, also known as the Gifford Line, a railroad he began planning in 1898. The line traversed Lake County from southeast of Zodac and into Lake County just east of Lowell. The railroad also contained a spur connecting Gifford's refinery to the line. Following Gifford's death in 1913, the line was sold to the Monon Railroad.

Although Gifford died in 1913, plat maps show a B.J. Gifford as holding title to the farmstead at 730 West 163rd Avenue. By 1956, the land had been acquired by the Claussen Estate and Russell Fisher. The 1966 plat map indicates B & F Claussen as holding title to the land. By 1976, John and Eva Kretz owned the property and retained ownership through at least 1996 when it was bequeathed to Gerald Kretz who currently owns the property. Research did not reveal any additional information about the Claussen, Fisher, or Kretz families.

The property was previously surveyed and rated "Contributing" in the 1996 Lake County Interim Report. The Interim Report assigned a rating of "Non-Contributing," "Contributing," "Notable," or "Outstanding" to surveyed properties based on their historical significance, architectural merit, environment, and integrity. For the purposes of the Interim Report, these ratings were based upon the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Criteria for Evaluation, but were not substitutes for final NRHP eligibility determinations. Also, because 17 years have passed since this report, many properties have undergone alterations that are not considered in the report's assessments. Properties rated "Non-Contributing" were only included in the Interim Report if they were located within an existing or potential historic district and would not be considered NRHP-eligible. A "Contributing" rating was assigned to those properties that met the 50 years of age or older criterion but were not individually significant enough to be NRHP eligible; however, these resources could be considered NRHP-eligible as part of a historic district. A "Notable" rating meant the property did not merit an "Outstanding" rating but was still above-average in its historic or architectural significance and could be NRHP-eligible upon further investigation. An "Outstanding" rating meant the property retained enough historic or architectural significance that it was already listed in or should be considered for individual listing in the NRHP. For the purposes of this report's evaluation, the "Contributing"-rated property at 730 West 163rd Avenue is being assessed individually and not as part of a rural historic district. At that time, the farmstead's house was identified as a typical early twentieth century Dutch Colonial Revival house clad in wood clapboard under aluminum siding. The farmstead also had three silos, two barns, and two sheds.

The farmstead at 730 West 163rd Avenue was established during the period between 1850 and 1900, which is generally considered to be Indiana's golden age of agriculture as subsistence farming transitioned to large-scale operations. Transportation and technological improvements allowed farmers to bring their corn crops and livestock, primarily cattle and hogs, to faraway markets. Early agricultural education also contributed to this period of agricultural growth at the state and local levels. In 1851, the State Board of Agriculture was created to provide farmers with agricultural guidance in the form of local county agricultural societies. These county agricultural societies, as well as county fairs, provided farmstead improvement methods and techniques directly to farmers. Additionally, they exposed farmers to "book farming," which included essays on the topics of crops, drainage, machinery, and farmstead improvements. As a result, agricultural practice improved throughout the state and the State Board of Agriculture lent support for the Morrill Act passed by Congress in 1862. This act created the foundation for grant colleges and universities geared toward teaching agriculture and mechanical arts nationwide. These educational efforts and transportation improvements characterizing the state's agricultural boom did not reach the tri-creek area until the Monon Railroad was constructed through Cedar Creek Township in the 1880s. Also aiding agricultural growth in the tri-creek area were increased efforts to drain the marshlands and dig ditches to create arable land. An extensive drainage system began in the 1870s,

continuing through the early part of the twentieth century, contributed greatly to agricultural growth. As a result, a large number of the county's farms, such as the subject property, date from the late nineteenth or early twentieth century.

At the beginning of the twentieth century, few Lake County farmers owned tractors, used chemical fertilizers, or practiced crop rotation to avoid depleting soil nutrients despite a statewide trend toward these practices. Strides in agricultural education, focused on fertilizer, began in the 1880s and 1890s. These experiments began at the state's first land grant university, Purdue University. As the benefits of fertilizer to future crops became apparent, bulletins were published that instructed farmers on the application and benefits of fertilizer, its future effects to crops, and the best crops to fertilize (wheat and corn over oats). With the dissemination of these bulletins, further promoted by local agricultural organizations, farmers began to invest in commercial plant foods and liming soils between 1890 and 1900. These practices were more readily adopted by farmers statewide by 1910 than in Lake County, but as they became more commonplace, Lake County farmers began to adopt the new planting and fertilizer techniques as well as new machinery during the 1920s and 1930s. These practices streamlined farming practices and increased productivity. This was further supported by local agricultural education offered by the Lowell High School, which had a three-year course in agriculture specifically designed for its rural pupils. The course of study partially relied on the study of agricultural bulletins and focused on plants and crops, soils, gardening, fruit growing, livestock, dairying, poultry, and feeding. Consequently, as new machinery was adopted, farm shops and implement or machine sheds were erected on the farms to repair and house equipment, store tools, and generally maintain the farmstead. One of the most basic and popular implement sheds was a three-sided building with the fourth side entirely open; sometimes old, unused barns on the property, simple wood-frame structures with open sides, or lean-tos attached to other farm buildings were used to protect farm equipment.

These improvements in agricultural practices and education led to a higher standard of living in rural communities as running water and electricity started to become available to rural residents and crop productivity significantly increased. Produce and food became less expensive for rural and urban residents and in increase in agricultural input initially benefited the nation during World War I. Farmers were able to supply food to families at home and to members of the military, resulting in an increased demand for goods and an economic boom. Increased profits during this time period led to farmers purchasing more land and seeking ways to continue to improve farming methods and machinery. However, after the war, prices for goods began to decline and farmers found themselves with a surplus of crops as they could produce more than what could be consumed. This resulted in the construction of silos on farmsteads to store surplus crops, in addition to the silos needed for winter livestock feed. Between 1917 and 1918, approximately ten thousand silos were constructed in the state.

During the Great Depression, Congress passed the Agricultural Adjustment Act in 1933. The act played an important role in improving Indiana's agricultural economy through the installation of a wheat allotment program. Additionally, the Rural Electrification Administration, a program enacted by the New Deal, significantly impacted rural residents as approximately 24,000 farms received electricity. This was supported by the state's Rural Electric Membership Corporation in 1935 to distribute electricity to rural areas. By 1965, 99 percent of the state's farms were electrified, ending rural isolation and increasing farmers' productivity and efficiency.

In addition to corn, farmers also raised livestock. In Lake County, beef cattle farming rose to prominence in the early 1860s, spurred by increased demand, the development of refrigerated railcars, and later, the construction of a slaughterhouse in nearby Hammond, close to Chicago and railroad lines. At first, farmers raised a variety of livestock but eventually began to specialize in the 1920s due to the expense of raising a combination of animals that required specific buildings and care. Farmers focused on hogs and chickens or solely on dairy cows or beef cattle. This shifting focus to particular breeds was supported and

improved by increased knowledge about livestock nutrition and the use of genetics for better breeding results that was disseminated by the local county fair and agricultural bulletins. Improved technologies for the care of livestock, such as automated feeding systems and milking systems, also contributed to this specialization. Research did not reveal the types of agricultural activities that took place on this farmstead, but it may have been a general farm with several dairy cows and hogs given its extant milk house and hog house.

In the early twentieth century, the dairy industry was booming in Indiana, particularly in northern Indiana, which supplied milk to nearby Chicago. During the 1920s, farmers with large cattle herds began using automated milking and watering machines and transported milk in metal milk cans, a process completed on the farm, to other cities via the Monon Railroad. This line was known as the “milk run,” which stopped daily at the milk stand in the nearby town of Lowell through the 1920s. After this time, county dairies began to pick up milk directly from farms by truck. Dairy farms were characterized by a number of related outbuildings that supported dairy operations, such as dairy barns, milk houses, milking barns, grain silos, manure pits, stockyards, bull barns, and hay barns. The dairy barn was used to house and feed the dairy cows. They typically had a gambrel roof, roof ventilators and dormers, and multiple windows along the side elevations; many also had attached silos. The milking barn was located close to the dairy barn and sited within an integrated system of pens, stockyards, and pastures. It could be a separate building or a segregated room within a larger barn. Sited close to the dairy and milking barns, the milk house was a rectangular building with a gabled roof and constructed of concrete or tile blocks with no ventilation. The well-insulated milk house was a dedicated space used for cooling and storing milk before it was taken to market. This farmstead retains a basic example of a milk house.

In the 1950s and 1960s, most farmers stopped practicing crop rotation and began to grow corn continuously because the crops did not deplete soil nutrients and improved fertilization techniques came into use. Additionally, rows of corn crops were planted closer together, increasing the output of crops and contributing to the decline of crop rotation. New mechanized and specialized equipment, like the mechanical corn picker, cultivator, planter, and mowers, and automated feeding and milking systems, and farming practices, like a new process of corn, wheat, and soybean field shelling and knowledge of nutrition and genetics of livestock, began to supersede the need for human labor. These improvements to crop and livestock varieties allowed farmers to engage in well-rounded agricultural practices on a scale never before seen. Despite these advances, the amount of farmland statewide and nationwide experienced a small decrease due to a shift from agriculture and industry to suburban and urban centers. This shift included suburban residential growth in rural areas, the development of state highways, the expansion of industrial areas, and the development of shopping centers.

The farmstead retains its ca. 1924 gambrel-front house of no discernible style. Its prominent Dutch gambrel roof is indicative of Colonial Revival influences, but other elements of the style are absent. Dutch Colonial Revival houses were characterized by steeply pitched gambrel roofs containing almost a full second story with either separate dormer windows or a continuous shed dormer with several windows. A full-width porch was also sometimes present under the main roof line or added with a separate roof. From about 1895 to 1915, the most common form had a front-facing gambrel roof, like this farmhouse. Side gambrels became the predominant form in the 1920s and 1930s. These houses were typically ornamented by decorative door surrounds and cornices and were constructed of masonry.

The farmstead’s gambrel-roofed barn is a basic example that occurs frequently in Lake County. It resembles the Wisconsin dairy barn form, which was typically aligned north and south to allow for maximum lighting and located close enough to other dairy farming structures for efficient operation, but far enough away to reduce the danger of spreading fire. The dairy barn was also typically located southeast of the house, or west or southwest of the house but at a greater distance to alleviate odors at the farmhouse given prevailing wind patterns. Typically two stories in Lake County, the dairy barn’s

primary entrance, consisting of double doors, was located in the gambrel end; sometimes, it was located on the long sides of the barns. The dairy barn also had a low main floor ceiling, two rows of stanchions, multiple closely spaced windows on the long side of the barn, a large hay mow with gambrel end hay door and hay hood, roof dormers, and roof ventilators. The gambrel roof shape was the most popular for increasing hay storage capacity in the barn's hay mow, which was sometimes divided into two areas to store hay and straw. The roof ventilators were essential to properly ventilate the dairy barn to prevent the spread of bovine tuberculosis and other diseases to humans. Farmers also frequently located silos near the dairy barns or directly attached them to the barn to easily feed cattle over the winter because the silos were used to store green crops, or silage. Inside the dairy barn, the cows were confined to individual stalls, sometimes shared by the farm's horses. All dairy barns had a dedicated space where raw milk was handled, either incorporated into the barn's original design, as an addition to the barn, or as an entirely separate building. These were called the milk room or milk house. Strict milk sanitation laws required the milk house to be completely separated from the stable area if it was not detached. Many dairy barns also had feed rooms where feed was chopped, ground, mixed, and stored. These were located on the main level or in the hay mow. Feed was originally prepared by hand but as cattle herds grew larger, technology improved, and labor became more expensive, farmers turned to mechanized feed handling to improve productivity and cut costs.

The farmstead also retains basic examples of four pole barns, four grain bins, and a silo constructed ca. 1960 that displaced earlier agricultural outbuildings. Pole barns were constructed in the post-World War II era when barn building techniques dramatically changed and traditional building techniques were superseded by the construction of pole barns and prefabricated structures, which were more cost-effective for farmers. These were commonly constructed of treated wood posts and corrugated steel, respectively, and clad in corrugated sheet metal. Granaries and corn cribs were constructed on the farmstead to hold agricultural produce and feed. Grain was stored in airtight structures raised above the ground on piers to protect it from moisture and vermin. Granaries typically took the form of a metal grain bin. Silos became popular around the turn of the nineteenth century for the purpose of feeding livestock in the winter. They were first constructed of wood in a square shape. These first silos were sometimes built at the corner of a barn but they reduced available area for livestock or hay storage. They also were not as practical as the later round silos because the silage did not get packed into the corners, allowing air to get in and rot the contents. Square silos fell out of favor by the 1920s as round, concrete and glazed tile silos came into widespread use. Concrete was more popular than tile because it was easier to use and it could be poured in any vertical size. Curved tiles were more fragile and the curvature determined the silo's size. Metal silos also became popular and few wooden silos exist in Indiana today.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The farmstead at 730 West 163rd Avenue was evaluated for listing in the NRHP under Criteria A, B, and C using guidelines set forth in the NRHP Bulletin "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation."

The farmstead at 730 West 163rd Avenue is not eligible under Criterion A. The farmstead was established after extensive transportation and drainage efforts occurred in Cedar Creek Township in the

late nineteenth and early twentieth century, reflecting a countywide trend of farmstead establishment in this period. However, the farmstead appears to be typical of its period and research did not reveal this property to have made significant contributions to the agricultural history of Lake County. Furthermore, many of the farmstead's original agricultural outbuildings from its period of establishment have been demolished and replaced by modern pole barns, and the property no longer reflects its original agricultural associations.

The farmstead at 730 West 163rd Avenue is not eligible under Criterion B. Although the farm is associated with prominent businessman Benjamin Gifford, the farm is not Gifford's well-known business venture. It is Gifford's railroad and oil refinery that gave Gifford local prominence. Additionally, Gifford established several similar farms throughout Lake and Jasper counties. This particular farm did not appear to have practiced innovative farming techniques or been influential on other farms in the area. Additionally, the farm is not associated with Gifford's active business life.

The farmstead at 730 West 163rd Avenue is also not eligible under Criterion C. Although the house's prominent Dutch gambrel roof is indicative of Colonial Revival influences, other elements of the style are absent. Instead, the residence is a modest example of a gambrel-front house form with no clear discernible style. The farmhouse coexists on the property with a few deteriorating period buildings including the gambrel-roof barn, small milk house, and hog barn; however, these buildings are overshadowed by five pole barns constructed from the mid-twentieth century to the present. The modern pole barns displaced some of the property's earlier farm outbuildings. As such, there is no cohesive architectural vocabulary among the buildings that would convey architectural significance.

The farmstead at 730 West 163rd Avenue was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the farmstead at 730 West 163rd Avenue is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

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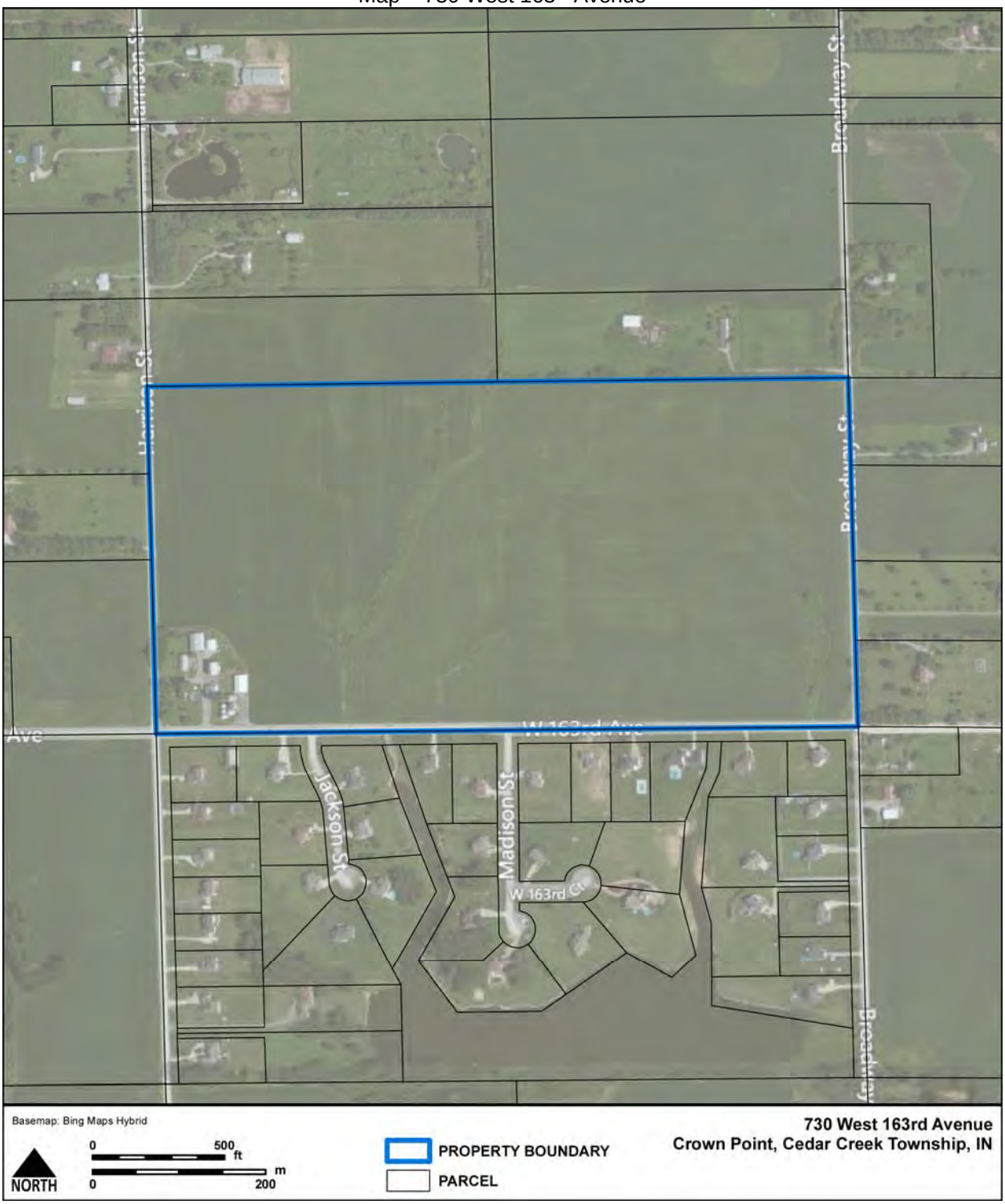
Photo 1 – 730 West 163rd Avenue

Facing northeast to farmstead

Photo 2 – 730 West 163rd Avenue

Facing northeast to farmhouse, above-ground pool, and gambrel-roof barn

Map – 730 West 163rd Avenue



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NAME
Spring Run Farm

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS
2110 West 169th Avenue

CITY
Lowell

TOWNSHIP
Cedar Creek

OWNERSHIP
Robert M. and Mary Elaine Jensen

TAX PARCEL NUMBER
45-20-17-100-001.000-007;
45-20-17-100-002.000-007;
45-20-17-200-001.000-007;
45-20-17-200-002.000-007;
45-20-17-401-001.000-007

YEAR BUILT
1900

SOURCE
Lake County Assessor (2013)

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE
No Discernible Style

PROPERTY TYPE
Agriculture

FOUNDATION
Concrete

WALLS
Vinyl

ROOF
Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
Spring Run Farm is located on West 169th Street; the building cluster, which includes two residences and agricultural buildings, is located amid cleared and cultivated fields but is close to the road on its north side. The Lake County Assessor dates the farmstead's two houses to 1800 and 1929; however, given the history of Cedar Creek Township and its establishment in the late 1830s and well into the nineteenth century, the ca. 1800 house likely dates to the mid-to-late nineteenth century. Both houses have been substantially altered. The agricultural buildings were constructed between 1950 and 2003. The immediate environs of the building cluster are landscaped with a pond, rows of evergreen trees, planted beds, mature deciduous trees, and a circular driveway.

The residence that was built in the mid-to-late nineteenth century has undergone substantial renovations with numerous additions; it is unrecognizable as a house built during the nineteenth century. The two-story house is clad in vinyl siding and has a complex roof shape. The building sits atop a concrete foundation. It appears as if the house may have been an I-house. A single-story, flat-roof porch supported by square columns now dominates the facade, which faces west. A single-story, flat-roof addition extends to the north, while single-story, cross-gable additions telescope from the east (rear) elevation. A large exterior stone chimney is located on the north elevation, and a brick exterior chimney is located on the northernmost eastern extension. Throughout the house, replacement vinyl windows in various configurations are present. Non-operable shutters flank most windows. The complex roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

The residence built in 1929 is a two-story pyramidal house; it has also been altered. The house sits on a concrete foundation and is clad in vinyl siding. The facade faces to the south and features a hipped-roof entry porch that shelters the entrance, which is reached by a small concrete stoop. A storm door

obscures the original entrance. A single story addition with a flat roof extends to the east. Replacement vinyl windows are located throughout the house, and some are flanked with non-operable shutters. The pyramidal roof is covered by asphalt shingles and punctuated by an interior brick chimney.

The agricultural buildings were all built to the north of the farmhouses. Two pole barns, a round-roof barn, a milk house and a silo were all built in 1950. The round-roof barn and the smaller round-roof milk house are clad in vertical wood siding and their roofs are covered with asphalt shingle. Ventilators punctuate the ridge lines. The barn's east and west side elevations feature evenly spaced windows that delineate inner stanchions. Large openings are present on the south elevation. The adjacent silo is of concrete stave construction; its roof is no longer extant.

Later additions included two pole barns in 1970 and 1975 and three grain bins in 1973 and 2003.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

In 1920, the agricultural parcels were owned by Albert Surprise, a member of the prominent Surprise family in Cedar Creek Township, while the parcel comprising the farmstead was owned by the Spry family. Research did not reveal who originally established the farm. By 1966, the Jensen family owned the property, and they currently retain ownership.

West Creek, Cedar Creek, and Eagle Creek were all established as townships in 1839, although the earliest pioneers began arriving and settling the land known as the tri-creek area in the early 1830s. This early settlement period was characterized by fur trapping, hunting, and subsistence farming, aided by the construction of several saw and grist mills. The settlers first planted corn, which became a mainstay of the local economy, even as crops diversified in later years to include wheat and soybeans. Corn provided food for the settlers as well as the livestock, and was also used as a means of trade. However, due to the extensive marshlands and prairie, and the late arrival of the railroad in the tri-creek area, farming on a large scale did not occur until the late nineteenth century. This was much later than other areas in Indiana that experienced major changes in agricultural practice and prosperity from the 1840s to 1860s due to advancements in transportation by canals and railroads and improvements in agricultural education.

The original farmstead was established during the period between 1850 and 1900, which is generally considered to be Indiana's golden age of agriculture as subsistence farming transitioned to large-scale operations. Transportation and technological improvements allowed farmers to bring their corn crops and livestock, primarily cattle and hogs, to faraway markets. Early agricultural education also contributed to this period of agricultural growth at the state and local levels. In 1851, the State Board of Agriculture was created to provide farmers with agricultural guidance in the form of local county agricultural societies. These county agricultural societies, as well as county fairs, provided farmstead improvement methods and techniques directly to farmers. Additionally, they exposed farmers to "book farming," which included essays on the topics of crops, drainage, machinery, and farmstead improvements. As a result, agricultural practice improved throughout the state and the State Board of Agriculture lent support for the Morrill Act passed by Congress in 1862. This act created the foundation for grant colleges and universities geared toward teaching agriculture and mechanical arts nationwide. These educational efforts and transportation improvements characterizing the state's agricultural boom did not reach the tri-creek area until the Monon Railroad was constructed through Cedar Creek Township in the 1880s. Also aiding agricultural growth in the tri-creek area were increased efforts to drain the marshlands and dig ditches to create arable land. An extensive drainage system began in the 1870s, continuing through the early part of the twentieth century, contributed greatly to agricultural growth. As a result, a large number of the county's farms date from the late nineteenth or early twentieth century. This farmstead only retains an altered farmhouse from this period of establishment; none of its extant agricultural buildings date from this time.

At the beginning of the twentieth century, few Lake County farmers owned tractors, used chemical

fertilizers, or practiced crop rotation to avoid depleting soil nutrients despite a statewide trend toward these practices. Strides in agricultural education, focused on fertilizer, began in the 1880s and 1890s. These experiments began at the state's first land grant university, Purdue University. As the benefits of fertilizer to future crops became apparent, bulletins were published that instructed farmers on the application and benefits of fertilizer, its future effects to crops, and the best crops to fertilize (wheat and corn over oats). With the dissemination of these bulletins, further promoted by local agricultural organizations, farmers began to invest in commercial plant foods and liming soils between 1890 and 1900. These practices were more readily adopted by farmers statewide by 1910 than in Lake County, but as they became more commonplace, Lake County farmers began to adopt the new planting and fertilizer techniques as well as new machinery during the 1920s and 1930s. These practices streamlined farming practices and increased productivity. This was further supported by local agricultural education offered by the Lowell High School, which had a three-year course in agriculture specifically designed for its rural pupils. The course of study partially relied on the study of agricultural bulletins and focused on plants and crops, soils, gardening, fruit growing, livestock, dairying, poultry, and feeding. Consequently, as new machinery was adopted, farm shops and implement or machine sheds were erected on the farms to repair and house equipment, store tools, and generally maintain the farmstead. One of the most basic and popular implement sheds was a three-sided building with the fourth side entirely open; sometimes old, unused barns on the property, simple wood-frame structures with open sides, or lean-tos attached to other farm buildings were used to protect farm equipment.

These improvements in agricultural practices and education led to a higher standard of living in rural communities as running water and electricity started to become available to rural residents and crop productivity significantly increased. Produce and food became less expensive for rural and urban residents and in increase in agricultural input initially benefited the nation during World War I. Farmers were able to supply food to families at home and to members of the military, resulting in an increased demand for goods and an economic boom. Increased profits during this time period led to farmers purchasing more land and seeking ways to continue to improve farming methods and machinery. However, after the war, prices for goods began to decline and farmers found themselves with a surplus of crops as they could produce more than what could be consumed. This resulted in the construction of silos on farmsteads to store surplus crops, in addition to the silos needed for winter livestock feed. Between 1917 and 1918, approximately ten thousand silos were constructed in the state.

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In addition to corn, farmers also raised livestock. In Lake County, beef cattle farming rose to prominence in the early 1860s, spurred by increased demand, the development of refrigerated railcars, and later, the construction of a slaughterhouse in nearby Hammond, close to Chicago and railroad lines. At first, farmers raised a variety of livestock but eventually began to specialize in the 1920s due to the expense of raising a combination of animals that required specific buildings and care. Farmers focused on hogs and chickens or solely on dairy cows or beef cattle. This shifting focus to particular breeds was supported and improved by increased knowledge about livestock nutrition and the use of genetics for better breeding results that was disseminated by the local county fair and agricultural bulletins. Improved technologies for the care of livestock, such as automated feeding systems and milking systems, also contributed to this specialization. Research did not reveal the type of agricultural activities that occurred on this property during its early period of establishment, but beginning in the mid-twentieth century with the construction of

its milk house and round-roof barn, the farmstead engaged in dairy farming. The farmstead currently appears to raise cattle and/or continues to engage in dairy farming.

In the early twentieth century, the dairy industry was booming in Indiana, particularly in northern Indiana, which supplied milk to nearby Chicago. During the 1920s, farmers with large cattle herds began using automated milking and watering machines and transported milk in metal milk cans, a process completed on the farm, to other cities via the Monon Railroad. This line was known as the “milk run,” which stopped daily at the milk stand in the nearby town of Lowell through the 1920s. After this time, county dairies began to pick up milk directly from farms by truck. Dairy farms were characterized by a number of related outbuildings that supported dairy operations, such as dairy barns, milk houses, milking barns, grain silos, manure pits, stockyards, bull barns, and hay barns. The dairy barn was used to house and feed the dairy cows. They typically had a gambrel roof, roof ventilators and dormers, and multiple windows along the side elevations; many also had attached silos. The milking barn was located close to the dairy barn and sited within an integrated system of pens, stockyards, and pastures. It could be a separate building or a segregated room within a larger barn. Sited close to the dairy and milking barns, the milk house was a rectangular building with a gabled roof and constructed of concrete or tile blocks with no ventilation. The well-insulated milk house was a dedicated space used for cooling and storing milk before it was taken to market.

In the 1950s and 1960s, most farmers stopped practicing crop rotation and began to grow corn continuously because the crops did not deplete soil nutrients and improved fertilization techniques came into use. Additionally, rows of corn crops were planted closer together, increasing the output of crops and contributing to the decline of crop rotation. New mechanized and specialized equipment, like the mechanical corn picker, cultivator, planter, and mowers, and automated feeding and milking systems, and farming practices, like a new process of corn, wheat, and soybean field shelling and knowledge of nutrition and genetics of livestock, began to supersede the need for human labor. These improvements to crop and livestock varieties allowed farmers to engage in well-rounded agricultural practices on a scale never before seen. Despite these advances, the amount of farmland statewide and nationwide experienced a small decrease due to a shift from agriculture and industry to suburban and urban centers. This shift included suburban residential growth in rural areas, the development of state highways, the expansion of industrial areas, and the development of shopping centers.

The ca. mid-to-late nineteenth century farmhouse may have originally been an I-house but its form has been altered and obscured by multiple additions and replacement materials. The two-story I-house was a common vernacular house type throughout the mid-to-late nineteenth century nationwide, particularly in rural areas. In Indiana, Illinois, and Iowa, the I-house was a predominant house type, giving it its name. The I-house evolved from the simple one-and-one-half-story hall-and-parlor house type through the addition of a second story. It typically had a symmetrical facade with a central entry in a three or five bay configuration. The house form was generally executed in wood frame construction and clad in clapboards, although brick examples also exist. Although typically modest and of no discernible style, earlier mid-nineteenth century examples of the I-house were sometimes elaborated by applied Greek Revival, Italianate, or Gothic Revival style detailing. Porches, chimneys, and rear wing additions were also commonly added to the I-house. Despite these changes, the basic form of the I-house usually remained unchanged.

The ca. 1929 pyramidal farmhouse of no discernible style has been altered by additions and replacement materials. The pyramidal form was a common vernacular house type in the post-railroad era that was less expensive to build than side-gabled houses due to the more complex roof framing needing fewer long-spanning rafters. The form is characterized by a nearly square plan with a steeply pitched equilateral hipped, or pyramidal, roof. The roof pitch and placement of porches often varied. In the rural Midwest, one-story pyramidal houses were less common than the two-story examples, which started to replace the

traditional and less spacious I-house in rural areas from about 1905 to 1930. At the same time, the two-story pyramidal house also became popular in urban areas, taking the form of the American Foursquare. The American Foursquare is also sometimes classified as vernacular Prairie, cornbelt cube, or Midwest box for its rural location. It was frequently distinguished by Colonial Revival, Neoclassical, Prairie, Tudor, or Craftsman influenced stylistic detailing, unlike their rural counterparts, which remained relatively plain. The American Foursquare also typically had a low-pitched, hipped roof with attic dormers; wide, enclosed eaves; and a one-story porch spanning the width of the facade.

The farmstead's round-roof barn and milk house are basic examples of a round-roof barn. In Lake County, the predominant dairy or livestock barn form is the gambrel-roof barn, which is distinguished by a narrow width to length ratio and a gambrel roof. Other dairy barn forms include the English barn, basement barn, German barn, and round roof barn, although these are less commonly found in Lake County. The dairy barn was typically located southeast of the house, or west or southwest of the house but at a greater distance to alleviate odors at the farmhouse given prevailing wind patterns. The roof ventilators were essential to properly ventilate the dairy barn to prevent the spread of bovine tuberculosis and other diseases to humans. Farmers also frequently located silos near the dairy barns or directly attached them to the barn to easily feed cattle over the winter because the silos were used to store green crops, or silage. Inside the dairy barn, the cows were confined to individual stalls, sometimes shared by the farm's horses. All dairy barns had a dedicated space where raw milk was handled, either incorporated into the barn's original design, as an addition to the barn, or as an entirely separate building. These were called the milk room or milk house. Strict milk sanitation laws required the milk house to be completely separated from the stable area if it was not detached. Many dairy barns also had feed rooms where feed was chopped, ground, mixed, and stored. These were located on the main level or in the hay mow. Feed was originally prepared by hand but as cattle herds grew larger, technology improved, and labor became more expensive, farmers turned to mechanized feed handling to improve productivity and cut costs.

The farmstead's silo is a basic example that no longer retains its roof. Silos became popular around the turn of the nineteenth century for the purpose of feeding livestock in the winter. They were first constructed of wood in a square shape. These first silos were sometimes built at the corner of a barn but they reduced available area for livestock or hay storage. They also were not as practical as the later round silos because the silage did not get packed into the corners, allowing air to get in and rot the contents. Square silos fell out of favor by the 1920s as round, concrete and glazed tile silos came into widespread use. Concrete was more popular than tile because it was easier to use and it could be poured in any vertical size. Curved tiles were more fragile and the curvature determined the silo's size. Metal silos also became popular and few wooden silos exist in Indiana today.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The Spring Run Farm was evaluated for listing in the NRHP under Criteria A, B, and C using guidelines set forth in the NRHP Bulletin "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation."

The Spring Run Farm is associated with early farming in the region; however, it lacks early agricultural buildings, and the residences have both been altered. The extant buildings do not convey this early

twentieth century association as the agricultural buildings date to the mid-twentieth century. Therefore, it is not eligible under Criterion A.

Research did not reveal the Spring Run Farm to be associated with people who are historically significant. Therefore, the Spring Run Farm is not eligible under Criterion B.

The Spring Run Farm buildings do not form a cohesive architectural collection. The earliest buildings, the two farmhouses, have been substantially altered and no longer convey their historic appearance while the agricultural buildings from the 1950s-1970s lack design merit and architectural significance. The buildings form a typical farmstead that evolved over time, but does not retain a consistent architectural vocabulary that conveys significance. Therefore, the Spring Run Farm is not eligible under Criterion C.

The Spring Run Farm was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the Spring Run Farm is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

SOURCES
Drury, John. 1956. *This is Lake County, Indiana*. Chicago, IL: Inland Photo Co.

Lake County Assessor. 2013. *Lake County Surveyor GIS Website*.

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Plat Maps. 2005. *2005 Plat Book. Lake County, Indiana.*

US Census Bureau. 1880.

US Census Bureau. 1900.

US Census Bureau. 1910.

US Census Bureau. 1920.

US Census Bureau. 1930.

US Census Bureau. 1940.

Photo 1 – Spring Run Farm

Facing northwest to farm

Photo 2 – Spring Run Farm

Facing northwest to ca. 1929 pyramidal house facade and east side elevation; non-historic pole barn at left

Photo 3 – Spring Run Farm

Facing northeast to ca. mid-to-late nineteenth century farmhouse facade and west side elevation

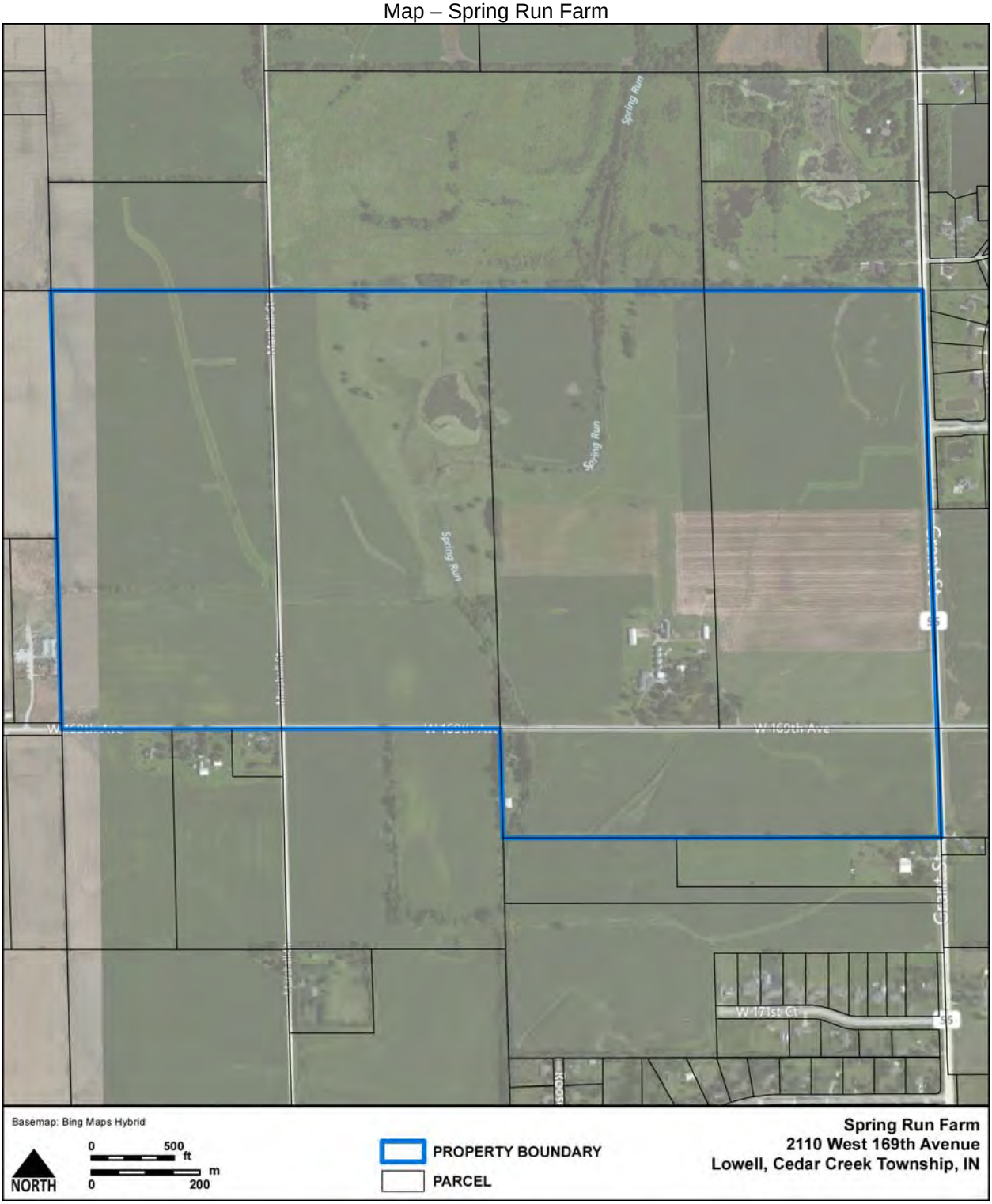
Photo 4 – Spring Run Farm

Facing south to ca. mid-to-late nineteenth century farmhouse's north rear elevation

Photo 5 – Spring Run Farm

Facing northwest to gambrel-roof barns, grain bins

Map – Spring Run Farm



NAME
17105 Grant Street

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS
17105 Grant Street

CITY
Lowell

TOWNSHIP
Cedar Creek

OWNERSHIP
Zachary S. and Julie A. Ziese,
Trustee of the Ziese Family Trust

TAX PARCEL NUMBER
45-20-16-300-007.000-007

YEAR BUILT
1940

SOURCE
Lake County Assessor (2013)

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE
No Discernible Style

PROPERTY TYPE
Agriculture

FOUNDATION
Concrete

WALLS
Vinyl

ROOF
Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The farmstead at 17105 Grant Street is a mid-nineteenth century farmstead located on approximately 23 acres on the east side of Grant Street; it is an active farm. The farmstead's buildings range in date from 1940 to 2008 and consist of the farmhouse, two barns, one detached garage, an open-front pole barn, three grain silos, and one shed. The Lake County Assessor dates the farmhouse to ca. 1950, but its original gabled-ell form suggests it may have been constructed in the early twentieth century, possibly ca. 1900. Two non-permanent buildings are located at the farmstead and include a small, open-air pavilion and small Quonset-style storage building. Off of Grant Street, the farmstead's driveway is located south of the farmhouse and ends near the silos and farm outbuildings. Two distinct tree lines are located at the farmstead. One tree line runs north from the outbuildings and intersects with a second that runs west toward Grant Street; the tree line partially encompasses a plowed field north of the farmstead. The farmhouse is surrounded by grassy lawn and several mature deciduous trees.

Along the north side of the driveway, the ca. 1900 farmhouse is a two-story, gabled-ell house of no discernible style with a one-story, cross-gable rear addition and a one-story, cross-gable and shed-roof facade addition; these additions may date to ca. 1950. The house is clad in vinyl siding on a concrete foundation and has replacement asphalt-shingle roofing. Facing west, the asymmetrical facade comprises a two-story gable-front section intersected by a one-and-one-half-story, side-gable wing. The two-story gable-front contains a rectangular basement-level opening with glass blocks and its first story contains a tripartite window comprised of a fixed square light flanked by one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash windows. The second story contains two one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash; all of these windows have fixed shutters. The gable-front's south elevation comprises the one-and-one-half-story wing whose facade contains a shed-roof addition and a one-story, gable-front addition. The shed-roof addition contains the facade entry door flanked by one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash windows. The one-story gable-front addition contains a one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash window with fixed shutters at its center.

The south side elevation of the one-and-one-half-story, side-gable wing comprises two one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash windows at the west end and an entry door at the end. The westernmost window is a paired window. The east rear elevation of the side-gable wing is a window opening while the gable-front contains a single one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash window at the second story and a projecting one-story, cross-gable addition at the first story. The cross-gable addition contains a single door is located on its east elevation and a single one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash window with fixed shutters on its north elevation.

The north side elevation of the two-story gable-front comprises three bays at each story, a basement-level window opening of glass blocks, and a wood cellar door. The first story contains a one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash window in the two westernmost bays and paired one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash windows in the easternmost bay. The second story contains a one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash window in each bay. All of the windows on this elevation are flanked by fixed shutters.

North of the farmhouse is a small ca. 1940 wooden shed with vertical board cladding. Directly northeast of the farmhouse is a small ca. 1970 open-air pavilion comprised of a concrete foundation and metal poles supporting an asphalt-shingle gable-roof.

East of the pavilion is a non-historic ca. 2008 garage that resembles a pole barn. The metal-clad garage rests on a concrete foundation and is covered by a metal gable roof. The west elevation contains a window at its center and a door is located south-of-center. Its south elevation contains double sliding doors. Its east elevation contains an enclosed shed-roof addition with an overhead garage door on its south elevation. No other openings are located on the garage.

East of the garage is a ca. 1970 open-front pole barn with a rear shed addition. The open-front pole barn is comprised of wood cladding with a metal, side-gable roof. Its south elevation is its open-front elevation, with four poles supporting the roof above. Its north elevation comprises the shed-roof addition that extends the length of the barn. Additional elevation views were not accessible during the survey. A small, moveable Quonset-style enclosure is located east of open-front pole barn, date of construction unknown. The building is comprised of a curved metal roof with an open end on its east elevation.

South of the garage and open-front pole barn is a ca. 1940 English barn oriented parallel to Grant Street. Comprised of wood cladding, the barn is topped with a metal roof and central ventilation structure. Its west elevation comprises a central sliding door on the first story and smaller sliding door to the hayloft. An entry door is located north of the sliding doors. Its south elevation comprises an off-center door opening while its east elevation comprises a shed-roof addition running the length of the barn. The addition is open on its south and north elevations and has no window or door openings on its east elevation. The barn's north elevation has no window or door openings. Immediately southwest of the barn are three contemporary metal grain bins that are approximately the height of the barn. The silos rest on a concrete foundation and are topped with hemispherical metal roofs.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

Because the farmstead at 17105 Grant Street is an active farm, many of its buildings have been altered or have been newly constructed within the last few years. Though the Lake County Assessor dates farmhouse to ca. 1950, its original gabled-ell form indicates it may have been constructed ca. 1900 and its additions may have been added at the ca .1950 date. Its oldest agricultural buildings date from the mid-twentieth century and include the ca. 1940 English barn with a shed-roof addition. It is also likely a portion of the open-front pole barn dates to the 1940s. The other farm buildings were constructed in the 1970s and within the last decade. The original farmland consisted of 60 acres in the 1920s and was increased to approximately 80 acres by the 1950s. Over time, the land was subdivided and now comprises a single 21-acre parcel.

A 1920 plat map indicates the land belonged to C & B Blanchard and consisted of approximately 60 acres; the Blanchards likely constructed the farmhouse. The farmhouse additions were likely constructed by Ervin D. Carroll, who moved with his wife Fern from Calumet City, Illinois to Lowell, Indiana sometime between 1940 and 1956. The farm decreased to an approximately 60-acre farm by 1976, and by 2005, the now 21-acre farm was purchased by Zachary and Julie Ziese. Research did not reveal any additional information regarding either the Blanchard or Carroll family. A 1956 aerial photograph shows the farmhouse, the English barn and its shed-roof addition, a small building north of the English barn obscured by tree cover, and a single silo. The farmhouse did not have its current east rear elevation addition at that time. The aerial photograph's silo is no longer extant and the small building is possibly a portion of the open-front pole barn. As a continually active farm from the mid-twentieth century to present, the farm's buildings have experienced number of additions and changes to exterior materials. New farm outbuildings continue to be constructed at present.

The period between 1850 and 1900 is generally considered to be Indiana's golden age of agriculture as subsistence farming transitioned to large-scale operations. Transportation and technological improvements allowed farmers to bring their corn crops and livestock, primarily cattle and hogs, to faraway markets. Early agricultural education also contributed to this period of agricultural growth at the state and local levels. In 1851, the State Board of Agriculture was created to provide farmers with agricultural guidance in the form of local county agricultural societies. These county agricultural societies, as well as county fairs, provided farmstead improvement methods and techniques directly to farmers. Additionally, they exposed farmers to "book farming," which included essays on the topics of crops, drainage, machinery, and farmstead improvements. As a result, agricultural practice improved throughout the state and the State Board of Agriculture lent support for the Morrill Act passed by Congress in 1862. This act created the foundation for grant colleges and universities geared toward teaching agriculture and mechanical arts nationwide. These educational efforts and transportation improvements characterizing the state's agricultural boom did not reach the tri-creek area until the Monon Railroad was constructed through Cedar Creek Township in the 1880s. Also aiding agricultural growth in the tri-creek area were increased efforts to drain the marshlands and dig ditches to create arable land. An extensive drainage system began in the 1870s, continuing through the early part of the twentieth century, contributed greatly to agricultural growth. As a result, a large number of the county's farms date from the late nineteenth or early twentieth century. The farmstead at 17105 Grant Street was established after this period of agricultural development.

At the beginning of the twentieth century, few Lake County farmers owned tractors, used chemical fertilizers, or practiced crop rotation to avoid depleting soil nutrients despite a statewide trend toward these practices. Strides in agricultural education, focused on fertilizer, began in the 1880s and 1890s. These experiments began at the state's first land grant university, Purdue University. As the benefits of fertilizer to future crops became apparent, bulletins were published that instructed farmers on the application and benefits of fertilizer, its future effects to crops, and the best crops to fertilize (wheat and corn over oats). With the dissemination of these bulletins, further promoted by local agricultural organizations, farmers began to invest in commercial plant foods and liming soils between 1890 and 1900. These practices were more readily adopted by farmers statewide by 1910 than in Lake County, but as they became more commonplace, Lake County farmers began to adopt the new planting and fertilizer techniques as well as new machinery during the 1920s and 1930s. These practices streamlined farming practices and increased productivity. This was further supported by local agricultural education offered by the Lowell High School, which had a three-year course in agriculture specifically designed for its rural pupils. The course of study partially relied on the study of agricultural bulletins and focused on plants and crops, soils, gardening, fruit growing, livestock, dairying, poultry, and feeding. Consequently, as new machinery was adopted, farm shops and implement or machine sheds were erected on the farms to repair and house equipment, store tools, and generally maintain the farmstead. One of the most basic

and popular implement sheds was a three-sided building with the fourth side entirely open; sometimes old, unused barns on the property, simple wood-frame structures with open sides, or lean-tos attached to other farm buildings were used to protect farm equipment.

These improvements in agricultural practices and education led to a higher standard of living in rural communities as running water and electricity started to become available to rural residents and crop productivity significantly increased. Produce and food became less expensive for rural and urban residents and in increase in agricultural input initially benefited the nation during World War I. Farmers were able to supply food to families at home and to members of the military, resulting in an increased demand for goods and an economic boom. Increased profits during this time period led to farmers purchasing more land and seeking ways to continue to improve farming methods and machinery. However, after the war, prices for goods began to decline and farmers found themselves with a surplus of crops as they could produce more than what could be consumed. This resulted in the construction of silos on farmsteads to store surplus crops, in addition to the silos needed for winter livestock feed. Between 1917 and 1918, approximately ten thousand silos were constructed in the state.

During the Great Depression, Congress passed the Agricultural Adjustment Act in 1933. The act played an important role in improving Indiana's agricultural economy through the installation of a wheat allotment program. Additionally, the Rural Electrification Administration, a program enacted by the New Deal, significantly impacted rural residents as approximately 24,000 farms received electricity. This was supported by the state's Rural Electric Membership Corporation in 1935 to distribute electricity to rural areas. By 1965, 99 percent of the state's farms were electrified, ending rural isolation and increasing farmers' productivity and efficiency.

In addition to corn, farmers also raised livestock. In Lake County, beef cattle farming rose to prominence in the early 1860s, spurred by increased demand, the development of refrigerated railcars, and later, the construction of a slaughterhouse in nearby Hammond, close to Chicago and railroad lines. At first, farmers raised a variety of livestock but eventually began to specialize in the 1920s due to the expense of raising a combination of animals that required specific buildings and care. Farmers focused on hogs and chickens or solely on dairy cows or beef cattle. This shifting focus to particular breeds was supported and improved by increased knowledge about livestock nutrition and the use of genetics for better breeding results that was disseminated by the local county fair and agricultural bulletins. Improved technologies for the care of livestock, such as automated feeding systems and milking systems, also contributed to this specialization. Research did not reveal the types of agricultural activities that occurred on this farmstead.

In the 1950s and 1960s, most farmers stopped practicing crop rotation and began to grow corn continuously because the crops did not deplete soil nutrients and improved fertilization techniques came into use. Additionally, rows of corn crops were planted closer together, increasing the output of crops and contributing to the decline of crop rotation. New mechanized and specialized equipment, like the mechanical corn picker, cultivator, planter, and mowers, and automated feeding and milking systems, and farming practices, like a new process of corn, wheat, and soybean field shelling and knowledge of nutrition and genetics of livestock, began to supersede the need for human labor. These improvements to crop and livestock varieties allowed farmers to engage in well-rounded agricultural practices on a scale never before seen. Despite these advances, the amount of farmland statewide and nationwide experienced a small decrease due to a shift from agriculture and industry to suburban and urban centers. This shift included suburban residential growth in rural areas, the development of state highways, the expansion of industrial areas, and the development of shopping centers. The farmstead at 17105 Grant Street represents this shift given the construction of its farmhouse and the majority of its agricultural outbuildings during and shortly after this period.

The farmstead's altered farmhouse is a later and altered example of a gabled-ell house. This is a

variation of the gable-front house, which was a dominant house type that rose to popularity throughout the United States during the Greek Revival era. In Lake County, the gable-front and its subtype, the gabled-ell, were constructed as early as the mid-nineteenth century up through the early twentieth century. The gabled-ell is a gable-front house with a side extension (or ell), forming an L-shaped plan. The ell is sometimes an addition built after the original gable-front house. They can be one, one-and-one-half, or two stories in height with the ell being the same height as the gable-front portion of the house. The gabled-ell in rural areas is generally unornamented, particularly later examples after the antebellum era. The farmhouse is a modest and altered gabled-ell of no discernible style whose facade and rear elevation additions obscure its original form; it has also been clad in replacement vinyl siding and has replacement vinyl windows.

The farmstead retains its ca. 1940 English barn. The dominant barn type in the Midwest and Lake County is the English barn, which was introduced to New England by English settlers. Its primary purpose was grain processing and storage. The rectangular and timber-framed English barn has vertical siding and few windows. Its primary entrance, typically consisting of double doors, is located on the barn's long side, unlike the transverse-frame barn where it is located in the gable end. The English barn is divided into three bays with the center bay used as a threshing area and the flanking bays used for grain and hay storage. This English barn is a basic example of the type and does not appear to be architecturally significant.

The farmstead retains its non-historic pole barns, which are basic examples of pole barns constructed in the post-World War II period. During this period, traditional building techniques were superseded by the construction of pole barns and prefabricated structures, which were more cost-effective for farmers. These were commonly constructed of treated wood posts and corrugated steel, respectively, and clad in corrugated sheet metal.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The farm at 17105 Grant Street was evaluated for listing in the NRHP under Criteria A, B, and C using guidelines set forth in the NRHP Bulletin "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation."

The farmstead at 17105 Grant Street is not eligible under Criterion A. The farmstead at 17105 Grant Street is associated with the mid-twentieth century agricultural development and history of Lake County. The relatively small farming operation, as indicated by a 1956 photograph from the time of the farm's initial construction, demonstrates that the farm played a minor role in Lake County's agricultural past. Over time, the farm's acreage substantially decreased despite its active nature and continued need for farm outbuildings. Non-historic farm outbuildings now outnumber its original mid-twentieth century buildings, diminishing its integrity as a mid-century farmstead. This property is not known to be associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of Lake County history and no longer conveys its association with the area's historic agricultural trends due to the diminished parcel size and increase in non-historic farm buildings.

The farmstead at 17105 Grant Street is not eligible under Criterion B. Although the Carroll family

established the farm in the mid-twentieth century and ran it for several years, the family does not appear to have practiced innovative farming techniques or influenced other farmers in the area. Furthermore, the extant property does not resemble the family's original agricultural enterprise due to diminished property size and the addition of several new farm buildings.

The farmstead at 17105 Grant Street is not eligible under Criterion C. The farmhouse is a modest and altered early twentieth century gabled-ell house of no discernible style. The farmhouse is not a significant example of the building form. The residence's surrounding farm buildings have been altered, and new, modern farm buildings have been constructed including modern pole barns and silos; these new buildings now constitute a majority of the agricultural buildings. As such, there is no cohesive architectural vocabulary among the buildings that could convey architectural significance.

The farmstead at 17105 Grant Street was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the farmstead at 17105 Grant Street is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

SOURCES
Drury, John. 1956. *This is Lake County, Indiana*. Chicago, IL: Inland Photo Co.

Lake County Assessor. 2013. *Lake County Surveyor GIS Website*.

Minnesota Department of Transportation. June 2005. *Historic Context Study of Minnesota Farms, 1820-1960*.

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Plat Maps. 1996. Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District. *1996 Plat Book. Lake County, Indiana.*

Plat Maps. 2005. *2005 Plat Book. Lake County, Indiana.*

US Census Bureau. 1940.

Photo 1 – 17105 Grant Street

Facing southeast to farmstead

Photo 2 – 17105 Grant Street

Facing northeast to farmstead

Photo 3 – 17105 Grant Street

Facing southeast to farmhouse facade and north side elevation

Map – 17105 Grant Street

NAME
McCullough Family Farm

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS	CITY	TOWNSHIP
16815 Harrison Street	Lowell	Cedar Creek

OWNERSHIP	TAX PARCEL NUMBER
McCullough Family Farm LP	45-20-16-200-001.000-007

YEAR BUILT	SOURCE
1910	Lake County Assessor (2013)

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE	PROPERTY TYPE
No Discernible Style	Agriculture

FOUNDATION	WALLS	ROOF
Concrete	Vinyl	Asphalt, metal

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The McCullough Family Farm is an early twentieth century farmstead located on the east side of Harrison Street on approximately 80 acres. The farmstead's extant buildings include its modest upright-and-wing house, detached garage, and drive-through corncrib barn, all constructed in ca. 1910, and a pole barn constructed in 1948. The property also contains a silo next to the remains of a former barn and a long open metal shed. Off Harrison Street, a short driveway runs along the north side of the house and garage; a drive-through corncrib barn and pole barn are located at its east terminus while the silo and the remains of a former barn are located on its north side. Four tree lines of mature deciduous trees delineate the property and are located along a portion of the farmstead's south boundary, dividing it from an agricultural field; a portion of its west boundary along Harrison Street; along the entirety of its north boundary; and a portion of its east boundary. More mature deciduous trees and shrubbery are located throughout the farmstead, which is surrounded by grassy lawn; a section of grassy lawn extends from the farm buildings eastward, dividing the property's fields into one large north field and one small south field. Newer recently constructed houses and residential subdivisions are located east, west, and north of the property, separated by agricultural fields.

Located along the south side of the driveway, the ca. 1910 farmhouse is a modest and altered upright-and-wing house of no discernible style. It sits on a concrete foundation with vinyl siding and an asphalt-shingled roof. All the windows are one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash windows; the facade windows have inoperable vinyl shutters. Facing west, the facade comprises a two-story, gable-front upright section intersected by a one-and-one-half-story, side-gable wing on its north and south elevations. The gable-front's facade contains two windows on the first story and paired windows on the second story. At the gable-front's north side elevation, the one-and-one-half-story, side-gable wing contains paired windows and a partial-width, shed-roof porch that leads to the facade entry door located on the gable-front's north side elevation; a single window is located above the entry door on the gable-front's north side elevation. The porch has a concrete floor and simple metal posts supporting the shed roof extending from the side-gable roof. The north side elevation of the wing contains two windows at the first story and a smaller single pane vinyl window in the gable end. At the gable-front's south side

elevation, the one-and-one-half-story, side-gable wing has one window and a one-story, hipped roof, partially enclosed facade porch. The porch's projecting enclosed portion contains one window. The gable-front's south side elevation contains a brick chimney in the L formed by the gable-front and south side elevation wing.

The south side elevation comprises the gable-front and south wing. The gable-front's second story contains a single window while the wing contains two windows. The east rear elevation comprises the gable-front and two wings. The gable-front contains two windows at the first story and one window at the second story. The south wing contains two windows and an entry door at the first story and an entry door. The north wing contains a single window and entry door.

Behind and to the east of the house is a ca. 1910 small vinyl-clad, asphalt-shingled hipped roof garage sitting on a concrete foundation. The garage's east, west, and south elevations contain a single window opening covered by plywood, while the north elevation contains double doors.

East of the garage is a ca. 1910 drive-through corncrib barn with deciduous trees growing in and around the building, contributing to its dilapidated state. Constructed entirely of wood siding, the corncrib barn's walls have broken apart in some sections. The corncrib barn's identical north and south elevations contain no window or door openings while the identical east and west elevations contain sliding doors. The asphalt-shingled gable roof is surmounted by a large gabled cupola. Further east of the corncrib barn is a ca. 1948 large one-story, gable pole barn clad entirely of metal on a concrete foundation. Its west elevation contains an entry door and wide metal garage doors. The remaining elevations contain no window or door openings.

Along the north side of the driveway are the remnants of a former barn and a defunct silo. The silo is constructed of concrete and has no roof. Northeast of the silo is a long, one-story, gable open shed constructed of wood with a rusted metal roof. The south elevation is completely open and the remaining elevations contain no window or door openings. Its roof and walls have collapsed in some sections, and shrubs and trees are growing from within the shed. Dilapidated fencing nearby suggests animals were once housed in pens north of the shed.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The McCullough Family Farm's farmstead was likely established ca. 1910 by John W. Becker and his wife Minnie Becker, given the construction dates of the house and detached garage as well as data from plat maps and the United States census. The farmstead was approximately 240 acres. Although the Lake County Assessor does not list the property's extant drive-through corncrib barn and open shed, these buildings likely also date to the farmstead's establishment. John W. and Minnie Becker had five children and were engaged in general farming. Research did not reveal any additional information about the Becker family. By 1956, John W. Becker's son Herbert Becker owned the property. In 1966, Medford and Ann McCullough owned the 240-acre parcel and by 1985, they also owned the adjacent 80-acre parcel to the south. Since 1996, the land has been held by the McCullough Family Farm Limited Partnership and consists of 80 acres.

The McCullough Family Farm was established during the period between 1850 and 1900, which is generally considered to be Indiana's golden age of agriculture as subsistence farming transitioned to large-scale operations. Transportation and technological improvements allowed farmers to bring their corn crops and livestock, primarily cattle and hogs, to faraway markets. Early agricultural education also contributed to this period of agricultural growth at the state and local levels. In 1851, the State Board of Agriculture was created to provide farmers with agricultural guidance in the form of local county agricultural societies. These county agricultural societies, as well as county fairs, provided farmstead improvement methods and techniques directly to farmers. Additionally, they exposed farmers to "book farming," which included essays on the topics of crops, drainage, machinery, and farmstead

improvements. As a result, agricultural practice improved throughout the state and the State Board of Agriculture lent support for the Morrill Act passed by Congress in 1862. This act created the foundation for grant colleges and universities geared toward teaching agriculture and mechanical arts nationwide. These educational efforts and transportation improvements characterizing the state's agricultural boom did not reach the tri-creek area until the Monon Railroad was constructed through Cedar Creek Township in the 1880s. Also aiding agricultural growth in the tri-creek area were increased efforts to drain the marshlands and dig ditches to create arable land. An extensive drainage system began in the 1870s, continuing through the early part of the twentieth century, contributed greatly to agricultural growth. As a result, a large number of the county's farms date from the late nineteenth or early twentieth century.

At the beginning of the twentieth century, few Lake County farmers owned tractors, used chemical fertilizers, or practiced crop rotation to avoid depleting soil nutrients despite a statewide trend toward these practices. Strides in agricultural education, focused on fertilizer, began in the 1880s and 1890s. These experiments began at the state's first land grant university, Purdue University. As the benefits of fertilizer to future crops became apparent, bulletins were published that instructed farmers on the application and benefits of fertilizer, its future effects to crops, and the best crops to fertilize (wheat and corn over oats). With the dissemination of these bulletins, further promoted by local agricultural organizations, farmers began to invest in commercial plant foods and liming soils between 1890 and 1900. These practices were more readily adopted by farmers statewide by 1910 than in Lake County, but as they became more commonplace, Lake County farmers began to adopt the new planting and fertilizer techniques as well as new machinery during the 1920s and 1930s. These practices streamlined farming practices and increased productivity. This was further supported by local agricultural education offered by the Lowell High School, which had a three-year course in agriculture specifically designed for its rural pupils. The course of study partially relied on the study of agricultural bulletins and focused on plants and crops, soils, gardening, fruit growing, livestock, dairying, poultry, and feeding. Consequently, as new machinery was adopted, farm shops and implement or machine sheds were erected on the farms to repair and house equipment, store tools, and generally maintain the farmstead. One of the most basic and popular implement sheds was a three-sided building with the fourth side entirely open; sometimes old, unused barns on the property, simple wood-frame structures with open sides, or lean-tos attached to other farm buildings were used to protect farm equipment.

These improvements in agricultural practices and education led to a higher standard of living in rural communities as running water and electricity started to become available to rural residents and crop productivity significantly increased. Produce and food became less expensive for rural and urban residents and in increase in agricultural input initially benefited the nation during World War I. Farmers were able to supply food to families at home and to members of the military, resulting in an increased demand for goods and an economic boom. Increased profits during this time period led to farmers purchasing more land and seeking ways to continue to improve farming methods and machinery. However, after the war, prices for goods began to decline and farmers found themselves with a surplus of crops as they could produce more than what could be consumed. This resulted in the construction of silos on farmsteads to store surplus crops, in addition to the silos needed for winter livestock feed. Between 1917 and 1918, approximately ten thousand silos were constructed in the state.

During the Great Depression, Congress passed the Agricultural Adjustment Act in 1933. The act played an important role in improving Indiana's agricultural economy through the installation of a wheat allotment program. Additionally, the Rural Electrification Administration, a program enacted by the New Deal, significantly impacted rural residents as approximately 24,000 farms received electricity. This was supported by the state's Rural Electric Membership Corporation in 1935 to distribute electricity to rural areas. By 1965, 99 percent of the state's farms were electrified, ending rural isolation and increasing farmers' productivity and efficiency.

In addition to corn, farmers also raised livestock. In Lake County, beef cattle farming rose to prominence in the early 1860s, spurred by increased demand, the development of refrigerated railcars, and later, the construction of a slaughterhouse in nearby Hammond, close to Chicago and railroad lines. At first, farmers raised a variety of livestock but eventually began to specialize in the 1920s due to the expense of raising a combination of animals that required specific buildings and care. Farmers focused on hogs and chickens or solely on dairy cows or beef cattle. This shifting focus to particular breeds was supported and improved by increased knowledge about livestock nutrition and the use of genetics for better breeding results that was disseminated by the local county fair and agricultural bulletins. Improved technologies for the care of livestock, such as automated feeding systems and milking systems, also contributed to this specialization. Research did not reveal the types of agricultural activities that took place on the McCullough Family Farm.

In the 1950s and 1960s, most farmers stopped practicing crop rotation and began to grow corn continuously because the crops did not deplete soil nutrients and improved fertilization techniques came into use. Additionally, rows of corn crops were planted closer together, increasing the output of crops and contributing to the decline of crop rotation. New mechanized and specialized equipment, like the mechanical corn picker, cultivator, planter, and mowers, and automated feeding and milking systems, and farming practices, like a new process of corn, wheat, and soybean field shelling and knowledge of nutrition and genetics of livestock, began to supersede the need for human labor. These improvements to crop and livestock varieties allowed farmers to engage in well-rounded agricultural practices on a scale never before seen. Despite these advances, the amount of farmland statewide and nationwide experienced a small decrease due to a shift from agriculture and industry to suburban and urban centers. This shift included suburban residential growth in rural areas, the development of state highways, the expansion of industrial areas, and the development of shopping centers.

The McCullough Family Farm's house was originally constructed as an upright-and-wing house. This form evolved from the gable-front house out of a need for additional space and is predominantly found in the Great Lakes region. The gable-front was a dominant house type that rose to popularity throughout the United States during the Greek Revival era and was a dominant, often unornamented, folk form in rural areas well beyond the antebellum era. The upright-and-wing house is characterized by a one or one-and-one-half-story wing attached to the two-story gable-front portion of the house, forming a T-shape. Early examples of upright-and-wing houses feature heavy friezes, cornice returns, and classical entries due to the Greek Revival influence of the period. After that period, the upright-and-wing house is generally unornamented. The McCullough Family Farm's house is a modest and altered upright-and-wing example of no discernible style whose basic form remains but is altered by a large one-and-a-half story wing addition on its northern end, changes in exterior materials, and replacement windows.
The property is classified as a cash grain/general farm by the Lake County Assessor but the property retains only a few original agricultural buildings and those that do remain are severely deteriorated. A 1956 aerial photograph shows the farmhouse with the east rear elevation addition, the garage, the now significantly deteriorated corncrib barn, and a large barn that has since been demolished.

The farmstead's extant corncrib barn and silo are deteriorated typical examples of their types and do not indicate architectural significance. Granaries and corn cribs were constructed on the farmstead to hold agricultural produce and feed. Corn cribs were typically constructed of wire mesh or slatted wood cribs to allow air to circulate around the corn. Found in large numbers throughout northern Indiana and generally dating from the early twentieth century, the corn crib barn in Lake County is descended from the single crib barn. They comprise a series of wooden-slat cribs, usually three on each side of the central aisle. The cupola provides headroom for the interior mechanized elevator. Silos became popular around the turn of the nineteenth century for the purpose of feeding livestock in the winter. They were first constructed of wood in a square shape. These first silos were sometimes built at the corner of a barn but they reduced available area for livestock or hay storage. They also were not as practical as the later

round silos because the silage did not get packed into the corners, allowing air to get in and rot the contents. Square silos fell out of favor by the 1920s as round, concrete and glazed tile silos came into widespread use. Concrete was more popular than tile because it was easier to use and it could be poured in any vertical size. Curved tiles were more fragile and the curvature determined the silo's size. Metal silos also became popular and few wooden silos exist in Indiana today.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The McCullough Family Farm was evaluated for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criteria A, B, and C using guidelines set forth in the NRHP Bulletin "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation."

The McCullough Family Farm was established after extensive transportation and drainage efforts occurred in Cedar Creek Township in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, reflecting a countywide trend of farmstead establishment in this period. However, the farmstead appears to be typical of its period. The property no longer conveys its agriculture past because the majority of its original agricultural buildings have been demolished or are significantly deteriorated. Therefore, the property is not eligible under Criterion A.

The McCullough Family Farm is associated with the Becker and McCullough families; however research did not reveal any historically significant associations with either of these families in the history of Cedar Creek Township or Lake County or to have made significant contributions to the area's agricultural history. Therefore, the property is not eligible under Criterion B.

The McCullough Family Farm is a substantially altered early twentieth century farm. The farm's house is a modest, altered, and typical example of an early-twentieth century upright-and-wing house. The house is devoid of any stylistic features, and a one-and-one-half story addition has enlarged the house. Although a small garage nearby is original to the farm, other early twentieth century agricultural outbuildings are in a severe state of deterioration or have been demolished. The remaining buildings and features do not indicate architectural or historical significance, and the altered state of the farmstead no longer conveys its association or feeling as an early twentieth century working farm. Therefore, the McCullough Family Farm is not eligible under Criterion C.

The McCullough Family Farm was not evaluated under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the McCullough Family Farm is not eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

SOURCES
Drury, John. 1956. *This is Lake County, Indiana*. Chicago, IL: Inland Photo Co.

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Lake County City Directory. 1909.

Minnesota Department of Transportation. June 2005. *Historic Context Study of Minnesota Farms, 1820-1960*.

Plat Maps. 1926. Sidwell Studio. *Plat Books of Indiana Counties, Volume 3*.

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Plat Maps. 1976. *Three-Creek Bicentennial Book.*

Plat Maps. 1985. Wille & Stiener Associates. *1985 Plat Book. Lake County, Indiana*.

Plat Maps. 1996. Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District. *1996 Plat Book. Lake County, Indiana.*

Plat Maps. 2005. *2005 Plat Book. Lake County, Indiana.*

US Census Bureau. 1900.

US Census Bureau. 1910.

US Census Bureau. 1920.

US Census Bureau. 1930.

Photo 1 – McCullough Family Farm

Facing southeast to house facade and north side elevation; garage also visible

Photo 2 – McCullough Family Farm

Facing east to farmhouse facade

Map – McCullough Family Farm

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NAME
1410 East 153rd Avenue

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS
1410 East 153rd Avenue

CITY
Crown Point

TOWNSHIP
Eagle Creek

OWNERSHIP
Thomas R. and Jean E. Gunningham

TAX PARCEL NUMBER
45-20-03-200-005.000-012

YEAR BUILT
1890

SOURCE
Lake County Assessor (2013)

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE
No Discernible Style

PROPERTY TYPE
Agriculture

FOUNDATION
Concrete

WALLS
Vinyl

ROOF
Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The house at 1410 East 153rd Avenue is a substantially altered two-story, side-gabled I-house dating to ca. 1890. A one-and-one-half-story ell, added ca. 1900, extends from the rear of the house and is perpendicular to the original portion. The house is clad in vinyl siding and sits atop a new concrete block foundation. Facing south, the house's five-bay, symmetrical facade is dominated by a central replacement entrance and door. The door features a glazed oval and is flanked by glass sidelights and topped by a glass transom. Evenly spaced one-over one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash windows are located in each bay on the first and second stories.

The identical east and west side elevations of the main house comprise two bays and feature evenly spaced replacement vinyl windows on the first and second stories; these windows are consistent with those found on the facade. The north rear elevation of the main house contains two one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash windows on the second story. The remaining portion of this elevation comprises the perpendicular one-and-one-half-story ell addition, which in turn contains two, one-story, shed-roofed additions, one on each side. These additions appear to be very recently constructed.

The gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles; the ridgeline is punctuated by an interior brick chimney. The chimney is not original to the house.

No historic outbuildings remain on the parcel. In 1975, a detached garage was built on the property, and an above-ground pool was added to the property in 2000. The small parcel contains a driveway to the west of the house and deciduous trees are scattered throughout the property. Grassy lawn and several evergreens surround the house.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT
The farmstead at 1410 East 153rd Avenue was established circa 1860, when the United State Census indicated the property was occupied by John A. Crawford, his wife Adaline, and his three sons: William,

Jay, and Joseph. Two farm hands, Isaac Peterson and John Brown also lived on the property. The 1870 census showed that the family had added two daughters, Annie and Mary. A domestic servant named Rife Francis lived on the property as well. By 1880, Mr. Brown had passed away, and Mrs. Brown's sister Ephey Staley lived with the family, as well as two servants. In 1891, the farmstead was 79 acres. By 1900, the Crawfords' son William was the owner of the property and lived there with his wife Elisa, daughters Effa and Georgia, and son John. Adaline Crawford continued to live there as well. Interestingly, by 1910, the Crawfords appeared to occupy the property with another family, the Menschings. William Crawford was classified as a laborer who worked on odd jobs, while William Mensching was listed as a farmer. When the Crawfords' children had moved away, Mensching occupied the property with his wife Matilda, son Henry, and daughter Josephine. Ten years later, Henry and his wife Helen lived there, and continued to occupy the property until at least 1956. A photograph of the farmstead dating to that time shows a cohesive farmstead with numerous and various agricultural buildings surrounded by well-maintained fields. The property maintained its relative size, being diminished only slightly to 160 acres in the late 1950s. However, in the late 1970s or early 1980s, the acreage was reduced dramatically to 3.6 acres, with no historic agricultural buildings remaining on the parcel containing the house. The current owners, Thomas and Jean Gunningham have lived on the property since 2003.

The property was previously surveyed and rated "Contributing" in the 1996 Lake County Interim Report. The Interim Report assigned a rating of "Non-Contributing," "Contributing," "Notable," or "Outstanding" to surveyed properties based on their historical significance, architectural merit, environment, and integrity. For the purposes of the Interim Report, these ratings were based upon the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Criteria for Evaluation, but were not substitutes for final NRHP eligibility determinations. Also, because 17 years have passed since this report, many properties have undergone alterations that are not considered in the report's assessments. Properties rated "Non-Contributing" were only included in the Interim Report if they were located within an existing or potential historic district and would not be considered NRHP-eligible. A "Contributing" rating was assigned to those properties that met the 50 years of age or older criterion but were not individually significant enough to be NRHP eligible; however, these resources could be considered NRHP-eligible as part of a historic district. A "Notable" rating meant the property did not merit an "Outstanding" rating but was still above-average in its historic or architectural significance and could be NRHP-eligible upon further investigation. An "Outstanding" rating meant the property retained enough historic or architectural significance that it was already listed in or should be considered for individual listing in the NRHP. For the purposes of this report's evaluation, the "Contributing"-rated property at 1410 East 153rd Avenue is being assessed individually and not as part of a rural historic district.

At that time, the property was identified as a typical late nineteenth century farmstead that was no longer used as a farm. The house contained a Greek Revival-influenced front entry porch and wood clapboard siding under replacement aluminum siding. It also had one of the small rear additions along the ell. The house has been substantially renovated since that time, with historic materials removed, such as the front porch, and the second rear addition was constructed. The property also had an English barn estimated to be approximately 110 years old and a ca. 1920 shed that have been demolished since the survey.

West Creek, Cedar Creek, and Eagle Creek were all established as townships in 1839, although the earliest pioneers began arriving and settling the land known as the tri-creek area in the early 1830s. This early settlement period was characterized by fur trapping, hunting, and subsistence farming, aided by the construction of several saw and grist mills. The settlers first planted corn, which became a mainstay of the local economy, even as crops diversified in later years to include wheat and soybeans. Corn provided food for the settlers as well as the livestock, and was also used as a means of trade. However, due to the extensive marshlands and prairie, and the late arrival of the railroad in the tri-creek area, farming on a large scale did not occur until the late nineteenth century. This was much later than other areas in Indiana

that experienced major changes in agricultural practice and prosperity from the 1840s to 1860s due to advancements in transportation by canals and railroads and improvements in agricultural education.

The original farmstead was established during the period between 1850 and 1900, which is generally considered to be Indiana's golden age of agriculture as subsistence farming transitioned to large-scale operations. Transportation and technological improvements allowed farmers to bring their corn crops and livestock, primarily cattle and hogs, to faraway markets. Early agricultural education also contributed to this period of agricultural growth at the state and local levels. In 1851, the State Board of Agriculture was created to provide farmers with agricultural guidance in the form of local county agricultural societies. These county agricultural societies, as well as county fairs, provided farmstead improvement methods and techniques directly to farmers. Additionally, they exposed farmers to "book farming," which included essays on the topics of crops, drainage, machinery, and farmstead improvements. As a result, agricultural practice improved throughout the state and the State Board of Agriculture lent support for the Morrill Act passed by Congress in 1862. This act created the foundation for grant colleges and universities geared toward teaching agriculture and mechanical arts nationwide. These educational efforts and transportation improvements characterizing the state's agricultural boom did not reach the tri-creek area until the Monon Railroad was constructed through Cedar Creek Township in the 1880s. Also aiding agricultural growth in the tri-creek area were increased efforts to drain the marshlands and dig ditches to create arable land. An extensive drainage system began in the 1870s, continuing through the early part of the twentieth century, contributed greatly to agricultural growth. As a result, a large number of the county's farms, including the subject property, date from the late nineteenth or early twentieth century.

At the beginning of the twentieth century, few Lake County farmers owned tractors, used chemical fertilizers, or practiced crop rotation to avoid depleting soil nutrients despite a statewide trend toward these practices. Strides in agricultural education, focused on fertilizer, began in the 1880s and 1890s. These experiments began at the state's first land grant university, Purdue University. As the benefits of fertilizer to future crops became apparent, bulletins were published that instructed farmers on the application and benefits of fertilizer, its future effects to crops, and the best crops to fertilize (wheat and corn over oats). With the dissemination of these bulletins, further promoted by local agricultural organizations, farmers began to invest in commercial plant foods and liming soils between 1890 and 1900. These practices were more readily adopted by farmers statewide by 1910 than in Lake County, but as they became more commonplace, Lake County farmers began to adopt the new planting and fertilizer techniques as well as new machinery during the 1920s and 1930s. These practices streamlined farming practices and increased productivity. This was further supported by local agricultural education offered by the Lowell High School, which had a three-year course in agriculture specifically designed for its rural pupils. The course of study partially relied on the study of agricultural bulletins and focused on plants and crops, soils, gardening, fruit growing, livestock, dairying, poultry, and feeding. Consequently, as new machinery was adopted, farm shops and implement or machine sheds were erected on the farms to repair and house equipment, store tools, and generally maintain the farmstead. One of the most basic and popular implement sheds was a three-sided building with the fourth side entirely open; sometimes old, unused barns on the property, simple wood-frame structures with open sides, or lean-tos attached to other farm buildings were used to protect farm equipment.

These improvements in agricultural practices and education led to a higher standard of living in rural communities as running water and electricity started to become available to rural residents and crop productivity significantly increased. Produce and food became less expensive for rural and urban residents and in increase in agricultural input initially benefited the nation during World War I. Farmers were able to supply food to families at home and to members of the military, resulting in an increased demand for goods and an economic boom. Increased profits during this time period led to farmers purchasing more land and seeking ways to continue to improve farming methods and machinery.

However, after the war, prices for goods began to decline and farmers found themselves with a surplus of crops as they could produce more than what could be consumed. This resulted in the construction of silos on farmsteads to store surplus crops, in addition to the silos needed for winter livestock feed. Between 1917 and 1918, approximately ten thousand silos were constructed in the state.

During the Great Depression, Congress passed the Agricultural Adjustment Act in 1933. The act played an important role in improving Indiana's agricultural economy through the installation of a wheat allotment program. Additionally, the Rural Electrification Administration, a program enacted by the New Deal, significantly impacted rural residents as approximately 24,000 farms received electricity. This was supported by the state's Rural Electric Membership Corporation in 1935 to distribute electricity to rural areas. By 1965, 99 percent of the state's farms were electrified, ending rural isolation and increasing farmers' productivity and efficiency.

In addition to corn, farmers also raised livestock. In Lake County, beef cattle farming rose to prominence in the early 1860s, spurred by increased demand, the development of refrigerated railcars, and later, the construction of a slaughterhouse in nearby Hammond, close to Chicago and railroad lines. At first, farmers raised a variety of livestock but eventually began to specialize in the 1920s due to the expense of raising a combination of animals that required specific buildings and care. Farmers focused on hogs and chickens or solely on dairy cows or beef cattle. This shifting focus to particular breeds was supported and improved by increased knowledge about livestock nutrition and the use of genetics for better breeding results that was disseminated by the local county fair and agricultural bulletins. Improved technologies for the care of livestock, such as automated feeding systems and milking systems, also contributed to this specialization. Research did not reveal the specific agricultural activities of the farmstead and it is unknown if it specialized in dairy or cattle farming.

In the 1950s and 1960s, most farmers stopped practicing crop rotation and began to grow corn continuously because the crops did not deplete soil nutrients and improved fertilization techniques came into use. Additionally, rows of corn crops were planted closer together, increasing the output of crops and contributing to the decline of crop rotation. New mechanized and specialized equipment, like the mechanical corn picker, cultivator, planter, and mowers, and automated feeding and milking systems, and farming practices, like a new process of corn, wheat, and soybean field shelling and knowledge of nutrition and genetics of livestock, began to supersede the need for human labor. These improvements to crop and livestock varieties allowed farmers to engage in well-rounded agricultural practices on a scale never before seen. Despite these advances, the amount of farmland statewide and nationwide experienced a small decrease due to a shift from agriculture and industry to suburban and urban centers. This shift included suburban residential growth in rural areas, the development of state highways, the expansion of industrial areas, and the development of shopping centers. The house at 1410 East 153rd Avenue does not retain historic agricultural buildings or original fields.

The house at 1410 East 153rd Avenue was originally constructed as a two-story I-house, a common vernacular house type throughout the mid-to-late nineteenth century nationwide, particularly in rural areas. In Indiana, Illinois, and Iowa, the I-house was a predominant house type, giving it its name. The I-house evolved from the simple one-and-one-half-story hall-and-parlor house type through the addition of a second story. It typically had a symmetrical facade with a central entry in a three or five bay configuration. The house form was generally executed in wood frame construction and clad in clapboards, although brick examples also exist. Although typically modest and of no discernible style, earlier mid-nineteenth century examples of the I-house were sometimes elaborated by applied Greek Revival, Italianate, or Gothic Revival style detailing. Porches, chimneys, and rear wing additions were also commonly added to the I-house. Despite these changes, the basic form of the I-house usually remained unchanged. The house at 1410 East 153rd Avenue is a substantially altered I-house example of no discernible style whose basic form and facade have been changed. Numerous replacements,

including windows, siding, and the main entrance deplete the integrity of the house.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The house at 1410 East 153rd Avenue was evaluated for listing in the NRHP under Criteria A, B, and C using guidelines set forth in the NRHP Bulletin "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation."

The house at 1410 East 153rd Avenue is minimally associated with the history of agriculture and farming in Lake County. The former scale of the property, the numerous agricultural buildings that previously occupied the farm, and the comfortable farmhouse indicate that it was once a successful agricultural enterprise. However, the property has been reduced from more than 79 acres at its most successful size, to less than 4 acres. The 1956 aerial photograph shows the farmhouse adjacent to what appears to be a substantial collection of barns and numerous smaller sheds and support buildings. All of these buildings are no longer extant, diminishing the integrity of the farmstead. Therefore, the property no longer conveys its association with historic agricultural trends in the area due to the diminished parcel size, demolished period buildings, and changes to the farm's setting. It is not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A.

The house at 1410 East 153rd Avenue is not eligible under Criterion B. The former property owners do not appear to have practiced innovative farming techniques, or been influential on other farmers in the area. Furthermore, the extant property does not resemble the family's agricultural enterprise due to the diminished property size and the demolition of former farm buildings.

The house at 1410 East 153rd Avenue is also not eligible under Criterion C. It is a modest and altered I-house, and its contemporary farm buildings are no longer extant. The farmhouse is not a significant example of the style, and as the only extant period building, it does not convey the prior scale and importance of the farming venture. The house has also been substantially altered with a new entrance, replacement windows, vinyl siding, and additions. The building does not have architectural merit as an example of an I-house

The house at 1410 East 153rd Avenue was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the house at 1410 East 153rd Avenue is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

SOURCES
Drury, John. 1956. *This is Lake County, Indiana*. Chicago, IL: Inland Photo Co.

Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana. June 14, 1994a. *Indiana Historic Sites and Structures*

Inventory: Lake County Interim Report. 1410 E. 153rd Ave., Eagle Creek Township. On file at the Indiana Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology. Indianapolis, Indiana. http://indiamond6.ulib.iupui.edu/cdm/compoundobject/collection/IHSSI/id/11882

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Plat Maps. 1996. Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District. *1996 Plat Book. Lake County, Indiana.*

Plat Maps. 2005. *2005 Plat Book. Lake County, Indiana.*

US Census Bureau. 1900.

US Census Bureau. 1910.

US Census Bureau. 1920.

US Census Bureau. 1930.

US Census Bureau. 1940.

Photo 1 – 1410 East 153rd Avenue

Facing north to facade from East 153rd Avenue

Map – 1410 East 153rd Avenue

NAME
1504 East 153rd Avenue

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS
1504 East 153rd Avenue

CITY
Crown Point

TOWNSHIP
Eagle Creek

OWNERSHIP
Michaelle J. King

TAX PARCEL NUMBER
45-20-02-100-005.000-012;
45-20-02-100-004.000-012

YEAR BUILT
1918

SOURCE
Lake County Assessor (2013)

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE
Colonial Revival

PROPERTY TYPE
Agriculture

FOUNDATION
Concrete

WALLS
Wood, brick, metal

ROOF
Asphalt, metal

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The property at 1504 East 153rd Avenue is a late nineteenth century farmstead located on approximately 15 acres on the north side of East 153rd Avenue, just west of I-65. The farmstead's original farmhouse was replaced in 1970 by a non-historic Colonial Revival-influenced contemporary house and its remaining ca. 1918 agricultural buildings consist of a gambrel-roofed dairy barn and a detached garage. The property also contains two non-historic pole barns constructed ca. 1972 and 1975. The property does not retain any structures from its period of establishment in the late nineteenth century. Off of East 153rd Avenue, the driveway bisects the farmstead's buildings with the non-historic house and detached garage along its east side, a non-historic pole barn along its west side and the dairy barn and second non-historic pole barn at its northern terminus. The farmstead has a large fenced enclosure at the property's southeast portion and the north portion is characterized by a stand of mature deciduous trees. Fields are located along the east, north, and northwest sides of the property, but are not part of the current legal parcel.

Located along the east side of the driveway, the farmstead's non-historic house is a two-story, gable-roofed Colonial Revival-style house clad in brick and aluminum siding and characterized by an overhanging second story on the facade. It has a partial-width, shed-roofed enclosed porch on the facade and north rear elevation as well as a small gable-roofed addition on the south rear elevation. The house primarily contains one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash windows on all the elevations. At the time of survey, it appeared an addition was being constructed along the east side elevation.

A one-story, brick-clad, square detached garage with a pyramidal roof is located north of the house. The west elevation comprises two one-car garage door openings. The three-bay south elevation contains a nine-light entry door with a concrete header in the west bay and an eight-light, wood-sash window in the middle and east bays. The two-bay east elevation contains an eight-light, wood-sash window in each of the bays and a brick chimney rising above the roof between them. The north elevation contains no door or window openings. The pyramidal roof terminates in a small decorative cupola with a weather vane.

Along the west side of the driveway is a non-historic pole barn clad in ribbed aluminum siding and a metal roof. Its south elevation contains double sliding doors while the east elevation contains two windows and an entry door. The north and west elevations contain no door or window openings. The roof is surmounted by a small cupola.

At the driveway's northern terminus is the original two-story, gambrel-roofed dairy barn oriented parallel to the farmstead's non-historic house and East 153rd Avenue. The barn sits on a concrete foundation and is clad in wood siding with an asphalt-shingled roof. The four-bay south elevation contains, from east to west, a door opening in the easternmost bay, off-centered large sliding double doors in the adjacent west bay, and a six-light window and door opening in each of the westernmost bays. Above the sliding double doors is a transom window. The east elevation's first story contains one multi-light window at the south end and paired multi-light windows at the north end while the second story contains three openings to the hay mow in the gambrel end beneath the hay hood. The north elevation contains several door openings and a short enclosed passageway at its eastern end that leads to a non-historic pole barn. The three-bay west elevation comprises three contiguous windows in the middle bay flanked by paired windows in the outer bays on the first story and a small opening to the hay mow in the gambrel end. The gambrel roof is distinguished by three evenly spaced shed dormers with eight-light windows on the south and north elevations. Two metal ventilators surmount the roof ridgeline at the east and west ends.

A non-historic one-story, gabled pole barn is perpendicularly attached to the dairy barn's north rear elevation by a short enclosed passageway. The pole barn is clad in ribbed aluminum siding with a metal roof. The south elevation contains a single entry door while the north elevation contains a single sliding door. The west elevation contains four bays consisting of a central door flanked by small square window openings; the doors lead to a fenced area along this elevation, indicating the interior may consist of livestock stalls. The east elevation contains one large sliding door. Five ventilators are evenly spaced across the roof ridgeline.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The property at 1504 East 153rd Avenue appears to be an active farmstead; however, its original farmhouse has since been demolished and replaced and its extant agricultural outbuildings comprise a fraction of the farmstead's original outbuildings. The extant buildings were constructed as follows: the dairy barn and detached garage in 1918, the non-historic pole barns in 1972 and 1975, and the non-historic house in 1970. An aerial photograph from 1956 shows the farmstead was originally much larger and also contained a silo attached to the dairy barn, a transverse-frame barn and several other barns and small outbuildings that supported farming operations. These were located along the west side of the existing driveway and directly east of the dairy barn. These agricultural buildings appear to have been demolished between 1956 and 1978, but may have been demolished at the time the new house was constructed in 1970. The farmstead's original farmhouse was a two-story gabled-ell house with a partial-width front porch. It was replaced by the Colonial Revival-style house in 1970 and no remnants of the original farmhouse are present.

The farmstead was likely established by farmer George Brown in the 1870s based on the farmstead's original gabled-ell farmhouse, plat maps, and United States census data. The farm consisted of 55 acres that appear to have been subdivided from the Brown family's pioneer homestead, which was located south and across East 153rd Avenue, and established in 1837 (see Survey ID 236). George Brown was the youngest son of Alexander F. Brown and Eliza A. Barringer Brown. He married Margaret Turner and had three sons, Alexander F., William, and Herbert J. He died at age 29 in 1878 and the farmstead remained in his name through at least the 1920s. Research did not reveal any additional information about George Brown.

George Brown's father, Alexander F. Brown came to Lake County from New York in 1837, secured land

from the government, and established a farm in Eagle Creek Township. He was one of the pioneer settlers of this area in Eagle Creek Township, called South East Grove. He married Eliza A. Barringer and they had five children: Mary, John, William Barringer, Anna, and George. Alexander F. Brown was killed in a accident in 1849 and Eliza A. Barringer Brown continued the farm operations with the help of her sons, John and William, until 1862 when John Brown enlisted in the army to fight in the Civil War. When John Brown returned in 1865, he continued farming until 1870 when he was elected county treasurer and moved to nearby Crown Point; he later became the county auditor, maintained a stock farm of 6000 acres with 1000 cattle in Eagle Creek and Cedar Creek townships, and established the First National Bank of Crown Point in 1874. He was a prominent citizen of Crown Point and Eagle Creek Township and died in 1924. His brother, William Barringer Brown, became a successful dealer in hay, grain, and livestock on the family's home farm, though he managed the farm from his home in Crown Point. He was one of the largest landowners in Lake County. William Barringer Brown's daughter Bessie Brown Krost inherited the home farm property upon his death in 1924, which then consisted of approximately 600 acres.

In 1956, the farmstead at 1504 East 153rd Avenue was known as the Brown Brothers farm and consisted of 140 acres. It appears to have been owned by John Holton Brown, the great-nephew of George Brown; he owned the property until 1976. At that time, the farm was 80 acres and owned by Lester L. and Dorothy Guritz. In 1985, Charles Szabo owned the then 13.6-acre farm. From 1991 to the present, Michaelle J. King has owned the property, which is now approximately 15 acres.

West Creek, Cedar Creek, and Eagle Creek were all established as townships in 1839, although the earliest pioneers began arriving and settling the land known as the tri-creek area in the early 1830s. This early settlement period was characterized by fur trapping, hunting, and subsistence farming, aided by the construction of several saw and grist mills. The settlers first planted corn, which became a mainstay of the local economy, even as crops diversified in later years to include wheat and soybeans. Corn provided food for the settlers as well as the livestock, and was also used as a means of trade. However, due to the extensive marshlands and prairie, and the late arrival of the railroad in the tri-creek area, farming on a large scale did not occur until the late nineteenth century. This was much later than other areas in Indiana that experienced major changes in agricultural practice and prosperity from the 1840s to 1860s due to advancements in transportation by canals and railroads and improvements in agricultural education.

The period between 1850 and 1900 is generally considered to be Indiana's golden age of agriculture as subsistence farming transitioned to large-scale operations. The farmstead at 1504 East 153rd Avenue is representative of this transition. Transportation and technological improvements allowed farmers to bring their corn crops and livestock, primarily cattle and hogs, to faraway markets. Early agricultural education also contributed to this period of agricultural growth at the state and local levels. In 1851, the State Board of Agriculture was created to provide farmers with agricultural guidance in the form of local county agricultural societies. These county agricultural societies, as well as county fairs, provided farmstead improvement methods and techniques directly to farmers. Additionally, they exposed farmers to "book farming," which included essays on the topics of crops, drainage, machinery, and farmstead improvements. As a result, agricultural practice improved throughout the state and the State Board of Agriculture lent support for the Morrill Act passed by Congress in 1862. This act created the foundation for grant colleges and universities geared toward teaching agriculture and mechanical arts nationwide. These educational efforts and transportation improvements characterizing the state's agricultural boom did not reach the tri-creek area until the Monon Railroad was constructed through Cedar Creek Township in the 1880s. Also aiding agricultural growth in the tri-creek area were increased efforts to drain the marshlands and dig ditches to create arable land. An extensive drainage system began in the 1870s, continuing through the early part of the twentieth century, contributed greatly to agricultural growth. As a result, a large number of the county's farms, such as the farmstead at 1504 East 153rd Avenue date from the late nineteenth or early twentieth century.

Based on the type of extant agricultural buildings and its current livestock use, the farmstead appears to have been a dairy farm. In Lake County, beef cattle farming rose to prominence in the early 1860s, spurred by increased demand, the development of refrigerated railcars, and later, the construction of a slaughterhouse in nearby Hammond, close to Chicago and railroad lines. At first, farmers raised a variety of livestock but eventually began to specialize in the 1920s due to the expense of raising a combination of animals that required specific buildings and care. Farmers focused on hogs and chickens or solely on dairy cows or beef cattle. This shifting focus to particular breeds was supported and improved by increased knowledge about livestock nutrition and the use of genetics for better breeding results that was disseminated by the local county fair and agricultural bulletins. Improved technologies for the care of livestock, such as automated feeding systems and milking systems, also contributed to this specialization.

In the early twentieth century, the dairy industry was booming in Indiana, particularly in northern Indiana, which supplied milk to nearby Chicago. During the 1920s, farmers with large cattle herds began using automated milking and watering machines and transported canned milk, a process completed on the farm, to other cities via the Monon Railroad. This line was known as the “milk run,” which stopped daily at the milk stand in the nearby town of Lowell through the 1920s. After this time, county dairies began to pick up milk directly from farms by truck. Dairy farms were characterized by a number of related outbuildings that supported dairy operations, such as dairy barns, milk houses, milking barns, grain silos, manure pits, stockyards, bull barns, and hay barns. The dairy barn was used to house and feed the dairy cows. They typically had a gambrel roof, roof ventilators and dormers, and multiple windows along the side elevations; many also had attached silos. The milking barn was located close to the dairy barn and sited within an integrated system of pens, stockyards, and pastures. It could be a separate building or a segregated room within a larger barn. Sited close to the dairy and milking barns, the milk house was a rectangular building with a gabled roof and constructed of concrete or tile blocks with no ventilation. The well-insulated milk house was a dedicated space used for cooling and storing milk before it was taken to market.

The farmstead retains its original gambrel-roofed dairy barn, which appears to be a typical and intact example. In Lake County, the predominant dairy or livestock barn form is the Wisconsin dairy barn and gambrel-roofed dairy barn, which is distinguished by a narrow width to length ratio and a gambrel roof. Other dairy barn forms include the English barn, basement barn, German barn, and round roof barn, although these are less commonly found in Lake County. Like the Wisconsin dairy barn, the gambrel-roofed dairy barn was typically aligned north and south to allow for maximum lighting and located close enough to other dairy farming structures for efficient operation, but far enough away to reduce the danger of spreading fire. The dairy barn was also typically located southeast of the house, or west or southwest of the house but at a greater distance to alleviate odors at the farmhouse given prevailing wind patterns. Typically two stories in Lake County, the dairy barn’s primary entrance, consisting of double doors, was located in the gambrel end; sometimes, it was located on the long sides of the barns. The dairy barn also had a low main floor ceiling, two rows of stanchions, multiple closely spaced windows on the long side of the barn, a large hay mow with gambrel end hay door and hay hood, roof dormers, and roof ventilators. The gambrel roof shape was the most popular for increasing hay storage capacity in the barn’s hay mow, which was sometimes divided into two areas to store hay and straw. The roof ventilators were essential to properly ventilate the dairy barn to prevent the spread of bovine tuberculosis and other diseases to humans. Farmers also frequently located silos near the dairy barns or directly attached them to the barn to easily feed cattle over the winter because the silos were used to store green crops, or silage. This farmstead’s attached silo was demolished between 1956 and 1978. Inside the dairy barn, the cows were confined to individual stalls, sometimes shared by the farm’s horses. All dairy barns had a dedicated space where raw milk was handled, either incorporated into the barn’s original design, as an addition to the barn, or as an entirely separate building. These were called the milk room or milk house. Strict milk sanitation laws required the milk house to be completely separated from the stable area if it was not

detached. It is unknown if this farmstead had a separate milk house or if the dairy barn contained a room for this use. Many dairy barns also had feed rooms where feed was chopped, ground, mixed, and stored. These were located on the main level or in the hay mow. Feed was originally prepared by hand but as cattle herds grew larger, technology improved, and labor became more expensive, farmers turned to mechanized feed handling to improve productivity and cut costs.

The farmstead also contains two non-historic pole barns, which are typical examples of agricultural outbuildings constructed in the post-World War II era when barn building techniques dramatically changed. Traditional building techniques were superseded by the construction of pole barns and prefabricated structures, which were more cost-effective for farmers. These were commonly constructed of treated wood posts and corrugated steel, respectively, and clad in corrugated sheet metal.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The farmstead at 1504 East 153rd Avenue was evaluated for listing in the NRHP under Criteria A, B, and C using guidelines set forth in the NRHP Bulletin "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation."

The farmstead at 1504 East 153rd Avenue was established after extensive transportation and drainage efforts occurred in West Creek Township in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, reflecting a countywide trend of farmstead establishment in this period. However, the farm appears to be typical of its period. It is also associated with dairy farming in Lake County but the farmstead only retains one agricultural building associated with this practice, and therefore, the farmstead no longer conveys this association. Furthermore, the farmstead does not convey its historical agricultural association because the farmstead retains few agricultural outbuildings and no longer retains its original farmhouse from its period of establishment; its original acreage has also been significantly decreased. Therefore, it is not eligible under Criterion A.

The farmstead at 1504 East 153rd Avenue is associated with Alexander F. Brown, one of the first pioneer settlers in Eagle Creek Township in 1837. This farmstead's acreage was originally part of the Brown home farm and was subdivided from it for George Brown, one of Alexander's sons, in the 1870s. Although the Brown family were early settlers in this area and this property was part of their original land, this farmstead was developed approximately 40 years after the Brown home farm was established and is not associated with pioneer Alexander F. Brown. Furthermore, research did not reveal any known historically significant associations with the productive life of George Brown. Although his brothers, John Brown and William Barringer Brown, were prominent local citizens who contributed significantly to the financial and agricultural history of the area, this property is not associated with their productive lives. Therefore, the farmstead at 1504 East 153rd Avenue is not eligible under Criterion B.

The farmstead at 1504 East 153rd Avenue does not retain its original farmhouse, which was replaced by a non-historic Colonial Revival-style house in 1970. Its single remaining original gambrel-roofed dairy barn is largely intact and still conveys its historic appearance and original use. However, this barn is not a distinctive example of its type and does not exhibit any architectural significance. Furthermore, the overall

farmstead no longer retains many of its original barns, outbuildings, or acreage that would convey its association as a particular type of farm or as a working farm of its original magnitude. Therefore, the farmstead at 1504 East 153rd Avenue is not eligible under Criterion C.

The farmstead at 1504 East 153rd Avenue was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the farmstead at 1504 East 153rd Avenue is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

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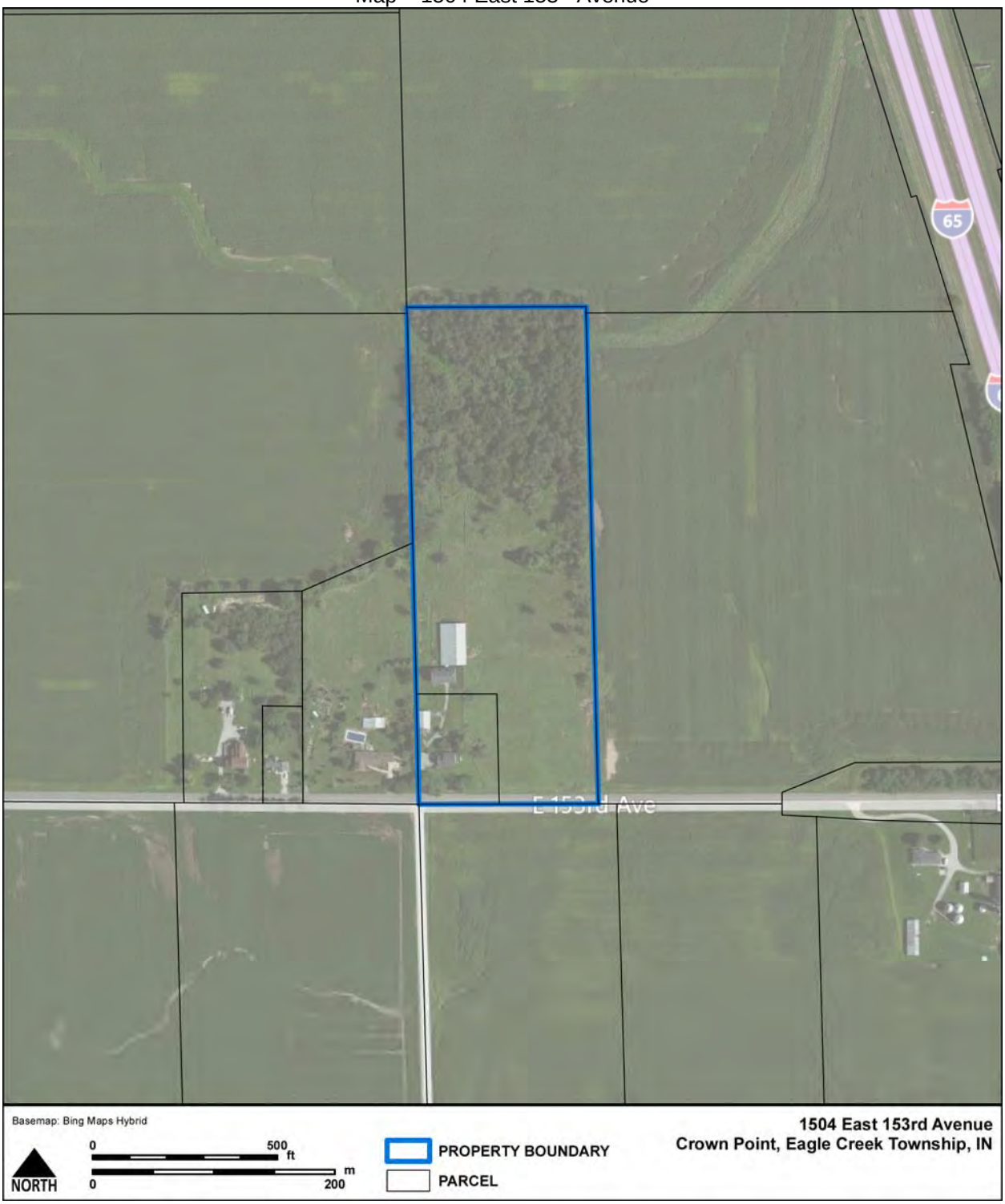
Photo 1 – 1504 East 153rd Avenue

Facing northwest to farmstead

Photo 2 – 1504 East 153rd Avenue

Facing northwest to non-historic 1970 house

Map – 1504 East 153rd Avenue



NAME
14820 Iowa Street

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS
14820 Iowa Street

CITY
Crown Point

TOWNSHIP
Eagle Creek

OWNERSHIP
Frederick P. Jr. and Christina W. Doppler

TAX PARCEL NUMBER
45-16-35-300-008.000-012

YEAR BUILT
1880

SOURCE
Lake County Assessor (2013)

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE
No Discernible Style

PROPERTY TYPE
Domestic

FOUNDATION
Brick

WALLS
Brick

ROOF
Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The substantially altered two-story I-house at 14820 Iowa Street is a brick-clad, side-gabled house on a brick foundation. A non-historic vinyl-clad addition sitting on a concrete foundation is attached to the south and west elevations of the house. The house is located on the west side of Iowa Street on approximately 4.89 acres of property. Two non-historic pole barns are located immediately behind the house on an adjacent parcel and one non-historic house is located in its immediate vicinity to the north on Iowa Street.

Facing east, the five-bay facade contains an off-center entrance in the middle bay, opening onto a concrete slab at the first story. The door opening is slightly off center, having been moved to the north as the original brickwork shows, and a portion of the original opening is infilled with brick. The facade's first story also contains a one-over-one, double-hung, vinyl-sash window in each of the two southernmost bays while the two northernmost bays each contain a four-over-one, double-hung, vinyl-sash window. The first story door and windows are surmounted by segmental arch openings defined by brick voussoirs and framed by simple wood surrounds with stone sills. The second story contains a six-over-one, double-hung, vinyl-sash window in each bay, framed by simple wood surrounds with stone sills. The placement of the windows, close to the eaves, indicates that these windows were reconfigured from their original size and placement. The facade also shows where an original pedimented entrance porch, now removed, existed.

The three-bay north side elevation contains double-hung, wood-framed windows in each bay on both stories. Each bay is comprised of a segmental arch opening, articulated by brick voussoirs, and features stone sills.

The three-bay south side elevation contains one double-hung window in the easternmost bay on the first story while each of the second story bays contain a double-hung window. Each window is framed by a simple wood surround with a stone sill and surmounted by a segmental arch opening that terminates in brick voussoirs. The south side elevation's two westernmost bays comprise a non-historic, one-story, L-shaped enclosed porch addition that wraps around to the west rear elevation. The enclosed porch is clad

in vinyl siding on a concrete foundation and has an asphalt-clad, half-hipped roof. It has fixed vinyl-sash windows along its east and south elevations. The I-house terminates in a moderately pitched, asphalt-shingled side-gabled roof.

The property also contains two non-historic metal-clad, metal-roofed, rectangular-plan pole barns constructed in 1980. These non-historic buildings are both located west of the house and replaced earlier original agricultural outbuildings that were once part of the original farmstead.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The house at 14820 Iowa Street was constructed in 1880 and the pole barns were constructed in 1980. The house was likely built by Christopher Zieseniss and his wife Dorathea Sophia Zieseniss. The Ziesenisses may have lived in Illinois prior to settling in Lake County, but they purchased the land some time before 1880 and established a farm. By 1891, the couple's son Christopher F. Zieseniss and his wife Dora Dammeier Zieseniss resided on the property, continuing its agricultural use. Christopher Zieseniss owned 120 acres on both sides of Iowa Street and his father owned 80 acres directly north of the house on the west side of Iowa Street. Christopher and Dora continued to farm the property until their deaths in 1906 and 1907, respectively; Christopher's father died in 1908. By the mid-1920s, William M. Gentleman had purchased both of the Zieseniss parcels for a combined 200 acres of land. William and his wife Nina Reed Gentleman farmed on the land until his death in 1949.

By 1956, Herman and Oliver Reed owned the property and purchased an additional 40 acres of land adjacent to the house on the west side of Iowa Street. The Reeds continued the property's agricultural use until at least 1976; by 1985, the farm was subdivided, leaving the house on an approximately 5-acre parcel of land. A parcel of approximately 16 acres of land, directly east of the property, was purchased prior to 1996 and is operated as the Silver Creek Farm. The parcel is associated with the original property, but is today owned by Silver Creek Stable, LLC. The house remains on the subdivided 4.89 acres of land currently owned by Frederick P. Jr. and Christina W. Doppler.

Today, the property is classified as a single-family residence by the Lake County Assessor and retains no visible remnants of the farmsteads of the Zieseniss, Gentleman, or Reed families. A 1956 aerial photograph shows the property also contained a gabled-roofed barn and at least three smaller outbuildings in addition to the farmhouse; these agricultural buildings have since been demolished.

The house at 14820 Iowa Street and its former farmstead were constructed during the period between 1850 and 1900, which is generally considered to be Indiana's golden age of agriculture when subsistence farming transitioned to large-scale operations. Transportation and technological improvements allowed farmers to bring their corn crops and livestock, primarily cattle and hogs, to faraway markets. Early agricultural education also contributed to this period of agricultural growth at the state and local levels. In 1851, the State Board of Agriculture was created to provide farmers with agricultural guidance in the form of local county agricultural societies. These county agricultural societies, as well as county fairs, provided farmstead improvement methods and techniques directly to farmers. Additionally, they exposed farmers to "book farming," which included essays on the topics of crops, drainage, machinery, and farmstead improvements. As a result, agricultural practice improved throughout the state and the State Board of Agriculture lent support for the Morrill Act passed by Congress in 1862. This act created the foundation for grant colleges and universities geared toward teaching agriculture and mechanical arts nationwide. These educational efforts and transportation improvements characterizing the state's agricultural boom did not reach the tri-creek area until the Monon Railroad was constructed through Cedar Creek Township in the 1880s. Also aiding agricultural growth in the tri-creek area were increased efforts to drain the marshlands and dig ditches to create arable land. An extensive drainage system began in the 1870s, continuing through the early part of the twentieth century, contributed greatly to agricultural growth. As a result, a large number of the county's farms date from the late nineteenth or early twentieth century. This

house is an example of this development, but it no longer retains any of its agricultural buildings from that period.

The house was originally constructed as a two-story I-house, a common vernacular house type throughout the mid-to-late nineteenth century nationwide, particularly in rural areas. In Indiana, Illinois, and Iowa, the I-house was a predominant house type, giving it its name. The I-house evolved from the simple one-and-one-half-story hall-and-parlor house type through the addition of a second story. It typically had a symmetrical facade with a central entry in a three or five bay configuration. The house form was generally executed in wood frame construction and clad in clapboards, although brick examples also exist. Although typically modest and of no discernible style, earlier mid-nineteenth century examples of the I-house were sometimes elaborated by applied Greek Revival, Italianate, or Gothic Revival style detailing. Porches, chimneys, and rear wing additions were also commonly added to the I-house. Despite these changes, the basic form of the I-house usually remained unchanged. The house at 14820 Iowa Street is a modest and altered I-house example. Its basic form remains unchanged when viewed from the facade, despite the addition of the rear enclosed porch, the replacement of some windows and doors, and on the facade, the alteration of the central door opening and the removal of the front porch.

The property was previously surveyed and rated “Notable” in the 1996 Lake County Interim Report. The Interim Report assigned a rating of “Non-Contributing,” “Contributing,” “Notable,” or “Outstanding” to surveyed properties based on their historical significance, architectural merit, environment, and integrity. For the purposes of the Interim Report, these ratings were based upon the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Criteria for Evaluation, but were not substitutes for final NRHP eligibility determinations. Also, because 17 years have passed since this report, many properties have undergone alterations that are not considered in the report’s assessments. Properties rated “Non-Contributing” were only included in the Interim Report if they were located within an existing or potential historic district and would not be considered NRHP-eligible. A “Contributing” rating was assigned to those properties that met the 50 years of age or older criterion but were not individually significant enough to be NRHP eligible; however, these resources could be considered NRHP-eligible as part of a historic district. A “Notable” rating meant the property did not merit an “Outstanding” rating but was still above-average in its historic or architectural significance and could be NRHP-eligible upon further investigation. An “Outstanding” rating meant the property retained enough historic or architectural significance that it was already listed in or should be considered for individual listing in the NRHP.

At that time, the house was identified as the only brick I-house in Eagle Creek Township with most of its original wood window sashes and lintels being intact. The enclosed, vinyl-clad porch was identified as an addition to the house’s rear and south side elevation. The survey also identified replacement windows, a non-historic front door, and the deterioration of wood and mortar components. Since the survey, a front porch comprised of a wooden pediment, supported by wooden posts, and attached to the facade has been removed.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The house at 14820 Iowa Street was evaluated for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criteria A, B, and C using guidelines set forth in the NRHP bulletin “How to Apply the

National Register Criteria for Evaluation."

The house at 14820 Iowa Street is part of a former farmstead that was established during the late nineteenth century during a period when a large number of farms were established in Lake County due to improvements in the local transportation system and the implementation of an extensive drainage system of the Kankakee Marsh that created arable land. However, the house is the only extant building of the former farmstead, no other agricultural buildings exist from when the property was farmed, and its original associated fields and land have been subdivided over time. Research did not reveal the property or the house to have made any significant contributions to agricultural history in Lake County, and therefore, it is not eligible under Criterion A.

The house at 14820 Iowa Street is associated with the Zieseniss, Gentleman, and Reed families who number among the farming families of Eagle Creek Township. However, research did not reveal any known historically significant associations with the productive lives of any members of these families, and therefore, the house at 14820 Iowa Street is not eligible under Criterion B.

The house at 14820 Iowa Street is a modest, altered, and typical example of a late nineteenth century I-house. Though the house is the only brick I-house in the township and does retain its original segmental arch openings. Additionally, the house has undergone several significant alterations, including the one-story, vinyl-clad porch addition, the modification of the facade entry, and the removal of the wooden pediment front porch. Several windows and the front door have been replaced. The house's type, style, and features do not indicate architectural or historical significance, and it is not a distinctive example of the type or style in Lake County. Therefore, the house at 14820 Iowa Street is not eligible under Criterion C.

The house at 14820 Iowa Street was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the house at 14820 Iowa Street is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

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US Census Bureau. 1920.

US Census Bureau. 1930.

US Census Bureau. 1940.

Photo 1 – 14820 Iowa Street

Facing west to house's east-facing facade; addition visible at left

Map – 14820 Iowa Street

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NAME
15020 Iowa Street

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS	CITY	TOWNSHIP
15020 Iowa Street	Crown Point	Eagle Creek

OWNERSHIP	TAX PARCEL NUMBER
Brian P. Schrombeck	45-20-12-100-003.000-012

YEAR BUILT	SOURCE
1860	Lake County Assessor (2013)

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE	PROPERTY TYPE
No Discernible Style	Agriculture

FOUNDATION	WALLS	ROOF
Concrete	Vinyl	Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The property at 15020 Iowa Street is a formerly active mid-nineteenth century farmstead located on approximately 3 acres on the west side of Iowa Street. The farmstead consists of a ca. 1860 house of no discernible style and several outbuildings that include an English barn, silo, grain bins, detached garages, and a Quonset hut dating from the early to mid-twentieth century. An above-ground swimming pool was installed in 1997. From Iowa Street, the driveway bisects the property's buildings with the farmhouse located along its north side and the majority of the agricultural buildings located along its south side and around its western terminus. In the vicinity of the farmstead, one non-historic house is located directly across from the property, on the east side of Iowa Street, and a forested area separates the farmstead from minimal non-historic development further south. Agricultural land displaying visible field patterns and mature trees partially surround the farmstead to the south, north, and west. Interstate 65 is highly visible and located approximately 200 feet from the property's west boundary.

The farmhouse appears to have originally been an upright-and-wing house. It is oriented south toward the driveway and now consists of multiple additions along its south-facing facade and west and north elevations. The house's original form is discernible from an aerial photograph taken in 1956, but presently does not convey any architectural or vernacular style. The vinyl-clad farmhouse sits on a concrete foundation and has an asphalt-shingle roof with overhanging eaves. Facing south, the facade comprises the two-story, gable-front upright and the one-and-one-half-story, side-gable wing. The two-bay upright contains a fixed-light, wood-sash picture window flanked by a two-over-two, double-hung, wood-sash window in the east bay; the west bay contains no window or openings. The upright's second-story contains double-hung windows in each bay. The upright's west side elevation contains a single double-hung window at the second story and the first story comprises the intersecting wing. The wing's facade comprises a non-historic, one-story, rectangular, shed-roof addition that projects beyond the upright. The addition's east elevation contains the facade's entry door. The wing's west side elevation contains an exterior chimney and a single window opening.

The upright's east side elevation contains a fixed picture window flanked by a two-over-two, double-hung,

vinyl-sash window on the first story and a six-over-six, double-hung, vinyl-sash window on the second story, both at the elevation's east end. The remainder of the east elevation comprises a large recently constructed two-story, gable-roof addition along the upright's north rear elevation and appears as one continuous plane on the east elevation due to the replacement vinyl siding. It is noticeable as an addition on the east elevation because of the newer asphalt shingles cladding the addition's roof. This addition is one of three non-historic additions located on the north rear elevation. The two-story, gable-roof addition's east side elevation contains a similar fixed picture windows flanked by a four-over-four, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash window on the first story and a six-over-six, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash window on the second story, both at the elevation's west end. The addition's north rear elevation comprises two bays at both stories that each contains a six-over-six, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash window. On this elevation, the two-story addition's gable roof slopes downward into a shed roof on its west side elevation to connect with the flat roof of a one-story addition attached to that elevation.

This one-story addition abuts the two-story addition and the north rear elevation of the original wing. Its west elevation contains a sliding door that opens to a patio and the above-ground swimming pool. Its north rear elevation comprises the third non-historic addition, which a one-story, gable-roof structure. This addition contains no window openings on its west elevation, two window openings on its north elevation, and one window opening on its east elevation.

Along the south side of the driveway is the ca. 1934 English barn with an attached round silo. The two-story, wood-clad, side-gable barn's north elevation contains a large sliding door entrance. The east elevation does not appear to have any window or door openings and the silo is attached to its south end. The attached silo is constructed of concrete and has no roof. The north elevation contains a door opening and the west elevation comprises a one-story enclosed shed-roof addition with wood walls and a metal roof. Its north elevation comprises an entry door and two window openings.

A second silo constructed ca. 1920 stands west of the barn. It is also constructed of concrete and has a domed roof. A ca. 1961 one-story detached garage is located west of the English barn. The garage is clad in wood siding and terminates in a metal-clad gable roof. Its identical east and west elevations contain a central sliding door entrance; the north and south elevations were not accessible during survey.

North of the garage is a second detached garage constructed in 1961. The rectangular-plan, one-story, side-gable detached garage has two garage door openings on its east elevation. Its north elevation comprises a large one-story, shed-roof addition with a garage door on its east and north elevations and two small window openings on its west elevation. The gable-roof garage's west elevation comprises a second one-story, shed roof addition with a garage door on its south elevation and an integrated round grain bin at its southwest corner; the west elevation is obscured by mature deciduous trees. The garage's south elevation does not appear to contain any door or window openings.

The driveway passes along the south elevation of the detached garage and curves north, terminating at the property's ca. 1934 Quonset hut. The Quonset hut is clad in metal with curved north and south elevations; its identical east and west elevations contain a sliding door entrance. Two ca. 1961 round metal grain bins are located south of the Quonset hut.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The property at 15020 Iowa Street is no longer an active farmstead and has not retained several of its original agricultural buildings. The extant buildings were constructed as follows: the farmhouse ca. 1860, the silo in 1920, the Quonset in 1934, the English barn in 1934, two detached garages in 1961, and two grain bins in 1961. A 1956 aerial photograph indicates the farmstead was once much larger, with a mature stand of trees lining the south edge of the property and tree stands planted purposefully to shield the south and west elevations of the farmhouse; additional outbuildings were also located on the north end of the property. According to the photograph, at least two outbuildings have since been removed or

have deteriorated into disrepair. Additionally, the farmstead originally consisted of 260 acres; in 1976, it consisted of 167 acres, and by 1996, approximately 144 acres. Today, the farmstead is comprised of 3.134 acres.

The farmhouse was likely constructed by John and Mary Ann (Fisher) Cochran. John, originally from New York or Connecticut, and Mary Ann, originally from London, England, arrived in Lake County around 1840, before eventually settling in the Southeast Grove area in 1847. John improved the farm and lived there until his death at the age of 64. The couple's two children, William and Henry Cochran, worked and lived on the 120-acre farm through the early twentieth century. They were engaged in raising livestock and general farming. William left the farm in 1907 and Henry continued to live on the property with his family until leaving some time prior to 1920. Subsequently, the 120-acre farm was sold by 1920. Lester Guritz later owned the property, farming the land until his death in 1992. In 1985, he acquired 32 additional acres on the east side of Iowa Street and when his wife Dorothy owned the property in 1996, the farm consisted of approximately 144 acres. The property remained in Dorothy's name through 2005, if not later. Presently, the 3.134-acre parcel is owned by Brian P. Schrombeck and the immediate surrounding farmland, formerly part of the farm, is owned by a separate farming operation.

West Creek, Cedar Creek, and Eagle Creek were all established as townships in 1839, although the earliest pioneers began arriving and settling the land known as the tri-creek area in the early 1830s. This early settlement period was characterized by fur trapping, hunting, and subsistence farming, aided by the construction of several saw and grist mills. The settlers first planted corn, which became a mainstay of the local economy, even as crops diversified in later years to include wheat and soybeans. Corn provided food for the settlers as well as the livestock, and was also used as a means of trade. However, due to the extensive marshlands and prairie, and the late arrival of the railroad in the tri-creek area, farming on a large scale did not occur until the late nineteenth century. This was much later than other areas in Indiana that experienced major changes in agricultural practice and prosperity from the 1840s to 1860s due to advancements in transportation by canals and railroads and improvements in agricultural education.

Though the Cochran family settled the area ca. 1847, the extant farmhouse was not constructed until ca. 1860. The farm appears to have been established during the period between 1850 and 1900, which is generally considered to be Indiana's golden age of agriculture as subsistence farming transitioned to large-scale operations. Transportation and technological improvements allowed farmers to bring their corn crops and livestock, primarily cattle and hogs, to faraway markets. Early agricultural education also contributed to this p1eriod of agricultural growth at the state and local levels. In 1851, the State Board of Agriculture was created to provide farmers with agricultural guidance in the form of local county agricultural societies. These county agricultural societies, as well as county fairs, provided farmstead improvement methods and techniques directly to farmers. Additionally, they exposed farmers to "book farming," which included essays on the topics of crops, drainage, machinery, and farmstead improvements. As a result, agricultural practice improved throughout the state and the State Board of Agriculture lent support for the Morrill Act passed by Congress in 1862. This act created the foundation for grant colleges and universities geared toward teaching agriculture and mechanical arts nationwide. These educational efforts and transportation improvements characterizing the state's agricultural boom did not reach the tri-creek area until the Monon Railroad was constructed through Cedar Creek Township in the 1880s. Also aiding agricultural growth in the tri-creek area were increased efforts to drain the marshlands and dig ditches to create arable land. An extensive drainage system began in the 1870s, continuing through the early part of the twentieth century, contributed greatly to agricultural growth. As a result, a large number of the county's farms date from the late nineteenth or early twentieth century.

At the beginning of the twentieth century, few Lake County farmers owned tractors, used chemical fertilizers, or practiced crop rotation to avoid depleting soil nutrients despite a statewide trend toward these practices. Strides in agricultural education, focused on fertilizer, began in the 1880s and 1890s.

These experiments began at the state's first land grant university, Purdue University. As the benefits of fertilizer to future crops became apparent, bulletins were published that instructed farmers on the application and benefits of fertilizer, its future effects to crops, and the best crops to fertilize (wheat and corn over oats). With the dissemination of these bulletins, further promoted by local agricultural organizations, farmers began to invest in commercial plant foods and liming soils between 1890 and 1900. These practices were more readily adopted by farmers statewide by 1910 than in Lake County, but as they became more commonplace, Lake County farmers began to adopt the new planting and fertilizer techniques as well as new machinery during the 1920s and 1930s. These practices streamlined farming practices and increased productivity. This was further supported by local agricultural education offered by the Lowell High School, which had a three-year course in agriculture specifically designed for its rural pupils. The course of study partially relied on the study of agricultural bulletins and focused on plants and crops, soils, gardening, fruit growing, livestock, dairying, poultry, and feeding. Consequently, as new machinery was adopted, farm shops and implement or machine sheds were erected on the farms to repair and house equipment, store tools, and generally maintain the farmstead. One of the most basic and popular implement sheds was a three-sided building with the fourth side entirely open; sometimes old, unused barns on the property, simple wood-frame structures with open sides, or lean-tos attached to other farm buildings were used to protect farm equipment.

These improvements in agricultural practices and education led to a higher standard of living in rural communities as running water and electricity started to become available to rural residents and crop productivity significantly increased. Produce and food became less expensive for rural and urban residents and in increase in agricultural input initially benefited the nation during World War I. Farmers were able to supply food to families at home and to members of the military, resulting in an increased demand for goods and an economic boom. Increased profits during this time period led to farmers purchasing more land and seeking ways to continue to improve farming methods and machinery. However, after the war, prices for goods began to decline and farmers found themselves with a surplus of crops as they could produce more than what could be consumed. This resulted in the construction of silos on farmsteads to store surplus crops, in addition to the silos needed for winter livestock feed. Between 1917 and 1918, approximately ten thousand silos were constructed in the state.

During the Great Depression, Congress passed the Agricultural Adjustment Act in 1933. The act played an important role in improving Indiana's agricultural economy through the installation of a wheat allotment program. Additionally, the Rural Electrification Administration, a program enacted by the New Deal, significantly impacted rural residents as approximately 24,000 farms received electricity. This was supported by the state's Rural Electric Membership Corporation in 1935 to distribute electricity to rural areas. By 1965, 99 percent of the state's farms were electrified, ending rural isolation and increasing farmers' productivity and efficiency.

In addition to corn, farmers also raised livestock. In Lake County, beef cattle farming rose to prominence in the early 1860s, spurred by increased demand, the development of refrigerated railcars, and later, the construction of a slaughterhouse in nearby Hammond, close to Chicago and railroad lines. At first, farmers raised a variety of livestock but eventually began to specialize in the 1920s due to the expense of raising a combination of animals that required specific buildings and care. Farmers focused on hogs and chickens or solely on dairy cows or beef cattle. This shifting focus to particular breeds was supported and improved by increased knowledge about livestock nutrition and the use of genetics for better breeding results that was disseminated by the local county fair and agricultural bulletins. Improved technologies for the care of livestock, such as automated feeding systems and milking systems, also contributed to this specialization. Research revealed the early twentieth century owners engaged in general farming as well as livestock raising, although the particular livestock breeds were not uncovered.

In the 1950s and 1960s, most farmers stopped practicing crop rotation and began to grow corn

continuously because the crops did not deplete soil nutrients and improved fertilization techniques came into use. Additionally, rows of corn crops were planted closer together, increasing the output of crops and contributing to the decline of crop rotation. New mechanized and specialized equipment, like the mechanical corn picker, cultivator, planter, and mowers, and automated feeding and milking systems, and farming practices, like a new process of corn, wheat, and soybean field shelling and knowledge of nutrition and genetics of livestock, began to supersede the need for human labor. These improvements to crop and livestock varieties allowed farmers to engage in well-rounded agricultural practices on a scale never before seen. Despite these advances, the amount of farmland statewide and nationwide experienced a small decrease due to a shift from agriculture and industry to suburban and urban centers. This shift included suburban residential growth in rural areas, the development of state highways, the expansion of industrial areas, and the development of shopping centers.

The farmhouse at 15020 Iowa Street was originally constructed as a two-story upright-and-wing house. This form evolved from the gable-front house out of a need for additional space and is predominantly found in the Great Lakes region. The gable-front was a dominant house type that rose to popularity throughout the United States during the Greek Revival era and was a dominant, often unornamented, folk form in rural areas well beyond the antebellum era. The upright-and-wing house is characterized by a one or one-and-one-half-story wing attached to the two-story gable-front portion of the house, forming a T-shape. Early examples of upright-and-wing houses feature heavy friezes, cornice returns, and classical entries due to the Greek Revival influence of the period. After that period, the upright-and-wing house is generally unornamented. The farmhouse at 15020 Iowa Street is a severely altered upright-and-wing example of no discernible style whose basic form no longer remains and is altered by five additions to the farmhouse as well as replacement materials and windows.

The farmstead's English barn is deteriorating and appears to be a basic example of an English barn. The dominant barn type in the Midwest and Lake County is the English barn, which was introduced to New England by English settlers. Its primary purpose was grain processing and storage. The rectangular and timber-framed English barn has vertical siding and few windows. Its primary entrance, typically consisting of double doors, is located on the barn's long side, unlike the transverse-frame barn where it is located in the gable end. The English barn is divided into three bays with the center bay used as a threshing area and the flanking bays used for grain and hay storage.

Similarly, the farmstead's silos and Quonset hut appear to be basic and somewhat deteriorated examples of their types. Silos became popular around the turn of the nineteenth century for the purpose of feeding livestock in the winter. They were first constructed of wood in a square shape. These first silos were sometimes built at the corner of a barn but they reduced available area for livestock or hay storage. They also were not as practical as the later round silos because the silage did not get packed into the corners, allowing air to get in and rot the contents. Square silos fell out of favor by the 1920s as round, concrete and glazed tile silos came into widespread use. Concrete was more popular than tile because it was easier to use and it could be poured in any vertical size. Curved tiles were more fragile and the curvature determined the silo's size. Metal silos also became popular and few wooden silos exist in Indiana today. Quonset huts were constructed in the post-World War II era, when barn building techniques dramatically changed and traditional building techniques were superseded by the construction of pole barns and prefabricated structures, which were more cost-effective for farmers. These were commonly constructed of treated wood posts and corrugated steel, respectively, and clad in corrugated sheet metal.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The property at 15020 Iowa Street was evaluated for listing in the NRHP under Criteria A, B, and C using guidelines set forth in the NRHP Bulletin "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation."

The former farmstead at 15020 Iowa Street was established after extensive transportation and drainage efforts occurred in Eagle Creek Township in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, reflecting a countywide trend of farmstead establishment in this period. However, the farmstead appears to be typical of its period and research did not reveal this property to have made significant contributions to the agricultural history of Lake County. When the Cochran family established the farmstead in the mid-nineteenth century, the family engaged in general farming, including a variety of agricultural activities such as raising livestock. With the construction of additional outbuildings and grain bins in the early 1960s, under the period of Guritz ownership, it is probable the farm produced a general grain or cash crop from this period through the late twentieth century. However, the farmstead no longer retains several of its original agricultural outbuildings from its establishment and retains no outbuildings from its livestock raising period; it also retains little of its original acreage. The farm no longer conveys its historical association with the local mid-nineteenth century subsistence and general farming in Lake County. Therefore, the property at 15020 Iowa Street is not eligible under Criterion A.

The farm is historically associated with the Cochran family who settled in Lake County during the mid-nineteenth century, owning the property for approximately 80 years, and its subsequent owners during the first half of the twentieth century. Although the farm is associated with the Cochran family's settlement in Eagle Creek township, research did not reveal any known historically significant associations with the productive lives of any members of the Cochran family nor do they appear to have practiced innovative farming techniques or influenced other farmers in the area. Additionally, research did not reveal any known historically significant associations with the property's owners during the first half of the twentieth century, including Lester and Dorothy Guritz. Therefore, the property at 15020 Iowa Street is not eligible under Criterion B.

The original farmstead at 15020 Iowa Street has been substantially altered. Its original upright-and-wing farmhouse has been significantly altered by five non-historic additions and replacement materials, such as vinyl siding and vinyl-sash windows, and no longer conveys its original form or appearance. Several outbuildings—the barn, detached garage, silo, grains bins, and Quonset hut—retain their original form and materials, but are not distinctive examples of their type and they do not exhibit any architectural significance. The farmstead retains no agricultural outbuildings from its original establishment period and several outbuildings have been demolished in the late twentieth century. Therefore, the property at 15020 Iowa Street is not eligible under Criterion C.

The property at 15020 Iowa Street was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the property at 15020 Iowa Street is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

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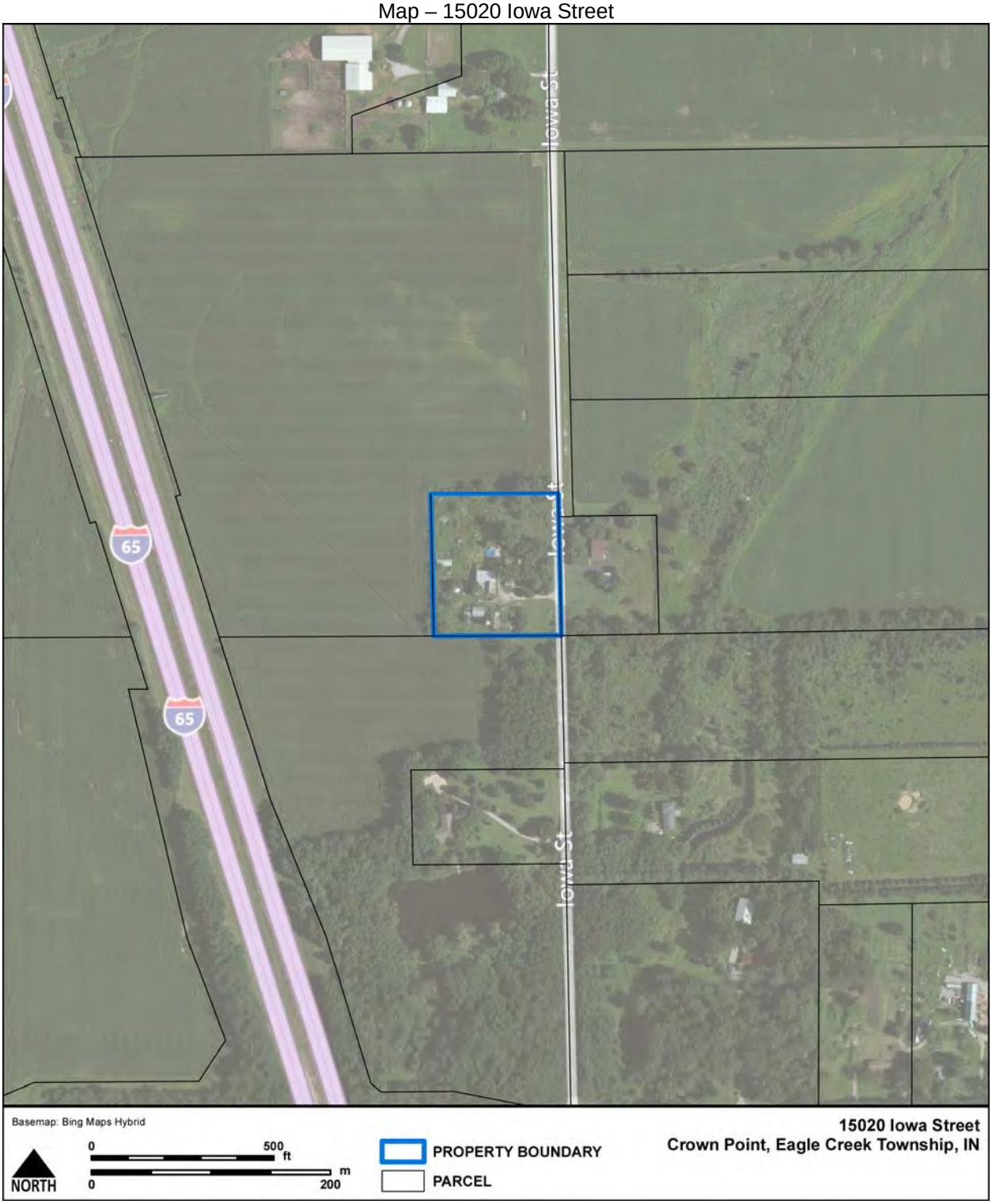
Photo 1 – 15020 Iowa Street

Facing northwest to farmhouse facade and east side elevation

Photo 2 – 15020 Iowa Street

Facing southwest to farmhouse east side and north rear elevations

Map – 15020 Iowa Street



NAME
Nethery Farmstead

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS	CITY	TOWNSHIP
2626 East 153rd Avenue	Hebron	Eagle Creek

OWNERSHIP	TAX PARCEL NUMBER
Fred S. Berdyck	45-20-02-200-007.000-012

YEAR BUILT	SOURCE
1890	Lake County Assessor (2013)

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE	PROPERTY TYPE
Folk Victorian	Agriculture

FOUNDATION	WALLS	ROOF
Concrete	Asbestos shingles	Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The Nethery Farmstead is a formerly active late nineteenth century farmstead located on the north side of East 153rd Avenue on 4.8 acres. The farmstead retains its ca. 1890 Folk Victorian style farmhouse, two ca. 1940 pole barns, and a ca. 1955 grain bin. The area surrounding the house contains a non-original wood fence. A very small outbuilding painted to match the house is located to the northwest of the house. Mature deciduous and evergreen trees are interspersed throughout the parcel. Minimal lawn space with grass is present and there is no evidence of former agricultural fields.

The Nethery Farmstead farmhouse is an altered Folk Victorian style, T-plan house clad in asbestos shingles. The two-story house sits on a recently improved concrete foundation. The core building has a cross-gabled roof configuration with a one-story, wrapped, hipped-roof enclosed porch on the south-facing facade and east side elevation, and a one-story, shed-roofed addition on the north rear elevation; the resulting complex roof shape is indicative of Victorian-era architecture.

Facing south, the facade features the projecting one-story, hipped roof enclosed porch, which contains the house's main entrance. The non-original door is reached by a small flight of wood stairs that leads to a raised platform; the area below the platform is enclosed with wood lattice. A balustrade of simple wood members surrounds the platform. The doorway is flanked by multi-pane windows with narrow shutters. While the window configurations do not appear to be original, they are not recent replacements. Because the porch was enclosed after the house was constructed, these windows are not consistent with others found on the house. On the second story, at the main house's wall, is a centrally-placed window opening that contains paired one-over-one, double-hung, wood-sash windows; a wide muntin separates the windows. The opening is flanked by a pair of the same narrow shutters found on the first story. The front-facing gable contains the building's most intricate ornamentation. Wood laid in both fishscale and sunburst patterns of contrasting colors are outlined by dark-colored scalloped woodwork and allusions of half-timbering. Projecting out from this plane is cut woodwork in geometric and foliated patterns, and the dark wood members separate decorative elements.

The west side elevation exists on two planes, with the house's rear cross-gabled portion projecting slightly. Windows on this elevation are consistent with those found elsewhere on the house's cross-gabled section. The cross gable's triangular shape is articulated by dark wood members.

The east side elevation is complex with the original building's projecting and recessed planes, as well as the enclosed porch and rear addition visible. Windows are spaced irregularly throughout this elevation, and are of varying sizes. Like the west elevation, dark wood members alluding to half-timbers articulate the triangular gable space.

The north rear elevation is dominated by a one-story, shed-roofed addition with a centrally placed window. The north-south cross gable configuration does not extend through the second story, which has two evenly spaced windows on the building's plane. This elevation is devoid of ornamentation.
The complex roof is covered with asphalt shingles. An interior brick chimney punctuates the cross-gabled roof's ridgeline.

Three agricultural outbuildings are present on the property; according to tax assessment data, these consist of two pole barns built in 1940 and a grain bin built in 1955. The farm buildings are all located north of the house. Directly north of the house is a metal pole barn with a front-gabled roof and sliding metal doors; however, this building appears to be recently constructed. A recently constructed gable-roofed metal prefabricated building is located to the north of the pole barn; it is lower in height than the pole barn. Another substantially altered barn that appears to date to circa 1940 is located north and west of the house. The barn is a heavily altered derivative of the English barn form. Clad in wood with a metal gable-roof configuration and a side entrance, it contains a large addition with a lower profile. This flat-roofed addition is attached to the barn's north elevation. The grain bin is a small, metal cylindrical structure with a conical roof covering; it is located just north of the house.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The formerly active Nethery Farmstead consists of the farmhouse constructed ca. 1890, two pole barns constructed ca. 1940, a grain bin constructed ca. 1955, and a more recently constructed pole barn. The farmstead may have been established by John Nethery, a farmer who occupied the property since at least 1870. He and his wife Eliza, daughter Fannie, and son Thomas occupied the farm at that time, and by 1880 had added two more children, a daughter named Mary and a son named John C. Alex Turner, who appears to be Eliza Nethery's brother, also lived there, working as a farm laborer. The 1891 plat book for Eagle Creek Township indicates that the farm was approximately 120 acres at that time. By 1900, another daughter Jennie and a servant named Charles Easten lived on the farm with the family, but by this time, the oldest two children had moved away. In 1920, John C. Nethery, the original owner's son, was farming the property with his wife Mabel and son Maurice. Frank Hettinger, a hired laborer, also lived there. In 1920, the farm remained 120 acres in size. The 1930 and 1940 censuses show only John and Mabel occupying the property. By 1956, John M. Nethery, presumably another son or relative, owned the land and he is listed as the property's owner in 1966 when the farm was 200 acres in size. However, by 1976, John M. Nethery, who continued to own the land, had sold some acreage, and his farm was 169 acres in size. By 1985, the property's size had diminished greatly, with only 4.8 acres remaining; it was owned by the Paul family. Since 1998, Frederick Berdyck has owned the farm, which remains 4.8 acres in size.

The remaining buildings on the farm do not indicate what type of specialized farming may have occurred on the property. A 1956 aerial photograph shows the farmstead boasted numerous agricultural outbuildings, conveying the success of the farming operation at that time. The agricultural outbuildings included what appears to be a large Wisconsin dairy barn with attached silo, at least three one-story barns, and several smaller outbuildings. At that time, the house already had its facade and east side elevation wraparound enclosed porch and the north rear elevation shed-roofed addition.

The Nethery Farmstead was established during the period between 1850 and 1900, which is generally considered to be Indiana's golden age of agriculture as subsistence farming transitioned to large-scale operations. Transportation and technological improvements allowed farmers to bring their corn crops and livestock, primarily cattle and hogs, to faraway markets. Early agricultural education also contributed to this period of agricultural growth at the state and local levels. In 1851, the State Board of Agriculture was created to provide farmers with agricultural guidance in the form of local county agricultural societies. These county agricultural societies, as well as county fairs, provided farmstead improvement methods and techniques directly to farmers. Additionally, they exposed farmers to "book farming," which included essays on the topics of crops, drainage, machinery, and farmstead improvements. As a result, agricultural practice improved throughout the state and the State Board of Agriculture lent support for the Morrill Act passed by Congress in 1862. This act created the foundation for grant colleges and universities geared toward teaching agriculture and mechanical arts nationwide. These educational efforts and transportation improvements characterizing the state's agricultural boom did not reach the tri-creek area until the Monon Railroad was constructed through Cedar Creek Township in the 1880s. Also aiding agricultural growth in the tri-creek area were increased efforts to drain the marshlands and dig ditches to create arable land. An extensive drainage system began in the 1870s, continuing through the early part of the twentieth century, contributed greatly to agricultural growth. As a result, a large number of the county's farms, such as the subject property, date from the late nineteenth or early twentieth century.

At the beginning of the twentieth century, few Lake County farmers owned tractors, used chemical fertilizers, or practiced crop rotation to avoid depleting soil nutrients despite a statewide trend toward these practices. Strides in agricultural education, focused on fertilizer, began in the 1880s and 1890s. These experiments began at the state's first land grant university, Purdue University. As the benefits of fertilizer to future crops became apparent, bulletins were published that instructed farmers on the application and benefits of fertilizer, its future effects to crops, and the best crops to fertilize (wheat and corn over oats). With the dissemination of these bulletins, further promoted by local agricultural organizations, farmers began to invest in commercial plant foods and liming soils between 1890 and 1900. These practices were more readily adopted by farmers statewide by 1910 than in Lake County, but as they became more commonplace, Lake County farmers began to adopt the new planting and fertilizer techniques as well as new machinery during the 1920s and 1930s. These practices streamlined farming practices and increased productivity. This was further supported by local agricultural education offered by the Lowell High School, which had a three-year course in agriculture specifically designed for its rural pupils. The course of study partially relied on the study of agricultural bulletins and focused on plants and crops, soils, gardening, fruit growing, livestock, dairying, poultry, and feeding. Consequently, as new machinery was adopted, farm shops and implement or machine sheds were erected on the farms to repair and house equipment, store tools, and generally maintain the farmstead. One of the most basic and popular implement sheds was a three-sided building with the fourth side entirely open; sometimes old, unused barns on the property, simple wood-frame structures with open sides, or lean-tos attached to other farm buildings were used to protect farm equipment.

These improvements in agricultural practices and education led to a higher standard of living in rural communities as running water and electricity started to become available to rural residents and crop productivity significantly increased. Produce and food became less expensive for rural and urban residents and in increase in agricultural input initially benefited the nation during World War I. Farmers were able to supply food to families at home and to members of the military, resulting in an increased demand for goods and an economic boom. Increased profits during this time period led to farmers purchasing more land and seeking ways to continue to improve farming methods and machinery. However, after the war, prices for goods began to decline and farmers found themselves with a surplus of crops as they could produce more than what could be consumed. This resulted in the construction of silos on farmsteads to store surplus crops, in addition to the silos needed for winter livestock feed. Between

not retain the majority of its historic agricultural buildings or original fields.

The residence on the property was constructed in 1890 by the Nethery family. It was constructed in the Folk Victorian style, a common style throughout the United States from ca. 1870 to 1910. It was spread by the growth of the railroad system, which made heavy woodworking machinery that produced inexpensive pre-cut Victorian-era trim available at local trade centers. Builders attached the pre-cut pieces onto traditional vernacular house types and homeowners updated older vernacular houses with applied pieces or new porches that reflected the era's popular ornamental architectural styles. The style is defined by simple Victorian-era influenced decorative detailing on vernacular house types, most frequently with Italianate or Queen Anne inspired details applied to the porch, cornice line, and gables, when present. Most have Queen Anne spindlework detailing and lace-like spandrels. The Nethery family farmhouse is a modest and altered example of the Folk Victorian style. Changes include enclosure of the front porch and replacement asbestos tile cladding.

Early barn types were constructed using traditional building methods. Settlement era barns were typically single-pen barns of log construction. These were replaced by timber frame barns constructed of locally-felled logs hewn square with a broadaxe or at a nearby sawmill on a stone foundation and assembled with mortise and tenon joints fastened with wooden pegs. By the end of the nineteenth century, traditional barn types were replaced by barn designs, such as plank and balloon frame barns, promoted in agricultural journals, land grant college programs, and later by the United States Department of Agriculture. Plank and balloon frame barns maximized storage capacity, used milled standard-sized sawn boards and machine-made nails, were faster to build, and required less wood than timber frame barns. Post-World War II, barn building techniques dramatically changed and traditional building techniques were superseded by the construction of pole barns and prefabricated structures, which were more cost-effective for farmers. These were commonly constructed of treated wood posts and corrugated steel, respectively, and clad in corrugated sheet metal. Commonly found barn types in Lake County, particularly in the tri-creek area, include the English barn, the transverse-frame barn, and the dairy or Wisconsin barn. The Nethery Farmstead's extant pole barns, including the derivative English barn form, are typical examples of their type.

The dominant barn type in the Midwest and Lake County is the English barn, which was introduced to New England by English settlers. Its primary purpose was grain processing and storage. The rectangular and timber-framed English barn has vertical siding and few windows. Its primary entrance, typically consisting of double doors, is located on the barn's long side, unlike the transverse-frame barn where it is located in the gable end. The English barn is divided into three bays with the center bay used as a threshing area and the flanking bays used for grain and hay storage.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The Nethery Farmstead was evaluated for listing in the NRHP under Criteria A, B, and C using guidelines set forth in the NRHP Bulletin "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation."

The Nethery Farmstead is associated with the history of agriculture and farming in Lake County. The

1917 and 1918, approximately ten thousand silos were constructed in the state.

During the Great Depression, Congress passed the Agricultural Adjustment Act in 1933. The act played an important role in improving Indiana's agricultural economy through the installation of a wheat allotment program. Additionally, the Rural Electrification Administration, a program enacted by the New Deal, significantly impacted rural residents as approximately 24,000 farms received electricity. This was supported by the state's Rural Electric Membership Corporation in 1935 to distribute electricity to rural areas. By 1965, 99 percent of the state's farms were electrified, ending rural isolation and increasing farmers' productivity and efficiency.

In addition to corn, farmers also raised livestock. In Lake County, beef cattle farming rose to prominence in the early 1860s, spurred by increased demand, the development of refrigerated railcars, and later, the construction of a slaughterhouse in nearby Hammond, close to Chicago and railroad lines. At first, farmers raised a variety of livestock but eventually began to specialize in the 1920s due to the expense of raising a combination of animals that required specific buildings and care. Farmers focused on hogs and chickens or solely on dairy cows or beef cattle. This shifting focus to particular breeds was supported and improved by increased knowledge about livestock nutrition and the use of genetics for better breeding results that was disseminated by the local county fair and agricultural bulletins. Improved technologies for the care of livestock, such as automated feeding systems and milking systems, also contributed to this specialization. Research did not reveal the specific agricultural activities of the farmstead and it is known if it specialized in particular livestock, though its former Wisconsin dairy barn suggests it may have been used for dairy farming.

In the early twentieth century, the dairy industry was booming in Indiana, particularly in northern Indiana, which supplied milk to nearby Chicago. During the 1920s, farmers with large cattle herds began using automated milking and watering machines and transported milk in cans, a process completed on the farm, to other cities via the Monon Railroad. This line was known as the "milk run," which stopped daily at the milk stand in the nearby town of Lowell through the 1920s. After this time, county dairies began to pick up milk directly from farms by truck. Dairy farms were characterized by a number of related outbuildings that supported dairy operations, such as dairy barns, milk houses, milking barns, grain silos, manure pits, stockyards, bull barns, and hay barns. The dairy barn was used to house and feed the dairy cows. They typically had a gambrel roof, roof ventilators and dormers, and multiple windows along the side elevations; many also had attached silos. The milking barn was located close to the dairy barn and sited within an integrated system of pens, stockyards, and pastures. It could be a separate building or a segregated room within a larger barn. Sited close to the dairy and milking barns, the milk house was a rectangular building with a gabled roof and constructed of concrete or tile blocks with no ventilation. The well-insulated milk house was a dedicated space used for cooling and storing milk before it was taken to market.

In the 1950s and 1960s, most farmers stopped practicing crop rotation and began to grow corn continuously because the crops did not deplete soil nutrients and improved fertilization techniques came into use. Additionally, rows of corn crops were planted closer together, increasing the output of crops and contributing to the decline of crop rotation. New mechanized and specialized equipment, like the mechanical corn picker, cultivator, planter, and mowers, and automated feeding and milking systems, and farming practices, like a new process of corn, wheat, and soybean field shelling and knowledge of nutrition and genetics of livestock, began to supersede the need for human labor. These improvements to crop and livestock varieties allowed farmers to engage in well-rounded agricultural practices on a scale never before seen. Despite these advances, the amount of farmland statewide and nationwide experienced a small decrease due to a shift from agriculture and industry to suburban and urban centers. This shift included suburban residential growth in rural areas, the development of state highways, the expansion of industrial areas, and the development of shopping centers. The Nethery Farmstead does

former scale of the property, the numerous agricultural buildings that previously occupied the farm, and the comfortable farmhouse indicate that it was once a successful agricultural enterprise. However, the property has been reduced from more than 240 acres at its most successful size, to less than 5 acres. The 1956 aerial photograph shows the farmhouse adjacent to what appears to be five large barns and numerous smaller sheds and support buildings, including a silo. Almost all of these buildings are no longer extant and recently constructed pole barns diminish the integrity of the farmstead. Therefore, the property no longer conveys its association with historic agricultural trends in the area due to the diminished parcel size, demolished period buildings, and changes to the farm's setting. It is not eligible for under Criterion A.

The Nethery Farmstead is not eligible under Criterion B. Although the Nethery family occupied the property for many years, successfully establishing the farm in the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries, the family does not appear to have practiced innovative farming techniques, or been influential on other farmers in the area. Furthermore, the extant property does not resemble the family's agricultural enterprise due to the diminished property size and the demolition of former farm buildings.

The Nethery Farmstead is also not eligible under Criterion C. Its residence is a modest and altered Folk Victorian style house, and its contemporary farm buildings are no longer extant. Modern pole barns have been constructed in their place. The farmhouse is not a significant example of the style, and as the only extant period building, it does not convey the prior scale and importance of the farming venture. A remaining circa 1940 barn is substantially altered by a non-historic addition, and modern pole barns also exist on the property. As such, there is no cohesive architectural vocabulary among the buildings that would convey architectural significance.

The Nethery Farmstead was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the Nethery Farmstead at 2626 East 153rd Avenue is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

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Plat Maps. 1976. *Three-Creek Bicentennial Book.*

Plat Maps. 1985. Wille & Stiener Associates. *1985 Plat Book. Lake County, Indiana*.

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Plat Maps. 2005. *2005 Plat Book. Lake County, Indiana.*

US Census Bureau. 1880.

US Census Bureau. 1900.

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US Census Bureau. 1920.

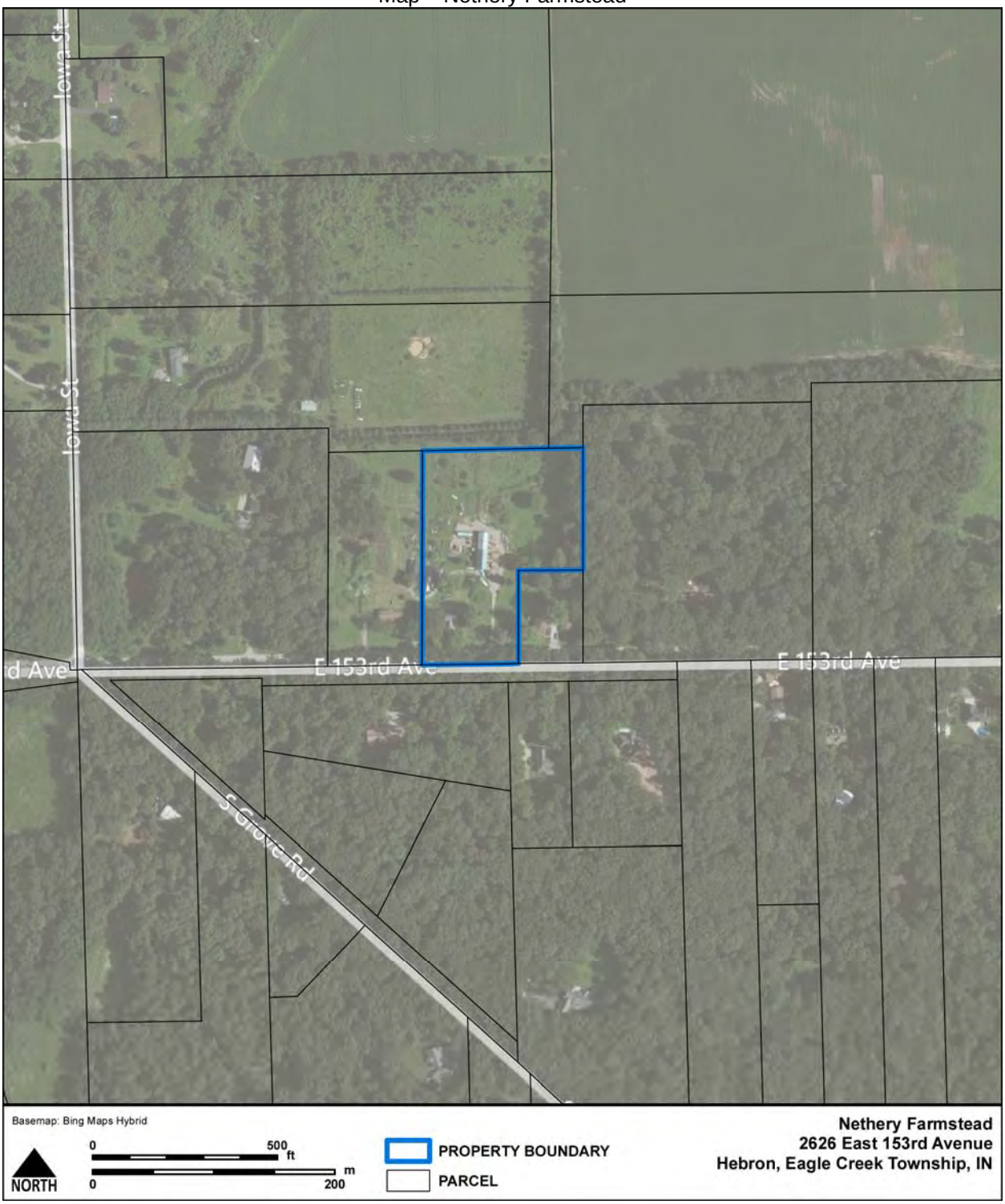
US Census Bureau. 1930.

US Census Bureau. 1940.

Photo 1 – Nethery Farmstead

Facing northeast to facade and west elevation

Map – Nethery Farmstead



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NAME
Kingsbury-Doak Farmhouse

OTHER NAME(S)
Steele Farmhouse

STREET ADDRESS
4411 East 153rd Avenue

CITY
Hebron

TOWNSHIP
Eagle Creek

OWNERSHIP
Jay Steele

TAX PARCEL NUMBER
45-20-01-400-002.000-012

YEAR BUILT
1883

SOURCE
NPS, 2005

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE
Italianate

PROPERTY TYPE
Domestic

FOUNDATION
Fieldstone

WALLS
Wood

ROOF
Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The Kingsbury-Doak Farmhouse at 4411 East 153rd Avenue is a ca. 1883 two-story, T-plan house in the Italianate style. The Italianate ornamentation was added to an earlier residential one-and-one-half-story house of simple massing and no discernible style; stylistic changes like this were particularly common during the Victorian era. The house is clad in wood clapboard siding on a fieldstone foundation with an asphalt-shingle cross-gable roof and overhanging eaves. The house is located on approximately 40 acres on the south side of East 153rd Avenue. Its larger farmstead property consists of a carriage house, a storage/well house, detached garage, shed, two barns, and a silo ranging in date from 1918 to 1920. Two non-historic sheds constructed in 1980 and 2009 are also located on the property. All of the outbuildings are located south and southeast of the farmhouse and off of a long driveway leading south from East 153rd Avenue. The property is characterized by a grassy lawn and a stand of mature deciduous trees creating a buffer around the farmhouse and its extant outbuildings. Mature trees also surround the detached garage and outbuildings located along the property's east boundary.

The house is comprised of two parts; an 1860 rectangular-plan, two-story, west end portion and an 1883 two-story, T-plan, east end addition. All of the house's windows are one-over-one, double-hung, wood-sash windows with wood shutters, unless otherwise noted. The north-facing facade is more ornately detailed than the secondary elevations and contains numerous decorative elements, such as decorative pedimented window hoods, corbels, floral keystones, scroll brackets, and window shutters. The house also retains some overgrown ornamental shrubbery planted at the foundation on all elevations.

The facade comprises the north side elevation of the two-story gable-front perpendicular to the rear cross-gable ell forming the T-plan. The gable-front's first story comprises two bays; the west bay contains a single window and the east bay contains a wood entry door opening to the facade's one-story, hipped roof porch on a brick foundation. The porch comprises two free-standing wood posts and two chamfered wood pilasters where the porch meets the house; these support a frieze containing long oval panels and scroll brackets. Above the porch, the gable-front's second story contains a single off-center window. The cross-gable ell of the facade comprises a wood entry door leading to the facade porch on its east

elevation at the first story and a single window at its second story. The ell's north elevation comprises a square bay window at the first story, housing paired windows on the front and one narrow window on each side. The bay window terminates in a bell-cast roof supported by scroll sawn brackets. The second story contains two windows. All the second story facade windows are surmounted by decorative pedimented hoods resting on corbels that contain floral ornamented keystones.

The house's east side elevation comprises a three-sided, two-story bay window housing three windows at both stories on the gable-front portion. Each bay contains a window and wood shutters flank the windows at the chamfered side of the bay. A small hood supported by scroll brackets separates the first and second story bay windows. Decorative panels containing rectangular insets are located directly above and beneath the first story windows, as well as directly beneath the second story windows. The second story bay terminates in a flared roof supported by scroll brackets.

The gable-front's south rear elevation comprises a single-bay that contains a single window flanked by wood shutters and capped by a simple pediment on both stories. A small interior brick chimney is located directly west of the windows at the gable-front's juncture with the cross-gable ell of the T-plan. The cross-gable ell's east elevation a single window flanked by wood shutters at both stories. These windows are topped by the decorative hoods seen on the house's facade. The cross-gable ell's south elevation contains a larger exterior brick chimney flanked a window on each side at both stories. The windows are flanked by wood shutters and capped by simple pediments.

The west side elevation comprises the original ca. 1860 portion of the house. Its south elevation contains smaller paired, one-over-one, double-hung, wood-sash windows on its first story at its east end and a one-story, shed-roof, screened-in porch comprising the southwest corner of the house. The second story contains a third brick chimney flanked on the first story by paired smaller one-over-one, double-hung, wood-sash windows. Its three-bay west elevation comprises a single one-over-one, double-hung, wood-sash window in its south bay, a central six-over-six, double-hung, wood-sash window in its middle bay, and an entry door in its north bay. The second-story contains a central six-over-six, double-hung, wood-sash window. The original house terminates in a cross-gabled, asphalt-shingled roof with overhanging eaves. Its north-facing facade contains no window or door openings.

Though a one-story storage/well house and a detached garage were indentified in the property's National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) listing, additional outbuildings were not described and the property's agricultural significance was not evaluated. Southwest of the farmhouse is a rock-faced concrete block well and storage house that was constructed during the 1950s and was listed as non-contributing to the property. It is a one-story, gable-roof building primarily constructed of molded concrete blocks with wood siding in its east and west gable ends. Its east elevation contains no openings. Immediately west of this building is a ca. 1918 one-and-one-half-story, gable-roof carriage house. It is clad in wood siding with an asphalt-shingle roof and a brick chimney. Its east elevation comprises two bays of fixed windows at the first and half stories while its north and south elevations contain open shed-roof porches.

Southeast of the farmhouse is a ca. 1920 one-story, wood-clad, gable-roof detached garage. The garage's gabled east elevation contains a central wood-paneled garage door with four rectangular five-over-five, fixed-light windows. The garage's two-bay north, west, and south elevations each contain one-over-one, double-hung, wood-sash windows. The garage terminates in an asphalt-shingle gable roof. A ca. 1918 shed and barn with a shed-roof addition are located immediately south of the detached garage. The wood-clad, asphalt-shingle gable-roof shed has a single entry door on its gabled west elevation and two window openings on its south elevation; the remaining elevations contain no door or window openings. The shed's roof also has two skylights on its north elevation roof. The small wood-clad, metal gable-roof barn comprises a sliding double door on its gabled north elevation, no openings on its east elevation, a partially open gable end on its south elevation and a shed-roof addition along its west

elevation. The shed-roof addition does not appear to have any openings and is accessed from the barn's interior.

A ca. 1918 English barn is located south of the smaller barn. It is one-and-one-half-stories and clad in wood siding with a metal gable-roof. Its east elevation contains a sliding double wood doors and an entry door. Its south and north elevations contain a small opening in the gable end to the hayloft; the west elevation does not appear to contain any openings. A grain bin and silo, construction dates unknown, are also located on the property, west of the English barn. The concrete silo is deteriorated and missing portions of its roof while the round grain bin has a hemispherical metal roof. The farmstead also contains a non-historic outbuilding and a ca.1980 utility shed.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The original 312-acre farm comprising the Kingsbury-Doak Farmhouse was first owned by brothers Alonzo and Orson Starr. The first homestead on the Starr property was constructed on 157th Avenue, south of the current farmhouse near 153rd Avenue. The original 1860 portion of the Kingsbury-Doak Farmhouse was constructed following the marriage of Alonzo's daughter Fannie to Hiram Kingsbury. Hiram and Fannie's daughter Pleiades later married George S. Doak, who moved the original 1860 house 100 yards north to its current location. He then commissioned the construction of the T-plan addition to the original house in 1882.

George S. Doak farmed the land and served as the first schoolteacher at the nearby South East Grove School. In 1891, the Doak Farm consisted of approximately 130.5 acres of land. George purchased the Cochrane Farm to the west (approximately 38.5 acres) in 1900. In 1902, George purchased the Boyd Farm across the street (approximately 44 acres) and his son Jay married Sarah May Davis. George and his sister, along with Jay's family, lived on the farm until their deaths in 1924. By this time, the property comprised 390 acres of land and Jay continued to farm the land after his father's death. The farm survived the Great Depression, but approximately 80 acres of land to the east were subdivided and developed for housing.

Jay's daughter Joan Doak Steele inherited the house after his death. In 1948, she and her family moved into what then became known as the Steele Farmhouse; they left for Indianapolis in 1950. For the next twenty years, the farm and buildings were rented to tenant farmers until the Steele family returned in 1970. Joan's son Jay Steele continues to reside on the farm. Aside from the 40-acre parcel on which the property is located, the Steele family retains ownership of approximately 146 acres of agricultural land surrounding the property.

The property was rated as "Notable" in the 1996 Lake County Interim Report. The Interim Report assigned a rating of "Non-Contributing," "Contributing," "Notable," or "Outstanding" to surveyed properties based on their historical significance, architectural merit, environment, and integrity. For the purposes of the Interim Report, these ratings were based upon the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Criteria for Evaluation, but were not substitutes for final NRHP eligibility determinations. Also, because 17 years have passed since this report, many properties have undergone alterations that are not considered in the report's assessments. Properties rated "Non-Contributing" were only included in the Interim Report if they were located within an existing or potential historic district and would not be considered NRHP-eligible. A "Contributing" rating was assigned to those properties that met the 50 years of age or older criterion but were not individually significant enough to be NRHP eligible; however, these resources could be considered NRHP-eligible as part of a historic district. A "Notable" rating meant the property did not merit an "Outstanding" rating but was still above-average in its historic or architectural significance and could be NRHP-eligible upon further investigation. An "Outstanding" rating meant the property retained enough historic or architectural significance that it was already listed in or should be considered for individual listing in the NRHP.

At that time, the farmhouse was identified as a good example of the T-plan vernacular house type, a subset of the gable-front house type, and an excellent example of the Italianate style in the township due to the property's high level detailing. Though the brick foundation of the porch was identified as new and some windows were identified as replacements, the original materials of the house are largely intact. The property was evaluated for its architectural and agricultural significance, though it did not appear to be a working farm in 1996. Since the survey, one outbuilding has been constructed on the property, but it does not appear that any other alterations to the farmhouse or outbuildings have occurred. The farmhouse was listed in the NRHP July 20, 2005, exclusive of its extant agricultural outbuildings.

The property is classified as a cash grain/general farm by the Lake County Assessor; however it does not appear to operate as a farm any longer, though its original agricultural outbuildings remain and agricultural fields surround the property. A 1956 aerial photography of the property shows a portion of the north facade of the Kingsbury-Doak Farmhouse, along with the ca. 1918 shed, ca. 1918 barns, and the silo. The property appears to remain relatively unaltered since 1956 with the exception of a rectangular, one-story outbuilding that has since been demolished.

West Creek, Cedar Creek, and Eagle Creek were all established as townships in 1839, although the earliest pioneers began arriving and settling the land known as the tri-creek area in the early 1830s. This early settlement period was characterized by fur trapping, hunting, and subsistence farming, aided by the construction of several saw and grist mills. The settlers first planted corn, which became a mainstay of the local economy, even as crops diversified in later years to include wheat and soybeans. Corn provided food for the settlers as well as the livestock, and was also used as a means of trade. However, due to the extensive marshlands and prairie, and the late arrival of the railroad in the tri-creek area, farming on a large scale did not occur until the late nineteenth century. This was much later than other areas in Indiana that experienced major changes in agricultural practice and prosperity from the 1840s to 1860s due to advancements in transportation by canals and railroads and improvements in agricultural education.

The Kingsbury-Doak Farmhouse and its original farmstead were constructed during the period between 1850 and 1900, which is generally considered to be Indiana's golden age of agriculture as subsistence farming transitioned to large-scale operations. Transportation and technological improvements allowed farmers to bring their corn crops and livestock, primarily cattle and hogs, to faraway markets. Early agricultural education also contributed to this period of agricultural growth at the state and local levels. In 1851, the State Board of Agriculture was created to provide farmers with agricultural guidance in the form of local county agricultural societies. These county agricultural societies, as well as county fairs, provided farmstead improvement methods and techniques directly to farmers. Additionally, they exposed farmers to "book farming," which included essays on the topics of crops, drainage, machinery, and farmstead improvements. As a result, agricultural practice improved throughout the state and the State Board of Agriculture lent support for the Morrill Act passed by Congress in 1862. This act created the foundation for grant colleges and universities geared toward teaching agriculture and mechanical arts nationwide. These educational efforts and transportation improvements characterizing the state's agricultural boom did not reach the tri-creek area until the Monon Railroad was constructed through Cedar Creek Township in the 1880s. Also aiding agricultural growth in the tri-creek area were increased efforts to drain the marshlands and dig ditches to create arable land. An extensive drainage system began in the 1870s, continuing through the early part of the twentieth century, contributed greatly to agricultural growth. As a result, a large number of the county's farms date from the late nineteenth or early twentieth century. This property's farmhouse is representative of this agricultural development during this period while its extant agricultural buildings date toward the end of this period.

At the beginning of the twentieth century, few Lake County farmers owned tractors, used chemical fertilizers, or practiced crop rotation to avoid depleting soil nutrients despite a statewide trend toward these practices. Strides in agricultural education, focused on fertilizer, began in the 1880s and 1890s.

These experiments began at the state's first land grant university, Purdue University. As the benefits of fertilizer to future crops became apparent, bulletins were published that instructed farmers on the application and benefits of fertilizer, its future effects to crops, and the best crops to fertilize (wheat and corn over oats). With the dissemination of these bulletins, further promoted by local agricultural organizations, farmers began to invest in commercial plant foods and liming soils between 1890 and 1900. These practices were more readily adopted by farmers statewide by 1910 than in Lake County, but as they became more commonplace, Lake County farmers began to adopt the new planting and fertilizer techniques as well as new machinery during the 1920s and 1930s. These practices streamlined farming practices and increased productivity. This was further supported by local agricultural education offered by the Lowell High School, which had a three-year course in agriculture specifically designed for its rural pupils. The course of study partially relied on the study of agricultural bulletins and focused on plants and crops, soils, gardening, fruit growing, livestock, dairying, poultry, and feeding. Consequently, as new machinery was adopted, farm shops and implement or machine sheds were erected on the farms to repair and house equipment, store tools, and generally maintain the farmstead. One of the most basic and popular implement sheds was a three-sided building with the fourth side entirely open; sometimes old, unused barns on the property, simple wood-frame structures with open sides, or lean-tos attached to other farm buildings were used to protect farm equipment.

These improvements in agricultural practices and education led to a higher standard of living in rural communities as running water and electricity started to become available to rural residents and crop productivity significantly increased. Produce and food became less expensive for rural and urban residents and in increase in agricultural input initially benefited the nation during World War I. Farmers were able to supply food to families at home and to members of the military, resulting in an increased demand for goods and an economic boom. Increased profits during this time period led to farmers purchasing more land and seeking ways to continue to improve farming methods and machinery. However, after the war, prices for goods began to decline and farmers found themselves with a surplus of crops as they could produce more than what could be consumed. This resulted in the construction of silos on farmsteads to store surplus crops, in addition to the silos needed for winter livestock feed. Between 1917 and 1918, approximately ten thousand silos were constructed in the state.

During the Great Depression, Congress passed the Agricultural Adjustment Act in 1933. The act played an important role in improving Indiana's agricultural economy through the installation of a wheat allotment program. Additionally, the Rural Electrification Administration, a program enacted by the New Deal, significantly impacted rural residents as approximately 24,000 farms received electricity. This was supported by the state's Rural Electric Membership Corporation in 1935 to distribute electricity to rural areas. By 1965, 99 percent of the state's farms were electrified, ending rural isolation and increasing farmers' productivity and efficiency.

In addition to corn, farmers also raised livestock. In Lake County, beef cattle farming rose to prominence in the early 1860s, spurred by increased demand, the development of refrigerated railcars, and later, the construction of a slaughterhouse in nearby Hammond, close to Chicago and railroad lines. At first, farmers raised a variety of livestock but eventually began to specialize in the 1920s due to the expense of raising a combination of animals that required specific buildings and care. Farmers focused on hogs and chickens or solely on dairy cows or beef cattle. This shifting focus to particular breeds was supported and improved by increased knowledge about livestock nutrition and the use of genetics for better breeding results that was disseminated by the local county fair and agricultural bulletins. Improved technologies for the care of livestock, such as automated feeding systems and milking systems, also contributed to this specialization. Research did not reveal the type of agricultural activities that occurred on this property, though given the extant agricultural buildings, it is likely that the original farm produced corn or grain crops.

In the early twentieth century, the dairy industry was booming in Indiana, particularly in northern Indiana, which supplied milk to nearby Chicago. During the 1920s, farmers with large cattle herds began using automated milking and watering machines and transported milk in metal milk cans, a process completed on the farm, to other cities via the Monon Railroad. This line was known as the “milk run,” which stopped daily at the milk stand in the nearby town of Lowell through the 1920s. After this time, county dairies began to pick up milk directly from farms by truck. Dairy farms were characterized by a number of related outbuildings that supported dairy operations, such as dairy barns, milk houses, milking barns, grain silos, manure pits, stockyards, bull barns, and hay barns. The dairy barn was used to house and feed the dairy cows. They typically had a gambrel roof, roof ventilators and dormers, and multiple windows along the side elevations; many also had attached silos. The milking barn was located close to the dairy barn and sited within an integrated system of pens, stockyards, and pastures. It could be a separate building or a segregated room within a larger barn. Sited close to the dairy and milking barns, the milk house was a rectangular building with a gabled roof and constructed of concrete or tile blocks with no ventilation. The well-insulated milk house was a dedicated space used for cooling and storing milk before it was taken to market. This original farmstead does not appear to have engaged in dairy farming.

In the 1950s and 1960s, most farmers stopped practicing crop rotation and began to grow corn continuously because the crops did not deplete soil nutrients and improved fertilization techniques came into use. Additionally, rows of corn crops were planted closer together, increasing the output of crops and contributing to the decline of crop rotation. New mechanized and specialized equipment, like the mechanical corn picker, cultivator, planter, and mowers, and automated feeding and milking systems, and farming practices, like a new process of corn, wheat, and soybean field shelling and knowledge of nutrition and genetics of livestock, began to supersede the need for human labor. These improvements to crop and livestock varieties allowed farmers to engage in well-rounded agricultural practices on a scale never before seen. Despite these advances, the amount of farmland statewide and nationwide experienced a small decrease due to a shift from agriculture and industry to suburban and urban centers. This shift included suburban residential growth in rural areas, the development of state highways, the expansion of industrial areas, and the development of shopping centers. During this time, the Steele family moved to Indianapolis and rented the Kingsbury-Doak property to tenant farmers for approximately twenty years.

The Kingsbury-Doak Farmhouse was originally constructed as a modest two-story house in 1860 and a larger two-story, T-plan, Italianate-style addition to the house was commissioned in 1882. The T-plan is a variation of the gable-front house, which was a dominant house type that rose to popularity throughout the United States during the Greek Revival era. In Lake County, the gable-front and its subtype, the T-plan, was constructed as early as the mid-nineteenth century up through the early twentieth century. The T-plan is a gable-front house with a perpendicular rear section that forms a T-shaped footprint. These range in height with the front and rear portions being the same height. The T-plan house in rural areas is generally unornamented, particularly examples after the antebellum era. The Kingsbury-Doak Farmhouse is a T-plan example of the Italianate style whose basic form remains relatively unaltered.

The Italianate style was integrated into the farmhouse’s T-plan addition; this ornamentation was a common update to modest houses in the Victorian era due to the prevalent and inexpensive ornamentation available through the growth of the railroad system and increased industrialization. This style dominated American houses constructed between 1850 and 1880 and was particularly common in the Midwest. The style began in England, along with the Gothic Revival style, as part of the Picturesque movement, which was a reaction to the formal classical ideals in art and architecture that had been fashionable for approximately two hundred years. The movement emphasized the rambling informal Italian farmhouse and Italianate houses built in the United States generally followed these informal rural models. The style was popularized through the pattern books of Andrew Jackson Downing published in the 1840s and 1850s. Italianate style houses are characterized by two or three stories, a low-pitched roof

with widely overhanging eaves supported by decorative brackets, tall narrow windows that are commonly arched or curved, elaborate window crowns, and in some examples, a square cupola or tower. The Kingsbury-Doak Farmhouse is a good example of the Italianate style applied to a vernacular form and it retains its original Italianate style ornamentation with wide overhanging eaves, decorative brackets, tall windows, and elaborate window crowns.

The farmstead does not retain any of its original establishment-era agricultural outbuildings and its extant buildings date primarily to 1918 and 1920. The property retains an English barn, one smaller barn, one utility shed, and a carriage house dating to ca. 1918 as well as a ca. 1920 detached garage, an older concrete silo, and a ca. 1950 storage and well house. The dominant barn type in the Midwest and Lake County is the English barn, which was introduced to New England by English settlers. Its primary purpose was grain processing and storage. The rectangular and timber-framed English barn has vertical siding and few windows. Its primary entrance, typically consisting of double doors, is located on the barn's long side, unlike the transverse-frame barn where it is located in the gable end. The English barn is divided into three bays with the center bay used as a threshing area and the flanking bays used for grain and hay storage. The formerly active farmstead's English barn is a basic example of the type and does not appear to be architecturally significant.

Similarly, its extant round silo is a basic and altered example as it no longer retains its roof. Silos became popular around the turn of the nineteenth century for the purpose of feeding livestock in the winter. They were first constructed of wood in a square shape. These first silos were sometimes built at the corner of a barn but they reduced available area for livestock or hay storage. They also were not as practical as the later round silos because the silage did not get packed into the corners, allowing air to get in and rot the contents. Square silos fell out of favor by the 1920s as round, concrete and glazed tile silos came into widespread use. Concrete was more popular than tile because it was easier to use and it could be poured in any vertical size. Curved tiles were more fragile and the curvature determined the silo's size. Metal silos also became popular and few wooden silos exist in Indiana today. The carriage house is not usually found on farmsteads where the main barn performs its functions. The carriage house provided enough room for the storage of a carriage and one to two horses. They often appear as tall garages. The farmstead's carriage house appears to be a basic example.

NRHP STATUS
Listed

DATE LISTED
07/20/2005

NRHP CRITERIA
C

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The Kingsbury Doak-Farmhouse at 4411 East 153rd Avenue was listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criterion C for its architectural qualities as an excellent example of a vernacular Italianate style farmhouse. The NRHP nomination identified the property's period of significance as ca. 1860-1883, which encompasses the construction date of the ca. 1860 vernacular farmhouse built by Hiram Kingsbury and the ca. 1883 construction date of the Italianate-style T-plan addition to the farmhouse built by George Doak. At the time of listing, the NRHP nomination did not address the property's agricultural associations and consequently did not evaluate its extant agricultural outbuildings; after assessment, the farmhouse was found to be the significant property because of the architectural trend it demonstrates. Only the house was being nominated for its architecture. The NRHP boundary did, however, include the storage/well house as a non-contributing resource due to its proximity to the house. This determination of eligibility also assesses and gives serious consideration to the property's eligibility

as a farmstead under Criterion A and its association with the Kingsbury, Doak, and Steele families under Criterion B.

The Kingsbury-Doak Farmhouse is not eligible under Criterion A. Although the property retains agricultural outbuildings that are associated with its agricultural history, these buildings postdate the property's period of significance by nearly 40 years and do not convey the property's original establishment in the 1860s or its period of prosperity in the late nineteenth century when the Italianate-style addition was added to the original house. None of the original agricultural outbuildings from its period of significance are extant. Only the extant farmhouse reflects its former prosperity and architecturally significant association with the Italianate style applied to Victorian-era houses from its period of significance in the mid-to-late nineteenth century. The original farmstead was established in the 1860s and prospered through the turn-of-twentieth-century. Its extant agricultural outbuildings were constructed after extensive transportation and drainage efforts occurred in Eagle Creek Township in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, reflecting a countywide trend of farmstead establishment in this period. The farmstead appears to be typical of farmstead establishment and reflects the general farming activities typical of small farms during this period. Furthermore, the farm is not known to have practiced innovative agricultural techniques.

The Kingsbury-Doak Farmhouse is not eligible under Criterion B. Although the property is associated with the related Kingsbury, Doak, and Steele families who have retained ownership of the property since it was first established, research did not reveal any members of these families to be associated with any significant agricultural trends in Lake County. The property no longer reflects its association with the Kingsbury family because the original ca. 1860 house was moved from its original location and none of the agricultural buildings from that period remain. Similarly, the farmhouse is representative of George Doak's prosperity in the late nineteenth century, but he is not associated with any significant agricultural trends or history and the farmstead is not representative of his productive life. Finally, research did not reveal the Steele family to have made significant contributions to local agricultural history, particularly since the farmstead was rented to tenant farmers for approximately twenty years of their ownership in the mid-twentieth century and the property is no longer an active farm.

The Kingsbury-Doak Farmhouse was listed in the NRHP under Criterion C. A combination of the vernacular and Italianate style, the farmhouse has maintained its architectural integrity and many of the original elements first incorporated by Hiram Kingsbury and George Doak. Constructed in 1860, the original portion of the house is typical of a modest farmhouse during this time. Simple in massing, the house features little detailing. Local craftsman selected resources readily available in the area, the foundation is local fieldstone, and the original hand-hew long beams are still intact. The original wood siding and windows remain in place.

The two-story ca. 1883 T-plan addition is ornamented in the Italianate style, one of the most common architectural styles in the state. The style is most prevalent on the house's north and east facades, the elevations first visible to visitors to the farmhouse. Prominent characteristics of the style are found in the brackets, window hoods, and door openings, along with the general massing and arrangement of elements on the exterior of the farmhouse. Additional decorative elements include the scroll-sawn brackets and insert panels that adorn the windows and front porch.

The Kingsbury-Doak Farmhouse's extant agricultural outbuildings are not eligible under Criterion C. They are basic and typical examples of agricultural buildings constructed during the early twentieth century and do not represent any particular type of farming.

The Kingsbury-Doak Farmhouse was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the Kingsbury-Doak Farmhouse is not recommended eligible under Criterion A or B and its original listing in the NRHP and initial assessment under Criterion C are maintained. The Kingsbury-Doak Farmhouse retains integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

NRHP BOUNDARY

The NRHP boundary for the Kingsbury-Doak Farmhouse encompasses the property directly associated with its period of significance, ca. 1860 to 1883, and is specifically described as "beginning at the meeting point of the south right of way of 153rd Street and UTM Easting Line (16) 476000, follow the UTM line south to a point 7 feet south of the south wall of the well house, then turn east and follow to appoint 10 feet east from the west wall of the well house, then turn north and follow to the south right of way of 153rd Street, then return to the point of origin along said right of way." This boundary is consistent with the 2005 NRHP listing.

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Photo 1 – Kingsbury-Doak Farmhouse

Facing southwest to the house's north and east elevations

Photo 2 – Kingsbury-Doak Farmhouse

Facing northwest to the house's south elevation, the storage/well house, and the carriage house's east elevation

Photo 3 – Kingsbury-Doak Farmhouse

Facing southeast to the detached garage

Photo 4 – Kingsbury-Doak Farmhouse

Facing south to the shed and barn

Map – Kingsbury-Doak Farmhouse

USGS Map – Kingsbury-Doak Farmhouse

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NAME
2021 East 153rd Avenue

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS
2021 East 153rd Avenue

CITY
Crown Point

TOWNSHIP
Eagle Creek

OWNERSHIP
Edward J. Hein (Elisabeth Caroline Smith, Roger Brown Krost, John S. Krost, Robert B. Krost, Thomas A. Krost and Tove Anne (Smith) Mercer retains their interest)

TAX PARCEL NUMBER
45-20-02-300-003.000-012;
45-20-02-300-002.000-012;
45-20-02-300-001.000-012;
45-20-11-100-001.000-012;
45-20-11-200-001.000-012

YEAR BUILT
1964

SOURCE
Lake County Assessor (2013)

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE
Ranch

PROPERTY TYPE
Domestic

FOUNDATION
Concrete

WALLS
Vinyl, Brick

ROOF
Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The property at 2021 East 153rd Avenue is an early nineteenth century farmstead that no longer retains any of its original buildings and consists of a ca. 1964 Ranch house, original and modern barns, and a variety of silos and outbuildings dating from 1940-1950. The farmstead is located on the south side of East 153rd Avenue on approximately 450 acres. It is located adjacent to Interstate 65 in an area that is still primarily rural, with farmsteads located on all sides. The highway cuts through the eastern boundary of the property, creating a small triangular parcel that is not farmed east of the interstate.

The one-story house is a relatively intact example of a Ranch house. Its wide, narrow footprint and overall massing are characteristic of this style. The L-shaped house has a gable on hipped roof and is clad with vinyl siding above a poured concrete foundation. The lower one-third of the north-facing facade is faced in brick, a common feature of Ranch houses. The facade features a small concrete slab porch in the perpendicular intersection formed by the projecting hipped-roof bay at the west end; the roof of the projecting bay continues over the small porch and is supported by a decorative metal post. This decorative post and the similarly detailed porch railings are most likely original, as is the wooden slab front door. The windows are replacement vinyl sashes; the projecting bay contains two one-over-one, double-hung sash windows, and a similar window is found at the east end of the facade. The center bay of the front contains a large tripartite window comprised of a large fixed pane flanked by narrow one-over-one, double-hung windows.

The house's east side elevation includes a two-bay built-in garage, a typical feature of Ranch houses. The vinyl replacement garage doors are the only feature on the east elevation. The south rear elevation is more simply detailed than the north; it has vinyl siding and a variety of window openings, all with vinyl

replacement windows. The configuration of the westernmost windows mimic the facade's one-over-one, double-hung sash windows. The next bay contains a door which opens onto a small concrete slab porch with two concrete steps to grade level. East of the door is a small double-hung window similar to those at the west end. The center bay contains larger, paired windows. The easternmost window is similar to the majority of windows on the house and is a small, double-hung sash. The west side elevation contains two one-over-one, double-hung, vinyl-sash windows similar to the majority of windows in the house. The house terminates in an asphalt-shingled roof.

In addition to the house, the property contains several outbuildings. The most prominent of these is a large, approximately 2700 square foot, dairy barn located southeast of the house. The gambrel-roof concrete block barn includes an attached milk house which is built of similar materials. The dairy barn's north elevation has concrete block at the ground level below the gambrel roof ends, with horizontal siding in the gable ends. The distinctive gambrel roof is accentuated by a hay hood or hanging gable which is just above the loft opening. This opening, protected by a sliding door, is located above the ground floor opening which also contains a sliding door. The similar west and east side elevations contain a series of small window openings, a design element typical of dairy barns. The south elevation is similar to the north elevation, but does not have the hanging gable. The concrete block milk house is located at the northwest corner of the barn. It is a small, approximately 330 square foot, structure with a shallow side-gable roof. The longer north elevation has a centered door flanked by double-hung windows; a similar window is located on the west side elevation. All building materials appear to be original, including the metal and asphalt-clad roofs. Two tall metal silos are located at the southeast corner of the dairy barn, one to the south and one to the east.

Immediately east of and perpendicular to the dairy barn, with its long side facing East 153rd Avenue, is a ca. 1945 pole barn. Its low side-gable roof and large footprint are typical of pole barns built beginning in the middle of the twentieth century. The north elevation has a plain metal wall with no openings. The east elevation gable end has a large opening suitable for farm equipment and machinery to go through. The south elevation of this structure consists of five open bays. South of the structure is a concrete pad the length of the pole barn and as deep as the dairy barn. South of the pad and perpendicular to the pole barn is a second metal pole barn, also ca. 1945. This barn has no openings on the long east and west elevations or the gabled south elevation. The gabled north elevation has a large opening sized for equipment and machinery. A third large metal pole barn is located perpendicular to and slightly to the east of this second barn. The largest of the pole barns on the farmstead, this 3,360 square foot structure is also plainly detailed, with no openings on the gabled east elevation, and a few small windows at the west end of the north elevation. The west gabled elevation has large sliding doors; the openings are large enough for farm equipment. The south elevation has a shorter shed-roof bay along the length of the elevation.

Immediately west of the dairy barn's silos is a short metal grain bin. West of this grain bin is a cluster of three metal grain bins. Immediately north of this cluster of grain bins is a small, approximately 220 square feet, gable-roof building. This small wooden building sits on a fieldstone foundation, and is sided with vertical plank siding. Two small windows are in both the north and the south gable ends, and a sliding door is found on the north end of the west elevation.

The final building on the property, located south of and perpendicular to the house, is a long one-story structure with an asymmetrical gable roof. The five-bay east elevation is completely open, and the building now functions as a garage or storage building for machinery and equipment The gabled north elevation has two small windows and a door in the vertical siding, while the gabled south and west elevations have no fenestration.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The property at 2021 East 153rd Avenue was established as a farmstead in 1837, but it does not retain

any buildings from its establishment period or from the nineteenth century. It currently consists of a ca. 1964 Ranch house and agricultural outbuildings constructed between 1940 and 1964. The dairy barn, milk house, silos, and pole barns were constructed ca. 1945 and the metal grain bins were constructed ca. 1940 and 1950. The property is classified as a cash grain/general farm by the Lake County Assessor and the outbuildings on the property reflect this agricultural use. A 1956 aerial photograph of the property shows the farmstead in a roughly similar configuration; however, several agricultural buildings were demolished and some were replaced by pole barns in the 1960s. Specifically, three smaller gable barns at the farmstead's southeast corner were replaced by the existing three pole barns in this location near the dairy barn. The existing Ranch house appears to have replaced another small barn that was near East 153rd Avenue and a long shed-roof structure south of it was also demolished. Additionally, the original farmhouse is obscured by trees and not visible on the 1956 aerial photograph, but it was located just east of the existing Ranch house in a now grassy area of the property.

The farmstead was established by Alexander F. Brown, one of Eagle Creek Township's pioneer settlers, in 1837 when he arrived in Lake County from New York. This land contained the Brown family's pioneer homestead, which was later partially subdivided in the 1870s to form the farmstead of Alexander F. Brown's son, George Brown, which was located north and across East 153rd Avenue from this property (see Survey ID 229). When George Brown's father, Alexander F. Brown came to Lake County in 1837, he secured land from the government and established a farm. He was one of the pioneer settlers of this area in Eagle Creek Township, called South East Grove. He married Eliza A. Barringer and they had five children: Mary, John, William Barringer, Anna, and George. Alexander F. Brown was killed in a runaway accident in 1849 and Eliza A. Barringer Brown continued the farm operations with the help of her sons, John and William, until 1862 when John Brown enlisted in the army to fight in the Civil War. When John Brown returned in 1865, he returned to farming until 1870 when he was elected county treasurer and moved to nearby Crown Point; he later became the county auditor, maintained a stock farm of 6000 acres with 1000 cattle in Eagle Creek and Cedar Creek townships, and established the First National Bank of Crown Point in 1874. It is unclear if this farmstead at 2021 East 153rd Avenue was a part of this 6000-acre stock farm. John Brown was a prominent citizen of Crown Point and Eagle Creek Township and died in 1924.

His brother, William Barringer Brown, became a successful dealer in hay, grain, and livestock on the family's home farm, though he managed the farm from his home in Crown Point. He was one of the largest landowners in Lake County. William and his wife Caroline Sigler had four daughters. One of their daughters, Bessie Brown Krost, inherited the home farm property upon his death in 1924, which then consisted of approximately 600 acres over several parcels. Bessie Brown Krost was married to Dr. Robert Krost, a local doctor in nearby Crown Point.

In 1956, the farmstead at 1504 East 153rd Avenue consisted of 480 acres that was owned by Bessie Brown Krost and farmed by renter Herman Miller. Bessie Brown Krost owned the property through at least 1976 and in 1985, Elizabeth Smith and Robert Krost, Bessie's son, are listed as the owners. Today, Elizabeth Smith and Robert Krost continue ownership in addition to Edward J. Hein, Roger Brown Krost, John S. Krost, Thomas R. Krost, Tove Anne (Smith) Mercer, Gerard Nicholas, and Kathleen Roberta (Smith) Osborn who all own a portion of the property. They are descendents of Bessie Brown Krost and the pioneer Brown family.

West Creek, Cedar Creek, and Eagle Creek were all established as townships in 1839, although the earliest pioneers began arriving and settling the land known as the tri-creek area in the early 1830s. This early settlement period was characterized by fur trapping, hunting, and subsistence farming, aided by the construction of several saw and grist mills. The settlers first planted corn, which became a mainstay of the local economy, even as crops diversified in later years to include wheat and soybeans. Corn provided food for the settlers as well as the livestock, and was also used as a means of trade. However, due to the

extensive marshlands and prairie, and the late arrival of the railroad in the tri-creek area, farming on a large scale did not occur until the late nineteenth century. This was much later than other areas in Indiana that experienced major changes in agricultural practice and prosperity from the 1840s to 1860s due to advancements in transportation by canals and railroads and improvements in agricultural education. The farmstead at 2021 East 153rd Avenue dates to this period of establishment and was one of the earliest farms in Eagle Creek Township.

The period between 1850 and 1900 is generally considered to be Indiana's golden age of agriculture as subsistence farming transitioned to large-scale operations. Transportation and technological improvements allowed farmers to bring their corn crops and livestock, primarily cattle and hogs, to faraway markets. Early agricultural education also contributed to this period of agricultural growth at the state and local levels. In 1851, the State Board of Agriculture was created to provide farmers with agricultural guidance in the form of local county agricultural societies. These county agricultural societies, as well as county fairs, provided farmstead improvement methods and techniques directly to farmers. Additionally, they exposed farmers to "book farming," which included essays on the topics of crops, drainage, machinery, and farmstead improvements. As a result, agricultural practice improved throughout the state and the State Board of Agriculture lent support for the Morrill Act passed by Congress in 1862. This act created the foundation for grant colleges and universities geared toward teaching agriculture and mechanical arts nationwide. These educational efforts and transportation improvements characterizing the state's agricultural boom did not reach the tri-creek area until the Monon Railroad was constructed through Cedar Creek Township in the 1880s. Also aiding agricultural growth in the tri-creek area were increased efforts to drain the marshlands and dig ditches to create arable land. An extensive drainage system began in the 1870s, continuing through the early part of the twentieth century, contributed greatly to agricultural growth. As a result, a large number of the county's farms date from the late nineteenth or early twentieth century.

The farm produced hay, grain, and livestock during that period, but its full agricultural history during that time is unknown. It does not appear to have begun specializing in dairy farming until the mid-twentieth century with the construction of its dairy barn and milk house. The dairy industry started much earlier in the early twentieth century when it was booming in Indiana, particularly in northern Indiana, which supplied milk to nearby Chicago. During the 1920s, farmers with large cattle herds began using automated milking and watering machines and transported milk in milk cans, a process completed on the farm, to other cities via the Monon Railroad. This line was known as the "milk run," which stopped daily at the milk stand in the nearby town of Lowell through the 1920s. After this time, county dairies began to pick up milk directly from farms by truck. Dairy farms were characterized by a number of related outbuildings that supported dairy operations, such as dairy barns, milk houses, milking barns, grain silos, manure pits, stockyards, bull barns, and hay barns. The dairy barn was used to house and feed the dairy cows. They typically had a gambrel roof, roof ventilators and dormers, and multiple windows along the side elevations; many also had attached silos. The milking barn was located close to the dairy barn and sited within an integrated system of pens, stockyards, and pastures. It could be a separate building or a segregated room within a larger barn. Sited close to the dairy and milking barns, the milk house was a rectangular building with a gable roof and constructed of concrete or tile blocks with no ventilation. The well-insulated milk house was a dedicated space used for cooling and storing milk before it was taken to market.

The farmstead retains its concrete block Wisconsin dairy barn, which includes an attached milk house built of similar materials and likely built at the same time as the barn. The dairy barn has an estimated construction date of 1945 and appears to be largely intact, though a typical example of its type, as does the adjoining milk house, a smaller utility shed, and the garage located southwest of the house. The large silos adjacent to the barn are probably contemporary with the barn and milk house.

In Lake County, the predominant dairy or livestock barn form is the Wisconsin dairy barn, which is distinguished by a narrow width to length ratio and a gambrel roof. Other dairy barn forms include the English barn, basement barn, German barn, and round roof barn, although these are less commonly found in Lake County. The Wisconsin dairy barn was typically aligned north and south to allow for maximum lighting and located close enough to other dairy farming structures for efficient operation, but far enough away to reduce the danger of spreading fire. The dairy barn was also typically located southeast of the house, or west or southwest of the house but at a greater distance to alleviate odors at the farmhouse given prevailing wind patterns. Typically two stories in Lake County, the dairy barn's primary entrance, consisting of double doors, was located in the gambrel end; sometimes, it was located on the long sides of the barns. The dairy barn also had a low main floor ceiling, two rows of stanchions, multiple closely spaced windows on the long side of the barn, a large hay mow with gambrel end hay door and hay hood, roof dormers, and roof ventilators. The gambrel roof shape was the most popular for increasing hay storage capacity in the barn's hay mow, which was sometimes divided into two areas to store hay and straw. The roof ventilators were essential to properly ventilate the dairy barn to prevent the spread of bovine tuberculosis and other diseases to humans. Farmers also frequently located silos near the dairy barns or directly attached them to the barn to easily feed cattle over the winter because the silos were used to store green crops, or silage. Inside the dairy barn, the cows were confined to individual stalls, sometimes shared by the farm's horses. All dairy barns had a dedicated space where raw milk was handled, either incorporated into the barn's original design, as an addition to the barn, or as an entirely separate building. These were called the milk room or milk house. Strict milk sanitation laws required the milk house to be completely separated from the stable area if it was not detached. Many dairy barns also had feed rooms where feed was chopped, ground, mixed, and stored. These were located on the main level or in the hay mow. Feed was originally prepared by hand but as cattle herds grew larger, technology improved, and labor became more expensive, farmers turned to mechanized feed handling to improve productivity and cut costs.

Silos became popular around the turn of the nineteenth century for the purpose of feeding livestock in the winter. They were first constructed of wood in a square shape. These first silos were sometimes built at the corner of a barn but they reduced available area for livestock or hay storage. They also were not as practical as the later round silos because the silage did not get packed into the corners, allowing air to get in and rot the contents. Square silos fell out of favor by the 1920s as round, concrete and glazed tile silos came into widespread use. Concrete was more popular than tile because it was easier to use and it could be poured in any vertical size. Curved tiles were more fragile and the curvature determined the silo's size. Metal silos also became popular and few wooden silos exist in Indiana today. The dairy barn's silos appear to be typical examples of their type.

The utility shed has a fieldstone foundation, probably dating from the late-nineteenth century, suggesting the current structure replaced an earlier structure on the site. It is also likely that the extant Ranch house replaced the original farmhouse. According to the Lake County Assessor's website, all of the pole barns on this property were estimated to have been built ca. 1945; however, the largest of the pole barns appears to be more recent. The presence of the pole barns and steel grain bins suggest that this remains a working farm.

The house is a largely intact typical example of a Ranch house, a common and popular house type and style during the mid-twentieth century in suburban and rural areas. First gathering nationwide attention in California, high-style Ranch houses incorporated single-story forms with long and low profiles, attached garages, overhanging eaves, and an integration of indoor and outdoor living spaces. The style's popularity grew in the post-World War II era as the nation's need for affordable housing grew exponentially and Ranch house communities were omnipresent. Many examples abandoned the innovative details of high-style examples, and the Ranch house label has grown to include single-story houses that otherwise lack a discernible style; these more modest examples are also commonly called Ramblers. In predominantly rural regions, the Ranch house was often built in small clusters or by

themselves oriented to and along major roads or on large farmsteads. In some cases, affordable, adaptable, and modern Ranch houses frequently replaced original farmhouses as they fell into disrepair or became expensive to maintain; in some instances, new Ranch houses co-existed with the original farmhouses on farmsteads. This property's Ranch house appears to have replaced an earlier farmhouse, given the early establishment date of the farmstead and the construction dates of its extant agricultural buildings. The suburban Ranch house was characterized by an emphasis on outdoor living and landscaping, which did not always translate to its rural counterparts; this may have been due to the relationships between the farmhouse and the outbuildings within the farm complex. Hipped roofs, as seen on the current example, are one of the common roof types found on Ranch houses. It is not unusual to find brick and wood cladding combined, as was the case here. Other typical decorative features include large picture windows and decorative metal porch supports, both of which are found on this example. The house at 2021 East 153rd Avenue is a relatively modest Ranch house, although it has lost some of its historic fabric through the addition of vinyl siding and replacement windows. One of these alterations is the tripartite replacement window on the north facade. The existing window may have replaced one large fixed pane of the type sometimes called a picture window, a window type commonly found on Ranch houses.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The farmstead at 2021 East 153rd Avenue was evaluated for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criteria A, B, and C using guidelines set forth in the NRHP Bulletin "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation."

The farmstead at 2021 East 153rd Avenue was established during the early settlement period of Eagle Creek Township; however, it does not retain any of its buildings or structures from this period, though it does seem to retain its acreage. The farmstead is associated with Lake County's history of dairy farming, which boomed in the early twentieth century and continued through the mid-twentieth century. This farm is a later example of dairy farming in the area and though the farm may have been prosperous due to the construction of its later Ranch house that replaced the original farmhouse, research did not reveal the farm to have made any significant contributions to dairy farming in Lake County. Therefore, it is not eligible under Criterion A.

The farmstead at 2021 East 153rd Avenue is associated with Alexander F. Brown, one of the first pioneer settlers in Eagle Creek Township and his sons, John Brown and William Barringer Brown, who were both prominent local citizens in the financial and agriculture industries of the area. Although this property is associated with their productive lives, the farmstead no longer retains any of its original settlement era buildings or buildings from the period of their productive lives. The property no longer conveys these historical associations with the Brown Family, and therefore, the farmstead at 2021 East 153rd Avenue is not eligible under Criterion B.

The farmstead at 2021 East 153rd Avenue is a typical example of a late dairy farm in Lake County. Its extant house is a basic and altered example of a ca. 1960 Ranch house with replacement vinyl siding and windows. It replaced the original farmhouse as the farm was established in the early nineteenth century.

The farm's extant agricultural outbuildings still convey the farm's original use as a dairy farm but the dairy barn, milk house, and grain silos are typical examples of their types and do not indicate architectural significance. Furthermore, several of the farm's original barns have been demolished and replaced by pole barns and additional agricultural outbuildings have been added to the property since its establishment as a dairy farm. Therefore, the farmstead at 2021 East 153rd Avenue is not eligible under Criterion C.

The farmstead at 2021 East 153rd Avenue was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the farmstead at 2021 East 153rd Avenue is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

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US Census Bureau. 1940.

Photo 1 – 2021 East 153rd Avenue

Facing southeast to farmstead from East 153rd Avenue. Ranch house, dairy barn, milk house, and silos are visible

Photo 2 – 2021 East 153rd Avenue

Facing southwest to facade and east elevation

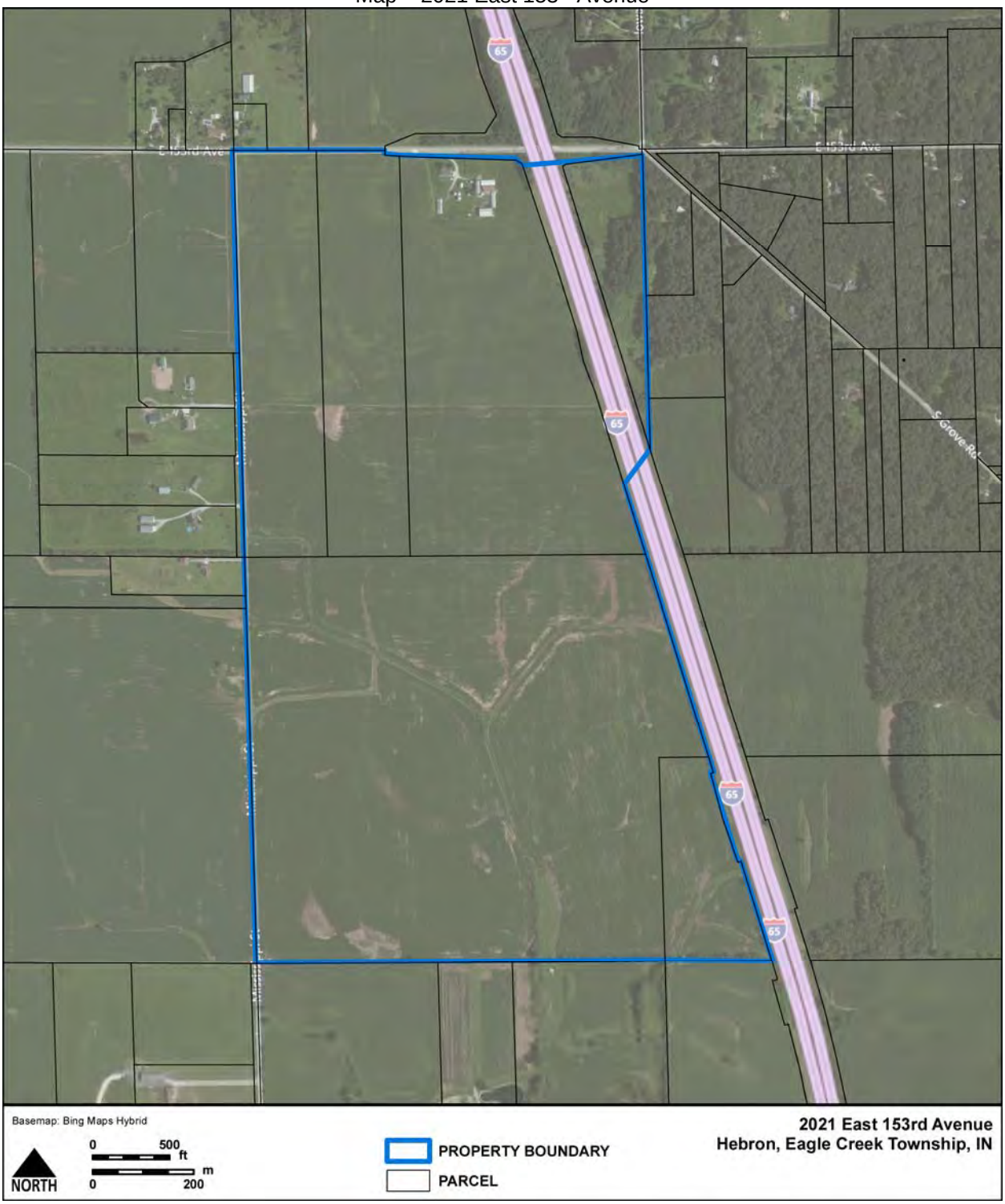
Photo 3 – 2021 East 153rd Avenue

Facing southeast to dairy barn, milk house, silos, and outbuilding

Photo 4 – 2021 East 153rd Avenue

Facing southwest to equipment building

Map – 2021 East 153rd Avenue



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NAME
Southeast Grove Cemetery

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS	CITY	TOWNSHIP
South Grove Road	Hebron	Eagle Creek

OWNERSHIP	TAX PARCEL NUMBER
John E. Ross	45-20-02-400-026-000-012

YEAR BUILT	SOURCE
1850-1890	Lake County Assessor (2013)

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE	PROPERTY TYPE
No Discernible Style	Cemetery

FOUNDATION	WALLS	ROOF
N/A	N/A	N/A

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The Southeast Grove Cemetery is a mid-nineteenth century cemetery that displays markers from its earliest years until the present. It is located in a forested area with few surrounding buildings on the northeast side of South Grove Road. Serving the early South East Grove community in Eagle Creek Township, the cemetery was established during the 1840s and primarily used between 1850 and 1890. However, numerous gravestones of recent vintage are interspersed throughout the cemetery. Gravestones are formed from granite and marble; most are modest forms with no sculptural ornamentation and only modest decorative incising. Select older markers have been refurbished with new bases or other components; other older markers have been replaced with new stones. All markers are low in scale, and no funerary architecture is present. Overall, the cemetery is in fair condition, and shows signs of disrepair.

The cemetery is located on a rectangular 5-acre parcel of land, but only comprises about a third of that. On the northeast side of South Grove Road, the property is accessed from South Grove Road. Within the property, plots and headstones are arranged in clusters, primarily in the four corners of the cemetery with the center of the site being primarily empty. The majority of the plots and headstones are arranged in somewhat irregular rows, but they do not appear to follow a grid or any other set pattern. The grass within the cemetery is sparse, and while no circulation pattern or path system exists, worn patches of grass have formed as a result of pedestrian movement. No landscaping is present within the cemetery. The site is enclosed by a modern chain linked fence. Some mature trees are located within the site. However, there is no design or cohesive appearance to the site.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT
Located in present day Eagle Creek Township, accounts from the early settlers deem South East Grove the largest and widest grove in the region. The first settlers arrived in 1836 and 1837, with more people continuing to arrive through the 1840s. The area was circular in shape and surrounded by large amounts of oak and hickory timber. Many of the area's earliest settlers built homes on the edge of the grove, but several purchased parcels of the densely forested areas to use for supplies. The South East Grove

Cemetery was established during the early 1840s. Located across the road from the community's school, the cemetery was located in the center of South East Grove. Little remains of the original settlement although written sources discuss the area, if not individual settlers.

Because of the establishment date, early settlers are presumably buried in the cemetery; however, more recent burials are also present. At this time, given available research resources, little is known about the residents who are interred there. No research has indicated that any burials are associated with people of transcendent importance.

The property was previously surveyed and rated "Contributing" in the 1996 Lake County Interim Report. The Interim Report assigned a rating of "Non-Contributing," "Contributing," "Notable," or "Outstanding" to surveyed properties based on their historical significance, architectural merit, environment, and integrity. For the purposes of the Interim Report, these ratings were based upon the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Criteria for Evaluation, but were not substitutes for final NRHP eligibility determinations. Also, because 17 years have passed since this report, many properties have undergone alterations that are not considered in the report's assessments. Properties rated "Non-Contributing" were only included in the Interim Report if they were located within an existing or potential historic district and would not be considered NRHP-eligible. A "Contributing" rating was assigned to those properties that met the 50 years of age or older criterion but were not individually significant enough to be NRHP eligible; however, these resources could be considered NRHP-eligible as part of a historic district. A "Notable" rating meant the property did not merit an "Outstanding" rating but was still above-average in its historic or architectural significance and could be NRHP-eligible upon further investigation. An "Outstanding" rating meant the property retained enough historic or architectural significance that it was already listed in or should be considered for individual listing in the NRHP. For the purposes of this report's evaluation, the "Contributing"-rated Southeast Grove Cemetery is being assessed individually and not as part of a rural historic district. At that time, the cemetery was identified as the only existing monument of the South East Grove settlement; however, it was in a state of disrepair due to neglect and vandalism.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The Southeast Grove Cemetery was evaluated for listing in the NRHP under Criteria A, B, and C using guidelines set forth in the NRHP Bulletin "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation."

The Southeast Grove Cemetery is peripherally associated with early settlement in present-day Eagle Creek Township. However, cemeteries were a commonplace site in the early settlement landscape as pioneers established burial places that were needed. Therefore, it is not eligible under Criterion A.

At this time, the Southeast Grove Cemetery is not associated with any persons who are known to have transcendent importance. Therefore, the Southeast Grove Cemetery is not eligible under Criterion B.

The Southeast Grove Cemetery is a common and substantially altered cemetery with a low level of integrity. There is no design intent, nor are there cohesive landscape components in the cemetery. The gravestones do not have high artistic merit or sculptural designs. Because of changes to markers, the

installation of modern markers, and the chain-link fence, the cemetery does not convey a nineteenth-century design association. Therefore, the Southeast Grove Cemetery is not eligible under Criterion C.

The Southeast Grove Cemetery was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Because the cemetery is not recommended eligible under Criteria A, B, C, or D, Criteria Consideration D cannot be applied. Therefore, the Southeast Grove Cemetery is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

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Photo 1 – Southeast Grove Cemetery

Facing northeast to cemetery at west boundary

Photo 2 – Southeast Grove Cemetery

Facing east to cemetery headstones

Photo 3 – Southeast Grove Cemetery

Facing northeast to cemetery headstones

Map – Southeast Grove Cemetery

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NAME
15615 South Grove Road

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS
15615 South Grove Road

CITY
Hebron

TOWNSHIP
Eagle Creek

OWNERSHIP
John H. and Gail M. Marzotto

TAX PARCEL NUMBER
45-20-01-300-008.000-012;
45-20-02-400-032.000-012;
45-20-02-400-031.000-012;
45-20-01-300-009.000-012;
45-20-01-300-012-000-012

YEAR BUILT
1900

SOURCE
Lake County Assessor (2013)

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE
No Discernible Style

PROPERTY TYPE
Agriculture

FOUNDATION
Stone

WALLS
Wood

ROOF
Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The small, active farmstead at 15615 South Grove Road is located on approximately 28 acres at the northeast corner of South Grove Road and East 157th Avenue. The farmstead's remaining buildings range in date from 1900 to 1928 and include the farmhouse, a wood pole barn, corncrib barn, and small pump house; the property also retains a ca. 1978 metal pole barn. A driveway enters the farmstead from South Grove Road with the non-historic pole barn, corncrib barn, and wood pole barn located along its north side and the pump house and farmhouse located at its east terminus. The farmstead is comprised of four livestock enclosures that surround the buildings on the south, east, and north; a fenced pasture is located east of the farmstead. The farmstead is surrounded by wooded areas to its west and north and the farmhouse is surrounded by grassy lawn and several mature deciduous trees.

The ca. 1900 farmhouse is a two-story, cruciform-shaped, gabled-ell house, defined by a cross-gable at its center and several substantial additions to its north side elevation. These elevations diminish the house's integrity. The house sits on a stone foundation with wood clapboard siding and an asphalt-shingle roof. All of its windows are one-over-one, double-hung, sash windows, unless otherwise specified. The west-facing facade comprises the projecting main gable-front, which consists of two bays at each story. Each bay contains a window with fixed shutters and a simple wood pediment. An interior brick chimney rises above the facade's gable end. A one-story, hipped roof porch wraps around the gable-front's west-facing facade and extends around its north and south elevations to the cross-gable ells. The porch is constructed of wood floors, stairs, and a latticework foundation. Turned wood posts support the hipped porch roof and a low, wood railing runs the length of the porch. Porch access is provided on the north and south elevations by a set of four steps.

The west end of the gable-front's south side elevation comprises paired windows with fixed shutters and

a simple wood pediment on the first story while the second story contains a single window with fixed shutters. At its east end, the gable-front's south side elevation comprises two bays at each story with a single window in the west bay and paired windows in the east bay; each window has fixed shutters and a simple wood pediment on the first story. The house's original cross-gable ell centrally projects from this elevation between the east and west ends. The ell's west elevation contains an entry door to the facade porch on the first story and no window openings on its second story while its gabled south elevation contains paired windows with fixed shutters and simple wood pediments at each story; its east elevation contains no window or door openings.

The gable-front's east rear elevation primarily comprises a wide, two-story, brick exterior chimney. A single window with vinyl shutters is located below the roof at the second story. The gable-roof on this elevation is partially hipped at its north end above the window.

The gable-front's north side elevation contains a single entry door on the first story and no window openings on the first or second stories at the west end. The remainder of this elevation comprises four distinct sections that consist, from west to east, of a one-story, side-gable addition; the original cross-gable ell; a two-story bay window addition; and a two-story, cross-gable addition with a one-story, gable-roof sunroom addition. The one-story, side-gable addition projects from the north side elevation and contains a small stain glass window and a one-over-one, double-hung sash window on its west elevation. Its north elevation contains an entry door and a wood porch underneath the gable roof. The original cross-gable ell contains a single first story window and two second story windows. An interior brick chimney rises from the original cross gable. The two-story bay window addition comprises three windows at each story below a hipped roof. The two-story cross-gable addition contains paired windows at the second story and a projecting one-story, gable-roof sunroom addition. The sunroom addition comprises large windows on its east, west, and south elevations; an entry door on the west elevation leads to a wood porch located along the addition's west elevation, which contains an entry door. All the windows on this elevation, with the exception of the sunroom addition, have fixed shutters and simple wood pediments.

Immediately west of the house is a small ca. 1915 gable-roof pump house. It is a square building that sits on a concrete foundation with wood siding and an asphalt-shingle roof. It contains an entry door on its south elevation and a small one-over-one, double-hung sash window on its west and east elevations; the north elevation contains no window or door openings.

North of the farmhouse is a ca. 1920 corncrib barn and a ca. 1928 wood pole barn. Both buildings sit on concrete foundations, are clad in wood, and covered with asphalt-shingle gable roofs. The corncrib barn's identical north and south elevations wide sliding double wood doors while its east and west elevations contain no door or window openings. The pole barn's south elevation contains a similar opening with sliding double wood doors while its north and east elevations contain wood doors that swing open; its west elevation contains no window or door openings.

A non-historic ca. 1978 pole barn is located directly west of the corncrib barn. It sits on a concrete foundation with metal siding and a metal roof. Its south elevation contains two garage door openings and an entry door while its north elevation contains a central sliding double door entrance. Its identical east and west elevations contain four fixed opaque windows.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The active farm at 15615 South Grove Road is an early twentieth century farmstead that retains three of its original six outbuildings in addition to the original farmhouse. Its extant farm buildings were constructed as follows: the farmhouse ca. 1900, the pump house ca. 1915, the corncrib ca. 1920, and the pole barn ca. 1928. The property also has a ca. 1978 pole barn. A 1956 aerial photograph indicates that three of the farm's original agricultural buildings have been demolished since that time, including a

chicken house, smokehouse, and large English barn. The non-historic pole barn replaced the English barn. Over time, the farm's acreage has not been substantially altered. Early records indicate an approximate 19-acre land holding in 1891, an increase to 47 acres by 1956, a return to 19 acres by 1976, and an increase to 28 acres by 1996.

The farmhouse was likely constructed by Frank Abramson around the turn of the twentieth century. The Abramson family arrived in the area in the late-1830s, making the family one of the earliest to settle in Eagle Creek Township. The family settled in a small community called South East Grove. Frank and his wife Almira had six sons and one daughter: Alex, Otto, William, Henry, John, Fred, and Ruby. By 1920, Frank's son John had obtained title to the farm and maintained ownership of the property through 1976. Records indicate ownership was transferred to C. Larry Coe by 1985 and to its current owners John and Gail Marzotto by 1998.

The property was previously surveyed and rated "Contributing" in the 1996 Lake County Interim Report. The Interim Report assigned a rating of "Non-Contributing," "Contributing," "Notable," or "Outstanding" to surveyed properties based on their historical significance, architectural merit, environment, and integrity. For the purposes of the Interim Report, these ratings were based upon the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Criteria for Evaluation, but were not substitutes for final NRHP eligibility determinations. Also, because 17 years have passed since this report, many properties have undergone alterations that are not considered in the report's assessments. Properties rated "Non-Contributing" were only included in the Interim Report if they were located within an existing or potential historic district and would not be considered NRHP-eligible. A "Contributing" rating was assigned to those properties that met the 50 years of age or older criterion but were not individually significant enough to be NRHP eligible; however, these resources could be considered NRHP-eligible as part of a historic district. A "Notable" rating meant the property did not merit an "Outstanding" rating but was still above-average in its historic or architectural significance and could be NRHP-eligible upon further investigation. An "Outstanding" rating meant the property retained enough historic or architectural significance that it was already listed in or should be considered for individual listing in the NRHP. For the purposes of this report's evaluation, the "Contributing"-rated property at 15615 South Grove Road is being assessed individually and not as part of a rural historic district.

At that time, it was identified as a typical turn of the century farmstead that still retained the smokehouse and chicken house. The survey identified the farmhouse's facade porch, stone foundation, and chimneys as original to the house; it did not identify the farmhouse's rear elevation additions and it is unknown if some or all of the additions were present at the time of the survey.

West Creek, Cedar Creek, and Eagle Creek were all established as townships in 1839, although the earliest pioneers began arriving and settling the land known as the tri-creek area in the early 1830s. This early settlement period was characterized by fur trapping, hunting, and subsistence farming, aided by the construction of several saw and grist mills. The settlers first planted corn, which became a mainstay of the local economy, even as crops diversified in later years to include wheat and soybeans. Corn provided food for the settlers as well as the livestock, and was also used as a means of trade. However, due to the extensive marshlands and prairie, and the late arrival of the railroad in the tri-creek area, farming on a large scale did not occur until the late nineteenth century. This was much later than other areas in Indiana that experienced major changes in agricultural practice and prosperity from the 1840s to 1860s due to advancements in transportation by canals and railroads and improvements in agricultural education.

The period between 1850 and 1900 is generally considered to be Indiana's golden age of agriculture as subsistence farming transitioned to large-scale operations. Transportation and technological improvements allowed farmers to bring their corn crops and livestock, primarily cattle and hogs, to faraway markets. Early agricultural education also contributed to this period of agricultural growth at the

state and local levels. In 1851, the State Board of Agriculture was created to provide farmers with agricultural guidance in the form of local county agricultural societies. These county agricultural societies, as well as county fairs, provided farmstead improvement methods and techniques directly to farmers. Additionally, they exposed farmers to “book farming,” which included essays on the topics of crops, drainage, machinery, and farmstead improvements. As a result, agricultural practice improved throughout the state and the State Board of Agriculture lent support for the Morrill Act passed by Congress in 1862. This act created the foundation for grant colleges and universities geared toward teaching agriculture and mechanical arts nationwide. These educational efforts and transportation improvements characterizing the state’s agricultural boom did not reach the tri-creek area until the Monon Railroad was constructed through Cedar Creek Township in the 1880s. Also aiding agricultural growth in the tri-creek area were increased efforts to drain the marshlands and dig ditches to create arable land. An extensive drainage system began in the 1870s, continuing through the early part of the twentieth century, contributed greatly to agricultural growth. As a result, a large number of the county’s farms, including the farmstead at 15615 South Grove Road, date from the late nineteenth or early twentieth century.

At the beginning of the twentieth century, few Lake County farmers owned tractors, used chemical fertilizers, or practiced crop rotation to avoid depleting soil nutrients despite a statewide trend toward these practices. Strides in agricultural education, focused on fertilizer, began in the 1880s and 1890s. These experiments began at the state’s first land grant university, Purdue University. As the benefits of fertilizer to future crops became apparent, bulletins were published that instructed farmers on the application and benefits of fertilizer, its future effects to crops, and the best crops to fertilize (wheat and corn over oats). With the dissemination of these bulletins, further promoted by local agricultural organizations, farmers began to invest in commercial plant foods and liming soils between 1890 and 1900. These practices were more readily adopted by farmers statewide by 1910 than in Lake County, but as they became more commonplace, Lake County farmers began to adopt the new planting and fertilizer techniques as well as new machinery during the 1920s and 1930s. These practices streamlined farming practices and increased productivity. This was further supported by local agricultural education offered by the Lowell High School, which had a three-year course in agriculture specifically designed for its rural pupils. The course of study partially relied on the study of agricultural bulletins and focused on plants and crops, soils, gardening, fruit growing, livestock, dairying, poultry, and feeding. Consequently, as new machinery was adopted, farm shops and implement or machine sheds were erected on the farms to repair and house equipment, store tools, and generally maintain the farmstead. One of the most basic and popular implement sheds was a three-sided building with the fourth side entirely open; sometimes old, unused barns on the property, simple wood-frame structures with open sides, or lean-tos attached to other farm buildings were used to protect farm equipment.

These improvements in agricultural practices and education led to a higher standard of living in rural communities as running water and electricity started to become available to rural residents and crop productivity significantly increased. Produce and food became less expensive for rural and urban residents and in increase in agricultural input initially benefited the nation during World War I. Farmers were able to supply food to families at home and to members of the military, resulting in an increased demand for goods and an economic boom. Increased profits during this time period led to farmers purchasing more land and seeking ways to continue to improve farming methods and machinery. However, after the war, prices for goods began to decline and farmers found themselves with a surplus of crops as they could produce more than what could be consumed. This resulted in the construction of silos on farmsteads to store surplus crops, in addition to the silos needed for winter livestock feed. Between 1917 and 1918, approximately ten thousand silos were constructed in the state.

During the Great Depression, Congress passed the Agricultural Adjustment Act in 1933. The act played an important role in improving Indiana’s agricultural economy through the installation of a wheat allotment program. Additionally, the Rural Electrification Administration, a program enacted by the New Deal,

significantly impacted rural residents as approximately 24,000 farms received electricity. This was supported by the state's Rural Electric Membership Corporation in 1935 to distribute electricity to rural areas. By 1965, 99 percent of the state's farms were electrified, ending rural isolation and increasing farmers' productivity and efficiency.

In addition to corn, farmers also raised livestock. In Lake County, beef cattle farming rose to prominence in the early 1860s, spurred by increased demand, the development of refrigerated railcars, and later, the construction of a slaughterhouse in nearby Hammond, close to Chicago and railroad lines. At first, farmers raised a variety of livestock but eventually began to specialize in the 1920s due to the expense of raising a combination of animals that required specific buildings and care. Farmers focused on hogs and chickens or solely on dairy cows or beef cattle. This shifting focus to particular breeds was supported and improved by increased knowledge about livestock nutrition and the use of genetics for better breeding results that was disseminated by the local county fair and agricultural bulletins. Improved technologies for the care of livestock, such as automated feeding systems and milking systems, also contributed to this specialization. Research did not reveal the types of agricultural activities that occurred on this farmstead, though it was likely a general farm that did not specialize in any particular activity given its original and extant agricultural buildings.

In the 1950s and 1960s, most farmers stopped practicing crop rotation and began to grow corn continuously because the crops did not deplete soil nutrients and improved fertilization techniques came into use. Additionally, rows of corn crops were planted closer together, increasing the output of crops and contributing to the decline of crop rotation. New mechanized and specialized equipment, like the mechanical corn picker, cultivator, planter, and mowers, and automated feeding and milking systems, and farming practices, like a new process of corn, wheat, and soybean field shelling and knowledge of nutrition and genetics of livestock, began to supersede the need for human labor. These improvements to crop and livestock varieties allowed farmers to engage in well-rounded agricultural practices on a scale never before seen. Despite these advances, the amount of farmland statewide and nationwide experienced a small decrease due to a shift from agriculture and industry to suburban and urban centers. This shift included suburban residential growth in rural areas, the development of state highways, the expansion of industrial areas, and the development of shopping centers.

The cruciform-shaped farmhouse is an altered gabled-ell example. This is a variation of the gable-front house, which was a dominant house type that rose to popularity throughout the United States during the Greek Revival era. In Lake County, the gable-front and its subtype, the gabled-ell, were constructed as early as the mid-nineteenth century up through the early twentieth century. The gabled-ell is a gable-front house with a side extension (or ell), forming an L-shaped plan. The ell is sometimes an addition built after the original gable-front house. They can be one, one-and-one-half, or two stories in height with the ell being the same height as the gable-front portion of the house. The gabled-ell in rural areas is generally unornamented, particularly later examples after the antebellum era. Though the farmhouse retains its original cladding and materials as well as its overall form when viewed from the south side elevation, it has been altered by several large additions along its north side elevation, which obscure the original form and design intent.

The farmstead retains its original corncrib barn, which appears to be an intact and basic example. Granaries and corn cribs were constructed on the farmstead to hold agricultural produce and feed. Corn cribs were typically constructed of wire mesh or slatted wood cribs to allow air to circulate around the corn. Found in large numbers throughout northern Indiana and generally dating from the early twentieth century, the corn crib barn in Lake County is descended from the single crib barn. They comprise a series of wooden-slat cribs, usually three on each side of the central aisle. The cupola provides headroom for the interior mechanized elevator.

The farmstead also retains its pump house, which is a basic and intact example. Several types of outbuildings supported farm operations. These structures were generally smaller than the farmhouse and barn and devoted to a specific function, such as food storage and preparation as well as agricultural produce storage.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The farmstead at 15615 South Grove Road was evaluated for listing in the NRHP under Criteria A, B, and C using guidelines set forth in the NRHP Bulletin "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation."

The farmstead at 15615 South Grove Road is not eligible under Criterion A. When the farm was first established around the turn of the twentieth century, it was likely a general farm that engaged in a variety of agricultural activities, particularly given the county's history of nineteenth century subsistence farming and the farm's various former outbuildings. However, the farm no long retains a sufficient number of outbuildings to indicate early twentieth century agricultural trends reflecting the county's move toward livestock specialization in the 1920s. The farm appears to have continued as a general subsistence farm when most of the county's farms transitioned to livestock specialization. As an early twentieth century subsistence farm, the property resisted local trends, however many of its original outbuildings required for subsistence farming are no longer extant.

The farmstead at 15615 South Grove Road is not eligible under Criterion B. Although the farm is associated with the Abramson family, one of the earliest settlers to Eagle Creek Township in the mid-nineteenth century, and was established by the Abramson family, the family does not appear to have practice innovative farming techniques or influenced other area farmers. Furthermore, the extant property does not resemble the family's agricultural enterprise due to the demolition of former farm buildings.

The farmstead at 15615 South Grove Road is not eligible under Criterion C. The house is a modest cruciform gabled-ell house that has been altered on its north side elevation by several large additions, though it retains its original materials and overall form when viewed from its south side elevation. Several of the farmstead's original agricultural buildings are no longer extant and a non-historic metal pole barn replaced its original chicken house, smokehouse, and large English barn. The farmhouse is not a significant example of the form, and rear additions have severely altered the house's early twentieth century appearance. The remaining outbuildings are well maintained, but with the loss of several other outbuildings from the period, the property no longer conveys the prior importance of the subsistence farming venture. The large, modern metal pole barn dominates the agricultural outbuildings. As such, there is no cohesive architectural vocabulary among the buildings that would convey architectural significance.

The farmstead at 15615 South Grove Road was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the farmstead at 15615 South Grove Road is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

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US Census Bureau. 1900.

US Census Bureau. 1920.

US Census Bureau. 1930.

US Census Bureau. 1940.

Photo 1 – 15615 South Grove Road

Facing northwest to farmstead from East 157th Avenue

Photo 2 – 15615 South Grove Road

Facing northeast to farmhouse facade and south side elevation

Photo 3 – 15615 South Grove Road

Facing north to farmhouse south side elevation

Photo 4 – 15615 South Grove Road

Facing southeast to farmhouse facade and north side elevation

Photo 5 – 15615 South Grove Road

Facing northeast to utility shed

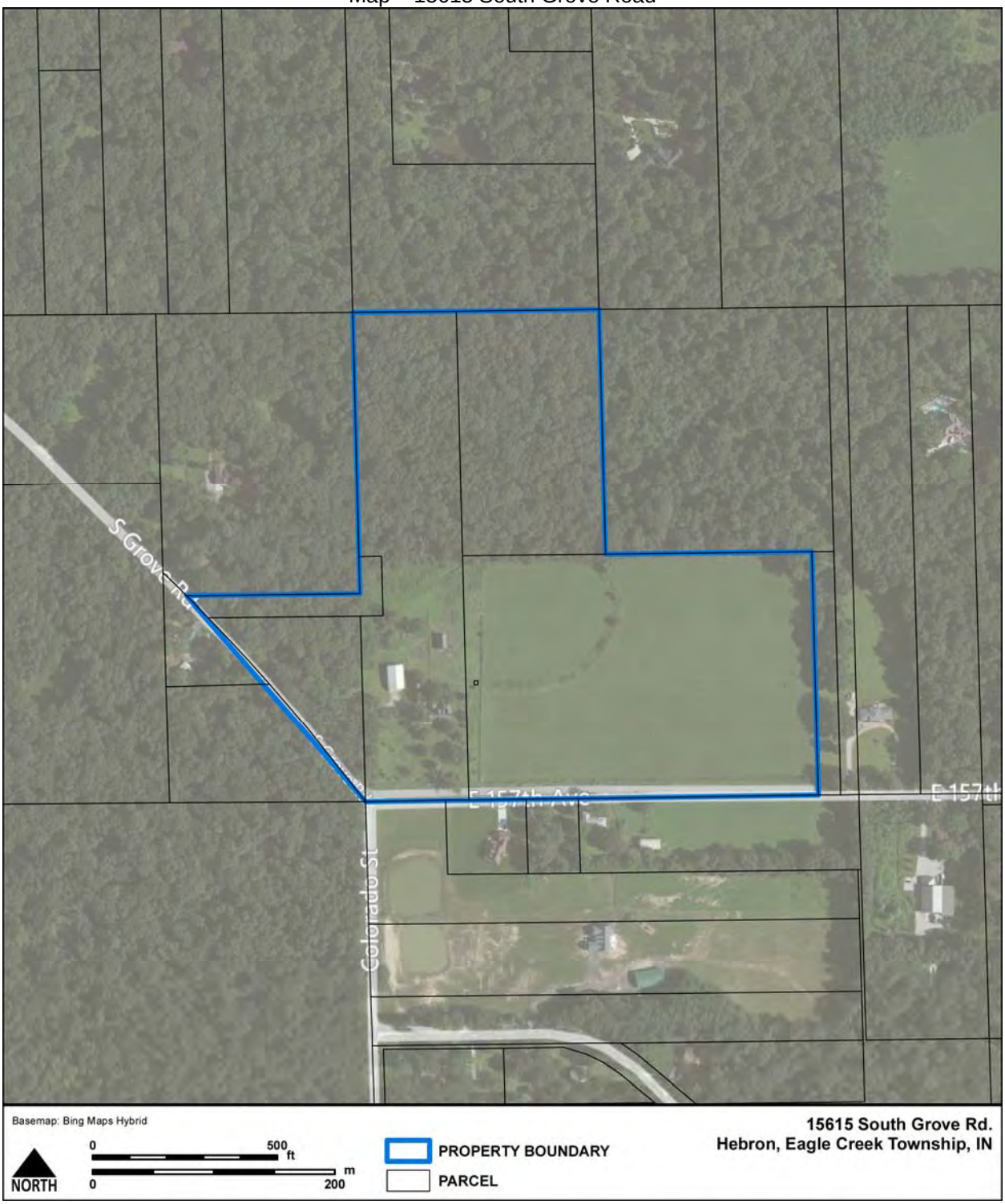
Photo 6 – 15615 South Grove Road

Facing northeast to drive-through corncrib

Photo 7 – 15615 South Grove Road

Facing northeast to barn and livestock enclosures

Map – 15615 South Grove Road



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NAME
16712 Mississippi Street

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS	CITY	TOWNSHIP
16712 Mississippi Street	Lowell	Eagle Creek

OWNERSHIP	TAX PARCEL NUMBER
Siegmund and Karen Krebs	45-20-15-200-003.000-012

YEAR BUILT	SOURCE
1937	Lake County Assessor (2013)

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE	PROPERTY TYPE
No Discernible Style	Agriculture

FOUNDATION	WALLS	ROOF
Concrete	Vinyl	Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The property at 16712 Mississippi Street is a mid-twentieth century farmstead located on approximately 120 acres on the west side of Mississippi Street. The farmstead's remaining buildings range in date from ca. 1937 to 1985 and consist of the ca. 1937 Wisconsin dairy barn with attached silo and shed-roof addition, a ca. 1960 grain bin, and a ca. 1967 Ranch house; a non-historic grain bin and pole barn are also located on the property. Off of Mississippi Street, the driveway bisects the farmstead's buildings with the farmhouse located on its south side and the non-historic pole barn, grain bins, and Wisconsin dairy barn located on its north side and at its western terminus. Grassy lawn, several mature deciduous and evergreen trees, and ornamental plantings surround the farmhouse. The driveway is lined by a stand of evergreen trees along its north side and a tree line of deciduous trees along its south side. A small rectangular pond is located south of the farmhouse and surrounded by grassy lawn on its east and north sides; a larger pond is located west of the farmstead and may serve as an irrigation system. Agricultural fields are located on all sides of the farmstead property with a stand of mature deciduous trees lining the west property boundary.

Along the south side of the driveway, the farmhouse is a modest one-story, side-gable, L-shaped Ranch house. It is clad in brick on a concrete foundation with an asphalt-shingled roof. Facing north, the house's facade is defined at its west end by a projecting front-gable facade entrance. The entrance's front-gable roof extends beyond the facade as a porch roof supported by two ornamental wrought iron posts. The entrance comprises the entry door to the east and a large vinyl picture window to the west. The remainder of the facade comprises three identical sliding vinyl-sash windows with inoperable vinyl shutters. A brick chimney rises from the facade at the roof juncture of the gable-front and side gable.

The gabled east side elevation comprises two bays that each contain a sliding vinyl-sash window in an arched window surround and flanked by inoperable vinyl shutters. Ornamental shrubs are located along the elevation below the windows. The south rear elevation comprises four sliding vinyl-sash windows with inoperable vinyl shutters. The gabled west side elevation comprises two bays. Its south bay contains one sliding vinyl-sash window while the north bay comprises a small, projecting, gabled addition that contains

a side entry door.

On the north side of the driveway, the non-historic pole barn is a one-story, metal-clad, gable-roof building. It contains two large sliding doors and two overhead garage doors on its south elevation. The remaining elevations contain no door or window openings. Immediately west of the pole barn are two round metal grain bins with hemispherical roofs.

The two-story Wisconsin dairy barn with attached silo and lean-to addition is located west of the grain bins at the west end of the farmstead. The two-story, gambrel-roof Wisconsin dairy barn sits on a concrete foundation with wood siding and an asphalt-shingled roof. The north elevation contains sliding double wood doors at the first story surmounted by a door opening; two small four-light window openings are located in the gambrel end below a pair of double wood doors to the hayloft. The north elevation roof terminates in a hay hood. The south elevation is nearly identical to the north elevation but has four small four-light window openings across the first story flanking the sliding doors. The east elevation contains two door openings and multiple small four-light window openings on the first story. The west elevation comprises small window openings at the first story between the attached silo at the south end and the shed-roof addition at the north end. The silo is constructed of concrete and has no roof. The shed-roof addition is one-story with double sliding doors and two small window openings on its west elevation and no window or door openings on its south and north elevations. Two metal ventilators surmount the roof ridgeline. A fenced narrow pasture runs from the dairy barn west to an open pasture with a large pond.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The property at 16712 Mississippi Street appears to be an active farmstead whose extant farm buildings were constructed as follows: the Wisconsin dairy barn with attached silo and shed-roof addition ca. 1937, a grain bin ca. 1960, and the Ranch farmhouse ca. 1967. A non-historic second grain bin was constructed ca. 1974 and a non-historic pole barn ca. 1985. A 1956 aerial photograph shows the farmstead was originally much larger and also contained several other outbuildings that have since been demolished to support farming operations. These included two smaller transverse-frame barns, several small outbuildings, one of which may have been a milk house, and a small gable-front farmhouse. It is unknown when these buildings were demolished. The Ranch house replaced the original gable-front farmhouse and the stand of evergreen trees and non-historic pole barn replaced the majority of the farmstead's original agricultural buildings.

Given the 1937 construction date of the Wisconsin dairy barn and the original gable-front farmhouse, the farm was likely established sometime between 1900 and 1937 by Edwin Willis Dinwiddie. In 1920, he is listed as owning a 210-acre parcel in this location. He was the grandson of pioneer Thomas Dinwiddie, who settled in Eagle Creek Township in the 1830s with his wife Mary Ann (Wilson) Dinwiddie, son John Wilson, and daughter Susannah. John Wilson Dinwiddie was the father of Edwin Willis Dinwiddie. The Dinwiddie family established a small village called Dinwiddie in Eagle Creek Township; it no longer exists. Edwin Willis Dinwiddie died in 1924 and it is unknown who owned the farm between then and 1956. By 1956, Howard C. Dinsmore and his wife Helen Dinsmore owned the property, which may have been managed or farmed by Rollin Armstrong who is also listed in association with the property. At this time, the farm consisted of 317 acres. The Dinsmore family owned the property through at least 1976. In 1985, the Northern Indiana Public Service Company owned the property, which then consisted of 110 acres. Shortly thereafter, Siegmund and Karen Krebs assumed ownership and retain ownership at this time. The farm appears to have originally been used as a dairy farm and it appears to now be used for the same purposes and/or beef cattle farming.

The period between 1850 and 1900 is generally considered to be Indiana's golden age of agriculture as subsistence farming transitioned to large-scale operations. Transportation and technological improvements allowed farmers to bring their corn crops and livestock, primarily cattle and hogs, to faraway markets. Early agricultural education also contributed to this period of agricultural growth at the

state and local levels. In 1851, the State Board of Agriculture was created to provide farmers with agricultural guidance in the form of local county agricultural societies. These county agricultural societies, as well as county fairs, provided farmstead improvement methods and techniques directly to farmers. Additionally, they exposed farmers to “book farming,” which included essays on the topics of crops, drainage, machinery, and farmstead improvements. As a result, agricultural practice improved throughout the state and the State Board of Agriculture lent support for the Morrill Act passed by Congress in 1862. This act created the foundation for grant colleges and universities geared toward teaching agriculture and mechanical arts nationwide. These educational efforts and transportation improvements characterizing the state’s agricultural boom did not reach the tri-creek area until the Monon Railroad was constructed through Cedar Creek Township in the 1880s. Also aiding agricultural growth in the tri-creek area were increased efforts to drain the marshlands and dig ditches to create arable land. An extensive drainage system began in the 1870s, continuing through the early part of the twentieth century, contributed greatly to agricultural growth. As a result, a large number of the county’s farms date from the late nineteenth or early twentieth century. The farmstead at 16712 Mississippi Street appears to date from this latter part of this agricultural development in the county.

At the beginning of the twentieth century, few Lake County farmers owned tractors, used chemical fertilizers, or practiced crop rotation to avoid depleting soil nutrients despite a statewide trend toward these practices. Strides in agricultural education, focused on fertilizer, began in the 1880s and 1890s. These experiments began at the state’s first land grant university, Purdue University. As the benefits of fertilizer to future crops became apparent, bulletins were published that instructed farmers on the application and benefits of fertilizer, its future effects to crops, and the best crops to fertilize (wheat and corn over oats). With the dissemination of these bulletins, further promoted by local agricultural organizations, farmers began to invest in commercial plant foods and liming soils between 1890 and 1900. These practices were more readily adopted by farmers statewide by 1910 than in Lake County, but as they became more commonplace, Lake County farmers began to adopt the new planting and fertilizer techniques as well as new machinery during the 1920s and 1930s. These practices streamlined farming practices and increased productivity. This was further supported by local agricultural education offered by the Lowell High School, which had a three-year course in agriculture specifically designed for its rural pupils. The course of study partially relied on the study of agricultural bulletins and focused on plants and crops, soils, gardening, fruit growing, livestock, dairying, poultry, and feeding. Consequently, as new machinery was adopted, farm shops and implement or machine sheds were erected on the farms to repair and house equipment, store tools, and generally maintain the farmstead. One of the most basic and popular implement sheds was a three-sided building with the fourth side entirely open; sometimes old, unused barns on the property, simple wood-frame structures with open sides, or lean-tos attached to other farm buildings were used to protect farm equipment.

These improvements in agricultural practices and education led to a higher standard of living in rural communities as running water and electricity started to become available to rural residents and crop productivity significantly increased. Produce and food became less expensive for rural and urban residents and in increase in agricultural input initially benefited the nation during World War I. Farmers were able to supply food to families at home and to members of the military, resulting in an increased demand for goods and an economic boom. Increased profits during this time period led to farmers purchasing more land and seeking ways to continue to improve farming methods and machinery. However, after the war, prices for goods began to decline and farmers found themselves with a surplus of crops as they could produce more than what could be consumed. This resulted in the construction of silos on farmsteads to store surplus crops, in addition to the silos needed for winter livestock feed. Between 1917 and 1918, approximately ten thousand silos were constructed in the state.

In addition to corn, farmers also raised livestock. The farmstead at 16712 Mississippi Street appears to have engaged in dairy farming and possibly, beef cattle farming. In Lake County, beef cattle farming rose

to prominence in the early 1860s, spurred by increased demand, the development of refrigerated railcars, and later, the construction of a slaughterhouse in nearby Hammond, close to Chicago and railroad lines. At first, farmers raised a variety of livestock but eventually began to specialize in the 1920s due to the expense of raising a combination of animals that required specific buildings and care. Farmers focused on hogs and chickens or solely on dairy cows or beef cattle. This shifting focus to particular breeds was supported and improved by increased knowledge about livestock nutrition and the use of genetics for better breeding results that was disseminated by the local county fair and agricultural bulletins. Improved technologies for the care of livestock, such as automated feeding systems and milking systems, also contributed to this specialization.

The farmstead is classified as a cash grain/general farm by the Lake County Assessor but it appears to have specialized in dairy farming and continues in that capacity or as a beef cattle farm today. In the early twentieth century, the dairy industry was booming in Indiana, particularly in northern Indiana, which supplied milk to nearby Chicago. During the 1920s, farmers with large cattle herds began using automated milking and watering machines and transported milk in milk cans, a process completed on the farm, to other cities via the Monon Railroad. This line was known as the “milk run,” which stopped daily at the milk stand in the nearby town of Lowell through the 1920s. After this time, county dairies began to pick up milk directly from farms by truck. Dairy farms were characterized by a number of related outbuildings that supported dairy operations, such as dairy barns, milk houses, milking barns, grain silos, manure pits, stockyards, bull barns, and hay barns. The dairy barn was used to house and feed the dairy cows. They typically had a gambrel roof, roof ventilators and dormers, and multiple windows along the side elevations; many also had attached silos. The milking barn was located close to the dairy barn and sited within an integrated system of pens, stockyards, and pastures. It could be a separate building or a segregated room within a larger barn. Sited close to the dairy and milking barns, the milk house was a rectangular building with a gabled roof and constructed of concrete or tile blocks with no ventilation. The well-insulated milk house was a dedicated space used for cooling and storing milk before it was taken to market.

In the 1950s and 1960s, most farmers stopped practicing crop rotation and began to grow corn continuously because the crops did not deplete soil nutrients and improved fertilization techniques came into use. Additionally, rows of corn crops were planted closer together, increasing the output of crops and contributing to the decline of crop rotation. New mechanized and specialized equipment, like the mechanical corn picker, cultivator, planter, and mowers, and automated feeding and milking systems, and farming practices, like a new process of corn, wheat, and soybean field shelling and knowledge of nutrition and genetics of livestock, began to supersede the need for human labor. These improvements to crop and livestock varieties allowed farmers to engage in well-rounded agricultural practices on a scale never before seen. Despite these advances, the amount of farmland statewide and nationwide experienced a small decrease due to a shift from agriculture and industry to suburban and urban centers. This shift included suburban residential growth in rural areas, the development of state highways, the expansion of industrial areas, and the development of shopping centers. The farmstead at 16712 Mississippi Street represents this shift given the replacement of many of its original agricultural buildings and farmhouse during this time period with a modern Ranch house and pole barn.

The farmstead’s replacement house was constructed as a one-story, L-shaped Ranch house, which was a common and popular house type and style during the mid-twentieth century in suburban and rural areas. First gathering nationwide attention in California, high-style Ranch houses incorporated single-story forms with long and low profiles, attached garages, overhanging eaves, and an integration of indoor and outdoor living spaces. The style’s popularity grew in the post-World War II era as the nation’s need for affordable housing grew exponentially and Ranch house communities were omnipresent. Many examples abandoned the innovative details of high-style examples, and the Ranch house label has grown to include single-story houses that otherwise lack a discernible style; these more modest examples

are also commonly called Ramblers. In predominantly rural regions, the Ranch house was often built in small clusters or by themselves oriented to and along major roads or on large farmsteads. In some cases, affordable, adaptable, and modern Ranch houses frequently replaced original farmhouses as they fell into disrepair or became expensive to maintain; in some instances, new Ranch houses co-existed with the original farmhouses on farmsteads. The suburban Ranch house was characterized by an emphasis on outdoor living and landscaping, which did not always translate to its rural counterparts; this may have been due to the relationships between the farmhouse and the outbuildings within the farm complex. This farmstead's Ranch house is a modest and basic Ranch house example that does not incorporate any architecturally significant details. Though it retains its original form, overall massing, and materials, the house is a basic example of its type.

The farm's only dairy building is its Wisconsin dairy barn, which appears to be a typical example of its type and does not indicate any architectural significance. In Lake County, the predominant dairy or livestock barn form is the Wisconsin barn, which is distinguished by a narrow width to length ratio and a gambrel roof. Other dairy barn forms include the English barn, basement barn, German barn, and round roof barn, although these are less commonly found in Lake County. The Wisconsin dairy barn was typically aligned north and south to allow for maximum lighting and located close enough to other dairy farming structures for efficient operation, but far enough away to reduce the danger of spreading fire. The dairy barn was also typically located southeast of the house, or west or southwest of the house but at a greater distance to alleviate odors at the farmhouse given prevailing wind patterns. Typically two stories in Lake County, the dairy barn's primary entrance, consisting of double doors, was located in the gambrel end; sometimes, it was located on the long sides of the barns. The dairy barn also had a low main floor ceiling, two rows of stanchions, multiple closely spaced windows on the long side of the barn, a large hay mow with gambrel end hay door and hay hood, roof dormers, and roof ventilators. The gambrel roof shape was the most popular for increasing hay storage capacity in the barn's hay mow, which was sometimes divided into two areas to store hay and straw. The roof ventilators were essential to properly ventilate the dairy barn to prevent the spread of bovine tuberculosis and other diseases to humans. Farmers also frequently located silos near the dairy barns or directly attached them to the barn to easily feed cattle over the winter because the silos were used to store green crops, or silage. Inside the dairy barn, the cows were confined to individual stalls, sometimes shared by the farm's horses. All dairy barns had a dedicated space where raw milk was handled, either incorporated into the barn's original design, as an addition to the barn, or as an entirely separate building. These were called the milk room or milk house. Strict milk sanitation laws required the milk house to be completely separated from the stable area if it was not detached. Many dairy barns also had feed rooms where feed was chopped, ground, mixed, and stored. These were located on the main level or in the hay mow. Feed was originally prepared by hand but as cattle herds grew larger, technology improved, and labor became more expensive, farmers turned to mechanized feed handling to improve productivity and cut costs.

The farmstead's silo is a typical example of the round, concrete tile silo. Silos became popular around the turn of the nineteenth century for the purpose of feeding livestock in the winter. They were first constructed of wood in a square shape. These first silos were sometimes built at the corner of a barn but they reduced available area for livestock or hay storage. They also were not as practical as the later round silos because the silage did not get packed into the corners, allowing air to get in and rot the contents. Square silos fell out of favor by the 1920s as round, concrete and glazed tile silos came into widespread use. Concrete was more popular than tile because it was easier to use and it could be poured in any vertical size.

The farmstead also contains a non-historic pole barn, which is typical example of agricultural outbuildings constructed in the post-World War II when barn building techniques dramatically changed. Traditional building techniques were superseded by the construction of pole barns and prefabricated structures, which were more cost-effective for farmers. These were commonly constructed of treated wood posts and

corrugated steel, respectively, and clad in corrugated sheet metal.

The farmstead also retains two basic examples of grain bins. Grain was stored in airtight structures raised above the ground on piers to protect it from moisture and vermin. Granaries typically took the form of a metal grain bin.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The farmstead at 16712 Mississippi Street was evaluated for listing in the NRHP under Criteria A, B, and C using guidelines set forth in the NRHP Bulletin "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation."

The farmstead at 16712 Mississippi Street was established after extensive transportation and drainage efforts occurred in West Creek Township in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, reflecting a countywide trend of farmstead establishment in this period. However, the farm appears to be typical of its period. The farmstead at 16712 Mississippi Street may have specialized in dairy farming and/or beef cattle farming, given the extant dairy barn and current use, reflecting a trend in the county's local history toward livestock specialization in the early twentieth century. However, the farm only retains the one Wisconsin dairy barn from that period and no longer conveys this historical association. Additionally, the acreage has been diminished from 317 acres to 110 acres, which does not indicate the farm's former magnitude. Therefore, it is not eligible under Criterion A.

The farmstead at 16712 Mississippi Street is associated with the Dinwiddie family, who were pioneer settlers of Eagle Creek Township in the 1830s. However, this property is not the first farmstead on which the family settled and it is unknown if this particular property was associated with their pioneer settlement. Research did not reveal any known historically significant associations with the productive lives of any members of the Dinwiddie family and the property does not convey any historically significant associations with the pioneer period. Therefore, the farmstead at 16712 Mississippi Street is not eligible under Criterion B.

The farmstead at 16712 Mississippi Street was originally established in the early twentieth century but its original agricultural buildings have largely been replaced by mid-twentieth century buildings. Its original gable-front farmhouse was replaced in 1967 by a Ranch house that is a basic example of the style and does not indicate architectural significance. The farmstead does retain its original Wisconsin dairy barn with attached silo and lean-to addition. While it is largely intact and conveys its historic appearance and use, it is not a distinctive example of a Wisconsin dairy barn and it does not exhibit any architectural significance. Furthermore, the overall farmstead no longer retains many of its original barns or outbuildings that would convey its association as a particular type of farm or a large and successful enterprise. Therefore, the farmstead at 16712 Mississippi Street is not eligible under Criterion C.

The farmstead at 16712 Mississippi Street was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the farmstead at 16712 Mississippi Street is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

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Photo 1 – 16712 Mississippi Street

Facing southeast to farmhouse facade and east side elevation

Photo 2 – 16712 Mississippi Street

Facing southeast to Wisconsin dairy barn, grain bins, and non-historic pole barn

Map – 16712 Mississippi Street

NAME
James A. Mitsch Farm

OTHER NAME(S)
Plum Grove Farm

STREET ADDRESS
16715 Mississippi Street

CITY
Lowell

TOWNSHIP
Eagle Creek

OWNERSHIP
Plum Grove Farm LLC

TAX PARCEL NUMBER
45-20-14-100-002.000-012

YEAR BUILT
1875

SOURCE
Lake County Assessor (2013)

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE
No Discernible Style

PROPERTY TYPE
Agriculture

FOUNDATION
Stone; Concrete

WALLS
Vinyl

ROOF
Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The James A. Mitsch Farm is a late nineteenth century farmstead located on approximately 50 acres on the east side of Mississippi Street. The farmstead's remaining buildings range in date from ca. 1875 to 1960 and consist of the original upright-and-wing farmhouse, detached garage, Wisconsin dairy barn, milk house, drive-through corncrib barn, two silos, three grain bins, three pole barns, utility sheds, and a smokehouse. Off Mississippi Street, the driveway bisects the farmstead with the farmhouse, smokehouse, detached garage, and pole barn located along its south side; the drive-through corncrib barn, grain bin, and utility shed along its north side; and the dairy barn complex at its eastern terminus. The farmhouse and portions of the agricultural buildings are surrounded by grassy lawn; several mature deciduous trees are located along the farmhouse's west-facing facade. A small brick-clad, hipped roof plaque stating the property's designation as a Hoosier Homestead is located along the south side of the driveway and near the farmhouse. The farmstead is located in an area that is still primarily rural, with farmsteads located to the west, agricultural fields to the west, east, and north, and a large recently constructed house and workshop immediately south.

Along the south side of the driveway, the ca. 1875 two-story, upright-and-wing farmhouse is a modest and altered example of a late nineteenth century house with a large east rear elevation addition. The house sits on a concrete and fieldstone foundation with vinyl siding and an asphalt-shingle roof. Its west-facing facade is defined by a front-gable, two-story upright section intersected by a one-story, side-gable wing on its south and north elevations. The upright portion's first story has a replacement tripartite picture window consisting of a single light fixed window flanked by one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash windows. The second story has two one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash windows. An interior brick chimney rises above the gable-front portion. The upright portion's north and south side elevations contain no window openings and mainly comprise the wings. The south wing's facade contains a single off-center, one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash window while its south side elevation contains one double-hung window. The north wing's facade contains two one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash windows while its north side elevation contains a single one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash window. In the perpendicular intersection formed by the

upright and north wing portions, there is a small, enclosed, shed-roof porch that contains the house's main entrance on its north elevation and a sliding vinyl casement window on its west elevation.

The house's east rear elevation comprises a large one-story, gable-roof addition along the north wing and part of the upright portion. The addition's north elevation contains a wide exterior brick chimney flanked by sliding casement windows. Along its east elevation, the addition forms an open shed-roof porch opening to a paved and landscaped area adjoining the addition's porch and the east elevation of the south wing.

A one-story, side-gable detached garage is located east of the farmhouse. The garage sits on a concrete foundation with wood siding and an asphalt-shingle roof. Its north elevation comprises three overhead garage doors while its south rear elevation contains three contiguous windows. The identical east and west side elevations contain no door or window openings. Just north of the farmhouse is a small gable-roof former smokehouse building. It sits on a concrete foundation with vinyl siding that likely covers the original brick or stone cladding, and an asphalt-shingle roof. Its east elevation contains an entry door while its south side and west rear elevations each contain a four-light, replacement vinyl window. The north elevation contains no window or door openings.

A large one-story, aluminum-clad, gable-roof non-historic pole barn is located southeast of the farmhouse. Its sliding door entrance is located on its east elevation and an entry door is located on its north side elevation. The west and south elevations contain no window or door openings.

Along the north side of the driveway, from west to east, there is a non-historic grain bin, an original drive-through corncrib barn, and a utility shed. The non-historic grain bin is round and clad in metal. The original drive-through corncrib barn is two stories, sits on a concrete foundation, and is clad in wood siding. Its identical north and south elevations comprise a large door opening on its first story and a small opening to the haymow in its gambrel end. The identical east and west side elevations contain no window or door openings. The corncrib's gambrel roof is clad in sheet metal and surmounted by a gabled cupola with openings to the haymow on its east and west elevations. The small gable-roof utility shed is clad in wood siding with an asphalt-shingle roof. Its gabled east elevation contains an entry door and its west rear elevation contains two small windows. Its north and south elevations contain no window or door openings.

The dairy barn complex and operations are located at the driveway's eastern terminus. It comprises a large two-story Wisconsin dairy barn with an attached one-story milk house on its west elevation, two smaller attached additions on its north and south elevations, and an attached one-and-one-half-story gambrel-roof dairy barn on its east elevation. The two-story Wisconsin dairy barn is clad in wood siding and has an asphalt-shingle roof. Its west elevation comprises ten window openings and a large sliding door. The second story contains no window or door openings and portions of the wood siding are missing. The west elevation also contains an off-center perpendicular one-story, gable-roof milk house that is clad in wood siding with an asphalt-shingle roof. The entrance and a small window are located on its south elevation; its west elevation contains two windows and its north elevation contains one window. The dairy barn's north elevation comprises three window openings on the first story while the second story is partially open with a significant section of wall and roof demolished. It also contains a gable-roof one-story addition on the first story that is clad in wood siding with an asphalt-shingle roof. It has a door opening on its west elevation and a small window opening on its north elevation. The dairy barn's south elevation comprises a door opening at its east end while the second story appears to have no door or window openings. It also has a gable-roof one-story addition clad in wood siding with an asphalt-shingle roof and a single door opening on its south elevation. The dairy barn's east elevation comprises a large sliding door on the first story and the second story contains no window or door opening. A one-and-one-half-story, gambrel-roofed dairy barn is located on its north end.

The one-and-one-half-story, gambrel-roof dairy barn attached to the Wisconsin dairy barn's east elevation is clad in wood siding with an asphalt-shingle roof that has a hay hood on its east elevation. Its north elevation contains three contiguous window openings and its south elevation contains a large sliding door and a smaller entry door. Its east elevation comprises an attached one-story, gable-roof non-historic pole barn clad in sheet metal on the walls and roof. Its south elevation comprises three large door openings while its east and north elevation contain no door or window openings.

East of the non-historic pole barn is another non-historic one-story, gable pole barn clad in sheet metal on its walls and roof. It has a large door opening on its south elevation and no window or door openings on its remaining elevations.

Two non-historic round silos connected by a non-historic one-story, flat-roof shed and non-historic metal round grain bin are located south of the dairy barn complex. One of the silos is constructed of concrete with a round metal roof while the other silo is constructed entirely of metal.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The James A. Mitsch Farm is an active farmstead that was established in 1865. Its original extant buildings were constructed as follows: the farmhouse ca. 1875; Wisconsin dairy barn, milk house, gambrel-roofed dairy barn, drive-through corncrib barn, smokehouse, utility shed, and detached garage ca. 1939; and the silos, grain bins, pole barns, and the south and north additions to the Wisconsin dairy barn post-1956. Although many of the extant original agricultural buildings are listed as ca. 1939 by the Lake County Assessor, some of these structures, such as the smokehouse, may date to an earlier period of construction. A comparison of the current property to a 1956 aerial photograph shows the pole barns, silos, grain bins, and Wisconsin dairy barn additions were added to the property post-1956 and likely date within the last 30 years. The aerial photograph also shows that the property once contained a transverse-frame barn at the south end of the farmstead and now replaced by a pole barn, a small gable-roof building, a silo attached to the Wisconsin dairy barn, and a livestock enclosure around the north and east elevations of the Wisconsin dairy barn. The farmhouse's large east rear elevation addition was constructed in the 1970s.

The James A. Mitsch Farm was established in 1865 by German immigrant and farmer August Mitsch. In 1875, he married his wife Annie and constructed the farm's current upright-and-wing farmhouse. By 1920, their son, Joseph Mitsch, and his wife Catherine Mitsch, inherited the property, which was then 80 acres in this location. They had three children and one of their sons, George Mitsch, worked on the farm alongside his father through at least 1956, as recorded on an associated aerial photograph of the farm; George also appears to have lived on the farm with his wife, Bernice, and their children. The farm had expanded to 160 acres at that time. In 1966, the property was owned by George and Bernice Mitsch; near its southwest boundary along Mississippi Street, the Mitschs constructed a ca. 1962 Ranch house and pole barn (see Survey ID 253). The Ranch house may have been constructed to house George's father, Joseph, and possibly later George and Bernice Mitsch, when their son James took over the farm. In 1977, the property was recognized as a Centennial Hoosier Homestead for having been owned by the same family for one hundred years or more and for its contributions to the economic, cultural, and social advancement of Indiana. By 1985, the property was subdivided into the larger farmstead parcel and the smaller 10-acre Ranch house parcel. The larger farmstead was owned by George and Bernice's son, James A. Mitsch, and his wife Margaret; the smaller Ranch house parcel was owned by Glenn D. Mitsch and his wife, Susan. Glenn may be James A. Mitsch's brother. By 2005, the larger farmstead parcel was further subdivided to the south and a house constructed on the subdivided parcel; it is owned by the junior James A. Mitsch. The farmstead now sits on a 50-acre parcel called Plum Grove Farm that is still owned by James A. Mitsch, Sr. No additional information was discovered about the Mitsch family.

The property was previously surveyed and rated "Contributing" in the 1996 Lake County Interim Report.

The Interim Report assigned a rating of “Non-Contributing,” “Contributing,” “Notable,” or “Outstanding” to surveyed properties based on their historical significance, architectural merit, environment, and integrity. For the purposes of the Interim Report, these ratings were based upon the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Criteria for Evaluation, but were not substitutes for final NRHP eligibility determinations. Also, because 17 years have passed since this report, many properties have undergone alterations that are not considered in the report’s assessments. Properties rated “Non-Contributing” were only included in the Interim Report if they were located within an existing or potential historic district and would not be considered NRHP-eligible. A “Contributing” rating was assigned to those properties that met the 50 years of age or older criterion but were not individually significant enough to be NRHP eligible; however, these resources could be considered NRHP-eligible as part of a historic district. A “Notable” rating meant the property did not merit an “Outstanding” rating but was still above-average in its historic or architectural significance and could be NRHP-eligible upon further investigation. An “Outstanding” rating meant the property retained enough historic or architectural significance that it was already listed in or should be considered for individual listing in the NRHP. For the purposes of this report’s evaluation, the “Contributing”-rated James A. Mitsch Farm is being assessed individually and not as part of a rural historic district.

At that time, the house was identified as a late nineteenth century upright-and-wing house. This form identified the large rear addition as dating from the 1970s. The Wisconsin dairy barn was identified as being constructed in 1932, the drive-through corncrib barn and smokehouse ca. 1865, a utility shed ca. 1910, a silo ca. 1940s (no longer extant), and a fence ca. 1930s-1940s (also no longer extant). The house’s vinyl siding covers wood clapboard siding and the Since it was documented in 1994, it appears that the house has been re-sided and non-historic shutters have been removed.

The period between 1850 and 1900 is generally considered to be Indiana’s golden age of agriculture as subsistence farming transitioned to large-scale operations. Transportation and technological improvements allowed farmers to bring their corn crops and livestock, primarily cattle and hogs, to faraway markets. Early agricultural education also contributed to this period of agricultural growth at the state and local levels. In 1851, the State Board of Agriculture was created to provide farmers with agricultural guidance in the form of local county agricultural societies. These county agricultural societies, as well as county fairs, provided farmstead improvement methods and techniques directly to farmers. Additionally, they exposed farmers to “book farming,” which included essays on the topics of crops, drainage, machinery, and farmstead improvements. As a result, agricultural practice improved throughout the state and the State Board of Agriculture lent support for the Morrill Act passed by Congress in 1862. This act created the foundation for grant colleges and universities geared toward teaching agriculture and mechanical arts nationwide. These educational efforts and transportation improvements characterizing the state’s agricultural boom did not reach the tri-creek area until the Monon Railroad was constructed through Cedar Creek Township in the 1880s. Also aiding agricultural growth in the tri-creek area were increased efforts to drain the marshlands and dig ditches to create arable land. An extensive drainage system began in the 1870s, continuing through the early part of the twentieth century, contributed greatly to agricultural growth. As a result, a large number of the county’s farms, including the James A. Mitsch Farm, date from the late nineteenth or early twentieth century.

The original farmhouse was a typical example of a vernacular upright-and-wing constructed in the 1870s; however, it has been changed substantially. The upright-and-wing form evolved from the gable-front house out of a need for additional space and is predominantly found in the Great Lakes region. The gable-front was a dominant house type that rose to popularity throughout the United States during the Greek Revival era and was a dominant, often unornamented, folk form in rural areas well beyond the antebellum era. The upright-and-wing house is characterized by a one or one-and-one-half-story wing attached to the two-story gable-front portion of the house, forming a T-shape. Early examples of upright-and-wing houses feature heavy friezes, cornice returns, and classical entries due to the Greek Revival

influence of the period. After that period, the upright-and-wing house is generally unornamented. The James A. Mitsch Farm farmhouse is a typical example of this vernacular house type and, although it has been altered with additions and replacement materials, it is likely that the house has always been simply detailed. Although there are additions on the south and east, from its west-facing facade the house appears largely intact.

At the beginning of the twentieth century, few Lake County farmers owned tractors, used chemical fertilizers, or practiced crop rotation to avoid depleting soil nutrients despite a statewide trend toward these practices. Strides in agricultural education, focused on fertilizer, began in the 1880s and 1890s. These experiments began at the state's first land grant university, Purdue University. As the benefits of fertilizer to future crops became apparent, bulletins were published that instructed farmers on the application and benefits of fertilizer, its future effects to crops, and the best crops to fertilize (wheat and corn over oats). With the dissemination of these bulletins, further promoted by local agricultural organizations, farmers began to invest in commercial plant foods and liming soils between 1890 and 1900. These practices were more readily adopted by farmers statewide by 1910 than in Lake County, but as they became more commonplace, Lake County farmers began to adopt the new planting and fertilizer techniques as well as new machinery during the 1920s and 1930s. These practices streamlined farming practices and increased productivity. This was further supported by local agricultural education offered by the Lowell High School, which had a three-year course in agriculture specifically designed for its rural pupils. The course of study partially relied on the study of agricultural bulletins and focused on plants and crops, soils, gardening, fruit growing, livestock, dairying, poultry, and feeding. Consequently, as new machinery was adopted, farm shops and implement or machine sheds were erected on the farms to repair and house equipment, store tools, and generally maintain the farmstead. One of the most basic and popular implement sheds was a three-sided building with the fourth side entirely open; sometimes old, unused barns on the property, simple wood-frame structures with open sides, or lean-tos attached to other farm buildings were used to protect farm equipment. The property is classified as a cash grain/general farm by the Lake County Assessor and the outbuildings on the property reflect this agricultural use. The farm currently produces corn, soybeans, wheat, and oat and also appears to continue its dairy farm operations.

These improvements in agricultural practices and education led to a higher standard of living in rural communities as running water and electricity started to become available to rural residents and crop productivity significantly increased. Produce and food became less expensive for rural and urban residents and in increase in agricultural input initially benefited the nation during World War I. Farmers were able to supply food to families at home and to members of the military, resulting in an increased demand for goods and an economic boom. Increased profits during this time period led to farmers purchasing more land and seeking ways to continue to improve farming methods and machinery. However, after the war, prices for goods began to decline and farmers found themselves with a surplus of crops as they could produce more than what could be consumed. This resulted in the construction of silos on farmsteads to store surplus crops, in addition to the silos needed for winter livestock feed. Between 1917 and 1918, approximately ten thousand silos were constructed in the state.

In addition to corn, farmers also raised livestock. In Lake County, beef cattle farming rose to prominence in the early 1860s, spurred by increased demand, the development of refrigerated railcars, and later, the construction of a slaughterhouse in nearby Hammond, close to Chicago and railroad lines. At first, farmers raised a variety of livestock but eventually began to specialize in the 1920s due to the expense of raising a combination of animals that required specific buildings and care. Farmers focused on hogs and chickens or solely on dairy cows or beef cattle. This shifting focus to particular breeds was supported and improved by increased knowledge about livestock nutrition and the use of genetics for better breeding results that was disseminated by the local county fair and agricultural bulletins. Improved technologies for the care of livestock, such as automated feeding systems and milking systems, also contributed to this

specialization.

In the early twentieth century, the dairy industry was booming in Indiana, particularly in northern Indiana, which supplied milk to nearby Chicago. During the 1920s, farmers with large cattle herds began using automated milking and watering machines and transported canned milk, a process completed on the farm, to other cities via the Monon Railroad. This line was known as the “milk run,” which stopped daily at the milk stand in the nearby town of Lowell through the 1920s. After this time, county dairies began to pick up milk directly from farms by truck. Dairy farms were characterized by a number of related outbuildings that supported dairy operations, such as dairy barns, milk houses, milking barns, grain silos, manure pits, stockyards, bull barns, and hay barns. The dairy barn was used to house and feed the dairy cows. They typically had a gambrel roof, roof ventilators and dormers, and multiple windows along the side elevations; many also had attached silos. The milking barn was located close to the dairy barn and sited within an integrated system of pens, stockyards, and pastures. It could be a separate building or a segregated room within a larger barn. Sited close to the dairy and milking barns, the milk house was a rectangular building with a gable roof and constructed of concrete or tile blocks with no ventilation. The well-insulated milk house was a dedicated space used for cooling and storing milk before it was taken to market.

In addition to the farmhouse, the farmstead retains its original drive-through corncrib barn, Wisconsin dairy barn, milk house, smaller gambrel-roofed dairy barn, and smokehouse, which are all typical examples of their type. The farmstead’s drive-through corncrib is a typical example of its type, although its original siding has been replaced with sheet metal. Corn cribs were typically constructed of wire mesh or slatted wood cribs to allow air to circulate around the corn. Found in large numbers throughout northern Indiana and generally dating from the early twentieth century, the corn crib barn in Lake County is descended from the single crib barn. They comprise a series of wooden-slat cribs, usually three on each side of the central aisle. The cupola provides headroom for the interior mechanized elevator.

In Lake County, the predominant dairy or livestock barn form is the Wisconsin barn, which is distinguished by a narrow width to length ratio and a gambrel roof. Other dairy barn forms include the English barn, basement barn, German barn, and round roof barn, although these are less commonly found in Lake County. The Wisconsin dairy barn, like the extant one on the James A. Mitsch Farm, was aligned north and south to allow for maximum lighting and located close enough to other dairy farming structures for efficient operation, but far enough away to reduce the danger of spreading fire. The dairy barn was also typically located southeast of the house, or west or southwest of the house but at a greater distance to alleviate odors at the farmhouse given prevailing wind patterns. Typically two stories in Lake County, the dairy barn’s primary entrance, consisting of double doors, was located in the gambrel end; sometimes, it was located on the long sides of the barns. The dairy barn also had a low main floor ceiling, two rows of stanchions, multiple closely spaced windows on the long side of the barn, a large hay mow with gambrel end hay door and hay hood, roof dormers, and roof ventilators. The gambrel roof shape was the most popular for increasing hay storage capacity in the barn’s hay mow, which was sometimes divided into two areas to store hay and straw. The roof ventilators were essential to properly ventilate the dairy barn to prevent the spread of bovine tuberculosis and other diseases to humans; this farmstead’s dairy barn no longer retains its roof ventilators. Farmers also frequently located silos near the dairy barns or directly attached them to the barn to easily feed cattle over the winter because the silos were used to store green crops, or silage; this farmstead’s formerly attached silo has since been demolished. Inside the dairy barn, the cows were confined to individual stalls, sometimes shared by the farm’s horses. All dairy barns had a dedicated space where raw milk was handled, either incorporated into the barn’s original design, as an addition to the barn, or as an entirely separate building. These were called the milk room or milk house. Strict milk sanitation laws required the milk house to be completely separated from the stable area if it was not detached. The farmstead’s milk house is a typical example of this. Many dairy barns also had feed rooms where feed was chopped, ground, mixed, and stored. These were located on

the main level or in the hay mow. Feed was originally prepared by hand but as cattle herds grew larger, technology improved, and labor became more expensive, farmers turned to mechanized feed handling to improve productivity and cut costs.

The farmstead also retains its smokehouse, now used as a utility shed, as identified in the Lake County Interim Report. It is a typical example of a smokehouse and its vinyl siding likely covers the original brick or stone cladding. Many of the farmstead's outbuildings were used in the preparation and storage of food for human consumption. This included smokehouses for curing meat, milk houses to keep dairy products cool, insulated warm houses for the storage of canned goods year-round, and summer kitchens to remove unwanted heat, odors, or fire risks from the main farmhouse. Typically, these outbuildings were rectangular in plan and of frame, brick, or concrete block construction. From the 1920s through the 1940s, glazed tile was a popular and sanitary construction material used in their construction. Most outbuildings were free-standing, but summer kitchens were either free-standing or attached to the rear of the farmhouse by a covered breezeway.

The farmstead also retains several non-historic pole barns, which were constructed in the post-World War II period when barn building techniques dramatically changed and traditional building techniques were superseded by the construction of pole barns and prefabricated structures. These were more cost-effective for farmers. These were commonly constructed of treated wood posts and corrugated steel, respectively, and clad in corrugated sheet metal.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The James A. Mitsch Farm was evaluated for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criteria A, B, and C using guidelines set forth in the NRHP Bulletin "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation."

The James A. Mitsch Farm was established after extensive transportation and drainage efforts occurred in Cedar Creek Township in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, reflecting a countywide trend of farmstead establishment in this period. However, the farm appears to be typical of its period. Although the farmstead was associated with and specialized in dairy farming in Lake County, it is not a representative or significant example of this countywide trend toward livestock specialization, and therefore, it is not eligible under Criterion A.

The James A. Mitsch Farm is associated with the Mitsch family, who settled in Eagle Creek Township in the mid-nineteenth century and continuously owned and farmed the land for approximately 125 years. The property was recognized as a Centennial Hoosier Homestead in 1977 for its continuous one hundred year association with the Mitsch family; however, this impressive and honorary designation does not equate to NRHP eligibility because it does not consider the historic or architectural significance or integrity of the property, which are required for NRHP-eligible properties. The Hoosier Homestead program is a separate designation process than the NRHP program and only recognizes families with farms that have been owned by the same family for 100 years or more. It is not based upon the same criteria for evaluation and significance as the NRHP. Although the property has remained in the Mitsch

family for a significant period of time and is associated with their family's settlement in Eagle Creek Township, research did not show them to be among the first settlers of the township or reveal any known historically significant associations with the productive lives of any members of the Mitsch family. Therefore, the Mitsch Farm is not eligible under Criterion B.

The James A. Mitsch Farm is a typical example of a late nineteenth and early twentieth century farm whose buildings are not distinctive examples of their type. Its vernacular upright-and-wing farmhouse retains its basic form but it has been significantly altered by additions and replacement materials, such as the vinyl siding and vinyl windows. The extant original outbuildings still convey their historic appearance and use but they are all typical and basic examples of their type and do not exhibit any architectural significance. Furthermore, though the overall layout of the farmstead remains, several of its original agricultural buildings have been demolished and the addition of non-historic pole barns, silos, and grain bins alters the layout. Therefore, the James A. Mitsch Farm is not eligible under Criterion C.

The James A. Mitsch Farm was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the James A. Mitsch Farm is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

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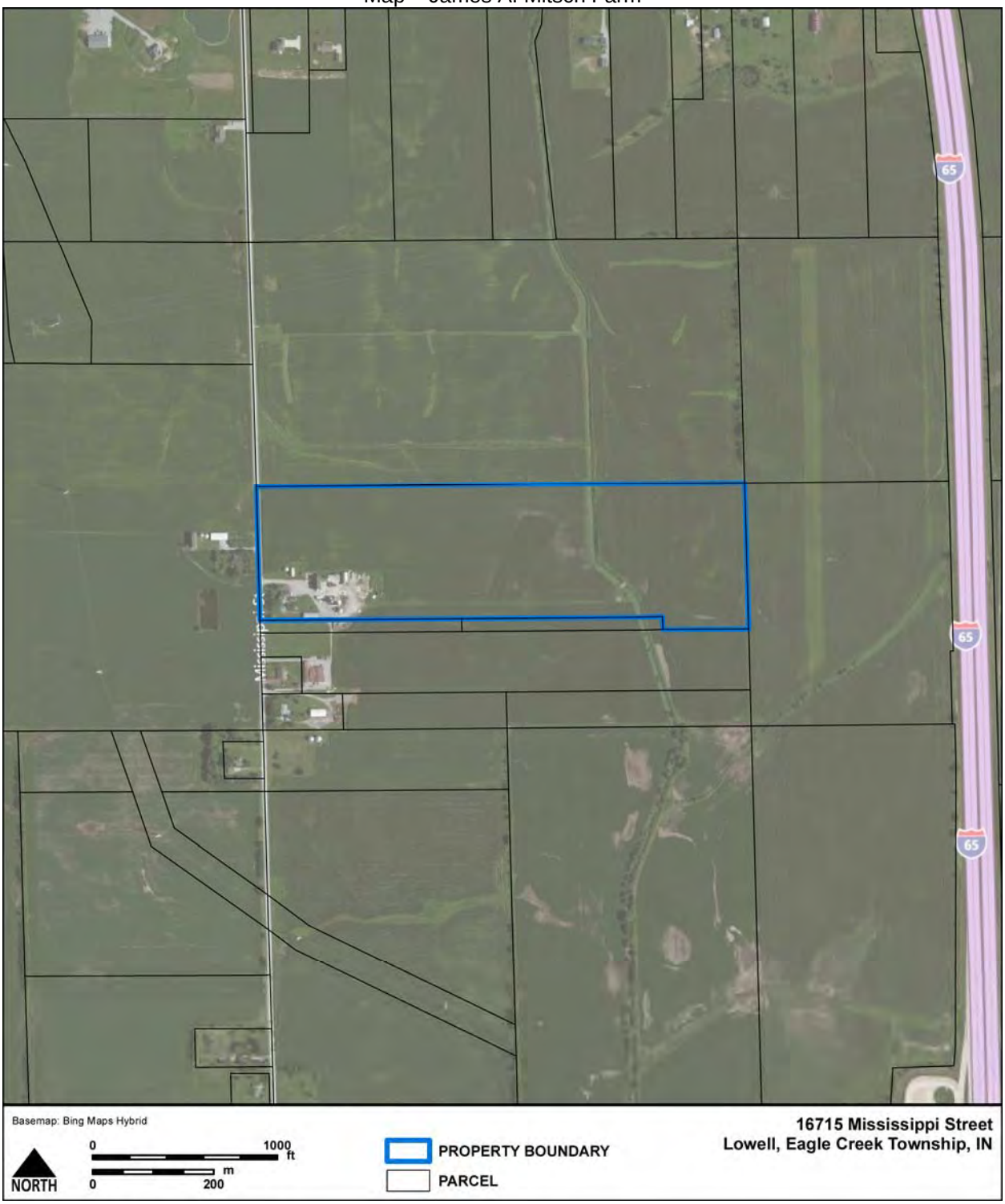
Photo 1 – James A. Mitsch Farm

Facing east to house facade. Addition, porch and outbuildings are also visible.

Photo 2 – James A. Mitsch Farm

Facing southeast to farmstead.

Map – James A. Mitsch Farm



NAME
16807 Mississippi Street

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS
16807 Mississippi Street

CITY
Lowell

TOWNSHIP
Eagle Creek

OWNERSHIP
Glenn D. and Susan M. Mitsch, Trustee; G & S Personal Trust, Glen D. and Susan Mitsch

TAX PARCEL NUMBER
45-20-14-100-007.000-012;
45-20-14-100-008.000-012;
45-20-14-300-001.000-012

YEAR BUILT
1962

SOURCE
Lake County Assessor (2013)

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE
Ranch

PROPERTY TYPE
Domestic

FOUNDATION
Concrete

WALLS
Brick

ROOF
Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The property at 16807 Mississippi Street is a mid-twentieth century farmstead consisting of a ca. 1962 Ranch house, two pole barns, and a few grain bins and outbuildings dating from the 1960s through the 2010s. The farmstead is located on the east side of Mississippi Street on approximately 16 acres. It is located in an area that is still primarily rural, with farmsteads located on all sides.

The one-story house is a relatively intact example of a Ranch house with a garage which is attached to the house by an enclosed porch. The wide, narrow footprint and overall massing of the house and garage are characteristic of this style. The rectangular house has a hipped roof and is faced with brick above a poured concrete foundation. The brick style and bond is typical of mid-century design, with short, long, uniformly colored bricks laid in a stretcher bond. The asymmetrical west-facing facade features a porch defined by a low stone wall. The porch's hipped roof is supported by three regularly spaced decorative metal posts which are most likely original.

The facade is dominated by a set of four full-height contiguous windows that open onto the front porch. The south end of the facade has a high, short sliding casement window and a wooden slab front door with one narrow tall light that appears to be original to the house. The asymmetry of the front door complements the asymmetry of the facade. The north end of the facade has a large casement window. All of these windows appear to be vinyl replacement windows, although the openings are probably original. The placement and size of these window openings reinforce the asymmetry of the face.

Attached to the house's south side elevation, the original garage and attached porch are recessed from the house and both are faced with the same brick design and bond as the main house. The hipped roof attached porch may have originally been an open structure, and is now infilled with a centered modern storm door flanked by double-hung, replacement vinyl windows with snap-in grids that mimic a historic multi-light sash. The adjoining hipped pyramidal roofed garage has a wide, double-sized opening to

accommodate two cars side-by-side.

The house's south side elevation is dominated by the garage complex, but has one high, short sliding casement window that matches the one on the facade's south end. The garage's south elevation features a blank brick wall. The west rear elevation shows the porch connecting the garage to the house and continues across the southern part of the rear of the house. The porch has been expanded on the rear with the addition of a modern deck that connects to an above-ground pool. The house's north side elevation has two high windows with vinyl sliding casement windows in original openings.

In addition to the house, there are several outbuildings. East of and perpendicular to the house is a large pole barn built ca. 1962. It is a red metal gable-roofed structure with a large opening on the east end suitable for large machinery. A second large gable-roofed pole barn was built ca. 2012. The second barn is east and north of the first barn. South and east of the house are two metal grain bins.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The farmstead at 16807 Mississippi Street consists of a Ranch house with an attached garage constructed ca. 1962, two pole barns dating from 1962 and 2012, grains bins, and other small ancillary structures. This approximately 16-acre farmstead was originally part of the larger James A. Mitsch Farm to its north (see Survey ID 252) when the ca. 1962 Ranch house was constructed. It coexisted with the James A. Mitsch Farm farmhouse until it was subdivided from the larger farm sometime between 1976 and 1985, according to associated plat maps. At that time, it was located on a 10-acre parcel and has since grown to its present 16 acres over three parcels.

The James A. Mitsch Farm was established in 1865 by German immigrant and farmer, August Mitsch. In 1875, he married Annie Mitsch and constructed the farm's current upright-and-wing farmhouse. By 1920, their son, Joseph Mitsch, and his wife Catherine Mitsch, inherited the property, which was then 80 acres in this location. They had three children and one of their sons, George Mitsch, worked on the farm alongside his father through at least 1956, as recorded on an associated aerial photograph of the farm, and appears to have also lived on the farm with his wife, Bernice and their children. The farm had expanded to 160 acres at that time. In 1966, the property was owned by George and Bernice Mitsch and the ca. 1962 Ranch house and pole barn may have been constructed to house his father, Joseph, and possibly later, George and Bernice Mitsch when their son, James took over the farm. In 1977, the property was recognized as a Centennial Hoosier Homestead for having been owned by the same family for one hundred years or more and for its contributions to the economic, cultural, and social advancement of Indiana. By 1985, the property was subdivided into the larger farmstead parcel and the smaller 10-acre Ranch house parcel. The larger farmstead was owned by George and Bernice's son, James A. Mitsch, and his wife Margaret; the smaller Ranch house parcel was owned by Glenn D. Mitsch and his wife, Susan. Glenn may be James A. Mitsch's brother. The Ranch house parcel and its adjacent east and south parcels continue to be owned by Glenn D. and Susan Mitsch. According to a 1999 newspaper article, Glenn D. Mitsch was a farmer and rural letter carrier for the town of Lowell. No additional information was discovered about the Mitsch family.

The period between 1850 and 1900 is generally considered to be Indiana's golden age of agriculture as subsistence farming transitioned to large-scale operations. Transportation and technological improvements allowed farmers to bring their corn crops and livestock, primarily cattle and hogs, to faraway markets. Early agricultural education also contributed to this period of agricultural growth at the state and local levels. In 1851, the State Board of Agriculture was created to provide farmers with agricultural guidance in the form of local county agricultural societies. These county agricultural societies, as well as county fairs, provided farmstead improvement methods and techniques directly to farmers. Additionally, they exposed farmers to "book farming," which included essays on the topics of crops, drainage, machinery, and farmstead improvements. As a result, agricultural practice improved throughout the state and the State Board of Agriculture lent support for the Morrill Act passed by Congress in 1862.

This act created the foundation for grant colleges and universities geared toward teaching agriculture and mechanical arts nationwide. These educational efforts and transportation improvements characterizing the state's agricultural boom did not reach the tri-creek area until the Monon Railroad was constructed through Cedar Creek Township in the 1880s. Also aiding agricultural growth in the tri-creek area were increased efforts to drain the marshlands and dig ditches to create arable land. An extensive drainage system began in the 1870s, continuing through the early part of the twentieth century, contributed greatly to agricultural growth. As a result, a large number of the county's farms date from the late nineteenth or early twentieth century. The James A. Mitsch Farm was an earlier example of the county's farms established during that time period and the subject property at 16807 Mississippi Street is an example of that farm's success and prosperity through the mid-twentieth century.

In the 1950s and 1960s, most farmers stopped practicing crop rotation and began to grow corn continuously because the crops did not deplete soil nutrients and improved fertilization techniques came into use. Additionally, rows of corn crops were planted closer together, increasing the output of crops and contributing to the decline of crop rotation. New mechanized and specialized equipment, like the mechanical corn picker, cultivator, planter, and mowers, and automated feeding and milking systems, and farming practices, like a new process of corn, wheat, and soybean field shelling and knowledge of nutrition and genetics of livestock, began to supersede the need for human labor. These improvements to crop and livestock varieties allowed farmers to engage in well-rounded agricultural practices on a scale never before seen. Despite these advances, the amount of farmland statewide and nationwide experienced a small decrease due to a shift from agriculture and industry to suburban and urban centers. This shift included suburban residential growth in rural areas, the development of state highways, the expansion of industrial areas, and the development of shopping centers.

The farmstead at 16807 Mississippi Street is classified as a cash grain/general farm by the Lake County Assessor and the outbuildings on the property reflect this agricultural use. The house is a largely intact example of a Ranch house, a common and popular house type and style during the mid-twentieth century in suburban and rural areas. First gathering nationwide attention in California, high-style Ranch houses incorporated single-story forms with long and low profiles, attached garages, overhanging eaves, and an integration of indoor and outdoor living spaces. The style's popularity grew in the post-World War II era as the nation's need for affordable housing grew exponentially and Ranch house communities were omnipresent. Many examples abandoned the innovative details of high-style examples, and the Ranch house label has grown to include single-story houses that otherwise lack a discernible style; these more modest examples are also commonly called Ramblers. In predominantly rural regions, the Ranch house was often built in small clusters or by themselves oriented to and along major roads or on large farmsteads. In some cases, affordable, adaptable, and modern Ranch houses frequently replaced original farmhouses as they fell into disrepair or became expensive to maintain; in some instances, new Ranch houses co-existed with the original farmhouses on farmsteads. In the case of 16807 Mississippi Street, the Ranch house did not replace the earlier farmhouse, but likely was built to accommodate either a retired family member (George Mitsch and his wife Bernice) or to provide a separate home for one of his children or grandchildren. The suburban Ranch house was characterized by an emphasis on outdoor living and landscaping, which did not always translate to its rural counterparts; this may have been due to the relationships between the farmhouse and the outbuildings within the farm complex. The Ranch house at 16807 Mississippi Street is a modest and somewhat altered Ranch house example whose basic form remains but is altered by the addition of replacement windows.

The original pole barn was constructed ca.1962 and appears to be largely intact. During this period, traditional building techniques were superseded by the construction of pole barns and prefabricated structures, which were more cost-effective for farmers. These were commonly constructed of treated wood posts and corrugated steel, respectively, and clad in corrugated sheet metal. The pole barn is a typical example of this. A second pole barn was built on the property ca. 2012. The presence of these

pole barns, the steel grain bins, and associated fields suggest that this remains a working farm.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The farmstead at 16807 Mississippi Street was evaluated for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criteria A, B, and C using guidelines set forth in the NRHP Bulletin "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation."

The farmstead at 16807 Mississippi Street is associated with the development of Ranch houses in rural areas and on agricultural properties during the mid-twentieth century as affordable, adaptable, and modern replacements for original farmhouses. It is not known to have replaced an existing farmhouse on this land, but rather was constructed on a subdivided parcel of the original farmstead to house a family member. Like other rural Ranch houses, this house is oriented along a major road on former farm parcel and near the original farmstead. This is a typical example of this type of agricultural development and is not known to be associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of Lake County history. Furthermore, the property no longer conveys its historical association with the establishment of mid to late nineteenth century farms in Lake County due to its subdivision from its larger farmstead parcel from that period. Therefore it is not eligible under Criterion A.

The farmstead at 16807 Mississippi Street is associated with the Mitsch family, who settled in Eagle Creek Township in the mid-nineteenth century and continuously owned and farmed the land for approximately 150 years. The property was recognized as a Centennial Hoosier Homestead in 1976, before it was subdivided into the larger farmstead and Ranch house parcels, for its continuous one hundred year association with the Mitsch family; however, this impressive and honorary designation does not equate to NRHP eligibility because it does not consider the historic or architectural significance or integrity of the property, which are required for NRHP-eligible properties. The Hoosier Homestead program is a separate designation process than the NRHP program and only recognizes families with farms that have been owned by the same family for 100 years or more. It is not based upon the same criteria for evaluation and significance as the NRHP. Although the property has remained in the Mitsch family for a significant period of time and is associated with their family's settlement in West Creek Township, research did not show them to be among the first settlers of the township or reveal any known historically significant associations with the productive lives of any members of the Mitsch family. Furthermore, this property has since been subdivided from the larger farmstead parcel and no longer conveys its association to its original establishment. Therefore, the farmstead at 16807 Mississippi Street is not eligible under Criterion B.

The house at 16807 Mississippi Street is a typical example of a ca. 1962 Ranch house, but it has been altered through the addition of replacement windows. The ca. 1962 pole barn is also a typical example of its type. They are not distinctive examples of their type and they do not exhibit any architectural significance. The overall farm appears to be a typical example of its period and its design is not distinctive. The buildings' type, style, and features do not indicate architectural or historical significance, and they are not distinctive examples of the type or style in Lake County. Therefore, the farmstead at 16807 Mississippi Street is not eligible under Criterion C.

The farmstead at 16807 Mississippi Street was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the farmstead at 16807 Mississippi Street is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

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N/A

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Photo 1 – 16807 Mississippi Street

Facing east to house facade. Attached porch and garage are also visible.

Photo 2 – 16807 Mississippi Street

Facing southeast to facade and north side elevation; pole barns visible (at left)

Map – 16807 Mississippi Street

Historic Property Report

Corridor B3

Will County, Illinois

Prepared For:

Illinois Department of Transportation

Prepared By:

Parsons Brinckerhoff

July 9, 2013

K-1286

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Executive Summary

This Historic Property Report documents the methodology and recommended determinations of National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) findings of eligibility for the Section 106 process for the Will County, Illinois portion of the Illiana Corridor Tier Two Study. The Illiana Corridor is a proposed bi-state, limited access, east-west highway located within an approximately 2,000 foot wide, 47-mile long east-west oriented corridor with a western terminus at I-55 just north of the City of Wilmington in Illinois and an eastern terminus at I-65 approximately 3 miles north of State Route 2 in Indiana. This report only documents the 2,000-foot wide Corridor B3 for the Illinois portion of the proposed project. A separate report documents the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the Illinois portion of the proposed project.

Built resources and landscape features in the APE were identified and evaluated in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended, and its enabling legislation, 36 CFR Part 800. Because the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) may provide funding for the proposed project and interstate access approvals and permits will be required, the project is a federal undertaking and is subject to compliance with the NHPA and its enabling legislation. Specifically, Section 106 of the NHPA requires FHWA to take into account the effects of its undertakings on historic properties and afford the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) and consulting parties a reasonable opportunity to comment on the undertaking.

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), on behalf of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), delineated the APE in consultation with the Illinois State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) for this project. Project historians conducted field survey of 570 built resources and landscape features in the APE. These resources and features were documented in two separate photo logs – one for Corridor B3 and one for the APE – for an initial review and screening by IDOT's Bureau of Design and Environment's (BDE) Cultural Resources Unit staff.

Of the 63 resources surveyed in the 2,000-foot wide Corridor B3, IDOT-BDE's review identified one NRHP-listed property and five properties requiring further research and evaluation of NRHP eligibility by the project architectural historians. This number included 3 properties previously surveyed in the Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey for Wilmington Township completed in 2009.

The single NRHP-listed property located in Corridor B3 is Alternate Route 66, Wilmington to Joliet (Survey ID 21).

As a result of identification and evaluation efforts for this project, no individual historic properties and no historic districts within Corridor B3 are recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

1.0 Introduction and Project Description

This report documents the historic properties investigations for built resources and landscape features completed for the Illiana Corridor Tier Two Studies. The proposed project spans Indiana and Illinois for the selected Corridor B3. This report describes the resources within the Illinois portion of the proposed project. Properties in Indiana are described in the *Historic Property Report for Lake County, Indiana* (May 15, 2013). Because the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) may provide funding for the proposed project and interstate access approvals and permits will be required, the project is a federal undertaking and is subject to compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended (16 USC 470 et seq.), and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800). Specifically, Section 106 of the NHPA requires FHWA to take into account the effects of its undertakings on historic properties and afford the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) and consulting parties a reasonable opportunity to comment on the undertaking. Historic properties are defined in 36 CFR part 800.16(1)(1) as "any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object included in, or eligible for inclusion in the NRHP." This report contains information on built historic properties and landscapes; archaeological investigations will be described in a separate report.

1.1 Project Background

The Illiana Corridor was first envisioned as a vital link of an outer encircling highway in the Chicago region in the early 1900s, and has since been studied in a number of forms over the last 40 years. Previous studies, described in the following paragraph, have indicated possible benefits from the development of an east-west transportation corridor extending from Interstate (I) 55 in Illinois to I-65 in Indiana. These benefits include providing an alternate route for motorists travelling the I-90/94 corridor; relieving traffic on the I-80 Borman/Kingery Expressway and United States Route (US) 30; serving as a bypass for trucks around the congested metropolitan area highways; improving access to one of the largest intermodal freight areas in the United States; improving access to the proposed South Suburban Airport (SSA); supporting area economic development; and increasing the potential for substantial job creation. As traffic volumes on other highways in the region have increased, the associated congestion has resulted in travel delays with substantial economic impacts to industries that depend on the ability to efficiently move freight within and through the region.

1.2 Tier One Studies

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) and the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) initiated a "tiered" National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) study of the proposed corridor by issuing a Notice of Intent (NOI) in April 2011. The NOI announced that a Tier One Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) would be prepared with the anticipated project termini being "Interstate Highway 55 in Will County, Illinois, and Interstate Highway 65 in Lake County, Indiana." The NOI stated

that the Tier One EIS would present "a broad analysis of transportation system alternative(s) in the study area and evaluate the environmental impacts at a planning level of detail…." The NOI also announced that the Tier One EIS "will conclude with a Record of Decision (ROD) identifying a Selected Corridor that can encompass one or more transportation alternatives" and that "projects with independent utility may be advanced to Tier Two NEPA documents that will focus on detailed environmental analyses."

As stated in the NOI, the Illiana Corridor project is being conducted in two steps or "tiers" that build upon one another. The Tier One EIS involved an examination of the transportation problems in the Study Area, a study of alternate corridors to address the problems, and consideration of the environmental and social impacts of reasonable alternatives. The Tier One EIS was completed at a sufficient level of engineering and environmental detail to allow for an informed decision on the issues under consideration in Tier One, including the preferred mode or means by which mobility will be achieved, facility type and corridor location.

1.2.1 Alternatives Considered in Detail

As part of the Tier One EIS, a comprehensive alternatives identification and definition process identified numerous preliminary alternative corridors in consultation with stakeholders and the public. Over 80 initial multi-modal corridors were subsequently evaluated by the study team and eight new facility corridors and two arterial corridors that would include improvements to existing arterial roadways were developed and carried forward for evaluation. The alternatives evaluation process was a two-step process that included an initial round evaluation and a second round evaluation based on technical analysis and stakeholder input to identify, refine, and evaluate alternative corridors.

The initial round evaluation included an evaluation of individual transportation modes to meet the established project Purpose and Need, as well as a comparative analysis of the limited-access highway and arterial alternative corridors. Non-motorized, freight rail, bus and rail transit, and travel demand management strategies were eliminated as stand-alone modal alternatives due to their inability to serve the project Purpose and Need; however, they could be considered as part of a multi-modal transportation solution if warranted in Tier Two studies. Based on the initial round evaluation, seven limited access highway corridors were carried forward for a more detailed second round of evaluation.

Alternative corridors carried forward into the second round were evaluated in greater detail with respect to socioeconomic and environmental impacts and stakeholder input, and based on potential refinements to avoid or minimize impacts. Alternative corridor refinements were considered to further minimize socioeconomic and environmental impacts to the extent practical and feasible. None of the refinements to the corridors changed the travel performance or ability of the corridor to meet the Purpose and Need. The second round screening resulted in a finding that Corridor B3 had the best balance

of minimizing impact and travel performance and had the highest overall support from project stakeholders.

Based on feedback received at coordination meetings with project stakeholders, including requests for further evaluation of a northern corridor and requests to look at alignments south of Lowell, Indiana, two new corridors were developed. One new corridor essentially combined Corridor B3 west of the Illinois/Indiana state line, with Corridor C4 east of the state line in order to pass south of Lowell, Indiana. This corridor was named Corridor B4. A second northern corridor was also identified. This corridor was a combination of previously considered Corridors A3S1, B1, and A3 and remains north of the SSA. This corridor was named Corridor A3S2. Along with Corridor B3, the two additional corridors (Corridors A3S2 and B4) were carried forward in the Tier One Draft EIS (DEIS).

The Tier One EIS considered the No-Action Alternative and three alternative corridors (A3S2, B3, and B4) at a sufficient level of detail to allow for the selection of a preferred mode or means, facility type, and corridor location. Figure 1-1 shows the three alternative corridors under consideration in the Tier One EIS.

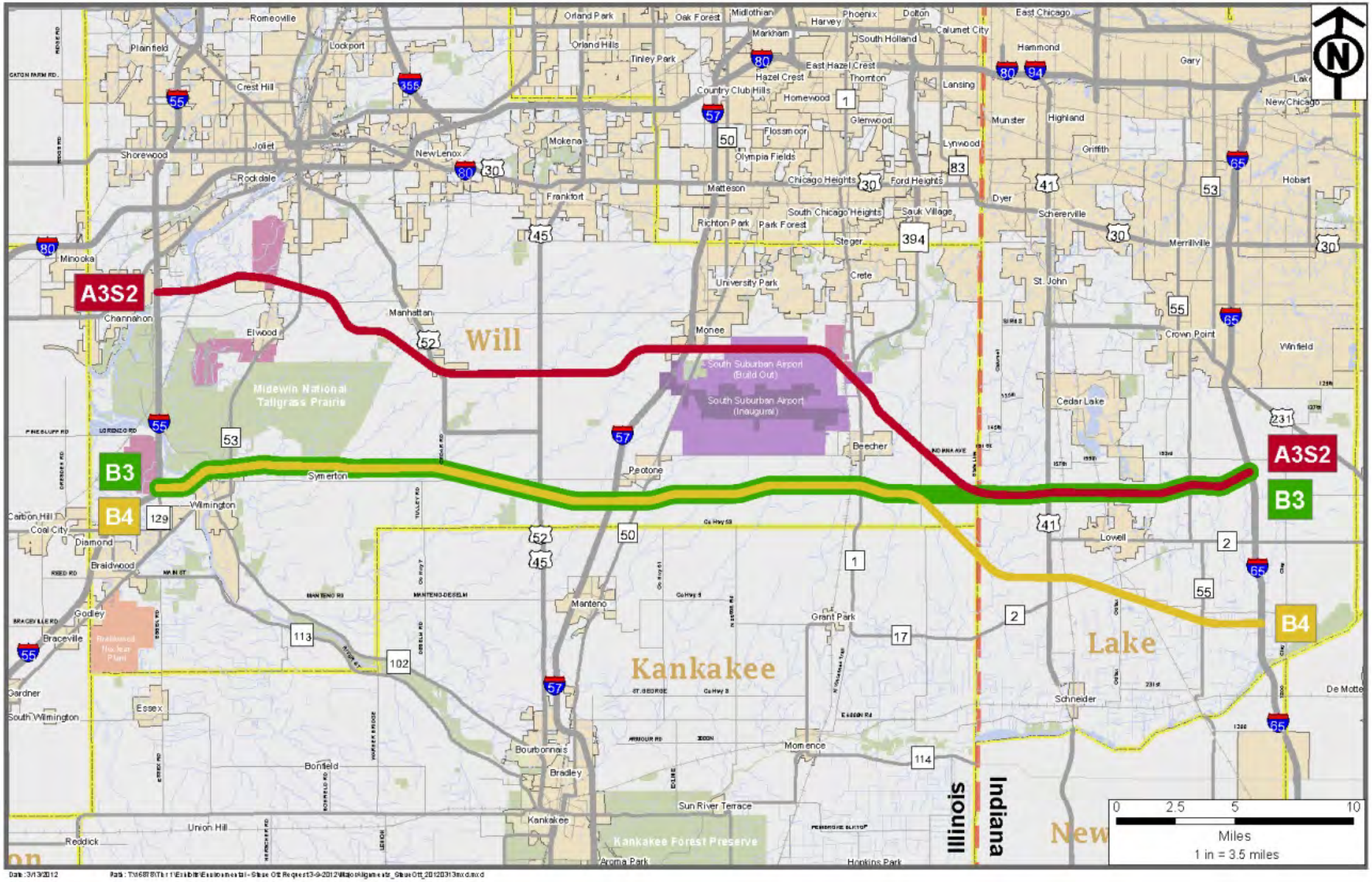
1.2.1.1 No-Action Alternative

The No-Action Alternative was considered as the baseline condition against which other alternatives were evaluated and consists of transportation improvements to existing transportation facilities in the Study Area that are expected to be constructed by the year 2040.

1.2.1.2 Corridor A3S2

Corridor A3S2 is a 51.1 mile long east-west corridor that generally traverses the north portion of the Study Area in Illinois and transitions to the central portion of the Study Area in Indiana. Corridor A3S2 starts at I-55 near Channahon, Illinois, passes north of the SSA, and connects with I-65 north of Lowell, Indiana. Corridor A3S2 includes eight potential interchanges at the following locations: I-55, US 52, US 45, I-57, IL-1, US 41, SR 55, and I-65. In addition, there are three design concepts for an additional interchange in the vicinity of IL-53. Design Concept 1 is a direct interchange connection from Corridor A3S2 to IL-53 with interchange ramps north of that road's intersection with Manhattan Road. Design Concept 2 is a conventional diamond interchange located at South Rowell Avenue approximately 1 mile east of IL-53. Design Concept 3 provides only an overpass at IL-53 with no interchange.

Figure 1-1. Alternative Corridors Carried Forward in the Tier One DEIS



1.2.1.3 Corridor B3

Corridor B3 is a 46.8 mile long east-west corridor that generally traverses the central portion of the Study Area. Corridor B3 generally starts at I-55 north of Wilmington, Illinois, passes south of the SSA, and connects with I-65 north of Lowell, Indiana. Corridor B3 includes seven potential interchanges at the following locations: I-55, US 45/52, I-57, IL-1, US 41, SR 55, and I-65. In addition, there are three design concepts for an additional interchange in the vicinity of IL-53. Design Concept 1 is a direct interchange connection from the working alignment within Corridor B3 to IL-53 with interchange ramps at that road's intersection with River Road. Design Concept 2 is a conventional diamond interchange located approximately 2.5 miles east of IL-53 between Phillips Road and Old Chicago Road with an overpass at IL-53. Design Concept 3 provides only an overpass at IL-53 with no interchange.

1.2.1.4 Corridor B4

Corridor B4 is a 48.8 mile long east-west corridor that generally traverses the central portion of the Study Area. Corridor B4 follows the same alignment as Corridor B3 through most of Illinois, then transitions to the southern portion of the Study Area in Indiana and connects with I-65 approximately 3 miles south of SR 2. Corridor B4 includes seven potential interchanges at the following locations: I-55, US 45/52, I-57, IL-1, US 41, SR 55, and I-65. In addition, there are three design concepts for an additional interchange in the vicinity of IL-53. Design Concept 1 is a direct interchange connection from the working alignment within Corridor B4 to IL-53 with interchange ramps at that road's intersection with River Road. Design Concept 2 is a conventional diamond interchange located approximately 2.5 miles east of IL-53 between Phillips Road and Old Chicago Road with an overpass at IL-53. Design Concept 3 provides only an overpass at IL-53 with no interchange.

1.2.2 Environmental Impacts

At the Tier One level of analysis, environmental impacts were identified based on existing conditions in the alternate corridors and the best available data collected from regulatory and resource agencies. Environmental impacts were assessed using the 400-foot working alignment within each of the corridors. An overall comparative analysis of the potential environmental resource impacts based on existing information was completed for Corridors A3S2, B3, and B4. Corridor B3 had the overall least amount of potential environmental resource impacts.

Corridor B3's relatively higher performance, moderate impacts, overall public acceptance, and lowest cost represent a better option than Corridor A3S2, considering Corridor A3S2's higher costs, higher impacts in many areas, complexities for the I-55 connection, and travel performance slightly less than Corridor B3. Corridor B3 also represents a better option than Corridor B4, considering Corridor B4's higher costs, construction in the Kankakee floodplain factors, and diminished travel performance.

For cultural resources in Tier One, the Section 106 studies were preliminary and simultaneously conducted with the NEPA studies. Separate reports were not completed

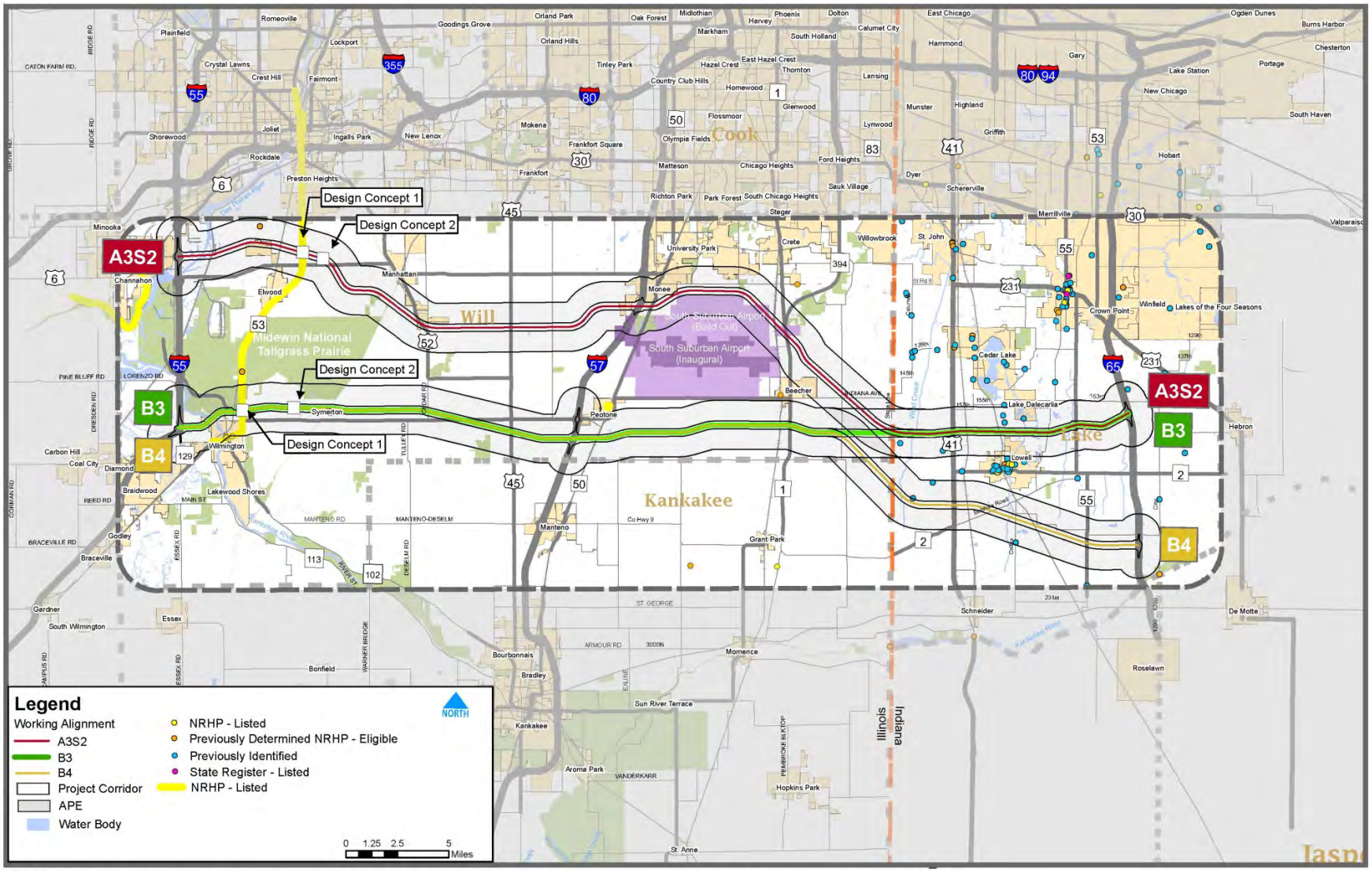
to document the presence of known historic properties and the potential effects of the project to those properties for either state in the Tier One. That information was described in the Tier One EIS and effects to known historic properties were described as "potential" pending field investigations to be completed for the Section 106 studies during the Tier Two studies. See Figure 1-2 for built historic resources/properties identified in the Tier One study area.

As part of the Tier One analysis, on behalf of FHWA, IDOT and INDOT sent over 100 consulting party invitation letters to the respective State Historic Preservation Officers (SHPOs), representatives of municipal and county governments, and cultural resources organizations. In addition, consulting party invitation letters were sent to 17 tribal governments. Based on the Tier One assessment, there were five cultural and nine historic resources previously identified in the area of potential effects (APE). The APE was based on the width of the 2,000-foot project corridor and extended an additional mile north and south of the corridor's boundary to accommodate potential visual, noise, and vibration effects to historic properties. The APE's total width for above-ground resources is approximately 2.37 miles. Additional historic properties will likely be identified when field surveys are undertaken during the Tier Two Section 106 and NEPA studies. If these properties cannot be avoided, additional consultation will be necessary to resolve any adverse effects as a result of the proposed project. During Tier Two Section 106 and NEPA studies, FHWA will consult with the SHPOs and other consulting parties to develop further measures and responsibilities to avoid, minimize, and/or mitigate adverse effects to historic properties.

In consultation with IDOT, INDOT, and the respective SHPOs, FHWA developed and executed a Programmatic Agreement (PA) for inclusion in the Tier One FEIS to establish a framework for the Tier Two Section 106 studies and consultation. The PA describes the studies and consultation undertaken in Tier One. FHWA notified the ACHP that the project may adversely affect historic properties and that FHWA intended to enter into a PA prior to completion of the Tier One EIS. The ACHP responded with a letter confirming that it does not intend to participate in Section 106 consultation in Tier One.

Consultation with the Illinois and Indiana SHPOs will be conducted in Tier Two for archaeological and historic resources to resolve adverse effects. The ACHP also will have the opportunity to participate in Section 106 consultation during Tier Two.

Figure 1-2. Built Historic Resources/Properties Identified in Tier One Study Area



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1.2.3 Selection of Corridor B3 in Tier One

The combined Tier One EIS and Record of Decision (ROD) were approved in January 2013. The ROD approved Corridor B3 as the selected corridor for Tier One of the Illiana Corridor study. The selected corridor is an approximately 2,000 foot wide, 47-mile long east-west oriented corridor with a western terminus at I-55 just north of the City of Wilmington in Illinois and an eastern terminus at I-65 approximately 3 miles north of State Route (SR) 2 in Indiana. In the Lake County, Indiana portion, Corridor B3 traverses approximately 12 miles of a primarily rural area through West Creek, Cedar Creek, and Eagle Creek townships, between the Town of Lowell to the south and the unincorporated area of Lake Dalecarlia to the north. The FHWA, IDOT, and INDOT determined that the selected corridor best accomplishes the project's purpose and need, as established in Section 1 of the Tier One EIS.

The selected corridor is generally 2,000 feet in width. This corridor is narrower than 2,000 feet in three locations, in order to ensure minimization of impacts on certain sensitive resources. The Tier One ROD approved a corridor, rather than a specific alignment, for the selected Corridor B3. The specific alignment within Corridor B3, along with appropriate mitigation measures, will be analyzed in the Tier Two NEPA process.

The environmental impact calculations in the Tier One FEIS were based on working alignments. The working alignments were used in the Tier One study solely for the purpose of estimating and comparing potential impacts, benefits, and costs. Decisions regarding the specific alignment location and width will be made in Tier Two and will be further refined during the design phase following Tier Two.

The Tier One ROD also decided that the selected corridor will be used for the construction of a limited access highway.

1.3 Tier Two Studies

As part of the Tier Two level of analysis, engineering design and screening will result in the identification of a roadway alternative alignments which includes interchange locations, bridge structures, and road closure locations within Corridor B3. It is anticipated that the alternatives will include various design options at key locations.

The selected corridor, as well as a No-Action Alternative, will be advanced into Tier Two and will include: 1) continued analysis and definition of the selected and supporting transportation modes; 2) further development of engineering plans, including potential study of alternative working alignments within the overall selected corridor and selection of a preferred alignment with a defined environmental footprint; 3) completion of more detailed environmental investigations, including field studies, that will inform the alignment studies; 4) corresponding updates to impacts to social, economic, and environmental resources; 5) identification of detailed mitigation

measures for those impacts found to be unavoidable; and 6) development of a financing plan that identifies sources of funding and the timing of their availability.

This report documents the historic properties investigations for built resources and landscape features completed for the Tier Two Section 106 studies. Additional field investigations are underway to identify these resources at a greater level of detail within the APE for Corridor B3. Based on the detailed alignment(s) and design options, impacts to environmental, historic, and archaeological resources will be assessed as part of the Tier Two Section 106 studies and summarized in the Tier Two NEPA studies.

2.0 Section 106 Scope of Work and Methodology

The Illiana Corridor is subject to compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended (16 USC 470 et seq.) and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800). Specifically, Section 106 of the NHPA requires that the responsible Federal agency consider the effects of its actions on historic properties, which are properties listed in or determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), and provide the Federal Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) an opportunity to comment on the undertaking.

Per Section 106 requirements, the lead Federal agency, in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), develops the Area of Potential Effects (APE), identifies historic properties (i.e., NRHP-listed and NRHP-eligible) in the APE, and makes determinations of the proposed project's effect on historic properties in the APE. Section 106 regulations require the lead Federal agency consult with the SHPO and identified parties with an interest in historic resources during planning and development of the proposed project. The ACHP may participate in the consultation or may leave such involvement to the SHPO and other consulting parties. ACHP, if participating, and SHPO are provided an opportunity to comment on the proposed project and its effects on historic properties. They participate in development of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) or Programmatic Agreement (PA) to avoid, minimize, or mitigate adverse effects, as applicable. Stipulations in a MOA or a PA must be implemented. If a National Historic Landmark (NHL) is located within the APE and would be adversely affected by the project, the Federal agency must also comply with Section 110(f) of the NHPA. Section 110(f) requires that the agency undertake, to the maximum extent possible, planning and actions to minimize harm to any adversely affected NHL and afford the ACHP an opportunity o comment. The ACHP regulations require that the National Park Service (NPS), an agency of the U.S. Department of the Interior, be notified and be invited to participate in the consultation involving NHLs.

The APE is defined in Section 106 of the NHPA as "the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause alterations in the character or use of historic properties if any such properties exist. The APE is influenced by the scale and

nature of an undertaking and may be different for different kinds of effects caused by the undertaking."

Historic properties are listed in or determined eligible for listing in the NRHP by applying the NRHP Criteria for Evaluation to evaluate a property's historic significance. The Criteria state that the quality of significance in American history, architectural, archaeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and that:

A. Are associated with events that have a made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
B. Are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
C. Embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic values, or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
D. Have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Above-ground resources are typically evaluated under Criteria A, B, and C; Criterion D applies primarily to archaeological resources.

If a property is determined to possess historic significance, its integrity is evaluated using the following seven Aspects of Integrity to determine if it conveys historic significance: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. If a property possesses historic significance under one or more Criteria and retains integrity to convey its significance, the property was determined eligible for the NRHP during the Section 106 process of this project.

In the Tier One Section 106 studies, identification of historic and archaeological resources within the project area was limited to database and records searches for known historic and archaeological properties listed in or eligible for inclusion in the NRHP or previously identified as meeting the 50 year age criterion in previous surveys. No field survey was completed to identify additional cultural resources and no determinations of eligibility for resources meeting the 50 year age criterion were completed in Tier One. The 50 year age criterion is a general estimate of the time needed to develop historical perspective and to evaluate significance. This consideration guards against the listing of properties of passing contemporary interest and ensures that the NRHP is a list of truly historic places.

To establish a framework for the Tier Two Section 106 studies and consultation, FHWA prepared and executed a Programmatic Agreement (PA) in consultation with the Illinois and Indiana SHPOs, Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), and Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) for inclusion in the Tier One FEIS and ROD

(January 2013). The PA establishes that all work will conform to established Section 106 and SHPO reporting standards and that formal NRHP determinations of eligibility will be submitted to the appropriate SHPOs for concurrence on any resources more than 45 years of age within the APE.

To comply with Section 106 of the NHPA, its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800), and the Tier One PA, this report documents the following:

1. Identification and survey of above-ground resources in the APE, and more specifically in Corridor B3, and
2. Determinations of eligibility for built resources and landscape features using the NRHP Criteria for Evaluation.

The Assessment of Effects will be discussed in a forthcoming separate report.

2.1 Area of Potential Effects

During the Tier One Section 106 studies, FHWA consulted with the Illinois and Indiana SHPOs to develop a consistent project APE across both states for identification of built resources, landscapes, and archaeological resources. This consistent APE was identified in the Tier One study's PA and has been carried forward into the Tier Two study.

The APE for above-ground resources in Indiana and Illinois is based on the width of the 2,000-foot wide Corridor B3, which contains the working alignment, and extends an additional mile north and south of the corridor's boundary to accommodate potential visual, noise, and vibration effects to historic properties. The APE's total width for above-ground resources is approximately 2.37 miles. The project's architectural historians identified and evaluated above-ground resources within this APE.

Maps depicting the APE, the project corridor, and surveyed above-ground resources are appended to this report (Appendix A).

2.2 Identification of Historic Properties

The content of this report fulfills Section 106 studies for built resources and landscape features in Illinois for only the 2,000-foot wide Corridor B3. As part of this effort, IDOT consulted with staff at the Illinois SHPO to determine requirements and discuss areas of concern. All work completed as part of this efforts follows established state standards, requirements, and guidelines.

2.2.1 Literature Review

Architectural historians who meet the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards conducted research to review the published literature and to identify and obtain sources of information pertinent to the history and architecture of Will County, and specifically, Wilmington, Florence, Peotone, Will, Wilton, and

Washington townships. Architectural historians consulted and obtained relevant documentation from the following databases and repositories:

- NRHP-listed properties in the National Park Service records;
- Previously determined NRHP-eligible properties in the IL SHPO records; and
- Historical collections and county histories housed at the Joliet Public Library and Peotone Public Library.

The architectural historians also identified and researched a variety of sources to inform the documentation and evaluation of previously and newly surveyed properties. Current aerial imagery and property data as well as historical plat maps and aerial photography aided in determining an individual property's development and past ownership. These sources included, but were not limited to, the following:

- Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey for Wilmington Township (December 2009) and for Florence Township (August 2011) from Will County Historic Preservation Commission;
- Current property data, including year built dates, from the Will County Assessor's Office and local township assessors;
- NRHP nomination of Alternate Route 66 acquired from the IL SHPO's Historic Architectural and Archaeology Resources Geographic Information System (HAARGIS);
- Plat maps of Will County between 1862 and 2003;
- Published aerial photographs of Will County farms in 1955;
- Published county histories of Will County;
- Family histories acquired from various published histories; and
- Centennial Farms and Sesquicentennial Farms records acquired from Illinois Department of Agriculture.

To supplement the information on the qualities and characteristics of specific property types in order to evaluate eligibility for inclusion in the NRHP, the architectural historians consulted the following publications:

- National Register Bulletin, *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*;
- National Register Bulletin, *Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Rural Historic Landscapes*;
- Minnesota Department of Transportation, *Historic Context Study of Minnesota Farms, 1820-1960*;
- Georgia Transmission Corporation, *The Ranch House in Georgia: Guidelines for Evaluation*; and

- National Cooperative Highway Research Program Report 723, *A Model for Identifying and Evaluating the Significance of Post-World War II Housing*.

The information gathered from these sources was used to develop specific historic contexts as they apply to Will County in order to evaluate NRHP eligibility. These interpretive contexts focused on rural patterns of occupation, use, development, agricultural history, and the roles of potential historic properties in local, state, and regional history, as well as their architectural significance. These sources were also used to develop individual resource histories to evaluate a resource's historical and architectural significance for evaluation of NRHP eligibility. Specifically, the plat maps, aerial photographs, family histories, local histories, and the information provided in the Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey for previously surveyed properties were important to establishing an individual property's historic context and significance.

See the bibliography for a complete listing of sources consulted.

2.2.2 Fieldwork

Fieldwork was undertaken by one survey team led by an architectural historian. Prior to survey, Notice of Survey letters were sent to all property owners in Corridor B3. Each survey team also carried copies of the letter and project business cards. For each property surveyed, the survey teams entered the property and attempted to contact property owners. If access was not obtained, the historians conducted the survey from the public right-of-way if adequate photographs and observations regarding the property's characteristics could be made.

Project architectural historians made several site visits to the project area and utilized public records to assist with identifying all properties within the APE older than 45 years of age. Properties 45 years of age or older (rather than the standard 50 year age limit) were evaluated to accommodate the Illiana Corridor's schedule and to account for properties that may reach fifty years of age during the course of the study. The cut-off date for surveyed properties was 1967. Fieldwork commenced with reconnaissance-level survey, which entailed driving the entire APE to identify and photograph all 45 years or older properties within the APE requiring detailed investigation. The survey teams took photographs of individual properties as well as representative viewscape and streetscape photographs, as needed, and kept a photography log. The location of each property was later recorded within the project's geographical information system (GIS) and verified through the Will County Assessor's GIS database.

All properties identified during the reconnaissance-level survey were documented in two separate photo logs, which also included mapping. The first photo log documented the 63 properties located in Corridor B3 and the second photo log documented the 507 properties located in the greater APE. Both photo logs were submitted to the IDOT-BDE's Cultural Resources Unit staff for an initial review and screening of the surveyed resources. IDOT-BDE's staff identified those properties that may be potentially eligible for listing in the NRHP and should be further researched and evaluated. Their findings were reviewed and finalized during a meeting with the SHPO on April 25, 2013 and

documented in the "Illiana B3 Corridor – Assessment of Architectural Resources" memorandum dated May 1, 2013.

Following the identification of properties requiring further consideration, one survey team led by an architectural historian completed additional intensive-level survey of those properties. Similar procedures to the earlier reconnaissance-level survey were completed and the survey team also completed a photography log and recorded any observations regarding the physical characteristics of the buildings, structures, objects, or associated landscape elements.

2.3 Consultation with SHPO and IDOT

Following issuance of IDOT-BDE's "Illiana B3 Corridor – Assessment of Architectural Resources" memorandum in May 2013, additional consultation conference calls were held with IDOT-BDE staff to discuss the findings and level of documentation. At the suggestion of IDOT-BDE staff, a similar level of documentation as the Indiana Historic Property Report for each of the identified properties would be completed by the project architectural historians with appropriate mapping and photographs to support the evaluations of NRHP eligibility.

Additional consultation will occur with the Section 106 consulting parties to provide comments on the Section 106 findings of NRHP eligibility, the assessment of effects, and the resolution of adverse effects.

2.4 NRHP Determinations of Eligibility

Following the identification of properties in Corridor B3 requiring further research and evaluation, the historians evaluated each identified property for NRHP eligibility. Properties were evaluated under NRHP Criteria A, B, and C for their architectural and historical significance; Criterion D was not applied as part of this assessment because the surveyed properties do not have the potential to yield significant information. It will be applied as part of the archaeological investigations that will be conducted within the project corridor.

2.4.1 Individual Properties

For individual properties, and with the exception of farms, evaluations of NRHP eligibility focused on historic significance. If significance was established, then integrity assessments determined if the property was able to convey its significance. The presence of alterations to a property did not immediately preclude them from NRHP eligibility if that property continued to convey its significance. Surveyed properties documented in the Corridor B3 photo log that were not identified as requiring further evaluation for NRHP eligibility are included in Appendix C of this report and an individual determination of NRHP eligibility form was not completed for them. These properties typically lacked architectural and/or historical significance and a lack of integrity.

For the single NRHP-listed property in Corridor B3, Alternate Route 66, Wilmington to Joliet, only photographs were taken to document its current state and no further documentation was completed per the request of IDOT-BDE.

The historians completed additional research for the properties identified by IDOT-BDE that appeared unique or exhibited moderate to high architectural significance. These properties were documented in formal NRHP determinations of eligibility and are included in Appendix B of this report.

Several of these identified properties were previously surveyed and documented in the Will County Rural Historic Structures Survey for Wilmington Township completed in 2009. The Will County Rural Historic Structures Survey has been undertaken by the Will County Historic Preservation Commission since 1988. The survey program is a continuing intensive-level historic properties survey and inventory program being completed for each of the 24 townships in Will County. To date, 18 of the 24 townships in Will County have been surveyed and survey report with the township inventory, historic context, and methodology as well as the original survey forms, maps, and photographs was filed with the Will County Land Use Department. The inventory is used to assess the county's development and its impact on the historic and cultural landscape as well as a tool for the county to develop appropriate planning measures to preserve its sense of place. The survey includes determinations of local landmark significance and determinations of potential NRHP eligibility.

The survey assigned a rating of "Non-Contributing," "Contributing," "Local Landmark Potential," or "National Register Potential" to surveyed properties based on their historical significance, architectural merit, environment, and integrity. For the purposes of the survey, the "National Register Potential" rating was based upon the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Criteria for Evaluation, but was not a substitute for final NRHP eligibility determinations. Those properties rated "Local Landmark Potential" would be considered eligible for listing as a local Will County landmark, either individually or as part of a historic district; this rating was based upon the Will County Preservation Ordinance criteria for consideration of nomination. Properties rated "Contributing" could be considered contributing to a potential historic district, particularly in the case of farmsteads or supporting rural sites; contributing sites are ones that retain a coherent appearance as a farmstead or their original function. Properties rated "Non-Contributing" lacked integrity, were significantly altered, or were abandoned.

Of the properties surveyed in the Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey and located in the 2,000-foot wide Corridor B3, formal NRHP determinations of eligibility were completed for three properties. The historians established the evaluated property's historical context and significance, or lack thereof, to determine the property's NRHP eligibility. Detailed architectural descriptions and historic context statements were written and the NRHP Criteria for Evaluation were applied to make a determination of eligibility for each of these properties. For properties determined to have historic or architectural significance, the historians completed integrity assessments. If the

properties retained integrity, the historians determined periods of significance, and delineated historic boundaries. For each property, a survey data form was completed; each form includes current photographs and individual locator maps, regardless of its eligibility determination. These survey data forms are included in this report in Appendix B.

2.4.2 Farms and Farmsteads

The historians evaluated complexes of buildings, most commonly farms or farmsteads, in several different ways. First, each building, site, structure, or object on the farmstead was considered regarding its individual eligibility for listing in the NRHP. In most cases, farmsteads in the Corridor B3 did not retain single buildings that were NRHP eligible individually. Second, the farmstead was evaluated in its entirety, which included the farmhouse, outbuildings, and any other features integral to the complex. Finally, the historians evaluated farms as a whole, considering the farmstead complex in relationship to extant field patterns or land features comprising the entire farm. The farm is a parcel of land comprised of the farmstead headquarters complex and its associated surrounding acreage while the farmstead complex served as the farm's operations headquarters, consisting of the farm buildings and work areas grouped around a farmyard accessed by a main driveway. This method of evaluation allowed the historians to evaluate the NRHP eligibility of individual elements and potential combinations of farms, buildings, and landscapes. Tax parcel boundaries were used to delineate the farm or farmstead boundaries and evaluate NRHP eligibility; in some cases, parcel boundaries or subsequent subdivisions were ignored to evaluate the remnants of farms previously located on one or more parcels. If a farmhouse was significantly altered and its integrity compromised, but the other buildings comprising the farmstead appeared to retain their integrity as a whole, then the farmstead was still considered for NRHP eligibility. Compromised integrity of one built component did not automatically preclude the farmstead complex from consideration of NRHP eligibility. Likewise, a farmstead that included modern or recently constructed outbuildings among an otherwise intact historical complex of buildings was not excluded from consideration of eligibility because it may reflect the evolution of an active farmstead. For an entire farm to be NRHP eligible, it needed to retain distinctive, recognizable historic field patterns and landscape elements. Few farms in the Corridor B3 retained historic field patterns or other historic landscape features.

2.5 Conclusions

The project architectural historians inventoried 570 properties as part of this study, which included 63 properties located in Corridor B3. Alternate Route 66, Wilmington to Joliet was previously listed in the NRHP and is the only listed property located in the project corridor. The five evaluated properties are being recommended as not eligible for listing in the NRHP due to a lack of architectural or historical distinction, and in some cases, significant alterations resulting in a lack of integrity. No additional properties in Corridor B3 are being recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

A list of all surveyed properties in Corridor B3 is presented in Appendix C. The individual findings of eligibility are in Appendix B. Maps depicting the NRHP-listed Alternate Route 66, Wilmington to Joliet and the properties evaluated for NRHP eligibility are presented in Appendix A.

3.0 Survey and Research Personnel

Architectural historians who meet the Secretary of Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards (36 CFR Part 61) completed the field investigations, historic context and property research, and prepared the determinations of NRHP eligibility in this report.

Table 3-1. Architectural Historians

Name	Qualification	Primary Responsibilities
Stephanie S. Foell Senior Supervising Architectural and Landscape Historian Parsons Brinckerhoff	M.H.P., Historic Preservation B.S., History and Psychology 17 years of experience	Technical guidance and review
Aimee D. Paquin Architectural Historian Parsons Brinckerhoff	M.S., Historic Preservation B.A., History and American Studies 4 years of experience	Principal Investigator HPR Methodology and Historic Context Field Investigations Property Research Determinations of NRHP Eligibility
Gregg Cornetski Lead Systems Analyst Parsons Brinckerhoff	M.S., Computer Science B.A., Foreign Affairs 12 years of experience	Area of Potential Effects Map Determinations of NRHP Eligibility Locator Maps

4.0 Bibliography

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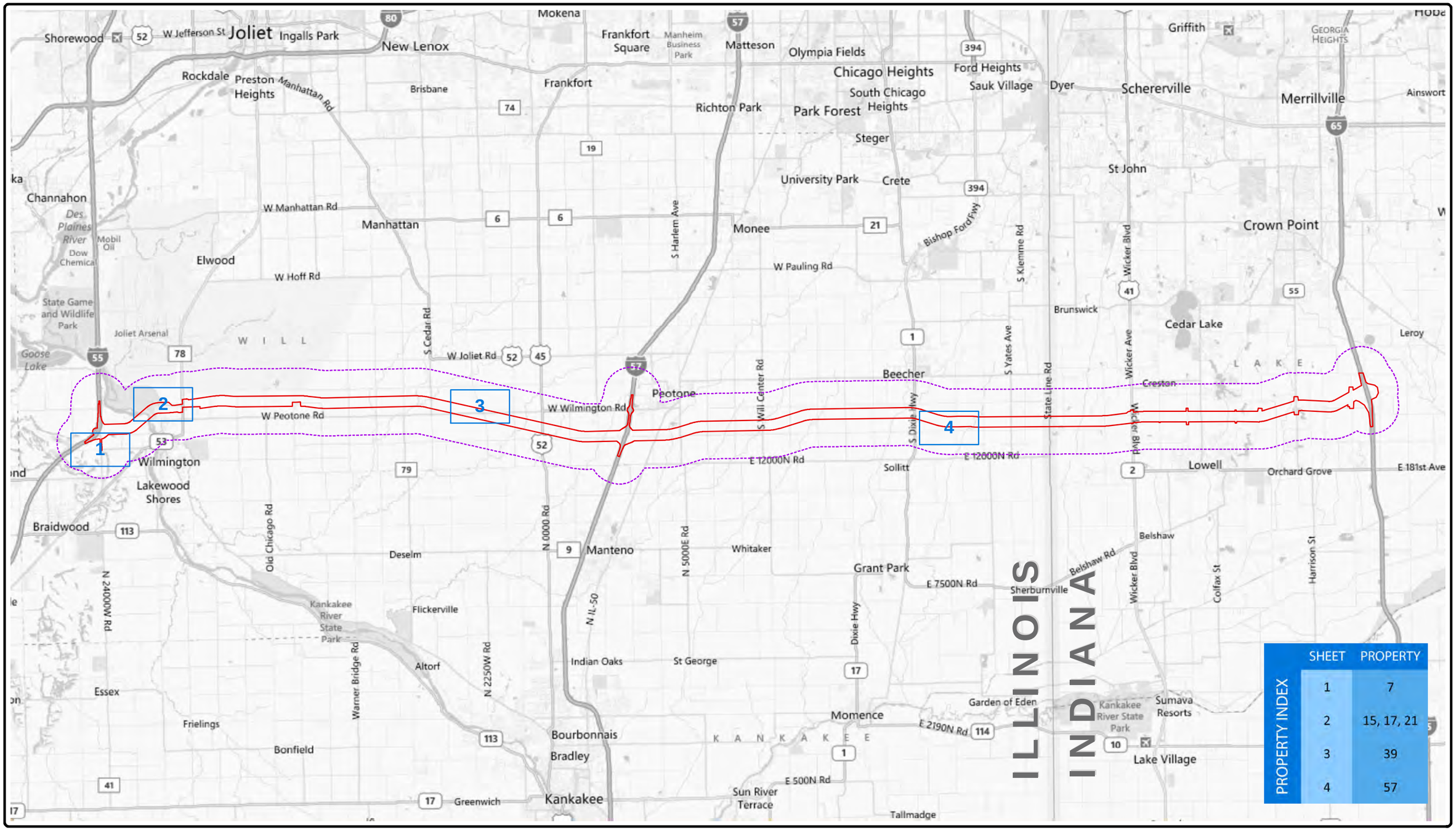
Appendix A

Area of Potential Effects (APE) Map



PROPERTY INDEX	SHEET	PROPERTY
	1	7
	2	15, 17, 21
	3	39
	4	57

Basemap: Microsoft Bing Maps

NORTH

0 5 mi

0 5 10 km

REGION

IL IN Project

LEGEND

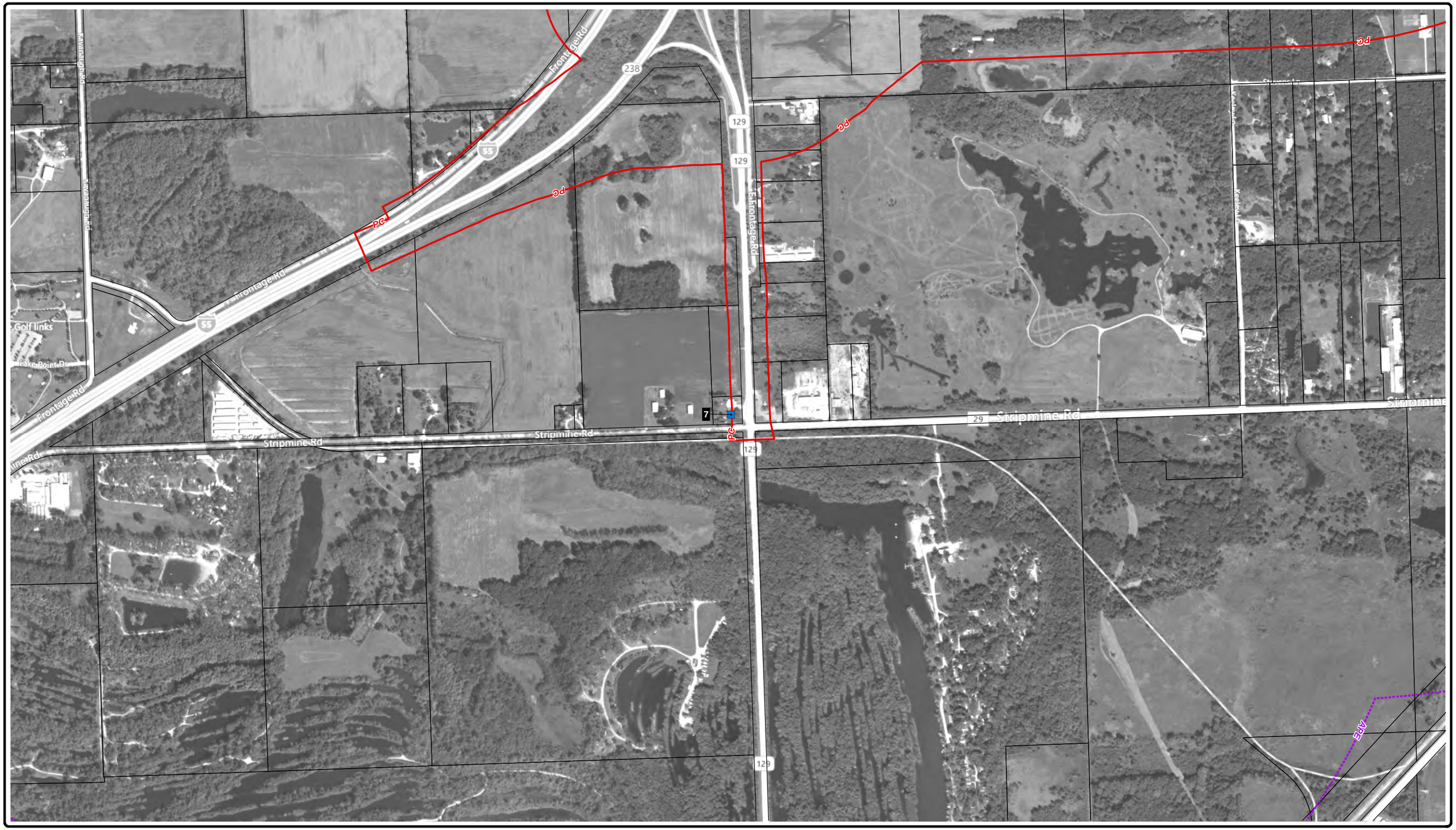
B3 2,000-FT PROJECT CORRIDOR LIMIT (PC)

AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS (APE)

National Register of Historic Places Eligibility Determinations
in B3 2,000-ft Project Corridor
Sheet Index
June 2013

ILLIANA CORRIDOR

K-1314



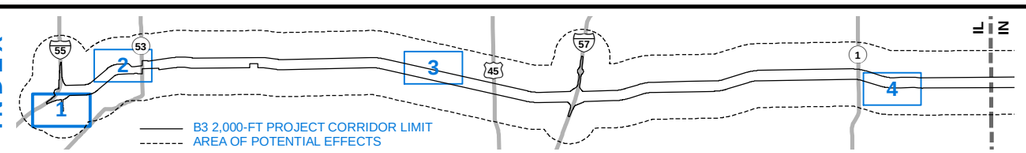
Aerial Imagery: Microsoft Bing Maps Hybrid

NORTH

0 500 ft

0 50 100 m

INDEX



LEGEND

SURVEYED PROPERTY

NRHP Not Eligible

NRHP Listed
(Alternate Route 66, Wilmington to Joliet)

B3 2,000-FT PROJECT CORRIDOR LIMIT (PC)

AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS (APE)

PARCEL

National Register of Historic Places Eligibility Determinations
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ILLIANA CORRIDOR

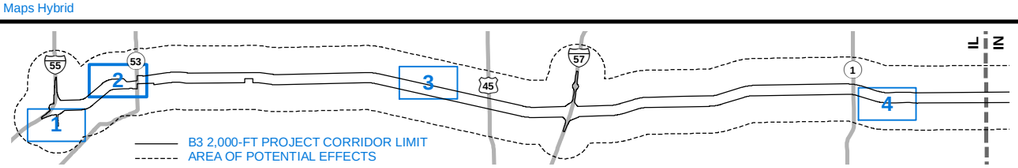
Aerial Imagery: Microsoft Bing Maps Hybrid

NORTH

0 500 ft

0 50 100 m

INDEX



LEGEND

SURVEYED PROPERTY

NRHP Not Eligible

NRHP Listed (Alternate Route 66, Wilmington to Joliet)

PC B3 2,000-FT PROJECT CORRIDOR LIMIT (PC)

APE AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS (APE)

PARCEL

National Register of Historic Places Eligibility Determinations
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ILLIANA CORRIDOR
PARTNERING FOR PROGRESS

K-1316

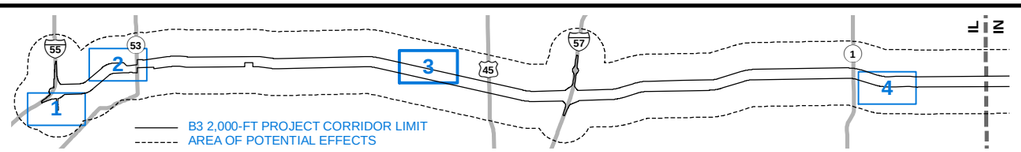
Aerial Imagery: Microsoft Bing Maps Hybrid

NORTH

0 500 ft

0 50 100 m

INDEX



LEGEND

SURVEYED PROPERTY

NRHP Not Eligible

NRHP Listed
(Alternate Route 66, Wilmington to Joliet)

PC B3 2,000-FT PROJECT CORRIDOR LIMIT (PC)

APE AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS (APE)

PARCEL

National Register of Historic Places Eligibility Determinations
in B3 2,000-ft Project Corridor
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June 2013

ILLIANA CORRIDOR
PARTNERING FOR PROGRESS

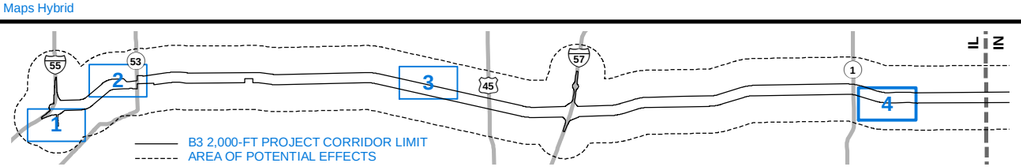
Aerial Imagery: Microsoft Bing Maps Hybrid

NORTH

0 500 ft

0 50 100 m

INDEX



LEGEND

SURVEYED PROPERTY

NRHP Not Eligible

NRHP Listed
(Alternate Route 66, Wilmington to Joliet)

PC B3 2,000-FT PROJECT CORRIDOR LIMIT (PC)

APE AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS (APE)

PARCEL

National Register of Historic Places Eligibility Determinations
in B3 2,000-ft Project Corridor
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ILLIANA CORRIDOR
PARTNERING FOR PROGRESS

Appendix B

NRHP Determinations of Eligibility

NAME
Schreier Filling Station and Lodge

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS	CITY	TOWNSHIP
31850 South Route 129	Wilmington	Wilmington

OWNERSHIP	TAX PARCEL NUMBER
Edward A. Czys	03-17-28-400-007-0000

YEAR BUILT	SOURCE
1930	Wilmington Township Assessor, 2012

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE	PROPERTY TYPE
No Discernible Style	Commercial

FOUNDATION	WALLS	ROOF
Concrete	Wood; vinyl; concrete block	Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The Schreier Filling Station and Lodge at 31850 South Route 129 consists of a ca. 1930 main house and three ca. 1950 cottages of no discernible style; a former ca. 1930 filling station; and a non-historic pole barn, construction date unknown. The property is located at the northwest corner of South Route 129 and Stripmine Road. A gravel parking area and driveway is located off of South Route 129 along the east property boundary. The driveway leads to the filling station west and behind the main house and circles around to Stripmine Road. Grassy lawn surrounds the main house, cottages, and filling station and mature deciduous trees are located throughout the property. Agricultural fields surround the property to the north and west.

The ca. 1930 main house is a one-and-one-half-story, side-gable house of no discernible style. It has a concrete foundation, replacement vinyl siding, and an asphalt-shingle roof; an addition is located on the rear elevation. An interior chimney rises from the roof ridgeline. Facing east, the asymmetrical facade comprises an off-center front door with a wood storm door. South of the front door is a ribbon of four contiguous one-over-one, double-hung, vinyl-sash windows. North of the front door are paired one-over-one, double-hung, vinyl-sash windows and a ribbon of five contiguous tall, fixed, wood-framed windows. The facade's front door and windows are all surmounted by aluminum shed awnings. The north side elevation contains two one-over-one, double-hung, wood-sash windows on the first story and paired one-over-one, double-hung, wood-sash windows in the gable end; all windows have aluminum storm windows. The west rear elevation contains a single one-over-one, double-hung, wood-sash window with an aluminum storm window and shed awning near the house's southwest corner. A one-story, gable-roof perpendicular addition is located at the west rear elevation's north end. The addition's identical north and south elevations contain three contiguous floor-to-ceiling louvered windows at the west end and a single sliding vinyl-sash window with an aluminum storm window at the east end. Its west elevation contains three contiguous floor-to-ceiling louvered windows to the south and a louvered glass door to the north. The house's south side elevation contains two fixed wood-framed windows surmounted by aluminum shed awnings on the first story and paired one-over-one, double-hung, wood-sash windows with aluminum storm windows in the gable end.

Immediately west and behind the main house is a ca. 1930 one-story, flat-roof filling station constructed entirely of concrete block. A brick chimney rises from the roof near the west rear elevation. Facing east, the six-bay facade contains, from north to south, an infilled square window in the first bay and a two-light, metal-sash window in the fourth and fifth bays. The second bay contains a metal storm door while the third and sixth bays each contain a wood paneled door. The north elevation contains no window or door openings. From north to south, the four-bay west rear elevation has a two-light metal-sash window in the first and third bays while the second and fourth bays each contain a paneled wood door. The building's flat roof overhangs the west rear elevation and is supported by evenly spaced wood rafters. The south side elevation contains a single infilled metal-sash window near the building's southwest corner.

Cottage #1 is a ca. 1950 one-story, two-room, side-gable building located near the property's northwest corner; it contains two units with separate entrances. It sits on a concrete foundation with wood clapboard siding and asphalt-shingle roofing; an interior concrete chimney rises from the roof ridgeline. Facing south, the asymmetrical facade comprises two bays that each contain a wood paneled door with a three-light window to the east and a one-over-one, double-hung, wood-sash window to the west. The identical side-gable east and west side elevations contain a single three-over-one, double-hung, wood-sash window. The north rear elevation contains no window or door openings.

Cottage #2 is a ca. 1950 one-story, one-room, gable-front building located immediately east of Cottage #1. It sits on a concrete foundation with wood clapboard siding and asphalt-shingle roofing. Facing south, the two-bay facade's west bay contains a wood paneled door surmounted by a pediment cut into the wood clapboard siding while the east bay contains paired three-over-one, double-hung, wood-sash windows. The east side elevation contains a single one-over-one, double-hung, wood-sash window and the west side elevation contains a single three-over-one, double-hung, wood-sash window. The north rear elevation contains no window or door openings.

Cottage #3 is a ca. 1950 one-story, one-room, round-roof building located immediately east of Cottage #2. It sits on a concrete foundation with vertical wood siding and asphalt-shingle roofing. Facing south, the facade contains a large plain door to the east and a single one-over-one, double-hung, aluminum-sash window to the west. A small vent is located above the door. The identical east and west side elevations contain no window or door openings but the round roof extends halfway down these elevations, terminating in slightly flared eaves supported by plain wood rafters. The two-bay north rear elevation comprises a one-over-one, double-hung, wood-sash window in the east bay and a four-over-four, double-hung, wood-sash window in the west bay. Like the facade, a small vent is located above the eastern window.

Located at the property's northeast corner, the non-historic pole barn is a one-and-one-half-story, gable-roof building clad in corrugated metal siding and roofing. From east to west, its south elevation contains an entry door, three identical sliding vinyl-sash windows, and a tall overhead garage door. The east elevation contains a tall overhead garage door to the south and two identical sliding vinyl-sash windows to the north. The west elevation contains two identical sliding vinyl-sash windows. The north elevation comprises a one-story, shed-roof addition with no window or door openings.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The Schreier Filling Station and Lodge was established ca. 1930 on former farmland along the former western alignment of US 66, now South Route 129. The former farmstead buildings were likely demolished at this time and the main house and filling station were constructed in their place. The three extant cottages were constructed ca. 1950 when the property was also used as a carpentry trade school. It is likely that Robert Schreier constructed the filling station building and main house. The main house may have been used as a lodging or motel building during the filling station's period of operation.

The original 160-acre farmstead was established as early as 1862 by Dennis Scanlan and J. H. Clay. By 1873, the farmstead consisted of 80 acres and Dennis Scanlan owned the property until his death in 1892. By 1902, it had been purchased or inherited by George Woods who married Dennis Scanlan's daughter, Mary; he was engaged in general farming through the 1920s. By 1940, the 80-acre parcel was subdivided into the 30-acre filling station parcel owned by Robert Schreier and a 50-acre parcel. Robert Schreier is listed in the 1940 US census as a tavern operator at a restaurant service station; he lived on the property with his wife Antoinette Schreier and his third cousin John Shepard. He owned the property through at least 1970 when it consisted of 25 acres. By 1974, the property was subdivided further into a small approximately 1-acre parcel and owned by Edward A. and Ann L. Czys, who continue to live in the main house today. The property is no longer used as a gasoline filling station or carpentry trade school and Ed's Welding operates from the property's non-historic pole barn.

Based on township assessor data, the property's construction date is ca. 1930, which predates the opening of the western alignment of mainline US 66, now South Route 129, in 1940 that bypassed the original Alternate Route 66. Due to its location along this mainline route, the filling station and lodge likely experienced a good amount of traffic and patronage. In 1957, a new freeway was constructed, bypassing much of the 1940 US 66 alignment; it opened as US 66. The unincorporated sections of the 1940 alignment reverted to their previous state route names, including Route 129. In 1976, US 66 became Interstate 55.

During the 1950s, in addition to its use as a gasoline filling station, the property was used as a carpentry trade school. The students constructed the three extant cottages located on the property, which also served as student lodging facilities. A 1955 aerial photograph shows the extant main house, filling station, and three cottages as well as several buildings and structures that have since been demolished, such as a small building adjacent to the filling station, a cottage behind and west of the filling station, and gasoline pumps east of the main house. The main house does not appear to have its west rear elevation addition at that time, indicating a post-1955 construction date. The property also mainly consisted of large parking areas next to and surrounding the main house and had a driveway leading west to the extant cottages; these areas are primarily grassy lawn now.

The ca. 1930 main house is a basic example of a domestic building that displays no discernible architectural style. The three ca. 1950 extant cottages are modest, small, and interesting examples of practice projects for carpentry students; they do not appear to have been altered since their original construction and retain their original cladding, window, and door materials. The main house has been altered by replacement vinyl siding and the west rear elevation addition. Based on the 1955 aerial photograph, the house's facade fenestration has also been altered with the addition of the ribbon of five windows to the north that replaced a former entry door. A continuous awning also was located above the facade windows and doors in lieu of the current individual aluminum awnings.

It is unknown when the property stopped operating as a gasoline filling station and carpentry trade school but it may have occurred when the Czys family obtained ownership in the 1970s in combination with the re-routed traffic onto the nearby Interstate 55. The extant former filling station building is a basic and typical example of a 1930s filling station. Gasoline filling station design changed in the 1930s due to the economic depression and buildings were distinguished by a stripped down, functional design. The buildings were oblong box-shaped with flat roofs replacing the hip and gable roofs of prior gasoline station buildings and a distinct lack of exterior decoration. Walls were painted with company signage and terra cotta was a popular facing material. The Schreier filling station exemplifies this trend and the building is very plain, of no discernible style, and does not appear to have been altered with the exception of two infilled window openings. The property also no longer retains any of its original gasoline pumps or other structures associated with the filling station.
The Schreier Filling Station and Lodge was previously surveyed and rated "Contributing" in the Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey for Wilmington Township completed in December 2009. The

survey assigned a rating of “Non-Contributing,” “Contributing,” “Local Landmark Potential,” or “National Register Potential” to surveyed properties based on their historical significance, architectural merit, environment, and integrity. For the purposes of the survey, the “National Register Potential” rating was based upon the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Criteria for Evaluation, but was not a substitute for final NRHP eligibility determinations. Those properties rated “Local Landmark Potential” would be considered eligible for listing as a local Will County landmark, either individually or as part of a historic district; this rating was based upon the Will County Preservation Ordinance criteria for consideration of nomination. Properties rated “Contributing” could be considered contributing to a potential historic district, particularly in the case of farmsteads or supporting rural sites; contributing sites are ones that retain a coherent appearance as a farmstead or their original function. Properties rated “Non-Contributing” lacked integrity, were significantly altered, or were abandoned. For the purposes of this report’s evaluation, the “Contributing”-rated Schreier Filling Station and Lodge is being assessed individually and not as part of a potential historic district.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The Schreier Filling Station and Lodge was evaluated for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criteria A, B, and C using guidelines set forth in the NRHP Bulletin “How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation.”

The Schreier Filling Station and Lodge is associated with the development of US 66 in 1940, providing gasoline and restaurant services to travelers along that route. It appears to have operated in this capacity for approximately 30 years, likely closing due to the construction of nearby Interstate 55, which rerouted traffic from US 66 to this freeway. The property no longer conveys this historically significant association due to the non-functioning filling station and the replacement of much of its original parking and driveway areas with grassy lawn, altering the property’s original appearance as a commercial enterprise. Further, there are other examples of filling stations still in use along the eastern Alternate Route 66 alignment in and near Wilmington that better convey the historical association with that significant road; this property’s extant filling station no longer conveys this association. Therefore, the Schreier Filling Station and Lodge is not eligible under Criterion A.

The Schreier Filling Station and Lodge is associated with Robert Schreier who constructed the main house and filling station building and operated the gasoline station and carpentry trade school. The property remained under his ownership for approximately 40 years; however, research did not reveal any known historically significant associations with his productive life. Therefore, the Schreier Filling Station and Lodge is not eligible under Criterion B.

The Schreier Filling Station and Lodge’s remaining main house, filling station building, and three cottages are basic examples of their period of construction. The main house’s original basic form remains but its appearance is substantially altered by a rear wing addition and new facade fenestration, and replacement materials, including vinyl siding and vinyl-sash windows. Although the cottages retain their original materials and overall appearance, they are basic buildings of no discernible style. Similarly, the filling station building is not a distinctive example and is typical of its period. Furthermore, all of these buildings

are not distinctive examples of their type and they do not exhibit any architectural significance. The property also no longer retains its associated gasoline pumps, a cottage, or a small building near the filling station and overall, no longer conveys its association as a former gasoline filling station site, restaurant, or carpentry trade school. Therefore, the Schreier Filling Station and Lodge is not eligible under Criterion C.

The Schreier Filling Station and Lodge was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the Schreier Filling Station and Lodge is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

SOURCES
Burhans, S.H. and J. Van Vechten. 1862. *Map of Will County, Illinois*.

Combination Atlas Map of Will County. 1873. Elgin, IL: Thompson Brothers & Burr.

Jakle, John A. and Keith A. Sculle. 1994. *The Gas Station in America*. Baltimore, MD: The John Hopkins University Press.

Plat Book of Will County, Illinois. 1893. Chicago, IL: Geo. A. Ogle & Co.

Plat Maps. 1962, 1970, 1974. La Porte, IN: Town & Country Publishing Co., Inc. *Will County, Illinois: Official Farm Plat Book and Directory*.

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Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. December 2009. *Rural Historic Structural Survey of Wilmington Township, Will County, Illinois*. Will County Land Use Department and Will County Historic Preservation Commission.

Photo 1 – Schreier Filling Station and Lodge

Facing southwest to main house east-facing facade and north side elevation

Photo 2 – Schreier Filling Station and Lodge

Facing northwest to main house east-facing facade and south side elevation

Photo 3 – Schreier Filling Station and Lodge

Facing northeast to main house west rear and south side elevations

Photo 4 – Schreier Filling Station and Lodge

Facing northwest to filling station east-facing facade and south side elevation

Photo 5 – Schreier Filling Station and Lodge

Facing southeast to filling station west rear and north side elevations

Photo 6 – Schreier Filling Station and Lodge

Facing northwest to cottage #1 south-facing facade and east side elevation

Photo 7 – Schreier Filling Station and Lodge

Facing southeast to cottage #1 north rear and west side elevations; cottage #2 visible at left

Photo 8 – Schreier Filling Station and Lodge

Facing northeast to cottage #2 south-facing facade and west side elevation

Photo 9 – Schreier Filling Station and Lodge

Facing southwest to cottage #2 north rear and east side elevations; cottage #1 visible at right

Photo 10 – Schreier Filling Station and Lodge

Facing northwest to cottage #3 south-facing facade and east side elevation

Photo 11 – Schreier Filling Station and Lodge

Facing southwest to cottage #3 north rear and west side elevations; non-historic pole barn visible at left, filling station visible at right

Photo 12 – Schreier Filling Station and Lodge

Facing northwest to non-historic pole barn south and east elevations

Photo 13 – Schreier Filling Station and Lodge

Facing southwest to main house and filling station from parking area

Photo 14 – Schreier Filling Station and Lodge

Facing northwest to main house and pole barn from parking area; cottages #1 and #2 visible at center

Map – Schreier Filling Station and Lodge

NAME
George Markert House

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS	CITY	TOWNSHIP
22742 West Kankakee River Drive	Wilmington	Wilmington

OWNERSHIP	TAX PARCEL NUMBER
USA	03-17-23-200-001-0000

YEAR BUILT	SOURCE
1893	Plat Map, 1893

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE	PROPERTY TYPE
Queen Anne	Domestic

FOUNDATION	WALLS	ROOF
Concrete	Vinyl	Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

The ca. 1893 George Markert House at 22742 West Kankakee River Drive is a modest two-story, irregularly shaped, house characterized by Queen Anne-style massing and stylistic references, including a hipped roof with lower cross gables and a wraparound porch with spindlework detailing. It sits on a concrete and fieldstone foundation with replacement vinyl siding and asphalt-shingle roofing. The majority of its windows are one-over-one, double-hung, replacement aluminum-sashes with aluminum storm windows, unless otherwise noted. These replacement windows are smaller than the original openings, with surrounding areas filled. All of its gable ends have simple gable returns. The property also contains a detached garage that appears to have been constructed ca. 1960. The house and garage are located in a small grassy clearing that is surrounded by densely spaced mature deciduous trees along the north side of West Kankakee River Drive and the Kankakee River. The property is part of a larger parcel associated with the Des Plaines Conservation Area owned by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

Facing south to West Kankakee River Drive, the George Markert House's facade comprises the jerkinhead roof core block from which a lower front-facing cross gable projects at the east end. The core block's first story contains the original front door opening, which is partially infilled with wood and has a smaller replacement wood front door and storm door, and a single window to the north; the second story contains a ribbon of three contiguous double-hung replacement windows consisting of a diamond patterned upper pane and a single lower pane. The projecting lower cross gable comprises a bay window on the first story with a single window on the southeast and southwest corners and a large fixed window surmounted by an elongated diamond-patterned transom on the south elevation. The cross gable's second story contains paired windows.

A one-story, full-width, half-hipped roof porch wraps around the facade and part of the east side elevation, terminating at that elevation's projecting cross gable, which has returns. The wooden porch has a latticework foundation, a simple balustrade, turned spindlework porch supports, and decorative

brackets supporting a plain frieze. Replacement concrete steps and decorative iron railing lead to the front door. Ornamental plantings and bushes are located along the entirety of the porch.

The east side elevation's south end has a small elongated diamond-patterned, wood-framed window on the first story and a single window on the second story. North of these windows, a cross gable projects from the jerkinhead core block. It has paired windows at the first and second stories of the east elevation and a single window at the second story of the south and north elevations.

The north rear elevation comprises a projecting cross-hipped portion and a one-story, half-hipped roof one-car garage, a modern alteration. An interior brick chimney rises from the cross-hipped roof. The cross-hipped portion's north elevation has two windows on the first story while the second story has a single window to the west and an entry door to the east leading to a small wooden deck and stairs comprising a fire escape. Wood cellar doors are located between the first-story windows. Its west elevation contains a sliding sash basement-level window and a single window at each story while its east elevation contains a single window at the second story and the one-car garage at the first story. The one-car garage's north elevation contains an overhead garage door; its east elevation contains paired windows; and its west elevation contains an entry door.

The west side elevation's south end has a single double-hung, wood-sash window at the second story with a diamond-patterned upper pane and a single lower pane. Near this window, a cross gable projects from the jerkinhead core block. It has paired windows at the first and second stories of the west elevation and a single window at each story of the south and north elevations.

The property's ca. 1960 detached garage is a one-story, hipped roof building located just northeast and behind the house. It has a concrete foundation, vinyl siding, and asphalt-shingle roofing. The garage's west elevation comprises a paneled, overhead two-car garage door to the north and a paneled entry door to the south. The identical north and south elevations contain a single vinyl-sash tripartite window comprised of a fixed pane flanked by smaller louvered windows. The east elevation was not accessible during survey due to vegetation obstructing views to it.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The George Markert House appears to have been constructed ca. 1893 according to historical atlas and plat map information. It is unknown when the house's attached one-car garage was constructed; however, based on what appears to be the original garage door, it may date to the 1960s or 1970s. The detached two-car garage may date to ca. 1960 based on its tripartite louvered windows, which appear original to the building. The property was originally a farmstead purchased in 1860 by C.C. Ford and by 1873, it was owned by his brother, James A. Ford. The 1873 atlas shows a sketch of the Ford farmstead, which originally had a Greek Revival-style upright-and-wing house as well as several barns. It is unknown when these buildings were demolished but it was likely at the time George Markert assumed ownership of the property in the 1890s.

By 1893, George Markert owned the property and the existing Queen Anne-style house likely dates to this period of ownership by the Markert family. The property at that time consisted of 77.5 acres. George Markert's father, Andrew Markert, immigrated to Illinois in the 1850s with his wife Elizabeth Bez Markert. In the 1860s, Andrew Markert and his brother-in-law, George Bez, established a brewery on the banks of the Kankakee River and began supplying ale by 1868. The three-story brewery building was located southeast of the George Markert House on a separate parcel. The successful Markert and Company Brewery employed a small staff of brewers and was managed by George Bez and George Markert. The financial success likely enabled George Markert to purchase the Ford farmstead and erect the Queen Anne-style house. In 1901, a fire destroyed the brewery building and the Markert and Company Brewery closed soon thereafter.

George Markert and his wife, Louise Schweigert Markert, had three children, Emma Louise, Carl L., and Otto George. After the brewery closed, George Markert and his family lived in the subject house until at least 1902 when the property consisted of 157.5 acres and included the adjacent east parcel. By 1909, the Prairie Oil and Gas Company owned the property and in the 1920s, William Godel owned the property. In 1940, the property was subdivided into its original two parcels; Herman Van Duyne owned the original 77.5-acre parcel with the George Markert House and Mrs. William Godel owned the east 80-acre parcel. By 1940, both of these parcels were a part of the Kankakee Ordnance Plant and owned by the United States government.

The Kankakee Ordnance Plant and the Elwood Ordnance Plant were two separate plants comprising the 37,000-acre Joliet Arsenal established by the United States Army in 1940. The complex was constructed from 1940 to 1942 and was one of the first such plants established after the start of World War II in Europe; ultimately 60 plants were established nationwide. It was created from the land of numerous farms and the majority of the agricultural buildings were demolished. The Kankakee Ordnance Plant, on the western part of the site, produced and stored explosives including trinitrotoluene (TNT), dinitrotulene (DNT), lead azide, and tetryl. The Elwood Ordnance Plant, on the eastern part of the site, loaded, assembled, and packed bombs and artillery ammunition. The overall complex was actively used from September 1941 to August 1945 when it was placed on standby status. In 1946, the two units were merged under one administration as the Joliet Arsenal and renamed the Joliet Army Ammunition Plant in 1963. Production resumed during the Korean War from 1952 to 1957 and again during the Vietnam War from 1965 to 1976.

In the 1960s, the western portion of the arsenal, which contains the George Markert House, was transferred to the State of Illinois and became the Des Plaines Public Shooting Grounds; today it is known as the Des Plaines Conservation Area. The property is still owned by the Illinois DNR but appears to be rented to tenants. The eastern portion of the arsenal was decommissioned in 1992 and in 1997, 15,080 acres was transferred to the USDA Forest Service to create the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie.

The George Markert House is a modest, altered, and simply ornamented example of the Queen Anne style. The Queen Anne style was the dominant domestic building style from 1880 to 1910. The style was named and popularized by a group of nineteenth century English architects led by Richard Norman Shaw who were influenced by the late Medieval architectural styles; the half-timbered and patterned masonry subtypes of the American Queen Anne houses were directly related to the work of Shaw and his colleagues. The Queen Anne style is characterized by asymmetrical facades with partial or full-width porches; complex roofs, often with one or more cross gables; and patterned shingles, cutaway bay windows, and other devices used to avoid a smooth-walled appearance. Decorative details include spindlework, corner towers, gabled dormers, decorative brick patterns, and decorative brackets. The hipped roof with lower cross gables is the most common Queen Anne style subtype, occurring in examples ranging from modest cottages to high-style landmarks. This complex massing, roof type, and the spindlework porch are the George Markert House's defining Queen Anne-style features, which otherwise does not retain any Queen Anne-style ornamentation or detailing typical of the period. Further, the house has been altered by rear elevation additions, such as the attached one-car garage and second story fire escape, and replacement materials, such as vinyl siding, smaller aluminum-sash windows, and the front door. The replacement vinyl siding gives the house a flat appearance that is uncharacteristic of the Queen Anne style, which was typically defined by differing wall textures, particularly in the gable ends.

The George Markert House was previously surveyed and rated "Local Landmark Potential" in the Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey for Wilmington Township completed in December 2009. The survey assigned a rating of "Non-Contributing," "Contributing," "Local Landmark Potential," or "National

Register Potential" to surveyed properties based on their historical significance, architectural merit, environment, and integrity. For the purposes of the survey, the "National Register Potential" rating was based upon the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Criteria for Evaluation, but was not a substitute for final NRHP eligibility determinations. Those properties rated "Local Landmark Potential" would be considered eligible for listing as a local Will County landmark, either individually or as part of a historic district; this rating was based upon the Will County Preservation Ordinance criteria for consideration of nomination. Properties rated "Contributing" could be considered contributing to a potential historic district, particularly in the case of farmsteads or supporting rural sites; contributing sites are ones that retain a coherent appearance as a farmstead or their original function. Properties rated "Non-Contributing" lacked integrity, were significantly altered, or were abandoned. The George Markert House does not appear to have been altered since the time of that survey. At that time, the house was already clad in vinyl siding and the other noted alterations.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The George Markert House was evaluated for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criteria A, B, and C using guidelines set forth in the NRHP Bulletin "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation."

The George Markert House is located on property that in 1940 became a part of the Joliet Arsenal Kankakee Ordnance Plant. Although the land was a part of the plant, research did not reveal the house to have been historically significant to its establishment or to any other events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of Will County, Illinois, or United States history. Therefore, the George Markert House is not eligible under Criterion A.

The George Markert House is associated with the Markert family, who settled in Wilmington Township in the mid-nineteenth century and eventually owned and operated the Markert and Company Brewery, which was located nearby this property. Research indicates the house was built by George Markert after he assumed ownership of the property through the success of the Markert and Company Brewery. However, the Markert family owned the property for only approximately 10 years and it was not directly associated with the operation of the brewery. Research did not reveal any known historically significant associations with the productive lives of any members of the Markert family. Therefore, the George Markert House is not eligible under Criterion B.

The George Markert House is a modest and altered example of the Queen Anne style. Although it incorporates select characteristics of the Queen Anne style, such as its asymmetrical facade, full-width porch, and complex hipped roof with lower cross gables, the house does not retain any differing wall textures or ornamentation beyond the limited spindlework on its porch. Furthermore, alterations to the house have compromised its integrity of design, materials, and workmanship. This includes the additions of an attached one-car garage and second story fire escape as well as replacement materials, such as vinyl siding, smaller aluminum-sash windows, and the smaller front door. The replacement vinyl siding gives the house a flat appearance that is uncharacteristic of the Queen Anne style. The house is not a distinctive example of the Queen Anne style and does not exhibit any architectural significance.

Therefore, the George Markert House is not eligible under Criterion C.

The George Markert House was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the George Markert House is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

SOURCES
Burhans, S.H. and J. Van Vechten. 1862. *Map of Will County, Illinois*.

Combination Atlas Map of Will County. 1873. Elgin, IL: Thompson Brothers & Burr.

Plat Book of Will County, Illinois. 1893. Chicago, IL: Geo. A. Ogle & Co.

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Plat Maps. 1953, 1957, 1978, 1980-1981, 1988, 1996, 2000, 2003. Rockford, IL: Rockford Map Publishers, Inc. *Land Atlas & Plat Book, Will County, Illinois*.

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Will County Assessor. 2013. *Lake County Surveyor GIS Website*.

Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. December 2009. *Rural Historic Structural Survey of Wilmington Township, Will County, Illinois*. Will County Land Use Department and Will County Historic Preservation Commission.

Photo 1 – George Markert House

Facing northeast to house south-facing facade and west side elevation

Photo 2 – George Markert House

Facing northwest to house south-facing facade and east side elevation

Photo 3 – George Markert House

Facing southwest to house north rear and east side elevations

Photo 4 – George Markert House

Facing southeast to house north rear and west side elevations

Photo 5 – George Markert House

Facing northwest to house porch and window details on south-facing facade and east side elevation

Photo 6 – George Markert House

Facing southeast to garage west and north elevations

Photo 7 – George Markert House

Facing north to garage south elevation

Map – George Markert House

NAME
John P. Lynott Summer House

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS
22574 West Kankakee River Drive

CITY
Wilmington

TOWNSHIP
Wilmington

OWNERSHIP
Martin E. Pollack

TAX PARCEL NUMBER
03-17-23-400-003-0000

YEAR BUILT
1920, 1933

SOURCE
Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Wilmington Township, 2009; Wilmington Township Assessor, 2012

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE
Craftsman

PROPERTY TYPE
Domestic

FOUNDATION
Concrete

WALLS
Wood shingle

ROOF
Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The ca. 1920 John P. Lynott Summer House at 22574 West Kankakee River Drive is a modest one-and-one-half-story, side-gable bungalow characterized by Craftsman-style massing and stylistic references, including a low and long horizontal profile, a side gable roof with wide unenclosed eave overhang, and facade dormers. In addition to the Craftsman style, these features also reference the Prairie style in the overall horizontal massing and overhanging eaves; the Minimal Traditional form in the symmetrical dormered facade appearance; and classical styles with the facade's temple-like pediment porch roof. The house sits on a concrete foundation with wood shingle siding; its roof is covered in asphalt shingles. The majority of its windows are six-over-six, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash windows, unless otherwise noted. Its roof has a wide, unenclosed eave overhang and is interrupted along the north rear elevation by a one-story, full-length, shed-roof addition. The property also contains a ca. 1933 carriage house, a non-historic pole barn, and a non-historic swimming pool. The buildings are almost completely surrounded by mature deciduous trees and grassy lawn along the north side of West Kankakee River Drive and the Kankakee River.

Facing south to West Kankakee River Drive, the ca. 1920 John P. Lynott Summer House's symmetrical facade is distinguished by a recessed entry porch and two gabled dormers. The three-bay first story comprises a recessed entry porch in the middle bay flanked by a ribbon of three contiguous windows in each outer bay. The recessed entry contains a central door with a metal storm door and the east and west elevation side walls each contain a window. The recessed entry is further distinguished by two slightly tapered engaged columns supporting a low pitched pediment roof; fieldstone steps lead to the porch. The facade roof is pierced by two low pitched gable-roof dormers. Each dormer contains a five-light, wood-sash casement window.

The east side elevation's first story comprises three bays. The northernmost bay contains a side entry door surmounted by a projecting shed roof supported by slightly curved triangular braced supports. The

two southernmost bays contain a single window and paired windows. The gable end contains a single window. The house's west side elevation is centrally divided by a large brick exterior chimney with decorative stone work. The first story contains paired windows south of the chimney while the gable end contains a six-light, wood-sash casement window on each side of the chimney.

The house's north rear elevation comprises a long one-story, shed-roof addition that extends beyond the east and west side elevations, terminating in side gable ends. The central portion below the house's interrupted gable roof has a shed roof while the ends extending beyond the house's side elevations have a gable roof. The addition's north elevation comprises paired windows on the east gable end and a single window on the west gable end. Between them is a projecting shed-roof addition that consists of a screened wooden porch with a wood screen door and a tall vertical fixed window; the shed roof extends across the west gable end on the north elevation forming a small open porch. The addition's east gable end contains paired windows on its east and south elevations while the addition's west gable end contains a single window on its west elevation and paired windows on its south elevation. An interior brick chimney rises from the house's north rear elevation roof.

Ornamental plantings, primarily consisting of evergreen shrubs and wildflowers, are located at the house's foundation on all elevations. The non-historic swimming pool is located directly north of and behind the house.

The ca. 1933 carriage house is located northeast of the house at the driveway's northern terminus. It is a two-story, gable-front building with several one-story and one-and-one-half-story additions on its west and north elevations. It sits on a concrete foundation with wood shingle siding and asphalt shingle roofing. Like the house, its roof has a wide, unenclosed eave overhang; an interior brick chimney rises from the roof ridgeline. The majority of its windows are one-over-one, double-hung, wood-sash windows, unless otherwise specified. The south-facing facade's first story comprises two original wood carriage doors with two adjacent pedestrian entry doors. Each carriage door consists of two hinged panels with a four-light window in the upper third of the door. The pedestrian entry doors are identical to the carriage door panels but have door handles. The facade's second story has two windows. A shed roof supported by slightly curved triangular brackets extends across the carriage house's facade between the floors from the west side elevation's one-and-one-half-story, side-gable addition.

The carriage house's west side elevation has paired windows below a small cross-gable on the second story while the first story comprises a one-and-one-half-story, side gable addition. The addition's south-facing facade is flush with the carriage house's facade and contains an original wood carriage door and an adjacent pedestrian entry door. The carriage door consists of two hinged panels with a two-light window in the upper third of the door. The pedestrian entry door is identical to the carriage door panels but has a door handle. The side gable roof extends beyond the elevation, supported by slightly curved triangular brackets. The addition's west elevation has a four-light horizontal wood-sash window on the first story and a small four-light, wood-sash casement window in the gable end. The addition's north elevation has a second one-story, flat-roof addition with paired two-light, wood-sash casement windows on the west elevation and a third one-story, shed-roof addition on the north elevation. The third addition has only a wood door on its west elevation.

The carriage house's north rear elevation has two windows at the second story and a fourth one-story, gable-roof addition on its first story. The fourth addition has a single wood-sash casement window on its north elevation and a paneled wood entry door on its south elevation. The carriage house's east side elevation's first story has a wood entry door at the north end and a high, central, four-light, wood-sash horizontal window shaded by a projecting shed roof supported by triangular brackets. Above this shed roof are paired windows on the second story below a small cross-gable.

The non-historic one-story, gable-roof pole barn is located north of the house. It has a concrete foundation and metal standing-seam walls and roofing. Its south elevation has a single entry door while its west elevation has double sliding doors. The north and east elevations contain no window or door openings.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

There is differing information regarding the construction date of the John P. Lynott Summer House. The Wilmington Township assessor provided a 1933 construction date, which would postdate the period of construction associated with the Craftsman style, and is more likely associated with the construction of the property's carriage house. The *Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey* states that John P. Lynott purchased the property in 1904 intending to build a summer house there while also stating the house was constructed in the 1920s; similarly, the earlier 1904 construction date predates the period of construction associated with the Craftsman style. Based on this information, associated plat maps, and the house's Craftsman-style details, the John P. Lynott Summer House was likely constructed ca. 1920. The carriage house was likely constructed ca. 1933, which was the construction date provided by the local township assessor for the property. The non-historic pole barn's date of construction is unknown.

According to the July 8, 1904, issue of the Wilmington Advocate newspaper, the property was purchased some months earlier by John P. Lynott of the Chicago Water Works Department with the intention of building a "fine summer house on the premises." During this time period, summer houses were desirable for city dwellers looking to relax and get away from city life; Chicagoans vacationed in lakeside communities or constructed their own summer houses outside of the city. The summer house was part of the planned resort community movement that was common throughout the Midwest in the early twentieth century. Beginning in the late nineteenth century, resort towns sprung up along Lake Michigan and smaller interior lakes in northwest Indiana, northeast Illinois, and southwest Michigan. Affluent families initially flocked to these resort communities to take part in numerous recreational and social activities including dances, parties, swimming, yachting, and other water sports. Increased accessibility made by early rail connections helped to develop interior lake towns.

The property was part of a parcel owned by George Markert, one of several parcels he owned along Kankakee River Drive. In 1893, George Markert and his daughter, Emma Lins, are listed as the owners of the then-60.83 acres parcel, which they obtained from the Stone family; only George Markert is listed as the owner in 1902. According to a contemporary newspaper, John P. Lynott purchased the property in 1904 but he does not appear on any plat map records from around that time and may not have actually owned the property or even constructed the summer house. By 1909, the property had been split into two parcels with Emma Lins owning the west 21.68 acres and George Markert owning the east 31.05 acres. They respectively owned these parcels through at least the 1920s; the west parcel contained the John P. Lynott Summer House. In the 1940s, J. Mueller owned the 21.68-acre parcel with the John P. Lynott Summer House. In 1953, it was owned by C. and I. O'Donnell and subsequently owned by E. Kirchner from at least 1957 to 1970. In 1974, Edward Pollack owned the property. By 1980, the property is listed as a small tract on plat maps and assessor data shows it is currently owned by Martin E. Pollack. Although the house was originally intended to be a summer home, it appears to now be used as a permanent residence and its carriage house appears to be used as one or two apartments.

The ca. 1920 house was originally constructed as a modest one-and-one-half-story, side-gable house characterized by Craftsman-style details, such as its low-pitched side-gable roof, wide unenclosed roof eave overhang, gable dormers, slightly tapered porch columns, and wood shingle cladding. The Craftsman style was a dominant style for smaller houses built throughout the United States during the period from about 1905 until the early 1920s. The Craftsman style originated in southern California and it was quickly spread throughout the country by pattern books and popular magazines. There are four principle Craftsman style subtypes: the front-gabled roof, the cross-gabled roof, the side-gabled roof, and the hipped roof. This summer house is a side-gabled roof subtype, which comprised about one-third of

Craftsman houses. These were typically one-and-one-half-stories with centered shed or gable dormers and porches contained under the main roof; it was most commonly constructed in the northeastern and Midwestern states. Another common feature of Craftsman-style houses were exposed rafters under the roof overhang. This house does not incorporate exposed roof rafters in its dormers or main roof overhang and it is unknown if it did originally. The house appears to retain its original wood shingle cladding, but it has been altered by the replacement of the majority of its original windows with vinyl-sashes as well as a large one-story addition that extends across the house's north rear elevation and beyond its side elevations. Though the house incorporates Craftsman-style features, it is a basic example that is not architecturally distinct and better architecturally significant examples of the style exist in Will County, such as in the City of Joliet, and in other areas of the state, such as Chicago.

The property's ca. 1933 carriage house is a modest and basic example. It appears to retain its original wood shingle cladding, wood carriage doors, and wood-sash windows. However, its original form and appearance have been significantly altered by a large one-and-one-half-story addition along its west elevation as well as smaller one-story additions along its north elevation. Carriage houses were originally built to house horse-drawn carriages and related tack; this carriage house may have also been used as an automobile garage as well as a guest house or apartment.

The John P. Lynott Summer House was previously surveyed and rated "Contributing" in the Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey for Wilmington Township completed in December 2009. The survey assigned a rating of "Non-Contributing," "Contributing," "Local Landmark Potential," or "National Register Potential" to surveyed properties based on their historical significance, architectural merit, environment, and integrity. For the purposes of the survey, the "National Register Potential" rating was based upon the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Criteria for Evaluation, but was not a substitute for final NRHP eligibility determinations. Those properties rated "Local Landmark Potential" would be considered eligible for listing as a local Will County landmark, either individually or as part of a historic district; this rating was based upon the Will County Preservation Ordinance criteria for consideration of nomination. Properties rated "Contributing" could be considered contributing to a potential historic district, particularly in the case of farmsteads or supporting rural sites; contributing sites are ones that retain a coherent appearance as a farmstead or their original function. Properties rated "Non-Contributing" lacked integrity, were significantly altered, or were abandoned. For the purposes of this report's evaluation, the "Contributing"-rated John P. Lynott Summer House is being assessed individually and not as part of a potential historic district.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The John P. Lynott Summer House was evaluated for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criteria A, B, and C using guidelines set forth in the NRHP Bulletin "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation."

The John P. Lynott Summer House is associated with the movement in the early twentieth century to construct summer houses as vacation homes away from city life. It was not constructed as part of a resort community and no other summer houses from its period of construction appear to have been built along

Kankakee River Road. The property is not a representative example of a summer house, and therefore, the John P. Lynott Summer House is not eligible under Criterion A.

The John P. Lynott Summer House is associated with John P. Lynott, a Chicago Water Works Department worker who purchased the property from local landowner George Markert to build a summer house. Research did not reveal any additional information about John P. Lynott, and therefore, did not reveal any known historically significant associations with his productive life. Though the property originally belonged to George Markert, its buildings are not known to be associated with George Markert or his productive life. Therefore, the John P. Lynott Summer House is not eligible under Criterion B.

The John P. Lynott Summer House is a modest example of an early twentieth century summer house. Although the house incorporates Craftsman-style details, it is not an architecturally significant or distinctive example of the style. Additionally, the house has been altered by the replacement of the majority of its original windows with vinyl-sashes and by a one-story addition that extends across the house's north rear elevation and beyond its side elevations. Therefore, the John P. Lynott Summer House is not eligible under Criterion C.

The John P. Lynott Summer House was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the John P. Lynott Summer House is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

SOURCES
Burhans, S.H. and J. Van Vechten. 1862. *Map of Will County, Illinois*.

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Will County Assessor. 2013. *Lake County Surveyor GIS Website*.

Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. December 2009. *Rural Historic Structural Survey of Wilmington Township, Will County, Illinois*. Will County Land Use Department and Will County Historic Preservation Commission.

Photo 1 – John P. Lynott Summer House

Facing northeast to house south-facing facade and west side elevation

Photo 2 – John P. Lynott Summer House

Facing north to house south-facing facade

Photo 3 – John P. Lynott Summer House

Facing northwest to house south-facing facade and east side elevation

Photo 4 – John P. Lynott Summer House

Facing southwest to house north rear and east side elevations

Photo 5 – John P. Lynott Summer House

Facing south to house north rear elevation

Photo 6 – John P. Lynott Summer House

Facing north to carriage house south-facing facade

Photo 7 – John P. Lynott Summer House

Facing northwest to carriage house south-facing facade and east side elevation

Photo 9 – John P. Lynott Summer House

Facing southeast to carriage house north rear and west side elevations

Photo 10 – John P. Lynott Summer House

Facing northeast to carriage house south-facing facade and west side elevation

Photo 11 – John P. Lynott Summer House

Facing north to non-historic pole barn

Photo 12 – John P. Lynott Summer House

Facing northwest to house at left and carriage house at right from Kankakee River Drive

Map – John P. Lynott Summer House

NAME
13150 West Wilmington-Peotone Road

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS
13150 West Wilmington-Peotone Road

CITY
Manhattan

TOWNSHIP
Wilton

OWNERSHIP
Peter J. Galvin

TAX PARCEL NUMBER
13-19-23-400-001-0000

YEAR BUILT
1860

SOURCE
Will County Assessor, 2013

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE
No Discernible Style

PROPERTY TYPE
Agriculture

FOUNDATION
Fieldstone

WALLS
Wood

ROOF
Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The mid-nineteenth century farmstead at 13510 West Wilmington-Peotone Road is located on 160 acres on the north side of West Wilmington-Peotone Road; it is no longer actively farmed. The farmstead's remaining buildings consist of a ca. 1860 farmhouse and a ca. 1900 feeder barn, which are set back from West Wilmington-Peotone Road at the end of a long driveway. The house is almost completely surrounded by mature deciduous trees and grassy lawn while the greater property consists of agricultural fields bisected by 128th Avenue and the south branch of Forked Creek. The west and north property boundaries are delineated by mature deciduous tree lines.

Along the west side of the driveway, the ca. 1860 farmhouse is a modest one-and-one-half-story, side-gable house with a one-and-one-half-story, cross-gable rear addition at the house's west end. The house has a fieldstone foundation, wood clapboard siding, and replacement rolled asphalt roofing. Though generally unornamented and of no discernible style, the house displays minimal Greek Revival-style details such as the side gable's simple, undecorated wide trim supported by simple pilasters. Two interior brick chimneys rise from the roof ridgeline. The house is in a general state of deterioration and the majority of its first story window and door openings are covered by plywood.

Facing south to West Wilmington-Peotone Road, the facade comprises three bays on the first story. The central bay contains a plywood-covered door opening and a small wood porch while the outer bays each contain a single plywood-covered, wood-framed window opening. A triangular outline above the front door suggests a former pediment porch roof or door surround. The half story contains a single off-center wood-sash window. The east side elevation contains two plywood-covered, wood-framed window openings on the first story and a single one-over-one, wood-sash window in the gable end.

The north rear elevation contains a single plywood-covered, wood-framed window opening on the first story near the house's east end. The remainder of this elevation consists of a one-and-one-half-story, cross-gable rear addition. The addition's east side elevation contains a plywood-covered, wood-framed

window opening to the south and a wood-framed entry door to the north. A shed-roof porch supported by turned wood posts shelters the entry door. The addition's west elevation contains a single plywood-covered, wood-framed window opening. The addition's north elevation contains a four-over-four, double-hung, wood-sash window and a smaller four-light, wood-sash window in the gable end, while its first story comprises a one-story, hipped-roof addition on a raised foundation on wood piers. This hipped-roof addition's three-bay east elevation contains a small four-light, wood-sash window in the south bay, a plywood-covered door opening in the middle bay, and a larger plywood-covered, wood-framed window opening in the north bay. Its north elevation contains no window or door openings while its west elevation contains a single plywood-covered, wood-framed window opening.

The house's west side elevation contains a single plywood-covered, wood-framed window opening on the first story and a six-over-six, double-hung, wood-sash window in the gable end.

The farmstead's remaining ca. 1900 feeder barn comprises a one-and-one-half-story, gable-roof main portion flanked by one-story, shed-roof extensions with bays along its south and north elevations. The barn is clad in vertical wood boards and sheet metal roofing. The west elevation of the main gabled portion contains a large sliding door opening on the first story and a large opening to the hayloft in the gable end; its east elevation contains no window or door openings. The shed-roof extensions' bays along the gabled portion's south and north elevations contain door openings on the west elevation and no window or door openings on the remaining elevations.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The property at 13150 West Wilmington-Peotone Road is no longer an active farmstead and the majority of its original farm buildings have been demolished. Its extant farmhouse was constructed ca. 1860 and its extant feeder barn was likely constructed ca. 1900 when Illinois was developing into a regional center for beef production. A 1955 aerial photograph shows the farmhouse with its rear elevation additions and feeder barn on a farmstead that originally contained more buildings, including one large gable-roof barn and at least three other small agricultural outbuildings to support farming operations. It is unknown when the gable-roof barn and agricultural outbuildings were demolished or when the farmstead ceased agricultural activities. Based on a review of plat maps, the property has consisted of 160 acres since at least 1862 and the land has never been increased or subdivided.

The former farmstead appears to have been established by H. Warden who is listed as owning the property in 1862; he likely constructed the ca. 1860 farmhouse. By 1873, the property was owned by Aaron French, an English immigrant who came to the United States in 1850 with his wife, Elizabeth Harvey French. They are listed in the 1860 US Census as living in Wilton Township; Aaron French was a blacksmith. By 1870, Aaron French is listed as a farmer and the couple had two sons, William and George, and two daughters, Theresa and Esther.

Upon Aaron French's death in 1905, his widow Elizabeth inherited the property and their son George R. French lived on the farmstead with his wife Ella French and their two daughters, Erma and Vera. George French was a general farmer, though the presence of the extant feeder barn suggests specialization in cattle farming. By 1940, George and Ella French lived on the farmstead with their daughter Erma French Larsen and her husband Louis M. Larsen, who was an auto mechanic. By 1955, Louis M. Larsen owned the property and it appears it was rented to tenant farmers; Harold Welsh is listed as living on the property on the 1955 aerial photograph. From 1973 to 2003, Louis G. Larsen, possibly Louis M. Larsen's son, owned the property. It is currently owned by Peter J. Galvin.

During the mid-nineteenth century in Will County, subsistence farming changed to cash crop farming with the typical 10-acre farmstead growing to at least 80 acres and sometimes including additional parcels of 40 and 80 acres. Principal farm crops in Illinois by the 1850s included corn, wheat, oats, rye, and barley. In Will County, corn and wheat were historically the leading crops. Corn could be fed to livestock as well

as processed into other products. Farmers in northeastern Illinois also raised cattle, hogs, and sheep and to a lesser extent, horses. Cattle were raised for beef and dairy purposes. By 1900, the number of farms, livestock production, and dairy production in the Chicago area peaked and began declining in the following decades. This decline was exacerbated in the post-World War I era and during the Great Depression as demand for agricultural goods decreased and commodity prices fell. In the late 1930s, soybeans were first planted and primarily used to feed dairy cows and beef cattle and later became a valuable food and commercial product. In the second half of the twentieth century, many farms were abandoned, small farms were consolidated into large ones; suburban development in rural areas contributed to the declining number of farms. This resulted in many older agricultural outbuildings being demolished or abandoned and replaced by larger structures, such as pole barns.

The farmhouse was originally constructed as a one-and-one-half-story, side-gable house of no discernible style. The house displays Greek Revival-influenced details in its side gable ends, but is otherwise unornamented. Popular in the United States from 1825 to 1860, the Greek Revival style is characterized by references to Greek temples, exhibited by wide entablature moldings, cornice returns, columns and pilasters, and doors with paneled jambs and classical surrounds. In rural areas, the Greek Revival style details were often applied to vernacular house types, such as the gable-front and upright-and-wing. Although the house retains its original wood clapboard siding, two additions on its north rear elevation alter its original side-gable form. Further, the general deterioration of the house's original wood-frame windows and the removal of its pediment roof porch or door surround contribute to its overall altered appearance.

The property also retains a ca. 1900 feeder barn appears to be a basic example of the type and has been altered by the removal of all of its original doors. Feeder barns, sometimes called hay barns, were constructed from about 1890 through the post-World War II period and were constructed to hold cattle and hay. The cattle were housed and fed on the ground floor with a loft above to hold hay. Large openings in the barn allowed cattle to move in and out freely and graze from feeders located at the base of the beef barn. Most beef barns were framed with dimensional lumber, like this farm's barn, with metal siding becoming popular after World War II. A stockyard with a strong fence was typically located adjacent to feeder barns and the yard usually contained a feeding structure and a large water tank equipped with a heater to prevent freezing; this feeder barn does not retain a stockyard or its associated features. In the late nineteenth century, Illinois and Iowa developed into a regional center for beef production. Farmers with less arable land, more suited to cattle than crops, raised their cattle from birth to finished beef. They fattened their stock on surplus corn, alfalfa, and feed supplements, and sold them to the rail-connected beef-processing industry in Chicago. This was aided by the introduction of the refrigerated box car. Although the presence of this property's feeder barn indicates the farmstead may have engaged in cattle raising, the formerly active farmstead does not retain any other agricultural outbuildings associated with cattle raising.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The property at 13150 West Wilmington-Peotone Road was evaluated for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criteria A, B, and C using guidelines set forth in the NRHP Bulletin "How

to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation."

When the property at 13150 West Wilmington-Peotone Road was first established in the mid-nineteenth century as a 160-acre farm, it likely was a cash crop farm that grew corn and/or wheat and may have also engaged in livestock farming, particularly given the county's transition from subsistence farming in that period and its large amount of associated acreage. The presence of the property's extant feeder barn indicates the farmstead may have later specialized in cattle farming. However, the farmstead no longer retains its original agricultural outbuildings from its establishment and general farming period and only retains one feeder barn from its period of livestock specialization. No other buildings related to cattle raising exist on the property. Further, the farmstead does not appear to have made significant contributions to local cattle farming and no longer conveys its historical association with this specialization or it association with local mid-nineteenth century farming history in Will County. Therefore, the property at 13150 West Wilmington-Peotone Road is not eligible under Criterion A.

The property at 13150 West Wilmington-Peotone Road is associated with the French family, who settled in Wilton Township in the mid-nineteenth century and continuously owned and farmed the land for approximately 80 years before it was inherited by Louis M. Larsen. Although the property remained in the French family for a significant period of time and is associated with their family's settlement in Wilton Township, research did not reveal any known historically significant associations with the productive lives of any members of the French family. Therefore, the property at 13150 West Wilmington-Peotone Road is not eligible under Criterion B.

The property at 13150 West Wilmington-Peotone Road's farmhouse and feeder barn are the only remaining buildings of this former farmstead. The farmhouse's original basic side-gable form remains, as does its minimal applied Greek Revival-influenced simple trim and pilasters in its gable end. However, its appearance is substantially altered by two rear wing additions, the removal of the front porch or door surround, and the overall deterioration of its original wood clapboard siding and wood-framed windows. The feeder barn is a basic example that no longer retains any of its original doors. Furthermore, these buildings are not distinctive examples of their type and they do not exhibit any architectural significance. The farmstead also no longer retains the majority of its original barns or outbuildings and overall, does not convey its association as a former working farm. Therefore, the property at 13150 West Wilmington-Peotone Road is not eligible under Criterion C.

The property at 13150 West Wilmington-Peotone Road was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the property at 13150 West Wilmington-Peotone Road is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

SOURCES
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US Census Bureau. 1940.

Will County Assessor. 2013. *Lake County Surveyor GIS Website*.

Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. December 2009. *Rural Historic Structural Survey of Wilmington Township, Will County, Illinois*. Will County Land Use Department and Will County Historic Preservation Commission.

Photo 1 – 13150 West Wilmington-Peotone Road

Facing northwest to house south-facing facade and east side elevation

Photo 2 – 13150 West Wilmington-Peotone Road

Facing southwest to house east side and north rear elevations

Photo 3 – 13150 West Wilmington-Peotone Road

Facing south to house north rear elevation

Photo 4 – 13150 West Wilmington-Peotone Road

Facing southeast to house west side and north rear elevations

Photo 5 – 13150 West Wilmington-Peotone Road

Facing northeast to feeder barn

Photo 6 – 13150 West Wilmington-Peotone Road

Facing southeast to feeder barn

Map – 13150 West Wilmington-Peotone Road

NAME
31670 South Cottage Grove Road

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS
31670 South Cottage Grove Road

CITY
Beecher

TOWNSHIP
Washington

OWNERSHIP
Doris Priebe-Brockman

TAX PARCEL NUMBER
22-22-27-400-002-0000

YEAR BUILT
1890, 1954

SOURCE
Washington Township Assessor, 2012

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE
No Discernible Style

PROPERTY TYPE
Agriculture

FOUNDATION
Concrete

WALLS
Vinyl; wood; concrete

ROOF
Asphalt; metal

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The late-nineteenth century farmstead at 31670 South Cottage Grove Road is located on 80 acres on the west side of South Cottage Grove Road; it is no longer actively farmed. The farmstead's remaining buildings consist of a substantially altered ca. 1890 farmhouse, a modest ca. 1954 Ranch house, a ca. 1920 garage, and agricultural buildings of unknown construction date that include a chicken house, two transverse-frame barns, a milk house, two silos, a shed, and a non-historic pole barn. The ca. 1890 farmhouse and the majority of the agricultural outbuildings are located along the south side of the driveway and at its terminus; the ca.1954 Ranch house and non-historic pole barn are located along its north side. Mature deciduous trees and grassy lawn surround the farmstead, particularly the ca. 1890 farmhouse, while the greater property consists of agricultural fields.

Along the south side of the driveway, the ca. 1890 farmhouse is a modest and altered two-story gable-front house of no discernible style with a one-and-one-half-story, side-gable addition projecting perpendicularly from its north elevation. The house sits on a concrete block and fieldstone foundation and is clad in vertical wood plank siding on the gable-front's first story, vinyl siding on its second story, and vinyl siding on the addition. The roof has replacement asphalt shingles. Facing east to South Cottage Grove Road, the gable-front's facade is divided by an off-center brick chimney with no window or door openings located north of it. South of the chimney, the first story has a replacement tripartite vinyl window composed of a large fixed pane flanked on each side by two-over-two, double-hung, vinyl-sash windows; the second story has two four-over-four, double-hung, vinyl-sash windows.

The gable-front's north side elevation has a wood entry door with a wood storm door on the first story and a four-over-four, double-hung, vinyl-sash window on the second story near the elevation's east end. The one-and-one-half-story, side-gable addition comprises the remainder of the gable-front's north elevation. The addition's east elevation comprises an off-center wood entry door with a metal storm door flanked by four-over-four, double-hung, vinyl-sash windows with a four-light, wood-sash storm window. A one-story, L-shaped, shed-roof porch extends across the addition and the east portion of the gable-front's north side

elevation. The wooden porch's simple square wood posts support the porch roof and wood steps lead to the addition's entry door. The addition's north elevation has two sliding wood-sash basement-level windows and a single one-over-one, double-hung, vinyl-sash window at the first story and in the gable end. The addition's west elevation comprises a shed-roof addition that is slightly lower than its gable roof. This shed-roof addition's west elevation comprises a wood entry door with a metal storm door to the north and two one-over-one, double-hung, vinyl-sash windows to the south.

The gable-front's west rear elevation comprises two windows at each story. The first story has an eight-over-eight, double-hung, wood-sash window to the north and a one-over-one, double-hung, vinyl-sash window to the south. The second story has two four-over-four, double-hung, vinyl-sash windows. The gable-front's south side elevation comprises two one-over-one, double-hung, vinyl-sash windows on the first story while the second story comprises a small glass block window flanked by four-over-four, double-hung, vinyl-sash windows.

The ca. 1920 one-story, flat-roof, concrete block garage building is attached to the farmhouse's south side elevation at the basement-level and is set into a small hill. The building is composed entirely of concrete blocks and has a flat, standing seam metal roof. Its east-facing facade comprises two wood, overhead, one-car garage doors separated by a concrete block post. A small concrete pad spans this elevation, indicating there may have once been a driveway leading to the garage. A short concrete block retaining wall is located at the building's southeast corner. The garage's stepped south side elevation contains three glass block windows. The garage's west rear elevation contains a single sliding wood-sash window and the overhanging flat roof is supported by wood rafters.

Immediately west of and behind the ca. 1890 farmhouse is a one-story, shed-roof chicken house. It sits on a concrete foundation with vertical wood plank siding and a corrugated metal roof. The roof slopes downward east to west. The east-facing, five-bay facade comprises a wood entry door in the middle bay flanked by two small six-light, wood-sash windows to the north and to the south, a tall six-over-six, double-hung, wood-sash window and a tall one-over-one, double-hung, wood-sash window. Two evenly spaced two-light, wood-sash casement windows are located at the facade roofline. The north side elevation has a single four-light, wood-sash window. The west rear elevation has a large sliding wood door to the north and a single six-over-six, double-hung, wood-sash window to the south. The south side elevation has a single one-over-one, double-hung, wood-sash window.

The farmstead's two-story, gable-roof transverse-frame barn with an attached milk house and two silos is located northwest of the chicken house and at the driveway's western terminus. The transverse-frame barn has a concrete foundation, a combination of concrete block and vertical wood plank siding, and corrugated metal roofing. The barn's south elevation comprises a central sliding wood door flanked by one small two-light, wood-sash window to the east and a long glass block-infilled window opening to the west. Two openings to the hayloft are located in the gable end. The barn's west elevation was partially inaccessible during survey due to extensive vegetation but appears to have no window or door openings. The barn's north elevation was also partially inaccessible during survey due to extensive vegetation but has a small opening to the hayloft in the gable end and appears to have had a one-story wood and concrete block addition that is now significantly deteriorating and collapsing. The barn's east elevation has three small four-light, wood-sash windows at the north end, a long horizontal band of windows toward its south end, and a small four-light, wood-sash window between them. Two concrete stave silos are attached to the barn near its north end; the one-story silo appears to no longer have a roof while the two-story silo has a hemispherical metal roof. A one-story, side-gable milk house is attached to the east elevation's south end. It has a concrete foundation, vertical wood plank siding, and metal roofing. Its south elevation has a wood entry door and a small four-light, wood-sash window. Its east elevation has one small four-light, wood-sash window and a wood-covered window opening. Its north elevation was inaccessible during survey due to vegetation.

Southwest of the transverse-frame barn is a smaller one-story, gable-roof transverse-frame barn. This barn has a concrete foundation, a combination of vertical wood plank and corrugated metal siding, and metal roofing. Its east elevation contains a large sliding wood door; to the south of the sliding door is a pedestrian entry door and a four-light, wood-sash window. Its south elevation comprises a single large wood paneled overhead door and a large corrugated metal-clad, shed-roof open addition at the elevation's west end. The shed-roof addition is entirely open on its south elevation and the shed roof is supported by evenly spaced wood posts. The barn's west elevation comprises two large double sliding wood doors while its north elevation has a large door near its east end.

A small one-story, gable-roof shed and an open metal grain bin are located south of the second transverse-frame barn. The shed is clad in vertical wood plank siding and asphalt-shingle roofing. It has a single door on its gabled north elevation and no other window or door openings on its remaining elevations. The round metal grain bin has open mesh siding and a conical metal roof.

Along the north side of the driveway, the ca. 1954 Ranch house is a modest one-story, L-shaped house with no ornamentation. It sits on a concrete foundation with vinyl siding and asphalt-shingle roofing. All its windows are one-over-one, double-hung, vinyl-sash windows, unless otherwise specified. Facing east to South Cottage Grove Road, the facade's off-center wood front door with metal storm door is flanked by two different sized windows to the south and a single window to the north. A cross-gable projects from the facade's north end; its south elevation has a single window while its east elevation has a four-light picture window.

The house's north side elevation is divided by an off-center concrete block chimney with paired windows to its east and one window to its west. The west rear elevation comprises three windows and a cross-gable projecting from the elevation's south end. The cross-gable's west elevation has paired windows while its south elevation has a wood entry door with a metal storm door. The house's south side elevation comprises a sliding vinyl-sash window with a metal awning to the west and a single window to the east.

Northwest of the ca. 1954 Ranch house, the non-historic pole barn is a one-and-one-half-story, gable-roof building clad in corrugated metal siding and roofing. Its south elevation has two large double sliding metal doors while its west elevation has one large double sliding metal door. Its north elevation has no window or door openings and its east elevation has a single entry door at the south end.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The property at 31670 South Cottage Grove Road is no longer an active farmstead, though it retains many of its original agricultural outbuildings. Its extant buildings were constructed as follows: the farmhouse in ca. 1890, the agricultural outbuildings were likely constructed during the early twentieth century, the concrete block garage in ca. 1920, and the Ranch house in ca. 1954. The non-historic pole barn appears to be more recently constructed, likely within the last twenty years. A 1955 aerial photograph shows the farmstead much as it exists now with the exception of the recently constructed pole barn and a couple of additional small agricultural outbuildings that have since been demolished near the farmstead's southwest corner. The photograph also shows a second driveway leading to the concrete block garage.

The farmstead was likely established by Charles Wehling in the 1870s on a 160-acre parcel that extended on the north and south sides of Kentucky Road; the 1873 plat maps shows a building and small farmed area near the northwest corner of Cottage Grove and Kentucky roads. By 1893, the 160-acre parcel started to be shown as two 80-acre parcels on plat maps. Charles Wehling was a German immigrant and farmer who came to the United States in 1857; it is unknown when he came to Illinois. He and his wife, Mary had four daughters and four sons. By 1920, Charles was a widower and lived on the farmstead with his son Alfred C. Wehling, daughter-in-law Emma Wehling, and grandchildren Viola, Vira, and Gilbert. Charles Wehling died that same year and Alfred inherited the farmstead, living there with his

family until his death in 1942.

From 1953 to at least 1970, Albert Priebe owned the farmstead, which still consisted of the two 80-acre parcels. The First National Bank of Chicago Heights owned the property from at least 1973 through 1980. In 1988, Albert's wife Jessie Priebe is listed as owning the property. By 1996, the south 80-acre parcel was sold to Arthur Van Baren and the north 80-acre parcel with the farmstead remained in the Priebe family under the Doris Priebe Trust No. 6363. It is currently owned by Doris Priebe-Brockman.

During the mid-nineteenth century in Will County, subsistence farming changed to cash crop farming with the typical 10-acre farmstead growing to at least 80 acres and sometimes including additional parcels of 40 and 80 acres. Principal farm crops in Illinois by the 1850s included corn, wheat, oats, rye, and barley. In Will County, corn and wheat were historically the leading crops. Corn could be fed to livestock as well as processed into other products. Farmers in northeastern Illinois also raised cattle, hogs, and sheep and to a lesser extent, horses. Cattle were raised for beef and dairy purposes. By 1900, the number of farms, livestock production, and dairy production in the Chicago area peaked and began declining in the following decades. This decline was exacerbated in the post-World War I era and during the Great Depression as demand for agricultural goods decreased and commodity prices fell. In the late 1930s, soybeans were first planted and primarily used to feed dairy cows and beef cattle and later became a valuable food and commercial product. In the second half of the twentieth century, many farms were abandoned, small farms were consolidated into large ones; suburban development in rural areas contributed to the declining number of farms. This resulted in many older agricultural outbuildings being demolished or abandoned and replaced by larger structures, such as pole barns. This farmstead's extant milk house attached to its larger transverse-frame barn indicates it was likely a small dairy farm operation in addition to engaging in cash crop farming.

The ca. 1890 farmhouse was originally constructed as a two-story gable-front house of no discernible style. The two-story gable-front house was a dominant house form that rose to popularity throughout the United States during the Greek Revival era when buildings were designed to be reminiscent of Greek temples. Located at the gabled end, the principal facade forms a triangle beneath the gable front and mimics the classical pediment of a Greek temple. In high-style examples, when the facade is fully adorned in Greek Revival ornamentation, the gable-front house is called a Temple-Front. Generally, as settlers moved westward and adopted the gable-front form, these stylistic characteristics diminished and unornamented examples prevailed well beyond the antebellum era, particularly in the Great Lakes region. In Will County, it was constructed from the mid-nineteenth century though the 1920s. This farmhouse's gable-front form has been significantly altered by the one-and-one-half-story, side gable addition on its north elevation, giving it an upright-and-wing appearance. Its gable front has been significantly altered by the addition of an off-center brick chimney and non-historic fenestration patterns that include the tripartite picture window. The replacement materials, such as the vinyl siding, vertical wood-plank siding, and vinyl windows, significantly diminish the integrity of the house.

The second house on the farmstead was constructed ca. 1954 as a one-story, L-shaped Ranch house, a common and popular house type and style during the mid-twentieth century in suburban and rural areas. First gathering nationwide attention in California, high-style Ranch houses incorporated single-story forms with long and low profiles, attached garages, overhanging eaves, and an integration of indoor and outdoor living spaces. The style's popularity grew in the post-World War II era as the nation's need for affordable housing grew exponentially and Ranch house communities were omnipresent. Many examples abandoned the innovative details of high-style examples, and the Ranch house label has grown to include single-story houses that otherwise lack a discernible style; these more modest examples are also commonly called Ramblers. In predominantly rural regions, the Ranch house was often built in small clusters or by themselves oriented to and along major roads or on large farmsteads. In some cases, affordable, adaptable, and modern Ranch houses frequently replaced original farmhouses as they fell into

disrepair or became expensive to maintain; in some instances, new Ranch houses co-existed with the original farmhouses on farmsteads. The suburban Ranch house was characterized by an emphasis on outdoor living and landscaping, which did not always translate to its rural counterparts; this may have been due to the relationships between the farmhouse and the outbuildings within the farm complex. The farmstead's ca. 1954 Ranch house is a modest example of the Ranch house that displays no architectural distinction or significance. Its L-shaped form is altered by a small rear elevation addition and replacement materials, such as its vinyl siding and windows, also diminish its integrity.

The farmstead has two extant transverse-frame barns that are typical examples, altered by several additions. The transverse-frame barn evolved from a basic single-crib log structure. The single-crib barn was one square or rectangular crib of log construction with a gable roof. It was used for grain storage and stabling animals. The single-crib barn evolved into the double-crib and four-crib barns as farmers needed additional space. These barn types used the single-crib barn as a basic unit and added additional cribs to create the double- or four-crib barns. The four-crib barn had cribs at each corner with a common roof and intersecting aisles forming a cross. The transverse-frame barn evolved from the four-crib barn, but is of frame construction and has a closed-off cross aisle with stalls or cribs built along the wall. The transverse-frame barn entrances are located at each gable end so that wagons could be driven through the barn. Each side of the barn was lined by storage cribs or stables.

The farmstead also retains two silos attached to the larger transverse-frame barn; these are basic examples of the concrete silo type. Silos became popular around the turn of the nineteenth century for the purpose of feeding livestock in the winter. They were first constructed of wood in a square shape. These first silos were sometimes built at the corner of a barn but they reduced available area for livestock or hay storage. They also were not as practical as the later round silos because the silage did not get packed into the corners, allowing air to get in and rot the contents. Square silos fell out of favor by the 1920s as round, concrete and glazed tile silos came into widespread use. Concrete was more popular than tile because it was easier to use and it could be poured in any vertical size. Curved tiles were more fragile and the curvature determined the silo's size.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The property at 31670 South Cottage Grove Road was evaluated for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criteria A, B, and C using guidelines set forth in the NRHP Bulletin "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation."

When the property at 31670 South Cottage Grove Road was first established in the mid-nineteenth century as a 160-acre farm, it likely was a cash crop farm that grew corn and/or wheat. It may have also engaged in dairy farming, particularly given the county's transition from subsistence farming in that period, its large amount of associated acreage, and its extant milk house attached to the larger transverse-frame barn. Although the farmstead appears to be relatively intact with only a couple of original agricultural outbuildings demolished and one non-historic pole barn constructed on the property, the farmstead appears to be typical of its period and research did not reveal this property to have made significant contributions to the agricultural history of Will County. Therefore, the property at 31670 South

Cottage Grove Road is not eligible under Criterion A.

The property at 31670 South Cottage Grove Road is associated with the Wehling family, who settled in Washington Township in the mid-to-late nineteenth century and continuously owned and farmed the land for approximately 70 years. Although the property remained in the Wehling family for a significant period of time and is associated with their family's settlement in Washington Township, research did not reveal any known historically significant associations with the productive lives of any members of the Wehling family. Therefore, the property at 31670 South Cottage Grove Road is not eligible under Criterion B.

The property at 31670 South Cottage Grove Road's remaining ca. 1890 farmhouse, ca. 1954 Ranch house, ca. 1920 garage, and agricultural outbuildings are largely intact and still convey their historic appearance and original use; however, they are basic examples that do not exhibit architectural significance. The ca. 1890 farmhouse's original basic gable-front form remains but its appearance is substantially altered by a one-and-one-half-story north elevation addition and front porch addition, and replacement materials, including vinyl siding and vinyl-sash windows. Furthermore, its facade fenestration has been altered and now includes a non-historic tripartite picture window. The ca. 1954 Ranch house is a basic example that has replacement vinyl siding and windows as well as a rear elevation addition. These buildings are not distinctive examples of their type and they do not exhibit any architectural significance. Therefore, the property at 31670 South Cottage Grove Road is not eligible under Criterion C.

The property at 31670 South Cottage Grove Road was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the property at 31670 South Cottage Grove Road is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

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Photo 1 – 31670 South Cottage Grove Road

Facing northwest to ca. 1890 house east-facing facade and south side elevation and ca. 1920 garage addition

Photo 2 – 31670 South Cottage Grove Road

Facing southwest to ca. 1890 house east-facing facade and north side elevation

Photo 3 – 31670 South Cottage Grove Road

Facing southeast to ca. 1890 house west rear and north side elevations

Photo 4 – 31670 South Cottage Grove Road

Facing northeast to ca. 1890 house south side and west rear elevations; ca. 1920 garage addition south side elevation also visible

Photo 5 – 31670 South Cottage Grove Road

Facing northwest to chicken house east and south elevations

Photo 6 – 31670 South Cottage Grove Road

Facing southeast to chicken house west and north elevations

Photo 7 – 31670 South Cottage Grove Road

Facing west to transverse-frame barn, attached silos, and attached shed

Photo 8 – 31670 South Cottage Grove Road

Facing north to transverse-frame barn, attached shed, and attached silo

Photo 9 – 31670 South Cottage Grove Road

Facing southeast to transverse-frame barn and attached silo

Photo 10 – 31670 South Cottage Grove Road

Facing southwest to transverse-frame barn, attached silo, and former attached barn addition

Photo 11 – 31670 South Cottage Grove Road

Facing west to transverse-frame barn and metal grain bin

Photo 12 – 31670 South Cottage Grove Road

Facing northwest to transverse-frame barn and shed-roof addition

Photo 13 – 31670 South Cottage Grove Road

Facing east to transverse-frame barn and shed-roof addition

Photo 14 – 31670 South Cottage Grove Road

Facing southwest to shed

Photo 15 – 31670 South Cottage Grove Road

Facing northeast to non-historic pole barn

Photo 16 – 31670 South Cottage Grove Road

Facing northwest to ca. 1954 Ranch house east-facing facade and south side elevation

Photo 17 – 31670 South Cottage Grove Road

Facing southeast to ca. 1954 Ranch house north side and west rear elevations

Map – 31670 South Cottage Grove Road

Appendix C

2,000-foot Wide Corridor B3 Photo Log (February 2013)

Historic Structures Photo Log

2000-ft Project Corridor
Will County

February 2013

Prepared by
Parsons Brinckerhoff
GSG Consultants, Inc.

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Structure #1: 30724 S. Frontage Rd., Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing west (1-25-2013). See Map Sheet 1.

Structure #1: 30756 S. Frontage Rd., Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing southwest (1-25-2013). See Map Sheet 1.

Structure #1: 30752 S. Frontage Rd., Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing southwest (1-25-2013). See Map Sheet 1.

Structure #1: 30748 S. Frontage Rd., Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing southeast (1-25-2013). See Map Sheet 1.

Structure #1: 30720-30722 S. Frontage Rd., Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing northwest (1-25-2013). See Map Sheet 1.

Structure #1: 30712-30714 S. Frontage Rd., Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing west (1-25-2013). See Map Sheet 1.

Structure #2: 30859 E. I-55, Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing east (11-27-2012); Site #494, Gartke Farmstead, Non-Contributing Landmark Potential, Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Wilmington Township (December 2009). See Map Sheet 1.

Structure #2: 30859 E. I-55, Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing east (11-27-2012); Site #494, Gartke Farmstead, Non-Contributing Landmark Potential, Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Wilmington Township (December 2009). See Map Sheet 1.

Structure #3: 23963 Widows Rd., Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing southeast (11-7-2012); Site #448, Frank Gartke House, Contributing Landmark Potential, Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Wilmington Township (December 2009). See Map Sheet 2.

Structure #3: 23963 Widows Rd., Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing northeast (11-7-2012); Site #448, Frank Gartke House, Contributing Landmark Potential, Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Wilmington Township (December 2009). See Map Sheet 2.

Structure #3: 23963 Widows Rd., Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing southwest (11-7-2012); Site #448, Frank Gartke House, Contributing Landmark Potential, Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Wilmington Township (December 2009). See Map Sheet 2.

Structure #3: 23963 Widows Rd., Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing southeast (11-7-2012); Site #448, Frank Gartke House, Contributing Landmark Potential, Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Wilmington Township (December 2009). See Map Sheet 2.

Structure #4: 21450 S. State Route 129, Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing west (11-7-2012); Site #565, Holman Farmstead, Contributing Landmark Potential, Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Wilmington Township (December 2009). See Map Sheet 2.

Structure #5: 31563 S. East Frontage Rd., Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing northeast (11-7-2012); Site #442, Kurth Farmstead, Contributing Landmark Potential, Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Wilmington Township (December 2009). See Map Sheet 2.

Structure #5: 31563 S. East Frontage Rd., Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing northeast (11-7-2012); Site #442, Kurth Farmstead, Contributing Landmark Potential, Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Wilmington Township (December 2009). See Map Sheet 2.

Structure #6: 31725 S. State Route 129, Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing southeast (11-7-2012); Site #443, Lamping-Pelton Farmstead, Contributing Landmark Potential, Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Wilmington Township (December 2009). See Map Sheet 2.

Structure #7: 31850 S. State Route 129, Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing west (11-7-2012); Site #444, Schreier Filling Station/Lodge, Contributing Landmark Potential, Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Wilmington Township (December 2009). See Map Sheet 2.

Structure #7: 31850 S. State Route 129, Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing southwest (11-7-2012); Site #444, Schreier Filling Station/Lodge, Contributing Landmark Potential, Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Wilmington Township (December 2009). See Map Sheet 2.

Structure #8: 1500 Widows Rd., Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing north (11-26-2012).
See Map Sheet 3.

Structure #9: 1498 Widows Rd., Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing north (11-26-2012).
See Map Sheet 3.

Structure #10: 1496 Widows Rd., Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing north (11-26-2012).
See Map Sheet 3.

Structure #11: 1494 Widows Rd., Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing north (11-26-2012).
See Map Sheet 3.

Structure #12: 1492 Widows Rd., Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing north (11-26-2012).
See Map Sheet 3.

Structure #13: 1490 Widows Rd., Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing north (11-26-2012).
See Map Sheet 3.

Structure #14: 22845 W. Kankakee River Dr., Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing southwest (11-7-2012); Site #569, Contributing Landmark Potential, Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Wilmington Township (December 2009). See Map Sheet 3.

Structure #15: 22742 W. Kankakee River Dr., Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing northeast (11-7-2012); Site #464, George Markert House, Local Landmark Potential, Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Wilmington Township (December 2009). See Map Sheet 3.

Structure #16: 22608 W. Kankakee River Dr., Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing northeast (11-26-2012). See Map Sheet 3.

Structure #17: 22574 W. Kankakee River Dr., Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing northeast (11-7-2012); Site #50, John P. Lynott Summer House, Contributing Landmark Potential, Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Wilmington Township (December 2009). See Map Sheet 3.

Structure #18: 22571 W. Kankakee River Dr., Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing southwest (11-26-2012). See Map Sheet 3.

Structure #19: 22537 W. Kankakee River Dr., Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing south (11-26-2012). See Map Sheet 3.

Structure #19: 22537 W. Kankakee River Dr., Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing south (11-26-2012). See Map Sheet 3.

Structure #20: 22536 W. Kankakee River Dr., Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing northeast (11-26-2012). See Map Sheet 3.

Structure #21: NRHP-listed Alternate Route 66, Wilmington to Joliet (IL Route 53) at River Rd., Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing southeast (11-26-2012). See Map Sheets 3 and 4.

Structure #21: NRHP-listed Alternate Route 66, Wilmington to Joliet (IL Route 53) at River Rd., Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing south (11-26-2012). See Map Sheets 3 and 4.

Structure #21 NRHP-listed Alternate Route 66, Wilmington to Joliet (IL Route 53) at River Rd., Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing southwest (11-26-2012). See Map Sheets 3 and 4.

Structure #21: NRHP-listed Alternate Route 66, Wilmington to Joliet (IL Route 53) at River Rd., Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing north (11-26-2012). See Map Sheets 3 and 4.

Structure #22: 30643 S. State Route 53, Wilmington, Florence Township, camera facing northeast (11-7-2012); Site #116, Gurney-Collins-Gorman Farmstead, Non-Contributing Landmark Potential, Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Florence Township (August 2011). See Map Sheet 3.

Structure #22: 30643 S. State Route 53, Wilmington, Florence Township, camera facing southeast (11-7-2012); Site #116, Gurney-Collins-Gorman Farmstead, Non-Contributing Landmark Potential, Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Florence Township (August 2011). See Map Sheet 3.

Structure #22: 30643 S. State Route 53, Wilmington, Florence Township, camera facing northeast (11-7-2012); Site #116, Gurney-Collins-Gorman Farmstead, Non-Contributing Landmark Potential, Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Florence Township (August 2011). See Map Sheet 3.

Structure #22: 30643 S. State Route 53, Wilmington, Florence Township, camera facing southeast (11-7-2012); Site #116, Gurney-Collins-Gorman Farmstead, Non-Contributing Landmark Potential, Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Florence Township (August 2011). See Map Sheet 3.

Structure #22: 30643 S. State Route 53, Wilmington, Florence Township, camera facing south (11-7-2012); Site #116, Gurney-Collins-Gorman Farmstead, Non-Contributing Landmark Potential, Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Florence Township (August 2011). See Map Sheet 3.

Structure #22: 30643 S. State Route 53, Wilmington, Florence Township, camera facing south (11-7-2012); Site #116, Gurney-Collins-Gorman Farmstead, Non-Contributing Landmark Potential, Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Florence Township (August 2011). See Map Sheet 3.

Structure #22: 30643 S. State Route 53, Wilmington, Florence Township, camera facing west (11-7-2012); Site #116, Gurney-Collins-Gorman Farmstead, Non-Contributing Landmark Potential, Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Florence Township (August 2011). See Map Sheet 3.

Structure #22: 30643 S. State Route 53, Wilmington, Florence Township, camera facing northwest (11-7-2012); Site #116, Gurney-Collins-Gorman Farmstead, Non-Contributing Landmark Potential, Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Florence Township (August 2011). See Map Sheet 3.

Structure #22: 30643 S. State Route 53, Wilmington, Florence Township, camera facing south (11-7-2012); Site #116, Gurney-Collins-Gorman Farmstead, Non-Contributing Landmark Potential, Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Florence Township (August 2011). See Map Sheet 3.

Structure #22: 30643 S. State Route 53, Wilmington, Florence Township, camera facing east (11-7-2012); Site #116, Gurney-Collins-Gorman Farmstead, Non-Contributing Landmark Potential, Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Florence Township (August 2011). See Map Sheet 3.

Structure #22: 30643 S. State Route 53, Wilmington, Florence Township, camera facing northeast (11-7-2012); Site #116, Gurney-Collins-Gorman Farmstead, Non-Contributing Landmark Potential, Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Florence Township (August 2011). See Map Sheet 3.

Structure #22: 30643 S. State Route 53, Wilmington, Florence Township, camera facing northwest (11-7-2012); Site #116, Gurney-Collins-Gorman Farmstead, Non-Contributing Landmark Potential, Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Florence Township (August 2011). See Map Sheet 3.

Structure #23: 1501 Widows Rd., Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing southwest (11-7-2012); Site #436, McNiff-Florian Farmstead, Contributing Landmark Potential, Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Wilmington Township (December 2009). See Map Sheet 4.

Structure #24: 1305 Widows Rd., Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing south (11-7-2012); Site #479, Brodie-Sikora Farmstead, Non-Contributing Landmark Potential, Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Wilmington Township (December 2009). See Map Sheet 4.

Structure #25: 1101 Widows Rd., Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing southwest (11-26-2012). See Map Sheet 4.

Structure #26: 1059 Widows Rd., Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing southwest (11-26-2012). See Map Sheet 4.

Structure #27: 1041 Widows Rd., Wilmington, Wilmington Township, camera facing southwest (11-26-2012). See Map Sheet 4.

Structure #28: 30533 S. Riley Rd., Wilmington, Florence Township, camera facing east (11-7-2012); Site #109, Martin-Fridley-Doyle Farmstead, Contributing Landmark Potential, Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Florence Township (August 2011). See Map Sheet 5.

Structure #28: 30533 S. Riley Rd., Wilmington, Florence Township, camera facing northeast (11-7-2012); Site #109, Martin-Fridley-Doyle Farmstead, Contributing Landmark Potential, Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Florence Township (August 2011). See Map Sheet 5.

Structure #29: 30459 S. Indian Trail Rd., Wilmington, Florence Township, camera facing northeast (11-7-2012); Site #101, Non-Contributing Landmark Potential, Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Florence Township (August 2011). See Map Sheet 5.

Structure #29: 30459 S. Indian Trail Rd., Wilmington, Florence Township, camera facing east (11-7-2012); Site #101, Non-Contributing Landmark Potential, Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Florence Township (August 2011). See Map Sheet 5.

Structure #30: 30466 S. Indian Trail Rd., Wilmington, Florence Township, camera facing northwest (11-7-2012); Site #41, Hyde Farmstead, Contributing Landmark Potential, Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Florence Township (August 2011). See Map Sheet 5.

Structure #31: 30548 S. Indian Trail Rd., Wilmington, Florence Township, camera facing west (11-7-2012). See Map Sheet 5.

Structure #32: 30725 S. Old Chicago Rd., Wilmington, Florence Township, camera facing east (11-8-2012); Site #98, Dixon-Jackson Farmstead, Local Landmark Potential, Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Florence Township (August 2011). See Map Sheet 6.

Structure #32: 30725 S. Old Chicago Rd., Wilmington, Florence Township, camera facing east (11-8-2012); Site #98, Dixon-Jackson Farmstead, Local Landmark Potential, Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Florence Township (August 2011). See Map Sheet 6.

Structure #33: 17930 W. Commercial St., Wilmington, Florence Township, camera facing north (11-8-2012); Site #93, Andrew J. Baskerville Farmstead, Local Landmark Potential, Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Florence Township (August 2011). See Map Sheet 7.

Structure #34: 30776 S. Warner Bridge Rd., Wilmington, Florence Township, camera facing northwest (11-8-2012); Site #92, Donahue-O'Brien Farmstead, Contributing Landmark Potential, Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Florence Township (August 2011). See Map Sheet 7.

Structure #34: 30776 S. Warner Bridge Rd., Wilmington, Florence Township, camera facing north (11-8-2012); Site #92, Donahue-O'Brien Farmstead, Contributing Landmark Potential, Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Florence Township (August 2011). See Map Sheet 7.

Structure #35: 30545 S. Walsh Rd., Manhattan, Wilton Township, camera facing northeast (11-8-2012).
See Map Sheet 8.

Structure #35: 30545 S. Walsh Rd., Manhattan, Wilton Township, camera facing northeast (11-8-2012).
See Map Sheet 8.

Structure #36: 30747 S. Cedar Rd., Manhattan, Wilton Township, camera facing northeast (11-8-2012).
See Map Sheet 9.

Structure #37: 30905 S. Cedar Rd., Manhattan, Wilton Township, camera facing northeast (11-8-2012).
See Map Sheet 9.

Structure #38: 13340 W. Wilmington Peotone Rd., Manhattan, Wilton Township, camera facing north (11-8-2012). See Map Sheet 9.

Structure #39: 13150 W. Wilmington Peotone Rd., Manhattan, Wilton Township, camera facing north (11-8-2012). See Map Sheet 9.

Structure #39: 13150 W. Wilmington Peotone Rd., Manhattan, Wilton Township, camera facing southwest (11-8-2012). See Map Sheet 9.

Structure #39: 13150 W. Wilmington Peotone Rd., Manhattan, Wilton Township, camera facing northwest (11-8-2012). See Map Sheet 9.

Structure #40: 31245 S. 128th Ave., Peotone, Wilton Township, camera facing east (11-13-2012). See Map Sheet 10.

Structure #40: 31245 S. 128th Ave., Peotone, Wilton Township, camera facing northeast (11-13-2012). See Map Sheet 10.

Structure #41: 10702 W. Kennedy Rd., Peotone, Peotone Township, camera facing north (11-13-2012).
See Map Sheet 11.

Structure #41: 10702 W. Kennedy Rd., Peotone, Peotone Township, camera facing north (11-13-2012).
See Map Sheet 11.

Structure #42: 10052 W. Kennedy Rd., Peotone, Peotone Township, camera facing northeast (11-13-2012). See Map Sheet 11.

Structure #42: 10052 W. Kennedy Rd., Peotone, Peotone Township, camera facing northeast (11-13-2012). See Map Sheet 11.

Structure #42: 10052 W. Kennedy Rd., Peotone, Peotone Township, camera facing northwest (11-13-2012). See Map Sheet 11.

Structure #42: 10052 W. Kennedy Rd., Peotone, Peotone Township, camera facing northwest (11-13-2012). See Map Sheet 11.

Structure #43: 31755 S. Center Rd., Peotone, Peotone Township, camera facing southeast (1-30-2013).
See Map Sheet 13.

Structure #43: 31755 S. Center Rd., Peotone, Peotone Township, camera facing southeast (1-30-2013).
See Map Sheet 13.

Structure #43: 31755 S. Center Rd., Peotone, Peotone Township, camera facing east (1-30-2013). See Map Sheet 13.

Structure #44: 8949 W. Kennedy Rd., Peotone, Peotone Township, camera facing southeast (11-12-2012). See Map Sheet 13.

Structure #44: 8949 W. Kennedy Rd., Peotone, Peotone Township, camera facing east (11-12-2012).
See Map Sheet 13.

Structure #44: 8949 W. Kennedy Rd., Peotone, Peotone Township, camera facing south (11-12-2012).
See Map Sheet 13.

Structure #44: 8949 W. Kennedy Rd., Peotone, Peotone Township, camera facing southeast (11-12-2012). See Map Sheet 13.

Structure #45: 8527 W. Kennedy Rd., Peotone, Peotone Township, camera facing south (11-9-2012). See Map Sheet 13.

Structure #45: 8527 W. Kennedy Rd., Peotone, Peotone Township, camera facing southwest (11-9-2012). See Map Sheet 13.

Structure #45: 8527 W. Kennedy Rd., Peotone, Peotone Township, camera facing southwest (11-9-2012). See Map Sheet 13.

Structure #46: 8462 W. Kennedy Rd., Peotone, Peotone Township, camera facing northwest (11-9-2012). See Map Sheet 13.

Structure #46: 8462 W. Kennedy Rd., Peotone, Peotone Township, camera facing north (11-9-2012). See Map Sheet 13.

Structure #47: 7952 W. Kennedy Rd., Peotone, Peotone Township, camera facing southwest (11-9-2012). See Map Sheet 13.

Structure #48: 7958 W. Kennedy Rd., Peotone, Peotone Township, camera facing northeast (11-9-2012). See Map Sheet 13.

Structure #49: 31847 S. Rathje Rd., Peotone, Peotone Township, camera facing northeast (11-9-2012). See Map Sheet 13.

Structure #50: 31851 S. Route 50, Peotone, Peotone Township, camera facing south (1-25-2013). See Map Sheet 14.

Structure #50: 31851 S. Route 50, Peotone, Peotone Township, camera facing south (1-25-2013). See Map Sheet 14.

Structure #50: 31851 S. Route 50, Peotone, Peotone Township, camera facing southeast (1-25-2013). See Map Sheet 14.

Structure #50: 31851 S. Route 50, Peotone, Peotone Township, camera facing east (1-25-2013). See Map Sheet 14.

Structure #50: 31851 S. Route 50, Peotone, Peotone Township, camera facing northeast (1-25-2013). See Map Sheet 14.

Structure #50: 31851 S. Route 50, Peotone, Peotone Township, camera facing northeast (1-25-2013). See Map Sheet 14.

Structure #51: 31526 S. Will Center Rd., Peotone, Peotone Township, Will Township, camera facing southwest (11-9-2012). See Map Sheet 15.

Structure #51: 31526 S. Will Center Rd., Peotone, Will Township, camera facing west (11-9-2012). See Map Sheet 15.

Structure #51: 31526 S. Will Center Rd., Peotone, Will Township, camera facing southwest (11-12-2012). See Map Sheet 15.

Structure #52: 31318 S. Kedzie Ave., Peotone, Will Township, camera facing west (11-12-2012). See Map Sheet 16.

Structure #52: 31318 S. Kedzie Ave., Peotone, Will Township, camera facing southwest (11-12-2012). See Map Sheet 16.

Structure #53: 31414 S. Western Ave., Beecher, Will Township, camera facing west (11-12-2012). See Map Sheet 17.

Structure #54: 31241 S. Ashland Ave., Beecher, Washington Township, camera facing east (11-12-2012). See Map Sheet 17.

Structure #54: 31241 S. Ashland Ave., Beecher, Washington Township, camera facing east (11-12-2012). See Map Sheet 17.

Structure #55: 31545 S. Dixie Highway, Beecher, Washington Township, camera facing north (11-9-2012). See Map Sheet 18.

Structure #55: 31545 S. Dixie Highway, Beecher, Washington Township, camera facing northwest (11-9-2012). See Map Sheet 18.

Structure #55: 31545 S. Dixie Highway, Beecher, Washington Township, camera facing north (11-9-2012). See Map Sheet 18.

Structure #55: 31545 S. Dixie highway, Beecher, Washington Township, camera facing northeast (11-9-2012). See Map Sheet 18.

Structure #56: 31544 S. Cottage Grove Rd., Beecher, Washington Township, camera facing northwest (1-30-2013). See Map Sheet 19.

Structure #56: 31544 S. Cottage Grove Rd., Beecher, Washington Township, camera facing northwest (1-30-2013). See Map Sheet 19.

Structure #56: 31544 S. Cottage Grove Rd., Beecher, Washington Township, camera facing west (1-30-2013). See Map Sheet 19.

Structure #57: 31760 S. Cottage Grove Rd., Beecher, Washington Township, camera facing west (11-9-2012). See Map Sheet 19.

Structure #57: 31760 S. Cottage Grove Rd., Beecher, Washington Township, camera facing west (11-9-2012). See Map Sheet 19.

Structure #58: 1136 E. Kentucky Rd., Beecher, Washington Township, camera facing north (11-9-2012). See Map Sheet 19.

Structure #59: 31625 S. Stoney Island Ave., Beecher, Washington Township, camera facing east (11-9-2012). See Map Sheet 19.

Structure #59: 31625 S. Stoney Island Ave., Beecher, Washington Township, camera facing southeast (11-9-2012). See Map Sheet 19.

Structure #60: 31505 S. Yates Ave., Beecher, Washington Township, camera facing northeast (11-9-2012). See Map Sheet 20.

Structure #61: 31620 S. State Line Rd., Beecher, Washington Township, camera facing south (11-9-2012). See Map Sheet 20.

Structure #61: 31620 S. State Line Rd., Beecher, Washington Township, camera facing southwest (11-9-2012). See Map Sheet 20.

Structure #61: 31620 S. State Line Rd., Beecher, Washington Township, camera facing northwest (11-9-2012). See Map Sheet 20.

Structure #62: 2860 E. Kentucky Rd., Beecher, Washington Township, camera facing northeast (11-9-2012). See Map Sheet 20.

Structure #62: 2860 E. Kentucky Rd., Beecher, Washington Township, camera facing north (11-9-2012). See Map Sheet 20.

Structure #62: 2860 E. Kentucky Rd., Beecher, Washington Township, camera facing south (11-9-2012). See Map Sheet 20.

Structure #62: 2860 E. Kentucky Rd., Beecher, Washington Township, camera facing northeast (11-9-2012). See Map Sheet 20.

Structure #63: 3224 E. Kentucky Rd., Beecher, Washington Township, camera facing northwest (11-9-2012). See Map Sheet 20.

Structure #63: 3224 E. Kentucky Rd., Beecher, Washington Township, camera facing northwest (11-9-2012). See Map Sheet 20.

Historic Structures Photo Log

2,000-ft Project Corridor
Additional Photographs
Will County

March 2013

Prepared by
Parsons Brinckerhoff
GSG Consultants, Inc.

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Structure #44: 8949 W. Kennedy Rd., Peotone, Peotone Township, camera facing south (3-25-2013).
See Map Sheet 13.

Structure #44: 8949 W. Kennedy Rd., Peotone, Peotone Township, camera facing southeast (3-25-2013).
See Map Sheet 13.

Structure #44: 8949 W. Kennedy Rd., Peotone, Peotone Township, camera facing southeast (3-25-2013). See Map Sheet 13.

Structure #44: 8949 W. Kennedy Rd., Peotone, Peotone Township, camera facing southeast (3-25-2013). See Map Sheet 13.

Structure #44: 8949 W. Kennedy Rd., Peotone, Peotone Township, camera facing southwest (3-25-2013). See Map Sheet 13.

Structure #44: 8949 W. Kennedy Rd., Peotone, Peotone Township, camera facing south (3-25-2013). See Map Sheet 13.

Structure #57: 31760 S. Cottage Grove Rd., Beecher, Washington Township, camera facing west (3-25-2013). See Map Sheet 19.

Structure #57: 31760 S. Cottage Grove Rd., Beecher, Washington Township, camera facing west (3-25-2013). See Map Sheet 19.

Structure #57: 31760 S. Cottage Grove Rd., Beecher, Washington Township, camera facing northwest (3-25-2013). See Map Sheet 19.

Structure #57: 31760 S. Cottage Grove Rd., Beecher, Washington Township, camera facing east (3-25-2013). See Map Sheet 19.

Structure #57: 31760 S. Cottage Grove Rd., Beecher, Washington Township, camera facing west (3-25-2013). See Map Sheet 19.

Structure #57: 31760 S. Cottage Grove Rd., Beecher, Washington Township, camera facing southwest (3-25-2013). See Map Sheet 19.

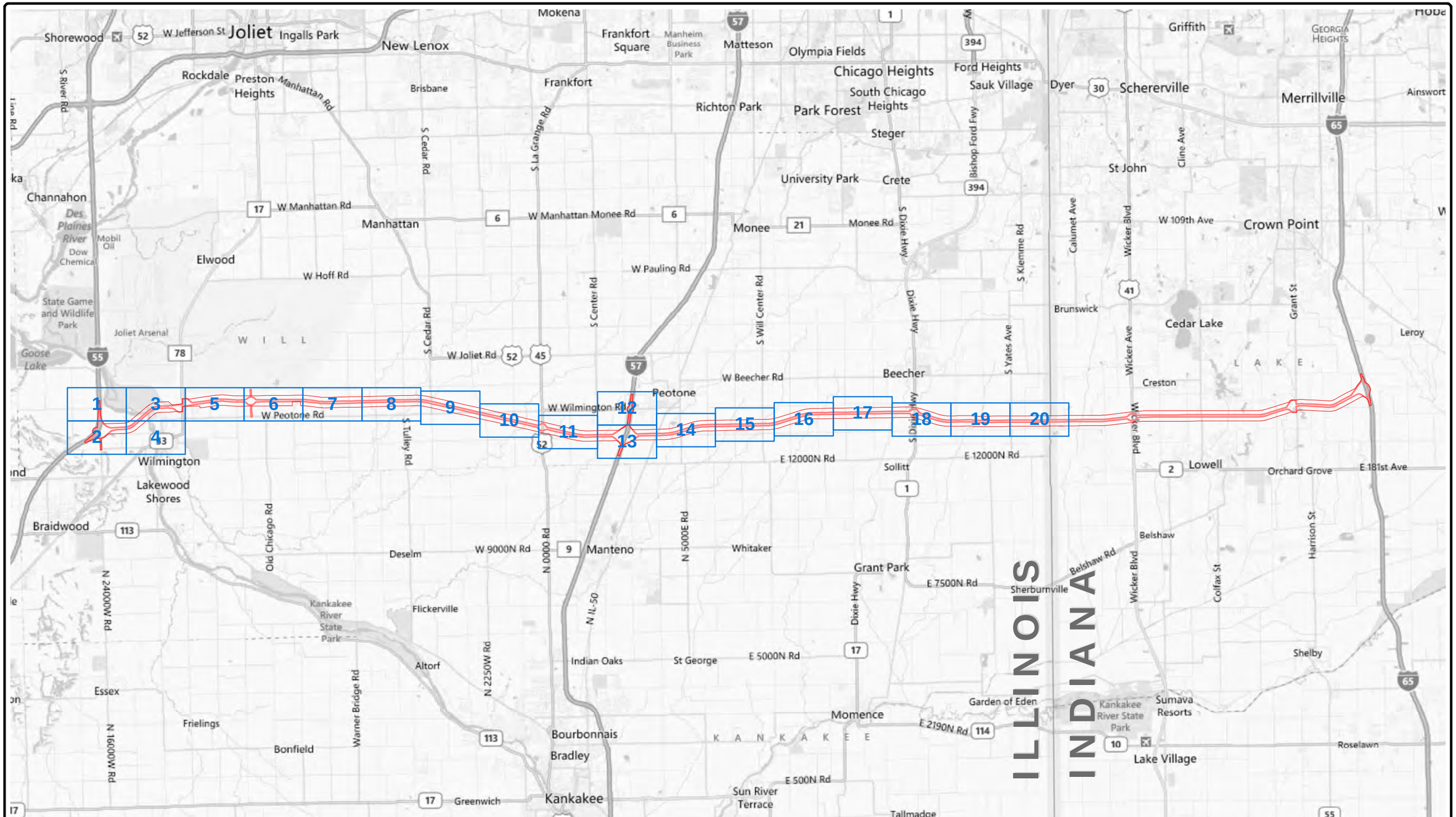
Structure #57: 31760 S. Cottage Grove Rd., Beecher, Washington Township, camera facing southwest (3-25-2013). See Map Sheet 19.

Structure #58: 1136 E. Kentucky Rd., Beecher, Washington Township, camera facing northwest (3-25-2013). See Map Sheet 19.

Structure #58: 1136 E. Kentucky Rd., Beecher, Washington Township, camera facing north (3-25-2013).
See Map Sheet 19.

Structure #58: 1136 E. Kentucky Rd., Beecher, Washington Township, camera facing north (3-25-2013).
See Map Sheet 19.

Structure #58: 1136 E. Kentucky Rd., Beecher, Washington Township, camera facing northwest (3-25-2013). See Map Sheet 19.



NORTH

0 1 2 mi

0 1 2 km

LEGEND

B3 400-ft Working Alignment Limit

B3 2,000-ft Project Corridor Limit

Road Map: Microsoft Bing Maps

Illiana Corridor Photo Log
Surveyed Properties in 2,000-ft Project Corridor
Sheet Index
February 2013

ILLIANA CORRIDOR

K-1490

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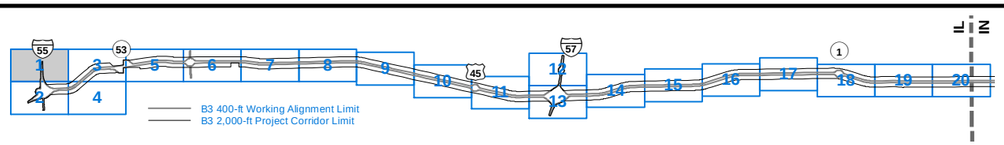
See Sheet 3

NORTH

0 500 1000 ft

0 50 100 m

INDEX



LEGEND

- Surveyed Property
- Alternate Route 66, Wilmington to Joliet
- WA B3 400-ft Working Alignment Limit (WA)
- PC B3 2,000-ft Project Corridor Limit (PC)
- Parcel
- Aerial Imagery: Microsoft Bing Maps Hybrid

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Surveyed Properties in 2,000-ft Project Corridor
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February 2013

ILLIANA CORRIDOR PARTNERING FOR PROGRESS

K-1491

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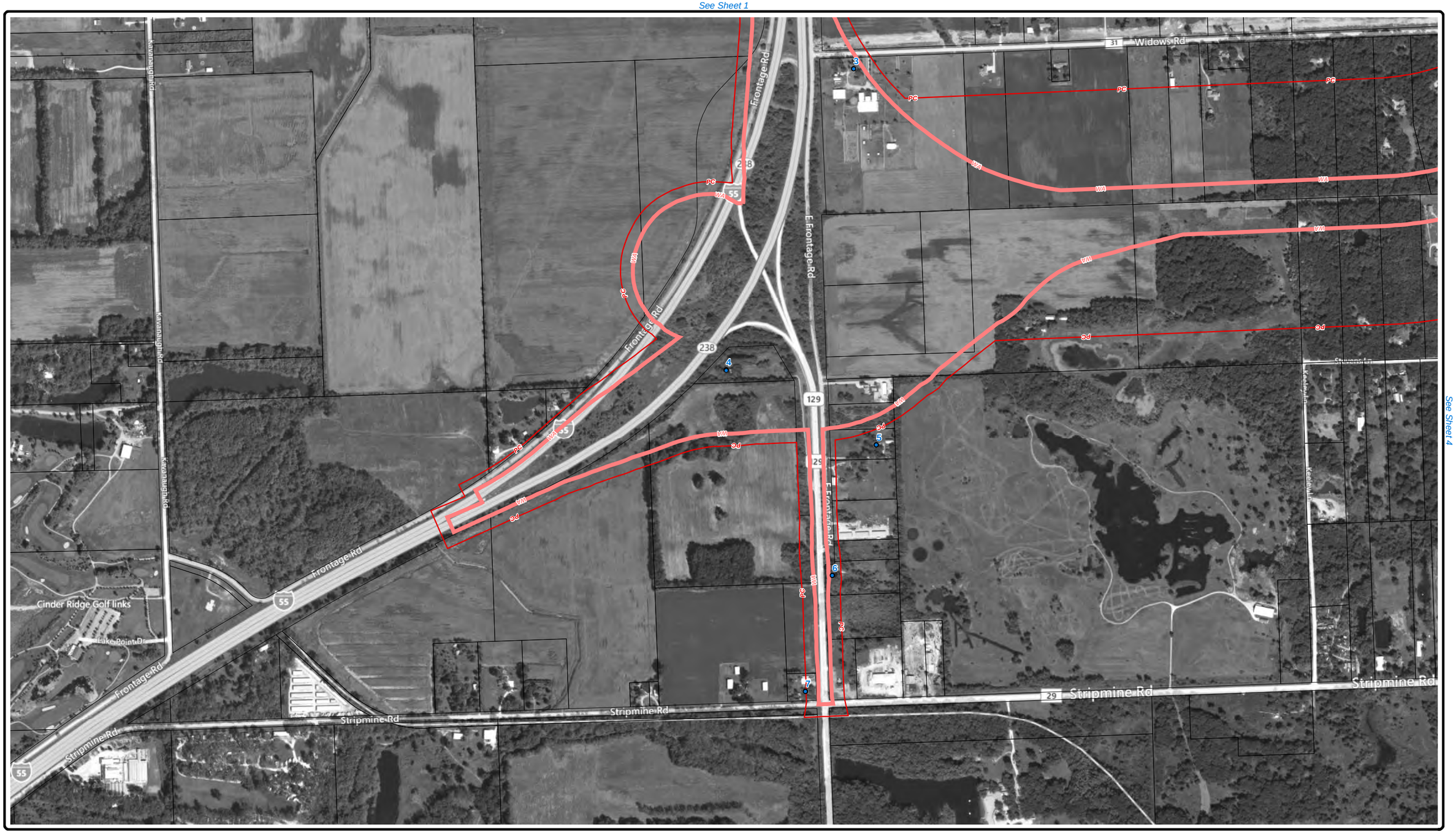


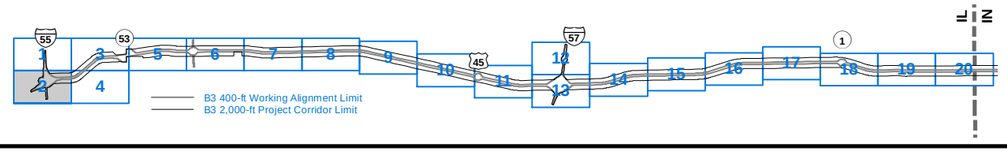
See Sheet 4

NORTH

0 500 1000 ft

0 50 100 m

INDEX



LEGEND

- Surveyed Property
- Alternate Route 66, Wilmington to Joliet
- WA B3 400-ft Working Alignment Limit (WA)
- PC B3 2,000-ft Project Corridor Limit (PC)
- Parcel

Aerial Imagery: Microsoft Bing Maps Hybrid

Illiana Corridor Photo Log
Surveyed Properties in 2,000-ft Project Corridor
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February 2013

ILLIANA CORRIDOR
PARTNERING FOR PROGRESS

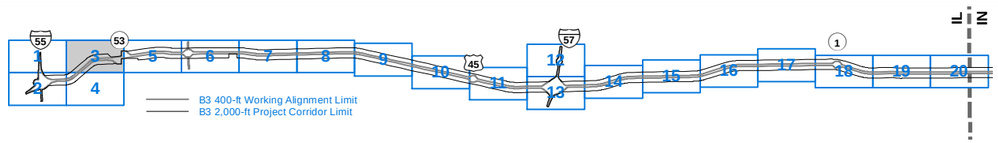
K-1492

NORTH

0 500 1000 ft

0 50 100 m

INDEX



LEGEND

- Surveyed Property
- Alternate Route 66, Wilmington to Joliet
- WA B3 400-ft Working Alignment Limit (WA)
- PC B3 2,000-ft Project Corridor Limit (PC)
- Parcel

Aerial Imagery: Microsoft Bing Maps Hybrid

Illiana Corridor Photo Log
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ILLIANA CORRIDOR
PARTNERING FOR PROGRESS

K-1493

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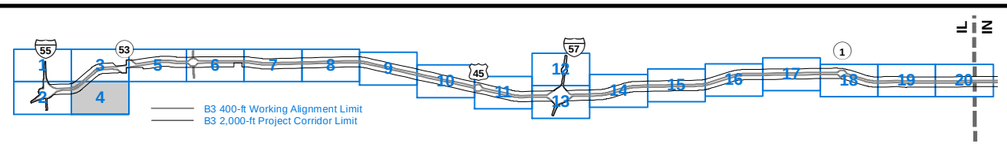
NORTH

0 500 1000 ft

0 50 100 m

INDEX



LEGEND

- Surveyed Property
- Alternate Route 66, Wilmington to Joliet
- WA B3 400-ft Working Alignment Limit (WA)
- PC B3 2,000-ft Project Corridor Limit (PC)
- Parcel
- Aerial Imagery: Microsoft Bing Maps Hybrid

Illiana Corridor Photo Log
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ILLIANA CORRIDOR
PARTNERING FOR PROGRESS

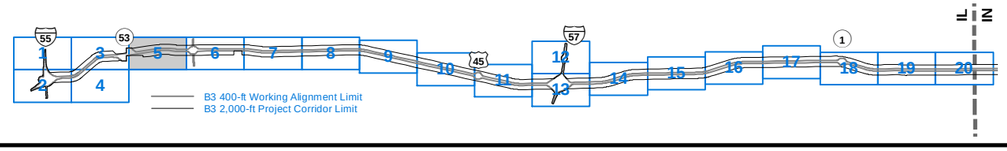
K-1494

NORTH

0 500 1000 ft

0 50 100 m

INDEX



LEGEND

- Surveyed Property
- Alternate Route 66, Wilmington to Joliet
- WA B3 400-ft Working Alignment Limit (WA)
- PC B3 2,000-ft Project Corridor Limit (PC)
- Parcel
- Aerial Imagery: Microsoft Bing Maps Hybrid

Illiana Corridor Photo Log
Surveyed Properties in 2,000-ft Project Corridor
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February 2013

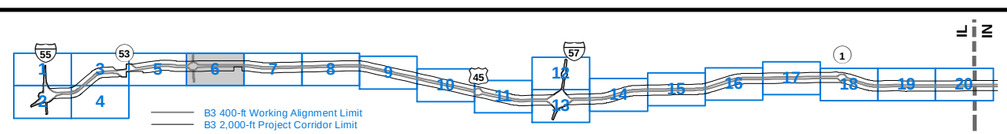
ILLIANA CORRIDOR
PARTNERING FOR PROGRESS

NORTH

0 500 1000 ft

0 50 100 m

INDEX



LEGEND

- Surveyed Property
- Alternate Route 66, Wilmington to Joliet
- WA B3 400-ft Working Alignment Limit (WA)
- PC B3 2,000-ft Project Corridor Limit (PC)
- Parcel
- Aerial Imagery: Microsoft Bing Maps Hybrid

Illiana Corridor Photo Log
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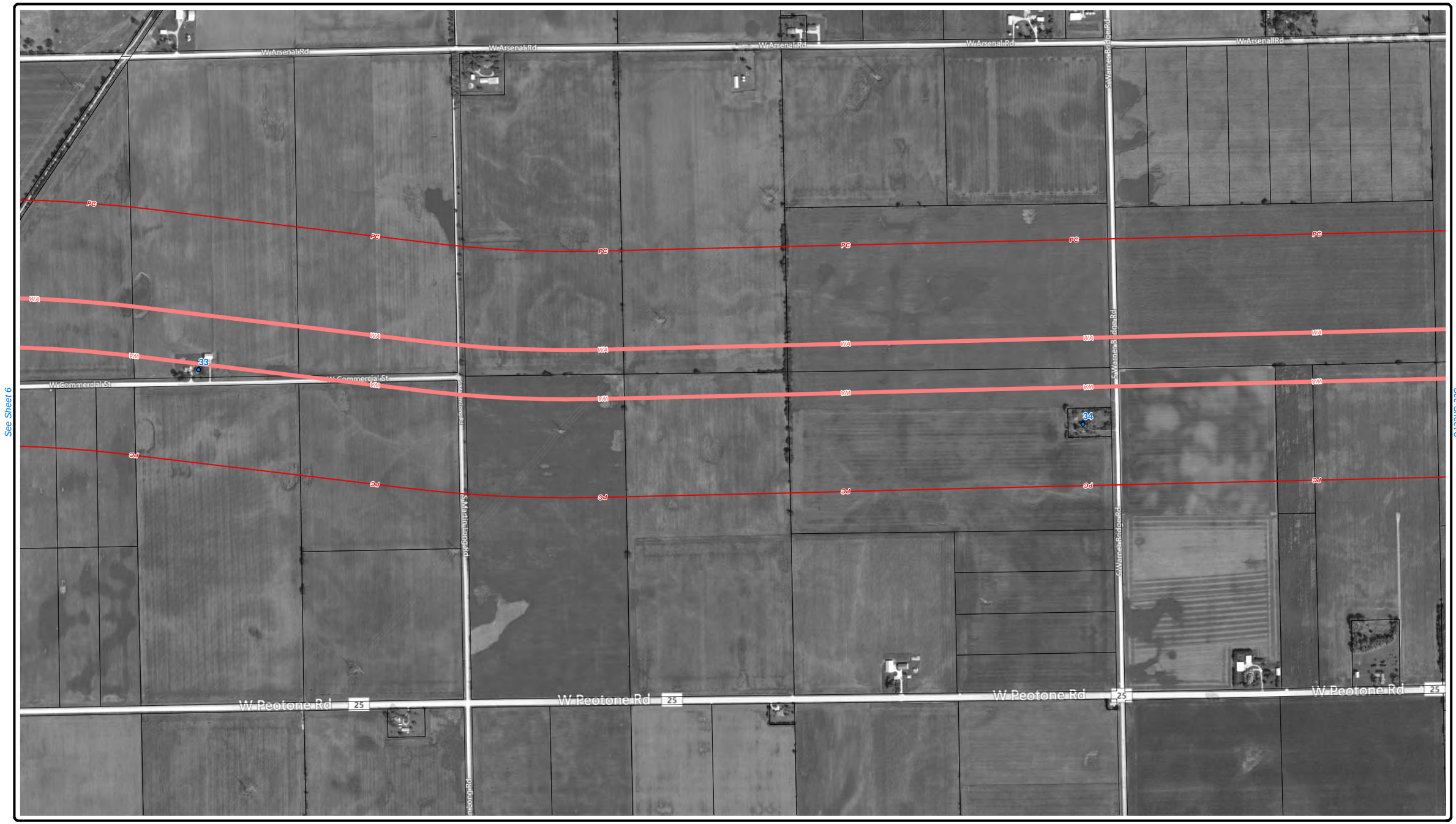
ILLIANA CORRIDOR
PARTNERING FOR PROGRESS

K-1496

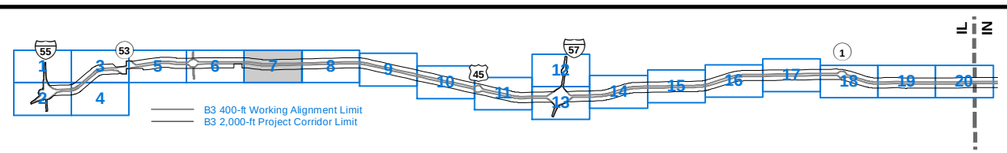


NORTH

0 500 1000 ft

0 50 100 m

INDEX



LEGEND

- Surveyed Property
- Alternate Route 66, Wilmington to Joliet
- WA B3 400-ft Working Alignment Limit (WA)
- PC B3 2,000-ft Project Corridor Limit (PC)
- Parcel
- Aerial Imagery: Microsoft Bing Maps Hybrid

Illiana Corridor Photo Log
Surveyed Properties in 2,000-ft Project Corridor
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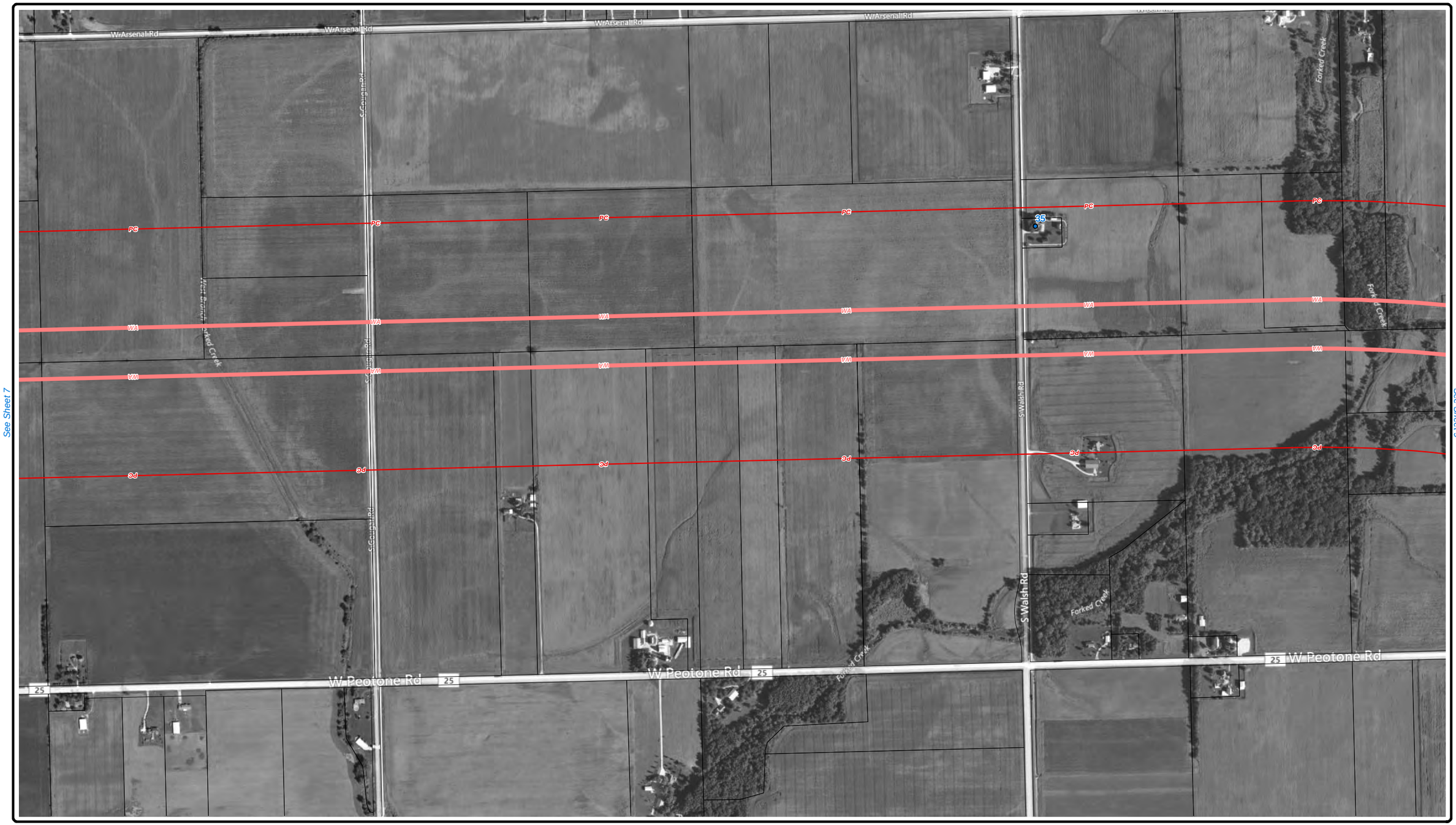
February 2013

ILLIANA CORRIDOR
PARTNERING FOR PROGRESS

K-1497

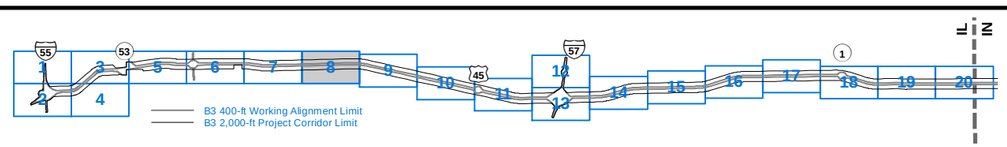


NORTH

0 500 1000 ft

0 50 100 m

INDEX



LEGEND

- Surveyed Property
- Alternate Route 66, Wilmington to Joliet
- WA B3 400-ft Working Alignment Limit (WA)
- PC B3 2,000-ft Project Corridor Limit (PC)
- Parcel
- Aerial Imagery: Microsoft Bing Maps Hybrid

Illiana Corridor Photo Log
Surveyed Properties in 2,000-ft Project Corridor
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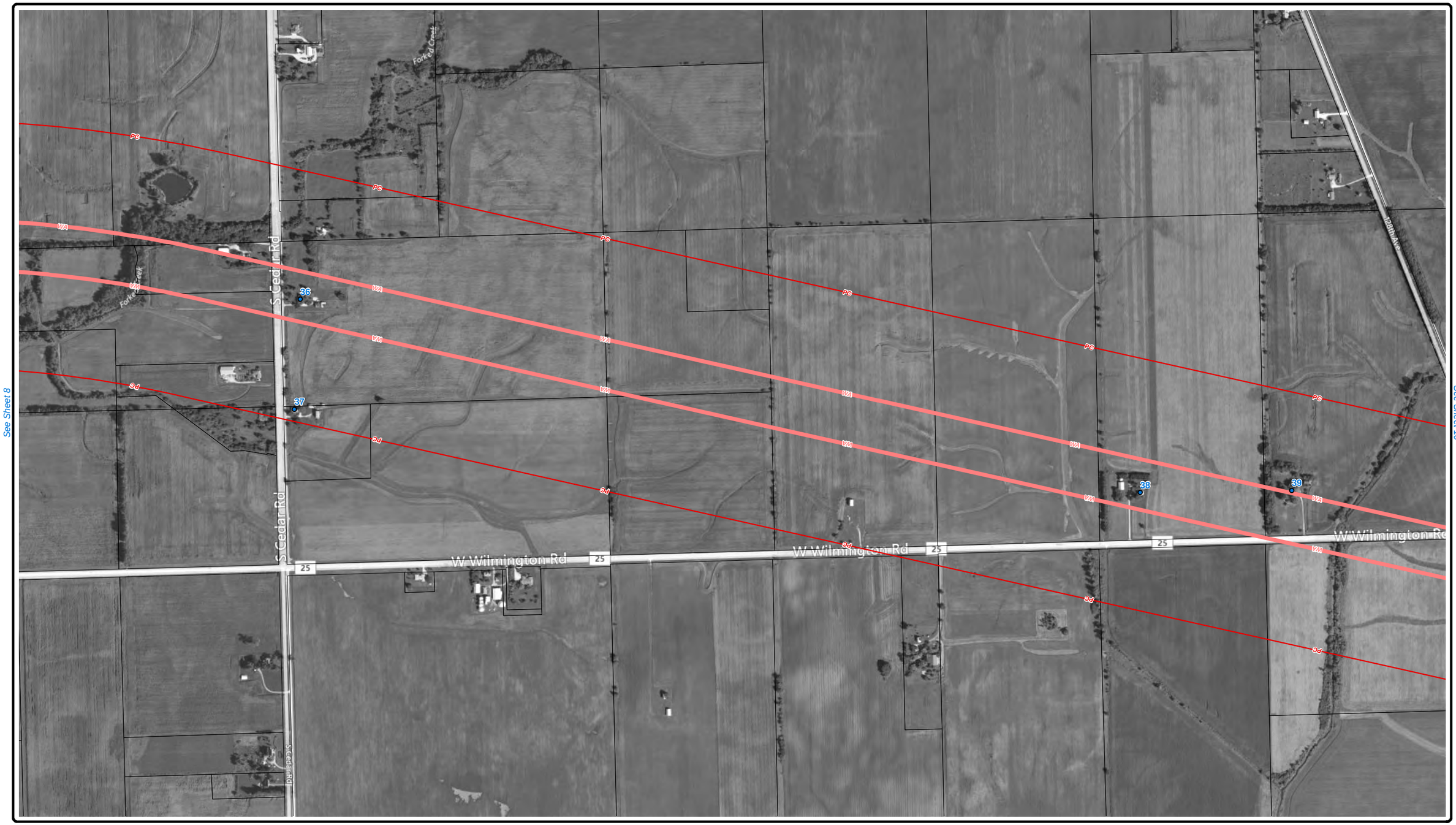
February 2013

ILLIANA CORRIDOR
PARTNERING FOR PROGRESS

K-1498



NORTH

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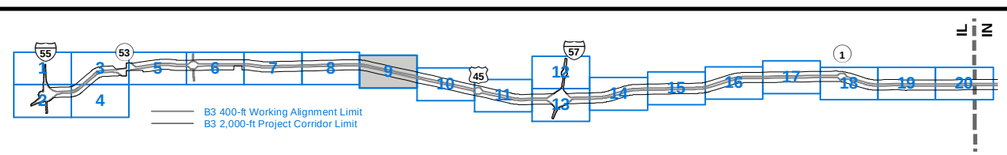
INDEX



LEGEND

- Surveyed Property
- Alternate Route 66, Wilmington to Joliet
- WA B3 400-ft Working Alignment Limit (WA)
- PC B3 2,000-ft Project Corridor Limit (PC)
- Parcel

Aerial Imagery: Microsoft Bing Maps Hybrid

Illiana Corridor Photo Log
Surveyed Properties in 2,000-ft Project Corridor
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February 2013

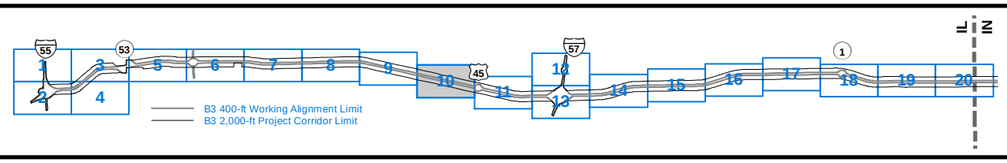
ILLIANA CORRIDOR
PARTNERING FOR PROGRESS

NORTH

0 500 1000 ft

0 50 100 m

INDEX



LEGEND

- Surveyed Property
- Alternate Route 66, Wilmington to Joliet
- WA B3 400-ft Working Alignment Limit (WA)
- PC B3 2,000-ft Project Corridor Limit (PC)
- Parcel
- Aerial Imagery: Microsoft Bing Maps Hybrid

Illiana Corridor Photo Log
Surveyed Properties in 2,000-ft Project Corridor
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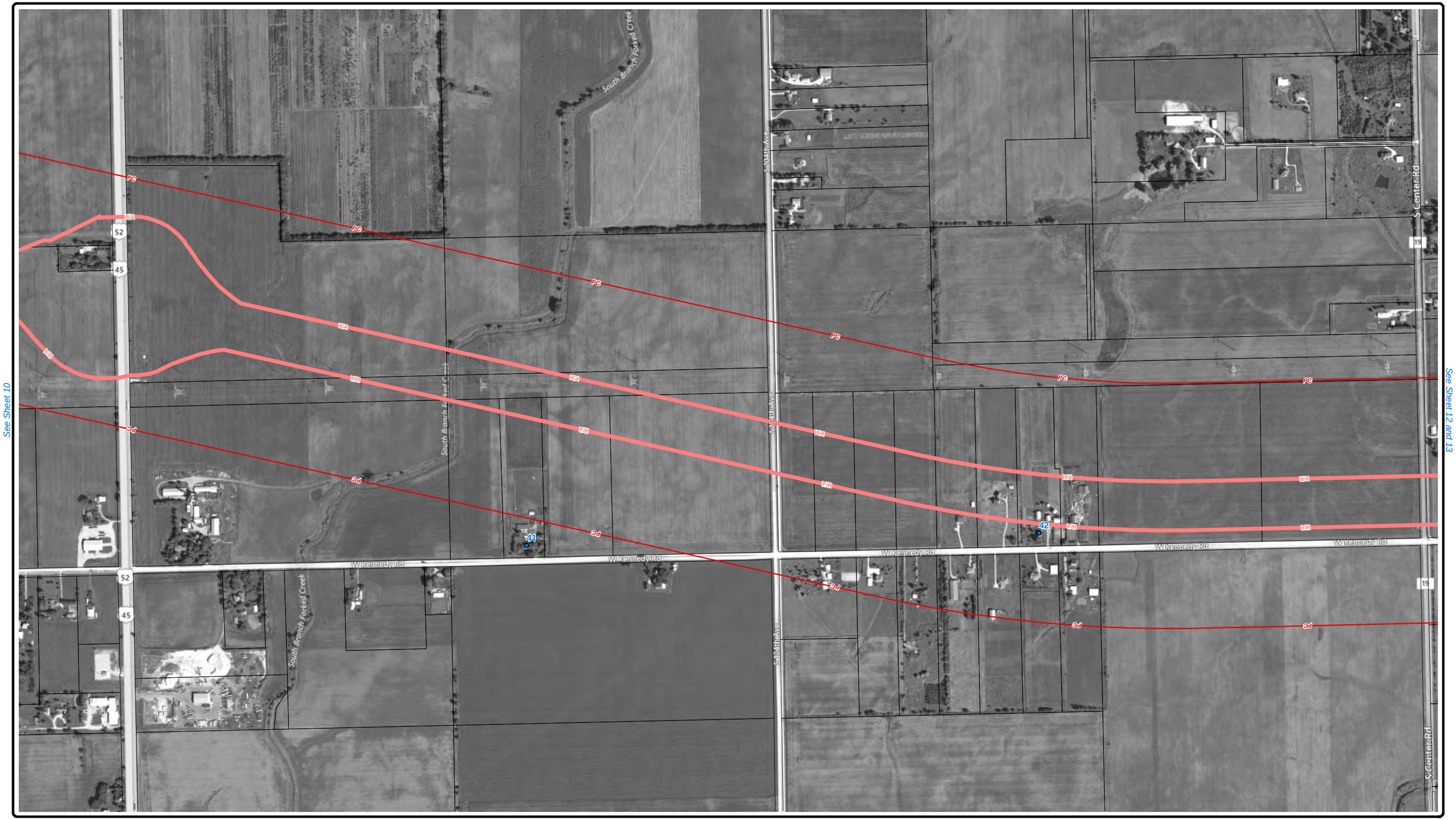
February 2013

ILLIANA CORRIDOR
PARTNERING FOR PROGRESS

K-1500

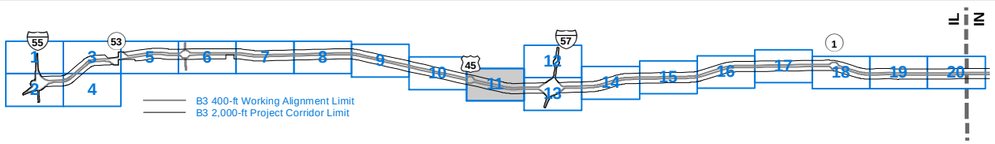


NORTH

0 500 1000 ft

0 50 100 m

INDEX



LEGEND

- Surveyed Property
- Alternate Route 66, Wilmington to Joliet
- WA B3 400-ft Working Alignment Limit (WA)
- PC B3 2,000-ft Project Corridor Limit (PC)
- Parcel
- Aerial Imagery: Microsoft Bing Maps Hybrid

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February 2013

ILLIANA CORRIDOR
PARTNERING FOR PROGRESS

K-1501

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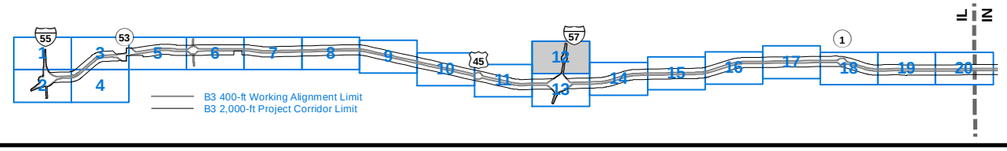
NORTH

0 500 1000 ft

0 50 100 m

INDEX



LEGEND

- Surveyed Property
- Alternate Route 66, Wilmington to Joliet
- WA B3 400-ft Working Alignment Limit (WA)
- PC B3 2,000-ft Project Corridor Limit (PC)
- Parcel
- Aerial Imagery: Microsoft Bing Maps Hybrid

Illiana Corridor Photo Log
Surveyed Properties in 2,000-ft Project Corridor
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ILLIANA CORRIDOR
PARTNERING FOR PROGRESS

K-1502

See Sheet 12

See Sheet 11

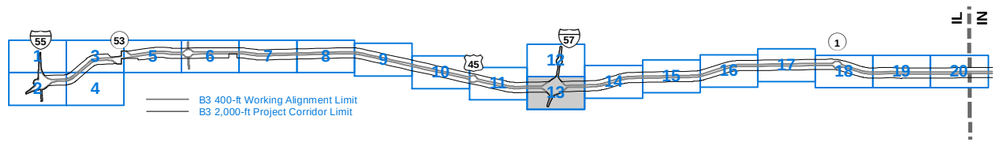
See Sheet 14

NORTH

0 500 1000 ft

0 50 100 m

INDEX



LEGEND

- Surveyed Property
- Alternate Route 66, Wilmington to Joliet
- WA B3 400-ft Working Alignment Limit (WA)
- PC B3 2,000-ft Project Corridor Limit (PC)
- Parcel

Aerial Imagery: Microsoft Bing Maps Hybrid

Illiana Corridor Photo Log
Surveyed Properties in 2,000-ft Project Corridor
Sheet 13 of 20
February 2013

ILLIANA CORRIDOR
PARTNERING FOR PROGRESS

K-1503

See Sheet 12 and 13

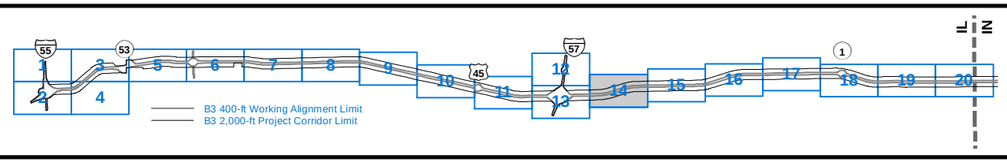
See Sheet 15

NORTH

0 500 1000 ft

0 50 100 m

INDEX



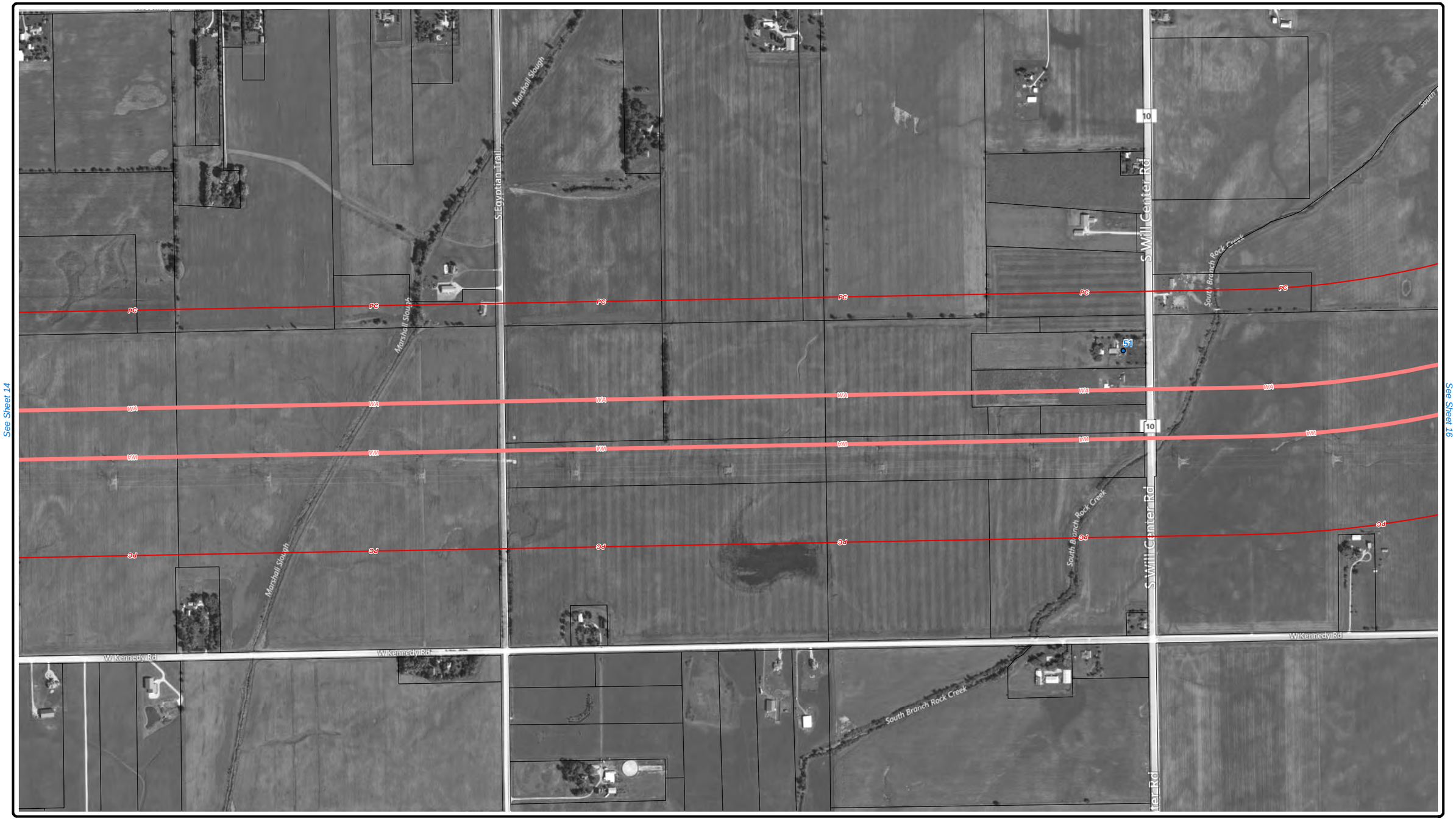
LEGEND

- Surveyed Property
- Alternate Route 66, Wilmington to Joliet
- WA B3 400-ft Working Alignment Limit (WA)
- PC B3 2,000-ft Project Corridor Limit (PC)
- Parcel
- Aerial Imagery: Microsoft Bing Maps Hybrid

Illiana Corridor Photo Log
Surveyed Properties in 2,000-ft Project Corridor
Sheet 14 of 20
February 2013

ILLIANA CORRIDOR
PARTNERING FOR PROGRESS

K-1504

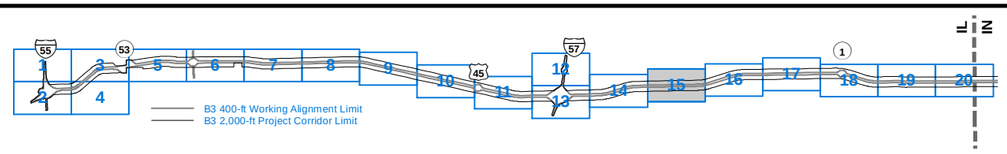


NORTH

0 500 1000 ft

0 50 100 m

INDEX



LEGEND

- Surveyed Property
- Alternate Route 66, Wilmington to Joliet
- WA B3 400-ft Working Alignment Limit (WA)
- PC B3 2,000-ft Project Corridor Limit (PC)
- Parcel

Aerial Imagery: Microsoft Bing Maps Hybrid

Illiana Corridor Photo Log
Surveyed Properties in 2,000-ft Project Corridor
Sheet 15 of 20
February 2013

ILLIANA CORRIDOR
PARTNERING FOR PROGRESS

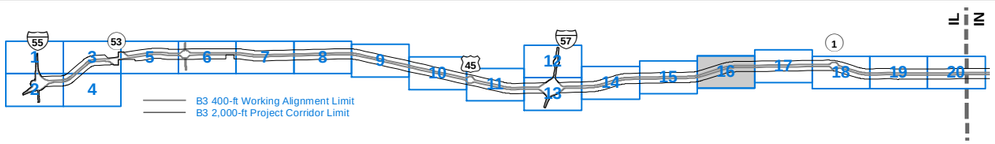
K-1505

NORTH

0 500 1000 ft

0 50 100 m

INDEX



LEGEND

- Surveyed Property
- Alternate Route 66, Wilmington to Joliet
- WA B3 400-ft Working Alignment Limit (WA)
- PC B3 2,000-ft Project Corridor Limit (PC)
- Parcel
- Aerial Imagery: Microsoft Bing Maps Hybrid

Illiana Corridor Photo Log
Surveyed Properties in 2,000-ft Project Corridor
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February 2013

ILLIANA CORRIDOR
PARTNERING FOR PROGRESS

K-1506