Historic Property Report

Corridor B3 Area of Potential Effects

Will County, Illinois

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Illinois Department of Transportation

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July 16, 2013

K-1507

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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 documents only the Area of Potential Effects (APE) outside of the 2,000-foot wide Corridor B3 for the Illinois portion of the proposed project. The APE extends one mile north and south of the 2,000-foot corridor's boundary to accommodate potential visual, noise, and vibration impacts to historic properties; its total width is approximately 2.37 miles. A separate report, *Historic Property Report for Corridor B3 in Will County, Illinois* (June 20, 2013), documents the 2,000-foot wide Corridor B3 for the Illinois portion of the proposed project; the Illinois State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and Section 106 consulting parties are currently reviewing this report.

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 FHWA, delineated the APE in consultation with the 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 of properties potentially eligible for listing in the NRHP by IDOT's Bureau of Design and Environment's (BDE) Cultural Resources Unit staff.

Of the 507 resources surveyed in the Corridor B3 APE, IDOT-BDE's review identified three NRHP-listed properties, one previously determined NRHP-eligible property, and twenty-five properties requiring additional research and evaluation of NRHP eligibility by the project architectural historians. This number included 11 properties previously surveyed in the Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey for Wilmington and Florence townships completed in 2009 and 2011, respectively.

The three NRHP-listed properties located in the Corridor B3 APE are Alternate Route 66, Wilmington to Joliet (Survey ID 13); Eagle Hotel (Survey ID 160); and Peotone Mill

(Survey ID 339). The single property previously determined eligible for listing in the NRHP and located in the Corridor B3 APE is the Downtown Wilmington Historic District (Survey ID 159).

As a result of identification and evaluation efforts for this project, six individual historic properties and one historic district within the Corridor B3 APE, but outside of the 2,000-foot corridor boundaries, are recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

- Soldiers' Widows' Laundry House (Survey ID 137)
- John R. Baskerville Farmstead (Survey ID 182)
- Stauffenberg Farmstead (Survey ID 333)
- Will County Fairgrounds (Survey ID 340)
- 2444 West Corning Road (Survey ID 416)
- Beecher Mausoleum (Survey ID 440)

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 of evaluation and a second round of evaluation based on technical analysis and stakeholder input to identify, refine, and evaluate alternative corridors.

The initial round of 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 of 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 of 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 traversed 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 considered in the Tier One EIS.

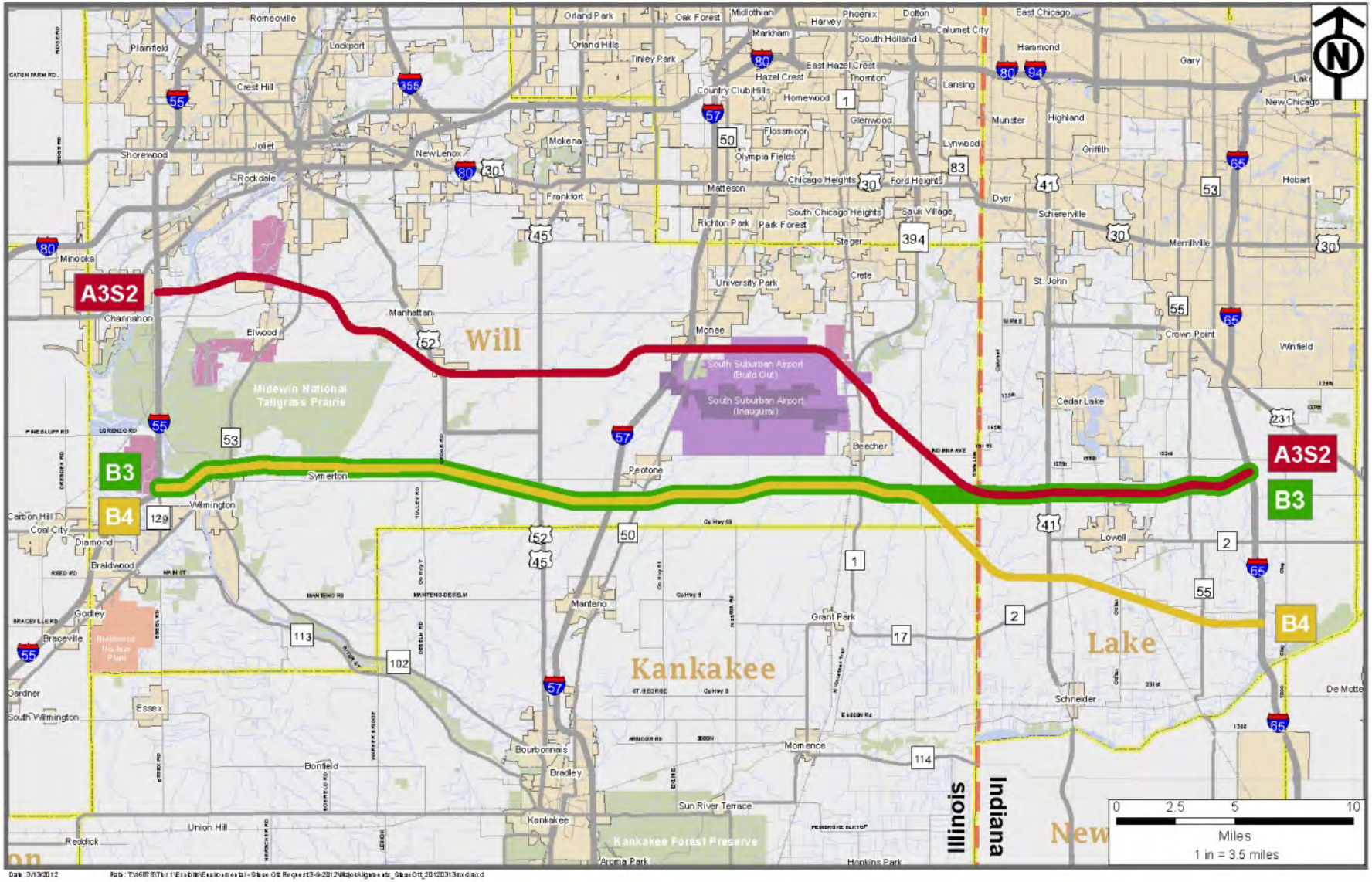
1.2.1.1 No-Action Alternative

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

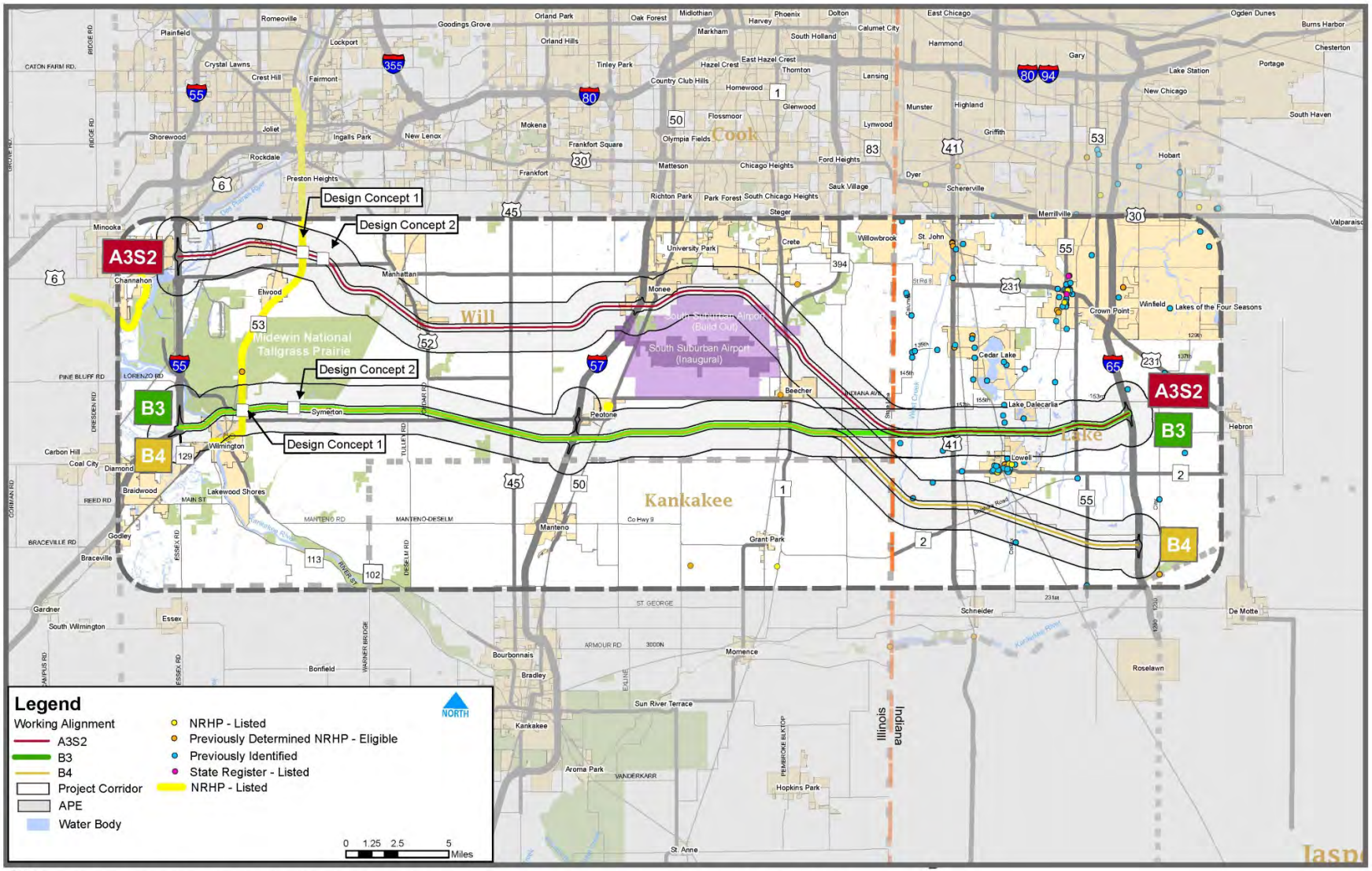
to document the presence of known historic properties and the potential effects of the project to those properties for either state. In the Tier One EIS it was noted that the information provided was preliminary and effects to known historic properties were described as "potential" pending field investigations 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 archaeological 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 the Tier Two Section 106 and NEPA studies, FHWA will be consulting 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 did not intend to participate in Section 106 consultation in Tier One.

Consultation with the Illinois and Indiana SHPOs is being 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



Sources
Historic Resources: Correspondence with Thomas E. Emerson. August 1, 2011. RE: Initial Cultural Resource Assessment, Illiana Expressway – ISAS Log #110897 (Illinois Section). Illinois State Archaeological Survey, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana. 1996. Lake County Interim Report. Indianapolis, Indiana.
Indiana Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology. 2011. Indiana State Historic Architectural and Archaeological Research Database (SHAARD). https://secure.in.gov/apps/dnr/shaard/welcome.html.

1.2.3 Selection of Corridor B3 in Tier One

The combined Tier One EIS was approved and Record of Decision (ROD) was issued in January 2013. The ROD confirmed 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 environmental 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 confirmed 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. 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 that 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, architecture, 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, outside of the 2,000-foot wide 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 Corridor B3 APE, outside of the 2,000-foot wide Corridor B3. Properties in the 2,000-foot wide Corridor B3 are evaluated in a separate report. 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 effort 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, 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; 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) from Will County Historic Preservation Commission;
- Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey 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 nominations of Alternate Route 66, Eagle Hotel, and Peotone Mill acquired from the IL SHPO's Historic Architectural and Archaeology Resources Geographic Information System (HARGIS);
- 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 Surveys 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. The survey team also carried copies of the letter and project business cards. For each property surveyed, the survey team 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 properties more than 45 years of age or older 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 outside of the 2,000-foot wide Corridor B3. Both photo logs were submitted to the IDOT-BDE's Cultural Resources Unit staff for an initial review and screening of the surveyed resources to identify any resources that were clearly not architecturally or historically significant based on the resources' appearance and any resources that appeared to retain architectural or historical significance. IDOT-BDE's staff identified those properties that may be potentially eligible for listing in the NRHP and should be additionally 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.

Surveyed properties documented in the Corridor B3 APE 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.

2.3 Consultation with SHPO and INDOT

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 any adverse effects.

2.4 NRHP Determinations of Eligibility

Following the identification of properties in the Corridor B3 APE 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, 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.

For the three NRHP-listed properties and one previously determined NRHP-eligible property in the Corridor B3 APE, only photographs were taken to document their current state and no additional documentation was completed per the request of IDOT-BDE.

The historians completed additional research for the twenty-five properties identified by IDOT-BDE that warranted additional investigation. These properties were documented in formal NRHP determinations of eligibility and are included in Appendix B of this report.

Eleven of these identified properties were previously surveyed and documented in the Will County Rural Historic Structures Survey for Wilmington Township completed in 2009 and for Florence Township completed in 2011. 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 each 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" may 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 Surveys and located in the Corridor B3 APE, formal NRHP determinations of eligibility were completed for eleven 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 APE did not retain single buildings that warranted individual NRHP assessments. Second, each 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, current 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 APE retained historic field patterns or other historic landscape features.

Given the number of farms and farmsteads in the APE, the historians considered the possibility of one or more historic rural districts; however, based on field observations, research, and integrity, no rural historic districts were identified. The majority of the properties have been altered or subdivided since their establishment and no longer convey their significant historical associations that would qualify them for listing in the NRHP. Furthermore, due to the subsequent division of these farmsteads' acreage, a large number of non-historic, recently constructed houses have been added in various

locations throughout the corridor. These non-historic houses outnumber the farmsteads and significantly diminish their integrity of setting, feeling, and association as well as the relationships between farmsteads. For these reasons, the architectural historians determined that no rural historic district existed in the APE.

2.5 Conclusions

The project architectural historians inventoried 570 properties as part of this study, which included 507 properties located in the Corridor B3 APE. Three NRHP-listed properties, Alternate Route 66, Wilmington to Joliet, Eagle Hotel, and Peotone Mill and one previously determined NRHP eligible property, Downtown Wilmington Historic District, are located in the Corridor B3 APE.

Of the twenty-five evaluated properties, six properties are being recommended as eligible for listing in the NRHP.

- Soldiers' Widows' Laundry House at 745 Widows Road, Wilmington (Survey ID 137) under Criterion A for its historically significant association with the progressive reform period for war veterans in the state of Illinois;

- John R. Baskerville Farmstead at 19076 West Peotone Road, Wilmington (Survey ID 182) under Criterion A for its intact farmstead buildings and layout that cohesively convey its historically significant association with late nineteenth and early twentieth century cattle farming in Florence Township;

- Stauffenberg Farmstead at 11743 North 2000E Road, Manteno (Survey ID 333) under Criterion A for its intact farmstead buildings and layout that cohesively convey its historically significant association with early twentieth century dairy farming in Manteno Township;

- Will County Fairgrounds at 710 South West Street, Peotone (Survey ID 340) under Criterion A for its historically significant association as a county agricultural and recreational fair that significantly contributed to the promotion and development of agriculture in Will County and served as a center of entertainment and recreation for county residents;

- Farmhouse at 2444 West Corning Road, Peotone (Survey ID 416) under Criterion C as a good local example of a late nineteenth century Queen Anne-style farmhouse incorporating spindlework detailing and complex, irregular massing; and

- Beecher Mausoleum on Horner Lane at South Hillcrest Road, Beecher (Survey ID 440) under Criterion A for its historically significant association with the national movement during the early twentieth century to create sanitary, beautiful, and honorific burial places, and under Criterion C as an excellent example of a Neoclassical-style funerary building designed by notable mausoleum architect Cecil E. Bryan.

A list of all surveyed properties in the Corridor B3 APE is presented in Appendix C. The individual findings of eligibility are in Appendix B. Maps depicting the NRHP-listed and eligible properties, as well as 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 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 Field Investigations Property Research Determinations of NRHP Eligibility
Scott Slagor Architectural Historian Intern Parsons Brinckerhoff	M.S., Historic Preservation (in progress) B.A., Public History 2 years of experience	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

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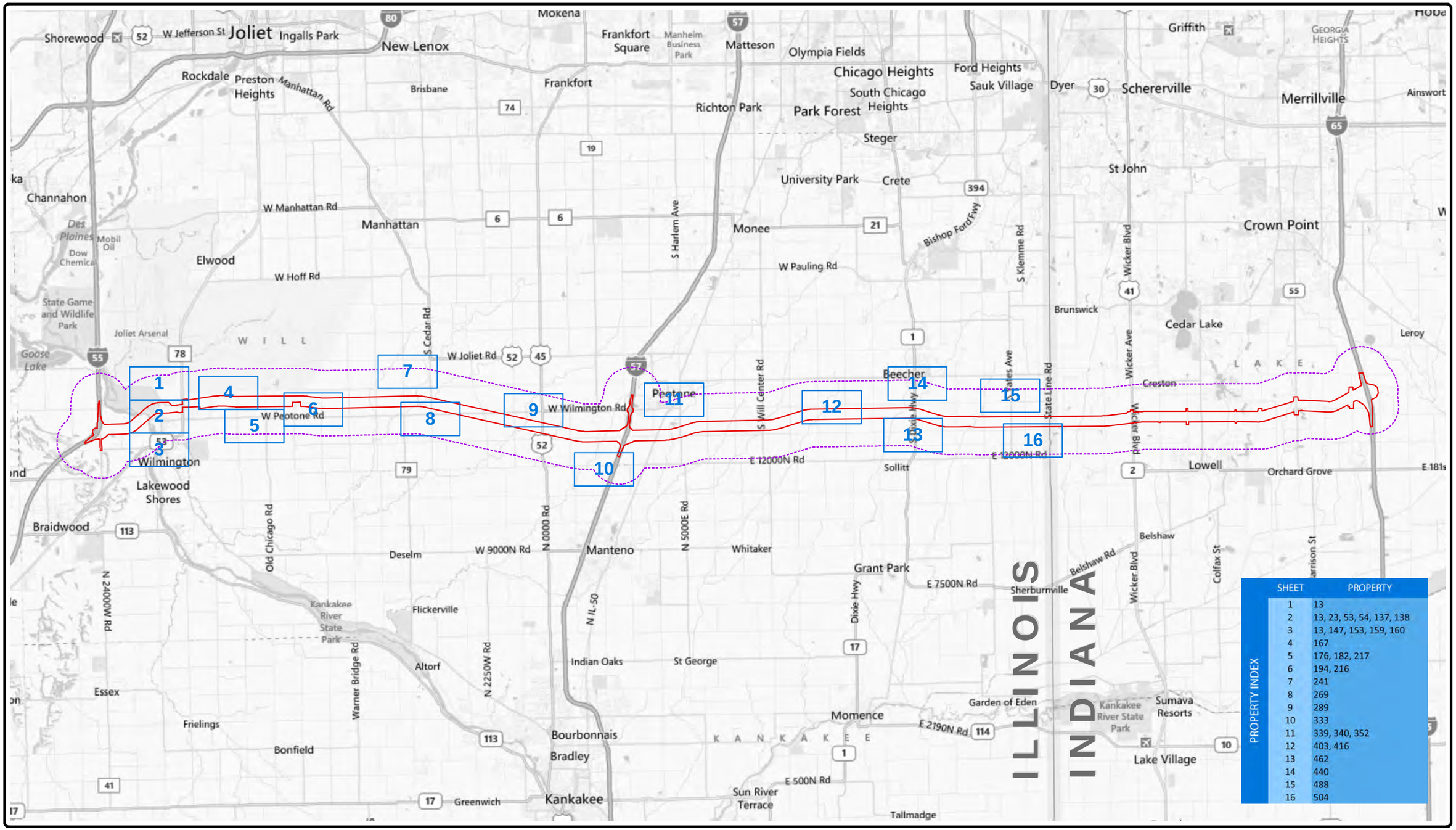
Appendix A

Area of Potential Effects (APE) Map



PROPERTY INDEX	
SHEET	PROPERTY
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2	13, 23, 53, 54, 137, 138
3	13, 147, 153, 159, 160
4	167
5	176, 182, 217
6	194, 216
7	241
8	269
9	289
10	333
11	339, 340, 352
12	403, 416
13	462
14	440
15	488
16	504

Basemap: Microsoft Bing Maps

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REGION

LEGEND

B3 2,000-FT PROJECT CORRIDOR LIMIT (PC)

AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS (APE)

National Register of Historic Places
Eligibility Determinations in Area of Potential Effects
Sheet Index
July 2013

ILLIANA CORRIDOR
PARTNERING FOR PROGRESS

Aerial Imagery: Microsoft Bing Maps Hybrid

See Sheet 2

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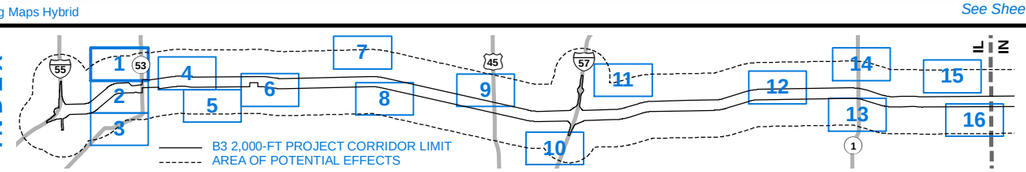

B3 2,000-FT PROJECT CORRIDOR LIMIT
AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS

LEGEND

SURVEYED PROPERTY

- NRHP Not Eligible
- NRHP Eligible
- NRHP Listed
- 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 Area of Potential Effects
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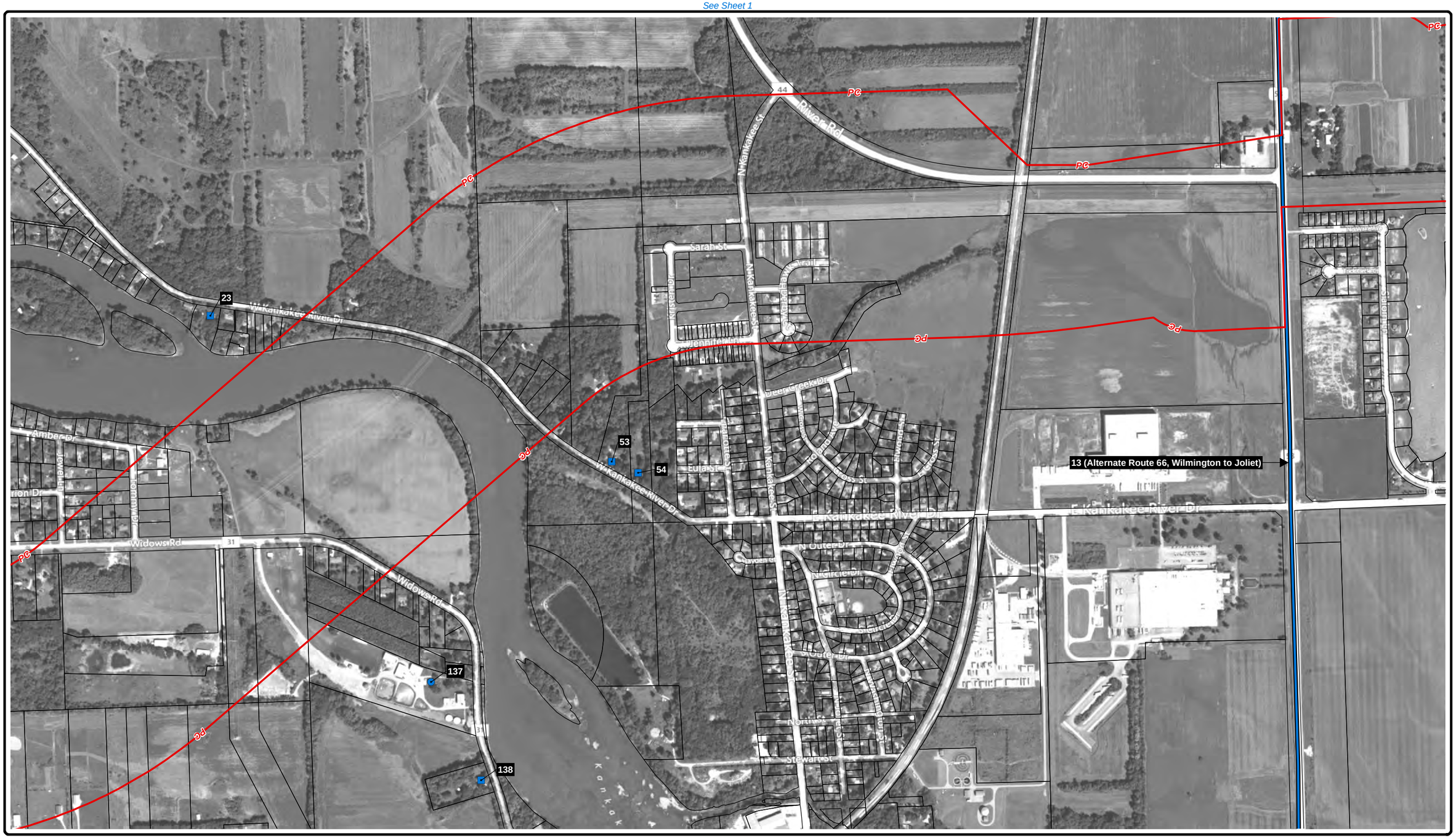
July 2013

ILLIANA CORRIDOR
PARTNERING FOR PROGRESS

K-1538

See Sheet 1



Aerial Imagery: Microsoft Bing Maps Hybrid

See Sheet 3

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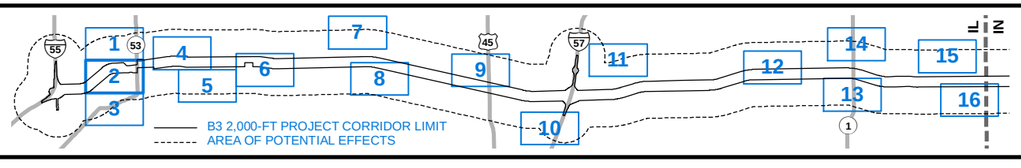

LEGEND

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- PC — B3 2,000-FT PROJECT CORRIDOR LIMIT (PC)
- APE — AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS (APE)
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National Register of Historic Places
Eligibility Determinations in Area of Potential Effects
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ILLIANA CORRIDOR
PARTNERING FOR PROGRESS

K-1539

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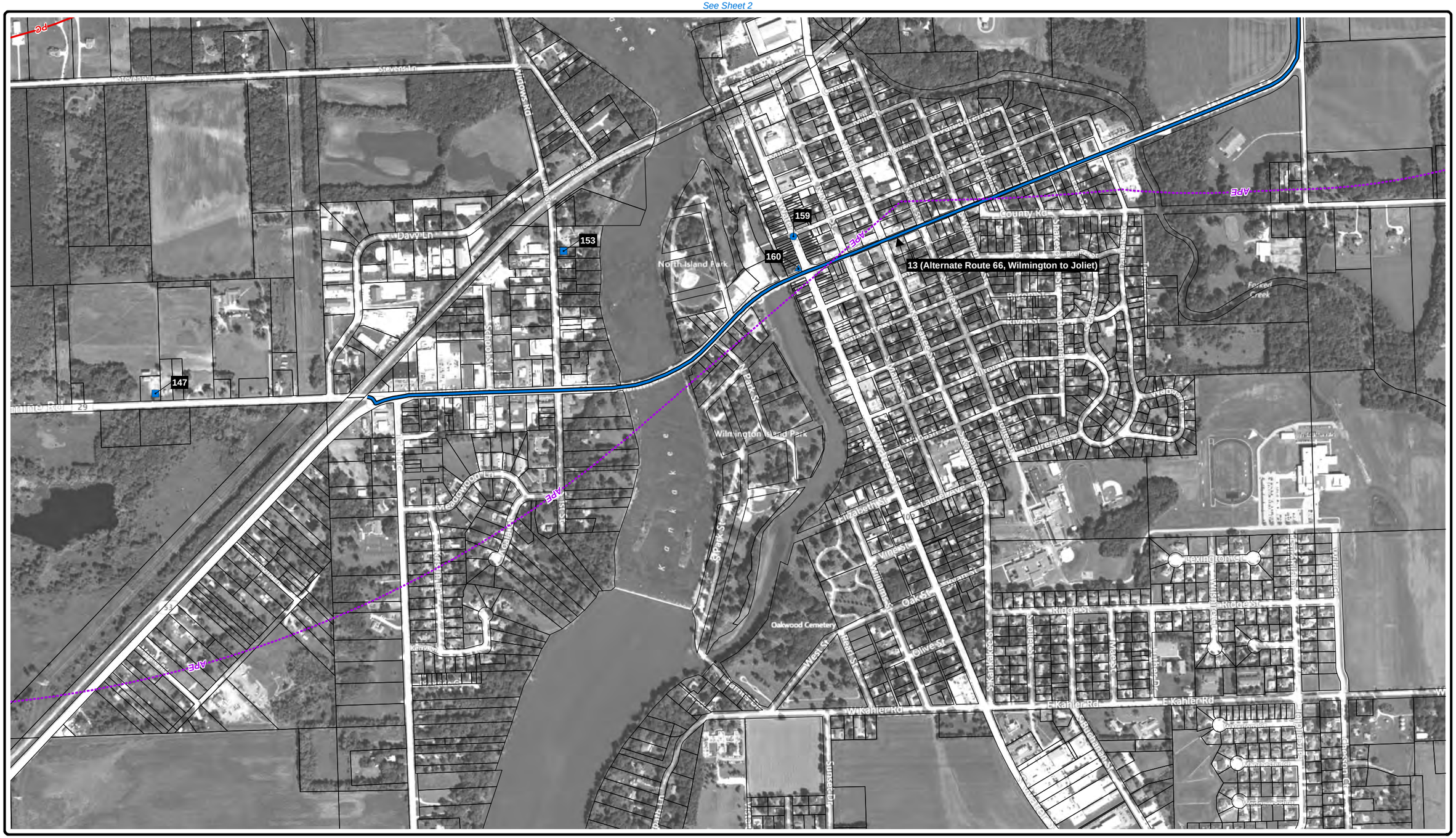

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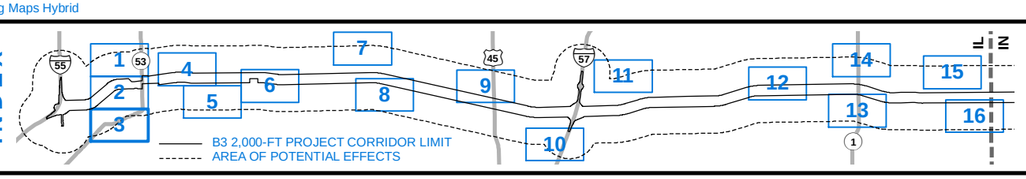

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- APE — AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS (APE)
- PARCEL

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July 2013

ILLIANA CORRIDOR
PARTNERING FOR PROGRESS

Aerial Imagery: Microsoft Bing Maps Hybrid

See Sheet 5

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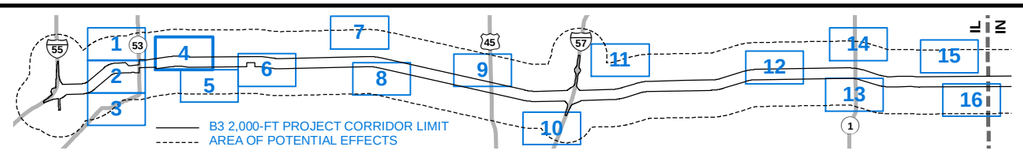

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- PC — B3 2,000-FT PROJECT CORRIDOR LIMIT (PC)
- APE — AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS (APE)
- PARCEL

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ILLIANA CORRIDOR
PARTNERING FOR PROGRESS

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See Sheet 6

Aerial Imagery: Microsoft Bing Maps Hybrid

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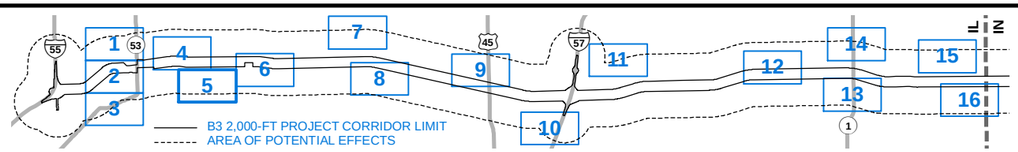

B3 2,000-FT PROJECT CORRIDOR LIMIT
AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS

LEGEND

SURVEYED PROPERTY
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- NRHP Eligible
- NRHP Listed
- NRHP Listed (Alternate Route 66, Wilmington to Joliet)

- PC — B3 2,000-FT PROJECT CORRIDOR LIMIT (PC)
- APE — AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS (APE)
- PARCEL

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ILLIANA CORRIDOR
PARTNERING FOR PROGRESS

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Aerial Imagery: Microsoft Bing Maps Hybrid

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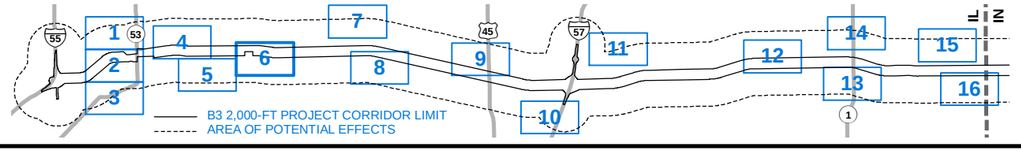

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- PC — B3 2,000-FT PROJECT CORRIDOR LIMIT (PC)
- APE — AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS (APE)
- PARCEL

National Register of Historic Places
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ILLIANA CORRIDOR
PARTNERING FOR PROGRESS

Aerial Imagery: Microsoft Bing Maps Hybrid

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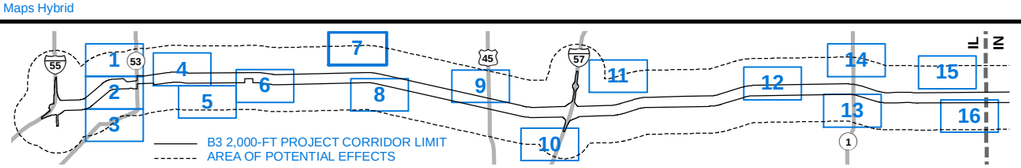

B3 2,000-FT PROJECT CORRIDOR LIMIT
AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS

LEGEND

SURVEYED PROPERTY

NRHP Not Eligible

NRHP Eligible

NRHP Listed

NRHP Listed (Alternate Route 66, Wilmington to Joliet)

PC B3 2,000-FT PROJECT CORRIDOR LIMIT (PC)

APE AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS (APE)

PARCEL

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ILLIANA CORRIDOR
PARTNERING FOR PROGRESS

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Aerial Imagery: Microsoft Bing Maps Hybrid

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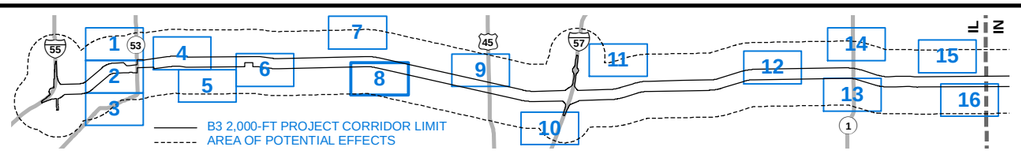

LEGEND

SURVEYED PROPERTY

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- NRHP Listed
- 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
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ILLIANA CORRIDOR
PARTNERING FOR PROGRESS

Aerial Imagery: Microsoft Bing Maps Hybrid

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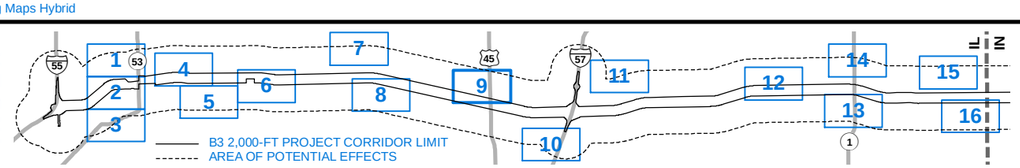

LEGEND

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- NRHP Listed
- NRHP Listed (Alternate Route 66, Wilmington to Joliet)
- PC — B3 2,000-FT PROJECT CORRIDOR LIMIT (PC)
- APE — AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS (APE)
- PARCEL

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ILLIANA CORRIDOR
PARTNERING FOR PROGRESS

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Aerial Imagery: Microsoft Bing Maps Hybrid

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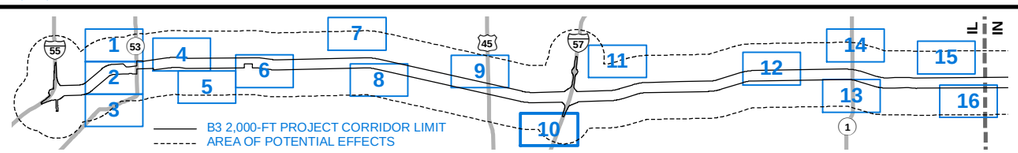

LEGEND

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- NRHP Listed (Alternate Route 66, Wilmington to Joliet)
- PC — B3 2,000-FT PROJECT CORRIDOR LIMIT (PC)
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ILLIANA CORRIDOR
PARTNERING FOR PROGRESS

K-1547

Aerial Imagery: Microsoft Bing Maps Hybrid

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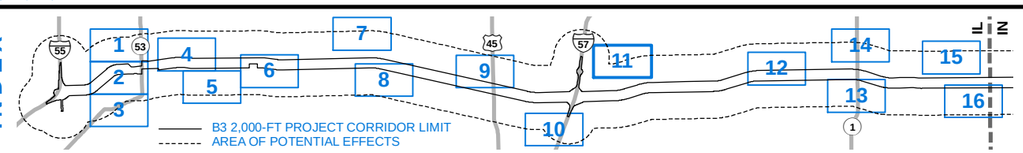
INDEX



LEGEND

SURVEYED PROPERTY

- NRHP Not Eligible
- NRHP Eligible
- NRHP Listed
- 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
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July 2013

ILLIANA CORRIDOR
PARTNERING FOR PROGRESS

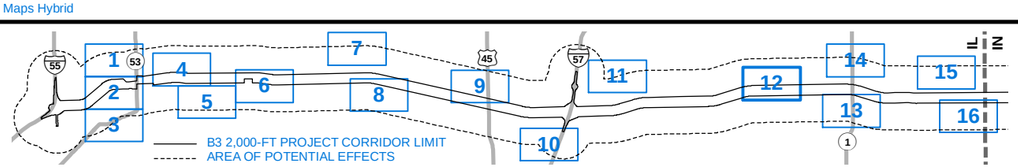
Aerial Imagery: Microsoft Bing Maps Hybrid

NORTH

0 500 ft

0 50 100 m

INDEX



LEGEND

SURVEYED PROPERTY

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- NRHP Listed
- 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
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ILLIANA CORRIDOR
PARTNERING FOR PROGRESS

K-1549

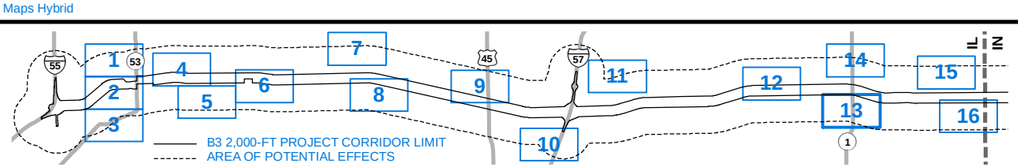
Aerial Imagery: Microsoft Bing Maps Hybrid

NORTH

0 500 ft

0 50 100 m

INDEX



LEGEND

SURVEYED PROPERTY

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- NRHP Listed
- 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
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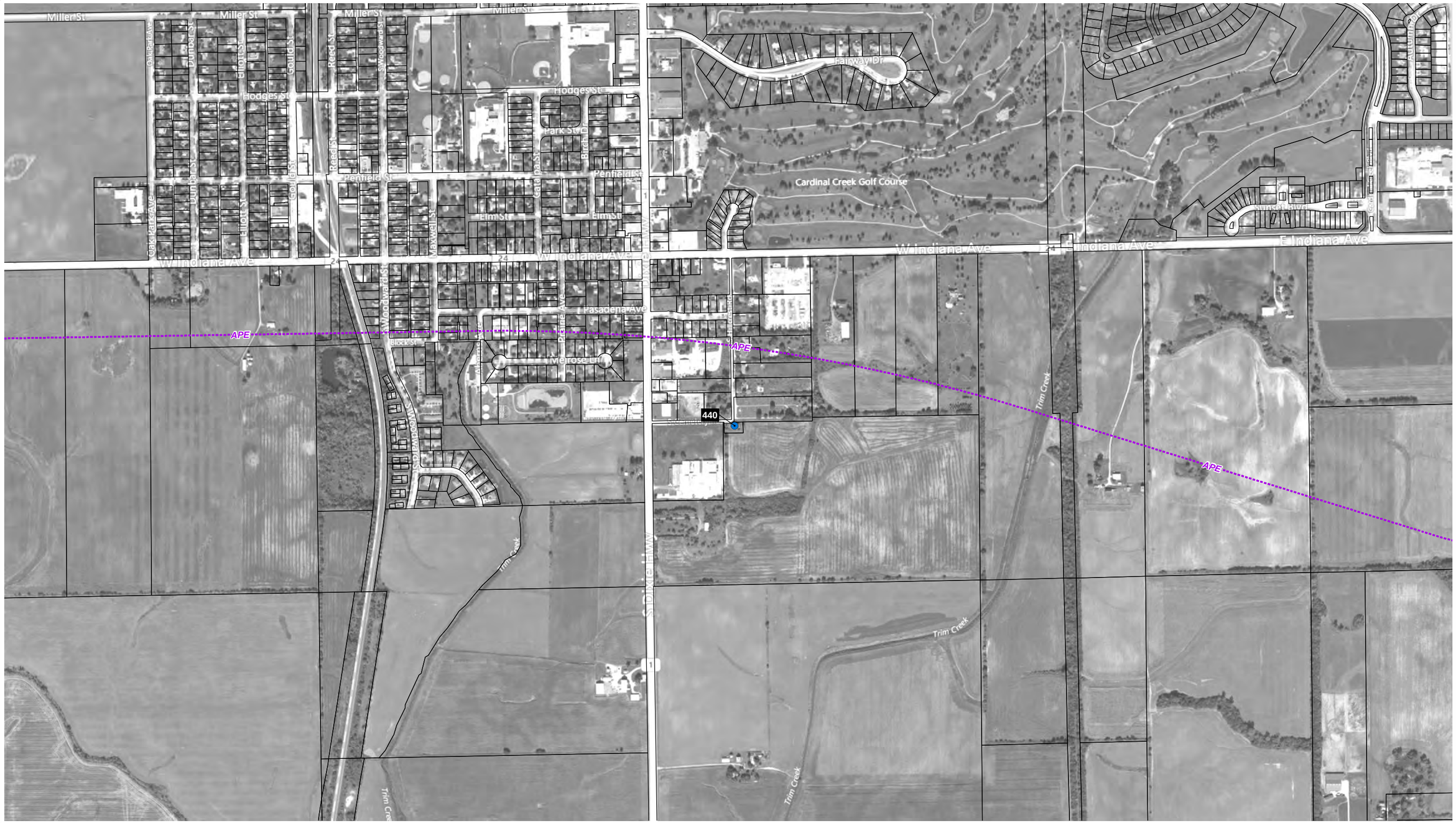
ILLIANA CORRIDOR
PARTNERING FOR PROGRESS



Aerial Imagery: Microsoft Bing Maps Hybrid

NORTH

0 500 ft

0 50 100 m

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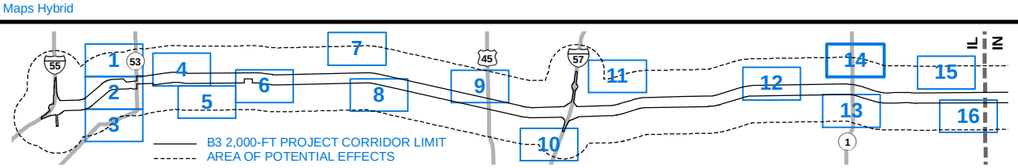

LEGEND

SURVEYED PROPERTY

- NRHP Not Eligible
- NRHP Eligible
- NRHP Listed
- NRHP Listed (Alternate Route 66, Wilmington to Joliet)

- PC — B3 2,000-FT PROJECT CORRIDOR LIMIT (PC)
- APE — AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS (APE)
- PARCEL

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ILLIANA CORRIDOR
PARTNERING FOR PROGRESS

K-1551

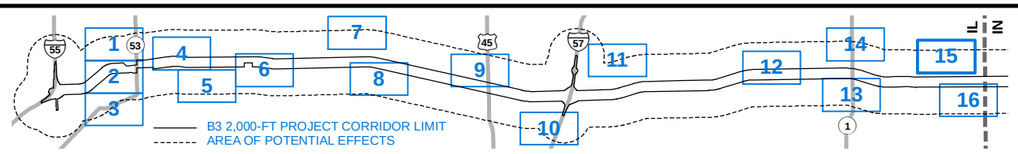
Aerial Imagery: Microsoft Bing Maps Hybrid

NORTH

0 500 ft

0 50 100 m

INDEX



LEGEND

SURVEYED PROPERTY

- NRHP Not Eligible
- NRHP Eligible
- NRHP Listed
- 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
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ILLIANA CORRIDOR
PARTNERING FOR PROGRESS

K-1552

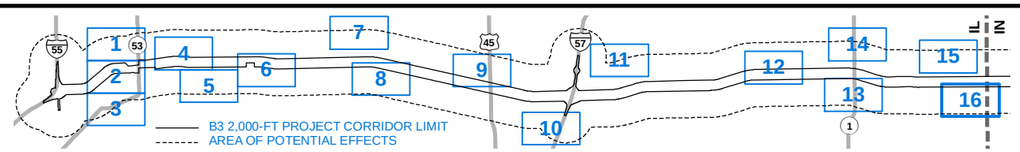
Aerial Imagery: Microsoft Bing Maps Hybrid

NORTH

0 500 ft

0 50 100 m

INDEX



LEGEND

SURVEYED PROPERTY

- NRHP Not Eligible
- NRHP Eligible
- NRHP Listed
- 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 Area of Potential Effects
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ILLIANA CORRIDOR
PARTNERING FOR PROGRESS

K-1553

Appendix B

NRHP Determinations of Eligibility

NAME
Luther Farmstead

OTHER NAME(S)
Bonnie View Farm

STREET ADDRESS
22911 West Kankakee River Drive

CITY
Wilmington

TOWNSHIP
Wilmington

OWNERSHIP
Patrick and Judith A. Mann

TAX PARCEL NUMBER
03-17-23-300-036-0000

YEAR BUILT
1865

SOURCE
Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Wilmington Township, 2009; Wilmington Township Assessor, 2012

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE
No Discernible Style

PROPERTY TYPE
Domestic

FOUNDATION
Fieldstone, concrete

WALLS
Brick, vinyl

ROOF
Metal

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The Luther Farmstead at 22911 West Kankakee River Drive consists of two extant buildings, an altered ca. 1865 farmhouse and a ca. 1990 non-historic detached garage; the formerly active farmstead no longer retains any agricultural buildings or land. The ca. 1865 farmhouse is an altered two-story, upright-and-wing house with minimal by Greek Revival stylistic references, including a colonnaded gable-front porch and a facade door surrounded by a rectangular transom and sidelights and surmounted by a simple entablature. The house's original upright-and-wing form is altered by the addition of a second story to the house's one-story wing, the addition of a two-story, wood shingle-clad, exterior chimney to the wing's facade, and several one-story, hipped roof additions along the house's west rear elevation. The house has a fieldstone foundation and brick cladding while the additions have concrete foundations and a mix of brick and vinyl siding. The entire roof is covered in a replacement standing-seam metal roof. The majority of its windows are six-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash windows symmetrically arranged on the east-facing facade and north side elevation; the house's additions contain a mix of one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash windows, non-historic stained glass windows, and single pane casement windows. A non-historic bay window with replacement vinyl windows is located on the south side elevation.

The property also contains a ca. 1990 non-historic one-and-one-half-story, side-gable, two-car detached garage. The garage is clad in brick and has a standing-seam metal roof. It is located directly west of the house. Mature deciduous trees and grassy lawn surround the buildings, which are accessed by a semi-circular driveway off of West Kankakee River Drive. Ornamental plantings are located along the ca. 1865 farmhouse's foundation. The property is located along the south side of West Kankakee River Drive and near the banks of the Kankakee River.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT
The Luther Farmstead's extant farmhouse was constructed ca. 1865. The non-historic detached garage's

date of construction is unknown; however its brick cladding indicates it may have been constructed in the 1990s. No other agricultural buildings remain from its farmstead period.

Based on historic plat maps and research, the Luther Farmstead appears to have originally been settled by John Monteith in 1860. John Monteith was a farmer who emigrated from the state of New York and lived on the property with his wife Mary and children Malcolm and Mary. In 1865, Charles Luther purchased the 80-acre property after relocating to Wilmington from Kankakee County, Illinois, with his wife Lucy and three children Julius, Charles, and Frederick. The property was known as Bonnie View Farm and the farmhouse appears to date from this period of ownership. The 80-acre property spanned West Kankakee River Drive with the majority of its acreage located along the north side of that road. By 1873, Charles Luther's son, Julius, owned the adjacent west 80-acre parcel and together they managed a farm and raised Percheron horses. An 1873 sketch of the Luther Farmstead shows the farmhouse and a small outbuilding enclosed by a wood fence on the south side of West Kankakee River Drive and two barns, a windmill, and a livestock enclosure with cattle on the north side of West Kankakee River Drive.

Another one of Charles' sons, Frederick, inherited the property in 1890 upon Charles' death and by 1893, owned both 80-acre parcels. Frederick Luther lived on the farmstead with his wife Mary, children Charles Julius and John Henry, and his mother Lucy. By 1907, he farmed 200 acres of land and the farm was equipped with modern machinery and substantial barns. The 1910 US Census lists Frederick Luther and his sons as partners on a general farm. According to the 1918 farmer's directory, the Luther family raised Shropshire sheep and Barred Plymouth Rock chickens and owned a Ford automobile and a tractor. Frederick Luther died in 1921 and his son Charles Julius inherited the farmstead, living there with his wife Blanche and children Mary and Julius. In addition to being a prosperous farmer, Charles Julius Luther also owned and operated a grain elevator in Wilmington, was the secretary and manager of Wilmington's Oakwood Cemetery, was vice president of the Will County Farm Bureau, and was president of the Will County Farmers' Institute.

By 1948, the 160-acre parcel was significantly subdivided with the north agricultural portion of the property becoming part of the Kankakee Ordnance Plant owned by the United States government. Charles Julius Luther retained ownership of the south portion containing the farmhouse on the south side of West Kankakee River Drive and it is likely at this time that the farmstead ceased agricultural activities. He died in 1949 and plat maps suggest his daughter Mary Zelenda Luther inherited the farmhouse property and appears to have owned the property through at least 1963. From 1991 to 1994, Nancy M. Beaupre and Frederick P. Waldschmidt owned the property and from 1994 to 2001, it was owned by Raymond G. and Cynthia L. Tiedeman. Since 2001, Patrick and Judith A. Mann have owned the property.

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. Production resumed during the Korean War from 1952 to 1957 and again during the Vietnam War from 1965 to 1976. The property was renamed the Joliet Army Ammunition Plant in 1963. This property is not part of the parcel being evaluated as part of this determination of eligibility.

In the 1960s, the western portion of the arsenal, which contains the agricultural property formerly part of

the Luther Farmstead, 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 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 ca. 1865 farmhouse was originally constructed as a Greek Revival-style upright-and-wing house as shown on an 1873 sketch of the Luther Farmstead. 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 Luther Farmstead's farmhouse is a modest upright-and-wing example with Greek Revival stylistic influences whose basic form has been significantly altered by a second-story addition and non-historic exterior chimney to the original one-story wing as well as multiple additions to the rear elevation. It is unknown when these additions were made to the farmhouse. The house's original wing portion also had a one-story facade porch that has since been removed. Although it appears to retain its original Greek Revival-influenced entry door and colonnaded gable-front porch, its windows have been replaced by vinyl sashes and its original Doric columns replaced or boxed in by simple square posts.

The Luther Farmstead 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.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The Luther Farmstead 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 Luther Farmstead was originally a general farm that appears to have engaged in a variety of

agricultural activities, such as raising livestock and crop cultivation. However, the existing property no longer conveys this association because it does not retain any of its original agricultural outbuildings from its establishment and general farming period. Further, its agricultural land became part of the Joliet Arsenal Kankakee Ordnance Plant in the 1940s and although the land was a part of the plant, research did not reveal the farmstead 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. The property is not a representative example of a farmstead in Will County, and therefore, the Luther Farmstead is not eligible under Criterion A.

The Luther Farmstead is associated with the Luther family, who settled in Wilmington in 1865 and continuously owned and farmed the land for approximately 80 years. The successive generations of the Luther family were prosperous farmers who engaged in general farming and raised horses, sheep, cattle, and chickens. Although the property remained in the Luther family for a significant period of time and is associated with the family's settlement in Wilmington, research did not reveal any known historically significant associations with the productive lives of any members of the Luther family. Furthermore, the property no longer conveys its association with the Luther family's period of ownership as only the altered ca. 1865 farmhouse remains on the property and the original agricultural land and buildings are no longer associated with the property. Therefore, the Luther Farmstead is not eligible under Criterion B.

The Luther Farmstead only retains its ca. 1865 farmhouse and does not retain any buildings associated with its agricultural history. The farmhouse is a significantly altered example of a mid-nineteenth century upright-and-wing house with Greek Revival style elements. Although the house incorporates Greek Revival details, such as the colonnaded gable-front porch and a facade entry door articulated by side lights, a transom, and simple entablature, it is not an architecturally significant or distinctive example of the style. Additionally, the house's original upright-and-wing form and appearance has been significantly altered by a second story addition and two-story facade chimney to the original one-story wing. Several one-story additions along the house's west rear elevation also obscure its original form and appearance. Replacement materials, such as vinyl windows and square porch posts replacing the original Doric columns also contribute to diminished integrity of the house's original design intent and appearance. The extant farmhouse no longer conveys the property's historic appearance or association as a farmstead, and therefore, the Luther Farmstead is not eligible under Criterion C.

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

Therefore, the Luther Farmstead is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

SOURCES
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Publishers, Inc. *Land Atlas & Plat Book, Will County, Illinois*.
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Stevens, W.W. 1907. *Past and Present of Will County, Illinois*. Chicago, IL: S.J. Clarke Publishing.

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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 – Luther Farmstead

Facing northwest to house east-facing facade and south side elevation

Photo 2 – Luther Farmstead

Facing northwest to house south side elevation and addition

Photo 3 – Luther Farmstead

Facing east to house west rear elevation

Photo 4 – Luther Farmstead

Facing southeast to house north side elevation and west rear elevation

Photo 5 – Luther Farmstead

Facing southwest to house east-facing facade and north side elevation

Photo 6 – Luther Farmstead

Facing west to house facade entry door

Photo 7 – Luther Farmstead

Facing southwest to ca. 1990 detached garage east and north elevations

Map – Luther Farmstead

NAME
Stone Farmstead

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS
22432 West Kankakee River Drive

CITY
Wilmington

TOWNSHIP
Wilmington

OWNERSHIP
Judith A. Sundine

TAX PARCEL NUMBER
03-17-23-400-012-0000

YEAR BUILT
1860

SOURCE
Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Wilmington Township, 2009

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE
No Discernible Style

PROPERTY TYPE
Domestic

FOUNDATION
Limestone

WALLS
Limestone

ROOF
Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The Stone Farmstead at 22432 West Kankakee River Drive is a formerly active farmstead that consists of four extant buildings: a ca. 1860 farmhouse, ca. 1860 smokehouse, and a non-historic detached garage and shed, construction dates unknown. The ca. 1860 farmhouse is an altered one-and-one-half-story, T-plan, gabled-ell house clad entirely in limestone and characterized by Greek Revival stylistic references, including a full-width, colonnaded gable-front porch and simple gable returns. The house is altered by a one-story, shed-roof addition and wooden deck on the north rear elevation. The house has a limestone foundation and cladding while the addition has a concrete foundation and vinyl siding. The roof is covered in replacement asphalt shingles and has a brick interior chimney with decorative recessed panels near the west side elevation. Its windows are a mix of six-over-six and nine-over-nine, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash windows as well as twelve-light replacement vinyl casement windows; the house's addition has one-over-one, double-hung, aluminum-sash windows. Around the south-facing facade and east and west side elevations, the house has a basement walk-out that comprises a mix of windows and entry doors, some of which are partially below grade, leading to a walkway lining the perimeter of the basement level.

The south-facing facade symmetrical gable-front comprises an entry door and two tall windows on the first story and two smaller windows on the half-story. The facade's colonnaded gable-front porch consists of evenly spaced Doric columns spanned by a replacement picket fence balustrade. The porch sits on evenly spaced concrete piers. An identical colonnaded porch with a shed roof extends across the two-bay wing's south elevation, which has a single entry door and window on the first story.

The property contains a ca. 1860 smokehouse, which is a one-story, limestone-clad, gable-roof building; its gable end is clad in vinyl siding and its roof is covered in asphalt shingles. The smokehouse has a single entry door on the west elevation and a small narrow opening on the south and north elevations. The property also has a non-historic one-story, side-gable, vinyl-clad detached garage. It is located

directly north of the house. A small one-story, stucco-clad, gable-front shed is located west of the house; it has double wood doors on its east elevation and a single window on its north and south elevations. Mature deciduous trees and grassy lawn surround the buildings. The property is located along the north side of West Kankakee River Drive and across from the Kankakee River.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The Stone Farmstead's extant farmhouse and smokehouse were constructed ca. 1860 when the farmstead was established. The non-historic detached garage and shed's dates of construction are unknown; however the garage appears to be of more recent construction and the shed may date to the early twentieth century. No other agricultural buildings remain from its farmstead period.

Based on historic plat maps and US Census data, the Stone Farmstead appears to have originally been established by Francis Stone ca. 1860 with the farmhouse and smokehouse constructed shortly thereafter. Francis Stone, a farmer, lived on the farmstead with his wife Bell, children Hattie and Lewis, and mother Lucy. The type of agricultural activities conducted by Francis Stone is unknown. In 1870, Francis, Bell, and their sons Lewis and Frank lived on the farmstead. Francis is listed as a newspaper reporter and it is unknown if he continued any agricultural activities on the farmstead at this time. In 1873, P.P. Stone owned the property; his relationship to Francis Stone is unknown. Around this time, the Andrew Markert House was constructed on the property, but the parcel does not appear to have been subdivided based on plat maps. The Andrew Markert House (Survey ID 54) is now located on a separate parcel and is evaluated separately.

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 to build a summer house but his name does not appear on any plat map records for this property from that time and may not have actually owned the property or ever constructed the summer house. By 1909, the property had been split into two parcels with Emma Lins owning the west 21.68 acres, containing the Stone Farmstead and later the John P. Lynott Summer House, and George Markert owning the east 31.05 acres, containing the Andrew Markert House. They respectively owned these parcels through at least the 1920s. In the 1940s, J. Mueller owned the 21.68-acre parcel containing the Stone Farmstead and 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, having likely been subdivided into two separate parcels for the Stone Farmstead farmhouse and the John P. Lynott Summer House. Assessor data shows it is currently owned by Judith A. Sundine.

The ca. 1860 farmhouse was originally constructed as a Greek Revival-style gabled-ell house, which 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 Stone Farmstead's farmhouse is a modest gabled-ell example with Greek Revival stylistic influences that has been altered by replacement materials and an addition on its north rear elevation. Although it appears to retain its original Greek Revival-influenced colonnaded gable-front porch and gable returns, its windows have been replaced by vinyl sashes and its original Doric columns replaced or boxed in by simple square posts.

The Stone Farmstead retains its ca. 1860 smokehouse. Although clad almost entirely in limestone, the

smokehouse's form is a typical example. On the farmstead, many 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 Stone Farmstead 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.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The Stone Farmstead 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 Stone Farmstead was originally established as a general farm by Francis Stone in the mid-nineteenth century. However, the existing property no longer conveys this association because it only retains its original farmhouse and a single smokehouse and does not retain any of its other original agricultural outbuildings from its establishment and general farming period. Research did not reveal the farmstead to have been historically significant or made contributions to the broad agricultural patterns of Will County, Illinois, or United States history. The property is not a representative example of a farmstead in Will County, and therefore, the Stone Farmstead is not eligible under Criterion A.

The Stone Farmstead is associated with Francis Stone and his settlement in Wilmington in the mid-nineteenth century. Research did not reveal any known historically significant associations with his productive life. The property was later owned by George Markert, who owned several properties along West Kankakee River Drive; however, the Stone Farmstead is not known to be associated with George Markert or his productive life. Therefore, the Stone Farmstead is not eligible under Criterion B.

The Stone Farmstead only retains its ca. 1860 farmhouse and ca. 1860 smokehouse and does not retain any other outbuildings associated with its agricultural history. The farmhouse is an altered example of a mid-nineteenth century gabled-ell house clad entirely in limestone and incorporating Greek Revival style elements. Although the house incorporates Greek Revival details, such as the colonnaded gable-front porch and gable returns, it is not an architecturally significant or distinctive example of the style. Additionally, the house's north rear elevation addition, alterations to the facade porch, and replacement materials like the vinyl windows obscure its original form and appearance. Therefore, the Stone Farmstead is not eligible under Criterion C.

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

Therefore, the Stone Farmstead 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.

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Photo 1 – Stone Farmstead

Facing northeast to house south-facing facade and west side elevation

Photo 2 – Stone Farmstead

Facing southwest to house east side and north rear elevations

Photo 3 – Stone Farmstead

Facing south to house north rear elevation

Photo 4 – Stone Farmstead

Facing southeast to house north rear and west side elevations

Photo 5 – Stone Farmstead

Facing southeast to smokehouse west-facing facade and north side elevation

Photo 6 – Stone Farmstead

Facing northwest to smokehouse south side and east rear elevations

Photo 7 – Stone Farmstead

Facing northeast to detached garage south and west elevations

Photo 9 – Stone Farmstead

Facing southwest to shed east and north elevations

Map – Stone Farmstead

NAME
Andrew Markert House

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS	CITY	TOWNSHIP
22400 West Kankakee River Drive	Wilmington	Wilmington

OWNERSHIP	TAX PARCEL NUMBER
Nancy Madding	03-17-23-400-009-0000

YEAR BUILT	SOURCE
1875	Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Wilmington Township, 2009

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE	PROPERTY TYPE
No Discernible Style	Domestic

FOUNDATION	WALLS	ROOF
Fieldstone	Brick	Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The ca. 1875 Andrew Markert House at 22400 West Kankakee River Drive is a modest and altered two-story house characterized by minimal Italianate stylistic references, including tall, narrow windows with a flattened arch and simple brick crowns as well as a low-pitched hipped roof with wide, overhanging eaves. The house, whose original portion has a rectangular plan, is altered by several additions that include a one-story, shed-roof porch along the south-facing facade; a one-story, side-gable addition with an enclosed porch on the west side elevation; and a two-story, shed-roof addition on the north rear elevation. The house has a fieldstone foundation and is clad in painted brick while the additions have concrete foundations and brick cladding. The roof is covered in rolled asphalt with two brick chimneys.

The house's asymmetrical five-bay south-facing facade has an off-center wooden entry door in the middle bay, flanked by tall, two-over-two, wood-sash floor-to-ceiling windows on the first story. The second story has tall two-over-two, double-hung, wood-sash windows in the outer bays; the middle bay is infilled with brick. A full-width, one-story, shed-roof wood porch extends across the facade. The two-bay east side elevation has a two-over-two, double-hung, wood-sash window in each bay at each story. All the windows have metal-sash storm windows, flattened arches, and simple brick crowns. The north rear elevation's west side has a one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash window at the first and second stories and a second-story door with a shed-roof porch reached by stairs ascending from ground level. The north rear elevation's east side comprises the two-story, brick-clad, shed-roof addition. The shed-roof addition's east elevation has two one-car garage doors while its west elevation has a single entry door; a screened second story porch spans all of the addition's elevations. The west side elevation comprises the one-story, brick-clad, side-gable addition, which has an enclosed porch along its south elevation, an entry door and replacement vinyl-sash window on its west elevation, and a casement window on its north elevation.

The property also contains two small one-story wooden sheds, construction dates unknown. They are

located directly north and northeast of the house. Mature deciduous trees and grassy lawn surround the buildings. The property is located along the north side of West Kankakee River Drive and across from the Kankakee River.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The Andrew Markert House was constructed ca. 1875 based on plat maps and research. The dates of construction are unknown for the two wooden sheds on the property. According to the Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey for Wilmington Township, the farmhouse is believed to be the home of Andrew Markert and the property was the original site of the Markert and Company Brewery. Based on research, the brewery may have been located on the south side of West Kankakee River Drive, across from the Andrew Markert House.

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 successful Markert and Company Brewery employed a small staff of brewers and was managed by George Bez and Andrew Markert's son, George Markert. The financial success and expansion of the brewery starting in 1873 likely enabled Andrew Markert to purchase the F. Stone farmstead and erect the house in ca. 1875. Andrew Markert died in 1889 and in 1901, a fire destroyed the brewery building and the Markert and Company Brewery closed soon thereafter.

The Andrew Markert House was then inherited by George Markert who is listed in 1893 as owning the then-60.83 acres property with his daughter, Emma Lins; only George Markert is listed as the owner in 1902. 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 containing the Andrew Markert House. They respectively owned these parcels through at least the 1920s. George Markert did not live in the house and it is unknown if it was occupied by tenants or family during this time. By 1930, Eugene C. Kahler owned the property, living there with his wife Harriet and sons Hervey and John. Eugene C. Kahler was an oil dealer at a filling station in Wilmington. By 1940, he was the owner of the Kahler Service Station, also known as the Kahler Oil Company, which was located on East Baltimore Street near downtown Wilmington; his son Hervey worked as a service attendant at the station. Eugene owned the property through at least 1970 and his son John E. Kahler is listed as the owner from 1974 to 1996. John's wife, Margaret Kahler then owned the property until at least 2000. The property is currently owned by Nancy Madding.

The ca. 1875 house was originally constructed as a rectangular-plan, two-story, brick-clad Italianate-style house with a simple hipped roof. The Italianate style was constructed between 1850 and 1880 in the United States and was common in the expanding towns and cities of the Midwest. The style, along with the Gothic Revival style, began as part of the Picturesque movement in England, emphasizing rambling informal Italian farmhouses. In the United States, Italianate houses generally followed these informal models and were popularized in late 1830s by the pattern books of Andrew Jackson Downing. Italianate houses from this earlier period have relatively simple detailing while those from the 1860s and 1870s tended to be more highly decorated. The style is characterized by two or three stories, a low-pitched roof with widely overhanging eaves supported by decorative brackets, tall windows that are commonly arched and have elaborate crowns, and often a square cupola or tower. The Andrew Markert House is a modest, simply detailed, and significantly altered example that incorporates Italianate style details. It has been altered by a one-story addition with an enclosed porch along its west side elevation and a large two-story addition along its north rear elevation. Its tall, narrow windows with flattened arches and simple brick crowns as well as its wide, overhanging roof eaves allude to the Italianate style but the house is otherwise devoid of stylistic references. Further, its facade fenestration appears to have been altered and may have originally consisted of five symmetrical bays consisting of a central entry door symmetrically flanked by two windows on the first story and windows in each bay on the second story.

The Andrew 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.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The Andrew 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 Andrew Markert House is associated with the success of the Markert Company and Brewery in the late nineteenth century. The business’s financial success enabled Andrew Markert to purchase and erect the house. However, the brewery has since been demolished and the house no longer conveys this association nor did research reveal the house to have been historically significant to the brewery’s establishment or to any other events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of Will County, Illinois, or United States history, and therefore, the Andrew Markert House is not eligible under Criterion A.

The Andrew Markert House is associated with the Markert family and the Kahler family. The Markerts owned a successful brewery located near the house and its success in the 1870s allowed Andrew Markert to purchase and erect the house. However, he only lived in the house until his death in 1889 and his descendents do not appear to have lived in the house. The house is also associated with the Kahler family who owned the Kahler Service Station in downtown Wilmington and owned the house for approximately 70 years. However, research did not reveal any known historically significant associations with the productive lives of any members of the Markert or Kahler familes that are currently conveyed by this property, and therefore, the Andrew Markert House is not eligible under Criterion B.

The Andrew Markert House is a modest and significantly altered example of a late-nineteenth-century farmhouse with Italianate stylistic references. Although the house minimally incorporates Italianate details, such as its tall windows with flattened arches and low pitched hipped roof with overhanging eaves, it is not an architecturally significant or distinctive example of the style. Additionally, the house’s original form and appearance have been altered by a large two-story addition on its north rear elevation

and a one-story addition with an enclosed porch on its west side elevation. The altered facade fenestration also contributes to diminished integrity of the house's original design intent and appearance. Therefore, the Andrew Markert House is not eligible under Criterion C.

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

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

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

SOURCES
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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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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 – Andrew Markert House

Facing north to ca. 1875 house south-facing facade

Photo 2 – Andrew Markert House

Facing northwest to ca. 1875 house south-facing facade and east side elevation

Photo 3 – Andrew Markert House

Facing south to ca. 1875 house north rear elevation

Photo 4 – Andrew Markert House

Facing northeast to ca. 1875 house south-facing facade and west side elevation

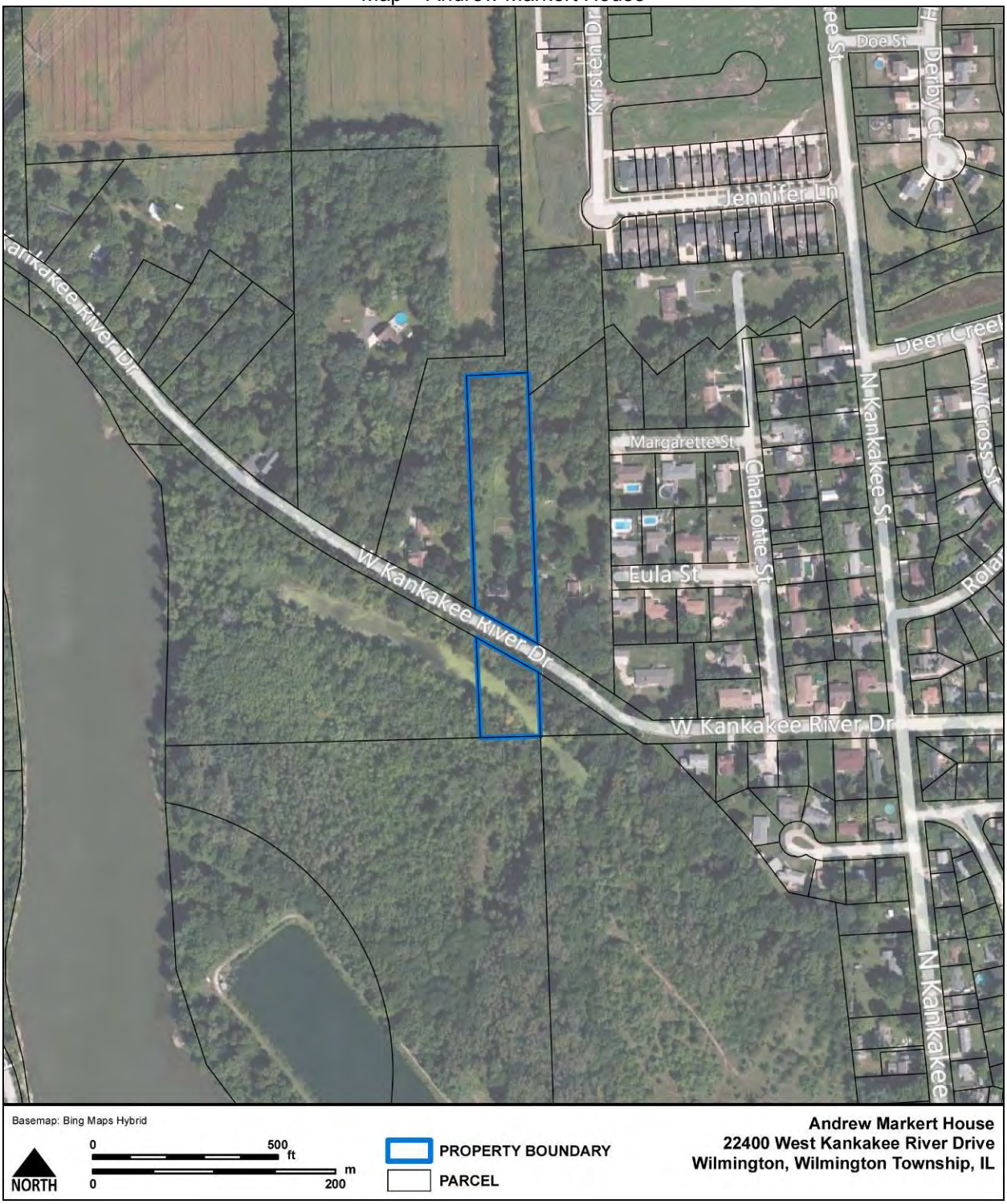
Photo 5 – Andrew Markert House

Facing north to shed #1

Photo 6 – Andrew Markert House

Facing northeast to shed #2

Map – Andrew Markert House



NAME
Soldiers' Widows' Laundry House

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS
745 Widows Road

CITY
Wilmington

TOWNSHIP
Wilmington

OWNERSHIP
City of Wilmington

TAX PARCEL NUMBER
0317262020150000

YEAR BUILT
Ca. 1895

SOURCE
Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Wilmington Township, 2009

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE
No Discernible Style

PROPERTY TYPE
Domestic

FOUNDATION
Fieldstone

WALLS
Brick

ROOF
Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The Soldiers' Widows' Laundry House at 745 Widows Road is the only extant structure at the former site of the Soldiers' Widows' Home. The ca. 1895 laundry house is a one-and-one-half story, gable-front building of no discernible style, with a rectangular footprint and the facade facing east. The framed structure is clad with brick in common bond with a stretcher row every eight courses. The east-facing facade is clad in replacement non-historic brick in common bond. All of the window and door openings are covered by plywood, and it is unclear if any windows or doors are extant. The fenestration pattern is irregular on all elevations, and all window and door openings are segmental arches with the exception of a small square opening in the facade's gable end. The roof is sloped at forty-five degrees with centrally located gable dormers on the north and south elevations; the roof is covered in asphalt shingles and deteriorated in several locations. Notable features include a simple exterior brick chimney on the east-facing facade near the southeast corner of the structure, and a metal ventilation pipe in the center of the roof.

Facing east toward Widows Road, the facade's first story consists of four bays with three windows on the first story, each of a different size, flanking an off-center door. The evenly spaced three-bay second story contains a single window opening in each bay while the gable end contains a square opening, presumably for ventilation. The facade features a narrow brick exterior chimney on its south end.

The south side elevation has two windows on the first story and a center gable dormer on the roof. There are several areas of deterioration, including a hole in the masonry, extending from the base of the dormer down the west side of the east window. The roof has a number of holes that are located primarily west of the central dormer.

The west rear elevation comprises two off-center bays on the first story; each bay contains a single window opening that varies in size. The three-bay second story contains an evenly spaced single window opening in each bay.

The north side elevation comprises two irregularly spaced window openings on the first story. A center gable dormer with a window opening is located on the roof. The roof is deteriorated on the west end forming a large hole.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The late nineteenth century was a progressive period for veterans' compensation, and benefits. Due to the large volume of veterans from the Civil War, the Mexican War, and Spanish-American War, many veterans' services were reformed. From 1865 through the twentieth century a number of homes were established for disabled veterans, as well as their wives and children. Pension reform allowed for wives and children to receive the full pension if their veteran was deceased.

The Soldiers' Widows' Home is reflective of this period of reform in veteran services. The home was established in 1895 at the request of the Women's Relief Corps (WRC) of Illinois. The state of Illinois passed a statute which provided $20,000 for a building and two years maintenance for housing mothers, widows, wives, and daughters of deceased or disabled veterans of the Mexican and Civil Wars. This facility appears to be the first of its kind in the state. The home was managed by a board of five trustees, appointed by the governor. The operation officially opened on March 11, 1896.

According to the 1893 Wilmington Township plat map, the Italianate home and site was the former residence of G. F. Trobridge. Other documentation suggests that by the time the house was purchased by the WRC, the property had been owned by Dr. A.W. Bowen who also owned the adjacent south parcel. The building was sought because of its capacity to house up to thirty residents. The program grew, and the house was expanded in 1898, with two large additions flanking the original structure. It expanded again in 1913 when a twenty-four bed infirmary was added. Operating this facility was a large undertaking, and required several auxiliary buildings; the Laundry House is the only one of these buildings remaining.

The home was open until 1963, when it was consolidated with another widows' home in Quincy. For a brief time after, it served as a State Boys' School. The campus buildings burned down in 1972 with the exception of the laundry. Since the loss of the home, the property has transitioned to municipal use. Much of the site has been converted to a water treatment facility. The facility has altered the site's use significantly with the construction of a number of non-historic buildings and landscape features related to water treatment in its vicinity.

The laundry house is in fair condition with deterioration apparent in several places. The roof has large holes on both the north and south elevations. The south elevation has large holes in the brick wall, and the west elevation has areas where the remaining historic brick has deteriorated. Despite this deterioration, the building retains its overall form and appearance that convey its historic function and period. The building is of no discernible style, but its decorative features, such as the arched windows and doors, remain. Overall the building retains its historic footprint, and massing, and features such as dormers. These elements convey a structure that was built for a specific function to meet the needs of the facility's residents.

The Soldiers' Widows' Laundry House was designated a Will County local landmark in 2004 and was later surveyed and rated "Local Landmark Potential" in the Rural Historic Structural Survey of 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.

NRHP STATUS
Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The Soldiers' Widows' Laundry 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 Soldiers' Widows' Laundry House was built in association with a large facility that cared for the wives and daughters of deceased and disabled Illinois veterans. The house was the first of its kind for Illinois, initially housing widows affected by the Civil and Mexican Wars. The home continued to function until 1963, sheltering wives of veterans serving in all wars during that period. The Laundry House may have been a small component of this operation, but it continues to convey its significant historic association with the progressive reform period for veterans in the state of Illinois. It is a historically significant remnant. Therefore, the Soldiers' Widows' Laundry House is eligible under Criterion A.

There is no evidence that the Soldiers' Widows' Laundry House is associated with a historically significant person. There is little information on the property owners prior to the establishment of the home, and research did not yield information on historically significant people during its operation. Therefore, the Soldiers' Widows' Laundry House is not eligible under Criterion B.

The Soldiers' Widows' Laundry House does not retain any of its associated buildings that were part of the home. The building does not convey a particular style or craftsmanship and lacks architectural distinction. The building retains its form and fenestration patterns; however, the architectural merit is somewhat compromised by the poor condition of the south and west elevations, and the apparent loss of windows. Additionally, the brick facade appears to have been replaced with incompatible materials. Therefore, the Widows' Laundry house is not eligible under Criterion C.

The Soldiers' Widows' Laundry House was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as a part of this assessment.

Therefore, the Soldiers' Widows Laundry House is recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A.

The Soldiers' Widows' Laundry House's period of significance is 1895-1963, which represents its association with the progressive period of reforms that led to the establishment and continued operation of the Soldiers' Widows' Home. It retains its integrity of location. Its cohesive utilitarian design and extant original materials remain intact and continue to convey its historic association as a laundry house, and

therefore, retains its integrity of design, workmanship, and materials. The property retains its feeling as a laundry house and its association with the progressive veterans' reform movement in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries in the state of Illinois, despite the demolition of its associated buildings. The property does not retain integrity of setting due to the construction of non-historic water treatment facility buildings in its immediate vicinity.

NRHP BOUNDARY

The proposed NRHP boundary for the Soldiers' Widows' Laundry House is the building's footprint, which includes the remaining building associated with the Soldiers' Widows' Home.

SOURCES

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Photo 1- Soldiers' Widows' Laundry House

Facing southwest to east-facing facade and north side elevation

Photo 2 – Soldiers' Widows' Laundry House

Facing northwest to east-facing facade and south side elevation

Photo 3 – Soldiers' Widows' Laundry House

Facing north to south side elevation and water treatment facility building

Photo 4 – Soldiers' Widows' Laundry House

Facing southeast to north side elevation and east rear elevation

Photo 5 – Soldiers' Widows' Laundry House

Facing west from north side elevation

Map – Soldiers' Widows' Laundry House

NAME
Rodney Bowen House

OTHER NAME(S)
Bowen-Tyrakowski House; Bowen Farmstead

STREET ADDRESS	CITY	TOWNSHIP
725 Widows Road	Wilmington	Wilmington

OWNERSHIP	TAX PARCEL NUMBER
Ronald J. Tyrakowski	03-17-26-202-017-0000

YEAR BUILT	SOURCE
1858	Will County Board, 2010

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE	PROPERTY TYPE
Italianate	Domestic

FOUNDATION	WALLS	ROOF
Fieldstone	Brick, vinyl	Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The ca. 1858 Rodney Bowen House at 725 Widows Road is an altered two-story Italianate-style house characterized by a low-pitched hipped roof with wide, overhanging eaves supported by decorative scroll brackets; tall, narrow windows; and a rectangular, gable-roof cupola. The house is altered by several additions that include a wrap-around porch that encompasses the facade's first level, a flat-roof one-story addition on the south side elevation, a west rear elevation addition with a roof dormer, and a large one-story porch on the west rear elevation. The house and its additions have a fieldstone foundation and are clad in painted brick; the south side elevation addition and cupola are clad in replacement vinyl siding. The majority of its windows are one-over-one, double-hung, wood or replacement vinyl-sashes; the basement has wood awning windows and the cupola has sliding vinyl windows.

The house's three-bay east-facing facade contains an off-center entry door in the southernmost bay on the first story while the remaining bays contain a single window. The full-width, single-story porch extends beyond the house's facade to the south elevation wall and wraps around the north elevation. It is characterized by evenly spaced concrete piers, a wood deck and latticework, and turned wooden posts supporting the hipped roof. The north side elevation is divided by the off-center two-story, brick exterior chimney with one bay of windows on its east side and three bays of windows on its west side. The west rear elevation comprises a one-and-one-half-story, brick-clad, gable-roof addition and a single entry door leading to a large one-story, gable-roof porch. The gable-roof addition has a window and entry door on its south elevation leading to the porch, an off-center exterior brick chimney with a single window on the first story and in the gable end on its west elevation, and a single window on its north elevation. The addition's roof has a single gable dormer on its south elevation. The south side elevation has a single first story window and three second story windows. A one-story, vinyl-clad, flat-roof addition is located on its west end and has multi-light, nearly full-height windows on its east and south elevations. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles and surmounted by the rectangular, unornamented cupola and an interior brick chimney; a two-story brick exterior chimney rises above the roof on the house's north side elevation.

The property also retains a chicken coop, shed, and two pole barns that are located west of the house.

The chicken coop and shed are modest small wooden buildings clad in corrugated metal and containing replacement vinyl windows; they appear to have been constructed in the early twentieth century. The two pole barns are of more recent construction and are one-story, gable-roof buildings clad in corrugated metal with large openings on one elevation. Mature deciduous trees and grassy lawn surrounds the property, which is located on the west side of Widows Road across from the Kankakee River.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The Rodney Bowen House was constructed ca. 1858 by Rodney Bowen on property owned by his father, Albert W. Bowen. Albert W. Bowen moved to Joliet from New York with his wife Mary Shoemaker Bowen in 1834. He was involved in a variety of pursuits that included a medical practice, land speculation, being the first postmaster of Joliet, ownership of the A.W. Bowen and Company Mercantile from 1836 to 1839, and the construction of the Wilmington Mill, which was the first flour mill in the township, in 1838-39. He was also part of the citizen group that petitioned the Illinois State legislature for the incorporation of Will County with the county seat located in Joliet. He resided in Joliet and owned property throughout Joliet and Wilmington townships, including the subject property. In 1849, Albert W. Bowen moved his family to Wilmington and resided in a modest house on the subject property.

His son Rodney Bowen erected the house ca. 1858 on the then-115 acre farmstead and lived there with his wife Frances and children Mary and Rodney. He was a farmer and employed a servant and two farmhands. In 1862, he enlisted with the 100th regiment for the Union and died in 1864 due to a wound received in battle. His wife and children continued to occupy the house, though its ownership reverted to his father, Albert W. Bowen. Upon Albert W. Bowen's death in 1881, his grandchildren Mary and Rodney inherited the property, which they sold shortly thereafter and moved to Chicago.

In 1893, the 105-acre farmstead was owned by the A. Warner Estate and by 1900, Daniel M. Hogan owned the property and lived there with his wife Susie, children Daniel and Robert, mother-in-law Madeline Griffin, and coachman, Robert Douce. He was listed as a gambler in the 1900 US Census. Daniel M. Hogan died in 1901 and by 1909, William J. Davy owned the property. He was a general farmer and it is likely that the property's extant chicken house and shed were constructed during his ownership. Upon his death in 1946, the property was inherited by his grandson, Bill Davy who remodeled the house in the late 1940s or early 1950s. At that time, the house had a widow's walk and maid quarters.

By 1953, Laura Eisenhaur owned the property, which then consisted of a 47.10-acre parcel with the house and a 68-acre parcel south of the house. A 1955 aerial photograph of the property shows the house with its west rear elevation addition. The greater property did not contain the existing pole barns. In the early to mid-1970s, the house was vacant and deteriorating. In 1976, the house was vandalized and the original hand carved doors were stolen and the original windows, some of which were colored glass, were broken. The interior marble fireplaces were also removed from the house. Laura Eisenhaur lived in Ottawa and did not want to restore the house. Photographs from that time show the house's one-story south side elevation addition had different windows and the west rear elevation addition had a small hipped roof porch on is south elevation. Laura Eisenhaur owned the property until 2001 when it was acquired by Ronald and Barbara Shuler; by 1996, the 3-acre parcel containing the house had been subdivided from the larger 92.8-acre property. Ronald J. Tyrakowski has owned the property since 2007.

The ca. 1858 Rodney Bowen House was originally constructed as an Italianate style house with a simple hipped roof, rectangular form. The Italianate style was constructed between 1850 and 1880 in the United States and was common in the expanding towns and cities of the Midwest. The style, along with the Gothic Revival style, began as part of the Picturesque movement in England, emphasizing rambling informal Italian farmhouses. In the United States, Italianate houses generally followed these informal models and were popularized in late 1830s by the pattern books of Andrew Jackson Downing. Italianate houses from this earlier period have relatively simple detailing while those from the 1860s and 1870s tended to be more highly decorated. The style is characterized by two or three stories, a low-pitched roof

with widely overhanging eaves supported by decorative brackets, tall windows that are commonly arched and have elaborate crowns, and often a square cupola or tower. The simple hipped roof form was the most common of Italianate houses and distinguished by a three-bay, or less commonly a five-bay, facade, like the Rodney Bowen House. Although the house retains its original decorative eave brackets, openings, its massing has been altered by several additions that include the extension of the full-width facade porch to the north side elevation, a one-and-one-half-story addition and large porch to the west rear elevation, and a one-story addition to the south side elevation. Its cupola appears to have also been altered, given its size and massing, replacement vinyl windows and plain, unornamented appearance that seems out of character with the house's overall form and appearance. The house retains some of its original wood windows but many have replacement vinyl sashes in addition to the replacement doors.

The Rodney Bowen House was designated as a local landmark in 2010 by the Will County Historic Preservation Commission for its historical association with Albert Bowen and his son, Rodney Bowen, as well as for its Italianate style features. The property had been previously surveyed in December 2009 as the Bowen Farmstead and rated "National Register Potential" in the Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey for Wilmington Township. 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.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The Rodney Bowen 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 Rodney Bowen House was originally part of a larger farmstead established in the mid-nineteenth century and was associated with mid-nineteenth and early twentieth century farming in Wilmington Township. However, the property is no longer actively farmed and only retains a chicken house and shed from its establishment and general farming period. The former farmstead does not appear to have made significant contributions to local farming practices and no longer conveys its historical association with local mid-nineteenth or early twentieth century farming history in Will County. Therefore, the Rodney Bowen House is not eligible under Criterion A.

The Rodney Bowen House is associated with Albert W. Bowen, an early settler of the area and locally prominent citizen, and his son Rodney Bowen, who erected the house in ca. 1858. Although Albert W.

Bowen owned the property on which the house was constructed by his son, it is not associated with his productive life because its construction postdates his historically significant accomplishments, such as being an early settler of Joliet, being part of the citizen group that petitioned the Illinois State legislature for the incorporation of Will County with the county seat located in Joliet, being the first postmaster of Joliet, owning the A.W. Bowen and Company Mercantile from 1836 to 1839, and constructing the Wilmington Mill, which was the first flour mill in the township, in 1838-39. These accomplishments, while significant, were completed prior to the house's construction and primarily in a different city. The property is also associated with Rodney Bowen, who constructed the house, but research did not reveal any known historically significant associations with his productive life. Therefore, the Rodney Bowen House is not eligible under Criterion B.

The Rodney Bowen House is a modest and altered example of an Italianate style hipped roof house. Although its overall form, characteristics, and ornamentation are indicative of the Italianate style, they are restrained and modest examples. Furthermore, alterations and replacements obscure the original design intent and appearance of the house. This includes the plain, unornamented cupola that seems out of character with the rest of the house's Italianate elements; additions to the west and south elevations; the wrap-around facade and north elevation porch; the west elevation porch; replacement vinyl-sash windows; and replacement doors. The house is not a distinctive example of the Italianate style and does not exhibit any architectural significance. Therefore, the Rodney Bowen House is not eligible under Criterion C.

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

Therefore, the Rodney Bowen 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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Drury, John. 1955. *This is Will County, Illinois*. Chicago, IL: Inland Photo Co.

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*.

Plat Maps. 1953, 1957, 1978, 1980-1981, 1988, 1996, 2000, 2003. Rockford, IL: Rockford Map Publishers, Inc. *Land Atlas & Plat Book, Will County, Illinois*.

Prairie Farmer's Directory of Will and Southern Cook Counties, Illinois. 1918. Chicago, IL: Prairie Farmer Publishing Co.

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US Census Bureau. 1860.

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US Census Bureau. 1910.

US Census Bureau. 1920.

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US Census Bureau. 1940.

Will County Assessor. 2013. Will County Surveyor GIS Website.

Will County Board. 2010. *Resolution #10-163: Designating Bowen-Tyrakowski House as a Historic Landmark (Historically Known as the Rodney Bowen House)*. Will County Land Use & Development Committee.

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 – Rodney Bowen House

Facing northwest to ca. 1858 house east-facing facade and south side elevation

Photo 2 – Rodney Bowen House

Facing southwest to ca. 1858 house east-facing facade and north side elevation

Photo 3 – Rodney Bowen House

Facing south to ca. 1858 house north side elevation

Photo 4 – Rodney Bowen House

Facing northeast to ca. 1858 house south side and west rear elevations

Photo 5 – Rodney Bowen House

Facing northwest to shed south and east elevations

Photo 6 – Rodney Bowen House

Facing northeast to shed south and west elevations

Photo 7 – Rodney Bowen House

Facing northeast to chicken coop south and west elevations

Photo 8 – Rodney Bowen House

Facing southwest to chicken coop north and east elevations

Photo 9 – Rodney Bowen House

Facing northwest to pole barn #1 south and east elevations

Photo 10 – Rodney Bowen House

Facing north to pole barn #2 south elevation

Map – Rodney Bowen House

NAME
Webber-Todd-Jenks Farmstead

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS
23006 West Stripmine Road

CITY
Wilmington

TOWNSHIP
Wilmington

OWNERSHIP
Darrell A. Brandon

TAX PARCEL NUMBER
03-17-26-300-007-0000;
03-17-26-300-023-0000;
03-17-26-300-010-0000

YEAR BUILT
1890

SOURCE
Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Wilmington Township, 2009

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE
No Discernible Style

PROPERTY TYPE
Agriculture

FOUNDATION
Concrete

WALLS
Wood, concrete

ROOF
Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The modest farmstead located at 23006 West Stripmine Road is located on the north side of Stripmine Road. Six buildings are on the property: a modest bungalow/cottage built ca. 1920; a gable-front farmhouse built ca. 1890; a gambrel-roof dairy barn; a machine shed; and two storage sheds, which are of undetermined age but appear to date to the mid-twentieth century. The buildings are situated close to the road. Most of the buildings have been altered and retain few original materials and features. The parcel is largely devoid of plantings and the field patterns remain only vaguely intact.

The modest ca. 1920 one-story bungalow/cottage features minimal ornamentation and exposed rafters. A front-facing gable section is located in front of a square-footprint pyramidal portion; the facade faces to the south. The building is clad in wood shingles and sits atop a concrete foundation. A central replacement door is present on the gable-front section and is flanked on each side by two, three-over-one, double-hung sash windows. A louvered vent is located in the gable. Remaining windows on the house have similar three-over-one configurations and are located throughout the building, although some are obscured by storm windows. Other windows include replacement fixed-pane windows and a one-over-one sash window; these windows are irregularly placed. A replacement door is located on the north rear elevation. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles and paper roll. A concrete chimney punctuates the roof.

A ca. 1890 two-story farmhouse also remains on the property. It is deteriorating, but retains its original front-gable form with a full-width, single-story porch. It is clad in asphalt roll. The porch is supported by brick posts that sit atop a low brick wall. The asymmetrical first story features an off-center window and door. Another window is located on the second story. Throughout the building, windows have been replaced and are obscured by storm windows.

A modest one-and-one-half-story dairy barn with a gambrel roof is constructed of both smooth and rough-faced concrete block, with a third variant concrete block filling the gambrel on the entrance end. A replacement overhung door is flanked by two, four-pane, fixed-light windows with brick sills; the rear elevation features only an overhung door. A loft door is located in the gambrel. The same windows are found throughout the barn. Asphalt shingles cover the roof.

A one-story concrete-block machine shed has a front-facing gable with an overhung door, pedestrian door, and metal hopper windows with concrete sills. Siding fills the gable and the roof is covered in asphalt shingles. The only decorative elements on the building are concrete-block pilasters that divide the side bays of the building.

Minor support buildings on the site include a single-story, side-gable shed with replacement windows and boarded-up doors. A single-story, asphalt-clad, hipped roof shed with multi-pane fixed wood windows flanking a central entrance is also present. Asphalt shingles cover the roof.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The property at 23006 West Stripmine Road appears to have been established as a farm as early as the 1860s, when Peter Webber first owned the land, which was approximately 30 acres at the time. He lived there with his wife Adelia and children George and Ella. The earliest building on the property dates to 1890, which is approximately when William Todd owned the land; Todd occupied the property with his wife Ann and children Idella and William. By 1909, James Henry Jenks owned the property. He lived there with his first and second wives as well as his son Charles Chauncey Jenks and his wife and daughter. The younger Jenks held various jobs off of the farm, including junk dealer and handyman. By the 1950s, the Brandon family, led by Hazel and David, owned the farmstead, increasing the acreage to 60.53 acres. Brandon is listed in census data as a worker at a paper mill. Today, Darrell Brandon, a son, owns the property, which is currently 28.3 acres.

A 1955 aerial photograph shows the farmstead's extant buildings as well as several other small buildings. It appears to have been used at this time as an automobile junk or scrap yard and the gambrel-roof dairy barn does not appear to have been constructed yet.

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 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 gambrel-roof dairy barn indicates it may have been a small dairy farm operation in addition to engaging in cash crop farming.

The farmstead's extant dairy barn is a late example of a gambrel-roof barn, which was a common dairy or livestock barn form distinguished by a narrow width to length ratio and a gambrel roof. Other dairy barn forms include the Wisconsin barn, English barn, basement barn, German barn, and round roof barn, although these are less commonly found. The gambrel-roof 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, 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. This farmstead does not appear to have had a separate 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 Webber-Todd-Jenks Farmstead 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 Webber-Todd-Jenks Farmstead 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 Webber-Jenks-Todd Farmstead 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 is peripherally associated with agriculture in the Wilmington vicinity; however, research did not indicate that influential agricultural practices developed there. The farm is not associated with events that significantly contributed to the broad patterns of history. Therefore, the Webber-Jenks-Todd Farmstead is not eligible under Criterion A.

The farmstead is not associated with people significant in the past according to research. Numerous families, some of whom held other jobs off of the farm, lived here over time. Therefore, the Webber-Jenks-Todd Farmstead is not eligible under Criterion B.

The property is a typical and altered example of a farmstead that evolved over time. The buildings collectively have been altered, primarily by the replacement of original materials. They do not display distinctive or artistic architectural elements, and they are not good examples of a type. Therefore, the Webber-Jenks-Todd Farmstead is not eligible under Criterion C.

The Webber-Jenks-Todd Farmstead was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the Webber-Jenks-Todd Farmstead 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.

Drury, John. 1955. *This is Will County, Illinois*. Chicago, IL: Inland Photo Co.

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Will County Assessor. 2013. Will 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 – Webber-Jenks-Todd Farmstead

Facing north to ca. 1920s bungalow (at right) and machine shed and dairy barn (at left)

Photo 2 – Webber-Jenks-Todd Farmstead

Facing northeast to ca. 1920s bungalow south-facing facade and west side elevation

Photo 3 – Webber-Jenks-Todd Farmstead

Facing southeast to ca. 1920s bungalow north rear elevation and west side elevation

Photo 4 – Webber-Jenks-Todd Farmstead

Facing northwest to ca. 1920s bungalow east side elevation

Photo 5 – Webber-Jenks-Todd Farmstead

Facing northwest to ca. 1920s bungalow south-facing facade and east side elevation

Photo 6 – Webber-Jenks-Todd Farmstead

Facing northeast to ca. 1890s house and shed

Photo 7 – Webber-Jenks-Todd Farmstead

Facing northwest to machine shed east and south elevations

Photo 8 – Webber-Jenks-Todd Farmstead

Facing southwest to machine shed east and north elevations

Photo 9 – Webber-Jenks-Todd Farmstead

Facing southeast to machine shed north and west elevations

Photo 10 – Webber-Jenks-Todd Farmstead

Facing northwest to dairy barn east and south elevations

Photo 11 – Webber-Jenks-Todd Farmstead

Facing southwest to dairy barn east and north elevations

Photo 12 – Webber-Jenks-Todd Farmstead

Facing northeast to dairy barn west and south elevations

Photo 13 – Webber-Jenks-Todd Farmstead

Facing northeast to shed west and south elevations

Photo 14 – Webber-Jenks-Todd Farmstead

Facing northwest to shed east and south elevations

Map – Webber-Jenks-Todd Farmstead

NAME
329 North First Street

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS
329 North First Street

CITY
Wilmington

TOWNSHIP
Wilmington

OWNERSHIP
Ronnie W. and Debra J. Bell

TAX PARCEL NUMBER
03-17-26-405-042-0000

YEAR BUILT
1892

SOURCE
Sanborn Map, 1892

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE
No Discernible Style

PROPERTY TYPE
Domestic

FOUNDATION
Concrete

WALLS
Wood

ROOF
Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The ca. 1892 residence at 329 North First Street is a two-story, gable-front house with a single-story, side-gable wing with a slight shed-roof extension covering the former porch. The house is clad in wood shingles and sits atop a concrete foundation. While its basic form is reminiscent of the upright-and-wing type, its wing is set back to be flush with the east rear elevation's plane. The house generally lacks a cohesive architectural design; various irregularly placed windows of multiple configurations are located on the house, and some are irregularly placed. The porch has been enclosed. The house is set close to First Street in a heavily vegetated area among deciduous trees and shrubs.

The west-facing facade comprises the two-story gable-front portion with two windows on each story; the windows are six-over-six configurations that are obscured by storm windows and an air-conditioning unit. The single-story wing's shed-roof extension encompasses the main entrance and a series of four-pane windows that enclose the former porch. The entrance door is obscured by a storm door. The north side elevation contains a single window, which turns the corner from the series of windows on the facade. The south side elevation contains four evenly spaced six-over-six, vinyl-sash windows, two on each story; storm windows cover the multi-pane sash. The east rear elevation is the least cohesive. The two-story portion contains three windows obscured by air-conditioning units and storm windows. Small six-pane windows and a multi-pane window are located on the single-story wing. A small protruding single-story enclosed entrance is located at the confluence of the two portions. The door is obscured by a storm door and surmounted by a three-pane window alluding to a transom.

Asphalt shingles cover the roof and an interior brick chimney punctuates the second story portion's roof. Foundation plantings adorn the facade.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT
Little is known about the residence at 329 North First Street and research did not reveal any significant historic associations. It is present on the 1892 and 1898 Sanborn Maps, and its current basic configuration of a two-story block with a single-story wing appears to be present at that time. The area

indicated on the map as a porch is now enclosed.

While the house's form is reminiscent of the upright-and-wing type, its wing is set back to be flush with the east rear elevation's plane. 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.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The house at 329 North First 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 property is not associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of history. Therefore, the house at 329 North First Street is not eligible under Criterion A.

Research did not indicate that the property is associated with the lives of significant persons. Therefore, the house at 329 North First Street is not eligible under Criterion B.

The house is not an example of a distinctive type of architecture, but appears to be an altered interpretation of the upright-and-wing form with its enclosed facade porch, irregular fenestration, and vinyl-sash replacements. It is not the work of a master and it does not have high artistic value. Therefore, the house at 329 North First Street is not eligible under Criterion C.

The house at 329 North First Street was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the house at 329 North First Street is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

SOURCES
Sanborn Map Company. Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867-1970. Environmental Data Resources, Inc.

Will County Assessor. 2013. Will County Surveyor GIS Website.

Photo 1 – 329 North First Street

Facing northeast to house west-facing facade and south side elevation

Photo 2 – 329 North First Street

Facing southeast to house west-facing facade and north side elevation

Photo 3 – 329 North First Street

Facing west to house east rear elevation

Photo 4 – 329 North First Street

Facing north to house south side elevation

Map – 329 North First Street

NAME
Howard Hyde House

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS
20221 West Arsenal Road

CITY
Wilmington

TOWNSHIP
Florence

OWNERSHIP
Billy B. Waldon

TAX PARCEL NUMBER
09-18-20-200-026-0000

YEAR BUILT
1939

SOURCE
Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Florence Township, 2011

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE
No Discernible Style

PROPERTY TYPE
Domestic

FOUNDATION
Concrete

WALLS
Stucco

ROOF
Clay Tile

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The ca. 1939 Howard Hyde House at 20221 West Arsenal Road is a two-story house with a hipped roof and a rectangular footprint. The house is of no discernible style but references the Italian Renaissance Revival style with its clay tile roof with wide overhanging eaves. Notable features include stucco cladding and large porches. The property also contains several non-historic buildings that include a small, vinyl-clad, side-gable house directly behind and south of the Howard Hyde House, a large metal pole barn, and a mobile home. The property is bounded by an agricultural field to the west, and grassy areas to the south and east.

The house has a concrete foundation with a stucco and brick veneer in select areas. The walls are clad with stucco and the roof is covered by clay tiles. Most of the windows appear to be original and are primarily one-over-one, double-hung, wood sashes. The house's form resembles the American Foursquare. However because of its rectangular shape and a wing visible from the facade; it does not conform to that typology. The Foursquare references include its box-like appearance, the symmetrical fenestration pattern, the hipped roof, and central hipped dormer.

The north-facing facade comprises five bays, with an off-center door and partial-width, single-story porch that extends to the east side elevation wing. The porch's partial walls are clad in red brick, and its posts are simple wood four-by-four members. The off-center door is located in the second bay, from east to west, and the remaining first story bays each contain a window; the second story contains a window in each bay, except for the bay directly above the front door. Other significant features include a ca. 1950 red brick exterior chimney and a central hipped dormer with a sliding vinyl-sash window. The east side elevation comprises a projecting wing whose two-bay north elevation contains a window and entry door on the first story, connecting to the facade porch, and a single window on the second story. The wing's east side elevation is three bays and has openings on three levels. The basement level is veneered in brick, with a central double door, flanked by two non-historic windows. This entrance is sheltered by a recently constructed full-width deck on the first story. The deck is accessed through a vinyl sliding door on

the first story, and features a partial pergola. The second story features two evenly spaced wood windows.

The south rear elevation features two prominent porches on the first and second stories. The first story partial-width porch wraps around to the west side elevation. This porch was recently enclosed, obscuring any historic material behind vinyl siding and vinyl sliding windows. The off-center second-story sleeping porch is wrapped in one-over-one, single pane serial wood windows, which appear to be removable.

The west side elevation comprises three bays. The first story is partially sheltered by the enclosed porch which connects to the south side elevation. Opposite the porch is a Chicago-style window with wood sashes. The second story has three evenly spaced windows, and the roof features a large central hipped dormer, with two sliding vinyl windows.

Directly south of the Howard Hyde House is a ca. 1990-2000 small dwelling. The dwelling is a one-story, side-gable, vinyl-clad structure with the facade facing west. The facade is three bays with a central door flanked by a one-vehicle garage on the northern bay, and a single pane picture window on the southern bay. Southwest of the Howard Hyde House and the non-historic dwelling is a large ca. 1990-2000 pole barn. The pole barn is one-story, gable-front building with a full shed-roof addition along its east elevation. The north-facing facade features a central garage flanked by paired windows. The north elevation of the lean-to features a small garage door, and fiberglass door with divided lights. Southeast of the Howard Hyde House and dwelling is a ca. 1970-1980 mobile home. The mobile home has a west-facing facade. It is of no discernible style and has had several alterations and replacement materials that include a mix of aluminum and vinyl cladding.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The Howard Hyde House was constructed in ca. 1939 and is located on a part of a formerly active 100-acre farm parcel. The earliest plat map available shows N. Osborn as the owner of the acreage in 1862. From 1893 through 1909 the property was owned by several men with the surname Gurney. The 100-acre parcel changed owners at least twice between 1920 and 1940. Howard Hyde did not acquire the property until 1948. According to the 1940 census, Howard Hyde was a farm operator. A 1955 aerial photograph of the property shows the Howard Hyde House located on a much larger farmstead property that included a large gambrel-roof barn, a smaller gable-roof barn, and several small outbuildings; all of these farm buildings have since been demolished and replaced by the non-historic pole barn, secondary house, and trailer house. Howard Hyde owned the property until at least 1974. By 1980 it has been subdivided into smaller tracts. It is currently owned by Billy B. Waldon.

An interview with the property owner in May 2013 revealed that the house was relocated to its current site. Based on the interview and a 1955 aerial photograph, the house was moved from its original location north of its present location ca. 1940 when the Kankakee and Elwood Ordnance Plants were built. The house's former address is unknown. 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. The property covered nearly the entire north half of the township. 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.

The Howard Hyde House is a vernacular building, with stylistic references to the Italian Renaissance Revival style. It is not an example of this style, because it only possesses one element of the style's character-defining features. The hipped clay tile roof with wide eaves is characteristic of this style, which was prevalent from 1895 to 1935. In addition to a clay tile roof, the character-defining features of the Italian Renaissance Revival style include decorative brackets, upper story windows that are smaller than the stories below, entry flanked by columns, and arches above first story openings. This house does not incorporate these elements.

A 2011 "Rural Historic Structural Survey of Florence Township" named the property the Howard Hyde House, and indicated it had "Local Landmark Potential." 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.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The Howard Hyde 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 Howard Hyde House may be associated with the construction of the Joliet Arsenal Kankakee Ordnance Plant because it may have been moved from property that became a part of the plant; however, there is not enough evidence to support or convey this relationship. The property is situated in an agricultural area; however there is little evidence of it having been used for agriculture historically. The current property owner keeps beef cattle, but it is not a large farming complex. The property is not a representative example of a farmstead or an important part of the construction of the Ordinance Plants. Therefore, the Howard Hyde House is not eligible under Criterion A.

The Howard Hyde House is only possibly affiliated with Howard Hyde. Research did not reveal any known historically significant associations with Howard Hyde's productive life, and therefore, the Howard Hyde House is not eligible under Criterion B.

The Howard Hyde House is a substantially altered building of no discernible style. The house retains a

number of original features, such as the wood windows, stucco cladding, and clay tile roof; however, these features are compromised by extensive alterations that include the enclosed porch with vinyl siding and windows and the addition of the facade chimney, the deck, and the brick veneer basement walk-out. The house's clay tile roof with wide eaves references the Italianate Renaissance Revival style, but it is not a distinctive example of this style and does not exhibit any architectural significance. Therefore the Howard Hyde House is not eligible under Criterion C.

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

Therefore, the Howard Hyde 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, 1909. Chicago, IL: Geo. A. Ogle & Co.

Plat Book of Will County Illinois. Circa 1928, Circa 1940.W.W. Hixson and Co.

Plat Maps. 1953, 1957, 1963, 1974, 1980, 1988. Rockford, IL: Rockford Map Publishers, Inc. *Land Atlas & Plat Book, Will County, Illinois*.

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Waldon, Billy B. 2013. Interview.

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

Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. August 2011. *Rural Historic Structural Survey of Florence Township, Will County, Illinois*. Will County Land Use Department and Will County Historic Preservation Commission.

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 – Howard Hyde House

Facing south to ca. 1939 house north-facing facade

Photo 2 – Howard Hyde House

Facing west to ca. 1939 house east side elevation

Photo 3 – Howard Hyde House

Facing north to ca. 1939 house south rear elevation

Photo 4 – Howard Hyde House

Facing east to ca. 1939 house west side elevation

Photo 5 – Howard Hyde House

Facing northeast to non-historic secondary house west-facing facade and south side elevation

Photo 6 – Howard Hyde House

Facing southeast to non-historic pole barn north-facing facade

Photo 7 – Howard Hyde House

Facing southeast to non-historic trailer house north and west elevations

Map – Howard Hyde House

NAME
Selah R. Morey Farmstead

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS	CITY	TOWNSHIP
31319 South Indian Trail Road	Wilmington	Florence

OWNERSHIP	TAX PARCEL NUMBER
Eileen T. Glenn	09-18-28-100-003-0000

YEAR BUILT	SOURCE
1861	Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Florence Township, 2011

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE	PROPERTY TYPE
No Discernible Style	Agriculture

FOUNDATION	WALLS	ROOF
Cut Stone	Vinyl	Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The ca. 1861 Selah R. Morey Farmstead at 31319 South Indian Trail Road is a formerly active farmstead that consists of a ca. 1861 farmhouse, a ca. 1873 plank frame barn, a ca. 1900 drive-through corn crib barn, a ca.1950-1970 concrete block livestock shelter and a ca. 1980-2000 pole barn. A driveway bisects the property with the farmhouse and pole barn along its south side; the plank barn and corn crib barn along its north side; and the livestock shelter at its eastern terminus. The farmhouse is surrounded by a grassy lawn with many mature trees east and west of the farmhouse. The property is surrounded by agricultural fields with an operating farm located directly east and behind it.

The ca. 1861 farmhouse is a two-story, L-shaped, upright-and-wing house with a kitchen ell, characterized by alterations and a lack of ornamentation, with the exception of cornice returns on the gable ends. Other elements include a front porch, sheltered stoop, and tall chimney. The house has a cut-stone foundation, replacement vinyl siding, and an asphalt shingle roof. Nearly all the windows are one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl sashes. The west-facing facade of the gable-front upright comprises three evenly spaced bays. The front door is located in the northernmost bay and sheltered by a small open gable-roof porch; a smaller arched window is above it on the second story. The upright's north side elevation comprises the two-story, side-gable wing whose west-facing facade contains four bays. A front porch on the wing's first story is flanked by the gable-front upright and an enclosed one-story projection from the wing. The porch has a non-historic wooden balustrade, and a secondary front door, flanked by windows. The wing's second story west-facing facade has three evenly spaced windows. The wing's north side elevation features a window on each story and cornice returns on the gable end. The wing's east rear elevation comprises the kitchen ell, which has an enclosed partial porch with a concrete foundation on its north elevation. The remainder of the wing's east rear elevation consists of a non-historic arched window. The upright's east rear elevation features a center yellow brick chimney flanked by windows on the first and second stories and cornice returns. The upright's three-bay south

side elevation contains a single window in each bay at both stories

The ca. 1861 one-and-one-half-story, gable-roof plank frame barn comprises four bays on the west side elevation, and is located north of the farmhouse. The foundation is not visible. The barn is clad with asbestos siding, and its roof is covered with corrugated metal. The fenestration pattern is somewhat irregular, and the windows are one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl sashes. There are wooden double sliding doors on the barn's north and south gable ends. The south-facing facade features two central double doors to accommodate equipment, and a single sliding door on the east side. There is a sliding door above the equipment entrance which provides access to the loft, and a six-light window in the gable end.

North and behind the plank barn is a corn silo. The silo is less than a story tall, and clad entirely in corrugated steel. The construction date is unknown, but is likely mid-twentieth century.

The ca. 1900 two-story, gable-roof drive-through corn crib barn is located east of the plank frame barn. It is clad in wood on the first and second stories, with metal cladding on the cupola. The barn's north and south elevations have a pull through, with evidence of having sliding doors at one time. A single one-over-one, wood-sash window is located in the south elevation gable end. Its roof is covered with steel, and is surmounted by a gabled cupola with a perpendicular orientation.

The ca. 1950-1970 livestock shelter is a one-story, concrete block, gable-roof building. The building is primarily constructed of concrete blocks with gable ends clad in transite siding. The south elevation has two large openings, with sliding doors made of wood and clad in corrugated steel. The west elevation has three evenly spaced two-over-two single pane windows. The north elevation has a single door with a small chimney stack coming out of the roof near it.

The pole barn on the southeast side of the property is a one-story, gable-roof building. Its walls and roof are clad in metal, and the east and north elevations have sliding double metal doors. The construction date for this barn is unknown, but it likely dates to the late twentieth century.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The Selah R. Morey Farmstead was established ca. 1861 by Selah R. Morey the farmhouse was constructed that year. The plank frame barn came shortly after, ca. 1873. The corn crib barn dates to ca. 1900. The exact construction date is unknown, but the gable-end drive-through corn crib barn with cupola became common by 1900 and a number of other corn crib barns in Will County date to the early twentieth century. The livestock shelter dates to ca. 1950-1970. It is unclear exactly what the original purpose of this barn was, but the large doors, and few windows face south and west, the directions which get the most sunlight, which would keep livestock warm in the winter. The pole barn dates to ca. 1980-2000, and was likely built for storage. Selah R. Morey was born in Pennsylvania in 1830; his family moved to Will County in 1847. He married Louisa Smith in 1861, settling shortly after on the farm at 31319 South Indian Trail Road. Morey was very active in township politics, holding a number of public offices that included Township Clerk, School Treasurer, and "Road Overseer." He died ca. 1890, and the farm was passed through the Morey family until at least 1996 with Ronald and Doris Morey listed on that plat map.

It is unknown exactly what kind of agricultural activities Morey engaged in, but the presence of the later corn crib barn indicates his descendents grew cash crops. Principal farm crops in Illinois by the 1850s included corn, wheat, oats, rye, and barley. 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, and 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 farm appears to have been engaged in general farming from the mid-nineteen to early twentieth century.

The farmstead has undergone a number of alterations over the years. An illustration in the 1873 Plat Book shows the farmhouse, the plank barn, and another outbuilding. A number of the house's original features are no longer extant or covered. These include six-over-six, double-hung windows, window shutters, wood clapboard siding, an entablature, pilasters on the gable-front, and a cornice over the front door. Although the original plank frame barn is extant, its integrity is compromised by replacement asbestos siding, vinyl windows, and metal roof. The drive-through corn crib barn has had fewer alterations and still conveys its original purpose as a granary. The livestock shelter and pole barn are non-historic buildings that were added in more recent years.

The farmstead's ca. 1861 farmhouse is a modest and altered example of the upright-and-wing form. 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. This farmhouse is of no discernible style it retains its original upright-and-wing form but its integrity has been significantly diminished by replacement materials, like the vinyl windows, vinyl siding, and chimney.

The farmstead's ca. 1873 plank frame barn is an early example of a common Midwestern barn type. Plank frame barns can have either gable or gambrel roofs and are usually one story with a hay loft. The barns are multifunctional, with small windows for animal stalls, and large doors to accommodate equipment. These barns are usually small, approximately 30x40 feet, and built from milled lumber. The plank frame is one of the most common barn types in Florence Township.

The farmstead's ca. 1900 drive-through corn crib barn is a basic example that retains its original openings and cupola but has been clad in a mix of non-historic metal siding. Granaries and corn cribs were constructed on the farm 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 Illinois and generally dating from the early twentieth century, the corn crib barn 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 2011 "Rural Historic Structural Survey of Florence Township" named the property the Morey Farmstead, and indicated it had "Local Landmark Potential." 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.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The Selah R. Morey Farmstead 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 Selah R. Morey Farmstead is associated with mid-nineteenth and early twentieth century farming in Will County. However, the farmstead does not appear to have made significant contributions to local farming practices. Therefore, the Selah R. Morey Farmstead is not eligible under Criterion A.

The Selah R. Morey Farmstead is associated with the Morey family, who retained ownership of the property for approximately 130 years. Selah R. Morey was a farmer who owned the farmstead for approximately 30 years and was also very active in Florence Township, holding several public offices. Research did not reveal any known historically significant associations with his productive life or the productive lives of any of his descendents. Further, the Morey family is not known to have significantly contributed to local farming practices. Therefore, the Selah R. Morey Farmstead is not eligible under Criterion B.

The Selah R. Morey Farmstead retains little historic building materials. The upright-and-wing farmhouse retains its form and massing, but has been altered by replacement siding and windows as well as the removal of decorative characteristic Greek Revival elements, such as the original entablature and pilasters. It is no longer an example of the Greek Revival style. The plank frame barn retains little exterior integrity due to replacement siding, windows, and roofing. The corn crib barn retains much of its historic materials, but is a barn type so common to Florence Township that it is not significant on its own. The livestock shelter and pole barn are both recently constructed buildings. All of these buildings are modest examples of their type and do not exhibit any architectural significance; most are substantially altered, and collectively the buildings do not form a cohesive agricultural grouping. Therefore the Selah R. Morey Farmstead is not eligible under Criterion C.

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

Therefore, the Selah R. Morey Farmstead 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, 1909. Chicago, IL: Geo. A. Ogle & Co.

Plat Book of Will County Illinois. Circa 1928, Circa 1940.W.W. Hixson and Co.

Plat Maps. 1953, 1957, 1963, 1974, 1980, 1988, 1996. Rockford, IL: Rockford Map Publishers, Inc. *Land Atlas & Plat Book, Will County, Illinois*.

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.

Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. August 2011. *Rural Historic Structural Survey of Florence Township, Will County, Illinois*. Will County Land Use Department and Will County Historic Preservation Commission.

Photo 1 – Selah R. Morey Farmstead

Facing northeast to ca. 1861 house west-facing facade and south side elevation

Photo 2 – Selah R. Morey Farmstead

Facing southwest to ca. 1861 house west-facing facade and north-side elevation

Photo 3 – Selah R. Morey Farmstead

Facing south to ca. 1861 house north side elevation

Photo 4 – Selah R. Morey Farmstead

Facing northwest to east rear and south side elevations

Photo 5 – Selah R. Morey Farmstead

Facing northeast to west-facing facade and south side elevation

Photo 6 – Selah R. Morey Farmstead

Facing northeast to ca. 1873 plank frame barn south-facing facade and west side elevation

Photo 7 – Selah R. Morey Farmstead

Facing northwest to south-facing facade and east side elevation

Photo 8 – Selah R. Morey Farmstead

Facing north to south elevation

Photo 9 – Selah R. Morey Farmstead

Facing northeast to south-facing facade and west side elevation

Photo 10 – Selah R. Morey Farmstead

Crib Barn: Facing north to south-facing facade

Photo 11 – Selah R. Morey Farmstead

Facing northeast to south-facing facade and west side elevation

Photo 12 – Selah R. Morey Farmstead

Facing southwest to north and east elevations

Photo 13 – Selah R. Morey Farmstead

Facing southeast to west and north elevations

Map – Selah R. Morey Farmstead

NAME
John R. Baskerville Farmstead

OTHER NAME(S)
Freis Farm

STREET ADDRESS
19076 West Peotone Road

CITY
Wilmington

TOWNSHIP
Florence

OWNERSHIP
Daniel A. Cooke; Susan Lindeen; Mary Ann Meyer Trust

TAX PARCEL NUMBER
09-18-22-300-003-0000;
09-18-22-300-002-0000;
09-18-22-400-003-0000;
09-18-22-400-004-0000

YEAR BUILT
1870

SOURCE
Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey – Wilmington Township, 2009

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE
No Discernible Style

PROPERTY TYPE
Agriculture

FOUNDATION
Concrete, fieldstone

WALLS
Brick, wood, metal

ROOF
Asphalt, metal

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The late nineteenth century John R. Baskerville Farmstead is located on approximately 280 acres on the north side of West Peotone Road; it is actively farmed. The farmstead's extant buildings consist of a ca. 1870 bank barn (contributing), ca. 1907 drive-through corn crib barn (contributing), ca. 1910 transverse-frame barn (contributing), ca. 1910 feeder barn (contributing), ca. 1920 farmhouse (contributing), ca. 1941 detached garage (contributing); a round concrete silo (contributing) whose date of construction is unknown but that likely dates between the 1950s and 1960s; and a non-historic pole barn (noncontributing) that appears to be of more recent construction. A tree-lined driveway off of West Peotone Road bisects the farmstead's properties with the farmhouse, detached garage, and transverse-frame barn along its west side and the remaining buildings along its north and south side where it curves eastward.

The ca. 1920 farmhouse (contributing) is a modest and altered one-and-one-half-story, side-gable bungalow characterized by Craftsman-style massing and stylistic references, including a side gable roof with wide unenclosed eave overhang, a gabled facade dormer, and three-over-one, double-hung, wood and replacement vinyl-sash windows. The house sits on a concrete foundation and is primarily clad in brick; the facade and north rear elevation dormers are clad in vinyl siding. The roof is covered in asphalt shingles and an exterior brick chimney on the west side elevation pierces the roof. The house appears to have an enclosed partial or full-width facade porch with the main entry door relocated to the east side elevation. The asymmetrical south-facing facade has two pairs of windows and a ribbon of three windows. Ornamental plantings are located around the foundation.

Behind and north of the farmhouse is the ca. 1941 detached garage (contributing), which is a one-story, square, brick-clad, hipped roof building with two one-car overhead garage doors on its east elevation and

glass block windows on its remaining elevations. Its roof is covered in asphalt shingles and has a brick chimney.

North of the detached garage is the ca. 1910 transverse-frame barn (contributing) oriented on a north-south axis. The one-and-one-half-story, wood-clad, gable-front building sits on a fieldstone foundation partially covered by concrete; its roof is covered in corrugated metal. Its north elevation contains sliding double wood doors, each with a different sized window, and a four-light window in the gable end. Its east and west elevations have no window or door openings. A metal hay shelter is located north of the barn.

The ca. 1870 bank barn (contributing) is a two-story, side-gable building with two one-story, shed-roof additions extending along the west and north elevations. The barn sits on a fieldstone foundation and its walls and roof are covered with standing metal seam cladding. The roof is surmounted by a non-historic decorative cupola. The majority of its windows are small sliding vinyl-sash windows. Its south elevation has center sliding double metal doors accessed by a gently sloping ramp and two smaller sliding metal doors. Its east elevation has one sliding metal door and two sliding double metal doors that lead to a livestock enclosure that also includes the round concrete silo (contributing) and ca. 1910 feeder barn (contributing). The barn's north elevation was not accessible during survey.

The ca. 1910 feeder barn (contributing) comprises a one-and-one-half-story, gable-roof main portion flanked by one-story, shed-roof extensions with bays along its east and west elevations. The barn's walls and roof are covered in standing metal seam cladding. The main gabled portion contains a sliding metal door while the east and west bays contain large rectangular openings leading to the livestock enclosure.

The non-historic pole barn (noncontributing) is a one-story, gable-front building with standing metal seam-clad walls and roof. It has overhead garage doors on its south and east elevations. The ca. 1907 drive-through corn crib barn (contributing) is a two-story, gable-roof building that sits on a concrete foundation with wood siding and asbestos-shingled roof. Its nearly identical north and south elevation contain sliding double metal doors and a six-over-six, double-hung, wood-sash window in the gable end, which leads to the hay loft. The east and west elevations contain no window or door openings and the roof is surmounted by a gabled cupola with openings on its east and west elevations.

A stand of mature deciduous trees surrounds the farmstead along its west and north boundaries, acting as a windbreak, while the property's north boundary is partially delineated by a tree line. Agricultural fields are located east and southeast of the farmstead and north of the stand of trees. The Wauponsee Glacial Trail bisects the property's southeastern corner while a creek bisects its southwestern corner.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

Although James Baskerville established the farmstead, the prior Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey for Florence Township designated the property as the John R. Baskerville Farmstead. The John R. Baskerville Farmstead was established in 1858 by James Baskerville on land originally purchased by W.W. Monteith in 1849; however, none of its extant buildings date to the property's establishment. The earliest extant building is the ca. 1870 bank barn, followed by the ca. 1907 drive-through corn crib barn as described in the *Past and Present of Will County, Illinois* history, the ca. 1910 transverse-frame barn, the ca. 1910 feeder barn, the ca. 1920 farmhouse and detached garage, and ca. 1941 silo. The feeder barn was likely constructed ca. 1910 during the period when Illinois was developing into a regional center for beef production while the farmhouse was likely constructed ca. 1920 and the detached garage in ca. 1941 due to their respective styles and forms. A 1955 aerial photograph shows the farmstead's buildings, surrounding fields, and stand of trees in approximately the same configuration as they now exist. The only apparent changes to the property since then include the replacement of a small gambrel-roof barn with the existing pole barn, the removal of a second livestock enclosure south of the bank barn, and the removal of some of the trees closest to Old Chicago Road.

James Baskerville emigrated from Ireland in 1847 and eventually arrived in Florence Township in 1850, first purchasing 160 acres in Section 23. In 1860, James Baskerville married Jane Fogarty and they eventually had seven children: Andrew J., Mary A., Anna, Charlotte J., George, John R., and Helen R. In 1872, he added to his holdings with the purchase of the subject property, then 133 acres, in Section 22. Throughout the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the farm was prosperous enough to employ at least one or two farm laborers, in addition to James and his sons. In 1893, the farm had grown to 276.55 acres, which included one of the township's schools.

James Baskerville was engaged in general farming and stock raising until 1902 when he retired. He and his wife continued to live on the farmstead with their sons who completed the active field work while James focused on breeding bronze turkeys and Chester White and O.I.C. hogs. The farm was described in 1907 as well-improved with good buildings and containing every convenience necessary to carry on agricultural interests, such as an elevator for the corn crib barn. By this time, James Baskerville had become one of the largest landowners in Will County, owning 680 acres of farmland. By 1910, only James, Jane, and their children Charlotte J. and John R. lived on the 260.33-acre home farm; John primarily operated the farm and was assisted by his father in the livestock management. The 1918 farmer's directory lists the farm as producers of Shorthorn cattle, Hampshire cattle, Chester White hogs, Percheron horses, Buff Orpington chickens, and bronze turkeys. The family owned two automobiles, a Ford and a Patterson, and had two silos, a brick one and a wooden one. John R. Baskerville was also listed as a thresherman. By 1920, Jane Baskerville had died and James continued to lived with his son John R. and daughter Charlotte J. on the home farm until his death in 1921.

John R. Baskerville inherited the farm, which then consisted of 287 acres, and continued its operation until his death in 1935. His sister Charlotte J. Baskerville then inherited the farm; she is listed in the 1940 US Census as a farm operator. Research indicates that shortly thereafter, Charlotte's niece, Charlotte C. Lacey Freis and her husband, George Freis, either began renting the farm or living there with her aunt; George was previously a tenant farmer in Joliet. Upon Charlotte J. Baskerville's death, George and Charlotte Freis inherited the property. The Freis family owned the property through at least 1980, though George died in 1976. The farm was then owned by Alvin R. Cooke who was related to the Freis family. In 1997, the property passed to Alvin R. Cooke's children Daniel Cooke and Susan Cooke Lindeen, and their spouses Mary Ann Meyer and Dave Lindeen, respectively. At that time, the property was recognized as an Illinois Centennial Farm for having been owned by the same family of lineal or collateral descendents for at least one hundred years or more. The farmstead appears to currently raise beef cattle as well as crops.

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 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 ca. 1920 house was originally constructed as a modest one-and-one-half-story, brick-clad, side-gable

house characterized by Craftsman-style details, such as side gable roof with wide unenclosed eave overhang, a gabled facade dormer, and three-over-one, double-hung, wood and replacement vinyl-sash windows. 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 was influenced by the British Arts and Crafts movement and resulted from a contingent of Boston architects who garnered attention for the style in the 1890s with a series of exhibitions in that city. Soon, Gustav Stickley, a New Jersey designer and furniture maker, applied the Craftsman moniker to America's interpretation of the style in the eponymously named popular magazine. The style 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 farmhouse 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 has also been altered by the enclosure of its facade porch and relocation of the facade entry to the east side elevation. Replacement vinyl siding on the dormers and replacement vinyl-sash windows also diminish the house's integrity. Though the house incorporates basic Craftsman-style features, it is not a distinctive example 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 ca. 1870 bank barn is a basic and intact example that has been altered by replacement siding and the addition of a small decorative cupola. The raised or bank barn originated in central New York as a shelter for dairy cattle. It was the first multi-purpose barn to gain widespread popularity. These barns are usually larger than three-bay threshing barns and have a ground floor level for cattle and dairy cows with an upper level for hay and feed storage. This upper level is reached by an earthen ramp, bridge, or the natural slope of an embankment.

The property also retains a ca. 1910 feeder barn that appears to be a basic example of the type with replacement siding materials. 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 leads to a livestock enclosure that also includes the ca. 1870 bank barn and silo. 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.

The ca. 1910 transverse-frame barn is a basic and intact example. 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 ca. 1907 drive-through corn crib barn is a good intact example of corn cribs constructed in the early twentieth century and appears to retain its original openings, cladding materials, and cupola. 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 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 John R. Baskerville Farmstead was previously surveyed and rated “National Register Potential” in the Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey for Florence Township completed in August 2011. The survey assigned a rating of “Noncontributing,” “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 “Noncontributing” lacked integrity, were significantly altered, or were abandoned.

NRHP STATUS
Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The John R. Baskerville Farmstead 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 R. Baskerville Farmstead is associated with late nineteenth and early twentieth century farming in Will County, specifically cattle farming in Florence Township. Collectively, the farmstead’s buildings cohesively convey this association through the large number of intact extant agricultural outbuildings that include its ca. 1870 bank barn, ca. 1907 drive-through corn crib barn, ca. 1910 transverse-frame barn and feeder barn, and mid-twentieth century concrete silo from its original period of operation as a general and cattle farm, unlike other extant farms in the area that appear visually similar but have been significantly altered through outbuilding demolition, alterations, or non-historic building and material replacement. The farmstead’s generally intact layout and landscape elements, such as fenced enclosures, mature deciduous trees, and field divisions, also convey this association with early to mid-twentieth century beef

cattle farming in the area; other farms in its vicinity retain few or none of these layout and landscape features that convey its original use or historical association and the relationships between buildings within the farmstead complex have been altered. Therefore, the John R. Baskerville Farmstead is eligible under Criterion A.

The John R. Baskerville Farmstead is associated with the Baskerville family, who settled in Florence Township in the mid-nineteenth century and continuously owned and farmed the land for approximately 140 years. The property was recognized as an Illinois Centennial Farm in 1997 for its continuous one hundred year association with the Baskerville family and its descendents; 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 Centennial Farm 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 at least 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 Baskerville family for a significant period of time and is associated with their family's settlement and prosperity in Florence Township, research did not show them to have made significant contributions to the development of the township or reveal any known historically significant associations with the productive lives of any members of the Baskerville family. Therefore, the John R. Baskerville Farmstead is not eligible under Criterion B.

As a farmstead with extensive acreage and associated buildings, the John R. Baskerville Farmstead retains its original late nineteenth and early twentieth century agricultural buildings including the associated bank barn, transverse-frame barn, feeder barn, drive-through corn crib barn, and silo that convey its original use as first a general farm and then later a beef cattle farm. These buildings are relatively intact examples of their types and have not been significantly altered since their construction given their original overall form and massing and openings despite replacement materials. However, they are modest examples of their type, lack architectural distinction, and are not innovative examples. Furthermore, the farmstead's modest and altered ca. 1920 house with basic Craftsman style massing and simple details lacks architectural distinction and has been significantly altered by the enclosure of the facade porch, the relocation of the facade entry, and replacement materials, such as vinyl-sash windows and vinyl siding. The overall farmstead generally retains its layout, original enclosures, and driveway to adjacent agricultural fields and pastures; however, these elements are typical of farmsteads of this period and do not represent any innovative designs. Therefore, the John R. Baskerville Farmstead is not eligible under Criterion C.

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

Therefore, the John R. Baskerville Farmstead is recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A.

The John R. Baskerville Farmstead retains its original historic function; its period of significance extends from 1870, when the extant bank barn was constructed, to 1963, the fifty-year age consideration from the current date of continued beef cattle and crop operations. The property's seven contributing buildings are the ca. 1870 bank barn, the ca. 1907 drive-through corn crib barn, the ca. 1910 transverse-frame barn, the ca. 1910 feeder barn, the ca. 1920 farmhouse, the ca. 1941 detached garage, and the mid-twentieth century silo. The property's one noncontributing building is the non-historic pole barn.

The John R. Baskerville Farmstead is located in its original location, and therefore, retains integrity of location. It retains sufficient integrity of materials, design, and workmanship due to agricultural outbuildings existing in their original layout, the presence of historic materials, and the existence of few

alterations to the buildings' original floor plans. It also retains integrity of feeling as a small cattle farming operation and its association with late nineteenth and early to mid-twentieth century cattle farming in Will County. The property also retains its integrity of setting.

NRHP BOUNDARY

The proposed NRHP boundary for the John R. Baskerville Farmstead are tax parcels 09-18-22-300-003-0000, 09-18-22-300-002-0000, 09-18-22-400-003-0000, and 09-18-22-400-004-0000, which includes all agricultural fields and pastures, and proximate farm parcels owned by the Baskerville and Freis families. These parcels include the entire parcel on which the farmstead is located, which contains all associated historic built features and the fields northeast and east of the farmstead.

SOURCES

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Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. August 2011. *Rural Historic Structural Survey of Florence Township, Will County, Illinois*. Will County Land Use Department and Will County Historic Preservation Commission.

Photo 1 – John R. Baskerville Farmstead

Facing northwest to ca. 1920 house south-facing facade and east side elevation

Photo 2 – John R. Baskerville Farmstead

Facing west to ca. 1920 house east side elevation

Photo 3 – John R. Baskerville Farmstead

Facing southwest to ca. 1920 house north rear and east side elevations

Photo 4 – John R. Baskerville Farmstead

Facing northeast to ca. 1920 house south-facing facade and west side elevation

Photo 5 – John R. Baskerville Farmstead

Facing southwest to ca. 1920 garage east and north elevations

Photo 6 – John R. Baskerville Farmstead

Facing northeast to ca. 1920 garage south and west elevations

Photo 7 – John R. Baskerville Farmstead

Facing northeast to ca. 1910 transverse-frame barn south and west elevations

Photo 8 – John R. Baskerville Farmstead

Facing northwest to ca. 1910 transverse-frame barn south and west elevations

Photo 9 – John R. Baskerville Farmstead

Facing north to hay shelter

Photo 10 – John R. Baskerville Farmstead

Facing northeast to ca. 1870 bank barn south and west elevations; ca. 1941 silo visible at right

Photo 11 – John R. Baskerville Farmstead

Facing northwest to ca. 1870 bank barn south and east elevations

Photo 12 – John R. Baskerville Farmstead

Facing north to ca. 1870 bank barn (at right), ca. 1910 feeder barn (at center), ca. 1941 silo (at left), and livestock enclosure

Photo 13 – John R. Baskerville Farmstead

Facing northeast to pole barn south and west elevation

Photo 14 – John R. Baskerville Farmstead

Facing northwest to pole barn east and south elevations

Photo 15 – John R. Baskerville Farmstead

Facing southwest to ca. 1907 drive-through corn crib barn north and east elevations

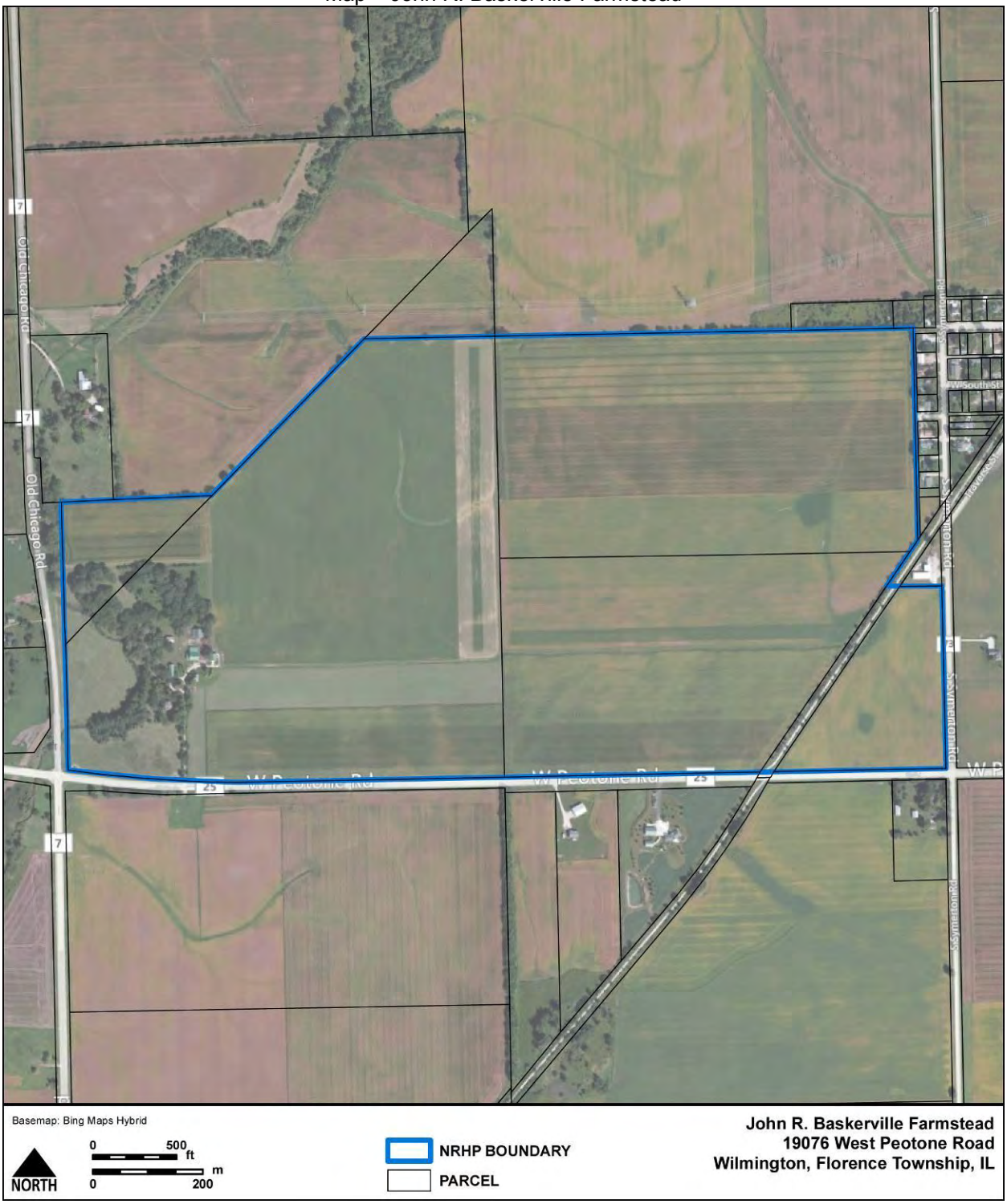
Photo 16 – John R. Baskerville Farmstead

Facing southeast to ca. 1907 drive-through corn crib barn north and west elevations

Photo 17 – John R. Baskerville Farmstead

Facing north to ca. 1907 drive-through corn crib barn south elevation

Map – John R. Baskerville Farmstead



NAME
18240 West Commercial Street

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS	CITY	TOWNSHIP
18240 West Commercial Street	Wilmington	Florence

OWNERSHIP	TAX PARCEL NUMBER
Mary K. Spangler	09-18-23-100-003-0000

YEAR BUILT	SOURCE
1920	Will County Assessor, 2013

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE	PROPERTY TYPE
No Discernible Style	Domestic

FOUNDATION	WALLS	ROOF
Concrete	Vinyl, brick	Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The residence at 18240 West Commercial Street is located close to the road and contains an altered ca. 1920 house and detached garage. Grass lawn panels and minimal ornamental planting complete the site.

The one-story house has a rectangular footprint and is topped by a prominent hipped roof with widely overhanging eaves; the building sits atop a raised brick foundation with basement-level windows. The walls are covered with vinyl siding. The facade faces to the south. An integral, raised, full-width front porch is supported by disproportionately slender columns placed in triplicate; the columns are set upon brick piers with siding filling in the areas between the piers. The raised porch is reached by a small flight of concrete stairs leading from a paved walkway. The asymmetrical facade features an off-center replacement door flanked by two, tall, single-pane sidelights. Three windows that are obscured by porch furniture but appear to be one-over-one replacement configurations are present on the facade; these same windows are found throughout the building. The east and west side elevations are punctuated with one-over-one replacement windows that are irregularly spaced and hung singly and in triplicate; two different sizes of windows are present on these side elevations. The north rear elevation contains an off-center entrance with a replacement door that is reached by a concrete flight of stairs with an iron railing. Two smaller replacement one-over-one windows are next to the door, and a larger window of the same configuration is present. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles; it is punctuated by a large ventilation shaft.

A detached single-car garage of an undetermined age is located on the property; it is clad in vinyl siding and its gable roof is covered in asphalt shingles. Its entrance faces to the south and features an overhung door. A small one-over-one window punctuates the west side elevation.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT
Research did not reveal information on this property. The altered ca. 1920 residence appears to allude to the Prairie Style by incorporating wide eaves, but it does not include any other character-defining features of the style. The house is well maintained, but many original materials and features have been replaced.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The property at 18240 West Commercial 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 property is not associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of history. Therefore, the property at 18240 West Commercial Street is not eligible under Criterion A.

Research did not indicate that the residence is associated with the lives of significant historic people. Therefore, the property at 18240 West Commercial Street is not eligible under Criterion B.

The residence does not embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction and does not have high artistic value. Although the wide eaves appear to allude to the Prairie Style, it does not contain other character-defining features, and other alterations, including siding, changes to the porch, and replacement windows diminish the building's original architectural merit. Therefore, the property at 18240 West Commercial Street is not eligible under Criterion C.

The property at 18240 West Commercial Street was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the property at 18240 West Commercial Street 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.

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Standard Atlas of Will County Illinois. 1909. Chicago, IL: Geo. A. Ogle & Co.

Will County Assessor. 2013. Will County Surveyor GIS Website.

Photo 1 – 18240 West Commercial Street

Facing north to ca. 1920 house south-facing facade

Photo 2 – 18240 West Commercial Street

Facing northwest to ca. 1920 house south-facing facade and east side elevation

Photo 3 – 18240 West Commercial Street

Facing northeast to ca. 1920 house south-facing facade and west side elevation

Photo 4 – 18240 West Commercial Street

Facing southeast to ca. 1920 house north rear elevation and west side elevation

Photo 5 – 18240 West Commercial Street

Facing northeast to garage south-facing facade and west side elevation

Map – 18240 West Commercial Street

NAME
Martin-Baskerville Farmstead

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS	CITY	TOWNSHIP
18216 West Peotone Road	Wilmington	Florence

OWNERSHIP	TAX PARCEL NUMBER
Kathryn E. Kennedy	09-18-23-304-006-0000

YEAR BUILT	SOURCE
1865	Will County Assessor, 2013

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE	PROPERTY TYPE
No Discernible Style	Agriculture

FOUNDATION	WALLS	ROOF
Concrete, fieldstone	Asbestos, wood, metal	Asphalt, metal

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The mid-nineteenth century Martin-Baskerville Farmstead is located on approximately 46 acres on the north side of West Peotone Road; it is actively farmed. The farmstead's extant buildings consist of a ca. 1865 gabled-ell farmhouse; ca. 1865 English barn; ca. 1900 drive-through corn crib barn; ca. 1900 shed; ca. 1920 detached garage; and ca. 1990 non-historic Ranch house. A driveway off of West Peotone Road bisects the farmstead's properties with the farmhouse, detached garage, and shed along its east side; the English barn at its northern terminus; and the drive-through corn crib barn and non-historic house along its west side. Grassy lawn surrounds the buildings and mature deciduous trees are located throughout the property. The majority of the property consists of an agricultural field north of the farmstead's buildings; agricultural fields surround the property to the south, east, and west.

The ca. 1865 farmhouse is a modest and altered two-story, L-shaped gabled-ell house of no discernible style with a one-story kitchen ell on its north rear elevation. The house sits on a concrete foundation and is clad in asbestos shingles; the façade's single-story, partial-width porch is constructed of molded concrete blocks. The roof is covered in asphalt shingles and a two-story, concrete-block exterior chimney rises above the roof on the house's east side elevation. The majority of its windows are one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl sashes covered by metal storm windows; the west side elevation retains two original six-over-six, double-hung, wood-sash windows on the second story. Most of the first story windows have inoperable vinyl shutters and are surmounted by corrugated metal awnings.

The farmhouse's south-facing facade is distinguished by a one-story, hipped roof, partial-width porch that appears to date to the 1920s or 1930s based on its molded concrete block construction. The porch's concrete half-walls and simple concrete posts support an arched entryway. The porch leads to two separate facade entry doors, indicating the house may have been converted into a duplex. Each entry door is flanked by a single window to the east or west. On the second story, the facade's gable-front contains two windows while the facade's wing contains a single original six-light, wood-sash window and a single sliding vinyl-sash window; all second story windows have decorative but simple wood surrounds and lintels.

Behind and north of the farmhouse is the ca. 1920 detached garage. It is a one-story, gable-roof building with two one-car overhead garage doors on its west elevation. The garage has a concrete foundation and is clad in wood siding; its roof is covered in asphalt shingles. Its north elevation contains a single one-over-one, double-hung, wood-sash window while the east elevation contains two of the same windows. The south elevation has a single entry door.

The ca. 1900 shed is a small one-story, gable-roof, wood-frame building. It is clad in wood siding with a metal-covered roof. Its west elevation contains a single entry door and a small rectangular opening in the gable end; the east elevation contains a single rectangular opening in its gable end. The north elevation contains a sliding wood door while the south elevation contains two rectangular openings.

At the driveway's northern terminus is the ca. 1865 two-story, side-gable English barn distinguished by one-story, shed-roof additions along its east and west elevations. Its foundation is a mix of original fieldstone and replacement concrete blocks. The barn is entirely clad in corrugated metal siding; its roof is covered with metal sheets. The barn's south elevation comprises a large center sliding wood door flanked by smaller sliding wood doors on the east and west elevation additions. The east elevation addition contains variously sized one-over-one, double-hung, vinyl-sash windows on its south and east elevations as well as a small vinyl sliding window on its north elevation. The west elevation addition contains no openings on its west elevation and a large sliding metal door on its north elevation. The barn's north elevation comprises a large center sliding metal door.

The ca. 1900 drive-through corn crib barn is a two-story, gable-roof building that sits on a concrete foundation and is clad in a mix of wood and corrugated metal siding. Its roof is covered with corrugated metal and surmounted by a small gabled cupola with a rectangular opening on its west elevation; a grain elevator is attached to the opening. The barn's north and south elevations contain sliding wood double doors on the first story and a small four-light, wood-sash window in the gable end. The west and east elevations contain no window or door openings.

The non-historic ca. 1990 one-story Ranch house is located west of the farmstead's buildings and accessed by a separate driveway.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The Martin-Baskerville Farmstead was established in ca. 1865 on a 160-acre parcel owned by either J.Y. Yates or A.G. Gront who are respectively listed as the property owners in 1862 and 1873 on plat maps. The gabled-ell farmhouse and English barn were constructed at that time. The drive-through corn crib barn and shed were constructed ca. 1900 and date to the James Baskerville period of ownership, as does the ca. 1920 detached garage. The detached garage was likely constructed ca. 1920 and the farmhouse's facade porch in the ca. 1920s or 1930s due to their respective styles, forms, and materials. The non-historic Ranch house was constructed ca. 1990.

A 1955 aerial photograph shows the farmstead's farmhouse, detached garage, shed, drive-through corn crib barn, and English barn with only its west elevation shed-roof addition as well as surrounding fields and the property's mature deciduous trees in approximately the same configuration as they now exist. The only apparent changes to the property since then include the east elevation shed-roof addition to the English barn, the demolition of a one-story outbuilding just northwest of the English barn, and the addition of the ca. 1990 non-historic Ranch house.

Research did not reveal any further information about J.Y. Yates or A.G. Gront or their potential establishment of the farmstead in ca. 1865. The 160-acre parcel was owned by James W. Martin by 1893. He was the son of James Martin, who was an early settler of Florence Township in 1836, one of the first school trustees, and the owner of a 160-acre homestead in Florence Township. James W. Martin inherited his father's property in 1851 and was engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1887 when he moved

to Joliet and successively took up positions as a township treasurer, supervisor, justice of the peace, and county treasurer. He retained ownership of the homestead and by 1893, also owned the 38-acre east parcel across from the homestead on South Old Chicago Road and the 160-acre subject property on West Peotone Road. He likely rented the farmstead to tenant farmers during his period of ownership.

From 1902 until his death in 1921, James Baskerville owned the subject property. Research indicates he rented to tenant farmers, including his son Andrew J. Baskerville ca. 1918. James Baskerville emigrated from Ireland in 1847 and eventually arrived in Florence Township in 1850, first purchasing 160 acres in Section 23. In 1860, James Baskerville married Jane Fogarty and they eventually had seven children: Andrew J., Mary A., Anna, Charlotte J., George, John R., and Helen R. In 1872, he added to his holdings with the purchase of his 133-acre farmstead in Section 22 (see Survey ID 182, John R. Baskerville Farmstead). James Baskerville was engaged in general farming and stock raising until 1902 when he retired. By this time, James Baskerville had become one of the largest landowners in Will County, owning 680 acres of farmland, including the subject property.

After his death in 1921, several members of the Baskerville family owned the subject property until at least 1963. From at least 1930 through 1955, the property was rented by members of the Kennedy family; first by Andrew C. Kennedy and later by his son Edward Kennedy. In 1963, the then-149.27 acre parcel was subdivided into a 67.56 acre west parcel containing the farmstead buildings and owned by Edward Kennedy; the 69.93 east parcel was owned by R. Seng. Edward Kennedy owned the property until 2000 when his wife Kathryn Kennedy is listed as the owner. She continues to own the property today, renting the original farmhouse to tenants and living in the non-historic ca. 1990 house. The property's agricultural fields continue to be farmed.

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, and 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 ca. 1865 farmhouse was originally constructed as a modest 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. 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 house may have originally incorporated Greek Revival style elements but it is now of no discernible style. It has been altered by the addition of a facade porch in the 1920s or 1930s, replacement asbestos shingle siding, and replacement vinyl-sash windows. Furthermore, it may have been converted into a duplex for rental purposes given the two distinctly separate facade entrances.

The ca. 1865 English barn, also referred to as a three-bay threshing barn, is a basic and intact example that has been altered by replacement metal siding and shed-roof additions along its east and west elevations. 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 ca. 1900 drive-through corn crib barn is a basic and relatively intact example of corn cribs constructed in the early twentieth century and appears to retain its original openings, cladding materials, and cupola. 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 Illinois and generally dating from the early twentieth century, the corn crib barn 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 Martin-Baskerville Farmstead was previously surveyed and rated "Local Landmark Eligible" in the Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey for Florence Township completed in August 2011. 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.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The Martin-Baskerville Farmstead 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 Martin-Baskerville Farmstead was originally part of a larger farmstead established in the mid-nineteenth century and was associated with mid-nineteenth and early twentieth century farming in Florence Township. Although the farmstead continues to be actively farmed and retains many of its original buildings, it appears to be a typical farmstead of the period. The farmstead does not appear to

have made significant contributions to local farming practices and no longer conveys its historical association with local mid-nineteenth or early twentieth century farming history in Will County. Therefore, the Martin-Baskerville Farmstead is not eligible under Criterion A.

The Martin-Baskerville Farmstead is associated with the Martin, Baskerville, and Kennedy families. The Martin and Baskerville families were early settlers of Florence Township in the mid-nineteenth century and owned numerous properties throughout the township. The subject property was used by both the Martin and Baskerville families as a rental property and it is not associated with their family's settlement in Florence Township. The Kennedy family first rented the farmstead and later owned the property. Research did not show any of the families to have made significant contributions to the development of the township or reveal any known historically significant associations with the productive lives of any members of the Martin, Baskerville, or Kennedy families. Therefore, the Martin-Baskerville Farmstead is not eligible under Criterion B.

The Martin-Baskerville Farmstead consists of mostly intact agricultural outbuildings associated with general farming that still convey their historic appearance and original use. They have not been significantly altered since their construction given their original materials, overall form and massing, and openings. However, they are modest examples of their type and they do not exhibit any architectural significance or distinction. Furthermore, the farmstead's original modest gabled-ell farmhouse of no discernible style has been altered by replacement materials, such as the asbestos siding and vinyl windows, and additions, such as the facade porch and kitchen ell, that obscure its original appearance and form. Therefore, the Martin-Baskerville Farmstead is not eligible under Criterion C.

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

Therefore, the Martin-Baskerville Farmstead is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

SOURCES
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Combination Atlas Map of Will County. 1873. Elgin, IL: Thompson Brothers & Burr.

Drury, John. 1955. *This is Will County, Illinois*. Chicago, IL: Inland Photo Co.

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Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. August 2011. *Rural Historic Structural Survey of Florence Township, Will County, Illinois*. Will County Land Use Department and Will County Historic Preservation Commission.

Photo 1 – Martin-Baskerville Farmstead

Facing north to ca. 1865 house south-facing facade

Photo 2 – Martin-Baskerville Farmstead

Facing northwest to ca. 1865 house south-facing facade and west side elevation

Photo 3 – Martin-Baskerville Farmstead

Facing southwest to ca. 1865 house north rear and east side elevations

Photo 4 – Martin-Baskerville Farmstead

Facing southeast to detached garage west and north elevations

Photo 5 – Martin-Baskerville Farmstead

Facing northwest to detached garage south and east elevations

Photo 6 – Martin-Baskerville Farmstead

Facing northeast to shed south and west elevations

Photo 7 – Martin-Baskerville Farmstead

Facing southwest to shed north and east elevations

Photo 8 – Martin-Baskerville Farmstead

Facing northwest to ca. 1865 English barn south and east elevations

Photo 9 – Martin-Baskerville Farmstead

Facing southeast to ca. 1865 English barn north and west elevations

Photo 10 – Martin-Baskerville Farmstead

Facing northwest to ca. 1920 drive-through corn crib barn south and east elevations

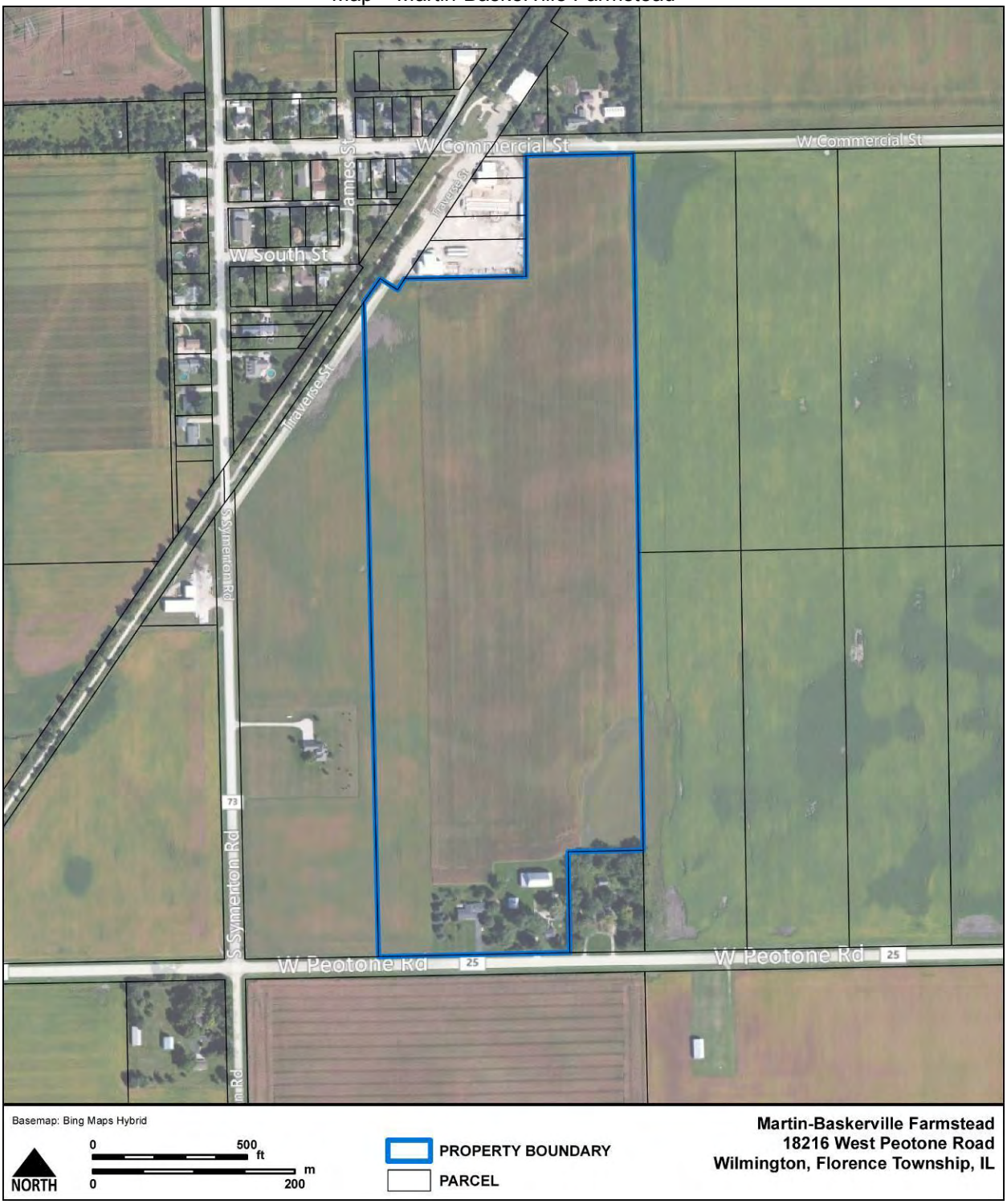
Photo 11 – Martin-Baskerville Farmstead

Facing southeast to ca. 1920 drive-through corn crib barn north and west elevations

Photo 12 – Martin-Baskerville Farmstead

Facing northwest to ca. 1990 Ranch house south-facing facade and east side elevation

Map – Martin-Baskerville Farmstead



NAME
Martin-Ohlhues Farmstead

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS	CITY	TOWNSHIP
31622 South Old Chicago Road	Wilmington	Florence

OWNERSHIP	TAX PARCEL NUMBER
Nancy McMahon	09-18-28-400-004-0000

YEAR BUILT	SOURCE
1870	Past and Present of Will County, Illinois, 1907; plat maps

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE	PROPERTY TYPE
No Discernible Style	Agriculture

FOUNDATION	WALLS	ROOF
Fieldstone, concrete	Stucco, wood	Asphalt, metal

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The ca. 1870 Martin-Ohlhues Farmstead is located on 2.49 acres on the west side of South Old Chicago Road; it is no longer actively farmed. The farmstead's extant buildings consist of a ca. 1870 upright-and-wing farmhouse; ca. 1870 gambrel-roof dairy barn with an attached ca. 1955 shed; ca. 1870 English barn; ca. 1900 drive-through corn crib barn; and a non-historic swimming pool, date of construction unknown. The remains of a former chicken house are located directly north of the English barn. Grassy lawn surrounds the buildings while a tree line of mature deciduous trees delineate the south and east property boundaries. Agricultural fields surround the property in all directions.

The ca. 1870 upright-and-wing farmhouse of no discernible style consists of a two-story, upright gable-front intersected by a one-story, side-gable wing on its south side elevation; the house displays changes in both form and materials due to additions, alterations, and replacement of original features. The house has a fieldstone foundation and stucco cladding; portions of the house are clad in replacement vinyl siding, primarily the small one-story additions on the wing's south side and west rear elevations. The majority of its windows are one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash windows evenly spaced across all elevations. The east-facing facade of the gable-front is distinguished by a small gable-front porch over the center entry door; the porch roof is supported by two turned spindlework posts with lacey spandrels. The east-facing facade of the wing is distinguished by a full-width porch clad in vinyl siding with square posts supporting the shed roof extension of the gable roof. The house's roof is covered with asphalt shingles and a stucco-clad brick exterior chimney rises above the roof on the gable-front's west rear elevation.

The ca. 1870 gambrel-roof dairy barn and ca. 1870 English barn have fieldstone foundations, wood siding, and metal-covered roofs. The two-story gambrel-roof dairy barn has a ca. 1955 one-story, metal-clad, gable-roof addition attached to its west elevation. Many of its original window openings no longer contain glass panes or alternately they have six-light, wood-sashes. Sliding wood and metal doors are located on its east and south elevations. The dairy barn's roof has slightly flared eaves and its north gambrel end terminates in a hay hood. The ca. 1870 English barn is a one-and-one-half-story, gable-roof

building with a sliding metal door on its south elevation and a square opening in its east and west gable ends.

The ca. 1900 two-story, gable-roof drive-through corn crib barn has a concrete foundation, wood siding, and metal-covered roof. Its south and north have sliding double wood doors and deteriorated one-over-six, double-hung, wood-sash windows in the gable ends. The roof's gabled cupola has openings on its north and south elevations and a rusted metal elevator coming off its east elevation.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The Martin-Ohlhues Farmstead appears to have been established in ca. 1870 by James W. Martin based on plat maps. The 160-acre property was originally purchased by James Martin in 1847; he was an early settler of Florence Township in 1836 and was one of the first school trustees. His son, James W. Martin inherited the property in 1851 upon his father's death. Research indicates that the farmhouse, dairy barn, and English barn were constructed in ca. 1870 under his ownership of the property, given their fieldstone foundations, overall appearance and form, and plat maps showing two buildings on the property in 1873. James W. Martin was engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1887 when he moved to Joliet and successively took up positions as a township treasurer, supervisor, justice of the peace, and county treasurer. He retained ownership of the farmstead and by 1893, also owned the 38-acre east parcel across South Old Chicago Road from the farmstead. Research indicates that his brother William Martin may have resided on the farmstead and was involved in dairy farming.

By 1909, John J. Ohlhues had obtained the farmstead property, consisting of the approximately 160-acre farmstead and the east 38-acre parcel. He was a general farmer who had lived in Florence Township on a different farmstead since at least 1870 with his wife, Mary, and their seven children. John J. Ohlhues was widowed by 1910 and his son Edward P. Ohlhues lived with him and ran the farm. In 1915, John J. Ohlhues moved to nearby Symerton, living with his daughters Lena and Mary, and Edward P. Ohlhues rented the farmstead from his father, living there with his wife Alma. According to the 1918 farmer's directory, Edward P. Ohlhues bred Duroc Jersey hogs and Rhode Island Red chickens and was also a thresherman.

Upon his father's death in 1921, Edward inherited the farmstead and plat maps indicate that the original 160-acre farmstead parcel was subdivided around this time into two 80-acre parcels. From that time to ca. 1953, the north parcel with the farmstead's buildings and the east 38-acre parcel were owned by Edward P. Ohlhues while the south parcel was owned by his brother, Henry. During the 1930s, Edward P. Ohlhues also raised Brown Swiss cattle. In 1957, the south parcel was sold to John and Sattabelle Wattling. Upon Edward P. Ohlhues' death in 1969, the property was inherited by his nephew, Raymond Ohlhues. By 1988, the 80-acre farmstead parcel was subdivided into a 2.94-acre parcel containing the farmstead buildings and the greater 77.06 acres still owned by Raymond Ohlhues, who continues to own it and the 38-acre east parcel. It is likely around this time that agricultural activities ceased. The existing 2.94-acre parcel containing the farmstead buildings has been owned by Dennis and Nancy McMahon since 1994.

A 1955 aerial photograph of the farm shows it in roughly the same configuration that now exists with the exception of the post-1955 swimming pool, although individual features on each building have changed or deteriorated. The photograph shows the gambrel-roof dairy barn had a small one-story shed on its south elevation while two small one-story outbuildings were located south and west of the English barn. The property also had a small enclosure that fenced in the area just south of the farmhouse and just east of the dairy barn. A distinct tree line of mature deciduous trees was also located south and north along Old South Chicago Road.

Principal farm crops in Illinois by the 1850s included corn, wheat, oats, rye, and barley. 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 cattle and later became a valuable food and commercial product. In the second half of the twentieth century, many farms were abandoned and 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 farmstead's ca. 1870 gambrel-roof dairy barn is a basic example of the Wisconsin dairy barn or gambrel-roof dairy barn, which were predominant dairy or livestock barn forms. They are 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. 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, 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 farm's gambrel-roof dairy barn is a basic example that conveys its original appearance and function as well as the majority of its original materials and fenestration.

The farmstead's ca. 1870 English barn is a basic example of the type and lacks architectural distinction. The dominant barn type in the Midwest was 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 farmstead's ca. 1900 drive-through corn crib barn is a basic example that retains its original openings and cupola. Granaries and corn cribs were constructed on the farm 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 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 farm's ca. 1870 farmhouse is a modest and altered example of the upright-and-wing form. 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. This farmhouse is of no discernible style and has minimal ornamentation, which is primarily found on the facade porches. It has been altered by two small additions on its west rear and south side elevations as well as by replacement vinyl-sash windows. The stucco cladding may also be a replacement material covering the original cladding.

The Martin-Ohlhues Farmstead was previously surveyed and rated “Local Landmark Potential” in the Will County Rural Historic Structural Survey for Florence Township completed in August 2011. 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.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The Martin-Ohlhues Farmstead 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 Martin-Ohlhues Farmstead is associated with late nineteenth and early twentieth century farming, specifically livestock and grain farming, in Will County. However, the farmstead appears to be typical of its period and does not appear to have made significant contributions to local farming practices. Therefore, the Martin-Ohlhues Farmstead is not eligible under Criterion A.

The Martin-Ohlhues Farmstead is associated with the Martin and Ohlhues families, whose members were early settlers in Florence Township. The Martin family’s association was brief and although James W. Martin owned the property, his productive life’s work was completed in Joliet and not on the farmstead. Although several members of the Ohlhues family owned and farmed the farmstead for approximately 80 years but research did not reveal any known historically significant associations with their productive lives. Further, they are not known to have significantly contributed to local farming practices. Therefore, the Martin-Ohlhues Farmstead is not eligible under Criterion B.

The Martin-Ohlhues Farmstead consists of mostly intact agricultural outbuildings associated with dairy and grain farming that still convey their original appearance and use. They have not been significantly altered since their construction; they retain much of their original materials, overall forms and massing, and openings although some alterations, primarily to the farmhouse, and deterioration are present.

However, these buildings are modest examples of their type and they do not exhibit any architectural significance. Similarly, the extant farmhouse is a modest and altered example of the upright-and-wing form that lacks architectural distinction and has been altered by replacement materials. Therefore, the Martin-Ohlhues Farmstead is not eligible under Criterion C.

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

Therefore, the Martin-Ohlhues Farmstead 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.

Drury, John. 1955. *This is Will County, Illinois*. Chicago, IL: Inland Photo Co.

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Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. August 2011. *Rural Historic Structural Survey of Florence Township, Will County, Illinois*. Will County Land Use Department and Will County Historic Preservation Commission.

Photo 1 – Martin-Ohlhues Farmstead

Facing northwest to ca. 1870 house east-facing facade and south side elevation

Photo 2 – Martin-Ohlhues Farmstead

Facing northwest to ca. 1870 house east-facing facade and south side elevation

Photo 3 – Martin-Ohlhues Farmstead

Facing southeast to ca. 1870 house north side and west rear elevations

Photo 4 – Martin-Ohlhues Farmstead

Facing northeast to ca. 1870 house west rear and south elevations

Photo 5 – Martin-Ohlhues Farmstead

Facing southwest to ca.1900 drive-through corn crib barn north and east elevations

Photo 6 – Martin-Ohlhues Farmstead

Facing northeast to ca. 1900 drive-through corn crib barn south and west elevations; ca. 1870 English barn visible at left

Photo 7 – Martin-Ohlhues Farmstead

Facing northwest to ca. 1870 English barn east and south elevations; ca. 1900 drive-through corn crib barn at right

Photo 8 – Martin-Ohlhues Farmstead

Facing south to ca. 1870 gambrel-roof dairy barn north elevation and ca. 1955 attached shed

Photo 9 – Martin-Ohlhues Farmstead

Facing southwest to ca. 1870 gambrel-roof dairy barn north and east elevations

Photo 10 – Martin-Ohlhues Farmstead

Facing northwest to ca. 1870 gambrel-roof dairy barn south and east elevations

Map – Martin-Ohlhues Farmstead

NAME
Barn at 15045 West Arsenal Road

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS	CITY	TOWNSHIP
15045 West Arsenal Road	Manhattan	Wilton

OWNERSHIP	TAX PARCEL NUMBER
Barr Family Farm LLC	13-19-16-100-006-00000

YEAR BUILT	SOURCE
1945	Will County Assessor, 2013

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE	PROPERTY TYPE
No Discernible Style	Agriculture

FOUNDATION	WALLS	ROOF
Concrete	Metal	Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTE
The transverse-frame barn located at the farmstead at 15045 West Arsenal Road is a typical example of the form; it has been altered with a shed-roof extension. The barn has a rectangular footprint and sits atop a concrete foundation. It has a gable-roof form, with entrances located on the long sides of the barn. The barn is clad in non-original vertical metal siding; the siding obscures some original features of the barn. A small portion of the south elevation is covered in original wood siding, indicating the original cladding material.

The long sides of the barn face to the north and south. The north elevation contains three irregularly placed overhung doors as well as one pedestrian door suspended from an overhead track. Irregularly placed six-pane windows are located on the ground story and a window opening with an overhead track is located above one set of these windows. The top story contains two loft doors that are also suspended from tracks. The south elevation has a partial-length non-integral shed roof addition that previously may have served as a milk house. An overhung door is also located on the original barn on this elevation.

The east and west elevations are the short sides of the barn have no entrances. The west elevation has a centrally placed multi-pane window with a ventilator in the gable, while the east elevation has two small evenly spaced, multi-pane, double-hung windows in the loft area beneath a hay hood.

The rood is covered in asphalt shingles. Two cupola ventilators with gable configurations sit atop the barn's ridgeline.

The farmstead that contains the barn is located close to Arsenal Road. The farmstead retains a non-historic Ranch house, two pole barns of indeterminate age, and five large metal grain bins. Surrounding agricultural fields are cultivated with corn, soybeans, and wheat.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT
The property containing the barn at 15045 West Arsenal Road belonged to Orrin Potter as early as 1862;

Potter retained the land, which was approximately 158 acres by 1893, until 1909, when his son Frank owned the farm. By the 1950s, the Barr family owned the property, which had expanded to approximately 237 acres. Although census data indicates that during the 1960 and early 1970s, there were several successive owners, the property returned to Barr family ownership by 1973. Members of the Barr family continue to own the property, along with the Burton family; together they operate Burton Barr Trucking from the property, although the adjacent fields are still in agricultural use for crop cultivation. The barn was added to the property in 1945. An aerial photograph dating to 1955 shows the barn in situ, although door openings have been altered and a large roof ventilator has been removed.

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 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 barn at 15045 West Arsenal Road is a typical and altered example of a transverse-frame barn. 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.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The barn at 15045 West Arsenal 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 barn was formerly associated with agricultural practices in the region; however, research did not indicate that the farming effort was influential in the area. The barn has been altered since its construction

and is no longer used for agricultural purposes. Therefore, the barn at 15045 West Arsenal Road is not eligible under Criterion A.

Research has not indicated that persons significant in the past are associated with the property. Therefore, the barn at 15045 West Arsenal Road is not eligible under Criterion B.

The barn is a standard form that has been altered. Metal siding covers original wood siding, door openings have been altered, and a prominent ridgeline ventilator has been removed since it was constructed in 1945. It is not a good or well-preserved example of a transverse frame barn. Therefore, the barn at 15045 West Arsenal Road is not eligible under Criterion C.

The barn at 15045 West Arsenal Road was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the barn at 15045 West Arsenal Road 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.

Drury, John. 1955. *This is Will County, Illinois*. Chicago, IL: Inland Photo Co.

Plat Book of Will County, Illinois. 1893. Chicago, IL: Geo. A. Ogle & Co.

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Prairie Farmer's Directory of Will and Southern Cook Counties, Illinois. 1918. Chicago, IL: Prairie Farmer Publishing Co.

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US Census Bureau. 1860.

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US Census Bureau. 1910.

US Census Bureau. 1920.

US Census Bureau. 1930.

US Census Bureau. 1940.

Will County Assessor. 2013. Will County Surveyor GIS Website.

Photo 1 – Barn at 15045 West Arsenal Road

Facing south to ca. 1945 barn north elevation

Photo 2 – Barn at 15045 West Arsenal Road

Facing southwest to ca. 1945 barn north and east elevations

Photo 3 – Barn at 15045 West Arsenal Road

Facing northwest to ca. 1945 barn south and east elevations

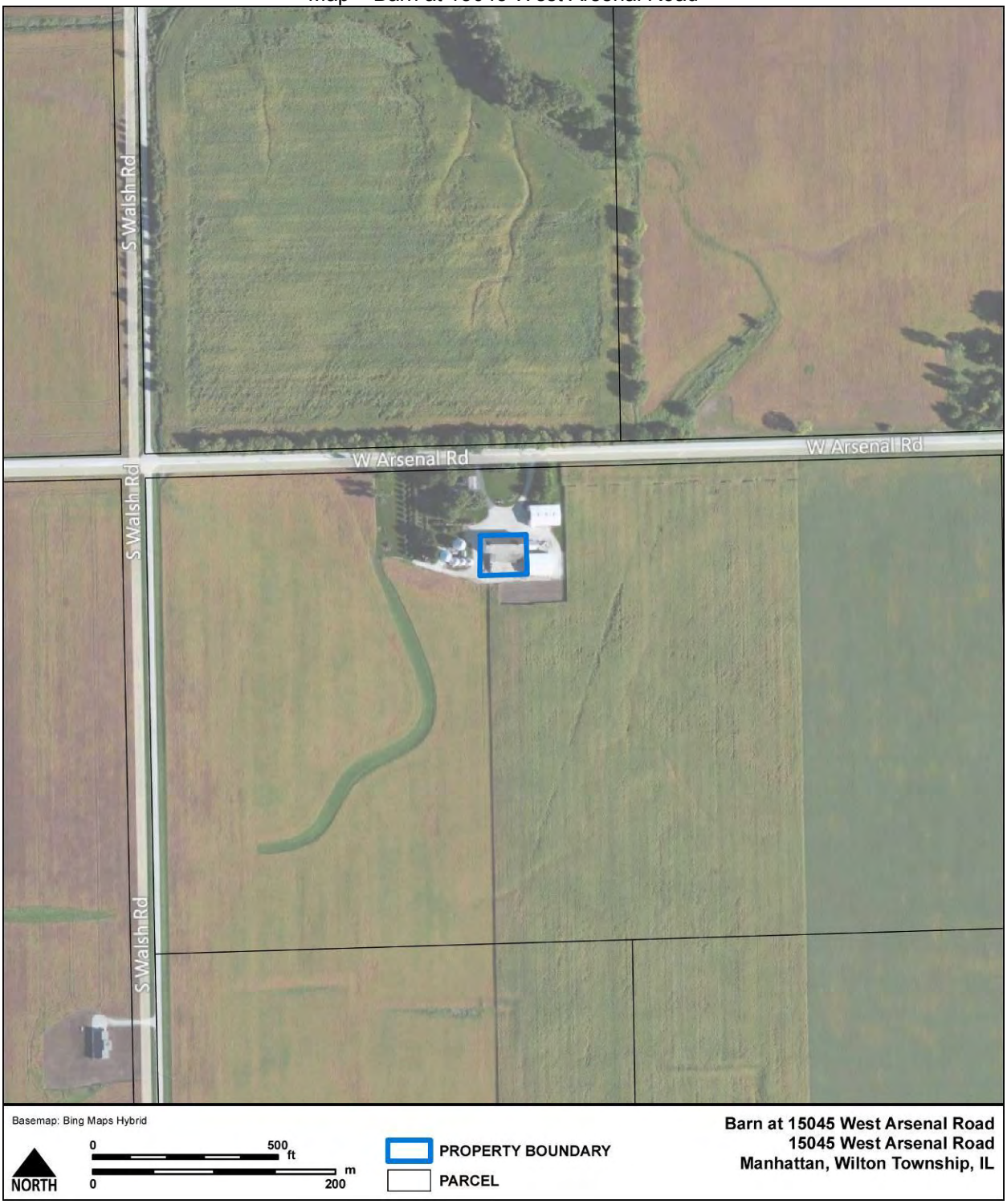
Photo 4 – Barn at 15045 West Arsenal Road

Facing northeast to ca. 1945 barn south and west elevations

Photo 5 – Barn at 15045 West Arsenal Road

Facing southeast to ca. 1945 barn north and west elevations

Map – Barn at 15045 West Arsenal Road



NAME
31202 South Cedar Road

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS	CITY	TOWNSHIP
31202 South Cedar Road	Manhattan	Wilton

OWNERSHIP	TAX PARCEL NUMBER
Lawrence and Irene Walsh	13-19-28-200-002-0000

YEAR BUILT	SOURCE
1878	Will County Assessor, 2013

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE	PROPERTY TYPE
No Discernible Style	Agriculture

FOUNDATION	WALLS	ROOF
Fieldstone, concrete	Asbestos, concrete, metal	Asphalt, metal

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The late nineteenth century farmstead at 31202 South Cedar Road is located on 40 acres on the west side of South Cedar Road; it is actively farmed. The farmstead's extant buildings consist of a ca. 1878 gabled-ell farmhouse; ca. 1920 detached garage; and ca. 1955 pole barn. Grassy lawn surrounds the buildings while mature deciduous trees surround the farmhouse and partially delineate the west and north property boundaries. Agricultural fields surround the property in all directions.

The ca. 1878 gabled-ell farmhouse is a two-story, L-shaped, cross-gable house of no discernible style that consists of a gable-front portion intersected by a side-gable wing on its south side elevation. The house has a fieldstone foundation and asbestos shingle cladding. The majority of its windows are two-over-two, double-hung, wood-sash windows evenly spaced across all elevations. The east-facing facade is distinguished by a partial-width entry porch across the wing that leads a center wood entry door on the wing and a wood side entry door on the gable-front's south side elevation. The wooden porch has simple wood posts supporting a shed roof. The wing's west rear elevation comprises a one-story, gable-roof addition with a partial-width south elevation porch leading to a secondary entrance. The house's roof is covered with asphalt shingles and a narrow concrete-block exterior chimney rises above the roof on the gable-front's west rear elevation.

The ca. 1920 detached garage is a one-story, concrete-block, hipped-roof building. Its south elevation contains sliding double wood doors while its east elevation contains a paneled wood entry door and two-light, wood awning window. The north elevation contains two of these windows and the west elevation contains one. Its hipped roof is covered with asbestos shingles.

The ca. 1955 pole barn is a one-story, gable-roof building clad in metal on its walls and roof. Its east and north elevations contain sliding double wood doors while the west and south elevations contain no window or door openings.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The late nineteenth century farmstead at 31202 South Cedar Road appears to have been established in ca. 1860 by David Jones based on plat maps. David Jones owned the original 80-acre parcel from at least ca. 1860 until his death in 1895 and he erected the ca. 1878 gabled-ell farmhouse. David Jones was a general farmer who emigrated from England to Wilton Township in the 1850s and first lived on the property with his wife Mary Jones and daughter Hannah Jones. By 1870, he was married to Amanda Jones after the death of his first wife and they lived on the farm with their children Hannah, Joel D., Ella, and Ann E. as well as Amanda's brother, William Tennant who was a farm laborer. Upon David Jones' death in 1893, the property was likely sold and purchased by Thomas McCormick, who also owned an 80-acre parcel north of this property in Section 21.

Thomas McCormick died shortly thereafter in 1897 and his wife Elizabeth McCormick inherited the property. Research did not indicate whether the McCormick family lived on the subject property or rented to tenant farmers and lived on their other 80-acre parcel in Section 21. US Census data from 1900 and 1910 lists Elizabeth and her sons Thomas, John, and Francis J. as farmers. By 1909, the 80-acre farmstead was subdivided into two 40-acre north and south parcels; Elizabeth McCormick retained ownership of the north parcel containing the farmstead buildings. The 1918 farmer's directory lists her as the owner of the subject property and the parcel in Section 21 and her son Francis J., also called Frank, raised Shorthorn beef cattle while her other son John raised Chester White hogs; it is unclear who lived on which parcel. Frank is also listed as owning a Ford automobile and the farmstead's ca. 1920 detached garage may have been built to store it.

Elizabeth McCormick died in 1933 and it appears that her son John McCormick then inherited the property. John owned the property until his death in 1962. From 1970 to 2000, Mary Quigley owned the property. She was the wife of John McCormick's grandson, Frank Quigley. Since at least 2003, Lawrence and Irene Walsh have owned the property; they currently rent it to tenants.

Principal farm crops in Illinois by the 1850s included corn, wheat, oats, rye, and barley. 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, and 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 farm appears to have been engaged in general farming with some livestock specialization in the early twentieth century.

A 1955 aerial photograph shows the farmstead was once much larger. In addition to its extant farmhouse, detached garage, and pole barn, it included what appear to be an English barn, a transverse-frame or corn crib barn, and another small outbuilding. It is unknown when these buildings were demolished. The farmhouse with its rear addition, detached garage, and pole barn appear to retain the same materials and forms.

The farm's ca. 1870 farmhouse is a modest and altered example of the gabled-ell form. The gabled-ell form 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. The gable-front and its subtype, the gabled-ell, were constructed as early as the mid-nineteenth century 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 of no discernible style and has been altered by a one-story addition on its west rear elevation as well as by replacement asbestos shingle cladding. Similarly, the farmstead's ca. 1920 detached garage appears to be a basic example lacking architectural distinction and serving a specific function.

The farmstead's ca. 1955 pole barn is a basic and intact example from the post-World War II period 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 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 31202 South Cedar 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 farmstead at 31202 South Cedar Road is associated with late nineteenth and early twentieth century farming in Will County. However, the farmstead appears to be typical of its period and does not appear to have made significant contributions to local farming practices. Therefore, the farmstead at 31202 South Cedar Road is not eligible under Criterion A.

The farmstead at 31202 South Cedar Road is associated with the Jones and McCormick families, the former being an early settler in Wilton Township. Although several members of the McCormick family owned and farmed the farmstead for approximately 70 years, research did not reveal any known historically significant associations with their productive lives. Further, they are not known to have significantly contributed to local farming practices. Therefore, the farmstead at 31202 South Cedar Road is not eligible under Criterion B.

The farmstead at 31202 South Cedar Road consists of a modest and altered gabled-ell farmhouse of no discernible style, a detached garage, and a pole barn; the farmstead no longer retains its original agricultural outbuildings. The collection of agricultural buildings has been greatly diminished, reducing the architectural merit that a cohesive grouping of historic buildings may have. Although the extant buildings have not been significantly altered since their construction given their original materials, overall form and massing, and openings, they are modest examples of their type and they do not exhibit any architectural significance or distinction. Therefore, the farmstead at 31202 South Cedar Road is not eligible under Criterion C.

The farmstead at 31202 South Cedar Road was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the farmstead at 31202 South Cedar Road 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.

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Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. August 2011. *Rural Historic Structural Survey of Florence Township, Will County, Illinois*. Will County Land Use Department and Will County Historic Preservation Commission.

Photo 1 – 31202 South Cedar Road

Facing southwest to house east-facing facade and north side elevation

Photo 2 – 31202 South Cedar Road

Facing northwest to house east-facing facade and south side elevation

Photo 3 – 31202 South Cedar Road

Facing north to house south side elevation

Photo 4 – 31202 South Cedar Road

Facing east to house west rear elevation

Photo 5 – 31202 South Cedar Road

Facing northwest to garage south and east elevations

Photo 6 – 31202 South Cedar Road

Facing west to garage east elevation

Photo 7 – 31202 South Cedar Road

Facing southeast to garage north and west elevations

Photo 8 – 31202 South Cedar Road

Facing southwest to ca. 1955 pole barn east and north elevations

Photo 9 – 31202 South Cedar Road

Facing northeast to ca. 1955 pole barn south and west elevations

Map – 31202 South Cedar Road

NAME
11408 West Wilmington Road

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS
11408 West Wilmington Road

CITY
Peotone

TOWNSHIP
Peotone

OWNERSHIP
Daniel and Laura Murray

TAX PARCEL NUMBER
17-20-19-400-009-0000

YEAR BUILT
1860

SOURCE
Plat maps

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE
No Discernible Style

PROPERTY TYPE
Agriculture

FOUNDATION
Concrete, brick

WALLS
Wood

ROOF
Asphalt, metal

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The mid-nineteenth century farmstead at 11408 West Wilmington Road is located on approximately 10 acres on the north side of West Wilmington Road; it is actively farmed. The farmstead's extant buildings consist of a ca. 1860 farmhouse; ca. 1873 drive-through corn crib barn; ca. 1920 gambrel-roof barn; ca. 1920 shed; and ca. 1955 natatorium. A long driveway off of West Wilmington Road leads to the farmstead's buildings, which are set back from the road. The driveway and the south property boundary are delineated by a white wood fence. Grassy lawn surrounds the buildings while mature deciduous trees are located throughout the property. Agricultural fields are located north and west of the property.

The ca. 1860 farmhouse is a significantly altered two-story, square-plan, hipped roof house that was originally constructed in the Italianate style although it retains little association with that style due to its many alterations. The house's original fieldstone foundation is clad in brick; the entire house is clad in wood siding. Near the foundation, the walls slightly flare outward. The majority of its windows are six-over-six, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sashes with some one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sashes with wood window shutters; the sunroom addition has three-over-two wood casement windows. The roof is covered with replacement asphalt shingles and has a wide, overhanging eave.

The house's original Italianate-style form and appearance are obscured by replacements and multiple additions that include hipped roof dormers on the facade and north rear elevation, a semi-circular projecting facade entrance vestibule, new window openings, an exterior brick chimney on the west side elevation, a hipped-roof sunroom addition on the north rear elevation, and a raised original hipped roof to accommodate the roof dormers. The house also no longer retains any Italianate-style ornamentation and more closely resembles an American Foursquare in form and appearance. The south-facing facade's first story comprises two replacement picture windows flanking a center projecting semi-circular entrance vestibule that contains the front entry door flanked by two windows; the door has a wood surround with a simple cornice. The vestibule has a second story railing. The facade's second story comprises five bays of evenly spaced windows. The remaining elevations comprise the original evenly spaced window openings interspersed by non-historic smaller window openings.

The ca. 1873 one-and-one-half-story, gable-roof drive-through corn crib barn sits on a concrete foundation and is clad in wood siding. The barn's north and south elevations have sliding double wood doors and a single six-over-one, wood-sash window in the gable end. Its roof is covered with asphalt shingles and is surmounted by a gabled cupola with openings on its north and south elevations. A ca. 1920 one-story, gable-roof wooden shed is located northwest of the corn crib barn.

Northeast of the drive-through corn crib barn, the ca. 1920 gambrel-roof barn is a two-story, wood-clad building with the remains of a former shed-roof addition along its north elevation. The south elevation contains two sliding wood doors, two window openings, and a stall door opening on the first story; the second story has several rectangular openings. The east and west gambrel ends have a door opening on the first story, window openings on the second story, and a single opening in the gambrel end. Its asphalt-shingle roof is surmounted by a single ventilator and terminates in a hay hood on its west elevation.

The ca. 1955 natatorium building is located near the farmstead's west boundary. It is a long one-story, wood-clad, gable-roof building that contains an indoor swimming pool. Its north and south long elevations and gabled west elevation contain evenly spaced paired multi-light windows surmounted by arched fanlights. The gabled east elevation contains one of these windows, an entry door, and two smaller windows. The east and west elevations also contain a small window opening in each gable end. Its roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The mid-nineteenth century farmstead at 11408 West Wilmington Road was established in 1854 by Ralph Crawford, one of the earliest settlers of Peotone Township. He purchased the land in 1854 and permanently settled there in 1855. The farmhouse's date of construction is unknown but it likely was constructed after Ralph Crawford had successfully established himself; the 1873 atlas contains an illustration of the original Italianate farmhouse and drive-through corn crib barn. Research indicates the gambrel-roof barn and natatorium postdate Ralph Crawford's ownership and date to ca. 1920 and ca. 1955, respectively.

Ralph Crawford was one of the four Crawford brothers who came to the Peotone area; James, John, and William Crawford all settled in Peotone or Wilton townships. They were Irish immigrants who came to the United States in 1850. Ralph Crawford married Nancy Elizabeth Cotes in 1855 and they are listed in the 1860 US Census with their children Mary, Letitia, and Arthur as well as several boarders. By 1880, the family had expanded to include six more children and Ralph Crawford also employed four farmhands. Ralph Crawford was a general farmer, township justice of the peace and school district treasurer, and later in life, a minister.

By 1900, Ralph Crawford was a widower and lived on the property with three of his children and two servants. Between 1900 and 1909, he moved to Austin, Texas, with his daughters Julia and Lavinia where he owned a 32,000-acre farm and was a minister. He continued to own the subject property until his death in 1912 and his son Elmer J. Crawford then inherited the farm, owning it through at least 1918. He lived there with his wife, Lizzie and eight children. The 1918 farmers directory lists the property as "The Homestead," which consisted of 520 acres between the original farmstead property and nearby agricultural parcels. Elmer bred Barred Plymouth Rock chickens and the property also contained a cement silo, which is no longer extant. Elmer J. Crawford and his family moved to Orange, California, between 1918 and 1920 and it is unknown whether he retained ownership of the farmstead or sold it.

From ca. 1950 to 1970, Virginia Murray owned the property, which was known as Murray's Hereford Farm because the Murrays bred Hereford cattle. The 1955 aerial photograph shows the farm was much larger, then consisting of 1,000 acres that included the gambrel-roof barn and corn crib barn now located on the adjacent east parcel. The cement silo is also present on the aerial photograph and the natatorium

appears to have originally been an outbuilding with openings on its west and south elevations. The farmhouse's roof dormers also appear to be present at this time. From 1970 to 1980, James J. Murray owned the property; he may have been Virginia's son. From 1980 to 2003, the property was held in a Peotone Bank Trust and was subsequently subdivided into several parcels; it is likely that cattle farm operations ceased during or just before this time. The property is currently owned by Daniel and Laura Murray.

Principal farm crops in Illinois by the 1850s included corn, wheat, oats, rye, and barley. 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, and 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 farm appears to have been engaged in general farming with a specialization in beef cattle in the mid-twentieth century.

The farmstead's ca. 1860 farmhouse is a modest and significantly altered example of an Italianate style house that more closely resembles an American Foursquare given its numerous additions and alterations. The Italianate style was constructed between 1850 and 1880 in the United States and was common in the expanding towns and cities of the Midwest. The style, along with the Gothic Revival style, began as part of the Picturesque movement in England, referencing rambling informal Italian farmhouses. In the United States, Italianate houses generally followed these informal models and were popularized in late 1830s by the pattern books of Andrew Jackson Downing. Italianate houses from this earlier period have relatively simple detailing while those from the 1860s and 1870s tended to be more highly decorated. The style is characterized by two or three stories, a low-pitched roof with widely overhanging eaves supported by decorative brackets, tall windows that are commonly arched and have elaborate crowns, and often a square cupola or tower. This farmhouse's original Italianate form and appearance have been significantly obscured by alterations, such as vinyl-sash windows, and multiple additions that include hipped roof dormers on the facade and north rear elevation, a semi-circular projecting facade entrance vestibule, new window openings, an exterior brick chimney on the west side elevation, a hipped roof sunroom addition on the north rear elevation, and raising the original hipped roof to accommodate the roof dormers. The facade's fenestration has also been altered by the replacement of original first story windows with picture windows and the replacement of the original elaborately ornamented porch with the semi-circular vestibule entrance. The house also no longer retains any Italianate-style ornamentation, such as its decorative scroll eave brackets, facade porch, and widow's walk, and more closely resembles an American Foursquare in form and appearance.

The farmstead's ca. 1873 drive-through corn crib barn is a basic example that retains its original wood siding, openings, and cupola. Granaries and corn cribs were constructed on the farm 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 Illinois and generally dating from the early twentieth century, the corn crib barn 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 ca. 1920 gambrel-roof barn is a basic and somewhat deteriorated example of the

Wisconsin dairy barn or gambrel-roof barn, which were predominant dairy or livestock barn forms. They are 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. 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, 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 farm's gambrel-roof barn is a basic example that was used for beef cattle and still conveys its original appearance and function as well as the majority of its original materials and fenestration.

The farmstead's ca. 1955 natatorium appears to have originally been an outbuilding that supported farming operations and it is unknown when it was converted into an indoor swimming pool or how it originally functioned.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The farmstead at 11408 West Wilmington 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 farmstead at 11408 West Wilmington Road is associated with mid-nineteenth through mid-twentieth century farming in Will County. However, this farmstead appears to be typical of its period and research did not reveal it to have made significant contributions to local farming practices or the broad agricultural patterns of Will County, Illinois, and United States history. Therefore, the farmstead at 11408 West Wilmington Road is not eligible under Criterion A.

The farmstead at 11408 West Wilmington Road is associated with Ralph Crawford, one of the earliest settlers of Peotone Township in 1855 and a prosperous local farmer from the mid-nineteenth to early twentieth century. However, the original Italianate-style farmhouse erected by Ralph Crawford has been severely altered and additional buildings were constructed outside of his period of ownership, and therefore, the property no longer conveys this historically significant association with Ralph Crawford. Further, research did not reveal any known historically significant associations with the productive lives of the Murray family, and they are not known to have significantly contributed to local farming practices. Therefore, the farmstead at 11408 West Wilmington Road is not eligible under Criterion B.

Although the farmstead at 11408 West Wilmington Road retains its original ca. 1860 farmhouse as well as many of its outbuildings, the original Italianate-style farmhouse has been severely altered by additions, replacements, and alterations. The farmhouse's original form and appearance are significantly obscured by multiple additions and no longer retains any of its Italianate style ornamentation or elements, more closely resembling the American Foursquare and lacking architectural distinction. The farmstead's original agricultural outbuildings have not been significantly altered since their construction given their original materials, overall form and massing, and openings, but they are modest examples of their type and they do not exhibit any architectural significance or distinction. Therefore, the farmstead at 11408 West Wilmington Road is not eligible under Criterion C.

The farmstead at 11408 West Wilmington Road was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the farmstead at 11408 West Wilmington Road is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

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Photo 1 – 11408 West Wilmington Road

Facing northeast to ca. 1860 house south-facing facade

Photo 2 – 11408 West Wilmington Road

Facing northwest to ca. 1860 house south-facing facade and east side elevation

Photo 3 – 11408 West Wilmington Road

Facing southwest to ca. 1860 house east side and north rear elevations

Photo 4 – 11408 West Wilmington Road

Facing southeast to ca. 1860 north rear and west side elevations

Photo 5 – 11408 West Wilmington Road

Facing northwest to ca. 1920 gambrel-roof barn south and east elevations

Photo 6 – 11408 West Wilmington Road

Facing northeast to ca. 1920 gambrel-roof barn south and west elevations

Photo 7 – 11408 West Wilmington Road

Facing northeast to ca. 1873 drive-through corn crib barn south and west elevations

Photo 8 – 11408 West Wilmington Road

Facing northwest to ca. 1920 shed east and south elevations

Photo 9 – 11408 West Wilmington Road

Facing northwest to ca. 1955 natatorium east and south elevations

Photo 10 – 11408 West Wilmington Road

Facing northeast to ca. 1955 natatorium west elevation and part of south elevation

Map – 11408 West Wilmington Road

NAME
Stauffenberg Farmstead

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS	CITY	TOWNSHIP
11743 North 2000E Road	Manteno	Manteno

OWNERSHIP	TAX PARCEL NUMBER
Theodore J. Reitveld	03-02-03-100-005

YEAR BUILT	SOURCE
1900	Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois and History of Kankakee County Volume II, 1906

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE	PROPERTY TYPE
No Discernible Style	Agriculture

FOUNDATION	WALLS	ROOF
Concrete	Wood, metal, vinyl	Asbestos, asphalt, metal

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The early twentieth-century Stauffenberg Farmstead is located on 5.18 acres on the east side of North 2000E Road; it is no longer actively farmed. The farmstead's extant buildings consist of a substantially altered farmhouse (noncontributing) constructed in 1900; a drive-through corn crib barn (contributing) constructed in 1904; and a round-roof dairy barn (contributing) constructed in 1928. The farmstead also retains six buildings that were constructed between the late 1920s and early 1950s and include a gambrel-roof barn (contributing), two concrete silos (contributing), a machine shed (contributing), a detached garage (contributing), and a Quonset hut barn (contributing). The property's existing driveway appears to have once divided the farmstead with the farmhouse, detached garage, and drive-through corn crib barn along its south side and the dairy farm complex, machine shed, and Quonset barn located along its north side.

Along the north side of the driveway, the ca. 1928 two-and-a-half-story, round-roof dairy barn (contributing) is oriented on a north-south axis. It has a rectangular footprint and sits on a concrete foundation that extends partially up the side of the barn into the first story area. Its walls are clad in corrugated metal siding on the north and south shorter ends and vertical wood siding on the east and west long elevations. The round roof is covered in asbestos shingles and extends down to the first story on the east and west elevations, terminating in slightly flared eaves. Three metal ventilators surmount the roof ridgeline and the north end of the roof terminates in a hay hood. The identical east and west elevations consists of fourteen evenly spaced bays each containing a nine-light, wood-sash pivot window while the identical north and south elevations contain center sliding wood double doors flanked by six-light vinyl-sash windows on the first story and four of the same windows at the second story. Two cylindrical concrete silos (contributing) with no roofs are located just east of the round-roof dairy barn.

Just west of the round-roof dairy barn is the ca. 1928 one-story, square, brick-clad hipped roof milk house (contributing). Its hipped roof flares out with overhanging eaves and is covered with asbestos shingles. The roof has a metal ventilator and brick chimney. The wood entry door is located on the south elevation.

The identical east and west elevations contain two four-over-four, double-hung, wood-sash windows; the north elevation contains no openings.

Oriented perpendicular to the round-roof dairy barn on an east-west axis, the gambrel-roof barn (contributing) is a one-and-one-half-story, gambrel-roof building constructed of concrete blocks. Its roof is covered in corrugated metal and two metal ventilators surmount the roof ridgeline. Its long north and south elevations consist of five evenly spaced bays that each contains a single wood window. The gambrel ends were not accessible during survey.

Near the farmstead's east boundary, the Quonset hut barn (contributing) is a one-and-one-half-story building clad in corrugated metal siding. Its rounded roof is covered in asbestos shingles and extends partially down the building's east and west elevations. Its south elevation contains center sliding metal double doors flanked by a single entry door and three single light windows; five single light windows are located in the gable end. Its similar north elevation contains no entry door.

The ca. 1904 two-story, gambrel-roof drive-through corn crib barn is oriented on a north-south axis. It sits on a concrete foundation with wood siding. Its roof is covered in asbestos shingles and surmounted by a gabled cupola containing a window on its east and west elevations. The nearly identical north and south elevations have center sliding wood double doors and a window in the gambrel end; the north elevation also has a wooden entry door.

The one-story, rectangular, gable-roof machine shed building is clad in metal panels covering wood siding. Its south elevation has two metal casement windows while its east and west elevations have a large sliding wood door. A metal chainlink fences encloses its south elevation.

Along the south side of the driveway, the ca. 1900 farmhouse (noncontributing) is a modest and significantly altered two-story, side-gable house of no discernible style. The farmhouse sits on a concrete foundation with replacement vinyl siding and a roof covered in asphalt shingles. The majority of its windows are six-over-one or six-over-six, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash windows; the west-facing facade has a bow window with a fixed light flanked by one-over-one, double-hung, aluminum-sash windows. The asymmetrical west-facing facade has three non-historic facade dormers. The house's north side elevation is altered by a one-and-one-half-story, side-gable addition that has an enclosed porch on its west elevation and a shed-roof addition on its east elevation; it contains the house's main entrance on its north elevation.

East of and behind the house is the detached garage (contributing), which is a one-story, hipped roof, square building clad in wood siding; its roof is covered with asbestos shingles. Its north elevation contains three sets of wooden carriage doors while its east and west elevations contain a single window opening.

Grassy lawn and a mix of mature deciduous and evergreen trees surround the farmstead's buildings, particularly around its farmhouse and along the driveway. An evergreen tree line delineates the farmstead's east boundary. Note that tree and brush overgrowth as well as numerous automobiles and debris on the property prevented a full survey of all buildings' elevations.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The Stauffenberg Farmstead was established in 1887 by William Stauffenberg on the former 170-acre Samuel Herman estate. The farmstead's earliest extant building, the farmhouse (noncontributing), dates to 1900, the drive-through corn crib barn (contributing) to 1904, and the round-roof dairy barn (contributing) and milk house (contributing) to 1928. The dates of construction are unknown for the gambrel-roof barn (contributing), two concrete silos (contributing), machine shed (contributing), and detached garage (noncontributing), but given their construction materials, form, and the farmstead's history, they likely date to the late 1920s to 1955. Similarly, the Quonset hut barn's (contributing) date of

construction is unknown, but likely dates to the late 1940s or early 1950s given the growing and widespread use of this building form on farmsteads during that period. No agricultural outbuildings remain from the farmstead's establishment in 1887.

A 1955 aerial photograph of the farmstead shows it in approximately the same configuration with all extant buildings constructed by this time. It also shows the farmstead had a livestock enclosure around the west and north sides of the round-roof dairy barn and milk house as well as several small outbuildings at the farmstead's south boundary and a small shed adjacent and west of the drive-through corn crib barn. These elements and buildings have since been demolished.

William Stauffenberg was born and raised in Will County and worked on the home farm until his marriage to Katherine Bettenhausen in 1885. The couple lived on a rented farm until 1887 when William purchased the 170-acre farm from Samuel Herman. Research did not reveal any additional information about Samuel Herman. William Stauffenberg tilled and ditched the farm property to engage in general farming and livestock and grain raising. He was also a member of the local school board. In 1900, he erected the two-story, eleven-room farmhouse for his wife and four children, Lizzie, Emma, Lillian, and Albion. In 1904, he erected the drive-through corn crib barn and the *Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois and History of Kankakee County Volume II* notes that "both house and barn are conspicuous for their symmetry and appropriate design, and long will hold their own as representatives of the best of their kind in rural construction."

From 1900 to 1940, the US Census lists William as a general farmer but the presence of the dairy barn, milk house, and feeder barn indicate a dairy specialization. In the 1920s, Albion Stauffenberg worked on the home farm with his father and by 1940, William was a widower, living on the home farm with his grandsons Francis C. and Marcel W. Rathje, who were farm laborers. William Stauffenberg died in 1953 and his son, Albion Stauffenberg inherited the 174.25-acre property. He owned the property until his death in 1985. It is unknown when dairy farming operations ceased or when the farmstead was subdivided into a 5.18-acre parcel from its original 170 acres. Theodore J. Reitveld has owned the property since at least 1999 according to Kankakee County assessor information and operates Reitveld Trucking Inc from the property.

During the mid-nineteenth century, 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. 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. Manteno Township had a high concentration of dairy farms in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and was the state's leading exporter of dairy products. By 1900, the number of farms, livestock production, and dairy production in the Chicago area peaked and then 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 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 and round-roof dairy barn indicate it was likely a small dairy farm operation in addition to engaging in cash crop farming.

The farmstead's dairy farming complex, consisting of the round-roof dairy barn, milk house, two concrete silos, and gambrel-roof barn, is a good intact example of a dairy farm operation in the post-World War I

period. The round-roof barn was most popular in the period just after World War I but never gained widespread popularity because it was more expensive than other barn styles and could not be built by the average farmer or local builder. Like the Wisconsin dairy barn, the round-roof barn was an innovative design that utilized a nearly parabolic roof to increase loft capacity. One and two story versions of the type were constructed and the interior and exterior often resembled those of the Wisconsin dairy barn. Variations of the form include more pointed roofs called the Gothic roof and flatter, curving roofs called the rainbow roof. The 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. Its primary entrance, consisting of double doors, was located in the gable 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 round-roof end hay door and hay hood, roof dormers, and roof ventilators. 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 round-roof dairy barn (contributing), though re-sided on its gable ends, still conveys its original appearance and function as well as the majority of its original materials and fenestration.

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. 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. Two round concrete silos (contributing) are located near the northeast corner of the round-roof dairy barn. They are typical examples of concrete silos from this period and no longer retain their domed roofs.

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. This space was 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 rooms or milk houses. Strict milk sanitation laws required the milk house to be completely separated from the stable area if it was not detached. Located just southwest of the dairy barn, this farmstead's separate milk house (contributing) is a unique, intact example with its flared roof eaves and glazed brick cladding. The farmstead's dairy complex also retains a basic and intact gambrel-roof concrete barn (contributing) that may have been used for milking, feeding, or sheltering the dairy cows. Its concrete construction was typical of mid-twentieth century barns used for sheltering livestock to keep them cool.

The farmstead's drive-through corn crib barn (contributing) is a basic and intact example that retains its original materials, windows, doors, and cupola. 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 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 Quonset hut barn (contributing) is a typical example whose original use is unknown, but likely supported farming operations. It was constructed during 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
Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The Stauffenberg Farmstead 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 Stauffenberg Farmstead is associated with early twentieth century farming in Kankakee County, specifically dairy farming in Manteno Township. Collectively, the farmstead's buildings convey this association through the large number of intact extant agricultural outbuildings that include its round-roof dairy barn, milk house, gambrel-roof barn, silos, drive-through corn crib barn, machine shed, and Quonset hut barn from its original period of construction, unlike other extant farms in the area that appear visually similar but have been significantly altered through outbuilding demolition or non-historic replacement. The farmstead's generally intact layout also conveys this association with early to mid-twentieth century dairy farming in the area; other farms in its vicinity retain few or none of these layout and landscape features that convey its original use or historical association and the relationships between buildings within the farmstead complex have been altered. Therefore, the Stauffenberg Farmstead is eligible under Criterion A.

The Stauffenberg Farmstead is associated with William Stauffenberg and his settlement in Manteno Township in the late nineteenth century. William Stauffenberg was a local dairy farmer in Kankakee County and he is not known to have made significant contributions to the local general or dairy farming practices. The property remained in the Stauffenberg family for an extended period of time and is associated with their family's settlement in Manteno Township, but research did not reveal any known historically significant associations with the productive lives of any members of the Stauffenberg family. Therefore, the Stauffenberg Farmstead is not eligible under Criterion B.

The Stauffenberg Farmstead retains the majority of its early and mid-twentieth century agricultural buildings, particularly those associated with dairy farming. These buildings are relatively intact examples of their types and have not been significantly altered since their construction given their original materials, overall form and massing, and openings. However, they are modest examples of their type, lack architectural distinction, and are not innovative examples. Furthermore, the farmstead's original ca. 1900 farmhouse is of no discernible style or form and has been significantly altered by replacement materials, additions, and alterations. The north elevation addition significantly alters and obscures the original farmhouse's form and appearance while the removal of the facade entrance to the addition significantly alters the facade and its fenestration. The farmhouse lacks architectural distinction or significance. Therefore, the Stauffenberg Farmstead is not eligible under Criterion C.

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

Therefore, the Stauffenberg Farmstead is recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A.

The Stauffenberg Farmstead's period of significance is 1904 to 1955, which encompasses the construction period of its extant agricultural outbuildings. The property's eight contributing buildings are the 1904 drive-through corn crib barn, the 1928 round-roof dairy barn, and the ca. 1920s to ca. 1950s gambrel-roof barn, two concrete silos, machine shed, detached garage, and Quonset hut barn. The property's one noncontributing buildings is the 1900 farmhouse.

The Stauffenberg Farmstead is located in its original location, and therefore, retains integrity of location. It retains sufficient integrity of materials, design, and workmanship due to agricultural outbuildings existing in their original layout, the use of historic materials, and the existence of few alterations to the buildings' original floor plans. It also retains integrity of feeling as a small dairy farming operation and its association with early to mid-twentieth century dairy farming in Kankakee County. The Stauffenberg Farmstead's integrity of setting is diminished by the visible presence of Interstate 57 to the west but otherwise retains its rural setting.

NRHP BOUNDARY

The proposed NRHP boundary for Stauffenberg Farmstead is tax parcel 03-02-03-100-005, which represents the extant of the farmstead property and includes its extant agricultural outbuildings.

SOURCES

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US Census Bureau. 1930.

US Census Bureau. 1940.

Photo 1 – Stauffenberg Farmstead

Facing southeast to ca. 1928 round-roof dairy barn (at right), two concrete silos (at right center), gambrel-roof barn (at left center), and Quonset barn (at left)

Photo 2 – Stauffenberg Farmstead

Facing northeast to ca. 1928 round-roof dairy barn south elevation

Photo 3 – Stauffenberg Farmstead

Facing east to ca. 1928 round-roof dairy barn west elevation

Photo 4 – Stauffenberg Farmstead

Facing east to nameplate on west foundation of round-roof dairy barn

Photo 5 – Stauffenberg Farmstead

Facing southeast to ca. 1928 round-roof dairy barn north and west elevations, and concrete silo

Photo 6 – Stauffenberg Farmstead

Facing northwest to ca. 1928 round-roof dairy barn south and east elevations

Photo 7 – Stauffenberg Farmstead

Facing southwest to ca. 1928 milk house north rear and east side elevations

Photo 8 – Stauffenberg Farmstead

Facing northeast to ca. 1928 milk house south-facing facade and west side elevation; round-roof dairy barn visible behind milk house

Photo 9 – Stauffenberg Farmstead

Facing southwest to gambrel-roof barn north and east elevations

Photo 10 – Stauffenberg Farmstead

Facing northwest to Quonset barn south and east elevations

Photo 11 – Stauffenberg Farmstead

Facing southeast to Quonset barn north and west elevations

Photo 12 – Stauffenberg Farmstead

Facing southwest to ca. 1904 drive-through corn crib barn north and east elevations

Photo 13 – Stauffenberg Farmstead

Facing northwest to ca. 1904 drive-through corn crib barn south and east elevations

Photo 14 – Stauffenberg Farmstead

Facing northwest to machine shed south and east elevations

Photo 15 – Stauffenberg Farmstead

Facing southwest to detached garage north and east elevations

Photo 16 – Stauffenberg Farmstead

Facing southeast to ca. 1900 farmhouse west-facing facade and north side elevation

Photo 17 – Stauffenberg Farmstead

Facing northeast to ca. 1900 farmhouse west-facing facade and south side elevation

Map – Stauffenberg Farmstead

NAME
Will County Fairgrounds

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS
710 South West Street

CITY
Peotone

TOWNSHIP
Peotone

OWNERSHIP
Will County Fair Association

TAX PARCEL NUMBER
17-20-24-300-009-0000;
17-20-24-300-002-0000;
17-20-24-300-028-0000;
17-20-24-306-009-0000;
17-20-24-306-010-0000;

YEAR BUILT
1920

SOURCE
Will County Fair: 100 Years of Country Pride, 2004.

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE
No Discernible Style

PROPERTY TYPE
Recreation/Entertainment
Agriculture

FOUNDATION
Concrete

WALLS
Wood

ROOF
Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
Established in 1920, the Will County Fairgrounds is an approximately 38-acre site consisting of multiple agricultural fair buildings and features located at the northwest corner of South West Street and West Wilmington Road in the city of Peotone. The fairgrounds contain buildings and features ranging in date from 1920 to the present, and include the following: the ca. 1920 Fine Arts Building (contributing); the 1920 race track (contributing); the 1949 food concessions stand (contributing); the 1952 restrooms (contributing); the 1955 grandstand (contributing); the 1957 to 1967 Atrium Exhibition Building (contributing) consisting of the 1957 North Atrium Hall, 1961 South Atrium Hall, and 1967 lounge connecting the two halls; the 1957 powerhouse (contributing); the 1957 north gate ticket booth (contributing); the 1958 Bryant Aluminum building (contributing); the 1975 beer stand (noncontributing); the 1978 West Wilmington Road main gate entrance (noncontributing); the 1997 fair office building (noncontributing); and eleven livestock barns for horses, cattle, sheep, hogs, chickens, and rabbits constructed between ca. 1950 and ca. 2012. The buildings are arranged in a rough U-shape around the fenced race track.

The ca. 1920 Fine Arts Building (contributing), also called the Main Exhibit Building, is a two-story, oblong-shaped, stepped building ornamented by a two-tiered hipped roof and three dome-like cupolas that serves as the centerpiece of the fairgrounds. Its two-tiered hipped roof and dome-like cupolas are reminiscent of Neoclassical exhibition halls of the world fairs and state fairs of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The building is oriented on a north-south axis perpendicular to West Wilmington Road and just south of the race track and grandstand. The building has a concrete foundation and is clad in replacement vinyl siding. All of its windows are evenly spaced six-light, replacement vinyl or wood sashes that extend across all elevations at both stories to let in a maximum amount of light into the

exhibit building. Its east and west elevations have a single sliding metal door while its north elevation has a single entry door. Its hipped roof is covered with replacement asphalt shingles and distinguished by three square cupolas with rounded dome-like roofs and slightly flared overhanging eaves. The largest center cupola has windows on all elevations while the smaller flanking cupolas have no windows and are surmounted by an even smaller cupola. The 1997 one-story, cross-gable fair office building (noncontributing) is located directly south of the Fine Arts Building.

Overlooking the 1920 quarter mile race track (contributing), the 1955 grandstand (contributing) is constructed of concrete and steel with a simple metal-clad shed roof sheltering bleachers with a seating capacity of approximately 3,000 people. A cement retaining wall located at the base of the grand stand separates spectators from the race track along the south side. A 1980 stage (noncontributing), constructed of concrete and wood with a cedar shake roof and cladding, is located in the middle of the race track.

East of the Fine Arts Building and southeast of the grand stand is the one-story Atrium Exhibition Building (contributing) constructed from 1957 to 1967. The 1957 North Atrium Hall is a one-story, brick-clad, round-roof building with a small enclosed entrance vestibule on its north elevation and glass block windows. A 1967 small, one-story, flat-roofed brick lounge building connects the North Atrium Hall to the 1961 South Atrium Hall. The South Atrium Hall is a one-story, vinyl and brick-clad, gable-roof building with a one-story, flat-roofed addition along its south elevation that contains a kitchen and storage room. The 1975 beer stand (noncontributing) of pole construction is an open pavilion located southwest of the Atrium Exhibition Building.

The 1952 restrooms building (contributing), 1958 Bryant Aluminum building (contributing), and eleven livestock barns constructed between ca. 1950 and ca. 2001 are located west and southwest of the Fine Arts Building. Seven of the eleven livestock barns (noncontributing) for the horses, cattle, and sheep are one-story, gable-roof, partially open buildings of pole construction. They have wood foundations, metal-clad gable ends and roofs, and large door openings in the gable ends. Two livestock barns (contributing) for the hogs are one-story, gable-roof, concrete block buildings with metal roofs, evenly spaced window openings on their north and south elevations and sliding doors on their gable ends. One livestock barn (contributing) is a one-story, gable-roof building with a wood foundation, metal clad walls and roof, and doors on the gable end while another is a more recently constructed one-story, gable-roof metal pole barn (noncontributing) with sliding doors in the gable ends.

The greater fairground property is enclosed by a fence and surrounded by parking to the north and west. Its buildings are surrounded by grassy lawn and mature deciduous trees are planted throughout the property. A paved driveway extends around the west and north perimeter of the fairgrounds while a main driveway intersects the fairgrounds with smaller walkways and driveways coming off of it. Two main entrances are located off of West Wilmington Road and South West Street with small ticket booth buildings located at the fairground's west and north gates.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The Will County Fairgrounds originated as the Peotone Fair given by the Eastern Will County District Fair Association in 1904. State and county fairs during this time period were an opportunity to advance agricultural and domestic improvements and skills through education and exhibition for the general farm population. These fairs exhibited farm machinery, horses, poultry, livestock, grains, vegetables, household products, and manufactured items as well as providing popular amusements and entertainments, such as horse and harness racing, carnivals, circuses, and performances. This first county fair was held on the northeast side of Peotone in Smalls Grove for the first sixteen years of its existence. It was an agricultural fair where local farmers exhibited their livestock while numerous businesses showcased the latest farm implements, machinery, and vehicles; baseball games were also held. Though held in the city of Peotone, the fair included the following townships: Wilton, Will,

Manhattan, Green Garden, Monee, Peotone, Washington, and Crete townships in Will County and Rockville, Manteno, and Sumner townships in Kankakee County. The fair was first held for two days in mid-September when there was a slowdown in farm work and the threshing was done. By 1911, the local fair became a popular county fair nicknamed “The Biggest Little Fair in Illinois,” rivaling the Kankakee Fair when compared to other fairs held in the state of Illinois; it quickly outgrew its original northeast side location.

In 1919, a new association called the Will County Driving Park Association was formed to construct a driving park with a half-mile track southwest of Peotone; the association offered a land lease to the fair association to hold the fair at this new location. The fair association decided to erect the following buildings on the new fairgrounds in 1920: an 80’ x 40’ horse barn, a 70’ x 24’ cattle barn, and a 36’ sheep and hog stable. Nearly 200 local men, many farmers, constructed the new buildings. Racing became a big feature of the fair that year and an estimated over 9,000 people visited the new fairgrounds in 1920. The Fine Arts Building, also called the Main Exhibit Building, was also constructed around this time, either in 1920 or shortly thereafter. The Peotone Driving Park co-operated with the fair during this period and its quarter mile dirt track hosted all types of races, including automobile, motorcycle, bicycle, and harness racing; the track is still extant and has been maintained throughout the years. In 1925, the Peotone Driving Park’s land and buildings were purchased by the Will County Fair Association and the race track and grandstand became an official part of the fairgrounds.

Throughout the years, as the fair grew in popularity, the fairgrounds expanded by adding on to existing buildings or constructing new ones to accommodate more animals, exhibits, concessions, contests, and a midway. The fairground buildings and fencing were also regularly maintained with paint and replacement material and the grounds were first landscaped in 1934, which included planting shade trees throughout the fairgrounds; these trees appear to still be extant on the fairgrounds property. Much of this work was completed by volunteers. To help with maintenance costs, the Will County Fair Association also rented the grounds to various organizations throughout the year, such as the 4-H club, the local high school basketball team, and company events.

In 1948, the fair’s original wooden grandstand along the south side of the race track was destroyed by a fire. Temporary bleachers were erected in its place until a new concrete and steel grand stand was constructed in 1955 by Longtin Park and Equipment sales of Skokie; this is the fairground’s existing grand stand. It had a 1,400 persons seating capacity originally with bleachers added over the years to an approximately 3,000 persons seating capacity. The new exhibition hall, North Atrium Hall was added in 1957 and originally called the Commercial Exhibit Building; at this time, the grandstand on the north side of the race track burned down and was never replaced. In 1961, the South Atrium Hall was built and had space for a restaurant and exhibits. A lounge area was built between the two atriums in 1967 to connect the buildings and the following year, the South Atrium Hall kitchen was enlarged and a storage room was added. The Atrium Hall buildings and their additions are still located on the fairgrounds property.

In 1980, the Fine Arts Building was vandalized when rocks were thrown at and destroyed fifteen windows and knocked the panes out of fifteen additional windows. The Fine Arts Building received replacement vinyl on its lower half in 1998 with the top portion having been re-sided several years earlier. The fairgrounds’ livestock barns were also replaced throughout the years with some constructed during the mid-twentieth century, like the concrete block hog barns, and others in the late 1970s and 1980s, like the sheep, horse, and dairy cattle barns.

Today, the fairgrounds are primarily used for the Will County Fair which is held every year the week before Labor Day. Occasionally, the grounds and buildings are used for a Fourth of July celebration, picnics, shows, harness racing practice, and other similar purposes. The present use of the fairgrounds is the same as its historical use.

By 1890, state fairs throughout the United States grew larger and more popular, and began to pattern their activities on the great international exhibitions of the nineteenth century. The most influential international exhibitions were Britain's Great Exhibition of 1851 with its Joseph Paxton-designed Crystal Palace, a large-scale prefabricated iron and glass building; the Paris International Exhibition of 1867 with its exhibition buildings located in a park-like setting; the Paris Exhibition of 1899 with the Eiffel Tower and its grand, permanent buildings; and the Chicago's World Fair, or Columbian Exposition, of 1893 with its completely new, Neoclassical city of permanent buildings created by architects, artists, sculptors, and landscape designers on a scale never before seen. The Columbian Exposition significantly influenced and set the precedent for many state fairs, including those in Minnesota, Iowa, Michigan, Indiana, and Illinois, to have large-scale, Neoclassical exhibition halls set amid permanent landscaped grounds that not only promoted agriculture, but informed visitors of all significant achievements in fine arts, industry, and technology of the time. Incorporated first at a state-level, these ideas were soon embraced at the county-level fair. The Will County Fairgrounds is a good example of these ideas implemented at the county fair-level with its central grand exhibit building, grand stand, racetrack, and other buildings for exhibition and agricultural display as well as its history of entertainment and showcasing the latest in agricultural and technological improvements.

NRHP STATUS
Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The Will County Fairgrounds 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" and in the NRHP Multiple Property Documentation Form "Historic Fairgrounds in Illinois since 1854."

The NRHP Multiple Property Documentation Form suggests that fairgrounds meeting the following requirements to be considered eligible for listing in the NRHP:

- Buildings or structures need to be all or part of a permanent fairgrounds and recognized as such by the general public;
- Have one or more exposition-type buildings for display of merchandise, equipment, crafts, or produce; animal exhibition barns; a horse or auto race track; and a collection of smaller service buildings, such as stables and refreshment or souvenir stands;
- An open area usually set aside for carnival rides, sideshows, and midway acts;
- Large spaces for automobile and truck parking, and sometimes camping facilities;
- Retain a strong integrity of association and location from the period of significance to represent their importance in the agricultural development of the region or state, or their importance in the local or regional rural society's recreational or entertainment pursuits;
- Setting should be sufficiently intact in terms of the historic building and structure density and location, building setback, circulation system, and landforms;
- Have a minimum of intrusive non-historic buildings, structures, and landforms;

- Individual buildings should retain sufficient physical features to evoke their historic function;
- Boundaries should be clearly visible and fenced;
- Have a distinctive Main Gate entrance and secondary entrances;
- The buildings and structures in the landscape should retain their grouping and interrelationships with one another; and
- Have high public visibility and be commonly located adjacent to a town or community.

The Will County Fairgrounds was originally established in 1904 as a county fair for Will and Kankakee counties and moved to its present location in 1920 when it was constructed in conjunction with the Will County Driving Park Association race track. Since then and through the current day, the fairgrounds have continued to operate in this location as a county agricultural and recreational fair. The fairgrounds have significantly contributed to the promotion and development of agriculture in Will County and have served as a center of entertainment and recreation for county residents. Although some of the original buildings have been replaced by similar buildings, such as the livestock barns and original grandstand, and many of the buildings have replacement materials, they continue to convey their historic function, form, and relationships between each other in the greater fairgrounds layout. Therefore, the Will County Fairgrounds is eligible under Criterion A.

Research did not reveal the Will County Fairgrounds to be associated with any persons who are known to have made historically significant contributions to local history, and therefore, the Will County Fairgrounds is not eligible under Criterion B.

As a county fairgrounds with multiple associated buildings and features, the Will County Fairgrounds retains its early and mid-twentieth century fair buildings, including the Fine Arts Building, Atrium Exhibition Building, grand stand and race track, eleven livestock buildings, and several small ancillary structures to support fair operations (ticket booths, fair office, concessions, restrooms). These buildings are relatively intact examples of their types and retain their original overall form, massing, openings, and interrelationships despite extensive replacement materials. However, they individually are modest examples of their type, lack architectural distinction, are altered, and are not innovative examples. The overall fairgrounds generally retains its layout, driveways, parking lots, main gate entrance, and fences; however, these elements are typical of fairgrounds of this period and do not represent any innovative designs. Therefore, the Will County Fairgrounds is not eligible under Criterion C.

The Will County Fairgrounds was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the Will County Fairgrounds is recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A.

The Will County Fairgrounds retains its original historic function; thus, its period of significance extends from 1920, when the race track and Fine Arts Building were constructed on the new fairground property in this location, to 1963, the fifty-year age consideration from the current date of continued fair operations. The property's twelve contributing buildings are the Fine Arts Building, race track, food concessions stand, restrooms, grandstand, Atrium Exhibition Building, powerhouse, north gate ticket booth, Bryant Aluminum building, and three livestock barns. The eleven noncontributing buildings are the beer stand, West Wilmington Road main gate entrance, fair office building, and eight livestock barns.

The Will County Fairgrounds is located in its original location, and therefore, retains integrity of location. It also retains integrity of setting because the fairgrounds retain their overall layout and relationships between buildings. The individual buildings and the greater collection of buildings retain their integrity of design, with original plans for both intact in most situations. It does not retain integrity of workmanship and materials as many of the buildings have been altered with additions or replacement materials. The

fairgrounds retain integrity of feeling and association as an early to mid-twentieth century agricultural fairground and center of entertainment and recreation for Will County residents.

NRHP BOUNDARY

The proposed NRHP boundary for the Will County Fairgrounds includes all property and tax parcels associated with the historical and current fair functions and that contain all associated historic built features.

SOURCES

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"Historic Fairgrounds in Illinois since 1854." National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form, 1990. On file at the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, Springfield, Illinois.

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Photo 1 – Will County Fairgrounds

Facing northwest to ca. 1920 Fine Arts Building south and east elevations

Photo 2 – Will County Fairgrounds

Facing northeast to ca. 1920 Fine Arts Building south and west elevations

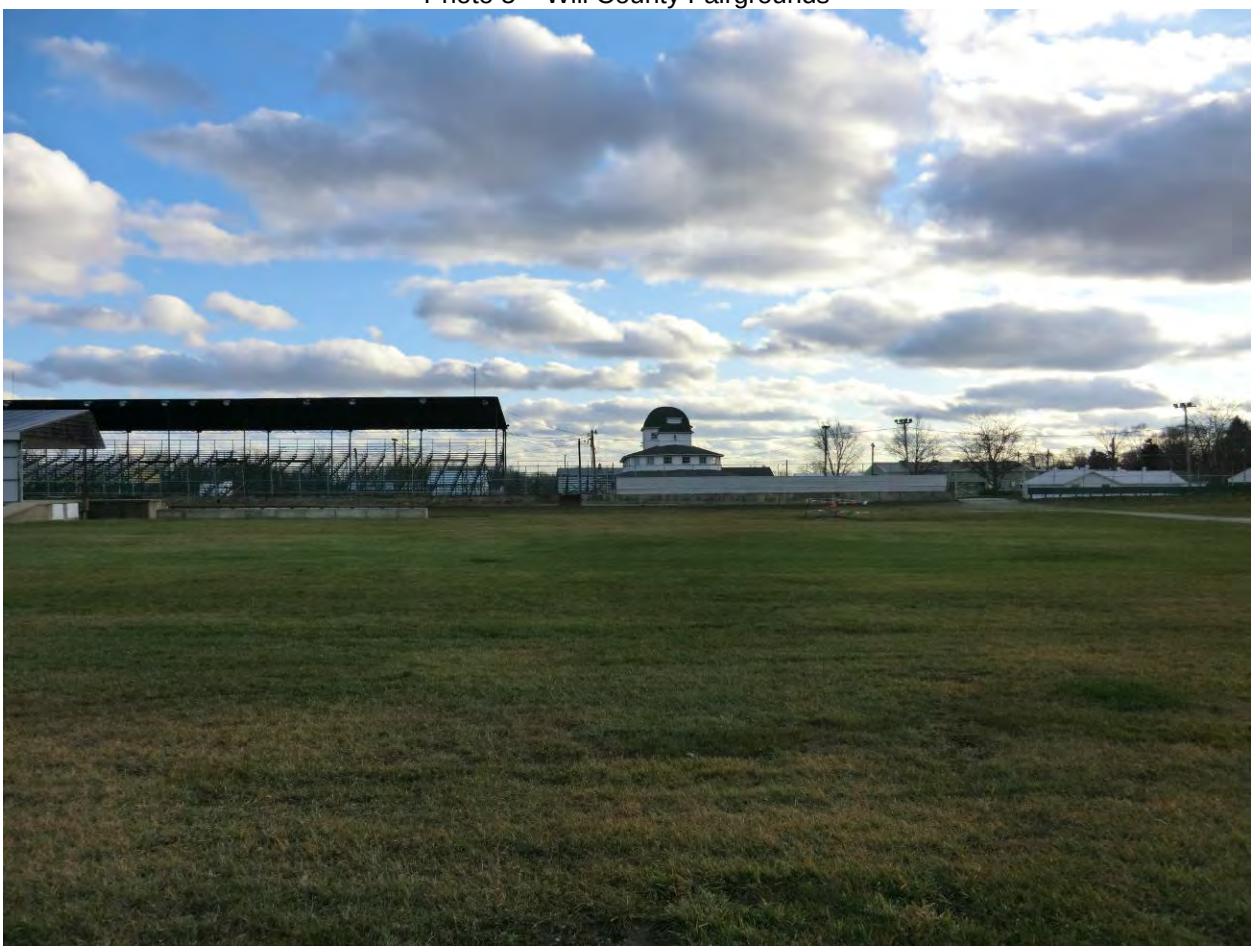
Photo 3 – Will County Fairgrounds

Facing southeast to ca. 1920 Fine Arts Building north and west elevations; 1955 grand stand visible at left

Photo 4 – Will County Fairgrounds

Facing southeast to 1997 fair office building (at center), livestock barn (at left center), ca. 1920 Fine Arts Building (at left)

Photo 5 – Will County Fairgrounds



Facing south to ca. 1920 race track, 1980 stage (at left), 1955 grand stand (at left center), ca. 1920 Fine Arts Building (at right center)

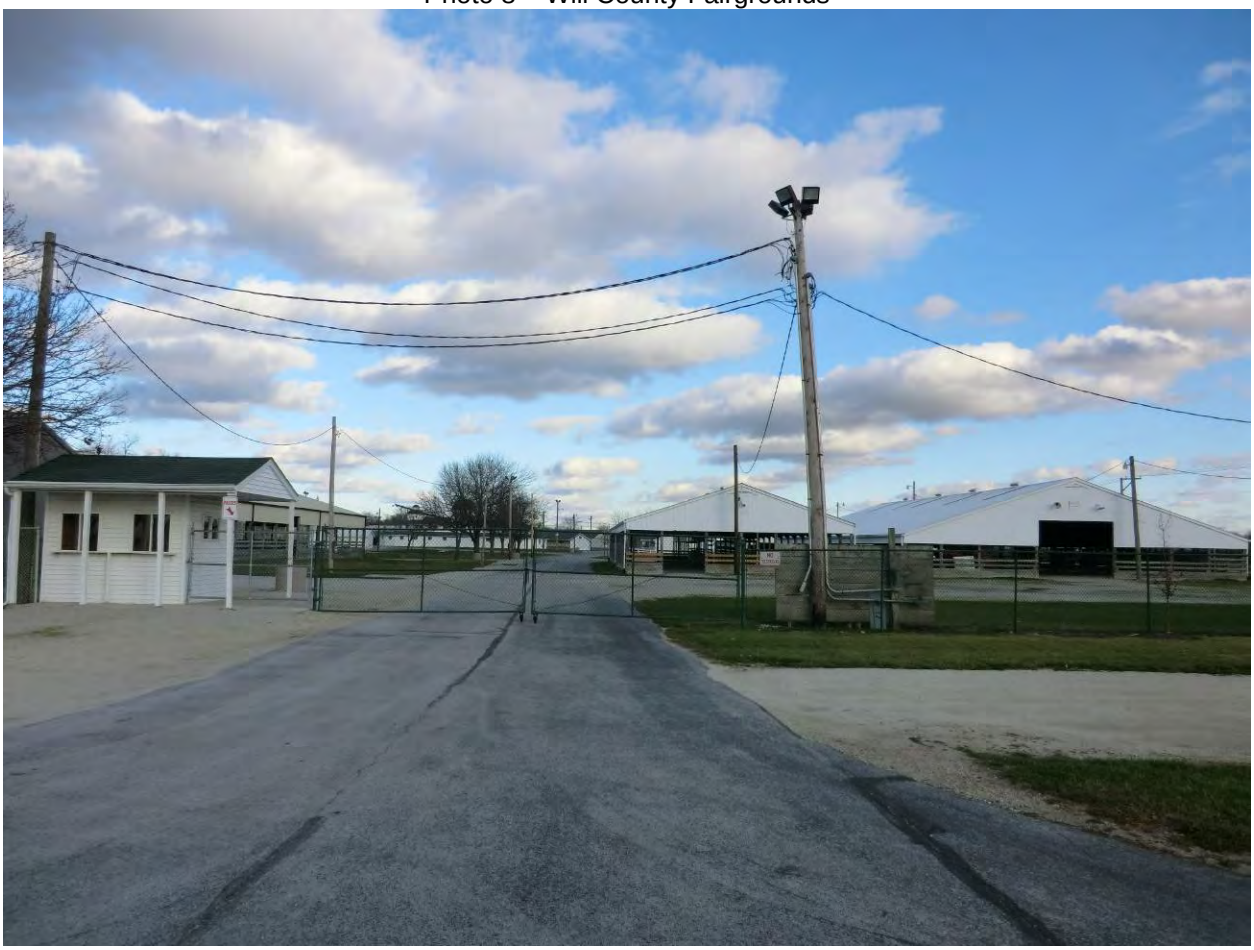
Photo 6 – Will County Fairgrounds

Facing south to 1957-1967 Atrium Exhibition Building, North Atrium Hall entrance

Photo 7 – Will County Fairgrounds

Facing west to livestock barn (at left), 1997 fair office building (at left center), 1957 power house (at left center), ca. 1920 Fine Arts Building (at right center), and 1955 grand stand (at right)

Photo 8 – Will County Fairgrounds



Facing east to west gate ticket booth (at left) and cattle barns (at right)

Photo 9 – Will County Fairgrounds

Facing northeast to west gate ticket booth (at right center), 1958 Bryant Aluminum building (at center), and horse arena (at left)

Map – Will County Fairgrounds

NAME
6917 West Corning Road

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS	CITY	TOWNSHIP
6917 West Corning Road	Peotone	Will

OWNERSHIP	TAX PARCEL NUMBER
Jolita Arzbaecher	20-21-19-300-005-0000

YEAR BUILT	SOURCE
1918	Prairie Farmer's Directory, 1918; plat maps

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE	PROPERTY TYPE
No Discernible Style	Agriculture

FOUNDATION	WALLS	ROOF
Concrete	Wood, metal, concrete	Asphalt, metal

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The ca. 1918 farm at 6917 West Corning Road is located on approximately 298 acres on the south side of West Corning Road; it is actively farmed. The farm's extant buildings consist of a ca. 1918 L-shaped, gambrel-roof dairy barn with an attached ca. 1940 milk house and shed; a ca. 1918 drive-through corn crib barn; a ca. 1940 chicken house; a ca. 1955 wooden shed; a ca. 1955 pole barn; and a cylindrical concrete silo and non-historic pole barn and grain bins, dates of construction unknown. A north-south driveway off of West Corning Road bisects the farm property with the dairy complex, wooden shed, silo, and non-historic pole barn along its west side and the ca. 1955 pole barn, grain bins, chicken house, and drive-through corn crib barn along its east side. The immediate farm property is surrounded by grassy lawn while the remainder consists of cultivated agricultural fields to the east, west, and south; the fields are separated from the adjacent roads and properties by narrow strips of grass. Black Walnut Creek runs through the east portion of the fields. There are no ornamental plantings around the farmstead's buildings or fences or tree lines delineating the property's boundaries.

All of the farm outbuildings have concrete foundations. The ca. 1918 dairy complex comprises a two-story, L-shaped, wood-clad, gambrel-roof dairy barn with a one-story, concrete block, hipped roof milk house attached to its north elevation and a slightly larger one-story, concrete block, hipped roof open shed attached to its southwest corner. The dairy barn also has a one-story addition that formerly attached the barn to a silo that has since been demolished. The dairy barn has four-light, wood-sash windows evenly spaced across the first story on all elevations and two wood-sash windows in the gambrel ends; the milk house has two-light, wood-sash windows on its east, west, and north elevations. Sliding wood doors are located on the dairy barn's west and east elevations with second story openings to the hayloft; the open shed has a large opening on its south elevation. All have asphalt-covered roofs; the dairy barn's eaves are slightly flared and a metal ventilator surmounts the milk house roof. The non-historic cylindrical concrete silo with a domed roof is located just southeast of the dairy barn.

The ca. 1918 two-story, gambrel-roof drive-through corn crib barn has a mix of wood and metal ventilated siding. The barn's north and south elevations have sliding double wood doors and two four-light, wood-

sash windows in the gambrel ends. Its roof is covered with asphalt shingles, has slightly flared eaves, and is surmounted by a gabled cupola with openings on its east and west elevations.

The ca. 1940 one-story, concrete block, gable-roof chicken coop is distinguished by eight staggered square openings at ground-level and near the roof eave on its north and south elevations. The east elevation has a large opening and a rectangular opening in its gable end while the west elevation has a center door opening flanked by window openings; both gable ends are clad in wood. The roof is covered with wood shingles and has a concrete block chimney and remnants of two metal ventilators.

The ca. 1955 pole barn is a one-story, wood-clad, gable-roof building with a metal roof and sliding doors on its west elevation. The ca. 1955 wooden shed is a small one-story, gable-roof building with a single door opening on its east elevation and single pane wood windows on its north and south elevations.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

Based on plat maps and the 1918 Prairie Farmer's Directory, the farm at 6917 West Corning Road appears to have been established between 1910 and 1918 by William J. Meyer. At that time, the farm's agricultural outbuildings were associated with a separate parcel directly north of it that contained the Meyer family's residence; the two parcels are no longer associated. The gambrel-roof dairy barn and drive-through corn crib barn were likely built when the property was acquired by William J. Meyer in ca. 1918 while the milk house and chicken house were likely constructed ca. 1940 given their concrete block construction. The wooden shed and wooden pole barn date to pre-1955 given their appearance on a 1955 aerial photograph while the concrete silo, metal pole barn, and metal grain bins are more recent additions within the last ten or more years.

A 1955 aerial photograph of the farm shows it in the same configuration that now exists with the exception of the post-1955 silo, metal pole barn, and metal grain bins. The photograph shows the original silo that was attached to the gambrel-roof dairy barn's south elevation and was demolished within the last five years based on more recent aerial imagery. The dairy barn's attached open shed building also had two distinct door openings where the one large opening now exists.

Originally approximately 320 acres, the property was owned by Wilson and McIrey in 1862 and then by David Williams from at least 1873 to 1893; plat maps do not show any buildings on the property and research did not indicate whether the land was farmed, though its owners did not live there. David Williams also owned all acreage in the township's Section 30, south of this property. By 1909, the property was owned by Matthew, Charles, and Frank Williams, presumably David Williams' sons and by 1918, William J. Meyer is listed in the farmer's directory as its owner. William J. Meyer, his wife Mary, and their children, William H., Lillian, Wesley, and Lotus lived in the house just north of the farm property. William J. was a general farmer and thresherman who raised Hereford beef cattle, Percheron horses, and grain crops. In addition to beef cattle, the farm was also engaged in dairy farming. Upon his death in 1930, his wife Mary inherited the farm and lived with her daughters Lillian and Lotus, son William H., and daughter-in-law Gladys. William H. Meyer was a heifer farmer and his brother, Wesley was employed monitoring the farm laborers and grain elevator in 1940.

Mary Meyer owned the property through at least 1962 and by 1970, her son William H. and his wife Gladys owned the farm and the property containing the farmhouse. In 1973, his brother Wesley Meyer is also listed as an owner. William H. Meyer was involved with many local agricultural organizations, such as the Will County Farm Bureau Associate Milk Producers, Brown Swiss Association (national director), Will County Fair Association (secretary), and the Illinois Brown Swiss Association (member and president). In 1974, William H. Meyer's sons, William C. and Melvin, formed Walnut Creek Farm, which continues to operate today as a grain farm. Dairy farming operations ceased in the late 1990s, likely around 1996 when the property was sold out of the Meyer family. Today, the property is owned by Jolita Arzbaecher but continues to be farmed by William C. Meyer and Melvin Meyer as tenants.

During the mid-nineteenth century, subsistence farming changed to cash crop farming with the typical 10-acre farm growing to at least 80 acres and sometimes including additional parcels of up to an additional 80 acres. Principal farm crops in Illinois by the 1850s included corn, wheat, oats, rye, and barley. 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 farm's extant milk house and gambrel-roof dairy barn indicates it was likely a small dairy farm operation in addition to engaging in cash crop farming.

The farm's dairy farming complex, consisting of the gambrel-roof dairy barn, milk house, and nearby concrete silo, is an example of a dairy farm operation in the post-World War I period. The Wisconsin dairy barn and gambrel-roof dairy barn were predominant dairy or livestock barn forms that are 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. 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, 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 farm's gambrel-roof dairy barn is a basic example that conveys its original appearance and function as well as the majority of its original materials and fenestration.

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. 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 cylindrical 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 cylindrical, 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. The original concrete silo attached to the dairy barn has since been demolished and replaced nearby with a newer concrete silo.

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. Attached to the dairy barn's north elevation, this farm's milk house is a typical example.

The farm's drive-through corn crib barn is a basic example that retains its original openings and cupola and shares a similar appearance to the dairy barn with its slightly flared roof eaves. Granaries and corn cribs were constructed on the farm 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 Illinois and generally dating from the early twentieth century, the corn crib barn 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 farm's ca. 1955 and non-historic pole barns are typical examples whose original use is unknown, but likely supported farming operations. They were constructed during 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, 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 6917 West Corning 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 farm at 6917 West Corning Road is associated with early twentieth century farming, specifically dairy and livestock farming, in Will County. However, the farm appears to be typical of its period and is no longer associated with its original farmhouse. Further, the farm does not appear to have made significant contributions to local farming practices. Therefore, the farm at 6917 West Corning Road is not eligible under Criterion A.

The farm at 6917 West Corning Road is associated with the Meyer family, who established the farm in the early twentieth century. The farm was continuously owned by members of the Meyer family for approximately 80 years, during which time it operated as a dairy and grain farm. Although the property remained in the Meyer family for a significant period of time, research did not reveal any known historically significant associations with the productive lives of any members of the Meyer family. Therefore, the farm at 6917 West Corning Road is not eligible under Criterion B.

The farm at 6917 West Corning Road consists of generally intact agricultural outbuildings associated with dairy and grain farming that still convey their historic appearance and original use. Most of the buildings have not been significantly altered since their construction given their original materials, overall form and massing, and openings with the exception of the demolition of the barn's original silo and the removal of its attached shed's original door openings. Further, the chicken house is in a general state of deterioration

and no longer retains its openings on its east elevation and the corn crib barn has been clad in non-historic perforated metal siding. These buildings are modest examples of their type and they do not exhibit any architectural significance. Although the farm retains its cultivated fields, it no longer retains any definable farm lanes, tree lines, fences or distinguishable field patterns. Therefore, the farm at 6917 West Corning Road is not eligible under Criterion C.

The farm at 6917 West Corning Road was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the farm at 6917 West Corning Road is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

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US Census Bureau. 1880.

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US Census Bureau. 1910.

US Census Bureau. 1920.

US Census Bureau. 1930.

US Census Bureau. 1940.

Will County Assessor. 2013. Will County Surveyor GIS Website.

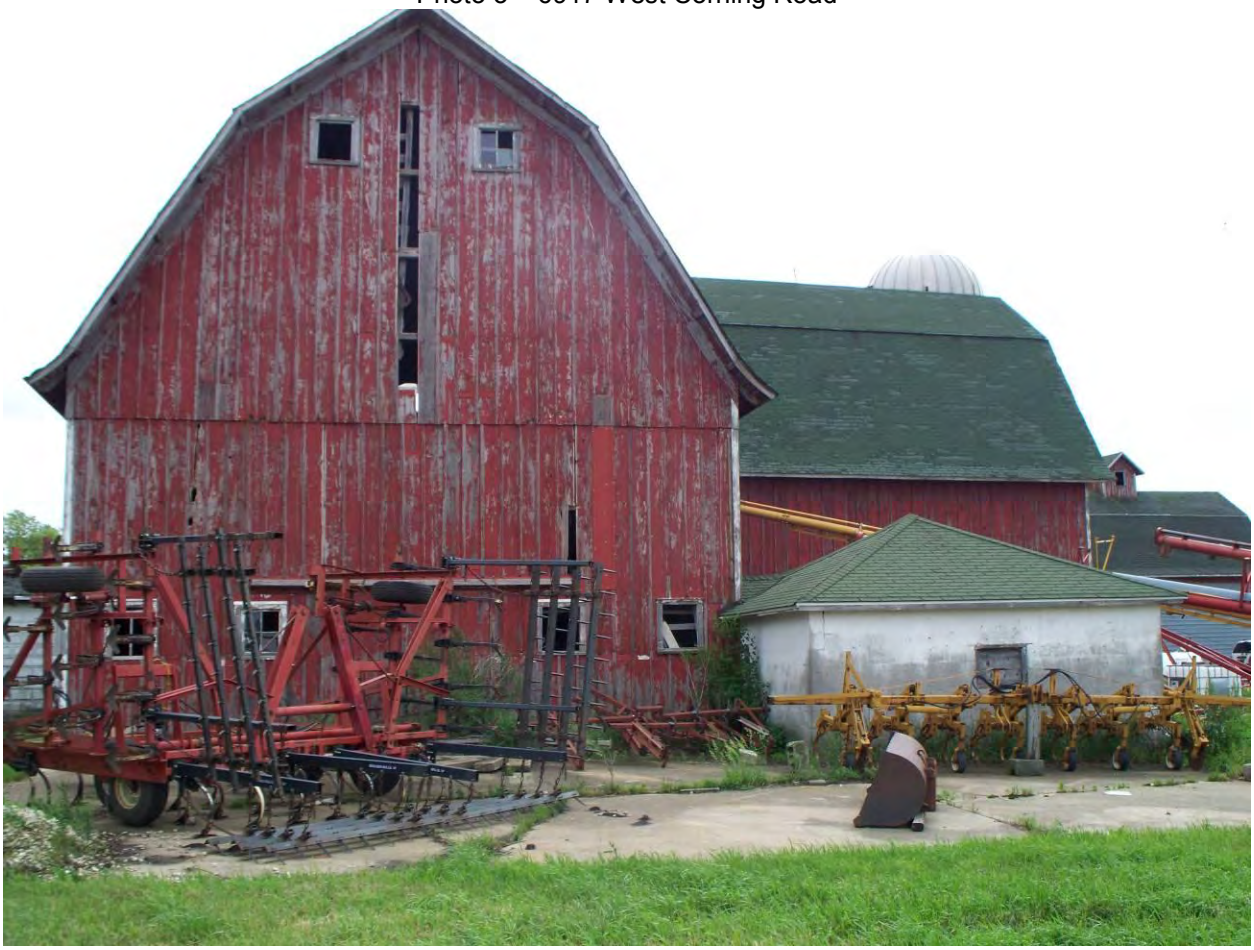
Photo 1 – 6917 West Corning Road

Facing northwest to ca. 1918 gambrel-roof dairy barn and ca. 1940 milk house north and east elevations

Photo 2 – 6917 West Corning Road

Facing southeast to ca. 1918 gambrel-roof dairy barn and ca. 1940 milk house north and west elevations and shed (at right)

Photo 3 – 6917 West Corning Road



Facing east to ca. 1918 gambrel-roof dairy barn and ca. 1940 attached shed west elevation

Photo 4 – 6917 West Corning Road

Facing northeast to ca. 1918 gambrel-roof dairy barn south and west elevations

Photo 5 – 6917 West Corning Road

Facing northwest to ca. 1918 gambrel-roof dairy barn east elevation

Photo 6 – 6917 West Corning Road

Facing southeast to ca. 1918 drive-through corn crib barn north and west elevations

Photo 7 – 6917 West Corning Road

Facing south to ca. 1918 drive-through corn crib barn north elevation

Photo 8 – 6917 West Corning Road

Facing northeast to ca. 1940 chicken house south and west elevations; non-historic grain bin visible at left

Photo 9 – 6917 West Corning Road

Facing southwest to ca. 1940 chicken house north and east elevations; ca. 1918 drive-through corn crib barn visible behind chicken house

Photo 10 – 6917 West Corning Road

Facing northwest to non-historic concrete silo (at right) and ca. 1918 gambrel-roof dairy barn (at left)

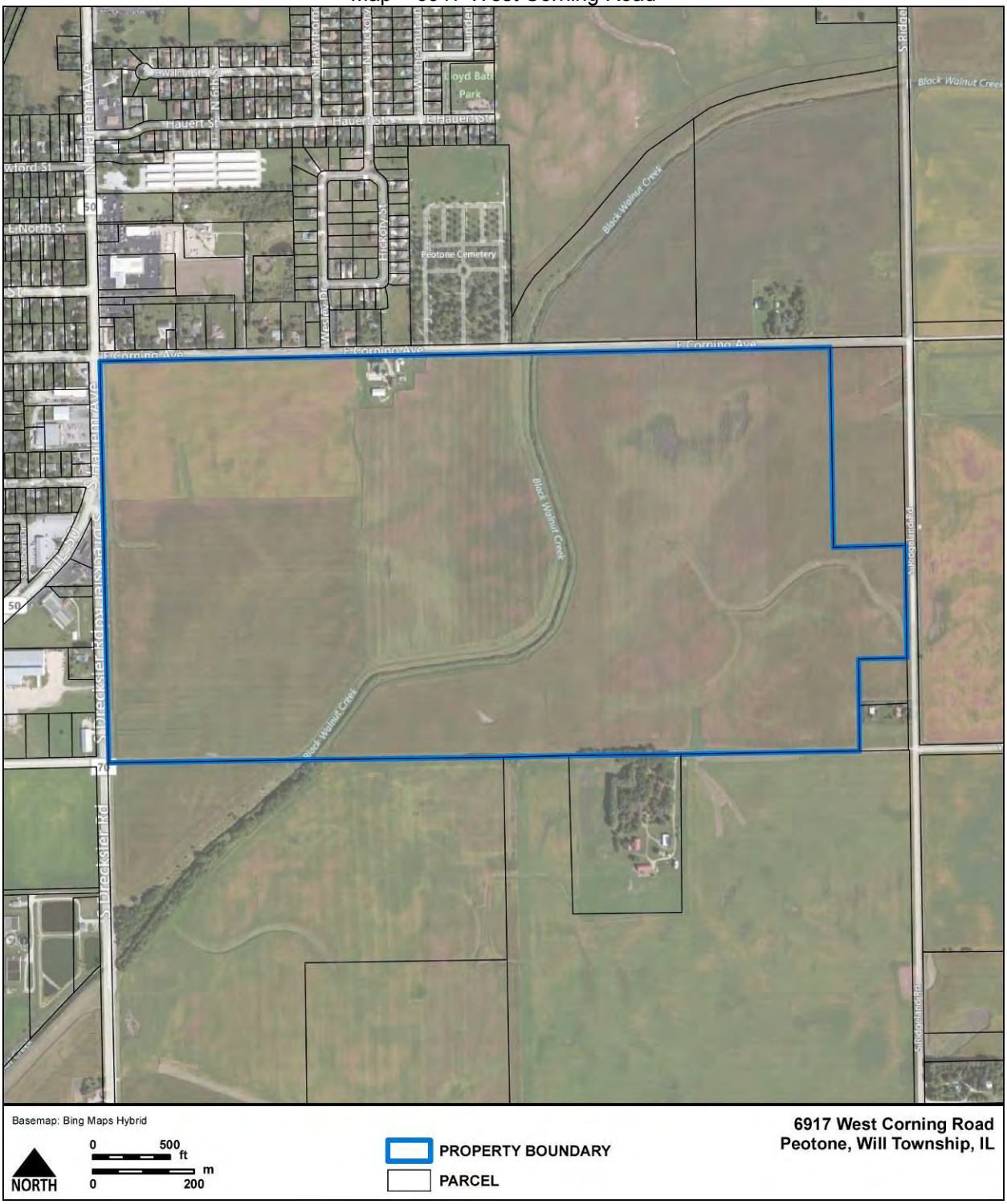
Photo 11 – 6917 West Corning Road

Facing southeast to non-historic grain bins (at left), ca. 1955 pole barn (at center), and ca. 1918 gambrel-roof dairy barn with ca. 1940 attached milk house (at right)

Photo 12 – 6917 West Corning Road

Facing southwest to non-historic pole barn north and east elevations

Map – 6917 West Corning Road



NAME
31131 South Kedzie Avenue

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS	CITY	TOWNSHIP
31131 South Kedzie Avenue	Peotone	Will

OWNERSHIP	TAX PARCEL NUMBER
Ronald Allen Dunn	20-21-25-100-004-00000

YEAR BUILT	SOURCE
1873	Plat Map and Atlas, 1873

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE	PROPERTY TYPE
No Discernible Style	Agriculture

FOUNDATION	WALLS	ROOF
Fieldstone, concrete	Wood	Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The farmstead at 31131 South Kedzie Avenue is located at the southeast corner of South Kedzie Avenue and West Corning Road. Buildings on the property include a farmhouse, two barns, and several sheds. The farm buildings are set close to the roadway and are reached from South Kedzie Avenue by way of a circular driveway. The property is surrounded by cultivated fields.

The ca. 1873 farmhouse is an altered upright-and-wing form. Both the gable-front portion and the wing are two stories tall; historic images show the wing was originally one-story in height. The house is clad in wood clapboards and sits atop a fieldstone foundation. The first story of the gable-front portion is obscured by vegetation, but the second story contains six-over-six, double-hung windows that also contain storm windows. The wing contains a single-story, hipped roof porch that extends the length of the wing and shelters the entrance. It is supported by simple slender columns and features decorative curvilinear treatments at the porch's cornice. The entrance is obscured by a storm door and is flanked by a window on each side. These windows are of disparate sizes and their original configurations are obscured by storm windows. Two second story windows with two-over-two configurations are asymmetrically placed. The north side elevation has a single, double-hung, centrally placed, first-story window while two evenly spaced windows on the second story have been filled in with plywood. The south side elevation has two double-hung windows on the first story and three on the second story. The rear elevation contains a single-story, shed-roof extension that is located at the confluence of the gable portion and wing. A replacement door and single-pane, fixed windows are located on this extension. Other windows on this elevation consist of double-hung configurations, including one-over-one, two-over-two, and six-over-six openings, that are now filled with plywood. The roof is covered in asphalt, with the exception of the rear extension, which is covered with a tarp. A tall interior brick chimney is located on the wing's roof.

The most prominent agricultural building on the property is a large barn. It has a very slight gambrel configuration, deviating slightly from a gable form. The barn is deteriorated with many original materials and features that have been diminished because of its condition. The building is clad in vertical wood

panels. The south elevation is located in the gambrel end and has a central sliding door on the first story and in the loft area. Small windows punctuate the elevation as well. The west elevation has many openings that have been filled in. Other areas of the barn were obscured by vegetation or debris. The gambrel roof is covered with wood shingles and a ventilator is located on the ridgeline.

A gable-roof pole barn is also present on the property. It could not be accessed directly, but appears to be clad in metal with altered replacement doors. The roof is also clad in metal and wood siding. A metal cylindrical grain bin with a conical roof is directly adjacent to the pole barn.

Three sheds are located on the property. A modest shed located directly behind the house; it has a gable-roof configuration and is clad in asbestos siding with a corrugated metal roof. A nearly identical shed that is slightly larger but built of identical materials is located directly adjacent to it. A small storage building is also present on the property. It is clad in wood with a metal roof.

Plantings around the house are largely overgrown and consist of evergreen and deciduous trees and shrubs. Buildings are placed among grass plots. Cultivated agricultural fields surround the farmstead.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

Research indicates that this property was owned by W. Constable as early as 1862; he continues to be listed as the owner until at least 1893, when the property is 80 acres. He erected the ca. 1873 farmhouse, which appears in the 1873 atlas; the extant outbuildings likely date to ca. 1900 and later. Constable was a successful businessman and farmer who came to the United States from England, where he had humble beginnings. He settled in Will Township in 1855. By 1909, Jacob Siemson owned and farmed this and an adjacent parcel. He came to Will Township in 1868 from Germany. By the 1950s and continuing into the 1970s, the Giroux family owned the farmstead, which remained at 80 acres until 1978, when the surrounding 77.5 acres was sold and the portion of the land with the buildings was diminished to 2.5 acres. At that time, the property was owned by Everett Schurman and purchased in 1996 by Ronald A. Dunn who continues to own the 2.5-acre property today.

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 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 farmhouse was originally constructed as an upright-and-wing house and now resembles the gabled-ell form with the addition of a second story to the original one-story wing. 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 31131 South Kedzie Avenue is an altered example of the type.

The farmstead's buildings are all common forms, and have been altered and are in poor condition. A historic etching from an 1873 atlas shows the house's wing prior to the second-story expansion. Farm buildings from that era, including prominent barns, 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 farmstead at 31131 South Kedzie 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 is associated with agriculture in the area. However, the original farmhouse has been altered, and the remaining farm buildings are not original and are in extremely poor condition. The buildings do not convey the property's early agricultural history, nor the extent of the effort since the parcel size has diminished to 2.5 acres. Therefore, the farmstead at 31131 South Kedzie Avenue is not eligible under Criterion A.

Although the Constable and Siemson families were successful farmers, research has not indicated that they were significant people in Will Township history. The property is not associated with persons significant in the past. Therefore, the farmstead at 31131 South Kedzie Avenue is not eligible under Criterion B.

The collection of buildings on the farmstead has changed substantially over time, with original buildings being replaced with newer buildings, and the general deterioration of these more recent buildings. The farmhouse has been altered with the addition of a second story to the wing. These changes result in a lack of architectural cohesion that does not convey a distinct period in the region's agricultural architectural design and function. Therefore, the farmstead at 31131 South Kedzie Avenue is not eligible under Criterion C.

The farmstead at 31131 South Kedzie Avenue was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the farmstead at 31131 South Kedzie Avenue 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.

Drury, John. 1955. *This is Will County, Illinois*. Chicago, IL: Inland Photo Co.

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US Census Bureau. 1860.

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US Census Bureau. 1900.

US Census Bureau. 1910.

US Census Bureau. 1920.

US Census Bureau. 1930.

US Census Bureau. 1940.

Will County Assessor. 2013. Will County Surveyor GIS Website.

Photo 1 – 31131 South Kedzie Avenue

Facing southeast to ca. 1873 house west-facing facade and north side elevation

Photo 2 – 31131 South Kedzie Avenue

Facing northeast to ca. 1873 house west-facing facade and south side elevation

Photo 3 – 31131 South Kedzie Avenue

Facing southwest to ca. 1873 house north side and east rear elevations

Photo 4 – 31131 South Kedzie Avenue

Facing northeast to gambrel-roof barn south and west elevations

Photo 5 – 31131 South Kedzie Avenue

Facing north to gambrel-roof barn south elevation

Photo 6 – 31131 South Kedzie Avenue

Facing southeast to shed #1 north and west elevations

Photo 7 – 31131 South Kedzie Avenue

Facing southwest to shed #1 north and east elevations

Photo 8 – 31131 South Kedzie Avenue

Facing southeast to shed #2 north and west elevations

Photo 9 – 31131 South Kedzie Avenue

Facing south to shed #3 north elevation

Photo 10 – 31131 South Kedzie Avenue

Facing north to shed #4 southeast and southwest elevations

Map – 31131 South Kedzie Avenue

NAME
2444 West Corning Road

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS
2444 West Corning Road

CITY
Peotone

TOWNSHIP
Will

OWNERSHIP
James H. Stolte and Margaret A. Murday

TAX PARCEL NUMBER
20-21-24-400-011-0000

YEAR BUILT
1895

SOURCE
Past and Present of Will County, Illinois, 1907; plat maps

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE
Queen Anne

PROPERTY TYPE
Domestic

FOUNDATION
Concrete

WALLS
Wood

ROOF
Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The two-story, irregularly-shaped house at 2444 West Corning Road is a ca. 1895 Queen Anne-style farmhouse characterized by a steeply pitched hipped roof with lower cross gables, a southeast polygonal corner tower, and spindlework decorative detailing. These elements are character-defining features of the Queen Anne style. The house is located at the northwest corner of West Corning Road and South Western Avenue on 9.6 acres of property formerly part of a late nineteenth century farmstead; it is no longer actively farmed. In addition to the farmhouse, the property also retains a corn crib barn and an English barn likely dating to the late nineteenth or early twentieth century as well as a smokehouse likely dating to the mid-twentieth century. The property also contains a non-historic chicken house, date of construction unknown. The driveway off of West Corning Road bisects the property with the non-historic chicken house along its east side, the corn crib barn north of its terminus, and the farmhouse, English barn, and smokehouse along its west side.

The ca. 1895 Queen Anne-style farmhouse sits on a molded concrete block foundation and is clad in a mix of wood clapboard siding and decorative wood scallop siding. The roof is covered with replacement asphalt shingles. The windows consist of two-light, wood-sash awning windows at the basement-level and one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl sashes at the first and second stories and cross gables; the north rear elevation's cross gable has a stained glass window. Nearly all of the windows and entry doors have decorative wood lintels with dentil molding. The house's south-facing facade incorporates a one-story, flat-roof, full-width porch with turned baluster railings and spindle supports while the east side elevation's two-story, partial-width porch also incorporates lacy decorative wood spandrels.

The late nineteenth or early twentieth century corn crib barn and English barn are one-story, wood-clad, side-gable buildings that sit on concrete foundations. Their roofs are covered in asphalt shingles. The corn crib barn has a sliding wood door on both its north and south elevations and an opening to the hayloft in the east and west elevations' gable ends. The English barn has sliding wood doors on its east elevation while its south elevation has an entry door and square opening. An enclosed shed-roof addition

is located along its west elevation.

The mid-twentieth century smokehouse is a small one-story, concrete block, gable-roof building with wood siding in its gable ends. Its north, south, and west elevations were inaccessible during survey. The non-historic chicken house is a one-story, side-gable, wooden building designed to look like a miniature house with two small roof dormers and shutters.

Mature deciduous and evergreen trees and grassy lawn surround the farmstead property on its north, south, and west sides while the larger property is enclosed by a fence. Agricultural fields are located east, south, and southeast of the farmstead. Newly constructed homes are located in its immediate vicinity to the west.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The Queen Anne-style farmhouse at 2444 West Corning Road was likely constructed in ca. 1895 by Henry F. Boicken, a farmer who purchased the 40-acre farmstead in 1894. A 1955 aerial photograph shows the Queen Anne-style farmhouse, the farmstead's agricultural buildings, surrounding fields, and trees in approximately the same configuration as they now exist. The only apparent changes to the property since then include the demolition of a one-story barn near the extant English barn and the non-historic chicken coop replacing a building formerly located along the east side of the driveway.

Prior to Henry F. Boicken's acquisition, the property was originally owned by the Illinois Central Railroad Company in 1862. In 1873, John B. Sollitt, one of the early Will Township settlers, owned the property and plat maps show a single building. John B. Sollitt also owned several nearby parcels and research indicates that he did not live on this property. By ca. 1880, John B. Sollitt had moved to Peotone and the property was briefly owned by farmer Edward Lankow until 1894 when it was purchased by Henry F. Boicken following his marriage to Louisa Wiechem.

Henry F. Boicken was born and raised in Will Township; his father Charles B. Boicken owned the farmstead southwest of the subject property, across West Corning Road. Henry and Louisa had four children: Albert, Alma, Melinda, and Martha. According to US Census data, Henry employed a farm laborer to help with his general farming operation. In addition to the subject property, he also owned an 80-acre parcel in Washington Township. By 1930, the Boicken family lived in Beecher, Illinois. In 1953, Fred ZumMallen owned the property, though it appears he rented the property to tenant farmers as shown on the 1955 aerial photograph. He owned the property through at least 1970 and by 1973, John Kish owned the property. In 2000, the property passed to the John Kish Trust. In 2006, the property was subdivided into the smaller 9.6-acre parcel, which was then owned by Eric S. Pruitt and Jennifer Wirth. Since 2008, James H. Stolte and Margaret A. Murday have owned the property. It is unknown when agricultural activities ceased on this property.

The ca. 1895 Queen Anne farmhouse is a good and intact example of the Queen Anne style with spindlework detailing. 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 farmhouse's intact complex massing, roof type, corner tower, mix of wood wall surfaces, and extensive spindlework decorative details are character-defining features of the Queen Anne style. The house retains its original materials with the

exception of its replacement vinyl-sash windows but these do not detract substantially from the house's original appearance, form, or fenestration.

The property's remaining agricultural outbuildings are basic examples of their type and lack architectural significance. The English barn was the dominant barn type in the Midwest, 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 corn crib barn is a basic example of corn cribs constructed in the early twentieth century. 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 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; this corn crib does not have a cupola.

NRHP STATUS
Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
C

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The house at 2444 West Corning 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 2444 West Corning Road was originally part of a larger farm complex that consisted of several farm outbuildings and approximately 40 acres of arable land. It appears to have been a typical farm of its period. Further, the farmstead does not appear to have made significant contributions to local farming practices. Therefore, the house at 2444 West Corning Road is not eligible under Criterion A.

The house at 2444 West Corning Road is associated with the Henry F. Boicken, who was raised in Will Township, purchased this former Will Township farmstead in the late nineteenth century, and constructed the Queen Anne-style farmhouse. He owned the property for approximately 35 years. Although the property is associated with his settlement in Will Township, research did not reveal any known historically significant associations with the productive life of Henry F. Boicken or of any members of his family. Therefore, the house at 2444 West Corning Road is not eligible under Criterion B.

The house at 2444 West Corning Road is a good local example of a late nineteenth century Queen Anne-style farmhouse incorporating spindlework detailing and complex, irregular massing. The house's steeply pitched hipped roof with lower cross gables, southeast polygonal corner tower, spindlework decorative detailing, and mix of wood wall surfaces are characteristic of the Queen Anne style. The house retains its original materials with the exception of its replacement vinyl-sash windows. Although the windows have been replaced, they do not alter or obscure the house's original fenestration, form, or appearance.

Therefore, the house at 2444 West Corning Road is eligible under Criterion C.

The house at 2444 West Corning Road was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the house at 2444 West Corning Road is recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C.

The house at 2444 West Corning Road's period of significance is 1895, which is its construction date.

The house at 2444 West Corning Road is located in its original location, and therefore, retains integrity of location. It retains its integrity of materials, design, and workmanship, with only minor alterations present. It also retains integrity of feeling and association as a Queen Anne-style farmhouse. The property's integrity of setting is diminished by more recently constructed houses in its immediate vicinity; however, the house retains a moderate amount of its integrity of setting to convey its historic appearance.

NRHP BOUNDARY

The proposed NRHP boundary for the house at 2444 West Corning Road is tax parcel 20-21-24-400-011-0000, which includes the current 9.6 acre property containing the Queen Anne-style farmhouse.

SOURCES

Drury, John. 1955. *This is Will County, Illinois*. Chicago, IL: Inland Photo Co.

Burhans, S.H. and J. Van Vechten. 1862. *Map of Will County, Illinois*.
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Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT). June 2005. *Historic Context Study of Minnesota Farms, 1820-1960*.

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US Census Bureau. 1920.

US Census Bureau. 1930.

US Census Bureau. 1940.

Will County Assessor. 2013. Will County Surveyor GIS Website.

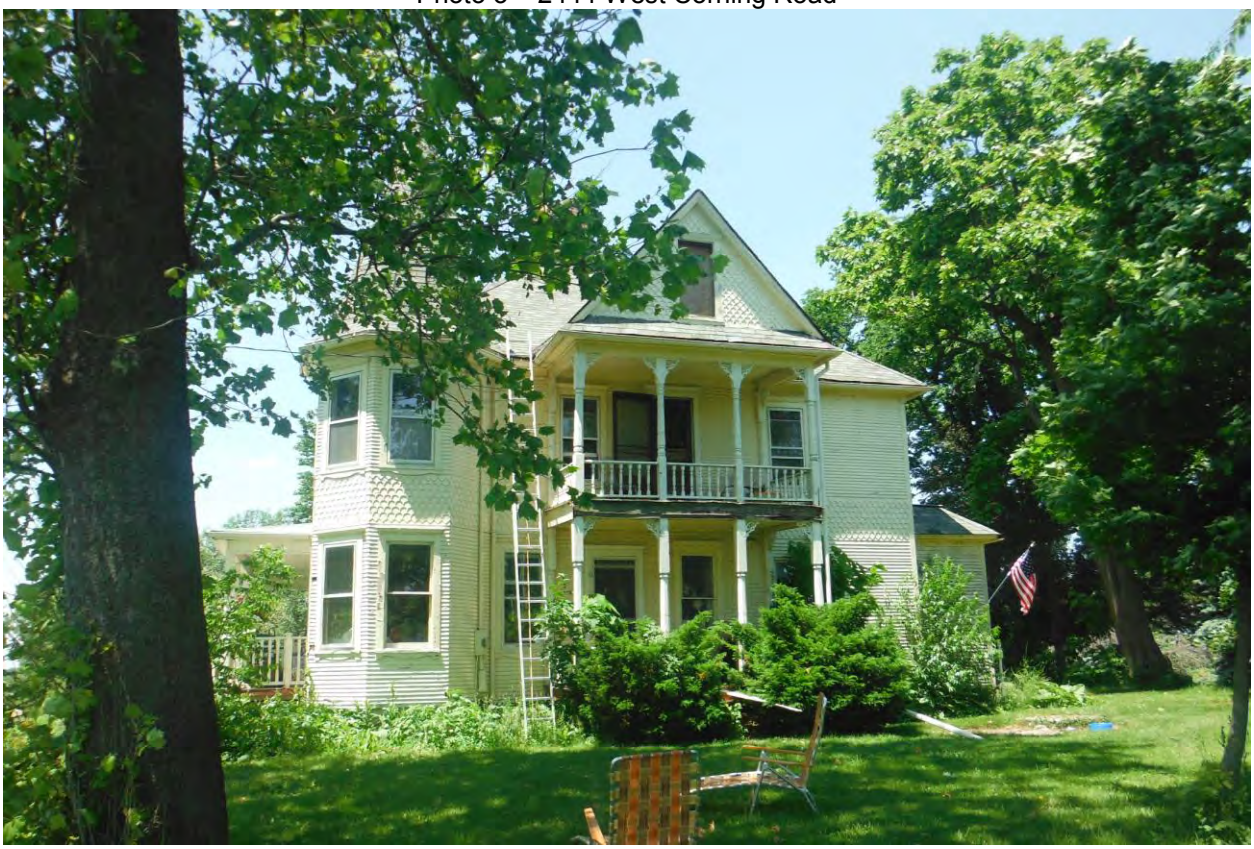
Photo 1 – 2444 West Corning Road

Facing northwest to ca. 1890 Queen Anne farmhouse (at left) and non-historic chicken house (at right)

Photo 2 – 2444 West Corning Road

Facing northwest to ca. 1890 house south-facing facade, corner tower, and east side elevation

Photo 3 – 2444 West Corning Road



Facing west to ca. 1890 house east side elevation and corner tower

Photo 4 – 2444 West Corning Road

Facing southwest to ca. 1890 house north rear and west side elevations

Photo 5 – 2444 West Corning Road

Facing northeast to ca. 1890 house west side elevation and south-facing facade

Photo 6 – 2444 West Corning Road

Facing southwest to corn crib barn east and north elevations

Photo 7 – 2444 West Corning Road

Facing northeast to corn crib barn south and west elevations

Photo 8 – 2444 West Corning Road

Facing southwest to English barn north and east elevations

Photo 9 – 2444 West Corning Road

Facing north to English barn south elevation

Photo 10 – 2444 West Corning Road

Facing west to smokehouse east elevation

Photo 11 – 2444 West Corning Road

Facing northeast to non-historic chicken house south and west elevations

Map – 2444 West Corning Road

NAME
Beecher Mausoleum

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS	CITY	TOWNSHIP
Horner Lane and South Hillcrest Road	Beecher	Washington

OWNERSHIP	TAX PARCEL NUMBER
Sandra L. Thielman	22-22-21-202-003-0000

YEAR BUILT	SOURCE
1913	Beechermausoleum.org, date unknown

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Cecil E. Bryan

STYLE	PROPERTY TYPE
Neoclassical	Funerary/Mausoleum

FOUNDATION	WALLS	ROOF
Concrete	Limestone	Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The 1913 Beecher Mausoleum is a one-story, flat-roof, Neoclassical-style building with a cross-shaped footprint. It is located at the intersection of Horner Lane and South Hillcrest Road and is bound by agricultural fields to the south and St. Luke's Cemetery to the northeast. The building is constructed of reinforced concrete, with a Bedford Limestone veneer. Its Neoclassical-style limestone decorative features include an entablature and parapet that wrap around the building on all elevations and a number of decorative elements on the north-facing facade. All of the windows are glass block, and generally tripartite in form.

The north-facing facade is distinguished by a stepped central entrance comprising a temple front, with a parapet that terminates to a triangular point. The entrance vestibule is recessed and framed by two Doric columns. The facade's double doors are bronze and form an arched entryway. The door surround is topped by an entablature and cornice supported by two scroll-shaped brackets. There are two reliefs on the entrance; one is a laurel wreath with the year "1913" inscribed in the center of the temple-front parapet. The second are two swags on the door surround between the cornice and doors. Additional features include two limestone urns near the facade's northeast and southeast corners. These urns are elevated on a stone block and emphasized by slightly projecting limestone pilasters on the facade. The interior is very light with all of the surfaces covered in white marble. Some of its distinctive features include niches and decorative beams.

The identical east and west side elevations consist of a center tripartite window comprised of rectangular panels of glass blocks and framed by two pairs of pilasters. Classical elements include a parapet, entablature, and two pairs of pilasters.

The south rear elevation comprises two pilasters at the east and west ends and a projecting short wing at the center of the elevation. The wing is surmounted by the same pointed parapet as the facade. The entablature is stopped at the wing by two pilasters, which extend from the top of the parapet to the base

of the building. Like the east and west side elevations, the wing's south elevation contains a central tripartite window consisting of rectangular panels of glass blocks. This window has transom spaces above each segment, with hoods for ventilation. The east and west elevations of the wing each contain a rectangular window of glass blocks.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The Beecher Mausoleum was designed in 1913 by native Illinois architect, Cecil E. Bryan. Bryan's architectural education included a year spent with Frank Lloyd Wright and engineer Ralph Modjeske. Specializing in designing mausoleums, Bryan is credited with the design of over eighty mausoleums in the United States; nineteen known examples are in Illinois. Some of the nearest examples to Beecher are in Morris, Hinsdale, and Elmhurst. Bryan's design of the community mausoleum was part of a national trend. In 1907 a patent was awarded to W. I. Hood and J. W. Chesrown for a "Sanitary Crypt" or a "Community Mausoleum." The idea was to create a space that provided a sanitary storage for the dead, and alleviate sorrow. It was believed that survivors of the dead would be consoled, knowing that their loved-ones' remains were resting in a piece of sculpture, rather than decomposing in the earth. The mausoleum sanitation system filtered the decomposition gasses through formaldehyde tanks and limestone conduits to "disinfect the odor." After the gas was sanitized it was released through automatic valves.

Bryan saw community mausoleums as a means to create a legacy using modern, less venerable materials. Concrete was resistant to fire, storms, and earthquakes. His self-published booklet "Community Mausoleums" highlighted a number of selling points. The mausoleum was marketed as a way for modern Americans to leave a visual imprint of a legacy, tantamount to ancient Greek, Roman, and Egyptian Cultures. Bryan quotes John Ruskin to reinforce his argument, "if a thing is really beautiful, then it will always be beautiful as long as a piece of it is left." A number of commonly held beliefs during that period were reflected in mausoleum building. Bryan saw the mausoleum as a city for the dead and felt that this type of burial was more suitable to community settings because the community concept was extended to the burial place. He called the mausoleum burials "Democracy of Death," with the idea that all people can be buried in a common environment with the "dignity and majesty of humanity." He also marketed the sanitary nature of his crypts, which eliminated the risk of catching "influenza" when visiting a loved one's grave on a rainy day. It was also a way to be rid of the poorly maintained older cemeteries.

Beecher was proud of its "fire and storm proof" mausoleum. Concrete construction was very new in 1912, and it was seen as a great material for venerable public buildings. A number of local newspaper articles from the *Beecher Herald* conveyed excitement for the small town to be at the forefront of a popular modern practice. One article stated that there were already 700 of such mausoleums built nationally in larger towns, and "there is no reason why Beecher should not be in line and have a beautiful mausoleum." Locally a mausoleum interment was marketed as being cheaper than a ground burial. The original crypt owners paid $200 for their space and received a deed. From that $200, $5 was set aside in a fund for maintenance and upkeep of the building.

The building is an excellent example of the Neoclassical style, which was a prevalent style for the first half of the twentieth century. Symmetry, balance, and classical features such as columns, urns, swags, entablature, and stone reliefs are all representative of the style. The building retains most of its original style and materials, with the exception of the windows. The original stained glass windows were destroyed in 1937 by vandals and were subsequently replaced with glass block. One small stained glass window remains, and is in very poor condition. Bryan used Tiffany Studios windows in a number of his mausoleums; at this time there is not sufficient documentation to confirm that the Beecher windows were Tiffany glass.

The Beecher Mausoleum was designated a Will County local landmark in 1998.The resource has been recognized by Landmarks Illinois as one of the ten most endangered landmarks in the state. The

mausoleum is supported by an advocacy group, the Beecher Mausoleum Guardian Angels. Founded in 1996, the organization has six board members and has initiated a number of restorations and cleanings since its formation. Their objectives include development of a long range plan for the mausoleum, and return it to an operating condition so that it may “serve the community as it was originally intended.”

NRHP STATUS
Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
A, C

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The Beecher Mausoleum 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 Beecher Mausoleum is an early realization of Cecil E. Bryan’s vision to create long-lasting and venerable community mausoleums that were sanitary storage spaces for the dead. The building also reflects a national movement at the local level in Beecher to create a place of burial that is sanitary, beautiful, and honors the dead through a lasting, built legacy. The Beecher Mausoleum conveys this historically significant association, and therefore, the Beecher Mausoleum is eligible under Criterion A.

Research did not reveal the Beecher Mausoleum to be associated with any persons who are known to have made historically significant contributions to local history, and therefore, the Beecher Mausoleum is not eligible under Criterion B.

The Beecher Mausoleum is an excellent example of a Neoclassical-style funerary building that retains its historic form, materials, and decorative features. Although the glass block windows are not the original to the building and replaced the original stained glass, they do not substantially detract from the overall design of the mausoleum. Building with reinforced concrete was a somewhat new practice in 1912, reflecting a national desire to construct fireproof public buildings. The citizens of Beecher found this building important enough to be fireproof, but also supported the architect’s use of high-quality materials, including an exterior of regionally sourced Bedford Limestone. It is one of the early examples of a series in mausoleum construction by notable architect Cecil E. Bryan and is representative of his work. Therefore, the Beecher Mausoleum eligible under Criterion C.

The Beecher Mausoleum was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as a part of this assessment.

Therefore the Beecher Mausoleum is recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criteria A and C.

The Beecher Mausoleum’s period of significance is 1913, which is its construction date.

The building’s Neoclassical features, materials, and construction method retain a high level of design, workmanship, and materials integrity and convey a sophisticated place of mourning and burial. The building retains its integrity of location and setting. The building also retains its integrity of feeling as a Neoclassical-style mausoleum and its association as a local community mausoleum.

NRHP BOUNDARY

The proposed boundary for the Beecher Mausoleum is the tax parcel 22-22-21-202-003-0000, which contains the building and property historically associated with this historic property.

SOURCES

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Photo 1- Beecher Mausoleum

Facing south to north-facing facade

Photo – 2 Beecher Mausoleum

Facing southeast to west side elevation and north-facing facade

Photo – 3 Beecher Mausoleum

Facing northeast to south rear and west side elevations

Photo – 4 Beecher Mausoleum

Facing northwest to east side elevation

Photo – 5 Beecher Mausoleum

Facing southwest to north-facing facade and east side elevation

Photo 6 – Beecher Mausoleum

Facing south to north-facing facade temple front laurel wreath relief detail

Photo 7 – Beecher Mausoleum

Facing south to north-facing facade and door surround detail

Map – Beecher Mausoleum

NAME
Barn at 31940 South Dixie Highway

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS	CITY	TOWNSHIP
31940 South Dixie Highway	Beecher	Washington

OWNERSHIP	TAX PARCEL NUMBER
Franklin and Patricia Unruh	22-22-23-310-001-0000

YEAR BUILT	SOURCE
1940	Plat maps

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE	PROPERTY TYPE
No Discernible Style	Agriculture

FOUNDATION	WALLS	ROOF
Concrete	Concrete, metal	Asphalt, metal

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The small collection of agricultural buildings at 31940 South Dixie Highway is a dairy barn complex that is part of an actively farmed farmstead located on 160 acres on the west side of South Dixie Highway. The ca. 1940 dairy barn complex consists of a double round-roof dairy barn with a milk house attached to its east elevation, a silo attached by a round-roof wing to its west elevation, and an open shed-roof structure attached to its south elevation. The dairy barn complex is located at the west terminus of the farmstead's driveway off of South Dixie Highway; the greater farmstead property contains a farmhouse, drive-through corn crib barn, transverse-frame barn, detached garage, several small outbuildings, and metal grain bins; these buildings are not being assessed as part of this documentation. Grassy lawn surrounds the buildings while mature deciduous trees are located throughout the property. The immediate farmstead's north and west elevations are partially delineated by tree lines of evergreens.

The ca. 1940 dairy barn complex comprises the dairy barn, milk house, wing, silo, and shed. The dairy barn is a two-story, round-roof building with a projecting two-story, round-roof offset wing on its east elevation. The barn's first story is constructed of concrete blocks while its second story and gambrel ends are clad in corrugated metal siding. The round roof is covered with asphalt shingles and extends down to the first story on the north and south elevations, terminating in slightly flared eaves. The majority of its windows are six-light, metal-sashes. The barn's east elevation contains a wood door on the first story and a sliding metal door and gambrel end window; the round-roof wing projects from this elevation and contains a sliding wood door flanked by windows on its first story while the second story contains a sliding metal door and two gambrel end windows. The wing's north elevation contains a sliding wood door and window while its south elevation contains two small three-light, metal-sash windows. The dairy barn complex's one-story, hipped roof milk house is attached to the round-roof wing on the east elevation. It has a concrete foundation and glazed tile cladding. An entry door and window are located on its east elevation.

The barn's north elevation comprises eight bays of windows. The barn's west elevation contains a large sliding wood door and window on its first story and two sliding metal doors and windows on its second

story and gambrel end. A one-story, concrete block, round-roof wing attaches a two-story cylindrical Harvestore metal silo with a hemispherical roof to the dairy barn's west elevation. The wing has a single window on its north elevation.

The barn's south elevation contains a large sliding wood door, a smaller sliding wood door, and two windows. The open shed addition is attached near the west end of the south elevation. It has a concrete-block foundation, wood-clad walls, and a metal-clad roof. It is completely open and supported by wood posts on its east elevation.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The dairy barn complex at 31940 South Dixie Highway was likely constructed ca. 1940 by Vern Unruh on a farmstead that was first established ca. 1870. Vern Unruh was a dairy and cattle farmer who bred Holstein-Friesian cattle in the 1950s and also grew corn crops. He rented and eventually acquired the farm from his father-in-law John Fiene. John Fiene had owned the property from about ca. 1909 and onward; he was a general farmer. His daughter Sylvia married Vern Unruh in 1930 and they rented the farm from her father and later from her mother Caroline who inherited the farm upon John Fiene's death in 1933. The 160-acre parcel was owned by Vern Unruh until his death in 1996 when it was inherited by his son, Franklin Unruh who currently owns the property. Research did not reveal any additional information about the Fiene or Unruh families.

Principal farm crops in Illinois by the 1850s included corn, wheat, oats, rye, and barley. 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 farm appears to have been engaged in general farming with some livestock specialization in the early twentieth century.

A 1955 aerial photograph shows the dairy barn complex as well as the larger farmstead. The open shed appears to have been partially enclosed with large door openings on its now completely open east elevation. The dairy barn also appears to have had at least two roof ventilators, which no longer exist.

The farmstead's dairy farming complex, consisting of the round-roof dairy barn, milk house, silo, and open shed, is a basic and intact example of a dairy farm operation in the post-World War II period. The round-roof barn was most popular in the period just after World War I but never gained widespread popularity because it was more expensive than other barn styles and could not be built by the average farmer or local builder. Like the Wisconsin dairy barn, the round-roof barn was an innovative design that utilized a nearly parabolic roof to increase loft capacity. One and two story versions of the type were constructed and the interior and exterior often resembled those of the Wisconsin dairy barn. Variations of the form include more pointed roofs called the Gothic roof and flatter, curving roofs called the rainbow roof. The 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. Its primary entrance, consisting of double doors, was located in the gable 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 round-roof end hay door and hay hood, roof dormers, and roof ventilators. 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 round-roof dairy barn lacks architectural distinction but still conveys its original appearance and function as well as its original fenestration. It does not retain its original 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. 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. This farmstead has a Harvestore silo that was likely erected between 1949 and 1955 because it is shown on the 1955 aerial photograph and these types of silos went into service in 1949. Harvestore silos are glass-fused-to-steel silos that were developed by A.O. Smith in the 1930s to store feed and provided the highest quality haylage, high-moisture grains, limited dry matter loss, and labor-saving convenience to aid in the high-quality production of dairy milk production. The Harvestore silos are characterized by a Push Button Fill Doors system that eliminates the need to climb to the top of the structure to open and close its doors; a breather bag system to reduce air flow; the ability to expand upward and be moved; and a center fill system. A Harvestore silo was usually indicative of a farm's prosperity at the time of its installation and this farm's Harvestore silo is an intact example.

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. Attached to this dairy barn's east elevation, the milk house is a basic and intact example.

NRHP STATUS
Not Eligible

DATE LISTED
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA
N/A

NRHP CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS
N/A

NRHP EVALUATION/JUSTIFICATION
The dairy barn complex at 31940 South Dixie Highway 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 dairy barn complex at 31940 South Dixie Highway is associated with mid-twentieth century dairy farming in Will County. However, the dairy barn complex appears to be typical of its period and does not appear to have made significant contributions to local farming practices. Therefore, the dairy barn complex at 31940 South Dixie Highway is not eligible under Criterion A.

The dairy barn complex at 31940 South Dixie Highway is associated with the Fiene and Unruh families, who were local farming families in Washington Township from the early to mid-twentieth century. The

dairy barn complex is associated with Vern Unruh's period of ownership in the mid-twentieth century for approximately 60 years; however, research did not reveal any known historically significant associations with his productive lives. Further, Vern Unruh is not known to have significantly contributed to local farming practices. Therefore, the dairy barn complex at 31940 South Dixie Highway is not eligible under Criterion B.

The dairy barn complex at 31940 South Dixie Highway is a modest example; groupings such as this one are ubiquitous throughout the Midwest. The main round-roof barn with its secondary offset round-roof wing is an interesting variation of the dairy barn type but lacks architectural distinction; it is not a particularly rare barn type although it is less prevalent than gambrel-roof barns. The dairy barn complex's original attached milk house, Harvestore silo, and open shed have not been significantly altered since their construction given their original materials, overall form and massing, and openings. However, they are modest examples of their type and they do not exhibit any architectural significance or distinction. Therefore, the dairy barn complex at 31940 South Dixie Highway is not eligible under Criterion C.

The dairy barn complex at 31940 South Dixie Highway was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the dairy barn complex at 31940 South Dixie Highway is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

SOURCES
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Stevens, W.W. 1907. *Past and Present of Will County, Illinois*. Chicago, IL: S.J. Clarke Publishing.

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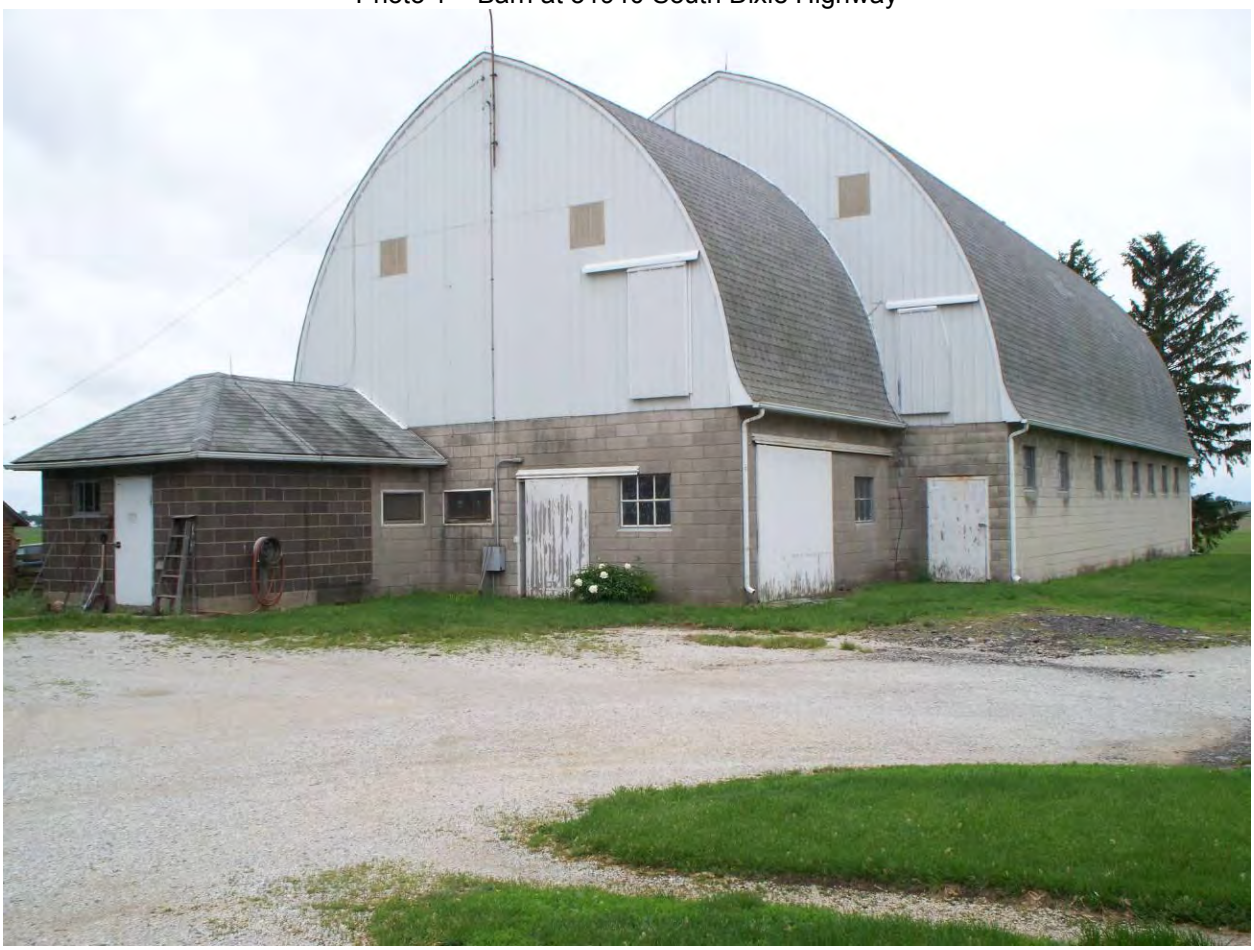
Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. August 2011. *Rural Historic Structural Survey of Florence Township, Will County, Illinois*. Will County Land Use Department and Will County Historic Preservation Commission.

Photo 1 – Barn at 31940 South Dixie Highway



Facing southwest to ca. 1940 dairy barn complex milk house and round-roof barn east and north elevations

Photo 2 – Barn at 31940 South Dixie Highway

Facing southeast to ca. 1940 dairy barn complex round-roof dairy barn west and north elevations and attached metal silo

Photo 3 – Barn at 31940 South Dixie Highway

Facing northeast to ca. 1940 dairy barn complex's round-roof dairy barn west and south elevations, metal silo, and shed-roof addition

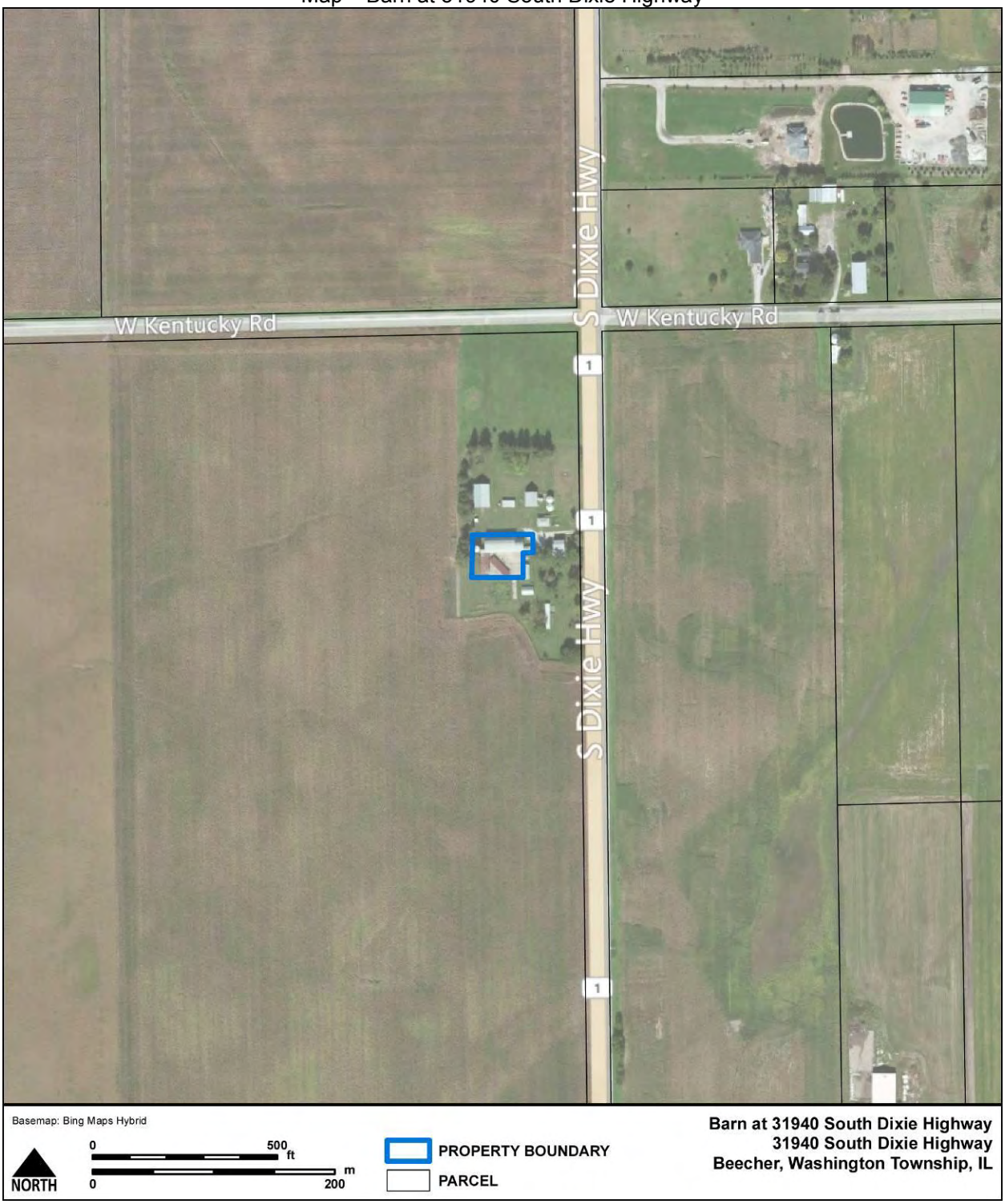
Photo 4 – Barn at 31940 South Dixie Highway

Facing northwest to ca. 1940 dairy barn complex's round-roof dairy barn east and south elevations, silo, and milk house

Photo 5 – Barn at 31940 South Dixie Highway

Facing northwest to ca. 1940 dairy barn complex's attached shed and silo

Map – Barn at 31940 South Dixie Highway



NAME
30860 Yates Avenue

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS	CITY	TOWNSHIP
30860 Yates Avenue	Beecher	Washington

OWNERSHIP	TAX PARCEL NUMBER
Glen Cooper Trust	22-22-24-400-002-0000

YEAR BUILT	SOURCE
1870	Plat maps

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE	PROPERTY TYPE
No Discernible Style	Agriculture

FOUNDATION	WALLS	ROOF
Fieldstone, concrete	Wood, vinyl, concrete, metal	Asphalt, metal

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The late nineteenth century farmstead at 30860 Yates Avenue is located on 80 acres on the west side of Yates Avenue; it is actively farmed. The farmstead's extant buildings consist of a ca. 1870 upright-and-wing farmhouse; ca. 1870 English barn and transverse-frame barn; ca. 1900 drive-through corn crib barn, one-and-one-half-story outbuilding, and one-story outbuilding; ca. 1940 chicken house; and two non-historic pole barns likely constructed ca. 1980. Grassy lawn surrounds the buildings while mature deciduous trees are located throughout the property and form a tree line delineating the property's north boundary. A livestock enclosure is located south of the farmhouse while agricultural fields surround the property in all directions.

The ca. 1870 farmhouse is a modest and altered upright-and-wing house of no discernible style. It consists of a one-and-one-half-story, gable-front portion intersected by a one-story, side-gable wing on its south side elevation. Its original L-shaped plan is obscured by multiple additions to the wing that include a partially enclosed east-facing facade porch; a one-story, gable-roof addition connected to the wing's south side elevation by a short flat-roof wing addition; and a one-story, gable-roof addition along the wing's west rear elevation. The house has a fieldstone foundation while its additions have concrete foundations; the entire house is clad in both wood and vinyl siding. On the original upright-and-wing, the majority of the windows are four-over-four, double-hung, wood-sash windows surmounted by simple wood lintels; two-over-two, double-hung, wood-sash windows are located on secondary elevations. The additions have a mix of two-over-two, double-hung, wood-sash windows and multi-light wood casement windows. The east-facing facade of the gable-front is distinguished by a projecting hipped roof wooden porch leading to a wooden entry door; the porch roof is supported by simple turned wood posts. The east-facing facade of the wing comprises a full-width porch enclosed by vinyl-sided half walls and one-over-one, double-hung, vinyl-sash windows supporting the porch's shed roof. The porch leads to a wooden entry door on the wing's facade and a wooden entry door on the flat-roof wing addition on the south side elevation. The house's roof is covered with asphalt shingles and a narrow brick interior chimney rises from the roof of the wing and its south addition.

The ca. 1900 two-story, gable-roof drive-through corn crib barn sits on a concrete foundation and has a mix of wood and metal ventilated siding. The barn's north and south elevations have sliding double metal doors and a single rectangular opening in the gable end. Its roof is covered with asphalt shingles and is surmounted by a gabled cupola with openings on its east and west elevations. The ca. 1900 English barn and transverse-frame barn are located just west of the corn crib barn. They are clad in wood siding and have metal-clad gable roofs. The English barn is deteriorating and no longer has any doors on its south elevation; only two four-light, wood-sash windows remain on that elevation. The transverse-frame barn has a sliding metal door on its south elevation.

The farmstead also retains two ca. 1900 agricultural outbuildings whose current and historic functions are unknown. They both have concrete foundations, wood siding, and asphalt-shingle roofs. The one-story, gable-roof agricultural outbuilding located along the north side of the driveway has double wood doors on its west elevation, a wood door and four-light wood-sash window on its south elevation, and a six-over-six, double-hung, wood-sash window on its north elevation. Behind and west of the farmhouse, the one-and-one-half-story, gable-roof agricultural outbuilding has a single center wood entry door on its north elevation, two window openings on its north elevation, and no window or door openings on its east elevation.

The ca. 1940 one-story, concrete block, hipped roof chicken house is located directly west of the farmhouse. Its south elevation contains multiple square openings leading to a small shed-roof wooden lean-to structure. Its east elevation has a wooden entry door and its north elevation has no window or door openings. Its hipped roof is covered with asphalt shingles and surmounted by a small hipped-roof cupola.

The farmstead's ca. 1980 one-story, gable-roof pole barn is located near Yates Avenue while its ca. 1980 one-and-one-half-story, gable-roof pole barn is located at the west end of the driveway. Both buildings are clad in corrugated metal siding and roofing. The one-story pole barn has a large sliding metal door on its south elevation and no window or door openings on its east elevation. The one-and-one-half-story pole barn has a large sliding metal door on its east elevation and a shed roof addition along its south elevation that contains a second smaller sliding metal door on its east elevation.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The late nineteenth century farmstead at 30860 Yates Avenue appears to have been established ca. 1870 by Ernest Busse based on plat maps and US Census data. Ernest Busse owned the 80-acre property from at least ca. 1870 until ca. 1909; he also owned the 46-acre east parcel across Yates Avenue for a total of 126 acres. He likely erected the ca. 1870 upright-and-wing farmhouse. Ernest Busse was a general farmer and German immigrant. He and his wife Sophia Busse lived on the farm with their eight children. Research did not reveal the type of agricultural activities in which Ernest Busse was involved.

By 1909, Fred Wehrmann had purchased the 80-acre and 46-acre parcels. He was a general farmer and German immigrant who had lived in Washington Township since at least 1880 with his wife Frederika and children, August, William, Carrie, Fred, Henry, Herman, Anna, and Amalie. Fred Wehrmann owned the property but from nearly the beginning of the family's occupation of the property, his son Fred Wehrmann, Jr. rented the farmstead from his father. Fred Wehrmann Jr., his wife Emma, and their four sons lived and worked on the 126-acre farmstead. The 1918 farmer's directory lists Fred Wehrmann Jr . as a renter but does not indicate the type of agricultural activities in which he was engaged. Upon his father's death in 1926, Fred Wehrmann Jr. inherited the property and owned it until his death in 1949. At that time, the property was held in the Fred Wehrmann Estate and research indicates his wife Emma lived there until her death in 1979.

In 1955, Fred Wehrmann Jr.'s son, Orvil Wehrmann managed the farm and the aerial photograph from

that date shows the farm may have bred beef cattle or hogs. The 126-acre property, consisting of both the 80-acre and 46-acre parcels, remained part of Fred Wehrmann's estate through at least 1980. In 1988, the 80-acre parcel was owned by a Peotone Bank Trust while the 46-acre parcel was owned by another of Fred's sons, Lester Wehrmann. By 1996, the 80-acre parcel was owned by the Glen Cooper Trust, which continues its ownership today. The farm engages in grain farming and small-scale livestock operations.

Principal farm crops in Illinois by the 1850s included corn, wheat, oats, rye, and barley. 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, and 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 farm appears to have been engaged in general farming with some livestock specialization in the early twentieth century.

A 1955 aerial photograph shows the farmstead was once much larger. In addition to its extant farmhouse and agricultural outbuildings, it included what appear to be a large two-story bank or English barn, a hog barn, and a small pond. The bank or English barn was replaced by the one-and-one-half-story ca. 1980 pole barn. It is unknown when these buildings were demolished. The farmhouse's wing additions do not appear to be present in the aerial photograph and post-date 1955. The property also appears to have had enclosed pastures northwest of the farmstead buildings and east across South Yates Avenue on the 46-acre parcel formerly associated with the farmstead.

The farm's ca. 1870 farmhouse is a modest and altered example of the upright-and-wing form. 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. This farmhouse is of no discernible style and its original upright-and-wing form has been significantly altered and obscured by multiple additions and replacement materials. These alterations are evident on all elevations of the one-story wing and substantially alter the house's original appearance.

The farm's ca. 1900 drive-through corn crib barn is a basic example that retains its original openings and cupola but has been clad in a mix of non-historic perforated metal and vinyl siding. Granaries and corn cribs were constructed on the farm 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 Illinois and generally dating from the early twentieth century, the corn crib barn 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 ca. 1900 transverse frame barn and English barn are basic and somewhat deteriorated examples. The dominant barn type in the Midwest was 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 farmstead's ca. 1980 pole barns are basic and intact examples whose original use is unknown, but appear to now house farm equipment and machinery. Pole barns were increasingly constructed in the post-World War II period 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 30860 Yates 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 30860 Yates Avenue is associated with late nineteenth and early twentieth century farming in Will County. However, the farmstead appears to be typical of its period and does not appear to have made significant contributions to local farming practices. Therefore, the farmstead at 30860 Yates Avenue is not eligible under Criterion A.

The farmstead at 30860 Yates Avenue is associated with the Busse and Wehrmann families, who were local farming families in Washington Township from the mid-nineteenth to mid-twentieth century. Although several members of the Wehrmann family owned and farmed the farmstead for approximately 70 years, research did not reveal any known historically significant associations with their productive lives. Further, they are not known to have significantly contributed to local farming practices. Therefore, the farmstead at 30860 Yates Avenue is not eligible under Criterion B.

The farmstead at 30860 Yates Avenue retains a modest and significantly altered upright-and-wing farmhouse of no discernible style. The farmhouse's original form and appearance is significantly obscured by multiple additions and the house lacks architectural distinction. The farmstead does not retain the majority of its original agricultural outbuildings. Those that remain are modest examples of their type and they do not exhibit any architectural significance or distinction. Therefore, the farmstead at 30860 Yates Avenue is not eligible under Criterion C.

The farmstead at 30860 Yates Avenue was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the farmstead at 30860 Yates Avenue 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.

Drury, John. 1955. *This is Will County, Illinois*. Chicago, IL: Inland Photo Co.

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Photo 1 – 30860 Yates Avenue

Facing southwest to ca. 1870 house east-facing facade and north side elevation

Photo 2 – 30860 Yates Avenue

Facing west to ca. 1870 house east-facing facade entrance

Photo 3 – 30860 Yates Avenue

Facing southeast to ca. 1870 house north side and west rear elevations

Photo 4 – 30860 Yates Avenue

Facing east to ca. 1870 house west rear elevation

Photo 5 – 30860 Yates Avenue

Facing northeast to ca. 1870 house south side and west rear elevations

Photo 6 – 30860 Yates Avenue

Facing west to ca. 1900 drive-through corn crib barn east elevation

Photo 7 – 30860 Yates Avenue

Facing northwest to ca. 1900 drive-through corn crib barn south and east elevations

Photo 8 – 30860 Yates Avenue

Facing northeast to ca. 1900 one-story agricultural outbuilding west and south elevations

Photo 9 – 30860 Yates Avenue

Facing southwest to ca. 1900 one-story agricultural outbuilding north and east elevations

Photo 10 – 30860 Yates Avenue

Facing southeast to one-and-one-half-story agricultural outbuilding north and west elevations

Photo 11 – 30860 Yates Avenue

Facing southwest to ca. 1940 chicken house east and north elevations

Photo 12 – 30860 Yates Avenue

Facing northwest to ca. 1940 chicken house east and south elevations

Photo 13 – 30860 Yates Avenue

Facing north to ca. 1980 pole barn south elevation

Photo 14 – 30860 Yates Avenue

Facing north to ca. 1900 transverse-frame barn (at left) and English barn (at right) south elevations

Photo 15 – 30860 Yates Avenue

Facing west to ca. 1980 pole barn east elevation

Map – 30860 Yates Avenue

NAME
32112 State Line Road

OTHER NAME(S)
N/A

STREET ADDRESS
32112 State Line Road

CITY
Beecher

TOWNSHIP
Washington

OWNERSHIP
Mark E. Herlitz; Robert G. Herlitz; William Herlitz Trust

TAX PARCEL NUMBER
22-23-32-100-001-0000

YEAR BUILT
1903

SOURCE
Mark Herlitz interview, May 2013

DESIGNER/BUILDER
Unknown

STYLE
No Discernible Style

PROPERTY TYPE
Agriculture

FOUNDATION
Concrete

WALLS
Brick

ROOF
Asphalt

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES
The late nineteenth century farmstead at 32112 State Line Road is an active farmstead that consists of a 1903 farmhouse with a ca. 1930 rear addition; the remnants of a former potato cellar from a demolished ca. 1900 bank barn; a ca. 2000 non-historic detached garage; and five non-historic pole barns and six non-historic metal grain bins constructed within the last fifteen years. With the exception of the potato remnant cellar, the farmstead does not retain any of its original agricultural outbuildings. The farmstead is located on 128 acres on the west side of State Line Road. Grassy lawn surrounds the buildings while mature deciduous trees are located throughout the property; a tree line of evergreens is located along the farmstead's north, south, and west boundaries. Agricultural fields surround the farmstead to the north, south, and west.

The 1903 farmhouse is a modest and altered two-story, hipped-roof American Foursquare characterized by Colonial Revival stylistic references that include shed dormers, a basement-level stone belt course, and a slight eave overhang boxed with dentils and elaborated by decorative wood scroll brackets. The house is altered by a ca. 1930 one-story, gable-roof addition on its west rear elevation, a partial-width porch on the north side elevation, and relocated door openings on its east-facing facade and north side elevation. The house has a concrete foundation and is clad in brick. The majority of its windows are tall one-over-one, double-hung, replacement vinyl-sash windows with concrete sills and lintels; the dormers have single pane vinyl casement windows. The east-facing facade has an off-center, hipped-roof, partial-width porch supported by brick piers. The porch leads to the off-center replacement double-door entrance; brick-infilled rectangles on the facade and a triangular marking on the brick above the existing porch roof indicate the former location of the facade door and possibly the porch. Similarly, the north side elevation has brick-infilled rectangles possibly indicating the removal of original window openings or the relocation of a side entry door. A hipped roof partial-width porch supported by brick piers leads to the north side elevation's replacement entry door. The house's hipped roof is covered with asphalt shingles, two shed dormers on the north and south side elevations, and a single shed dormer on the east-facing facade; a narrow brick interior chimney rises from the hipped roof while a narrow exterior brick chimney is

located on the addition's west rear elevation.

West of the farmhouse, the farmstead's ca. 2000 detached garage is a one-story, hipped-roof building with two one-car overhead garage doors on its west elevation and an entry door and double-hung window on its north elevation. The garage has a concrete foundation and brick cladding derivative of that found on the farmhouse; its roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

Further west of the farmhouse are the remnants of the former potato cellar that was part of the demolished ca. 1900 bank barn. The remnant potato cellar is set into a gently sloped hill and is constructed of concrete. A single large opening leads into the cellar.

The farmstead's five non-historic pole barns and six non-historic metal grain bins are located north, northwest, and west of the farmhouse. The pole barns are one to two-story buildings clad in corrugated metal siding and roofing and the metal grain bins are cylindrical, nearly two-story structures with conical roofs.

HISTORY/DEVELOPMENT

The late nineteenth century farmstead at 32112 State Line Road was established in 1869 by Henry Vashage, a German immigrant and farmer who immigrated to the United States in 1860. Henry Vashage and his wife, Dorothea lived on the farmstead with their children Fred, August, William, Anna, and Herman. The farmstead no longer retains the farmhouse or agricultural outbuildings from its establishment or Henry Vashage's period of ownership. By 1893, his son, Fred Vashage owned and farmed the property, living there with his wife Anna, their children Anna and Emma, his brother Herman, and his father Henry who by 1900 was a widow. Henry Vashage died in 1903.

Fred Vashage likely erected the 1903 farmhouse as well as the former bank barn and extant potato cellar. In 1914, Fred's daughter Anna married William F. Herlitz and the couple rented the farm from her father, who also lived with them. The 1918 farmer's directory lists William F. Herlitz, his wife Anna, and their children Wilbur, Edna, and Myrtle as tenants on the then-228 acre farmstead owned by Fred Vashage. William F. Herlitz bred Holstein dairy cattle, Chester White hogs, and Barred Plymouth Rock chickens; the directory also stated that the farmstead had a tile silo. He also owned a Buick automobile and tractor. By 1930, William and Anna Herlitz had two additional children, William L. and Roger R., and continued to rent the farmstead from her father, who along with Anna's sister Emma, lived with them.

Upon Fred Vashage's death in 1938, William F. Herlitz inherited the farmstead and farmed the property until his death in 1977. Plat maps indicate that in 1957, the property's ownership was transferred solely to Anna Herlitz and she is listed as the owner until 1988 when her son William L. Herlitz and his wife Helen are listed as the property owners. The property was placed in the William L. Herlitz Trust by 2000 and upon his death in 2012, the property was inherited by his son Mark Herlitz who continues to live on and farm the property, which is now a cash grain farm.

Principal farm crops in Illinois by the 1850s included corn, wheat, oats, rye, and barley. 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 cattle and later became a valuable food and commercial product. In the second half of the twentieth century, many farms were abandoned, and 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 farm appears to

have been engaged in general farming with some livestock specialization in the early twentieth century and is now engaged exclusively in cash grain farming.

A ca. 1940 aerial photograph provided by the current owner and a 1955 aerial photograph show the farmstead originally had at least 15 agricultural outbuildings of various sizes and types that included a drive-through corn crib barn, a bank barn, transverse-frame barns, and a silo. All of these buildings have since been demolished and replaced by non-historic pole barns, some as recently as within the last fifteen years. The historic photographs also show extensive vegetable gardens just south of the house, a small grove of trees north of the existing driveway, a tree line along the driveway's north side, a more heavily defined tree line of evergreens along the north and west sides of the farmstead, several farm lanes leading from the farmstead to the adjacent pastures and agricultural fields, and generally more trees located throughout the farmstead property. Additionally, the ca. 1940 aerial photograph shows the farmhouse had extensive foundation plantings and the existing north side elevation porch does not appear to be present; the west rear elevation addition can be seen on the photograph.

The farmstead's extant 1903 farmhouse is a modest and altered example of the American Foursquare form, which was a dominant house form that rose to popularity in the United States from approximately 1890 to 1930. The American Foursquare is also sometimes distinguished from rural interpretations that were commonly called the vernacular Prairie, cornbelt cube, or Midwest box. It was frequently distinguished by Colonial Revival, Neoclassical, Prairie, Tudor, or Craftsman influenced stylistic detailing, unlike its 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. This farmhouse retains its original American Foursquare form but it is obscured by porch additions and a ca. 1930 one-story addition on the west rear elevation. It has also been significantly altered by the infilling and relocation of its original door and window openings on the east-facing facade and north side elevation as well as by extensive vinyl-sash window replacement. It incorporates only a few Colonial Revival stylistic elements and it is not a representative example of the style, which typically had accentuated front doors with a decorative pediment, pilasters and/or columns supporting the entry porch, symmetrically balanced windows and a center door, paired windows, multi-pane glazing in one or both double-hung window sashes, and sometimes highly elaborated cornices.

The farmstead's non-historic pole barns are basic and intact examples that support current farm operations and house farm equipment and machinery. Pole barns were increasingly constructed in the post-World War II period 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 32112 State Line 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 farmstead at 32112 State Line Road is associated with early twentieth century farming in Will County. However, the existing property no longer conveys this association because it only retains its original farmhouse and the remnants of a remnant potato cellar and does not retain any of its other original agricultural outbuildings from its establishment and general farming period. Research did not reveal it to have made significant contributions to local farming practices or the broad agricultural patterns of Will County, Illinois, or United States history. Therefore, the farmstead at 32112 State Line Road is not eligible under Criterion A.

The farmstead at 32112 State Line Road is associated with the Vashage and Herltiz families, who were local farming families in Washington Township from the late nineteenth century to the present day. Although several members of the Vashage and Herlitz families have owned and farmed the farmstead for approximately 144 years, research did not reveal any known historically significant associations with their productive lives. Further, they are not known to have significantly contributed to local farming practices. Therefore, the farmstead at 32112 State Line Road is not eligible under Criterion B.

The farmstead at 32112 State Line Road only retains its 1903 farmhouse and remnants of its ca. 1900 potato cellar and does not retain any other outbuildings associated with its agricultural history. The farmhouse is a modest and significantly altered example of an American Foursquare house incorporating Colonial Revival stylistic references. The farmhouse's original form and appearance have been obscured by the ca. 1930 west rear elevation addition as well as the infilling and relocation of original door and window openings on the facade and north side elevations. Replacement materials, such as the vinyl-sash windows, also diminish its integrity. Further, the farmhouse is not an architecturally significant or distinctive example of an American Foursquare or Colonial Revival-style house. Additionally, the overall farmstead does not retain many of its original landscape features, such as its vegetable garden, farm lanes, and tree lines. Therefore, the farmstead at 32112 State Line Road is not eligible under Criterion C.

The farmstead at 32112 State Line Road was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of this assessment.

Therefore, the farmstead at 32112 State Line Road is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NRHP BOUNDARY
N/A

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Photo 1 – 32112 State Line Road

Facing southwest to 1903 house east-facing facade and north side elevation

Photo 2 – 32112 State Line Road

Facing west to 1903 house east-facing facade; non-historic garage visible at left

Photo 3 – 32112 State Line Road

Facing northwest to 1903 house east-facing facade and south side elevation

Photo 4 – 32112 State Line Road

Facing east to 1903 house and ca. 1930 addition west rear elevation

Photo 5 – 32112 State Line Road

Facing southeast to 1903 house and ca. 1930 addition north side and west rear elevations

Photo 6 – 32112 State Line Road

Facing southeast to non-historic detached garage north and west elevations

Photo 7 – 32112 State Line Road

Facing northwest to non-historic pole barn and grain bins along north side and west terminus of the driveway

RESOURCE TYPE Property | 32112 State Line Road

NRHP STATUS Not Eligible | SURVEY ID 504

Map – 32112 State Line Road