

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

SENT TO D.C.  
10/12/01

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Ward, Thornton, Estate

other names/site number John Harrison Ward Memorial Estate

2. Location

street & number 1387 U. S. Route 40  not for publication

city or town Toledo  vicinity

state Illinois code IL county Cumberland code 035 zip code 62428

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

William C. White / SHPO 10-4-01  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> other, (explain): _____	_____	_____

Thornton Ward Historic Estate  
Name of Property

Cumberland County, Illinois  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

**Category of Property**

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	2	buildings
0	0	sites
2	1	structures
0	0	objects
4	3	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**

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

N/A

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

N/A

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single dwelling  
 Domestic/Secondary structure  
 Agriculture/Outbuildings

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single dwelling  
 Domestic/Secondary structure  
 Agriculture

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Italianate

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

walls Brick

roof Asphalt shingle

other Wood

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

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

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

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

**Period of Significance**

c.1875

**Criteria Considerations**

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

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Significant Dates**

N/A

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Unknown

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

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

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

Thornton Ward Historic Estate  
Name of Property

Cumberland County, Illinois  
County and State

### 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 10.568 acres

#### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	16	395055	4342560
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2	16	395305	4342640

3	16	395340	4342590
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4	16	395165	4342420

See continuation sheet

#### Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

#### Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

### 11. Form Prepared By

name/title John Harrison Ward II  
organization \_\_\_\_\_ date March 23, 2001  
street & number P. O. Box 163 telephone 662-256-5997  
city or town Becker state MS zip code 38825

#### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

#### Continuation Sheets

#### Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

#### Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

#### Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

#### Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Robert Easton (see continuation sheet)  
street & number 203 West Lincoln Drive telephone 217-923-3886  
city or town Greenup state Illinois zip code 62428

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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THORNTON WARD ESTATE

## DESCRIPTION

The Thornton Ward Estate, also known as the John Harrison Ward Memorial Estate, was established on property first purchased by James Martin Ward around 1840.<sup>1</sup> The house is a two and 1/2 story, brick Italianate private dwelling with a hip roof modified by a small central gable at the front and a small "widow's walk" at the peak. The foundation, walls, porch piers and chimneys are built of brick. The house and its outbuildings are located on a 10 1/2 acre tract of land on U. S. Route 40 about three miles west of the village of Greenup, in south central Cumberland County. Beside the house, a wood frame garage is reached by a straight driveway from Route 40. A large barn, double crib and a small chicken house are nearby, in fair to good original condition. The house is thought to have been built around 1875. Prior to the construction of this home, the Ward family lived in a large log house about 200 yards to the east on the property. According to an account attributed to Eva Ward Cash, daughter of Thornton Ward, she described living in the log house as a child. She was born in 1864. Although no exact year of construction is mentioned in her account, all indications researched in writings and photographs support a construction date c. 1870-75 rather than the 1855 that was originally thought.<sup>2</sup> The only known additions to the farmstead were limited to the house. A full width front porch was added around 1905, and the side porch was also enclosed. Inside, the pantry underwent minor alterations. In 1990, the original porch and widows walk railings were rebuilt, as well as shutters rehung on the front side. The house remains structurally sound, although the front wall and interior floors are failing in places. The reconstructed front porch was dismantled in 2000 to facilitate repair work on the front wall. Some of the shutters are also missing. The reconstructed widows walk railings remain at the top of the roof. North, east and west of the house are cultivated fields. The front of the house faces Route 40 and the old Pennsylvania Railroad, now used by Conrail. Approximately 150 feet of pavement of the original National Road, which became Route 40 still exists in front of the house. The front lawn slopes slightly down to the original roadbed, and is shaded by one remaining tall pine tree of the original four. Other smaller trees surround the house, including red maple, black walnut, plum and persimmon. Tunnels are located under Route 40 and the railroad track near the west boundary line, which provided passage to a wooded tract of land to the south that was once part of the farmstead. A spring and

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well is accessed by a niche in the wall of the tunnel under Route 40. Underground piping is said to have connected it to two other wells around the barnyard northeast of the house. Nearby to the west is a wooded area where a vegetable and flower garden once was. In the southwest corner of the garden, a small mock fishpond built of fieldstone was a beautiful feature.<sup>3</sup>

Forty or more varieties of irises were cultivated in the flower garden, while the vegetable garden also had briars of red and black raspberries. Some of the iris plants have been salvaged and are still in possession of family members.<sup>4</sup>

The floor plan of the house is square, arranged around a central hall with a grand staircase. The original porches were small, open wood framed structures with ornamental gingerbread to compliment the Italianate details of the house. By 1905, the small front portico had been expanded to a full width porch with lower railings to match the widows walk railings on top. The porch once had an ornate glider swing. A brick walk once circled the West Side of the house from a concrete walk in front to the summer kitchen in the rear. Spirea bushes and bridal wreath shrubs adorned the front of the home, while rose bushes and a bleeding heart bush were lined up on the west side between the brick walk and the wall of the house.<sup>5</sup> Since the existing side porch structure resembles the former full width front porch, it appears likely that it was added at the same time the large front porch was built. The side porch was subsequently closed in with vertical wood siding together with windows and a screen door. The cornice around the original portico was a flat-topped arch with eight small modillions evenly spaced across the front, contrasting the pairs of brackets adorning the roof cornice above.

The house has a brick foundation about four feet below ground extending upward into exterior and interior walls of solid brick in a common bond pattern with seven stretcher rows per header row. The bricks were made on location for the house. There are four brick chimneys: two on the East Side and one each on the north and west sides. All of the chimneys line up with exterior walls below. Windows in the house are all identical double hung two over two units of a straight-sided design, topped by a segmented arch. A double soldier course of brick tops every window and door. Crawlspace ventilation openings on the east and west sides are filled with ornamental cast iron grilles.

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The front façade of the house is entirely symmetrical in design. Stacked pairs of windows flank the center doorways. The grand entrance is a double door with three-quarter lights topped by a large fixed transom window arched to match the windows. A single second floor panel door centered over the lower grand entrance is also topped by an arched transom window and brick soldier course. A small centered gable crowns the centerline of the front wall- the only interruption of the cornice line on the house. A small portico once sheltered the grand entrance, topped by railings and ornate corner posts. All of the windows originally had pairs of operable louvered shutters that were arched to fit the window opening. The shutters for the front façade were restored and rehung in 1990. The jambs of the doors are adorned with molding to compliment the patterns of the doors.

The West Side elevation of the house is also entirely symmetrical, with two horizontal rows of evenly spaced windows. There are three crawlspace ventilation grilles just above ground level, and one chimney on the roof toward the front.

The north facing rear elevation has a door to the dining room at bottom center, flanked by windows on both levels. In contrast to the other elevations, the arrangement at the rear is not symmetrical. On the roof, a single brick chimney is located just to the right of the centerline. Adjoining the rear wall originally was a wild grape arbor in an 'L' shape that provided sheltered passage to a freestanding summer kitchen, washhouse and meat room enclosed in latticework. An iron cistern remains behind the house along side a square concrete reservoir in the summer kitchen area. A milk trough was once located against the north wall in the shade of the arbor. Another grape arbor ran along the East Side of the summer kitchen and continued north toward the garden. The garden arbor had several rows of concord grapes. A hammock was located at the north end of the arbor.<sup>6</sup> A privy was also located in the vicinity of the garden. It has been moved to various locations over the years, and still remains in a field just northwest of the house. It is a non-contributing building.

The East Side elevation of the house is arranged in similar fashion to the opposite side, except that the lower right opening is a side door leading into the kitchen, sheltered by a small side porch with a shed roof. A crawlspace ventilation grille is positioned under each of the three first floor windows, and two brick chimneys evenly spaced on the roof.

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The original hip roof was covered in slate brought from Pennsylvania. The slate was replaced by asphalt shingles after being damaged beyond repair in a hail storm in 1971.<sup>7</sup> At the top of the roof, a rectangular flat widow's walk with attic scuttle is surrounded by railings that match the front portico below.

**Interior**

The interior of the home reflects the style popular in the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century. Superior craftsmanship for such a rural setting is evident in wood and plaster detailing throughout. The walls are of wood frame construction finished with plaster on wooden lath. Ceilings are also of plaster on lath, with a typical height of 10'-8" on both floors. Doors and windows are cased with 1 x 6 trim with continuous applied decorative molding. All doors are four-panel with operable top hung transoms. Both first and second floors are arranged around a central winding staircase built of walnut. It is said to have been imported from England, and installed after the original straight stair displeased Mrs. Thornton Ward and was ordered removed.<sup>8</sup>

The first floor has spacious front rooms to either side of the central hall. The left, or southwest room is a sitting room with three doors. One of the doors opens to a small bedroom and closet on the northwest corner of the house. The other doors open to the large central stairway hall and the dining room. The right, or southeast room is a parlor with one door. It was originally known as the company parlor, where guests were entertained.<sup>9</sup> The kitchen is located at the northeast corner with side entry door as well as interior doors opening to the dining room, pantry and a second straight enclosed stair for servants positioned over the pantry. The pantry is narrow, and positioned between the kitchen and the parlor. A second door into the pantry was made next to the east exterior wall when that portion of the pantry was fitted with a cistern pump a large enameled wash basin over a base cabinet.<sup>10</sup> The dining room is in the center of the rear half of the first floor, and has a shallow fruit closet with double doors. It is the only room in the house with wood paneled wainscoting topped with a two-piece chair rail. All other interior walls have a 9 1/2" wood base.

The grand stair has Italianate newel posts at bottom and top, with turned balusters individually anchored to stair treads and the landing above. The first step and newel post flare out, after which the next ten steps follow a straight run. The remainder of the



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staircase curves 90 degrees to the left approaching the upper end. The top railings and stairway opening have rounded corners. At the upper end of the staircase, a plaster arch spans the upper hall, connecting bearing walls along the east-west centerline of the house. The arch is detailed to compliment the design of the wood base. At the south end of the hall, a single door opens out over the portico.

The front two bedrooms on the second floor are the same size as the corresponding rooms below. The southwest bedroom has an enclosed attic stairway situated adjacent to the east-west centerline of the house, with a closet tucked beneath. The attic stair can only be accessed from within that bedroom. Just behind the plaster arch, the center hall expands to the left by four feet, where a door opens to the northwest bedroom and closet. Opposite this bedroom, the northeast bedroom has both a closet and the second servants' stair with railing surrounding the floor opening. Between these rooms is a fifth smaller upstairs bedroom and closet.

The attic is unfinished with a partially floored area at the center between vertical knee braces that occur every two feet. A primitive ladder extends from the attic floor to the scuttle in the widow's walk.

**Garage**

The garage is a wood framed building on minimal concrete strip footings with a dirt floor. Two sets of hinged doors on both north and south sides permitted drive-through convenience for two carriages or motor vehicles. The walls have horizontal tongue-in-groove lap siding with no interior finish. There is no ceiling under the steeply pitched hip roof. Wood shakes originally covered the roof, over which asphalt shingles have been applied. The date of construction is unknown, but thought to be not long after the house was built.<sup>11</sup> The garage is a non-contributing building.

**Barn**

The barn is a large two-story building with single-story shed extensions at the east and west ends. The floor is a concrete slab under the two-story portion with elevated wood floors at the center bay. A center hall between the livestock stalls in the west half. The east half contained granaries for wheat and oats. The upper level is an open loft where

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hay was stored. The center bay has pairs of large doors at the north and south walls. The north doors are hinged, while the south doors are suspended from a track, enabling them to slide open to either side. Side sheds have open doors at north and south sides for horse drawn equipment to be pulled through. The superstructure consists of 8 x 8 hand hewn timbers mortised together and fastened with wooden pins. The walls are clad with vertical 1/2" x 12" sawn planks that were originally joined by battens on the outside. During the 1930's, the battens were removed, and the plank siding overlaid with asphalt siding imprinted with a brick texture.<sup>12</sup> The original board and batten siding remains on the east side. The gable roof is supported by 8 x 8 king posts and braces, with supplemental 4 x 4 bracing at corners. The roof is framed with 2 x 6 rafters supporting wood slats and a covering of corrugated tin. A louvered cupola with hip roof was perched near the east and west ends of the high roof. These cupolas have been removed. The date of construction is thought to be around the same time the house was built. The barn is a contributing building.

**Double Crib**

The double crib is a framed wood structure of similar scale to the barn. It has an open equipment bay at center flanked with cribs to either side and a loft above. The foundation consists of concrete or stone piers under bearing points. The walls are framed similar to the barn, but have no finish covering over the vertical planks. The gable roof is of similar composition to the barn. The date of construction is unknown, but thought to be later than the barn; rafters are clearly mill-sawn lumber in contrast to the hand-hewn timbers used in the barn. The double crib is a contributing structure.

**Chicken House**

The chicken house is a small wood framed structure of typical proportion and detail located in a field just northwest of the barn. It has a small loft reached by ladder to an upper door in the end wall. It is a non-contributing structure.

**Tractor shed and windmill sites**

Nearer the house to the northeast, a three-bay tractor shed once stood, with a windmill tower and small vegetable garden in front of it. The shed was similar in appearance to the double crib, with vertical plank siding and a tin roof. It was originally a single stall buggy shed that had bays added to either side. Construction and alteration dates for

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that structure are unknown. It was destroyed by fire in the early 1990's. The windmill tower was dismantled in the late 1970's.

**Old National Road Segment**

The segment of the original National Road on the property is approximately 150 in length, and consists of continuous concrete paving with a continuous construction joint running down the centerline. Random cracks have developed over the years, but there are no substantial gaps in the paving. The road segment is a contributing structure. This segment of road is owned by Cumberland County.

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The Thornton Ward Estate is locally significant for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. It meets Criterion C for architecture as a brick Italianate house. Brick homes are not common in this area. It is the only known property of its type and vintage locally to not only be situated directly on Route 40, but also have a portion of the original Old National Road remaining on the property. The period of significance is c. 1875.

The house maintains its historic integrity of setting, location, design, association, workmanship and feeling. Although the roofs of the house and garage were updated with asphalt shingles to replace the original slate and shakes, it was not a significant alteration to the character of the buildings.

The Thornton Ward Estate with its Italianate centered gable house and contributing resources-barn, corn crib and old road segment-has great integrity. The wooded garden site, tractor shed and windmill site, pastures and open areas surrounding this property help to convey a sense of the importance of this local historical landmark.

**ARCHITECTURE**

The Italianate style was a popular style in American architecture from 1850-1880. The earliest Italianate houses in the United States were built in the late 1830s. Andrew Jackson Downing's pattern books increased the style's popularity throughout the 1840s and 1850s. The Italianate style, along with the Gothic Revival style, began in England as part of the Picturesque movement, a reaction against the formal classical styles that had influenced architecture throughout the world for over two hundred years. The style was loosely based on rambling informal Italian farmhouses. Formal Renaissance Italian

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town houses also served as models for some Italian dwellings. But most Italianate houses built in America were based on the Italian farmhouse. The Italianate style declined during the financial panic of 1873 and subsequent depression, due to a lack of building. When prosperity returned in the late 1870s, new housing styles including Queen Anne became dominant.

Features associated with Italianate houses include tall, narrow windows with one-over-one or two-over-two glazing. They tend to be arched and curved and many have elaborate crowns. Paired and triple windows were also frequent. The cornices are usually wide and have decorative brackets, either singly or in pairs. Sometimes the cornices have decorative panels or moldings.

Italianate houses usually have porches, most are a single story in height. Usually they are a small entry porch or a full-width porch. Many of the porches have square chamfered supports and decorative arch work.

Doorways in Italianate houses are either single or paired. They sometimes have large panes of glass and many are in the same shapes as Italianate windows. Elaborate doorframes around and above the doors are common.

Italianate styled houses can be divided into six principal subtypes according to Virginia and Lee McAlester's A Field Guide to American Houses. They are: simple-hipped roof, centered gable, asymmetrical, towered, front-gabled roof, and town house.

Simple-hipped roof Italianate houses are square or rectangular shaped with hipped roofs. Some have belvederes or cupolas. Façade openings in this subtype are usually three-ranked or five-ranked.

Centered gable Italianate houses have a front-facing centered gable. The small gable projects from a low-pitched hipped or side gable roof. Sometimes the front wall beneath the gable extends forward as a central extension.

Asymmetrical Italianate houses have compound plans, usually L-shaped, and do not have towers. Roofs in this subtype are cross-hipped or cross gabled.

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Towered Italianate houses have a square tower that is centered on the front façade or placed between the connection of two wings. The tower roofs are usually low-pitched and hipped, sometimes steep mansard roofs are used instead.

Front-gabled roof Italianate houses are based on the simple front-gabled rectangular box popularized by the Greek Revival style.

Italianate townhouses are urban houses characterized by wide, projecting bracketed cornices with a flat or low-pitched roof behind. These are usually found in cities on narrow lots, often situated in a row.<sup>13</sup>

## BIOGRAPHY OF THORNTON WARD

Thornton A. Ward, retired farmer (post office-Greenup), was born November 25, 1816, in Virginia. When four years old he went with his parents to Ross County, Ohio, where he was reared on a farm. His education was obtained principally away from home doing chores for his board and attending school. During winter and summer he either worked on the home farm, or out by the month, giving his earnings to his father. When seventeen years old he went to work for an uncle, and remained with him a few years. He then rented a farm, which he continued on for eleven years. In 1852 he came to Cumberland County (Illinois) and bought 120 of the 840 acres he resided on, 160 acres of which were in Jasper County. On June 27, 1848, he married Elizabeth E. Crozier, of Chillicothe, Ohio. They were parents of eight children, viz.: James, John, Allison, Lorenzo, Robert, Franklin, Eva A. and Arminna E., (deceased). His sons all became successful businessmen or prosperous farmers. Eva A. was highly educated, and an accomplished musician; lived in Centralia, MO, and taught music. She was unmarried at the time of this account. Mr. Ward resided in the fine large brick house, which cost \$6000. The brick used were burned from clay on his own farm. The house had ten rooms, with all the conveniences and modern improvements of the time. His large property was the result of industry, economy and skillful management, he having had no assistance from others. He was a strong temperance man and worker, and occupied a high social standing in the community.<sup>14</sup>

## HISTORY OF GREENUP

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Legendary in the historical record for its languor, Greenup's structures are the product of several economic jolts injected by successive new transportation modes. The coincidence of the Embarras River (locally pronounced *Am-braw*), one of four important drainages between Terre Haute and Vandalia, and the National Road gave it life. A gristmill was built just north of the Road on the river and prospered quickly from the influx of people along the Road; about 1828, settlers formed Rossville. William C. Greenup, a political insider since Illinois's territorial period, was appointed in 1830 to oversee Road construction in the state. Always alert to personal gain from development along the alignment, he helped start several of its towns. One of these he named for himself and construction began after he quit as superintendent of the Road. He platted Greenup in 1834 with one of his associates, Joseph Barbour, astride the Road's northeast-southwest axis, south of the busy gristmill and east of Rossville. The partners also won the contract to supply lumber for two bridges west of their plat. One bridge spanned a slough and another immediately west of it crossed the Embarras River. The population grew and economic activity surged. Barbour profited from an inn he had built beside the National Road near the center of the town three years before it was platted. Greenup became the seat of a new county, Cumberland, in 1843. But activity soon subsided. By 1857, the diffusion of settlers throughout the new county dictated relocation of its seat to the more-central Toledo. Although a railroad was proposed in 1852, none was forthcoming until 1868-69 when the St. Louis, Vandalia & Terre Haute was built parallel to the National Road. As a result, one historian wrote,

It was a proud era in the history of Greenup, and the anticipations of many Of Greenup's citizens knew no bounds. New additions were made to town, new lots laid off, large increases of population, buildings went up daily, and Greenup for once was aroused from her long, deep slumber, and to a newness of life and activity.

The prospect arose that Greenup would wrest the county seat back from nearby Toledo to the north, and in anticipation residents left the public square undeveloped in the hope that it would be the site of a new courthouse. It did not. The economic boom spawned by the railroad lapsed into gradual growth. Greenup's commercial district was built while the railroad was still the most advanced transportation, and many buildings were two-story with second-floor porches that sheltered passerby. When an automobile pavement was scheduled to be laid atop the National Road about 1920, local entrepreneurs hoped for an economic revival but, again, hopes proved excessive.

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Greenup was home for 1,230 at the time and for 1,616 in 1990. The automobile has not clinched Greenup's fortune. Nonetheless, the latest financial ambitions have focused at the busiest traffic nodes, at the east end of Greenup where passage of Illinois 130 over the interstate has generated the usual collection of franchised traveler services: Unocal, 500 Platolene convenience store, Amoco, Gateway Inn and Dairy Queen. Local businesses are intermingled: Colonial Liquor and Dutch Pan Restaurant. Above them all soars a water tower ironically screaming the observer should "Try Greenup First." Three-fourths of a mile south, at the state road's intersection with US 40, local merchants have situated a bank, auto dealership, and a convenience store to snare the usual mix of local and area customers. An earlier generation of roadside businesses, three gas stations and a restaurant, crowded the corner beginning in the 1940s.

Starting at the corner of US 40 and Illinois 130 is Greenup's business core on Cumberland Street, known as the National Road, then as US 40. At its southwest intersection with Delaware, the nondescript post office (1956) and village hall (1961) occupy the relocated town square instead of the courthouse dreamed of in headier times. Greenup's porched stores and canopied sidewalks dating from the turn of the century—now unique along the National Road in Illinois—survive one block west, at the town's heart, the corners of Cumberland and Kentucky Streets. Another block west is a 1915 memorial to the Barbour Inn, razed in 1972 for a used car lot that stands virtually empty.

Two blocks beyond the inn marker, the National Road begins a winding descent out of town and into the shallow Embarras Valley. This is another stretch of well-preserved early automobile pavement, unusual here for its regular use as the town's back road access. A half-mile beyond stands the county fairgrounds. Although the fairgrounds in each of Illinois's four National Road counties still stand by the Road, this fairground at Greenup is the best preserved. West of the fairgrounds down the old pavement is the now-drained slough, earlier negotiated by timber bridges provided by Greenup and Barbour.<sup>15</sup> An eighth mile beyond is an early (1920) concrete automobile bridge. A half-mile away, a newly reconstructed replica of the original Jackson timber covered bridge spans the Embarras River. As information has been gathered, it has been found

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that this will be the only covered bridge ever reconstructed on the actual National Road, and one of the longer (over 200') single span covered bridges open to traffic.<sup>16</sup>

Arrival at the bridge permits a view to the east during the period of defoliation along a transect that includes the Road, bridges, slough, fairgrounds, town, bypass, and railroad, in an especially dramatic landscape summary of Greenup's history.

Beyond Greenup, the highway emerges again onto the open countryside. Thornton A. Ward's house stands on the north side. Surrounded by a crescent of trees and yard dotted in summer with volunteered flowers, Ward's house, although unoccupied, is the most charming old mansion along the Illinois corridor.<sup>17</sup>

### Endnotes

1. Ward Family History, compiled by Ruth Brown Blankenbaker, 2000
2. Ibid.
3. Wilmer L. Easton, interview
4. Alberta Ward Brown, interview
5. Ibid.
6. Ibid.
7. Robert Scott, interview
8. Ibid.
9. Alberta Ward Brown, interview
10. Ibid.
11. Ibid.
12. Ibid.
13. David Newton, Description of Robert Dilworth House, 1993
14. \_\_\_\_\_, History of Cumberland, Jasper and Richland Counties, Illinois. Chicago, F. A. Battey & Co., 1884



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15. Keith A. Sculle and John A. Jakle, A Guide to the National Road, (Edited by Karl Raitz), Baltimore and London: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1996
16. Gary L. Kruger, Cumberland County Engineer, Newspaper article, 2000
17. Keith A. Sculle and John A. Jakle, op. cit.

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

The grounds on which the Thornton Ward Estate is located are described as follows:

Being in the State of Illinois, County of Cumberland and part of the North Half of the Northeast Quarter of Section 17; Township 9 North; Range 9 East; 3<sup>rd</sup> Principal Meridian, and more fully bounded and described as:

Beginning at the Southeast Corner of the Northeast Quarter of Section 17; Township 9 North; Range 9 East of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Principal Meridian; thence due North along the East line of said Northeast Quarter a distance of 2294.1 feet to the project centerline of U.S. Route 40; thence South 52 degrees, 58 minutes, 0 seconds West along said centerline a distance of 131.6 feet to the true point of commencement; thence North 37 degrees, 2 minutes, 0 seconds West a distance of 110.0 feet to the Northerly right of way line of U. S. Route 40; thence South 85 degrees, 31 minutes, 30 seconds West a distance of 1192.6 feet; thence South 31 degrees, 16 minutes, 30 seconds East a distance of 597.6 feet to the Northerly right of way line of U.S. Route 40; thence South 37 degrees, 2 minutes, 0 degrees a distance of 157.2 feet to the centerline of said U.S. Route 40; thence North 52 degrees, 58 minutes, 0 seconds East along said centerline a distance of 1065.0 feet to the true point of commencement, containing 10.568 acres in all.

**BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

The boundary includes the Thornton Ward house, its outbuildings, and the portion of the original Old National Road and adjoining fields and yards. U. S. Route 40 is the boundary to the southeast, while farm ground owned by others are the boundaries on the north and southwest.

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## **OWNER INFORMATION**

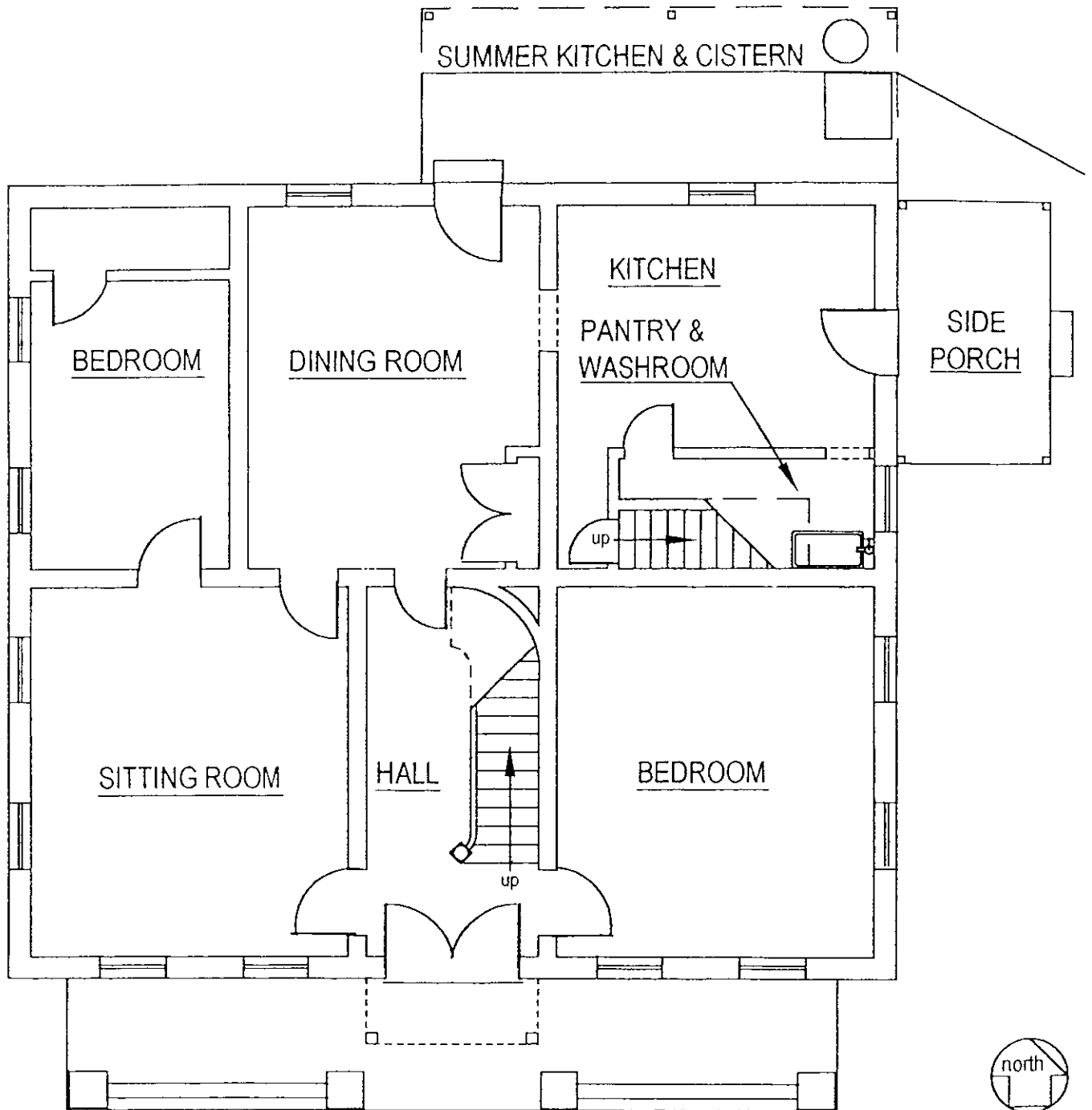
### Farmstead (House and Outbuildings)

Robert Easton  
203 West Lincoln Drive  
Greenup, Illinois 62428

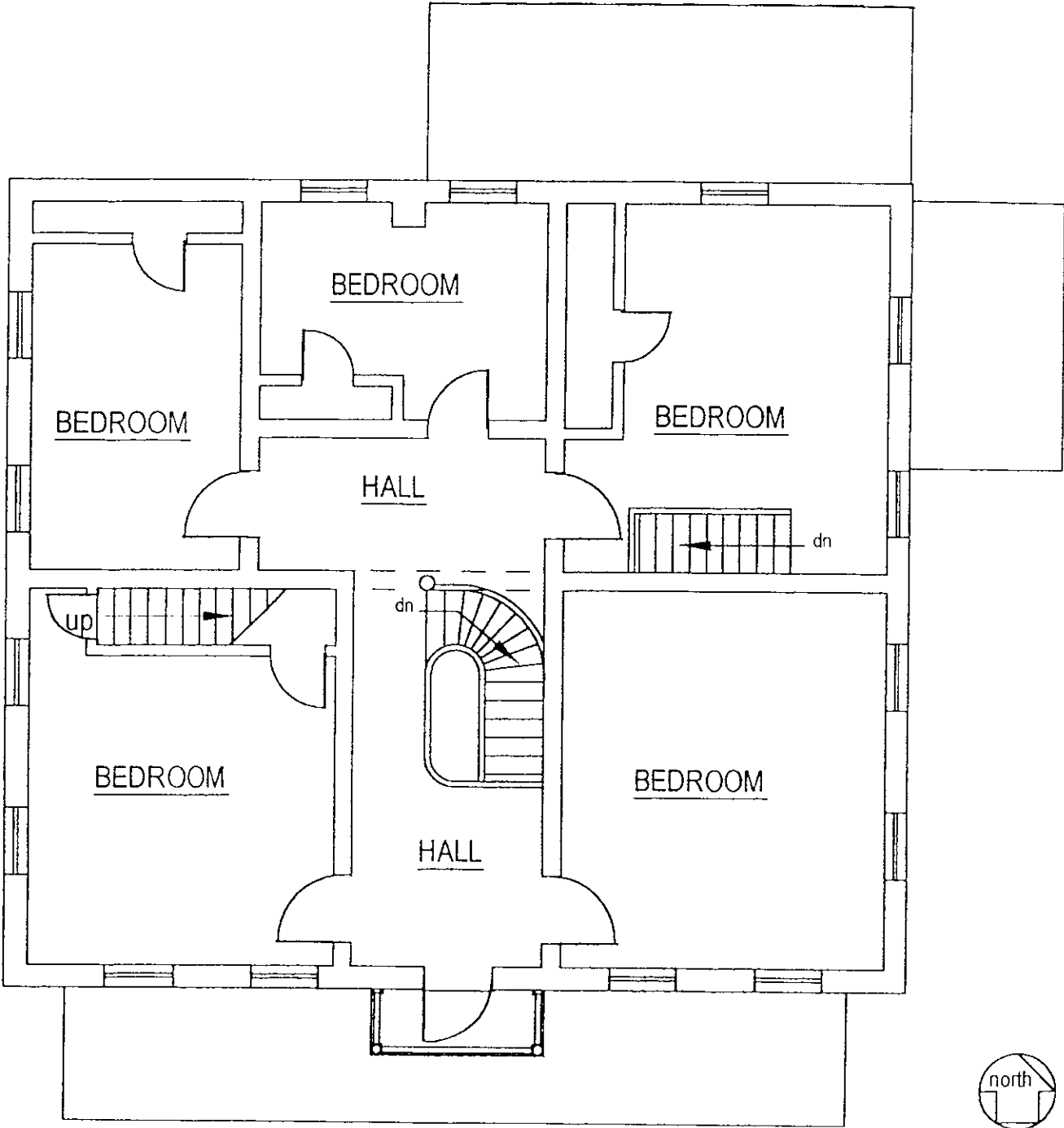
### Old National Road Segment

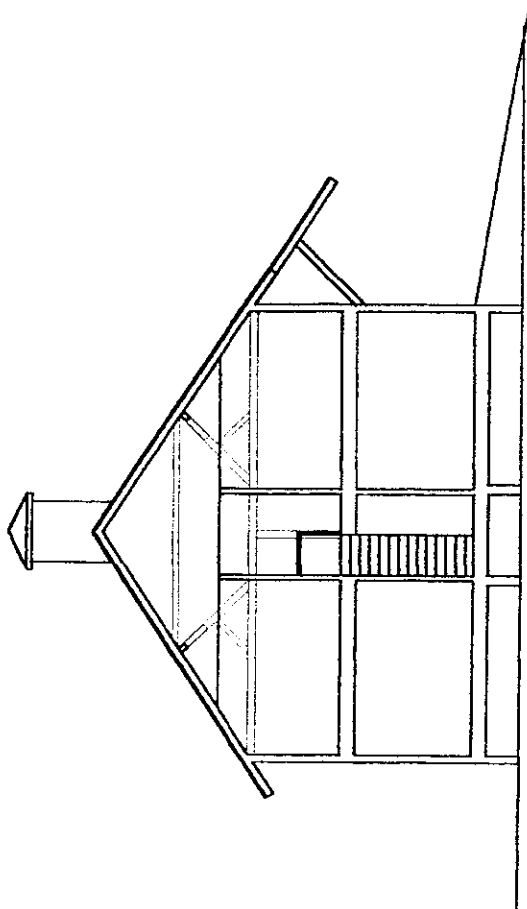
Gary L. Kruger  
Cumberland County Engineer  
Cumberland County Highway Department  
802 Washington Street  
Toledo, Illinois 62468

# Thornton Ward Estate House - First Floor Plan

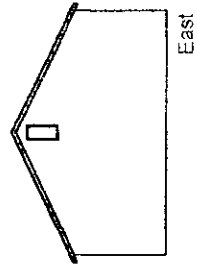


# Thornton Ward Estate House - Second Floor Plan

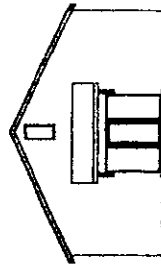




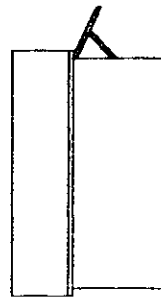
Section of Barn  
1/4" = 1'-0"



East

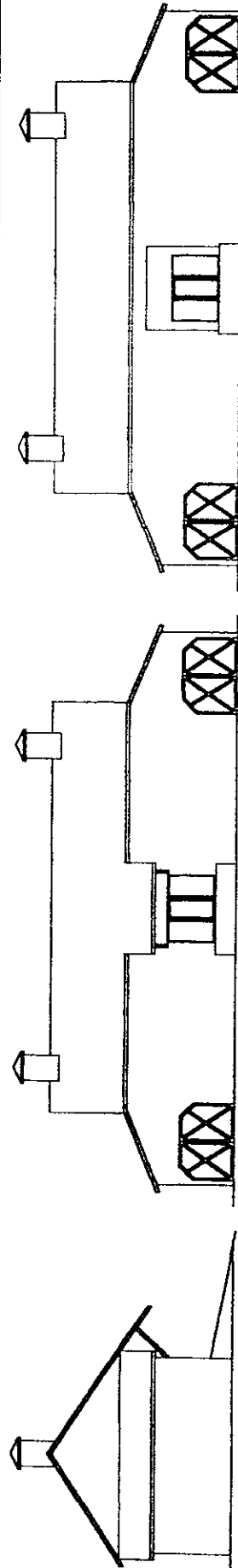


West



North Side  
(South side similar)

Crib Elevations  
1/8" = 1'-0"



NOTE: EAST SIDE SIMILAR

BARN - WEST SIDE ELEVATION  
1/8" = 1'-0"

BARN - SOUTH (FRONT) ELEVATION  
1/8" = 1'-0"

BARN - NORTH (REAR) ELEVATION  
1/8" = 1'-0"

EXTERIOR ELEVATIONS  
SECTION OF BARN

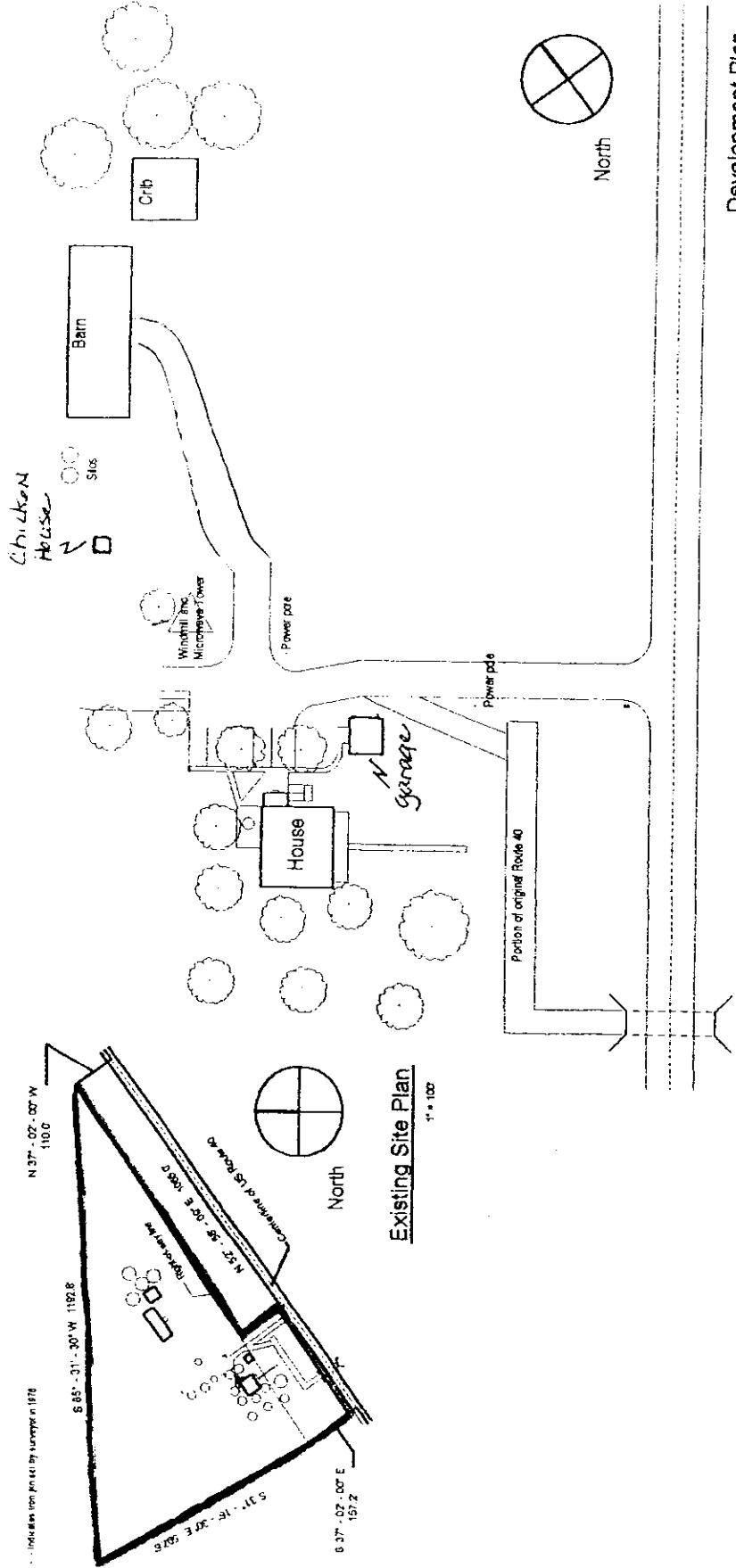
THORNTON WARD HISTORIC ESTATE  
Cumberland County, Illinois

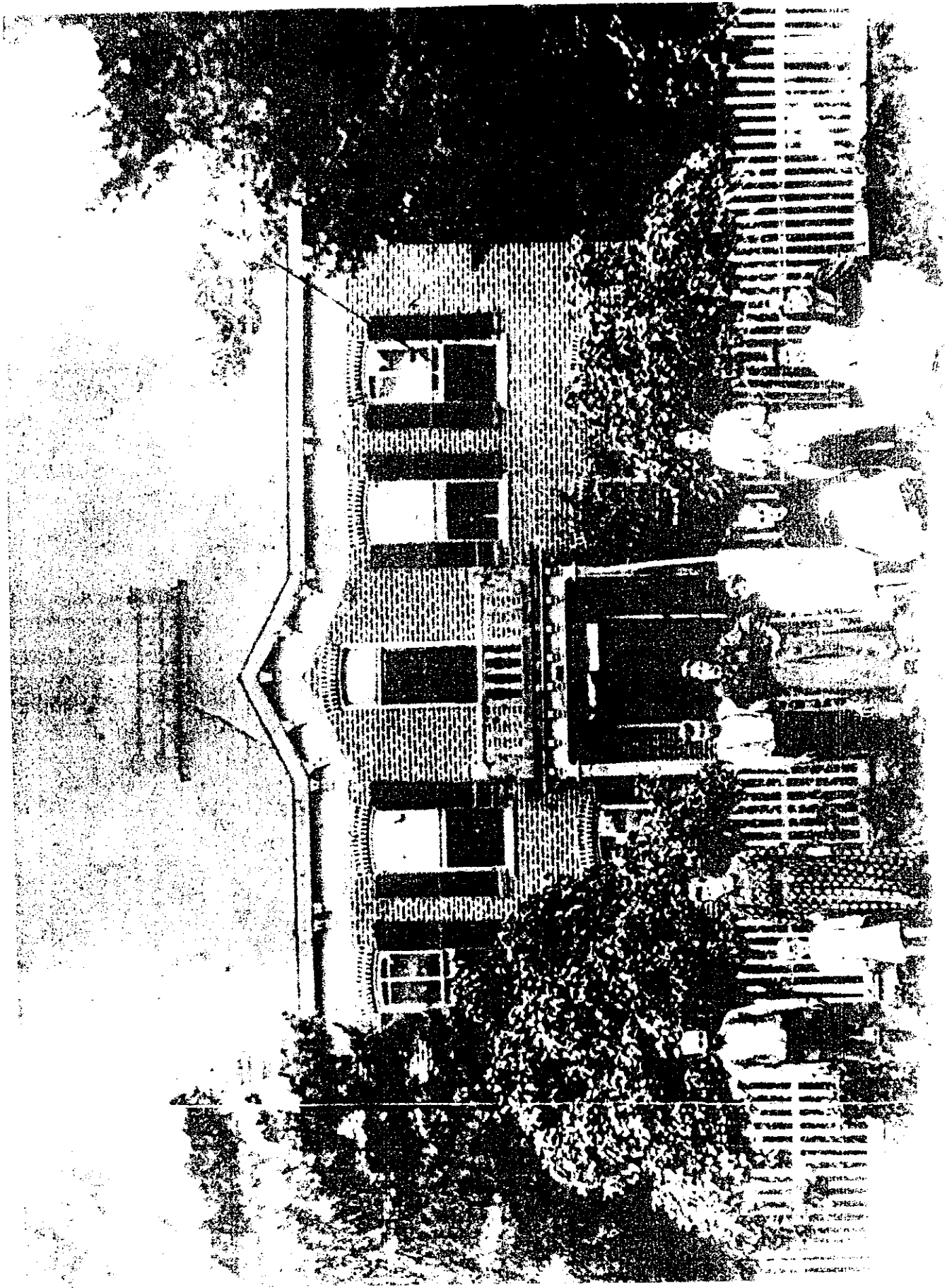
BY ARCHITECTURAL  
**JHW Studio**  
P.O. Box 103 DeKalb, IL 62521  
ARCHITECTS, INTERIORS, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

4

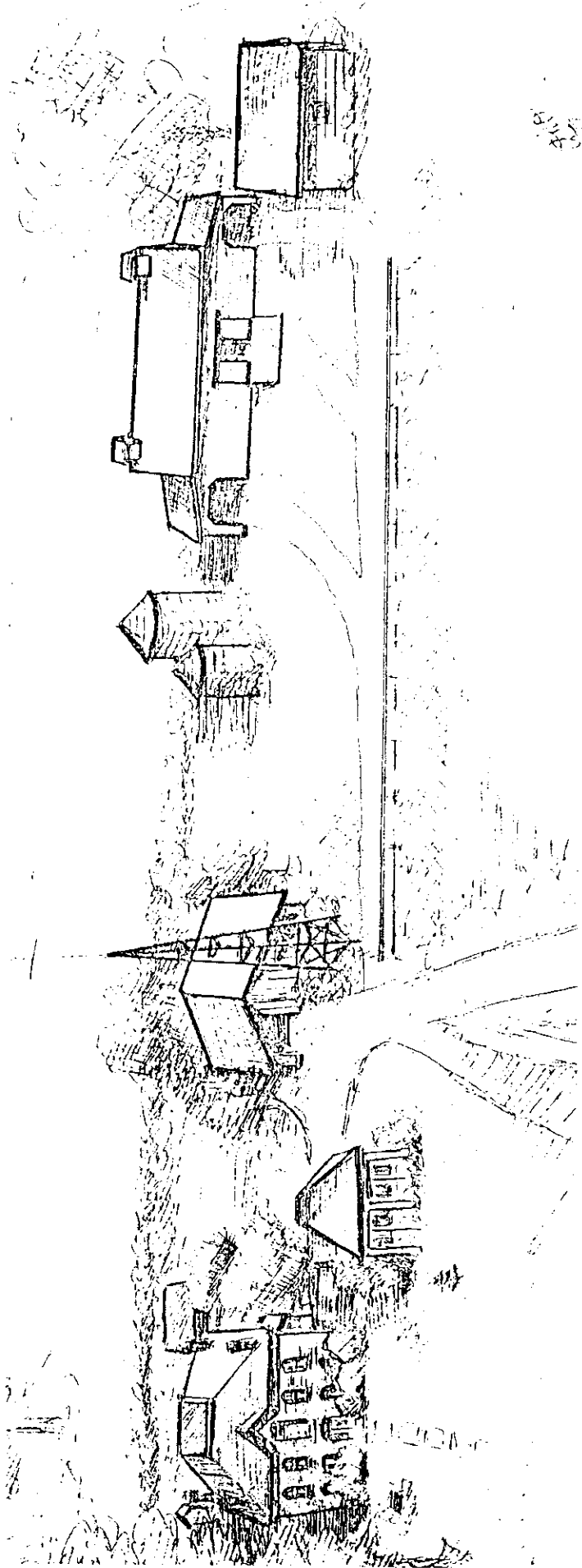
# THORNTON WARD HISTORIC ESTATE MASTER PLAN FOR RESTORATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Situated in the North Half of the Northeast Quarter of Section 17, Township 9 North, Range 9 East, Cumberland County, Illinois





Thornton Ward Estate - Earliest known photo - c. 1895



1937

Aerial sketch made in 1937

Thornton Ward Estate





# United States Department of the Interior

## NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1849 C Street, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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Visit our award winning web site: [www.cr.nps.gov/nr](http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr)

WEEKLY LIST OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON PROPERTIES: 12/03/01 THROUGH 12/07/01

DEC 14 2001

KEY: State, County, Property Name, Address/Boundary, City, Vicinity, Reference Number, NHL, Action, Date, Multiple Name

FLORIDA, POLK COUNTY, Pope Avenue Historic District, Roughly Avenue A NW, Pope Avenue NW, 6th and 7th Sts NW, Winter Haven, 01001337, LISTED, 12/07/01 (Winter Haven, Florida MPS)

FLORIDA, ST. LUCIE COUNTY, Fort Pierce City Hall, Old, 315 Avenue A, Fort Pierce, 01001338, LISTED, 12/07/01

FLORIDA, ST. LUCIE COUNTY, Sunrise Theatre, 117 S. 2nd St., Ft. Pierce, 01001339, LISTED, 12/07/01

ILLINOIS, CUMBERLAND COUNTY, Ward, Thornton, Estate, 1387 US 40, Toledo vicinity, 01001308, LISTED, 12/04/01

INDIANA, ALLEN COUNTY, McColloch--Weatherhogg Double House, 334-336 E. Berry St., Fort Wayne, 01001350, LISTED, 12/07/01

INDIANA, DE KALB COUNTY, Downtown Butler Historic District, Roughly 100 & 200 Blks of South Broadway, Butler, 01001347, LISTED, 12/07/01

INDIANA, HAMILTON COUNTY, Noblesville Milling Company Mill, South 8th St., Noblesville, 01001346, LISTED, 12/07/01

INDIANA, JASPER COUNTY, Fountain Park Chautauqua, 6244 W. Cty Rd. 1600S, Remington, 01001351, LISTED, 12/07/01

INDIANA, LA PORTE COUNTY, Barker House, 444 Barker St., Michigan City, 01001349, LISTED, 12/07/01

INDIANA, LA PORTE COUNTY, First Congregational Church of Michigan City, 531 Washington St., Michigan City, 01001343, LISTED, 12/07/01

INDIANA, LA PORTE COUNTY, Garrettson--Baine--Bartholomew House, 2921 Franklin St., Michigan City, 01001340, LISTED, 12/07/01

INDIANA, MARION COUNTY, Cumberland Historic District, Roughly bounded by Munsie, Welland, Heflin, and Warehouse Sts., Cumberland, 01001341, LISTED, 12/07/01

INDIANA, MARION COUNTY, Spink Arms Hotel, 410 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, 01001345, LISTED, 12/07/01

INDIANA, SHELBY COUNTY, Porter Pool Bathhouse, 501 N. Harrison St., Shelbyville, 01001348, LISTED, 12/07/01

INDIANA, STEUBEN COUNTY, Pleasant Lake Depot, 1469 W. Main St., Pleasant Lake, 01001344, LISTED, 12/07/01

INDIANA, TIPPECANOE COUNTY, Varsity, The, 101 Andrew Place, West Lafayette, 01001342, LISTED, 12/07/01

MARYLAND, ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, Epiphany Chapel and Church House, 1419 Odenton Rd., Odenton, 01001336, LISTED, 12/07/01

MARYLAND, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, Davis--Warner House, 8114 Carroll Ave., Takoma Park, 01001335, LISTED, 12/07/01

MARYLAND, WICOMICO COUNTY, Beaudley, 3955 Jesterville Rd., Tyaskin vicinity, 01001334, LISTED, 12/07/01

MICHIGAN, LENAWE COUNTY, Jackson Branch Bridge No. 15, Southern Michigan RR over River Raisin, Raisin Township, 01000572, LISTED, 12/03/01

MICHIGAN, ONTONAGON COUNTY, Ontonagon Harbor Piers Historic District, Ontonagon R. at Lake Superior, Ontonagon, 01001313, LISTED, 12/04/01

NEBRASKA, KEITH COUNTY, Archeological Site 25KH68, Address Restricted, Brule vicinity, 01001278, LISTED, 12/04/01

NEBRASKA, KEITH COUNTY, Archeological Site 25KH67, Address Restricted, Paxton vicinity, 01001279, LISTED, 12/04/01

NEW YORK, ALLEGANY COUNTY, Belmont Hotel, 40-48 Schuyler St., Belmont, 01001319, LISTED, 12/03/01

OKLAHOMA, TULSA COUNTY, Dawson School, Jct. of East Ute Place and N. Kingston Pl., Tulsa, 01001357, LISTED, 12/07/01

WEST VIRGINIA, GREENBRIER COUNTY, Oakhurst Links, 1 Montague Dr., White Sulphur Springs, 01001327, LISTED, 12/04/01

### Impact of Mail Irradiation Program on National Register Nominations

As you may be aware, the US Postal Service (USPS) intends to irradiate mail in selected USPS facilities, including our mail facility here in Washington D.C., to sterilize it from possible anthrax contamination using high-energy electron irradiation technology. We have concerns about the possible effects of irradiation on nominations to the National Register that pass through these facilities. Paper will be seriously affected, losing tensile strength and increasing brittleness. In addition to accelerating the aging processes, discoloration is also to be expected. We are advising you to avoid using USPS for envelopes and flats that contain National Register nominations, Determinations of Eligibility, and any other material that will be archived here. We strongly recommend using an alternate shipper such as United Parcel Service (UPS) or Federal Express (FedEx) for sending nominations to the National Register of Historic Places. Use this address only:

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Washington DC 20002

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