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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Edward Pulsifer House

AND/OR COMMON

Pulsifer House or The Stouffer-Thomas House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Route 71

CITY, TOWN

Hennepin

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

15th

STATE

Illinois

VICINITY OF

CODE

COUNTY

Putnam

CODE

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER: Vacant

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Village of Hennepin c/o Ed Paxson, Mayor

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Hennepin

VICINITY OF

STATE

Illinois

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Putnam County Courthouse c/o Charles Kassabaum

STREET & NUMBER

Corner of Fourth and High Streets

CITY, TOWN

Hennepin

STATE

Illinois

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

1. Illinois Historic Structures Survey
2. Illinois Historic Landmarks Survey

DATE

1. October 1972
2. November 1973

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Illinois Department of Conservation - Historic Sites Division

CITY, TOWN

405 E. Washinton Street
Springfield, Illinois

STATE

Illinois

DESCRIPTION**CONDITION**

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Built in 1844, the main portion of the Edward Pulsifer House is a two and a half story rectangular brick structure resting on a limestone foundation. Gables are carried above the roof to form brick copings or "fractables." Two pairs of chimneys built flush with the end walls are linked by brick parapets, a feature often associated with vernacular interpretations of the Federal style in Illinois. The facade is slightly recessed at each corner. This unusual stylistic device serves to emphasize the simple elegance of a wooden entablature with dentils. A scaled-down version of the entablature supported by simple wooden pilasters surmounts the entrance. Here, a rectangular transom over the door is broken by two engaged piers flanked by sidelights. Most of the original "6 over 6" sash-type windows have been replaced but stone sills and lintels remain.

A two-story, shed-roofed brick extension at the back and the one-story frame summer kitchen adjoining it appear in the earliest known view of the Pulsifer House (published in 1863) and may in fact be original. The wooden gallery with balustrade replaced a similar porch sometime after that date however.

The side hall plan of the main block is two rooms deep. Interior wood trim is Greek Revival in style and largely intact. Most doorways and window openings are surrounded by a shoulderer architrave, often with a cornice. Doors (including sliding doors which divide the first floor) are ornamented with three tiers of molded panels. The original wooden mantelpiece in the main parlor features paneled pilasters and a paneled frieze with a simplified anthemion motif; mantels elsewhere receive a simpler treatment. A baseboard with molded trim survives in most rooms.

3 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1844-1864

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Edward Pulsifer House is significant as the finest surviving example of the Federal style in Putnam County. The treatment of gables and chimneys, restrained ornament, off-center entrance, L-shaped plan, and Greek Revival interior are typical of vernacular interpretation of this high style. Its architectural integrity inside and out is excellent. The house possesses additional significance for its historical association with one of mid-nineteenth century Hennepin's most prominent citizens.

HISTORY

Born in Vermont in 1813, Edward Pulsifer was one of many ambitious young men attracted to the bustling river town of Hennepin. Ledgers of the Pulsifer business indicate that he and brother Sydney started business there in 1840 as "Forwarding and Commission Merchants, and Dealers in Dry Goods, Hardware, and Groceries." By 1844 he had acquired sufficient wealth to purchase over thirty acres of land just north of the village, overlooking the Illinois River. Pulsifer's substantial home was erected on this property shortly afterwards.

In the next twenty years, Edward Pulsifer prospered in a number of ventures in and around Hennepin -- in general merchandising, in real estate, in transport (Pulsifer owned a fleet of freight and grain boats on the Illinois River). As a major backer of the Hennepin Tribune, he vigorously promoted the village as the future center of transportation and commerce in the Midwest. But Pulsifer's hopes faded as river traffic dwindled and railroads bypassed the declining river port. At the age of 51, he removed to booming Chicago, where he acquired a great deal of property and served as Director of the Commercial National Bank and Vice-President of the Union Trust Bank. Pulsifer died in 1902.

The house remained in the Pulsifer family until 1904. It was later occupied by farmer William Thomas and Putnam County Treasurer John W. Stouffer and their wives. After 1932 it housed a succession of tenant farmers and their families. As of January 1, 1979, the Pulsifer House became the property of the Village of Hennepin.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

1865 Census of Illinois. Illinois State Archives, Springfield, Illinois
Granville Echo, Granville, Illinois.

Hennepin Tribune, April 24, 1857 to December 24, 1958 (Hennepin, Illinois:
Burney and Duncan).

Personal Interviews

Mrs. Bessie Colby, Hennepin, Illinois. Daughter of former tenant
of the farm, December 14, 1978.

Mrs. Viola Thomas, Benson, Illinois. Former resident of the home,
January 9, 1978.

Mrs. Gudmund Jessen, Jr., Hennepin, Illinois. Former resident of
the home, December 22, 1978.

Mrs. Lyle (Eva) Morine, Hennepin, Illinois. Putnam County Historian,
December 6, 13, 20, 1978.

Mr. Norman Vernon, Public Relations Director, J & L Steel Co.,
Hennepin, Illinois, January 9, 1979.

Mr. John N. Porter, 144 Glen Cannon Drive, Pisgah Forest, N.C.
Last owner of the home, December 30, 1979.

Mrs. Anna Cofoid, Hennepin, Illinois. Resident of the home and
former employee of Stouffer-Thomas, December 27, 1978.

Putnam County Courthouse, Hennepin, Illinois. Records Room.

Putnam County Record, Granville, Illinois.

Pulsifer Ledgers, Correspondence, and Statement Sheets, Archives of the
Putnam County Historical Society.



ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE ILLINOIS

Date Entered SEP 4 1979

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
✓ Pulsifer, Edward, House	Hennepin Putnam County
Quinn Chapel of the A.M.E. Church	Chicago Cook County

Also Notified

Honorable Charles H. Percy
Honorable Adlai E. Stevenson
Honorable Tom J. Corcoran
Honorable Cardiss Collins

COPY OF CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION

ILLINOIS HISTORIC SITES SURVEY INVENTORY

1. Name of Site:

Common Porter House
Historic Edward Pulsifer House

2. Location: Ill 71 and County Rd; just E of Bridge

Street and number Township Section
City or Town Zip Code Range 1/4 Section
Hennepin
County
Putnam

3. Classification:

Category (check one) Integrity (check one)
() District (X) Building () Altered (X) Unaltered
() Site () Structure () Moved (X) Original Site

4. Ownership:

(X) Private () Occupied
() Public (X) Unoccupied
() Preservation work in Progress

Access to Public

() Yes () Restricted () Unrestricted (X) No

Present Use (check one or more)

() Agricultural () Industrial () Religious
() Commercial () Military () Scientific
() Educational () Museum () Transportation
() Entertainment () Park (X) Other (specify)
() Government (X) Private Residence vacant

5. Ownership of Property:

Owner's name Mrs. Porter Phone Number
Street and number
City or Town
State Indiana County Zip Code

6. Description: a late Adam Style (after Wiffen) Double Gable

Condition:

() Excellent () Good (X) Fair () Deteriorated () Ruins
() Unexposed

Is there a program of preservation underway? () Yes (X) No

HOMES OF PROMINENT PEOPLE



7. Historical Themes: (check one or more of the following)

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Archaeological Site | (Pre-Columbian) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Archaeological Site | (Post-Columbian to 1673) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | French Influence | (1673-1780) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Illinois Frontier | (1780-1818) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Illinois Early | (1818-1850) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Illinois Middle | (1850-1900) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Illinois Late | (1900-present) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Famous People | (give names & dates) |

8. Specific Date: 1844

Areas of significance (check one or more of the following)

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Aboriginal (historic) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Literature |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Aboriginal (pre-historic) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Military |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> | Music |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> | Political |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Art | <input type="checkbox"/> | Religion/Philosophy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> | Science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Communication | <input type="checkbox"/> | Sculpture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> | Social/Humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Education | <input type="checkbox"/> | Theater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> | Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> | Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other (specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Landscape Architecture | | |

Brief statement of significance: (include all names and dates)
Use additional sheets if necessary. **Pulsifer was a leading citizen in town.**

9. Form prepared by:

Name and Title: TH Date: _____
Organization: _____ Phone: _____
Street and number: _____
City or town: _____ County: _____ Zip Code: _____

During the course of the Survey we often find it necessary to search for references for a particular site. When filling out the Survey form, please list according to the following example, published references to the site for which forms are being completed. If a bibliography can be compiled, it will greatly deduct from the Survey's task.

Bibliography

Robertson, Robert, Of Whales and Men. New York, Alfred K. Knopf, Inc., 1954.