

# United States Department of the Interior

## National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any 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.

## 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Wilson House

Other names/site number: Wildwood by the Brook

Name of related multiple property listing:

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

## 2. Location

Street & number: 1001 W. US 20

City or town: Porter State: IN County: Porter

Not For Publication:  Vicinity:

### **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   X   meets    does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national  statewide  local

#### Applicable National Register Criteria:

— A      — B      — X C      — D

**Signature of certifying official/Title:**

Date

**State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government**

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In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria.

**Signature of commenting official:**

**Date**

**Title :**

**State or Federal agency/bureau  
or Tribal Government**

#### **4. National Park Service Certification**

I hereby certify that this property is:

- \_\_\_ entered in the National Register
- \_\_\_ determined eligible for the National Register
- \_\_\_ determined not eligible for the National Register
- \_\_\_ removed from the National Register
- \_\_\_ other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

#### **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

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Structure

Object

### Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>5</u>	<u>1</u>	buildings
<hr/>	<hr/>	sites
<u>7</u>	<hr/>	structures
<hr/>	<hr/>	objects
<u>12</u>	<u>1</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

### 6. Function or Use

#### Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

DOMESTIC/secondary structure

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#### Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

DOMESTIC/secondary structure

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## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19<sup>th</sup> AND 20<sup>th</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS/Tudor Revival

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### Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property:

Foundation: CONCRETE

Walls: BRICK

Roof: ASPHALT

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

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### Summary Paragraph

The Wilson House is a 1.5 story, brick, Tudor Revival-influenced single dwelling. The house has an irregular plan with a central, square hipped roof portion as well as various perpendicular extensions and wings and a rear, attached garage. The exterior walls and wide exterior brick chimney feature bark-textured color-blended bricks laid in a common bond pattern; the house also has an interlocking asphalt shingle roof and rests on a poured concrete foundation. A set of semicircular concrete stairs provide access to the wooden front door with its four-part arched glass insert and decorative iron hinges and hardware. The house also has side doors with original flagstone walks. The interior of the house reflects the Tudor Revival style through its historic arched interior openings, wood floors, built-in wooden cabinets and closets, brass outlet covers and fixtures, and paneled wooden interior doors with glass doorknobs. The property consists of the house and its associated three fish ponds, storage building, detached garage, pool house, in-ground swimming pool, pool buildings, non-historic workshop, concrete dance floor, stone wall and stairs, and semicircular driveway. The house appears to have first been identified as the

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“Wilson House” in the 1991 Porter County Interim Report which also notes the date of construction for the house and that it is, “. . . one of the township’s finest twentieth century homes.” The property is in excellent condition and, although it has experienced some very minor interior modifications, retains sufficient character-defining features to convey its significance.

### Narrative Description

The Wilson House, also referred to as Wildwood or Wildwood by the Brook, is a Tudor Revival-influenced house located in the Indiana Dunes Region of Northwest Indiana. The property is located on a rise west of North Mineral Springs Road, east of US-20 from Indiana Dunes National Park, and directly adjacent to the East Branch of the Little Calumet River. The Wilson House was built for former State Bank president and Sall Mountain Asbestos Company superintendent Edward Astoria Wilson<sup>1</sup> and his wife Margaret Sophia Smith Wilson in 1927. According to notes on a painting of the property completed by their daughter Marjorie Wilson Dorman in 1953, the Wilsons began building their “dream house” on the property along North Mineral Springs Road shortly before US-20 extended through the area and lived there for twenty-three years until their deaths. A June 23, 1927, article in the *Chesterton Tribune* notes that the Wilsons had broken ground for their new home and that the house would be located “. . . in what is known as Samuelson’s grove, on a nicely wooded hillside and will be reached by a winding drive from the roadway.”<sup>2</sup> The June 1927 article also notes that the house would have “ten rooms” and “all modern improvements and appliances.”<sup>3</sup> A July 1927 article in the *Vidette-Messenger* indicated that “Edward A. Wilson and wife” had acquired their 2.55 acre property for ten dollars from “Eric Herman Carlson and wife” on May 10, 1927.<sup>4</sup> A December 22, 1927, article in the *Chesterton Tribune* described the Wilsons moving into their new home, “. . . that had been under construction during the fall and winter on the banks overlooking the Calumet River on the Mineral Springs road north of Porter” and calls the house, “. . . one of the handsomest and most modern in the county, set in a heavily timbered piece of land above the road . . .”<sup>5</sup>

The Wilson House is a contributing element to a designed landscape featuring not only buildings, but also organic design features such as fish ponds, an in-ground pool, a curved stone wall extending into a stone staircase curving up the hill, and a semicircular driveway. Residents of the area have speculated that this house may have been designed by John Lloyd Wright, son of Frank Lloyd Wright, based on his association with Frank Dudley, who named a painting done of the house’s setting “Wildwood by the Brook.” However, no direct evidence to support this claim has yet been identified. While John Lloyd Wright practiced architecture in the area, his residential building designs were primarily for resort houses built into the dunes within the beach

<sup>1</sup> E.A. Wilson is listed as Edward Allen (Astoria) Wilson on a Geneanet family tree. He is listed as Edward Astoria Wilson on all other records located during research.

<sup>2</sup> *The Chesterton Tribune* (Chesterton, Indiana), June 23, 1927.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> “Transfers Recorded in Porter County,” in *Vidette-Messenger of Porter County* (Valparaiso, Indiana), July 1927.

<sup>5</sup> *The Chesterton Tribune* (Chesterton, Indiana), December 22, 1927.

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communities directly adjacent to Lake Michigan. He incorporated organic elements found in the dunes region such as using elements of the Mission style like stucco and experimented with siting, incorporating the topography of the area into his designs during his early tenure in the region in the 1920s. He began designing with elements of the International style during the 1930s.<sup>6</sup> There are no known examples of his work in the Tudor Revival style.

An original damaged, partial reflected ceiling plan based on a historic floor plan labeled "Wildwood by the Brook in 19\_8" groups the rooms into electrical circuits showing only part of what is presumably Circuit No. 2; the plans also include Circuit No. 3 through Circuit No. 8. Partial Circuit No. 2 refers to an "expansion tank room" which is otherwise unlabeled on the plans. Circuit No. 3 refers to a "telephone booth" which is otherwise unlabeled on the plans. Circuit No. 4 refers to a "fireplace" in the living room which is otherwise unlabeled on the plans. Circuit No. 6 refers to "Basement (South End)" and Circuit No. 7 refers to "Basement (North Hall)" although basement plans are not included. Rooms labeled on the first floor include the following: "Living Room," "Dining," "Kit. [kitchen]," B.R. [breakfast room], "Garage," "Mother's," "Bath," and "Guest." There also appear to be unlabeled closets and what may be an unlabeled basement stair. At the upper portion of the partial plan set is presumably the second floor (although its label has been lost along with the top of the plans) where the following rooms are labeled with the names of the Wilsons' children: "Ladd's [Lylebert Ladd]" "Edwards's [Edward Albert]," "Fay [Florence Fay] & Marge's [Marjorie Elizabeth]." There are additional rooms on the second floor but, again, the top of the plans has been lost. It appears that the second floor rooms included all the children's bedrooms and presumably would have included another room for their second oldest child, son Grant Vernor Wilson. It also appears that only the youngest child had to share a bedroom; all the other children had the luxury of their own bedrooms. Additionally, it is possible that Edward A. and Margaret Wilson's room was upstairs with the children's rooms since the first floor room is only labeled "Mother's" and could therefore have been for the mother of Edward A. or Margaret who may have originally planned to live with the family. Importantly, this partial, historic reflected ceiling plan indicates that this 1920s house was not only wired for electricity and telephone service but also had a hot water heater.

The Wilson House has an asymmetrical footprint with a central square, hipped roof portion with a hipped roof extension of the living room projecting south, a small gable roof extension of the living room projecting south, and a gable roof wing for the guest room projecting north. The entire house was originally set beneath a false thatched roof. Although it is now covered with asphalt shingles, the roof retains its original rolled eave form. The North Mineral Springs Road primary façade also has a front-projecting gable roof extension of the living room space with a north-facing dormer window. Between the front-projecting gable roof section of the living room and the north-projecting guest room wing is the arched front entrance to the porch and recessed front door. At the rear of the house is a gable roof attached garage projecting west of the central, hipped section of the house. While the house has Tudor Revival elements, features such as its

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<sup>6</sup> Kurt West Garner, Partners in Preservation Inc. 2011. *John Lloyd Wright in Northwest Indiana*, National Register of Historic Places Nomination, 2011, pages 3-11.

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large single-paned façade picture windows lighting the living room are original features which would have provided a view of the East Branch of the Little Calumet River and were likely influenced by contemporary resort houses being constructed along Lake Michigan. The choice to build a swimming pool and its associated buildings on the landscape fits well with the recreational lifestyle of the beach communities in this area. In the 1920s and 1930s, rich and famous vacationers from major cities like Chicago were commissioning and building houses in beach communities such as Michiana Shores, Long Beach, Michigan City, Beverly Shores, Dune Acres, and Ogden Dunes. In Long Beach, John Lloyd Wright, son of Frank Lloyd Wright, had a studio and designed approximately twenty buildings there; he also designed numerous other buildings in the area outside of Long Beach including at least one example each of an educational, military, and public building.

The Wilson house retains Tudor Revival character-defining features such as its brick exterior material, arched porches, prominent wide chimney with pots, small circular window, demilune window, and gable oriented façade bay including a narrower tripartite window with an iron balcony. Atypically however, most windows throughout the house are one-over-one double hung sashes, rather than casements or narrow paired or tripartite windows with transoms. There is a ribbon of four-light wooden casement windows (with non-historic exterior storms) lighting the stair hall. Interior walls are stuccoed and the house retains wooden moldings, wooden flooring, some historic lighting fixtures, and some radiators.

When entering the Wilson House through its east-facing front door, straight ahead is a long hallway retaining original wood flooring with rooms accessed from both its north and south sides. Within the hallway is the staircase to the half story and built-in wooden closets. The staircase has been partially enclosed with a dropped grid ceiling with a metal balustrade and metal railings on the first floor and a chair lift has been installed opposite the balustrade; in the half story, the staircase retains its original wooden balustrade with square newel post and railings. At the end of the hallway is an attached garage.

Moving south and slightly east through an arched opening and down several stairs from the level of the entrance hallway is the sunken large living room with a faux beam ceiling, a multi-colored wide brick fireplace, and its original wood floors. West of the living room and up several steps through another arched opening is a dining room and west of the dining room are the kitchen and breakfast room spaces, again, accessed through arched openings. The dining room space is also accessed through an arched opening off the main entrance hall. Across the hallway from the kitchen and breakfast room spaces is a bedroom labeled "Mother's" on the plans. East of this bedroom is a bathroom and east of the bathroom, closest to the front entrance, is a guest bedroom. Like the living room, the guest bedroom is accessed through an arched opening. In the half story, south of the wood-floored hallway at the top of the stairs are two bedrooms (Edward's, Faye and Marge's) through paneled wooden doors with glass knobs. Two bedrooms are accessed via wooden paneled doors with glass knobs from the east end of the hallway and two bedrooms and one bathroom are accessed via wooden paneled doors with glass knobs from the north side of the hallway. Bedrooms retain closets, radiators, and wooden floors. Bathrooms in the house are tiled, including tiled counters, and have wooden cabinets.

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East and downslope of the Wilson House along North Mineral Springs Road is a stone wall (K) curving up the hill into a set of stone steps built into the hillside and providing access to the front of the house. Curving up from North Mineral Springs Road is the semicircular driveway extending around the north side of the house; an extension to the driveway along the west side of the house was built later to provide access to the non-historic workshop/garage (I). Generally, the driveway maintains its historic course. Circa 1927 stone-lined fish ponds are located east (A), north (B), and west (E) of the Wilson House. Northwest of the Wilson House is a historic, frame, storage building with an asphalt shingle hipped roof, jalousie windows, and horizontal board siding. Also northwest (but slightly south) of the Wilson House, is a historic garage (D) with six-light paired casement windows, an overhead garage door, and an asphalt shingle gable oriented roof. South of the Wilson House is a c. 1957 pool and dance floor complex. The complex includes the pool house (F) with W-D-W-W-D-W fenestration, horizontal board siding, metal-framed windows, and a shed roof with scalloped trim. East of the pool house is an inground swimming pool (G). East of the swimming pool is a changing room (H) with D-D-D-D-D-D fenestration, horizontal board siding, and a shed roof with scalloped trim and diagonal wooden bracing beneath its eaves. Doors in the changing room are either fully paneled or half glass, half paneled. Slightly northwest of the pool is a concrete dance floor (J). Southwest of the pool and dance floor complex is a non-historic, non-contributing workshop/garage building (I) with vertically oriented metal siding, a cross gable asphalt shingle roof, and D-W-W-D fenestration in the shop side and D-D-D fenestration in the garage side. The garage has two metal overhead doors in addition to its single leaf entry doors.

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## 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.

### Criteria Considerations

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

- 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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

Community Planning

and Development

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**Period of Significance**

1927

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**Significant Dates**

1927

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**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

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**Cultural Affiliation**

None

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**Architect/Builder**

Unknown

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**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

*Summary Paragraph*

The Wilson House is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C for its distinctive characteristics of a Tudor Revival style house with a false thatched roof, which is a rare but distinctive subtype of the style. The property was built for Edward and Margaret Wilson in 1927. Wilson was a local businessman who served as the president of the Porter State Bank. The property is significant in the area of architecture and features notable details like asymmetrical massing, an exterior brick facade, a dominant chimney near the front of the house, a shed dormer, round arches, a wood main door with decorative strapwork, as well as a false thatched roof. In addition to having the stylistic elements of the Tudor Revival style, this eclectic suburban house also has elements of the Spanish Revival style including the cast iron Juliette balcony, the round arches, and decorative strapwork. The period of significance for the property is 1927, representing the date when the house was constructed.

The property is also locally significant in the area of community planning and development, as representative of the suburbanization of the Indiana Dunes for wealthy residents during the early twentieth century. The property retains sufficient integrity in terms of location, setting, workmanship, design, materials, feeling, and association in order to convey this significance. The Wilson House is located in its original location next to the East Branch of the Little Calumet River. The original owners chose this location to take advantage of the beautiful, wooded setting on top of a hill overlooking the river. Although U.S. Highway 20 runs behind the property, the main façade continues to face the river, retaining the most important of the original views and setting. The house retains its original massing and form. Original details remain intact such as the brick work, wood windows, fenestration pattern, arched openings, and the main entrance door. The interiors include original details such as wood floors, doors, and trim, as well as round arches, typical of both styles. There are decorative beams in the living room ceiling and an unpainted brick fireplace. Decorative beading is located on the ceiling in the bedroom at the northwestern corner of the second floor. Original sconces are found in several of the rooms. Custom cabinetry in the bathrooms as well as a custom closet are significant original millwork elements to the house. The roof of the Wilson house has been replaced with a modern interlocking asphalt shingle rolled around the eaves. Photographs from 1936, indicate the original roof may have had wood shingles. However, of the fourteen Tudor Revival Style dwellings found in Porter County, Indiana, within the Indiana Department of Natural Resources State Historic Architectural and Archaeological Research Database (SHAARD), the Wilson

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House is the sole example of a false-thatched Tudor Revival dwelling.<sup>7</sup> Even though the false thatched roof has been replaced with contemporary materials, the form, and rolled eave follow the original roof shape. For these reasons, the design, materials, and workmanship convey the significance of the architectural elements. The house has the feeling and association of a Tudor Revival style residence from 1927. Therefore, the Wilson House retains sufficient integrity to convey its significance as a Tudor Revival style residence with a false-thatched roof.

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

*Paragraph 1: History of the Property*

According to the 1876 *Illustrated Historical Atlas of Porter County, Indiana*, the Wilson House was built on property previously owned by “I.T. and C.A. Samuelson,” which was known as Samuelson’s Grove.<sup>8 9</sup> The property remained in the Samuelson family until at least 1906, but by 1921, the property transferred to “E.H. Carlson” (Eric Herman Carlson).<sup>10 11</sup> On May 10, 1927, Eric Herman Carlson, a local minister, and his wife Elsa sold the 2.55 acre parcel adjacent to their property for ten dollars to Edward A. Wilson and his wife Margaret.<sup>12</sup> Given the small transaction amount, the two families may have been related or very close friends. The Carlstons remained neighbors with the Wilsons through at least 1940.<sup>13</sup>

The Wilson House, also referred to as Wildwood or Wildwood by the Brook, is a Tudor Revival style house designed to be the Wilsons’ “dream house” built along North Mineral Springs Road, and directly adjacent to the East Branch of the Calumet River.<sup>14</sup> According to an article in the *Chesterton Tribune*, the “new modern home” was to be built on a wooded hillside accessible by a winding driveway, featuring ten rooms with modern improvements and appliances.<sup>15</sup> The house had seven bedrooms, an attached garage, and even had a room designated as the “telephone booth.”<sup>16</sup> The Wilson’s moved into their house around December 22, 1927 and the local newspaper described the house as “one of the handsomest and most modern in the county.”

<sup>7</sup> SHAARD database, <https://www.in.gov/dnr/historic-preservation/help-for-owners/national-and-state-registers/shaard-database/> (accessed January 31, 2023).

<sup>8</sup> A.G. Hardesty, *Illustrated Historical Atlas of Porter County, Indiana*, 1876.

<sup>9</sup> *The Chesterton Tribune* (Chesterton, Indiana), June 23, 1927.

<sup>10</sup> George A. Ogle & Co., *Standard Atlas of Porter County, Indiana* (Chicago: 1906).

<sup>11</sup> George A. Ogle & Co., *Standard Atlas of Porter County, Indiana* (Chicago: 1921).

<sup>12</sup> “Transfers Recorded in Porter County,” in *Vidette-Messenger of Porter County* (Valparaiso, Indiana), July 1927.

<sup>13</sup> U.S. Federal Census, 1940, Census Place: Westchester, Porter, Indiana; Enumerations District 24-26, ancestry.com (accessed February 1, 2023).

<sup>14</sup> According to notes on a painting of the property completed by their daughter Marjorie Wilson Dorman in 1953.

<sup>15</sup> See note 7.

<sup>16</sup> Reflected ceiling plan, unknown date.

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<sup>17</sup> By the 1940 U.S. Federal Population Census, the property was valued at \$7,000- more than double the value of the neighboring houses.<sup>18</sup> The Wilson's tranquil house was soon intruded upon by the construction of U.S. Highway 20, Dunes Relief Highway in 1931. This concrete road runs northeast and southwest along the western side of the property.<sup>19</sup>

Edward Astoria Wilson (1864-1941) and his wife Margaret (also Margaurite) Sophia Smith Wilson (1865-1950) were married in 1889 and were born in Pennsylvania and Canada, respectively.<sup>20</sup> <sup>21</sup> Prior to moving to Indiana, they lived in Chicago, Illinois with their three children and Margaret's mother Henriette, while Edward was documented as a foreman at the Sall Mountain Asbestos Manufacturing Company in the 1900 US Census.<sup>22</sup> In 1905, they moved to Chesterton, Indiana, where Edward worked as superintendent with the same company.<sup>23</sup> Their five children were Fay (Florence), Grant, Edward Jr., Lylbert, and Margaret in order of birth. Fay and Grant attended the avant-garde Emerson High School in Gary, Indiana.<sup>24</sup> <sup>25</sup> By 1920, the family lived with Edward's mother, Emma C. Wilson and retained a live-in housekeeper named Lydia Peterson.<sup>26</sup>

Sometime around 1920, a group of local businessmen, including Edward Wilson, decided to establish a local bank for the community. Wilson became one of the original shareholders of the First State Bank of Porter, which was chartered in February 1920. Wilson was among the nine shareholders elected to be directors of the bank. Soon after the founding of the bank, he was appointed as the first Vice President; however, by August of 1920, he was appointed President, after the original president resigned. He remained the president of the bank at least until 1940, one year before his death.<sup>27</sup> The bank started with 250 shares, \$100 per share with \$25,000 from fourteen investors. It survived the Great Depression and today, the bank remains privately held.<sup>28</sup>

<sup>17</sup> *The Chesterton Tribune* (Chesterton, Indiana), December 22, 1927.

<sup>18</sup> See note 11.

<sup>19</sup> Betty Canright and Eva Hopkins, "Porter Gateway to the Dunes. A Porter Chronology," <https://www.townofporter.com/community/pages/porter-history> (accessed January 31, 2023).

<sup>20</sup> U.S. Federal Census, 1900, Census Place: Park Ridge, Cook, Illinois; Enumerations District 1171, ancestry.com (accessed February 1, 2023).

<sup>21</sup> "Aged Resident of Chesterton Taken by Death," in *Vidette-Messenger of Porter County* (Valparaiso, Indiana), July 1950.

<sup>22</sup> See note 18.

<sup>23</sup> *The Chesterton Tribune* (Chesterton, Indiana), June 23, 1927.

<sup>24</sup> Lewis Publishing Company, *History of Porter County, Indiana: A Narrative Account of its Historical Progress, its People and its Principal Interests* (Chicago, Illinois, 1912), 872-873.

<sup>25</sup> "Emerson School of Gary, Indiana," Something Interesting. Electronic document <https://sometimes-interesting.com/emerson-school-of-gary-indiana/> (accessed January 31, 2023).

<sup>26</sup> U.S. Federal Census, 1920, Census Place: Calumet, Lake, Indiana; Enumerations District 98, ancestry.com (accessed February 1, 2023).

<sup>27</sup> Leonard Miller, Personal Communication via email from Leonard Miller, Chief Financial Officer of Porter State Bank to Veronica Parsell, 2019.

<sup>28</sup> Leonard, Miller, In-person meeting with Leonard Miller, Chief Financial Officer of Porter State Bank and Veronica Parsell, 2019.

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By 1940, Edward and Margaret lived with their servant B.C. Letteria, an African American man from Gary, Indiana, who was possibly their chauffeur. He had a fifth-grade education and earned \$300 per year- by contrast Edward earned \$20,000 in the same year.<sup>29</sup> Edward died in 1941 and Margaret would continue to live at the residence until her death in 1950. <sup>30</sup> <sup>31</sup>

The property was sold to a doctor named Mario Tomisch in 1957, who added an inground pool and two pool houses to the property circa 1958 before it was briefly purchased by Brian and Ethel Beun in 1967. A Dr. Paul Carson owned the property from 1969 to 1972, where it was purchased by Clayton and Glenna Amburgey. A member of the Amburgey family has owned the property to the present.<sup>32</sup> Current ownership was transferred to Bradford Amburgey and Glenna Cremeans in 2010.<sup>33</sup>

*Paragraph 2: Area of significance- Architecture*

Tudor Revival style houses began to be constructed in America during the late nineteenth century and were typically high-style imitations of versions found in England. Beginning in the early twentieth century, middle -class examples were constructed utilizing characteristic elements such as faux half-timbering, and symmetrical facades or gable and wings forms. The popularity of the style reached its zenith in the 1920s, as architects and builders took advantage of the endless possibilities in form and roof types, as well as new techniques in masonry construction allowing for the initiation of more costly stone and brick. The style's picturesque and asymmetrical characteristics allowed the interiors to be ruled by function and the exterior landscape views instead of following formal symmetry.<sup>34</sup>

Information on the architect of the building was not uncovered; however, it does appear to be the work of an architect who specialized in an eclectic style of architecture. The house includes the asymmetrical massing of the Tudor Revival style as well as details from the Spanish Revival style, such as the cast iron Juliette balcony. Virginia McAlester in her seminal work "A Field Guide to American Houses" offers eight Tudor Revival sub-types, designating the false thatched roof subtype as a "...rare but distinctive subtype [that] mimics the picturesque, thatched roofs of rural England with modern materials."<sup>35</sup> These roofs were typically composed of either rolled interlocking asphalt shingles or wood shingles steamed around eaves to suggest the layering

<sup>29</sup> See note 11.

<sup>30</sup> See note 19.

<sup>31</sup> Edward Astoria Wilson in the Illinois, U.S., Deaths and Stillbirths Index 1916-1947 Electronic Document <https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/1933442:2542?tid=&pid=&queryId=385ca6408a571c15ac0a2254d67d378a&pbsrc=ope14&pstart=successSource> (accessed July 31, 2023).

<sup>32</sup> Bradford Amburgey, letter to Holly Higgins, October 13, 2023.

<sup>33</sup> Porter County Property Records.

<sup>34</sup> Virginia Savage McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses. The Definitive Guide to Identifying and Understanding America's Domestic Architecture.* (Alfred A. Knopf: New York, 2013), 449-466.

<sup>35</sup> McAlester, 2013, 450.

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effect of thatch. As such, the most significant feature of the residence is the false-thatched hipped roof with cross gables. This roof features a shed roof dormer and a dominant brick chimney near the front of the residence. The architect placed the large wood frame picture windows, original to the house, in the large living room overlooking the East branch of the Little Calumet River to take advantage of the beautiful views. On the second story is a Spanish Revival-style cast iron Juliette balcony, protecting an upper story window. The main entrance door also faces east towards the river and is nestled underneath a round brick arch. The wood door with round arch four-light window features decorative iron strapwork elements found in both the Tudor Revival and Spanish Revival styles.

*Paragraph 3: Area of significance-community planning and development*

Prior to the late nineteenth century, large portions of Northwest Indiana, primarily Lake, Porter, and LaPorte Counties, were considered unusable due to its proximity to the dunes and marshy areas along Lake Michigan and the Kankakee Marsh to the south. The town of Bailly was originally drawn out by the first white settler in the area, Joseph Bailly, but was not begun since he passed away in 1835. Several other towns were platted along the lakeshore during the 1830s as well. Waverly, located two miles northwest of Chesterton, was platted and laid out in 1835. City West, now located within Indiana Dunes State Park, was platted and laid out in 1836.<sup>36</sup> However, neither of these towns survived more than a few years due to the remote and harsh early-nineteenth century landscape. Development was slow in this region throughout much of the nineteenth century, although the central portions of these three counties served as an important trade route between Chicago and the eastern United States due to the large number of railroads traversing the region, including the South Shore electric line, New York Central Railroad, Michigan Central Railroad, Pere Marquette Railway, Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway, New York, Chicago and St. Louis Railroad, and the Pennsylvania Railroad.<sup>37</sup> The land along the lakeshore between the port cities of Hammond and Michigan City, however, remained mostly undeveloped throughout the late-nineteenth century, although there was a Swedish immigrant population that lived in Baillytown, now Burns Harbor, and constructed vernacular farmsteads in the area.<sup>38</sup>

The dismissal of Indiana Dunes region as an unusable wasteland was poised to change rapidly, due to three competing forces at the turn of the twentieth century, however. These forces included (1) industries exploiting sand and access to Lake Michigan; (2) the preservationists who wished to preserve the pristine natural landscape, and (3) the developers who desired to establish

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<sup>36</sup> John Drury, *This is Porter County, Indiana. An Up to Date Historical Narrative with County and Township Maps and Many Unique Aerial Photographs of Cities, Towns, Villages and Farmsteads.* (Inland Photo Co.: Chicago, 1956), 13.

<sup>37</sup> United States Geological Survey. *USGS Porter, IN Topographic Quadrangle, 1940.*

<sup>38</sup> "The History of Burns Harbor," Local History. The Town of Burns Harbor, Indiana. <https://www.burnsharbor-in.gov/203/Local-History> (accessed April 25, 2023).

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recreational residential communities as a refuge from city life.<sup>39</sup> In 1906, U.S. Steel founded the City of Gary, Indiana, which was located approximately 16 miles west of the Wilson house and west of the Dunes Region.<sup>40</sup> The lakeshore north of the primarily working-class cities of Gary, Hammond, Whiting, and East Chicago became industrialized to accommodate the bustling steel industry in the early to mid-twentieth century. The expansion of railroads and highways through the region also further opened up Lake and Porter Counties to development and urban tourists looking to escape the strains of city life.<sup>41</sup> In 1901 and 1907, respectively, an electric railroad line, the Chicago and Indiana Air Railroad and the Chicago, Lake Shore and South Bend Railroad, opened the dunes of Lake Michigan to residents of Chicago and Gary, Indiana. They eventually merged and became known as the South Shore Line that runs from downtown Chicago to South Bend, Indiana.<sup>42</sup> Additionally, key roadway improvements in the early 1920s, such as the opening of U.S. Route 12, known as the Dunes Highway, U.S. Route 20 and U.S. Route 30, the Lincoln Highway, linked the Dunes Region with Chicago and communities further east. Both rail and highway development allowed local residents to work in Chicago and Chicago residents to become commuters and move out of the crowded city. These two forms of transportation also opened up the lakeshore to the middle and working classes to visit.

The earliest visitors were largely professionals who appreciated the beauty and ecosystems of the area. However, it was this discovery of the dunes as a refuge from the drudgery of city, along with encroaching development from both the east, in Michigan City, and the west, in Lake County, that prompted the protection of a large portion of the lakeshore. In 1899, Botanist Henry C. Cowles published an article describing the intricate ecosystems of the Indiana dunes and formed the Prairie Club to advocate for the protection of the dunes.<sup>43</sup> The National Dunes Park Association was created in 1916, with a goal to eventually create a national park along the dunes.<sup>44</sup> To combat the competing forces of industry and development, the Indiana State government passed a bill to create the Dunes State Park in March of 1923, containing over 2,000 acres along the southern shores of Lake Michigan, approximately three miles from the Wilson House.<sup>45</sup> The dunes had reached an almost mythical existence by the early 1920s in the writings

<sup>39</sup> "Early Development of the Indiana Dunes: 1870s-1910s," National Park Service, Indiana Dunes [https://www.nps.gov/indu/learn/historyculture/early\\_development.htm](https://www.nps.gov/indu/learn/historyculture/early_development.htm) (accessed February 1, 2023).

<sup>40</sup> *Dune Acres, The History of Dune Acres 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, ca. 1998.*

<sup>41</sup> Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana, *Porter County Interim Report. Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory, 1991.*

<sup>42</sup> Dorinda Partsch, National Park Service, *Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. 1988. Beverly Shores South Shore Railway Station, National Register of Historic Places Nomination, 2011*, page 5.

<sup>43</sup> "History and Culture," Indiana Dunes, National Park Service <https://www.nps.gov/indu/learn/historyculture/index.htm> (accessed February 1, 2023).

<sup>44</sup> Gregg Abell, Partners in Preservation Inc. 2011. *Bartlett Realty Company Model Homes of Beverly Shores, National Register of Historic Places Nomination, 2011*, pages 4-11.

<sup>45</sup> "Indiana Dunes Park Bill Signed with Gold Pen," in *The Star Press* (Muncie, Indiana), March 7 1923, page 3

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of local newspapers. In 1923, William F. Gingrich wrote an article in the *Chicago Tribune* describing the Indiana dunes as the "...wonderland that lies at our very door..." and a place of "...drowsy calmness and repose..."<sup>46</sup> He described the area as a place "...almost without permanent human inhabitants" save for a few fishermen and some scattered small cottages. Portions of his article were heavily borrowed for another article in a Moline, Illinois newspaper called *The Dispatch*, which described the region as having a "wealth of natural beauty in [a] Desolate region." This article was part of an automotive tour series provided by The Dispatch Touring Bureau giving motorists the travel route details to the Indiana Dunes.<sup>47</sup>

The first city visitors during the late nineteenth and first few decades of the early twentieth centuries were known as "dune bugs;" those who camped on the beaches or stayed in simple vernacular buildings. However, after the establishment of Indiana Dunes State Park, communities, such as Miller Beach, Ogden Dunes, Dune Acres, Beverly Shores, Long Beach, and Michiana Shores, were established along the Indiana shoreline of Lake Michigan, at first with summer residences for businessmen from Chicago and Gary, but eventually permanent residences began to be constructed and those same businessmen commuted from the Dunes region to Chicago. Newspapers from the period advertised the possibilities for boating, skiing, and other outdoor fun while living in the dunes.<sup>48</sup> While Miller Beach was developed along the non-industrialized portion of the lakeshore in Gary, Ogden Dunes and Beverly Shores were developed along either side of Indiana Dunes State Park.

Ogden Dunes, along with Dune Acres, was one of the earlier lakeshore communities established during the 1920s. Named after reclusive multi-millionaire, Francis A. Ogden,<sup>49</sup> Samuel Reek platted the original community, along with Joseph Boo and Colin Mackenzie on a portion of the Francis A. Ogden Estate.<sup>50</sup> This site was chosen due to its proximity to the Dune Highway (US

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<https://www.newspapers.com/image/251450293/?terms=Dune%20Acres&match=1>  
(accessed February 1, 2023)

<sup>46</sup> William F. Gingrich, "Dunes, Toys of Storms' Whim, Mirror Nature," in *Chicago Tribune* (Chicago, Illinois), March 11, 1923, page 18

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/354942207/?terms=Dune%20Acres&match=1>  
(accessed February 1 2023).

<sup>47</sup> "Indiana's Sand Dunes Wonder Spot Easily Accessible to Moline Tourists; Marvels of Floral Life One of Many Attractions," in *The Dispatch* (Moline, Illinois), June 9, 1923, page 5

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/339213999/?terms=Dune%20Acres&match=1>  
(accessed February 1, 2023).

<sup>48</sup> "Residential Development of the Dunes," Indiana Dunes. National Park Service

[https://www.nps.gov/indu/learn/historyculture/residential\\_development.htm](https://www.nps.gov/indu/learn/historyculture/residential_development.htm)  
(accessed April 20, 2023).

<sup>49</sup> "Recluse Dies Intestate; Estate Worth \$12,000,000," in *The Indianapolis Star*, June 11, 1914, page 11

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/118677916/?terms=Francis%20A%20Ogden%20Recluse&match=1> (accessed April 25, 2023).

<sup>50</sup> "Early Development," Town of Ogden Dunes, Indiana,

<https://ogdendunes.in.gov/about/pages/early-development> (accessed April 25, 2023).

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12) and the South Shore Line. It was incorporated as a town in 1925 and like many of the communities along the Indiana lakeshore, it was advertised as exclusive and the only community with its own harbor for pleasure craft from Jackson Park in downtown Chicago.<sup>51</sup> The community also boasted a 192 ft. tall ski slide, constructed in 1927 by the Grand Beach Ski Club, which brought visitors from around the world to the community.<sup>52</sup> While the developers of Ogden Dunes incorporated the topography of the dunes into their planning, the community is much more densely laid out with mid-twentieth century homes than communities further west.

Dune Acres, approximately three miles from the Wilson House, was established in 1923. This planned community, developed by Dune Acres Incorporated president William Wirt, Superintendent of Gary Schools, provided upscale suburban residences for those looking to escape the noise and pollution of nearby cities. Indiana Governor Edward L. Jackson even constructed a summer home in the community in 1927.<sup>53</sup> Wirt wanted to model his new community after the North Shore suburbs of Lake Forest and Winnetka. He, along with the principal planner of Dune Acres, Colonel Arthur Melton, principal planner of Gary, purposefully worked with the landscape instead of attempting to tame it. Narrow roads winding through the hillsides and woods preserved and connected the dunes.<sup>54</sup> Early houses within the community were mostly modest log dwellings, but some were designed in the Spanish Revival style or other popular styles of the early twentieth century. Similar to the Century of Progress homes in Beverly Shores, one home within Dune Acres was built as a replica of a farmhouse located within the Belgian Village during the 1933 Chicago World's Fair. Almost all the houses constructed within the community from its inception until the beginning of World War II were constructed and/or designed by local builder Alden Studebaker, the nephew of William Wirt, who also lived within the community.<sup>55</sup> Dune Acres had its own municipal government and featured roads, streetlights, a nine-hole golf course, and a clubhouse with a restaurant. It boasted a guesthouse that functioned as a year-round hotel during the 1920s, but by the 1930s it reduced its operating season to the summer months. Unfortunately, due to the Depression and World War II, Wirt and Colonel Melton's dream to rival the exclusive North Shore Chicago suburbs did not come to fruition, first due to lack of funds during the Depression, then diversion of supplies to the war effort. The population of the community in 1940 was 46, even though there were over 40 houses that had been built by that time. Like many along the Indiana lakeshore, Dune Acres

<sup>51</sup> "Plan Harbor in Indiana Dunes: Chicago Yachtmen Obtain Permission of War Department," in *The Times* (Munster, Indiana), May 3, 1927, page 13

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/304635580/?terms=%22ogden%20dunes%20%22&match=2> (accessed April 25, 2023).

<sup>52</sup> "View of Ogden Dunes Ski Slide," in *The Times* (Munster, Indiana), February 27, 1928, page 15

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/307250066/?terms=%22ogden%20dunes%20%22&match=1> accessed April 25, 2023).

<sup>53</sup> "Builders of the Calumet Region," in *The Times* (Munster, Indiana), January 8, 1927, page 9

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/306401956/?terms=%22dune%20acres%20%22&match=1> (accessed April 25, 2023).

<sup>54</sup> See note 36.

<sup>55</sup> See notes 33 and 36.

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remained a resort community, until after World War II and continues to maintain its “summer resort” feel in the present.<sup>56</sup>

Located approximately nine miles east of the Wilson House, Beverly Shores was the brainchild of brothers Frederick H. and Robert Bartlett, who purchased the property in 1927. Bartlett's Beverly Shores was not only a residential community but boasted a school, fire station, shopping district, country club, tennis courts, and golf course. The layout of Beverly Shores mimics that of Dune Acres, in that it utilizes narrow roads between the dunes with clusters of houses scattered throughout the wooded areas. Enthusiasm for the burgeoning community grew quickly and by 1929, the majority of lots had been sold and houses were constructed in the Spanish Revival style.<sup>57</sup> Spanish Revival houses are common to the resort communities within Indiana Dunes region during the early twentieth century, in keeping with the Spanish Revival resort trend found in Florida during the same period. While Beverly Shores experienced some of a downturn in development during the Depression, it was not nearly as much as other dune communities during the same time frame. This growth is attributed to the machinations of Robert Bartlett, who purchased and moved the Century of Progress houses that were on exhibit during the 1933 Chicago World's Fair to Beverly Shores. Not only were these houses brought to the community, but they were available for purchase as well.<sup>58</sup> This measure ensured a continuing attraction to the community through the Great Depression, World War II, and beyond.

Approximately sixteen miles east of the Wilson House, one of the earliest, largest and most socially connected, is the community of Long Beach. Long Beach, originally known as Sha Ha Walla Beach, was a bog that was only deemed suitable for growing crops such as rice or cranberries. Aside from Judge Harry B. Tuthill acquiring the majority of the land and platting a development in the 1890s, there was little interest in this area until 1914. Orrin Glidden, who owned land in what was to become Duneland Beach and Sheridan Beach, purchased 30 of Tuthill's lots in 1915 and another 10 in 1917. Glidden developed the first addition to Long Beach, which included a golf course. Glidden and Orphie Gotto, a wealthy Michigan City merchant, purchased 200 lots east and south of the First Addition in 1918 and platted Long Beach Terrace. Advertisements from the period boasted that Long Beach “bordered the finest bathing beach in the world” and that was “America's Finest County Home Community and Playground.”<sup>59</sup> Wealthy Chicagoans and Hoosiers alike flocked to purchase lots in the “Indiana Riveria,” and Long Beach was incorporated in 1921. The community possessed its own police force, a school, and a fire department, as well as a dance hall, country club, and polo field. Because it was only a two-hour train ride from Chicago, the community attracted businessman to live in secluded, elegant houses along the rolling dunes. The Long Beach Company valued its exclusivity and wanted an “architect of real ability and integrity, who has outgrown his present

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<sup>56</sup> See note 36.

<sup>57</sup> See note 41.

<sup>58</sup> See note 41.

<sup>59</sup> Barbara Stodala, *Michigan City Beach Communities: Sheridan, Long Beach, Duneland, Michiana Shores*. (Arcadia Publishing: United States) 2003, pages 75-100.

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position and is ready for greater opportunities.”<sup>60</sup> Architect John Lloyd Wright was just the man for this job. He moved with his family to Long Beach in 1923, establishing a local architecture practice. While the architecture of Long Beach was known for its Tudor Revival, Spanish Revival, Colonial Revival, and a variety of modern styles from the Modern Movement, Wright designed his own house as a simple box-shaped, shingle building. He designed other Long Beach residences in the Prairie style, as well as the International style of architecture during the period he lived in Long Beach, primarily the 1920s and 1930s, until he moved to California in 1946. He also designed the Long Beach Town Hall (still in use) and elementary school, now known as the Old School Community Center.<sup>61</sup>

It is within this suburban development of the Indiana dunes during the 1920s that the Wilsons built their residence Wildwood, on a wooded hillside overlooking the river, as one of the few representations of the significant development of the region for the wealthy outside of the suburban developments along the lakeshore. The house’s Tudor Revival architecture, coupled with elements of the Spanish Revival, are indicative of the Wilson family’s stature within Porter County and rivals that of the properties constructed within these Indiana Dunes Region communities.

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<sup>60</sup> “An Architect with Ability,” in *The Times* (Munster, Indiana), January 21, 1923, page 9,

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/306462055/?terms=%22long%20beach%20Company%22&match=1> (accessed April 26, 2023).

<sup>61</sup> Garner 3-4, 8.

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**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 # \_\_\_\_\_  
 recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

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

Name of repository: personal files of the Wilson and Amburgey families

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** 127-108-05049

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## 10. Geographical Data

**Acreage of Property** 2.24

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

### Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_  
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 41.622028	Longitude: -87.087319
2. Latitude: 41.621715	Longitude: -87.086825
3. Latitude: 41.621035	Longitude: -87.086943
4. Latitude: 41.621049	Longitude: -87.087532
5. Latitude: 41.621207	Longitude: -87.087527
6. Latitude: 41.621232	Longitude: -87.087993

**Or**

### UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927    or     NAD 1983

1. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
2. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
3. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
4. Zone:	Easting :	Northing:

### Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Beginning at a point at the southeast intersection of the Little Calumet River and the US 20 Bridge over the Little Calumet River at Latitude: 41.622028 Longitude: -87.087319, the boundary follows the Little Calumet River southeast to a point where it intersects with Mineral Springs Road at Latitude: 41.621715 Longitude: -87.086825. It then follows Mineral

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Springs Road south to a point at the intersection of Mineral Springs Road and the southeast parcel boundary at Latitude: 41.621035 Longitude: -87.086943. The boundary then runs west along the southern parcel boundary to a point at Latitude: 41.621049 Longitude: -87.087532, before running 161.97 ft south to a point at Latitude: 41.620609 Longitude: -87.087513. The boundary then runs northwest along the southern parcel boundary to a point at the intersection of US 20 at Latitude: 41.620870 Longitude: -87.088384. It then follows US 20 northeast to the beginning.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary includes all buildings and structures within the parcel boundary that are associated with the historic development of the Wilson House.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Holly Higgins and Sonja Lengel with Rachel M. Kennedy

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date: October 17, 2023

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## **Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

## Wilson House

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## Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

## Photo Log

Name of Property: Wilson House

City or Vicinity: Porter

County: Porter State: Indiana

Photographer: Rachel Kennedy

Date Photographed: November 7, 2022

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1 of 47. Southwesterly overview of the Wilson House.

2 of 47. West-southwesterly view of the façade.

3 of 47. Westerly view of front door detail.

4 of 47. Easterly view of west elevation.

5 of 47. Southeasterly view of north elevation.

6 of 47. Northeasterly view of south elevation.

7 of 47. North-northeasterly view of porch detail

8 of 47. Southwesterly view of picture window shade detail.

9 of 47. Southwesterly view of chimney detail.

10 of 47. Easterly view of brick detail.

11 of 47. Westerly view of front door detail.

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12 of 47. Northerly view of foyer.

13 of 47. Northerly view of light fixture detail.

14 of 47. Westerly view of archway detail.

15 of 47. Westerly view of fireplace.

16 of 47. Westerly view of foyer, first floor hallway and stairs.

17 of 47. Southerly view of living room.

18 of 47. Southerly view of light switch detail.

19 of 47. Northerly view of living room.

20 of 47. Northeasterly view of large picture window in living room.

21 of 47. Southerly and upward view of paneled living room ceiling and exposed beams.

22 of 47. Westerly view of dining room and breakfast room.

23 of 47. Easterly view of second floor hallway.

24 of 47. West-northwesterly view of second floor hallway window detail.

25 of 47. Northerly view of second floor bathroom.

26 of 47. Westerly view of rock wall along driveway.

27 of 47. Easterly view of rock wall along driveway.

28 of 47. Southwesterly view of rock wall along Mineral Springs Road.

29 of 47. Westerly view of steps leading up to the house from Mineral Springs Road.

30 of 47. Southeasterly view of fish pond located east of the façade.

31 of 47. North-northwesterly view of fish pond located north of the residence.

32 of 47. Westerly view of fish pond located west of the residence.

33 of 47. Southwesterly overview of swimming pool and changing room.

34 of 40. Westerly overview of swimming pool and pool house.

35 of 47. Southwesterly view of swimming pool.

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36 of 47. Southeasterly view of changing room.

37 of 47. Westerly view of pool house.

38 of 47. East-southeasterly view of pool house.

39 of 47. Southwesterly overview of property and dance floor.

40 of 47. Easterly view of dance floor.

41 of 47. Northeasterly overview of dance floor and south elevation of the Wilson House.

42 of 47. Southerly view of garage.

43 of 47. Southwesterly view of garage.

44 of 47. Northeasterly overview of garage and storage building.

45 of 47. Northerly view of storage building.

46 of 47. Southwesterly view of storage building.

47 of 47. South-southeasterly view of non-historic garage.

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for nominations 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.460 et seq.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

Tier 1 – 60-100 hours  
Tier 2 – 120 hours  
Tier 3 – 230 hours  
Tier 4 – 280 hours

The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525.

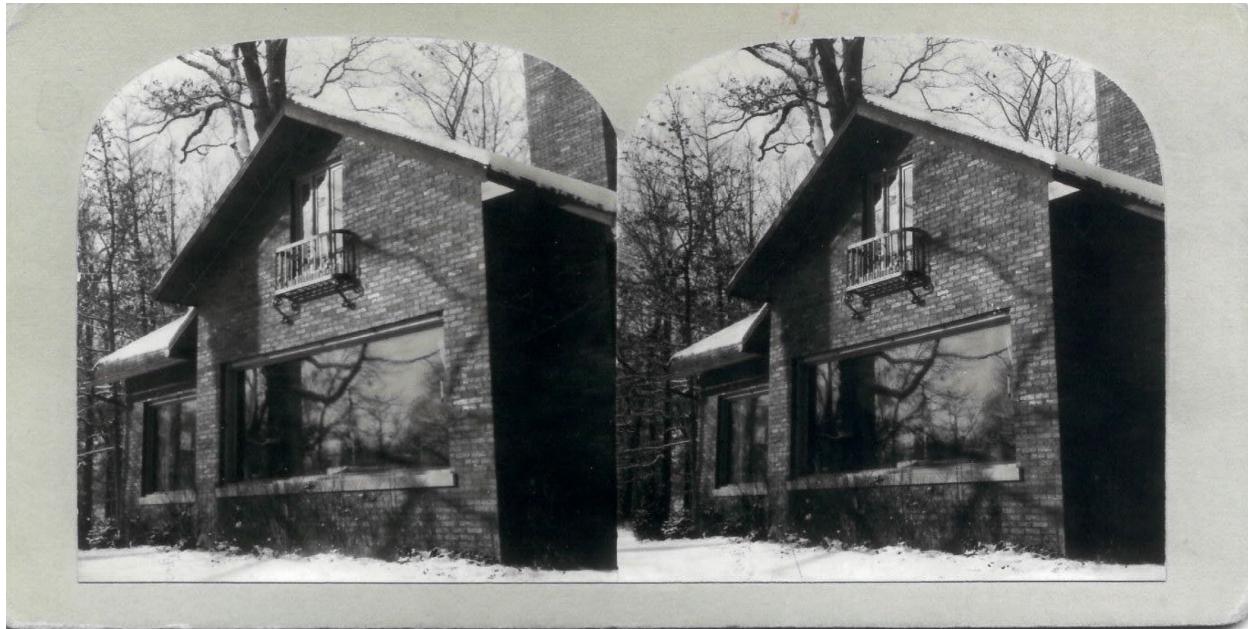
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**Historic Photos and Drawings**

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County and State



Picture window, 1928.



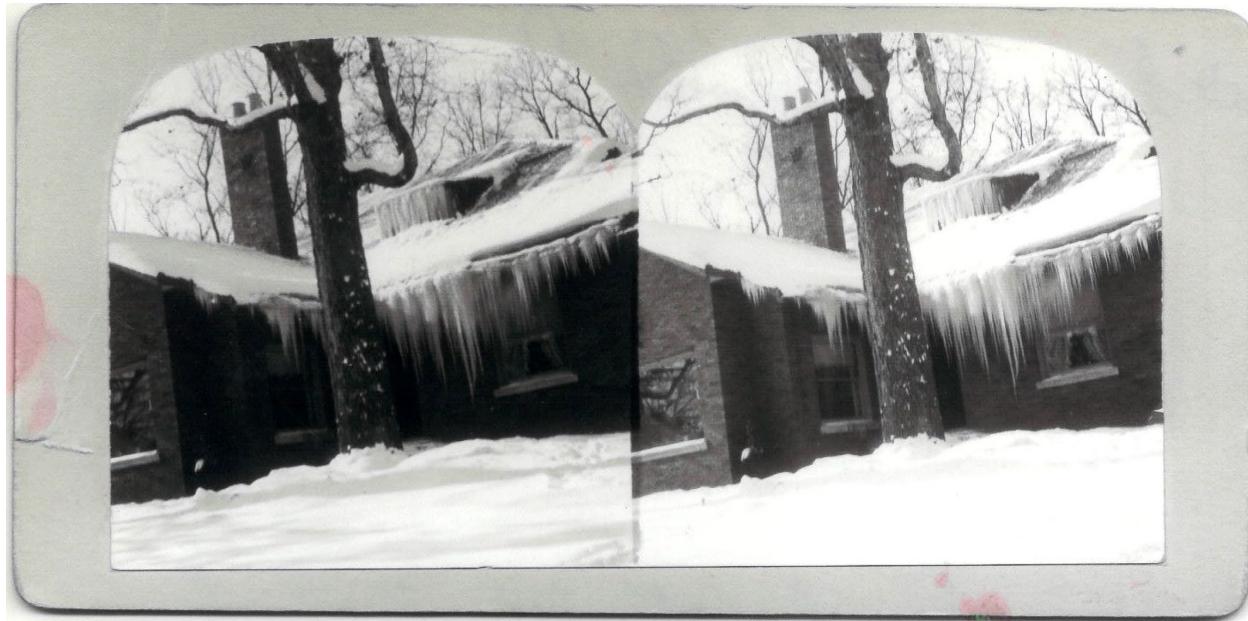
Rear elevation, 1928

Wilson House

Name of Property

Porter County, Indiana

County and State



Façade, 1929.



E.A and Margaret Wilson at the bottom of the steps, n.d.

Wilson House

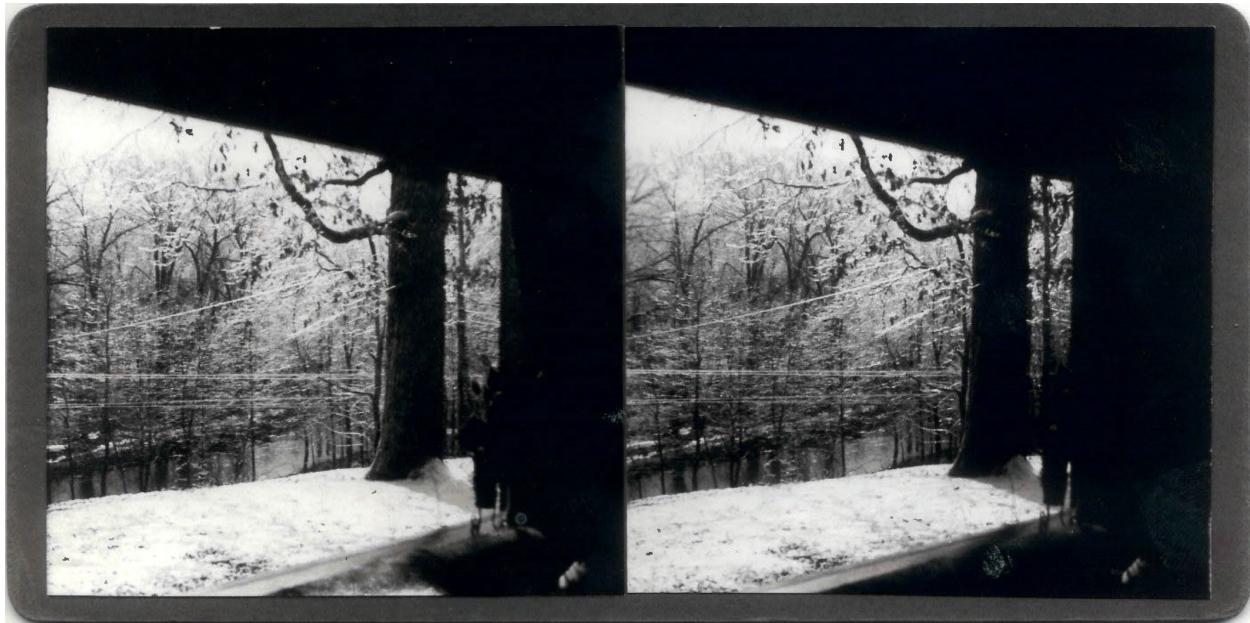
Name of Property

Porter County, Indiana

County and State



E.A. and Margaret Wilson at Wildwood, 1936.



View through the picture window, n.d.

Wilson House

Name of Property

Porter County, Indiana

County and State



Winter at Wildwood, n.d.



Picture window and Juliette balcony, n.d.

Wilson House

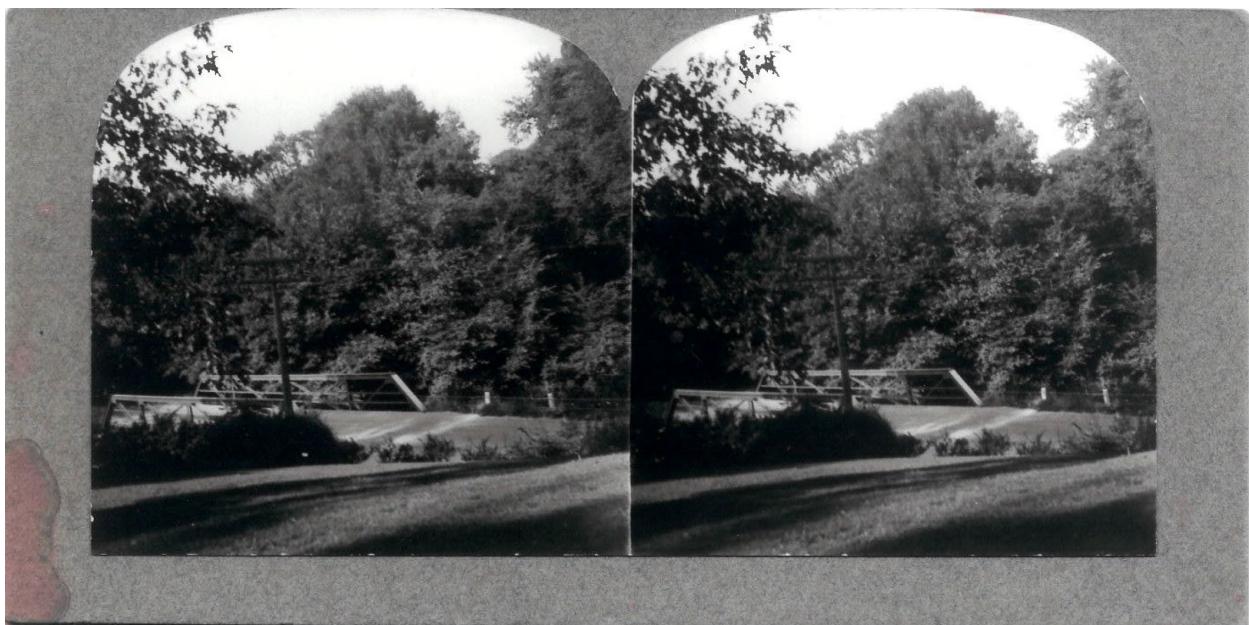
Name of Property

Porter County, Indiana

County and State



US 20 bridge over the Little Calumet River, 1936.



Historic bridge along Mineral Springs Road, 1936.

Wilson House

Name of Property

Porter County, Indiana

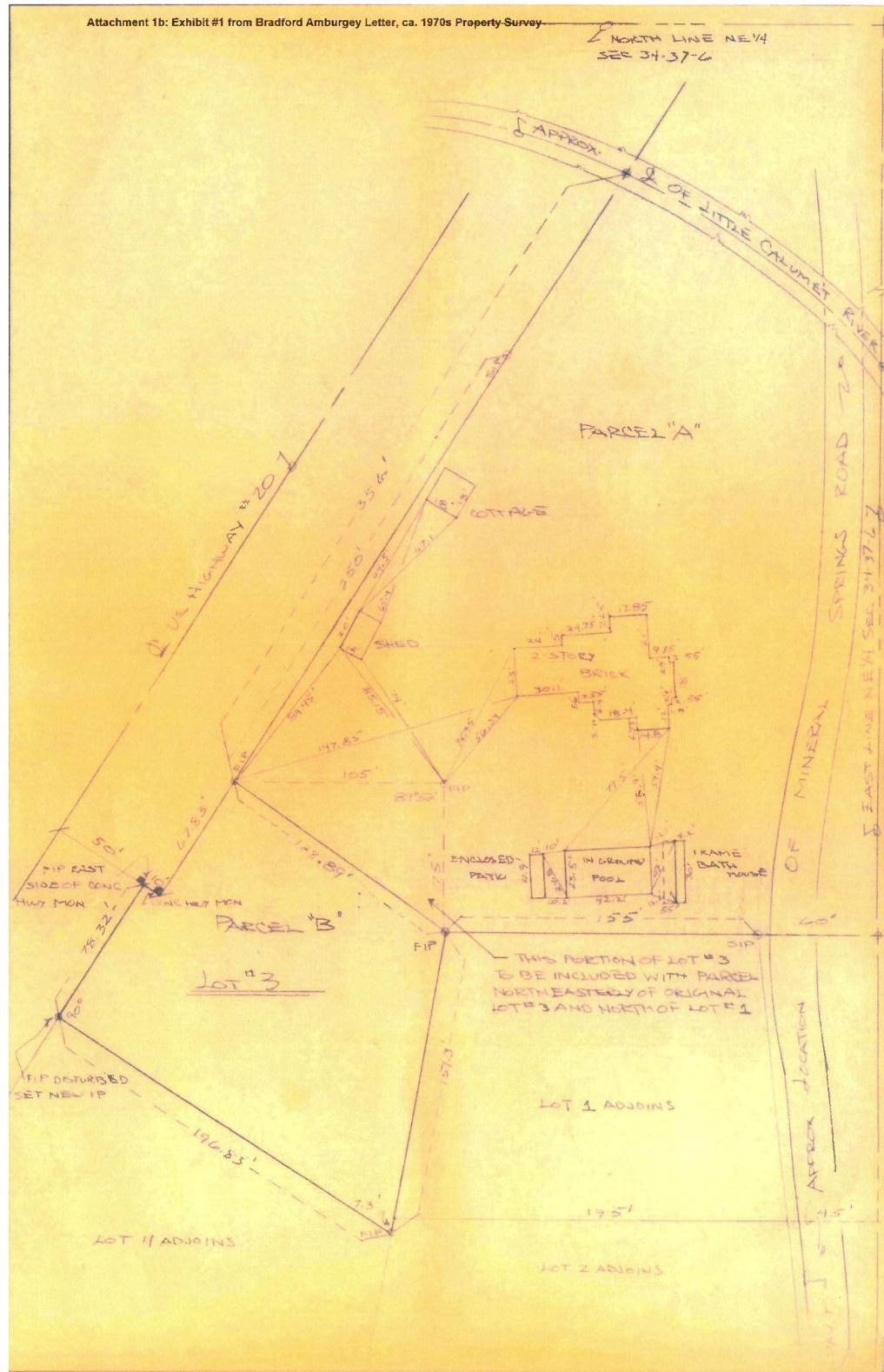
County and State



Reflected ceiling plan, n.d.

Wilson House  
Name of Property

## Porter County, Indiana County and State



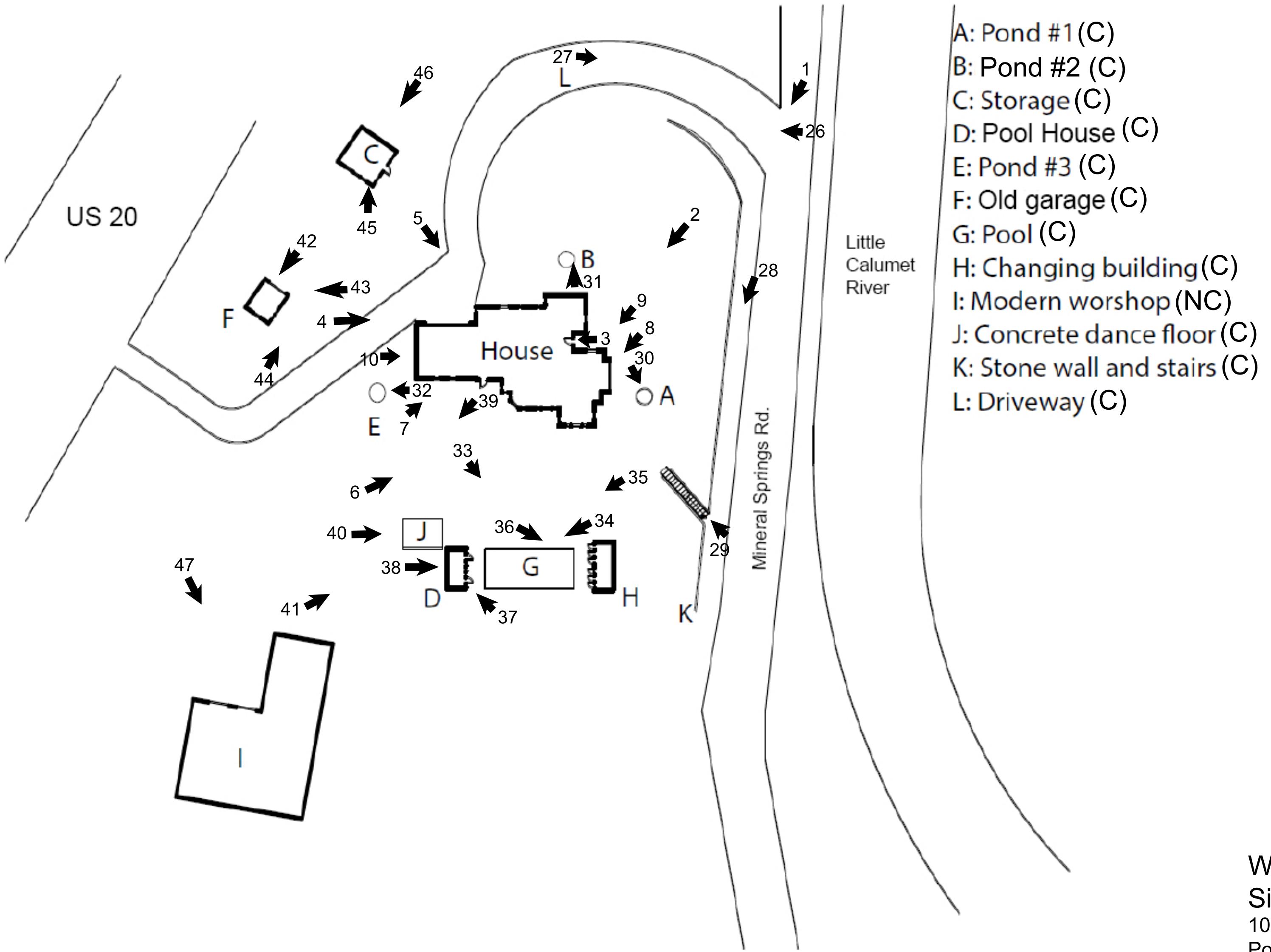
Parcel Survey, Chester L. Stemp & Associates, June 28, 1977



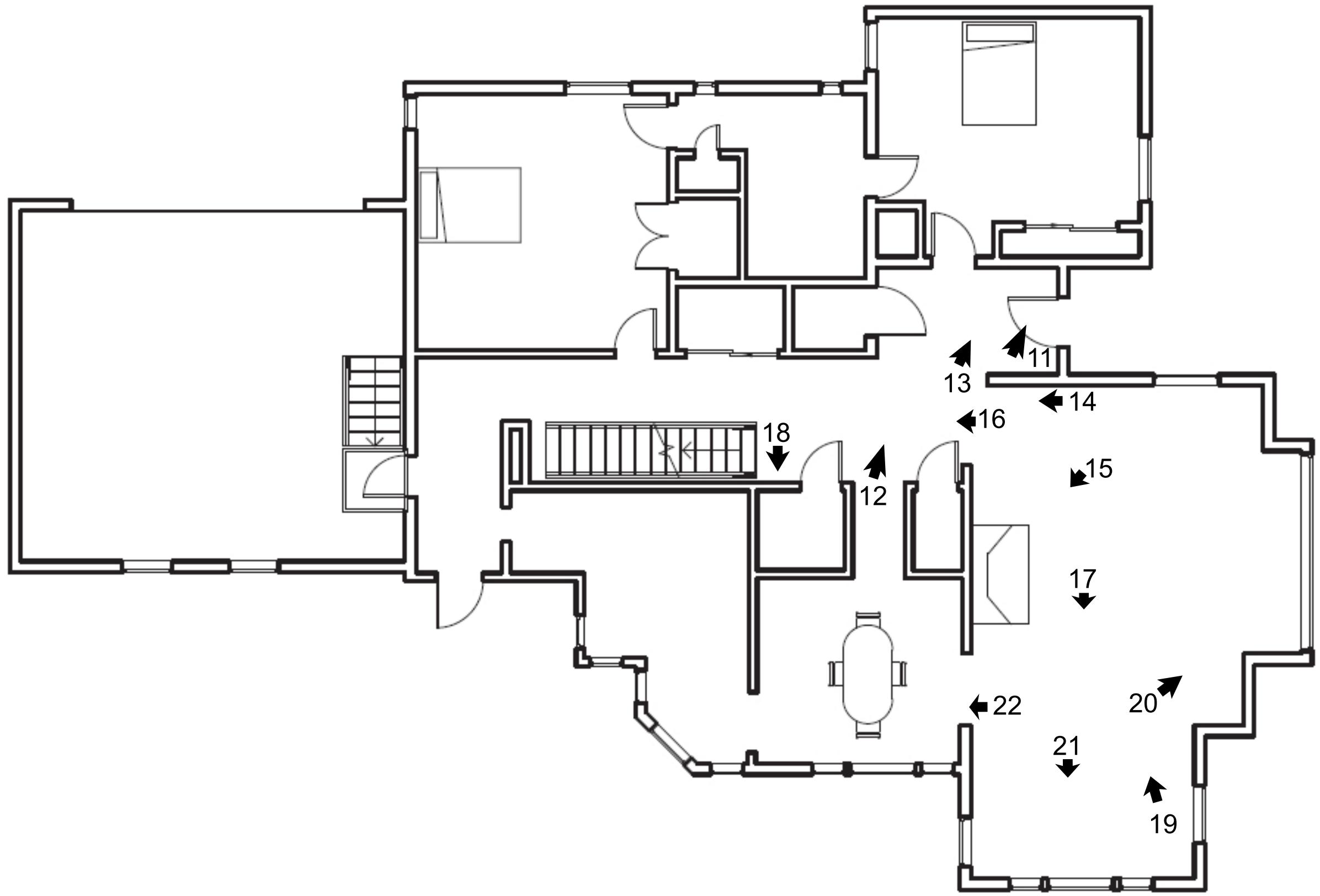
N Mineral Springs Rd

N Mineral Springs Rd

146 ft

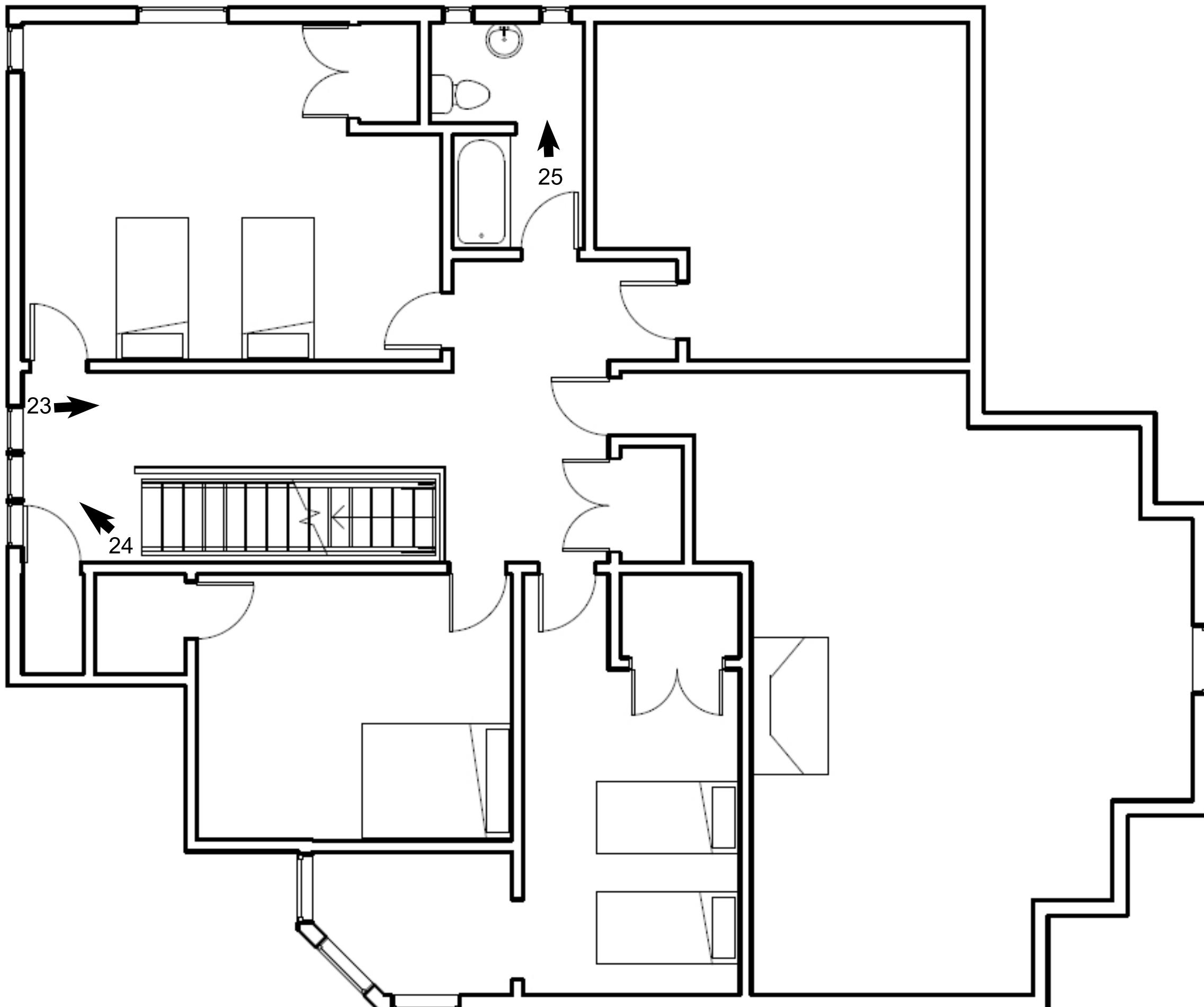


Wilson House  
Site Plan  
1001 W. US 20  
Porter, IN 46304



Wilson House  
First Floor Plan  
1001 US 20  
Porter, IN 46304


N



Wilson House  
Second Floor Plan  
1001 US 20  
Porter, IN 46304

↑  
N

Dune Acres, Indiana 1991





IN\_PorterCounty\_WilsonHouse\_0002



IN\_PorterCounty\_WilsonHouse\_0004



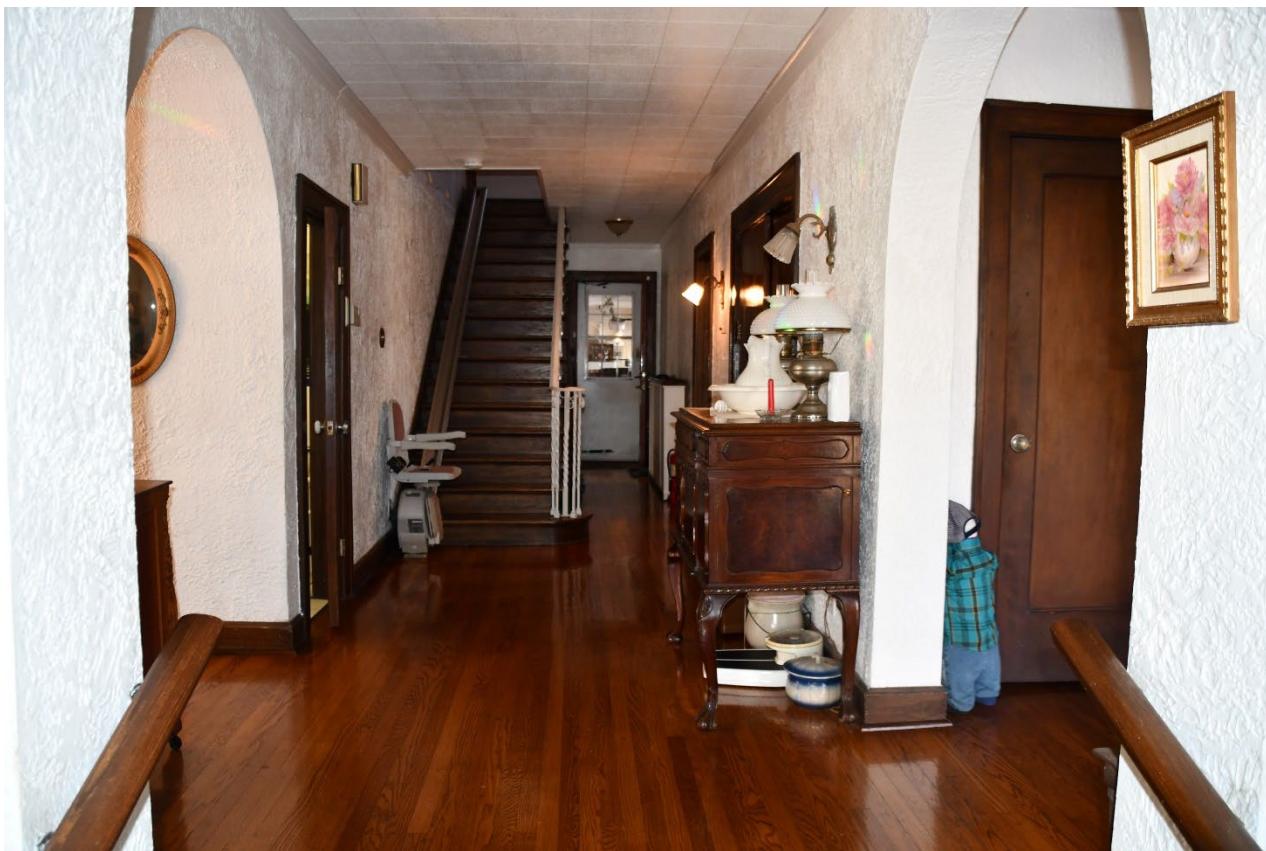
IN\_PorterCounty\_WilsonHouse\_0006



IN\_PorterCounty\_WilsonHouse\_0014



IN\_PorterCounty\_WilsonHouse\_0015



IN\_PorterCounty\_WilsonHouse\_0016



IN\_PorterCounty\_WilsonHouse\_0020



IN\_PorterCounty\_WilsonHouse\_0023



IN\_PorterCounty\_WilsonHouse\_0033



IN\_PorterCounty\_WilsonHouse\_0041



IN\_PorterCounty\_WilsonHouse\_0044



IN\_PorterCounty\_WilsonHouse\_0047