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: Campbell-Gill House
   Other names/site number: ______________________________________
   Name of related multiple property listing:
   N/A
   (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location
   Street & number: 8178 S. State Rd. 335
   City or town: New Pekin State: IN County: Washington
   Not For Publication: [ ]  Vicinity: [ ]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 x 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  x local
Applicable National Register Criteria:
   X A    ___B    x C    ___D

__________________________
Signature of certifying official/Title: Date
Indiana DNR-Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

__________________________
Signature of commenting official: Date
Title: State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.
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
Structure
Object
Campbell-Gill House
Name of Property

WASHINGTON COUNTY, IN
County and State

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Contributing</th>
<th>Noncontributing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Buildings</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sites</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structures</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objects</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use
Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: camp
DOMESTIC: single dwelling
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: animal facility
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: fishing facility or site
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: agricultural outbuilding

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)
DOMESTIC: single dwelling
7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)
MID-19TH CENTURY: Greek Revival

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)
foundation: STONE: Limestone
walls: WOOD: Weatherboard
roof: ASPHALT
METAL: Steel
other:

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.)

Summary Paragraph

The Campbell-Gill House is the primary resource on a six-acre homestead first developed in 1863 as a fishing retreat lodge by James T. Campbell. The large Greek Revival house with expansive porches is built over a small ravine and includes a spring-fed pool with stone walls. The property was later transformed into a working farm by the Gill Family who added a barn on the property (c. 1880-1900). Other historic features include a stone spring house and a WPA-era outhouse.
Narrative Description

The Campbell-Gill House is the main feature of the property that was developed in 1863 as a fishing retreat lodge. James T. Campbell constructed the L-shaped house over a small spring-fed stream that had carved a small ravine in the wooded lot. He built a fish pond in front (south) of the house by creating a dam and spillway under the house which offered fishing from the two-story porches of the inn (photo 0001). Over time, additional buildings were constructed by the Gill family who purchased the property in 1881. The Gills developed the property into a farm and constructed a sawn timber-frame barn with round log joists and crop drying poles (photo 0012) that sets much closer to the highway than the house.

The six-acre parcel is generally the homestead of a broader farm owned by both Campbell and Gill. It is heavily wooded along the ravine and near the house. More mature and historic trees form a line along what was likely a fencerow at one time stretching north-to-south west of the house toward the highway. A crude driveway was located in this general vicinity. The latest historic development of the property was a WPA-era outhouse southeast of the house on the side of the ravine (foreground of photo 0007).

The current owners (2018) have developed modern stone and brick walks on the property to connect buildings and replanted the ravine with trees. They are also responsible for the restoration of the house, fish pond and springhouse. A levy was installed to dam up the spring fed stream and create another larger, more natural looking pond downstream of the original pond (between the house and barn, photos 0002, 0010). A modern garage (photo 0014) and driveway are located off of the highway in the northwest corner of the property. A paved drive winds around the east side of the ravine to connect to a walkway that leads from the front of the house, however, it is largely outside of the property boundaries. The remaining acreage not included in the nomination includes a poolhouse, playhouse, and horse stable, all of which were constructed in the last thirty years. Only the garage and barn are situated in true cardinal directions on the site. The house sits facing slightly southwest, however, the facades are described as south (front), east and west (sides), and north (back).

Campbell-Gill House, Greek Revival, 1863. Contributing Exterior, photos 0001-0010

The two-story, side-gabled house has a long, two-story ell constructed on its back (northwest) corner (see photo 0004). The entire house is raised on cut limestone foundations and piers and was constructed over a spring-fed stream with the ell off the stream’s west side (photo 0010). A basement enclosure in the southwest corner of the house was used as an ice room and is now a wine cellar. A more modern basement enclosure is located under the northwest corner of the house and is used for mechanical systems and storage. The walls of the house are covered with clapboards laid flush against wall studs where protected by porches (see photo 0008), but with a common overlap where not protected by porches. The building has a tall skirt board and simple corner boards. A tall frieze board is at the top of the walls and the gables features cornice
The front façade (photo 0003) faces southwest toward the spring-fed fish pond. The façade has five bays and was likely symmetrical in its original design. Beginning at the foundation, approximately two-thirds of the house (eastern portion) is built over a spillway and dam for the pond. A stacked cut stone pier and two wood piers help support the first floor over the spillway. A single cut stone forms a pier on its southeast corner. The western third of the façade rests on additional cut stone piers on the ground. The first floor has a full-width porch with square columns dividing it into five bays. Wood steps and railings are off the east and west ends of the porch (facing east and west). The back wall of the porch features a tri-part entry recessed into the center of the wall. The entry features Doric pilasters in each corner (two at the front, two recessed into the back) and an entablature over the front of the entry. The four-panel wood door has a transom and is flanked by Doric pilasters and wood side-lites divided into two panes. A wood screen door is over the entry door. A four-panel wood door and transom is east of the entry and a 6/6 window is east of the door in the easternmost bay. A 6/6 window is west of the entry approximately centered between the westernmost two bays. The second floor’s middle three bays are an open porch flanked by square Doric columns and pilasters. The outside bays are enclosed trunk rooms; the east bay has two 6/6 windows that were added in 1974. The back porch wall features a tri-part entry centered in the middle bay. It is similar to the first floor entry, but is not recessed and includes four Doric pilasters that flank the door and side-lites. The pilasters support a shorter, less elaborate entablature. A 6/6 window is located in the back wall of the porch in each bay flanking the middle bay. The side walls of the porch (trunk room walls) feature a four-panel wood door that lead to the porch.

The west façade (photos 0004-0005) is composed of the side gabled wall of the front part of the house on its south end and the west wall of the rear ell on its north end. The side gabled section (right side of photo 0004) features the side of the front porch in the south end of the first floor. A 6/6 window is centered in the north half of the first floor. The second floor features two 6/6 windows in the south half and one 6/6 window centered in the north half. The gable has cornice returns. The west wall of the ell (left side of photo 0004) is divided into five bays; the middle bay is wider than the other four. A 6/6 window is located in the first floor of the southernmost two bays. The remaining three bays of the first floor are sheltered by a c. 1910 porch (see photo 0005) with a wood plank floor and hipped roof. The porch features four square posts on its front wall and a tall frieze board with jigsaw scallops and a row of stars. Jigsaw corner trim on each post feature a non-repeating unique design. The porch roof fascia also features a jigsaw scalloped bottom edge. The back wall of the porch features a 6/6 window in the bay centered in the porch and doors in the flanking bays. The north door is a four-panel wood door and the south door features a window in its upper half and transom. This door was likely installed at the same time the porch was added, c. 1910. The second floor of the ell features a 6/6 window in each
The east façade is divided into the side gabled wall of the front part of the house on its south end and the east wall of the ell, which is set back considerably from the side gabled wall on the east façade’s north end. The side gabled wall (see photo 0007) is symmetrical and is divided into four bays. The side wall of the front porch and back porch are in the north and south ends of the first floor. The middle two bays have a 6/6 window centered in them. The second floor has a 6/6 window in each of the four bays. The gable has cornice returns. The east wall of the ell (photo 0006) appears to be three stories because of the open basement; it features five bays. The basement level includes wood posts and knee braces at the division of each bay (see photo 0010). The posts rest on concrete pads. They support the first floor which features a porch in the four inside bays and an enclosed trunk room/pantry in the northernmost bay. The porches match the front of the house with Doric square columns and balustrades defining each bay. The trunk room/pantry has a 6/6 window centered in its wall. The back wall of the porch features six bays. The northernmost bay has a four-panel wood door into the kitchen. A wood door with a window divided into 15 panes is in the third bay from the south into the sitting room. The remaining bays have a 6/6 windows. The second floor repeats the pattern of porch and trunk room with window on the front wall and windows and doors on the back wall of the porch. However, the doors on the back wall of the second floor porch are four-panel wood and the southernmost bay has a door instead of a window. The trunk rooms feature a four-panel wood door onto the porch from their side walls on both floors.

The back (north) façade of the ell features a cut stone and brick foundation under approximately two-thirds of the house (photo 0005). An opening centered in the foundation is covered with wood. The remaining third is open with a wide hinged hatch door to the open basement area below. The ell has 6/6 windows centered in the first and second floors. The gable has cornice returns. The back façade of the front part of the house (photos 0002, left side of photo 0008) is set back considerably from the gabled wall of the ell. It features a full-width porch on the first floor that connects to the porch on the east façade. The back wall of the porch features two 6/6 windows and a four-panel door in its west end. The second floor is divided into two bays with a trunk room in its east end and a 6/6 window and four-panel door in its west end. A four-panel wood door is in the side wall of the trunk room and exits onto the second floor porch.

Interior, photos 0015-0025
The house is arranged to only be one room deep with doors that open directly onto front or back/side porches from sleeping and common rooms. Interior partition walls include doorways from room to room, but these were not all original since guests entered and exited from the porches in some rooms. Trunk rooms are located off of several of the rooms and were built to also provide access to the porches and appear to be enclosed bays of the porches from the exterior (see photo 0003). The front part of the house (with side gables) features an entry/stairhall centered on the first and second floors (photos 0018, 0020). A large sleeping room is off the east end of the hall (photo 0019) and a living room is off the west end of the hall (photo 0017). A doorway in the north wall of the living room leads to a small room in the south
end of the ell. Doorways to the front and back porches, on each floor, are located in the north and south walls of the stairhall. The second floor of the front part of the house features large bedrooms (one is now an office) off the east and west ends of the stairhall. The east bedroom (photo 0021) has a trunk room off its northeast and southeast corners. French doors were installed in 1974 into the south trunk room (photo 0022). The west bedroom (photo 0023), now an office, has a trunk room off its southwest corner. The trunk rooms have doors in their side walls that lead to the second floor porches. A doorway in the west bedroom’s north wall leads into a bathroom in the south end of the ell.

The ell is composed of a small room in the south end of the ell’s first floor, adjacent to the front part of the house. The small room has a doorway that leads to the living room in the front part of the house and a doorway that leads to a small bathroom in the west end of the small room; this is the only location where the width of the house is two rooms deep. The bathroom is not an original room, and was once open to the small room off the living room. The small room has a doorway into a large sitting room that composes the majority of the first floor of the ell. It has a doorway onto the east back/side porch and to the c. 1910 porch on the west side of the house (left side of photo 0016). Another doorway in the northeast corner of the sitting room leads to the kitchen in the north end of the ell (right side of photo 0016). The kitchen (photo 0015) has doorways onto porches on each side of the ell. A small trunk room/pantry is off the kitchen’s northeast corner. The pantry has a doorway in its south wall onto the porch and a modern staircase that leads to a trunk room on the second floor of the ell. The second floor of the ell features a bathroom at its south end. The doorway leading into the bathroom from the front part of the house was installed in 1974. A large bedroom (formerly a ballroom, photo 0024) is over the sitting room below with a doorway onto the east porch. A work room (photo 0025), formerly another sleeping room, is in the north end of the ell over the kitchen. It has a trunk room off its northeast corner with a modern stairway to the trunk room below.

The house has original poplar floors throughout. The only original plaster is located in the entry/stairhall. The remaining plaster walls and ceilings were removed in the early 1970s and replaced with drywall. Most of the walls have wallpaper over drywall. The rooms have tall baseboards and simple window and door casings trimmed with knife-cut stock trim, c. 1900, around their perimeters. The house has original four-panel wood doors with porcelain knobs. The wood trim and doors are painted throughout. Some of the significant original features in the rooms include beaded wood wainscot in the kitchen (photo 0015), though kitchen cabinetry is modern. An original wood fireplace surround is located on the south wall of the kitchen (photo 0015); it was found in the barn and was originally located on the opposite side of the wall in the sitting room. It features Doric pilasters that support a tall entablature/mantle. A cabinet with a pair of two-panel doors is in the northwest corner of the sitting room (west of the interior chimney/fireplace, left side of photo 0016). The living room features a fireplace in its west wall with surround that matches the one in the kitchen (photo 0017). Built-in upper and lower cabinets are in the southwest corner of the living room between the fireplace and south wall. The entry/stairhall features an open staircase with a large, unpainted octagonal newel post and handrail (photo 0018). The balusters are square pickets that have been painted. The stairs have a landing in the northeast corner of the stairhall, then turns to the west with an additional three steps. The balustrade continues around the stair opening to the south, then turns east (photo...
Barn, c. 1880. Contributing Photos 0012-0013
A gable-front barn is located near and parallel to the highway at the north end of the property. The barn was likely constructed after the property was purchased by the Gill Family in 1881 and appears to have had three periods of construction. The original barn is at the west end and its gabled wall faces west (left side of photo 0012). The barn was nearly doubled in size before the end of the 19th century, extending the gable roof to the east from the original barn. A tall lean-to addition was made to the east end of the first addition by about 1900 (right side of photo 0012). The barn’s sawn heavy timber frame is set on cut limestone piers. The walls are covered in c. 1900 vertical wood planks. The roof is covered with metal. All of the doors are composed of vertical planks. The basis for dating the barn’s additions is from extant rolling door hardware on the north façade (patent date 1900). The hardware is cast F E Myers & Bro. Stay On, Ashland, Ohio; this marking changed slightly in the casting by 1902, providing an approximate date of c. 1900.

The front (west) wall (left side of photo 0012) features a large pair of hinged doors centered on the façade. A cattle door is located in either end of the façade. The north door is a Dutch door. The siding on this façade is new, but matches the historic wood siding on the rest of the barn. The gable wall jetties out slightly over the lower siding. A vent composed of wood louvers is centered in the top of the gable. The back (east) wall features the shed roof addition with the gable wall of the first addition above. There are no openings in this façade.

The north façade features a Dutch door in the approximate center of the original barn. A large pair of rolling doors is in the west end of the first addition and a large rolling door is in the west end of the shed roof addition. The south façade (photo 0012) is nearly a mirror image of the north façade. A standard cattle door is in the original part of the barn, rather than a Dutch door, and two hay hatches (minus the doors) flank the pair of rolling doors in the top of the wall of the first addition.

The interior is arranged with cattle stalls and a wide bay in the original part of the barn. It has a hay floor above and the original east gable wall is extant and covered with the first addition. Cattle doors provide access from the first addition into the original barn. A drive-thru bay is in the west end of the first addition (photo 0013) and an enclosed granary is in the northeast corner. Debarked logs and long poles are located in the upper part of the addition, likely as part of drying tobacco or other crops (seen in photo 0013). The shed roof addition is a large open room with wide doors on each side (north and south).
Campbell-Gill House  Washington County, IN
Name of Property  County and State
Outhouse, c. 1935. Contributing
Foreground of photo 0007
The small outhouse is located southeast of the house along a path that leads up a hill to a modern driveway. The outhouse has a square concrete floor and tank with a wood seat. The walls are covered with vertical wood planks that are cut below the roof on the sides to allow for ventilation. The building has a shed roof with wood fascia boards. The roof is covered with metal and it has a metal vent pipe. The door is on the side that has the high part of the roof. The door is composed of vertical wood planks and has metal hinges and a metal drawer style pull for a handle. The building is identical to the outhouses promoted by the government during the 1930s for rural sanitation purposes.

Fish Pond, 1863. Contributing (structure)
Photos 0001, 0009
Off the front (south wall) of the house is a spring-fed fish pond constructed by James Campbell to entice guests to his lodge in 1863. The rectangular pond is approximately 80’ long (north/south) by 30’ wide. The pond extends to the south from its southwest corner into a narrower channel that is approximately 60’ long by 8’ wide (the channel is in the foreground of photo 0001). The pond and channel have cut limestone walls that are exposed about 2’ above the water level.

Springhouse, c. 1870. Contributing (structure)
Photos 0011, 0009 (background, right side)
At the southeast corner of the channel leading off the south end of the fish pond is a natural spring that feeds the channel and pond. The spring is covered by a small gabled springhouse. The springhouse has a concrete floor and the walls have the appearance of dry-stacked rubble limestone. The springhouse is built into the hill of the small ravine created by the spring and has a small rectangular opening that faces northwest into the channel. This allows water to flow out of the house and down some rubble stone to the channel. The gable wall is covered with wood and the roof is covered with wood shingles. Previous decay and tree damage from a storm in 1991 resulted in the reconstruction of the springhouse from the recollection of a descendent of an earlier owner. Historic stone from the spring house was reclaimed for the walls.

French Garage, 2007. Non-contributing
Photo 0014
The current owners (2018) constructed a modern garage off the highway, west of the barn. The saltbox-style garage has a concrete floor/foundation. Its walls are covered with boards and battens. The roof is covered with metal. The front wall (facing north, photo 0014) has two metal garage doors. A wood deck and steps is on the north end of the east wall where a door composed of boards and battens is located. The side gable walls (east and west) jetty out slightly at the top. Because the building was constructed after the period of significance, it is considered non-contributing.

Photos 0002, 0010

The current owners (2018) created a stone and earthen levy northeast of the house in the ravine created by the spring. This dammed up the small spring-fed stream to create a large natural-looking pond between the house and the barn. Though the pond does not detract from the historical significance or feel of the property, the levy structure is considered non-contributing because it dates after the period of significance.
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
Campbell-Gill House
Washington County, IN
Name of Property

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)
ARCHITECTURE
ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION


Period of Significance
1863-c. 1935


Significant Dates


Significant Person (last name, first name)
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)


Cultural Affiliation


Architect/Builder (last name, first name)
Campbell, James T.
Brown, Robert
Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance begins in 1863, the year James T. Campbell constructed the main house as a fishing lodge for guests. The period ends c. 1935 when the last contributing building associated with the Gill Family, was built on the farmstead. It is a WPA-era outhouse constructed near the main house.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

N/A

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.)

The Campbell-Gill House is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under criterion A using Entertainment/Recreation as an area of significance. The house was constructed in 1863 as a fishing retreat lodge for guests by James T. Campbell. Campbell’s unique design provided for individualized sleeping rooms and porches off of which guests could fish. Campbell constructed the lodge over a spring-fed stream which he dammed to create a small pond for guests. The property is also eligible under criterion C using Architecture as an area of significance. The house is a large, but modest example of the Greek Revival style with its most interesting features attributed to its use as a lodge, including porches, trunk rooms, and individual sleeping rooms.

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

ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION

Beyond the notion that James T. Campbell thought he could profit off of recreational and sport fishing with a lodge, it is not clear what led him to that industry, nor to the rather sophisticated design of the lodge. Campbell was born in 1811 in Tennessee and moved to Washington County, Indiana with his parents during the 1830s. He married Mary Bixler in Washington County in 1838. He farmed property in Jackson Township into the 1850s, then he purchased property from Mary’s parents, Christian & Elizabeth Bixler, in Pierce Township where he constructed the lodge. Campbell was a notable citizen of Washington County. He was elected State Representative in 1850 and was appointed Draft Commissioner for Washington County in 1862 during the Civil War.
The 1916 Stevens account of the History of Washington County, Indiana states that Campbell “conceived the idea that he could become rich by raising fish” and that “his idea was to keep summer boarders and provide sport for them at small cost.”¹ Campbell’s target market was the cities bordering the Falls of the Ohio, including Clarksville, New Albany and Jeffersonville, Indiana and Louisville, Shippingport, and Portland, Kentucky. This area was known as the Falls Cities region and was a mere 25 miles from Campbell’s property via the Martinsburg Road that led up from an old road leading northwest out of New Albany. The Stevens account states that Campbell “could see, in his imagination, sportsmen flocking out to his place” and “angle to their hearts’ content.”² In about 1863, Campbell dammed up a pool of water, fed by a small spring in a ravine on his property, lined it with stone and built his lodge over the top of the dam and spillway (photos 0001, 0009). Porches constructed on the first and second floors overlooked the pool to the front and the spring-fed stream behind, allowing fishermen to drop their lines from the porches and in some cases, through the porch floors (photos 0002-0003). Campbell stocked his pond with mountain trout, which multiplied and grew. He even sold some fish at a good profit to people and businesses in the region, however, the dream of a steady stream of summer boarders never materialized. One visitor, W. Lyman, etched his name on the glass of one of the second floor front/east bedroom windows.

The 1860 census of Pierce Township, Washington County, Indiana identifies James Campbell with an estate valued at $3000. This doubled by 1870 to $6000, indicating that the lodge was likely constructed during this time. The abstract indicates a substantial loan on the property in 1863, more narrowly identifying the period the lodge was built. The 1860 census identifies Campbell’s occupation, but is barely legible and only the second word can be determined to read “merchant”. The 1870 census identifies his occupation as “pisciculturalist”, which is one who engages in raising fish. Because Campbell owned the property in 1860, it is possible that he developed a small fish hatchery on site prior to the construction of the lodge and his merchant classification for occupation may relate to selling fish.

The Stevens historical account states that floods damaged Campbell’s ponds and a long drought caused the spring to run low, harming the growth and productivity of the fish. Campbell’s lodge attracted a large number of visitors for which he charged 25 cents for tours, but the other conditions created a devastating financial hardship. The Stevens account states that “the enterprise was a failure and Campbell is said to have lost fifteen thousand dollars’ worth of fish in one season when the temperatures of the water in his ponds rose above sixty-eight degrees.”³ Campbell abandoned the property and moved to Salisbury in Harrison County where he found another large spring with cold water year-round. Disposition of the property was the job of the Washington County Commissioners who offered it for sale on December 26, 1874. A sales notice appeared in the Salem paper and stated that the property was in foreclosure and would be offered at auction on the premises. The sales notice states “Upon this tract of land is situated the Fish Ponds, and late residence of said James T. Campbell, erected at great expense and making it

¹ Stevens, pg. 571
² Stevens, pg. 571
³ Stevens, pg. 571
a very desirable location for any one wishing to engage in the propagation of fish.”4 While the property was sold, it is unclear if any further fishing business was ever carried out on the premises.

Three of the ten plaintiffs seeking restitution are mentioned in the sales notice. They were David Voyles, and William and Robert Brown; all three appear to have been residents of Washington County. Voyles was a prominent farmer and likely helped finance Campbell’s endeavor. Robert Brown is identified as a carpenter in the 1870 census of Polk Township. William Brown was likely a relative who helped Robert construct the lodge. Besides Campbell’s wife, Mary, Levin Charles is also mentioned as a defendant. Charles is only identified as a farmer in Jackson and Polk Townships in the 1860 and 1870 censuses. After moving to Harrison County, Campbell died in 1880 and was buried at Mt. Washington Cemetery in Pekin, Indiana.

The sophisticated design of the 23-room lodge for the purpose of recreational fishing should be noted. It is unknown if Campbell saw an example or concept of the design from which he had the lodge constructed, but it clearly demonstrates a high level of planning from the standpoint of use and circulation. First, the building was designed to allow the spring-fed stream to flow under the main front part of the house with a fish pond laid out in front like a formal reflecting pool (photos 0001, 0010). The pool was trimmed with large limestone blocks, right into a channel leading to the spring, which allowed fishermen to use the banks of the dammed water if they chose to fish from the shore. The water captured in the pond was the staging area for boarders to fish directly from the front porches on each floor. Square openings through the floor were made to drop fish lines directly through the front porch floor that was carried across the north end of the pond by substantial timbers on stone and wood piers. The L-shaped back/north and east facades allowed for additional viewing, by way of porches on both floors, of the spring-fed stream that continued down the ravine behind the house (photo 0002).

The floor plan and circulation are also important features that allowed the house to be used as a fishing resort. Sleeping rooms were outfitted with trunk rooms that doubled as entries from porches (these are seen on either end of the front façade, photo 0003). These are found on the second floor of the front and back facades. Sleeping rooms also had entries directly onto the porches on the first and second floors where trunk rooms were not located. A rear entry on the first floor of the stairhall and a front and rear entry on the second floor of the stairhall allowed boarders to gain access to their sleeping rooms and public gathering spaces, including the kitchen and dining areas on the first floor, and ballroom on the second floor without having to traverse other boarders’ sleeping rooms. This was a rather ingenious approach to lodging at the time, and offered each boarder a personal entry from the porches off of which they could also fish. Because the house was historically never more than one room wide, sleeping rooms offered excellent ventilation with windows or doors on two sides of every room (photo 0021).

Recreational fishing was a rather new concept in the Midwest during the middle 19th century. Hunting and fishing retreat lodges were being developed in northeastern states, but they were not common in Indiana beyond small recreational cabins built on freshwater lakes. Recreational

4 Commissioners legal notice of sale of land, 1874

Section 8 page 16
fishing had gained popularity during the 17th century during which time Izaak Walton, an English writer, wrote *The Complete Angler*. The book gained notoriety as men, mostly, began to see fishing as a sport and/or leisure activity rather than simply for subsistence. The real movement toward fishing and hunting as recreational activities did not occur until the end of the 19th century and into the 20th century, which also produced the early conservation movement to reestablish fish and fowl through hatcheries. The Campbell-Gill House is unique in Washington County because examples of buildings related to entertainment and recreation of this kind simply do not exist. A gymnasium built in 1918 (Little York School Gymnasium) and an armory in Salem (1929) are generally the limit of architecture related to entertainment/recreation; these are more related to physical recreation than leisure activities or hunting and fishing.

ARCHITECTURE

The Campbell-Gill House is an example of the Greek Revival style in most of its principal architectural features, though largely subdued as the popularity was waning in the lateness of its construction. Greek Revival was the dominant style of American domestic architecture between about 1830-1850 during which its popularity led it to be called the “National Style”. The style was particularly common in areas of rapid development during the 1830s-1850s. There was increasing interest in classical buildings in the United States at the close of the 18th century based on Roman and earlier Greek examples found through archaeological investigations. As a young democracy, Americans sought to find precedents to establish their democratic ideals in the form of its architecture. Rome, and particularly Greece, provided these precedents because of their early experiments in democracy.\(^5\) Two factors enhanced the Greek influence in the United States: the Grecian war for independence during the 1820s and 1830s and the American War of 1812. The Grecian war found sympathetic citizens in the United States and the American war with the British in 1812 lessened the interest in British architecture.\(^6\) The Greek Revival style seemed only appropriate for a nation undergoing a new experiment in governing, democracy, that had philosophical roots based on Grecian models of governing.

Features of the Greek Revival style are treatments near roof lines of porches and the main house mimicking the classically ordered entablature with trim boards creating the architrave, frieze, and cornice. These are usually visually supported by corner pilasters or physically supported by simplified Doric columns on porches. The cornice detail may or may not return across the face of the gabled ends. Where the cornice returns across its entire face it creates a triangular pediment; often a broken cornice return is located on the gabled end suggesting the pediment but not fully articulating it. The most common window detail in Greek Revival is a simple flat hood with a piece of trim at its top implying a narrow cornice. Small pediments and hoods with “ears” are also common. These features are usually present for door surrounds as well. Doors frequently had side lites and/or transom windows and were typically centered on the front façade. Door and window openings were also typically symmetrically arranged. Windows were commonly some configuration of double-hung windows with multiple panes in their sashes.

\(^5\) McAlester, pg. 182, 184  
\(^6\) McAlester, pg. 182
The Campbell-Gill House is a simple example of the Greek Revival style applied to a house whose original function created an interesting assemblage of features, most notably in its porches. The house has an intact entablature form at its eave line that continues on the face of its side and back gables with cornice returns (photo 0004). The front façade also has porches and window openings that imply symmetry arranged with 6/6 double-hung windows (photo 0003). The windows have simple flat hoods with a piece of trim at its top implying a narrow cornice. The recessed front entry is divided into three parts with wood door, side-lites and transom. The entry’s stylistic formality is punctuated with pairs of Doric pilasters that support an entablature. This is repeated again on the second floor, sans a recessed porch entry (interior view in photo 0020). This provides an overall formal appearance to the fenestration on the front façade. The front and east facades prominently feature porches of regularly spaced square Doric columns providing a two-story temple-like colonnade (photo 0003, 0006). Additionally, instead of the standard lap installation of clapboards on porches, the clapboards are installed flush on wall framing to provide a smooth wall surface where protected by porches (seen in photo 0008).

Given the scale of spaces, the interior is understated when it comes to Greek Revival detail. Moldings are simple casings and baseboards, trimmed out at a later time with narrow knife-cut moldings (photo 0019). The most notable stylistic details are concentrated in the two fireplace surrounds that feature panel-faced Doric pilasters that support a tall entablature (photos 0015, 0017). Original built-in cabinetry to the side of the fireplaces is another refinement in the house. The entry/stairhall features entry moldings consistent with the first and second floor exterior entries with simple Doric pilasters in the three-part assembly (photo 0020, second floor). The staircase features a hefty octagonal and rounded newel post with simple square balusters (photo 0018). The balustrade wraps around the second floor opening for the staircase, giving the space an airy quality (photo 0020). The house also has its original four-panel wood doors and poplar floors.

Washington County has more than a few examples of the Greek Revival style, due in part to its period of settlement and influence of estates from southern states. For purposes of underscoring the significance of the property’s architecture, comparable examples from the southeast corner of Washington County are included. These are from Pierce Township (in which the house is located in its southeast corner), Polk and Jackson Townships. In Pierce Township, only one other property is an example of the style. It is a farm at the end of Fallen Barn Lane, off Church Road, which features an I-House constructed c. 1860 with simple Greek Revival details including cornice returns and 6/6 windows on a symmetrical front façade. While there are a few other examples of I-Houses, the Campbell-Gill House should not be categorized as such. It has the general massing of a double-pile house with side gables, and a central stairhall, though it is only one room wide. Most of the township’s early resources are small cemeteries; few examples of architecture date to the Civil War or earlier.

Polk Township, which lies east of Pierce Township, has three examples of Greek Revival architecture. The John & Christina Wilson House located at 3095 Blue River Road is an I-House with Greek Revival details such as cornice returns and symmetrical massing built in 1861. A farm on Olive Branch Road features a gabled-ell house with simple details of the style built c.
1870. An early example of the style is the John Bowman House, c. 1840, at 3815 S. Eastern School Road. The brick house features a nicely articulated entablature and cornice returns, a pedimented door surround with brackets, and 6/6 windows. Jackson Township, which lies south of Pierce Township, has no extant examples of the style.

While not as architecturally significant as the house, two other buildings types located on the property are important given the continued use of the property into the early 20th century. The timber-frame barn, c. 1900 (photos 0012-0013), has the form and flow of an English barn, even though a shed roof addition was made on one end. The barn retains its drive-through bay and general interior arrangement of spaces. It also features round logs for floor joists and native wood poles to hang crops, most likely tobacco, for drying. It is a good example of an English barn; it has good integrity and the key components of the type. The other building is a public works-era outhouse introduced to rural areas to improve sanitation in the 1930s. The simple-styled building features a cast concrete floor and stool and a shed roof. The building was constructed to allow ventilation at the top of its side walls and includes a metal ventilation pipe to remove odors from the waste pit, which also aided in eliminating flies. These outhouses were sometimes called “Eleanor” because they were first introduced in 1933 and promoted during the Great Depression. President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s wife, Eleanor, encouraged improved sanitation particularly on farms where public sanitary sewers were not present. Teams of men were dispatched with materials to construct the outhouses with only the cost of materials, about $5.00, being born by the recipient. An estimated 2.3 million outhouses were built between 1933 and 1945. Improved sanitation aided in stopping typhoid, cholera, and other diseases inherent of poor sanitation. The outhouse, c. 1935, which would have been constructed during the Gill’s use of the property as a farm, closes out the period of significance.

Developmental History/Additional historic context information

The Campbell property was purchased in 1881 by John Gill and his wife, Bridget. Both were natives of Ireland who had lived in Clark County, Indiana prior to purchasing property in Polk Township, Washington County. Gill immigrated to the United States in 1842, first settling in New Orleans before moving north. He was a prominent farmer in the county, owning 350 acres including the 80-acre Campbell property by 1884. The Gills raised a large family of ten children. John Gill was considered an industrious farmer and livestock raiser and dealer. He died in 1885 and his wife died in 1886. They were devoutly Catholic and are buried at St. Patrick’s Cemetery in Salem, Indiana.

While it is unclear when the barn (photos 0012-0013) was constructed on the property, it was likely during the time the Gills owned the land and cultivated it for farming. Had the barn been used by Campbell during the time he owned the property, he likely would have constructed it closer to the house for use of stabling horses owned by those who boarded at the house. Instead, the barn seems to have been built for efficiency of moving livestock in and out, as well as crops, in close proximity to the main road leading between Pekin and the Martinsburg Road. This better positioned the barn for getting livestock and crops to market. The barn had one or two
additions leading up to about 1900; these certainly would have been completed by John Gill’s son, Patrick Gill.

Three of John’s sons, Patrick, James and John, established the firm of Gill Brothers, a company of farmers and lawyers, upon the death of their father in 1885. Gill Brothers purchased additional acreage and owned “many hundred acres of virgin timber land as well as many improved fields, with beautiful houses and substantial barns. Their fields are well cultivated and cared for, believing it the duty of all to produce the best crops.”7

Patrick took up residence in the Campbell-Gill House after the death of his father. James Gill established a home next door to Patrick where he raised his family. Patrick, who taught school for 14 years near Pekin, was married to Lillie Martin in 1884 and they had seven children. Patrick was a senior member of the Gill firm, and many times led the 4th of July Parade in Pekin. While Patrick owned the home, a man named John Reed of Joplin, Missouri, became a boarder for a period of about ten years in the early 1900s. John Reed was responsible for building the porch on the west side of the house by 1912 (see photo 0005). He appears to have been an accomplished carpenter because nearly all of the trim work is jigsawn with an interesting star pattern and the porch corners trimmed with non-repeating patterns. Reed wrote his name in the concrete and included his hometown and the year 1911.

Patrick and Lillie’s two daughters, Eunice (1890-1975) and Loretta (1901-1979), remained single and lived with their parents on the farm. In about 1935-1936, a new sanitary outhouse was constructed southeast of the house (foreground of photo 0007) and the home received electricity. In 1940, Eunice was listed as manager of the farm in the census. Patrick died in 1942 and Lillie died in 1943, both are buried at St. Patrick’s Cemetery in Salem. Eunice and Loretta continued to live at the house until 1973 when it sold to Albert and Mary Aszman. The Aszmans owned the property for a short period of time, during which they upgraded the downstairs bathroom and removed nearly all of the plaster finishes inside the house. They also added a few doorways to connect rooms in the ell. The current owners, Robert and Pamela French, purchased the property in 1977 and have made substantial restorations to the pond and house.

7 Stevens, pg. 999
9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Christopher Harrison Chapter DAR “Handsomely restored Gill House had its start as ‘fishing’ hotel” *The Salem Leader*. 18 October 1988: page B-8.


United States Census Washington County, IN: 1830, 1840, 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930, 1940

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
Campbell-Gill House

Name of Property:

____ Other State agency
____ Federal agency
____ Local government
____ University
____ Other

Name of repository: _____________________________________

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 6.25 acres

Use the UTM system

UTM References
Datum (indicated on USGS map):

☐ NAD 1927  or  ☒ NAD 1983

1. Zone: 16  Easting: 585553  Northing: 4260285
2. Zone: 16  Easting: 585646  Northing: 4260286
3. Zone: 16  Easting: 585677  Northing: 4260096
4. Zone: 16  Easting: 585566  Northing: 4260088

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

Beginning on the south right-of-way line for State Road 335, from a line extended due south from the west right-of-way line for Gobbler Knob Road, face east and continue in a line approximately 415’ with the south right-of-way line for State Road 335. Then turn south and follow a line 675’. Turn west and follow a line 415’, then turn north and follow a line 675’ to the south right-of-way line for State Road 335, or the place of beginning.
**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries described above contain all of the extant contributing buildings and structures that were part of the development by James Campbell and the Gill family during the period of significance. The boundaries do not include modern buildings constructed by the current (2018) owner after the period of significance, except for a garage. The boundaries generally follow the farmstead of the Gill family, but significantly reduced from the 1884 80 acre farm parcel, and 40 acre parcel of the current owner.

---

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Kurt West Garner  
organization: Indiana Landmarks/PIP  
street & number: 12954 6th Road  
city or town: Plymouth  
state: IN  
zip code: 46563  
e-mail: kwgarner@kwgarner.com  
telephone: 574-936-0613  
date: January 12, 2018

---

**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.)
Photographs
Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 3000x2000 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: Campbell-Gill House

City or Vicinity: New Pekin

County: Washington State: Indiana

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: December 19, 2017

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northeast at front of house and channel from spring house

1 of 25.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southwest toward back of house on north side of modern pond

2 of 25.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northeast at front of house from west side of fish pond

3 of 25.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northeast toward west facade

4 of 25.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southeast at back (north) and west facades

5 of 25.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:</th>
<th>Looking northwest at east façade of ell</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 of 25.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:</th>
<th>Looking northwest at east façade with outhouse in foreground</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7 of 25.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:</th>
<th>Looking southwest along first floor porch of ell’s east side</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8 of 25.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:</th>
<th>Looking southeast from front porch toward fish pond and spring house</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9 of 25.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:</th>
<th>Looking northeast along spring-fed stream from under house, barn in background</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 of 25.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:</th>
<th>Looking southeast at spring house</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11 of 25.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:</th>
<th>Looking northeast at barn</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 of 25.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:</th>
<th>Looking northeast and up inside first addition of barn</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13 of 25.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:</th>
<th>Looking southeast at modern garage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14 of 25.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:  Looking southwest in kitchen toward fireplace

15 of 25.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:  Looking northeast in sitting room

16 of 25.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:  Looking southwest toward fireplace in living room

17 of 25.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:  Looking northeast at staircase in first floor of stairhall

18 of 25.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:  Looking southwest in first floor bedroom

19 of 25.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:  Looking southwest toward second floor porch entry from stairhall

20 of 25.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:  Looking northeast in second floor east bedroom

21 of 25.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:  Looking southwest in trunk room off south side of second floor east bedroom

22 of 25.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:  Looking northwest in office (former second floor west bedroom)
Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking south in second floor master bedroom (former ballroom)

24 of 25.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking south in second floor storage room (former north end bedroom)

25 of 25.
Campbell-Gill House
National Register of Historic Places
New Pekin, Washington Co., IN

Site Plan
6.25 acres

- Photograph

- Modern Pond and Levy Non-contributing
- Wooded Hill
- From front porch
- Porches
- From under house
- Outhouse
- Pool and Channel
- Springhouse
- Lawn
- Drive
- Garage Non-contributing
- Barn
- Boundary
- State Road 335
- Gable Knob Rd.

Parking
Campbell-Gill House
National Register of Historic Places
New Pekin, Washington Co., IN