

# DATA SHEET

Form 10-300  
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

|                  |            |
|------------------|------------|
| STATE:           | Missouri   |
| COUNTY:          | Schuyler   |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY |            |
| ENTRY DATE       | APR 1 1975 |

### 1. NAME

|                  |                         |
|------------------|-------------------------|
| COMMON:          | Hall, William P., House |
| AND/OR HISTORIC: |                         |

### 2. LOCATION

|                    |       |          |                             |   |  |  |  |
|--------------------|-------|----------|-----------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| STREET AND NUMBER: |       |          |                             | Highway 136, one block west of Schuyler County Courthouse |  |  |  |
| CITY OR TOWN:      |       |          | CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:     |   |  |  |  |
| Lancaster          |       |          | 9th-Hon. William L. Hungate |   |  |  |  |
| STATE              | CODE  | COUNTY:  | CODE                        |   |  |  |  |
| Missouri           | 63548 | Schuyler | 197                         |   |  |  |  |

### 3. CLASSIFICATION

| CATEGORY<br>(Check One)  | OWNERSHIP   | STATUS   | ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC  |
|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> District<br><input type="checkbox"/> Site<br><input type="checkbox"/> Object<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building<br><input type="checkbox"/> Structure<br><input type="checkbox"/> Object | <input type="checkbox"/> Public<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private<br><input type="checkbox"/> Both   | Public Acquisition:<br><input type="checkbox"/> In Process<br><input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered<br><input type="checkbox"/> Occupied<br><input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress | Yes:<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted<br><input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted<br><input type="checkbox"/> No      |
| PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)   |   |  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural<br><input type="checkbox"/> Commercial<br><input type="checkbox"/> Educational<br><input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment   | <input type="checkbox"/> Government<br><input type="checkbox"/> Industrial<br><input type="checkbox"/> Military<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum | <input type="checkbox"/> Park<br><input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence<br><input type="checkbox"/> Religious<br><input type="checkbox"/> Scientific   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Comments |

### 4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

|                    |                                    |       |    |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|-------|----|
| OWNER'S NAME:      | Schuyler County Historical Society |       |    |
| STREET AND NUMBER: |                                    |       |    |
| CITY OR TOWN:      | STATE:                             | CODE  |    |
| Lancaster          | Missouri                           | 63548 | 29 |

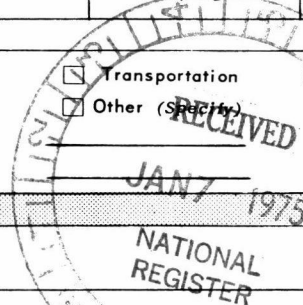
### 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

|                                      |   |       |    |
|--------------------------------------|---|-------|----|
| COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: | Office of Recorder of Deeds, Schuyler County Courthouse |       |    |
| STREET AND NUMBER:                   |   |       |    |
| CITY OR TOWN:                        | STATE   | CODE  |    |
| Lancaster                            | Missouri  | 63548 | 29 |

### 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

|                                |                                  |  |    |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|----|
| TITLE OF SURVEY:               | Missouri State Historical Survey |  |    |
| DATE OF SURVEY:                | 1974                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Federal<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State<br><input type="checkbox"/> County<br><input type="checkbox"/> Local |    |
| DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: | Department of Natural Resources  |  |    |
| STREET AND NUMBER:             | P. O. Box 176                    |  |    |
| CITY OR TOWN:                  | STATE:                           | CODE   |    |
| Jefferson City                 | Missouri                         | 65101  | 29 |

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: Missouri  
COUNTY: Schuyler  
ENTRY NUMBER:  
DATE: APR 1 1975

FOR NPS USE ONLY

**7. DESCRIPTION**

|           |                                    |   |                                |   |                                |                                    |
|-----------|------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| CONDITION | (Check One)                        |   |                                |   |                                |                                    |
|           | <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good      | <input type="checkbox"/> Fair  | <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated             | <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins | <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed |
|           | (Check One)                        |   |                                | (Check One)                                       |                                |                                    |
|           | <input type="checkbox"/> Altered   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered | <input type="checkbox"/> Moved | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site |                                |                                    |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The William P. Hall House is located in Lancaster, Missouri on the south side of State Highway 136, one block west of the Schuyler County Courthouse. The large, Victorian, two-story frame structure has an irregular plan. It was erected circa 1902.

EXTERIOR: A spacious columned one-story porch parallels one-half of the west facade, the entire main (north) face, and the length of the east side. Ionic style columns rest on a brick foundation. The porch roof has a low gable located directly above the front entrance. There is a porte-cochère attached to the west side of the house; a gravel driveway leads northward to the highway and southward to a garage located southwest of the house. The front and east facades have projecting two-story bays that extend upward into the gables. Windows throughout the house are typically double-hung with one pane of glass in each sash. Ornate bargeboard enhances the gables on the north and east, and a fireplace chimney of later construction has replaced similar trim on the west. Besides the fireplace chimney, there are two smaller chimneys. The roof is covered with asbestos shingles.

INTERIOR: There is a full basement. In addition to the small front entrance hall, there are five large rooms on the first floor. A 17-step, "U" plan stairway is located at the left (east) side of the front hallway. The stairway has a carved newel post. Instead of hinged doors, the first floor rooms are connected by sliding doors. Molded wood trim surrounds the doors. The floors are oak wood. The walls are papered. Other than one room upstairs, the wallpaper is not original. A large brick fireplace with a wood mantle is situated in the master bedroom on the first floor. In that room, a secondary door permits exit to the porch and carport on the west side. The kitchen (rear, southwest) has a stairway that leads to the second floor as well as a door to a small covered rear porch.

The second floor has five rooms (discounting a small enclosed area above the rear porch). In the room directly over the master bedroom, a small fireplace has been bricked. Toward the front of the second floor, an open area near the head of the stairs provides limited storage space. At the rear of the second floor, a stairway leads to the full length attic.

CONDITION: The house is in sound structural condition, but needs minor repairs and refurbishing. From examination of old photographs, it is apparent that the large side/front porch and the brick fireplace on the west facade were added to the main structure some years after it was erected circa 1902.

OUTBUILDINGS: These include a large building that has been converted to a two-car garage, a smaller storage structure, and a summer kitchen/wash house connected to the back porch by a covered breezeway. There are two water pumps in the backyard, the older of the two is situated above a cistern that is fed by a drainspout connected to the roof.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

|                  |            |
|------------------|------------|
| STATE            |            |
| Missouri         |            |
| COUNTY           |            |
| Schuyler         |            |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY |            |
| ENTRY NUMBER     | DATE       |
|                  | APR 1 1975 |

(Number all entries)

7. #1

WILLIAM P. HALL HOUSE

SITE: A cast stone fence borders the yard on the west and north. At the corner and entrance openings of the stone fence, concrete spheres have been placed as decorative features. Directly to the east of the Hall House, there is a large yard and flower garden that adds much to the building's overall appearance. The house is situated in a residential neighborhood including other homes and a nearby church. Hall's wild animal barns were located about 1-1/2 miles away on the edge of town. Much vehicular sound intrudes from Missouri Highway 136 to the north and lesser noises emanate from a railroad track about three-quarters of a block south.



**3. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |                                       |  |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |  |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1905-1932

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |  |   |
|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal          | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric         | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic            | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | <u>home of important</u>                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture         | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | <u>circus broker;</u>                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture        | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | <u>entertainment</u>                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications      | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation        |   |  | _____   |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The William P. Hall House in Lancaster, Missouri was the longtime residence of a colorful individual who had great impact on the American circus industry in the first third of the twentieth century. Recognized by professional colleagues and present-day circus historians as a significant figure, the name of William Preston Hall has fallen into obscurity in the past forty years. Even despite his large influence on the circus industry, many of Hall's contemporaries never fathomed the full impact of his various endeavors between the early 1900s and the 1930s. Hall's large frame house in Lancaster was the scene of innumerable transactions that affected the lives and destinies of those who made (or tried to make) a living from the American circus.

Hall arose from humble origins. He was born near Lancaster on February 29, 1864, but the parents (William and Sidney Spurgeon) died before he reached fifteen. To support himself, he began working as a farm laborer, and later learned about horses and mules while employed at the Stretch Livery Stable. He became deeply interested in what became a lifelong occupation - horse trading. At the age of twenty, W. P. Hall was known as the largest horse dealer in Schuyler County<sup>1</sup>. From that interval onward, his career in animals expanded rapidly.

In the period between the mid-1800s and early 1900s, numerous and increasingly larger deals made him known as "The Horse King of the World." To handle this increased volume, the "Horse King" placed his brother Louis in charge of a sales barn in Richmond, Virginia in 1895. Also in the 1890s, the Lancaster dealer shipped horses and mules to the European market in large numbers; often he traveled overseas with these animals. During the Boer War (1899-1902), he sold horses and mules to the British. In order to satisfy the clients in South Africa, Hall sent Louis to Cape Town to establish an overseas branch office. In 1904, the enterprising businessman supplied 450 "well chosen" horses for the Boer War Show at the St. Louis World's Fair.<sup>2</sup> It was this type of activity that helped launch his new career in show business.

Meantime, Hall's increasing affluence influenced his life style. In 1902, he purchased a recently constructed home in Lancaster which became his residence for the next thirty years. Having married Sarah Mitchell eight

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

1. Drake, Leona, Nelle V. George, and Beulah Tallman. Personal interview, May 30, 1974, Lancaster, Missouri.
2. Durant, John, and Alice Durant. Pictorial History of the American Circus. New York: A. S. Barnes and Company, 1957.
3. George, Nelle V., letter to Ronald W. Johnson, June 7, 1974, W. P. Hall Files, State Historical Survey and Planning Office Files, Columbia, Missouri.

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

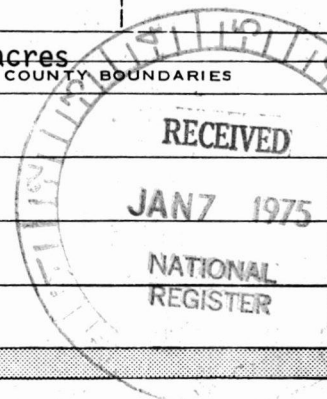
| LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES<br>DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY |                         |                         | O<br>R | LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES<br>DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY<br>OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES |           |         |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------|---|-----------|---------|
| CORNER   | LATITUDE                | LONGITUDE               |        | LATITUDE  | LONGITUDE |         |
|  | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds |        | Degrees   | Minutes   | Seconds |
| NW   | ° ' "                   | ° ' "                   |        | 40°   | 31'       | 25" N   |
| NE   | ° ' "                   | ° ' "                   |        | 92°   | 31'       | 45" W   |
| SE   | ° ' "                   | ° ' "                   |        |   |           |         |
| SW   | ° ' "                   | ° ' "                   |        |   |           |         |

NO  
WDM  
CD

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **Less than ten acres**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY  | CODE |
|--------|------|---------|------|
| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |
| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |
| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE: **Ronald W. Johnson, Ph.D., Research Associate**

ORGANIZATION: **Department of Natural Resources**      DATE: **July, 1974**  
**State Historical Survey and Planning Office**

STREET AND NUMBER: **P. O. Box 176**

CITY OR TOWN: **Jefferson City**      STATE: **Missouri 65101**      CODE: **29**

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National     State     Local

Name: *James L. Wilson*  
**James L. Wilson, Director**  
**Department of Natural Resources**  
**State Historic Preservation Officer**

Date: **30 DEC 74**

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

*Robert W. Orleson*  
**Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation**

Date: *4/1/75*

ATTEST:

*W. M. ...*  
**Keeper of The National Register**

Date: **APR 1 1975**

|                  |            |
|------------------|------------|
| STATE            | Missouri   |
| COUNTY           | Schuyler   |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY |            |
| ENTRY NUMBER     | DATE       |
|                  | APR 1 1975 |

RECEIVED

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

JAN 7 1975

(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)  
REGISTER

8. #1

WILLIAM P. HALL HOUSE

years before, he raised three children there.<sup>3</sup> To local residents and others, Hall was known as the "Colonel" or "Diamond Billy." the latter sobriquet stemmed from the valuable diamonds he wore on ties, shirts, watch-chains, and rings. He also sported a tall silk hat and large blue overcoat with black silk lapels.<sup>4</sup> The portly horse trader must have cut quite a figure in rural Missouri in the early 1900s.

Never one to rest on past successes, Hall put together even more fascinating business deals in the twentieth century. Deeply involved with horse and mule trading, he slowly moved into show business. Following the brief affiliation with the 1904 World's Fair, Hall bought several elephants at its close. Then in the fall of 1904, the "Horse King" purchased his first circus but sold it soon after that. A few months later in January, 1905, Hall acquired the twenty-five car Walter L. Main Circus. Combining this equipment with his horses and elephants, Hall founded his only circus. Unfortunately due to unfavorable circumstances in 1905, The Great William P. Hall Shows barely lasted that season, and Hall, himself, left the show mid-summer.<sup>5</sup> As a circus owner and manager, he did not do well.

However this is not to imply that Hall did not play a significant role in the circus world. From 1904 until his death, Hall's activities made him a pivotal figure to such eminent circus historians as Charles P. Fox, Thomas Parkinson, Robert Parkinson, Fred Pfenning, Jr., Fred Pfenning, III, and others. In those productive years, "Diamond Billy" the Lancaster "Horse King" became a circus broker; he bought and sold equipment and animals to those who wanted them.<sup>6</sup> Tom Parkinson, who published several articles on W. P. Hall in Bandwagon (the journal of the Circus Historical Society), stated that Hall conducted important business transactions with most of the American circuses that existed between 1905-1930. The records demonstrated that Hall not only dealt with floundering road shows but the mightiest in the industry - the Ringling Brothers World's Greatest Shows.<sup>7</sup> From a tiny village in northern Missouri, "Diamond Billy" sent emissaries out across the nation to bid on parts or entire defunct circuses and wild west shows. Obviously a person of Hall's commercial acumen served as a stabilizing force in an otherwise chaotic industry.

Always a shrewd entrepreneur, Hall also leased circus equipment and animals to individuals who wanted to put a show on the road but could not afford the \$50,000 to \$100,000 necessary to finance such an undertaking. For as little as \$5,000, W. P. Hall leased this equipment. Unfortunately in most cases, these neophyte circus owners experienced bankruptcy before the end of their first season. Hall often warned these clients "you'll be back" and - in nine out of ten cases - they were! Despite these risky ventures, Hall provided a service to those enamored by the lure of profit and by the glamour of tinsel and sawdust. According to the circus historians cited above, no one before W. P. Hall or after provided the same caliber of circus brokerage

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

|                  |            |
|------------------|------------|
| STATE            |            |
| Missouri         |            |
| COUNTY           |            |
| Schuyler         |            |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY |            |
| ENTRY NUMBER     | DATE       |
|                  | APR 1 1975 |

RECEIVED  
JAN 7 1975NATIONAL  
REGISTER

(Number of Entries)

#2

WILLIAM P. HALL HOUSE

service as did the Lancaster resident.<sup>8</sup> Thus, the name of William P. Hall must inextricably be linked to the halcyon years of the American circus.

During this lengthy period of business activity, Hall utilized his farm just north of Lancaster as a storage area for circus wagons and cages; rail cars were kept on a nearby siding. He also housed a variety of exotic animals in several large barns; lions, tigers, elephants, bison, yak, water buffalo, shetland ponies, and camels. Even forty years after his death, Lancaster natives still relate how that as children they admired and even rode some animals.<sup>9</sup> This in itself gave an added dimension of urbanity and sophistication to a small north Missouri town.

"Diamond Billy" Hall continued his activities almost to the day of his death on June 30, 1932, but the economic dislocation that resulted from the Great Depression wrecked havoc on the circus industry. In the years following his passing, the barns, equipment, and rail cars deteriorated. One article in the Literary Digest described the Hall farm as the place "Where Circuses Go When They Die." The feature pointed out "carved and gilded band-wagons, now tarnished and crippled, tilting absurdly among the weeds. Ornate cages on wheels, once florid in crimson and gold, peopled by tawny tigers and shaggy lions, but now flaked and weather-beaten with prairie grass pushing up between the worm-eaten boards."<sup>10</sup> One-by-one the barns were torn down, the wagons, cages, and rail cars either junked or sold, and memories of W. P. Hall's fascinating career grew dim. Today little remains of the circus storage area except a few large concrete tethers once used to control the elephants.

Regarding the William P. Hall House, Mrs. Hall lived there until her death in 1957. Several years later the heirs sold it to the Herman Roberts family, and on June 1, 1974, Mr. Roberts sold the house to the Schuyler County Historical Society. Recently representatives of the Circus World Museum in Baraboo, Wisconsin (probably the finest circus history collection in the nation) came to Lancaster to collect and remove personal business papers left by W. P. Hall; today those same papers are located in the museum's archives.<sup>11</sup>

The Schuyler County Historical Society plans to renovate the house and open it as a living memorial to one of north Missouri's most dynamic sons. The process of including this site held in such high esteem by the circus world on the National Register of Historic Places will do much to further preservation work in northern Missouri.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

|                  |            |          |
|------------------|------------|----------|
| STATE            |            | Missouri |
| COUNTY           |            | Schuyler |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY |            |          |
| ENTRY NUMBER     | DATE       |          |
|                  | APR 1 1975 |          |

(Number of entries)

8. #3

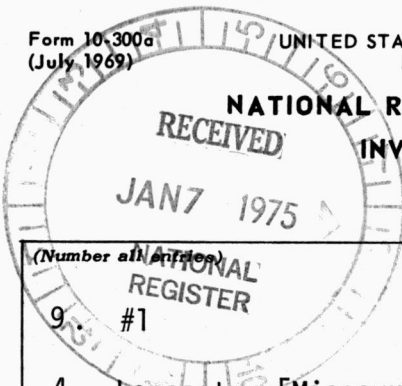
WILLIAM P. HALL HOUSE

The survey of Missouri's sites of historical and architectural significance is based on the selection of sites as they relate to the theme studies outlined in Missouri's State Historic Preservation Plan. Accordingly the William P. Hall House is being nominated to the National Register because of its relatedness to the Economics and Recreation themes of Missouri History.

## FOOTNOTES

1. Fred Pfenning, III, "William P. Hall," Missouri Historical Review, LXII (April, 1968), 286.
2. Pfenning, "Peanuts and Sawdust," Missouri Historical Review, XXXVI (January, 1942), 200-201.
3. Arthur M. Swanson and George W. Ford, A History of Schuyler County, Missouri, (Trenton: W. B. Rogers Printing Company, 1909-1910), 304-305.
4. University Missourian, October 24, 1905, 3.
5. Pfenning, "William P. Hall," 287-291.
6. Interview with Robert L. Parkinson, May 31, 1974, Baraboo, Wisconsin.
7. Tom Parkinson, "A Thousand Footnotes to History: Circus World Museum Presents the Papers of William P. Hall," Bandwagon, XVII (January-February, 1973), 4-8. Thus far circus historian Parkinson has completed at least seven articles from the Hall papers held by the Circus World Museum.
8. R. Parkinson interview; John and Alice Durant, Pictorial History of the American Circus, (New York: A. S. Barnes and Company, 1957), 315; and T. Parkinson, "Hall Papers," 6.
9. Interview with Beulah Tallman, Leona Drake, and Nelle George, May 30, 1974, Lancaster, Missouri; and Pfenning, "Peanuts and Sawdust," 200.
10. "Where Circuses Go When They Die," The Literary Digest, CXIV (September 10, 1932), 30-32.
11. Lancaster Excelsior, June 6, 1974, 1; and R. Parkinson interview.

|                  |          |            |
|------------------|----------|------------|
| STATE            | Missouri |            |
| COUNTY           | Schuyler |            |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY |          |            |
| ENTRY NUMBER     |          | DATE       |
|                  |          | APR 1 1975 |



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

NATIONAL REGISTER

9. #1

WILLIAM P. HALL HOUSE

4. Lancaster [Missouri] Excelsior, July 7, 1932. October 25, 1973. November 8, 1973. March 28, 1974. June 6, 1974.
5. March, David. History of Missouri, II. New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Company, 1967.
6. The Memphis [Missouri] Reveille, March 25, 1915.
7. Parkinson, Robert L. Personal interview, May 31, 1974, Baraboo, Wisconsin.
8. Parkinson, Thomas. "A Thousand Footnotes to History: Circus World Museum Presents the Papers of William P. Hall," Bandwagon, XVII (January-February, 1973), 4-11.
9. \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, Part 2, Bandwagon, XVII (March-April, 1973), 13-19
10. \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, Part 3, Bandwagon, XVII (May-June, 1973), 26-30
11. \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, Part 4, Bandwagon, XVII (July-August, 1973), 4-12.
12. \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, Part 6, Bandwagon, XVIII (January-February, 1974), 16-21.
13. \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, Part 7, Bandwagon, XVIII (March-April, 1974), 20-22.
14. Pfenning, Fred, III. "Peanuts and Sawdust," Missouri Historical Review, XXXVI (January, 1942), 200-202.
15. \_\_\_\_\_. "William P. Hall," Missouri Historical Review, LXII (April, 1968), 286-313.
16. Swanson, Arthur, M., and George W. Ford. A History of Schuyler County, Missouri. Trenton: W. B. Rogers Printing Company, 1909-1010.
17. University Missourian [Columbia], October 24, 1905
18. "Where Circuses Go When They Die," The Literary Digest, CXIV (September 10, 1932), 30-32.

Property Hall, William P., House

State Missouri

Working Number 1.7.75, 13

*Schuyler*  
*W.*  
*75001073*

**TECHNICAL**

Photos 4  
Maps 2

**CONTROL**

*OK* *cm*  
*1-16-75*

**HISTORIAN**

*Accept*  
*E. Smith*  
*1-20-75*

**ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN**

*ACCEPT*  
*LEBOVICH*  
*1-20-75*

**ARCHEOLOGIST**

**OTHER**

**HAER**

Inventory \_\_\_\_\_  
Review \_\_\_\_\_

**REVIEW UNIT CHIEF**

*Accept*  
*COLE*  
*2/10/75*

**BRANCH CHIEF**

*accept*  
*[Signature]*  
*3.31.75*

**KEEPER**

*[Signature]*  
**APR 1 1975**

National Register Write-up \_\_\_\_\_  
Federal Register Entry 5-6-75

Send-back \_\_\_\_\_  
Re-submit \_\_\_\_\_

Entered **APR 1 1975**

INT:2106-74



Form No. 10-301a  
(7/72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

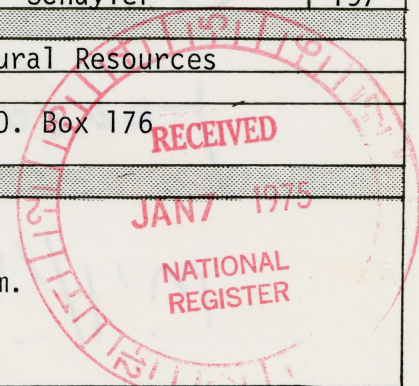
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

|                  |            |
|------------------|------------|
| STATE            |            |
| Missouri         |            |
| COUNTY           |            |
| Schuyler         |            |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY |            |
| ENTRY NUMBER     | DATE       |
|                  | APR 1 1975 |

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

|   |       |          |      |
|---|-------|----------|------|
| <b>1. NAME</b>  |       |          |      |
| COMMON: Hall, William P., House   |       |          |      |
| AND/OR HISTORIC:  |       |          |      |
| <b>2. LOCATION</b>  |       |          |      |
| STREET AND NUMBER:  |       |          |      |
| Highway 136, one block west of Schuyler County Courthouse   |       |          |      |
| CITY OR TOWN:   |       |          |      |
| Lancaster   |       |          |      |
| STATE:  | CODE  | COUNTY:  | CODE |
| Missouri  | 63548 | Schuyler | 197  |
|   | 29    |          |      |
| <b>3. PHOTO REFERENCE</b>   |       |          |      |
| PHOTO CREDIT: Ronald W. Johnson, Department of Natural Resources                                    |       |          |      |
| DATE OF PHOTO: May 30, 1974   |       |          |      |
| NEGATIVE FILED AT: Department of Natural Resources, P. O. Box 176<br>Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 |       |          |      |
| <b>4. IDENTIFICATION</b>  |       |          |      |
| DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.  |       |          |      |
| View toward north. Interior of the living room.   |       |          |      |
| #1084   |       |          |      |



☆ U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1973-729-152/1446 III-1

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

#1084



Form No. 10-301a  
(7/72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

|                  |      |          |
|------------------|------|----------|
| STATE            |      | Missouri |
| COUNTY           |      | Schuyler |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY |      |          |
| ENTRY NUMBER     | DATE |          |
| APR 1            | 1975 |          |

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Hall, William P., House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

Highway 136, one block west of Schuyler County Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN:

Lancaster

STATE:

Missouri 63548

CODE

29

COUNTY:

Schuyler

CODE

197

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Ronald W. Johnson, Department of Natural Resources

DATE OF PHOTO: May 30, 1974

NEGATIVE FILED AT: Department of Natural Resources, P. O. Box 176  
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

View toward the north. Rear of house with outbuildings.

#284

☆ U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1973-729-152/1446 III-1

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

#284



Form No. 10-301a  
(7/72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

|                            |      |
|----------------------------|------|
| STATE<br>Missouri          |      |
| COUNTY<br>Schuyler         |      |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY           |      |
| ENTRY NUMBER<br>APR 1 1975 | DATE |

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Hall, William P., House  
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

Highway 136, one block west of Schuyler County Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN:

Lancaster

STATE:

Missouri 63548

CODE

29

COUNTY:

Schuyler

CODE

197

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Ronald W. Johnson, Department of Natural Resources

DATE OF PHOTO: May 30, 1974

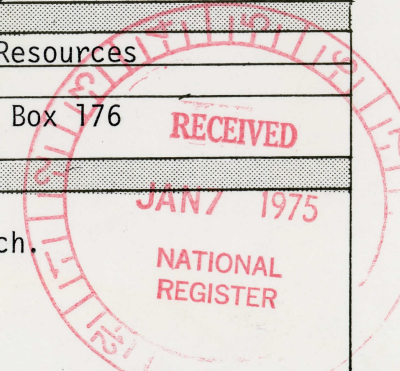
NEGATIVE FILED AT: Department of Natural Resources, P. O. Box 176  
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

View toward southwest. East facade with porch.

#3084



#3084

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



Form No. 10-301a  
(7/72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

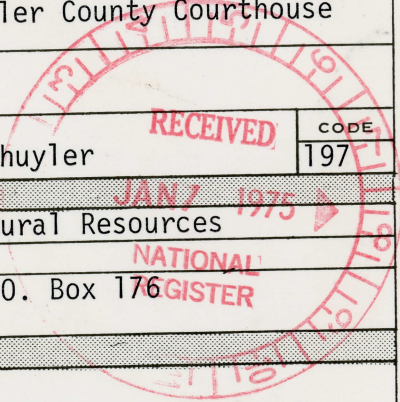
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

|                  |      |
|------------------|------|
| STATE            |      |
| Missouri         |      |
| COUNTY           |      |
| Schuyler         |      |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY |      |
| ENTRY NUMBER     | DATE |
| APR 1            | 1975 |

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

|   |  |      |          |
|---|--|------|----------|
| 1. NAME   |  |      |          |
| COMMON: Hall, William P., House   |  |      |          |
| AND/OR HISTORIC:  |  |      |          |
| 2. LOCATION   |  |      |          |
| STREET AND NUMBER: Highway 136, one block west of Schuyler County Courthouse              |  |      |          |
| CITY OR TOWN: Lancaster   |  |      |          |
| STATE:  | MISSOURI   | CODE | COUNTY:  |
|   | 63548  | 29   | Schuyler |
| 3. PHOTO REFERENCE  |  |      |          |
| PHOTO CREDIT:   | Ronald W. Johnson, Department of Natural Resources                               |      |          |
| DATE OF PHOTO:  | May 30, 1974   |      |          |
| NEGATIVE FILED AT:  | Department of Natural Resources, P. O. Box 176<br>Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 |      |          |
| 4. IDENTIFICATION   |  |      |          |
| DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.  |  |      |          |
| View toward south. Main facade. Porch spans the front<br>(north), east, and west facades. |  |      |          |



☆ U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1973-729-152/1446 III-1

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

#4084

#4084

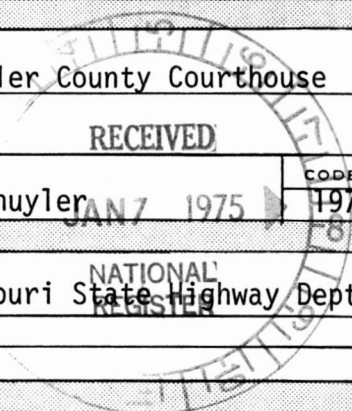
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

*(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)*

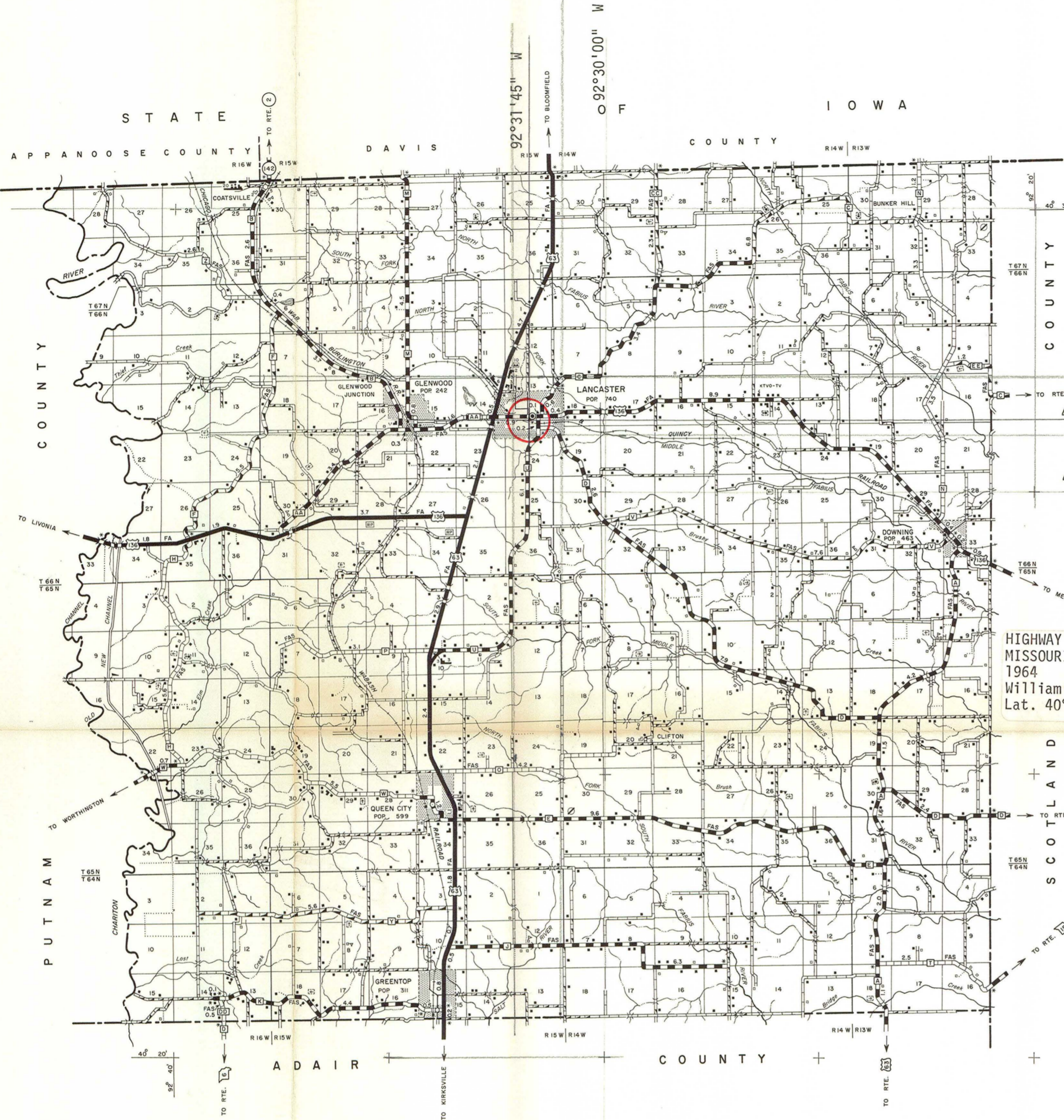
|                                   |      |
|-----------------------------------|------|
| STATE<br>Missouri                 |      |
| COUNTY<br>Schuyler                |      |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY                  |      |
| ENTRY NUMBER<br><b>APR 1 1975</b> | DATE |

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

|  |      |  |      |
|--|------|--|------|
| <b>1. NAME</b>   |      |  |      |
| COMMON:  |      | Hall, William P., House  |      |
| AND/OR HISTORIC:   |      |  |      |
| <b>2. LOCATION</b>   |      |  |      |
| STREET AND NUMBER:   |      |  |      |
| Highway 136, one block west of Schuyler County Courthouse  |      |  |      |
| CITY OR TOWN:  |      |  |      |
| Lancaster  |      |  |      |
| STATE:   | CODE | COUNTY:  | CODE |
| Missouri   | 29   | Schuyler   | 197  |
| <b>3. MAP REFERENCE</b>  |      |  |      |
| SOURCE:  |      |  |      |
| Highway Map of Schuyler County, Missouri, Missouri State Highway Dept.   |      |  |      |
| SCALE: 1" = 2 miles  |      |  |      |
| DATE: 1964   |      |  |      |
| <b>4. REQUIREMENTS</b>   |      |  |      |
| TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS   |      |  |      |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Property boundaries where required.</li> <li>North arrow.</li> <li>Latitude and longitude reference.</li> </ol> |      | <p><b>NOTE:</b> This area of Missouri lacks a U.S.G.S. map. The highway map is the most accurate substitute available.</p> |      |



RECEIVED  
 JAN 7 1975  
 NATIONAL REGISTER



HIGHWAY MAP OF SCHUYLER COUNTY MISSOURI  
 MISSOURI STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT  
 1964 Scale 1" = 2 miles  
 William P. Hall House  
 Lat. 40°31'25" N Long. 92°31'45" W

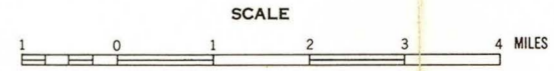


LEGEND

- Private Road
- Unimproved Road
- Graded and Drained Road
- Soil Surfaced Road
- Gravel or Stone Road
- Bituminous Road - Low Type
- Paved Road
- Frontage Road
- Divided Pavement
- City Streets
- Points between which Distances are Measured
- Interstate Numbered Highway
- U.S. Numbered Highway
- State Numbered Highway
- State Lettered Highway
- Designation of Road when Built
- Federal-aid Primary Highway System
- Federal-aid Secondary Highway System
- Traffic Circle
- Clover Leaf
- Railroad - Single Operating Company
- Railroads Adjacent - Separately Operated
- Railroad Station
- Railroad Grade Crossing
- Railroad Above
- Railroad Below
- Railroad Tunnel
- Military Air Field
- Commercial or Municipal Air Field
- Landing Area or Strip
- Airway Beacon Light
- Operated Ship and Barge Lines
- Dock, Pier or Landing
- Ferry; TF = Toll FF = Free
- Navigable Stream
- Dam
- Dam - with Lock
- Dam - with Road
- Wide Stream
- Narrow Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Drainage Ditch
- Marsh or Swamp Land
- Reservoir, Pond or Lake
- Reservoir with Dam
- Levee or Dike
- Levee or Dike with Road
- Natural Ford
- Paved Ford or Low Water Bridge
- Bridge - General (span longer than 20 feet)
- Small Bridges Closely Spaced
- Drawbridge
- Suspension Bridge
- Arch Bridge
- Steel Truss Bridge
- State Line
- County Line
- Civil Township Line
- Congressional Township Line
- Section Line
- Land Grant Survey Line
- City, Town and Village Limits
- Delimited Urban Area Line
- Park or Reservation Boundary
- Scenic Site
- Small Park
- Roadside Park
- Picnic Grounds
- Playground Ball Field etc.
- Bathing Beach or Pool
- Drive-in Theatre
- Tourist Court or Motel
- Camp or Lodge
- Fish Hatchery
- Bird Sanctuary
- Game Farm or Preserve
- Country Club or Golf Course
- Fair Ground or Race Track
- Farm Unit
- Dwelling other than Farm
- Dwellings Closely Spaced
- Combined Dwelling and Business
- Seasonal Dwellings
- Seasonal Dwellings Closely Spaced
- Hotel or Inn
- Church
- Hospital
- Cemetery
- Church with Cemetery Adjacent
- Store or Small Business
- Factory or Industrial Plant
- Sawmill - Stationary
- Mine or Quarry
- Nursery
- School House
- Consolidated or Large School
- Post Office
- Town or Community Hall
- Mixed Cultural Features Closely Spaced
- County Home, Farm or Infirmary
- Pumping Station - Oil or Gas
- Transmission Line
- Radio or Television Station
- Forest Ranger Station
- Forest Lockout Tower
- SHD Maintenance Shed
- State Highway Patrol Station
- State Capitol
- County Seat
- Other Cities, Towns and Villages

GENERAL HIGHWAY MAP  
 SCHUYLER COUNTY  
 MISSOURI

PREPARED BY THE  
 MISSOURI STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT  
 DIVISION OF HIGHWAY PLANNING  
 IN COOPERATION WITH THE  
 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
 BUREAU OF PUBLIC ROADS



POLYCONIC PROJECTION

| DATE     | DESCRIPTION            | BY |
|----------|------------------------|----|
| 10-1-64  | STATE HIGHWAYS         | VC |
| 11-14-63 | COMPLETE NEW INVENTORY | VC |
|          | REVISIONS              |    |

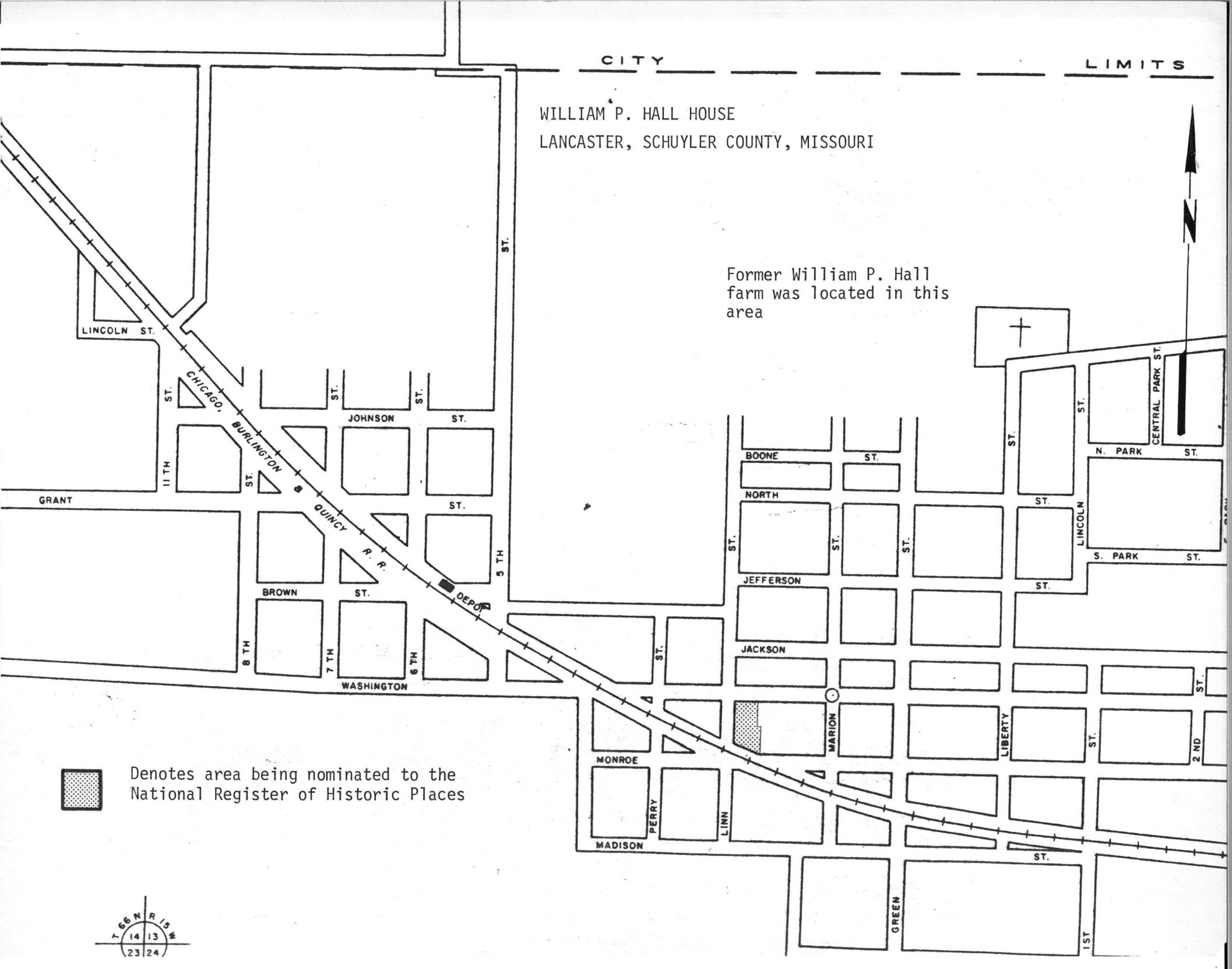
PRICE 10 CENTS

CITY

LIMITS

WILLIAM P. HALL HOUSE  
LANCASTER, SCHUYLER COUNTY, MISSOURI

Former William P. Hall  
farm was located in this  
area



Denotes area being nominated to the  
National Register of Historic Places



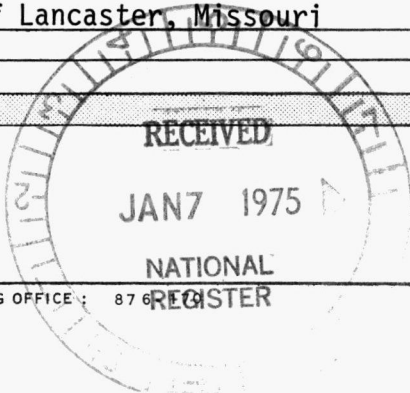
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

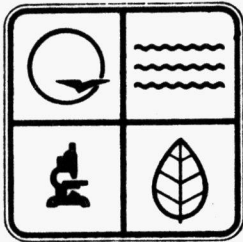
*(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)*

|                            |      |
|----------------------------|------|
| STATE<br>Missouri          |      |
| COUNTY<br>Schuyler         |      |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY           |      |
| ENTRY NUMBER<br>APR 1 1975 | DATE |

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

|   |               |                     |             |
|---|---------------|---------------------|-------------|
| <b>1. NAME</b>  |               |                     |             |
| COMMON: Hall, William P., House   |               |                     |             |
| AND/OR HISTORIC:  |               |                     |             |
| <b>2. LOCATION</b>  |               |                     |             |
| STREET AND NUMBER:<br>Highway 136, one block west of Schuyler County Courthouse |               |                     |             |
| CITY OR TOWN:<br>Lancaster  |               |                     |             |
| STATE:<br>Missouri  | CODE<br>63548 | COUNTY:<br>Schuyler | CODE<br>197 |
| <b>3. MAP REFERENCE</b>   |               |                     |             |
| SOURCE:<br>Missouri State Highway Department Map of Lancaster, Missouri         |               |                     |             |
| SCALE: 1" = 400'  |               |                     |             |
| DATE: 1960  |               |                     |             |
| <b>4. REQUIREMENTS</b>  |               |                     |             |
| TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS  |               |                     |             |
| 1. Property boundaries where required.  |               |                     |             |
| 2. North arrow.   |               |                     |             |
| 3. Latitude and longitude reference.  |               |                     |             |





M I S S O U R I

CHRISTOPHER S. BOND  
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF  
**Natural Resources**

JAMES L. WILSON  
DIRECTOR

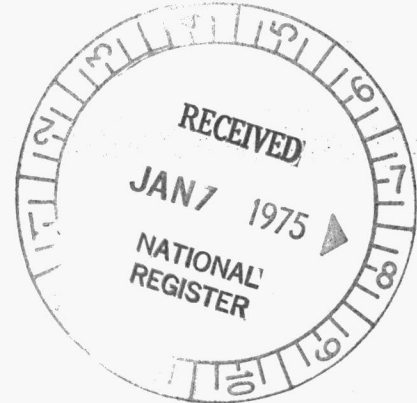
P.O. Box 176

Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

314-751-3332

December 30, 1974

Dr. William J. Murtagh  
Keeper of the National Register  
Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
18th and C. Streets, N.W.  
Washington, D. C. 20240



Dear Bill:

Please find enclosed one completed National Register Nomination Form for the

William P. Hall House

and related data approved by the Missouri Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

This form is signed by Mr. James L. Wilson, Missouri Historic Preservation Officer, and the site is thereby formally nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.

Sincerely,

STATE HISTORICAL SURVEY AND PLANNING OFFICE

Orval L. Henderson, Jr.  
Director

OLH:mvs

Enclosure:

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MISSOURI

Date Entered APR 1 1975

Name

Location

Hall, William P., House

Lancaster vicinity  
Schuyler County

Also Notified

Hon. Stuart Symington  
Hon. Thomas F. Eagleton  
Hon. William L. Hungate  
  
Regional Director, Midwest  
Region

State Historic Preservation Officer  
Mr. James L. Wilson, Director  
Missouri Department of Natural Resources  
Post Office Box 176  
1204 Jefferson Building  
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

# R NATIONAL REGISTER DATA SHEET

1 NAME as it appears on federal register: Hall, William P., House  
 2 OTHER NAMES:  
 3 date of entry: 04-1-75  
 4 county code: 197

5 LOCATION street & number: U.S. 136, 1 block w of Schuyler Co. Courthouse, Lancaster  
 city / town: Lancaster  
 vicinity of:  
 state: MO  
 county: Schuyler  
 6 NPS REGION: Midwest

7 OWNER  PRIVATE  STATE  MUNICIPAL  COUNTY  MULTIPLE  FEDERAL (agency name)  
 8 ADMINISTRATOR:

9 EXISTING SURVEYS  HABS  HAER  NHL  
 10 FUNDED?  YES  NO  
 11 CONGRESS. DISTRICT: 9th  
 12 SOURCE of NOMINATION:  STATE  FEDERAL

13 WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT?  YES, NAME:  NO  
 14 WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK?  YES, NAME:  NO  
 15 ACREAGE: less than 10  
 if state who prepared form? Shpo  
 LOCAL  PRIVATE ORGANIZATION

16 CONDITION  
 deteriorated  altered  original site  
 excellent  ruins  unaltered  moved  
 good  unexposed  reconstructed  unknown  
 fair  unexcavated  excavated  
 17 features:  
 INTERIOR:  SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-1  SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-2  SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-3  
 NOT INTACT-0  
 UNKNOWN-4  
 NOT APPLICABLE-7  
 EXTERIOR:  SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-1  SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-2  SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-3  
 NOT INTACT-0  
 UNKNOWN-5  
 NOT APPLICABLE-8  
 ENVIRONMENTAL:  SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-1  SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-2  SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-3  
 NOT INTACT-0  
 UNKNOWN-6  
 NOT APPLICABLE-9

18 ACCESS:  YES - Restricted  YES - Unrestricted  No Access  Unknown  
 19 ADAPTIVE USE:  YES  NO  
 20 SAVED?  YES  
 IS PROPERTY A HISTORIC DISTRICT?  yes  no

21 AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE:  
 ARCHEOLOGY - prehistoric-2  COMMERCE-6  
 ARCHEOLOGY - historic-1  COMMUNICATIONS-7  
 AGRICULTURE-3  CONSERVATION-8  
 ARCHITECTURE-4  ECONOMICS-9  
 ART-5  EDUCATION-10  
 ENGINEERING-11  LANDSCAPE ARCH.-15  
 ENTERTAINMENT-26  LAW-16  
 EXPLORATION-12  LITERATURE-17  
 HEALTH-27  MILITARY-18  
 INDUSTRY-13  MUSIC-19  
 INVENTION-14  PHILOSOPHY-20  
 POLITICS / GOVT.-21  RECREATION-28  
 RELIGION-22  SETTLEMENT-29  
 SCIENCE-23  URBAN PLANNING-31  
 SOCIAL / HUMANITARIAN-24  OTHER (SPECIFY)  
 SOCIAL / CULTURAL-30  
 TRANSPORTATION-25  
 22 CLAIMS: explain  
 'first'   
 'oldest'   
 'only'

23 functions  
 WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: House  
 CURRENTLY: Museum  
 24 dates of initial construction: 1905 - 1932  
 major alterations: c. 1908  
 historic events:  
 25 ETHNIC GROUP ASSOCIATION

26 architectural style(s): elements of Neo-Classical Revival and retardataire Queen Anne  
 27 architect:  
 28 master builder:  
 29 engineer:

30 landscape architect / garden designer:  
 31 interior decorator:  
 32 artist:  
 33 artisan:  
 34 builder/contractor:

35 NAMES give role & date  
 PERSONAL: Wm P. Hall - (1864-1932) - prominent international horse trader; famous for later interests  
 EVENTS: and successes in circus brokerage (leased/sold circus equipment + animals)  
 INSTITUTIONAL:

36 NATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-UP  
 Frame, 2 1/2 stories, irregular, gabled roof sections, interior and exterior end chimneys; 1-story wraparound hipped entrance porch with paired Ionic colonnettes on brick wall base, cross-gable over entrance, side porte-cochère; simple entrance flanked by 2-story polygonal bay with gablework detailing at corners and in gable, similar side bay, near 2nd story enclosed porch over 1st story nested entryway; interiors intact. Summer kitchen connected at rear by breezeway. Neo-classical Revival and Queen Anne elements. Residence of →

36)

William P. Hall, noted international horse trader <sup>②</sup> ~~who later became famous for~~ as a broker of equipment and animals.