NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME
COMMON:
Former Vanderburgh County Sheriff's Residence
AND/OR HISTORIC:
Same as above

2. LOCATION
STREET AND NUMBER:
Fourth Street between Vine and Court, opposite Court House
CITY OR TOWN:
Evansville
STATE:
Indiana

3. CLASSIFICATION
CATEGORY (Check One)
☐ District ☑ Building *
☐ Site ☑ Structure *
☐ Object

OWNERSHIP (Check One)
☒ Public* ☐ Private
☐ Public Acquisition:
☐ In Process ☐ Being Considered

STATUS
☐ Occupied ☑ Unoccupied
☐ Preservation work in progress
☐ Yes:
☒ Restricted ☑ Unrestricted
☐ No

ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
☐ Yes:
☐ Restriction:
☐ Unrestricted
☐ No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More)
☐ Agricultural ☐ Government
☐ Commercial ☐ Industrial
☐ Educational ☐ Military
☐ Entertainment ☐ Religious
☐ Museum ☐ Scientific
☐ Transportation ☐ Other (Specify)
☐ Vacant at present

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY
OWNER'S NAME:
Vanderburgh County Commissioners
STREET AND NUMBER:
Court House, Civic Complex, 8th and Main Streets
CITY OR TOWN:
Evansville
STATE:
Indiana

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Same as above
STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN:
STATE:

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
TITLE OF SURVEY:
No known existing survey
DATE OF SURVEY:
☐ Federal ☑ State ☐ County ☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN:
STATE:
CODE:

S E E   I N S T R U C T I O N S
The former Vanderburgh County Sheriff's Residence located in front of the former County Jail and directly opposite the west side of the Vanderburgh County Court House is built of rusticated blocks of Indiana limestone. It was built to resemble a feudal castle and was obviously influenced in its design by Schloss Lichtenstein near Reutlingen in the State of Baden-Württemberg, West Germany.

It has a central round tower or "keep", crenelated roof lines, step gables, turrets and portcullises to give it a castle-like appearance. There is little which can deteriorate about the exterior except the wooden window frames, which need paint.

The interior has not been heated since the Sheriff moved out in the late summer of 1969, resulting in minor damage from peeling of paint from the walls. There is a roof leak in the north-east corner of the building, which has damaged the plaster in the ceiling of the bedroom directly beneath. Otherwise the interior is in good repair, although a complete re-painting and re-decorating would be indicated to make it attractive enough to serve for other purposes.

The first floor has three rooms measuring respectively 15 x 16 feet, 15 x 20 feet and 16 x 18 feet. The entrance and stair hall measure 6 x 30 feet, the portion not occupied by the stairs widening to 8 feet. There are also a small kitchenette and powder room on this floor.

The second floor likewise has three rooms of similar size to those downstairs, plus a bathroom and closet space. There is a full basement, formerly used as a kitchen for the Jail.

Thought is being given to interesting a club or organization to use the former Residence as a meeting place or club house. Other suggestions for its use have been as a children's museum or a museum of Civil War history.
### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Vanderburgh County Sheriff's Residence housed the incumbent Sheriff and his family from 1891 until 1969, when the new City-County complex was completed and the former County Court House, Annex and Jail were abandoned and rented to the Conrad Baker Foundation, a group organized for Historic Preservation in the community.

The significance of the Sheriff's Residence would be as a period piece of quaint "Bastille" type architecture such as the 19th Century conceived to be appropriate for the housing of offenders against society in grim, dungeon-like surroundings.

The Residence is connected with the Court House across Fourth Street by a tunnel, through which prisoners were formerly taken to trial.
### 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"Architectural Heritage of Evansville" by Howard E. Wooden
Published by Evansville Museum of Arts and Sciences

"The Evansville Story" by Dr. James E. Morlock 1956
Professor at the University of Evansville

### 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

**Latitude and Longitude Coordinates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Corner</th>
<th>Latitude</th>
<th>Longitude</th>
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<td>Minutes: 34'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SW</td>
<td>Degrees: 87°</td>
<td>Minutes: 34'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Approximate Acreage of Nominated Property:** City Lot 75 x 40 Feet

**List All States and Counties for Properties Overlapping State or County Boundaries**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Indiana</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Vanderburg</td>
<td>163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No overlapping</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Form Prepared By**

NAME AND TITLE:
Alexander L. Leich, President
Conrad Baker Foundation

STREET AND NUMBER:
Old Vanderburgh County Court House

CITY OR TOWN:
Evansville

**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 [X]

Name: John B. Boyd
Title: Chief of Nat Preserv
Date: 8/3-70

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

Ernest Allin Connally
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

OCT 6 1970

**Attest:**

William I. Hartley
Keeper of The National Register

AUG 62 0 1970
STATE OF INDIANA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
INDIANA HISTORIC SITES AND STRUCTURES INVENTORY

1. HISTORIC NAME: X PUBLIC PRIVATE
   NAME: Vanderburgh County
   ADDRESS:

3. LOCATION NOTES: Donation Enl., Lots 171

4. VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY: X YES NO

5. USE: PRESENT PAST
   RESIDENTIAL (sing.) X CI RESIDENTIAL (mul.) X
   COMMERCIAL X
   INDUSTRIAL X
   TRANSPORTATION X
   ORGANIZATION X
   MILITARY X
   OTHER X

6. CATEGORY: X BUILDING(S) STRUCTURE SITE OBJECT X

7. ACCESSIBLE: YES RESTRICTED X YES/RESTRICTED X

9. ENDANGERED: X NO

10. ARCHITECT/BUILDER: HENRY VIOLLETS

11. PERIODS: PREHISTORIC
     17TH-19TH GEN. 1800-1890 X 1900-1990 X 1900-PRESENT X

12. AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE:
    Archeology-Prehistoric X
    Archeology-Historic X
    Agriculture X
    Architecture X
    Art X
    Commerce X
    Communications X
    Community Planning X
    Conservation X
    Economics X
    Education X
    Engineering X
    Exploration/Settlement X
    History X
    Industry X
    Law X
    Literature X
    Medicine X
    Music X
    Philosophy X
    Photography X
    Religion X
   Sculpture X
    Social/Humanitarian X
    Theater X
    Transportation X
    Urban X
    Other (Specify) X

13. STYLE: Federal X
     Greek Revival X
     Gothic Revival X
     Italianate X
     Second Empire X
     Stick Style/Eastlake X
     Queen Anne X
     Romanesque Revival X
     Colonial Revival X
     Neo-Classical X
     Bungalow X
     Vernacular X
     Other (Specify) X

14. CONDITION: X EXCELLENT NO
     FAIR X
     GOOD X
     DETERIORATED X
     DETERRED X
     UNEXPOSED X
     ORIGINAL SITE X
     Moved Date X

15. ALTERATIONS: X ALTERED
     X ORIGINAL SITE
     UNALTED
     MINOR X
     MAJOR X

16. SITE INTEGRITY: X ORIGINAL SITE
     MOVED DATE X

17. OUTBUILDINGS/SECONDARY STRUCTURES X

18. IN ESTABLISHED HISTORIC DISTRICT X

19. DESCRIPTION OF ENVIRONMENT (NATURAL AND MAN-MADE):
    Downtown, across from old county courthouse and coliseum.

20. INFORMATION SOURCES: Township Assessor

21. PREPARED BY: N. LONG
     DATE: 8/78

22. SURVEYED BY:

23. PREPARED BY:

24. SOURCE:

25. SUPPLIED BY:

26. EXAMINED BY:

27. CERTIFIED COPY: X
     PERMANENT FILE:

28. SIGNIFICANCE:
    DESCRIPTION:
    SIGNIFICANCE OF DISTRICT:

29. SIGNIFICANCE OF DISTRICT:
    DESCRIPTION:

30. ENTIRE BUILDING IS RUSTICATED LIMESTONE. SHERIFF'S
    HOUSE IS RANDOM ASHLAR. WHEREAS, JAIL MORE MASSIVE.
    BLOCKS OF COURSED ASHLAR.

31. SHERIFF'S HOUSE RESEMBLES A CASTLE OR FORTRESS, 2 1/2
    STORIES WITH ABOVE-GRADE BASEMENT. PLAN IS L-SHAPED
    WITH OPEN ENTRANCE PORCH IN CROTCH OF "L" ON FIRST
    FLOOR. PORCH FEATURES SQUARE PILLARS WITH ORNATE
    CAPITALS, SUPPORTING TUDOR ARCHES WITH FALSE PORT-
    CULLISES. STONE RAILING RUNS BETWEEN PILLARS, AND IS
    REPEATED ON PORCH ROOF. ABOVE PORCH IS A 3-STORY
    ROUND TOWER THAT EXTENDS ABOVE ROOFLINE.
    SLATE ROOF IS GABLED, WITH STEPPED PARAPETS AT GABLE
    ENDS. PARAPETS, TOWER, SAVES AND CORNER TURRETS
    ARE CASTELLATED. WINDOWS ARE DOUBLE HUNG. THOSE
    IN TOWER AND GABLES ARE NARROW SLITS.
    THE JAIL IS ATTACHED TO THE REAR OF THE HOUSE
    AND IS ALSO GABLED, ALTHOUGH IT IS PLAIN. IN COMPAR-
    ION TO THE HOUSE, ITS SCALE IS MORE MASSIVE.
    WITH LARGER BLOCKS OF STONE, AND TALLER WINDOWS
    THAT ARE BARRED. ADDITIONS HAVE BEEN MADE TO
    THE JAIL.

32. NAT'L REG. 6 OCT 1970. ONLY SHERIFFS
    RESIDENCE UNIN.

33. NAT'L REG. 6 OCT 1970. ONLY SHERIFFS
    RESIDENCE UNIN.

34. NAT'L REG. 6 OCT 1970. ONLY SHERIFFS
    RESIDENCE UNIN.

35. NAT'L REG. 6 OCT 1970. ONLY SHERIFFS
    RESIDENCE UNIN.
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Historian</td>
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<tr>
<td>8/5/70</td>
<td>Architect</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Asst. Keeper</td>
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<tr>
<td>8/5/70</td>
<td>Entry</td>
<td>OK</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chief, OAH</td>
<td>OK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/19/70</td>
<td>Editorial Processing, Editor</td>
<td>CD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Federal Register Entry**: 11/3/70

**Annual Edition Entry**: 11/3/70

**Comments**
DOWNTOWN EVANSVILLE RESOURCES
Vanderburgh County, Indiana
N. Long, DMD 1977

view northwest of 5-story

#34 208 N. W. Fourth Street
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**

**PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

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

1. **NAME**
   - COMMON: Old Vanderburgh County Courthouse Complex (Former Sheriff's Residence)

2. **LOCATION**
   - STREET AND NUMBER:
   - City block bounded by Vine, 4th, Court and 5th Streets
   - CITY OR TOWN: Evansville, Indiana
   - STATE: Indiana
   - CODE: 13
   - COUNTY: Vanderburgh
   - CODE: 163

3. **PHOTO REFERENCE**
   - PHOTO CREDIT: Alexander L. Leich
   - DATE OF PHOTO: February 1970
   - NEGATIVE FILED AT:
   - Conrad Baker Foundation, Old Vanderburgh County Courthouse

4. **IDENTIFICATION**
   - DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.
   - Former Vanderburgh County Sheriff's Residence
   - East Front view.
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)

1. NAME
   COMMON: Old Vanderburgh County Courthouse Complex
   AND/OR HISTORIC: Sheriff's Residence

2. LOCATION
   STREET AND NUMBER: City block bounded by Vine, 4th, Court and 9th Streets
   CITY OR TOWN: Evansville
   STATE: Indiana
   CODE: 13
   COUNTY: Vanderburgh
   CODE: 163

3. PHOTO REFERENCE
   PHOTO CREDIT: Alexander L. Leich
   DATE OF PHOTO: February 1970
   NEGATIVE FILED AT: Conrad Baker Foundation, Old Vanderburgh County Courthouse

4. IDENTIFICATION
   DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.: View from Southeast of Vanderburgh County Sheriff's Residence, occupied by all Sheriffs from 1891 until 1969.
# National Register of Historic Places

## Property Map Form

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

### 1. Name
- COMMON: Former Vanderburgh County Sheriff's Residence
- AND/OR HISTORIC: Same

### 2. Location
- STREET AND NUMBER: 14th Street opposite west side of Vanderburgh County Courthouse
- CITY OR TOWN: Evansville
- STATE: Indiana
- CODE: 13
- COUNTY: Vanderburgh
- CODE: 163

### 3. Map Reference
- SOURCE: Vanderburgh County Surveyor's Office
- SCALE: 1" = 1,401' = 0"
- DATE: November 1969

### 4. Requirements
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS:
1. Property boundaries where required.
2. North arrow.
3. Latitude and longitude reference.
Dr. William J. Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register
United States Dept. of Interior
National Park Service
801 19th Street Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

Enclosed please find the completed nomination forms on the following.

1. The old Allison mansion.
2. Saint Joseph's Courthouse.
3. The old Vanderburgh Co. Courthouse and Jail (Sherriffs residence).

The above nomination forms were approved at a meeting of the Historic Resource Committee on July 13, 1970.

Sincerely yours,

John R. Lloyd
Director
Department of Natural Resources

JRL/SDD:ph

Enclosure
cc: H. Roll McLaughlin, F.A.I.A.
Mr. John R. Lloyd
Director
Department of Natural Resources
State of Indiana
615 State Office Building
Indianapolis, Indiana 42604

Dear Mr. Lloyd:

We are pleased to inform you that the Former Vanderburgh County Sheriff's Residence in Evansville, Indiana, has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places. Senators Vance Hartke and Birch Bayh and Representative Roger H. Zion have also been notified. Please withhold any publicity on this until you have received a carbon copy of the Congressional correspondence.

Sincerely yours,

/S/ Ernest Allen Connally

Ernest Allen Connally
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Entered in the National Register OCT 6 1970

CC:

HR 10/1/70 SMarusin:drs BASIC FILE RETAINED IN HR
Mo. Roger E. Zion  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Zion,

We are pleased to inform you that the Vanderburgh County 
Sheriff's Residence in Evansville, Indiana, has been nominated by 
the State Liaison Officer appointed by the Governor for the 
implementation of the National Historic Preservation Program in 
Indiana and has been entered into the National Register of Historic 
Places. Senators Vance Hartke and Birch Bayh have also been provided 
with this information. By copy of this letter, the State Liaison 
Officer, Mr. John R. Lloyd, Director, Department of Natural Resources, 
State of Indiana, 615 State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana 
42604, has likewise been notified. A leaflet explaining the National 
Register is enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

Director

Enclosure

Entered in the National Register

OCT 6 1970

cc: Mr. John R. Lloyd, Director, Department of Natural Resources, 
State of Indiana, 615 State Office Building, Indianapolis, 
Indiana 42604

Director, Northeast Region
Hon. Vance Hartke  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Senator Hartke:

We are pleased to inform you that the Former Vanderburgh County Sheriff’s Residence in Evansville, Indiana, has been nominated by the State Liaison Officer appointed by the Governor for the implementation of the National Historic Preservation Program in Indiana and has been entered into the National Register of Historic Places. Senator Birch Bayh and Representative Roger H. Zion have also been provided with this information. By copy of this letter, the State Liaison Officer, Mr. John R. Lloyd, Director, Department of Natural Resources, State of Indiana, 615 State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana 42604, has likewise been notified. A leaflet explaining the National Register is enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

(COD) GEORGE G. HARTZOG, JR.

Director

Enclosure

Entered in the National Register  
OCT 6  1970

cc: Mr. John R. Lloyd, Director, Department of Natural Resources, State of Indiana, 615 State Office Building, Indianapolis, Indiana 42604

Duplicate letters sent to:  
Hon. Birch Bayh  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C.

Hon. Roger H. Zion  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE  

TELEPHONE REPORT  

1. CALL ☐ TO: ☐ FROM (Name)  

To Nancy Long  

2. ADDRESS (Tel. No. if needed)  

3. SUBJECT, PROJECT NO., ETC.  

Level of Significance of 5 Indiana nominations  

4. DETAILS OF DISCUSSION  

Jefferson Co.  

Madison Historic District - State  

Knox Co.  

George Rogers Clark National Historical Park - National  

Vandenburgh Co.  

Old Vandenburgh County Courthouse - Local  

Evansville Post Office - National  

Former Vandenburgh County Sheriff's Residence - Local  

---  

NAME OF PERSON PLACING/RECEIVING CALL: Marcy Silver  
TITLE: Intern  
OFFICE: NKHP  

FHR-8-227  
June 1978