

*Hoosier National Forest*  
*Restoring an Historic House*

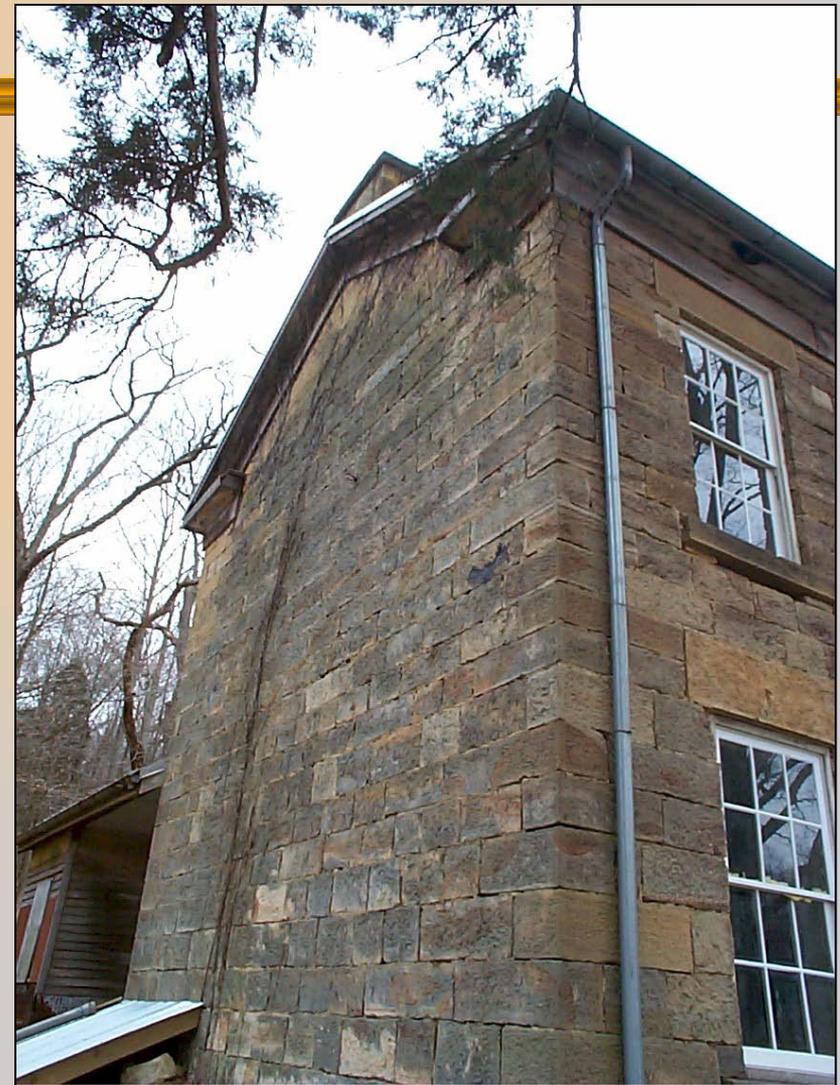
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# *Rickenbaugh House*

- ★ Built in 1874 by Belgium stone masons
- ★ Sandstone blocks cut from outcrops near the house



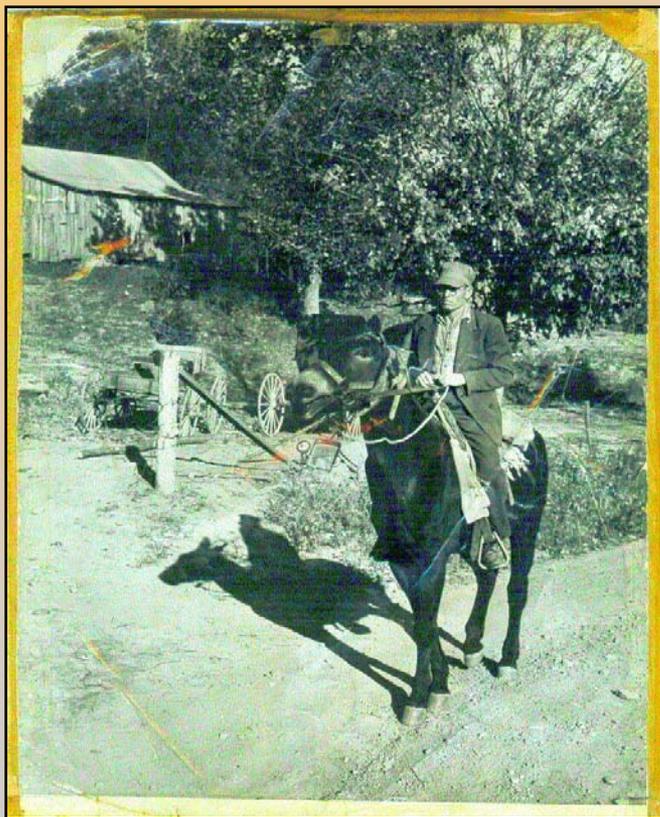


★ Served as dwelling for the Rickenbaugh family





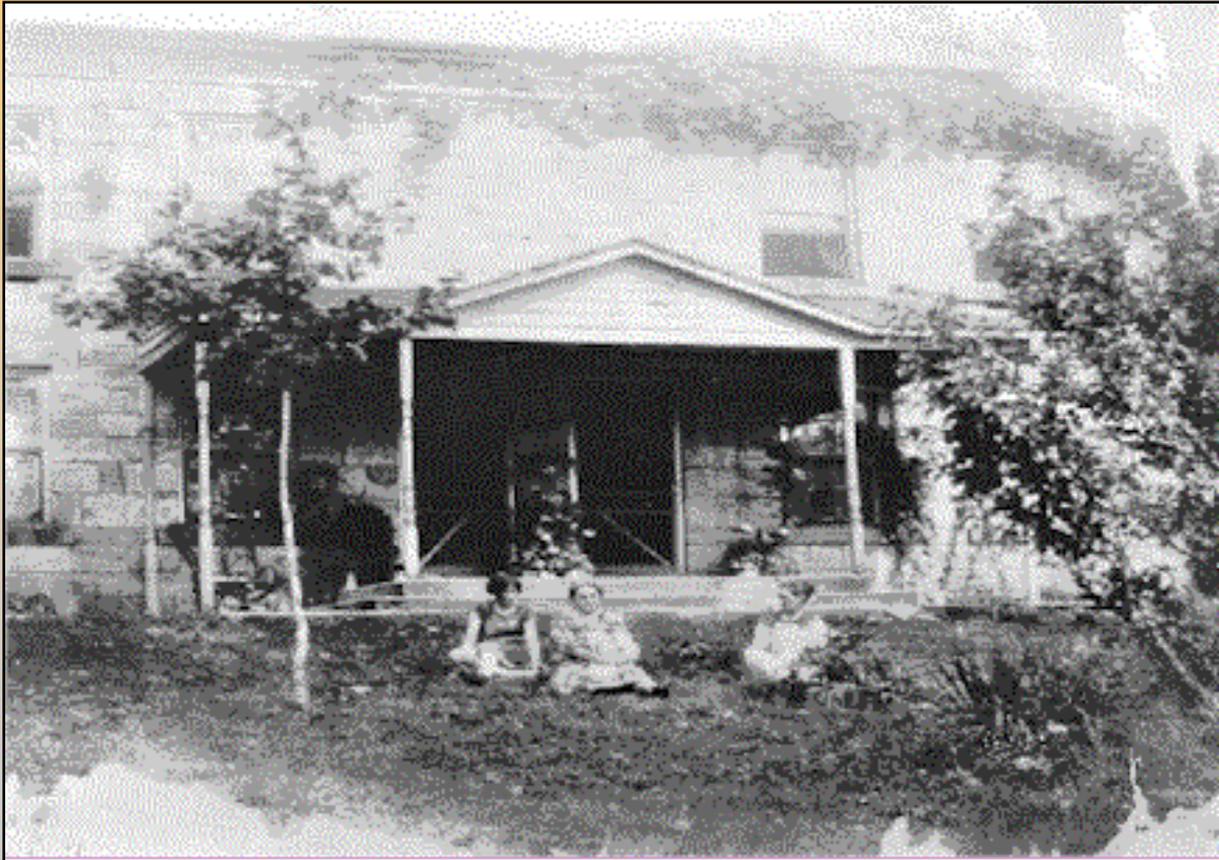
- ★ Served as post office from 1878 until 1961
- ★ Parlor used for worship services





# *Rickenbaugh House*

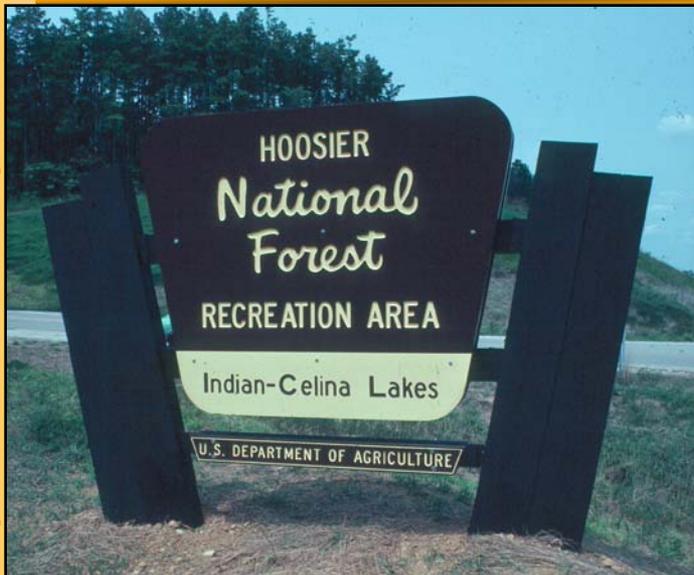
## *The Old Days (1920)*





# *Rickenbaugh House*

*Hoosier National Forest – Celina Lake*





# Rickenbaugh House

## Map Location Hoosier National Forest

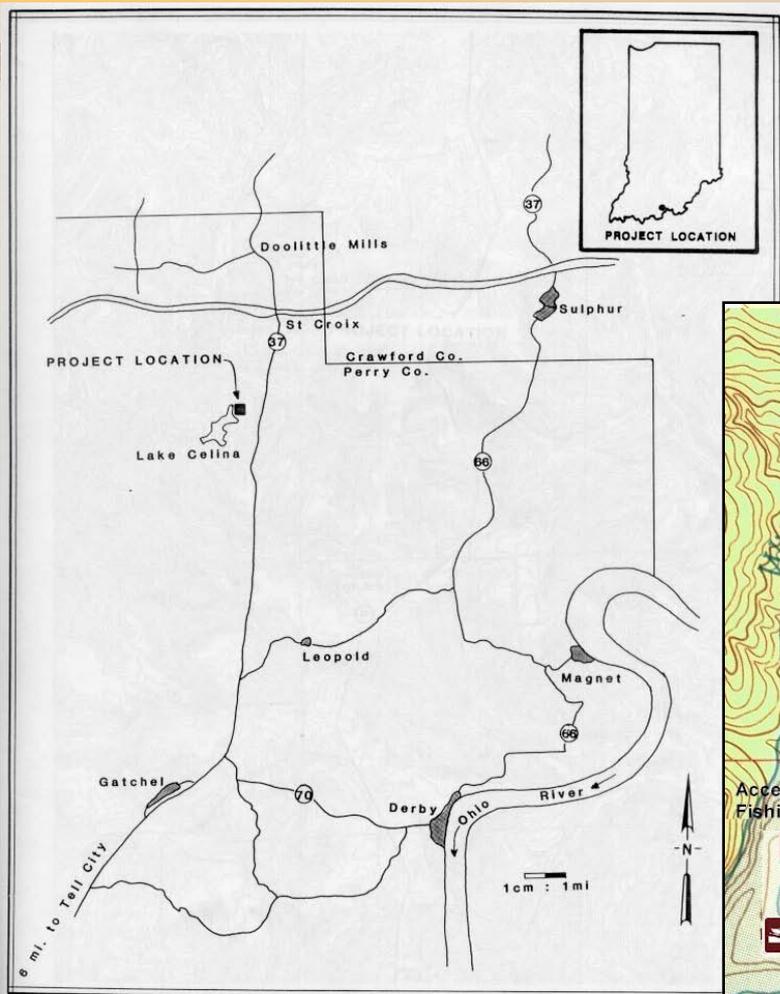
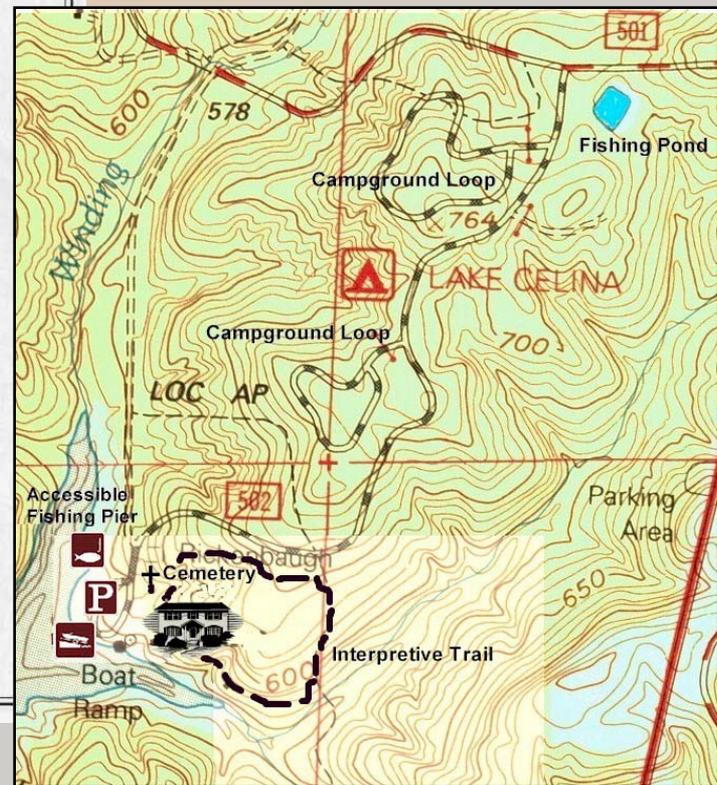


Figure 1.--General Location Map.





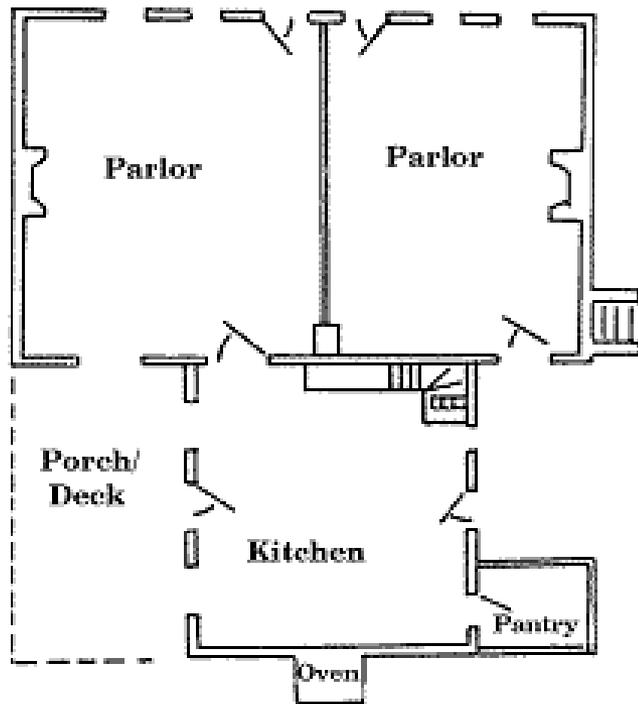
*Forest Service acquired property in  
1968*



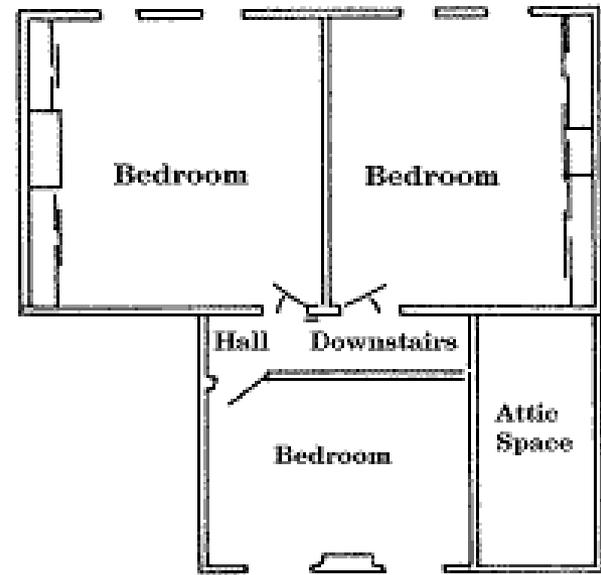


# *Rickenbaugh House*

## *Original Layout*



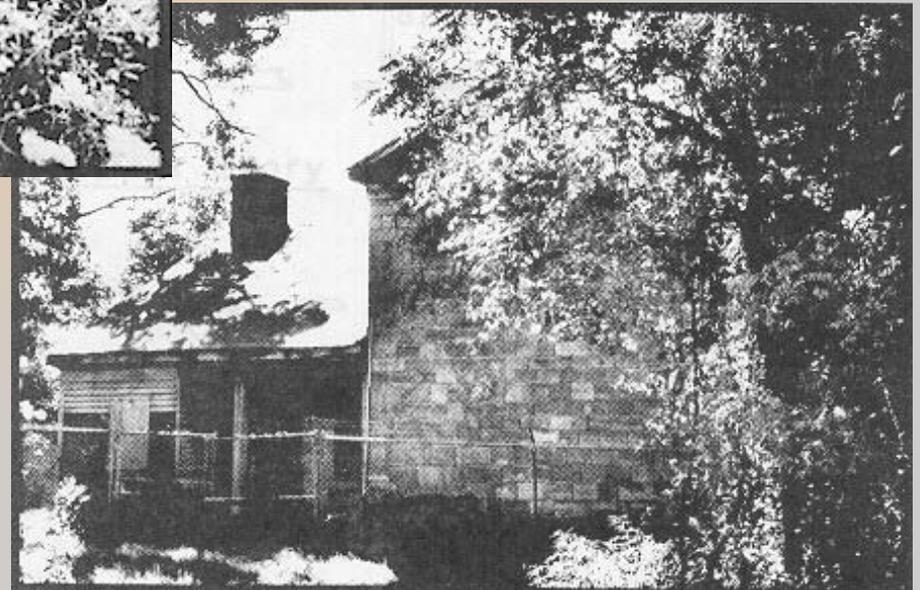
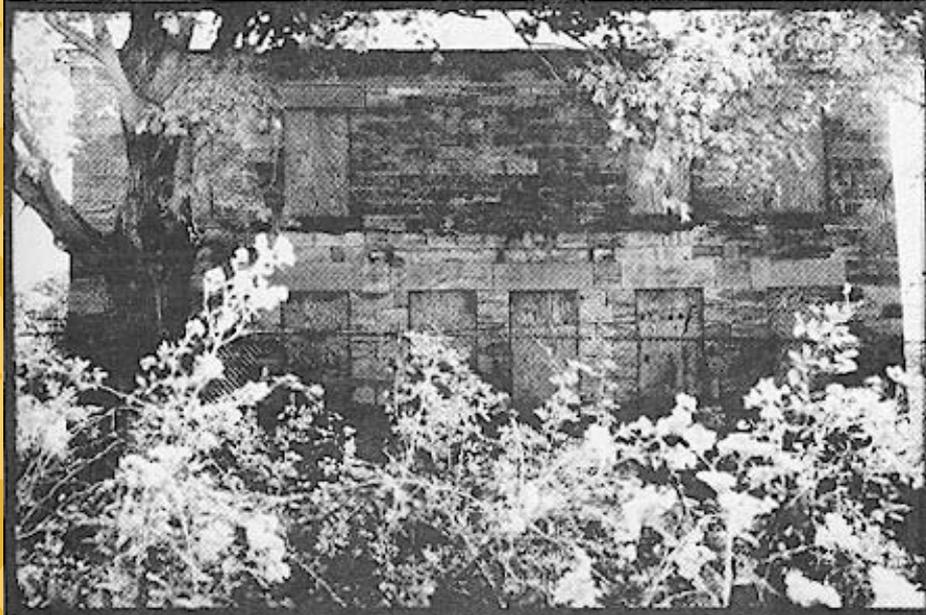
First Story



Upper Story



# *Cultural Evaluation done in 1983*





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★ Listed on National Register in 1984

★ Architectural Evaluation in 1989

- Maintain as architectural ruin

- Make house acceptable for public visitation

- Renovate house for habitation



# *Condition of the House*



Kitchen Area



Parlor  
Area





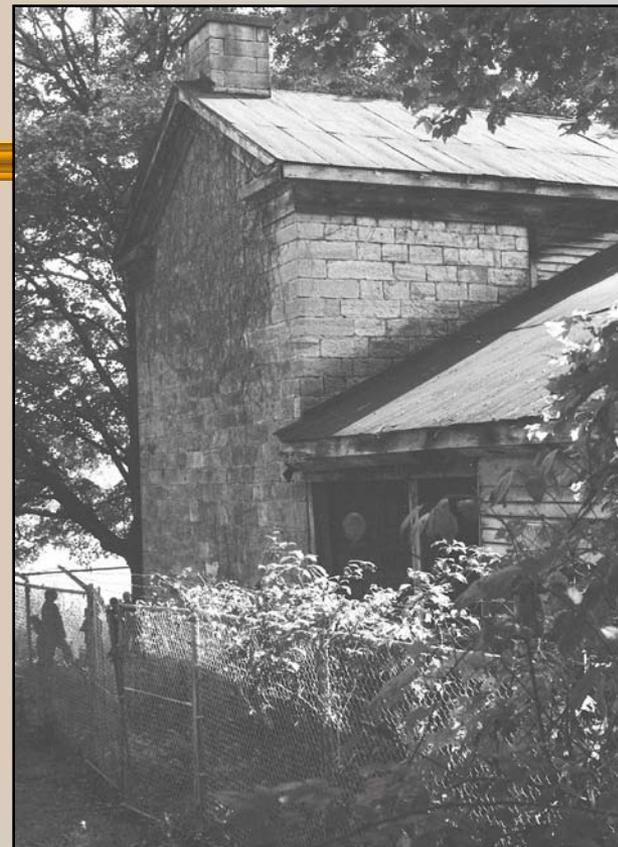
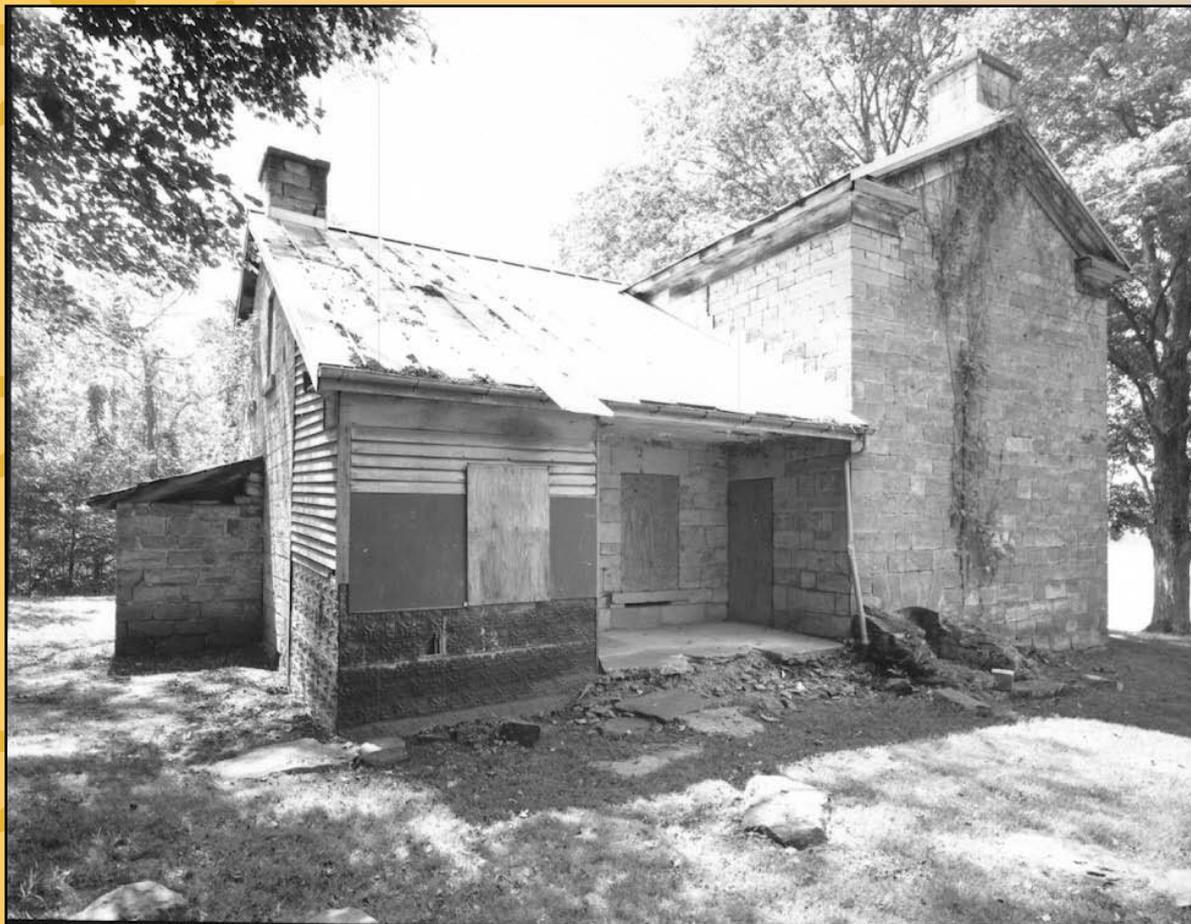
## Post Office Room





# *Rickenbaugh House*

*Prior to Renovation*





# *Rickenbaugh House*

*New Roof and Stabilization 1990*

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Before....





...After



# *Rickenbaugh House*

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- ★ Excavation of Celina House by Perry Central Schools-1990
- ★ Initial stabilization in 1990
  - New Standing Seam Metal Roof
  - Swale to divert water from foundation
  - Repair of one chimney
  - Placement of gutters and downspouts
  - Capping 3 chimneys
  - Content analysis of mortar





# *Rickenbaugh House*

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## ★ Friends of Celina House established 1995

- Non-profit organization of community members and Forest Service
- Mission to restore house, adapt for use as nature center, and operate it
- Friends became the Celina Recreation and Interpretive Association to include recreation in addition to interpretation
- The Association applied for and awarded a \$2,000 grant from Indiana Historic Landmarks to do feasibility study





# *Rickenbaugh House*

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- ★ FS entered into Challenge-Cost Share Agreements with Lincoln Hills RC&D-1997
- ★ Lincoln Hills RC&D applied for Neighborhood Assistance Program grant-1997 and Hometown Indiana Historic Preservation grant-1998
- ★ Awarded \$18,699 from Hometown Indiana in 1999

*Site of Hoosier N.F.'s Public  
Lands Day Programs from  
1998-2002*





# *Rickenbaugh House*

## *Public Lands Day 1998*





# *Public Lands Day Projects*



- ★ Mapping the Cemetery
- ★ Seeding and Mulching the lawn





# *Public Lands Day Projects*



★ Building picnic tables





## *Vision for the Rickenbaugh House*

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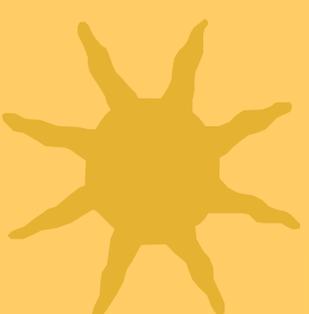
- ★ Layout of house is 3 rooms approximately 17 x17 in a T shape
- ★ Unique fireplace-oven
- ★ Two front rooms to be used for display cases and presentations
- ★ The east room (site of original kitchen) will be used as a sales outlet





# *Rickenbaugh House*

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- ★ Rehabilitation occurred in 3 Phases
- ★ Funding provided by community donations of cash, in-kind materials and labor; FS appropriations; grants from NFF and Hometown Indiana; matching funds from Lincoln Hills RC&D
- ★ Lincoln Hills RC&D applied for grants, provided matching funds, administered grants and contracts
- ★ FS provided matching funds, labor, and materials; supervised contracts



# *Rickenbaugh House*

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## ★ Phase 1: June 1999-December 1999

- Replace floorboards, joists, and beams on first floor
- Replace basement stairs and concrete, cover basement entrance
- Install basement window wells,
- Repair fireplace
- Improve site drainage
- Electricity to house





# *Rickenbaugh House*

## ★ Phase 2: October 2000-May 2001

- Reconstruct 5 exterior doors and 14 windows
- Install 14 windows
- Install utilities (electric, water, HVAC)
- Rehab side porches, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor joists, stair well to 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, storage room
- Rehab and finish interior walls, ceiling, and trim
- Reconstruct closet hangars and exterior doors





# *Pictures from Phase 2*

★ New windows





# *Pictures from Phase 2*

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★ Rehab back porch





# *Rickenbaugh House*

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## ★ Phase 3: October 8, 2001-April 5, 2002

- Reconstruct front porch
- Tuck pointing
- Rehab exterior trim
- Repair kitchen flooring
- Construct and Install 3 fireplace mantels, 4 closet doors, and 5 cabinet doors





## *Photos of Phase 3*



- ★ Rehabing exterior trim, columns, and finishing work





## *Photos of Phase 3*



★ New front porch





# *Photos of Phase 3*

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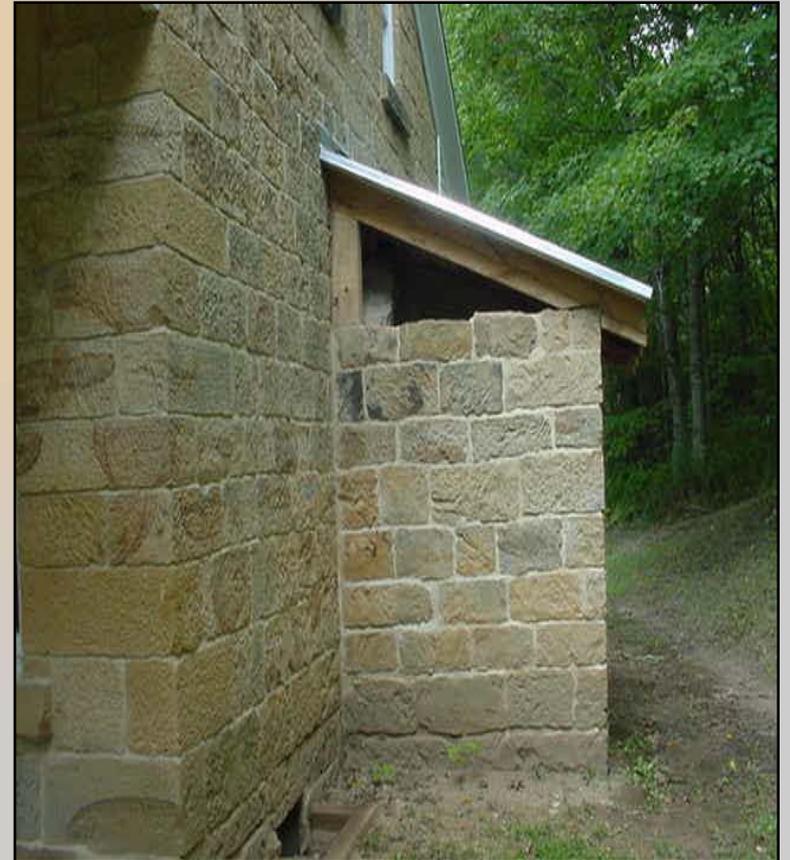
New Front Porch



# *Phase 3 Interior*

## Fireplace and mantels







# *Rickenbaugh House*



What's  
Next??