

Merit-Tandy Farmstead
RR 1, Box 225
Patriot Vicinity
Switzerland County
Indiana

HABS No. IN-195

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78-PAT. V,
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PHOTOGRAPHS

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WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

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HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION

The Merit-Tandy House--so named by earlier historians--sits atop a small rise overlooking the Ohio River about 2.5 miles northeast of the town of Patriot, on State Road 156, in Switzerland County, Indiana.

The House offers passersby on Switzerland County's "River Road" a glimpse of early American architecture, and, according to some, an unusual version at that. The Indiana Historical Society's book, Indiana Houses of the Nineteenth Century, 1962, cites the house as follows:

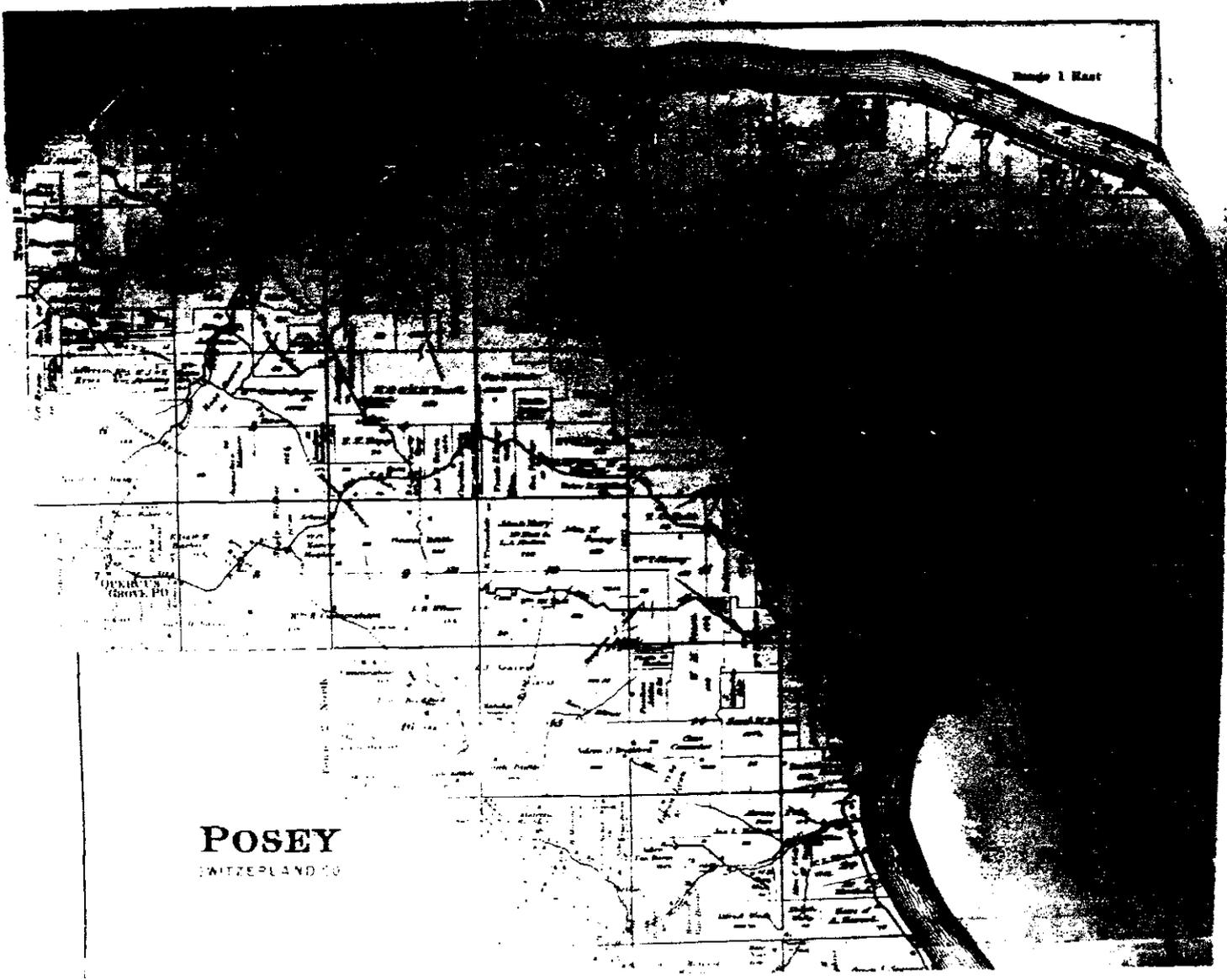
"While the hip-roof design is not unusual for two-storied houses, it is seldom found in connection with one-floor cottages of the Federal era. One of the few examples in our state is the Merit-Tandy House near Patriot now occupied by B. O. Hutcherson. Its general effect is that of a European rural homestead rather than American."¹

Much has been written about Switzerland County and the surrounding area (see Plates A and B), but perhaps the following historical capsulization by Goetzman Associates of Cincinnati, Ohio, written in 1977 will suffice for background:

"The area surveyed on the Indiana side of the Ohio River lies principally in the Eastern portion of Switzerland County. The river wraps around this area, and over the ages has left rich flatlands on its inner curves as it pushed against the hillsides on the opposite shores. The river curves around Mexico Bottom at the North and then again at Egypt Bottom toward the South. Both areas, being subject to the soil deposits of periodic flooding, are rich farmlands, and were settled early for this reason. The town of Patriot lies midway between these two areas; being situated on an outer curve of the river, the ground rises up more swiftly to the hills beyond. The deep water close to shore allowed easy access to river boats at all stages.

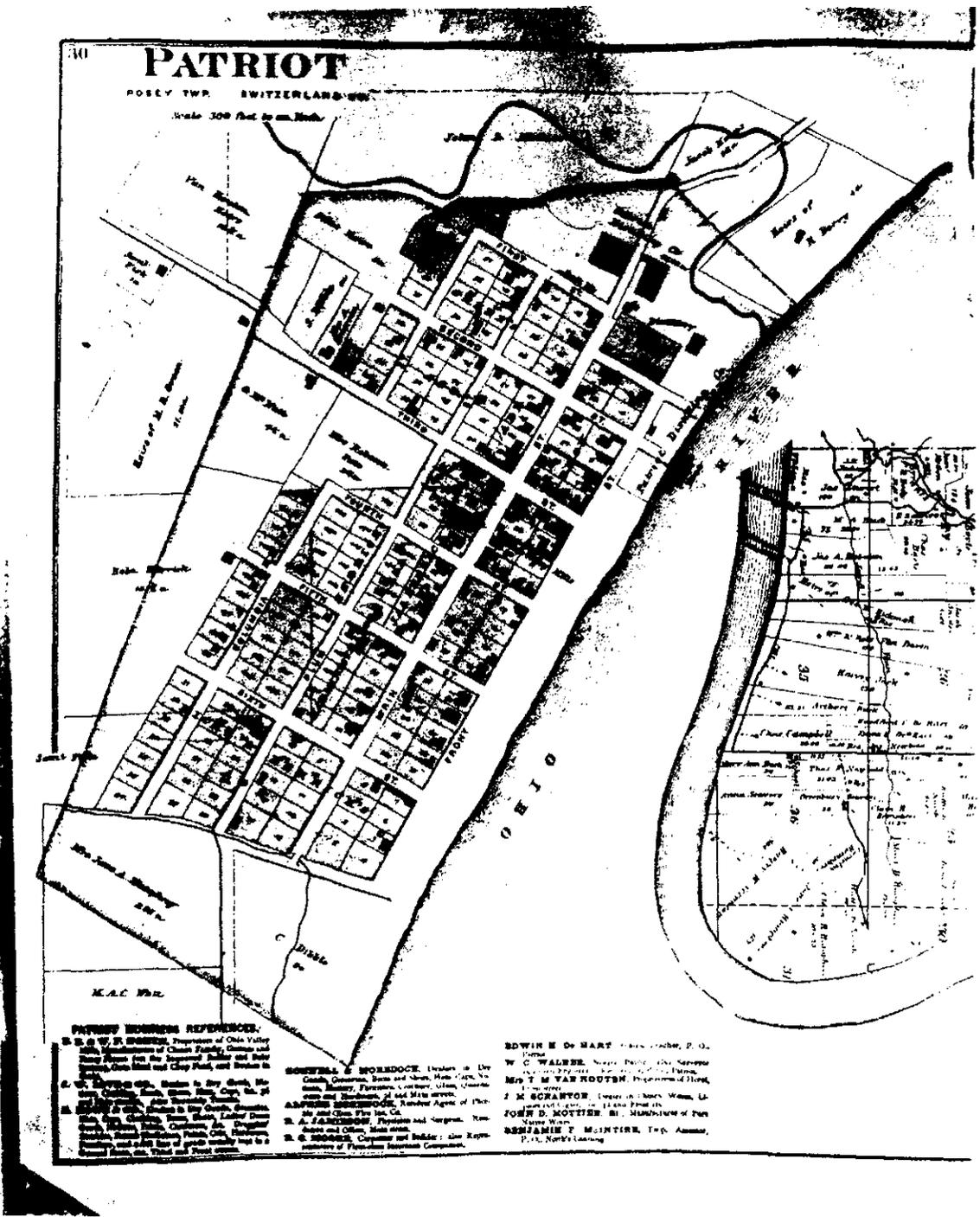
¹William D. Peat, Indiana Houses of the Nineteenth Century. (Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Society, 1962) p. 11

PLATE A



Switzerland County Map, circa 1858
Switzerland County Atlas, Recorder's Office

PLATE B



Switzerland County Map, circa 1858
Switzerland County Atlas, Recorder's Office

"The Switzerland County area was opened up to settlement relatively early with the signing of the Greenville Treaty in 1795. This treaty followed the Battle of Fallen Timbers in the previous year, in which General Anthony Wayne and the Union forces defeated the Indian tribes northwest of the Ohio River. At the signing in Greenville, General Wayne represented the Union, and Chief Little Turtle, the ninety Chiefs of the Miamis and their allies. The western boundary of the land ceded to the United States, known as the old Indian boundary, ran from the mouth of the Kentucky River to Fort Recovery, Ohio, and just inside the western border of Switzerland County.

"Lawrenceburg was settled within the year of the treaty signing, and Switzerland County, the following year.

"It is said that the first settlers found half-civilized beings driven from Kentucky by the terrors of the whipping post. They cultivated small patches of ground and gathered food for a bare subsistence.

"About twenty families moved into the Switzerland County area immediately following the signing of the Greenville Treaty. The ceded territory, surveyed by Israel Ludlow in 1798, was the first large, easily accessible legal area available for Anglo-American settlement. Settlers principally from the New England states and New York made their way to Pittsburgh and then loaded their possessions onto rafts and flatboats, and headed down the Ohio River. The flatboats were large and flat, shaped like scows, sometimes with a shed over the center. They were propelled by side oars, guided by a steering oar at the stern, and basically they managed little more than to keep up with the current.

"However, Cincinnati no doubt absorbed many of the settlers heading downriver. Census figures show that in 1810, Cincinnati already had a population of 2,320, which two years later almost doubled to four thousand.

"The United States Government, which was no doubt eager to develop the area below Cincinnati, in 1799 extended credit to Jean Jacques Defour of Vevay, Switzerland. Defour in 1801 returned with a group of Swiss settlers, who first settled in Kentucky, but when their vineyard failed there, moved on to the present site of Vevay--thus the origin of "Switzerland" County.

"Settlement of the Patriot area began in 1810 with the fertile bottom lands. In that year Judge McClure and others purchased the Egypt Bottom land. (Our research shows that the Mexico Bottom area was first purchased by Patrick Donahoe in 1804--1411.9 acres--and by Oliver Ormsby in 1806--1507.28 acres.)

"Elisha Wade purchased land between the bottom lands in 1812. At that time he lived with his family in Kentucky and came across the river to farm the land where Patriot is now located. He soon moved to the Indiana side, however, and in 1820 together with James Herrick laid out the town of Troy. Additions to the town were made by Joshua Hicks, Bela Herrick, and Martin R. Green. The surrounding area was rapidly settled, and by 1817-1820 virtually all the land had been taken.

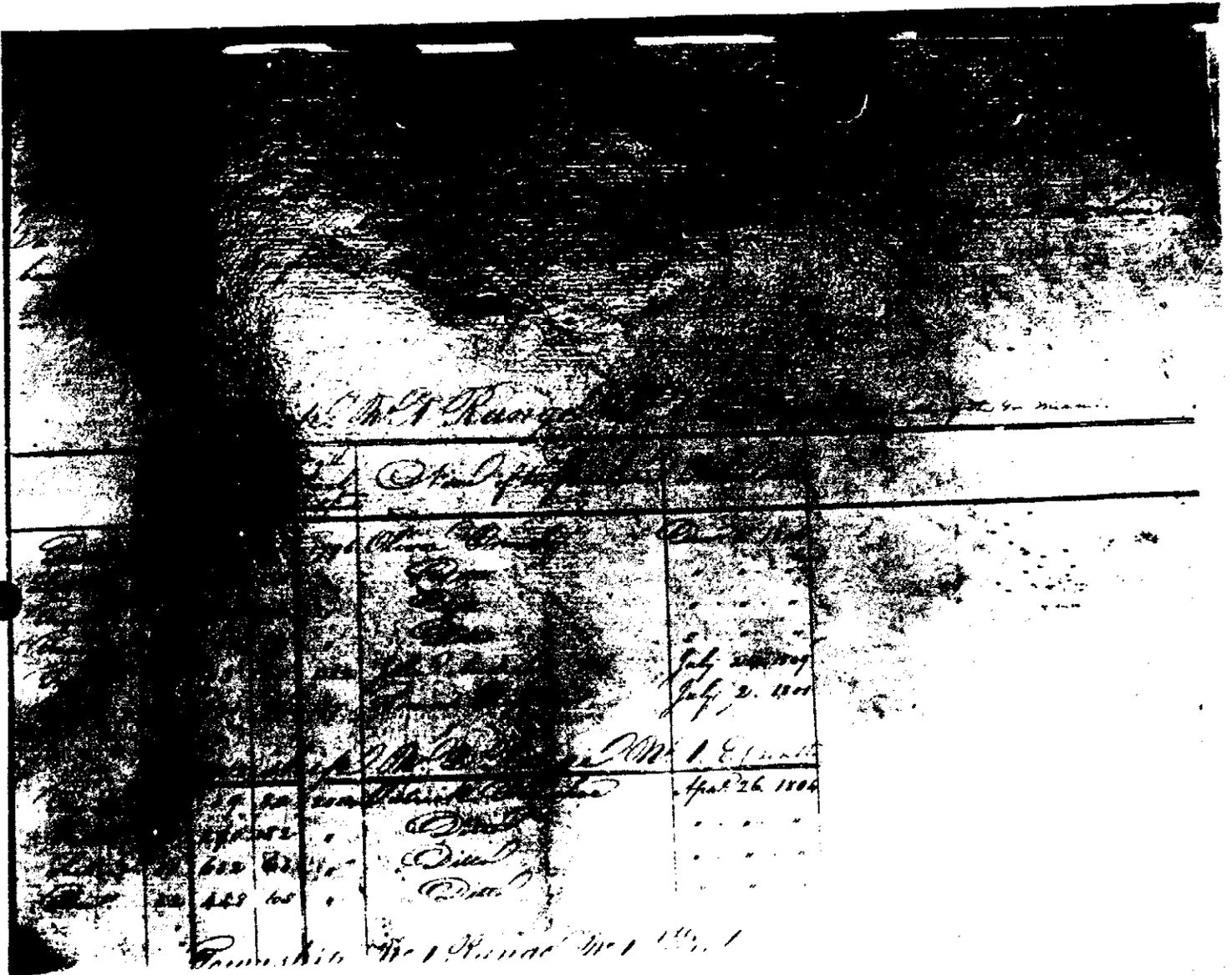
"The name Troy was changed to Patriot when it was found that there was more than one Troy on the river. The name Patriot was chosen to honor the 100th birthday of George Washington.

"The emergence of the steamboat was important to Patriot, as it was to all river towns. The first steamboat traveled down the Ohio in 1811, but the era of the riverboat really began with the first round trip by the Washington in 1816. The trip to New Orleans by flatboat had taken approximately four weeks, and walking or rowing back up another six. The steamboat could make the trip relatively quickly carrying from twenty-five to one hundred tons of cargo. The towns along the river thus became even more important as shipping points for the industries and farms in the surrounding areas.

"The first store was built in 1828 and others followed quickly. Patriot was soon a thriving, bustling distillery town drawing trade from all the surrounding country including Kentucky. By 1876 the town had a population of 550 people, two hotels, eight drygoods and grocery stores, a drugstore, two saloons, a gristmill, a distillery, a schoolhouse, and two churches. In addition to all this, there were other things: two tin shops, two wagon shops, three carpenters and joiners, two cooper shops, three blacksmith shops, two stone masons, two milliners and dressmakers, two lawyers, two physicians, three notaries public, a justice of the peace, a butcher, a baker, two job printing presses, and six secret societies.

"An event which occurred near Patriot in the vicinity of Egypt Bottom was the collision of the Louisville and the Cincinnati, the largest passenger steamers on the river. They collided at 12:00 p.m. on December 4, 1868, resulting in the drowning of seventy-four persons and \$300,000 worth of damage.

PLATE C



Record of Original Purchase by Oliver Ormsby
Switzerland County Recorder's Office
PE-1, Tract, Book & Land Grants 1801-1836

"Patriot continued to prosper into the early twentieth century; then a major fire in 1924 and the flood of 1937 dealt severe blows to the town. But the blow which had the greatest impact and created the greatest change was the passing of river transportation.

"The "37" flood was even more devastating to the town. The worst flood prior to this had occurred in 1884 and had crested at 71.7 feet, but had only forced a few people from their homes. The 1937 flood was in excess of eighty feet, and only seven dwellings, a church, and the school were above water. Of a population of 287, only fourteen lived beyond reach of the water. Many houses floated from their foundations and were overturned.

"The decline of the steamboat occurred gradually. Modern diesels and barges move considerably more freight than did earlier boats, but they did not stop at the small towns, and they did not carry passengers. Patriot is not so located as to be served by a railroad, and no major highways are close by. Being thus bypassed has helped to keep the physical appearance of the town much as it was at the turn of the century."²

Official deed records show that the land on which the Merit-Tandy House now stands was purchased from the Cincinnati Land Office on December 6, 1806, by Mr. Oliver Ormsby, a merchant from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Ormsby purchased a total of 1507.28 acres of uncleared land for \$5,000, which included Sections 5, 6, 7 & 8 of Township No. 1 Range 1-East and Section 18 being in Township No. 1 Range 1-West. (See Plate C)

Research indicates that Mr. Ormsby never used or lived on the land. However, he did sell Sections 6 and 7 on contract in 1825 to a John and Lear Redden, but they held on to it for only five years when it was returned at an 1830 sheriff sale foreclosure. Mr. Ormsby retained title to the land and it was dispensed to his heirs upon his death.

²"History of Patriot, Indiana, and Vicinity" (Cincinnati: Geotzman Associates, 1977).

Mr. Ormsby died intestate. A Power of Attorney was granted by a daughter, Josephine Ormsby, to Charles Bradford, a Pittsburgh lawyer, on September 23, 1841. This document indicates that she was to inherit a portion of the Coal Railroad and rights of way, and represented a portion of his holdings. Mr. Ormsby had eight children--Robert G.; Sarah M.; Sydney; Carolina; Oliveretta; Josephine; Oliver A.; and Mary M.

Upon Mr. Ormsby's death (see Plate 0), tract No. 6 was given to Josephine Ormsby and tract No. 7 was given to Sarah M. (Phillips). Both Josephine and Sarah sold their interests in the land in the summer of 1845 to a Mr. Eliphalet Case from Lowell, Massachusetts. Mr. Case relocated to Patriot, Indiana, without his wife, Luella, because it was said she was afraid of the Indians. Prior to his move, Mr. Case had been publisher of the Eastern Argus newspaper in Massachusetts, and at one time he was the editor of The Cincinnati Enquirer.

Mr. Case and a Mr. Sylvan Howe built a mill and distillery in the Patriot area with the capacity of 800 bushels per day for the mill and 2,700 gallons per day for the distillery. This business operated jointly until 1877 when Mr. Case sold his interest in the business. Some of the crops for the mill may have come from the land in question, for one historical account notes that the land was uncleared until it was purchased by Mr. Case. Mr. Case also was an unsuccessful candidate from Switzerland County District for the Indiana Senate.

Mr. Case retained the title to the land for only five years, from 1845 to 1850, when he sold it to a long-time resident of the area, Mr. Arthur Humphrey.

Mr. Humphrey, born in 1796, is reported to have walked from Corinth, Vermont, at the age of 18 years, to an area then known as "Bark Works" about six miles west of Patriot, Indiana. It is now called Quercus Grove. A farmer and stockman, Mr. Humphrey married Catherine Tripp of New York, and they had five children: Huldah; Elias; Cornelius; Lodinia; and Almira. Mrs. Humphrey was born in 1804 and died in 1856. Records show that Mr. Humphrey was County Commissioner of the Second District from 1845-1848.

The Switzerland County Assessor's Records indicate a sharp jump in the appraised value of the land between 1845 and 1858 from \$3,400 to \$6,900, and we surmise that the Merit-Tandy Home was built in 1850, right after Mr. Humphrey acquired the land. This can be supported by a few pieces of evidence: (1) Assessor's records indicating the 1850 date (see Plate E); and (2) A similar style, brick home less than a quarter-mile away was built, according to a 1969 booklet called An Architectural and Historical Survey of Switzerland County, by the Switzerland County Junior Historical Society, around the same time by one of the "Humphrey brothers, who built comfortable brick homes in Mexico Bottom."³

Prior to Mr. Arthur Humphrey's death in 1867, he sold the property (Ormsby tract No. 7 and 50 acres on the north end of W. ½ section 6, a total of 198 acres) to his son-in-law, James H. Merit. The house stands on this land.

³Frank Bye, Donna Cole and Janet Miller, An Architectural and Historical Survey of Switzerland County (Vevay: The Switzerland County Junior Historical Society, 1969).

Mr. Merit was born in Cherry Hill, Virginia, in 1820, to a James H. and Mary Hamilton Merit. He married Huldah Humphrey in 1844, and they had three children: Adolphus; Kate; and Jennie. A leader in the community, Mr. Merit was one of the founders of the Palmetto Presbyterian Church (he was an elder for 50 years) and a charter member of the Bell River Lodge No. 327 F. & A.M. He was involved in numerous dealings including farming, stock raising and flatboating. Our research indicates that he is the only longtime owner that ever lived in the Merit-Tandy Home.

In 1889, court records show that James Merit gave title to Tract No. 7 and 1/3 of Tract No. 6 to his wife, Huldah.

In 1891, the Merit family had financial problems, and the farm was foreclosed by the banker James B. Tandy and transferred after the sheriff sale to his son, Carroll S. Tandy, for \$11,840.60. Mr. James H. Merit died in 1905 at his daughter's (Mrs. Kate Jack) home near Patriot after being confined to bed because of a fall.⁴

Carroll S. Tandy was born in 1856 in Ghent, Kentucky, to James B. and Harriet Schenck Tandy. Harriet Schenck's father, Ulysses P., was a river boat owner known as the "Hay King," for his extensive commerce of flatboating produce products to the south.

⁴Vevay Reveille Enterprise Newspaper, 2, 9 February 1905.

Mr. Tandy was educated in Ghent; received his education in law at Bloomington College Law School (now Indiana University) and Louisville Law School from which he was graduated in 1881, and moved to Vevay in 1882 as president pro tempore of First National Bank--a bank founded by his grandfather. He also became director of the Union Furniture Company, again succeeding his grandfather. He had large land holdings in the area and was a member of the Baptist Church.

Mr. Tandy and his wife, Jennette Carpenter, had six daughters: Jennette; Elizabeth; Julia; Mary; Justine and Harriet. Neither Mr. Tandy nor any of his family ever lived on the farm or in the house. It was used exclusively as a tenant farm after changing hands into the Tandy family in 1891 until some 75 years later.

After the 1891 foreclosure sale, Mr. Carroll Tandy was also able to acquire Huldah H. Merit's share of the land via a sheriff's Revocation of Life Estate in 1896 and subsequent Quit Claim Deeds in 1899.

During many of the ownership years of Carroll S. Tandy, the farm and home were occupied by the Buddenberg family. A Mr. Fred Buddenberg, still living, moved into the Merit-Tandy House at the age of one year with his father and mother, and three brothers and a sister. It was 1897, and the family came to Patriot from Kentucky to tenant farm the Merit-Tandy property.

The following is an interview with Mr. Fred Buddenberg conducted by Norman O. Wagoner of Indianapolis Power & Light Company on February 23, 1982 in Greendale, Indiana, where Mr. Buddenberg now lives:

"Mr. Buddenberg's father was a German immigrant and had formerly lived in Kentucky. He came to the Merit-Tandy farmstead as a tenant farmer for Mr. Tandy. At that time, there were four houses on the property. Three of these houses were located along or near what is now called Upper Goose Creek Road. The fourth house is what is presently called the Merit-Tandy house, which is located along State Road 156.

"Mr. Buddenberg indicated that he was about four or five years old when the large barn with the cupola was built. This barn was built by Mr. Frank Buckingham and two other fellows. The foundation for the barn was constructed from Kentucky limestone. The stones for the foundation were obtained from a river in Kentucky upstream from the site. The stone was quarried and placed on a barge and barged down the Ohio River to a place near where Hilltop Concrete's Patriot Office is now located. At this point the stones were loaded onto horse drawn wagons and taken to the site for the barn. This process of unloading the stone from the barge and taking them to the site took four or five days. After the stones were at the site, three stone cutters from an unknown origin came and cut the stones for the foundation. After the foundation was installed, Mr. Frank Buckingham, an old bachelor carpenter, laid out the frame for the barn which was constructed of large oak posts and beams that were mortised and tenoned together. Once the frame was assembled on the ground, it was raised and tied together with tie beams. One of the interesting sidelights Mr. Buddenberg told was that there was one piece that did not fit when the frame was raised. Mr. Buckingham was so embarrassed by this that he hid this piece and didn't admit that he had made an error.

"Mr. Buddenberg stated that after the barn was built, a wood silo was constructed on the north end of the barn, but this wood silo was short lived because of the fact that some type of insect got in the redwood and attracted woodpeckers. The woodpeckers damaged the silo so extensively it had to be torn down. A concrete silo was constructed in its place in the 1920's, and a portion of the wood from the original silo, which was 16 feet in diameter by 32 feet tall, was used to build another silo at the south end of the barn. In about 1910, the large shed on the west side of the barn was constructed. This shed was used to shelter a herd of one hundred-plus head of registered shorthorn cattle.

"Also, Mr. Buddenberg indicated that the Merit-Tandy house was originally two stories, although he can only remember it being a one-story house with three rooms along the north side and three rooms along the south, and a hall in between. There was a kitchen attached to the back. He stated that when he was growing up his mother used the kitchen for cooking and the room adjacent to it as a dining area. The next room was used as a sitting room and the room to the farthest north-east corner was used as a parlor. The three rooms south of the hall were used as bedrooms. He stated that each of the six large rooms had a large fireplace in them. The large fireplaces had large grates which were removed, and the fireplaces were bricked up so that stoves could be used for heat. The house had a copper-tin roof which they kept painted, and this same roof is still in good condition today. He had no knowledge of when the present roof was placed on the house.

"Mr. Buddenberg also stated that at one time there was a large horse barn approximately 80 x 100 feet that stood south of the house and about 75 yards east of State Road 156. This large barn blew down on a windy day one summer and was never reconstructed.

"In 1919 Fred's father, Ernest Buddenberg, moved to a new house which had been built at the intersection of Upper Goose Creek Road and State Road 156. Fred's older brother, Everett, moved into the Merit-Tandy house and lived there until 1928.

"Fred and another brother, Jim, started a business in Patriot in the 1920's. The business was a garage and coal yard, and was located in one of the two flour mills that were in Patriot at that time. This was located on the southwest corner of the intersection of what is now State Road 156 and 250. The other flour mill was located on the south edge of Patriot. In addition to the flour mills, other industry in Patriot were a distillery and a brick factory. The brick factory was located on the north edge of Patriot on the bank of Wade Creek. In the late 1920's, Fred dissolved his partnership with his brother in the business in Patriot, and set up a distributorship for Gulf Oil in Southern Indiana.

"In 1931, he purchased a farm approximately 3/4 of a mile north of the present Merit-Tandy farmstead.

"Mr. Buddenberg also related several personal incidents. One was about his educational background. He started at the Palmetto School which was located at what is now the extreme northern portion of IPL's property. A church was also located nearby. Mr. Buddenberg went through the first seven grades at Palmetto School. Then his parents sent him to a Lutheran school in Aurora, Indiana. He only attended the school at Aurora for one year, then he returned to the Palmetto School for the eighth grade, his final year.

"Another incident that Mr. Buddenberg related was about storing ice in the ice house that is located behind the Merit-Tandy house. Mr. Buddenberg has been crippled since birth in his left leg. This resulted in him not being able to fulfill a career in baseball which he wanted to pursue very much. During one winter when they were transporting ice from one of the ponds that are located on the west end of the property, he was driving a wagon with a team of horses that got stuck in a rut. Mr. Buddenberg got off the wagon to persuade his team to pull the wagon from the rut, and in the process the team lurched forward and the wagon ran over Mr. Buddenberg's lame leg, injuring his foot. Mr. Buddenberg said his older brother told him to get back on the wagon and drive the team and wagon to the house. On arriving at the house, his father told him to go in and get warmed up. Once he arrived in the kitchen, where his mother was preparing the meal, his mother attempted to take his boot off of his foot, but it had swollen so much that the only way she could get it off was by cutting it off with a knife.

"Another incident which Mr. Buddenberg related was the fact that one of the three houses on the site was a log house and was occupied by a man named Jim Joyce. Mr. Joyce was a parolee who worked at various chores throughout the farm. Mr. Joyce had shot a man by the name of Harper in Vevay. This probably occurred prior to 1914."⁵

After the demise of Carroll S. Tandy on September 19, 1926, of apoplexy (stroke), Tracts Nos. 6 and 7 were willed to two of his daughters, Julia C. Tandy and Mary Tandy Sutton as tenants in common with no division of the tracts.

Julia C. Tandy and Mary Tandy Sutton operated the farm in shares with a Mr. Bruce O. Hutcherson, who is still living in the area. In 1937, Mary Tandy Sutton sold her interests in the farm to Julia Tandy, who continued to operate the farm on shares until 1967 when she died. Her estate willed Tracts 6 and 7 to her niece, Harriet Meng Tharp, daughter of Harriet Tandy Meng, her sister.

Mrs. Tharp was married to Marshall Tharp, and they had four daughters: Julia, Harriet; Elizabeth; and Justine Tandy. She never lived on the farm, and soon after acquiring the property, she attempted to sell it on contract to a David R. and Sharon C. Green of Cincinnati in 1969. But before much equity had been built up by the Green family, Mrs. Tharp was killed in an automobile accident on March 10, 1970, on the west edge of Vevay. Her executors for the estate sold the land and house to Charles and Louise Tillotson on December 11, 1970, and the Green family quit claimed their equity to the Tillotsons on the same date.

Mr. and Mrs. Tillotson, originally from Cincinnati, lived on the farm until purchased by Indianapolis Power & Light Company.

⁵Interview with Fred Buddenberg, Greendale, Indiana, 23 February 1982.

ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural Character: This house is an interesting example of a variation to the typical five-bay facade Greek Revival houses built in the 1840's and 1850's in the Patriot area.
2. Condition of House: The exterior of the house is in sound condition with the interior being of extremely poor condition due to the infestation of termites and water damage from leaks in the flat portion of the roof.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall Dimensions: The main structure or original part of the house measures 55 feet in the east-west direction and 51 feet in the north-south direction. Two recent additions (1970's) have been placed on the south addition and west sides of the main structure. The south addition consists of a trapezoidal-shaped room approximately 5 feet by 10 feet having windows on all three sides. The west addition consists of 7 foot by 17 foot wood deck (porch), 7 foot by 20 foot extension and a 20 foot by 21 foot extension.
2. Foundations: The foundations of the main structure are cut field stones and of the additions are hollow core concrete block.
3. Wall Construction, finish and color: The main structure is rust color, solid brick (12 inches thick) with common header band (bound course every eighth row). The south and west additions are wood frame construction with the south addition having a brick veneer exterior surface and the west addition having rough-sawn vertical wood siding.
4. Structural System: The exterior and interior walls of the main structure are 12-inch and 8-inch brick, respectively. The interior and exterior walls of the additions are 2 x 4 wood studs.
5. Chimneys: There are four chimneys in the main structure, one on the north and south exterior walls and one each on the common interior walls of the four west rooms.

B. Continued

6. Openings:

- a. Doorways and doors: All major exterior doors are full-length openings and have transoms. The original front and back (east and west) entrances have 7 light transoms and the north and south entrances have 3 light transoms.
- b. Windows and shutters: Wooden double-hung windows are in the original portion of the house. Those on the east and north elevation have six light over six light sash, and on the south elevation a two light sash over two light sash. At one time shutters were on the windows, but these were removed in the 1970's.

7. Roof:

- A. Shape, covering: The existing roof in the original portion of the house is a hip roof with a 16'-9" x 21'-3" low pitched section. The low pitched section is beset with a railing. The roof covering is metal. The original roof on the house was a low-pitched built-up roof.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor Plans:

- a. Basement: There is a cellar under the northwest room of the original portion of the house. The entrance to the cellar was from the alcove (porch) between the northwest and southwest rooms. The walls are cut stone. The east wall was corbeled to provide support for the fireplace in the kitchen.
- b. Ground Floor: The front (east) entrance opens into a wide hall, which extends to the west wall of the middle rooms. Doors from the hall provide access to the two rooms on both the north and south sides of the hall, as well as to the porch between the two west rooms. The east rooms both have a brick fireplace with a walnut mantel. On each side of the fireplaces, walnut cupboards have been built-in with the cupboards extending the full width of the room. In the north room the cabinets extend to a height of 8 feet. The interior walls are solid brick, 8-inches thick, and supported by cut stone foundations.

2. Flooring: The hall and the four most easterly rooms have hardwood floors on wood joists. The floors in two most westerly rooms and porch have particle board flooring.

3. Walls and Ceiling Finish: All the rooms except the center room on the north side of the hall has plaster applied directly to the solid brick walls, and on the ceiling plaster is applied to wood lath. In the center room the plaster is applied directly to the brick walls and plaster board. The ceiling in the center room has plaster applied to sheet rock. The sheet rock was used because this room was damaged by a fire in the 1950's. In the two most westerly rooms, extensive remodeling has been done in some areas. In some areas the plaster has been removed and the brick walls left exposed. In other areas the wall board has been attached and the walls painted. In the southwest room, a new ceiling has been installed with exposed hand hewn beams with wall board inlaid between the beams.
4. Doorways and Doors: Interior doors are 4 panel wood doors, except for the double doors at the west side of the hall, and those are wood with 15 -8" x 12" panes of glass.
5. Trim: All baseboards, door, and window trim, window sash and doors are painted, except the double doors and windows in the southwest room, and these are varnished to the natural wood color.
6. Hardware: Several different styles of hardware has been used throughout the house. The original interior doors have cast iron surface mounted door latches with porcelain door knobs. The doors in the center room on the north have mortised flush mounted latches with painted steel knobs. The double doors at the west end of the porch have mortised latches with plated escutcheons and door knobs.
7. Lighting: Light fixtures of several vintages are throughout the house. The oldest are the ones in the hall; the most easterly rooms and the center room on the south. The hall has wall mounted fixtures and the others have a suspended fixture at the center of the room. The center room on the north has a circular flourescent ceiling mounted fixture mounted at the center of the room. The southwest room has a ceiling mounted incandescent light. The northwest room has been extensively remodeled and modern-type fixtures installed.
8. Heating: The most westerly rooms and porch are heated by a propane gas hot air furnace and cooled by an air conditioner. The other rooms have flues for oil or wood type space heaters.

D. Site:

1. General Setting and Orientation: The farmstead is situated on the west side of the Dchio River in an area known as Mexico Bottom, upstream approximately 2 1/2 miles from Patriot, Indiana. It overlooks the river which is approximately 1500 feet to the east.

D. Continued

2. Out Buildings:

- a. The out buildings consist of many structures of which only two are a part of the National Register listing. These are the ice/smoke house and the large wood framed bank barn with a silo.
- b. The ice/smoke house was likely built at about the same time as the house and is circular in plan, and constructed of materials similar to those in the original part of the house, i.e., rust color bricks, and a metal conical roof. The only opening is a door which faces the southeast.
- c. The barn was built in the early 1900's and has a cut stone foundation. The frame is post and beam construction from rough sawn native timber. A lean-to shed was added to the west side in 1949. The west wall of the lean-to is constructed of concrete block to the mow level. The framing of the lean-to is made of planed pine. The roof is metal, similar to that on the main roof. The barn has two unusual features, one being the large rectangular cupola with a hip roof and the other being a gable over the large doors on the east side. A ramp to these doors allows entry to the hay loft level. The silo is a concrete stave type with a metal domed roof of mid-twentieth century vintage.

All other buildings are of the mid-twentieth century and have no historical significance.

MERIT-TANDY HOUSE

PATRIOT, INDIANA

This historical and architectural record of the Merit-Tandy Farmstead in Switzerland County, Indiana, has been undertaken as part of a memorandum agreement between:

Indianapolis Power & Light Company; and
Louisville District Army Corps of Engineers; and
Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer; and
The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation,
in accordance with Federal statutes and regulations prior to the issuance of the Army permit for the Patriot Generating Station Project.

The historical narrative was written under the direction of:

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IX. Bibliography - Referenced to Footnotes

1. p. 2 Peat, William D. Indiana Houses of the Nineteenth Century. Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Society, 1962.
2. p. 7 "History of Patriot, Indiana, and Vicinity." Cincinnati: Geotzman Associates, 1977.
3. p. 10 Bye, Frank; Cole, Donna; and Miller, Janet. An Architectural and Historical Survey of Switzerland County. Vevay: The Switzerland County Junior Historical Society, 1969.
4. p. 12 Vevay Reveille Enterprise Newspaper, 2, 9 February 1905.
5. p. 17 Buddenberg, Fred. Greendale, Indiana. Interview, 23, February 1982.