United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For HDBS use only

received

date entered

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

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1. Nai	ne			
historic	White Hall Found	ry		
and/or commo	n "Storm" Boutique			
	ation			
street & numb	er 102 South Jackso	nvîlle Street		not for publication
city, town	White Hall	vicinity of	congressional district	
state	Illinois code	012 county	Greene	code 061
3. Cla	ssification		v	
Category district XX building(s) structure site object	Ownership — public — public — XX private — both Public Acquisition — in process — being considered	Status occupied XX_ unoccupied work in progress Accessible yes: restricted yes: unrestricted no	Present Useagriculturecommercialeducationalentertainmentgovernmentindustrialmilitary	museum park private residence religious scientific transportation XX other: vacant
4. Owi	ner of Propert	ty		
name	Hazel C. and Char			
street & number	7 503 North Main St	reet		
ity, town	White Hall	vicinity of	state	<u> Illinois</u>
courthouse, reg	ation of Lega istry of deeds, etc. Greene Town Square	County Courtho	use, Recorder o	f Deeds
ity, town	Carrollton		state	Illinois
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Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Built in 1877 and measuring approximately 40' x 70', the White Hall Foundry is a one story masonry building. Bricks, laid in common bond method, were made and fired on the premises.

The entranceway is composed of an elliptical fan light over a door and side lights with wood trim. The door contains nine lights; the side lights contain six lights each. Other doors, one each on the north and south sides and two on the east side, are distinguished from windows by elliptical fan lights.

A shed roof, which drops gradually (18' from west to 15' on the east), is concealed on the exterior by a corbelled cornice of brick capped with concrete. Sash windows are six over six lights with wood trim and sills. Segmental arches are featured on all windows--those on the south side are less decorative than those on the east and north sides and those on the facade.

The building consists of two main rooms connected by a semi-circular archway (approximately 7'8" x 9'8"). The ceiling in the west room is supported by an inverted Kingpost truss. According to Professor Alan Laing of the University of Illinois, it is rare to find this type of truss dating from this period in such good condition. Ornamental tie rod ends on the exterior are not original to the building, but have been placed in the correct locations.

In 1907, the building was leased to W. W. Evans for a business that included auto sales and general repair work. At that time the following alterations were made: sections of supporting posts were removed and replaced with iron rods and strap irons, a window on the south side was removed to make way for a double door, a door in the west portion of the north side was converted to a window, a door and one window in the east portion of the north side were removed for a double door, and a retaining wall was built from the double door to the northeast corner of the building. The furnace and stack were removed from the south side of the structure at that time.

Between 1917 and 1959 the building was rented for a variety of purposes. Various alterations undertaken during those years include: the construction of interior partitions and a false ceiling; the bricking in of all archways--entrance, interior, and east side; and the removal of one window and a door on the east side to accommodate a sliding door (approximately 12' x 13').

In 1959, the building was purchased by G. L. Rose and again used as rental property. Between 1959 and 1971 the building was "painted" with white creosote but was not structurally altered any further.

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Restoration began in 1971 when the deteriorated building was purchased by its present owners. Sources for restoration included newspaper articles; historical photographs dating from 1905, 1907, 1911, and 1959; and frequent consultation with W. W. Evans, who began working with the Winn Brothers in 1896.

Thus, the building has been restored to its "period of significance" -- 1877-1905 -- with these exceptions: one window and a door were added on the north portion of the east side (originally an archway), the east wall come water problems, and a door and one window on the north side (1905 photograph) have been replaced with two windows. These modifications served the owners in the adaptive reuse of the building and do not detract from its character.

8. Significance

1600–1699 1700–1799 _X 1800–1899	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric agriculture architecture art commerce communications	 community planning conservation economics education engineering exploration/settlement industry 	landscape architecture law literature music philosophy politics/government	science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation
Specific dates	1877	Invention Builder/Architect		other (specify)

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The White Hall Foundry is significant architecturally as an example of the small scale, brick, 19th century industrial building found throughout Illinois. It is finer than most in that the building's ornamentation exhibits unusual craftsmanship. In particular, window treatment and fan lights--elements borrowed from domestic architecture--are not usually applied to such a modest industrial facility. The cornice treatment further distinguishes this building from others of its type.

The building's truss system is also significant. White Hall's Foundry is one of several surviving structures in a broad area of the Midwest which exemplifies an inverted Kingpost truss system. According to Professor Alan Laing at the University of Illinois, it is rare to find this type of truss dating from this period in such good condition.

Representative of a period significant to the growth of the region, the foundry was the manufacturing and distribution point for cast iron building elements used in White Hall and the surrounding area.

The White Hall Foundry is listed in the interim reports of both the Illinois Historic Landmarks Survey and the Illinois Historic Structures Survey for Greene County.

HISTORY

Built in 1877 for George W. and Richard B. Winn, prominent White Hall businessmen, the White Hall Foundry was equipped for all grades of casting including stove grates, iron beams, and decorative columns. In connection with their foundry, the Winn Brothers operated a blacksmith shop.

The business changed hands several times but remained in the Winn family until 1959. In 1907 the foundry was rented to W. W. Evans an employee of the Winns. Evans used the building as a Hupmobile auto sales/garage and a plumbing/heating shop.

From 1917 to 1959 the building was rented for a variety of uses including auto repair and laundry, sales and service of farm equipment and a filling station.

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After seventy-two years of one family ownership, the building was sold in 1959 to G. L. Rose, an auto parts and oil/gasoline distributor. Rose continued to rent the building to W. O. Westnedge (who had rented the building from the Winn family) for use as an auto repair shop and filling station. From 1967 to 1971 the building was used for storage and as a filling station.

In 1971 the present owners purchased the White Hall Foundry and began restoration. From 1971 through 1979 the building was used for a boutique and restaurant. At present, the structure is not in use.

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10. Geographica	l Data		
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List all states and counties for pro		v	ty boundaries code
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- "The History of Greene and Jersey County, Illinois, 1885", Springfield, Illinois Continental Historical Co., printed by The Daily Eye Book Printing House, Roodhouse, Illinois.
- Tony B. Wrenn and Elizabeth D. Milloy, America's Forgotten Architecture, The National Trust for Historic Preservation in the United States, 1976, Pantheon Books (Division of Random House, Inc.)
- "White Hall Locals, A Nice Sight", White Hall Register, Vol. 1X No.8, October 6, 1877.
- "White Hall Machine Works" White Hall Register, Vol. XXX No. 34, April 14, 1899.
- "Centennial Edition--History of Greene Couty", White Hall Register, Vol. No. 50, June 24, 1932.
- "Greater White Hall or The Past, Present and Future of a Wide-Awake Town", April 1905, compiled and published by J. D. Rowe.
- Interview -- Alan Laing, Professor Emeritus, Department of Architecture, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois, January 21, 1980.
- Interviews -- W. W. Evans, July 5 throught October 10, 1971.

White Hall Locals

A nice sight

A number of ladies and gentlemen the other night at White Hall watched through till midnight the process at Winn's shop, of moulding, smelting and casting the handsome iron columns for Oswald's new building, each process in its' way being perfectly wonderful and delightful. The care and patience in getting the mould in the boxes all right, the thunder and lightning a melting the iron, the startling process of the "cast" were each admired with the "oh isn't it beautiful". But the most beautiful sight was the hundreds of blue and purple gas tapers that jetted out through the sand on all sides, and reminded one of a soul and body boxed up in purgatory, and slowly purging away the dark sins of this world. After the cooling process which took up all the balance of the night, the boxes were opened and out rolled the graceful fresh column, 14 feet high, with base and capital and fluted as if done by the sculptor's chisel. The turning over of a pot of melted iron, burning one man's foot a little, the burning of a trussel, the breaking of a bank, etc. were all the accidents, though it frequently occurs that a fellow standing around in the way gets a bootful. After watching the whole process from first to last, we were led to wonder what a majestic thing an iron column was, in its conception and creation and to regret that anybody should so far forget as to misuse such by "hanging around," them on a drunk. Mr. Cutler, as moulder, who has been here only a short time; Mr. Martin, to handle the furnace and iron; Billy Winn at the engine, and Boss George to pass around and give orders; all know their business. Most of Mr. Winn's patterns are executed by Mr. Logan Morgan, one of Whitehall's best known mechanics.

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE ____

ILLINOIS

Date Entered

MAY 28 1980

Name

Location

Post House

Alton

Madison County

White Hall Foundry

White Hall Greene County

Also Notified

Honorable Charles H. Percy Honorable Adlai E. Stevenson Honorable Paul Findley

For further information, please call the National Register at (202)343-6401.