

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Illinois	
COUNTY: White	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME  
COMMON  
Ratcliff Inn  
AND OR HISTORIC:  
Ratcliff Inn

2. LOCATION  
STREET AND NUMBER:  
214 E. Main Street  
CITY OR TOWN:  
Carmi  
STATE: Illinois CODE: 17 COUNTY: White CODE: 193

3. CLASSIFICATION

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

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY  
OWNER'S NAME:  
White County Historical Society  
STREET AND NUMBER:  
216 E. Main Street  
CITY OR TOWN:  
Carmi  
STATE: Illinois CODE: 17

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION  
LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION:  
White County Courthouse  
STREET AND NUMBER:  
CITY OR TOWN:  
Carmi  
STATE: Illinois CODE: 17

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS  
TITLE OF SURVEY:  
DATE OF SURVEY:  Federal  State  County  Local  
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
STREET AND NUMBER:  
CITY OR TOWN:  
STATE:

1st Congressional District  
Congressman: Kenneth Gray  
STATE  
CITY  
FOR NPS USE ONLY

## 7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Erected in 1808 by James Ratcliff, one of the founders of White County and Carmi. Ratcliff was Carmi's first postmaster; White County's first county clerk; father-in-law of U.S. Senator John M. Robinson and State Senator Edwin B. Webb, Whig nominee for Governor of Illinois in 1852 and suitor of Mary Todd.

Structure was stage-coach stop and pioneer inn, where Lincoln lodged in 1840. Purchased and restored by the White County Historical Society in 1960.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1828

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Ratcliff Inn at Carmi is worthy of National Register nomination because it is an excellent example of the type of stage coach inns that existed in the early and middle 1800's in southern Illinois. It is a good example of federal style architecture.

The building has also played an important role in state and national politics.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Smith, George Washington, When Lincoln Came to Egypt,  
(Herrin, Illinois: Trovillion Private Press, 1940), p. 61.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY						O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES					
CORNER	LATITUDE			LONGITUDE			LATITUDE			LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	0	.	"	0	.	"	0	.	"	0	.	"
NE	0	.	"	0	.	"	0	.	"	0	.	"
SE	0	.	"	0	.	"	0	.	"	0	.	"
SW	0	.	"	0	.	"	0	.	"	0	.	"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: .5

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARY:

STATE:	CODE:	COUNTY:
STATE:	CODE:	COUNTY:
STATE:	CODE:	COUNTY:
STATE:	CODE:	COUNTY:

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: J. Robert Smith

ORGANIZATION: White County Historical Society

STREET AND NUMBER: 116 East Main Street

CITY: Carmi

STATE: Illinois

DATE: 87

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

*Bankhausen*

SLO

Sept. 21, 1972

ILLINOIS NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date:

ATTEN:

Keeper of The National Register

Date:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE      ILLINOIS

Date Entered      JUN 4 1973

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
The Little Brick House	Vandalia Fayette County
Ratcliff Inn	Carmi White County

**COPY OF CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.**

Also Notified

Hon. Charles H. Percy  
Hon. Adlai E. Stevenson, III  
Hon. Melvin Price  
Hon. Edward Madigan