

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

## 1. Name of Property

historic name Franklin Senior High School  
other names/site number Alva Neal Community Office Building.

## 2. Location

street & number 550 E. Jefferson Street

n/a
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 not for publication  
city or town Franklin

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 vicinity  
state Indiana code IN county Johnson code 081 zip code 46131

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,  
I hereby certify that this x nomination    request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.  
In my opinion, the property x meets    does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:  
   national    statewide   x local

Signature of certifying official/Title \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Indiana DNR – Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology  
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property    meets    does not meet the National Register criteria.  
Signature of commenting official \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Title \_\_\_\_\_ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

## 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:  
   entered in the National Register    determined eligible for the National Register  
   determined not eligible for the National Register    removed from the National Register  
   other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Action \_\_\_\_\_

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**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

**Category of Property**  
(Check only **one** box.)

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		<b>Total</b>

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

Indiana's Public, Common and High Schools

N/A

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Education: schools

Commerce/Trade: professional

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Late 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> Century Revivals: Italian Renaissance

foundation: Brick  
walls: Brick  
roof: Asphalt  
other: Stone: limestone

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### **Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

#### **Summary Paragraph**

Indianapolis architects McGuire & Shook designed the three-story, red brick Franklin Senior High School building. Constructed in 1938 and partially funded with a Public Works Administration grant, the building was an “annex” to the town’s old school. A covered walkway connected the two school buildings—a schema used in more than one PWA-funded project in Indiana in these years—with the new building becoming the Senior High and the old building housing the junior high and the gymnasium used by both junior and senior high. The Senior High School building is a simple design with some Renaissance Revival embellishments, such as an arched limestone entry and limestone keystones. The building retains high integrity. The old junior high school building and the covered walkway connecting it to the newer Senior High School building were demolished in 1978, the opening where the walkway had connected to the Senior High School building was closed and the rear wall of the building was re-bricked at that time. Aside from this change, the school looks much as it did when constructed on both inside and out. It is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C for highly intact architecture and under Criterion A for its association with the New Deal public funding of school building construction, as well as its association with the history of secondary education in Franklin, Johnson County, Indiana.

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### **Narrative Description**

The primary façade of the three-story Franklin Senior High School faces Hurricane Street, but the building’s address is 550 East Jefferson Street. The former school is just east of downtown Franklin and at the edge of a residential area. An asphalt parking lot is directly east of the school building and Hurricane Creek is directly east of the parking lot. Across the bridge over Hurricane Creek, and on the opposite side of Jefferson Street, is the campus of Franklin College. The high school building has a small-town environment.

The L-shaped Franklin Senior High School’s eight-bay primary façade faces Hurricane Street. This facade rises from a limestone foundation to a second, wide course of limestone, and then to brick walls (Photo 0001). The following description of the façade begins at the southernmost bay and continues to the northernmost, with the first bay being the southernmost one. The first bay has no opening on the first floor. The building rises from limestone foundation to a limestone cornerstone, which is engraved with the date, “1938” (Photo 0002). Above the corner stone, the first brick course is recessed and laid in alternating headers and stretchers. Above this course, the wall is laid in running bond for several courses, then there is a recessed alternating bond course beneath a projecting stretcher course. This decorative pattern is repeated four times until the brick wall reaches a limestone beltline. Above the beltline the brick wall continues with five stretcher courses between single courses of alternating headers and stretchers. A pair of wooden windows breaks the brick wall at the second story. Each window in this pair is a double-hung sash with one light over one light. All other windows on this façade are the same style. There is a single limestone sill beneath both windows in this pair. A brick soldier course forms the lintel, with a limestone keystone in the center of the lintel. The brick wall rises above this paired window to the third story where the wall is broken by another paired window configured identically. The sill of the third-story window is the same style and material as found in the other window. The lintel of this window pair is formed by a limestone fascia beneath a projecting wooden boxed cornice. Above the cornice, the brick parapet wall rises for a few courses to a limestone coping.

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North of the first bay, the second bay projects slightly, and on the first story and it projects further and holds the entry door (Photo 0003). The projecting entry bay is brick with a limestone archivolte arched opening in the center. A limestone keystone tops the arch. Above the keystone a projecting limestone cornice belts the entry bay. Above the limestone cornice, the projecting entry rises a few brick courses and then is topped with a limestone coping. The entry within the projecting bay holds double doors with a paneled bottom and single square light in each door. The doors are original. Above the door is a stone tablet inscribed "Franklin Senior High School." A fifteen-light arched transom fills the opening above the tablet. The perpendicular side walls within the projecting entry are brick. Above this projecting entry bay the brick wall rises to a paired set of short one-over-one-light, double-hung sash windows. Above this window pair there is no lintel, but the brick wall is laid in a diaperwork pattern created with projecting and recessed bricks. Above this diaperwork section, at the third-story level, is another paired set of short windows identical to those on the second story. The sills of both sets of windows are limestone. The lintel of the second-story window is formed by the limestone fascia beneath the boxed wooden cornice.

The next six bays are identical with paired double-hung, one-over-one light windows in each bay and at each floor. The wall is laid in bonds identical to the first bay with one course of recessed alternating bond rising to running bond, rising to a recessed course of alternating bond, beneath a projecting line of brick. This repeats until the wall reaches the first limestone beltline. All the windows have limestone sills, the first story lintels are formed by the first limestone beltline. The second story windows have soldier-course lintels with limestone keystones. Third story window lintels are formed by the limestone fascia beneath the cornice.

Around the corner to the east, the first 10 feet or so of the northern façade is clad in the same pattern, styles and materials as the western façade wall (Photo 0004). There are no windows on this façade and no openings in this first section. Behind (to the east) of this original brick is a newer brick wall, installed when the original connecting walkway to the old Alva Neal School and the old school itself were demolished in 1978.<sup>1</sup> This brick is a slightly different color and unadorned save for a soldier course beltline which matches the location of the limestone beltline on the original portion of the wall on this facade. At the center of this façade are three metal doors opening out to a partially enclosed metal fire escape. East of the fire escape the three-story wall drops down to a one story section where it attaches to the exterior wall of the one-story original "boiler room."<sup>2</sup> This one-story part of the original building has limestone foundation and limestone second course rising to brick walls and then to a limestone coping. Two original openings, flanking the chimney stack, have been bricked closed (Photo 0005). The central (to this one-story section) round, brick chimney rises three stories and is belted with turnbuckles. Concrete covers wall sections on either side of the chimney between the chimney and the brick. A short arched, iron door in the base of the chimney between the concreted wall sections allows access for cleaning. This door is embossed: "Built by J. M. Cutshall & Sons \*\*\* Brazil Indiana."

Around the corner on the western façade, beginning at the northern corner, the one-story boiler room has two small top-hinged iron doors at eye level (Photo 0006). A pedestrian door, with a single-panel bottom and four-lights, is located near the southern edge of the one-story boiler room section. Behind the one-story section, the three-story school building has four bays on this façade, which faces the parking lot next to the building. The first story of the first three bays is behind the boiler room. The second and third stories of these first three bays are configured with paired double-hung, one-over-one light windows. The window sills are limestone but there are no lintels on the second story. The third story lintels are formed by a wide wooden cornice (not limestone as on the primary facades) beneath a metal gutter.

To the south of the one story boiler room section, the fourth bay of the façade begins with concrete foundation, rather than limestone. The fourth bay has two pairs of windows on the first story with the tall concrete foundation forming the sills and the limestone beltline forming the lintels. Above the first story, there is one pair of short double-hung windows on the second story centered between the two bays; another identical window is placed at the third story level centered between the two bays.

The north wall of the east wing of the school forms an "L" shaped court around the boiler section. The projecting wall has two bays on the north-facing side, perpendicular to the eastern wall of the main portion of the building. There is a concrete foundation rising to brick wall. The first bay in this north-facing side has paired windows on the ground floor identical to

<sup>1</sup> "You can see clearly now," *Franklin Daily Journal*, March 29, 1978, 3; See Photo 0025 of this nomination for the relationship between the two buildings circa 1960, before the Alva Neal School was demolished.

<sup>2</sup> "Specifications, drawn for Large Fireproof Addition, Sent to PWA," *Franklin Evening Star*, April 3, 1937, 1,5.

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other windows in the building. Unlike the eastern-facing wall previously described, which has no decorative brick courses, this wall of the wing has lines of recessed and projecting courses dividing courses of brick bond as seen on the western façade. The limestone beltline forms the lintel of the first-story window pair. On the second story is a tripled window. Each section of the window is a double-hung sash with one-over-one lights. There is no sill or lintel with this tripled window. The third story window is also tripled and has no sill; the lintel is formed by the wide wooden cornice. The final bay in this side of the wing has a recessed wooden pedestrian door on the first story. The opening has a soldier course lintel. The second story holds a pair of double-hung windows with limestone sill and no lintel. The third story holds a pair of double-hung windows with limestone sill and the wooden cornice board serves as the lintel. In the easternmost section of this wall, the limestone fascia and wooden boxed cornice resume at the top of the wall. The eastern wall of this wing rises from a concrete foundation to bricks laid in the same pattern as on the western façade (Photo 0007). There is a slightly recessed double-door entry in the center of this wing on the first floor. The doors are aluminum and probably modern replacements. Above the door at the second story there is a pair of double-hung sash windows, each with one light over one light. Matching pairs of windows are placed above this one at the level of the interior stair landing between the second and third floors, and at the third story. South of this third story window there is another paired window in the southernmost bay of this façade.

Finally, the southern façade has seven bays (Photo 0008). This façade has limestone rising to the brick wall section with the projecting and recessed brick courses, then the limestone beltline, then brick walls to limestone fascia, and then wooden boxed cornice. All the windows are configured in pairs on this façade. All windows but one have limestone sills on the second and third stories and soldier course lintels with limestone keystones on the second story. The center window in the third story is shorter than other windows on this façade and it is the only third-story window on the building that has a soldier course lintel with a limestone keystone. There is a discoloration of the brick above the first-story window of the third bay on this façade. According to Ric Schlosser of the Johnson County Soil and Water District, which owns the building, at some point in the school's history there was a greenhouse window attached to the façade at this location. Where the decorative hipped roof over this window was against the brick wall of the building it has left a whitish stain, and remnants of the rubber gasket seal between wall and former window are also visible at this location. This greenhouse window was not original to the building. There are a few other places on each façade where the brick has been replaced in rectangular-shaped areas. The eastern, western and southern facades have one or two of these rectangular bricked areas aligned over both a first-story and a second-story window on each of the facades. These areas previously held air-return vents. A few of these vents were also previously in the limestone at the base of the exterior walls. Where those vents had been there are now new limestone blocks.

In front of the southern façade a wooden sign gives the building's current name, "Alva Neal Community Office Building," and lists the various offices located within.

The building's roof is clad in rubber sheet roofing.

### ***Interior***

The interior of the Franklin Senior High School building is intact. Generally speaking architectural details, such as original woodwork, chalkboards and supply closet remain in the rooms. Original interior doors remain. Original display cabinets remain in the halls and original lockers remain in the third-floor halls. The stairway balustrades are original. Original built-ins and cabinetry remain in many classrooms. The second floor hall retains original asbestos floor tile throughout. The third-floor classrooms retain original hardwood floors, although some are covered in carpet. The walls and ceilings retain original plaster and/or glazed brick. Specific elements and variations from the original are noted below along with the general description of the interior.

The original entry faced west toward Hurricane Street. Stepping into the building from the current entry, off the parking lot to the east, the building evokes the feeling of a first day of high school circa 1940. Today, the floor of the entry vestibule is carpeted. A major flood in 2008 invaded the first floor, which resulted in the removal of original asbestos tile that covered the floor and the installation of carpet throughout much of the first floor. Sand-colored glazed brick covers the walls from floor to about 5 feet high; above the tile, the walls and ceiling are plaster, which is painted white. The stairway is within the vestibule to the right (north) and the hallway into the first floor is straight ahead (Photo 0009).

There is a set of wide double doors ahead. The doors each have six square lights over a single panel bottom. Sidelights each have six rectangular lights over a paneled bottom. A four-light transom is above each sidelight and a twelve-light transom is above the doors. The floor in the hallway has gray carpet. The walls in the hallway are identical to those in the

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vestibule with tile rising to plaster to a plaster ceiling; exposed pipework beneath the ceiling is painted white (Photo 0010). Proceeding westward within the hall, there is a double door to the left (south). Each door here and elsewhere throughout the building has a square paneled base and six lights. There is a six-light transom above this pair of doors. Proceeding down the hall, there is a single door to the right (north) with a three-light transom, then further, a set of double doors with six-light transoms on the left (south). The door on the north side of the hall opens into the garage and a small storage area. The first door on the south side opens to a large room, which is unused currently. A portion of the large room has been walled off to make a smaller space to the southwest; a raised platform sits against the eastern wall. Original chalkboards and built-in display cabinets behind sliding glass doors line one wall of this room. Between this room and the one to the west is an interior room with an original closet. Both the eastern and western rooms have access to this interior closet room. The furthest west room on the south side of the hall was originally the science lab (Photo 0011). It retains a wall-length built-in cabinet with sliding glass doors along the northern wall. These cabinets are shown in a 1961 Franklin Senior High yearbook photo.<sup>3</sup> The room also retains original chalkboards.

Back in the hall and proceeding westward, there is another set of wide double-entry doors, with transoms and sidelights, marking the beginning of the vestibule of the original entrance to the building facing west onto Hurricane Street. This vestibule is configured identically to the eastern one, but retains its original terrazzo floors. Across from this vestibule, the opposite wall of the hall curves with a rounded corner to the north. There is a single, six-light door with three-light transom to the left (west); this door opens into a small room that may have once been an office space. On the eastern wall, just north of the rounded corner, are new restrooms. Continuing north down the hall, on the west side is another original single door with transom opening into a large classroom area, which has been subdivided into two rooms with a temporary wall and door between the two. Further north down the hall, there is another original door to this room opening off the hall. On the east side of the hall, there is a door to the old boiler room. This door opens to a short staircase of four or five steps (Photo 0012). This space has brick exterior walls with a concrete floor and a concrete block fire wall dividing it into two rooms. Sliding metal doors attached to this concrete block wall allow access to the old coal storage area to the east. Back in the hall, and further north on the west side, is another single original door with transom. The room behind this door has been subdivided into three sections with three-quarter-height walls. There are still original chalkboards on the walls. Finally, back in the hall after this last interior door, the hall continues to the north; one side of the hall floor rises as a ramp to an exterior metal door at the end.

The second floor description begins at the east side of the building in the eastern stairwell. Beginning at the first floor and traveling to the second and then third floors, the stairs treads are carpeted. The balustrade has square metal balusters. The handrail is wooden with a curved top and square base (Photo 0013). At several locations, metal supports angle out from beneath the handrail and then angle back in and attach to the stringer with bolts to help support the rail. Newel posts at each landing are simple square metal posts with pyramidal tops. There are wooden handrails attached to the walls on the opposite side of the metal balustrade. The second story stairwell vestibule opens to the hall through wide double doors configured identically to those on the first floor (Photo 0014).

The floor of the second-floor hall is covered in 12-inch-square asbestos tiles, dark brown tiles cover the entire floor save for the outside edge, which is framed one-tile wide in black asbestos tile. The walls are plaster from floor to ceiling (with no glazed brick); a wooden picture rail is about five feet above the floor and extends down both sides of the hall, probably marking the former location of lockers. The ceiling is plaster and both walls and ceiling are painted white. There is no exposed ductwork in the hall. Note: unlike the first floor, which was tiled in asbestos tile, the second and third floor halls had asbestos tile but the classrooms originally had hardwood floors. Today, the hardwood floor is exposed in some rooms on the second and third stories, but has carpet laid over it in others.

There is a single original door with transom on the north side of the hall, opening into one large room currently used as a meeting room. Like all the former classrooms this one retains original chalkboards. On the south side of the hall there are two display shelves recessed into the wall. The bottom shelf extends outward to form a small writing surface. East of these shelves, there is another single original door with transom, which opens into another large open classroom with original chalkboards. The eastern wall of this room has a door to a smaller internal room, which may be an original small office space.

Back in the hallway, the next door is on the north side and opens into a new women's restroom. Immediately west of this door, the wall is recessed to hold a drinking fountain and immediately west of this recessed area on the north side of the

<sup>3</sup> Franklin Senior High School, *The Kite*, 1961. Franklin Community Library, Franklin, Indiana.

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hall, there is an original Dutch door with one panel on top and one panel on the bottom. Currently, this door opens into a small storage room, which was previously the restroom. The floor in this room retains the original restroom terrazzo finish. On the other side of the hall is another single original door with transom. This door opens into a large space subdivided into two or three offices, which are now used by the Johnson County Soil and Water Conservation District. This was originally office space for the school although some of the wall subdivisions are new. Back in the hall, there is a glass-front display case framed in wood with a brass rail in front of it on the southern wall (Photo 0015). West of the display case is another original single door, which opens back into the large, divided office space of the Johnson County Soil and Water Conservation District. Inside the office space and directly west of the door there is an original room-sized safe recessed into the wall. Directly west of the safe is another office. Although the floor in the office is carpeted, the safe floor retains its asbestos tile flooring.

At the western end of the hall, there is another set of wide double doors identical to those at the eastern end. Across from these doors the wall has a round corner where the hall turns to the north. On the round corner there is a bronze plaque commemorating those from Franklin High School who served in World War II (Photo 0016). Around the curve to the north of this plaque, there is another glass-front display case on the eastern wall of the hallway. It is identical to the one on the southern wall described above. North of this case, there is a single door opening into the new men's restroom. On the western wall, there are two single original doors with transoms opening into two separate rooms. The room behind the first door has been reconfigured with a new wall that creates a narrow interior vestibule area. The eastern wall of this interior vestibule area retains original chalkboards and original double-paneled doors which open into an original supplies closet (Photo 0017). There is hardwood flooring on the floor. The new wall, which is planned to be removed in 2011, is straight ahead as you enter the room. It has wood paneling on the bottom third. There are two door openings in this new wall that allow access to a larger room behind it. There is exposed duct work beneath the ceiling in this room.

Back in the hall, the original door to the north on the western wall, opens into another large room, which has been divided along its western wall into two smaller offices. The eastern and northern walls of this space retain original chalkboards and a double-door supplies closet similar to the one in the room south of it. Currently this room is used as storage. There is exposed ductwork beneath the ceiling, and carpet on the floors. Across the hall, there is a single original door with transom opening into one large classroom. The eastern and southern walls of this room retain original chalk boards. The floor is carpeted. A second entry to this room from the hall is to the north and across the hall from this door is another single original door with transom that is a second entry into the room on the western wall described in the previous paragraph. At the end of the hall is a metal exterior door at the north end of the building. This door currently leads to an exterior fire escape which has replaced the original covered walkway that once spanned the distance between this Senior High building and the Alva Neal School.

The third floor description begins at the eastern stairwell, which is identical to the second-floor stairwell. The wide double-door entry from the vestibule into the hall is slightly different from those on the first and second floors. On the third floor, there is a set of double doors to the south within the opening and a wide sidelight with twelve lights over a square wood paneled base on the north side of the doors. Entering the hall, metal lockers painted white line both walls up to the height of the picture rail. There is a square skylight in the ceiling at about the middle of the hall. (Photo 0018) The floor is carpeted in gray carpet. There is a single original door with transom on the right (north) and a single original door with transom on the left (south). The door on the north opens into a large classroom with chalkboards on the east and west walls. This room has a large nine-rectangular-lights skylight framed in wood (Photo 0019). Carsiding has been used to form a three-quarter height anteroom within the larger space. There is gray carpet on the floor. Wood panel doors with rectangular screens in the bottom panels open into a storage area on the western wall.

Across the hall, the south door opens into one large room which was the former Home Economics department of the school. Within this room, original wooden kitchen cabinets with six-light doors on the upper cabinets line the northern wall fitting into a recess just east of a chalkboard (Photo 0020). The eastern wall has wooden base cabinets beneath the window. The southern wall has wooden base cabinets (which appear to be a newer vintage, circa 1950) perpendicular to the wall beneath the windows. The floor is wooden; the walls are plaster painted a pale pink, rising to a white plaster ceiling. There are original suspended light fixtures and there is visible duct work beneath the ceiling. There is an original French door in the western wall of this room, which opens into a smaller room. This smaller room has an original fireplace with a white tile surround on the northern wall, flanked by built-in book shelves (Photo 0021). The floor is carpeted. There is another set of French doors on the western wall of this room. These doors open into another large classroom. There are original chalkboards on the walls of this classroom, the floor is carpeted. There are what may be original light fixtures hanging from the ceiling and there is visible duct work beneath the ceiling (Photo 0022).

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Exiting this room through a single original door with a transom, one enters the hallway at the western end just in front of the stairwell vestibule. To the right (east) there is an original recessed display case with glass front in the wall. To the left (west), is the stairwell. The doors at the vestibule are identical to those at the other third-floor vestibule. The opposite wall curves to the north. Just north of the curve there is a recessed display case with glass front. There is a square skylight in the ceiling at about the center of the hall. To the right of this case on the eastern wall there is a single original paneled door with a rectangular screen in the bottom panel. Behind this door is access to the display case and to storage space. Across the hall, on the western wall is a single original door with transom opening into a classroom which has been divided into two spaces with a new wall to the west. The first room's floor has gray carpet, the walls are plaster; there are chalkboards on the walls. An interior door opens to the other room created by the new wall. This is a larger space with flooring, walls and chalkboards.

Entering the hallway from a door in this second room, there are original wooden swinging doors with screened bottom panels opening to an original restroom on the eastern wall (Photo 0023). This bathroom retains its original terrazzo floors. On both sides of the bathroom, the hall walls are once again clad in glazed brick; there is a small wooden door on each side of the bathroom doors within the glazed-brick walls. These doors allow access to plumbing. Other than in this spot where the walls have glazed brick, the third-floor hall walls in this wing have lockers on both sides.

Opposite the bathroom, and a bit north, is another door in the wall on the west side of the hall. This door opens into another classroom. A small area in the southwest corner of this room has been walled to create an office; another smaller area in the northeast corner has been walled to create a closet space. Otherwise this is one large room with carpeted floor, plaster walls and ceiling and what appear to be original light fixtures. A single original door with transom opens into the hallway from the small closet space within this room. Across the hall on the eastern side is another single original door with transom. Behind this door, the large classroom is undivided. There are chalkboards on the eastern and northern walls. Paneled double doors open into storage closets on the eastern wall, as well (Photo 0024). The floor is carpeted in gray carpet. The walls and ceiling are plaster. There are new ceiling fans and duct work below the ceiling. A second entry into this room is at the far northern end. There is a single original door with transom opening to the hall.

Across the hall, there is another single original door which opens into the closet area of the room previously described on the western side of the hall. At the end of the hall to the north is a metal exterior door, which opens to the exterior fire escape.

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**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

Social History

Education

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1938-1960

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

McGuire & Shook

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance (justification)**

The Period of Significance begins with construction of the school in 1938, and continues to 1960. The school board ceased using the building as a senior high school in 1960.

**Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)**

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**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

The Franklin Senior High School is a good example of a Great Depression-era consolidated high school building. It was designed by a noted Indianapolis architectural firm, McGuire and Shook. It retains high integrity both outside and inside. Therefore it is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. The school was constructed in 1938 with grant monies from the Public Works Administration in a manner that was repeated in another Johnson County town the following year. It is a good representative of the several thousand school buildings constructed during the years of the Great Depression with funds from and under the auspices of the PWA. Obviously, as the city of Franklin's high school, the building represents a link to the history of education in Johnson County from 1938 to 1960 before its student body moved to a newer community high school building. Due to the association with the PWA and the history of education in Johnson County, the building is eligible for the National Register under Criterion A. The building meets the registration requirements of the "Multiple Property Document for Indiana's Public, Common and High Schools."

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**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

The Franklin Senior High School is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C for highly intact architecture and under Criterion A for its association with the history of secondary education in Franklin, Johnson County, Indiana, and for its association with the Public Works Administration public funding of school building construction during the Great Depression. The property is eligible under the "Multiple Property Document for Indiana's Public, Common and High Schools."<sup>4</sup> The building meets the registration requirements for "Two or More Room Consolidated Rural and Urban Schools" as specified in the multiple property document. In addition to retaining high integrity on the exterior, it also has high integrity on the interior, using many of the materials, such as glazed brick and plaster walls specifically mentioned in the multiple property document, and retaining original volume and open hall floor plans and having few significant alterations.

#### *Architectural Significance*

William McGuire and Wilbur Shook were two engineers who began a successful architecture firm in Indianapolis, Indiana, in 1916.<sup>5</sup> Among the firm's most notable projects were buildings at the Indiana Soldiers and Sailors Children's Home (ISSCH) in Knightstown, Indiana, completed in the 1920s and 1930s and the Tyson United Methodist Church (Tyson Temple) in Versailles Indiana, completed in 1937 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places.<sup>6</sup> Beginning in the mid 1920s, they designed numerous schools in Indianapolis, among them the Calvin N. Kendall School 62 (1924); Clemens Vonnegut School 9 (1926); and the James E. Roberts School for Crippled Children (1936).

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<sup>4</sup> Paul Diebold, "Indiana's Public, Common and High Schools," Multiple Property Documentation Form, <http://www.in.gov/dnr/historic/files/schoolsmpdf.pdf> (Accessed March 15, 2011).

<sup>5</sup> "Wilbur B. Shook Collection Guide," Indiana Historical Society. [http://www.indianahistory.org/library/manuscripts/collection\\_guides/p0400.html#COLLECTION](http://www.indianahistory.org/library/manuscripts/collection_guides/p0400.html#COLLECTION) (accessed March 13, 2011).

<sup>6</sup> "Odlle McGuire and Shook," <http://www.omscorp.net/interactive-timeline/> (accessed June 11, 2012.) Note: the company website also claims that the duo designed the Masonic Home in Franklin beginning when they worked for Herbert Foltz and completed by their firm after they formed their partnership. The Masonic Home is often attributed to Foltz, but apparently is the work of McGuire & Shook.

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During the years of the depression, McGuire and Shook stayed busy designing schools and other public building projects for the Public Works Administration.<sup>7</sup> Construction of their Thomas Carr Howe High School began in 1938, the same year the Senior High School addition to the Alva Neal School in Franklin, Indiana, was constructed. And they designed a new school building for Trafalgar High School in 1938, the same year that the Franklin Senior High School building was completed.<sup>8</sup>

Their Renaissance Revival building in Franklin paid homage to the earlier Harris and Shopbell design of the 1908 Alva Neal School. Like their predecessors' earlier design, McGuire and Shook's building used red brick, limestone beltlines, a protruding entry with an arched limestone portal and limestone window keystones. They honored the architecture of the existing building, while giving the new building a fresher, more modern look with sparer details and streamlined lines.<sup>9</sup> And they connected the two buildings with a three-story enclosed hall/walkway.

Funded partially by PWA grants, the building was "fireproof" and had "plenty of space for proper application of vocational department studies."<sup>10</sup> Accounting to the PWA for every expenditure, the contractor reported that the building used 375,000 bricks and 80 tons of plaster. The rooms were each painted different colors, "contrary to most school building rooms." Workers installed 425 lockers, enough for every student to have his or her own. The Central Supply Company of Franklin was the construction contractor. Freyn Brothers of Indianapolis installed the heating equipment, and the electrical work was done by Stradlung Brothers of Indianapolis.<sup>11</sup> The Hamilton Equipment Company of Three Rivers, Michigan, furnished equipment for the biology laboratory; Newton, Hoyt & Co. of Chicago furnished the sewing room equipment, and the Kewanee Manufacturing Co. of Kewanee, Wisconsin, furnished the "cooking laboratory."<sup>12</sup>

Like the urban multiple-room school building type described in the multiple properties form, this building had many elements which became a standard influenced by the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century school designer, William Ittner of St. Louis. The L-shape plan, flat roof building was two classrooms deep with an internal double-loaded corridor. The school retains interior features common to urban consolidated schools of this period, as delineated by the multiple properties form. These features were those found in homes of the period, including plaster walls, glazed brick wainscoting, wide woodwork, wood floors in the upper stories. There were even French doors and a fireplace in the Home Economics department, which created hominess within the school.<sup>13</sup> Retention of these details, as well as original chalkboards, existing kitchen cabinets in the Home Economics department, laboratory cabinets in the Science room and supplies closets in many classrooms are additional elements of integrity still intact. Although referred to as an "annex" or "addition" in newspaper articles of the time the Franklin Senior High School building was a complete unit connected by an enclosed hall/walkway to the Junior High building to the north. With their school overfilled by the first of the baby boomers in 1960, high school students used both buildings, walking up a ramp through the enclosed hallway to attend study hall in the north (older) building, but attending classes in the south Senior High School.<sup>14</sup>

#### *Education Significance and Context in Franklin, Indiana*

George King and John Smiley settled 80 acres in the area of present-day Franklin, Indiana, in 1821, just five years after Indiana became a state. The following year, King and Smiley petitioned the Indiana General Assembly to create Johnson County. By the end of 1822, the legislators had done so, and in 1823 Franklin was named the county seat. By 1837, the

<sup>7</sup> "McGuire and Shook," in David J. Bodenhamer and Robert G. Barrows, edited, *Encyclopedia of Indianapolis*, (Bloomington, Indianapolis: Indiana University Press, 1994) 949.

<sup>8</sup> McGuire & Shook Collection, Ball State University, Architectural Records Archives.

<sup>9</sup> Board Minute Books of the Franklin School Corporation, transcribed by Montrew Gross, (1908), 28; See Photo 0025, showing the two schools side by side.

<sup>10</sup> "\$150,000 School Unit planned," *Franklin Evening Star*, April 3, 1937, 1,5.

<sup>11</sup> "\$165,000 School Unit Progresses Favorably," *Franklin Evening News*, July 27, 1938.

<sup>12</sup> "School Board Acquires Dunn Property; Awards 4 Equipment Contracts," *Franklin Evening Star*, July 14, 1938, 1.

<sup>13</sup> Diebold, "Indiana's Public, Common and High Schools,"

<http://www.in.gov/dnr/historic/files/schoolsmpdf.pdf> (Accessed March 15, 2011).

<sup>14</sup> Don Hensley telephone interview with Connie Zeigler, March, 7, 2011.

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Indiana Baptist Manual Institute, which had been established on land donated by George King in 1834, became Franklin College, testifying to the importance of education in the fledgling town.<sup>15</sup>

Johnson County commissioners laid out five school districts in each township in the 1830s.<sup>16</sup> But Indiana was slow to compel school attendance and to create a tax-funded school system. Parents either paid for their children to attend subscription schools or taught them at home. When legislators revised the state's constitution in 1852, they provided limited funding for common schools but the school act was challenged in court and a uniform, free common school system was not firmly established in Indiana until after the Civil War.<sup>17</sup>

Graded schools became part of the Indiana system by 1868. Franklin's school board members were among the leaders in this movement, voting in December 1868 to erect a graded school with eleven rooms to house primary and high school students. It took several years, and several more school boards, before this school became a reality. It finally opened in 1873.<sup>18</sup>

In 1869 a new law allowed for the creation of segregated schools for African Americans. Segregation became the norm where there were enough African American students to justify a separate school, and in most of the state's southern counties.<sup>19</sup> Franklin's city schools were among those with separate facilities for black and whites.<sup>20</sup> A Colored School opened in Franklin in 1876.<sup>21</sup>

In 1887 a new high school building was completed at 251 E. Monroe Street.<sup>22</sup> The *Caduceus*, an early school yearbook, described this building as "a three-story structure, topped by a broad tower, wherein hung the [school] bell." The student body grew quickly, overflowing the high school building in just over a decade. In 1898, the school board approved an addition. That year the city schools were listed in the board meeting's minutes as: High School Building, Central Building and West Building.<sup>23</sup> The need for the addition followed closely on the heels of the enactment of a compulsory attendance law for children up to age 14 passed by the state legislature in 1897. One year after the high school added space, it hired a new principal, Mr. Alva O. Neal.<sup>24</sup>

Franklin's population reached 4,005 in 1900.<sup>25</sup> A growing population, some piecemeal school consolidation and compulsory attendance may have all combined to create a need for a new, larger high school building. In 1908, the Franklin School Board purchased a new site across Jefferson Street from the Franklin College campus.<sup>26</sup> The Evansville firm of Harris and Shopbell designed a new brick high school. The school board held the formal dedication of the new building on Thursday, February 10, 1910.<sup>27</sup> Reports on activities in the new high school included attention to new courses

<sup>15</sup> Historic Landmarks of Indiana, *Johnson County Interim Report* (Indianapolis: Indiana Department of Natural Resources, 1985), xv.

<sup>16</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>17</sup> Paul C. Diebold, "Indiana's Public, Common and High Schools," <http://www.in.gov/dnr/historic/files/schoolsmpdf.pdf> (Accessed March 1, 2011).

<sup>18</sup> Board Minute Books of the Franklin School Corporation, transcribed by Montrew Gross, 17.

<sup>19</sup> Indiana State Teachers Association, *Advancing the Cause of Education*, (West Lafayette, Ind.: Purdue University Press, 2004), 17.

<sup>20</sup> Patricia Albjerg Graham, *Schooling America: How the Public Schools Meet the Nation's Changing Needs* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2005), 34.

<sup>21</sup> Board Minute Books of the Franklin School Corporation, transcribed by Montrew Gross, (1908), 18-19.

<sup>22</sup> *Ibid.*, 24.

<sup>23</sup> *Ibid.*, 25.

<sup>24</sup> Board Minute Books of the Franklin School Corporation, transcribed by Montrew Gross, (1908), 25.

<sup>25</sup> "City and Town Census Counts: STATS Indiana."

[http://www.stats.indiana.edu/population/PopTotals/historic\\_counts\\_cities.asp](http://www.stats.indiana.edu/population/PopTotals/historic_counts_cities.asp) (accessed March 12, 2011).

<sup>26</sup> Board Minute Books of the Franklin School Corporation, transcribed by Montrew Gross, (1908), 27.

<sup>27</sup> *Ibid.*, 28-30.

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and the information that 105 girls were taking sewing and cooking classes and 35 boys were doing "active work in practical agriculture."<sup>28</sup>

Although Franklin prided itself on its high school and the education it provided, in 1920, a New York foundation studied education in the United States and placed Indiana 17<sup>th</sup> in the nation. A general uproar ensued that found the State Superintendent of Public Instruction calling for a statewide effort to raise Indiana's rank to first place. A large portion of the blame for the state's poor showing was placed at the door of one-room, one-teacher schools, so another wave of consolidations took place.<sup>29</sup>

Hoosier Hysteria was also spreading across the state by the 1920s. The basketball craze created the need for gymnasias in which to hold games and tournaments.<sup>30</sup> In 1921, Franklin's school board took bids for a new high school gymnasium. The red-brick, gable-front building was constructed beside the high school, and in 1922 the board set the price for general admission to basketball games at 35 cents. In 1926, they hired Robert "Fuzzy" Vandivier as physical training teacher and basketball coach for \$2,200 a year.<sup>31</sup> Vandivier became a local hero, coaching his team to wins in numerous state tournaments and mentoring Indiana's first Mr. Basketball, George Crowe (whose brother became the revered Crispus Attucks basketball coach in Indianapolis in the 1950s) in the 1930s.<sup>32</sup>

In the 1930s, the Great Depression hit Indiana hard. Like much of the rest of the country, Franklin residents were out of work, or even if working, were experiencing significant financial difficulties. School systems also fell on hard times and as student bodies grew, aging schools were taxed and school boards lacked funds for proper maintenance and expansion. Franklin Roosevelt's administration recognized the dual need of workers to earn a living and needs for public building expansion or new construction. In 1933, to meet needs of financially depressed cities, Congress bypassed state governments and worked directly with municipalities through federal agencies such as the Public Works Administration, PWA, and later the Works Progress Administration, WPA, to fund and build public structures. The PWA made grants to cities for approved public works projects. Approximately one-third of the cost was paid by the federal government and the rest was financed through federal loans.<sup>33</sup>

By the mid-1930s Franklin was feeling both the pinch of the depression and the need for a new high school building. In 1937, the school board, like hundreds of others across the nation, applied to the PWA for a grant to finance part of a proposed addition. Indianapolis architects McGuire & Shook drew up plans for a new building next to the old school, by then called the Alva Neal School in honor of its beloved, long-time principal. According to the local newspaper, the old school was filled to capacity and crowded conditions and lack of space for equipment were made worse by the consolidation of the nearby Hopewell community schools into the Franklin system in 1937.<sup>34</sup> A new school would make the system "more concise."<sup>35</sup> In 1938, the new Franklin Senior High School opened for students—just a few weeks later than the regular start of the school year. The new building, constructed for \$160,000, served Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors with room for approximately 400 students.<sup>36</sup>

<sup>28</sup> *Ibid.*, 31-32.

<sup>29</sup> State Teachers Association, *Advancing the Cause*, 26.

<sup>30</sup> Diebold, *Indiana's Public, Common and High Schools*,  
<http://www.in.gov/dnr/historic/files/schoolsmpdf.pdf> (Accessed March 1, 2011).

<sup>31</sup> Board Minute Books, 36-37.

<sup>32</sup> Dick Denny, *Glory Days Indiana: Legends of Indiana High School Basketball* (Champaign, Ill.: Peter L. Bannon and Joseph J. Bannon, Sr., 2006), 174. Note, by the 1930s the Franklin High School was integrated.

<sup>33</sup> William Vernon Holloway, *Intergovernmental Relations in the United States* (William Vernon Holloway, MS, 1972

[http://books.google.com/books?id=FCkfIFZH9noC&pg=PA87&dq=public+works+administration+schools&hl=en&ei=pp97TYDVI8TarAHStNDMBQ&sa=X&oi=book\\_result&ct=result&resnum=2&ved=0CEQQ6AEwATgK#v=onepage&q=public%20works%20administration%20schools&f=false](http://books.google.com/books?id=FCkfIFZH9noC&pg=PA87&dq=public+works+administration+schools&hl=en&ei=pp97TYDVI8TarAHStNDMBQ&sa=X&oi=book_result&ct=result&resnum=2&ved=0CEQQ6AEwATgK#v=onepage&q=public%20works%20administration%20schools&f=false) (accessed March 3, 2011).

<sup>34</sup> "\$500,000 School Unit planned," *Franklin Evening Star*, April 3, 1937, 1, 5.

<sup>35</sup> "\$165,000 School Unit Progresses Favorably," *Franklin Evening Star*, July 27, 1938, 1.

<sup>36</sup> "Construction Begins on School Addition; Rain Proves Hamper"; "School Addition work Rushed for Opening; Club Launches Program," *Franklin Evening Star*, January 21, 1938, 1; September 7, 1938, 1.

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A few years after the new school opened the country went to war. Sixteen students of Franklin Senior High School served in the military during the war. Their sacrifices are marked on the wall of the school they attended with a bronze plaque even today (See Photo 0016). After the war, life and school returned to normalcy and the 1950s brought affluence and the birth of the baby boom generation. The largest generation of children began to enter the Franklin schools, as it did those across the nation, in the 1950s. Franklin's school board recognized what many other school corporations would face, that their high school could not handle the number of students who would enter as the freshman class of 1960.

In January 1960, the Franklin School Board announced cost estimates from 63 bids received for construction of a new high school building.<sup>37</sup> That year the last class graduated from the now-old Franklin Senior High School. By mid-year 1961, students were attending classes at their new Franklin Community High School, complete with a swimming pool. This new building had room for more than 850 students and opened its doors to a 650-person student body in November 1961.<sup>38</sup>

In 1978, the former Alva Neal School and the covered hallway that had connected it to the Franklin Senior High were demolished.<sup>39</sup> The now-old Franklin Senior High School eventually became a community office space.

The Franklin Senior High School is a good example of a Great Depression-era consolidated high school building. It was designed by the noted Indianapolis architectural firm, McGuire and Shook. The school was constructed in 1938 with grant monies from the Public Works Administration in a manner that was repeated in another Johnson County town the following year. It is a good representative of the several thousand school buildings eventually constructed during the years of the Great Depression with funds from and under the auspices of the PWA. As the City of Franklin's only high school from 1938 to 1960, the building clearly represents a link to the history of education in Johnson County in this period. Due to its association with the PWA and the history of education in Johnson County, the building is eligible for the National Register under Criterion A. It retains high integrity both outside and inside and is also eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. The building meets the registration requirements of the "Multiple Property Document for Indiana's Public, Common and High Schools."

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**Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)**

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<sup>37</sup> "63 Bids Received on Local School," *Franklin Evening Star*, January 20 1960, 1, 3.

<sup>38</sup> "Dedication of School Set Sunday," *Indianapolis Times*, November 3, 1961, 2.

<sup>39</sup> "You can see clearly now," *Franklin Daily Journal*, March 29, 1978, 3.

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*Franklin Senior High School and the Public Works Administration*

The Franklin Senior High School construction project beginning in 1937 exemplifies how a community applied for, received and used a PWA grant to build one of the thousands of schools the agency funded and oversaw during its active years. The Franklin Senior High School was one of 34,508 public projects funded by the Public Works Administration during the first six years of its existence.

Franklin Roosevelt's administration created the PWA in 1933; it was the first public works program of many his administration would institute. In 1935 Roosevelt committed about 6.7 percent of the national budget to public works projects.<sup>40</sup>

The PWA made grants to municipalities for approved public works projects with approximately one-third of the cost being paid by the federal government and the rest financed through federal loans.<sup>41</sup> In 1937, the Franklin School Board applied for a PWA grant to fund a new school. It anticipated that \$65,000, approximately 45 percent of the cost of the construction would be funded this way.<sup>42</sup> The PWA accepted the application and allowed for a larger project than initially proposed, providing \$78,500 in grant monies toward the expected \$166,000 completed project. The remainder of the funds was to come from a \$90,000 bond issue.<sup>43</sup>

Although the Works Progress Administration, WPA, created in 1935, aimed at putting the unemployed back to work, the PWA relied on contracts let to privately held firms, not WPA workers directly, to build its projects. This appears to have been how the contracting worked for the Franklin Senior High School project. The city's newspapers are full of reports on how many WPA workers were being used on various projects in the county.<sup>44</sup> However, while a few articles about the construction of the school mention the number of workers on this specific project, none of these mention that the workers came from the WPA.<sup>45</sup> In fact, there is not one mention of WPA involvement with the school-building project. Various contractors and their workers are noted in some articles, such as the 25 men who were working "under supervision of the Central Supply Company" on February 11, 1938, or the "more than 50 workmen" who "busied themselves in an attempt to put the finishing touches on the new annex of Franklin high school and subsequent remodeling projects in the old building" on September 7, 1938.<sup>46</sup> The wording suggests strongly that this school project fit the pattern typically found in PWA projects. Funds were paid out to contractors who hired their own workers, rather than the PWA funding hiring WPA workers directly. In this way, the PWA could show through its studies that there "was no real basis" for claiming that the PWA's construction projects were unduly expensive or inefficient.<sup>47</sup>

The PWA had spent over \$6 billion on public construction by 1939. The funding was widespread and used in innumerable ways; all but three of the nation's counties had received PWA dollars by then. Indiana had 477 projects amounting to \$44 million in grant allotments by 1939.<sup>48</sup> Among those projects, was the Franklin Senior High School. The same year that the Franklin school was constructed, another Johnson County school "annex," the Trafalgar High School, was also funded by a PWA grant. Interestingly the Trafalgar school, a consolidation of three schools, was also designed by McGuire and

<sup>40</sup> Jason Scott Smith, *Building New Deal Liberalism: the political economy of public works* (Cambridge, New York: Cambridge University Press, 2006) 22, 87.

<sup>41</sup> William Vernon Holloway, *Intergovernmental Relations in the United States* (William Vernon Holloway, MS, 1972

[http://books.google.com/books?id=FCkfIFZH9noC&pg=PA87&dq=public+works+administration+schools&hl=en&ei=pp97TYDVI8TarAHStNDMBQ&sa=X&oi=book\\_result&ct=result&resnum=2&ved=0CEQQ6AEWA TgK#v=onepage&q=public%20works%20administration%20schools&f=false](http://books.google.com/books?id=FCkfIFZH9noC&pg=PA87&dq=public+works+administration+schools&hl=en&ei=pp97TYDVI8TarAHStNDMBQ&sa=X&oi=book_result&ct=result&resnum=2&ved=0CEQQ6AEWA TgK#v=onepage&q=public%20works%20administration%20schools&f=false) (Accessed March 3, 2011).

<sup>42</sup> "\$165,000 School Unit Planned," *Franklin Evening Star*, April 3, 1937, 1.

<sup>43</sup> "Complete Demolition of Two Residence," *Franklin Evening Star*, January 8, 1938, 1.

<sup>44</sup> For instance, "WPA Grants County \$411,700: Jobs for 330 Men Over 2 Years," *Franklin Evening Star*, July 26, 1938, 1.

<sup>45</sup> "School Board Acquires Dunn Property; Awards 4 Equipment Contracts," *Franklin Evening Star*, July 14, 1938, 1.

<sup>46</sup> "Favorable Weather Aids Progress," *Franklin Evening Star*, February 11, 1938, 1; "School Addition Work Rushed for Opening," *Franklin Evening Star*, September 7, 1938, 1.

<sup>47</sup> *Ibid.*, 108.

<sup>48</sup> *Ibid.*, 88, 92.

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Shook and also connected to an older existing high school building with “a ramp similar to that used in connecting the Franklin high school buildings.”<sup>49</sup>

The PWA funded and oversaw initial plans for tens of thousands of construction projects. Over time, many of these buildings have been demolished or altered. In some cases the records connecting them to the Public Works Administration are simply lost. As we lose those who have a memory of the Great Depression, we often lose the connection of our schools with the New Deal years. The Franklin Senior High School’s connection to the Public Works Administration and its example as a model of the PWA program is now documented, and adds to its historical significance.

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<sup>49</sup> “\$36,818 PWA Grant Goes to Trafalgar,” *Franklin Evening Star*, September 21, 1938, 1; McGuire & Shook Collection, Ball State University, Architectural Records Archives.

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[http://books.google.com/books?id=FckfIFZH9noC&pg=PA87&dq=public+works+administration+schools&hl=en&ei=pp97TYDVI8TarAHStNDMBQ&sa=X&oi=book\\_result&ct=result&resnum=2&ved=0CEQQ6AEwATgK#v=onepage&q=public%20works%20administration%20schools&f=false](http://books.google.com/books?id=FckfIFZH9noC&pg=PA87&dq=public+works+administration+schools&hl=en&ei=pp97TYDVI8TarAHStNDMBQ&sa=X&oi=book_result&ct=result&resnum=2&ved=0CEQQ6AEwATgK#v=onepage&q=public%20works%20administration%20schools&f=false) (accessed March 3, 2011).

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[http://www.indianahistory.org/library/manuscripts/collection\\_guides/p0400.html#COLLECTION](http://www.indianahistory.org/library/manuscripts/collection_guides/p0400.html#COLLECTION) (accessed March 13, 2011).

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): 081-222-29154

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** Less than 1 acre  
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 16 581853 4370597  
Zone Easting Northing

3 \_\_\_\_\_  
Zone Easting Northing

2 \_\_\_\_\_  
Zone Easting Northing

4 \_\_\_\_\_  
Zone Easting Northing

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**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary for the Franklin Senior High School is defined by the north right-of-way line of East Jefferson Street; the east right-of-way line of Hurricane Street; an east-west line formed by a private concrete sidewalk parallel to but approximately six feet north of the north wall of the school; and a north-south line formed by a private sidewalk parallel to but approximately five feet east of the east wall of the school.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary includes the only remaining historic resource on the property, and eliminates later parking and detached non-contributing resources.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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name/title Connie Zeigler, President  
organization C. Resources date March 15, 2011  
street & number 963 Hosbrook St. telephone 317.955.0377  
city or town Indianapolis state IN zip code 46203  
e-mail conniezeigler@sbcglobal.net

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**Additional Documentation**

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Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.  
A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Franklin Senior High School  
Name of Property

Johnson, IN  
County and State

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**Photographs:**

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Name of Property: Franklin Senior High School

City or Vicinity: Franklin

County: Johnson

State: Indiana

Photographer: Connie Zeigler

Date Photographed: March 6, 2011

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Looking northeast at Hurricane Street façade.

Photo 1 of 25.

Name of Property: Franklin Senior High School

City or Vicinity: Franklin

County: Johnson

State: Indiana

Photographer: Connie Zeigler

Date Photographed: September 15, 2010.

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Looking east at cornerstone.

Photo 2 of 25.

Name of Property: Franklin Senior High School

City or Vicinity: Franklin

County: Johnson

State: Indiana

Photographer: Connie Zeigler

Date Photographed: September 15, 2010.

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Looking east from Hurricane Street at original entrance.

Photo 3 of 25.

Name of Property: Franklin Senior High School

City or Vicinity: Franklin

County: Johnson

State: Indiana

Franklin Senior High School  
Name of Property

Johnson, IN  
County and State

Photographer: Connie Zeigler

Date Photographed: September 15, 2010.

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Looking southeast from Hurricane Street at north facade.

Photo 4 of 25.

Name of Property: Franklin Senior High School

City or Vicinity: Franklin

County: Johnson State: Indiana

Photographer: Connie Zeigler

Date Photographed: September 15, 2010.

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Looking south-southeast at exterior of boiler room.

Photo 5 of 25.

Name of Property: Franklin Senior High School

City or Vicinity: Franklin

County: Johnson State: Indiana

Photographer: Connie Zeigler

Date Photographed: September 15, 2010.

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Looking west at eastern facade.

Photo 6 of 25.

Name of Property: Franklin Senior High School

City or Vicinity: Franklin

County: Johnson State: Indiana

Photographer: Connie Zeigler

Date Photographed: September 15, 2010.

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Looking northwest from Jefferson Street.

Photo 7 of 25.

Name of Property: Franklin Senior High School

Franklin Senior High School  
Name of Property

Johnson, IN  
County and State

City or Vicinity: Franklin

County: Johnson

State: Indiana

Photographer: Connie Zeigler

Date Photographed: September 15, 2010.

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Looking north from south side of Jefferson Street at south facade.

Photo 8 of 25.

Name of Property: Franklin Senior High School

City or Vicinity: Franklin

County: Johnson

State: Indiana

Photographer: Connie Zeigler

Date Photographed: March 6, 2011.

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Looking west from east entrance vestibule.

Photo 9 of 25.

Name of Property: Franklin Senior High School

City or Vicinity: Franklin

County: Johnson

State: Indiana

Photographer: Connie Zeigler

Date Photographed: March 6, 2011.

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Looking west from east entrance vestibule.

Photo 10 of 25.

Name of Property: Franklin Senior High School

City or Vicinity: Franklin

County: Johnson

State: Indiana

Photographer: Connie Zeigler

Date Photographed: September 15, 2010.

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Looking west at science laboratory built-in cabinets.

Franklin Senior High School  
Name of Property

Johnson, IN  
County and State

Photo 11 of 25.

Name of Property: Franklin Senior High School

City or Vicinity: Franklin

County: Johnson State: Indiana

Photographer: Connie Zeigler

Date Photographed: September 15, 2010.

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Looking east from boiler room entrance.

Photo 12 of 25.

Name of Property: Franklin Senior High School

City or Vicinity: Franklin

County: Johnson State: Indiana

Photographer: Connie Zeigler

Date Photographed: September 15, 2010.

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Looking east at stairway from second story stairwell.

Photo 13 of 25.

Name of Property: Franklin Senior High School

City or Vicinity: Franklin

County: Johnson State: Indiana

Photographer: Connie Zeigler

Date Photographed: March 6, 2011.

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Looking west from second story east entrance vestibule.

Photo 14 of 25.

Name of Property: Franklin Senior High School

City or Vicinity: Franklin

County: Johnson State: Indiana

Franklin Senior High School  
Name of Property

Johnson, IN  
County and State

Photographer: Connie Zeigler

Date Photographed: September 15, 2010.

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Looking south from north-south wing.

Photo 15 of 25.

Name of Property: Franklin Senior High School

City or Vicinity: Franklin

County: Johnson State: Indiana

Photographer: Connie Zeigler

Date Photographed: September 15, 2010.

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Looking north at plaque on second-story rounded wall.

Photo 16 of 25.

Name of Property: Franklin Senior High School

City or Vicinity: Franklin

County: Johnson State: Indiana

Photographer: Connie Zeigler

Date Photographed: September 15, 2010.

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Looking south at supplies closet and new wall in eastern classroom on second story of the north-south wing

Photo 17 of 25.

Name of Property: Franklin Senior High School

City or Vicinity: Franklin

County: Johnson State: Indiana

Photographer: Connie Zeigler

Date Photographed: March 6, 2011.

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Looking west at hall from third-story east entrance vestibule.

Photo 18 of 25.

Franklin Senior High School  
Name of Property

Johnson, IN  
County and State

Name of Property: Franklin Senior High School

City or Vicinity: Franklin

County: Johnson State: Indiana

Photographer: Connie Zeigler

Date Photographed: September 15, 2010.

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Looking east at skylight in classroom, south side of hall, east-west wing.

Photo 19 of 25.

Name of Property: Franklin Senior High School

City or Vicinity: Franklin

County: Johnson State: Indiana

Photographer: Connie Zeigler

Date Photographed: September 15, 2010.

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Looking northeast from third-floor doorway of Home Economics department at original built-in cabinets.

Photo 20 of 25.

Name of Property: Franklin Senior High School

City or Vicinity: Franklin

County: Johnson State: Indiana

Photographer: Connie Zeigler

Date Photographed: September 15, 2010.

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Looking north at fireplace in third-floor center room of Home Economics department.

Photo 21 of 25.

Name of Property: Franklin Senior High School

City or Vicinity: Franklin

County: Johnson State: Indiana

Photographer: Connie Zeigler

Franklin Senior High School  
Name of Property

Johnson, IN  
County and State

Date Photographed: September 15, 2010.

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Looking west at French doors and westernmost room of third-floor Home Economics department classroom.

Photo 22 of 25.

Name of Property: Franklin Senior High School

City or Vicinity: Franklin

County: Johnson State: Indiana

Photographer: Connie Zeigler

Date Photographed: September 15, 2010.

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Looking northeast at original third-floor restrooms.

Photo 23 of 25.

Name of Property: Franklin Senior High School

City or Vicinity: Franklin

County: Johnson State: Indiana

Photographer: Connie Zeigler

Date Photographed: September 15, 2010.

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Looking southwest at hall door, supplies closet and chalkboards in third-floor classroom in north-south wing.

Photo 24 of 25.

Name of Property: Franklin Senior High School

City or Vicinity: Franklin

County: Johnson State: Indiana

Photographer: Connie Zeigler

Date Photographed: original, c. 1960; re-photographed, March 15, 2010.

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Photograph of western façade of Senior High School (foreground) and Alva Neal School, circa 1960.

Photo 25 of 25.

Franklin Senior High School  
Name of Property

Johnson, IN  
County and State

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**Property Owner:**

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

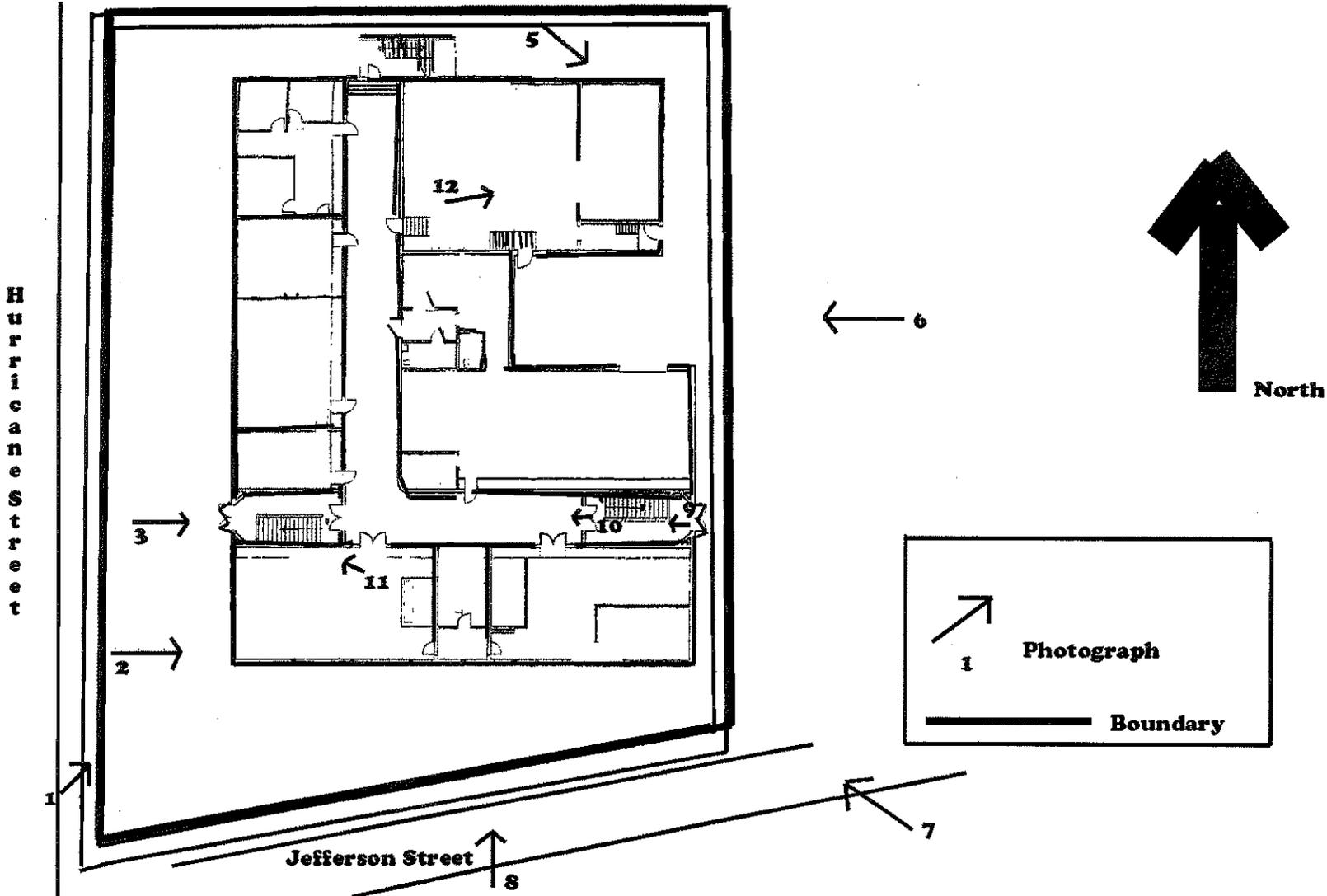
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name Ric Schlosser, Johnson County Soil and Water Conservation District  
street & number 550 E. Jefferson, Ste. 220 telephone 317.736.9540 ex.102  
city or town Franklin state IN zip code 46131

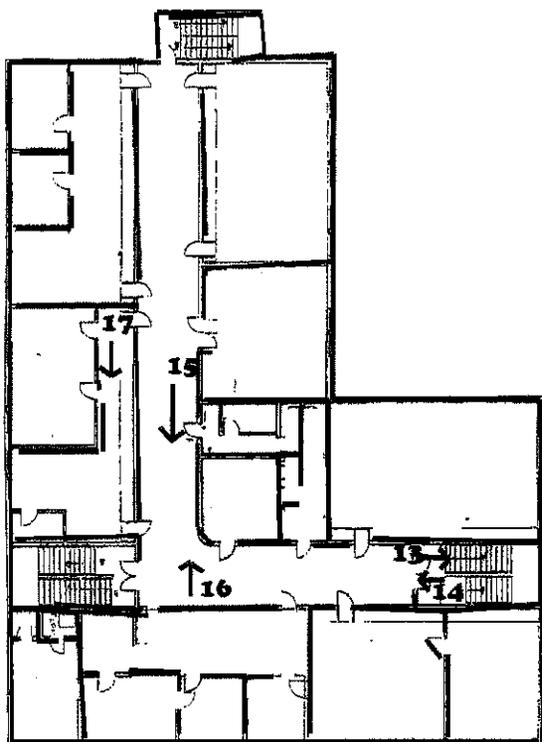
**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

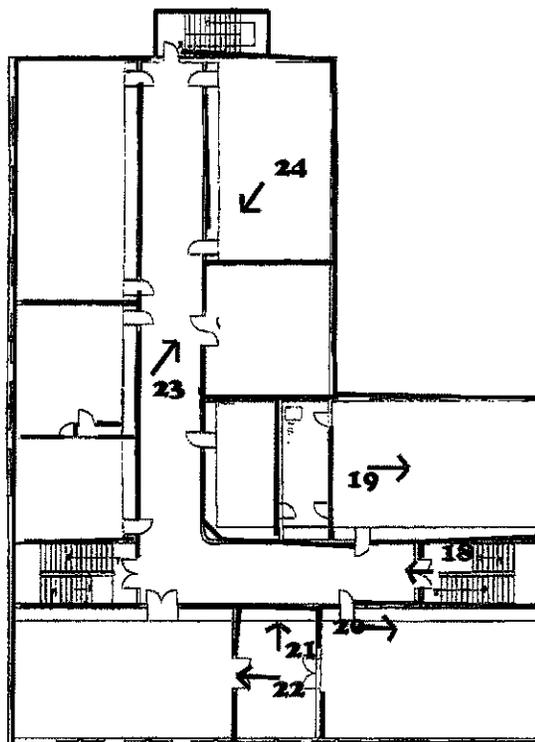
# 4 Franklin Senior High School, Franklin, IN



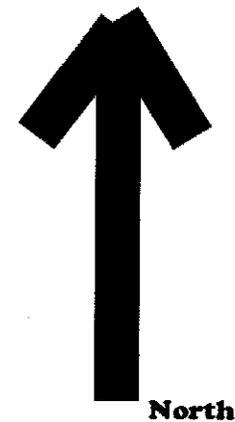
# Franklin Senior High School, Franklin, IN



Second Floor



Third Floor



North



12 Photograph



Franklin Senior High School, Johnson Co., 0001



Franklin Senior High School, Johnson Co., 0003



Franklin Senior High School, Johnson Co., 0004



Franklin Senior High School, Johnson Co., 0006



Franklin Senior High School, Johnson Co., 0007



Franklin Senior High School, Johnson Co., 0009



Franklin Senior High School, Johnson Co., 0011



Franklin Senior High School, Johnson Co., 0014



Franklin Senior High School, Johnson Co., 0020



Franklin Senior High School, Johnson Co., 0020