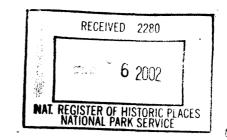
National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



200

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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 entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

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Entrol Totalonip Ingli contact & con	mmunity Building
other names/site number Pimento School	
2. Location	
street & number 13041 Pimento Circle	N/A _{→□} not for publication
city or town Pimento	N/A vicinity
state <u>Indiana</u> code <u>IN</u> county <u>Vig</u> o	code <u>167</u> zip code <u>47866</u>
3. State/Federal Agency Certification	
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Signature of certifying official/Title	Date
State or Federal agency and bureau	
4. National Park Service Certification	200
	nature of the Keeper A Date of Action
hereby certify that the property is: entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.	m & Beall 3/20/0
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Linton Township High School Name of Property	& Community Building		Vigo County and	IN d State	
5. Classification					
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply) ⊠ private	Category of Property (Check only one box) ⋈ building		e previously list	within Property of resources in the contributing	
□ public-local □ public-State □ public-Federal	☐ district ☐ site ☐ structure ☐ object	1 0 0 0 1		0 0 0 · 0 0	buildings sites structures objects Total
Name of related multiple part (Enter "N/A" if property is not part	• •	Number of contri in the National Re		urces previo	usly listed
Indiana's Public Comm	non and High Schools	0			
6. Function or Use					
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instruction	ns)	Current Functions (Enter categories from in			
EDUCATION:	School	_WORK IN PRO	OGRESS		
7. Description					
Architectural Classificati	on	Materials			•
(Enter categories from instruction		(Enter categories from	instructions)		
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		roof		TONE: Lim	
		other		ASPHAL	

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Statement of Significance Applicable National Register Critoria (Mark Yr ion or or more bows for the critical qualifying the property for National Register Isting i) **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 propresents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components fack individual distinction. **D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history. **Criteria Considerations **Carteria Considerations** **Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.** **D A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.** **D B a removed from its original location.** **D A a cemetery.** **D C a birthplace or grave.** **D B a removed from its original location.** **D C a commemorative property.** **D C a less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.** **Nanative Statement of Significance** **Capital me significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.** **Nanative Statement of References** **Nanative Statement of References** **Nanative Statement of References** **Primary location of additional data:** **D Primary l		Township High School &f Property	VigoIN
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10. Geographical Data			
Acreage of Property 5 acres			
UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)			
1 16 466850 4350910 Zone Easting Northing	Zone Easting	Northing	
2	4 See continual	ion sheet	
Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)			
Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)		
11. Form Prepared By			
name/title Dean Kendall, Board Member			
organization Pimento School, Inc.		_ date <u>08-24-2001</u>	
street & number 5335 Camden Street	tel	ephone 317/ 784-5681	
city or town Indianapolis	state IN	zip code 46227	
Additional Documentation Submit the following items with the completed form:			
Continuation Sheets			
Maps			
A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating A Sketch map for historic districts and propertion	•	numerous resources	
Photographs			
Representative black and white photographs	of the property.		
Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)			
Property Owner			
(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)			
name Pimento School, Inc.			
street & number 13041 Pimento Circle	te	elephone	
city or town Pimento	state IN	zip code 47866	

Vigo__

County and State

_IN__

Linton Township High School &

Name of Property

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. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

NPS Form 10-900 (Oct. 1990) OMB No. 10024-0018

United States Department of the InteriorNational Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number7	_ Page1		

Linton Township High School and Community Building Vigo County, IN

Description:

The Linton Township High School and Community Building is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A for its significance in education. The school building is located at the south end of Pimento Circle towards the southern edge of the unincorporated town of Pimento in southern Vigo County. The building is situated roughly in the center of the approximately five-acre site (Photo 1). This site is bounded by trees on the north and west sides. Pimento Circle, which runs diagonally from the southwest to the northeast, bounds the property on the east and south sides. Large grassy lawns are located east, north and west of the building with several large trees dotting the landscape. A small stand of persimmon trees is located southwest of the building. Adjacent to the east side of the school building is an asphalt parking lot, which extends south to Pimento Circle. An asphalt driveway extends west from the parking lot, running along the south side of the building and curving south to Pimento Circle. A second gravel driveway extends north from the parking lot and curves east to the same street.

Built in 1925 in a functional design, the building features simple elements of several architectural styles. The two-story, red brick building is rectangular in plan and can be divided into two sections: the large two-story structure and the one-story rear extension. The brick foundation rises approximately 2 feet above ground level and projects slightly from the exterior brick walls of the building. A concrete watertable caps the brick foundation. Fenestration consists of common wood double-hung, 6-over-6 windows with steel lintels and concrete sills. A simple concrete cornice located at the top of the second story extends around all sides of the main building. The roof of the main building is rubber while the roof of the rear extension is rolled asphalt sheeting.

The primary elevation of the building is the south façade, which faces Pimento Circle (Photo 2). Dominating the three-bay, symmetrical façade is the projecting central bay, which extends above the parapet of the main building. A Mission-style arched parapet tops the central bay. The main entrance is located in the central bay. The main entry doors are wood, double doors with four panels on the lower half and nine-light glazing on the upper half. The entry doors are painted white. Above the main entrance is a decorative brick panel in a herringbone pattern. A concrete entry cornice of a neo-classical design is located above the decorative brick panel (Photo 3). Decorative concrete scroll-shaped brackets support the entry cornice. Located between the concrete entry cornice and the second-story windows is a large brick panel with raised brick border and concrete corner squares. The second story of the central bay features a group of three common windows. Located between the second-story windows and the arched parapet of the central bay is a stone panel bearing the name of the building, "Linton * Township* High * School * and *Community * Building" (Photo 4). The panel has deteriorated making the lettering difficult to read. The concrete cornice of the main building terminates on either side of the central bay.

A common window flanks both sides of the central bay on the first story of the south façade. A concrete nameplate on the lower southwest corner of the south façade bears the name of the architect and builder,

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number	7	Page	2					

Linton Township High School and Community Building Vigo County, IN

Description (continued):

"Albert * G. * Belden * Co., * Architects * and * Jas. * O. * Sickels, * Contr. * Princeton * Indiana" (Photo 5). A similar concrete nameplate on the southeast corner of the south façade, which bore the names of the trustees at the time of construction is missing. Three evenly spaced, common windows flank both sides of the central bay on the second story of the south facade.

The fenestration of the east and west facades of the main building are identical (Photo 6 & 7). Three evenly spaced window openings are found on the south end of the basement level of each façade. Each window is set at ground level and is approximately 5 feet in height. Five large window openings are evenly spaced along the northern two-thirds of the first story of both the east and west facades. These openings, which provided natural light to the gymnasium, are currently covered with plywood panels. Eight evenly spaced, rectangular ventilation grills are located between the first and second stories of both facades. The second story of the east and west façades features two common windows on the southern end and eleven common windows evenly spaced along the northern two-thirds of the second story. Both facades feature two metal conductors located in the parapet above the cornice and have downspouts extending to the ground. The conductors with downspouts are situated approximately 25 feet from the north and south ends of both facades. An exterior light is mounted on the northern end of the parapet on the east façade. A similar light is mounted to the southern end of the parapet on the west façade. Also located on the west façade is a large metal fire escape chute. The chute engages the building on the second story, below the fourth window from the north end. It extends to the ground, sloping to the south.

The north façade of the main building features a window opening to the left of center on the second story (Photo 8). The window opening has been boarded up. A massive brick chimney rises along the western half of the north façade. This structure, which houses the boiler room for the building, is partially below grade with the exterior walls rising approximately 6 feet from the ground. The rear extension is set back from the east façade of the main building. Adjacent to the north end of the first floor of the east façade is an enclosed stairway with brick walls and a metal exterior entry door. This stairway provides access to the boiler room and the gymnasium. Located above this entry door is a decorative brick panel in a herringbone pattern similar to that above the south main entrance. The roof of the stairway slopes downward to meet the flat roof of the rear extension. Three window openings are located along the north wall of the rear extension. The east window is covered with a wood panel, the center window has a metal louvered opening to accommodate an exhaust fan, and the west window is bricked in. Located on the west wall of the rear extension is the original opening of the coal chute, which has been bricked in.

The main entrance on the south façade opens into a two-story entry hall. Directly across the hall from the main entrance is the stairway, which leads to the gymnasium (Photo 9). Ten concrete steps descend to the double-door entry of the gymnasium. Modern restroom facilities are located in the small rooms, which flank the gymnasium stairway. Located in the west half of the entry hall is the wide, open stairway in a switchback

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number	7	Page	3					

Linton Township High School and Community Building Vigo County, IN

Description (continued):

configuration that leads to the second floor (Photo 10). The stairway is of wood construction and features a simple stair rail with a large newel post on the stair landing. All walls of the main entry hall are plaster.

The gymnasium entrance opens directly into the large 1 ½ story space from the south wall. Dominating this room are eight large steel I-beams with steel support columns (Photo 11 &12). Oriented east-west, the I-beams are spaced evenly across the room. The walls of the gymnasium are exposed glazed brick and the ceiling is corrugated metal panels. Five large window openings are evenly spaced along the east and west walls. The individual openings are set between the I-beams of the roof structure. A small doorway is found on either side of the main gymnasium entrance on the south wall. Each doorway leads to a small space where a modern hot water heater and plumbing have been installed for the modern restroom facility directly above each space. The east space was originally a storage room for gymnasium equipment. A doorway towards the east end of the south wall leads to the former boys locker room and showers. Similarly, a doorway towards the west end of the south wall leads to the former girls locker room and shower. Each room is currently one open space as no locker or shower room facilities remain. Exposed plumbing and electrical conduits run along the east and west walls of the gymnasium. Located on the west end of the north wall is a doorway that leads to the boiler room. A doorway on the east end of the north wall provides access to the exterior stairway as well as a second entrance to the boiler room.

The second floor features a central hall running north-south on axis with the main building (Photo 13). The floors of the second floor are wood and all walls are plaster. The doors of the classroom are wood with two panels on the lower half and four-light glazing on the upper half. Two of the original doors have been replaced. There are three rooms located on the east side of the second floor. The southern most room located across from the main stairway served as a principal's office. Towards the east end of the north wall is a doorway that leads to a classroom. An original blackboard extends along the west and north walls of this classroom. A doorway in the west wall leads to the central hallway. North of this classroom is a large room, which served as a study hall. Two doorways in the west wall of the study hall lead to the central hall. Extending from the north end of the west wall of the study hall is a small room, which served as the library (Photo 14). An original doorway in the south wall of the library, which provided access to the central hall, has been removed. Three classrooms are located on the west side of the second floor. Original blackboards are found in two of these classrooms (Photo 15). The metal fire escape chute is accessed from the northernmost classroom.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number	8	Page4

Linton Township High School and Community Building Vigo County, IN

Statement of Significance:

The Linton Township High School and Community Building is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A for its significant role in expanding the public school system in rural Vigo County. The school also meets all of the requirements set forth in *Indiana's Public Common and High Schools* Multiple Property Documentation Form. It was rated "notable" in the Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory, Vigo County Interim Report (June 1984). When constructed in 1925, the building became not only the single center for secondary education in Linton Township but it also became the focal point for social events for the local community.

Linton Township High School and Community Building qualifies under the MPDF as a significant example of a multi-room consolidated school. The context within the MPDF, "Indiana's Public Common and High Schools," outlines the early history of education in Indiana and the period of consolidated schools that flourished toward the end of the 1800s and especially in the early 1900s. The property type analysis includes "Two or More Room Consolidated Rural and Urban Schools," which describes closely the Linton Township High School and Community Building.

Following its settlement by pioneers and land speculators around 1816, the growth of the Vigo County area was dependent upon its early establishment as a transportation center. Although the Wabash River had served as a transportation route for centuries, Vigo County prospered during the mid-eighteenth century from the increased trade made possible by new transportation routes. The first was the National Road, which reached Vigo County in 1835, followed by the Wabash and Erie Canal in 1849. The construction of the first railroad in the county in 1852 set off an economic boom for Vigo County which lasted nearly seventy-five years. With its extensive transportation system, the county capitalized on its abundant natural resources, particularly coal.

In 1841, Linton Township was organized, being created itself from the then adjoining townships of Pierson and Prairie Creek along the southern end of Vigo County. The town of Pimento was platted in 1852 near the center of Linton Township. Pimento was originally known as Hartford but was later named accordingly by the U.S. Postal Department.

Similar to much of rural Indiana at that time, the educational system in rural Vigo County began with small log school buildings. This held true in Linton Township where the first school building was a log structure, believed to have predated the organization of the township by a few years. The log school building, which came to be known as Hazelbrush School, was located approximately three miles southwest of Pimento on the Old Sullivan Road. The first school in Pimento was also log building that was constructed shortly after the town's founding in 1852. This building was abandoned in 1858 after a two-story, wood-framed structure known as the "Township House" was built. This new building served not only as a school but also as a community building, a church, and a fraternal lodge.

NPS Form 10-900 (Oct. 1990) OMB No. 10024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number	8	Page	5			

Linton Township High School and Community Building Vigo County, IN

Statement of Significance (continued):

Historically, the establishment and operation of schools in Linton Township and Pimento was very much determined by that of state legislation. In 1865, a law was passed that created a legal school corporation out of each town or civil city. This corporation was placed under control of trustees, who were elected by a town board. In addition, the guidelines for a core curriculum were developed. This curriculum included orthography, writing, reading, arithmetic, English grammar, and good behavior. This law, along with the increasing population of Linton Township following the Civil War, caused an increase in the demand for more schools in the township. As a result, wood-framed, one-room schoolhouses were constructed throughout the township during the latter part of the nineteenth century. Eventually, eight schools served the township. It was also during this time that the student population around Pimento outgrew the "Township House" and a new frame school house was constructed. Though the date of construction of this school was indeterminable, the building was located near the present school building.

It was not until the Law of 1873 was passed that the actual foundation of the state educational system was established. Township trustees were given the power to elect superintendents and county boards of education were formed. The Law of 1875 placed the responsibility for the county boards in the hands of county commissioners. By the Law of 1907, grades one through eight were established as the elementary grades. Grades nine through twelve were designated high school grades. In 1908, however, superintendents discarded this division, created the junior high schools at the seventh, eighth, and ninth grade levels. The passage of these laws in 1907 and 1908 resulted in a construction boom in public educational buildings in Indiana. The Law of 1913 made provisions for the state to supplement local revenues in the school corporation. In addition, vocational and domestic sciences were added to the curriculum and night classes were made available to students who worked during the day. These changes inevitably led to the need for modern efficient schools.

A period of school consolidation from 1890 to 1900, led educators to lobby to the Indiana General Assembly for more uniform school attendance and in 1897, the Assembly passed a compulsory education law requiring all children ages 6 to 14 to attend public or private schools. Another compulsory education law followed in 1913, extending the age to 16. It was this same year that the rural school buildings in Linton Township were consolidated. Students began attending classes in a new brick two-story school building that was constructed in Pimento that same year. This building was located approximately forty feet east of the existing school building. At a cost of slightly more than \$16,000, the new school was considered "ultra-modern," with a considerable advancement made in the area of sanitation - indoor restroom facilities replaced outhouses and a new well allowed for an inside drinking fountain. Also implemented was a new transportation service using horse-drawn hacks which rendered obsolete the need for students to furnish their own horse and buggies. As a result, the old horse stables were removed.

The 1913 consolidation also ushered in an important era in Linton Township – that of racial integration in its educational institutions. The brick school constructed that year became the first fully integrated school in the

NPS Form 10-900 (Oct. 1990) OMB No. 10024-0018

United States Department of the InteriorNational Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number8	Page6

Linton Township High School and Community Building Vigo County, IN

Statement of Significance (continued):

history of the township. It is also important to note that the elementary school and subsequent high school remained integrated until closing in 1979.

In 1925 the Linton Township High School and Community Building was constructed immediately west of the 1913 elementary school building. The new two-story brick building allowed the high school students of the township to move from the overcrowded 1913 facility to a modern, spacious facility. In addition to modern classrooms and restrooms, the new school featured a gymnasium with boys' and girls' locker rooms. Consuming the first floor of the new school, the new gym was the focus of much attention by local basketball enthusiasts. The creation of the Indiana high school basketball tournament in 1911 by the Indiana State High School Athletic Association had fueled the obsession for the sport. The new facility finally allowed the Pimento high school students to participate fully in "Hoosier Hysteria." Other school-related functions were held in the gym including physical education classes, music concerts, and dances. The new gym also served an important role in the community. Likely, the largest meeting hall in the area, the gym was soon the location of various social events such as dances, rallies, and festivals.

The interior of the new building was quite simple with plaster walls, wood floors, and plain wood trim around doors and windows. During the early 1900s, there was a renewed interest of builders and educators in the beneficial qualities of light and ventilation to the health of students. These important qualities were reflected in the new building in two obvious ways. Each classroom featured multiple window openings with operable windows in order to provide sufficient natural light and fresh air. To improve upon the need for fresh air, the builder integrated a system of fresh air vents in the exterior walls of each classroom and coupled those with a series of ventilation shafts built into interior walls. This system, along with the tall ceilings ensured a supply of fresh air while minimizing drafts.

The building served as the high school for Linton Township from 1925 until 1962. A decision by the county school corporation the previous year to consolidate several schools ended high school service for the Pimento school at the conclusion of the 1961-1962 academic year. Honey Creek High School to the north of Pimento was established as the new main high school for that area of Vigo County. Following its discontinued use as a high school, the Linton Township High School and Community Building served as an elementary school from 1962 until 1979 when the building was closed permanently as a school. The building was than sold into private ownership and served for nearly five years as a church. Again, the building was abandoned and sold.

After remaining vacant for some time, a group of local residents and former graduates of the building formed a local not-for-profit organization, Pimento School, Inc. This organization purchased the property in 1996 and began the arduous task of rehabilitating the building. Pimento School, Inc., has already been successful raising necessary funding through private donations and grants for the completion of several large projects including a new roof. With continued efforts, the organization hopes to return the building to a center for social activity for Pimento and Linton Township.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number9, 10) Page7		

Linton Township High School and Community Building Vigo County, IN

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Luther, Frederic. History of Vigo County Schools, 1818-1970 [microform]. Indianapolis, 1974.

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Severance, Megan L. "Group Trying to Buy Back Memories." Terre Haute Tribune-Star, May 28, 1996.

Vigo County Interim Report: Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory. Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology, June 1984.

Verbal Boundary Description:

Commencing 20 feet West of the Northeast corner of the Northwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 14, Township 10 North, Range 9 West, thence South 247.5 feet to the point of beginning; thence West 614.5 feet, more or less, to the West line of a five acre tract, more or less; thence South along and with said West line of said 5 acre tract to the point where said West line intersects the North line of the public road, now known as Pimento Circle; thence Northeasterly along and with North line of the said public road now known as Pimento Circle, thence North along and with said West Line of said public road a distance of twelve (12) rods, more or less to the place of beginning.

Boundary Justification:

This is the historic property boundary and includes the significant resource and its surrounding environment.

Additional Documentation:

Photographs

Photo 1

- 1. Linton Township High School and Community Building
- 2. Vigo County, Indiana
- 3. Mark Kendall

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number	Page8

Linton Township High School and Community Building Vigo County, IN

Additional Documentation (continued):

Photo 1 (continued):

- 4. August 18, 2001
- 5. All Negatives are located at the office of the Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology, 402 W. Washington Street, RoomW274, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204.
- 6. Southwest oblique view of building; looking northeast.

Photo 2

- 3. Mark Kendall
- 4. August 18, 2001
- 6. South façade; looking north.

Photo 3

- 3. Donald Wilson
- 4. June 13, 2001
- 6. Detail of decorative brick panel and cornice above main entry on south façade; looking northeast.

Photo 4

- 3. Donald Wilson
- 4. June 13, 2001
- 6. Stone panel and arched parapet of central bay on south façade; looking north.

Photo 5

- 3. Donald Wilson
- 4. June 13, 2001
- 6. Detail of stone panel on lower southwest corner of the south façade; looking north.

Photo 6

- 3. Donald Wilson
- 4. June 13, 2001
- 6. East façade; looking west.

Photo 7

- 3. Mark Kendall
- 4. August 18, 2001
- 6. West façade; looking northeast.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number	Page9

Linton Township High School and Community Building Vigo County, IN

Additional Documentation (continued):

Photo 8

- 3. Mark Kendall
- 4. August 18, 2001
- 6. North façade; looking south.

Photo 9

- 3. Madeline Wilson
- 4. June 13, 2001
- 6. Stairway to gymnasium entrance; looking north.

Photo 10

- 3. Madeline Wilson
- 4. June 13, 2001
- 6. Main stairway to second floor; looking west.

Photo 11

- 3. Madeline Wilson
- 4. June 13, 2001
- 6. Interior of gymnasium; looking northeast.

Photo 12

- 3. Madeline Wilson
- 4. June 13, 2001
- 5. Interior of gymnasium; looking northwest.

Photo 13

- 3. Madeline Wilson
- 4. June 13, 2001
- 6. Central hall on second floor; looking north.

Photo 14

- 3. Mark Kendall
- 4. August 18, 2001
- 6. Northwest area of study hall and opening to original library; looking northwest.

Photo 15

- 3. Mark Kendall
- 4. August 18, 2001
- 6. View of typical classroom with original blackboards; looking northeast.