

PP 1001611

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED AUG 14 1975

DATE ENTERED

OCT 29 1975

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

wh

The Old Library - Franklin College

(Shirk Hall)

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

600 East Monroe Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Franklin

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6th

STATE

Indiana

CODE

18

COUNTY

Johnson

CODE

081

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Franklin College of Indiana

STREET & NUMBER

600 East Monroe Street

CITY, TOWN

Franklin

VICINITY OF

STATE

Indiana

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Johnson County Courthouse Deed Book 'E' Page 142

STREET & NUMBER

Court Street

CITY, TOWN

Franklin

STATE

Indiana

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Old Library, an integral part of the Franklin College Campus, was built in 1903 and was used as a library until 1964. A new library was built then to accommodate the growing needs of the college. The interior of the Old Library was then remodeled to fit the needs of the Art, Music, and Sculpture departments without destroying the feeling of the original architecture.

The symmetrical Neo-classical building is one story with a half exposed basement defined by a limestone belt. Stretcher bond brick masonry supports the square plan with protruding wings on all four sides. The cross gabled roof is pedimented on the ends and is accented by small circular windows. The classical cornice is boxed and supported by small brackets. A dome with an octagonal base is at the intersection of the gables and is sheathed in copper. The double hung windows are paired by stone lintels and lugsills. Transoms above are capped by an inlaid stone design. The main entrance has Ionic columns engaged on either side and is capped by an inlaid stone lintel.

A stained glass skylight below the dome highlights the interior space, which has been modified to incorporate more classrooms yet retains the original grandeur.

Shirk Hall, commonly referred to as the Old Library adds to the dignity of one of the oldest educational institutions in Indiana. Despite the constantly changing philosophies on education, the Old Library remains a functioning structure admired by both students and faculty.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

- | | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499 | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599 | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> ART | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION | | |

SPECIFIC DATES

1903

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

name changed 1843

The Indiana Baptist Manual Labor Institute had become a four year liberal arts college and for over fifty years practically all of the school's activities had taken place in three joined halls collectively called Old Main. In 1903, however, a new library was constructed in the then popular Neo-Classical Mode. It's materials, brick and limestone were chosen to blend in harmoniously with Old Main yet from a design standpoint it was a separate entirely. It's perfect proportioning and detail provided the campus a dignified presence that was thought necessary to insure the way of the excellent academics being taught within the walls. A magnificent stained glass dome is the center from which the various functions of the library radiated. Today, the interior of this has been modified to house the Fine Arts curriculum yet the grandeur of the interior has not been sacrificed. The exterior remains intact as handsome as it was when the building was dedicated.

The Old Library provides a delightful contrast the somewhat incongruous Gothic Old Main and the new modern structures constructed to house Franklin College's growing diversity. It also serves as a constant reminder to Franklin's students and others, the accomplishments of many of Franklin's distinguished alumni who undoubtedly benefited from the educational resources of Shirk Hall.

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