

PH0024104

Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Indiana
COUNTY:	Vigo
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	OCT 25 1973

1. NAME

COMMON: Memorial Hall

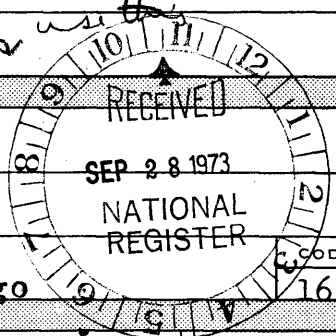
AND/OR HISTORIC: Branch of State Bank of Indiana

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 219 Ohio Street

CITY OR TOWN: Terre Haute

STATE: Indiana CODE: 18 COUNTY: Vigo COUNTY CODE: 167



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	<u>rented as meeting</u>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<u>place by civic groups</u>	

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Memorial Hall Association

STREET AND NUMBER: 219 Ohio Street

CITY OR TOWN: Terre Haute STATE: Indiana CODE: 18

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Recorder's Office, Vigo County CourtHouse

STREET AND NUMBER: 3rd and Wabash Ave.

CITY OR TOWN: Terre Haute STATE: Indiana CODE: 18

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Open Space Plan and Park and Recreation Plan

DATE OF SURVEY: 1971-72 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Area Planning Dept.

STREET AND NUMBER: Housing and Urban Development Office

CITY OR TOWN: 120 S. 7th St., Terre Haute, Ind.; Indiana Office; also in Washington, D.C. STATE: Ind. CODE: 18

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

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7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Indisputably one of the finest examples of 19th century Greek Revival architecture in this section of Indiana, Memorial Hall, located on Ohio Street between 2nd and 3rd Streets, was built as a Branch Bank of the Second State Bank of Indiana in 1834. Edwin J. Peck, a prominent Indiana architect-builder of the period, was superintendent of construction.

The mark of its architectural significance is, of course, the facade, which imitates a Greek doric temple with four fluted columns, all supporting an entablature with a frieze of triglyphs and metopes; one triglyph over each column and one over each intercolumniation—the precise formula used in antiquity, but rarely found in any 19th century revival works. The old bank occupied the first floor under a large domed skylight. The second floor was fitted up as a residence for the bank cashier's living quarters. When National banks were organized in 1865, the bank ceased operations, and the building was sold to Lorenz Kussner as a commercial store for selling musical instruments. His daughter, Amalia Kussner Coudert, won world-wide fame as a miniature painter. A talented family, they fitted up one room with a stage on which were given many performances. After several changes and the sale of the property by the Kussners, the building became a second-hand shop known as "The Old Curiosity Shop." Its owner, Zebulon Heaberlin, sold the building to the GAR Memorial Hall Association. They maintained it as headquarters for Civil War veterans groups, the Woman's Relief Corps, and other patriotic societies. It became a repository for war relics and photographs of veterans, etc. In the 1920's it again changed hands, becoming the Memorial Hall Association, and was in the care of first the Spanish American War veterans, then the World War I veterans, and now the United War Veterans Council. A large addition was built on for a meeting room, kitchen and serving facilities were added, but the original part of the building remains very much as it was when the bank opened its doors in 1834. The building is the oldest business building in the City of Terre Haute, and is located across the street from the Vigo County Court House.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



6. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1834

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

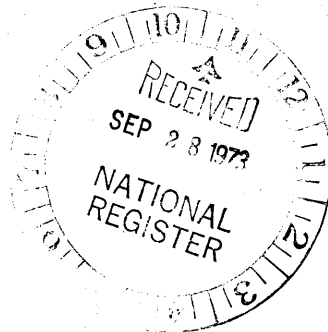
In addition to its architectural significance, and the fact that it is one of the very few buildings of its type left in Indiana, it is the oldest commercial building left in the City of Terre Haute.

Its Civil War significance, as well as its use by veterans of all the past wars of the United States, makes it unique in military relics and historical importance in this community.

It is important to preserve a fine example of an early banking institution. The Second State Bank of Indiana has often been hailed as one of the most successful banks of the pre-Civil War era.

Fine art glass portraits of Civil War heroes and early bankers of Terre Haute are still in place around the domed ceiling skylight.

Only one other structure in the City of Terre Haute has an older history of service in the community than this one has.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Indiana State Archives, architect's plans on file for all Branch Banks built by State of Indiana, 1834
 History of Early Terre Haute, 1816 to 1840, by B. Condit, publ. 1900, page 158.
 TERRE HAUTE TRIBUNE, June 4, 1931-see enclosed clipping
 TERRE HAUTE TRIBUNE, Dec. 2, 1951 - see enclosed clipping
 TERRE HAUTE GAZETTE, Oct. 12, 1903- see enclosed clipping

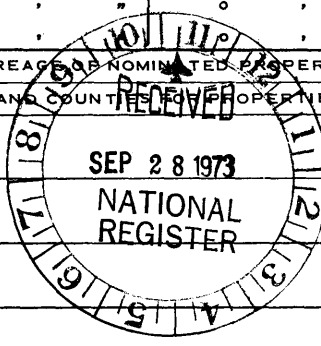
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		39 27 54.8	87 24 53.0	
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 0.17 acres more or less

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES WHERE PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



UTM
16/46432
436877C
CD

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Mrs. Dorothy J. Clark, Secretary

ORGANIZATION: Vigo County Historical Society, Inc. DATE: June 23, 1973

STREET AND NUMBER: 1411 South 6th Street

CITY OR TOWN: Terre Haute STATE: Indiana CODE: 18

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: Joseph D. Cloud
 JOSEPH D. CLOUD
 Title: INDIANA LIAISON OFFICER
 Date: SEPTEMBER 24, 1973

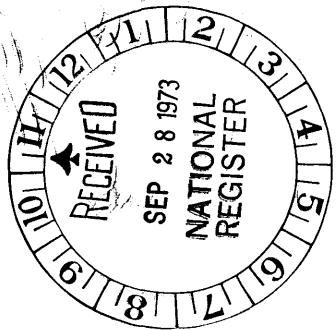
NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Ernest A. Connelly

Associate Director, Professional Services
 Date: OCT 25 1973

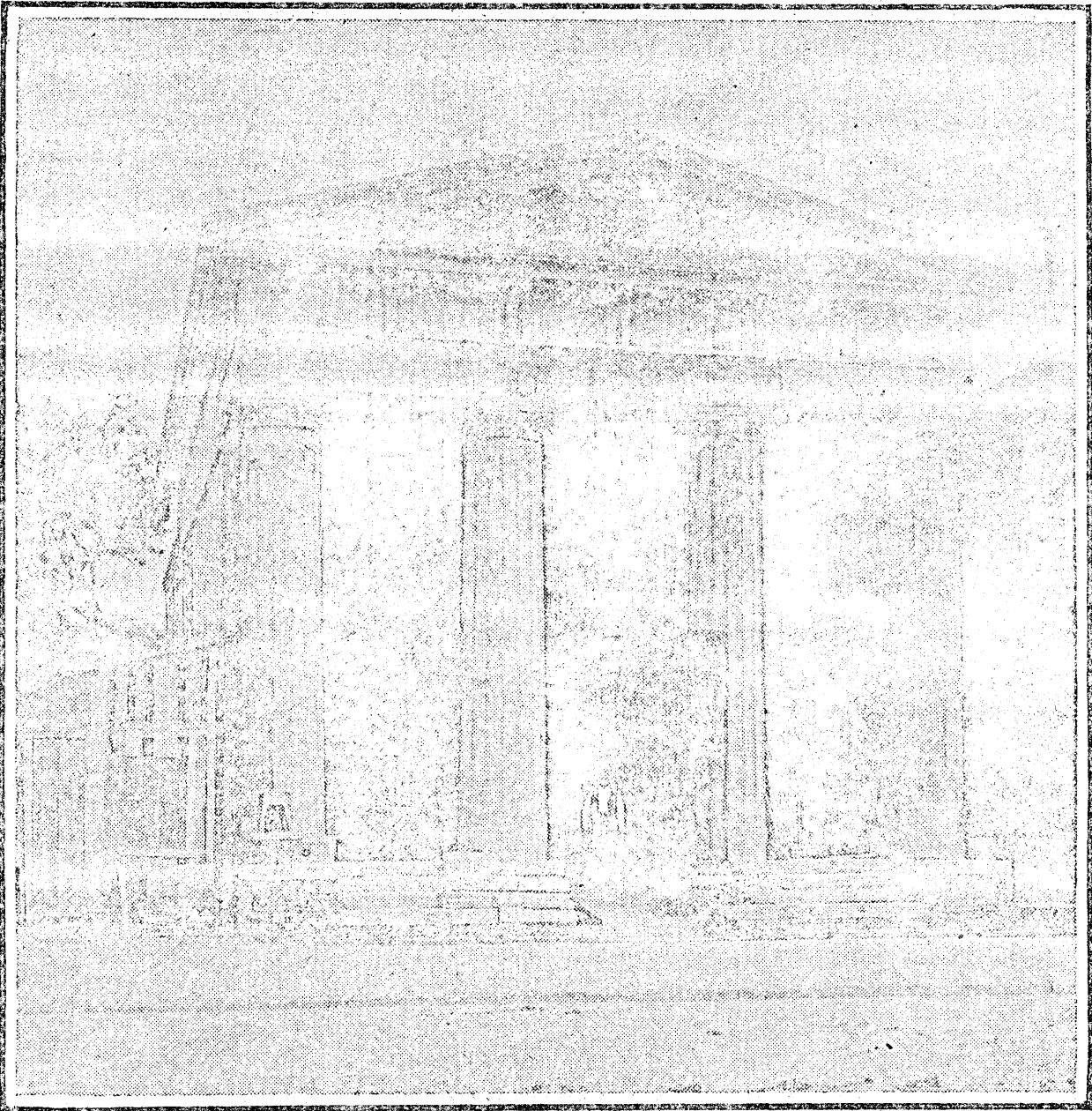
ATTEST:
Ann M. [Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register
 Date: 10.17.73



TERRE HAUTE MEMORIAL HALL, located on Ohio Street between 2nd and 3rd streets is indisputably one of the finest examples of 19th century Greek Revival architecture in this section of Indiana. The work was originally used as the Branch Bank of Indiana and was built between 1832 and 1834. Edwin J. Peck, a prominent Indiana architect-builder of the period, was superintendent of construction. The mark of its architectural significance is of course the facade, which imitates a Greek doric temple with four fluted columns, all supporting an entablature with a frieze of triglyphs and metopes: one triglyph over each column and one over each intercolumniation — the precise formula used in antiquity but rarely found in any 19th century revival works



OWNER OF THAT FAMOUS LANDMARK "THE OLD CURIOSITY SHOP" SERIOUSLY ILL



—Photo by Bundy.

"The Old Curiosity Shop," as the venerable and time-worn building, is called, is Terre Haute's most historic edifice.

It was built for the Terre Haute branch of the State Bank of Indiana, and opened for business in 1834. The first president was the late Demas Deming, sr., father of the present president of the First National bank, and the first cashier was Curtis Gilbert. Other cashiers in later years, were Joseph S. Jenckes, W. R. McKeen and Preston Hussey. The bank's first safe was bought in Louisville, at a cost of \$1,000, and the large round table around which Terre Haute's first financiers used to gather and talk of the stormy

times in the panics of 1837, 1857 and the war times, was made by a town carpenter and is still in use in the board room of the National State bank. The old bank, outside of the business room, and on the second floor, was fitted up as a residence for the cashiers, several of whom lived there, and after the building was deserted by the bank, it was occupied by the family of Lorenz Kussner, whose daughter, Amalia Kussner Coucort, has won world-wide fame as a miniature painter. The Kussner family was one of many talents and had one room fitted up with a stage on which were given many beautiful performances. After several changes and the sale of the property by the Kussners, the building became a second-hand shop, in which were

many quaint and curious relics that it became known as "The Old Curiosity Shop." Z. Heaberlin, its owner, is now seriously ill at his home, 911 Center street, and fears are entertained for his recovery.

The Branch bank, which in its third year had a surplus of \$134,000, was a most useful institution to the community, but passed out of existence when the National banks succeeded the old style of banks.

Its stockholders organized the National State bank in 1865, and the last cashier of the old bank became the first cashier of the new, and in a few months succeeded to the presidency on the sudden death of Levi G. Warren, and still holds the responsible position.

The Old Curiosity Shop' on Ohio St. Between Second and Third.

A MOST INTERESTING RELIC.

Is Also Terre Haute's Most Perfect Specimen of Greek Architecture; Is Honorably Intertwoven with History of the City.

The Gazette is glad to note that its contemporary, The Star, is taking an interest in "The Old Curiosity Shop," and hopes it will join the effort. The Gazette has been making for years to

have this building appreciated. It was built in 1831. It has been interwoven with the history of the city. It was built by the older citizens—men like Dr. Curtis Gilbert, Dr. James W. McKee, the Warrens and others.

It has long been a hobby with The Gazette that this building should be bought, restored and preserved. It would make a magnificent gift from some of the descendants of the founders of Terre Haute to the city to be used for museum purposes, or better still, to an organization of the women's clubs for a propylaeum museum and art collection. Situated on one of Terre Haute's widest and handsomest streets, Ohio, which is soon to be opened and made the finest drive in the state; and located as this building is opposite the beautiful court house and park and near to the Third and Wabash avenue car lines it is in a desirable site.

There is a need for a meeting place for the women's clubs. They have no place now. The rear or residence portion of this building could, at moderate expense be remodeled.

If no generous citizen or citizens will present it to the city or to the organization referred to, why not form an organization and buy it?

Its owner, Mr. Z. Heaberlin, who acquired it from Mrs. Amalia Kussner Couderd, is in poor health and may not have the health and strength to continue the business of the "Old Curiosity Shop;" or even if he should he would no doubt be willing to sell the place for a reasonable



THE OLD STATE BANK, NOW KNOWN AS "THE OLD CURIOSITY SHOP," on Ohio Street. The pen and ink sketch, from which the above cut was made, was drawn for the Gazette some years ago by Mr. Norman P. Hood, at that time the cartoonist for this paper. He was a stranger in the city, fresh from the Art school at Boston, and was at once attracted, as all with artistic instincts are, to this noble old building.

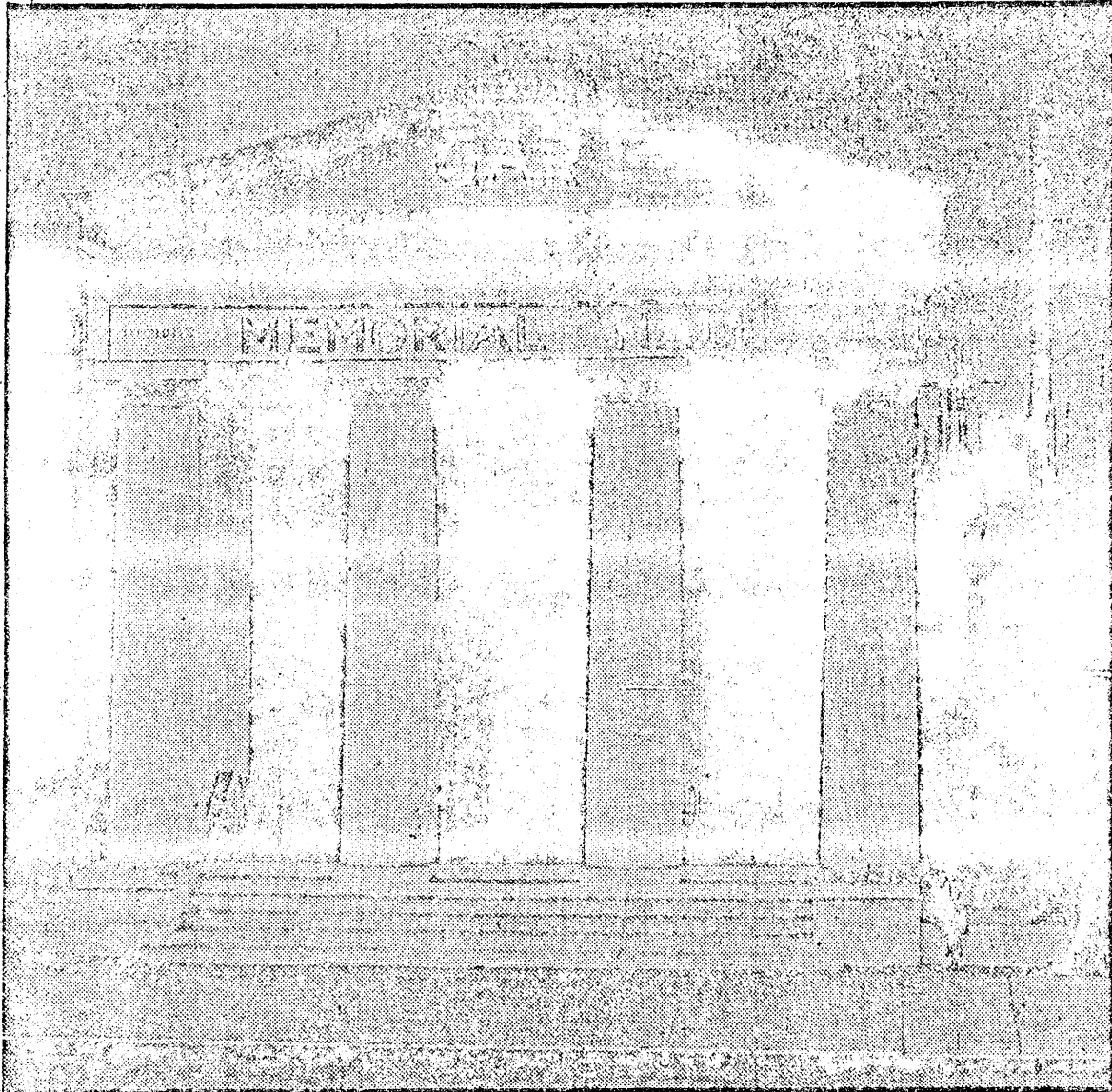
have this building appreciated. It is this city's most interesting relic and most perfect specimen of the noble Grecian architecture. It was built for a branch of

price for a public end, like that proposed.

To tear it down would be simply sacrilege.

THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 1931.

WHERE CIVIL WAR VETERANS MEET



219 OHIO STREET.

TERRE HAUTE TRIBUNE

Dedicate Memorial Hall

Vigo County's Memorial Hall was formally dedicated Thursday when the members of the various patriotic societies of the city kept open house at the newly repaired building, which stands as a monument to the valiant soldiers and sailors and their widows and orphans. Representatives of the G.A.R. posts, the Women's Relief Corps, the Sons of Veterans and other closely allied with these societies aided in the reception. The doors were thrown open at 2 p.m. and the interior of the building was handsomely decorated. Marx Meyers donated a very handsome American flag to be hung in the hall and several other mementoes were also donated.

40 years ago today