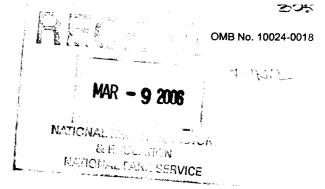
National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in 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.

1. Name of Property	
historic name Richsquare Friends Meetinghous	se and Cemetery
other names/site number	065-356-55017
2. Location	
street & number 5685 South County Road 250 East	N/A ☐ not for publication
city or town Lewisville	
state Indiana code IN county I	
3. State/Federal Agency Certification	
	for additional comments.) 1 · 3 0 · 06 Date
Signature of certifying official/Title	Date
State or Federal agency and bureau	<u> </u>
4. National Park Service Certification	we.
I hereby certify that the property is: The entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.	Signature of the Respect Seal 4.19.06
 determined eligible for the National Register 	700
See continuation sheet.	
determined not eligible for theNational Register	
removed from the National Register other, (explain:)	

Richsquare Friends Meetinghouse and Cemetery Name of Property		Henry IN County and State		
5. Classification				
Ownership of Propert (Category of Prop Check as many boxes as apply) (Check only one box)		Resources with previously listed res	sources in the cou	unt
□ private □ public-local □ district	1		0	buildings
□ public-State □ site □ public-Federal □ structure	1		0	sites
	0		0	_structures
	0		0	objects
	2		0	Total
Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing	iii tiic National N		es previously	listed
N/A	0			
6. Function or Use				
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)	Current Functions (Enter categories from in			
RELIGION: Religious	Facility RECREATION/0	CULTURE:	Audito	orium
	RECREATION/	CULTURE:	Mus	eum
7. Description Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)	Materials (Enter categories from	instructions)	<u> </u>	
LATE VICTORIAN: Roman	esque foundation _		STONE	
LATE VICTORIAN: Romand	esque foundation _ walls _		STONE BRICK	
LATE VICTORIAN: Roman				
LATE VICTORIAN: Romand				

Narrative Description

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

Richsqua	are Friends Meetinghouse and	Henry IN		
Name of F	Property	County and State		
8. Sta	tement of Significance			
(Mark ">	cable National Register Criteria one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property conal Register listing.)	Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)		
		ARCHITECTURE		
ΜA	Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT		
□В	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.	Period of Significance 1832-1895		
☐ D	Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.	Significant Dates		
Criteri	ia Considerations	N/A		
(Mark "x	in all the boxes that apply.) Property is:			
_ A	owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.	Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)		
□В	removed from its original location.	N/A		
□ C	a birthplace or grave.	Cultural Affiliation		
	a cemetery.	N/A		
ΠE	a reconstructed building, object, or structure.			
□F	a commemorative property.			
□G	less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.	Architect/Builder Unknown		
Narrat (Explain	tive Statement of Significance the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)			
9. Maj	or Bibliographic References			
(Cite the	graphy e books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form ous documentation on file (NPS):	on one or more continuation sheets.) Primary location of additional data:		
☐ prel	liminary determination of individual listing (36	State Historic Preservation Office		
	R 67) has been requested	☐ Other State agency		
□ bre	viously listed in the National Register			
previously determined eligible by the National Register		☐ Federal agency ☐ Local government		
designated a National historic Landmark				
☐ rece	orded by Historic American Buildings Survey	☐ University ☐ Other		
☐ rec	orded by Historic American Engineering	Name of repository:		

Richsquare Friends Meetinghouse and

Richsquare Friends Meetinghouse and Name of Property	Henry County and State	IN
10. Geographical Data		
Acreage of Property 1.13 acres UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation she 1 16 64 1900 441 2520 3 Zone Easting Northing 2 4	Zone Easting	Northing
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 Donald J. White, Board Member; Paul Diebold	, Amy Walker	
organization Friends of Richsquare, Inc.; DHPA	date	07-02-2005
street & number 331906 Stoney Creek Road	telephone	949/ 707-2625
city or town Trabuco Canyon	·	zip code 92679
Additional Documentation Submit the following items with the completed form:		
Continuation Sheets		
Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the pr A Sketch map for historic districts and properties havin	, ,	s resources.
Photographs		
Representative black and white photographs of the pr	operty.	
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 Friends of Richsquare, Inc.		
street & number 1117 Abington Pike	telephone	765/ 962-5443
city or town Richmond		zip code 47374

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.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

		Richsquare Friends Meetinghouse & Cemetery
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Description

The Richsquare Meetinghouse is located in rural Franklin Township of Henry County, Indiana. Surrounding land use is primarily agricultural, with the building located on 1.127 acres. Mature trees flank the building's front yard, and the side and rear yards are filled with a variety of trees. The 1.802 acre Richsquare Cemetery, founded 1832, is immediately adjacent to the church yard.

The congregation built the current meetinghouse in 1895. This simple, one story brick building with corner two story tower recalls the Romanesque Revival style. Originally, the meetinghouse had an open wooden belfry atop the tower. A small concrete block addition stands to the north or rear of the building.

The foundation is of rock-faced, coursed limestone with grapevine mortar joints. Walls are of common bond brick. The front elevation faces south and combines a two story tower at the west corner with a steep gable to the center and east, so that the west slope of the gable is interrupted by the tower (photos 1, 2). The plane of the front of the tower projects from the gabled mass several inches. The first floor of the building has three openings, a doorway with tall two-pane transom in the tower section, beside two window openings in the gabled section. All openings are defined by a double course of rowlock, segmental arched, header brick. The front door itself is a 1979 replacement, but the transom is original, as are all other windows on the original part of the building. The center opening has a pair of four-over-four wood double hung sash. This pair of windows has an arched wood filler at the top, to meet the curve of the brick arch, as do all the windows on the original portion of the building. The windows are tall in proportion and all have dressed stone sills. The next opening is a single fourover-four window. A grid of brick pilaster strips and corbel belts enriches the façade. The narrow strips project about a brick width. One rises a full two stories on either corner of the tower. Pairs of pilaster strips rise to the apex of the gable; on either side of the double window, and at the east corner. A brick belt course runs across the gable end about seven brick courses above the first floor windows. The belts and corbels match planes of projection from the building, however, the belts have intermediate brick corbel courses beneath them. A raking corbel table runs along the roofline, matching the plane of the belts and pilasters, to a point at the top of the gable, where the entire triangular brick panel corbels out flush with the various pilasters and corbel tables that meet it. The open eaves have a plain, narrow bargeboard and a series of three evenly spaced scroll sawn brackets along the east slope and one on the west slope, with a single bracket at the center. The tower rises beside the gable, with the pilaster strips continuing to a corbelled frieze. The second story of the tower has a diamond window outlined in header brick. The low-pitched, pyramidal roof of the tower is a replacement feature, dating from recent decades. Originally, the tower had a short, truncated hip roof with steep sides, with an open wood octagonal belfry on top. The belfry had a high wood railing, a wood frieze and a flared spire roof.

Pilaster strips divide the east elevation into four bays (photo 3). Corner pilasters do not "share" corners, but instead each has its own jamb or side, so that principle building corners are cut into the mass of the building ("inside" corners). The southern bay has a single window, next, a wider bay has a transomed double door set within it. There is a small stoop and stairs for the doorway. The doors are original and have two vertical lower panels, a horizontal panel, two tall vertical panels, and at the top, two square panels. The large transom is two light. The next two openings are windows. The meetinghouse has conventional modern gutters along the roofline, and asphalt shingle roofing.

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Description-continued

The west elevation also has four bays, however, the spacing of the openings does not correspond to the east side (photo 5). The pilasters define a blank section where the tower projects forward of the wall surface, at the south end. Next is a regular window, then, a brick pilaster strip disguises a narrow chimney. The next section has two openings between the chimney/pilaster and an intermediate pilaster. The south opening is a window, the next is a wooden door. A wood wheelchair ramp runs in front of this whole elevation, gradually reaching the level of the threshold of this single leaf door. The final bay of the original building has a single window.

In December, 1955, the congregation completed the addition of a Fellowship Hall room to the rear (north) elevation of the meetinghouse (visible in photo 3). It measures twenty-two by thirty-three feet, and has walls of painted concrete block. The addition has a gable roof, but, the addition is one foot narrower on each side than the original building, and its walls are just over half as high as the original walls. The addition has a single square shaped window opening with a pair of three light steel casement windows. The north face of the addition has an exterior chimney that splits the apex of the gable roof. The west face of the addition has a paneled door to the south and a small window. The asphalt shingle roof of the 1955 portion lower in pitch than that of the main building, leaving much of the original rear wall above the first floor exposed. The original north gable end lacks any of the corbel work or brackets of the front, however a single attic window with double header course arch and stone sill remains visible. The sash itself is covered by a plywood board.

The interior of the meetinghouse reflects the influence of the Akron plan. The plan includes three basic areas, a sanctuary, a smaller classroom / women's sanctuary, and the 1955 addition. A single, domed interior space has concentric rings of curved pews in the primary worship space. The tower entry foyer leads to the sanctuary. The plan of the room focuses on the pulpit in the northeast corner of the sanctuary (photos 6, 7). Floors in the sanctuary are wood with carpet in aisles. Walls are plaster and woodwork is simple. Stained moldings surrounding window and door openings have wood sill, apron board, and simplified entablature header. The ceiling is stamped sheet metal, with four principal ribs of rope molding forming a square-based arched dome with flat square shaped panel in the center (photo 10). The perimeter cornice is stamped sheet metal as well, in a palmette pattern, the cove frieze is undulating grapevine design, next, an egg-and-dart like narrow molding divides the frieze and cornice from the vault (photo 9). The vault pattern includes two different stylized floral designs, alternating checkerboard-style.

Quakers believed in separation of genders during services. The east half of the north wall of the sanctuary includes a two eight foot oak plank partitions or shutters that can be raised into the ceiling, so that the north roughly one-third of the building can be closed off as a separate space. The rest of this wall is traditional stud, lath and plaster.

The north room was originally the women's section. It is later used as a classroom. Window moldings and other finishes are similar to the south portion of the sanctuary. Congregants added a bathroom in the northwest corner of this room. Within the bathroom area is the original back door of the meetinghouse, now leading to the Fellowship Hall 1955 addition. Workers cut an additional door through to the addition from the main area of the classroom / women's section in 1955.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Description-continued

Finishes in the 1955 addition are utilitarian, with the concrete block walls exposed and painted and exposed bare concrete slab floor.

The pews are distinctive to the sanctuary (photos 6, 7, 8). The National Church Company of Richmond, Indiana, built the pews for the meetinghouse in 1898. Each of the twenty oak pews forms a segment of a circle in plan. The ends are two ply and have radius-corner inset arch panels and floral carving. The backs are three-ply. In all, the meetinghouse can seat 200 people in the pews. Additionally, two sets of pews survive from the 1851 meetinghouse that once stood on this site. Congregants saved them from the burned building. Each is a long, plain stained wood bench with diagonal front legs that can be folded shut.

In the attic space, large wooden trusses make the clear span of the twenty-two foot wide interior possible. The trusses are built of sandwiched cedar wood members joined with bolts (photo 11). Single and double wood diagonals connect the top and bottom chords. Also, iron rods form the verticals of the truss system – likely akin to Howe Truss, used so successfully at that time on wooden bridges.

Currently, the sanctuary has several pendant electrical fixtures with concentric circular louvers. The Friends added these in 1952, to replace the original gas light fixtures. Conduit for the natural gas lighting remains in place throughout the meetinghouse.

The basement has a dirt floor. The meetinghouse originally had a coal-fired furnace in the basement. It was replaced in 1968 with an oil-fired furnace. An LP gas furnace was installed in 2003.

The 1.802 acre cemetery is located immediately east of the meetinghouse. There are 383 marked burials, one stone with legible date but illegible name, sixteen markers with only initials, and seven completely illegible markers in the cemetery, dating from 1832 to the present. The most recent internment was in July of 2005, when Carl Jordan was buried. Most markers are simple tablets, a few are short obelisk style monuments. Marble, limestone and granite markers predominate. In keeping with Quaker beliefs, all monuments are simple and modest in design.

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		Richsquare Friends Meetinghouse & Cemetery
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Statement of Significance

The Richsquare Friends Meetinghouse and Cemetery are located along the Flatrock River in Franklin Township, Henry County, Indiana. The property received a notable rating in the Henry County Interim Report. This rural Quaker meetinghouse and adjacent cemetery meet National Register Criterion A for early ties to Exploration/Settlement and Criterion C for Architecture as an example of Romanesque Revival architecture. The Period of Significance is 1832-1895 and the property includes one contributing building (meetinghouse) and one contributing site (cemetery).

Exploration/Settlement

As early as 1819 Euro-American people were settling the northern, eastern and southern portions of what would become Henry County. The population continued to grow and the county was formally created in 1821. Many of the new settlers were Quakers from Virginia and North Carolina. By 1827 they could travel through the Cumberland Gap via the National Road which crossed through east-central Indiana in southern Henry County. Quakers were so drawn to the area along the National Road that between 1815-1826 thirty-nine Friends meetings were established adjacent to the Road in Indiana. One such area where the Quaker population settled included Franklin Township in the late 1820s-1830s. This migration was largely motivated by a desire to get away from the influences of slavery as well as the great expanses of fertile, inexpensive land. This westward migration was about 600 miles and many families stopped temporarily along the way in Tennessee and Southwest Ohio.

Quakers settled on the rich farmland along the Flatrock River near the National Road and the area soon became known as the Richsquare neighborhood. The area was about four miles wide and seven miles long and housed the Richsquare Meetinghouse and Cemetery, the Richsquare Academy (demolished c.1932), and several farms. It was the center of community life for this anti-slavery, Quaker settlement. The name Richsquare was made at the suggestion of Jeremiah Parker in remembrance of a Friends' Meeting in North Carolina.

The first meetinghouse was built in 1831 near the site of the current building. In 1841 a small frame schoolhouse was built to the east of the meetinghouse. A fire destroyed both buildings in 1851 which resulted in the construction of a larger building to accommodate both the school and bi-weekly Quaker meetings. The community continued to grow and after the 1865 school term, a new school was built ½-mile south of the current meetinghouse. The bi-weekly meetings continued to be held at this location.

In 1895 the current meetinghouse was built. Members continued to meet twice a week until 1910-1911 when the mid-week meeting was discontinued due to low attendance. Sunday meetings lasted until 2000 when the congregation disbanded due to dwindling membership. There had not been a regular minister since around 1989 and members were aging/dying.

¹ Henry County Interim Report: Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory, p.xiv.

² Thomas J. Schlereth. U.S. 40: A Roadscape of the American Experience, p.120

³ Jennifer Hoffman-Stonebreaker. National Register of Historic Places nomination for Sugar Grove Meetinghouse and Cemetery, p.8-6.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

		Richsquare Friends Meetinghouse & Cemetery
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Statement of Significance-continued

The adjacent cemetery has settlement era burials dating from 1832. The markers are very simple stone tablets with little or no writing. Some burials do not have any markers including those of the Wickersham family—early founders of the church and known participants in Underground Railroad activity in the area.

Descendants of the early Quaker settlers formed a non-profit corporation, Friends of Richsquare, Inc., and purchased the property in 2002. They intend to renovate and preserve the building.

Architecture

The Richsquare Friends Meetinghouse is a vernacular brick building with hints of the Romanesque Revival style. The rectangular building has a square two-story belltower/entry on the southwest corner resulting in a slightly asymmetrical building. Decorative pilaster strips and brick corbelling adorn the main façade and tower. A grid of raised pilaster strips and belts provide visual depth to this simple rural meetinghouse. A raking corbel table highlights the steeply pitched roofline.

The interior of the Richsquare Friends Meetinghouse illustrates the Akron plan. The distinctive design was created by Lewis Miller, an inventor, Sunday school teacher, and amateur architect, for his First Methodist Church in Akron, Ohio in 1867. The new plan moved the altar from the center of the sanctuary to one corner. As a result of this move, a single main aisle with seating flanking both sides was no longer appropriate. Instead Miller used a series of wedge-shaped banks of pews that radiated out around the altar in a fan-shape. The Richsquare congregation had the National Church Company build twenty curved pews in 1898 and these pews remain in the meetinghouse. The Akron plan also encouraged children to attend religious services in a side room that could be opened onto the main sanctuary as needed. In the case of Richsquare, this room was used by women, since the Quakers separated the sexes during services. Floors of Akron plan churches are often sloped to allow for better sight-lines. However the floor in Richsquare is level.

There are a total of four historic religious buildings remaining in Franklin Township. The Richsquare Friends Meetinghouse is the sole rural example and the three remaining churches are in Lewisville, the only community of any size in the township. The National Road (US 40) runs through the heart of Lewisville. The Richsquare Friends Meetinghouse is the only instance of the Romanesque style in Franklin Township.

The oldest of the three churches in Lewisville, and the only one to pre-date the Richsquare Friends Meetinghouse, is the Lewisville Friends Meetinghouse. This 1886 unadorned frame building was originally rectangular with an entrance on the east side. It was added on to in 1914 and the entrance was moved from the east side to the north side resulting in a T-shaped footprint. The building now houses the Church of God and over the years it has been covered with aluminum siding, windows have been replaced and a new porch has been added. It was given a contributing rating in the Henry County Interim Report.

The Lewisville Presbyterian Church was constructed in 1902 in the Gothic Revival style. It was rated outstanding in the Henry County Interim Report. This square-plan red brick building has a corner tower and a series of Gothic lancet stained glass windows. Brick corbelling and stone finials highlight the two

⁴ George Dobie, Terry Baxter-Potter, & Paul Diebold. National Register of Historic Places nomination for the First Congregational Church of Michigan City, 2000, p.4-5.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

			Richsquare Friends Meetinghouse & Cemetery
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Statement of Significance-continued

dominate gable ends and rusticated limestone arches adorn the stained glass windows. Like the Richsquare Friends Meetinghouse it illustrates the Akron plan.

The last of the three churches in Lewisville is the First Methodist Episcopal Church. It was constructed in 1903 of rock-faced concrete block. The angled main entrance, hipped roof and central belvedere give the rectangular planned building a decidedly octagonal feel. It has Gothic Revival influences and a variety of stained glass windows which resulted in a notable rating in the Henry County Interim Report. This church is another example of the Akron plan and now houses the United Methodist Church.

Bibliography

Charles, Helen. Quaker Chuckles and Some Old Folklore of the Friends. Oxford, OH: USA Press, 1961.

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Hoffman-Stonebraker, Jennifer. National Register of Historic Places nomination for the Sugar Grove Meetinghouse and Cemetery, 2000.

Minutes of Richsquare Meeting. January 16, 1896.

Ratcliff, Richard Pickering. Henry County at the Millennium: A Reference Book of History, Firsts, Trivia List and Interesting Facts. New Castle, IN: Henry County Historical Society, 1999.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

			Richsquare Friends Meetinghouse & Cemetery
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Schlereth, Thomas J. U.S. 40: A Roadscape of the American Experience. Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Society, 1985.

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Verbal Boundary Description

A part of the Southeast Quarter of Section 07, Township 16 North, Range 11 East, Henry County, Indiana, being described as follows:

Commencing on an Iron Pipe marking the Southeast corner of said Quarter Section; thence North 00 degrees 08 minutes 20 seconds East (assumed bearing) along the East line of said Quarter Section a distance of 2650.56 feet to a 3/4 Inch Rebar marking the Northeast corner of said Quarter Section; thence North 89 degrees 42 minutes 00 seconds West along the North line of said Quarter Section a distance of 555.39 feet to a Rebar on the Southern Right-of-Way line of Interstate 70; thence South 87 degrees 40 minutes 16 seconds West along said Right-of-Way line a distance of 160.00 feet to a 5/8 Inch Rebar with Cap marked "C2LS FIRM #0035" also being the Point of Beginning of this description; thence South 02 degrees 39 minutes 27 seconds West a distance of 46.71 feet to a 5/8 Inch Rebar with Cap marked "C2LS FIRM #0035; thence South 84 degrees 24 minutes 24 seconds East a distance of 5.74 feet to a 5/8 Inch Rebar with Cap marked "C2LS FIRM #0035"; thence South 02 degrees 19 minutes 59 seconds West a distance of 193.08 feet to a Mag Nail on the South line of a tract of land recorded as Deed Record K, Page 330 in the Office of the Recorder of Henry County, Indiana; thence North 89 degrees 42 minutes 00 seconds West along the South line thereof and parallel with the North line of said Quarter Section a distance of 205.03 feet to a 5/8 Inch Rebar with Cap marked "C2LS FIRM #0035" marking the Southwest corner of said tract; thence North 00 degrees 08 minutes 20 seconds East along the West line of thereof and along the West line of a tract of land recorded as Deed Record 114, Page 370 in said Recorder's Office a distance of 230.17 feet to a Rebar on the Southern Right-of-Way line of Interstate 70; thence North 83 degrees 22 minutes 55 seconds East along said Right-of-Way line a distance of 5.45 feet to a Rebar; thence North 87 degrees 40 minutes 16 seconds East along said Right-of-Way line a distance of 203.53 feet to the Point of Beginning of this description, containing 1.127 acres, more or less.

Verbal Boundary Justification

This is a single parcel property. The boundaries are the same as the parcel boundaries and have not significantly changed since 1895.

