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United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Piaces Registration Form



REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines* for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property					
historic name Bristol-Was	hington Township So	chool			
other names/site number Brist	ol High School				
2. Location					
street & number 304 West V	'istula Street	N/1	A not for publication		
olty, town Bristol		N/I	A vicinity		
state IN code	IN county Elkha	art code 039	zip code 46507		
3. Classification					
Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resou	irces within Property		
private	X building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing		
X public-local		1	buildings		
public-State			0 sites		
		0			
		0			
		<u> </u>			
Name of related multiple property list	ng:		Number of contributing resources previously		
_N/A	·······	listed in the Natio	nal Register0		
4. State/Federal Agency Certific	ation		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		
As the designated authority under					
nomination request for dete					
National Register of Historic Places					
In my opinion, the property X ne		al Register criteria. 🛄 See c			
- Takink	K. Kalatan		7-23-1		
Signature of certifying official	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	and a second	Date		
Indiana Department of Natural Resources					
State or Federal agency and bureau			en an		
In my opinion, the property me	ets Ladoes not meet the Nation	al Register criteria. 🛄 See c	ontinuation sheet.		
			<u></u>		
Signature of commenting or other official Date					
State or Federal agency and bureau					
5. National Park Service Certific	ation and the state of the stat	New State States and a state of the	그는 그들은 말 같이 나도 가운지 않는 것이		

S. MEDINE FEIN SELVICE GELINIGEN		
 I, hereby, certify that this property is: entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet. determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet. 	Allorer Byen	ed in the Englater 8/29/9/
determined not eligible for the National Register.		
removed from the National Register.		
	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action

6. Function or Use			
Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions) EDUCATION: School	Current Functions (enter categories from instructions) RECREATION and CULTURE: Museum		
SOCIAL: Meeting Hall		L: Meeting Hall	
7. Description			
Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)	Materials (e	enter categories from instructions)	
	foundation	STONE: limestone	
LATE 19th and 20th CENTURY REVIVALS:	walls	BRICK	
Classical Revival		STONE: limestone	
	roof	ASPHALT	

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The former Washington Township, Bristol, Grade and High School, now the home of the Elkhart County Historical Society Museum, is located on Vistula Street on the west edge of the business district of Bristol, Indiana. The main two-story and high-basement brick and polished limestone structure designed in the Neo-classical Revival style was constructed in 1903. The original 1903 structure, with a frontage facade of 61 feet and a depth of 61 feet had later wings added with a frontage of 33 feet in 1923 and 1949, matching the original structure architecturally. The original 1903 structure was designed by George (Further information about Mr. Selby is set out in the W. Selby. narrative history of the building.) In addition to the classroom additions of 1923 and 1949, a gymnasium/auditorium was added in 1925 on the northeast corner of the building, with a 95 foot frontage facade of brick, again matching the original structure. The front facade was set back from the front of the original building, and extended beyond the rear of the main structure for 95 feet.

The 1903 Bristol school building is characterized by its pleasing proportions and restful geometric lines. The large closely spaced windows with rectangular double-hung sash are the dawn of revised classroom design thinking which stressed abundant natural daylight as opposed to the dimly lit narrow-windowed classrooms of the nineteenth century. The school's window and classroom arrangement is such as to bring the sunlight over the pupil's left shoulder.

The front and ends of the basement story above grade line are faced with dressed Indiana limestone capped by a bevelled water-table. Three small windows stand on each side of the central entry at the basement level. The first story of smooth pressed red face brick is distinguished by every fifth course being recessed giving the appearance of channeled masonry. These channeled courses are terminated in the brick hooded arch over the main entrance. The entry arch has a semi-circular intrados, pointed extrados, and brick keystone. Paneled and glazed double wood doors with sidelights and a large transom are recessed behind the arch. The landing between the steps and entrance doors is inlaid with ceramic tile of colors and designs that were popular at the time.

8. Statement of Significance	1
Certifying official has considered the significance of this property antionally st	v in relation to other properties:
Applicable National Register Criteria]D
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)	D E F G
Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions) EDUCATION	Period of Significance Significant Dates 1904-1941 1904
ARCHITECTURE	1923
SOCIAL HISTORY	1925
	Cultural Affiliation N/A
Significant Person N/A	Architect/Builder Selby, George (Architect) Maxon, M. L. (Contractor) Ellwood, A. H. (Architect)

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Bristol High School/Washington Township School meets Criteria A and C in the areas of education, architecture, and social history. Bristol School was the first consolidated school in Elkhart County and the first high school in Washington Township. Architecturally, it is the most impressive public building in the township and is a good example of Neo-classical Revival design. The school building and especially its community center was the focus of Bristol's social life, providing space for sporting events, plays, meetings and other events.

The period of c.1895-1940 in Indiana's educational history was dominated by attempts to consolidate rural schools throughout the state. This context is significant to local history because it illustrates a major shift in educational policy, and this new policy has remained the cornerstone of state and local school policy to this day.

Prior to the 1890s, most of Indiana's public schools operated under the district school system. Although authorized under the acts which established the Old Northwest Territory in 1785-7, it was an act by the Indiana Legislature in 1824 which organized the district school system. The district system created a number of small schools in each township of established counties. Trustees administered the schools of a township, and reported to a county examiner, who in turn reported to the State Superintendent of Public Education. The system was highly decentralized, and well suited to an era of high rural populations and poor roads. This system was bolstered by State Legislation in 1867 and 1873, and remained dominant until the 1890s.

By that time, Indiana's rural population was sharply decreasing, and many districts had but a few children in attendance. State Superintendent David Geeting first called for the centralization of rural schools in 1898. Geeting cited graded schools, better teachers, improved buildings, and long-term cost reductions to local school systems as advantages of school consolidation (<u>Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction</u>, 1897-8, p.35).

X See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical Referencee

Anderson and Cooley. <u>South Bend and</u> South Bend, IN: Tribune Printir George Selby, p.291.	the Men Who Have Made It. ng Company. (Biography of
Barnhard, John D., Ph.D. and Carmody, From Frontier to Industrial Comm Historical Publishing Company, I of the Common-School System."	nonwealth. New York: Lewis
Bristol Alumni Association. "History No Publisher, 1983.	y of Bristol High School,"
	X See continuation sheet
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 deeignated a National Historic Landmark recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #	Primary location of additional data: State historic preservation office Other State agency Federal agency Local government University Other
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #	Specify repository: National Register Files
10. Geographical Data Acreage of property 1.32 Acres	
UTM References A 1 6 9 7 1 2 0 4 6 1 9 3 2 0 Zone Easting Northing C 1	B L L L Zone Easting Northing D L L
$ \begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $	Zone Easting Northing
$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	Zone Easting Northing DSee continuation sheet Township of Washington: A part ship 38 North, Range 6 East, in ship, Elkhart County, Indiana,
A [1,6] [5]9,7[1,2,0] [4,6]1,9[3,2,0] Zone Easting Northing C Northing Verbal Boundary Description State of Indiana, County of Elkhart, of the north 1/2 of Section 27, Towns the Town of Bristol, Washington Towns	Zone Easting Northing DSee continuation sheet Township of Washington: A part ship 38 North, Range 6 East, in ship, Elkhart County, Indiana,
A [1,6] [5]9,7[1,2,0] [4,6]1,9[3,2,0] Zone Easting Northing C J J J J J J J J J J J J J J J J J J J	Zone Easting Northing D See continuation sheet Township of Washington: A part ship 38 North, Range 6 East, in ship, Elkhart County, Indiana, ws: X See continuation sheet which closely corresponds to the
A 1.6 5971.20 461.93.20 Zone Easting Northing C Verbal Boundary Description State of Indiana, County of Elkhart, of the north 1/2 of Section 27, Towns the Town of Bristol, Washington Towns more particularly described as follow Boundary Justification This is the present legal boundary, w	Zone Easting Northing D See continuation sheet Township of Washington: A part ship 38 North, Range 6 East, in ship, Elkhart County, Indiana, ws: X See continuation sheet which closely corresponds to the

name/title James V. Kruse, President		
organization Elkhart County Historical Society	date January 14, 1991	
street & number 2922 Calumet Avenue		
city or town <u>Elkhart</u>		4

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Flanking this are three large windows on each side. The window opening size is unchanged, but all sash are replacements.

Separating the second floor from the first is a four-inch limestone belt, matching the window sills. Surmounting the entry is a stone tablet inscribed "Washington Township/1903/High School." Above this are two windows. Flanking these two are three windows on either side, aligning with the first story windows.

Second story windows have flat arch lintels and stone sills. In lieu of a protruding cornice, gaining popularity at the turn of the century, eight-brick accents adorn the front facade as well as being repeated on the east and west sides. The brick accents are similar to stone and terra cotta designs that were widely used at the turn of the century to embellish the upper stories of the early day skyscrapers, another earmark of Mr. Selby's Chicago training. Betwen the accents, a belt and four courses of corbeled brick were incorporated to terminate the facade, the parapet being capped with a four-inch limestone coping.

The north and a section of the east elevation are the only other exterior walls of the 1903 building not obscured by later additions (photos 5 and 16). On the east wall of the 1903 section are four closely spaced openings on each story toward the south. North of this is a paired staircase window, continuing north on the second floor are several windows. Exterior details match the main facade. The remainder of the east wall of the 1903 building is hidden by the 1925 addition. To the north is the rear of the 1903 building (photo 16). A subtle difference in the brick color distinguish the 1923 addition from the 1903 building. The 1903 north wall has a two-part composition; the west half has five bays, the east half has four. Several second floor windows have been boarded shut. Exterior details are similar to the main facade.

The west wall of the 1903 building is completely hidden by additions of 1923 and 1949 (photo 13). The 1923 addition has a round arched recessed entry with stone springers and keystone. A tablet with the date "1923" is mounted over the entry. Above this is a paired staircase window. To the left (north) is a blank wall

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section of the 1923 addition, to the right (south) is the end wall of the 1949 addition, which has three foundation level windows. The north wall of the 1923 addition (photo 16, right) had banks of windows on the first and second storys, most of which are now boarded shut.

The 1923 addition attached to the northwest corner of the original structure was designed by the architectural firm of A. H. Elwood & Sons. The Elwood firm, located in Elkhart, Indiana in 1895, operated offices jointly there and in Indianapolis and specialized in school building design. An outstanding feature of this addition and most appreciated facility was the installation of the school's first indoor restrooms with buff colored ceramic glazed brick sidewalls. On each floor, an additional classroom was added. Noteworthy of mention is the skill of the architects and craftsmanship of the contractor in meticulously matching the original structure in all details. To the trained eye of one associated with the building profession, it is difficult to recognize that there were two separate projects.

The 1925 addition stands east of the 1903 building (photos 4 and 5). In finish and design, it also echos the 1903 structure. Its one story set back facade has a stone basement level and upper walls of channeled face brick. Round arched pavilion entrys stand to the east and west, the east entry being slightly taller. Two steel sash windows are centered on the wall. The crow-stepped parapet has paired corbel/pilasters framing a tablet inscribed "COMMUNITY BUILDING," and on top of the coping "1925." A gable roof runs north-south behind the parapet. The other exterior walls of the 1925 addition are utilitarian in finish, having large steel sash and brick walls with simple pilasters (photo 16, center/left).

With the building of the 1949 addition which filled in the southwest corner, the building again became rectangular, enhancing its overall appearance. Again an attempt was made to match the original building lines, however, this section has no cornice elaborations. In selecting windows for this addition, in lieu of matching existing double-hung windows, tripled and paired windows were substituted.

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Interior Arrangement and Construction Details

The interior arrangement of the original building is simple, being divided in four quarter, four classrooms, separated by an eight foot wide corridor running east and west. The basement, first and second floors are of almost identical arrangement with stairs at each end of the corridors, one half flight of stairs to a landing and return one half flight. With the building of the 1923 and stairs the corridors were extended moved addition, correspondingly. The trim used throughout the building is oak, finished natural in a dark stain, casings being flat five inches wide, baseboards being eight inches wide. The doors are oak, with two-horizontal panels and single pane glass over matching single light transoms.

The interior of the 1925 gym is level with the basement of the main building. It has wood floors, glazed brick wainscoting, and a tin ceiling. A 14' \times 28' stage is centered on the north end.

Construction design and materials used were typical of what was generally accepted by the building industry at the turn of the century. The foundation walls below grade line and basement floor are of poured concrete. Exterior walls above grade line are 13" three-course solid brick. The first and second floors are of wood joist construction 2" x 14" x 12" on center Norway pine, overlaid with diagonal 1" x 10" hemlock sub-flooring, over which a hard maple 1" x 2" tongue and groove finish floor is laid. Interior floor bearing walls, lining the corridors, are 2" x 6" x 12" on center hemlock studs. Roof construction consists of a wood 1" x 6" tongue and groove hemlock deck laid over 2" x 12" x 16" on center Norway pine joists from which the second floor ceiling is suspended. Roofing material is a multi-layered saturated felt building paper coated with hot tar and gravel. Roof drainage is provided by crickets built against the parapet walls which divert water to skuppers over inwall drain pipes. The 1923 and 1949 additions are of matching exterior 1903 wall construction; however, reinforced concrete floors were installed in these units, bearing on masonry corridor walls.

In the 1949 construction project, the original wooden stairs were replaced with the present steel stairs. At that time, all wood lath and plaster through the entire structure was removed and

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replastered on metal lath, giving the structure a much improved fire rating. The present floor covering in the corridors is vinyl tile.

In general, the 1903 building was among the best designed and appointed schools in Indiana at that time.

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United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

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Architect/Builder (continued)

Moyer, George (Contractor) Synder, Raymond (Contractor)

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Although Geeting's essay was apparently the first public call to consolidate rural schools, forty counties had already started this process (Report, 1897-8, p. 529). State Superintendent from 1903was Fassett Cotton. He aggressively pursued and promoted 9 Cotton was equally interested in promoting consolidation. secondary education. Public high schools had existed in Indiana since the 1850s, but were essentially shut down by an 1858 court ruling forbidding taxation for public education. High schools were reinstated in 1867 by state law. Only larger towns had the resources to develop high schools, however. Backers of consolidation argued that bringing districts together would allow entire townships to have high schools. Ideally, there was to be one high school per township. By 1908, 507 public high schools existed in Indiana.

State Legislation passed 1897 (compulsary education); 1899 (free transportation, consolidation); and 1907 greatly furthered consolidation.

The 1907 law called for discontinuation of small school districts, "legalized" high schools, and required townships to build high schools or send students of age to neighboring high schools. Also during this period, the state began to commission high schools. Commissioned schools met certain standards, and in return, graduates were guaranteed admission to several major universities in the state.

Among the pioneer counties in establishing consolidated schools was LaGrange County, Elkhart County's neighbor to the east, which by 1904 had built consolidated high schools in 14 townships. In Elkhart County, the movement got its start in Bristol, and the Bristol/Washington Township School was the first consolidated school in Elkhart County. The school was cited as a model for consolidation (Report, 1908, pp. 399-406).

According to the Bristol <u>Banner</u>, and the article in the 1908 State Superintendent's report, in about 1900 some citizens of Bristol began to advocate a new building consolidating the town and township schools. Not only were the outlying rural schools inadequate, but so was the old Bristol School, a frame building constructed in 1858, which was crowded with students from primary

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to high school. This building still stands, representing early education efforts in Bristol. These two schools appear to be the only historic education-related buildings in the township. Rural sentiment, on the other hand, at the beginning was mostly against consolidation.

For three years, people in and around Bristol debated the issue. In early 1903, joint meetings were held between the township trustee and advisory board, the Bristol town trustees and Bristol school trustees. By April they had hammered out an agreement to turn over ownership of the Bristol schools to the township, and under township auspices, to construct a modern building in Bristol which would include a graded elementary and a state-commissioned high school. Once the rural resident had assumed the tax burden, he began to see things differently, asking: "If the town children could have a new and modern school building, why not his?"

After the township officially received control of the schools on May 11, township trustee John H. Virgil and his advisory board acted quickly. Later that month they purchased a tract of land on Vistula Street, with 207 feet of frontage and stretching 26 2/3 rods to the north, from owners Clara Sherwin and Martha and Somerville Light. Though the latter had to be sued, it only took a week before the township had ownership. In June, the advisory board accepted an architectural plan from George W. Selby, an architect of South Bend, and in late July awarded the building contract to M. L. Maxon of Three Rivers, Michigan. In August, the Advisory Board voted to raise \$13,377 through bonds, and during the summer and fall of 1903 the building slowly rose and took shape. Stone was supplied by numerous local residents, and brick by Hermance & Dussell of Bristol. The total expense was more than \$16,000, and the building was completed by January 1, 1904.

On February 13, 1904, the new "Bristol and Washington Township School" was officially dedicated and classes were first held that year. The Bristol <u>Banner</u> described the long procession of all township students from the old Bristol school building a few blocks away to the new school. The new building had eight spacious classrooms, four on each floor. On the second floor were three small additional rooms, two for study, one for the superintendent/principal, which also included the small library.

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Five additional rooms were located in a concrete-floored basement five feet below the surface.

In 1907, the high school was officially commissioned by the state, mandating certain academic requirements. (Commissisoned high school graduates were automatically admitted to Indiana University, Purdue, or the state normal school.) In 1908, there were 30 students in the high school. Attendance increased markedly in coming years, especially after 1913 when Indiana raised the age of compulsory school attendance to 16. By 1918 there were over 80 students in the school. They pursued such esoteric studies as Latin and Greek. However, as the number of students not bound for college increased, the state began to require that high schools supplement their academic work with practical courses. In fact, a new view of high school education had taken shape, which owed much to the theories of the noted educational philosopher John Dewey. As State Superintendent Cotton wrote: "The high school must be thought of in relation to the community and not in relation to the college. . . it is the finishing school for a very large majority of the people who go beyond the common school branches; in other words, it is the ("The Township High School in Indiana"). people's college."

By 1922, everyone realized the school needed enlarging and upgrading. Echoing the criticisms of inspectors from the State Board of Health, an article in the 1922 Annual described the lack of indoor toilet facilities, classes crowded into unsuitable rooms, and noise from the manual training class in its unheated basement room badly disturbing the elementary classes above. The article also stressed the need for an auditorium and gymnasium which would offer more seating than the crowded Opera House. On July 24, 1922, the township advisory board voted to construct a two-room addition on the northwest corner of the school. It commissioned the Elkhart architecural firm of A. H. Ellwood to prepare specifications and on September 22 awarded the general contract to George B. Moyer and the plumbing/heating contract to Leo E. Beall & Co. Financed by a \$25,000 bond issue, the remodeled school opened on September 10, 1923. The new classroom on the upper floor was used by the Demestic Science classes, with built-in cupboards, tables and hot plates. The room below it was given to the seventh and eighth grades. In the basement were spacious new restrooms, and a new "steel and composition"

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spacious new restrooms, and a new "steel and composition" stairway replaced the older wooden one on the west end of the building. A new vacuum vapor system heated the building in an hour rather than the previous five.

Two years later, the much-desired gymnasium also became a reality. "Competing" high schools in the county already had gyms, and on March 20, 1925, the township trustee, advisory board and others had made a tour of the gyms of several neighboring schools, "in order to act intelligently in the building of certain improvements here." A few days later they voted to construct a gym whose dimensions must surely have put the others to shame. A \$13,000 bond issue was floated to enable the team of Ellwood, Moyer and Beall to build the 95' x 65' gym, with a 14' x 28' stage on the north end of the gym. This new addition, dedicated October 28, 1925, was appropriately named "The Community Building." Now there was ample room to host with pride what the Banner's school reporter called "possibly the best basketball schedule Bristol has ever been privileged to have." An alumnus recalled that the bleachers seated 500, and at basketball games "they would just be hanging from the rafters." There were gym nights for men of the community on Mondays and for women on Thursdays. The Community Building's schedule quickly filled with many other community and school events, making it the most important social gathering place in the town.

During the troublesome Depression and wartime years, the township authorities ran the school with economy and made just a few improvements, such as installing new showers in 1937 and remodeling the home economics room in 1939.

In 1949, with wartime austerity ended, the township enlarged and improved the school once again. Three new classrooms, one on each floor, were added on the southwest corner, restoring the building to a rectangular shape. Also added were a new heating plant with a high smokestack in a separate building to the north of the school, steel stairway, tile flooring, a radio and alarm system, new plastering, interior and exterior painting, and new furniture in lighter wood tones. Teachers and students that fall worked around the tradesmen employed by Raymond Synder, general contractor, Shreiner & Son, plumbers, and Thornton Electric as

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they completed their work. The remodeled building was displayed to the public on December 23. But just a few years later, with the postwar "Baby Boom" generation beginning to reach school age, the school was again "bursting at the seams," and in 1957 the present Bristol Elementary school was built, reducing the load at the school to seventh grade through high school.

The Bristol School has significance in the area of architecture as a fine example of Neo-classical Revival design. Its channeled brickwork, broad-arched entry, and simple cornice make the school one of the grandest public buildings in Washington Township. All additions but the 1949 section complement the architecture of the school. The design of the school is comparable or well in advance of most schools in Indiana at the time.

The architect of the 1903 building, George W. Selby (1859-1912) had come to South Bend in 1898 as an employee of the Chicago firm of Shepley, Rutan & Coolidge, to superintend the building of the new St. Joseph County Courthouse and the sumptuous Oliver Hotel. Born in Mecklenberg, N.Y., Selby had learned the architect's trade in Utica, N.Y. Later he moved to Chicago, where he worked for the famed firm of Burnham & Root. In their employ he drew specifications for the Monadnock, the Woman's Temple, the Marshall Field Annex, and the Great Northern Hotel. In South Bend, once the courthouse and hotel projects were completed, Selby went on to design the "Dean Building" on Lafayette Boulevard - an office building with a central atrium - the Indiana Bell Telephone Company building, and others. He also designed the Administration building at Goshen College, which very closely resembles the Bristol School. In later years, he formed a partnership with another prolific South Bend architect, Ernest Young.

The school was an important part of Bristol throughout its history. A strong feeling of social cohesion or "school spirit" developed as town and rural students fused their lives, both in their classwork and in a lengthening list of extracurricular activities. Through them, the town and rural adults also were brought closer together with a greater sense of community identity. As athletic teams developed, school games, especially the hard-fought basketball contests held at the nearby Mosier Opera House, became important community events, and the most intense loyalties developed. Interest of the community also

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intense loyalties developed. Interest of the community also focused on the annual last-day exercises with awarding of prizes, and school dramatic productions.

The school found many ways to reach out to the community. For example, the school band, organized in 1912-13, invited boys of the surrounding area, even those who were not students, to join. In 1919, the high school began to present a music/lecture series for the community, and by the 1920's agricultural fairs were held at the school each fall, awarding prizes for the best home-grown specimens. An active school alumni association met annually and further bonded the community together. The installation of electric lights in 1917 was important in allowing the school to offer evening events.

As early as the 1920's, Indiana's township trustees had been fighting proposed measures which would take control of the state's rural and consolidated schools away from the townships and give them to larger school corporations. By 1966, when Indiana had become much more urban and less rural, and the powers of township government diminished, this new consolidation process was far advance. In Elkhart County, there were now seven school corporations, some incorporating several townships, and only three townships remained outside the new system.

In May, 1966, Washington, Cleveland and Osolo townships joined Elkhart residents in voting (by a margin of just 112 votes) to become part of the Elkhart Community Schools system. The Elkhart Community Schools took ownership of all school property, and in early July its board voted to close the high school at Bristol, while retaining the elementary school. Feelings were strong in Bristol about the closing of its high school. Elkhart had superior facilities and offered fine academic programs, vocational training, counseling services, and sports. The closing of the school was a serious blow to the community.

In 1967, Howard Rush, of Elkhart, a successful grocery chain owner, purchased and donated the building to the county. Since then, the Elkhart County Historical Society has housed their museum in the structure. The 1925 Community Building is rented out for various events.

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Bristol Banner, 1903-4, 1922-25, 1944, 1949, 1966-7.

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Teacher's Contracts and Reports, 1904-1934.

Washington Township Advisory Board, Minutes, 1899-1931.

Washington Township Trustee, Financial Reports to Advisory Board, 1903, 1904, 1924, 1925.

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Section number <u>10</u> Page <u>1</u> Bristol-Washington Township School

Verbal boundary (continued)

Assuming the west line of Division Street, north of the Vistula Road in the said Town of Bristol, to have a bearing of north one (1) degree fourteen (14) minutes west, and commencing at the intersection of the west line of Division Street with the northerly line of Vistula Road, thence south eighty-two (82) degrees thirty (30) minutes west, along the northerly line of the Vistula Road, six hundred sixty-two (662) feet to an iron stake, which is the point of beginning for this description; thence south one (1) degree fourteen (14) minutes east, forty-six and twenty-eight hundredths (46.28) feet to the center line of Vistula Road; south eighty-two (82) degrees thirty (30) minutes west, two hundred fourteen and sixteen hundredths (214.16) feet; north one (1) degree fifteen (15) minutes west, two hundred ninety two and three hundredths (292.03) feet to an iron stake; north eighty-eight (88) degrees thirty-eight (38) minutes east, two hundred seventy-seven and ninety-two hundredths (277.92) feet to an iron stake; south one (1) degree fourteen (14) minutes west fifty and thirty-seven hundredths (50.37) feet to an iron stake; south eighty-eight (88) degrees fortysix (46) minutes west, sixty-five and sixty-one hundredths (65.61) feet to an iron stake; south one (1) degree fourteen (14) minutes east one hundred seventy-three and two-tenths (173.2) feet to the iron stake which is the point of beginning, containing 1.32 acres, more or less. Excepting public highways.

Deed recorded in Vol. 281, page 207 of the Records of Elkhart County on October 13, 1967.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Sectio	on numi		togra		<u>1</u> Bristol-Washington Township School
The	1. 2. 3.	Bristo 304 W James	ol-Wa . Vi: V. 1	ashing stula Kruse	n is the same for all photographs listed: ton Township School St., Bristol, IN Historical Museum
Pho	to	Item	No.	4	Item No. 6
No. No. No.	3	Oct.	17,	1990 1990 1990	Front entrance tile, direction west Front entrance tile, direction south Front of bldg., direction north
No. No.	5 6	Oct. Oct.	17, 17,	1990 1990	Front of bldg., direction northwest Front of bldg., direction northeast
No. No. No.	8	Oct.	17,	1990 1990 1990	Front entrance, direction north Plaque above entrance, direction north Brick work on south side, direction north
No. No.			•	1990 1990	West auditorium (east school) entrance, direction northwest East auditorium entrance, direction north
No.	12	Oct.	17,	1990	Front of bldg., closeup of brick work, direction north
No.				1990	
No.				1990	View of date. Direction east
No.			-	1990	West entrance to school, direction east
No.				1990	North side of bldg., direction southeast
No. No.	18		•	1990 1990	South side of auditorium, direction north School bell in front of auditorium; direction north
No.					West stairway; direction west
No.			-	1990	north
NO. No.				1990	The "Schoolroom" museum room, direction northeast Bristol High School Graduating Classes,
NO.			·		direction southeast West stairway, direction west
NO.		Marcl			Built-in cloak room, 1st floor, 1903 section,
NO.	20	Marci	,	1991	direction north (Children's Room)
No.	27	Marcl	h,	1991	View into 1st floor hallway from entry, direction north
No.	28	Apr.	10,	1991	East exterior, auditorium direction west
No.	29				North exterior, auditorium, direction southwest
No.	30				Auditorium interior, direction south
No.	31				Auditorium interior, direction north
NOTE	: photo	os 1, 1	9, an	d 23 ha	ve been omitted.