National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

received MAY _ 6 1983
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*Type all entries—complete applicable sections

Type all entries	—complete applicab	le sections				
1. Nam	e		-			
historic	Town Hall (Also Castle Hall)					
and/or common	Zionsville Town Hall					
2. Loca	ation					
street & number	65 East Cedar Street			N _Z	∕A_ not for pu	ıblication
city, town	Zionsville	N/A vic	cinity of			
state	Indiana d	code 018	county	Boone	cod	le 011
3. Clas	sification					
Category district _X_ building(s) structure site object	Ownership public _X_ private both Public Acquisition in process being considered	Status occupi unoccu _X_ work ir Accessible _X_ yes: re yes: ur no	upied n progress e	Present Use agriculture _X commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	religio	e residence ous tific oortation
4. Own	er of Prop	erty				
name	Old Zionsville	Town Hall Par	rtnership			
street & number	First Federal Building, 2138 E. 116th Street					
city, town	Carmel	N/A_ vic	inity of	state	Indiana	46032
5. Loca	ition of Le	gal Des	criptio	n		
courthouse, regis	stry of deeds, etc. Rec	order's Offic	ce,Boone C	ounty Courthouse		
street & number	115	Courthouse S	Square			
city, town	Lebanon			state	Indiana	46052
6. Repr	esentatio	n in Exis	sting S	urveys		
Indiana Hi title Struct	istoric Sites and tures Inventory		has this prop	erty been determined el	igible?	yes X no
_{date} September	r, 1980/August, 1	981	_	federal Xstat	e count	y local
depository for su	Indiana rvey records Preserv			Resources, Divisi		
city, town	Indiana	polis		state	Indiana	

7. Description

excellent deteriorated unalteredX original site ruins altered moved date N/A unexposed		YAYA ruins		Check oneX original site moved date	N/A
--	--	------------	--	-------------------------------------	-----

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Zionsville Town Hall is a two story, 54' x 80', rectangular building of common bond (every eighth row on the north facade is coursed h-s-h-s-h) red brick with a distinctive corbie or step gable on the north facade (Photos 1, 2, and 3). The ground floor of the north facade has a large, 8' x 17' recessed rectangular entrance in the center with a pressed metal ceiling. The brick wall above the entrance is supported by two parallel iron I-beams decorated with rosettes. The firm name of "Jones and Laughlin" is stamped on the outside beam (see Significance). Two 4/4 light windows flank the main entrance. On the far left side is a single wooden entrance door which once led to public lavatories inside. On the far right side are double wooden doors which open into the staircase hall leading to the second floor. A second level of two 4/4 light windows originally illuminated an interior "mezzanine" level at the north end of the first floor. A final third level of three 1/1 light windows for the second floor interior completes the north facade fenestration. All the window and door openings have segmental double rowlock brick arches above and wooden lintels below. The north facade apparently did not have window shutters (see Photos 2 and 3) until the 1960's. The two original 1902 limestone dedication tablets survive—the lower inscription reads "TOWN HALL/1902/J.J. KNOX, HARRY McDANIEL/MILTON HUSSEY,/TRUSTEES." Rust from a metal grill installed for ventilation (after 1935) has stained the limestone. The upper inscription reads, "CASTLE HALL/K. OF P./LODGE NO. 251/A.D. 1902."

The east and west facades were altered in 1935 when the interior was remodeled for motion picture viewing. Double doors were cut into the center of the facades. Three windows of the west facade and four windows of the east facade were bricked up (date not determined—bricks easily removed). The exterior chimneys are original. The south facade (Photo 4) has three different service entrances. A step-down (now a ramp), single door entrance in the center leads to the basement. A double door, raised five feet above ground level, serves as a loading dock entrance for the stage area at the south end of the first floor. Roofed wooden stairs ascend to the second floor lodge entrance. Four rowlock segmental arch windows (all originally 1/1) at the second floor level complete the south elevation fenestration.

The single space first floor interior, although altered in 1935 when several posts were removed and a steel truss added to support the second floor, still has most of its original 1902 pressed metal ceiling. The mezzanine and stage areas have been subsequently altered several times after 1935. The second floor cove molding pressed metal ceilings (Photos 5, 6, and 7), also survive in good condition and are exceptionally high quality. The tin, linear, almost "Adamesque" designs are unusually ornate and complex. There are three different, but related patterns. Some wall stenciling (Photo 8) and much of the 1902 pine woodwork, trim, and doors (Photo 8) remain intact. Elaborate floral wallpaper with a Knights of Pythias crest (Photo 9) has been discovered under layers of later coverings.

Much of the original 1902 exterior and interior fabric of Zionsville Town Hall, then, remains. The building is unique to Boone County and is architecturally important both to Zionsville's local history and to the county's heritage, as well. It may be one of only a few large, multi-purpose town hall/lodge structures left in Indiana.

8. Significance

prehistoric	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric agricultureX architecture art commerce communications	heck and justify below community planning conservation economics education engineering exploration/settlement industry invention	landscape architecture law literature military music philosophy X politics/government	e religion science sculpture X social/ humanitarian X theater transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	1902	Builder/Apolitical J.	F. Wild & Company	

Statement of Significance (In Time paragraph)

Zionsville Town Hall is significant for its architecture and for its role as the seat of government in this central Indiana community for over 30 years. The building also has a long association with the local chapter of the Knights of Pythias, an international fraternal organization, and has also been used as a motion picture theater at various times over the last 80 years. The building's corbie, or stepped, gable on the north facade is unique in the county. One of the last remaining multi-functional town hall structures in the state, this was Zionsville's first town hall building and retained this role until 1935.

The building's origins date back to 1902, when the Zionsville Town Board accepted a citizens' petition to borrow \$2,500 in order to erect a town hall building. The Board contracted with the Knights of Pythias local lodge No. 251 to construct a two story, 52' x 80', brick masonry, town hall/lodge structure wherein the town would use the first floor as meeting rooms and offices for the town marshall and the Knights of Pythias would occupy the second floor as their lodge and "maintain the roof forever." J. F. Wild & Company was hired as builder. Twenty thousand bricks were purchased from B. F. Hendrick of Lebanon for \$7 per thousand. The final cost, however, was about double the initial \$2,500. The best interior details are the pressed metal ceilings (refer to Part 7: Description of Physical Appearance). The Zionsville Town Board has been the principal governing body of the town since official adoption of town by-laws in 1883, and has contributed continuously to the development of Zionsville for over 100 years. The list of elected Board members reads like a Zionsville "Who's Who", starting with J. W. Higgins, the first President of the Board, and J. J. Knox, Harry McDaniel, and Milton Hussey, who were the Trustees in 1902 when Town Hall building was erected. See The Zionsville Times article of November 2, 1961, entitled, "Town Board Mirrors Growth of Zionsville Community", for an in-depth, chronological history of the Town Board.

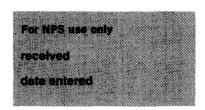
The contract between the Zionsville Town Board and the Knights of Pythias Lodge No. 251 to construct and jointly occupy a sizable, multi-functional structure represents a significant cooperative venture intended to promote the social and humanitarian interests of Zionsville citizens. Many of the Town Board members also belonged to the Knights of Pythias. J. J. Knox, Harry McDaniel, and Milton Hussey, for example, were members of both in 1902. The Supreme Lodge of the Knights of Pythias of the World was organized on February 19, 1864, in Temperance Hall in Washington, D.C., as a men's society, although secret, whose "business and operations" were basically social and humanitarian, and whose ultimate purposes were friendship, benevolence, and charity. The letters F, B, and C appear in the emblematic crest floral wallpaper uncovered in the south room on the second floor. The first lodge of the Knights of Pythias in Indiana was organized on July 12, 1869, in Indianapolis, and was designated as Marion Lodge No. 1. Lodge No. 251, first organized in 1902 in Zionsville, was dedicated as Castle Hall (as were most Knights of Pythias lodges) on February 10, 1903. According to the Indiana Knights of Pythias constitution, each lodge was chartered "solely and only to disseminate the great principles of Friendship, Benevolence, and Charity," and were principled by toleration of religion, obedience to the law, and loyalty to government.

9. Majo	or Bibli	ographica	l Refer	ences	
Indianapolis	Star, July	5, 1964, Section	2, page 5		
Lovell, Lois	. History	of Zionsville.	J. C. Pamphl	et. n.d.	
		Please see	. Continuati	on Sheet	
10. Ge	ograph	ical Data			
Acreage of nomic Quadrangle nam UTM References	_{le} Zionsvi	Less than one ac	cre	(Quadrangle scale 1:24,000
A 1 ₁ 6 56		4 ₁ 4 2 ₁ 2 4 ₁ 2 ₁ 0 Northing	BZoi	ne Easting	Northing
C			D		
Addition to in Plat Book as follows:	the Town of 2, page 63 (Please see	Zionsville, Boor , in the Office of Continuation Sh	ne County, I of the Recor neet)	ndiana, as der of Boo	3 and 18 in Cross' Second s per plat thereof recorded one County, Indiana, described
		for properties overla	apping state o	r county bou	undaries
state N/A		code	county		code
state		code	county		code
11. For	m Pre	pared By			
name/title		and Sheryl D. Roi Fille Town Hall Pa			
organization	01d Zionsv	ille Town Hall Pa	artnership	date	September 11, 1982
street & number		ral Building 116th Street		telephone	317/844-0029
city or town	Carmel			state	Indiana 46032
12. Sta	te His	toric Prese	ervatio	1 Offic	er Certification
The evaluated sig	gnificance of th	nis property within the s	tate is:		
	national	state	X_ local		
665), I hereby not	minate this pro criteria and pro	perty for inclusion in th ocedures set forth by th	e National Regi	ster and certify	rvation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89– y that it has been evaluated
title Indiana	State Histo	oric Preservation	Off)cer		date April 14, 1983
For NPS use of I hereby ce		roperty is included in th	e National Registered in the		date 6/9/83
Keeper of the	National Regi	ster			

Chief of Registration

date

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet Zionsville Town Hall

Item number

8

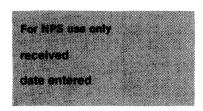
Page 1

The Lodge's constitutional principle of "loyalty to government" was, of course, interlocked with the Board's function of socially responsible government.

The building's association with the theater began less than a year after the structure was completed.

The first floor of Town Hall was rented soon after completion and income fees for the town were received from Columbia Vaudeville Company (November, 1903), Zionsville Dramatic Club (December, 1903), Goldy Wade's Imperial Lady Minstrels (January, 1904), among others. Early "Flickers" were shown. The interior was remodeled specifically for motion pictures in 1935. Current plans call for the renovation of the building for commercial and office use.

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet Zionsville Town Hall

Item number

9

Page

2

Zionsville Times, October 8, 1936, page 1.

Zionsville Times, March 28, 1963, page 1.

Zionsville Times, July 18, 1968, page 1

Zionsville Town Board Minutes, Zionsville Town Hall, July, 1902, through February, 1903.

History of Boone County, numerous authors, n.d.

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received date entered

Continuation sheet

Zionsville Town Hall

Item number 10

Page 3

Commencing at the northwest corner of said Lot No. 13 and running thence northeast on the north line of said Lot No. 13, 63 feet to a point, thence southeast parallel to the west line of said Lots. No. 13 and 18, 91 feet, thence southwest parallel to the north line of said Lot No. 13, 63 feet, more or less, to the west line of Lot No. 18, thence northwest on the west line of said Lots No. 13 and 18, 91 feet, more or less, to the place of beginning.