United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1154

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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form.* If any 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 certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

historic name Peru High School Historic District

other names/site number Miami Nation of Indians of the State of Indiana Headquarters

2. Location

street & number 80 W. 6th Street ☐ not for publication

city or town Peru ☐ vicinity

state Indiana code IN county Miami code 103 zip code 46970

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

__ **national** __ **statewide** x **local**

[signature] 10/26/2012
Signature of certifying official/Title Deputy SHPO Date

Indiana DNR-Div. of Historic Preservation & Archaeology
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

✓ entered in the National Register ___ determined eligible for the National Register

___ determined not eligible for the National Register ___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain:)

for Edson H. Beall 1.9.13
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- [x] private
- [ ] public - Local
- [ ] public - State
- [ ] public - Federal

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box.)

- [ ] building(s)
- [x] district
- [ ] site
- [ ] structure
- [ ] object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
3	0	buildings
1	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
4	0	**Total**

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

Indiana's Public Common and High Schools MPDF

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION: school
RECREATION AND CULTURE: sports facility

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL: meeting hall
SOCIAL: civic
EDUCATION: school
RECREATION AND CULTURE: sports facility
GOVERNMENT: government office
RELIGION: religious facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

MODERN MOVEMENT: Art Deco
LATE 19th and 20th CENTURY REVIVALS: Collegiate Gothic
LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Neo-Classical Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: BRICK, CONCRETE
walls: BRICK, STONE: Limestone
roof: ASPHALT, RUBBER
other: METAL: Copper

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

The Peru High School Historic District is located near the center of downtown Peru, Indiana, a city of 11,000 located on the Wabash River in northeastern Indiana. The Peru High School Historic District encompasses a city block bounded by West 6th Street, North Miami Street, West 7th Street, and North Cass Street. The buildings include the c. 1939 Art Deco-style Peru High School building with the Tig-Arena, built as a Works Progress Administration project, along with the c. 1922 Central Grade School, built in the Neo-classical style, and the c. 1926 Industrial Arts Building, built in the Collegiate Gothic style. The buildings are brick, with limestone trim, and a variety of roof types. The district also includes a schoolyard with modern playground equipment on the west side of the Peru High School, and a parking area in the southeast corner of the district. Following construction of new school buildings during the period 1970-1990, the Peru High School Historic District buildings and site were vacated, and were purchased in 1990 by the Miami Nation of Indians of the State of Indiana. The buildings are currently used for a variety of education, civic, recreation and culture, government, and ceremonial purposes.

Narrative Description

The Peru High School Historic District is located near the center of downtown Peru, Indiana, a city of 11,000 located on the Wabash River in northeastern Indiana. The Peru High School Historic District encompasses a city block bounded by West 6th Street, North Miami Street, West 7th Street, and North Cass Street.

1939 Peru High School building with the Tig-Arena, built in the Art Deco style (contributing)
Henry C. Wolf, architect – Logansport, IN.
Photos; 1 through 17
The Peru High School is a two-story masonry building with south-facing façade fronting West Sixth Street. It has massing of five bays wide and three bays deep. Fluted concrete piers divide the five bays of the façade. It has a flat roof. It sits on a large poured concrete plinth that rises to the height of three feet. It is rectangular in form with the Tig-Arena forming a "T" that extends northward from the building. The northernmost ends of the "T" are clipped at a 45-degree angle to form entrances to the gymnasium (see Photos 4 and 13). The façade is symmetrical with two principal entrances. Each entrance features a stone surround inscribed with "PERU HIGH" in Art Deco-style lettering and an abstracted fluted stone column rising from the center of the entrance. Original windows remain intact, and are single paned and metal framed, grouped in arrangements of nine or twelve lights. Mechanisms include both fixed and hopper. Secondary entrances at the sides of the rectangular building feature the same decorative opening as the façade, with the exception that the abstracted column is flanked by glass block windows that provide light to an internal staircase. A loading dock is present on the east elevation. The interior arrangement is similar on both floors, and consists of a single "U" shaped hallway, single-loaded with classrooms on the west, south and east sides. The walls on both floors are plaster on the upper half and glazed block on the lower, with inset locker rows. The floor is polished concrete. Classrooms retain their original size and dimension with original classroom wall-mounted blackboards, and in many cases original linoleum tile flooring. In most rooms a dropped ceiling has been installed with fluorescent lighting below the remaining original ceiling. The Tig-Arena extends for six bays beyond the school building. Each bay is separated from the others by a slightly projecting brick column that has a fluted stone cap. The Tig-Arena has a gable roof. The interior of the arena encompasses the space of two floors, and consists of a wooden basketball floor surrounded by concrete steps equipped with bleacher seating. Entrances to the arena are set at each of the four corners of the building. These lead to the exterior on the two northernmost entrances, and to the first floor of the high school on the southernmost entrances. This arrangement gives a distinctive octagonal shape to the rows of bleachers. The lower level of the arena encompasses rooms with a distinct stepped roof, corresponding to the stepped concrete bleachers above. These retain original classroom appurtenances

such as blackboards, cafeteria equipment and locker bays painted in distinctive Peru High School team colors. Interior walls throughout the arena are constructed of glazed block. Metal rafters support the roof.

The 1926 Industrial Arts Building built in the Collegiate Gothic style: (contributing)
Oscar F. Cook, architect – Kokomo, IN.
Photos; 18 through 25
The Industrial Arts building is a one-story masonry building with north-facing façade fronting West Seventh Street. It is three bays wide and three bays deep, with an original one bay rear extension at the southwest corner of the building. It sits on a concrete foundation. The façade features a monumental central entrance, four slightly projecting brick and stone columns separating the three bays, stone window sills and lintels, and stone-capped parapet. The central stepped Tudor-arched entrance projects slightly from the façade, surmounted by a step in the parapet. The original wood paired doors are recessed in the entry. Each door features recessed panels in geometric design. The stone Tudor-style arch is flanked by a brick column on each side. Each column has stone quoins and a bas-relief stone panel with Tudor-arched design. Above the arched entry is the word INDUSTRIAL in bas-relief on stone. Set in the middle of the stepped parapet is a stone panel with shield design featuring the initials PHS in bas-relief. Each column on the façade features stone quoins and at the parapet a stone panel with raised shield design. A slightly projecting stone course runs the length of the façade and provides a unifying element as well as the window lintel. Several window openings are obscured by plywood that covers the entire opening. However, the original windows can still be seen from the interior. Existing windows are single paned and framed in metal. They are organized as a four part-design with each quarter having twelve lights in three, four-light rows. A large round masonry smokestack is located at the rear of the building. On the interior the walls are constructed of brick with concrete floors. Wooden rafters support the roof. The northernmost room originally designated for "Auto Shop" has a dropped ceiling with fluorescent lighting installed below the remaining original ceiling. Original classroom appurtenances such as wall-mounted blackboards remain in most rooms. Large metal heating boilers remain in the boiler room.

The c.1922 Central Grade School, built in the Colonial Revival style: (contributing)
Unknown architect.
Photos; 26 through 33
The Central Grade School is a two-story masonry building with north-facing symmetrical façade fronting West Seventh Street. The brick is laid in running bond. It is constructed with a "U" form with the open arms of the "U" facing south. It is seven bays wide and two bays deep, with the arms of the U being four bays wide and two bays deep.

The Central Grade School façade contains an imposing central entrance flanked by three paired windows and a single window. The second floor mirrors this arrangement, with two single windows and a centrally-placed paired windoe above the central entrance. Both floors feature a large projecting end cap. Running the length of the façade are stone belt courses above the second floor windows and below the first floor windows. Below the uppermost course, and above the lowermost belt course is a course of bricks set in soldier course. All windows have been replaced, but conform to the original opening sizes. The central opening projects from the façade slightly and features a smooth cut stone surround. The paired entry doors are recessed and surmounted by a large transom. The entry doors have been replaced with doors of metal and glass. There are four simple pilasters arranged across the surround with narrow double-hung windows with transoms set between the inner and outer pilasters on each side. Resting on the pilasters is a full entablature carrying three stone panels, the central of which is inscribed with the building construction date of "MCMXXII" (1922). Above the uppermost stone belt course, and centrally-placed on the façade is another stone panel, this inscribed with "CENTRAL GRADE SCHOOL." Running the length of the building is a stone-capped parapet. On each end of the façade are large end caps. They project from the façade and are ornamented with three corbeled brick squares. The interior consists of a single-loaded hallway with classrooms on the west, north and east sides. A large central staircase accesses the second floor. Hallway floors are of tile while classroom floors are of wood strip. Walls are plaster. In most classrooms, original wall-mounted blackboards remain, and most classrooms have a dropped ceiling installed below the remaining original ceiling. Classrooms and support rooms generally retain their original form and shape, with the exception of additional restrooms installed in place of one classroom.

The school yard: (contributing)
Photos; 7, 8 and 20
The schoolyard encompasses the entire block roughly bound by West Sixth, West Seventh, North Cass and North Miami Streets. In addition to the three buildings described above, it contains a parking lot, open grassy area, and playground. The parking lot on the east half of the block covers the southern two-thirds of the area. It is paved in asphalt. This area

was the location of the former c. 1911 Peru High School. North of the parking lot, again on the eastern half of the block is an open area covered in patchy grass and dirt. This area was the location of the former c. 1898 Central School. On the west side of the block, in the "L" formed by the 1939 High School and the Tig-Arena, is a children's playground. It contains a number of playground equipment structures and is covered in shredded rubber tire ground cover. Surrounding the entire block is a four foot high chain link fence.

Peru High School Historic District
Name of Property

Miami, IN
County and State

E 8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

[x] A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

[ ] B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

[x] 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.

[ ] D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE
EDUCATION
ENTERTAINMENT AND RECREATION

Period of Significance
1922-1960

Significant Dates
1922
1926
1939

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Criteria Considerations
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

[ ] A *Owned by a religious institution or used for religious* purposes.

[ ] B removed from its original location.

[ ] C a birthplace or grave.

[ ] D a cemetery.

[ ] E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

[ ] F a commemorative property.

[ ] G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Period of Significance (justification)
The period of significance spans the time from c. 1922, the construction date of the earliest extant contributing education building, to 1960.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)
N/A

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

The Peru High School Historic District is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A as an outstanding resource that conveys the educational, social, and recreational history of the community of Peru, Indiana, during the period 1922 to 1960. It fulfills the registration requirements set out in the Multiple Property Listing, *Indiana's Public Common and High Schools* (MPDF). The Peru High School Historic District is also eligible under Criterion C as an outstanding collection of public architecture in Miami County. The collection includes excellent examples of Neoclassical and Collegiate Gothic architecture, and a rare and outstanding example of Art Deco design in the county.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

The Peru High School Historic District is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A as an outstanding resource that conveys the public educational, social, and recreational history of the community of Peru, Indiana, during the period 1922 to 1960.

Constructed in 1922, the Central Grade School is the work of an unknown architect.

Built in 1926 to serve as classroom space for the Industrial Arts, as well as a heating plant for the entire educational complex, the Industrial Arts Building was designed by architect Oscar F. Cook of Kokomo, Indiana. Born in 1878 in Boone, North Carolina, Mr. Cook designed several notable buildings with the Howard County (IN) Courthouse (NRHP Kokomo Courthouse Square Historic District, listed 2008) being the most well-known.[1] Additional works include banks, churches and factories in, and around, the Kokomo, Indiana, area. The Industrial Arts Building incorporates a c. 1920 building that provided heat to the c. 1898 and 1911 schools (see Attachment E for location of "present boiler room" and "present coal room"). The existing heating plant served the same purpose when incorporated into the 1926 building.

Constructed as a Works Progress Administration project (#1370-F), the Peru High School and Tig-Arena were funded through a 1938 grant of $92,572.00. The school corporation matched this grant with an additional bond of $122,428.00 making a total budget of $215,00.00.[2] Henry Charles Wolf of Logansport, Indiana, was chosen as the architect. Born in Logansport, Indiana, in 1908, and educated as an architect at the University of Illinois, he earned a Bachelor of Science in Architecture in 1931. Going into practice in Logansport, IN, Mr. Wolf built several schools including the Grass Creek Elementary School (Grass Creek, IN), Royal Center High School (Royal Center, IN), as well as the Peru High School and Tig-Arena before World War II. After serving in the Naval Reserves during the war, he returned to the practice of architecture notably building several banks and hospitals in north-central Indiana. These include banks at Twelve Mile, Tipton and Logansport, hospitals at Kokomo and Logansport, as well as the Coca-Cola Bottling Plant at Greencastle, IN.[3]

As set out in the Multiple Property Document, *Indiana's Public Common and High Schools*, the three buildings in this district provide excellent examples of two classes of resources. These are #3, the Two or More Room Consolidated Rural or Urban School and #4 Gymnasia. The Industrial Arts Building was built to serve as an education facility and is considered under the category of Two or More Room Consolidated Rural or Urban School. The Tig-Arena, although built

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[1] http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wingfamilyofamerica/p296.htm. The 1937 Howard County Courthouse Memorial Book, available online at http://www.howardcountymemory.net/item.aspx?details=37457, has a listing of Mr. Cooks significant works that pre-date the construction of the Courthouse.

[2] Virginia Guisinger, Ed. *Dedication Program, Peru High School and Gymnasium, December 10, 1939*. Collection of Peru Public Library.

[3] American Architects Directory, 1962. Accessed online at: http://communities.aia.org/sites/hdoaa/wiki/American%20Architects%20Directories/1962%20American%20Architects%20Directory/Bowker_1962_W-X.pdf

in combination with, and attached, to the high school, is clearly an outstanding example of a gymnasium as set out in the MPDF.

All three school buildings remain on their original locations thus fulfilling the registration requirement outlined in Section F, page 24 of the MPDF.[4] The schoolyard and the parcel acquired for the school's construction are included in the boundary as advised by the MPDF on page 24.[5] All three school buildings, as required by the MPDF, retain a high level of integrity of design with massing, form and pattern of openings intact.[6] The c. 1939 high school and Tig-Arena retain nearly all of their original windows, and where replaced or filled-in retain the opening dimensions. The c. 1922 Central Grade School has had window replacement throughout the building, but these conform to the original in number, opening dimension and pattern. The c. 1926 Industrial Arts Building has had a large number of windows obscured with plywood but retains the original number, dimension and pattern of openings. Where visible the original multi-light, metal-framed windows remain intact.[7] None of the buildings have had significant additions.[8] All retain their original façade visibility. The interiors of the buildings retain their integrity of design, continuing to "read as historic spaces" as required in the registration requirements of the MPDF (see Photos 9 through 17, 21 through 25, and 28 through 33).[9] Per the registration requirements there is evidence of educational use present in a large majority of the spaces of all three buildings. This includes items specified in the MPDF such as blackboards, cloakrooms and ventilation systems, and also such unspecified items as original interior doors, original drinking fountains, original trophy cases, original basketball bleachers and baskets, and original locker bays. The interior corridors are unaltered from the original, and are easily read as historic spaces. Although added dropped ceilings are present in some rooms, the suspension of these was done in such a way as alter the original only minimally. The poor condition of the dropped ceilings and the large number of missing ceiling tiles provides a clear view of the original ceiling. The three buildings are all masonry buildings and as required in the registration requirements of the MPDF the exterior masonry survives intact and exposed. The Peru High School Historic District represents and is "associated with the development of free public schools in a given civil school district", as required by the MPDF.[10]

The Tig-Arena is a particularly noteworthy example of the gymnasia category and may have statewide significance, although this nomination only claims local significance. Representing a "classic barn" design of gymnasia, the Tig-Arena is one of few surviving examples of the type. As noted in the MPDF, "Hoosier Hysteria" was a peculiar and noteworthy phenomenon in Indiana education, and the Tig-Arena is one of the outstanding locations associated with that phenomenon. Indiana is particularly noted as a state that has embraced basketball as a sport. For many years, all high schools in the state participated in an end-of-season basketball tournament that, through the process of elimination through game loss, produced a single state basketball champion. The tournament was often referred to as "Hoosier Hysteria" in the press. This tournament was widely followed throughout the state with hometown fans following their team in the press and through attendance at games through the process of sectional, regional and state brackets of games. The 1986 movie Hoosiers celebrates this phenomenon. Home for many years to regional and sectional playoffs, the Tig-Arena hosted teams from throughout the northern half of the state. For all intents and purpose, the gym is unaltered from

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[4] Paul Diebold. "Indiana's Public Common and High Schools". National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form. Indianapolis, IN: Indiana Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology, 1998. Section F, p. 24. (This document will be referenced throughout this nomination, and will appear in subsequent references as *Indiana's Public Common and High Schools* Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF))

[5] *Indiana's Public Common and High Schools* Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF), Section F, p. 24.

[6] *Indiana's Public Common and High Schools* Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF), Section F, p. 24.

[7] *Indiana's Public Common and High Schools* Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF), Section F, p. 24.

[8] *Indiana's Public Common and High Schools* Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF), Section F, pp. 24-25.

[9] *Indiana's Public Common and High Schools* Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF), Section F, p. 25.

[10] *Indiana's Public Common and High Schools* Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF), Section F, p. 25.

its period of significance, a time capsule for basketball mania. The Tig-Arena played an important role in the recreational history of the Peru community. A newspaper article describing restoration of the gym highlights its importance:

> Built in 1940, Tig-Arena was one of many high school gyms constructed around the state by the Works Project Administration in the years during and following the Great Depression. In the arms race to build the biggest and best gyms — and thereby securing a spot as a sectional host — Tig-Arena stood the test of time. From 1941-63, host Peru won 17 sectionals. In 1943, Peru won the regional on its home court. ... "Tig-Arena was a basketball mecca," said Bob Biddle, who coached at Peru for seven seasons, beginning in 1958. "It was a true basketball arena, not a bad seat in the house. It was packed every game. It was hot and it was loud. It was a true showplace, a great venue for basketball....The Miami Nations of Indians bought the building for $1 in 1990 and have kept it in good condition. There are bingo games played three times a week in the gym and it occasionally hosts other community events....Some of the older people I've talked to are really enthused about it," Biddle said. "It takes you back to the days when basketball was really the only source of entertainment in town. I've already heard some people ask, 'Why don't we go back and play there all the time?'"[11]

The Tig-Arena is currently used for tribal and community events, Little Turtle Daycare, and weekly bingo.[12] It has also played host to sporadic games of basketball for the Peru High School team and for nostalgia games featuring stars of the past. These have been extraordinarily received and attended, an enduring legacy of "Hoosier Hysteria".

> The original Tig-Arena first came to life way back in 1940. Year in and year out for 60 years she gave us some truly great memories of what high school basketball is supposed to be about — the packed house on game nights, the school band blasting its music, and the crowd so close to the floor you felt like it was a threat to block your shot from the corner. A lot of this gets lost when a school moves to a bigger gym, but for a while Friday night everything was as it should be. There was the sold-out crowd and there was the band proudly supporting their Tigers. The atmosphere was electric."[13]

Guidance set out in the MPDF suggests that, "Applicants should identify other historic resources associated with the history of the school system, especially those which still stand." Indiana's State Historic Preservation Office, the Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology, uses a rating system based on the National Register Criteria, areas of significance and integrity. Each county in the state is surveyed for historic resources and the information published in an Interim Report. Resources are assigned an eleven-digit identifying number based on county, township and resource, and a rating ranging from contributing (lowest) to notable to outstanding (highest). An analysis of the *Miami County Interim Report* shows several schools remaining in both the City and Township of Peru.[14] As noted within the Interim Report, three township schools still existed in 1998. Circa 2011 aerial orthography and Miami County tax records confirm their continued existence in 2011.[15] The c. 1895 Peru Township District School located on CR 300 North (103-507-30006), the c. 1918 Victory School (103-507-30009) and the c. 1895 Peru Township School located on Blair Pike (103-507-30026) are all related but somewhat different than the nominated historic district. Of the three, the two township district schools (103-507-30006 and 103-507-30026) are related to the period of one-room schoolhouses in Indiana and thus represent a different educational paradigm as noted in the MPDF. The notable Victory School is related through a c. 1918 construction period, a similar educational period of consolidated schools and similar Neoclassical architectural style to the Central Grade School. It is however, not geographically proximate, and thus not a candidate for inclusion in the historic district.

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[11] Neddenriep, Kyle, "Peru's Tig-Arena will host game for 1st time since '90." *Indianapolis Star*, October 26, 2009. Accessed June 22, 2011 at http://www.indy.com/posts/peru-s-tig-arena-will-host-game-for-1st-time-since-90

[12] "Indiana Basketball Returns to the Original Tig-Arena." *Cry of the Crane*, Winter 2010. Published by the Miami Nation of Indians in Indiana. Page 7.

[13] http://pharostribune.com/localsports/x546239059/Tig-Arena-s-return-a-big-hit-to-fans-players

[14] Davis, Ann C. and Fischer, Suzanne. *Miami County Interim Report*. Indianapolis, IN: Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana, 1998.

[15] Miami County GIS system. http://miamiin.egis.39dn.com/#

Within the City of Peru, several educational resources remain according to the 1998 *Miami County Interim Report*. These are the St. Charles' Catholic School (103-507-33078), the St. John's Lutheran School (103-507-33137), and the Abraham Lincoln School (103-507-34226). Circa 2011 aerial orthography and Miami County tax records confirm their continued existence in 2011.[16] The St. Charles' Catholic School (103-507-33078), and the St. John's Lutheran School (103-507-33137), two schools based on religious education, fall outside of the public education-based MPDF. The notable c. 1928 Collegiate Gothic-style Abraham Lincoln School (103-507-34226) is most closely related in geographic proximity, educational era, style and quality. It was converted and substantially renovated on the interior c. 2005 from an educational role to a multi-family apartment building and is thus not included the current nomination. The interior no longer reads as historic space.

The Peru High School Historic District is also eligible under Criterion C as an outstanding collection of public architecture in Miami County. The collection includes excellent examples of Neoclassical and Collegiate Gothic architecture, and a rare and outstanding example of Art Deco design in the county.

The architectural styles represented in the Peru High School Historic District are fine examples and noteworthy amongst the public architecture of Peru and Miami County. Most public architecture in Miami County is Richardsonian Romanesque or Neoclassical in style. A few examples are in Craftsman or Queen Anne mode. Of the three styles represented in the historic district, two are rare examples in the city and county. Compared to other public architecture styles in the city and county, cataloged in the 1998 *Miami County Interim Report*, Art Deco and Collegiate Gothic are rare. The Art Deco style in Miami County is represented by the c. 1948 contributing American Legion Post (103-507-31003), c. 1948 contributing Elks Club (103-507-34117), and the c. 1925 notable Peru Water Works (103-505-34296). The Peru High School is thus, along with the Peru Water Works, amongst the best examples of Art Deco style in Miami County. The notable c. 1928 Collegiate Gothic style Abraham Lincoln School (103-507-34226) and the Industrial Arts Building are the only examples of Collegiate Gothic architecture in Miami County. The 1922 Colonial Revival Central Grade School is the only example of a Colonial Revival-style public education building in the City of Peru. It is amongst a small number of other examples of public architecture Miami County in the Colonial Revival Style including: the outstanding c. 1924 First Brethren Church (103-507-32135), the notable c. 1942 Bunker Hill Airfield Recreation Building/Building No. 156 (103-479-37004), the outstanding c. 1918 Miami County Poor Farm (103-079-40010), the notable c. 1922 Hopewell School (103-504-46001), the notable c. 1930 Miami School (103-404-66004). All but the first Brethren Church are located outside of the City of Peru.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

The Miami retained a mile-wide section of land at the site of Peru, Indiana, during the treaty of Paradise Springs, in 1827. Ceded to the *akima Pinsiwa*, known to the Americans as Miami Civil Chief Jean Baptiste de Richardville, the land is located on the Wabash River just west of the mouth of the Mississinewa River, where many Miami villages and settlements were located. The *akima Palaanswa*, known to the Americans as Chief Francis Godfroy, maintained a trading post on the south side of the Wabash, and the area had become a center for trading and commerce. *Pinšiwa* sold the section of land in 1829, to Joseph Holman and William Hood, who platted a portion of their purchase as the town of Miamisport. Soon after, in 1834, Hood platted the remaining portion of the land as Peru. Although Miamisport was intended to be the county seat of Miami County, Peru soon became the dominant town, and Miamisport was slowly absorbed. Hood offered the new county government a public square, construction of a log jail, a two-story brick courthouse, and lots for the construction of two churches.

Within a few years, Hood had found partners to invest in the town, including the Chief Engineer of the Wabash and Erie Canal, Jesse L. Williams. Hood had married Sophia Ewing, a sister of Fort Wayne traders George W. and William G. Ewing. Within a few years a Ewing's Partition Addition was platted just north of Hood's plat for Peru, including the site of the Peru High School Historic District. Early maps show that a school lot was included in the addition, on the east side of the proposed district boundaries, corresponding to earlier locations of previous schools, and the current location of the parking lot.

[16] ibid.

Several attempts to provide education in the community commenced in the 1830s, but it was not until the 1850s, with the passage of the state legislation, that Peru developed its public school system. The first school in Peru was built c. 1852. This school was located on land that would be platted in 1864. An area just north of the original plat of Peru was laid out as the Ewing Partition Addition and included a dedicated lot for a school building. This lot contained the 1852 school. In 1898, a new school was built on this lot. The c. 1898 Central School was used for both elementary and high school classes, and would be the first of what would become five public elementary schools in Peru by 1911. In that year, the Peru Public High School was built on the southern half of the same site as the c. 1898 Central School. The Fort Wayne architecture firm of Griffith and Fair designed the 1911 building.[17] The Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map shows the location of the two early schools (see Attachment A).[18]

A new Central Grade School was built along West Seventh Street in 1922. By late 1926, an Industrial Arts building and combination heating plant was built adjacent to the 1898 high school. This served both the 1898 and 1911 schools. In 1939, a new Peru High School building with the Tig-Arena was built fronting West Sixth Street to the west of the 1911 high school. The 1911 high school continued in use upon the completion of the new 1939 version. Suburban growth and the Baby Boom led to the construction of additional schools in Miami County. A new Peru Junior High was constructed northwest of the existing schools.[19] In 1963, the 1898 Central School, which had been serving as the Junior High School, was razed.[20] In 1969-1971 a new high school was built adjacent to the 1959 junior high school.[21] Major additions and a new Tig-Arena were built c. 1990.[22] The c. 1911 school was demolished between 1969 and 1990. The original Tig-Arena continued in use as the basketball arena for Peru High School until 1990.[23]

Since 1990, the Peru High School Historic District has been the headquarters of the Miami Nation of Indians of the State of Indiana. It serves as a cultural, educational and governmental center for the group.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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[17] Gerald Kern. "Peru High School" in *Miami County Schools, 1830-1930*. Peru, IN: Miami County Genealogical Society, 1984.
[18] Sanborn Fire Insurance Company. http://www.indiana.edu/~gisdata/sanborn.html
[19] Miami County Property Tax Card, 30 Daniels Street Peru IN. http://egis.39dn.com/egis/View/egisprc.cfm?pin_18=52-08-27-200-034.001-016
[20] *Narcissus,* Peru High School Yearbook. Peru, IN: Peru Sentinel Publishing Co.,1964.
[21] Miami County Property Tax Card, 401 North Broadway Street Peru IN. http://egis.39dn.com/egis/View/egisprc.cfm?pin_18=52-08-27-200-036.000-016
[22] http://www.peru.k12.in.us/phsguidance/page.php?page=924
[23] Howey Politics Indiana. "Growing up in Peru's classic Tig-Arena. 12/4/2009 http://howeypolitics.com/main.asp?SectionID=39&SubSectionID=123&ArticleID=5417

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Sanborn Fire Insurance Company. http://www.indiana.edu/~gisdata/sanborn.html

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
____designated a National Historic Landmark
____recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #_____
____recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
____recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

____State Historic Preservation Office
____Other State agency
____Federal agency
____Local government
____University
____Other
Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): 103-507-33021

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one

Peru High School Historic District
Name of Property

Miami, IN
County and State

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1	16	578248	4511939	3			
2				4			

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)
Begin at a point at the northeast corner of the intersection North Cass Street and West Sixth Street. From this point proceed in a northwesterly direction along the east curb line of Cass Street until a point is reached at the intersection of North Cass Street with West Seventh Street. From this second point, proceed northeasterly along the south curb line of West Seventh Street until a point is reached at the intersection of West Seventh Street with North Miami Street. From this third point proceed in a southeasterly direction along the west curb line of North Miami Street until a point is reached at the intersection of North Miami Street with West Sixth Street. From this fourth point proceed in a southwesterly direction until the starting point at the northeast corner of the intersection North Cass Street and West Sixth Street is reached.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)
The boundary includes the entire parcel reserved for in the 1864 Ewing Partition Addition for the construction of a public school facility. From 1864 until the de-accession of the buildings in 1990, the parcel has served the community of Peru as grounds for public education. In the MPDF, boundary guidance is provided thusly; "Boundaries should include the parcel acquired for the school's construction if possible. Playgrounds and other outdoor recreation areas should be described and included." [24] This boundary fulfills that registration guidance and includes the playground and school-yard associated with the schools.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Michael Galbraith & Angie Quinn
organization ARCH date April 2012
street & number 818 Lafayette Street telephone 260-426-5117
city or town Fort Wayne state IN zip code 46802
e-mail mgalbraith@archfw.org

Additional Documentation
Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

  A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

- **Continuation Sheets**

[24] Indiana's Public Common and High Schools Multiple Property Document, Section F, p. 24.

- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Peru High School Historic District
City or Vicinity: Peru
County: Miami State: Indiana

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

IN_MiamiCounty_PeruHighSchoolHistoricDistrict_0001
View of the east entrance on the south façade of the High School. Camera facing north.
Photographer: Michael Galbraith
Date Photographed: April 2012
1 of 33

IN_MiamiCounty_PeruHighSchoolHistoricDistrict_0002
View of the west elevation of the High School. Camera facing northeast.
Photographer: Michael Galbraith
Date Photographed: April 2012
2 of 33

IN_MiamiCounty_PeruHighSchoolHistoricDistrict_0003
View of the west elevation (left) and south façade (right) of the High School. Camera facing northeast.
Photographer: Michael Galbraith
Date Photographed: April 2012
3 of 33

IN_MiamiCounty_PeruHighSchoolHistoricDistrict_0004
View of the northwest entrance to the Tig-Arena on the west elevation of the High School. Camera facing southeast.
Photographer: Michael Galbraith
Date Photographed: April 2012
4 of 33

IN_MiamiCounty_PeruHighSchoolHistoricDistrict_0005
View of the east elevation of the High School (background) and of the northeast entrance to the Tig-Arena (middle ground). Photographer is between the Industrial Arts Building (left) and Central Grade School (right). Camera facing south.
Photographer: Michael Galbraith
Date Photographed: April 2012
5 of 33

IN_MiamiCounty_PeruHighSchoolHistoricDistrict_0006
View of the south façade of the High School. Sixth Street is in the foreground. Camera facing northeast.
Photographer: Michael Galbraith
Date Photographed: April 2012
6 of 33

IN_MiamiCounty_PeruHighSchoolHistoricDistrict_0007
View of the west elevation of the High School. Camera facing east.
Photographer: Michael Galbraith
Date Photographed: April 2012
7 of 33

IN_MiamiCounty_PeruHighSchoolHistoricDistrict_0008
View across the parking lot of the east elevation of the High School. The academic classrooms are to the left and the Tig-Arena to the right. Camera facing west.
Photographer: Michael Galbraith
Date Photographed: April 2012
8 of 33

IN_MiamiCounty_PeruHighSchoolHistoricDistrict_0009
View of the interior of the Tig-Arena. Camera facing north.
Photographer: Angie Quinn
Date Photographed: September 2011
9 of 33

IN_MiamiCounty_PeruHighSchoolHistoricDistrict_0010
View from the interior of the Tig-Arena toward the southwest entrance doors to the Tig-Arena. Camera facing southwest.
Photographer: Michael Galbraith
Date Photographed: May 2012
10 of 33

IN_MiamiCounty_PeruHighSchoolHistoricDistrict_0011
View of the southwest entrance to the Tig-Arena and of the trophy case. Camera facing northeast.
Photographer: Michael Galbraith
Date Photographed: May 2012
11 of 33

IN_MiamiCounty_PeruHighSchoolHistoricDistrict_0012
View of a first floor classroom in the High School. Camera facing south.
Photographer: Angie Quinn
Date Photographed: September 2011
12 of 33

IN_MiamiCounty_PeruHighSchoolHistoricDistrict_0013
View of the east staircase in the High School. Camera facing east.
Photographer: Michael Galbraith
Date Photographed: May 2012
13 of 33

IN_MiamiCounty_PeruHighSchoolHistoricDistrict_0014
View of the Peru High School 2nd floor hallway looking west. Camera facing west.
Photographer: Angie Quinn
Date Photographed: September 2011
14 of 33

IN_MiamiCounty_PeruHighSchoolHistoricDistrict_0015
View of the Council Chambers of the Miami Nation of Indiana. Portraits of former chiefs are on the wall (left) and blackboard (right). Second floor, east classroom of the High School. Camera facing west.
Photographer: Angie Quinn
Date Photographed: September 2011
15 of 33

IN_MiamiCounty_PeruHighSchoolHistoricDistrict_0016
View of the band room in the basement of the Tig-Arena. Camera facing north.
Photographer: Michael Galbraith
Date Photographed: May 2012
16 of 33

IN_MiamiCounty_PeruHighSchoolHistoricDistrict_0017
View of a locker room in the basement of the Tig-Arena. Camera facing north.
Photographer: Michael Galbraith
Date Photographed: May 2012
17 of 33

IN_MiamiCounty_PeruHighSchoolHistoricDistrict_0018
View of the north façade (left) and west elevation (right) of the Industrial Arts Building. Camera facing southeast.
Photographer: Michael Galbraith
Date Photographed: April 2012
18 of 33

IN_MiamiCounty_PeruHighSchoolHistoricDistrict_0019
View of the north façades of the Industrial Arts Building (left) and Central Grade School (left). Camera facing southwest.
Photographer: Michael Galbraith
Date Photographed: April 2012
19 of 33

IN_MiamiCounty_PeruHighSchoolHistoricDistrict_0020
View of the south elevation (left) and east elevation (right) of the Industrial Arts Building. Camera facing northwest.
Photographer: Michael Galbraith
Date Photographed: April 2012
20 of 33

IN_MiamiCounty_PeruHighSchoolHistoricDistrict_0021
View of the drafting room in the Industrial Arts Building. Camera facing north.
Photographer: Michael Galbraith
Date Photographed: May 2012
21 of 33

IN_MiamiCounty_PeruHighSchoolHistoricDistrict_0022
View of the recitation room in the Industrial Arts Building. Camera facing south.
Photographer: Michael Galbraith
Date Photographed: May 2012
22 of 33

IN_MiamiCounty_PeruHighSchoolHistoricDistrict_0023
View of the woodworking room in the Industrial Arts Building. Camera facing west.
Photographer: Michael Galbraith
Date Photographed: May 2012
23 of 33

IN_MiamiCounty_PeruHighSchoolHistoricDistrict_0024
View of the boiler room in the Industrial Arts Building. Camera facing northeast.
Photographer: Michael Galbraith
Date Photographed: May 2012
24 of 33

IN_MiamiCounty_PeruHighSchoolHistoricDistrict_0025
View of the hallway in the Industrial Arts Building. Camera facing north.
Photographer: Michael Galbraith
Date Photographed: May 2012
25 of 33

IN_MiamiCounty_PeruHighSchoolHistoricDistrict_0026
View of the west elevation (right) and north façade (left) of the Central Grade School. Camera facing southeast.
Photographer: Michael Galbraith
Date Photographed: April 2012
26 of 33

IN_MiamiCounty_PeruHighSchoolHistoricDistrict_0027
View of the entrance on the north façade of the Central Grade School. Camera facing south.
Photographer: Michael Galbraith
Date Photographed: April 2012
27 of 33

IN_MiamiCounty_PeruHighSchoolHistoricDistrict_0028
View of the staircase in the Central Grade School. Camera facing south.
Photographer: Michael Galbraith
Date Photographed: May 2012
28 of 33

IN_MiamiCounty_PeruHighSchoolHistoricDistrict_0029
View of a first floor classroom in the Central Grade School. Camera facing north.
Photographer: Michael Galbraith
Date Photographed: May 2012
29 of 33

IN_MiamiCounty_PeruHighSchoolHistoricDistrict_0030
View of a first floor classroom in the Central Grade School. Camera facing northwest.
Photographer: Angie Quinn
Date Photographed: September 2011
30 of 33

IN_MiamiCounty_PeruHighSchoolHistoricDistrict_0031
View of the second floor hallway in the Central Grade School. Camera facing northwest.
Photographer: Michael Galbraith
Date Photographed: April 2012
31 of 33

IN_MiamiCounty_PeruHighSchoolHistoricDistrict_0001
View of a second floor classroom in the Central Grade School. Camera facing northwest.
Photographer: Michael Galbraith
Date Photographed: April 2012
32 of 33

IN_MiamiCounty_PeruHighSchoolHistoricDistrict_0001
View of a second floor classroom in the Central Grade School. Camera facing northwest.
Photographer: Michael Galbraith
Date Photographed: April 2012
33 of 33

Peru High School Historic District
Name of Property

Miami, IN
County and State

Property Owner:

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

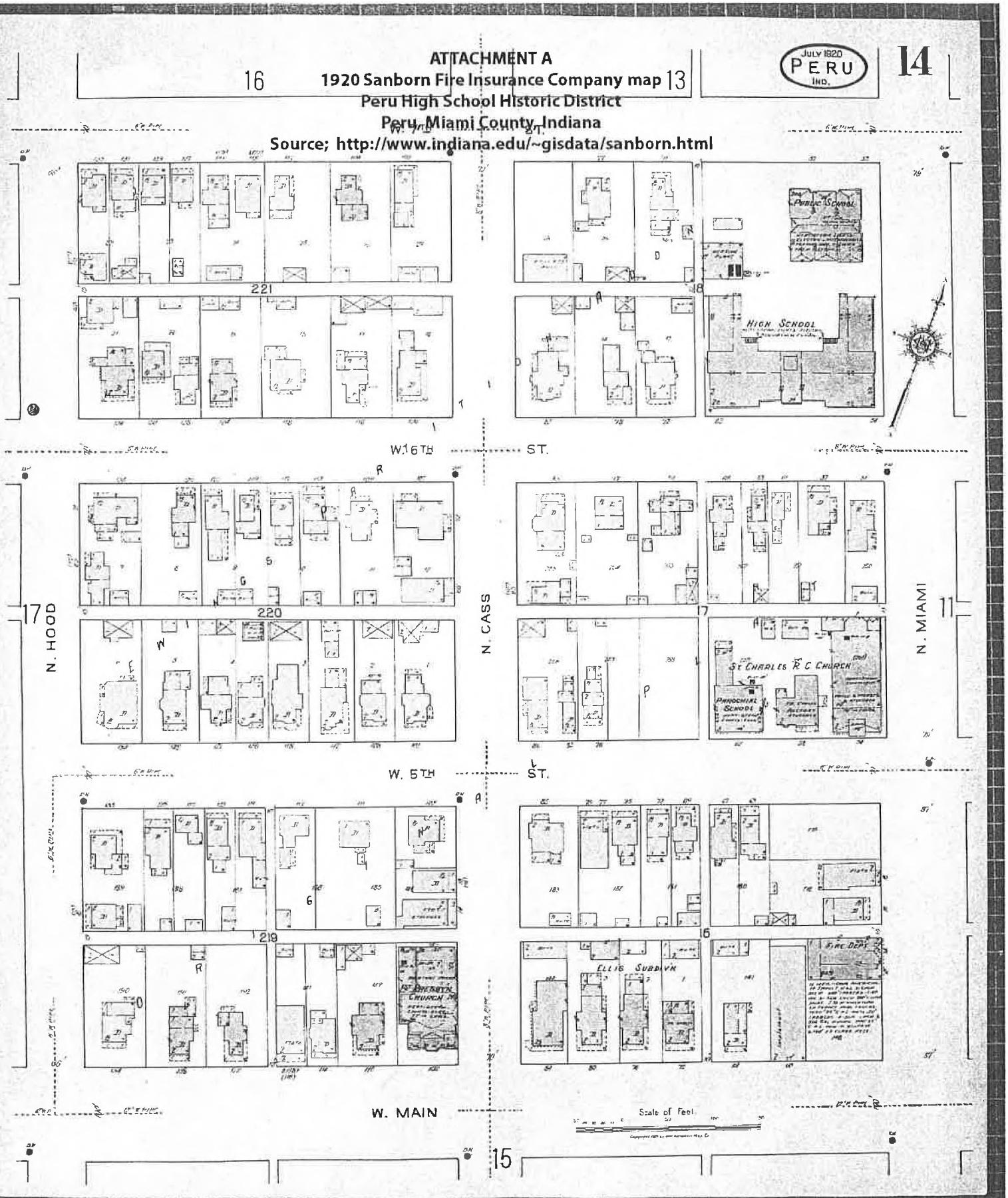
name Miami Nation of Indians of the State of Indiana, Inc., c/o John Dunnagan

street & number 80 West Sixth Street telephone 765-473-9631

city or town Peru state IN zip code 46970

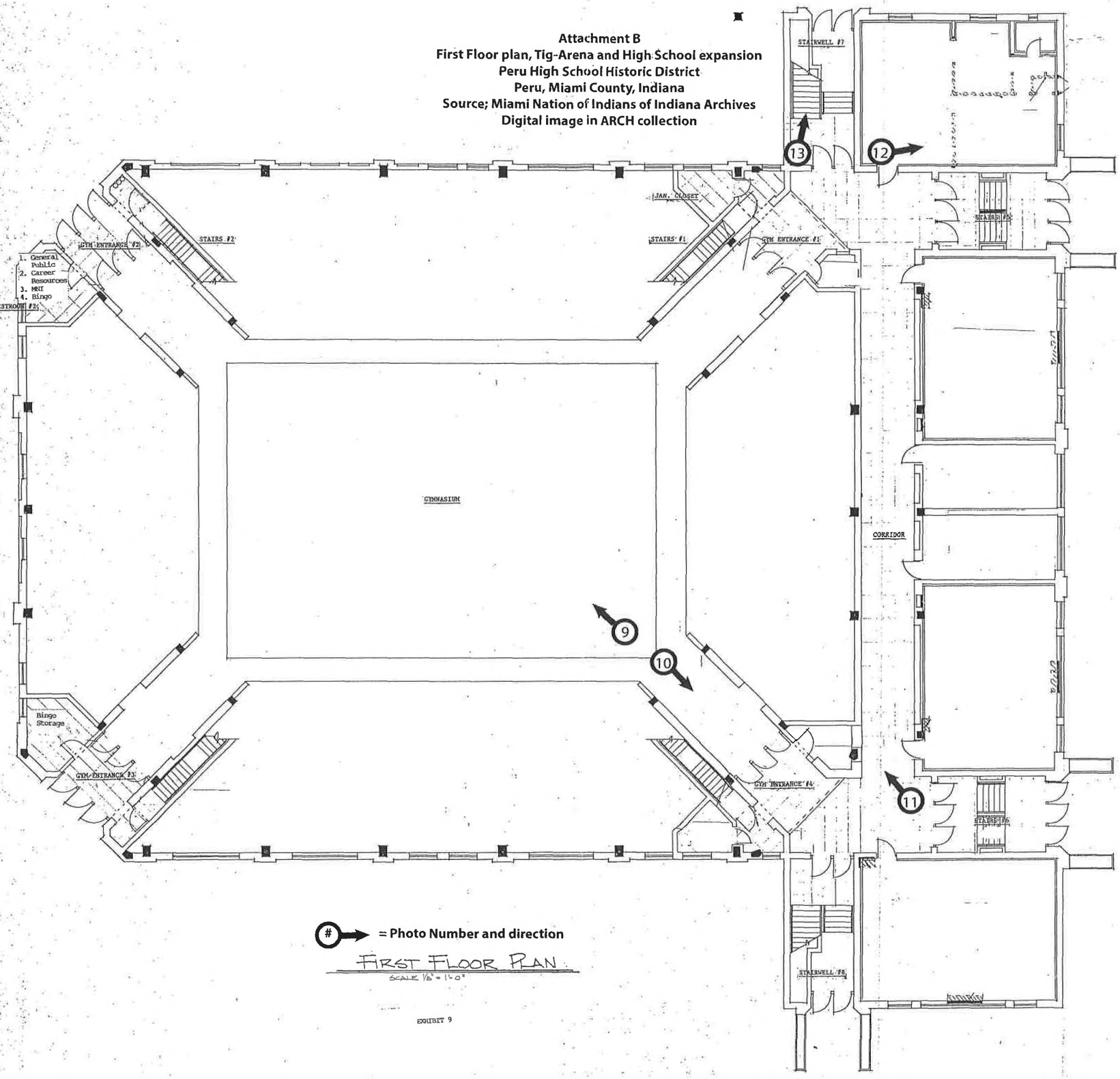
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

ATTACHMENT A
1920 Sanborn Fire Insurance Company map
Peru High School Historic District
Peru, Miami County, Indiana
Source; http://www.indiana.edu/~gisdata/sanborn.html



Digitized from the Indiana University Map Collection by Historical Information Gatherers, Inc.
www.historicalinfo.com

Attachment B
First Floor plan, Tig-Arena and High School expansion
Peru High School Historic District
Peru, Miami County, Indiana
Source; Miami Nation of Indians of Indiana Archives
Digital image in ARCH collection



= Photo Number and direction

FIRST FLOOR PLAN
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"

EXHIBIT 9

Attachment C
Second Floor plan, Tig-Arena and High School expansion
Peru High School Historic District
Peru, Miami County, Indiana
Source; Miami Nation of Indians of Indiana Archives
Digital image in ARCH collection

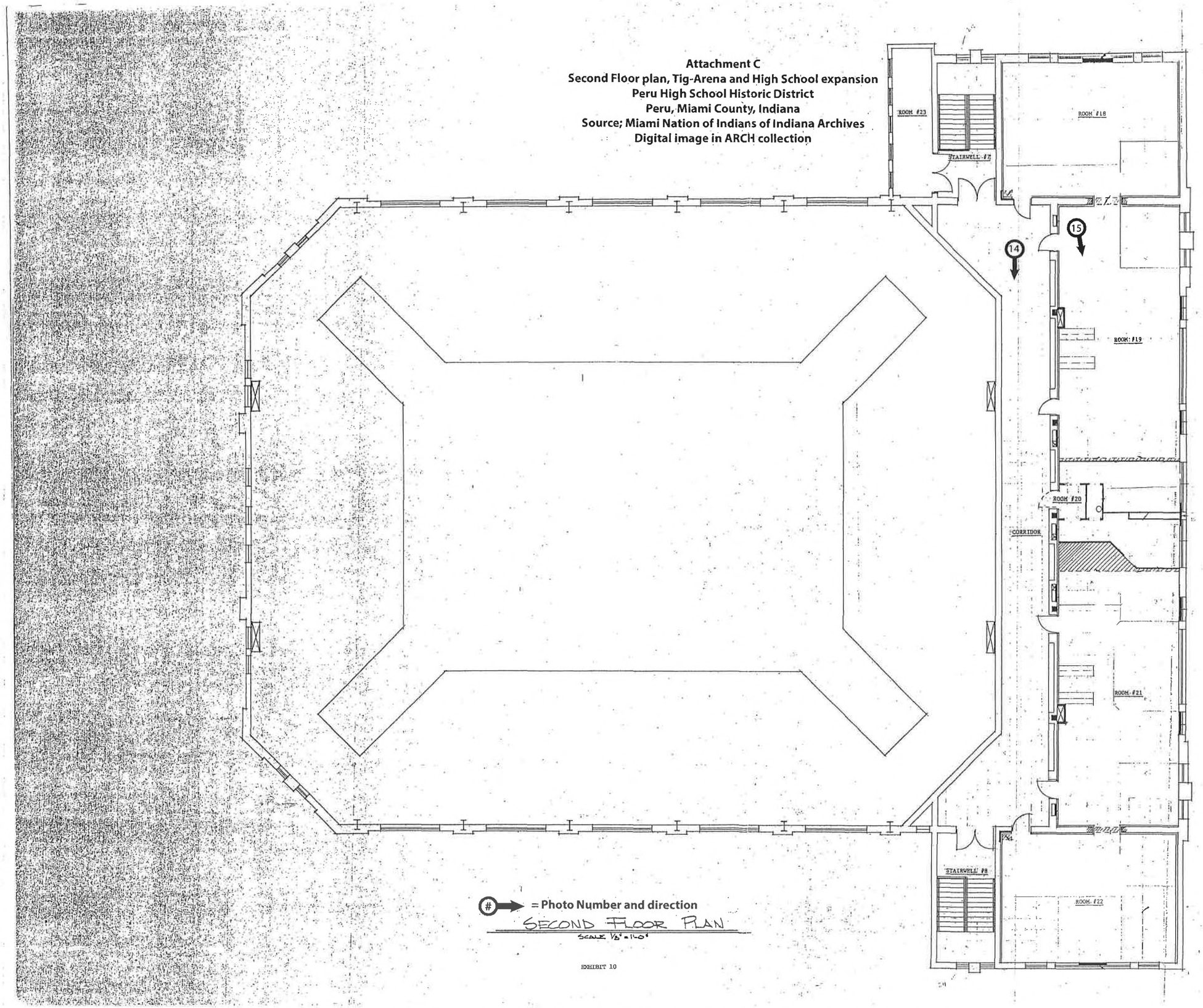


EXHIBIT 10

Attachment D
Basement plan, Tig-Arena and High School expansion
Peru High School Historic District
Peru, Miami County, Indiana
Source; Miami Nation of Indians of Indiana Archives
Digital image in ARCH collection

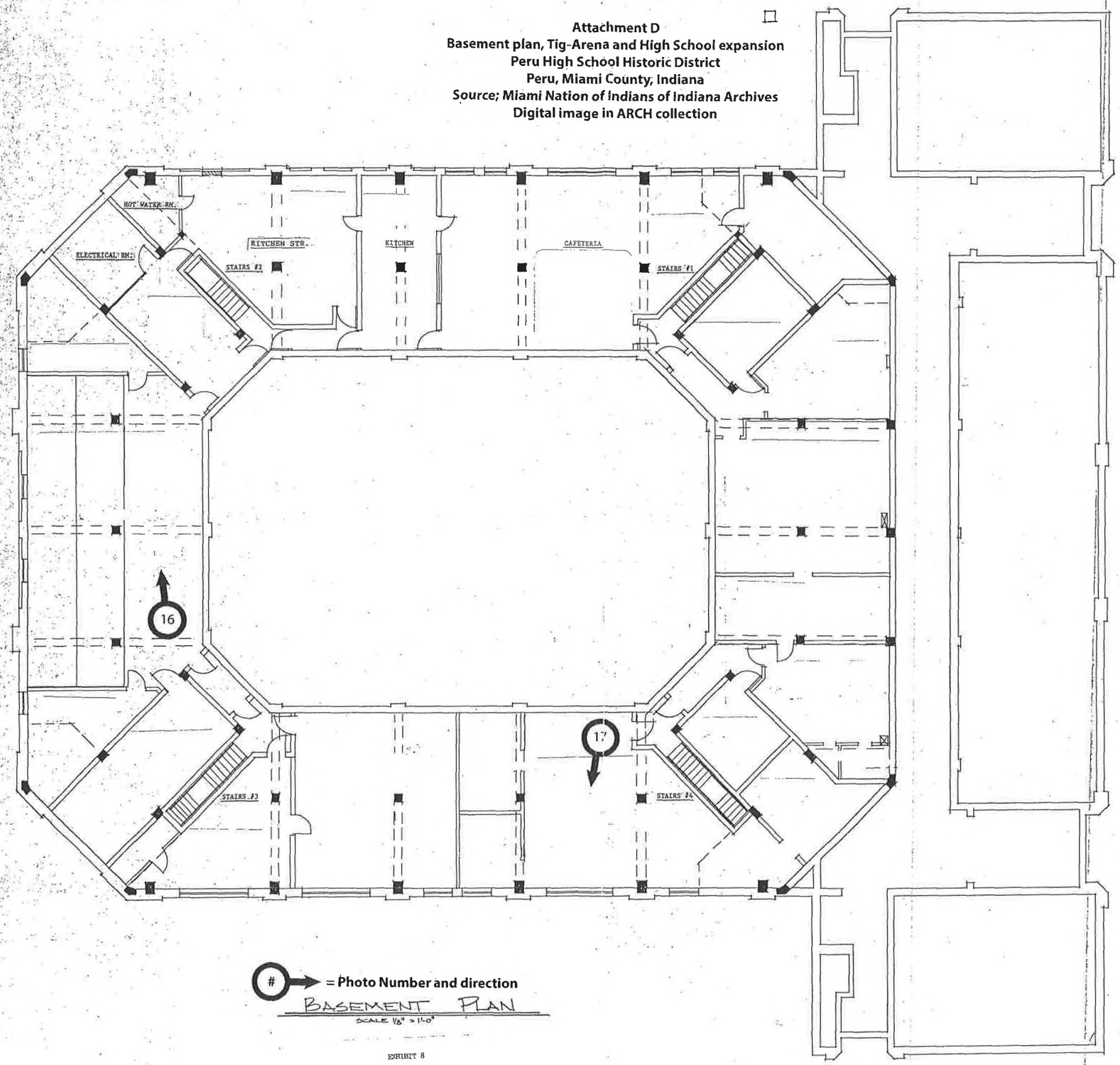
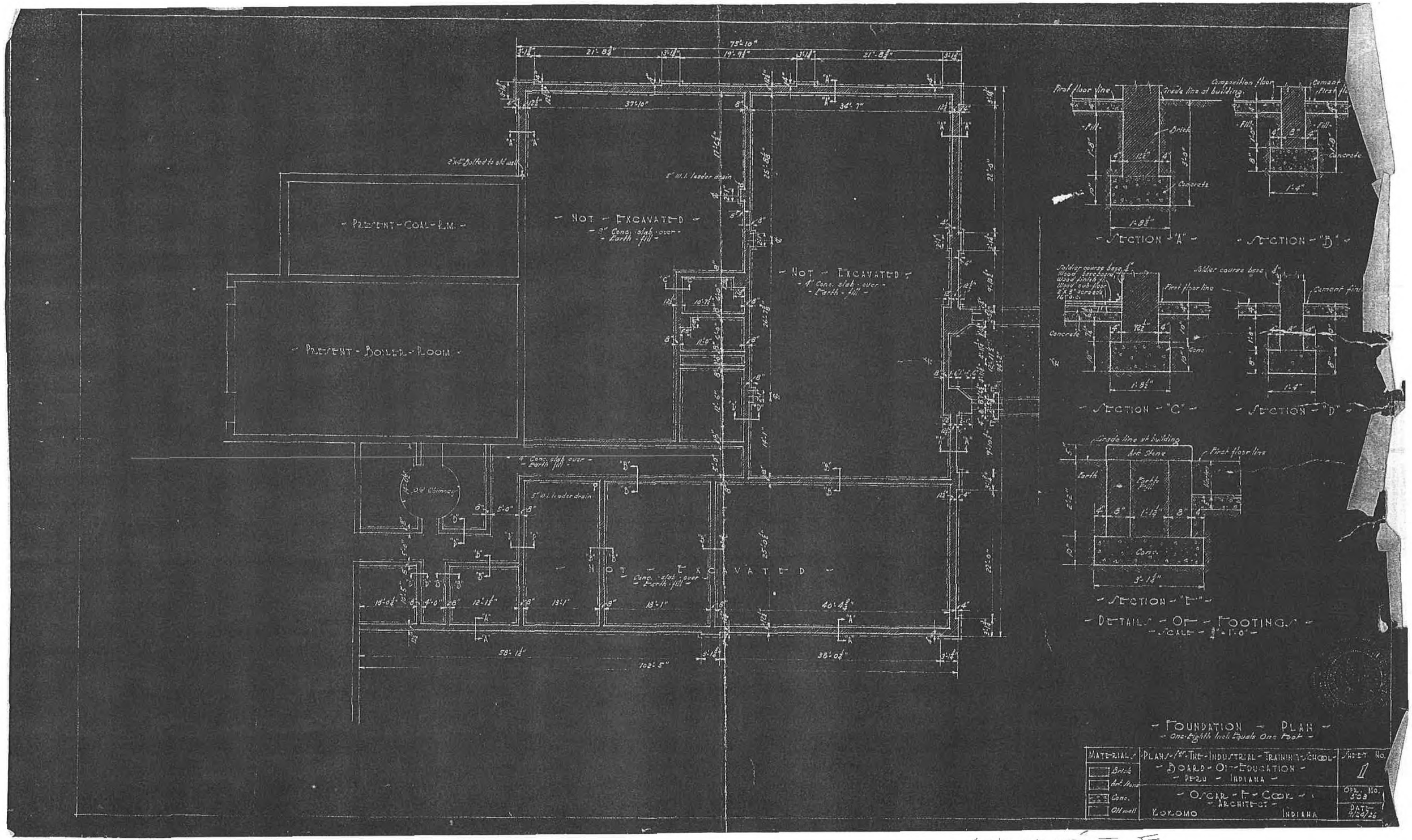
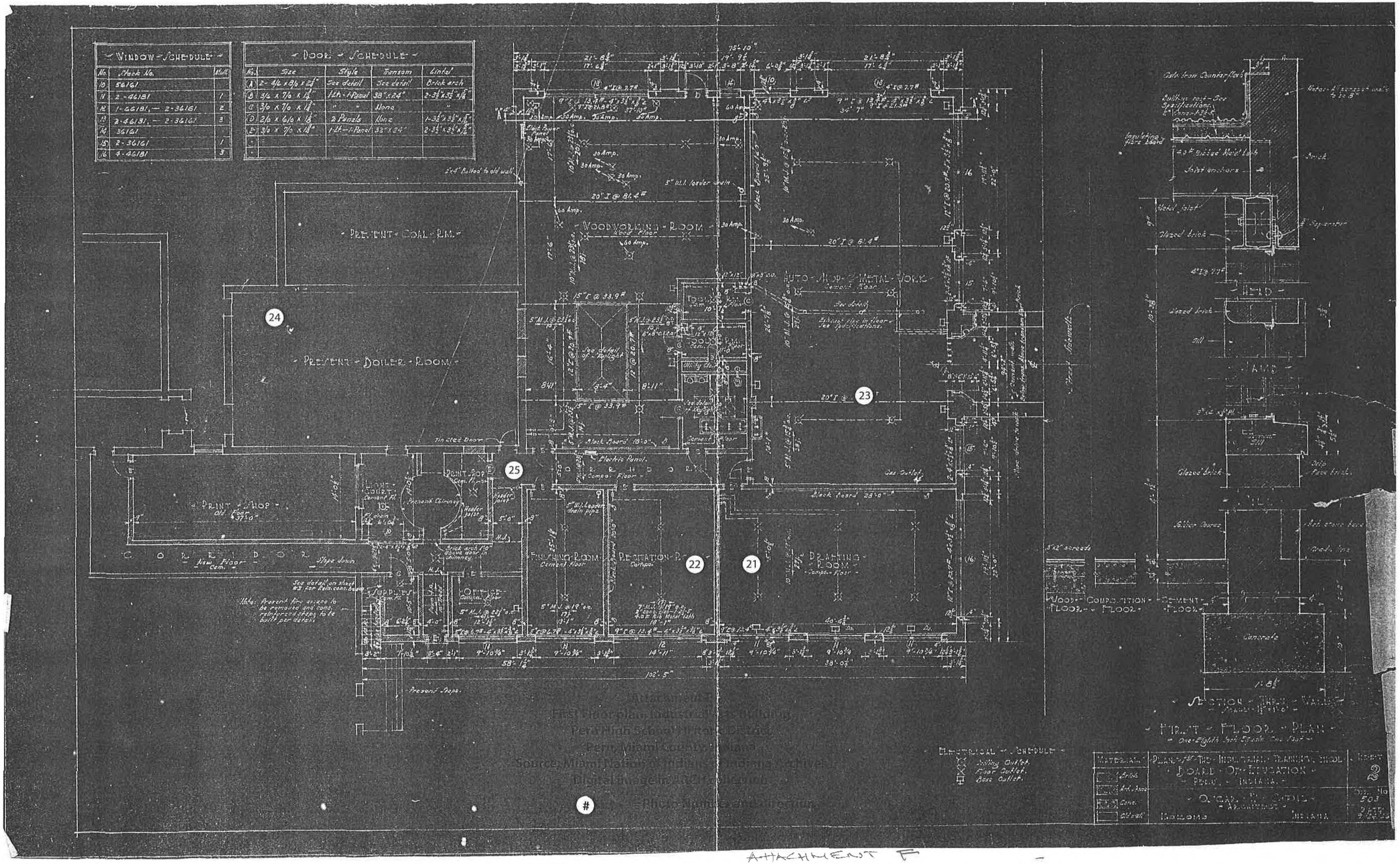


EXHIBIT 8



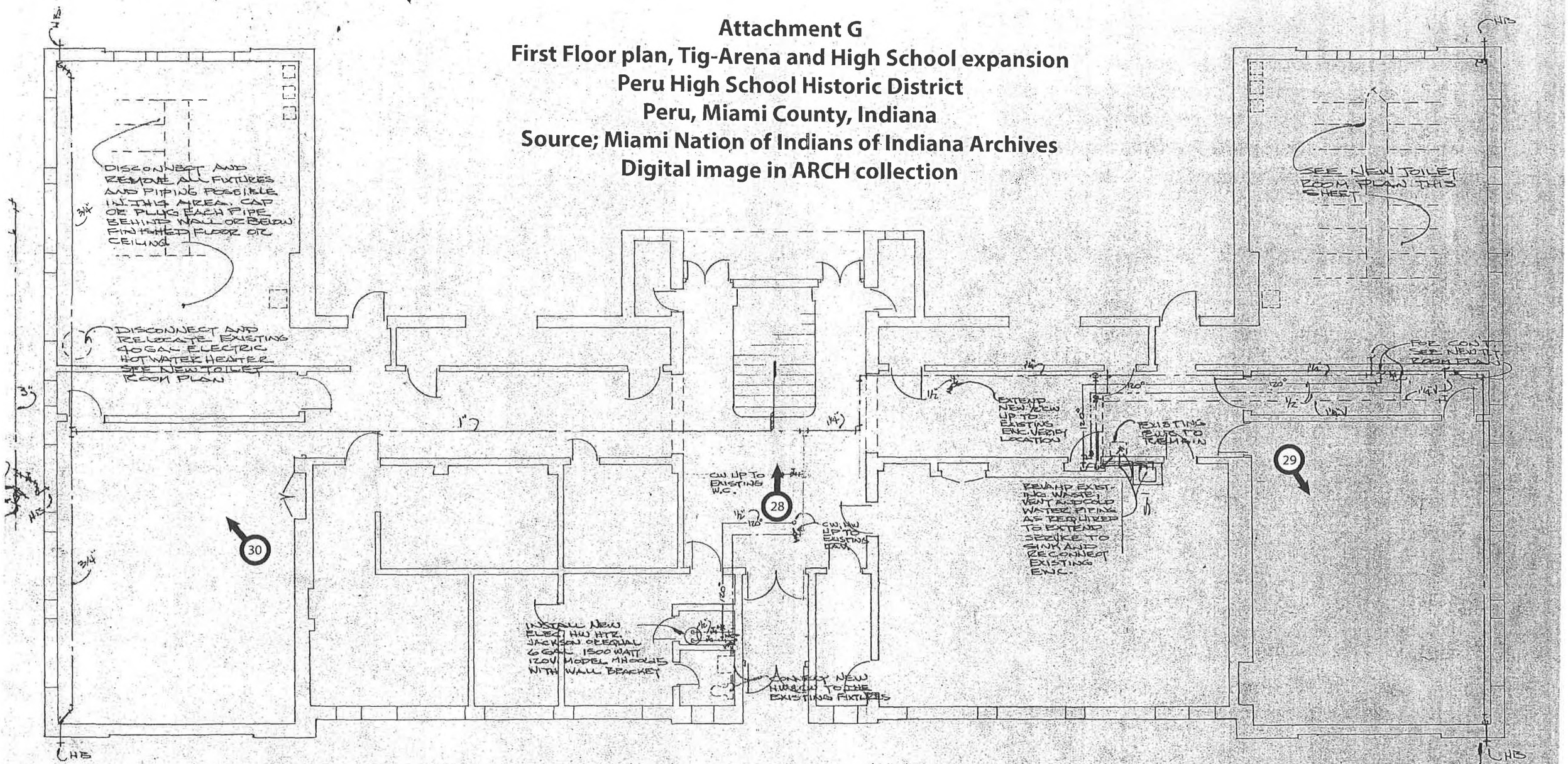
ATTACHMENT E



Attachment F
First Floor plan, Industrial Arts Building
Peru High School, Historic District
Peru, Miami County, Indiana
Source: Miami National Indiana Archives
Digital image in Arch Collection
Photo Number and Direction

ATTACHMENT F

Attachment G
First Floor plan, Tig-Arena and High School expansion
Peru High School Historic District
Peru, Miami County, Indiana
Source; Miami Nation of Indians of Indiana Archives
Digital image in ARCH collection

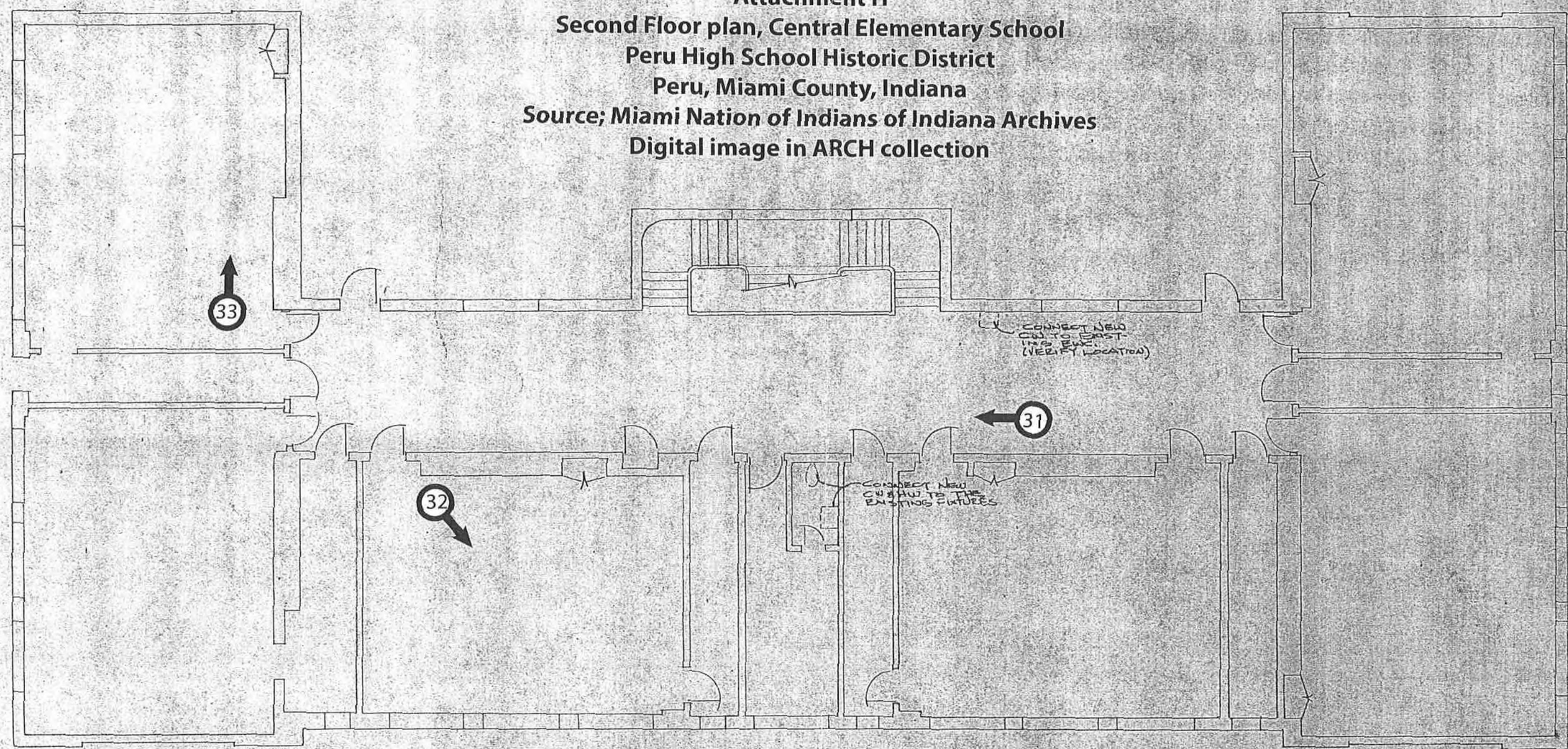


(#) → = Photo Number and direction

FIRST FLOOR PLUMBING PLAN

SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"

Attachment H
Second Floor plan, Central Elementary School
Peru High School Historic District
Peru, Miami County, Indiana
Source; Miami Nation of Indians of Indiana Archives
Digital image in ARCH collection



= **Photo Number and direction**

SECOND FLOOR PLUMBING PLAN

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"