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street & number

Public Square

city, town

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Jasper

Indiana state

Representation in Existing Surveys 6.

title	N/A	has this property been determined eligible? yes X no
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7. Description

Condition excellent good fair	<pre> deteriorated ruins unexposed</pre>	Check one unaltered X_ altered	Check one X original site moved dateN/A	National Real
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Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Shiloh Meetinghouse and Cemetery are located in a rural setting less than a mile from the Town of Ireland, Indiana. The Meetinghouse is a simple, one-story building of frame construction, and exhibits some Greek Revival elements in its design. The small $(50' \times 34')$ building has a rectangular plan and a medium-pitch gable roof. The original roofing material was wood shingles, but the present roof is of sheet metal. The building's chimneys were removed when this roof was applied. The foundation consists of piers of native sandstone.

The north facade of the structure, a gable end, contains three bays. The middle bay features a doublehung window, originally nine-over-six but now altered. The left and right bays contain the entry doors (one for men and one for women), each surmounted by a three-pane rectangular transom. The balance of this facade is simple clapboard, with plain cornerboards. The roof trim consists of a plain frieze and a simple box cornice with returns.

The east and west facades are identical, and contain four windows each. These windows, equally spaced across each facade, were all originally nine-over-six, doublehung units, identical to the window on the north facade. Modifications in some of these consists of removal of some muntins. The south facade contains two similar windows, located opposite the doors in the north wall.

The building's interior consists of a single large room, with a platform and pulpit located at the center of the south wall. The original yellow poplar pews fill the rest of the room. The original floorboards, likewise of yellow poplar, rest on floor joists made of logs with one side hewn flat. Adz marks are apparent on these members and also on the 6" x 6" rafters.

The nominated area includes one small utility building of recent origin and the old cemetery. The cemetery was established in 1860 and is the final resting place of the area's Civil War veterans. The cemetery and meetinghouse are both kept in good repair by the Shiloh Cemetery Association, a not-for-profit private corporation.

8. Significance

PeriodAreas of Significance—Check and justify below	law literature military	re_X_ religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
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Specific dates 1849

Builder/Architect Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Shiloh Meeting House and Cemetery are significant for their role in the early settlement of Dubois County, Indiana. The building is one of the oldest structures in the county, and is believed to be the only pioneer-era Cumberland Presbyterian Church building in the state. As the place of worship for the majority of the new settlers of the area, it helped provide social cohesiveness and stability to the frontier.

The meetinghouse was built to serve those early settlers of Scotch-Irish descent who were coming to the area from Virginia and the Carolinas in the early 19th century. They were largely members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, which was formed in 1810 after theological discord caused a schism in the Presbyterian Church. The Cumberlands were the first denomination to appear in Dubois County. The Shiloh congregation was formed shortly after 1817, when an early settler, Isaac Alexander, established a camp meeting site near his farm. Circuit riding ministers held religious services at this site until 1830, when disputes with the property owner caused the removal of the campgrounds to a new site on Alexander's farm. By 1833 a permanent minister was engaged. In 1849, Isaac Alexander deeded a 6.5 acre plot to the trustees of the church, and the present meetinghouse was constructed that same year. In 1860, a cemetery was established adjacent to the meetinghouse and the remains of the congregation's Civil War dead were interred there.

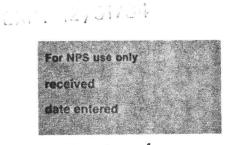
Although the Shiloh congregation has passed out of existence, the meetinghouse and cemetery grounds are still kept in good repair. The Shiloh Cemetery Association, a notfor-profit corporation organized in 1927, currently owns and administers the property. The meetinghouse is still used on occasion, and new burials are still being made in the cemetery.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



1.25

Continuation sheet Shiloh Meetinghouse/Cemetery Item number

Page 1

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