FINAL

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property		
historic name Hall School		
		109-258-20009
2. Location		
street & number 5955 West Hurt Road	····	N/A not for publication
city or town Monrovia		N/A □ vicinity
state Indiana code IN	county Morgan coo	
3. State/Federal Agency Certification		
5. State/Federal Agency Certification		
As the designated authority under the National Historic P request for determination of eligibility meets the docu Historic Places and meets the procedural and professions meets does not meet the National Register criteria nationally statewide locally. (See conting Signature of certifying official/Title Indiana Department of Natural Res State or Federal agency and bureau	mentation standards for registering properties at requirements set forth in 36CFR Part 60. It is a life commend that this property be consideration sheet for additional comments.) Date	s in the National Register of n my opinion, the property
In my opinion, the property meets does not mee comments.) Signature of certifying official/Title		ntinuation sheet for additional
annua	Date	
State or Federal agency and bureau	NE	
4. National Park Service Certification		
I hereby certify that the property is: ———————————————————————————————————	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
 determined eligible for the National Register 		
See continuation sheet.	<u> </u>	
determined not eligible for the National Register		A STATE OF THE STA
removed from the National Register other, (explain:)	<u></u>	,

Hall School Name of Property	Section Assertion Devoted and	Morgan IN County and State		
5. Classification				
Ownership of Property Check as many boxes as apply) private	Category of Property (Check only one box) in building	Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count Contributing Noncontributing		
⊠ public-local □ public-State	district	1	0	buildings
public-State public-Federal	☐ site ☐ structure	1	0	sites
	☐ object ☐ landscape	0	0	structures
		0	0	objects
		2	0	Total
Name of related multiple p		Number of contributing in the National Regist		sly listed
Indiana's Public Common & High Schools		0	maximum a apply and a particular by	
6. Function or Use				
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)		Current Functions (Enter categories from instruct	tions)	
EDUCATION: School		EDUCATION: Sch		school
	Abs 1144 Charac			
7. Description				
Architectural Classificat (Enter categories from instruction		Materials (Enter categories from instru	uctions)	
19th & 20th c. AMER MODERN:	R.: Bungalow/Craftsma	foundation	BRICK	
WODERIN.		walls	BRICK	
		1918/93/Mahada a	CONCRE	
The Control of the Co	Programme of the Control of the Cont	roof	ASPHAL	.Т
		other	SYNTHET	

Narrative Description

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

Hall School Name of Property		Morgan IN County and State		
(Mark "	cable National Register Criteria x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property onal Register listing.)	Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions) ARCHITECTURE		
Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.		EDUCATION		
□В	Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.			
C	Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.	Period of Significance 1911-1954		
	Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.	Significant Dates		
Criter	ia Considerations	1911		
(Mark "x	" in all the boxes that apply.) Property is:			
A	owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.	Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)		
В	removed from its original location.	N/A		
C	a birthplace or grave.	Cultural Affiliation		
	a cemetery.	N/A		
□Е	a reconstructed building, object, or structure.			
\Box F	a commemorative property.			
G	less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.	Architect/Builder Dupont, Henry H. (architect) Whitaker, O.J. (contractor)		
Narra (Explain	tive Statement of Significance the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)			
9. Maj	or Bibliographic References			
(Cite th	ography e books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form obus documentation on file (NPS):	on one or more continuation sheets.) Primary location of additional data:		
preliminary determination of individual listing (36		State Historic Preservation Office		
CFR 67) has been requested ☐ previously listed in the National Register		Other State agency		
previously determined eligible by the National Register		☐ Federal agency		
	signated a National Historic Landmark	☐ Local government		
☐ rec	orded by Historic American Buildings Survey	☐ University		
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #		☐ Other Name of repository:		

ame of Property	County and State	
0. Geographical Data		
Acreage of Property 2 acres JTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation s	heet.)	
1	Zone Easting 4	Northing
	See continuation sheet	
Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)		
Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)		
i1. Form Prepared By		
name/title Joanne Raetz Stuttgen for	,	
organization Morgan County Historic Preservation Socie	ety date	04-04-2004
treet & number P.O. Box 1377	telephone	765/ 349-1537
ity or town Martinsville	state IN	zip code 46151
Additional Documentation Submit the following items with the completed form: Continuation Sheets		
Maps		
A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the A Sketch map for historic districts and properties hav	• • •	ie rocoureoe
Photographs	ing large acreage of numerou	is resources.
Representative black and white photographs of the	property.	
Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)		
Property Owner		
(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)		 ,
name Monroe-Gregg School District, Attn: Dr. Jerry V	Volfe	
street & number 135 S. Chestnut St., P.O. Box 468	telephone	- AANTON VANNA
city or town Monrovia	state IN	zip code 46157

Morgan

_IN____

Hall School

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Form

Section 7 Page 1 Hall School, Gregg Township, Morgan County, IN

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Hall School, located in the village of Hall in northwestern Morgan County, is an historic school building erected in 1911, with later additions in 1957 and 1971. The property consists of one contributing building and one site. The site comprises the playground containing 17 pieces of play equipment and one bench. The age of the equipment offers evidence of the past use of the site; however, due to the impermanent nature and small scale of the equipment, the individual pieces are not included in the resource count, only the playground as a contributing site is included.

The following architectural description begins with the original six-room building—first the exterior, then the interior—and then proceeds to the 1957 and 1971 additions. Last is a brief description of the school yard, including playground.

1911 SCHOOL

EXTERIOR

The original two-story, six room school building consists of a rectangular mass constructed of red, factory-burned brick. Windows are nine-over-nine double hung wood sash, most with the original glass. Sills are painted wood. The hipped roof is covered with asphalt. A square bell tower with louvered sides and a flared hipped roof projects from the center of the roof ridge. Squat brick chimneys flank the bell tower; together with the bell tower they divide the roof into quarters. The raised basement features a channeled rusticated base. Original basement windows are nine-paned fixed sash; replacements are one-over-one double hung sash.

The main elevation faces north, overlooking Hurt Road. The façade is divided into eight bays, with a recessed, full-height entrance located between the central and west bay. The entrance is framed by brick pilasters and an overhead brick arch. The paired entrance doors are solid steel replacements, above which is located a rectangular fixed sash window with 12 lights. Separating the central and eastern bays is a similar surround framing a panel filled with brick and an arched window with 12 lights. Each double bay is nearly identical, with a pair of ribbon windows (each ribbon window consists of three nine-over-nine double hung wood sash windows) on the upper floor and basement windows below. Each pair of ribbon windows demarcates a classroom. (The west bays have two fixed sash nine-light basement windows.) The centrals bays have four basement windows, two below each set of three windows; the east pair consists of the original nine-light fixed sash wood windows, with the west pair both replacement one-over-one double hung wood sash. The east bays have two one-over-one double hung sash wood windows shorter than the opening; the gaps are filled with plywood.

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Section 7 Page 2 Hall School, Gregg Township, Morgan County, IN

The <u>west elevation</u> consists of a solid upper floor wall. The rusticated basement wall is symmetrically pierced by a fixed sash window with nine lights and a solid entrance doors. The top of the window is partially obscured by a plywood panel.

The <u>east elevation</u> consists of a solid upper floor wall. The rusticated basement wall is symmetrically pierced by two replacement one-over-one double hung ash wood windows. The windows are shorter than the opening, with gaps filled with plywood.

The <u>south (rear) elevation</u> features nine single nine-over-nine double hung sash wood windows on the upper floor. The windows are irregularly spaced. Each of the three western- and easternmost windows has a single nine-over-nine double hung sash wood basement window below. What is presumed to have been an original rear basement entrance was altered at the time of the 1957 addition, which is attached to the center one-third of the 1911 building's rear wall by way of a connecting corridor.

INTERIOR

The interior has two levels: an elevated upper floor and a main/ground level floor.

The off-center entrance hall is plain and unornamented. The front doors are modern steel security doors. Over the door is a large, square, 12-pane fixed sash wood window. A short flight of wooden stairs ascends to the first floor landing. The stairs and the wood floor are painted gray. Both show significant wear from years of use. The original plaster walls are painted sky blue. The ceiling retains its original height of nearly 20 feet in the entrance and 12 feet at the landing. In the southeast corner of the landing is a patched area, with a matching opening in the ceiling overhead. This opening is covered with a hinged wood door leading into the bell tower. The bell chord no longer exists.

The **upper floor** consists of three classrooms, three cloakrooms, a corridor oriented east and west, and a rear stairwell.

Room #14 is on the west end of the building, Room #15 at the center, and Room #16 at the east end. Each <u>classroom</u> is approximately square, with heavy plastered walls and a 14' ceiling. The original wood floors are covered with carpet. Three sets of paired windows are in the north wall. Windows are nine-over-nine double hung wood sash. In Room #15, the upper sashes are covered with plywood panels on the classroom side. A wood picture rail approximately one foot from the ceiling circles each room. A display ledge about seven feet above the floor also circles each room. Green synthetic slate chalk boards and dry marker boards cover the original blackboards on two walls. The maple frames and chalk tray of the original boards are not obscured. All wood trim—windows, doors, base trim--is painted plank.

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Section 7 Page 3 Hall School, Gregg Township, Morgan County, IN

Classroom, cloakroom, and closet doors are the original paneled wood painted white. Fluorescent egg carton-style lights hang from the ceiling. Additional wiring to outlets and speakers is run through metal conduit attached to the wall surfaces.

Each classroom has its own <u>cloakroom</u>, now used for general storage. Ceilings are at 14', walls are plaster, trim is painted plank. The original coat hooks have been removed. Each cloakroom has a window to light the interior. The doors leading between the cloakrooms and classroom #14 and #16 have been covered over with plywood panels on both sides.

The <u>corridor</u> runs east and west and provides access to each classroom. Walls and ceiling are the original plaster, painted sky blue. Ceiling height is 14 feet. Fluorescent egg carton-style lights hang from the ceiling. Three nine-over-nine fixed sash windows in the south wall allow light to enter the corridor. At each end of the corridor is the cloakroom for Rooms #14 and #16. Against the south wall, in front of Room #14's cloakroom is a three-font porcelain drinking fountain added with the 1957 addition.

The <u>rear stairwell</u> has two sets of stairs descending to a central elevated basement landing. Stairs are covered with carpet. Two handrails are found on the north walls. The stairwell is lit by three nine-over-nine double hung wood sash windows in the south wall.

The <u>raised basement</u> originally had the same plan as the upper floor, consisting of an east-west corridor and three rooms, each with their own cloakroom. The west room, now the computer room but once used as the cafeteria and multi-use room, has painted brick walls, a dropped ceiling of foam panels, and green and cream vinyl tiles over a poured concrete floor. A steel exterior door is found in the south corner. The center room, now the communication center, also has painted brick walls, a dropped ceiling of foam panels, and a floor covered with green and cream tiles. The east room (Room #12), now used for special education, has walls covered with wood-look paneling, a dropped ceiling of foam panels, and the same floor covering as the other rooms. A steel exterior door is found in the northwest corner.

Other rooms located beneath the upper level entrance and cloakrooms have largely been cut up for storage and office space and for housing the building mechanicals. They have walls of brick and plaster and frame and drywall. Ceilings are dropped panels. The floor is poured concrete covered with green and cream tiles. The corridor walls outside the east cloakroom are still lined with the original black coat hooks.

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Section 7 Page 4 Hall School, Gregg Township, Morgan County, IN

1957 Addition

EXTERIOR

The one-story rectangular addition is oriented north and south. It is constructed of molded concrete block with a facing of yellow brick. The roof is flat and covered with rubber, tar, and aggregate. Windows consist of three fixed sash above one awning sash. Interior windows are unpainted galvanized steel. Storm windows are aluminum.

INTERIOR

The 1957 addition consist of a central corridor flanked by three classrooms on the west and two classrooms, two restrooms, and a maintenance room on the east.

Each classroom has walls and a ceiling made of painted concrete block. Ceiling height is nine feet. The outer wall has four pairs of windows. Each consists of three panes framed by unpainted galvanized steel. The upper two frames are fixed; the lower awning frame opens from the top. Sills are limestone.

The north wall of each room is lined with five-foot brown metal storage lockers, about half of which have had their doors removed. Covering the walls between the lockers and ceiling and lockers and side walls are natural wood veneer panels.

Green synthetic chalk boards and dry marker boards cover the original slate chalk boards. Their maple frames and chalk trays are not obscured.

Poured concrete floors are covered with colorful vinyl floor tiles, red and cream, blue and yellow, or green and cream.

The corridor has walls and ceiling of concrete block. Floor is carpeted.

The restrooms—one each for girls and boys—have red terrazzo floors and walls and ceiling of concrete block. Walls are covered with glazed tile to about four feet above the floor. Stalls are blue metal. Stools and wall-mounted lavatories are white ceramic. Each restroom has a single window like those found in the classrooms.

The maintenance room has a floor of poured concrete and unpainted concrete block walls. An exterior door and window is found in the east wall.

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1971 Addition Exterior

The one-story rectangular addition is oriented east and west. It is constructed of molded concrete block with a facing of yellow brick. The roof is flat and covered with rubber, tar, and aggregate. Windows are unpainted aluminum frame consisting of three fixed sash above one awning sash.

The interior consists of intersecting north-south and east west corridors, eight classrooms, a library, multipurpose room, kitchen, three offices, and a staff workroom.

PLAYGROUND

Located east of the 1911 school building, the approximate half-acre playground dates to at least 1941 and possibly as far back as 1888. (The deeds for the school property have many inconsistencies.) It is bounded on the north and east sides by a chain link fence. The northeast corner is marked by an old concrete pillar with an iron ring on one side and the remains of an iron gate latch on another (not within the boundary). The playground contains 18 pieces: 17 pieces of play apparatus and one bench. Eight of the apparatus appear to be at least 50 years old Refer to first paragraph of the description for information on the resource count.

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Section 8 Page 6 Hall School, Gregg Township, Morgan County, IN

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Hall School is a historic educational facility consisting of one contributing building. It is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C. The original six-room building embodies the distinctive characteristics of the Craftsman style, while the later additions represent popular school architecture of the mid-twentieth century. The latter additions leave the 1911 school building intact. Hall School meets the registration requirements of Indiana's Public Common and high Schools MPDF.

The school itself represents the last stage in the transition of the Indiana school system from one-room rural schoolhouses to multi-room village school building. Part of the Monroe-Gregg School Corporation, Hall School is currently used as an elementary school serving grades one through five. It is scheduled to close in 2005.

Hall School is located at the northeast corner of the intersection of Hurt Road and Hall School Road in central Gregg Township, in the northwest section of Morgan County. While much of the township is heavily wooded and hilly, the northwest portion, of which Hall is a part, is level and contains some of the finest farmland in the county.

The village of Hall is named in honor of Zachariah Hall, an early settler. The village was platted in 1861. A sawmill operated by John P. Rader and Noah Wichita was erected in 1861, and in 1875 a grist mill was added. By 1884 the village had a population of 200 and boasted a competitive brass band. The needs of the community were served by a small commercial area, including a post office, retail shops, professional offices and fraternal lodges, and the Mt. Pleasant Christian Church with its cemetery located just east of the village. The church was relocated to its current site within the village in 1903.

According to Charles Blanchard, an early historian, the first school in Gregg Township was taught near the future village of Hall in 1834. About 1838 a log school was erected in the northern part of the township and remained the principal seat of learning for the township until

the late 1850s, when reports of the Indiana superintendent of public instruction recorded six schoolhouses, all of frame construction.

There was no school located within Hall village limits until 1877, when several rural districts were centralized. A new rectangular brick one-room schoolhouse was built by the team of Phillips and Cox on the site of the current Hall School that year. It became known as District #2. This school served the families of the community until 1888, when a two-room frame building was erected immediately to the east of the brick building. The new school was built by order of the Morgan County Commissioners, with the school lot by purchased from Nancy P. Long, the adjacent property owner. A historic photograph shows

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this building with a large number of young students standing in front.

For twenty years, the two school buildings stood side by side, although it appears that only the frame building was used for school purposes. The semi-annual reports of the Gregg Township Trustees from this period typically record payment to only two teachers in District #2.

In 1902, the one-room brick building was established as Hall High School, and a small class entered that fall. The 1903 plat map of Hall shows two schoolhouses located on the school lot, and a photo believed to be from 1910 depicts high school students standing near the intersecting roads, with the two school buildings behind them.

Hall High School operated for approximately five or six years, with the only graduate being Clyde Pearce in 1906. In an article published in the Martinsville newspaper in 1980, Pearce reports that the Hall High School burned to the ground in the spring of 1907. The fire may actually have occurred in the spring of 1908, as Gregg Township trustee, H. E. Marsh, records a payment issued for "cleaning Hall Schoolhouses" on September 23, 1907. Unfortunately, the trustee records for 1908 no longer exist, and no record of the fire has been found in the local newspaper for that period. ¹

In 1910, the surviving two-room frame building was replaced by a new two-room brick building constructed by O. J. Whitaker of Morgantown. The opening of school was delayed that September because the building was not yet complete. Two months later, on December 6, 1910, this school was destroyed by fire. A faulty furnace was blamed. Total loss of the building and its contents was estimated at \$10,000, with insurance coverage only \$6.500.00.

The contract for the replacement building—the existing Hall School—was let to O. J. Whitaker in June 1911. The architect was Henry H. Dupont of Indianapolis, who received \$150.00. The building appears to have been completed and ready for the opening of school that September.

Henry H. Dupont was born about 1870 in Louisville, Kentucky. As an architect, Dupont's career originated in Indianapolis, where he served as secretary and treasurer of the local affiliate of the American Institute of Architects. For a time he was in partnership with Jesse T. Johnson, with whom he designed, in 1901, the Neo-Classical Revival style Bona Thompson Memorial Library in Irvington for Butler University. Dupont is credited with designs for the Sarah Deterding Davis Missionary School (1909) and the Helen Moses House

¹ A story told by John E. Hurt, who was born at Hall in 1912, indicates that there may have been yet another fire that destroyed a Hall School. John says his father, William Hurt, always said that the Hall School burned down when he was attending it, and that he never went back. William was born in 1887. John believes he didn't have mere than a fifth or sixth grade education. If this is so, a fire may have occurred about 1898 or 1899. No record of such a fire has yet been found.

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Section 8 Page 8 Hall School, Gregg Township, Morgan County, IN

(1909) in Irvington, a Westside church for a DOC congregation (1911), and the Masonic Hall Masonic Hall in Frankfort (1915). In Morgan County, he designed the Stewart schoolhouse (1909) and the Hall School (1911). In 1914, Dupont left Indianapolis for St. Petersburg, FL, where he had frequently wintered and had already prepared designs for a number of buildings, and he engaged in a very active career once he moved there.

One of five rural schools to be built in Morgan County between 1909 and 1917, the Hall School is contemporary to only two that remain. These two, the Stewart and Jones schoolhouses in Washington Township, are one room buildings now used as dwellings. The Stewart schoolhouse is known to be another local design by Henry H. Dupont, and it is possible that the Jones Schoolhouse may also be his design. The other two schools from the period 1909-1917 were the Plunkett (1912), a one room frame building in Clay Township, and the Cope School (1917), a one-room building in Green Township.

The Hall School is one of only 27 historic resources in Gregg Township identified in the *Morgan County Interim Report* (1993). It is the only public building and the only one designed by an architect. It is also the only example of the Craftsman style.

Dupont's design proved sufficient for meeting the educational needs of Hall area residents until 1957, when a five-room addition was made to the rear of the school building. The addition was constructed by the Wespiser Construction Company of Batesville, Indiana, the low bidder for the job. The architectural firm responsible for the design is unknown.

On July, 1968, Gregg and Monroe Township schools merged to form the Monroe-Gregg School District, and Hall School fell under its jurisdiction. This signified an end to the township system of school administration.

A much larger second addition consisting of six classrooms, an art room, music room, library, multi-purpose room, kitchen and several offices was completed in 1971. Sieco, Inc., of Columbus, IN, was the architectural firm supervising the project. Contractors were Goheen General Construction, Bloomington, IN; C. G. Griesemer, Inc. (mechanics), Indianapolis; and Bertram Electric Co., Inc. (electrical), Indianapolis.

With the 2005 completion of a new elementary school in Monrovia that will serve the students of Gregg and Monroe Townships, Hall School will close. Residents of the village and surrounding area seek National Register listing for the school as the first step towards an overall preservation plan that will includes finding a suitable new use for the landmark building, the only surviving public building in the village of Hall.

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Jett, Virginia. *Monrovia High School*, 1884-1984. Unpublished history on file in the Office of the Superintendent, Monroe-Gregg School Corporation.

Hall Correspondence. Martinsville Reporter, June 19, 1902, p. 5.

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"Hall Schools to Resume Soon." Martinsville Reporter, December 8, 1910.

Historic photograph of two Hall school buildings clipped from *Martinsville Daily Reporter*, date unknown. On file at Morgan County Public Library, Martinsville, IN.

Hurt, John E. Telephone interview with Joanne Raetz Stuttgen, November 11, 2003.

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"One-Man Class Observes Reunion of Hall High." Martinsville Daily Reporter, September 4, 1980.

Plat maps (1903 and 1911) of Hall Village, Gregg Twp., Morgan County, IN.

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Section 9 Page 10 Hall School, Gregg Township, Morgan County, IN

Stuttgen, Joanne Raetz. One-Room and Two-Room Country Schoolhouses of Morgan County, Indiana An Architectural History. Unpublished manuscript on file in Morgan County Public Library, Martinsville, IN, (an Indiana Heritage Research Grant project), 1994

[&]quot;Postal Correspondence, Gregg Township." Martinsville Republican, September 20, 1877, p. 4.

[&]quot;Volume Strong in Hall School Well." Martinsville Daily Reporter, December 19, 1956.

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Section 10 Page 11 Hall School, Gregg Township, Morgan County, IN

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at a point on the south edge of West Hurt Road eight feet, seven inches from a concrete post at the northeast corner of the school yard, thence south along the chain link fence 321 feet; thence west along an axis running ten feet south of the southernmost wall of the school addition 395 feet; thence north along east edge of Hall School Road to West Hurt Road; thence east along south edge of said road to the point of beginning.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

This is the property's historic and current boundary.

