

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:
COUNTY:
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

1. NAME	
COMMON:	
Franklin County Seminary	
AND/OR HISTORIC:	

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
412 Fifth Street, Brookville, Indiana 47012			
CITY OR TOWN:		CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:	
Brookville			
STATE	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Indiana	18	Franklin	047

3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY			
OWNER'S NAME:			
The Franklin County Historical Society, Inc.			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
P.O. Box 192			
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:	CODE
Brookville		Indiana 47012	18

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:			
Recorder's Office, Courthouse, Brookville, Indiana 47012			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE	CODE
Brookville		Indiana 47012	047

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY:			
Survey by The Franklin County Historical Society			
DATE OF SURVEY: November 11, 1969 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:			
The Franklin County Historical Society, Inc.			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
P.O. Box 192			
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:	CODE
Brookville		Indiana 47012	047

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7. DESCRIPTION	
CONDITION	<div style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">(Check One)</div> <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	<div style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">(Check One)</div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered W add. <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered
	<div style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">(Check One)</div> <input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE	
<p>I. ORIGINAL CONDITION: The Franklin County Seminary is a two story Federal style building containing four rooms, each approximately twenty feet square and a central hall approximately seven feet wide. No detailed contracts exist for the construction of the exterior of the Franklin County Seminary, nor are there details for the construction of the cupola. However, the following was the contract for the interior of the buildings: "Lay all the floors in the said Seminary with good oak or ash plank to be tongued and grooved, broken jointed, the boards not to exceed six inches in width, when worked, the plank to be one inch and a quarter thick; to find the materials and put up one open newal staircase the steps and rise of ash timber, the hand rail to be straight and the hand rail banister and posts to be of walnut or cherry, the newal to be turned. To find the materials and case four doors, and make and hang four six panel doors to be one inch and a half thick and hung with hinges with a thumb latch on each door. To case and finish twenty-six, fifteen light windows. And to put up and finish all the necessary wash boards. Also to put up and finish four plain chimney pieces. To find the materials and lathe and plaster the whole house, to be two coats of plastering, the lathing to be cut with a gauge not to exceed one and a half inches in width. To be completed on or before the first day of July 1830."</p> <p>II. MODIFICATIONS: In 1860, when the building was acquired by the School Trustees of Brookville, the fireplaces were removed and the building repaired. Between 1910-1915, probably 1913 (after a flood), the cupola was removed, a three room addition was placed on the back, and a porch added. The 1913 flood ruined the floor in the lower East room and it was replaced with a pine floor. The joists for the floor in the lower West room in the southeast corner also have given away partially. A cupola, built in 1840, is gone but old photographs of it exist, and its bell is in the possession of the Historical Society.</p> <p>III. PRESENT CONDITION: The present condition has changed little from the original appearance. The flooring in all rooms but one in original as is the staircase. Two interior doors are original. One of the upper rooms contains painted-on-blackboard and approximately one-half of the window panes are original.</p> <p>This building has undergone some degree of mothballing to protect its exterior wood. Since so much of the building is brick, little external structural modifications have occurred, except for the making of two rear windows into doors for the three room addition. The addition is still there. About one-half of the 360 panes of glass are original. The exterior brick needs painting and silicone protection for the soft red brick. The interior has undergone few modifications. Some flooring has been replaced. Most interior wood, the stair case and 3 interior doors are original and there are signs of a blackboard in the upper West room.</p> <p>Several years ago a modern roof was put on the building, and there are signs of rotting about the eaves.</p>	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. SIGNIFICANCE			
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) Started 1828, completed 1830			
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Military		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE			
<p>The Franklin County Seminary was an undifferentiated secondary school to fulfill the requirements of Articles Two and Three of Section Nine of the 1816 Indiana Constitution. Sixty three Indiana County Seminaries were constructed and lots acquired in ten more counties, reflecting 73 of the then 91 counties with seminary programs. Plans for other sites and buildings were set aside after 1849 when emphasis shifted to common schools. The Franklin County building is one of six known surviving structures, and those others were built later and have undergone extensive remodeling. The Franklin County Seminary, authorized in 1829, was incorporated in 1830. It opened in 1831 and closed as a County Seminary by mandate of the 1851 Indiana Constitution.</p> <p>Having analyzed other states' educational histories, it appears that the concept of a publically supported secondary educational system in the United States under a state-wide program was first conceived in Indiana with the County Seminary system. While its conception was first, the inception of a general system certainly was first in the Midwest. The Hoosier system was effective in 80% of her counties when abolished by the 1851 Constitution. While control rested with each county through a board of trustees appointed by the Board of County Commissioners, or were elected, legislation required a structured format for the creation and even guidelines for the operation of each school. After 1843, for example, all seminary lots were purchased with title belonging to the state, and in 1841 legislation prohibited the Franklin County Seminary instructors from teaching common school level subjects. While Indiana's system offered only general guidelines and legislation was introduced more to correct abuses than regulate, Indiana's 1816 Constitution mandated county seminaries, the first state constitution to do so. The County Seminary was to be the second level of public education, with common schools and a state Seminary completing the constitutional requirements. Schools of all levels were to be established "as soon as circumstances will permit."</p> <p>Indiana traces the origin of County Seminaries to John Badollet, a friend of Albert Gallatin. Badollet, in a letter dated September 10, 1823, to Gallatin (Thornbrough, Gayle, edit., <u>The Correspondence of John Badollet and Albert Gallatin, 1804-1826</u>, p. 262) stated: "I introduced with that view the 2d 3d 4th & 5th Sections of Article IX" of Indiana's 1816 Constitution. Section 3 called for the County Seminary system. Other state constitutions do not suggest a public policy towards such schools of higher learning, although it is possible that local option established such a public secondary school system through County Seminaries.</p>			
(continued)			

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Indiana	
COUNTY Franklin	
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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

(8) Statement of Significance continued:

These Hoosier public seminaries were only partially successful since they charged tuition to pay teachers and so were not "equally open to all" as the Constitution required. However, they were a first attempt of many, still continuing today, to achieve that goal.

The Franklin County Seminary, to be preserved with this theme in mind, serves as a physical link in this area of secondary educational history.

(9) Major Bibliographical References continued:

Epoch, pp 29-35 (H.M.S.) especially pp. 29 and 33.

3. August J. Reifel, History of Franklin County, Indiana (Indianapolis, 1915), pp. 375-380.

4. John J. Newman, The Brookville Democrat, Brookville, Indiana, 8/14/69 p 1, 8/21/69 p 2, 8/28/69 p 2, 9/4/69 p 2.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. A History of Education in Indiana by Richard A. Boone, New York, 1892, especially chapter 5 "Seminaries and Academies" pp 42-58.
2. State of Indiana Thirty-Fourth Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, being the Thirteenth Biennial Report, and for the years ending 8/31/1885 and 8/31/1886, John W. Holcombe, Superintendent Indianapolis 1886.

Part Second "Historical Review of Education in Indiana by Hubert M. Skinner, Barnabas C. Hobbs, Mary Gay Humphreys, IV The County Seminary

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

(continued)

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES							
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE							
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds			
NW	0		"	0		"	85	00	31	39	25	10
NE	0		"	0		"						
SE	0		"	0		"						
SW	0		"	0		"						

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 165 ft. x 165 ft. 5/8 of an acre.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: John J. Newman, Museum Committee member		
ORGANIZATION The Franklin County Historical Society, Inc.	DATE Jan. 5, 1973	
STREET AND NUMBER: P.O. Box 201		
CITY OR TOWN: Brookville	STATE Indiana 47012	CODE 047

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS