

FINAL

STATE: Indiana	
COUNTY: Jasper	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
JUN 19 1973	

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME

COMMON: **Drexel Hall**

AND/OR HISTORIC: *used by* **St. Joseph's Indian Normal School, 1888-1896**

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: *St. Joseph's College campus off U.S. 231*

CITY OR TOWN: **Rensselaer**

STATE Indiana	CODE 18	COUNTY: Jasper	CODE 73
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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 type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input 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) _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: **Saint Joseph's College**

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: **Rensselaer** STATE: **Indiana** CODE: **18**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: **Deed Record, vol. 105, p. 382**

STREET AND NUMBER: **Jasper County Court House**

CITY OR TOWN: **Rensselaer** STATE: **Indiana**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

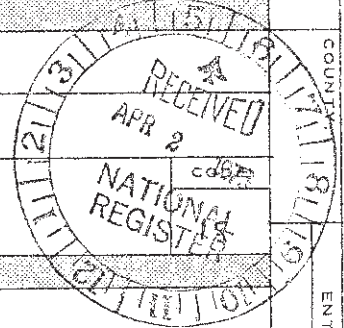
TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: _____ COUNTY: _____ ENTRY NUMBER: _____ DATE: _____

FOR NPS USE ONLY

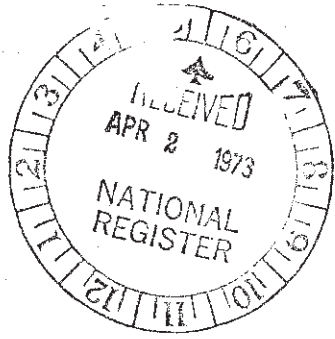
7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Indian school was essentially a red brick structure with the ground floor however surrounded with a sandstone wall. It was built in the form of a square, eighty feet each side, with a square courtyard in the center, it being around thirty feet each side. It consisted therefore of four wings joined together in the form of a square. Each wing consisted of four floors except for the east wing with three floors. The building was topped with a red tile roof and faced west. It was built as a boarding school for Indian boys with space for around 70 Indians together with classrooms, playroom, dormitory, kitchen, a small chapel, rooms for the superintendent and a teacher or two and for around six Sisters (nuns) who ran the kitchen. An inspector's report said there were 29 rooms in all.

Although the building served as an Indian school for only eight years (1888-1896), it was not changed or altered until 1937, when it was re-modeled to serve as a dorm or residence hall for students at Saint Joseph's College. Even then the outward appearance was hardly changed at all except for the removal of a bell tower above the roof and the shutters from the windows. Internally, however, it was thoroughly changed to provide rooms for college students. The center courtyard was made smaller to allow an extra tier of rooms.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

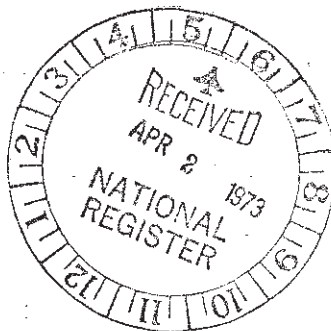
- | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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 type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This building, now called Drexel Hall and serving as a student residence or dorm on the Saint Joseph's College campus, was originally an Indian school called St. Joseph's Indian Normal School, 1888-1896. It was owned by the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions in Washington, D.C. Points of significance:

- (1) It represents an era, i.e., just before the turn of the century when our country was hoping to solve the Indian question by such off-reservation schools where Indian pupils could be thoroughly assimilated into white man's ways and help then convert their own people in turn. It was designed in imitation of the Carlisle Indian school of Carlisle, Pa., founded nine years earlier.
- (2) It was a "contract" school, i.e., one of the many private schools once supported by an annual federal per pupil subsidy to promote Indian education, therefore a relic of an era of state-church partnership now largely forgotten.
- (3) It was the only Catholic off-reservation school of this type.
- (4) It was one of only two such Indian schools in the state of Indiana, the other being White's Manual Labor Institute at Wabash, Indiana, also a "contract" school (Society of Friends).

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Thus far there were a series of four articles that appeared in the local newspaper, the Rensselaer Republican, May 11, May 18, May 25 and June 1, 1971, marking the 75th anniversary of the closing of the Indian school. However, a more definitive article is in progress.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

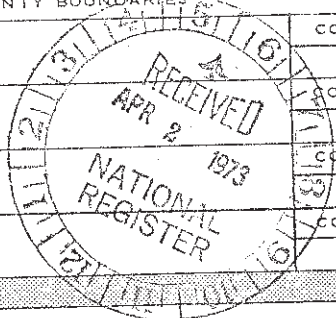
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		40 ° 55 ' 17 "	87 ° 09 ' 04 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		north	west	
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

UTM
16/48725
4529830
CD

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: just the ground on which it stands. - 1a.

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Dominic B. Gerlach, assoc. professor of history and archivist

ORGANIZATION: Saint Joseph's College DATE: _____

STREET AND NUMBER: _____

CITY OR TOWN: Rensselaer STATE: Indiana CODE: _____

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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: Joseph D. Coland

Title: Indiana State Liaison Officer

Date: March 26, 1973

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

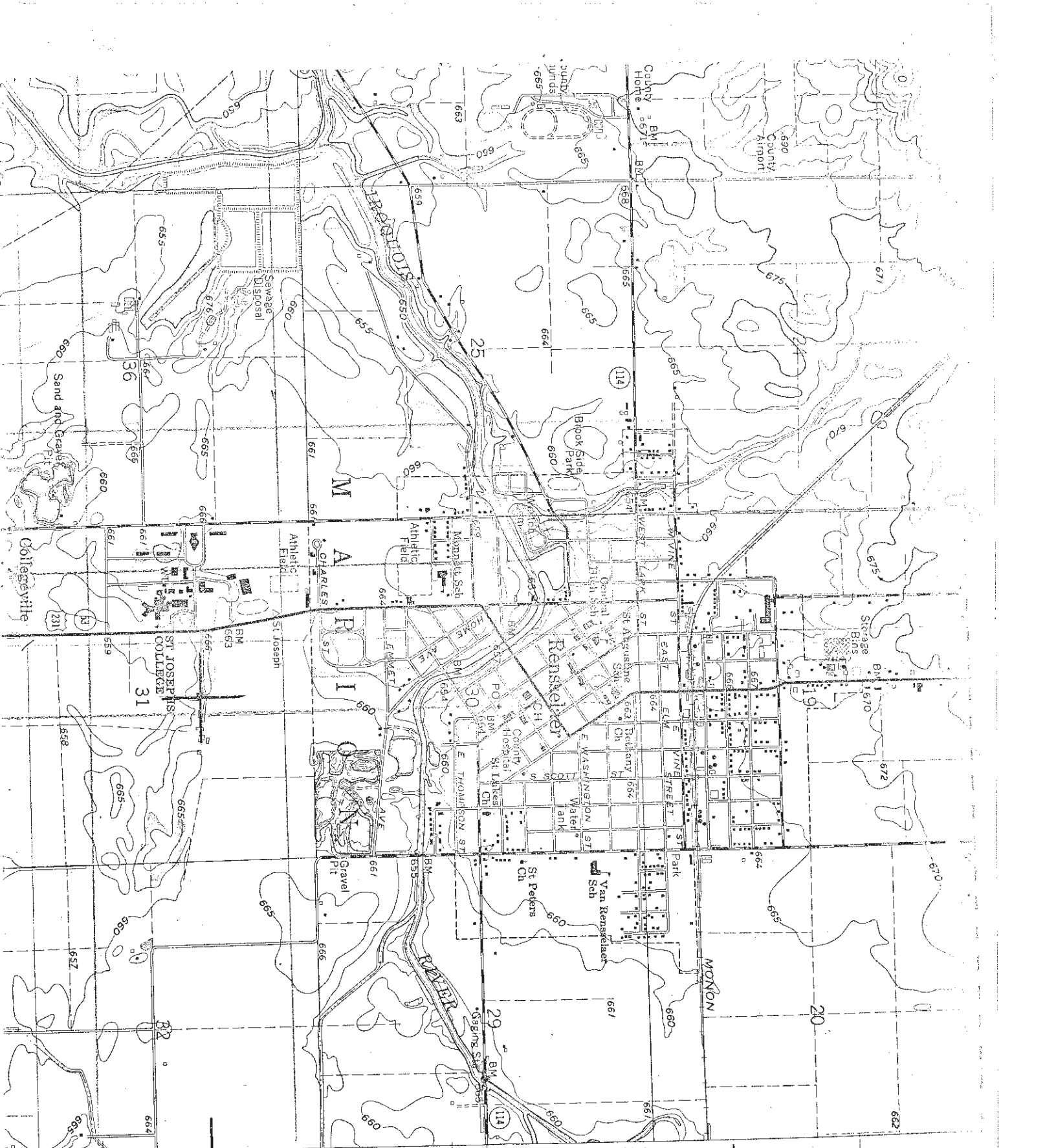
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Parker M. Utley
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 6/19/73

ATTEST: [Signature]
Keeper of The National Register

Date: 6/14/73



12 MI. TO U.S. 421 (MC COYSBURG) 3566 I NE

40° 55' 17"

UTM

55 10/487280

CT

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE
RENSSELAER, INDIANA