

**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 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.

## 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Franklin College Historic District

Other names/site number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

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

## 2. Location

Street & number: Roughly bounded by East Monroe Street on the north, South Forsythe Street on the east, Grizzly Drive and Park Avenue on the south, and Branigin Boulevard on the west.

City or town: Franklin State: IN County: Johnson

Not For Publication:  Vicinity:

## 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

Applicable National Register Criteria:

x A      \_\_\_ B      x C      \_\_\_ D

<p>_____  <b>Signature of certifying official/Title:</b>  <u>Indiana DNR-Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology</u>  <b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b></p>	<p>_____  <b>Date</b></p>
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------

Franklin College Historic District  
Name of Property

Johnson County, IN  
County and State

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.	
_____	_____
<b>Signature of commenting official:</b>	<b>Date</b>
_____	_____
<b>Title :</b>	<b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b>

**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:) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

**Category of Property**

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
-

Franklin College Historic District  
Name of Property  
Structure

Johnson County, IN  
County and State

Object

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>10</u>	<u>6</u>	buildings
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	structures
<u>6</u>	<u>9</u>	objects
<u>19</u>	<u>16</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 2

---

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION: college

EDUCATION: library

EDUCATION: education-related

RECREATION AND CULTURE: auditorium

RECREATION AND CULTURE: sports facility

RELIGION: religious facility

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION: college

EDUCATION: library

EDUCATION: education-related

RECREATION AND CULTURE: auditorium

RECREATION AND CULTURE: sports facility

RELIGION: religious facility

Franklin College Historic District  
Name of Property

Johnson County, IN  
County and State

---

## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE VICTORIAN: Second Empire

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS: Classical Revival

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS: Colonial Revival

MODEERN MOVEMENT: International Style

OTHER: Post-Modern

**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: STONE

walls: BRICK

CONCRETE

roof: SYNTHETICS: Asphalt

other: STONE: Limestone

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

---

### Summary Paragraph

The core of the Franklin College Historic District is Dame Mall, nearly one-thousand feet long, fronted by most of the buildings in the district. The mall and oldest extant buildings date to the 19<sup>th</sup> century and first decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century in Second Empire, Classical and Colonial Revival styles. Expansion in the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century filled out the remaining edges of the mall with typical college dormitory and classroom buildings, constructed in the International and Post-Modern styles. The district is characterized by several monuments and sculpture located near buildings or on the mall from the early 1900s-early 2000s, as well as mature shade trees and sidewalks around the perimeter and crossing the mall.

Franklin College Historic District  
Name of Property

Johnson County, IN  
County and State

---

## Narrative Description

Franklin College is located on the historic southeast edge of the city of Franklin, with the historic core being about five blocks in length between Branigin Boulevard/State Street on the west and Forsythe Street on the east and a block wide between Monroe Street and Grizzly Drive/Park Avenue on the north and south. While the college campus has expanded well beyond these boundaries, particularly to the east and south for athletic fields, the historic core of the campus is located in these boundaries. Dame Mall (Alling DeForest, landscape architect, c. 1923, photos 08-10, 27) extends west-to-east in the middle of the district with the college's oldest buildings on the west end, between the mall and Branigin Boulevard, extending east as the college expanded into the middle-20<sup>th</sup> century.

While Franklin College was established in 1834, the oldest extant building is located in the northwest corner of Dame Mall and features a section that dates to 1844. The building, named Old Main and designed in the Second Empire style (photo 01, NR 1975), has undergone expansion and remodeling campaigns with the most significant occurring in 1887-1889 when it arrived at its general current appearance. To its south is located Shirk Hall (photo 02), originally constructed as a library in 1903 with rotunda. The building, built in a Georgian interpretation of the Classical Revival style, is also listed on the National Register of Historic Places (1975). The next building that followed is one of Indiana's oldest gymnasiums, constructed in 1908 off the southwest corner of the mall. The Franklin College Recreation Hall/Physical Culture Building (photo 16) followed the style of the library, which set the general appearance of buildings constructed on campus until the 1960s. This style was a blend of Neoclassical and Georgian Revival features, sometimes in restrained application, but provided visual unity as the campus grew.

During the 1950s-60s, like many other colleges, Franklin College constructed a few large dormitory and classroom buildings in the International Style. This included the college's new library on the south side of the mall (photo 14). Building construction continued down both the north and south sides of the mall to the east, not reaching Forsythe Street until the late 20<sup>th</sup> and early 21<sup>st</sup> century. At that time, the style changed again to reflect the earlier period of campus development, mostly in Post-Modern design with classical features. This is most reflected in the construction of Richardson Chapel in 1976 (photo 12), a Neo-Colonial design located on the northeast corner of the mall.

While campus architecture varies in style, a consistent theme of red brick with stone trim and a nod to classical design, in features or composition, gives the district visual unity of materials, scale, and execution. This is also accentuated with the position of buildings fronting Dame Mall, roughly eight hundred feet in length from Shirk Hall and Old Main terminate axially on the west at Forsythe Street, near the east edge of the district.

The mall's consistent design of concrete sidewalks and streetlamps flanking a central green create a boulevard feel, crisscrossed by sidewalks leading to front entries of buildings fronting the mall (photos 09-10). Broader sidewalks, sitting areas, sculpture, monuments, and structures

Franklin College Historic District  
Name of Property

Johnson County, IN  
County and State

are located nearer buildings on the periphery of the mall. Shade trees were planted with great regularity down the central green and along the periphery and extend around to the west end of the district in front of the older buildings on campus. Dame Mall, which likely was established in some fashion prior to 1920, was organized and redesigned about 1923 by Alling DeForest, a landscape architect from Rochester, New York. The mall is named for the first graduate, John Wesley Dame, and is considered a contributing site. Several monument signs, monuments, sculpture, and structures are located in the district and are considered contributing or non-contributing, based on their date of installation.

A complete list of resources follows and generally lists resources from the west end of the mall, then along the north side heading east, then the south side heading west, then buildings that are located immediately off the mall. Letters shown in parenthesis are keyed to the map for objects located in the district. The period of significance is 1844-1976; resources that date after that period are considered non-contributing.

Old Main, Second Empire, 1844/1854/1887. Contributing  
National Register of Historic Places, 1975. Photo 01, 05.

Robert Platt Daggett (Indianapolis), architect for Stott Hall & remodel campaign.

Old Main is the oldest building on campus and is composed of three parts, each brick, constructed at separate times. Construction began on the north wing (Chandler Hall, left side of photo 01) in 1844 and construction began on the south wing (Bailey Hall, left side of photo 05) in 1854. The wings have similar colored orange common brick while the middle section (Stott Hall) is redder in color. Both wings are three stories on a raised stone base and feature side-gables and wood cornice supported by pairs of sawn scroll brackets. The side gables also feature cornice returns supported by pairs of brackets and gable trim at the top. The wings have rows of 1/1 wood windows with stone sills (and stone lintels on the south wing) on each floor. Each wing has a modern recessed entry in the middle of their east façade with pairs of modern doors and concrete steps leading down the raised base from the first story.

The middle part (Stott Hall, right side of photo 01) connects the two previously freestanding buildings (wings) when it was constructed between 1887 and 1889. The middle part is brick on a rusticated limestone base with a combination of full-round arched and segmental-arched windows with stone sills in the first and second story of the back half of the building. The full-round arched windows feature jigsaw panels in the arches of the first story. The front half features 1/1 wood windows; the third story windows have carved stone hoods. The building features a metal cornice with brackets (paired at the top of its tall, three-story walls and a fourth story in its slate tile-covered mansard roof. A metal cornice with dentil-like trim tops the mansard, gabled dormers, sheathed in metal with full-round arched 2/2 wood windows, are in the mansard roof. A one-story section on the east end of the back half of the building once housed the chapel (right side of photo 05). It has stepped parapets on its north and south sides and the windows were removed and filled with brick to accommodate a backstage for the Custer Theatre auditorium (formerly the chapel). Pairs of modern metal doors are located in each of its three walls.

Franklin College Historic District  
Name of Property

Johnson County, IN  
County and State

The front (west) façade of the building will be described in each of its three parts. The middle part is dominated by a central, projecting entry tower. The tower is flanked by two bays in the façade. Each bay is composed of 1/1 wood windows in each story. The first and second story windows are separated by a metal panel. The third story window has a carved stone hood. Gabled dormers, sheathed with metal, flank the tower and feature full-round arched 2/2 wood windows. The dormers are surmounted by pinnacles.

The square, four-story tower projects forward and has a wide, full-round arched opening with recessed entry steps that lead to a vestibule on the first story. This base level features a tall wainscot of rusticated limestone and tall capstone. The opening surround is composed of carved stone with key. It is flanked by pairs of brick pilasters that extend up from the stone base to carry a stone belt course with a row of chevrons in the middle. A brick frieze rises above the belt course and is topped with a stone cornice supported by rows of corbels. This forms a stone sill for the pair of 1/1 second story windows. The remaining stories above the base level have identical features. The second and third story feature pairs of 1/1 wood windows with stone sills and carved stone hoods. They are located in a two-story recessed bay with full round arched top. The second story pair of windows features a segmental-arched hood and the third story pair of windows features a full-round arched hood with key. The third story arch is filled with a wood transom panel. The bay's full-round arch is trimmed with stone and features a key just below a metal cornice at the top of the third story. The pressed metal cornice features pairs of brackets and the words FRANKLIN COLLEGE in raised letters. The fourth story rising from the cornice is brick and also features a recessed bay with segmental-arched top with stone key. Corner brick pilaster-like features flank the bay and have stone caps shouldering the brick arch. A pair of 1/1 wood windows in a segmental arched opening is centered in the bay. The arch is carved stone. The arch is filled with a jigsaw transom panel matching the pair of windows on the second story. A metal cornice featuring corner brackets and rows of dentils tops the fourth story. From it springs a steeply pitched pyramidal roof surmounted by a pinnacle. Narrow dormers with steeply pitched gables, sheathed with pressed metal, are centered in each of the towers four sides. The gables, which feature full-round arched openings with louvers, are surmounted with pinnacles.

The wings are mirrored. Each features a facade divided into seven bays of 1/1 windows. The middle bay is off set to the center (toward the connecting section) and features a pair of 1/1 windows with stone sill. During the 1888 remodel, a short tower was added and eave removed on this bay. Ghost markings of brackets and variation in brick color demonstrates this remodel. The tower features a wide pair of louvers in a segmental-arched opening. It is flanked by smaller segmental-arched wood windows. The tower features a simple cornice and a steeply pitched hipped roof covered with slates. A wall dormer rises through the front of the tower, over the pair of louvers, and is crowned with a metal pedimented, surmounted with a metal pinnacle.

While a devastating fire in 1985 required substantial interior remodeling of the space, the building retains its historic layout with long central corridors in each wing and down the center portion, leading from the front entry (photo 20). At a central intersection of hallways, a set of open staircases, parting from a central landing (photo 19), lead to the second story just below a rotunda topped with a stained art glass skylight depicting the college's seal. Administrative offices and classrooms line the hallways which feature historic iron columns with stylized

Franklin College Historic District

Johnson County, IN

Name of Property

County and State

Corinthian columns with acanthus leaf capitals. The interior has modern finishes, including the extensive use of dark wood paneling. The former chapel, now Custer Theatre, on the east end of the building features theater style tiered seating in a semicircular plan (photo 21). They face a raised stage with semicircular front wall. The auditorium has a balcony, coffered ceiling, and two stained art glass windows in the north and south walls. The other stained glass windows removed in the renovation were relocated for use in Richardson Chapel when it was constructed in 1976.

Class of 1915 Memorial Stone Benches (three objects), 1915. Contributing (A)

These are seen on the left side of photos 06-07.

Shirk Hall/Old Library, Georgian Revival/Neoclassical, 1903. Contributing

National Register of Historic Places, 1975. Photo 02, 07.

Harris & Shopbell (Evansville), architects

The brick building is constructed in a modified cross-gabled plan with a rotunda on a raised octagonal pile at the crossing. The building features a wider, overall east/west gabled section with narrower gabled sections projecting from these facades that then match the narrower side/cross gables. The building features a rusticated stone base and smooth stone belt course at the top of the building's raised basement. The broader east/west gabled section features walls of brick rustication. The front (west) façade and cross-gabled sections feature corner pilasters of brick with stone bases and Ionic and Doric capitals, respectively. The building has bays of short 1/1 wood windows in the raised basement and tall 1/1 wood windows in the first story. The basement windows' sills and lintels are created from the rusticated stone base and smooth belt course at the top of the basement walls. The first story windows feature bracketed stone sills and stone lintels above which are transoms with stone jack arches (projecting gables and cross gables only). A tall metal entablature, painted white, that features rows of dentils and cornice supported by rows of corbels tops the first story. The building's brick gables are enclosed to form pediments and feature a large wood roundel trimmed with stone. The back (east) gable has two smaller roundels with keystones due to the placement of a chimney that divides the façade. The roof and roof of the rotunda are covered in copper.

The symmetrical front (west) façade features two bays of windows in the wings of the cross-gabled sections. The main east/west gabled section features 1/1 basement windows and short first story windows flanking the projecting gabled section. The projecting gabled section has a tall stone staircase with flanking brick walls, stepped, that leads to the first story. The entry is recessed in the center of the first story and features fluted Ionic columns in antis that carry a large, stylized stone jack arch. A torch encircled with a wreath is carved in low bas relief in the center of the arch. The frieze over the entry has raised letters spelling FRANKLIN COLLEGE on the north side and ERECTED MDCCCIII on the south side. The word LIBRARY was once located in the center of the frieze, but has been removed. A large wood roundel is centered in the brick tympanum of the pediment.

The interior was modified after the library was moved to a new building and a remodeling campaign was completed in 1988. Modifications include the addition of a second floor accessed by wood stairs leading up from the center of the space under the rotunda (photo 22). The general plan of the building, however, remains intact including the front vestibule with mosaic tile floor



Franklin College Historic District  
Name of Property

Johnson County, IN  
County and State

and the large volume composing the rotunda, which is supported on four corners with tall Ionic columns. The columns support a heavy wood frieze with rows of dentils. The vaulted rotunda terminates at an octagonal stained art glass skylight in the center of the ceiling. Classrooms are located off of the rotunda on the first and second floor. The ceilings have wood beam work creating a coffered effect. Steps lead down to the west to two doors leading to Dame Mall. Steps also lead down to the basement from this level.

Sundial Memorial, 1908 (object, south of Shirk Hall). Contributing (B)

Theta Sigma Phi Journalism Sculpture, 1970 (object, north of Shirk Hall). Contributing (C)

Benjamin Franklin Statue, 1929/1962 (object). Contributing (D). Photo 03.

John H. Mahoney, Sculptor

The two-ton stone statue of Benjamin Franklin is located on the northwest corner of the district and faces the intersection of Monroe St. and Branigin Blvd., northwest of Old Main. The statue is depicted in a standing position, clothed in 18<sup>th</sup> century garments, and holding a hat in his left arm. It rests on a stone pedestal carved with BENJAMIN FRANKLIN – PRINTER on the front and the sculptor's name and 1929 on the back. The statue was the gift of the International Typographers Union when they relocated from Indianapolis in 1962.

Franklin College West Monument Sign, c. 2004 (object). Non-contributing (E)

Henry Street Gateway, 1914 (structure). Contributing (F). Photo 04.

Dame Mall Monument, c. 1990 (object). Non-contributing (G). Right side of photo 08.

Deitz Residence Hall (two buildings), Post-Modern, 1988. Non-contributing  
Background of photo 08.

Johnson Memorial Hall, Post-Modern, 1986. Non-contributing  
Background, right side of photo 08.

Well House, Colonial Revival, 1916 (structure). Contributing  
Foreground, left side of photo 08.

The one-story square structure is composed of brick and features corner pilasters capped with stone and pairs of pilasters, capped with stone, that support a full-round arched opening with keystone in each wall. The structure features a cross-gabled roof with open rafters and wide-overhanging eaves. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The floor is covered with modern brick pavers and features a date stone in the center carved with 1916.

Bryan Hall Memorial, 1908/1985 (object). Non-contributing (H)

A. A. Barnes Science Hall, Colonial Revival/Georgian Revival, 1926. Contributing  
Photo 11.

Collidge & Hodgen (Chicago), architects

Franklin College Historic District  
Name of Property

Johnson County, IN  
County and State

The three-story brick building features a tall cornice-like belt course at the top of its first story and entablature composed of metal with brick frieze at the top of its third story. The building's bays of simulated 6/6 double hung windows are metal modern installations. The windows have stone sills. The second story windows have stone jack arches and recessed panel under the stone sill. The building has a flat roof. Two large three-story additions are located on the back (north side) of the building. The west addition dates to 1987 and the east addition dates to c. 2015.

The front (south) façade is dominated by a wide, projecting three-story section topped with an enclosed pediment in the center of the façade. This section features an entry composed of a pair of modern metal doors and transom with nicely carved stone surround. The surround is topped with a broken swan's neck pediment featuring rows of dentils, volutes, and pineapple finial. The entry is flanked by pairs of narrow 4/4 windows with label lintels. The second and third story is divided into three bays by two-story brick pilasters with stone bases and caps. The bays feature pairs of 6/6 windows. The middle bay has a full-round blind arch with keystone in the second story. The enclosed pediment has a brick typanum with a carved cartouche, round, with scroll key and acanthus leaves centered in the wall.

Richardson Chapel, Neo-Colonial, 1976. Contributing. Photo 12

Henry G. Meier (Indianapolis), architect & contractor

The one-story gable-front brick building features brick quoining on its corners and white vinyl siding in its enclosed gables. The building has a large, gable-roofed portico on its front façade. A row of four fluted Doric columns support the portico roof. The portico gable, also covered with white vinyl siding, features a clock centered in the wall. A wide entry with a pair of modern metal doors is centered in the back wall of the portico. Stained art glass side-lites flank the pair of doors. The entry has a wood surround with tall entablature. A panel over the entry doors is painted with RICHARDSON CHAPEL. A date stone carved with 1976 is east of the portico. A bell tower rises at the back of the portico roof, on front of the main gable of the church. The square tower features a metal cornice and railings on its roof, from which springs an octagonal lantern with tall metal spire. The lantern features full-round arched louvers in each wall. Four bays of stained art glass windows (1889, George A. Misch Co.) from the former chapel at Old Main are located in the east and west walls. A full round arched stained art glass window (Robert Homer Kent Memorial) is centered in the back (north) wall.

The interior of the chapel features a large lobby in the front of the building, nave, and a raised stage between two side rooms at the back of the building (photo 23). The building has a balcony and coffered ceiling. The windows and doors feature casings composed of fluted pilasters and entablature hoods. A chair rail between the windows in the nave creates a wainscot appearance.

Eli Lilly Campus Center, Neo-Colonial, 1970. Contributing  
Photo 13.

Walter Scholer, Jr., architect. Dunlap & Sons (Columbus, IN), contractor.

Franklin College East Monument Sign, c. 2004 (object). Non-contributing (I)

Napolitan Student Center (addition to Campus Center), 2004. Non-contributing

Franklin College Historic District  
Name of Property

Johnson County, IN  
County and State

Ben Franklin Bronze Statue (seated), 2004-2005 (object). Non-contributing (J)  
Sculptor George Lundeen.

B. F. Hamilton Memorial Library, International Style, 1964. Contributing  
Photo 14.

Walter Scholer & Associates (Lafayette), architects

The three-story brick building is trimmed with wide bands of smooth stone at the bottom and top of the facades and on corners. The building's facades feature three-story bays, enframed with stone, of metal windows with stone spandrel panels between each story. Each bay is divided in half, vertically, by a thin pilaster of stone with pairs of metal windows to each side. The building has a flat roof.

The front (north) façade features a tall band of stone at the bottom and is divided into six bays of windows. A one-story entry vestibule is located in front of the second bay from the west. Concrete steps flanked with stone planters are in front of the vestibule. The front wall of the vestibule is composed of a wide band of stone with the remaining wall deeply recessed and composed of glass with metal and glass door, side-lites, and transom. The vestibule, which appears like a large stone cube, has a flat roof. The vestibule features mosaic tiled walls and floor. The interior of the library is mostly composed of large open volumes for stacks of books and has modern finishes (photo 24, first story). An original metal staircase is near the center of each story and features open risers between treads and elongated metal picket-like balusters that extend from the tread to the ceiling. A semicircular landing is located in the turn-back style staircase.

Pi Beta Phi Centennial Gazebo, Neo-Victorian, 1988 (structure). Non-contributing

Cline Hall, International Style, 1959. Contributing  
Left side of photo 15.

D. A. Bohlen & Son (Indianapolis), architects

The three story brick building features a tall stone base and header-brick coursing every sixth row to create a masonry coursing pattern unlike any other building on campus. The building has awning style metal windows divided into three sashes on the first story and two sashes on the second and third story. The windows have stone sills and stone coping is at the top of the facades. The roof is flat.

The front (north) façade features a projecting section on its west half. This section has stone banding on its corners similar to Hamilton Library. A three-story bay enframed with stone is in its west half. Stone spandrel panels are between the windows. The east half of the façade features no windows and has a single metal door in the east end of the first story. A one-story entry vestibule is located off the northwest corner of the front façade, facing Dame Mall. The vestibule is similarly composed to Hamilton Library's with a wide stone band around the perimeter and recessed glass and metal wall. The entry features a pair of metal and glass doors with side-lites

Franklin College Historic District  
Name of Property

Johnson County, IN  
County and State

and transom. The vestibule provides access to an enclosed, one-story arcade of brick with large windows, enframed with stone, connected to Hoover Hall to the west.

The east façade is a dominant wall. It features a wide middle section flanked by narrow projecting sections containing stairwells. The middle section is divided into nine bays of windows with the three middle bays closer together. A raised entry porch with concrete floor and flat metal roof stretches across the middle three bays and features a back wall composed of stone. The roof is supported by metal pipe columns; a polished aluminum balustrade extends around the porch's exterior perimeter. The entry door, centered in the back wall, is composed of a metal and glass door with side-lite and transom. The narrow projecting sections feature a three-story spandrel enframed with stone. Three awning windows composed of two sashes with stone sills are located in the landing levels within the spandrel. Panels composed of vertically stacked stretcher brick are between the windows.

Hoover Hall, International Style, 1968. Contributing  
Right side of photo 15.

Walter Scholer & Associates (Lafayette), architects

This building's design is similar to the front façade of Cline Hall and Hamilton Library. The three-story brick building has stone bands on its corners and at the top and bottom of the facades. The roof is flat. The front façade is a single, large plane of brick trimmed with stone without fenestration. The side facades are divided into nine bays of metal windows with bottom awning sash. The bays are enframed with stone and feature stone spandrel panels between the windows. Metal entry doors with stone surrounds are located in the north and south ends of the west façade. Cline Hall and Hoover Hall, connected by the arcade, form a U-shaped assembly with courtyard between.

Franklin College Recreation Hall/Physical Culture Building, Classical Revival, 1908.  
Contributing. Photo 16.

Dunlap & Glossop (Indianapolis), architects. Morris Winship & Sons, contractor

The brick building has a raised basement topped with a smooth stone drip cap and brick belt-course that forms a sill course for first story windows. The building has pairs of 1/1 metal windows in segmental-arched openings. The arches are composed of two-and-a-half courses of soldier brick with tall keystone. The building's broad gambrel style roof has shaped gabled parapets on its east and west facades. The wide-overhanging north eave features exposed rafter tails and is supported by wood brackets. The east and west facades are generally identical, though the entry into the gymnasium was removed from the east façade for placement of a ramp. The west façade has a wide set of concrete steps flanked by low brick walls capped with stone. The east and west facades feature a large segmental-arched opening that contains (or contained) doors and windows divided into multiple panes. These are covered with wood. The arch over the large opening is composed of six stacked soldier brick and features a tall, carved keystone with table. Pairs of 1/1 windows in segmental-arched openings flank the large central opening. A building stone is at the top of the wall. It is enframed with brick and has small square corner stones. The east façade's stone is carved with RECREATION HALL. The west façade's stone is carved with PHYSICAL CULTURE. The parapet is shaped with a low-sloped gable wall and

Franklin College Historic District  
Name of Property

Johnson County, IN  
County and State

cutaway, incised semicircular corners. A blind full-round arch with shoulders rises in the center. The entire parapet is capped with stone.

The north façade, facing Dame Mall, features seven pairs of windows in segmental-arched openings. Pairs of basement windows, some with glass block, are below the drip stone. A two-story brick addition with bays divided by pilasters was placed on the long south wall c. 1950. The east wall of the addition features a modern entry composed of a pair of metal and glass doors and transom; it is accessed by a set of concrete steps and long ramp.

The gymnasium's interior features wood floors, brick walls, and open steel trusswork (photo 25). The addition to the south removed the original south wall of the gym; steel columns and a beam carry the roof. Vestibules are located in the east and west end of the addition. They have staircases to the basement which is divided into locker rooms in the west end and a former sunken pool (covered with wood) in the east end. Offices and storage rooms are in the addition's basement. Many of the finishes are newer in the building, however, historic pressed metal ceilings are located in parts of the basement.

Franklin Wonder Five Indiana Historical Bureau Marker, 2020 (object). Non-contributing (K)  
Seen on the left side of photo 16.

Transcendence (sculpture), 2002 (object). Non-contributing (L)  
Sculptor Matthew Berg.

Johnson Center for Fine Arts, Post-Modern, 2001. Non-contributing  
Left side of photo 06.

Franklin College Southwest Monument Sign, c. 2004 (object). Non-contributing (M)

Sesquicentennial Arch, 1984 (object). Non-contributing (N). Photo 17.  
Sculptor David Martin

Spurlock Fitness Center, 1975/c. 1990. Contributing  
Photo 17 (includes c. 1990 addition).  
K. H. Kettelhut, contractor.

*East side of Forsythe Street, north-to-south*

Brodehurst Elsey Hall, Modern/Neo-Classical, 1956. Contributing.  
Photo 26.  
D. A. Bohlen & Son (Indianapolis), architects

Dietz Center for Professional Development & Residence Hall, Post-Modern, 1994.  
Non-contributing

Franklin College Historic District  
Name of Property

Johnson County, IN  
County and State

President's Residence, 255 S. Forsythe Street. Neo-Colonial, 1976. Contributing  
Photo 18.

The two-story house with one-story wings has a symmetrical front (west) façade of brick with corner quoining. The house has a projecting, two-story entry bay centered on the façade. It has a recessed entry with segmental-arched opening and pair of wood doors and side-lites. The bay has a 1/1 wood window on the second story. Bays of 1/1 wood windows flank the projecting entry bay. The first story windows have segmental blind arches. The north wing has one 1/1 window. The south wing, which is longer and contains the garage, has a small octagonal window and two 1/1 windows. The windows are wood and have brick sills and metal shutters. The home's hipped roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

Franklin College Historic District  
Name of Property

Johnson County, IN  
County and State

## 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.)

- 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.
- 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.

### Criteria Considerations

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

- 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

Franklin College Historic District  
Name of Property

Johnson County, IN  
County and State

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

EDUCATION

**Period of Significance**

1844-1976

**Significant Dates**

c. 1923

**Significant Person (last name, first name)**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder (last name, first name)**

Daggett, Robert Platt

DeForest, Alling

Harris & Shopbell

Dunlap & Glossop

Mohoney, John H.

Collidge & Hodgen

Meier, Henry G.

Scholer, Walter & Associates

Scholer, Walter, Jr.

D. A. Bohlen & Son



Franklin College Historic District  
Name of Property

Johnson County, IN  
County and State

### **Period of Significance (justification)**

The period of significance begins in 1844 with construction of the earliest extant building, Chandler Hall, now part of Old Main on the northwest corner of Dame Mall. The period ends in 1976 when the President's House and Richardson Chapel were constructed. While the end date of 1976 is less than fifty years old, construction of the chapel was a significant undertaking for Franklin College because it created a building dedicated for religious use, which relates to its origins in the founding of the college. Dame Mall was planned c. 1923 to guide development of additional buildings on campus; therefore c. 1923 is given as a significant date.

### **Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)**

Criterion consideration A is applicable. The college was initially founded by members of the Baptist denomination, a religious society. While this was part of the college's origins, the college is no longer owned or operated as a religious school. The college district is being nominated under criterion A, for education, and C, for architecture, both of which supersede its religious association.

### **Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)**

Franklin College Historic District is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under criterion A using education as an area of significance. Franklin College was established in 1834 as the Indiana Baptist Manual Labor Institute, an institution for higher learning following religious principles of the Baptist denomination. The institute was later renamed Franklin College, after the city in which it was located. Administration and classroom buildings followed, as did dormitories for student housing. The district's most important educational buildings are Old Main, Shirk Hall, Barnes Hall, the Physical Culture building, and Hamilton Library. In ways both tangible and intangible, Franklin College brought the advantages of being a college town to what was otherwise one of Central Indiana's county seats.

The district is also eligible under criterion C using architecture as an area of significance. The district's oldest building (Old Main, at the west end of the mall, 1843-1888) is an example of the Second Empire style, however, buildings constructed in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century reflect the popularity of both Neoclassical and Colonial Revival styles in their features. The most impressive of these are Shirk Hall (1903) and Franklin College Recreation Hall/Physical Culture Building (1908). During the 1960s, Franklin College experienced building improvements that included construction of dormitory buildings and a new library. The college turned to the International Style while paying homage to the red brick, stone trimmed design of earlier buildings. A turn to Post-Modern design occurred by the 1980s, though not before a return to the college's earlier classical-inspired architecture came with the construction of Richardson Chapel.

Franklin College Historic District  
Name of Property

Johnson County, IN  
County and State

The Neo-Colonial building was constructed in 1976 at the east end of the mall and is reflective of the campus's religious origins.

---

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

## EDUCATION

The Franklin College Historic District is significant as an extant example of one of Indiana's earliest and ongoing private colleges, having been founded in 1834. The college was originally established as the Indiana Baptist Manual Labor Institute by a group of clergy and laymen who wanted to provide a location for higher learning associated with the religious denomination. From 1834 to 1872, the college was under the auspices of the Indiana Baptist Education Society which was composed of delegates from Baptist churches, auxiliary church societies, and church associations. The number of delegates assigned was in correlation with the amount of funding supplied by each organization. While other religious denominations could join the Society, the majority was to be represented by Baptist churches. The first meeting of the Society was held on June 5, 1834, at the Baptist meeting house in Indianapolis. The next meeting was held in Franklin on October 2 and 4, 1834. The intention was to promote education broadly among members of the denomination. The outgrowth of the college was just one function of the Society.

A constitution was adopted by the Society for the Indiana Baptist Institution in January 1835. A few sites were entertained by a site selection committee for the creation of the college including Indianapolis, Franklin, and two locations in Decatur County including St. Omer. The two in Decatur County were dismissed due to the desire of having the college nearer the state capital.<sup>1</sup> On June 24, 1835, Franklin was selected for the college to be named the Indiana Baptist Manual Labor Institute.<sup>2</sup> At the same meeting, a board of thirty-five men were appointed as trustees for the college. The constitution adopted provided for the promotion of science, literature, and biblical criticism and was open to all young men to the limit of the institute's funds.<sup>3</sup> Eighty acres of land were purchased for the college through donations made by early settlers to Franklin, George King, a member of the original college board of directors, and Harvey McCaslin. The land aided in the decision to choose the Franklin site because it was partially improved (cleared) and had a good spring.<sup>4</sup> The temporary use of an existing public school building in Franklin was negotiated until the first building, a small frame structure that cost \$350, was constructed in the vicinity of Shirk Hall in 1837. The site had been partially cleared by neighboring residents of the town in anticipation of the college; the timber cleared was sold and aided in the construction of the frame building.

Enrollment in 1837, and for a few years after, was approximately 40 students and tuition was \$6.00 a semester. Five years later in 1842, the college became the first coeducational college in Indiana when it admitted twenty-eight women into a newly organized Women's Department.

---

<sup>1</sup> Cady, pg. 28

<sup>2</sup> First Half Century: Franklin College, pg. 28-29

<sup>3</sup> Cady, pg. 29

<sup>4</sup> Cady, pg. 28

Franklin College Historic District  
Name of Property

Johnson County, IN  
County and State

The concept of men or women working for tuition and boarding costs was not unique to the Indiana Baptist Manual Training Institute, but the extent of its inclusion as part of the college experience has little mention in the two early histories of the college written in 1874 and 1934. By 1844, the name was changed to Franklin College, so it is possible the transactional amount of labor by students was minimal.

Through the approach of education and learned skills in labor, supplementing the cost of operations of the institution, students were enrolled and boarded at the college. It is interesting to note that four states, New York, Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois, boasted the most manual labor institutions. This may be in part because of the development pattern occurring in the United States during the early-to-mid 1800s and the impact religious organizations had in these (particularly Midwestern) states. A handful of these experimental institutions were located in Indiana. Like Franklin College, all were associated with religious organizations. Josiah White's Manual Labor Institute was founded in the late 1850s by Quakers, but for primary education for students, often orphaned, who were sent to the Wabash County campus. Union Literary Institute was established under the same philosophy by abolitionist Quakers and free blacks near Union City in 1846. Students defrayed the cost of their education by providing manual labor for the school. The final school employing the concept of manual labor was Wabash College, established as the Wabash Teachers Seminary and Manual Labor College by Presbyterians in 1832. While Union Literary Institute closed in the 1880s, Franklin and Wabash evolved into a post-high school educational institution. Josiah White's continues to operate today but more in a reformatory school approach.

The development of higher education in Indiana finds its origins in state institutions, however, state colleges were slow to develop which left a gap that religious denominations would fill. The 1816 Indiana Constitution and later acts by the General Assembly encouraged the creation of educational facilities in counties, such as the establishment of county seminaries in newly organized counties. However, these were primarily for primary and secondary education, though some offered college level coursework.<sup>5</sup> The first college established in what would become the state of Indiana was Jefferson Academy (now Vincennes University) in 1801/incorporated in 1806, then Indiana (Seminary) University followed in Bloomington in 1820/incorporated in 1825. It would be nearly half a century later before any additional state schools were established. These were Indiana State Normal School (now Indiana State University, 1865) in Terre Haute and Purdue University in West Lafayette in 1869.

That fifty-year gap was bridged with the creation of several private, religious-based institutions like Franklin College established through the Baptist denomination in 1834. Often taught by, and often for the development of, clergy, religious-based academic institutions sprung up around the state during the first and middle-part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. These, as well as many early state schools, focused on classical curriculum based on moral and religious principles. It would be in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century that this would shift to a research-based curriculum in science and math.<sup>6</sup>

---

<sup>5</sup> Wayne County Seminary: Higher Education for Higher Aspirations: Untold Indiana/Indiana Historical Bureau: <https://blog.history.in.gov/tag/history-of-education/>

<sup>6</sup> Martin, Shawn. A Tale of Two Models: Theophilus Wylie and Higher Education in Nineteenth Century Indiana. *Indiana Magazine of History*. Vol. 115 No. 1 (March 2019) pg. 20

Franklin College Historic District  
Name of Property

Johnson County, IN  
County and State

This early 19<sup>th</sup> century form of education was rich soil in which religious-based schools would emerge. By 1860, every one of the major religious denominations represented in Indiana had established an academy of higher learning that augmented the state's efforts. The majority of the state's population were Protestant and most belonged to one of the four largest denominations in the state: Presbyterian, Methodist, Quaker, and Disciples of Christ. Roman Catholics also composed a substantial part of the population and were the earliest Christian religion in Indiana.<sup>7</sup>

As previously mentioned, the Presbyterians founded Wabash Teachers Seminary (now Wabash College) in Crawfordsville in 1832, however, their first academy was established at Hanover in 1827; it is considered Indiana's oldest private college, though a state charter was not granted until 1833. The Methodist church established Indiana Asbury University (now DePauw University) in Greencastle in 1837. Catholic colleges were established for girls and men at St. Mary-of-the-Woods in 1840 (outside Terre Haute) and Notre Dame in 1842 (outside of South Bend). The Society of Friends, or Quakers established Earlham College in Richmond in 1847. Butler University began as North-Western Christian University by the Christian Church/Disciples of Christ in 1855 in Indianapolis. The Lutherans established Valparaiso University in the northwest part of the state in 1859 and joined with Franklin College as an early coeducational facility for men and women.

Planning for Franklin College's first extant building began in 1843 under newly named college president, George C. Chandler. Because other tracts of land had been added to the campus, the sale of an 80-acre tract allowed for funding the building. Construction on the three-story, 36-room brick building was begun in 1844 and finished in 1847 (left side of photo 01). The building included classrooms, offices, dormitory, and a chapel on the third floor. The estimated cost of the building was \$5600.00. The building is now the north wing of Old Main known as Chandler Hall. In 1844, a regular course of collegiate studies was adopted and the following year, the name of the college was changed to Franklin College,<sup>8</sup> eliminating the manual labor concept. In 1847, Franklin College graduated its first student, John Wesley Dame, for whom the college mall is named. Between 1853 and 1855, a second brick building, equal in size to the first, was constructed under college president Silas Bailey at a cost of \$7321.00 (left side of photo 05). The building is now the south wing of Old Main. The college languished in the early 1860s, in large part due to the loss of nearly every male student to service in the Civil War.<sup>9</sup> Franklin College suspended classes in 1864 and did not reopen for enrollment until 1870.

In 1872, the Board of Directors, as appointed by the Indiana Baptist Education Society, ceased and a new board was formed under the Franklin College Association. The reorganization put the institution in line with other similar private colleges that wished to expand its programs and facilities. Franklin's residents financially supported the new association because it would financially benefit the town.<sup>10</sup> The date of this organization was June 21, 1872, and the new

---

<sup>7</sup> Indiana Education & Religion: Northern Indiana Center for History/History Museum:  
<https://www.historymuseumsb.org/indiana-education-and-religion/>

<sup>8</sup> First Half Century: Franklin College, pg. 37

<sup>9</sup> First Half Century: Franklin College, pg. 42

<sup>10</sup> First Half Century: Franklin College, pg. 44

Franklin College Historic District  
Name of Property

Johnson County, IN  
County and State

Association absorbed the debts of the college. The college grew substantially during the 1870s and 1880s, including its endowment that grew from \$35,000 to \$80,000 in 1884.

Not only did the physical appearance of the college gain its hallmark building in 1887-1889, but the college also employed its first female professor, Rebecca Thompson, in 1872 (serving until 1910) and graduated its first three female students in 1874. Several college fraternities and sororities were also established during this time, which provided additional social experiences for its students, and in 1885, the college offered its first summer school sessions. With completion of the center section of Old Main (Stott Hall, right side of photo 01) by 1889, the college also had a dedicated chapel space for religious services offered to students. The space served the student population until a building dedicated specifically for religious services was constructed with aid from the Indiana Baptist Convention in 1976 at the opposite end of the mall (photo 12).

By 1886, an athletic club was organized which would eventually elevate the college's athletics to a full offering of programs for men and women. However, there was reluctance on behalf of faculty at the beginning of the program, specifically for a men's football team which was ultimately granted permission to play high school teams in 1892 and 1894. Physical education was added to the men's curriculum in 1895 and the first gymnasium was created in the basement of Stott Hall the following year. In 1897, the college expanded physical education programs to women. The school's athletic programs received a significant boost with the construction of the Recreation Hall-Physical Culture Building near the mall in 1908 for the cost of \$15,000 (photo 16). The building is thought to be the oldest surviving college, or possibly any school gymnasium, in Indiana. Most of the athletics programs were moved from the 1908 facility to the Spurlock Fitness Center when it opened in 1975 at the opposite end of the mall (photo 17).

The first decades of the 1900s also saw steady growth of the student population, which spurred important construction projects at the campus. In 1900, the student population was 178. There were eleven faculty members and four administrators and staff. Tuition rose to \$16.00 per year and boarding costs were \$135.00. The college graduated its first African American student, Arthur Wilson, in 1902. Four buildings important to the function of the college were constructed in the first decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. A large library building was constructed with funds by the Shirk Family of Peru, Indiana, in 1903 just south of Old Main (photo 02). The first gymnasium, mechanical plant, and Bryan Hall, a dormitory for women, were constructed opposite each other on the mall in 1908 designed by the same architectural firm of Dunlap & Glossop.

Several additional departments and programs were organized during the 1910s. The college's Student Council formed in 1911 to help organize functions of student life on campus. The music department expanded to include a male quartet, glee club, and the college's first orchestra in 1912. In 1915, the Department of Household Economics was established. The late 1910s were a challenge, however, just as the 1860s presented during the Civil War. Delays to the start of school due to coal and labor shortages, primarily for family farms, were followed by the loss of most of the male population who were drafted for war in 1917-1918. This was curtailed, to some degree, with the college's participation in the U.S. War Department's Student Army Training Corps. The program sought facilities for training camps with boarding facilities. The new

Franklin College Historic District

Johnson County, IN

Name of Property

County and State

gymnasium was outfitted like barracks and male students, who were trained on campus, received pay as enlisted men. However, "Camp Franklin" as it was called, was short-lived. The Spanish Flu epidemic created difficulty for the college. The disease, which affected young people particularly hard, required the college to convert the gymnasium into a hospital to care for a large number of students, particularly those in the training program. The college's female students were sent home.

The 1920s proved to be another important decade in Franklin College history. As the college grew to over 400 students, twenty-eight faculty, and ten administrators and staff, it became clear that a campus plan for additional buildings was necessary. The college contracted with landscape architect Alling DeForest from Rochester, New York in 1923 to organize a quadrangle to extend east from the original buildings at the west end of the mall. DeForest had briefly practiced with Olmsted, Olmsted & Eliot in the late 1890s before returning to Rochester and co-founding Parce & DeForest. In this capacity, DeForest worked on designs for large private estates, including that of George Eastman (1902-04) and Harvey Firestone (Harbel Manor, Akron, OH, c.1915). He also laid out parks, cemeteries, and factory grounds. Notably, DeForest helped design General Electric Plot, a planned residential area, using winding streets (Schenectady, NY, 1926, NRHP, 1980, NHL). The origins for the inward-focused mall were laid with the creation of Old Main and Shirk Hall fronting Branigin (then State) Boulevard on the east, followed by the construction of the campus's mechanical plant, Recreation Hall, and Bryan Hall to their east. Further development of buildings would front the DeForest-designed mall, like was the case when the three-story Barnes Science Hall was constructed in 1927 (photo 11). Original plans by the architect called for an impressive, Neoclassical building with massive portico of six, two-story Ionic columns. Bids were received and the contractor's price was negotiated based on revisions by the architect, leading to the building's current appearance. The new building, east of Bryan Hall, provided a substantial increase in the number of classrooms to meet the growth in student population. It would also be the last construction project on campus of any size until the mid-1950s.

It was also during the 1920s that Franklin College experienced fame on a national stage. In 1923, the college's men's basketball team went undefeated and won a national basketball championship. The origins of this exceptional team began in 1918 when five young men, nicknamed the Wonder Five, began playing together at Franklin's High School. Coached by Franklin College graduate Ernest Bishop Wagner, the high school team won three consecutive state championships in the early 1920s. Graduating high school together, the students enrolled at Franklin College and subsequently led the school to a national championship in 1923. Their coach, nicknamed "Griz", followed his winning team to the college and coached men's basketball from 1922 through 1933. A 1929 student publication nicknamed the school's athletic teams the Grizzlies, in the coach's honor. Prior to this, the teams were known as the Fighting Baptists and the Deacons. "The Grizzlies" is still the name for all sports teams at Franklin College.

Due in large part to the Great Depression of the 1930s and America's entry in World War II in the early 1940s, construction projects and much of the school's expansion plans were placed on hold. However, the student population grew substantially again as the close of World War II and

Franklin College Historic District  
Name of Property

Johnson County, IN  
County and State

financial prosperity for many Americans provided the opportunity for young men and women to enter college, often the first generation of their families to do so. In 1950, the student population had grown to 626. There were also forty-one faculty and seventeen administrators and staff. Tuition had increased to \$320.00 per year and boarding costs were \$400.00 for the year. During the mid-1950s, the college requested assistance from the Ford Foundation, which resulted in over \$126,000 in support of faculty salaries.

Due to an increase in students, and available funding from the Federal Housing Administration, the college embarked on substantial dormitory projects during the late 1950s through late 1960s. The first of these dormitories constructed was Brodehurst Elsey Hall at the east end of the mall in 1956 (photo 27). Cline Hall followed in 1959 and Hoover Hall was attached to Cline in 1968 (photo 15). These two are located on the mall across from the site of where Bryan Hall was located (now Johnson and Deitz Halls, background of photo 08). The most substantial academic building constructed during this time was B. F. Hamilton Library (photo 14), opposite Barnes Science Building, on the mall. The new library included three stories of book stacks, classrooms, and a 100-seat auditorium. The college had embarked on a \$20 million fundraising campaign for improvements to the campus during the 1950s-1970s. The library was one of the capital improvements funded from the campaign and cost \$1.5 million to construct in 1963-1964. Hoover Hall cost \$425,000 to construct in 1967-1968. The college also expanded its liberal studies curriculum between 1961, the first time it appeared in the college catalog for registration, and 1971, when Liberal Studies became General Education.

While Franklin College has several distinguished alumni, the most notable in Indiana is Roger D. Branigin who received his degree from the college in 1924. Branigin was elected Indiana's 42<sup>nd</sup> governor in 1964, serving one term per the state constitution at that time. Branigin served as chair of the college's Board of Trustees and as president of the Indiana State Bar Association. State Street on the west side of the campus was renamed Branigin Boulevard in his honor.

The 1970s saw the last significant expansion of college facilities during the period of significance. Several buildings identified with student life were constructed between 1970 and 1976. These include the Eli Lilly Campus Center (photo 13) at the east end of the mall in 1970 and adjacent to it on the south, the Spurlock Fitness Center in 1975 (photo 17). The campus center took the place of a smaller facility that was part of Hoover Hall. The Spurlock Center provided a massive new venue for the school's athletic programs once housed at the 1908 Recreation Hall near the opposite end of the mall. The final notable building constructed on campus during the period of significance harkens the school's religious origins in 1834. With significant contributions from the Indiana Baptist Convention, Franklin College embarked on a building campaign to construct a chapel building that would take the place of the chapel located inside Old Main. The new building, replete with columned portico and steeple (photo 12), was constructed at the east end of the mall in 1976 as a reminder of the founding of Franklin College by pioneer Baptists and the continuing relationship of the college with the churches.<sup>11</sup>

---

<sup>11</sup> Franklin College: Rich History, Bright Future. Page 28

Franklin College Historic District  
Name of Property

Johnson County, IN  
County and State

By 1976, the student population had increased to over 700 and there were over eighty-five faculty, administrators, and staff at Franklin College. Building programs in the late 1980s through early 2000s continued to transform the small liberal arts college's educational offerings to students. The college reached an enrollment of about 900 students by 2020.

## ARCHITECTURE

The architectural significance of the Franklin College Historic District is seen in a few notable buildings on campus but spans all the contributing resources due to a common theme in either style or composition of materials. The overarching, unifying feature is Dame Mall, around which most buildings are constructed with elements of classicism, aside from the brief Modern period of construction. The mall's organization of primary buildings with formal entries onto the mall, and the termination of the mall at its north end by its most architecturally significant buildings creates the organizing concept of Beaux Arts classicism. This is further defined by hierarchy in the significance of certain buildings' function as foreground and background development of lesser significant functions.

The most significant buildings located in the district include Old Main (photo 01), constructed in the Second Empire style in 1887. Shirk Hall (Old Library, 1903, photo 02) and the college's original Recreation Hall (1908, photo 16) were designed using Neoclassical features. The Colonial Revival style was resurrected in a late 20<sup>th</sup> century interpretation of the style when a building program was initiated in the 1970s, chief among these is Richardson Chapel (1976, photo 12). The college had an earlier building campaign that broke from classical architecture and resulted in a few examples of International Style buildings, chief among these is Hamilton Library (1964, photo 14). More than a decade would pass after the last contributing buildings were constructed and the time the college entered a new building program, prompted by the loss of Bryan Hall in a fire in 1985. Beginning in 1988 and continuing into the early 2000s, the college constructed Post-Modern style buildings that incorporated red brick, stone trim, and stylized features of the campus's earlier architecture (such as Deitz and Johnson Halls, background of photo 08). This allows the buildings on campus, particularly framing Dame Mall (photo 09), to have a visually unifying theme.

The earliest building in the district is Old Main. The building is composed of three separate construction campaigns beginning with the north wing, built in 1844 (left side of photo 01), and south wing, built in 1854 (left side of photo 05). When first constructed, the wings were separate buildings designed in a simple interpretation of the Greek Revival style with cornice, brackets, and cornice returns as well as symmetrical facades with a regular pattern of bays of windows on three stories. Rows of chimneys along the eaves amplified the buildings' symmetry. A simple,



Franklin College Historic District  
Name of Property

Johnson County, IN  
County and State

short square tower was centered on the north building and featured a sharply pointed spire centered on a flat roof. For the most part, the regular pattern of bays remains on the wings, but entries have been changed and tower removed. The cornice and brackets remain from the earlier design, but when the center section was added in the 1880s, the wings received a remodeling campaign that included short towers with Second Empire influence, matching the design of the grander center section which is solidly designed in the Second Empire style.

The Second Empire style separated itself from the Picturesque Movement that popularized both the Gothic Revival and Italianate styles by embracing modern French architecture of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The other styles looked at a romantic past for inspiration, while the Second Empire style was considered very modern. The most characteristic feature of the style is the mansard roof, named for French architect Francois Mansart who practiced in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. The style became popular once again in France during the reign of Napoleon III (1852-1870), considered to be France's "second empire", hence the name. The style was popularized through exhibitions as it spread to England and then to the United States. The first American pattern book examples of the Second Empire style were found in Calvert Vaux's Villas and Cottages (1857), which featured three Second Empire designs.<sup>12</sup> Two major public buildings in the Second Empire style followed in New York and Washington, D.C. (1858-1859). The style remained popular, though limited in its use, through the 1870s. It is often found on public buildings, particularly on county courthouses and sheriff's residences and jails, which were almost always architect designed. Because of the popularity of use on public buildings during the Ulysses S. Grant administration (1869-1877), the style was nicknamed the General Grant style.<sup>13</sup> Because of the economic recession during the second half of the 1870s, the style's use diminished and did not recover in the late part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The use of the Second Empire style on Old Main may have been influenced by adjacent Bartholomew County's courthouse (1874) or the construction of the Johnson County Courthouse in downtown Franklin which was completed in 1882. The Johnson County Courthouse has the rich Renaissance-inspired plan and ornamentation of the style but lacks the stylistically typical mansard with dormers that Old Main exhibits of the style so well. Still, many other colleges were under development in the 1870s-1880s, and like county courthouses and sheriff's residences mentioned previously, colleges wanted their buildings to evoke the formality of contemporary public architecture. This was done with remarkable success on Old Main, particularly in the narrow front façade of the middle section added in 1887. The most notable feature of this section is the grand four-story entry and bell tower. The heaviness of the square tower's mass is minimized through the use of pilasters, arched recessed bays, and a tall, pressed metal cornice from which the top story and tower roof spring. The overall treatment of the tower and bays of windows flanking the tower on the principal façade wall accentuate the height of the building. The other important feature of the Second Empire style exhibited on Old Main is the use of a steeply pitched mansard roof with rows of dormers sheathed with metal. The mansard rises from a nicely detailed pressed metal cornice with brackets that support the eaves and gutter of the pitched roof above. The mansard, covered with slates, is topped with a second pressed metal

---

<sup>12</sup> McAlester pg. 318

<sup>13</sup> McAlester pg. 318

Franklin College Historic District  
Name of Property

Johnson County, IN  
County and State

cornice featuring rows of stylized dentils. The roof dormers are also composed of pressed metal shaped with a full-round arched 2/2 window and gabled roof surmounted with a pinnacle. Pilasters and gable trim are pressed into the metal face of the dormers.

While Old Main (NR 1975) is a late example of the Second Empire style, the college appears to have embraced the classicism very early in its popularity. Fifteen years separate the construction of Old Main and Shirk Hall (NR 1975, photo 02) which was built as the college's library in 1903. At this point, the college turned to a style that would influence building design on campus through the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, then be resurrected at the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century into the Post-Modern era. The college built the Recreation Hall/Physical Culture Building five years later (photo 16), again employing red brick with stone details. The freely interpreted classicism of the gym harmonized with the other campus buildings.

The Colonial Revival style gained popularity after the Bicentennial Exposition in Philadelphia in 1876 where it was heralded as an expression of the American identity. Planners of the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893 in Chicago also called for pavilions that emulated American colonial architecture. The style became increasingly popular in the early 1900s and remained a desired style through the first half of the twentieth century. This early 20<sup>th</sup> century revival of the style borrowed directly from Colonial America's buildings in form and ornamentation, sometimes in more elaborate Georgian influence and other times in more refined Federal influence. The Neoclassical style emerged at the turn of the new century and ran parallel with the Colonial Revival style into the 1930s, but more typically was applied to public buildings and financial institutions. Franklin College's choice to use the Colonial Revival style, even in its more elaborate features of Shirk Hall, was likely influenced by the desire to have well-executed public architecture but with a more informal, residential scale like Jefferson's University of Virginia buildings which line a mall terminated by the portico of the Rotunda.

Shirk Hall, named for the Shirks of Peru who notably also embraced classical features in construction of their homes, is the best example of Georgian influence of classicism in the district. The building's symmetry and raised base provide the formality needed for its auspicious use as a library. The building features brick corner pilasters and rusticated walls as features of colonial design, but the most important features related to the style are the impressive pedimented gables and entablatures on all four sides. These are punctuated with roundels centered in the tympanums and rows of dentils and corbels on the tall entablatures. The building also features tall windows with stone jack arches. However, pointing to its role in public architecture is the use of an octagonal rotunda with copper roof that rises from the cross-gabled roof over the building. This type of library with rotunda was a popular choice for Carnegie-funded libraries of the time, such as the Muncie Library (1902-1904). Most directly, Shirk Hall is similar to Hendricks Library at Hanover College (1903).

The gymnasium (1908) continues the use of classicism, most notably in its tall brick segmental arches with elongated keystone and shaped parapets at either end of the building. These add a level of sophistication not common in recreation-related buildings, which demonstrates the commitment of the college to a well-designed campus. The small well house (1916, left side of photo 08) and Barnes Hall (1927, photo 11) followed and incorporated features of the style even

Franklin College Historic District

Johnson County, IN

Name of Property

County and State

in the simple structure with carved keystone in the full-round arched openings of the well house. The use of the style in one of the largest buildings constructed in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, Barnes Hall, includes a wide three-story projecting bay, divided by tall pilasters, and topped with a pediment featuring a stone cartouche. The entry is topped with a broken pediment composed of volutes and urn.

Building projects subsided on campus after the 1920s and would not return in a robust way until the 1950s. By this time, America's movement toward Modern architecture was fully underway and international influence in design weighed heavily on the national landscape. Many colleges were also expanding during the post-World War II era which prompted a number of educational and dormitory buildings to be designed in large cube-like forms that removed decorative features of revival styles and left simple, bold lines. Franklin College embraced this movement as well, first in the simple application of the style to Brodehurst Elsey Hall in 1956 (photo 26), but in more adherence to features of the style with the construction of Cline Hall in 1959 (left side of photo 15). By the time Hamilton Library replaced the library in Shirk Hall in 1964, the new architectural direction for the college was firmly established. Architects maintained the use of red brick and stone trim, like earlier buildings on campus, but they were in service to the lines of Modern Architecture.

Modern Architecture is largely an outgrowth of ideas made popular by Europe's leading architects of the early to mid-twentieth century. Le Corbusier, Gropius, and Mies van der Rohe were all pioneers and well-known purveyors of Modern architecture, particularly the International Style. The style came to the United States during the 1930's with practitioners who emigrated to escape turmoil in Europe. In 1932, the Museum of Modern Art in New York City first exhibited the style to the American public. The companion book to the exhibit, The International Style: Architecture Since 1922, was likely the first to coin the style and its features for the U.S. public. The return to construction after World War II and the influence of the émigrés before, during and shortly after the war fostered the development of Modern architecture in the United States. The style highlighted the structural components of architecture, pushing them to their limits, and often reducing them to their basic form. This resulted in large expanses of glass, concrete, or stone in spandrels in cube-like boxes that became building blocks in which the style is executed.

Hamilton Library (photo 14) is one large, three-story rectangular cube of brick trimmed at its edges with a wide band of stone to accentuate the mass. The primary facades are punctuated with three-story bays of windows and stone spandrels while the secondary facades are simply vast planes of brick. The entry, a one-story stone cube, is the only architectural relief on the front façade. The architect allowed the vestibule to read as a stone cube by recessing the entry wall, all glass, into the wall enframed by a wide band of stone at its outer extents. Both Cline Hall and Hoover Hall (1968, right side of photo 15) incorporated this use of stone banding and bays, and one-story stone entrance shared between the dormitory buildings.

Two years after Hoover Hall was completed in the International Style, Franklin College altered its architectural design aesthetic again, going back to its early 20<sup>th</sup> century Colonial Revival roots, when the Eli Lilly Campus Center was constructed in 1970 (photo 13). Still almost cube-

Franklin College Historic District  
Name of Property

Johnson County, IN  
County and State

like in form, the brick building was designed with corner quoining, multi-pane windows trimmed with shutters, and a tall stylized entablature. Flat roofs of the Modern movement's buildings were left in the 1960s and instead, a hipped roof was incorporated. A pedimented portico with thick Doric square columns mark the entries. Similar styling followed on the Spurlock Center (recreation building) in 1975 and on the President's House built in 1976 (photo 18). It is interesting to note that in 1975, the college listed both Old Main and Shirk Hall on the National Register of Historic Places. The interest in connecting the college to its past was both evident in its architecture and acknowledgement of its historic buildings.

The late 20<sup>th</sup> century interpretation of Colonial Revival architecture is best represented in the district in Richardson Chapel (photo 12). The church was built by contributions from the Indiana Baptist Convention to underscore the college's origins and relationship to the Convention's churches. The gable-front building features a pedimented portico supported by rows of fluted Doric columns with a clock in the tympanum. Eight stained art glass windows from the 1889 chapel once part of Old Main adorn the nave. A tower rises from the back of the portico and features railings around its flat roof, from which springs an octagonal lantern topped by a tall metal spire. While the design reflects religious architecture of the era, particularly among Baptist congregations, one can see parallels of the chapel's tower and spire with the original tower and spire that once rose above the oldest building in the district, now the north wing of Old Main, built in 1844.

Building campaigns again took a hiatus at Franklin College until 1985 when fires at both Old Main and Bryan Hall (1908) forced the college into a capital campaign for repairs and construction of a new dormitory building. In 1986, Johnson Memorial Hall was dedicated and in 1988, Deitz Residence Halls (two buildings) were constructed (these are seen in the background of photo 08). These three buildings form a U-shaped "wall" on the north side of Dame Mall and again show a transition in the architectural aesthetic of the campus. As examples of Post-Modern architecture, the buildings are designed to complement their predecessors in the use of red brick and stone trim. In Post Modern style, the buildings also exhibit features as interpretations of classical features located on the district's Colonial Revival buildings. The three story dormitory buildings incorporate stone banding in divisions that reflect Old Main, Shirk Hall, and Barnes Hall. The buildings also feature projecting entry bays with stylized roundels and entablature at the top of the third story walls. Maybe the most obvious interpretation of Colonial design in the buildings are the tall, shaped gabled parapets that rise at the center in a wide pile of brick reminiscent of in-wall chimneys of 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> century architecture. The Johnson Center for Fine Arts (2001, left side of photo 06) in the southwest corner of Dame Mall expresses porticos and other elements of its predecessors in two-story brick pilasters and porches. While these later buildings are not considered contributing, they provide a very modern interpretation of the Colonial Revival aesthetic which unifies the district, especially viewed from the mall, in appearance.

---

### Developmental History/Additional historic context information

Franklin College Historic District  
Name of Property

Johnson County, IN  
County and State

---

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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

“Alling DeForest, 1875-1957,” web page of The Cultural Landscape Foundation,  
<https://www.tclf.org/pioneer/alling-deforest>, accessed August 9, 2024.

Banta, David D. History of Johnson County, Indiana. Chicago: Brant & Fuller, 1888.

Branigin, Elba. History of Johnson County, Indiana. Indianapolis: B. F. Bowen & Co. Inc., 1913.

Cady, John F. The Centennial History of Franklin College. 1934

“College Architects Chosen” *The Evening Star* (Franklin) 6 Dec 1919. Pg. 1, col. 5

“College board approves plan to build new president’s home” *The Daily Journal* (Franklin) 3 June 1976. Pg. 1, cols. 1-3

“College board meets campus architect” *The Franklin Evening Star* 10 July 1923. Pg. 1, col. 1

“College center underway” *The Daily Journal* (Franklin) 30 Jan 1969. Pg. 1, cols. 1-4

“Construction underway for Franklin college fieldhouse” *The Daily Journal* (Franklin) 2 March 1974. Pg. 5, cols. 3-4

Curtis, William J. R. Modern Architecture Since 1900. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall, 1982.

“FC Building Projects Aired” *The Daily Journal* (Franklin) 29 April 1967. Pg. 1, cols. 5-8

First Half Century Franklin College Jubilee Exercises. Cincinnati: Journal and Messenger, 1884.

Franklin College: Rich History, Bright Future. Louisville: Butler Books, 2009.

“Ground-breaking held for chapel” *The Daily Journal* (Franklin) 2 Feb 1976. Pg. 9, cols. 3-4

Franklin College Historic District  
Name of Property

Johnson County, IN  
County and State

“Here’s what they’re working for” The Franklin Evening Star 11 May 1925. Pg. 1, cols. 3-5

Historic Sites and Structures of Johnson County, Indiana. Indianapolis:  
Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana, 1985.

Indiana Education & Religion: Northern Indiana Center for History/History Museum:  
<https://www.historymuseumsb.org/indiana-education-and-religion/>

McAlester, Virginia. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2006.

Martin, Shawn. A Tale of Two Models: Theophilus Wylie and Higher Education in Nineteenth  
Century Indiana. *Indiana Magazine of History.* Vol. 115 No. 1 (March 2019) pg. 20

Minutes of the Board of Trustees, Franklin College. Various entries.

*Ohio Architect and Builder*, Vol. 10 No. 2. August 1907. Page 58.

Wayne County Seminary: Higher Education for Higher Aspirations: Untold Indiana/Indiana  
Historical Bureau: <https://blog.history.in.gov/tag/history-of-education/>

---

**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):** 081-222-25001-25008

Franklin College Historic District  
Name of Property

Johnson County, IN  
County and State

---

## 10. Geographical Data

**Acreeage of Property** Approximately 23.5 acres

Use the UTM system

### UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or  NAD 1983

- |             |                 |                   |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Zone: 16 | Easting: 581847 | Northing: 4370467 |
| 2. Zone: 16 | Easting: 582432 | Northing: 4370508 |
| 3. Zone: 16 | Easting: 582439 | Northing: 4370026 |
| 4. Zone: 16 | Easting: 581890 | Northing: 4370226 |

### Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Beginning on the southeast corner of the intersection of Branigin Blvd. and East Monroe Street, face east and follow a line with the south curb of Monroe Street, crossing Forsythe Street, and continuing in a line east on axis with the south curb line of Monroe Street for 500 feet from the east curb line of Forsythe Street. Turn due south and follow a line behind Brodehurst Elsey Hall, Deitz Professional Center, and the President's House at 255 S. Forsythe Street, for 750 feet, said line being about 60 feet east of the east wall of Deitz Hall. Then turn west and follow a line approximately 450 feet to the west side of Forsythe Street.

On the west side of Forsythe Street, face south and follow a line to the north edge of Park Avenue, then turn northwest and follow the north curb of Park Avenue until it becomes Grizzly Drive. Continue west on the north curb of Grizzly Drive to the east curb of Branigin Blvd., then turn north and follow the east curb of Branigin Blvd. to the south curb of Monroe Street, or the place of beginning.

### Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

Franklin College Historic District  
Name of Property

Johnson County, IN  
County and State

The boundaries described include the historic core of Franklin College organized around Dame Mall between 1844 and 1976. While the campus expanded with other facilities, mostly athletic fields, during the 1970s-2010s, the district included only those resources included on the central campus and lining Dame Mall.

---

### 11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Kurt West Garner  
organization: Franklin College  
street & number: 12954 6<sup>th</sup> Road  
city or town: Plymouth state: IN zip code: 46563  
e-mail: kwgarner@kwgarner.com  
telephone: 574-780-1423  
date: November 7, 2022

---

### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)
- 

### Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 3000x2000 at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.



Franklin College Historic District  
Name of Property

Johnson County, IN  
County and State

### Photo Log

Name of Property: Franklin College Historic District

City or Vicinity: Franklin

County: Johnson State: Indiana

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: November 4, 2022

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southeast at Old Main

1 of 27.

Date Photographed: November 4, 2022

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northeast at Shirk Hall

2 of 27.

Date Photographed: July 20, 2022

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southeast at the statue of Benjamin Franklin (1929)

3 of 27.

Date Photographed: July 20, 2022

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southwest at the Henry Street Gates

4 of 27.

Date Photographed: July 20, 2022

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northwest at Old Main

5 of 27.

Franklin College Historic District  
Name of Property

Johnson County, IN  
County and State

Date Photographed: July 20, 2022

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southwest at Shirk Hall and Johnson Center for the Arts

6 of 27.

Date Photographed: July 20, 2022

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking west at Shirk Hall from Dame Mall

7 of 27.

Date Photographed: July 20, 2022

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northeast near the north end of Dame Mall toward Well House

8 of 27.

Date Photographed: July 20, 2022

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking east down Dame Mall from near the center

9 of 27.

Date Photographed: July 20, 2022

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking west down Dame Mall from near Forsythe Street

10 of 27.

Date Photographed: July 20, 2022

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking north at the front of Barnes Hall

11 of 27.

Date Photographed: July 20, 2022

Franklin College Historic District  
Name of Property

Johnson County, IN  
County and State

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northwest at Richardson Chapel

12 of 27.

Date Photographed: July 20, 2022

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southwest at the Eli Lilly Campus Center

13 of 27.

Date Photographed: November 4, 2022

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southeast at Hamilton Library

14 of 27.

Date Photographed: November 4, 2022

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southeast at Cline (left) and Hoover (right) Halls

15 of 27.

Date Photographed: July 20, 2022

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southwest at Franklin College Recreation Hall/Physical Culture Bldg.

16 of 27.

Date Photographed: July 20, 2022

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southeast at Spurlock Fitness Center

17 of 27.

Date Photographed: July 20, 2022

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southeast at the President's House

Franklin College Historic District  
Name of Property

Johnson County, IN  
County and State

18 of 27.

Date Photographed: July 20, 2022

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northeast at the central rotunda staircase in Old Main

19 of 27.

Date Photographed: July 20, 2022

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking down the main corridor (north) in Old Main

20 of 27.

Date Photographed: July 20, 2022

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking south across Custer Auditorium in Old Main

21 of 27.

Date Photographed: July 20, 2022

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southwest/up at central staircase/rotunda in Shirk Hall

22 of 27.

Date Photographed: November 4, 2022

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northeast in the sanctuary of Richardson Chapel

23 of 27.

Date Photographed: July 20, 2022

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southeast across the first story of Hamilton Library from entry

24 of 27.

Date Photographed: July 20, 2022

Franklin College Historic District  
Name of Property

Johnson County, IN  
County and State

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking west in Franklin College Recreation Hall/Physical Culture Bldg.

25 of 27.

Date Photographed: November 4, 2022

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northeast at Brodehurst Elsey Hall

26 of 27.

Date Photographed: November 4, 2022

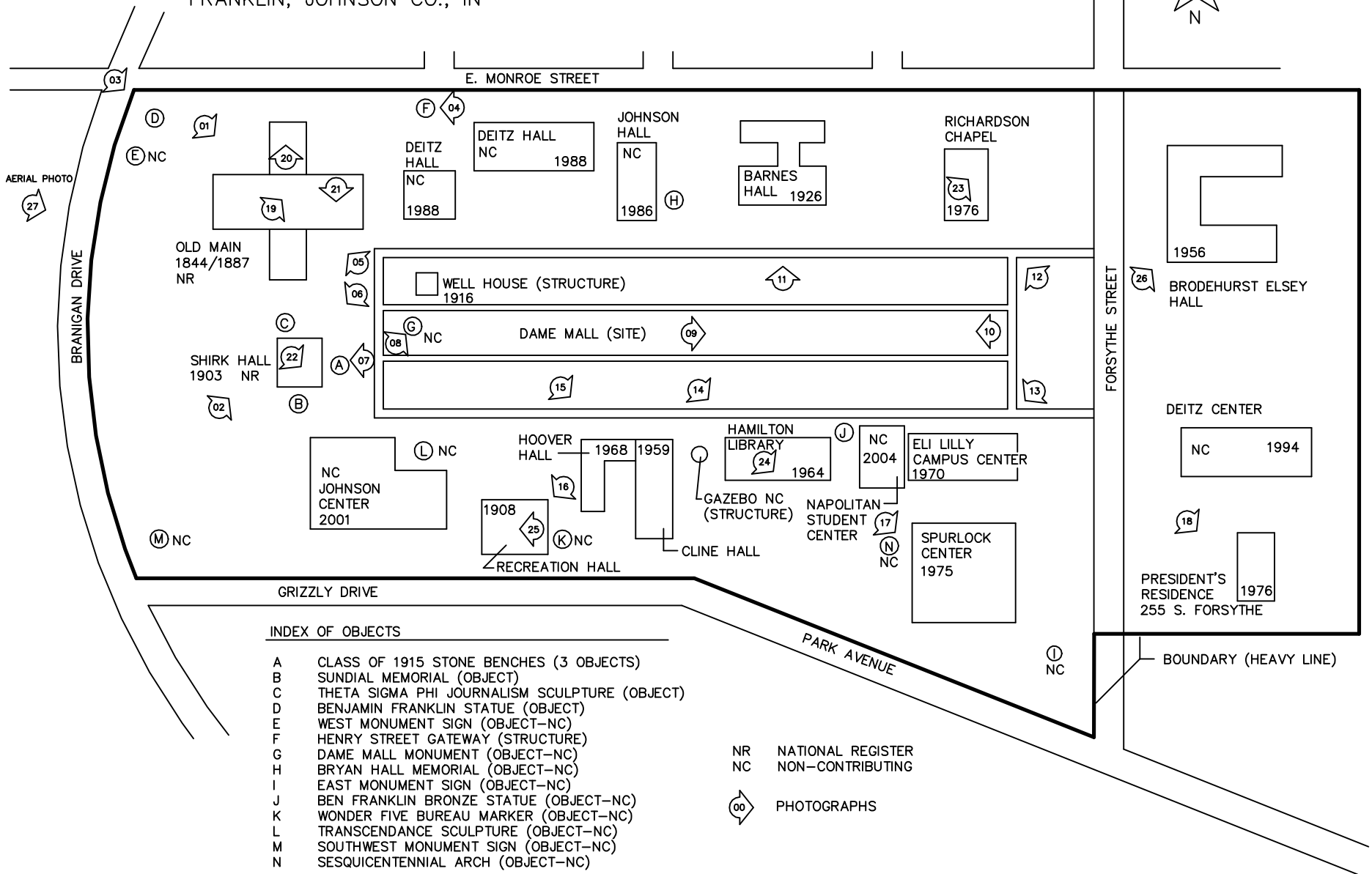
Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Aerial photograph of Dame Mall, looking east from Branigin Blvd.

27 of 27.

**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 100 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.

**FRANKLIN COLLEGE HISTORIC DISTRICT – NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**  
FRANKLIN, JOHNSON CO., IN



**INDEX OF OBJECTS**

- A CLASS OF 1915 STONE BENCHES (3 OBJECTS)
- B SUNDIAL MEMORIAL (OBJECT)
- C THETA SIGMA PHI JOURNALISM SCULPTURE (OBJECT)
- D BENJAMIN FRANKLIN STATUE (OBJECT)
- E WEST MONUMENT SIGN (OBJECT-NC)
- F HENRY STREET GATEWAY (STRUCTURE)
- G DAME MALL MONUMENT (OBJECT-NC)
- H BRYAN HALL MEMORIAL (OBJECT-NC)
- I EAST MONUMENT SIGN (OBJECT-NC)
- J BEN FRANKLIN BRONZE STATUE (OBJECT-NC)
- K WONDER FIVE BUREAU MARKER (OBJECT-NC)
- L TRANSCENDANCE SCULPTURE (OBJECT-NC)
- M SOUTHWEST MONUMENT SIGN (OBJECT-NC)
- N SESQUICENTENNIAL ARCH (OBJECT-NC)

- NR NATIONAL REGISTER
- NC NON-CONTRIBUTING

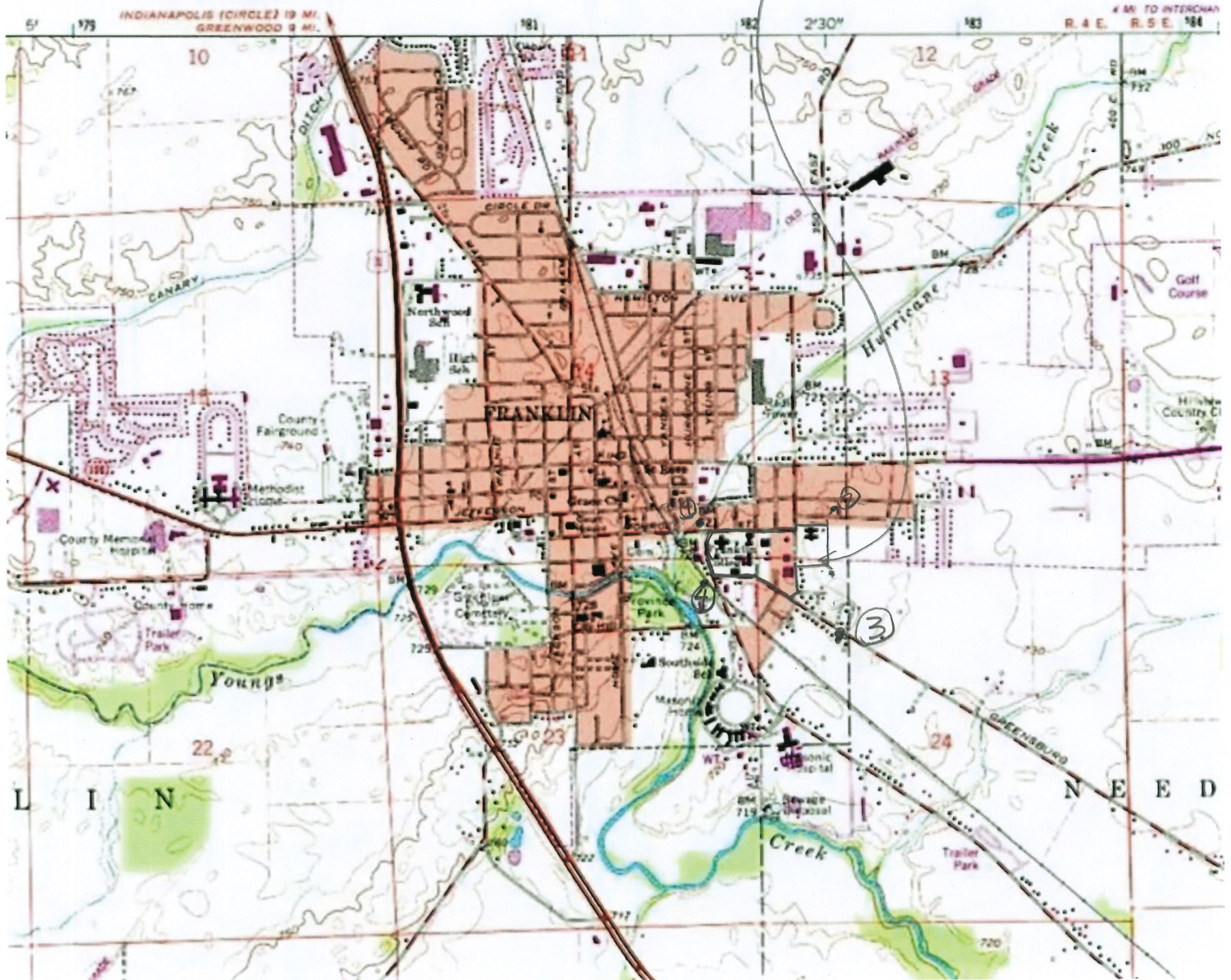


**RESOURCES**

10 CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS	6 NON-CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS
1 CONTRIBUTING SITES	0 NON-CONTRIBUTING SITES
2 CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURES	1 NON-CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURES
6 CONTRIBUTING OBJECTS	9 NON-CONTRIBUTING OBJECTS
19 TOTAL CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES	16 TOTAL NON-CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES
2 PREVIOUS NATIONAL REGISTER RESOURCES	

① 16 581847 4370467 ② 16 582432 4370508  
 ③ 16 582439 4370026 ④ 16 581890 4370226

FRANKLIN COLLEGE HISTORIC DISTRICT  
 FRANKLIN, JOHNSON CO. IN





IN\_JohnsonCounty\_FranklinCollegeHistoricDistrict\_0003



IN\_JohnsonCounty\_FranklinCollegeHistoricDistrict\_0006





IN\_JohnsonCounty\_FranklinCollegeHistoricDistrict\_0008



IN\_JohnsonCounty\_FranklinCollegeHistoricDistrict\_0010



IN\_JohnsonCounty\_FranklinCollegeHistoricDistrict\_0011



IN\_JohnsonCounty\_FranklinCollegeHistoricDistrict\_0012



IN\_JohnsonCounty\_FranklinCollegeHistoricDistrict\_0014



IN\_JohnsonCounty\_FranklinCollegeHistoricDistrict\_0015



IN\_JohnsonCounty\_FranklinCollegeHistoricDistrict\_0016



IN\_JohnsonCounty\_FranklinCollegeHistoricDistrict\_0018



IN\_JohnsonCounty\_FranklinCollegeHistoricDistrict\_0027