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NPS Form 10-900 OMB No 1024-0018

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.

RECEIVED 2280
OCT 30 2015
Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

**1. Name of Property**

Historic name: Bourbon Community Building-Gymnasium
Other names/site number: Old Bourbon Gym
Name of related multiple property listing:
Indiana's Public Common and High Schools
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing

**2. Location**

Street & number: 800 North Harris Street
City or town: Bourbon State: IN County: Marshall
Not For Publication: ☐ Vicinity: ☐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

10.20.15

**Signature of certifying official/Title:** **Date**

**Indiana DNR-Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology**

**State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government**

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

**Signature of commenting official:** **Date**

**Title :** **State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government**

**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: 12.15.15

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

| | |
|---|---|
| Private: | ☐ |
| Public – Local | x |
| Public – State | ☐ |
| Public – Federal | ☐ |

**Category of Property**

(Check only **one** box.)

| | |
|---|---|
| Building(s) | x |
| District | ☐ |
| Site | ☐ |
| Structure | ☐ |
| Object | ☐ |

**Number of Resources within Property**
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

| Contributing | Noncontributing | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 0 | buildings |
| 0 | 0 | sites |
| 1 | 0 | structures |
| 0 | 2 | objects |
| 2 | 2 | Total |

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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**6. Function or Use**
**Historic Functions**
(Enter categories from instructions.)
RECREATION AND CULTURE: sports facility
RECREATION AND CULTURE: auditorium

**Current Functions**
(Enter categories from instructions.)
RECREATION AND CULTURE: sports facility
RECREATION AND CULTURE: auditorium

## 7. Description

**Architectural Classification**
(Enter categories from instructions.)
LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Colonial Revival

**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)
foundation: CONCRETE
walls: BRICK

roof: SYNTHETICS: Rubber
other: STONE: Granite

**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 Bourbon Community Building-Gymnasium is located on the northeast side of Bourbon on the campus of the consolidated Triton School Corporation. The gym, constructed in 1928, was built as both a gymnasium and community building appended to an earlier school building constructed in 1917- 1918. While the school building has been razed, the old gym has been maintained as an important part of the community. The building has elements of the Colonial Revival style, but is generally a 20th century functional building with a large barrel-vaulted roof. The building maintains a high degree of integrity. The building has parking lots and playgrounds on its north, east, and south sides. It has a deep lawn with three large maple trees on its west (front) side near the street. The lawn contains a low brick wall and steps at the edge of the sidewalk and street. A fountain composed of stones is centered in front of the building near the

sidewalk, and a bell from the old school is centered between the building's front entries in the lawn.

## Narrative Description

Community Building-Gymnasium, 1928. Contributing
Bradley & Babcock, architect, Ft. Wayne. Merle R. Hodges and Sons, builder.
*Exterior, photographs 0001-0004*
The old Bourbon gym is two stories tall and has a foundation composed of concrete with a chamfered edge at the top. The walls are composed of dark red and brown colored brick. The building has steel industrial sash windows with stone sills. The windows on the first floor have lintels composed of bricks in soldier courses. The roof is barrel-vaulted, covered with rubber, and is oriented east/west. The front and back walls have parapets. The north and south walls have slightly-overhanging eaves with metal gutters.

The front wall faces west (photo 0002). It has a tall stepped parapet and a one-story extension that contains vestibules, restrooms, and ticket rooms. The one-story extension is divided into five bays. The center bay has three windows and a large building name stone. The stone is carved with the year the building was constructed, the name of the township trustee, county superintendant of schools, advisory board, and the contractors and architect for the project. The bays immediately north and south of the center bay extend toward the west and contain large, deeply recessed entries. The entries have full-round arches composed of two courses of brick rowlocks and stone keystones and cushion blocks. A brick belt course composed of soldiers wraps the front and sidewalls of the entry extensions; the belt course is located on each side of the cushion blocks. The entries are composed of a pair of non-historic aluminum and glass doors and arched transom. A set of five concrete steps is located in front of each entry. The south steps have been enclosed with chain-link fencing as part of the playground on the south side of the building. The north and south walls of the entry extensions have buttresses composed of brick. The buttresses are tapered and have tapered stone caps. The north and south bays of the extension each have one window in the front facade. Their side walls each have a louvered opening at the top that is covered with wood. The one-story extension has a short parapet wall with a metal cap.

The second story of the front facade is divided into three bays. The center bay is very wide and projects toward the west approximately eight inches. The center of the bay's parapet wall is stepped. A large building stone is centered in the bay. It has BOURBON COMMUNITY BUILDING carved into it. The north and south bays of the second story have parapets that are tapered downward from a step against the top of the center bay. The second story facade has a metal cap on its parapet.

The north and south walls are identical (photos 0003-0004). They are divided into five equally-sized bays by brick pilasters. The pilasters have tapered stone caps at the top of the second story. The middle bay has a pair of non-historic aluminum doors centered in the first story and three windows in the second story. A set of three steps with sidewalls composed of concrete is in front

of the doors. The south doors have a handicap ramp composed of wood built over the steps. The north doors have a pent roof overhang covering the steps. The pent roof has wood braces and exposed rafters. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The bays immediately east and west of the center bays have three windows in the first and second stories. The end bays have two windows in the first and second stories. Vents composed of fourteen bricks in a soldier course are located in the bottom of the first stories in the end bays. A large concrete block is located in the bottom east corner of the north wall. A short section of foundation composed of stone forms an L and extends to the north and east from the bottom of the concrete block. These appear to be remnants of the old school. The second story windows in the south wall are covered with wood.

The east wall is where the building had been attached to the old school (right side of photo 0004). It is entirely covered with metal and has no windows or doors. It has a large pilaster on each of its corners; these are also covered with metal.

*Interior*

The interior of the building is divided into three general areas: the gymnasium and bleachers, the rooms in the one-story extension on the front of the building, and the rooms beneath the bleachers. The gymnasium (photos 0005-0007) floor, which is composed of maple planks, is striped for basketball. The gym walls are composed of burnt orange-colored tile that frame the sides of the windows. The east wall (photo 0005) has pilasters that frame a former opening for a stage. The pilasters have chamfered corners and are covered with fiberboard. The opening has been filled in with concrete blocks. The top part of the wall beneath the barrel arch is covered with fiberboard. A small room is located in the northeast corner of the gym (left side of photo 0005). Its walls are composed of wood; a two-panel wood door is in its west wall. The west wall of the gym has a pilaster composed of tile blocks on its north and south ends (photo 0006). The upper part of the wall beneath the barrel arch is covered with fiberboard. The west wall has two pairs of wood doors between the pilasters which lead to entry vestibules. The doors, which are covered with wood on their gym sides, have windows divided into fifteen panes of glass. Two wood doors which lead to ticket rooms are to the inside of the pairs of doors. These doors have similar windows that are also covered with wood. A porcelain drinking fountain is built into the wall on the south side of the west wall. A porcelain drinking fountain is mounted to the wall on the north side of the west wall.

The bleachers are located against the south wall of the gym (photo 0007). They are divided into two sections by a central aisle that leads to the entrance on the south side of the building. Aisles are also located on the east and west ends of the south wall and contain a set of six wood steps (photo 0009). The steps are partially enclosed with a low wall. The walls enclosing the steps and the front of the bleachers are composed of wood car siding. The front wall of the bleachers has been painted, but the other walls have not. The walls have a wood cap and a handrail composed of metal pipes. The bleachers are composed of an aisle at the bottom against the front wall and seven tiered benches (photos 0005-0006). The bench seats are composed of pine planks and the fronts of the benches are composed of car siding. Steps are located on the bleacher benches that form aisles on the bleachers. The steps are boxes composed of pine boards and have numbers stenciled above them. The two sections of bleachers are joined above and behind the opening for the center aisle. Letters denoting sections of the bleachers are stenciled on the

south wall. A two-story mechanical chase is located in the southeast corner of the south wall. Its walls are composed of tile.

There are five exposed metal trusses that support the roof (photo 0007). The ceiling at the top of the trusses is composed of acoustic tiles which cover the top chord of the trusses. The gymnasium floor is oriented east/west with modern backboards and hoops centered in the east and west walls; these are suspended from a metal structure. Two older wood backboards are located on the north wall of the gym; these are also suspended from metal structures (right side of photo 0006). Two metal scoreboards are located in the northwest corner of the gym (middle of photo 0006). They have bulbs that light for scoring. A presentation plaque denotes one scoreboard was provided to the building by the Tippecanoe Lions Club.

The area beneath the bleachers is divided into two sections, one below each section of bleachers. Both sections are divided into three similarly-sized rooms. Each side contains a storage room, shower room, and dressing room (0008 and 0010). The rooms have wood floors and plaster ceilings. The ceilings slope downward toward the north with the stepping of the bleachers above. The walls dividing the rooms are composed of tile blocks. The doors between the rooms are wood with two-panels and a six-pane window in their tops. One door is a new four-panel door (photo 0009). The doors have wood casings. The west room of the east section is open to the center aisle's vestibule. The east end of this room's west wall is covered with plaster. The center aisle's vestibule has car siding covering the walls and ceiling (photo 0009). The west room of the west section beneath the bleachers has car siding on the north and west walls (photo 0010). A storage closet is located at the back wall of the west aisle that leads to the rooms under the bleachers.

The one-story extension on the front of the building is divided into two ticket rooms in the center, two vestibules, and restrooms at each outside corner. The ticket rooms have concrete floors and the walls and ceilings are covered with plaster. A ticket window is located in the wall between the room and the vestibule. The window is wood and glass and is hinged to swing open into the ticket room. A wood counter is inside the window. The south ticket room has its original wood spool for dispensing tickets (photo 0013). The window has wood casings. A trim board is located on the walls approximately six feet above the floor in the south room. The north ticket room has a staircase against its south wall (photo 0014). The staircase is wood; it has two steps and a corner landing against the east wall and five additional steps against the south wall. The staircase is partially enclosed with a low wall that is covered with car siding and a wood cap. The stairs lead to a narrow wood door in the west side of the south wall; the door leads to a fire-proof projector room for moving pictures. The vestibule floors are covered with ceramic tiles. The walls are composed of tile blocks. The ceilings are covered with plaster. A pair of entry doors is located in the west wall of the vestibules (photo 0012). A pair of doors in the east wall leads to the gym. A door in the wall opposite the ticket room leads to a restroom on each side of the one-story extension (photo 0011). The door is wood with two panels and a window in its top. The window is composed of six panes of obscured glass.

The men's restroom is located off the south side of the south vestibule (photo 0011). The women's restroom is located off the north side of the north vestibule. The floors are concrete

and the walls are composed of tile blocks. The ceilings are covered with plaster. The restroom fixtures are porcelain and appear to be original to the building. A porcelain lavatory and urinal are located on the east wall of the men's room. The lavatory and urinal are separated by a wood partition wall. A small toilet closet is located at the south end of the men's room. The wall separating it from the rest of the room is composed of tile blocks; it does not extend fully to the ceiling. The toilet closet has a one-panel wood door. The women's restroom has a porcelain lavatory on its east wall. A toilet closet is located at the north end of the restroom. The wall separating it from the rest of the room is composed of tile blocks; it does not extend fully to the ceiling.

Bourbon College/School Bell, c. 1875/1992. Non-contributing (object)
*Center of photo 0001 and left side of photo 0002*
A large cast metal bell is located on the front lawn between the gym's two entries. The bell is centered on the front of the building east of a concrete sidewalk that forms a half circle connecting the entries. The bell is anchored to a base, approximately two feet tall, that is composed of bricks and a concrete cap. The bell originally hung in the bell tower of Bourbon College which was later used as a public school until 1881. The bell was installed in later buildings used for public schools in Bourbon until 1991. The bell was salvaged when the school was razed and placed in front of the gym. Though the bell is installed on a platform that was built in 1992, the bell is considered a contributing object due to its long association with education and the site.

Lawn terrace wall and steps, 1924. Contributing (structure)
*Foreground of photo 0001*
A wide concrete sidewalk forms a sweeping s-curve that extends from the half circle walk to a wide set of three concrete steps with low brick walls on the west side of the site. They are located between low brick walls with concrete caps. The walls have tall bases composed of concrete. A large tapered block is at the east ends of the walls at the top of the steps. The south wall turns south at the bottom of the steps and continues approximately sixty feet south along the east edge of the sidewalk to form a terrace wall for the lawn. A limestone date block is centered in this wall. It has 1924 carved into it. The south end of the wall turns back toward the east approximately eight feet. Two concrete steps are located at this south end. They are on axis with College Street and led to the front entry of the old school building. The terrace wall was a gift to the school from the senior class of 1924.

Stone fountain, 1922/1992. Non-contributing (object)
Clyde Taylor, builder.
*Left side of photo 0001*
A fountain composed of fieldstone is located in the west side of the front lawn of the gym. The fountain has a ring of large boulders that forms a base approximately eight feet in diameter. The ring has a floor composed of concrete. Four pilasters composed of smaller stones extend from the top of the ring's wall and join together approximately three feet above the center of the ring.

The pilasters are tapered and form pointed arches similar to arches that form a groin vault. The fountain no longer functions. It was originally constructed in front of the 1918 Bourbon school, to the east (inside) of a large half-circle sidewalk that connected entries to the school. When the later school was razed the community supported the relocation of the fountain to a similar position in front of the gym in 1992. The fountain originally had flowing water supplied to it from the school building, but had been inoperable for some time before the school's demolition. It was built to beautify the grounds, along with some landscaping, a few years after the 1918 building was finished. Professor C. O. Waldrip and Trustee Oliver Smith assisted Clyde Taylor, the school custodian, in the construction of the fountain in 1922. Taylor was custodian from 1918 through the late 1950s.

Though relocated approximately one hundred feet from its original location in front of the old school, the fountain is considered a contributing object on the site due to its long association with the property. The fountain has served as a backdrop for graduation, group, and senior photos. The community rallied around its preservation and relocation when its future seemed uncertain after the demolition of the school. In 1990 it received a county landmark award and in 1992 it was relocated to its current location in front of the gym.

## 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.)

- [x] 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.
- [x] 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

**Areas of Significance**
(Enter categories from instructions.)
ARCHITECTURE
ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION

**Period of Significance**
1928-1963

**Significant Dates**

**Significant Person (last name, first name)**
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

**Cultural Affiliation**

**Architect/Builder (last name, first name)**
Bradley, Andy, Babcock
M. R. Hodges & Sons

**Period of Significance (justification)**

The period of significance begins in 1928 when the Bourbon Community Building-Gymnasium was constructed. The period of significance ends in 1963. The year marks a fifty year cut-off for eligibility, as well as the last year the gymnasium building was used as part of Bourbon High School. The year 1963 also marks the final consolidation of area schools into the current school corporation named Triton School Corporation and a new high school was constructed.

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

Not applicable

**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.)

The Bourbon Community Building-Gymnasium is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under criteria A and C. The building is eligible under criterion A because it has significance in the area of entertainment and recreation. The building was constructed for use by the community as a venue for entertainment purposes. It was also used as a facility for indoor athletic recreation for the community's public school. The building qualifies for the National Register under criterion C because it has significance in the area of architecture. The building has significant architectural integrity as an example of an early 20th century gymnasium.

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

ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION

The Bourbon Community Building-Gymnasium was used for entertainment and recreation, as well as other community functions associated with the school. School plays were held in the building using a stage built into the east wall. Usually two plays a year were held: a school play and a senior play. Graduation commencements were also held in the gym. Prior to its construction, the community often used opera houses in the downtown or church sanctuaries for commencement programs and other entertainment functions. It appears the first graduation commencement ceremony held in the gym occurred in 1931. A program for the event indicates the location as the "Community Hall". The new building also included a projection room from which moving pictures could be shown to a large audience. The new community

hall/gymnasium had filled a previously unmet need for a facility large enough to accommodate such social activities.

The most pervasive use of the building was for athletic purposes, and more specifically for basketball. With the growing popularity of basketball at the turn of the century, communities typically found large open halls in the upper floors of downtown buildings in which to play the sport. Bourbon was no different. In 1915 basketball was played in the Davis Opera House, a facility that also served as a site for graduation ceremonies. The Bourbon teams were called the "Comets". A girls' basketball team was formed in 1918. In 1928, with the construction of the community hall/gymnasium, the community had a new facility in which to play the sport. The Bourbon boys' basketball team won the Marshall County championship game over Plymouth in 1940. They won sectional titles in 1943, 1950, and 1962. The 1962 sectional title was won in a close game over the Bremen Lions with a final score of 56 to 55. After consolidation in 1963, the corporation's team names were changed to the Triton Trojans.

Basketball was invented at Springfield College in Massachusetts in 1891. Its inventor, Dr. James Naismith, conceived the sport to provide athletic activity for young men during the winter months. Reverend Nicholas McKay was one of the students who learned the sport from Naismith while attending college at Springfield. McKay was sent to Crawfordsville, Indiana after his studies ended in Springfield. McKay, working for the YMCA, organized the first game of basketball in Crawfordsville in 1894 where a team fielded by the Crawfordsville YMCA played against a team fielded by the Lafayette YMCA. The game was played in a large upper floor hall in downtown Crawfordsville, using wood peach baskets for hoops into which the basketballs were tossed. The sport was particularly well-received in Indiana. By 1911 the state's first tourney was held at Indiana University in Bloomington; twelve teams participated. By 1938 over 800 schools participated in the state tournament. The popularity of the sport continued to grow through the 1940s and 1950s, but attendance began to waiver as school consolidation during the 1960s began to reduce the number of schools participating in tournament play.

E. P. Smith, who served as Bourbon's principal from 1928-1956, described the gymnasium-community hall addition in a *Bourbon News-Mirror* newspaper article on September 5, 1929. Smith said that the community hall or "gym" as it was more practically called provided seating for 500 people in the built-in bleachers on the south side of the gym. "Knock-down" bleachers on the north side of the gym provided seating for 400 more people. The gym was described as having two shower rooms and two dressing rooms (these are located beneath the built-in bleachers on the south side of the building). The shower and dressing rooms could accommodate either two boys or girls teams. The article stated that the building also had a fireproof room for a moving picture projector, though it appears that the building was not furnished with a projector until the class of 1940 purchased it as a senior gift. The building also had a 20' x 30' stage constructed off its east side into the existing school building. The stage is no longer extant. Curtains for the stage were purchased by the class of 1928 as a senior gift. The article described the interior finishes: the walls are composed of glazed tile and the gym floor is maple. The principal stated the need for the facility because physical training had become a required course of study in Indiana.

ARCHITECTURE

The Bourbon Community Building-Gymnasium is an example of an architectural type that became popular in the first decades of the 20th century. The building's function, though largely for athletics, also served for other community purposes, hence the name "community building" was often attached to such facilities. Possibly as a justification to taxpayers, combining both community functions with athletic use, the buildings quickly began to be constructed in the early 20th century. The true driving force was likely the growing popularity of the game of basketball.

The buildings were typically built as additions to existing schools, as was the case in Bourbon. While they were additions, they typically had their own formal front entrance that was used by the public while school was not in session. The entries often included vestibules with ticket rooms and public toilet rooms. The buildings often incorporated stages for performances and graduations. Dressing and shower rooms were provided to allow for athletic event practices and games between two teams. Bleachers were provided for seating. The bleachers could be either non-permanent or permanent. The non-permanent bleachers could be disassembled to provide for more floor space. Permanent seating often was built over the dressing and shower rooms. Other characteristics of these early gymnasiums included wood floors, glazed block walls, and barrel-vaulted roofs.

The building in Bourbon has many of these typical features extant. The building's front facade, facing west, is the traditional public entrance and has a formal quality to it. The front facade includes building name blocks and a large commemorative stone block with the names of the school board, trustees, and architect and contractor. The building name block is centered in the top of the wall and has Bourbon Community Building engraved on it. A one-story extension on the front wall includes two entrances, two ticket rooms and bathrooms for men and women. The entrances have wide arched-openings. These arches and a stepped parapet are the only elements of a particular architectural style. The ticket rooms have extant ticket windows and an original wood ticket dispenser. The bathrooms have original porcelain fixtures.

The building has maple floors, except in the front extension, and walls composed of glazed block. The main area has a barrel vaulted roof; its metal trusses are exposed inside the gym. The Bourbon gym has permanent built-in bleacher seats along its south wall. The seats have low walls composed of car siding enclosing them and the staircases used to access the bleacher area. Beneath the permanent bleachers are dressing and shower rooms; though these spaces are largely used for storage now, the room configurations and their finishes remain intact. The building also has its original steel windows and interior wood doors. The only change to the building occurred when the school it was attached to was demolished. Because the stage area was built into the school building, it was also removed and the stage opening was filled in.

The Bourbon Community Building-Gymnasium is the best-preserved example of this type of architecture in Marshall County. Most of the county's other gymnasiums have been either demolished or significantly altered. Gyms similar to this type were once located in LaPaz,

Argos, and Tyner. These gymnasiums have been razed in the last few decades. Other similar gyms, like those in Plymouth (Centennial Gym, attached to Lincoln Junior High), West Township, Culver, and Bremen have had renovations that have significantly altered their historic character.

The building was designed by the Fort Wayne architectural firm of Bradley and Babcock. Leroy Bradley was born in Fort Wayne and graduated from the University of Illinois in 1917, after studying architecture. His business partner, Dan Babcock, was born in Lake County, Indiana, and also attended the University of Illinois, where the two men undoubtedly met. Both men served in the army during World War I, and formed their partnership in 1926. Bradley married Miss Cora Steinbach of Bourbon in 1926. Steinbach was a graduate of Bourbon High School and the University of Chicago. Mrs. Bradley's connection to the Bourbon community no doubt played a role in the decision to hire the firm for the design of the gymnasium. The firm was later retained to design the reconstruction of the school which burned a year after the design of the gym.

## Developmental History/Additional historic context information

Prior to consolidation, Bourbon Township was served by as many as eighteen district schools. A large frame school was constructed in 1865-1866 for the community of Bourbon. It served until the late 1870s when the growth of the community mandated a larger facility. A college, Bourbon College, on the northeast side of town began in about 1871 and continued for only a few years before it closed. The building was then used for a public school from about 1877 until it burned in 1883. The average attendance for the Bourbon School was 126 in 1876. A new public school building was constructed on the site of the former college between 1884 and 1885.

A state inspection of the 1884 building and consolidation of the township's schools led to the building of a new brick building in 1917-1918. Debate arose over the location of the new building, but ultimately the existing school site, and former college site, was chosen. Samuel Craig, of Huntington, was the architect and Stephen Parcel, of Rochester, was the contractor for the new building. While the building was being constructed a livery stable and second floor above a drugstore in town were used to hold classes and the graduation of 1918. By 1922 the school was being used by 495 students. A state inspection in 1927 led to the recommendation that the school add a gymnasium and community building, and an addition with a large number of classrooms. The cost of the project was estimated at $85,000. A remonstrance attempt to stop the project failed and work started on the additions on October 28, 1927. Just over a year after the addition was started the school building, minus the gymnasium, burned on December 26, 1928. Temporary buildings were constructed and they, along with a new bus garage, were used to hold classes while the school was rebuilt. The school board turned to the same architect and contractor who had just completed work on the gymnasium.

Another school addition was constructed in 1950. It contained the agriculture department and music room. In 1959, seven acres of farmland were purchased southeast of the school. In the same year a school reorganization act was passed by the state legislature; this led the school to

form the Triton School Corporation. A broader school consolidation in 1962 provided for the incorporation of three townships into the Triton School Corporation. These were Bourbon Township (already using the school building), Tippecanoe Township (southeast Marshall County), and Etna Green in Kosciusko County (east of Bourbon Township). Beginning in the fall of 1963 all students were sent to the school building in Bourbon. The school corporation constructed a new high school building on the seven acres purchased in 1959. The old school continued to be used as an elementary school for the corporation. A new elementary school was constructed in 1991 and the old school was razed, except for the gymnasium/community building. In 1992 the school bell, which had first been used in the bell tower of Bourbon College, was placed on a brick platform in front of the gym. The stone fountain was also relocated to the front of the gymnasium grounds.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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

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Bourbon High School Chronicle, 1884-1963: 100th Alumni Celebration Pictorial Review. Bourbon Alumni Association, publishers, 1991.

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*Bourbon News-Mirror*, June 22, 1922
*Bourbon News-Mirror*, Sept. 5, 1929
*South Bend Tribune*, May 20, 1990

Marshall County Historic Landmark Award files: Bourbon High School Memorial Fountain. Marshall County Museum, Plymouth.

*Marshall County Interim Report, Historic Sites and Structures Inventory*. Indianapolis: Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana, 1992.

McDonald, Daniel. *1881 History of Marshall County, Indiana Illustrated*. Chicago: Kingman Brothers, 1881.

Roll, Charles. One Hundred and Fifty Years of American Development, Vol. 3. Chicago: Lewis Publishing Company, 1931.

**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):** 099-061-33002

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** Less than one acre

Use the UTM system

**UTM References**
Datum (indicated on USGS map):

[ ] NAD 1927 or [x] NAD 1983

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Zone: 16 | Easting: 574239 | Northing: 4572693 |
| 2. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : | Northing: |

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

Beginning at a point on the east side of Harris Street from a line extended east from the south side of College Street, face north and continue in a line north 150' to the south edge of an unimproved alley south of Shaffer Road. Turn east and continue in a line with the south edge of the alley 264'. Turn south and continue in a line 150'. Turn west and continue in a line 264' west to the east edge of Harris Street, or the point of beginning.

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

The boundary described above includes in its area the historic gymnasium-community building as well as the structure and objects that have historically been associated with the old Bourbon school and gym.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Kurt West Garner
organization: Indiana Landmarks
street & number: 12954 6th Road
city or town: Plymouth state: IN zip code: 46563
e-mail: kwgarner@kwgarner.com
telephone: 574-936-0613
date: January 10, 2014

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**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.

## Photo Log

Name of Property: Bourbon Community Building-Gymnasium

City or Vicinity: Bourbon

County: Marshall State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: November 14, 2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Front of building and site, looking east. 0001

1 of 14.

Name of Property: Bourbon Community Building-Gymnasium

City or Vicinity: Bourbon

County: Marshall State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: November 14, 2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Front of building, looking northeast. 0002

2 of 14.

Name of Property: Bourbon Community Building-Gymnasium

City or Vicinity: Bourbon

County: Marshall State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: November 14, 2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: North side of building, looking southeast. 0003

3 of 14.

Name of Property: Bourbon Community Building-Gymnasium

City or Vicinity: Bourbon

County: Marshall State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: November 14, 2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Back and south side of building, looking northwest. 0004

4 of 14.

Name of Property: Bourbon Community Building-Gymnasium

City or Vicinity: Bourbon

County: Marshall State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: November 14, 2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Gym, looking northeast from bleachers. 0005

5 of 14.

Name of Property: Bourbon Community Building-Gymnasium

City or Vicinity: Bourbon

County: Marshall State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: November 14, 2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Gym, looking northwest from bleachers. 0006

6 of 14.

Name of Property: Bourbon Community Building-Gymnasium

City or Vicinity: Bourbon

County: Marshall State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: November 14, 2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Gym, looking southeast toward bleachers. 0007

7 of 14.

Name of Property: Bourbon Community Building-Gymnasium

City or Vicinity: Bourbon

County: Marshall State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: November 14, 2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Rooms below east section of bleachers, looking east. 0008

8 of 14.

Name of Property: Bourbon Community Building-Gymnasium

City or Vicinity: Bourbon

County: Marshall State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: November 14, 2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Vestibule to central aisle way, looking west. 0009

9 of 14.

Name of Property: Bourbon Community Building-Gymnasium

City or Vicinity: Bourbon

County: Marshall State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: November 14, 2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Room below west section of bleachers, looking west. 0010

10 of 14.

Name of Property: Bourbon Community Building-Gymnasium

City or Vicinity: Bourbon

County: Marshall State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: November 14, 2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: South vestibule, looking south into men's restroom. 0011

11 of 14.

Name of Property: Bourbon Community Building-Gymnasium

City or Vicinity: Bourbon

County: Marshall State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: November 14, 2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking west into north vestibule from gym. 0012

12 of 14.

Name of Property: Bourbon Community Building-Gymnasium

City or Vicinity: Bourbon

County: Marshall State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: November 14, 2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southwest at ticket window in south ticket room. 0013

13 of 14.

Name of Property: Bourbon Community Building-Gymnasium

City or Vicinity: Bourbon

County: Marshall State: IN

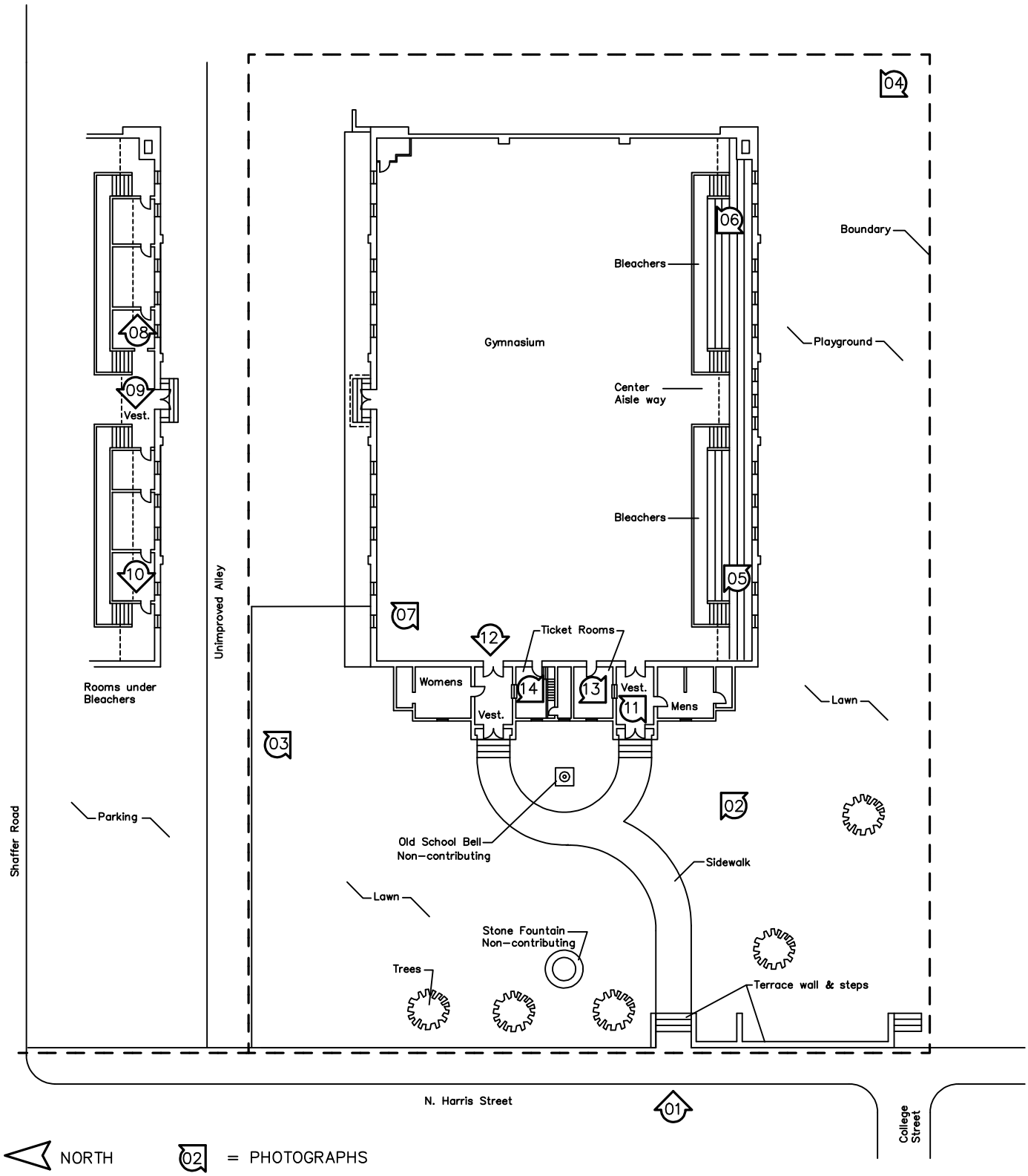
Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: November 14, 2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southwest at staircase in north ticket room. 0014

14 of 14.

**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.

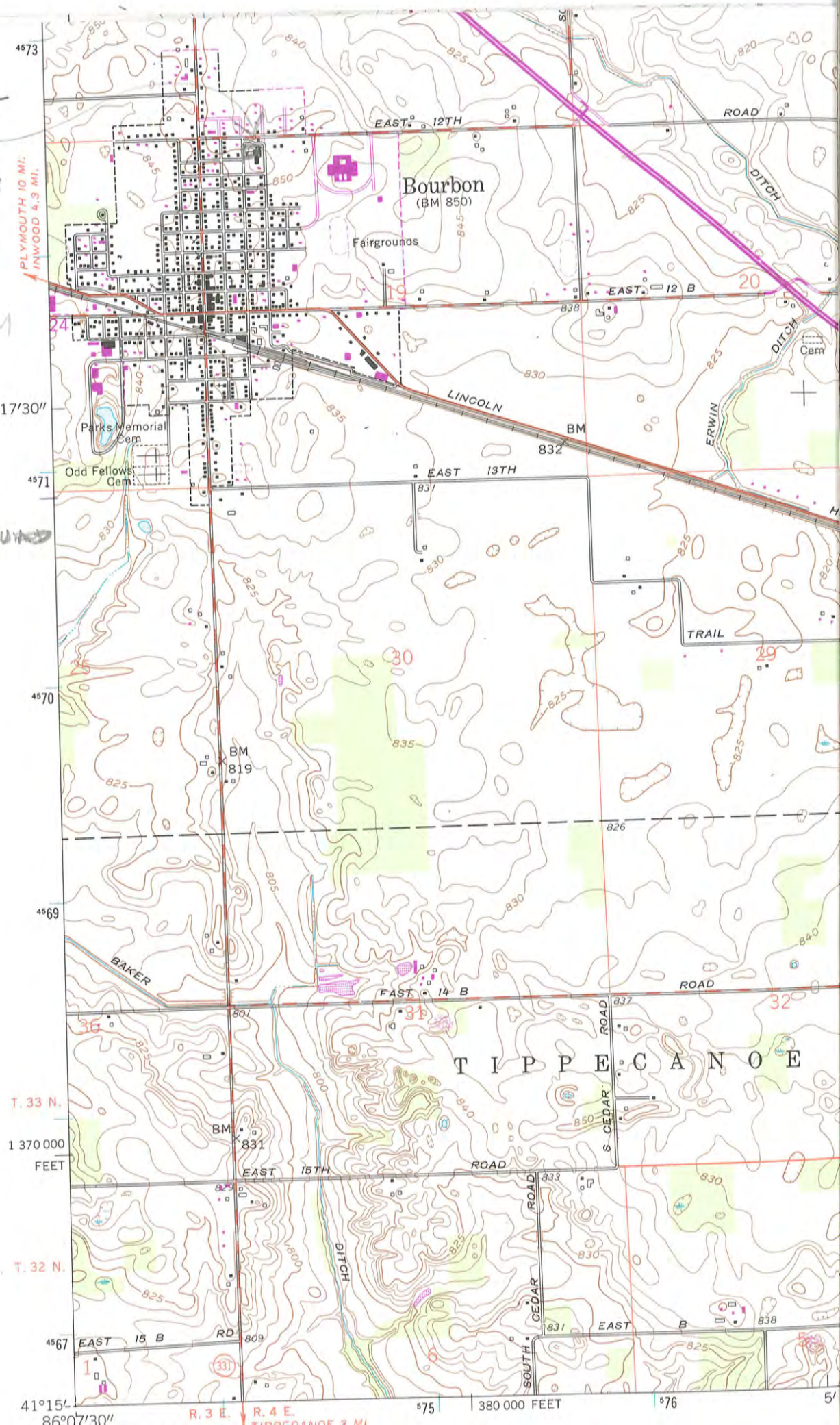



BOURBON COMMUNITY BUILDING–GYMNASIUM
NATIONAL REGISTER SITE & MAIN LEVEL PLAN

BOURBON, MARSHALL CO., IN

Bourbon
Community Building-
Gymnasium
National Register
of Historic Places
Bourbon,
Marshall Co. IN

NAD 83 UTM
574239
4572693
ZONE 16
Bourbon Quad



EXIT
VISITORS HOME

B
C
D