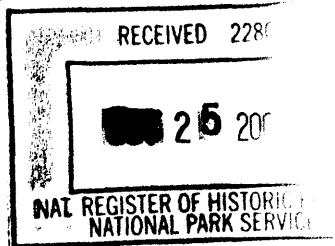


1364

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



OCT 25 2005

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

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

1. Name of Property

historic name **Foster Hall**  
other names/site number **Melodeon Hall** 097-296-05165

2. Location

street & number **7200 North College Avenue** N/A  not for publication  
city or town **Indianapolis** N/A  vicinity  
state **Indiana** code **IN** county **Marion** code **097** zip code **46240**

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  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 36CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. (  See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title  
**Indiana Department of Natural Resources**

Date  
**10-20-05**

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. (  See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register  
 See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper  
**Edson H. Beall**

Date of Action  
**12-6-05**

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

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

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

- building
- district
- site
- structure
- object

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

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

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

N/A

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION/CULTURE: Music Facility

EDUCATION: Education-Related

RECREATION/CULTURE: Museum

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

19th & 20th c. REVIVALS: Tudor Revival

foundation STONE: Granite

walls STONE: Granite

STONE: Sandstone

roof STONE: Slate

other BRICK

**Narrative Description**

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

**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.)

Property is:

- 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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE \_\_\_\_\_

EDUCATION \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Period of Significance**

1927-1948 \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Significant Dates**

N/A \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A \_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Architect/Builder**

Daggett, Robert Frost \_\_\_\_\_

Hibben, Thomas \_\_\_\_\_

MacDougall, George \_\_\_\_\_

**9. Major Bibliographic References**

**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Indiana Historical Society \_\_\_\_\_

Eoster Hall  
Name of Property

Marion IN  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property Less than 1 acre

**UTM References** (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 

1	6	5	7	2	8	8	0	4	4	1	5	5	4	0
Zone		Easting						Northing						

3 

Zone		Easting						Northing						

2 

Zone		Easting						Northing						

4 

Zone		Easting						Northing						

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Susan Fletcher, Intern  
organization Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana date 05-10-2005  
street & number 340 W. Michigan St. telephone 317/ 639-4534  
city or town Indianapolis state IN zip code 46202

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

- A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative **black and white** photographs of the property.

**Additional items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Park Tudor School  
street & number 7200 N. College Ave. telephone 317/ 415-2757  
city or town Indianapolis state IN zip code 46240

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

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

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number   7   Page   1  

Foster Hall  
Marion County, Indiana

---

Description

Foster Hall is located on the campus of Park Tudor School in northern Indianapolis at 71<sup>st</sup> Street and College Avenue. Foster Hall is located on the northeast section of campus, bounded on the south and west by academic buildings, to the north by a parking lot that incorporates an original bridge, and to the east by a grassy slope. Foster Hall is one-and-a-half stories with a raised basement. It is an outstanding example of Tudor Revival architecture, with seven steeply pitched gables, leaded glass windows, rusticated stone walls, and a slate roof. The main entrance, on the south facade the building, is centered on a gable, which is typical of Tudor Revival architecture. A sun porch is located on the west façade, an organ alcove extends to the north, an inglenook projects from the eastern façade, and the main entrance faces the south. The interior reflects the Tudor Revival style in the mortise and tenon frames and the arched beams. The property is in good condition and has had little alteration since its construction in the 1920s.

The main entrance of Foster Hall is centered on an intersecting gable on the south façade of the building (Photo 1). A foyer forms the front gable while the main hall forms the rear gable. There are four diamond-shaped louvered vents recessed into the stone at the top of the foyer gable. The exterior walls are granite intermixed with brick. There are brick steps leading to the front door, which is paneled wood with one clear light above the hammered copper knocker. There is a large wood lintel above the door. A copper hood with scalloped edges, supported by twisted copper brackets extends over the door. To the left of the front door is a bronze plaque that reads: "Dedicated to Harmony: Let no Discordant Note Enter Here." This plaque is original to the building, installed at the direction of Josiah Kirby Lilly, Sr. during the 1920s when the building was known as Melodeon Hall.

On the west façade, the foyer has a pair of leaded casement windows with a brick sill (Photo 2). At the gable peak of the alcove projection there is half-timbering with brick infill and heavy, carved wooden brackets supporting the overhang of the gable. A semi-hexagonal bay window comprised of three sides with four sets of leaded casement windows is centered on this alcove gable. Each side has three fixed-sash panes, the bottom pane being about three times as tall as the top pane. To the north of this bay is a sunroom with four sets of leaded casements surrounded by wood (Photo 2). The raised stone basement is visible, with two leaded casements near the base of the building. There is an interior chimney that projects to the north of the sunroom at the intersection of the main building and the organ alcove. Beyond the chimney there is another gable that faces the north, forming the organ alcove (Photo 4). A stone retaining wall wraps around the east side of the building. The sunroom also projects to the west, where a set of French doors provides an exit from the south façade to a patio with a slate floor. Two oriental-style fish carved out of limestone flank the walkway to the patio and the sunroom.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number   7   Page   2  

Foster Hall  
Marion County, Indiana

---

On the north façade, the sunroom is visible to the west, with three sets of double casement leaded glass windows (Photo 5). The middle set of windows is larger than the flanking two. The basement entrance is located below the sunroom and a copper hood hangs over this wood door with strap-style hinges. The gable peak of the organ alcove has the same louvered diamond shaped vents as the gable on the south façade. To the east of this alcove there is a projection with one leaded casement window with brick sills.

On the east façade the gabled stairwell projection contains two casement windows, one at the basement level and one on the first floor. This gable and the adjacent gable comprising the inglenook projection both boast the same diamond shaped louvered vents that the other gables have. On the inglenook gable there is a flush chimney on the south side. There are no windows on this particular gable. On the main hall is a pair of casement windows and a single casement on the foyer. Below the window on the main hall there is a small wooden shed with an asphalt shingle roof and wooden sides, which used to be the ash dump (Photo 6).

Entering the building from the main door, one first encounters the foyer, or reception hall. This hall is approximately thirteen by fifteen feet. The hall has a marble floor with a black stone border. The ceiling of the entrance hall is decorated with elegant plaster strapwork. There are two wooden doors to the east, the north door concealing a coat closet and the south door concealing a bathroom. The restroom contains a period shower with body spray jets, a marble washstand, marble wainscoting, and the same floor as the foyer.

There are two steps leading down into the main hall through an elliptical arch doorway (Photo 7). This wooden door contains nine panels below a screen of turned balustrades. The main hall has several projections: an inglenook to the east, a bay window alcove to the west, a sunroom to the west, and an organ alcove to the north. The ceiling of this main room consists of heavy arched braces and wood timbering. The walls are plaster.

The inglenook contains two benches to the north and south that flank a stone fireplace (Photo 9). Wood paneling surrounds the entire area. One leaded casement window is above the south bench. To the left of the fireplace is a former dumbwaiter and to the right is a recessed bookshelf. Large andirons with a flower formation stand inside the fireplace. The floor of the inglenook is wood with pegs. Mortise and tenon construction frames the inglenook.

On the opposite side of the building is the west alcove, which provides access to the sun porch through a glass door facing north (Photo 11). The window of the alcove is a semi-hexagonal three story bay. The sunroom is located to the north of this alcove (Photo 10). The ceiling of that room is tongue and groove

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 3

Foster Hall  
Marion County, Indiana

---

siding. On the east side of the sunroom an original window has been replaced with a set of French doors, which were installed in 1993 and provide access to the main hall. On the southern wall of the sunroom there are two leaded glass French doors, one opening to the west alcove and the other opening to the exterior (Photo 12). On the west wall there are five pairs of fifteen-pane leaded glass windows that run the entire width of the room. On the north wall there are fifteen-pane leaded casement windows, three in the center flanked by two pairs on either side. There is an iron chandelier hanging from the ceiling in the center of the room. The walls in this room are rusticated stone and the floor is slate.

The organ alcove is located on the northern section of the main hall (Photo 8). This alcove originally housed J.K. Lilly, Sr.'s pipe organ. The organ was removed and this space now serves as a kitchenette. On the north wall of the alcove there is a two story wooden screen mounted flush with the wall. The screen is five sections across with three turned balustrades in each section. The top of the screen is hipped, mimicking the shape of the arched braces of the main room. On the east side of the screen there is a series of oak showcases with oak cabinets and a laminate top. These were later additions to the room. On the west wall there is a kitchenette behind folding wooden doors. There is an oak island with a laminate top in the middle of this alcove. A large iron chandelier hangs above the island. There are two similar chandeliers in the hall, all of which are original, as are the wall sconces.

On the eastern wall of the main room, to the left of the inglenook, there is a flat door with plain molding that leads to the basement. This door is ten-paneled wood. The stair hall leading down to the basement has a closet at the top of the stairs that provides access to the attic. The staircase itself is simple wood with square spindles. The basement consists of several storage rooms and closets, including an original full kitchen. There is also a half-bath, a mechanical room, the office for the Meridian Hill Police Department, and an exterior entrance. The basement floor is concrete covered with carpet in some areas.

The original landscape design for Foster Hall included two stone bridges, both of which remain intact. One bridge, along with portions of the original drive, is separated from the hall by academic buildings to the south and is located just north of the football field press box. The parking lot to the north of the hall encompasses the second bridge. This bridge consists of two segmented stone sides, which cross over a small gully (Photo 5). This bridge was originally located southeast of Foster Hall near a small pond. The bridge was relocated to the current location and the pond filled in during the construction of the Hilbert Early Education Center in 1996. Because of the bridge's current proximity to Foster Hall and its ties to the original landscape plan, it has been included in the nomination boundaries. Additional original landscape features still remaining on the campus include a pump house designed as a French Eclectic style folly, brick entrance piers at the corner of 71<sup>st</sup> Street and College Avenue, and a pond northwest of the Fine Arts Building (Refer to site plan for building locations). These resources are not included in the nomination boundary because they are separated from Foster Hall by new construction.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number   8   Page   4  

Foster Hall  
Marion County, Indiana

### Statement of Significance

Foster Hall is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under criteria A and C. Foster Hall is historically significant because it represents the broad trend of wealthy Americans endeavoring to preserve American cultural heritage during the early twentieth century. Josiah Kirby Lilly, Sr. (1861–1948) president of pharmaceutical manufacturer Eli Lilly and Company, collection of Steven Foster materials in the hall, hoping to preserve this significant part of American culture. Foster Hall is also locally significant as an outstanding example of early-twentieth century Tudor Revival architecture. Foster Hall served as a concert facility from the time of its construction in 1927 until Lilly's death in 1948, and it housed his collection of Stephen Collins Foster materials from 1931–1937. After his death Lilly's sons Eli and J.K., Jr. donated the property to Park School. Foster Hall is well preserved and continues to serve the Park Tudor School community as a reception, concert, and meeting facility.

### Historical Background and Significance:

Josiah Kirby Lilly, Sr. was born in Greencastle, Indiana in 1861. His father, Colonel Eli Lilly, founded Eli Lilly and Company in 1876 and J.K. apprenticed under his father until entering Philadelphia College of Pharmacy. After graduating in 1882 J.K. Lilly, Sr. returned to the company and became president after his father's death in 1898. During his presidency the company contracted to make insulin and blood plasma commercially available.<sup>1</sup>

On 9 June 1896 J.K. Lilly purchased the failing Harmon Bradshaw chicken ranch, a piece of land seven miles north of Indianapolis at 71<sup>st</sup> Street and College Avenue. He purchased an adjacent fifteen acres from James Mustard in 1901. Lilly initially operated the land as a maple sugar camp but soon after decided to turn the property into an apple orchard. He and his sons J.K. Lilly, Jr. and Eli enjoyed spending weekends in the orchard, entertaining friends with Saturday picnics.

Mr. Lilly loved music and had long desired a pipe organ, but there was no room for one in his Sunset Lane home in the town of Crow's Nest (NR 2000). Building a hall in the orchard to house an organ seemed like the perfect solution. Around 1926 he contracted the Aeolian Company of New York to craft a custom-built automatic pipe organ. J.K. hired architect Robert Frost Daggett (1875–1955) and associate Thomas Hibben to design a music hall specifically for the organ.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Anita Martin, "Lilly, Josiah Kirby, Jr.," in *The Encyclopedia of Indianapolis*, ed David Bodenhammer and Robert G. Barrows. (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1994), 912.

<sup>2</sup> Lilly, Eli. "Orchard is Center for Stephen Foster Collection in 1930s; Given To School in 1965." no date.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number   8   Page   5  

Foster Hall  
Marion County, Indiana

Daggett was one of the most prominent architects in Indianapolis. He was born in Indianapolis, the son of architect Robert Platt Daggett. After earning a degree in architecture in 1896 at the University of Pennsylvania he went to Paris to study at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts, graduating in 1901. He returned to Indianapolis to practice architecture in his father's firm, and remained until World War I when he went to France as an army officer. After returning home from the war, he renewed his association with Eli Lilly and Company and built homes in Indianapolis for J.K., Sr. and Eli Lilly on Sunset Lane. Daggett was the first Hoosier to be named a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects.<sup>3</sup>

Daggett designed a Tudor Revival building for the Lilly orchard. This music hall had seven gables with the main entrance centered under the front gable, characteristic of Tudor Revival architecture. The building had several alcoves including a foyer to the south, an inglenook to the east, a semi-hexagonal bay window to the west, a sunroom to the west, and an organ alcove to the north. The ceiling of the main hall was built with heavy arched hammered beams, intended to mimic the joists of original Tudor buildings. The inglenook had a built-in bookshelf, and two wooden benches flanking a stone fireplace. The paneling in the inglenook is mortise and tenon, a typical method of construction in Tudor Revival buildings.

In 1927 prominent landscape architect George MacDougall designed the landscape surrounding the hall. MacDougall was born in Scotland and immigrated to Canada around 1908. Indianapolis resident David M. Parry saw his work on the Winnipeg city parks and commissioned him to landscape his Indianapolis estate in Golden Hill (NR 1991). MacDougall also designed the town of Woodstock in 1909, in addition to working with the Nicholas Noyes Estate in Crow's Nest. He designed the landscapes for the J.K. Lilly, Sr. and Eli Lilly homes on Sunset Lane.<sup>4</sup> MacDougall's plans for the "Music Hall at Orchard Gardens, estate of Mr. J.K. Lilly" included two ponds, two bridges, and a picturesque drive leading up to the building. The bridges remain on the property, as does a portion of the original drive and the western pond.

The installation of the pipe organ into the music hall occurred in the early spring of 1928. The organ contained twenty-six sets of pipes, and was playable manually but was also semireproducing and fully reproducing. Mr. Lilly named his new music cottage "Melodeon Hall." He installed a plaque surmising his vision for the building: "Dedicated to Harmony. Let no Discordant Note Enter Here." Lilly entertained his friends with organ concerts and Sunday recitals, and even hosted the American Guild of Organists in 1931.<sup>5</sup>

When he was a young man J.K. Lilly, Sr. had become familiar with the music of Pittsburgh native

---

<sup>3</sup> Andrew Seager, "Daggett, Robert Frost." In *The Encyclopedia of Indianapolis*, ed David Bodenhammer and Robert G. Barrows. (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1994), 490.

<sup>4</sup> Interview with John MacDougall, 10 May 1990.

<sup>5</sup> Margaret Scott, "Organ to Be Heard During National Music Week," no date.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Foster Hall  
Marion County, Indiana

Section number   8   Page   6  

---

Stephen Collins Foster (1826-1864) the composer of songs such as *Ob! Susannah*, *Old Folks at Home*, and *Old Kentucky Home*. After retirement Mr. Lilly began to actively pursue this interest in Foster's life and music because he wanted to educate the American public on the importance of Foster's work to their national identity.

Lilly was concerned that citizens of this country were losing an important part of their heritage and he wanted to preserve this important aspect of American culture. Lilly heard phonograph recordings of Foster music and decided to start collecting "Fosteriana." On 5 January 1931 he acquired from a Boston dealer over one hundred first editions of Foster songs as well as several hundred early editions. Over the next few years Mr. Lilly collected over 10,000 separate Foster items including manuscripts, recordings, and artifacts, forming a significant body of work. Lilly's gathering of cultural materials was part of a broad trend during the period of wealthy American businessmen seeking to preserve endangered treasures of American heritage. Lilly's son, J.K., Jr. collected books by authors such as Edgar Allen Poe, as well as miniature soldiers and golden coins. Similarly, Henry Ford preserved buildings and artifacts from the nineteenth century during the same time period.

J.K. Lilly Sr. housed his Foster collection in the organ hall, renaming the building "Foster Hall" in the early 1930s. Lilly opened the hall free of charge to anyone who was interested in researching the life and works of Stephen Foster, and he eventually hired a staff to care for the collection. Staff members, including former Library of Congress librarian Walter R. Whittlesey and his daughter, arranged the materials and edited the complete Foster works. Mr. Lilly published the *Foster Hall Bulletin*, "issued occasionally to collectors of and dealers in Fosteriana, also to others who may be in sympathy with an effort to collect data and material bearing upon the life and works of Stephen Collins Foster."<sup>6</sup> Lilly hosted many guests in Foster Hall and enjoyed lecturing about the composer's life during Sunday afternoon recitals. Between September 1933 and June 1934 nearly 3500 visitors came to the building, and in four years nearly 15,000 people came. Stephen Foster's only child, Mrs. Marion Foster Welch, was Lilly's special guest for a weekend in 1934 and she presented him with her mother's brooch in gratitude for his efforts to preserve her father's work.<sup>7</sup> John Tasker Howard, Foster expert, was a frequent visitor to the hall and used the collection as source material for his biography *Stephen Foster, America's Troubadour*.

In addition to serving as a research and collecting facility, Foster Hall retained its reputation as a fine musical venue. Lilly hosted numerous recitals and concerts, including performances by the Foster Hall Ensemble. This group consisted of string and vocal quartets, accompanied by a harp and piano; they performed both classical and folk music. Lilly was especially fond of the Foster Hall Quartet. George M. Robinson, Jr., music minister of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, founded the group, originally called the Colored Young Men's Christian Association Quartet.

---

<sup>6</sup> J.K. Lilly, Sr. *Foster Hall Bulletin* 8, February 1933.

<sup>7</sup> Margaret Scott, "Foster's Kin Make Pilgrimage to Hall," *Indianapolis Star* 2 September 1934.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 7

Foster Hall  
Marion County, Indiana

Foster Hall is notable as an excellent example of local Tudor Revival architecture and is comparable in style and function to the Mark C. Honeywell Studio in Wabash, IN. Both buildings are examples of the larger trend of wealthy American businessmen constructing buildings specifically for their hobbies. Honeywell had a passion for making motion pictures and built his Tudor Revival studio in Wabash to house a dark room, cutting room, and state-of-the-art movie theater. Like Foster Hall, the Honeywell Studio served as an entertainment venue and a place for its owner to pursue his favorite hobby. Foster Hall is also comparable stylistically with several Tudor Revival residences in Washington Township including the John Mitchell House as well as the Finney House.

In 1936 Mr. Lilly heard about plans to build a Stephen Foster memorial on the campus of the University of Pittsburgh. He decided to donate his collection to the university and arranged the transfer in 1937. Newspapers in Indianapolis and Pittsburgh covered the story, praising Lilly for his generosity. Lilly's collection of Foster materials was the largest and most comprehensive collection of the composer's materials and it is likely that without his efforts documents such as Foster's original songs and letters would have been scattered among private collectors and other repositories. Fletcher Hodges, Jr., curator of the collection in Indianapolis, moved to Pittsburgh to oversee the materials in their new home.<sup>8</sup> The university dedicated the Stephen Foster Memorial building in 1937 and remains the repository for the collection. Lilly's donation is significant because it brought together the largest body of Foster materials ever assembled, making them available for anyone who is interested in the American composer.

After Josiah Kirby Lilly's death in 1948 his son Eli assumed management of the orchard in which Foster Hall stood. In 1965 farm supervisor Jules Ulrich announced his plans to retire after a long career in the Lilly orchard, and Eli and J.K., Jr. tried to no avail to find a suitable replacement. That same year the brothers decided to donate the land to Park School for boys. The school accepted the offer and relocated to the orchard.<sup>9</sup>

In 1970 Park School merged with Tudor Hall School for Girls. Students practiced music in Foster Hall and they took lessons on the restored pipe organ. In 1976 the school decided to renovate Foster Hall for use as a conference center. Indianapolis architect H. Roll McLaughlin and interior designer Linda Hamilton McLaughlin lead restoration efforts, which included the cleaning of the woodwork, resetting of stones, and a replacement of the furnace, water heater, and air conditioner. In his will Eli Lilly donated \$10,000 for the project, which was his last personal gift before his death in 1977. In addition to this donation, Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana, the Lilly Endowment, and Mrs. Charles Lynn underwrote the renovation.

<sup>8</sup>Fletcher Hodges, "Foster Hall," no date.

<sup>9</sup>Eli Lilly.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number   8   Page   8  

Foster Hall  
Marion County, Indiana

---

The interior of the building was restored to a 1920s style.<sup>10</sup> After the 1970s renovation, the school decided to sell the pipe organ. In the early 1990s Park Tudor School began another campaign to restore the building, which included repairs for water damage, an improvement to the electric and heating systems, and a renovation to the kitchen and bathroom. The structure of the building itself remains largely unchanged and in good condition. Today, Park Tudor School uses Foster Hall as a meeting facility, a gathering place, and a concert hall. Remnants of MacDougall's original landscape, including two bridges and a pond, remain on the school's property.

**Bibliography:**

Bodenhamer, David J., Robert G. Barrows, and David G. Vanderstel, eds. *The Encyclopedia of Indianapolis*. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 1994.

Clipping File. Indiana Historical Society. Indianapolis, IN.

*Foster Hall Bulletin*, no.8, February 1933.

Galbraith, Bruce W. "Foster Hall on the Campus of Park Tudor School," no date.

Gregg, Liz. "Foster Hall Restoration Progressing." *The Apple Press* 1, viii, 1978.

Hodges, Fletcher Jr. "Foster Hall." No date.

Interview with H. Roll McLaughlin, 9 May 2005.

Lilly, Eli. "Notes on the J.K Lilly Apple Farm, Washington Township, Marion County, Indiana." No date.

Lilly, Eli. "Orchard is Center for Stephen Foster Collection in 1930s; Given To School in 1965." No date.

Lilly, Josiah Kirby. "Foster Hall: A Reminder of the Life and Work of Stephen Collins Foster 1826 – 1864." Indianapolis, IN, 1933.

Mitchell, Mary Alice. Correspondence with George Young, 28 August 1978.

Reilly, Joan. "Orchard Excursion Sentimental Journey." *The North Side Topics* 25 September 1974.

"Restored Foster Hall on Park-Tudor Tour." *The Indianapolis Star* 4 May 1978, 30.

Scott, Margaret. "Foster's Kin Make Pilgrimage to Hall." *The Indianapolis Star* 2 September 1934.

---

<sup>10</sup> Liz Gregg, "Foster Hall Restoration Progressing." *The Apple Press*, vii, 1978.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 9, 10 Page 9

Foster Hall  
Marion County, Indiana

---

### Verbal Boundary Description

Commence at 100 feet from the northeast corner of Foster Hall. Thence westward approximately 95 feet to the west side of the footbridge. Turn south and proceed southward across the island approximately 100 feet. Proceed southwest approximately 25 feet to the intersection of the sidewalk. Follow the sidewalk south up the stairs and to the northern edge of the sidewalk between Foster Hall and the Lower School. Follow the northern edge of the sidewalk east 8 feet from the eastern retaining wall. Turn north and proceed fourteen feet northward. Turn east and go 50 feet downhill. Turn north and thence northward 155 feet to the point of origin. Also see attached sketch map.

### Boundary Justification

The boundary is sufficient to include the MacDougall-designed footbridge to the north of Foster Hall as well as the hillside on which the building stands. The boundary excludes a modern concrete amphitheater to the southeast of the building. The boundary excludes another MacDougall-designed footbridge that is separated from Foster Hall by a large education building to the south.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Photographs Page 10

Foster Hall  
Marion County, Indiana

---

The following information is the same for all photographs:

1. Foster Hall
2. Indianapolis, Marion County, IN
3. Susan Fletcher
4. April 2004
5. Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana,  
340 W. Michigan  
Indianapolis, IN 46202

Additional information for individual photographs:

Photo 1

1. Main (south) façade
6. Camera facing north
7. 1 of 12

Photo 2

1. West façade
6. Camera facing northeast
7. 2 of 12

Photo 3

1. West façade
6. Camera facing southeast
7. 3 of 12

Photo 4

1. Northwest façade
6. Camera facing southeast
7. 4 of 12

Photo 5

1. North façade and north bridge
6. Camera facing south
7. 5 of 12

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Photographs Page 11

Foster Hall  
Marion County, Indiana

---

Photo 6

1. East façade
6. Camera facing west
7. 6 of 12

Photo 7

1. Main hall and door to foyer
6. Camera facing south
7. 7 of 12

Photo 8

1. Main hall and organ alcove
6. Camera facing north
7. 8 of 12

Photo 9

1. Inglebrook
6. Camera facing southeast
7. 9 of 12

Photo 10

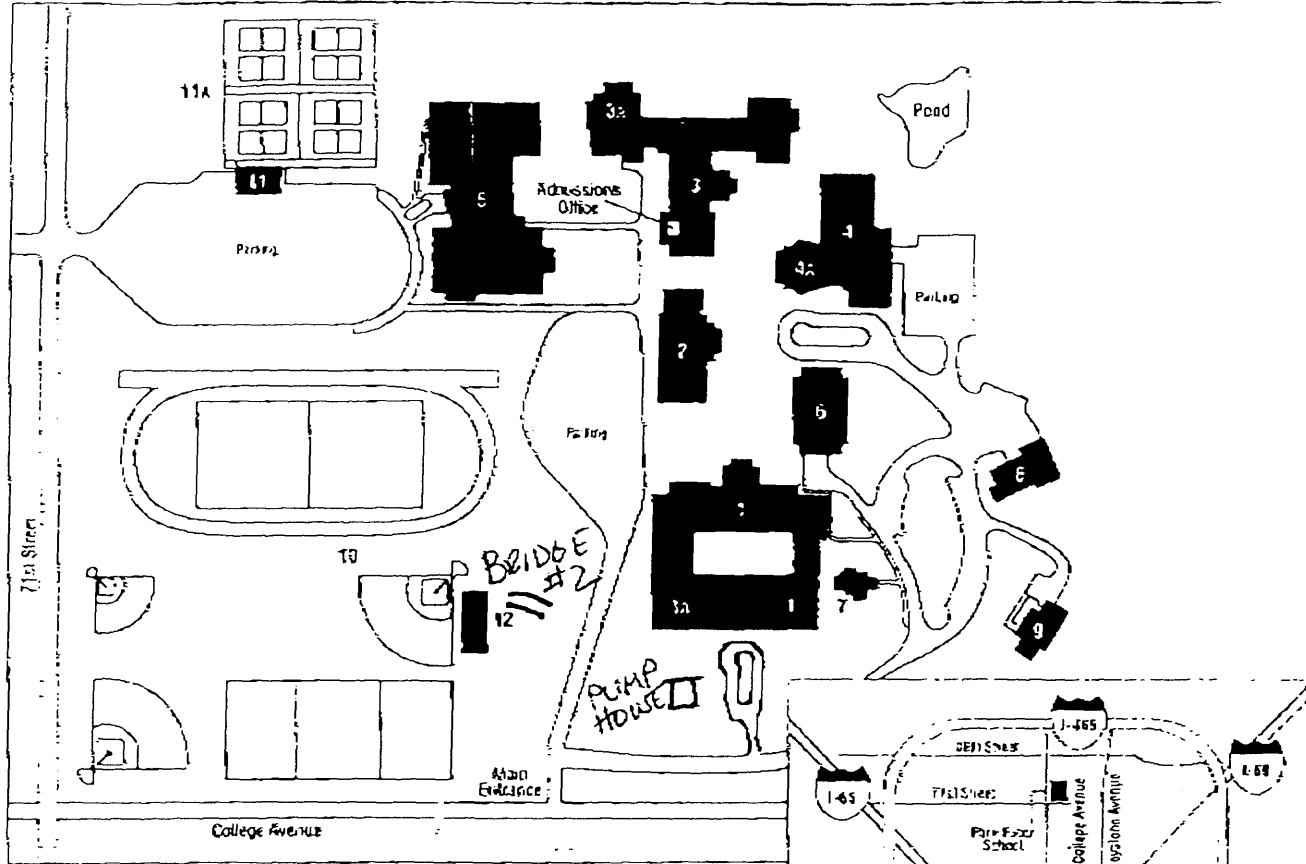
1. Main hall
6. Camera facing west
7. 10 of 12

Photo 11

1. Main hall
6. Camera facing west
7. 11 of 12

Photo 12

1. Sunroom
6. Camera facing southwest
7. 12 of 12

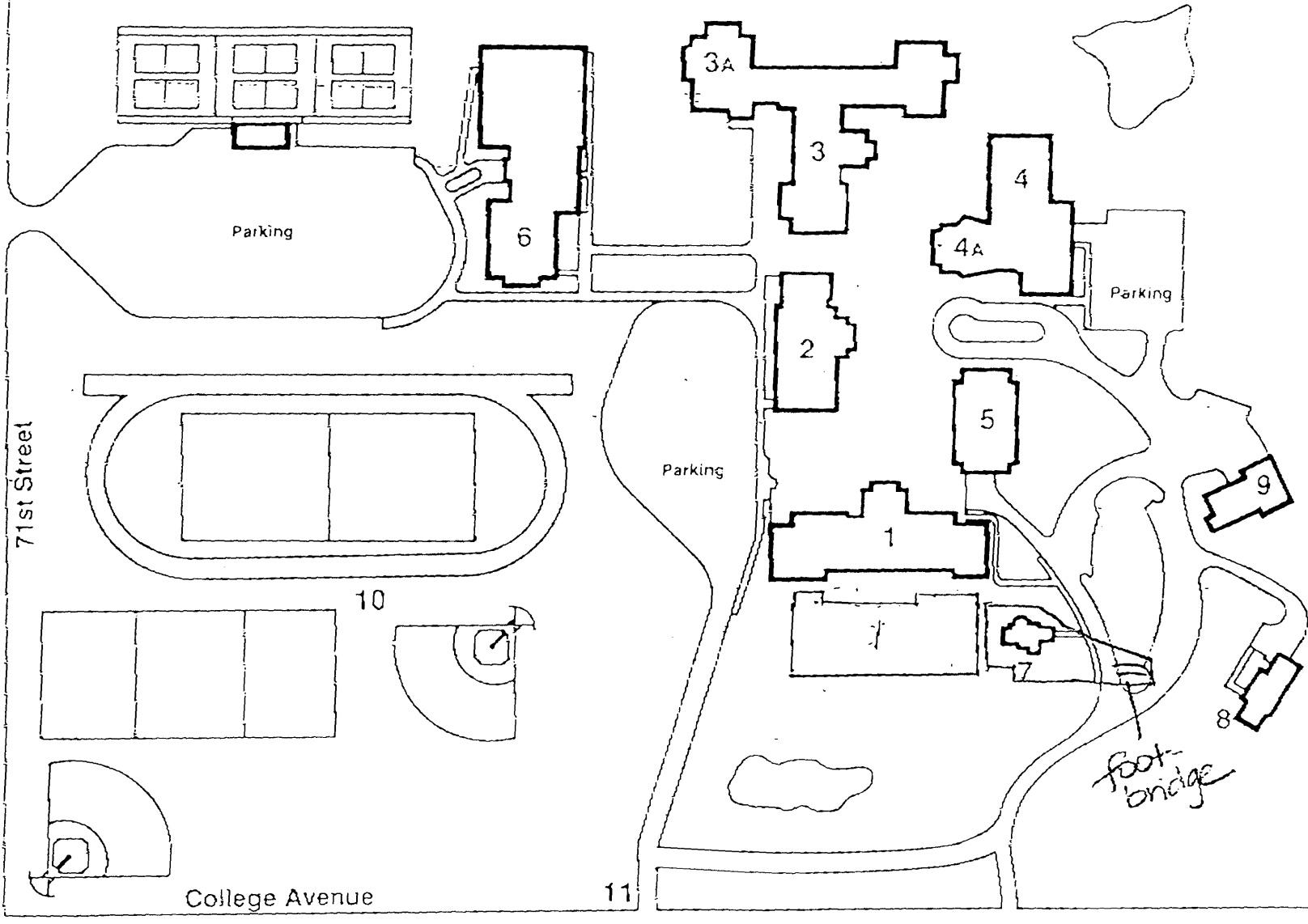


*Park Tudor School can be easily reached by going east on 71st Street (off of Meridian) and onto College Avenue. The main entrance to the campus is located on College Avenue, just north of the 71st Street and College Avenue intersection.*

- |                                   |                          |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Lower School                    | 6 Clowes Commons         |
| 1A Hilbert Early Education Center | 7 Foster Hall            |
| 2 Middle School                   | 8 Maintenance Building   |
| 3 Upper School                    | 9 Headmaster's Residence |
| 3a Ruth Lilly Science Center      | 10 Athletic Fields       |
| 4 Fine Arts Building              | 11 Tennis House          |
| 4A Frederic M. Ayres Auditorium   | 11A 8 Tennis Courts      |
| 5 Gymnasium                       | 12 Press Box             |



- |                                 |                          |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Lower School                  | 5 Clowes Commons         |
| 2 Middle School                 | 6 Gymnasiums             |
| 3 Upper School                  | 7 Foster Hall            |
| 3a Ruth Lilly Science Center    | 8 Headmaster's Residence |
| 4 Fine Arts Building            | 9 Maintenance            |
| 4a Frederic M. Ayres Auditorium | 10 Athletic Fields       |
|                                 | 11 Main Entrance         |



FAX NO. 3176396734