



Oneida Institute Interior, Whitesboro, New York, from the series "Underground Railroad"

Date

2003 (printed 2007)

Primary Maker

William E. Williams

Medium

Gelatin silver print

Description

Reverend G.W. Gale founded the Oneida Institute in 1827. It was an integrated college that focused on science and technology. The Institute was the first college in America to enroll both black and white male students. Gerrit Smith served as a trustee and Jermain Loguen was a student. In July 1832, "thirty-five students organized New York State's first anti-slavery society based on the

immediatist principles." WW: This building and its circular window captured in the photograph can be seen in early engravings of the Institute. The original campus was changed when it became a textile mill. The present owners of the property gave me unfettered access to this site. I was there most of the day and the exposure for this picture was over three minutes. Photographing these sites requires a psychological and technical understanding of the equipment selected to make a successful picture. (SOURCE: Adair, et al., "Uncovering the Path to Freedom" exh. cat, p. 28)

Dimensions

Composition: 7 1/2 × 7 1/2 in. (19.1 × 19.1 cm) Sheet: 9 15/16 × 7 15/16 in. (25.3 × 20.2 cm)