

INDIANA

PRESERVATION

MAY/JUNE 2016



INDIANA LANDMARKS

Back to the Future

Carmel hosts Mid-Century Modern Tour

TIME'S UP

Indiana's 10 Most Endangered

BEST IN SHOW

Prairie Preservation Guild wins Cook Cup



Irreplaceable

THE RECENT PLUNDERING OF ancient monuments in Syria, most notably in Palmyra, carried out by the so-called Islamic State, reveals something far more diabolical than just wanton destruction. The systematic targeting of these monuments grimly reminds us that these landmarks hold power and meaning, and that removing them inflicts great and irreparable damage to the shared heritage of civilization.

While the atrocities in Syria may be the most egregious in recent memory, let us recall the coldly calculated destruction of Warsaw during World War II where the Nazis set out to eradicate every major landmark—many of them centuries old—that defined the culture and heritage of the Polish nation.

In *Warsaw Accuses*, an early post-war publication distributed by the Polish Embassy, its authors write of the culture-erasing intent of the destructors: The intention of “the destruction of the symbols of our national state existence, the wiping out of those components of our national civilization...which constituted the directness and splendor of that civilization...was to kill the culture and nation.” The landmarks destroyed were “living symbols without which a nation cannot exist.”

I'd like to think there's a lesson for us as we consider our own national and local landmarks, that we not take them for granted, and that we seek to better understand the power and meaning they hold as bearers of our culture. They are more than mere real estate, more than pawns in shallow bloviating about property rights. They embody our own irreplaceable—and sometimes tragically fragile—heritage.



Marsh Davis, President

On the Cover

Donna Gollmer's passion for mid-century art and design shows throughout her 1972 home in Carmel's Eden Glen, one of five houses featured on our June 4 *Back to the Future* tour. PHOTO BY EVAN HALE



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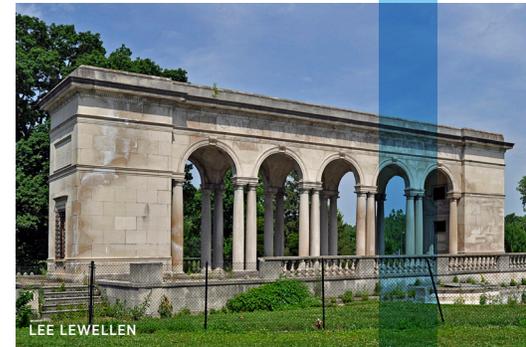
LANDMARK LEXICON

Arcade

“YOU MEAN THE place where I used to play Pac-Man?” Oh, how a mighty architectural feature has fallen. In the world of landmark architecture, an arcade describes a series of arches supported on columns or piers, or a covered walkway with repeating arched openings on one or both sides. Roman builders used the arcade to lasting effect in the Colosseum. Closer to home, the Thomas

You'll Find Something You Need

In the Ohio River town of Leavenworth, Stephenson's General Store represents a disappearing community institution. It's the kind of place where you can sit down to a great homemade breakfast, and shop for everything from nostalgic candies to rakes and shovels. Stephenson's employees will cut and thread a pipe for you, and serve you a slice of freshly made pie. The walls display the history of the town, relocated to the top of the bluff after the 1937 flood. Founded more than a century ago, the store used salvaged wood from the old location to create its counters and cabinets following the flood. Stephenson's and Leavenworth—old down on the river and new on the bluff—are among the hidden gems worth visiting that will be featured in an upcoming book from Indiana Landmarks and IU Press.



Taggart Memorial, an arcade in Indianapolis's Riverside Park, needs attention, and Indiana Landmarks and the Indy Parks Foundation are spearheading an effort to raise the money to restore it.

4,570 people took Indiana Landmarks' capital city tours last year. Tours kick off again in May. Click on the tours tab at indianalandmarks.org to learn more.





Moving picture: Fowler Theatre takes prize

OVER THE PAST TWO DECADES, THE LIGHTS have gone out on the marquees of many downtown movie theaters, their popcorn eaten by Netflix and multi-screen cinemas on the outskirts of town. In 2000, that was about to happen in Fowler, population 2,300, a town in Benton County, northwest of Lafayette.

One evening, Karen Moyars ran into the proprietor of the Fowler Theatre and found out it was closing. He planned to strip out the Art Deco elements and sell the 1940 building. “I was part of a downtown advocacy group that saw great value in the theater. I asked him how much he wanted for the place—\$30,000—and begged him to leave everything intact,” Moyars recalls.

The downtown proponents formed the Prairie Preservation Guild, Ltd. to save the movie palace, and began a 14-year restoration that concluded last year. “The board had a vision. Even in the beginning when the place was a mess, we could all see it done,” Moyars says. In April, Indiana Landmarks gave Prairie Preservation Guild our annual Cook Cup for Outstanding Restoration for a stunning transformation that involved the entire community.

It was almost lights out for the Fowler Theatre until the Prairie Preservation Guild emerged to save the 1940 landmark in 2001. The theater’s 14-year transformation won Indiana Landmarks’ 2016 Cook Cup Award for Outstanding Restoration. Inviting participation from the entire community, the group’s fundraising included donors underwriting the marquee’s 840 bulbs at \$10 apiece, with their names appearing on paper light bulbs covering the lobby walls.

PHOTO BY MOMENTS IN TIME PHOTOGRAPHY

Prairie Preservation Guild got a loan from Indiana Landmarks in 2001 to cover the purchase price, plus more for immediate repairs. “They scoped out a three-phase, pay-as-you-go restoration plan, beginning with the roof, the main façade and marquee,” says Tommy Kleckner, director of our western regional office who advised the group over the years. “An early surprise—a bad case of black mold—didn’t faze them.”

Volunteers did a lot of the dirty work, pulling up old carpeting and removing soggy plaster. Volunteers also sold the tickets, made the popcorn, and cleaned up after every movie.

To restore the Fowler’s 840-bulb marquee, Prairie Preservation Guild “sold” each light bulb. For a \$10 donation, your name—or your aunt’s or your dog’s—appeared on a paper lightbulb taped to the wall in the unrestored lobby. In Phase III, the group found a \$350 donor to underwrite each of the auditorium’s 210 new seats. These mini-campaigns allowed the entire town to participate—men, women, children, and dogs. The nonprofit also pursued grants from a variety of sources, and found financing support from the Fowler State Bank.

They recreated the missing porcelain-enameled steel façade panels, and restored the Art Deco stainless steel doors, poster cases, and the neon-decorated marquee. “Prairie Preservation Guild used mostly local contractors, led by Paul Schutter of Schutter Construction. All of them went above and beyond what they were paid to do,” Moyars notes.

Prairie Preservation Guild raised over \$100,000 for the conversion to digital projection after determining that a future running only classic movies would not ensure the theater’s continued role as a family entertain-

ment magnet. They also replaced the old fixed screen with a retractable one, creating more stage space for other income-producing uses of the theatre.

“Mission Possible” appeared on the marquee when the group closed the place for five months in 2012 to restore the lobby, renovate the concession stand, and revamp the tiny antiquated restrooms to meet accessibility codes.

If original elements existed, they were restored, including the jazzy neon columns flanking the concession stand. If they were missing, Indianapolis designer Craig Wetli found or created Art Deco-inspired replacements—lighting, carpeting, seats—similar to what was visible in historic photos. Board member Karen Klemme recruited her nephew for the job, and he couldn't say no.

“My family has lived in Benton County for several generations,” Wetli notes. “I grew up there, taking in all the Disney movies at the Fowler. I was back recently and heard that the high school jazz band concert packed the theatre, and the crowd loved it. The community is using the building for more than just movies. Downtown is turning a corner.”

Prairie Preservation Guild finished the interior restoration in 2015, buoyed by volunteers and backed by donors large and small. According to Jill Byrd, Theatre Manager and the only paid staff person, Prairie Preservation Guild's volunteer list hovers around 300, aged 5 to 80-plus, and includes entire families who sign up for a Friday, Saturday or Sunday night, when they sell and take the tickets, make and sell the popcorn, and clean up after the shows, restrooms included.

“You'd be hard pressed to find a more can-do, grassroots effort, or a more exemplary restoration,” declared Indiana Landmarks President Marsh Davis.

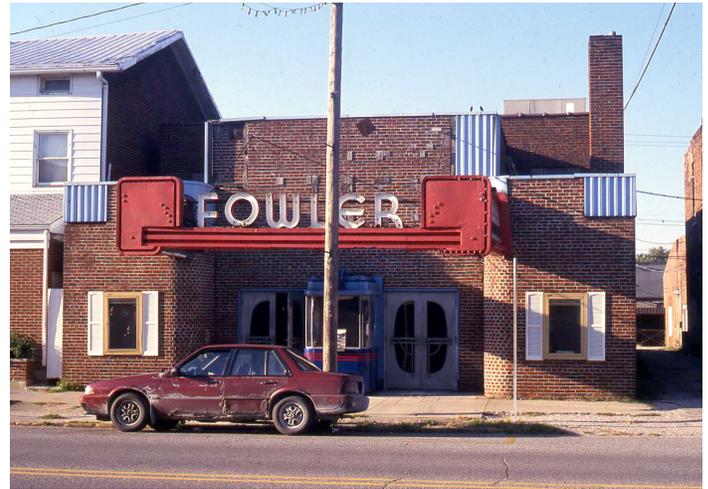


ABOVE AND RIGHT: Prairie Preservation Guild tackled the exterior first, recreating the missing porcelain-enameled steel façade and restoring the attention-getting marquee.

PHOTOS: ABOVE BY LEE LEWELLEN, RIGHT BY TOMMY KLECKNER

RIGHT: The lobby concession stand renovation introduced running water for the first time, while original Art Deco elements were restored, including the jazzy neon columns flanking the stand.

PHOTO BY MOMENTS IN TIME PHOTOGRAPHY





Finding Paradise in Eden Glen

AMY AND CHRIS SCOTT, BOTH FROM EVANSVILLE, were on a path to build a new house. They'd purchased a lot and developed house plans. Then they saw a Mid-Century Modern house in Carmel's Eden Glen neighborhood and scrapped their building plans.

The house that captured their hearts was the work of Avriell Shull, a Carmel native whose mid-century homes have a near cult following. Indiana Landmarks will feature two Shull-designed houses, including the Scotts', among the five on this year's *Back to the Future: A Mid-Century Modern Home Tour* on June 4.

Avriell Christie Shull (1931-1976) was a vivacious 23-year old when she began designing "California Contemporary" homes that doubled as works of art. Glamorous and media savvy, Shull attracted *LIFE* magazine to cover her wedding to *Indianapolis Times* columnist R.K. Shull. After briefly attending Butler University and Herron School of Art, she built her first house in Carmel, named "The Golden Unicorn," in 1954.

The following year, she began a 15-year signature project, transforming a family farm into a 28-home subdivision called "Christie's Thornhurst Addition." The development reflected her belief that all homes should be different. She used a variety of roof types, post-and-beam construction, unique building materials, and expansive windows.

Thornhurst showcased Shull's talent and led to other commissions in central Indiana and across the country, including churches, restaurants, and apartment complexes. She was only

ABOVE: Indiana Landmarks' *Back to the Future* tour on June 4 includes homes in Carmel's Eden Glen neighborhood, including the 1972 home of Amy and Chris Scott, an Avriell Shull design.

PHOTO BY GARRY CHILLUFFO

45 when she succumbed to complications from diabetes in 1976. Indiana Landmarks partnered with the City of Carmel to list the Thornhurst subdivision in the National Register of Historic Places in 2010.

Schutz & Thompson Builders developed Eden Glen, departing from the grid-pattered urban street plan to create a wooded suburb of curving



streets and cul-de-sacs. Shull designed several houses in Eden Glen soon after it was platted in 1971. She created a modified stone and wood A-frame on a cul-de-sac there for Bruce and Barbara Bennett in 1972. *Back to the Future* will open the home, now owned by Jeff and Priscilla Ball. “One of my favorite features is the floating staircase in the two-story entry hall,” says Priscilla.

Fans of Mid-Century Modern furniture, the Balls’ living room includes an Eames lounge chair, Bertioia Diamond chairs, and a vintage Lucite bar and stools. The furnishings complement a floor-to-ceiling natural stone fireplace with an elevated limestone hearth, a signature Shull feature.

The Balls’ friends and fellow mid-century enthusiasts John and Donna Gollmer live across the backyard fence in a modern house also open for the tour. Schutz & Thompson Builders constructed the house in 1972 for Robert and Betty Hoffman. The split-level’s irregular roof pitches and clerestory windows create interesting, light-filled interior spaces.

The living room and dining room share a large, two-story volume of space across the front of the house. Donna decorated the rooms in vintage Mid-Century Modern furnishings, including a Saarinen Tulip Table in the dining room lit by a Sputnik-style light fixture. The home’s unique vertical cedar-paneled walls display modern art, including some family pieces by artist and *Vogue* magazine fashion illustrator Lena Rue Trujillo. “I have a real passion for Mid-Century Modern architecture and design,” she confesses, “so much so that I opened a small business at Midland Antique Mall selling furniture and accessories from the period.”

Back to the Future showcases two other Eden Glen homes, including the Shed-style home built by neurosurgeon Dr. Julius Goodman. Our Indiana Modern affinity group stages the popular tour, now in its ninth year, alternating from year to year between the Indianapolis area and a city elsewhere in Indiana. Indiana Modern uses tour profits to encourage preservation of mid-twentieth century structures through nominations to National Register of Historic Places, restora-



ABOVE: Clerestory windows and irregular roof pitches create interesting, light-filled interior spaces in John and Donna Gollmer’s 1972 split-level home, furnished with a Saarinen Tulip Table, a Sputnik-style chandelier, and other mid-century gems. PHOTO BY EVAN HALE

LEFT: Neurosurgeon Julius Goodman commissioned the 1976 shed-style house now owned Jeff and Nan Gerson. Tour goers will find the house filled with art, including the Gersons’ original animation cell collection. PHOTO BY GARRY CHILLUFFO

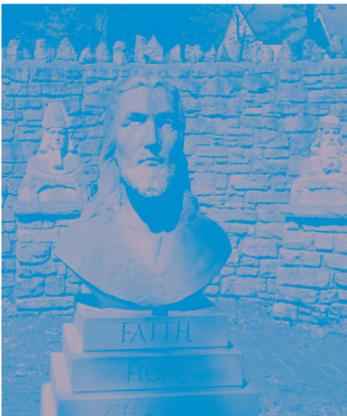
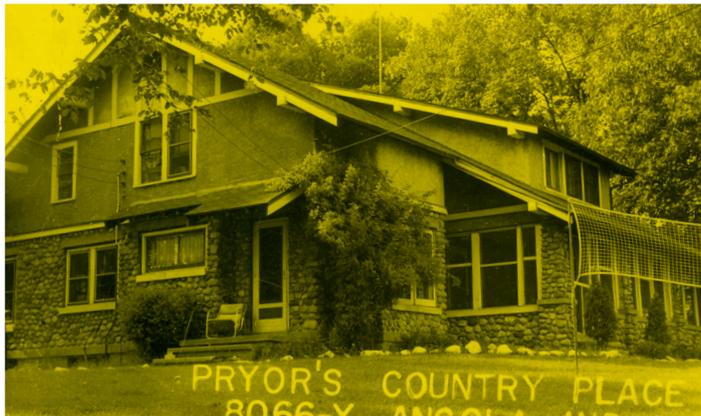
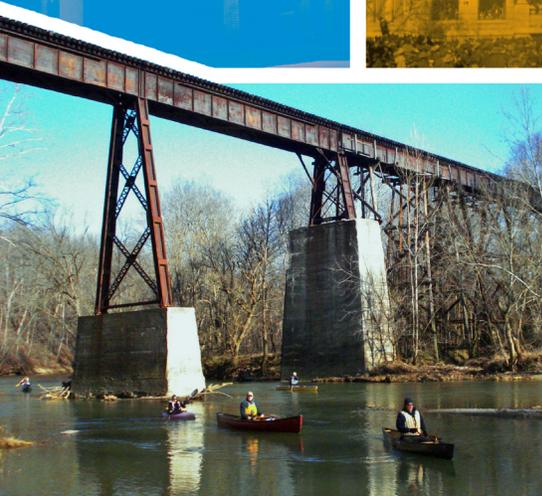
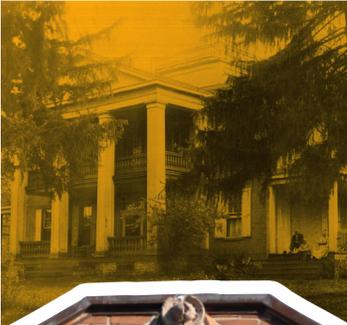
tion feasibility studies, and educational programs.

Back to the Future: A Mid-Century Modern Home Tour takes place on June 4 from 1 to 6 p.m. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 on the day of the tour. Buy tickets in advance online at midcenturytour2016.eventbrite.com and at Indiana Landmarks Center and Form+Function in Indianapolis. On June 4, you can buy tickets at tour headquarters, Mohawk Trails Elementary School, 4242 East 126th Street, just east of Keystone in Carmel. For more info, call 317-639-4534 or visit our website, indianalandmarks.org.
— Mark Dollase, Vice President of Preservation Services



10

MOST ●
ENDANGERED



Each year, Indiana Landmarks proclaims the 10 Most Endangered—important sites and structures in severe jeopardy that represent our shared heritage and cultural legacy.

Where others see lost causes, we see hope and revitalization potential. Our record is pretty good: a majority of the 112 landmarks on the list since we introduced it in 1991 have been restored or repurposed. Demolition has claimed 13.

This year's list includes civic and social gathering places, a house of worship, grand homes, a theater, a camp, an automotive plant, and an eye-catching bridge. By giving these sites Most Endangered status, we're both raising an alarm and committing to look for solutions and partners to avert their destruction.

WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE

SALEM

Most people with a modicum of appreciation for heritage likely would be surprised to learn that a venerable nineteenth-century courthouse faces jeopardy. After all, if one lasts from 1888, it's woven into the fabric of a community, right? At the center of the National Register-listed square in Salem, the county courthouse towers over the landscape, the seat of justice and backdrop of important gatherings for more than a century.

Louisville architect Harry P. McDonald designed the building in the Romanesque Revival style, using artfully rusticated Indiana limestone with arched entryways and a conical clock/bell tower to convey solidity and strength. The appearance of solidity is deceiving.

Lightning struck the beacon-like tower in 1934, sparking a fire. Ill-conceived repairs at the time trapped water in the stone and caused deterioration over the intervening decades, making the tower unstable. The structure needs reinforcement before a high wind causes a collapse. Chronic roof and masonry leaks also require urgent attention.

The commissioners and citizens aware of the situation are concerned. They solicited a study of the conditions, and a sec-



ond opinion—paid for in part by an Efroymsen Family Endangered Places grant from Indiana Landmarks—but in a rural county with limited resources, it will be a tough challenge to find the money to rehabilitate the signature landmark. If a tornado were to pass through the area—not a farfetched possibility—the damage to the fragile building could be catastrophic.

The 1888 Washington County Courthouse in Salem appears sturdy, but looks can be deceiving. Ill-conceived repairs decades ago have made the tower vulnerable in a high wind, while chronic roof and masonry leaks also need urgent attention.

PHOTO BY LEE LEWELLEN



MONON HIGH BRIDGE DELPHI

Another venerable landmark has a county-centered fan club. Since the nineteenth century, people have tested their nerves by illegally walking the High Bridge, a span built in 1891 to carry Monon and Nashville Railroad trains high over the Deer Creek Valley in Carroll County. At 63 feet above Deer Creek, it is believed to be Indiana's second highest bridge after the Tulip Trestle near Bloomfield in northeastern Greene County.

Abandoned by railroad owner CSX in 1987, the span suffers demolition by neglect, with occasional flood waters and a natural spring eroding the base of one of the bridge's stone piers. Worry that CSX might demolish the bridge has been replaced by certainty that neglect and nature will overtake the span. If repair doesn't come fast, the pier will collapse and damage the bridge to a point beyond rescue.

ABOVE: Flooding and a natural spring steadily erode a stone pier supporting the Monon High Bridge near Delphi. If repair doesn't happen soon, the 1891 span may be beyond saving.

PHOTO BY TOMMY KLECKNER

RIGHT: A farming settlement of free blacks created Beech Church near Carthage, a modest frame structure that nurtured the spiritual and educational advancement of generations. The c.1865 landmark, successor of the first A.M. E. church in the state, needs urgent repairs and a long-term preservation strategy.

PHOTO BY J.P. HALL

Folks in Carroll County love their historic bridges—more than 30—with several restored for vehicular and pedestrian uses. They'd like to incorporate the High Bridge in the growing trail system in and around Delphi but have been unable to negotiate a solution with CSX, and in the span's current condition, time is running out.

MT. PLEASANT BEECH CHURCH CARTHAGE

Free blacks migrated from North Carolina and Virginia in 1828 to Rush County to form the Beech Settlement, attracted by the large sympathetic Quaker community nearby. In 1832, the farming community near Carthage created Beech Church, believed to be the first African Methodist Episcopal Church in Indiana. The white frame church built c.1865 is the last tangible reminder of the settlement, which reached a population of 400 at its height.

The simple Greek Revival church advanced the fortunes of the settlement by establishing a library. The original subscribers pledged 12½ to 25 cents to buy books for the lending library at a time when less than a quarter of the adult population of the settlement was literate, showing its commitment to literacy and education.

Many of the descendants of the original Beech Church families achieved prominence in education, medicine, politics, and the A.M.E. church. The church alone remains to represent the Beech Settlement, one of Indiana's nineteenth-century African American farming communities and a significant chapter in Indiana history.

The descendants still gather for a reunion at "The Beech" every August, but the structure is otherwise seldom used. The landmark needs a new foundation and other repairs—and a long-term preservation strategy.



PRYOR'S COUNTRY PLACE ANGOLA

In the northeast corner of the state, another African American landmark faces jeopardy not because it sits largely ignored but because it sits on highly desirable land.

In the era of segregation, African Americans had limited opportunities to enjoy lakeside summers. White Fort Wayne



businessmen in the 1920s saw financial opportunity in this inequality and made Fox Lake near Angola an African American resort destination.

At Pryor's Country Place, built in 1927 as a home and in the 1940s turned into a charming inn, Albert and Hazelene Pryor provided three-season accommodation and recreation to black vacationers. Rumor and physical evidence suggest that the Craftsman bungalow's history included time as a speakeasy during prohibition, when liquor reportedly flowed from a lake-side still through a pipe into a stair newel post in the house.

The long-vacant Pryor's occupies a five-acre lakefront site that's for sale, and land is now at a premium on the lake—an equation that puts the landmark in jeopardy.

HAZELWOOD MUNCIE

While Pryor's County Place could easily be turned from an inn back into a private lakeside home, the solution for Hazelwood is less obvious.

When the Colonial Revival-style house was built in 1915 for Alva and Leslie Kitselman on Muncie's outskirts, it immediately won notice as one of the city's finest residences, rivaling those of the Ball brothers. An industrialist with a variety of business interests, Kitselman held a patent on a machine that wove wire fencing. With his brothers he started a company that made telephone, telegraph, and barbed wire.

Inspired by a home they had seen on their honeymoon, the Kitselmans recruited an architect to design their mansion of white glazed brick and grey marble on what is now University Avenue, with formal landscaping that included a pond with lighted fountain and swans and elm allees. Peacocks roamed the grounds. They christened the place Hazelwood recognizing the hazelnut trees on the estate.

ABOVE: Pryor's Country Place on Fox Lake near Angola served as an African American resort destination. The vacant 1927 house-turned-inn sits on five lakefront acres, making it a tear-down target.

PHOTOS: TODD ZEIGER; JOY PARKER

BELOW: Faced by costly repairs and annual upkeep it can't afford, the Muncie church that owns Hazelwood, a grand 1915 mansion, reluctantly has considered demolition.

PHOTO BY HADLEY FRUITS



Declining health prompted Kitselman to move his family to California in the '30s. In 1951, a congregation bought the property and built a church next door, renamed in honor of the site's heritage. They used the mansion for church offices and a fellowship hall.

Today, the congregation can't afford the house and last year solicited a demolition quote, citing the cost of repairs and annual upkeep.

SPEAKMAN HOUSE RISING SUN

Long a stranger to upkeep, another standout residence needs immediate attention. One of Indiana's great nineteenth-century houses, built of bricks baked on site, the Speakman House sits above Laughery Creek near Rising Sun, with a view of the Ohio River from its porches. Stephen





Speakman commissioned the house in 1846, reportedly to convince a woman to marry him: she wanted a showplace.

The Federal-style house displays Greek Revival elements, with a curving staircase rising from the entrance hall and nine double fireplaces that once provided the only source of heat. The landmark appears in Wilbur Peat's *Indiana Houses of the Nineteenth Century*, looking a bit better then—the book came out in 1962—than now.

Local legend suggests the farm was on the Underground Railroad, that it sits atop an Indian burial mound, and that the ghost of a lad who drowned in the creek haunts the National Register-listed Triple Whipple bridge within sight of the house.

The home's porches are collapsing, the roof leaks, and the graceful 17-room interior suffers the resulting

ABOVE: Water infiltration damages the 17-room interior of the Speakman House, built in 1846 overlooking the Ohio River and Laughery Creek near Rising Sun. A complicated ownership structure makes it difficult to attract a restoration-minded buyer.

PHOTO BY JARROD HOLBROOK V

water damage. The ownership structure—two owners, one with a life estate—makes a sale complicated, but the great house desperately needs a restoration-minded new owner.

SOUTHSIDE TURNVEREIN INDIANAPOLIS

On the south edge of downtown Indianapolis, thousands of I-70 motorists daily pass a stately Germanic landmark with an illustrious architectural and historical provenance. In 1900, the city's German-American immigrant community—a group that shaped the business and cultural life of the city—built the Sudseite Turnverein, an institution that stressed physical fitness and preservation of German culture.

The club commissioned the German-American firm of Vonnegut and Bohn—which had also designed the city's Das Deutsche Haus (now The Athenaeum)—to design the red brick German Renaissance Revival-style building on Prospect Street. Austrian sculptor Rudolf Schwarz, who came to the city to create the sculpture groups that surround the Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument, created a bas relief in the west gable. The hall included a gym, meeting rooms, and a tavern—Germans loved their beer.



LEFT: Thousands of I-70 motorists daily drive by the Southside Turnverein in Indianapolis, built in 1900 as a German-American cultural and community center. Gym rental and a basement tavern don't produce enough revenue to maintain the structure.

PHOTO BY CHAD LETHIG

BELOW: The Ford Motor Company Assembly Branch on Indianapolis's Washington Street churned out thousands of cars from 1915 to 1932, but today it's a half-used warehouse, threatened by a leaking roof and deferred maintenance.

PHOTOS: BELOW BY HADLEY FRUITS, BELOW LEFT © FORD MOTOR COMPANY ARCHIVES

With assimilation and the passage of time, participation in the club waned. The group sold the building in 1978. Today, the site suffers slow demolition by neglect. Income from the tavern and the gym, which rents for \$35 an hour to corporate basketball teams, can't repair the crumbling brick or restore the Schwarz bas relief, where naked metal rods protrude in place of the figures' heads.

FORD MOTOR COMPANY ASSEMBLY BRANCH

INDIANAPOLIS

Cars travel past the old Ford factory on Indianapolis's busy Washington Street where the facade's bricked-in windows offer little hint of the important role in the city's early automotive history. It's a far cry from the building's grand opening during the Indianapolis Automobile Show in 1915, when bands and a parade of hundreds of automobiles, including 350 Fords, heralded the plant's inauguration.

To showcase the factory's prowess, an automobile was reportedly assembled while the

mayor delivered a speech at the opening and transported him back to City Hall at the conclusion of his remarks. Designed by Seattle architect John Graham, who planned Ford factories around the country from 1914-18, the plant was part of Ford's plan to expand distribution of cars and trucks from strategic locations.

The four-story building initially produced 60 vehicles a day, with subsequent expansions raising that number to 300 vehicles per day in the 1920s, securing the site's place as one of the most productive of Indiana's early auto manufacturing plants. The Great Depression halted assembly by 1932. The building subsequently served as a parts service and automotive sales branch.

Deferred maintenance and a leaking roof threaten the building, now a half-used warehouse owned by Indianapolis Public Schools. Angie's





List was poised to buy the building for its headquarters, but backed out in 2015, citing concerns about implications of the state legislature's Religious Freedom Restoration Act vote. The landmark needs a new use, and a restoration that recaptures the original look.

RIVOLI THEATRE

INDIANAPOLIS

The revival of Indianapolis's Rivoli Theatre could be a catalyst for revitalization on Indianapolis's east side. We first listed it among the 10 Most Endangered last year, and feel another year may help the landmark turn the corner.

The movie house brought Hollywood glamour to East 10th Street when it opened in 1927, transitioning to hosting live concerts with famous rockers when movie-goers began heading to suburban multiplexes in the '70s. By the time the Rivoli Center for the Performing Arts acquired the building in 2007, the 1,500-seat auditorium was a water-logged mess.

The nonprofit group put a new roof over the auditorium, only to have the roof over the storefronts collapse. If the landmark doesn't get a new roof by winter, it may be past the point of saving. But even with roof repairs, the building still needs a multi-million dollar rehabilitation to be serviceable again, a daunting financial hurdle for its supporters.

CAMP CHESTERFIELD

CHESTERFIELD

Camp Chesterfield, a 40-acre Spiritualist enclave on the banks of the White River north of Anderson, originated in the 1880s. It also repeats on the 10 Most Endangered list for another year.

ABOVE: Indianapolis's Rivoli Theatre repeats on the 10 Most Endangered list for a second year, as urgent roof repair needs put the 1927 theater in the danger zone.

PHOTO BY LEE LEWELLEN

BELOW: Camp Chesterfield in eastern Indiana also remains on the 10 Most list, as dwindling membership puts the camp's historic buildings and landscape features in jeopardy.

PHOTO BY SUZANNE STANIS

Spiritualists believe in continuous life, and that it is possible to communicate with the dead, especially with the aid of skilled mediums. After each armed conflict through the Korean War, as the bereaved sought communication with their dead, the camp grew to encompass 65 buildings—major structures and cottages for mediums—as well as folk-art shrines, a fountain, foot bridges, and a deteriorating outdoor grove of “toadstools,” tables flanked by chairs where mediums give individual Spiritualist readings.

As Spiritualism has declined in recent decades, dwindling membership and resources have put the camp's landmarks in jeopardy, including a vacant 1914 hotel, many cottages, and the distinctive landscape features.

Indiana Landmarks is working with advocates to save each of the 10 Most Endangered. If you have an idea that might help, or a question, contact one of our regional offices or connect with us on social media. You can see more images of this year's Most Endangered on our website, indianalandmarks.org.



**FOR
SALE**

**LANDMARKS
ON THE
MARKET**

see more at
indianalandmarks.org



First Church of Christ Scientist

1008 Michigan Avenue, La Porte

Built in 1890 with 1920 addition, the church sits on a triple city lot in a National Register district. Rescued from demolition by People Engaged in Preservation. New roof, gutters, tuck-pointing, and exterior paint in 2011.

\$99,900
MLS #19235664
Mike Liberatore, RE/MAX 1st
219-362-9400
libboys@yahoo.com



1828 North Illinois Street
Indianapolis

Would you love to work in a restored Victorian house with an addition with an elevator and accessible bathrooms? This 3-story, 10,000 square-foot 1873 Italianate is perfect for professional offices. Ample on-site parking. Located one-half block from IU/Methodist Hospital. For lease.

317-691-4583 for information



Rumpe House
510 Main Street, Rising Sun

Virtually untouched since construction in 1857, this Carpenter Gothic-style home retains original interior and exterior woodwork, windows, and doors. 1,800 square feet on 2 stories. No modern systems; retains wood stoves, cistern-fed hand pumps, an outhouse.

\$45,000
Jarrad Holbrook
812-926-0983
jholbrook@indianalandmarks.org



306 East Fifth Street
Fowler

Constructed in 1896 with a 1952 addition, the Fraser & Isham Law Office offers an eclectic Victorian façade and intact interior with encaustic tile floor, built-in bookcases, window seats, vault and fireplace. 1,340 square feet. Listed in National Register.

\$69,900
Jamie Cackley, Cackley
Real Estate
765-426-7306
cackleyja@sbcglobal.net



A Tale of Two Bridges

TWO LANDMARK INDIANA bridges made headlines in recent months: one demolished in eastern Indiana following a years-long battle to save it, while one down south remains on the bubble, awaiting a restoration or replacement decision.

In February, the Indiana Department of Transportation demolished the 1914 Cedar Grove Bridge in Franklin County northwest of Cincinnati, citing years of deterioration after it closed to traffic in 1999. Indiana Landmarks spent years seeking a solution for the span. We helped build local support for

On Christmas Day, a truck driver ignored posted weight limit signs and drove onto Paoli's 1880 truss bridge, twisting and collapsing the metal span. Advocates are seeking funding to save the bridge, a distinctive downtown feature.

PHOTO BY LAURA RENWICK

saving the bridge, helping nominate it to the National Register of Historic Places and awarding an Efroymsen Family Endangered Places grant for an expert assessment of structural condition and rehabilitation costs. We were unable to find a government entity willing to take ownership of the bridge while funds were being raised for the repairs.

On Christmas Day in downtown Paoli, a semi-truck driver ignored the posted weight limit sign and drove onto the 1880 truss bridge over Lick Creek. Taller and heavier than the allowed limit, the truck twisted and collapsed the historic span. Though there is strong local support for saving the bridge from county officials and our affiliate Saving Historic Orange County, the insurer argues for a cheaper replacement. Advocates haven't thrown in the towel. They're looking for funding to save the bridge. Stay tuned.



BRIEFLY NOTED

INDIANA LANDMARKS WELCOMES Kyle Costlow as Information Technology Administrator. A graduate of the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, Costlow came from a position at Medxcel in Indianapolis.

ALYSSA ANDREANOPOULOS joins Indiana Landmarks as Special Events Manager at Indiana Landmarks Center in Indianapolis. Andreanopoulos recently earned a degree in Tourism, Conventions and Event Management at the School of Physical Education and Tourism Management at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis.

INDIANA LANDMARKS APPRECIATES the help of Michael Buckman, a Butler University student currently interning in the library at our Indianapolis headquarters.

OUR THANKS GO TO THE 747 members who completed the digital or print version of our engagement survey. The healthy response guarantees the validity of the sample and will help guide our work to revamp our website and communications.

IF YOU'RE AN EMAIL USER, we beg you to share your email address so we can send you timely info on tours and events—including free Landmark Looks that are often scheduled with little lead-time and are therefore promoted exclusively via email and social media. Of course, we'll continue to send our seasonal event brochures. If you'd like to share your email address, send it to Jennifer Hawk, jhawk@indianalandmarks.org or call her, 317-639-4534 or 800-450-4534.

Volunteering Leads to Lasting Recognition for Fritzes

A NEWSPAPER ARTICLE ABOUT VOLUNTEER

opportunities at Indiana Landmarks spurred Veronica “Roni” Fritz to check us out in 1985. More than 30 years later, she and her husband Ron are mainstays of our volunteer program and friendly proponents of Indiana Landmarks.

A passion for antiques and history drew Roni to sign up to help at our Morris-Butler House in Indianapolis. With an interior design degree and a particular interest in the Victorian era, Roni fit right in as a docent at what was then a house museum. She helped arrange flowers, serve teas, lead house tours, and research items in the collection.

“I like researching antiques because it’s an easy way to tie history, information, and memories,” says Roni, who counts a walnut washstand with fruit cluster decoration as one of her favorite pieces because it was one of the first antiques she and her husband bought.

She served as volunteer director of the docents in the ‘90s and won our Dorothy Link Outstanding Volunteer Service Award. When a Morris-Butler House event ran short-handed on volunteers, she pressed Ron into serving cider and cookies to tour-goers. Since then, he has joined her in volunteering for Indiana Landmarks. Together they assist in hosting our First Friday art gallery shows and the annual Rescue Party and Treasure Hunt events at Indiana Landmarks Center.

The Fritzes love traveling and visiting historic places in their journeys. In Marshall, Michigan, one of their favorite get-aways, they always stroll through the historic neighborhoods and visit the National Register-listed Honolulu House Museum. A foray into genealogy led Roni to discover she was related to a colonial diplomat whose historic homestead they made a point of visiting on a trip to Pennsylvania. “We’d probably volunteer there, too, if we lived closer,” Ron jokes.

A passion for antiques and history led Veronica “Roni” Fritz to volunteer with Indiana Landmarks 30 years ago, later recruiting her husband Ron to join her. The couple extended their support with a gift to our Saving Meaningful Places campaign. We named the office reception area at Indiana Landmarks Center in their honor.

PHOTO BY EVAN HALE

The Fritzes extended their support for Indiana Landmarks’ mission by making a significant donation and planned gift to the Saving Meaningful Places campaign, a 5-year initiative we successfully concluded in September. When we pointed out that their gift entitled them to a naming opportunity, they chose Indiana Landmarks’ office reception area.

“When old buildings are torn down, they’re gone forever,” says Roni Fritz. “I support reusing them in any way that retains their history. We have no points of reference for our past without preservation.”



For details on each event and to RSVP for free tours or buy tickets, visit IndianaLandmarksEvents.eventbrite.com or call **800-450-4534**

IN THE CAPITAL CITY

First Friday

Each month through December (except July), free art shows in the Rapp Family Gallery, Indiana Landmarks Center. 6-9 p.m.

Neighborhood Tours

Thursdays in May

Guided walking tours tell the stories of historic neighborhoods: Old Speedway on May 5; Herron-Morton Place on May 12; Watson Park on May 19; Holy Cross on May 26. \$8/member.

100th Running Bike Tour

May 15

Indiana Landmarks' bike tour in historic Crown Hill Cemetery features speedy mini-talks on the Speedway founders and other auto titans buried there, with a sampling of their products—cool vintage cars. Our bike tours always sell out so get your spot now! \$12/member.

Treasure Hunt

July 9

Annual antiques, collectibles, and architectural salvage market, with live music, food, and family-friendly activities on Indiana Landmarks campus, joined by y'arrd sales throughout the historic Old Northside neighborhood. Free. 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

AROUND INDIANA

Logs to Lustrons Tour

May 21, Indiana Dunes

Span a century of architecture on a tour visiting historic homes from early settlers' log structures to Mid-Century Modern houses. Includes shuttle transportation. \$25/member.



If These Walls Could Tell

June 4

STORYTELLER SALLY PERKINS shares the story of Hinkle Fieldhouse, winner of the 2015 Cook Cup for Outstanding Restoration, with support from Frank and Katrina Basile, Indiana Landmarks, and Storytelling Arts of Indiana. 7:30 p.m. at Hinkle. \$15/person.

SUSAN FLECK PHOTOGRAPHY

MONUMENT CIRCLE & CATACOMBS TOURS

Indianapolis

Beginning in May

Monument Circle tour is free, every Friday & Saturday, 10 a.m. City Market Catacombs tour—offered 1st & 3rd Saturdays at 11 & 11:30 a.m., Noon, 12:30 & 1 p.m.—\$10/member.



THE WOLFSONIAN

June 7, Indianapolis

Explore the private auto museum of Indiana Automotive affinity group president Andy Wolf. You'll see an eclectic collection of automobiles dating from 1938 to 2011, with more than 25 Chevrolets, eight Indy 500 pace cars, Packards, and gasoline and oil related pumps, signage and more. 5:30-7:30 p.m. \$15/Indiana Automotive member, \$25/Indiana Landmarks member.



Double Landmark Look

Aug. 7, Pekin

See two rural landmarks—c.1850 Bowman Farm restored by John Rodgers and Melissa Hinshaw and the unusual c.1863 Campbell-Gill Farm, restored by Bob and Pamela French. Free for members, \$15 general public.

Vintage Green

South Bend

Get expert DIY advice and hands-on instruction. 9 a.m.-noon. \$10/member.

- **May 7**, Refinishing Floors & Woodwork
- **May 21**, Interior Finishes
- **June 4**, Renovating the Porch
- **June 18**, Sustainable Landscaping
- **July 9**, Blower Door Test

ArchiCamps

June and July

Award-winning camps expose children ages 8-12 to architectural treasures in Martinsville, Madison, Jeffersonville, and the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. For details on each camp, visit indianalandmarks.org.

FRENCH LICK & WEST BADEN SPRINGS

Daily through December

West Baden Springs Hotel
10 a.m., 2 & 4 p.m.

French Lick Springs Hotel
Noon

TOURS DEPART

from our Landmarks Emporium in each historic hotel on IN 56 in southern Indiana. Combo ticket available. Reservations recommended: 866-571-8687.

Twilight Tours

Explore what it was like to be a guest of West Baden Springs during its heyday in the 'teens and '20s. \$14/member.

7 p.m., May 28, June 25, July 23, Aug. 13, Sept. 17

INDIANA MODERN

Annual Indiana Modern Lecture

June 2, Indianapolis

Lecture follows presentation of our Central Indiana Preservation Awards. 6 p.m. at the Toby, Indianapolis Museum of Art. Free.

Back to the Future Tour

June 4, Carmel

Tour five private Mid-Century Modern homes in Carmel's Eden Glen neighborhood, with shuttle service between homes (see p. 6). \$15 in advance; \$20 day of tour.

INDIANA AUTOMOTIVE

Restorations & More

July 23, Crawfordsville

Make a day of it, touring Kevin Parker's Route 32 Restorations auto museum—muscle cars and more, plus his specialty, restored gas pumps—and Doc McGrady's deluxe barn holding his private truck, tractor, and farm implement collection. \$40/Indiana Automotive member, \$48/Indiana Landmarks member, (lunch included; transportation on your own).



INDIANA LANDMARKS

1201 Central Avenue
Indianapolis, IN 46202

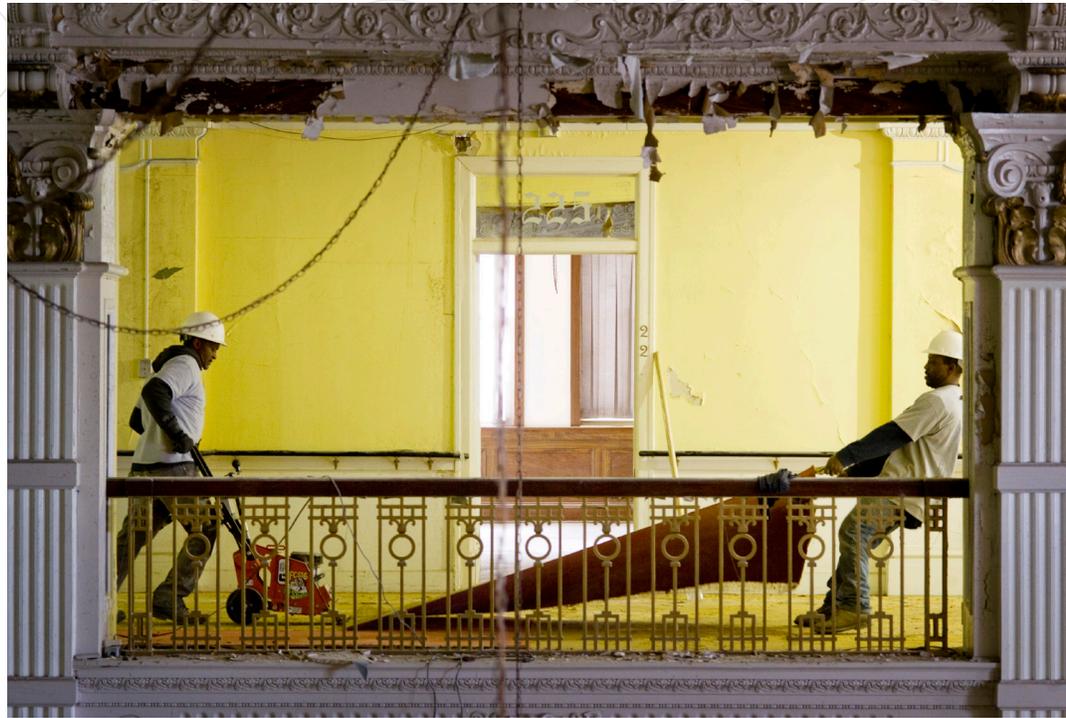
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AND FINALLY

On a Roll!

LAST YEAR, EVANSVILLE'S riverfront McCurdy Hotel—long vacant after a stint as a retirement home—earned a spot on our 10 Most Endangered list. What a difference a year makes! Construction workers swarm the 1917 hotel's interior, turning a landmark that once hosted Hollywood luminaries, politicians, weddings, and charity affairs into 100 upscale apartments, with office and restaurant space.

Late last summer, The Kunkel Group resolved outstanding issues with the city of Evansville, clearing the way to financing for the conversion. When the rehabbed landmark opens this summer, it will join the restored Owen Block in boosting downtown housing. More people living downtown means a livelier district—and more customers for Bru Burger, opening in late summer in the Greyhound Station restored by Indiana Landmarks.



Evansville's McCurdy Hotel, a 10 Most Endangered entry last year, undergoes conversion to upscale apartments, offices, and restaurant space—one of several noteworthy restorations underway in the city.

PHOTOS BY DENNY SIMMONS,
EVANSVILLE COURIER AND
PRESS

