

# INDIANA PRESERVATION

JULY/AUGUST 2021



INDIANA LANDMARKS

## ON THE ROAD AGAIN

Landmarks shaped by  
the automobile

## EXTRAORDINARY LEADERSHIP

Honoring Gayle Cook's  
preservation legacy

# High Energy

Factory's transformation to learning  
center wins restoration prize

# Vision Realized

IN MAY, I HAD THE HONOR of presenting the 2021 Williamson Prize for outstanding leadership in historic preservation to Gayle Cook. As leaders in historic preservation, Gayle and her family are, simply, extraordinary. The award committee did not have a difficult task. We would typically present the prize at Indiana Landmarks' annual meeting in September. But this year, again, our annual meeting will be virtual—hopefully for the last time—as we anticipate the wind-down of the COVID era.

I presented the Williamson Prize to Gayle in Bloomington, at the Monroe County History Center, an organization she supports with great energy and personal commitment. Upon receiving the prize, she recalled numerous preservation projects she supported, including Indiana Landmarks Center. She mentioned how pleased she was to see it functioning as we had envisioned from the outset—not only the headquarters for our organization but as a venue for artistic and cultural events.

After returning from Bloomington later that day, Gayle's observation resonated with clarity as I attended a splendid program at Indiana Landmarks Center, presented by the International Violin Competition of Indianapolis (IVCI). The stunning performance by the Ingolfsson-Stoupel Duo showcased the visual beauty and acoustical excellence of Indiana Landmarks Center's Grand Hall, and it affirmed the joy we experience in partnering with organizations in presenting outstanding programs.

I sincerely hope you will join us, soon and in person, as we resume a full array of programming at Indiana Landmarks Center in the upcoming months.



Marsh Davis, President



Glen Kwok (executive director of IVCI), Judith Ingolfsson, Vladimir Stoupel, and Philippe Etienne (French ambassador to the United States), Marsh Davis

## On the Cover

The transformation of Indianapolis's P.R. Mallory and Company complex from a derelict eyesore to an innovative setting for two charter schools merits Indiana Landmarks' 2021 Cook Cup for Outstanding Restoration. PHOTO © SCHMIDT ASSOCIATES



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# STARTERS



## Back in Service

INSPIRED BY POPULAR architectural styles of the day and designed to encourage motorists to take a second look, historic filling stations have proven attractive and adaptable for reuse as offices, shops, and restaurants. In 1956, service station operator Harlan Hughes built a striking Mid-Century Modern station in Fortville designed by his daughter Jean Hinnefeld. Still eye-catching 60 years later, the station drew brothers Fritz and Karl Fentz to repurpose it as Denver's Garage Pizza & Brews, an artisan pizza place with auto-themed décor honoring the property's past. Read Indiana Automotive Board Member Shawn Miller's account of the station's history and new use on our website, [indianalandmarks.org/fortville-station-back-in-service](http://indianalandmarks.org/fortville-station-back-in-service).

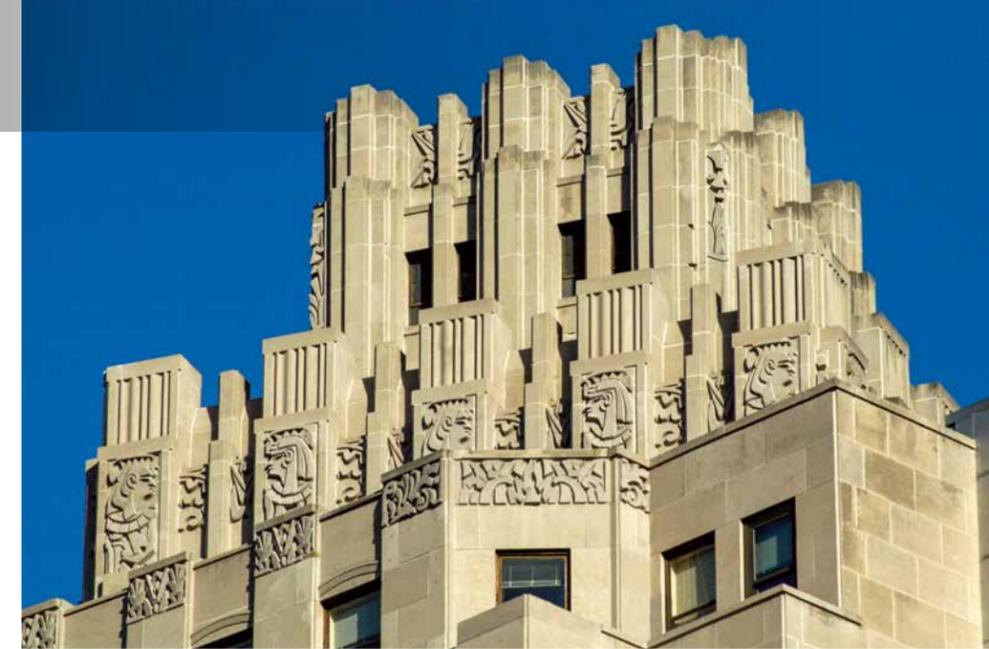
PHOTO BY SHAWN MILLER



# 750

cars could park to take in a film at Wabash's 13-24 Drive In, opened in 1951 and still-serving today. Read more on p. 12.

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## Walk Like an Egyptian

Just steps from Indianapolis's Soldiers and Sailors Monument, golden salukis prance, lotus flowers bloom, and pharaohs peer down at passersby from the Art Deco-style Circle Tower, one of the city's most striking landmarks. The ornaments embody the Egyptomania that swept the nation following discovery of King Tutankhamun's tomb in 1922. The expedition captured the imagination of artists and architects, who incorporated Egyptian details in everything from advertising to monuments. Architects Rubush and Hunter employed Egyptian motifs at the 1930 Circle Tower in metalwork over the building's entrance, grillwork in the lobby, and on the building's ziggurat-esque roofline, where sculptor Joseph Willenborg helped design hieroglyphic-like figures. Discover more fascinating stories of the Circle's history and preservation on Indiana Landmarks' Monument Circle tours, held select Saturdays, May through October, departing at 10 a.m. See details on p. 19.

PHOTOS BY PAIGE WASSEL & MICHAEL WILTROUT



## Honoring an Unparalleled Legacy

### A LIST OF THE PLACES SAVED BY GAYLE COOK,

her late husband Bill, and son Carl reads like a greatest hits of Indiana architecture: scores of structures including the Monroe County Courthouse, Beck's Mill in Salem; Cedar Farm, a plantation house on the Ohio River; university buildings; downtown anchors; and huge turn-of-the-century hotels.

"I can think of no other family in the world who has done more for historic preservation," says Indiana Landmarks President Marsh Davis. "Beyond the sheer number of properties they've restored, Gayle and her family have elevated preservation in a very public way as both a social good and a practical economic activity."

To honor her decades of advocacy and direct work to save important historic places, Gayle Cook is the recipient of Indiana Landmarks' 2021 Williamson Prize for outstanding leadership in historic preservation.

"We did a little project down in French Lick and West Baden, and a few other buildings along the way," laughs Gayle.

Following a partial collapse of the West Baden Springs Hotel in 1991, Indiana Landmarks bought the property and found its saviors in Bill and Gayle Cook. "People said, 'You're crazy, it's going to fall down,' but it was more of a challenge to

For her decades of work saving landmarks around Indiana, Gayle Cook (above) won the 2021 Williamson Prize for outstanding leadership in historic preservation. In the 1970s, she and her late husband Bill renovated Bloomington's Cochran House (below) as offices for their growing company.

PHOTOS BY PAIGE WASSEL AND © CFC PROPERTIES



Bill and me," recalls Gayle. They completely restored West Baden, the so-called "Eighth Wonder of the World," adding in restoration of the even larger French Lick Springs Hotel a mile away. In total, they invested \$560 million, transforming the two historic hotels and reviving the economy of the entire region.

Saving places with significant history and one-of-a-kind architecture sparked the Cooks' entrée into preservation in the 1970s, including one of their first preservation projects: the 1834 Colonel William Jones House in Gentryville, built for Abraham Lincoln's merchant employer. But as they saw jobs and business leaving downtown Bloomington—where the Cook family lives and maintains headquarters for their international medical device company—they also saw preservation as good business, an opportunity to revitalize downtown by giving new purpose to abandoned and underutilized buildings.

They began with the 1850 James Cochran House on Rogers Street, renovating it as offices for the insurance division of their company. Gayle envisioned another building, a historic warehouse, as a downtown anchor, repurposing it as Bloomington Antique Mall. Other restorations followed: a railroad depot, an eight-story former hotel, the vacant J.C. Penney building,



and the linked buildings that comprise the south side of the courthouse square.

When the Monroe County Courthouse was threatened, Gayle and a small band organized to defeat the demolition proposal. She remembered seeing murals beneath the building's domed atrium while visiting the courthouse for jury duty years earlier, but the deteriorated artworks had been removed and their location was a mystery—until Gayle and Bill discovered the canvases rolled up in a former elementary school they'd recently purchased. Gayle, an artist herself, researched and underwrote restoration and reinstallation of the long-hidden murals.

A detailed record-keeper and researcher, Gayle applied her skills time and again to discover the history of buildings they chose to restore, identifying key details to save. "She and Bill had a knack for selecting an era to restore a building to that brings out the most character of that building and gets the attention of the most people," says Cook Group Architect George Ridgway.

Seeing the need for a community history center, Gayle helped raise money to repurpose Bloomington's historic Carnegie library, designing and building a sensitive addition to create the Monroe County History Center. Along with raising money for the cause, Gayle donates her

An artist and detailed researcher, Gayle directed restoration of original details at the West Baden Springs Hotel (above right) and spurred restoration of hidden murals beneath the Monroe County Courthouse dome (above left). She also helped raise money to repurpose Bloomington's historic Carnegie library (below) as the Monroe County History Center.

PHOTOS BY LEE LEWELLEN (TOP LEFT AND BOTTOM); INDIANA LANDMARKS ARCHIVES (TOP RIGHT)

time, working throughout the year to sort, repair, and price items donated for the center's annual garage sale, which raises hundreds of thousands of dollars to help the organization's operation.

Since the 1970s, Gayle has given hundreds of talks to promote preservation and highlight historic places in Indiana. Her popular "Mystique of Domes" talk shares history and engineering lessons learned from West Baden and other domes around the world. Inspired by her interest in domes, she formed a partnership to underwrite restoration of the stained-glass dome at Indiana State University's Normal Hall in Terre Haute.

In 2009, her affinity brought Gayle to Indianapolis, where she and Bill undertook their last preservation project together before his death: restoring the former Central Avenue Methodist Church, a vacant domed landmark in the city's historic Old Northside neighborhood. The Cooks spent \$16 million to convert the church into a state-of-the-art headquarters for Indiana Landmarks. "Like so many places in Indiana, we could not have done it without Bill and Gayle's support," says Davis.





## Re-energized Factory Wins Top Restoration Prize

### FOR GENERATIONS OF RESIDENTS ON

Indianapolis's near eastside, the P.R. Mallory and Company complex served as a community anchor and one of its biggest employers. Following the company's departure in 1979, the factory site increasingly became a symbol of despair.

Decades later, neighborhood leaders saw potential for the site to become a catalyst for revitalization in a traditionally underserved neighborhood, championing a plan to rehabilitate the decaying industrial building for use by two twenty-first century educational facilities. "The community impact of this project is enormous," says Indiana Landmarks President Marsh Davis. "It's a heroic transformation richly deserving of our 2021 Cook Cup for Outstanding Restoration."

General Electric built the factory in 1920-21 on the site of the city's former Washington Park. However, most people associate the complex with P.R. Mallory and Company Inc.—a pioneer in electronics, electro-chemistry, and specialized metallurgy—which operated there from 1929 to 1979. The company held numerous patents for radios, automobiles, refrigerators, and most notably, the Duracell battery.

The complex sat vacant for over 30 years following P.R. Mallory and Company's departure, its redevelopment stymied by environmental issues that eventually required demolition of a sawtooth manufacturing building and removal of 4,200 tons of dirt underneath to address a large underground flume.

Leaders from the Englewood Community Development Corporation and John Boner Neighborhood Centers believed

P.R. Mallory LLC's \$38 million redevelopment of a decaying industrial complex on Indianapolis's near eastside into a state-of-the-art setting for two innovative charter schools earns Indiana Landmarks' 2021 Cook Cup for Outstanding Restoration.

PHOTOS BY @SCHMIDT ASSOCIATES (ABOVE); PAIGE WASSEL (BELOW)



rehabilitation of the P.R. Mallory site could spur redevelopment along East Washington Street, an area of Indianapolis that had not seen significant reinvestment in decades. They created P.R. Mallory LLC in 2018 and proposed a creative reuse and ambitious restoration plan for the campus: repurposing it to house two public charter schools, Paramount Englewood School of Excellence and Purdue Polytechnic High School.

"When we started the school, we wanted to be someplace where we could be part of a community," says Scott Bess, head of schools for

Purdue Polytechnic High Schools. "The vision for not just the building but the neighborhood really sold us on it."

Along with the site's significant restoration and environmental challenges, the \$38 million redevelopment required a complex stack of financing sources that took years to come together, with support from the City of Indianapolis, Consortium Capital, Indiana Economic Development Corporation, LISC, MindTrust, Renew Indianapolis, PNC, JP Morgan Chase, and Indiana Landmarks. The project simultaneously nominated the site to the National Register and secured Federal historic tax credits, which require high restoration standards.

In adapting the four-story, 105,000 square-foot Administration Building, restoration architect Schmidt Associates incorporated original features with new elements that served the schools' particular educational needs. "It was about trying to find that blend of how to make it look modern and engaging and still preserve the historic character of the building," says Lisa Gomperts, project manager and principal of Schmidt Associates.

Directed by primary contractor Brandt Construction, workers restored clerestory windows under the original rooftop monitors to bring daylight into the top floor. Crews exposed original brick and steel beams and incorporated existing steel elevator doors into the design. Inspired by the site's industrial history, new overhead garage doors divide large labs and classrooms in Purdue Polytechnic's space, providing the opportunity for flexibility and inviting collaboration.

Though years of water damage had destroyed most of the original wood flooring, salvaged pieces now serve as a backdrop for historic photos in a common area. A 1944 bunker building found new use as the home of Uplift Produce—a hydroponic growing operation—and Purdue Robotics. A smokestack and a guard shack were retained for future use.

Purdue Polytechnic offers students in the community the opportunity to attend free of charge, and, if they meet the minimum admission requirements of Purdue University upon graduation, earn direct admission into Purdue Polytechnic Institute, one of the university's 10 academic colleges. Students work with numerous STEM-focused industry partners that serve as mentors and guides.

A Mayor-sponsored public charter school and second middle school program for Paramount's award-winning flagship campus, Paramount Englewood's curriculum is based on an exploratory learning program, with an emphasis on rigorous academics and on-campus experimental learning activities.

The adaptively reused building, with its many exposed systems, structure, and historic features, is the definitive learning lab for students. The innovation that began at Mallory through

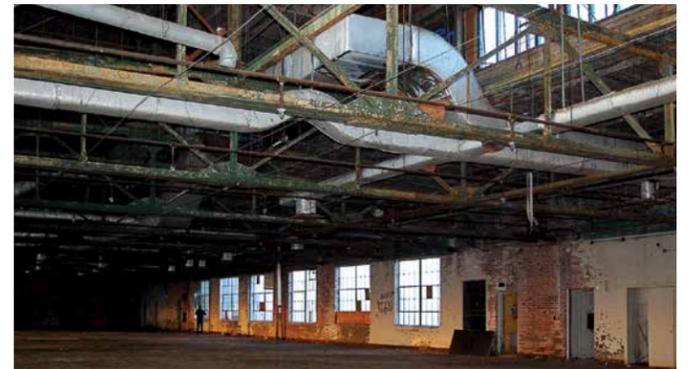


Workers retained many of the former factory's industrial elements, including original brick and beams (below). Though water damage had destroyed much of the original wood floor, a salvaged portion serves as a backdrop for a photo display (above).

PHOTOS BY @SCHMIDT ASSOCIATES

its successful development of alkaline batteries continues today as a hub for the next generation of inventors.

"This award recognizes the army of people who played all sorts of important roles at critical points in time," says James Taylor, John Boner Neighborhood Centers CEO. "This is a tenacious neighborhood that knows how to organize when it needs to organize, and when we get that energy behind something, it's kind of unstoppable."



# In the Driver's Seat

For slower exploration through Indiana's historic downtowns and Main Streets, we recommend traveling along historic byways. In Hancock County, the Historic National Road travels through the Downtown Greenfield Historic District, where shops, restaurants, and businesses fill historic buildings, including the 1895 Greenfield Masonic Temple, now an events venue.

PHOTO BY LEE LEWELLEN

**CUTTING THROUGH DOWNTOWNS** and along scenic natural features, Indiana's historic roads and byways provide a pathway for sightseeing close to home. Unlike interstate travel—designed for getting from point A to point B by the fastest means possible—historic byways invite slower exploration along Indiana's Main Streets.

However, for many people, the freedom to explore the open road historically came with caveats. For African Americans looking for safe places to stay, eat, and do business while traveling, the *Negro Motorist Green Book* (1936-1967) was an invaluable resource. On page 14 we examine the history of the guide, and a few Indiana sites that remain.

On warm nights in the 1950s and '60s, cars packed with patrons pulled into hundreds of drive-in theaters across Indiana, ready to enjoy feature films projected onto giant screens. Though changing technology and preferences for movie-watching eventually forced many drive-ins to close, several of these iconic outdoor theaters still exist. See pages 12-13 for a few still offering a vintage movie-going experience and a taste of classic Americana.

## HIT THE ROAD

Called “The Road that Built the Nation,” the Historic National Road holds distinction as the nation's first federally funded interstate highway, stretching from Cumberland, Maryland, to Vandalia, Illinois. Indiana's section of the road spans 156 miles from Richmond to Terre Haute.

A new digital driving guide created by the Indiana National Road Association ([indiananationalroad.com](http://indiananationalroad.com)) provides inspiration and tips for planning your own road trip along the historic byway, highlighting historic attractions and local businesses.

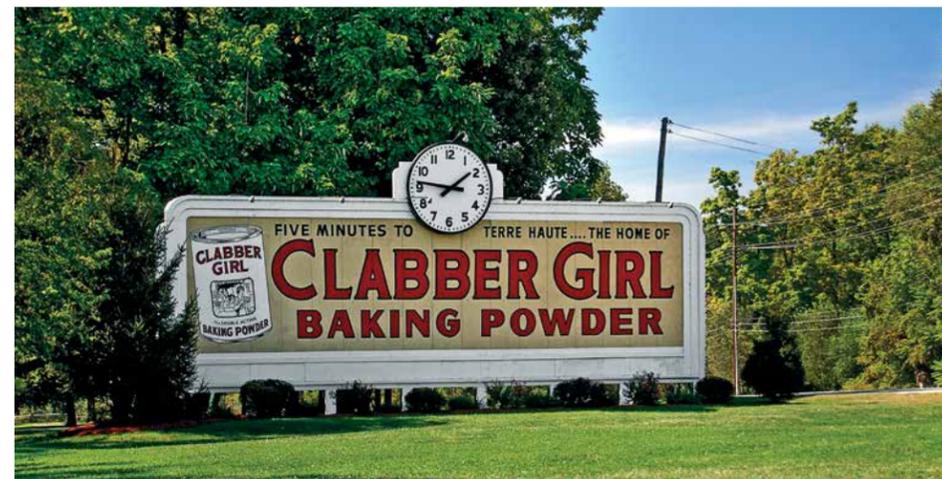
“I'm always amazed at how many things there really are to see when you get out and start traveling in small towns,” says Bob Hunt, INRA treasurer, who helped compile the new resource. “This guide is a good way to help people think about short trips they can take across the state and encourage them to get out, drive the road and see what's out there.”

For example, in downtown Richmond, a collection of locally owned shops and businesses in late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century commercial buildings line Main Street, the pathway of the Historic National Road. A few blocks south, the 1902 Richmond



Railroad Depot anchors the historic Depot District, a hub of shops and restaurants, including Firehouse BBQ and Blues in the city's oldest firehouse, Little Sheba's Restaurant, Ullery's Old-Fashioned Ice Cream parlor, The Two Sisters Books & More, and Richmond Furniture Gallery.

In the 2000s, Indiana Landmarks joined community leaders and the Urban Enterprise Association to stop demolition of the Daniel Burnham-designed railroad depot, which business leaders Roger and Theresa Richert acquired and stabilized in 2010. The site is now home to tenants including the Economic Development Corporation of Wayne County.



The Indiana National Road Association's new digital driving guide highlights attractions such as Firehouse BBQ and Blues (above) in Richmond and the restored 1930s Clabber Girl Billboard (below) at Terre Haute's eastern edge. PHOTOS BY LEE LEWELLEN

To learn about more places along the National Road, be sure to join a virtual talk on August 5 presented by the Indiana National Road Association (see details on p.19).

In southern Indiana, one of the state's newest trails uses a natural transportation route, the Ohio River, as an attraction to draw visitors to towns from Portsmouth, Ohio, to West Point, Kentucky. Through Indiana, the Ohio River Recreation Trail travels through New Albany, Jeffersonville, Hanover, Madison, Vevay, Rising Sun, Aurora, and Lawrenceburg.

"These towns are like pearls on a necklace, connected by the Ohio River, an accessible and vibrant trail corridor," says Jack Sutton, a trail co-chair representing Indiana river communities.

Trail organizers—an all-volunteer group from Ohio, Indiana, and Kentucky—are working with community leaders along the river to



## OTHER BYWAYS TO EXPLORE

### Lincoln Highway

Indiana native Carl Fisher laid out a plan to build America's first coast-to-coast paved highway, called the Lincoln Highway in honor of the Great Emancipator. The highway follows two routes through northern Indiana developed in 1913 and 1928. Visit the recently updated turn-by-turn guide to navigate both routes, find historic sites, restaurants, and other attractions at [indianalincolnhighway.org/map](http://indianalincolnhighway.org/map).

### Historic Michigan Road

The Indiana State Legislature commissioned the Michigan Road in 1826 as a means of connecting Madison on the Ohio River to Michigan City on Lake Michigan, routing through Indianapolis. Transformed from dirt paths to paved highways, "Indiana's Pioneer Highway," remains imminently travelable today. Plan your trip at [historicmichiganroad.org](http://historicmichiganroad.org).



An all-volunteer group is spearheading creation of the Ohio River Recreation Trail, encouraging exploration in river communities in Ohio, Indiana, and Kentucky. The trail builds on existing efforts by cities including Lawrenceburg (top) and Jeffersonville (above), which use the riverfront as an attraction to draw visitors to their historic downtowns. PHOTOS BY WALTZ PHOTOGRAPHY (TOP); LEE LEWELLEN (ABOVE)

promote each city's unique assets and brainstorm ways to improve river access and recreational opportunities. A technical assistance award from the National Park Service's Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program funded planning sessions with Indiana community leaders this spring.

Lawrenceburg and Aurora officials have already been working to take advantage of the waterway, developing the Dearborn Trail, a series of riverfront walking and biking trails along the Ohio River connecting both communities. "Lawrenceburg is already actively enhancing its waterfront. This trail gives us another tool to bring people to our great river town," says Lawrenceburg Main Street Director Michelle Cone.

Check out the digital guide, available at [ohioriverrecreationtrail.org](http://ohioriverrecreationtrail.org), which highlights historic attractions and alerts boaters, cyclists, and motorists to commercial river traffic in real time.



# UNDER THE STARS

pulled up in front of giant screens on warm nights to take in the latest films, cartoons, and concession stand promos featuring boxes of popcorn marching along to catchy tunes.

In the 1970s and '80s, new entertainment options, including multiplex theaters, pulled patrons away from drive-ins, forcing many out of business. Later, the expensive upgrade to digital projection systems required to show first-run movies became another financial obstacle.

Last year, however, as the pandemic limited indoor movie theater watching options, many movie-goers rediscovered the fun of open-air theaters.

Today, Indiana has about 20 drive-ins according to the website [driveinmovie.com](http://driveinmovie.com), including Wabash's historic 13-24 Drive In. In

At the height of their popularity in the '50s and early '60s, an estimated 4,000 drive-ins dotted the country. Though changes in technology and new entertainment options forced many to close, according to [driveinmovie.com](http://driveinmovie.com) Indiana retains about 20 drive-ins, including Bloomington's Starlite Drive-in (right), which dates to 1955.

PHOTO BY RAINA REGAN



In 1932, Richard Hollingshead nailed a bed sheet between two trees in his New Jersey backyard and lined up cars in the driveway to watch a movie projected from a 1928 Kodak projector mounted on the hood of his car. After vigorous testing (he used a sprinkler to imitate rain), Hollingshead patented his idea, and the drive-in theater was born.

At one time, more than 4,000 drive-ins dotted the U.S. landscape. Families, couples, and carloads of teenagers

As patrons sought socially distanced entertainment in 2020, Wabash's 13-24 Drive In (below) hosted vintage films and live shows, including *For King and Country* (above).

PHOTOS © HONEYWELL ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



1949, Truman Rembusch began building a drive-in northeast of town, with a ticket booth and concession stand—both still in use today—and a shed to store a kiddie train. Named for its proximity to State Road 13 and Federal Road 24, the 17-acre site could hold up to 750 cars. The theater opened for business in August 1951, showing *Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves on a screen* spanning 58 by 44 feet—a monster for its time.

Sixty years later, encroaching expansion of a nearby business park threatened the historic theater. “It was too cool to lose,” says local philanthropist Parker Beauchamp, who—along with his wife, Katie, and parents, Michael and Angie Beauchamp—bought the place. “Of course, the first year in business we had to buy a new digital projector, which cost more than the drive-in itself. We got over it pretty quickly. Looking back on it all, I think it was a good idea.”

The Beauchamps recruited Honeywell Arts & Entertainment to operate the theater, with proceeds benefitting the nonprofit organization. To give the drive-in an additional shot in the arm, Parker's company INGUARD covers the cost of admission for all children 12 and under—more than 50,000 tickets to date.

For years, the family considered using the site for live events, but 2020 brought the plan into focus, when a local music series needed a new venue to meet social distancing requirements. With a new stage and upgraded electrical equipment, the 13-24 Drive In hosted local acts and national groups like *For King & Country*. In total, 29,111 patrons attended 45 events at the drive-in in 2020, including live shows and *Retro Reels* films.

“We intend to be useful and creative in operating the facility in new ways going forward and, as we return to full capacity, look forward to even hosting festivals,” says Tod Minnich, Honeywell Arts & Entertainment president and CEO.

## NOW SHOWING

Ready to take in a movie under the stars? Here are a few Indiana drive-ins we're fond of:

### Holiday Drive-In ROCKPORT

Opened in 1955, the theater may be Indiana's largest: it added a sixth screen in 2016. [holidaydrivein.com](http://holidaydrivein.com)

### Starlite Drive-In BLOOMINGTON

Carl and Ruth Stewart opened the Starlite in their backyard in 1955. Today it's run by the Barnhart family, only the theater's fourth owners. Set on a lot surrounded by trees, it's a picturesque spot to spend an evening. [starlitebloomington.com](http://starlitebloomington.com)

### Cinema 67 Drive-In OWEN COUNTY

Originally called Records Drive-In when it premiered in 1957, this single-screen theater has provided summer entertainment for more than 60 years. [cinema67.com](http://cinema67.com)

### Moonlite Drive-In TERRE HAUTE

Can we call it a sequel? Opened in 2018 on the site of the former Terre Haute Drive-In (1958-1988), the theater shows films on its refurbished original 40-by-80-foot screen. [moonliteterrehaute.com](http://moonliteterrehaute.com)

Have a favorite historic drive-in theater? Tell us about it on our social media.

[f](https://www.facebook.com/IndianaLandmarks) IndianaLandmarks [i](https://www.instagram.com/indianalandmarks) indianalandmarks

# BY THE BOOK



The rise of the automobile through the '20s and '30s gave Americans the opportunity to travel farther and on their own terms, but not everyone could enjoy this new-found freedom. African Americans faced daily prejudice, and racial segregation amplified fears when they traveled to new places.

In response, Victor Hugo Green, a Harlem postal worker turned travel agent, created the *Negro Motorist Green Book*, listing businesses safe for African Americans. His first Green Book in 1936 covered only New York City, but its instant success prompted national expansion a year later. At its height, nearly 15,000 books were printed.

The guide included listings by city plus practical road advice, which according to the 1950 edition's introduction aimed to "give the Negro traveler information that will keep him from running into difficulties, embarrassments and to make his trips more enjoyable." Entries included hotels, tourist homes, taverns, restaurants, garages, service stations, dance halls, theaters, barber shops, and beauty salons—places most travelers took for granted, but African Americans, eager to

Harlem postal worker Victor Hugo Green's *Negro Motorist Green Book*, printed from 1936 to 1967, offered African American travelers recommendations for staying safe while traveling. In Indiana, the Green Book noted hundreds of places in 17 cities. Though many have disappeared, a tourist home in New Albany (above) and the Indiana Motel in Anderson, today the Anderson Country Inn (below), survive.

PHOTOS BY LAURA RENWICK (ABOVE); JESSIE RUSSETT (BELOW)



avoid unfriendly reception, rejection, or danger at white-owned establishments, approached cautiously.

Over the three decades of its existence, the Green Book highlighted hundreds of Indiana places in 17 cities. Larger cities like Fort Wayne, Gary, Evansville, and Indianapolis included over 75 listings, while smaller cities like Kokomo, Elkhart, and Jeffersonville included only one or two safe stops.

Unfortunately, most businesses featured in the guide have vanished from the Indiana landscape. Following the Civil Rights Movement in the '50s and '60s, African Americans faced fewer barriers to their patronage, and the number of black-owned businesses dwindled. At the same time, urban renewal projects led to demolition of predominantly African American commercial districts for new highways and development.

One remaining Green Book site, Pryor's Country Place in Angola, served African Americans from Indianapolis, Detroit, and Chicago vacationing at Fox Lake. Other still-standing sites include Anderson's Indiana Motel, and private "tourist homes" in Kokomo, Evansville, and New Albany.

Whether Green Book sites are standing or lost, the guide provides a unique perspective on travel from the '30s to the '60s. See the guides yourself through the New York Public Library's online collection, [digitalcollections.nypl.org/collections/the-green-book](https://www.nypl.org/collections/the-green-book).

Written by Brad Miller, Indiana Landmarks Northwest Field Office Director. Read an expanded version online: [indianalandmarks.org/road-tripping-in-the-era-of-the-green-book](https://indianalandmarks.org/road-tripping-in-the-era-of-the-green-book)



## New Carlisle Renovation Reveals Hidden History

### FRESH OFF THE SUCCESSFUL RESTORATION

of a historic office and museum space, Indiana Landmarks' affiliate Historic New Carlisle (HNC) has launched another downtown renovation project, uncovering some long-hidden history in the process.

Most long-time New Carlisle residents know the building as part of Miller's Home Café. Famous for its down-home cooking, including fried chicken and homemade noodles, the beloved restaurant occupied two connected storefronts on Michigan Street for nearly 60 years.

After the restaurant closed in 2017, Historic New Carlisle (HNC) used a loan from Indiana Landmarks to acquire one of the storefronts, removing a 1970s facade and returning its historic appearance. The group rehabbed the one-story building as a local history museum, gift shop, and programming space, using additional funding from the Efroymsen Family Fund of the Central Indiana Community Foundation, the St. Joseph County Tourism Capital Development Fund, and the Indiana Historical Society.

After completing the museum restoration, the HNC team found itself itching for a new project—missing the daily camaraderie and sense of fulfillment. Using another loan from Indiana Landmarks, the group bought the second café storefront earlier this year.

As volunteers tackled interior renovation, they uncovered historic signage hidden under layers of plaster and paneling. Constructed later than its one-story neighbor, the two-story building covered a formerly exterior wall advertising Steinway, Chase, and Starr Pianos.

The group discovered more evidence of the building's history when wind gusts pulled aluminum loose off the exterior.

HNC Executive Director Dana Groves and Board Member Marcy Kauffman had to see what was underneath; peeling back the aluminum, they uncovered signs from the restaurant's early days.

Crews are already working to remove aluminum siding from the front façade, restore original windows on the second floor, and freshen up the cornice, and paint. If funds allow, the group will restore the historic storefront as well. Once exterior improvements are complete to the two-story building, HNC plans to market it for sale, hoping to entice new business to downtown New Carlisle.



Indiana Landmarks affiliate Historic New Carlisle uses our loans to renovate downtown buildings, including a one-story commercial building rehabbed as a local history museum and programming space, and a storefront next door, where workers uncovered historic signage (top) for a piano company. PHOTOS BY TODD ZEIGER (TOP LEFT AND TOP); © HISTORIC NEW CARLISLE (ABOVE)

# Partnering to Save a Family Landmark

## IN AUGUST 2017, ZIONSVILLE

resident Fritz Kunz and his cousin Margaret Ohmert were tracking their family's roots through southern Indiana, traveling to places their ancestors had lived. Their journey took them to 911 State Street in New Albany, where a Queen Anne-style house stood surrounded by crime scene tape, its blackened roof evidence of a recent fire.

"We found our great-grandparents' home in complete and utter ruin," says Fritz. "It was really difficult for us to realize that this would be a piece of history that would be missing and gone forever. It was dilapidated, but you could see the original grandeur too."

"We come to this house hoping to be uplifted and it's worse than we could imagine," adds Margaret. "We said, 'This is really wrong. Something has to be done about it.'"

On a trip through southern Indiana to visit places their ancestors had lived, Fritz Kunz and Margaret Ohmert discovered Indiana Landmarks restoring a fire-damaged Queen Anne-style house in New Albany built by their great-grandmother. The family supported the project financially, provided historic photos (below), and visited the property after its grand opening in 2019 (above).

PHOTOS BY LAURA RENWICK (ABOVE); © KUNZ FAMILY (BELOW)



Unbeknownst to us, something was being done, it just didn't look like it."

One of the family's historians, Margaret had already begun researching her great-grandmother Katherine "Katie" Anna Kunz Hartman, a widow who married New Albany mill owner Louis Hartman and built the house on State Street in 1899. Back home in Utah, Margaret wanted to learn more about her ancestor's home and reached out to the Floyd County Library. "The librarian wrote back, 'I know the Hartman House. It's currently being restored by Indiana Landmarks,'" says Margaret. "It was like getting the baby out of the fire at the last moment."

The family already had long attachments with the organization, having previously owned historic homes in downtown Indianapolis including the Morris-Butler House now owned by Indiana Landmarks. Fritz had worked with Indiana Landmarks in 2009 to establish the Traders Point Eagle Creek Rural Historic District in Zionsville and hosted a Barn Again! workshop at Traders Point Creamery, his home and business.

What began as a journey to learn more about their great-grandmother became a family effort to help preserve the house she helped build. Along with lending financial support to the restoration, the family shared letters Katherine had written to her son, their grandfather Albert, describing the house's construction. The letters also helped confirm the house was built by Stephen Day, a prolific carpenter contractor who constructed several New Albany houses and public buildings.

They also shared candid photos of the house and family taken by their grandfather Albert, printing enlargements to hang on the first floor of the restored house, now home to Indiana Landmarks' Southern Regional Office. Margaret shared excerpts from Katherine's letters at the Kunz Hartman House grand opening in May 2019, and family members from across the country visited the restored house during their annual family reunion in Indiana.

"Indiana Landmarks gave us a huge gift in saving our family home and the opportunity to partner with them," says Fritz. "It's been a wonderful journey."



## BRIEFLY NOTED

### BOARD NOMINATIONS

Every year, members of Indiana Landmarks are invited to elect directors. Board members serve three-year terms, with one-third being elected each year. According to Indiana Landmarks' bylaws, members may vote for candidates proposed by the Governance Committee of the board, or by at least 10 voting members. Members can vote for this year's slate of officers and directors via Indiana Landmarks' website, indianalandmarks.org, beginning September 1. Watch for more details in the next issue of *Indiana Preservation* on the proposed candidates. To nominate a candidate for election to the board of directors, submit your nomination in writing by August 23 to Sara Edgerton, Chairperson of the Board, Indiana Landmarks, 1201 Central Avenue, Indianapolis, IN, 46202.

### COVID-19 UPDATE

The Consolidated Appropriations Act 2021 (H.R. 133) extended two opportunities for donors that were established by 2020's CARES Act:

A universal (or non-itemized, above-the-line) deduction allowing taxpayers to deduct up to \$300 in charitable contributions (cash donations, not in-kind contributions) made in 2021. For 2021, both spouses may claim the \$300 for a total of \$600.

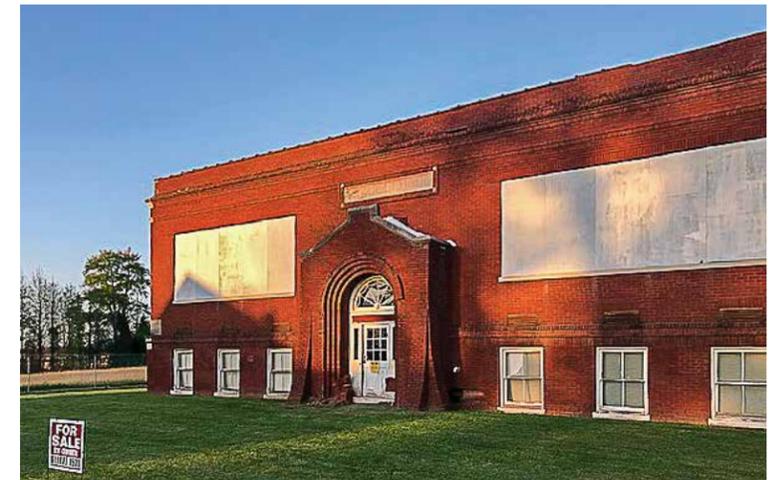
For those who claim itemized deductions, the charitable deduction limit is raised from 60 percent of adjusted gross income to 100 percent for donations made in 2021.

If you would like to discuss a charitable gift to Indiana Landmarks, contact Sharon Gamble, Vice President for Development, 317-822-7921, sgamble@indianalandmarks.org. As always, please consult your own tax advisor for advice.

# FOR SALE

## LANDMARKS ON THE MARKET

see more at [indianalandmarks.org/for-sale](https://indianalandmarks.org/for-sale)



## Midway Grade School

7851 N 425 W, Midway

Create a quiet country getaway in this 1925 schoolhouse, which retains original hardwood floors and brick. Amazing bones but complete rehabilitation needed. School is 7,000 square feet and located on a 3-acre lot. Serious inquiries only.

**\$79,900, 615-807-0533**



### Kinnear House

3306 Ruckle Street, Indianapolis

Colonial Revival-style brick house combines vintage details with modern amenities. Built in 1922, the house retains original hardwood floors, woodwork, and staircase. 3 bedrooms, 2 full bathrooms, 2 half baths. Unfinished basement and partially finished attic. All new electrical, plumbing, heating and cooling systems.

**\$325,000, Chad Lethig, clethig@indianalandmarks.org, 317-639-4534**

### Help Indiana Landmarks achieve even more by:

- Renewing your membership
- Making a donation in addition to membership
- Including Indiana Landmarks in your estate plans

For more information talk to Sharon Gamble, **800-450-4534** or visit [indianalandmarks.org](https://indianalandmarks.org)



Indiana Modern Tour, Aug. 19

# Tours & Events

July/August 2021

LARRY PHELPS

[indianalandmarks.org/tours-events](http://indianalandmarks.org/tours-events)  
(317) 639-4534

All times are eastern. Please note that some events are in-person, and others are virtual.

## Home Tour

July 10, Greendale

Now known as Greyhound Manor, Greendale's Cook House was still undergoing rehab when we featured it on our Ridge Avenue Ramble tour in 2018. Now, owners Jim and Sam Fulton invite the public to see the fully renovated 1860s Italianate home. Presented in partnership with Dearborn County Historical Society. Free timed-entry tickets with RSVP. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. [greyhoundmanortour21.eventbrite.com](http://greyhoundmanortour21.eventbrite.com).

## Downtown Safari

July 31, Indianapolis

During a 45-minute guided safari, families will explore stone and metal "wildlife" in architecture and sculpture throughout downtown Indianapolis, participate in playful activities, and discover the stories and symbolism behind these magnificent beasts. Following the tour, families can participate in optional activities meant to spark their creativity and help them remember what they've learned. Tours depart from University Park, 307 N. Meridian Street, every

## FRENCH LICK & WEST BADEN SPRINGS TOURS

Ongoing tours for overnight guests:

### West Baden Springs Hotel

Tuesday-Saturday, 2 & 4 p.m.

### French Lick Springs Hotel

Tuesday-Saturday Noon

Tours depart from our Landmarks Emporium shops in the hotels. Discount for members on tours and in shops. Reservations recommended. 812-936-5870, [swoodward@indianalandmarks.org](mailto:swoodward@indianalandmarks.org).

**Note:** All tours are open only to overnight guests of French Lick Resort, subject to the historic hotels being open to the public. Check our website for current status and ticket info.

### Twilight Tours

July 24, Aug. 21, and Sept. 11, 7 p.m.

On select Saturdays, Twilight Tours explore what it was like to be a guest of the West Baden Springs Hotel during its grand era. Costumed characters representing famous guests—golfer Walter Hagen, mobster Big Jim Colosimo, author Edna Ferber, the "unsinkable" Molly Brown, and others share their impressions of the hotel and healing mineral springs. \$20/Indiana Landmarks member; \$25/adult general admission, \$10/child (ages 6-14). Purchase by calling 812-936-5870 or by emailing [swoodward@indianalandmarks.org](mailto:swoodward@indianalandmarks.org).

30 minutes from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. \$3/Indiana Landmarks member, \$5/person ages 6 and up. Children ages 5 and under are free. RSVP at [indydowntownsafari.eventbrite.com](http://indydowntownsafari.eventbrite.com) or by calling 317-639-4534.

## Pounding the Pavement

Aug. 5, online

For communities across Indiana, the National Road serves as both downtown thoroughfare and as a common pathway connecting the state from east to west. Join Bob Hunt and Larry Messing of the Indiana National Road Association for a virtual talk, "Pounding the Pavement: Destinations Along the Old National Road," highlighting historic stops and hidden gems, from 1830s homes to mid-century roadside attractions. Sponsored by Indiana Landmarks' affinity group Indiana Automotive. Free with RSVP. 6-7 p.m. Buy online at [inra21.eventbrite.com](http://inra21.eventbrite.com)

## Indiana Modern Tour

Aug. 19, online

Our popular *Back to the Future: A Mid-Century Modern Home Tour* returns this year in a virtual format, taking attendees on a journey to five Modernist standouts around the state. See modern homes in Munster, West Lafayette, Bloomington, Floyds Knobs, and a Frank Lloyd Wright-designed house in Marion. Sponsored by Indiana Landmarks' affinity group, Indiana Modern, and hosted by Mary Rachel Redman of *Inside Indiana Business*. Tickets are \$20/general public, \$15/Indiana Landmarks and Indiana Modern members. Video tour premieres at 7 p.m. and ticket buyers have access for two weeks following. Bonus: Join a live Q&A session after the tour premiere. Buy online at [midcenturytour21.eventbrite.com](http://midcenturytour21.eventbrite.com).

## INDIANAPOLIS TOURS

### Monument Circle

On select Saturdays, May through October, one-hour guided walking tours examine the story of the Circle at the heart of the city including the Soldiers and Sailors Monument and encircling landmarks. Tours depart at 10 a.m. on July 10 & 24, Aug. 14 & 18, Sept. 11 & 25. \$10/general admission, \$5/child (age 6-11); \$8/member; free for children ages 5 and under.

### City Market Catacombs

Join a guided tour of the remains of Tomlinson Hall, hidden beneath the Indianapolis City Market. In 2021, tours begin on the market's mezzanine and include a brief history about the building's development. Tours depart every 15 minutes from 10 a.m.-2:15 p.m. on July 3 & 17, Aug. 7 & 21, Sept. 4 & 18. Advance ticket encouraged. \$12/general admission, \$6/child (age 6-11), \$10/member; free for children ages 5 and under.

### Athenaeum

On select Wednesdays and Sundays, May through October, one-hour guided tours explore the history, architecture, and preservation of the Athenaeum, as it evolved from German clubhouse to a hub of modern urban life. Tours depart at 5:45 and 6 p.m. on July 21, Aug. 18, and Sept. 22, and 1:45 and 2 p.m. on July 11 & Aug. 8. Advance ticket encouraged. \$10/general admission; \$5/child (age 6-11); \$8/member; free for children ages 5 and under.



EVAN HALE

## OUTDOOR MARKET

July 11, Aug. 8, Sept. 12, Oct. 10, Indianapolis

Indiana Landmarks partners with Indy Urban Flea to host an outdoor market featuring vintage, locally made, and one-of-a-kind handcrafted items on the parking lot and Place de Basile courtyard of Indiana Landmarks Center, 1201 Central Avenue. Free building tours ongoing during market, which will include a food truck on site. Free admission and parking on surrounding streets. 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

## Ticket Sale Alert

Tickets for the annual in-person Century of Progress Tours in the Indiana Dunes National Park on September 25-26 will go on sale Monday, August 2 at 9 a.m. EDT (8 a.m. CDT), and if tradition holds, will sell out quickly. Tickets are \$30/Indiana Landmarks member, \$35/general public and will be limited in timed tour slots to allow for social distancing. Buy online at [centuryofprogress21.eventbrite.com](http://centuryofprogress21.eventbrite.com) or call 317-639-4534.

## Dates to Save

### Indiana Landmarks' Annual Meeting

Sept. 11, online

### Carnegie Library Celebration

Sept. 19, Rensselaer

### Bottleworks Talk

Sept. 23, Indianapolis

### Century of Progress Talk

Sept. 24, Indiana Dunes

### Century of Progress Tour

Sept. 25-26, Indiana Dunes

### Preserving Historic Places Virtual Conference

Sept. 30 & Oct. 1, online

### Chatham Arch/Bottleworks Tour

Oct. 5, Indianapolis



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AND FINALLY



## Move-In Ready

**IN ACQUIRING HISTORIC HOUSES TO SELL,** Indiana Landmarks looks for architecturally significant properties in need of restoration, where our improvements might inspire further investment in the house and surrounding neighborhood. In 2018, we purchased the Kinnear House on 3306 N. Ruckle Street in Indianapolis and commenced a turnkey rehabilitation combining the best of old and new. Now, we're offering the house for sale for \$325,000.

Built in 1922 for local real estate developer Willis Kinnear and his wife Beulah, the Colonial Revival-style house includes 3 bedrooms, 2 full bathrooms, 2 half baths, a full unfinished basement and partially finished bonus room. We refinished the hard-

Indiana Landmarks recently completed a turn-key rehabilitation of the 1922 Kinnear House in Indianapolis's Mapleton-Fall Creek neighborhood. Now on the market for \$325,000, the property combines modern amenities with restored historic character.

PHOTO BY CHAD LETHIG

wood floors and original trim, added fresh paint inside and out, and installed new electrical, plumbing, insulation, and two high-efficiency heating and air conditioning systems. The property will be sold with Indiana Landmarks' protective covenants to ensure its long-term preservation. See floor plans and additional photos of the property on our website, [indianalandmarks.org/properties-for-sale](http://indianalandmarks.org/properties-for-sale).