

INDIANA PRESERVATION

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2021



INDIANA LANDMARKS



Love of Land

Shelby County farm wins Rural Preservation Award

SAVING GRACE

Congregations commit to preserving sacred spaces

HOLIDAY SPIRIT

December tour showcases historic places of worship

Bridge Builder

INDIANA LOST A BELOVED preservation hero with the passing of Dr. James L. Cooper in August. Jim Cooper was without question our leading advocate for preserving historic bridges. He inspired us with his message that old bridges, as much as pretty buildings, are richly expressive of our cultural heritage and are resources worth preserving.

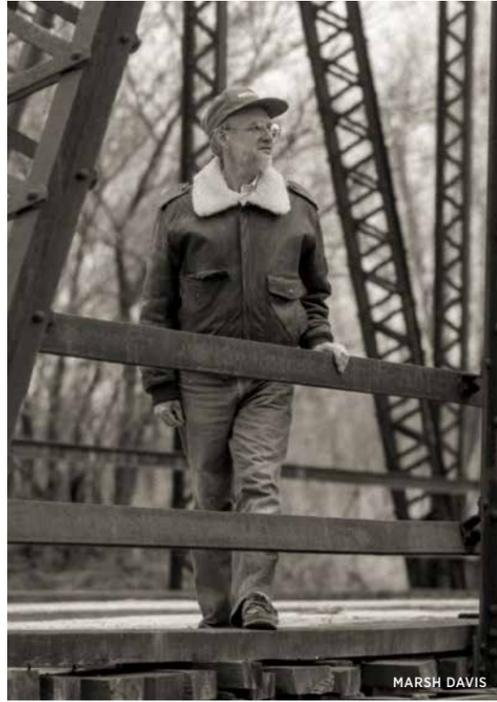
Some 24 years ago I wrote the following words about Jim for this magazine:

While some view the utilitarian and industrial aspects of old bridges in a negative light, one man sees them as products of resilient human enterprise and ingenuity. Where some dismiss old bridges as unsightly, rusting hulks, he finds beauty in the rational geometry of the structure. And through a combination of academic rigor, terrific communication skills and infectious enthusiasm, he has convinced others to preserve Indiana's old bridges.

And convinced us he did. Over the course of many years, in the face of relentless pressure to destroy and replace historic bridges, Jim Cooper persisted. Many of the old bridges we enjoy today are standing because of his vision and deeply appreciated hard work.



Marsh Davis, President



MARSH DAVIS

On the Cover

Shelby County's Meltzer Farm won the 2021 John Arnold Award for Rural Preservation, recognizing generations of stewardship by the Meltzer family at the nineteenth-century farmstead, including its 1882 Italianate-style farmhouse. PHOTO BY EVAN HALE



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STARTERS



EVAN HALE

King of the Gothic Frontier

NOT ALL CROCKETS wear coonskin caps. In Gothic architecture, crockets are carved ornaments, usually shaped like leaves protruding at regular intervals along spires, gables, and pinnacles. You can find a fine crop of crockets on the steeples of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Indianapolis. Read about the congregation's efforts to preserve the landmark on p. 8.

Family Resemblance

While Hoosier artist T.C. Steele gained regional acclaim painting Indiana's landscapes at the turn of the twentieth century, his son, Rembrandt "Brandt" Steele, left his own mark, designing interiors and ornament for buildings in Indianapolis and beyond. A proponent of the Arts and Crafts movement, Brandt Steele worked in terra cotta, pottery, metalwork, and stained glass, drawing inspiration from a childhood interest in nature cultivated by his parents. One of his designs, a stained-glass window depicting a tree and executed by Ulysses Grant Cassady, appears in the sanctuary of Indianapolis's



ADELE GOODINE

All Souls Unitarian Church, designed by the architectural firm of Vonnegut, Bohn, and Mueller between 1913-1914. See it yourself on Indiana Landmarks' Holiday Church Tour in Indianapolis's Old Northside neighborhood on December 4 (details on p. 6).



workers produced cotton yardage, tobacco canvas, and twine at Madison's Eagle Cotton Mill at the turn of the twentieth century. See the back cover to learn more about the mill's rebirth as a modern hotel.

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Award-Winning Farm is Work of Generations

IN EASTERN SHELBY COUNTY, GENERATIONS

of the Meltzer family have farmed the land for more than 160 years, adapting to technological and cultural shifts, and weathering two pandemics.

For their role in preserving Meltzer Farm outside Shelbyville, siblings Kris Meltzer and Karen Meltzer-Armstrong won the 2021 John Arnold Award for Rural Preservation, presented by Indiana Landmarks and Indiana Farm Bureau in August at the Celebration of Agriculture, hosted by the Indiana State Department of Agriculture at the Indiana State Fair.

Frederick Meltzer moved from Germany to Shelby County and purchased the homestead in 1857, the first in a long line of Meltzers who've farmed the land ever since. Kris Meltzer, Karen Meltzer-Armstrong and her husband, Tony Armstrong, currently oversee production of corn and soybeans on the farm's 100 tillable acres. Today, the farm includes the original 1850s farmhouse and timber-frame barn, log barns, a log cabin, a one-room brick schoolhouse, gas well, artesian well, an outhouse, a pumpkin patch, and an old growth forest.

"The award committee was deeply impressed by the unique and diverse collection of historic agricultural buildings still in use at the Meltzer Farm," says Tommy Kleckner, director of

The Meltzer Farm outside of Shelbyville represents more than 160 years of stewardship by the Meltzer family, who still use a collection of historic buildings including the original 1850s farmhouse and timber-frame barn (above). The family's conservation ethic extends to an old-growth forest on the property, now used as a nature preserve and designated a National Natural Landmark (right). PHOTOS BY EVAN HALE

Indiana Landmarks' Western Regional Office and Arnold Award coordinator. "And the commitment generations of the family have demonstrated to preserving and maintaining the farm's heritage is extraordinary," he adds.

With a practical, waste-not, want-not approach, the Meltzers



have incorporated the farm's historic buildings into modern operations. The nineteenth-century frame barn houses farm equipment, hay, straw, and occasionally livestock, and the log barns store grain. The original farmhouse has served as a machine shop and time capsule for preserving the family's heritage. The outhouse remains in working order, nicknamed "The Roosevelt" in recognition of it being one of the millions of sanitary privies constructed during the Great Depression through President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's New Deal. Along with vintage buildings, the Meltzers have preserved vintage farm equipment, including Brady Meltzer's steam engine and an antique thrashing machine.

Brady constructed three log barns on the farm in the 1940s reusing timbers dismantled from historic log buildings that other property owners planned to demolish. To accommodate his interest in muzzleloaders and long-range rifles, Brady built one of the log structures to house Meltzer's Muzzleers, a muzzle-loading shooting club.

Liberty Township School #2, built by members of the family in 1875, still stands in its original location south of the farmstead. When school consolidation eliminated the school's original use, the Meltzers repurposed the building as a machine shop and secured its entry in the National Register of Historic Places. They continue to serve as caretakers of the property. "We're loaded with Indiana history here," says Karen's daughter Vanessa Armstrong, who helps operate the farm.

The family's love of the land extends to conserving the property's 60 acres of woods, one of the last remnants of the state's old growth forest, meaning it contains trees more than 150 years old. In 1928, Brady Meltzer placed



Adopting the family's waste-not, want-not philosophy, in the 1940s Brady Meltzer constructed a house (above) and two barns on the farm reusing timbers from dismantled log structures. The Meltzers also maintain historic Liberty Township School #2 (below), constructed by members of the family south of farmstead in 1875. PHOTOS BY EVAN HALE

the woods in Indiana's Classified Forest Program, and in 1974 it was designated a National Natural Landmark. To ensure its long-term protection, his son Philip Meltzer partnered with the Central Indiana Land Trust to dedicate Meltzer Woods as a nature preserve, and today the family welcomes walkers and scientists who come to explore and study the forest.

The property took on new significance during the pandemic in 2020, when the family sequestered in the Italianate-style farmhouse built by the first Philip Meltzer in 1882. "We were sheltering in place in the same house where our ancestors sheltered during the Spanish flu pandemic of 1918," notes Vanessa. "My grandfather Philip shared stories from his deathbed—the same room where he was born in 1926. Listening to him reminisce about his life on the farm and what it meant to him has given me a great appreciation for his lifelong work to preserve the farm."



Historic Churches Tell Story of a Changing City

SCATTERED ACROSS JUST A FEW BLOCKS IN

and around Indianapolis's Old Northside neighborhood, a collection of 10 historic churches built between 1891 and 1929 served residents who settled beyond the city's core at the turn of the twentieth century. After World War II, the neighborhood changed rapidly, and churches adjusted to support a community with increasingly diverse religious and social needs.

On December 4, our Holiday Church Tour offers a chance to explore the landmarks and see how they have adapted to change.

Today, Indianapolis faces the same question as other communities across the country: what to do with historic houses of worship when Americans aren't going to church like they used to. Each of the churches highlighted on our tour illustrates the forward-thinking commitment of neighborhood residents to preserve what their predecessors built, whether through creative reuse, innovative community outreach, or adapting to meet the spiritual needs of new downtown residents.

For Lee Little, who attends the neighborhood's Episcopal Church of All Saints, the discovery of a 1952 copy of *Polk's*

On December 4, Indiana Landmarks' Holiday Church Tour provides a look at 10 historic churches in and around Indianapolis's Old Northside neighborhood. The self-guided experience includes still-serving churches such as the Joy of All Who Sorrow Orthodox Church (above) and others adapted to new uses, including our headquarters in the former Central Avenue Methodist Church (left).

PHOTOS BY KATI Q PHOTOGRAPHY

Indianapolis City Directory sparked a research journey into the city's historic churches. Whittling down the number to about 300 churches still standing, Little launched the "Old Churches Indy" Instagram account in 2018 to highlight the buildings' history and architecture. His passion also inspired him to share his knowledge on walking tours and in a recently published book *Circle City Steeples*.

"It was about reconnecting people to buildings that were here long before us and will be here, hopefully, long after we're gone, really speaking to the importance of them in our city not only as religious structures but as neighborhood landmarks," notes Little. "As I continued my research, I realized these churches are telling a story of how we've built as a

city and who has been able to settle where and why."

Our Holiday Church Tour includes buildings still serving as houses of worship, including one of the city's oldest Black congregations at Allen Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church. Though its current home at the corner of Broadway and 11th streets was built in 1926, Allen Chapel A.M.E. Church's history dates to the end of the Civil War, when newly freed people moved north to Indianapolis. Beginning in a small frame structure, Allen Chapel A.M.E. Church served both the spiritual and educational needs of the African American community that settled around it, offering a day school for area residents in addition to regular worship services.

Other tour sites illustrate how historic church buildings can be creatively repurposed. Indiana Landmarks Center, our own state headquarters, is located in the former Central Avenue Methodist Church, now serving as an office and performance and event venue. The former First Friends Church on Alabama Street found new use as condominiums.

Guests on the December 4 Holiday Church Tour will see inside the Episcopal Church of All Saints, Redeemer Presbyterian Church, Joy of all Who Sorrow Orthodox Church, Indiana Landmarks Center, Allen Chapel A.M.E. Church, and the former All Souls Unitarian Church. The tour includes exterior views of the Psychic Science Spiritualist Church, former Central Universalist Church, former First Friends Church, and Trader's Point Christian Church.

Presented in partnership with Old Churches Indy and area congregations, the tour runs 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.



Tour takers will be able to see inside six churches, including the Episcopal Church of All Saints (above) and Allen Chapel A.M.E. Church (below). On November 30, Lee Little, founder of Old Churches Indy, previews some of the featured sites and shares insights drawn from his comprehensive study of Indianapolis-area sacred places.

PHOTOS BY KATI Q PHOTOGRAPHY AND EVAN HALE

on December 4 and costs \$20/general public, \$15/Indiana Landmarks member, \$10/child (age 6-11), and is free to children age 5 and under. Day-of-tour tickets cost an additional \$5 per ticket (save children age 5 and under) and will only be sold at Indiana Landmarks Center, 1201 Central Avenue. Ticket holders may check-in at any of the sites open for interior visitation and exchange their Eventbrite receipt for a program. Buy tickets in advance at indyholidaychurchtour21.eventbrite.com.

Get a preview of some of the churches featured on the tour along with other Indianapolis-area sacred places at a talk by Lee Little on November 30 at 6 p.m., offered in-person at Indiana Landmarks Center and online via Zoom. Tickets are \$7/general public, free for Indiana Landmarks members, and may be purchased at oldchurchesindytalk21.eventbrite.com. Little's book *Circle City Steeples* will be available for purchase, with a portion of the proceeds supporting our Sacred Places Indiana program.



Divine Intervention

There's a reason steeples and church towers dominate the skyline of so many cities and towns. For centuries, churches and temples stood at the center of community life, providing the backdrop for momentous events. As social, spiritual, and physical keystones, historic places of worship merited architectural prominence, too, usually occupying a place of honor among a community's finest structures.



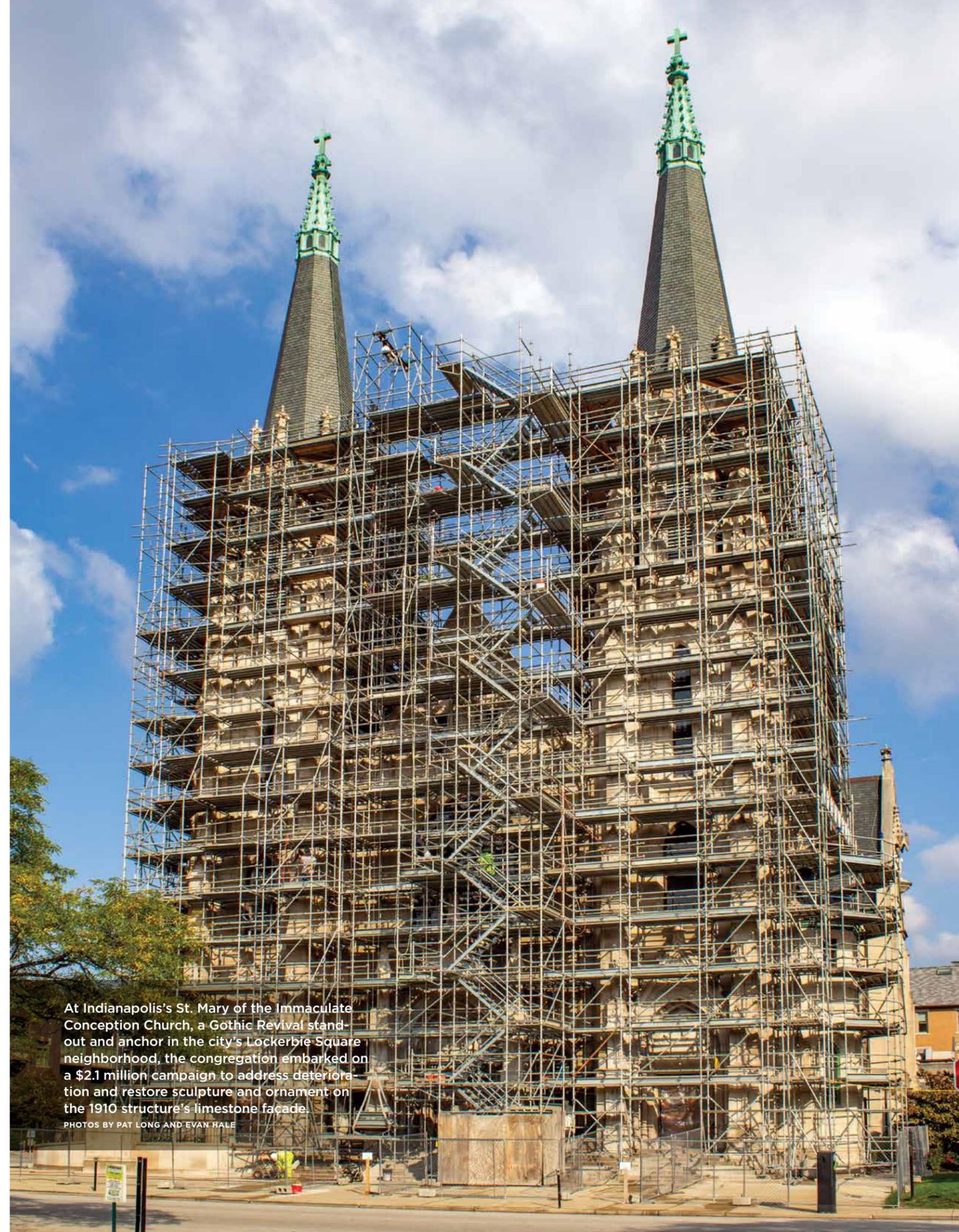
Maintaining that lavish architecture isn't easy. As modern congregations shrink, so do resources to preserve and repair stained glass, ornamental plaster, carved stone, and masonry.

To address increasing calls for help from congregations struggling to maintain their historic houses of worship, in 2015 Indiana Landmarks created Sacred Places Indiana, a joint program with Philadelphia-based Partners for Sacred Places supported by Lilly Endowment. Since then, we've assisted dozens of churches, giving advice on fundraising, building stewardship, and community engagement.

In South Bend, Indianapolis, and Spencer, three congregations—including two participants in our Sacred Places Indiana program—have shown extraordinary commitment to their historic spaces, undertaking restoration campaigns to repair deteriorating features and ensure their buildings' futures.

TOWERING INSPIRATION

Soaring above New Jersey Street in downtown Indianapolis, the twin spires of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church have conveyed the landmark's solid standing since it was dedicated in the Lockerbie Square neighborhood in 1912. More than 100 years later, St. Mary's congregation embraced the features as an emblem of their efforts to preserve the building into the next century,



At Indianapolis's St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Church, a Gothic Revival stand-out and anchor in the city's Lockerbie Square neighborhood, the congregation embarked on a \$2.1 million campaign to address deterioration and restore sculpture and ornament on the 1910 structure's limestone facade.

PHOTOS BY PAT LONG AND EVAN HALE

launching the Save the Steeples campaign to raise \$2.1 million for repairs in its first phase.

German immigrants founded St. Mary in 1858 and started construction of the current church building in 1910 in the neighborhood then known as Germantown. Designed by German-born architect Hermann Gaul, the Gothic Revival church incorporates features reminiscent of the Cologne Cathedral. Anti-German sentiment during World War I prompted the congregation to remove

Built in 1901 with funds from Clement and Ann Studebaker, Saint Paul's Memorial Church in South Bend (below) embarked in recent years on a series of building improvements aimed at preserving the building's standout features and continuing the church's role as a community resource.

PHOTOS BY TOM THEWS



original interior German design elements and reach out to residents of all ethnicities to join them in worship. St. Mary's emphasis on serving parishioners of diverse backgrounds endures today, with Spanish language masses and bilingual staff ministering to the church's significant Latino membership.

A building assessment conducted by Arsee Engineers in 2015 showed the scope of deterioration on the church's limestone façade, where steel attached to the stone had started to rust and break down and separate the limestone. The stained glass and slate roof required attention, too, along with crumbling carved images over the main entry. Through the campaign, the congregation raised \$1,811,000 for the first phase of restoration.

The second phase, estimated to cost \$900,000, began in 2019, focusing on restoring sculpture and ornament on portal entries and pediments on the church's west façade. Though erosion had damaged some elements beyond repair, salvaged pieces will help create new ornament to fill in the gaps. A matching grant from the National Fund for Sacred Places is aiding work on the spires, towers, and west façade.

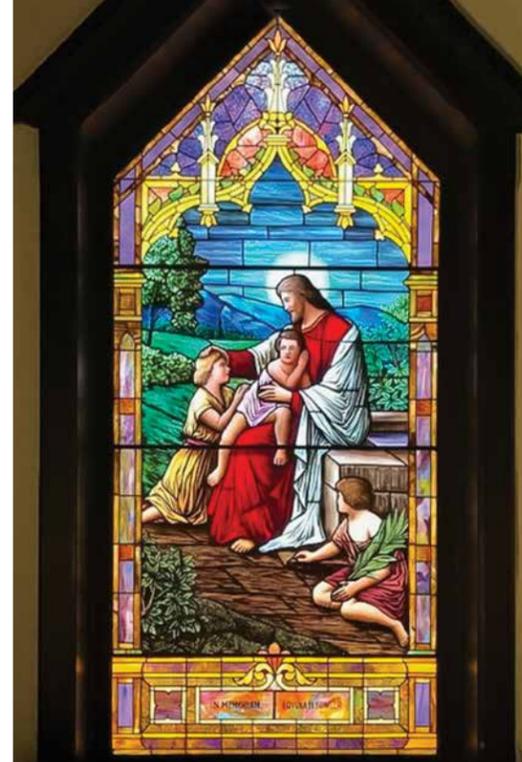
FAITHFUL STEWARDS

Saint Paul's Memorial Church has been an anchor in South Bend's

West Washington National Register Historic District since its construction in 1901—the congregation's third location since its inception in 1872. Clement and Ann Studebaker donated funds for the distinctive Romanesque Revival-style building, envisioning a community space that could serve the neighborhood.

Inspired by their travels to Germany, the Studebakers commissioned 53 stained-glass windows from Munich's Mayer Glassworks for the church, including a grand window depicting Clement and his African American valet, Thomas, who traveled with them. Though Clement died before construction was complete, the church retains the ancient baptismal font constructed from a Roman column and presented by J.M. Studebaker in memory of his brother. It is believed to be the oldest baptismal font still used in the United States.

In 2016, St. Paul's became one of the first participants in our Sacred Places Indiana program, learning how to prioritize repairs and brainstorm ways to maximize use of the building. "It's a monument that's too spectacular to let get away from the city of South Bend, and we were determined to save the building," says member Howie Emmons, whose background in construction made him a natural choice to oversee rehab.



Early on, the church upgraded its kitchen, allowing start-up culinary businesses to use the space. The next project proved even more ambitious: a half-million-dollar campaign to restore the historic pipe organ, tapping into a trend toward more traditional music and positioning the church to host special concerts.

Among other improvements, the building got a modern climate control system, replacing an early form of air conditioning that utilized ice dumped through a grate in the sidewalk and a fan system to draw cool air into the building. "The running joke was that we had the first air-conditioning system in South Bend, but no one was bringing in the ice to run it," says Pastor Emeritus Tom Thews.

Workers also installed a new roof, repaired the stained glass, and reopened skylights. Generous gifts from members and the Studebaker family and traditional fundraising supported the work. "Back when we started, I never dreamed it would go as far as it has," marvels Thews. "There's hardly a place in church not restored to its former glory."

The congregation of Spencer Presbyterian Church (above) embraced outside-the-box thinking to raise money for restoration of several nearly century-old stained-glass windows in the building's sanctuary, contacting descendants of early church members to support the project. The effort yielded more than half of the \$30,000 required for the windows' restoration.

PHOTOS BY SYLVIA DYAR AND ROSE WERNICKE

Today, St. Paul's members continue to share their magnificent house of worship with others, including opening their building to an Anglican congregation for its services.

GUIDING LIGHT

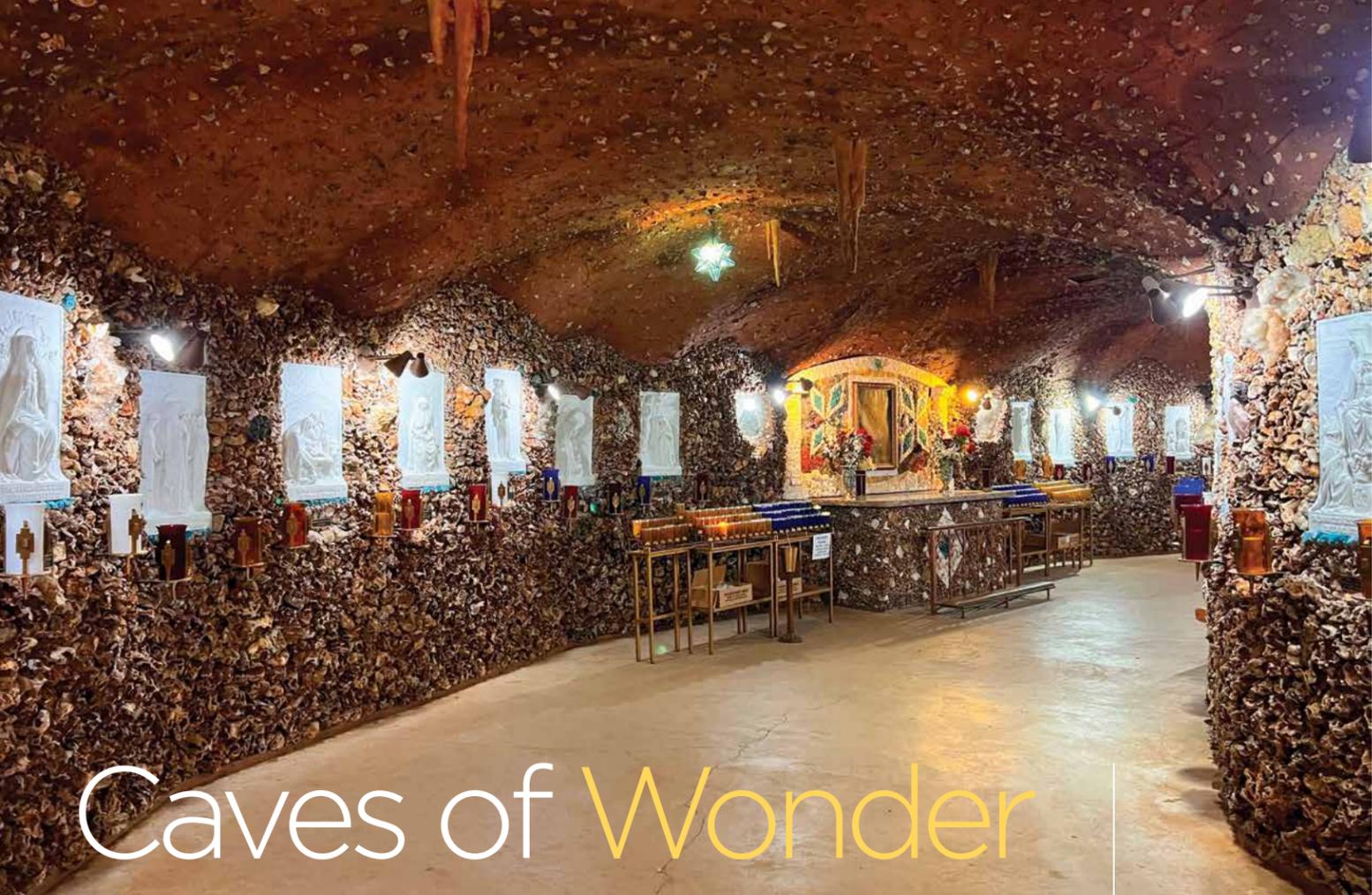
In many historic churches, stained-glass windows provide artful illumination filtered

through symbolic and figural designs. In 2017, as members of Spencer Presbyterian Church sought ways to raise money to repair the building's nearly century-old stained glass, they found answers in the windows themselves.

"One of the things we learned in participating in the Sacred Places Indiana training was looking for unconventional sources for raising money," says church member Sylvia Dyer. "Our congregation is small, so for us to embark on a significant restoration project, we needed something to get people excited."

Each stained-glass window in the sanctuary includes a dedication to an early church member, so Dyer began a herculean research effort to find their descendants. She scoured the genealogy section of the local library, searched church records and obituaries, and bought a premium White Pages subscription to track people down, then mailed them information about the rehabilitation project, along with pictures of the stained-glass window connected to their ancestors. The effort netted more than half of the donations needed for the \$30,000 project.

"Our signature window depicts Jesus sitting on a rock talking with the little children, and there was this halo around his head that had been totally obliterated," says Dyer. "After it was restored, it just glows."



Caves of Wonder

Since ancient times, grottos have carried mystical connotations, associated first with early pagan deities and later with Christian churches. The construction of man-made grottos spread after Bernadette famously saw the Virgin Mary in a natural grotto at Lourdes, France, in 1858. In Indiana, most grottos date to the twentieth century, built by religious institutions as places for spiritual meditation rather than miraculous healing. Executed in fieldstone, colorful minerals, crystals, concrete, even geodes, Indiana's historic grottos still offer pilgrims a place for quiet reflection.

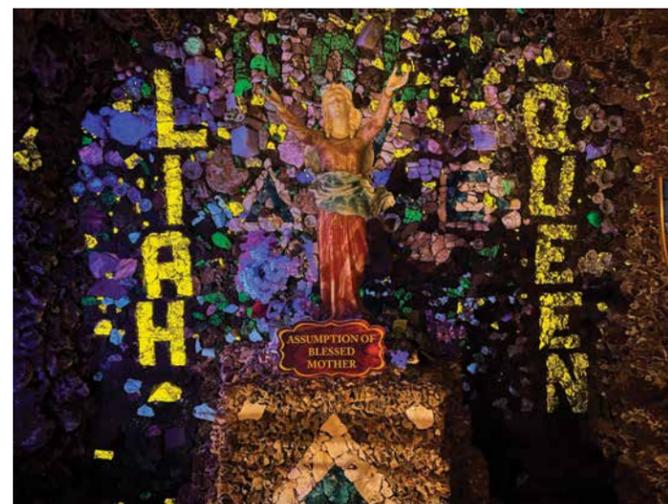
Built in 1896, the grotto at the University of Notre Dame in South Bend is believed to be Indiana's oldest, constructed after university founder and priest Father Edward Sorin returned from a trip to see the famous

Completed in 1962, the Holy Mother Grotto (above and below) at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Monastery in Munster includes three floors of chapels incorporating 250 tons of sponge rock, Carrara marble statuary, and fluorescent rocks illuminated with ultraviolet lights. Father Bernard Ciesielski, who studied geology in his native Poland, planned the complex.

PHOTOS COURTESY OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL MONASTERY

Lourdes grotto. Though he died before it was completed near the campus's Basilica of the Sacred Heart, the fieldstone grotto captures his original inspiration, designed to imitate the Lourdes grotto at one-seventh the scale.

Today, students, faculty, and visitors come to the shrine to light candles and pray in the quiet space before football games, during final exams, and at annual services for graduating seniors. In 2019, the University undertook improvements



at the grotto, refurbishing and reinstalling a fountain added in 1943, and improving the surrounding landscape to make the shrine more accessible.

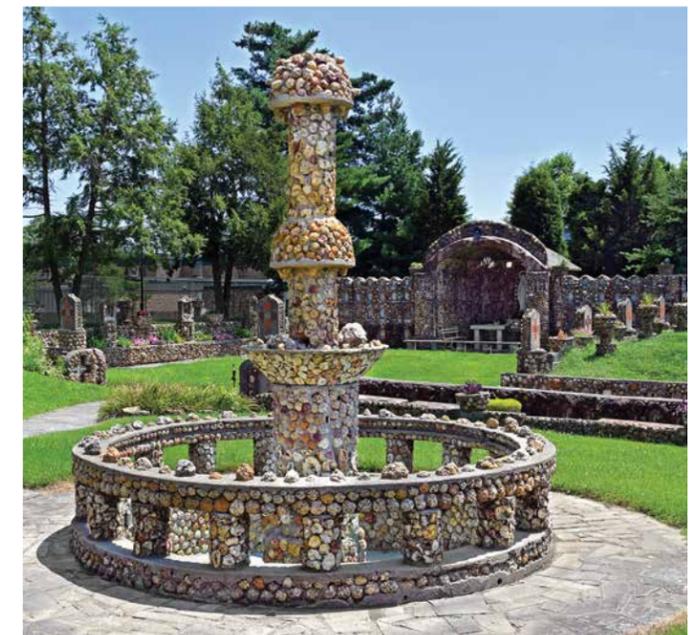
When demolition loomed in recent years at the Mother of God Grotto in Jasper, a group of residents rallied to save the historic site. In the 1950s, Father Phillip Ottavi, director of St. Joseph's Providence Home—a care facility for mentally disabled men—envisioned creating something spiritual on the site of the home's demolished handball court. An Italian immigrant, Ottavi also based his plan on the famous Lourdes shrine, using a large supply of geodes from a Lawrence County creek for its construction. Rough on the outside with beautiful crystals inside, he believed geodes presented a nearly perfect representation of man's body and soul.

Working with a crew of Providence Home residents over 12 years, Father Ottavi constructed the St. Joseph and Mother of God grottos on four city blocks along Bartley Street. Equal parts sculpture, folk art, and landscape architecture, the site offered the community a restful retreat. But in 2016, Memorial Hospital purchased 4.5 acres on the site's north end for construction of a medical residency building, threatening the St. Joseph Grotto. Volunteers quickly formed the nonprofit Friends of the Grotto group to preserve as many pieces as possible. Cathedral Health Care, owner of the south lot where the Mother of God shrine is located, donated the property to the group. Volunteers set about removing, storing, and relocating many of the threatened objects.

Over four years, the Friends relocated 32 geode planters and structures from the north lot to the remaining grotto. In 2018, the Friends hired a Bedford stone mason to re-create the plaster statue of St. Joseph holding the infant Jesus, and in June 2019, the statue—along with the previously dismantled St. Joseph Shrine archway—were installed in the Mother of God Grotto, reuniting the Holy Family.

In Munster, shrines cover the grounds of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Monastery, including one to Saint Maximillian Kolbe, a martyr of Auschwitz. But the site's most jaw-dropping features are its grottos, including an enclosed shrine with blacklight-illuminated scenes depicting the end times. Understandable perhaps, since its creators were Polish Carmelites who probably felt all too close to the end of the world. After serving in Poland's Free Army during World War II, the Discalced Carmelites were banished to Siberia, eventually making their way to north-west Indiana, where they began ministering to a large Polish-American community around Chicago.

In 1954, the Carmelite fathers began constructing the Holy Mother Grotto. An elaborate three-level catacomb built entirely



Dating to 1896, the grotto at the University of Notre Dame (top) is believed to be Indiana's oldest. In 2019, the university undertook improvements to make the religious retreat more accessible. In Jasper, the St. Joseph and Mother of God grottos (bottom) include a multi-block extravaganza of features constructed of locally collected geodes.

PHOTOS BY MATT CASHORE/ UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME AND LEE LEWELLEN

above ground, the grotto consists of 250 tons of sponge rock painstakingly set in place. Other rock ornamentation, marble statuary, stained-glass windows and accents of fluorite, dogtooth calcite, dolomite, and rose quartz complete the décor. The nearby Grotto of the Lord's Tomb features an apocalyptic scene of Jesus and Gabriel raising the dead, with gold crosses representing Christian martyrs set in fluorescent stones across the ceiling. The Holy Mother Grotto and Grotto of the Lord's Tomb are typically open to visitors on Sundays between Easter and November 1.



A Walk of Faith

When the First Baptist (Colored) Church in West Baden Springs landed on Indiana Landmarks' 10 Most Endangered list in 2014, the building looked forgotten. Now, a century after its construction, the wood-frame Gothic Revival chapel is poised to welcome a new generation, thanks to a renewal project by volunteers who believed the building's heritage made it too important to lose.

Built in 1920 at the corner of Sinclair and Elm streets, the church is one of the last remnants of a once-robust African American community that settled in the area in the early 1900s, when many came to work as bellhops, maids, waiters, and as other service staff at the West Baden Springs Hotel. "The church was made up of highly educated people who lived under threat of Jim Crow laws but ignored them to help anyone who needed it," says historian Elizabeth Mitchell, who is heading a documentary on the building. "Unlike other places, they weren't run out of the community. The jobs just dried up."

The church became largely vacant in the 1990s, and eventually the local historical society and then the Town took ownership. The building's endangered status drew the attention of the Southeastern District Association of the Indiana Missionary Baptist State Convention. The group purchased the building for \$1, promising to restore it as a place of worship and tapping

West Baden Springs' First Baptist (Colored) Church is one of the last surviving landmarks connected to the area's once vital African American community. The chapel is poised to reclaim its role as a house of worship following a years-long, volunteer-led rehabilitation effort by members of Bloomington's Second Baptist Church.

PHOTOS BY (CLOCKWISE) ELIZABETH MITCHELL, © TIMES-MAIL/BEDFORD-RICH JANZARUK, LEE LEWELLEN, JODY MILLER

Second Baptist Church in Bloomington to spearhead the rehabilitation.

A dedicated group of volunteers led the project, collecting donations and doing hands-on work. Workers saved original pews and the bell tower, and incorporated part of a stained-glass window salvaged from a historic church that had been torn down near Terre Haute.

As the project nears completion after pandemic-related delays, the group is making plans to celebrate with a rededication.

"I knew I had people in my congregation who used to rehab houses that had the skills to do this and really felt like the Lord was saying we needed to take the lead on it," says Dr. Bruce Rose, pastor of Second Baptist Church. "Every time I couldn't see how we were going to do it, the Lord would provide. It's been really challenging but so rewarding, and a walk of faith."

Planned Gift Fuels Our Vision

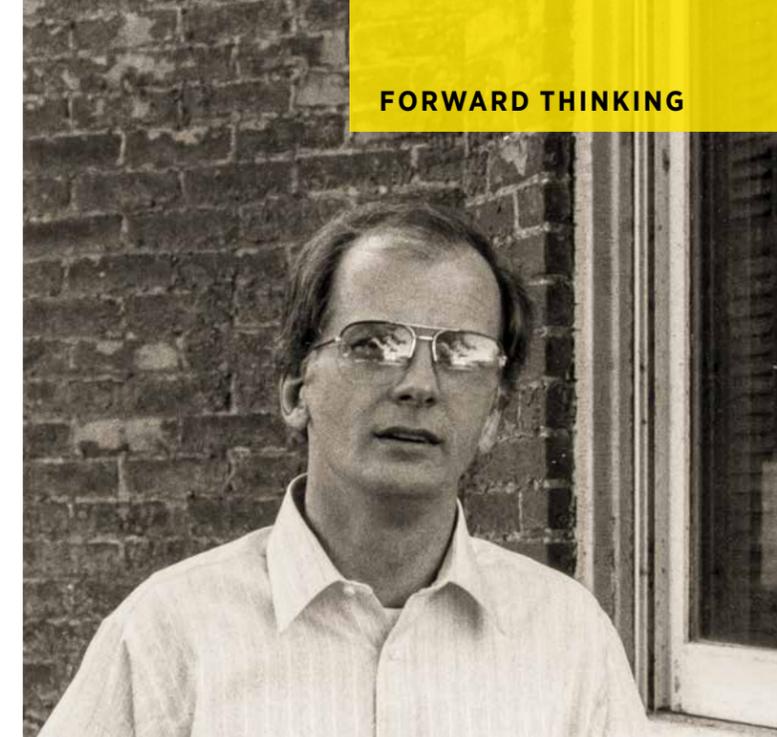
DECADES AFTER LOGANSPORT NATIVE

Dennis Gilman moved to California, his home state—and preservation of its historic places—remained foremost in his heart. A longtime Indiana Landmarks member, Gilman passed away this year, but conveyed his continued support of Indiana Landmarks through a gift made through estate planning—proceeds of the sale of his California home.

"Even though Dennis had no intention of returning to Indiana, he left us his house because he believed in us," says Indiana Landmarks President Marsh Davis. "His vision will help fuel our ability to carry out our vision."

After spending his formative years in Logansport, Gilman went on to work in South Bend and Chicago. He returned to his hometown in 1979 and purchased an 1860s Victorian in the city's Bankers Row Historic District. A hands-on supporter of preservation efforts, Gilman chaired the neighborhood organization and the city's historic district review board, as well as Indiana Landmarks' Affiliate Council. When Bankers Row landed on Indiana Landmarks' 10 Most Endangered list in 2005, Gilman supported our efforts to rescue the street from dilapidation, conducting research on the history of the houses and the people who had owned and lived in them.

Even after retiring to California, he remained a faithful contributor to Indiana Landmarks and shared his passion through gift memberships, inviting friends with an appreciation for heritage and history to learn more about the organiza-



Logansport native Dennis Gilman (above) aided Indiana Landmarks' preservation efforts at the city's Bankers Row (below) when he lived on the block in the '80s. He remained a supporter after retiring to California and through estate planning directed the proceeds of the sale of his California home to Indiana Landmarks.

PHOTOS BY INDIANA LANDMARKS ARCHIVES AND TODD ZEIGER

tion's efforts. Asked about his support of Indiana Landmarks (then Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana) in 2008, Dennis said, "One of the reasons I give the bulk of my charitable donations to Historic Landmarks is because they spend it wisely. Most of us aren't rich, so when we give the money, we need to know that it is being spent for the purpose it's intended. With Historic Landmarks, you save old buildings."



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**



Ready for Reuse

IT'S EASY TO SEE THE MARK OF STINESVILLE'S limestone industry in the historic buildings lining Main Street. At one time, the town bustled with social activity and commerce fueled by four local limestone quarries. Now, however, a group of five historic limestone buildings is the only intact remnant of downtown. Four of the buildings have been vacant for decades, but working with Indiana Landmarks, town officials are turning to a new strategy to revive them: offering the group of structures for \$1 to a party who will stabilize and restore them.

A small community located northwest of Bloomington, Stinesville developed in the 1850s as the limestone industry

The Town of Stinesville is partnering with Indiana Landmarks to find a new use for four historic limestone commercial buildings, offering them for sale for \$1 to a buyer who will stabilize and restore them.

PHOTO BY JOSHUA BIGGS

was taking hold in southern Indiana. By the 1890s, it was a boom town of nearly 1,000 residents, with stone workers and carvers arriving from all over the world to work in the quarries that supplied limestone to build the Monroe County Courthouse, the Indiana State Capitol, Indianapolis's Soldiers and Sailors Monument, Chicago's Tribune Tower, and the Masonic Temple in Washington, D.C.

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.



BRIEFLY NOTED

INDIANA LANDMARKS WELCOMES

Alden Finholm as community preservation specialist in our Western Regional Office in Terre Haute. Finholm studied historic preservation and community planning at the College of Charleston and relocated to Indiana from Denver, Colorado.

CARES ACT DONOR OPPORTUNITIES

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

Between 1884 and 1894, a two-story I.O.O.F. Lodge and four limestone-faced commercial buildings were constructed in a row on Main Street. Their permanence represented the town's belief that the prosperous times would continue. However, a 1916 fire destroyed Stinesville's stone mill, and the quarries closed altogether by the 1960s.

The cluster of historic buildings appeared on Indiana Landmarks' 10 Most Endangered list in the 1990s. Since then, the historic lodge has been partially rehabbed to house the Stinesville Mercantile and post office.

With handsome limestone facades and large storefront windows, the four vacant commercial buildings hold potential for any number of creative reuses, including live-work space, an event venue, restaurant or retail, or maker space for artisans or craftspeople.

Each building is one story with a full lower level, collectively enclosing approximately 9,000 square feet. The former lodge is not part of the request for proposals. The group is listed in the National Register of Historic Places as part of the Stinesville Commercial Historic District, a designation that makes them eligible for rehabilitation tax credits.

Rehabilitation proposals are due by 5 p.m. EST, Monday, November 15, 2021. Access full details on our website, indianalandmarks.org/stinesville-commercial-buildings, or contact Mark Dollase, Indiana Landmarks' vice president of preservation services, mdollase@indianalandmarks.org with questions.

FOR SALE

LANDMARKS ON THE MARKET

see more at indianalandmarks.org/for-sale



5656 Esteb Road

Richmond

Spacious 1847 home on nearly 12 acres of land. Original features include transom doors, wide plank natural wood floors, fireplaces, and built-in cabinetry and bookshelves. 2 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, updated kitchen with custom cabinetry. Modern conveniences blend with historic details throughout.

\$429,900, Tracie Robinson, 765-969-1561, tracie@tracierobinson.com



927 Tecumseh Street

Indianapolis

Late nineteenth-century farmhouse in St. Clair Place neighborhood retains stunning woodwork, including a walnut stair railing, abundant natural light, updated kitchen, and huge porch for entertaining. 2 beds, 1.5 baths. Indiana Landmarks retains covenants on the home.

\$239,999, Debbie Pidgeon, 317-627-8982

Tours & Events

November/December 2021

Bier & Buildings
NOV. 18-19



CHRIS BUCHER



MIKE WILTROUT



MIKE WILTROUT

Visit indianalandmarks.org/tours-events or call 317-639-4534 to RSVP and receive information on upcoming events.

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

Cummins: Engines, Architecture, and Innovation

Nov. 4, Indianapolis and online

Cummins Heritage Center lead archivist Lori Lindberg, historian Steve Butler, and restoration manager Bruce Watson present an illustrated talk on the Indiana company's history of automotive and engineering innovation, its outsized influence on architecture and preservation in Bartholomew County, and its future as a world leader in power production technology. Program begins at 6 p.m. at Indiana Landmarks Center with brief highlights from our Indiana Automotive affinity group, followed by talk and Q&A. \$10/general public, free for Indiana Landmarks and Indiana Automotive members. Join us in person or watch online via Zoom.

Bier & Buildings

Nov. 18-19, Indianapolis

Grab a beer and explore one of Indianapolis' most beloved landmarks on Indiana Landmarks' adults-only tours of the

historic Athenaeum, built as *Das Deutsche Haus* the 1890s as a clubhouse for German immigrants. Sample traditional German fare, participate in fun activities, and see hidden spaces as you learn about this amazing building located at 401 E. Michigan Street. Tours run at 5:30-6:45 p.m. and 6-7:15 p.m. Tickets cost \$30/general public, \$25/Indiana Landmarks member and are adults 21+ only, with food and beverage offered with ticket. Presented in partnership with the Athenaeum Foundation.

Old Churches Indy Talk

Nov. 30, Indianapolis & online

Lee Little, creator of the popular Instagram account Old Churches Indy and law librarian at IU McKinney School of Law, shares insights gained from researching and photographing more than 300 religious buildings around Center

FRENCH LICK & WEST BADEN SPRINGS TOURS

All tours are currently open only to overnight guests of French Lick Resort. Check our website for current status and ticket info.

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 strongly encouraged. 812-936-5870, swoodward@indianalandmarks.org.

indianalandmarks.org/french-lick-west-baden

Township. A member of the Episcopal Church of All Saints and historiographer of the Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis, Little has partnered with photographer Kati Gaschler on a newly published book, *Circle City Steeples*, featuring 35 historic houses of worship. 6 p.m. \$7/general public, free for Indiana Landmarks members. Join in person at Indiana Landmarks Center or watch online via Zoom.

Holiday Church Tour

Dec. 4, Indianapolis

Explore the architecture, history, preservation, and tradition of 10 historic churches built between 1891 and 1929 in and around Indianapolis's Old Northside neighborhood. Several of the churches will be open for interior views and dressed in holiday finery. The self-guided tour allows participants to go at their own pace, with church interiors open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. \$20/general public, \$15/Indiana Landmarks member, \$10/child (age 6-11) in advance, with all prices increasing by \$5 on day of tour. Presented in partnership with Old Churches Indy and local congregations. See p. 6.

Architecture in Indianapolis, 1880-1920

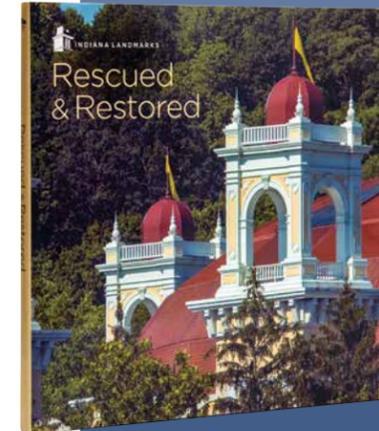
Nov. 8, Indianapolis & online

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN Dr. James Glass leads a pictorial journey through Indianapolis architecture from 1880-1920. Glass's illustrated presentation will take attendees through decades of design evolution shaped by developments in transportation, from the late-nineteenth-century steam railroad era to the advent of the automobile. Based on a forthcoming book by Glass, "Architecture

in Indianapolis, 1880-1920," is an official event of the Indianapolis Bicentennial. 6 p.m. \$7/general public, free for Indiana Landmarks members. Join in person at Indiana Landmarks Center or watch online via Zoom.



Gifts that Inspire



Looking for the perfect feel-good gift?

Indiana Landmarks Rescued & Restored highlights more than 50 historic places saved and restored to new

uses, with captivating

photos that help tell the story. Proceeds from the sales of the coffee table book support the work of Indiana Landmarks, helping us save and revitalize more historic Hoosier places.

\$29.95
plus shipping & handling

Order online at
bit.ly/RescuedRestored
(link is case sensitive)
or call **800-450-4534**

Love Indiana Preservation?

A gift of membership in Indiana Landmarks delivers our bimonthly magazine, e-letters full of interesting news, and discounts on special events, and it supports our historic preservation work around the state. For the holiday season, buy gift memberships at a discounted rate: \$10 off the regular price for individual and household memberships. Purchase by December 6 and we'll notify the recipients of your gift before the holidays.

Contact Jennifer Hawk at
jhawk@indianalandmarks.org
or call **800-450-4534**



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AND FINALLY



The Fabric of Our Lives

MADISON WAS A WORKING RIVER TOWN LONG before it drew attention for its dense collection of nineteenth-century houses and commercial buildings. The Eagle Cotton Mill was one of the workhorses, producing twine and fabric that shipped down the river. Built in 1884, the mill had been vacant for three decades when it landed on Indiana Landmarks' 10 Most Endangered List in 2013. The bleak picture changed when Riverton LLC, the City of Madison, and the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC) put together a plan to revitalize the mill as an amenity designed to boost the entire region.

At a ribbon-cutting ceremony in July, city leaders, residents, and members of the development team gathered to mark the mill's \$22 million transformation into an 85-room Fairfield

A ribbon-cutting ceremony this summer marked the grand opening of Madison's 1884 Eagle Cotton Mill as a boutique hotel and conference center. Designers embraced the landmark's industrial character, featuring exposed brick, high ceilings, and restored windows showcasing Ohio River views.

PHOTOS BY JASON MEDEIROS,
EVAN HALE, ©MARRIOTT.COM/
SDFFM

Inn and Suites boutique hotel and conference center. The hotel is the first Fairfield Inn housed in a historic building, and designers embraced the opportunity to incorporate elements of its industrial character. More than 200 huge windows illuminate the interior, where original beams support soaring 12-foot to 15-foot ceilings, offering one more reason to linger in the charming historic Ohio River city.