

INDIANA PRESERVATION

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2023



INDIANA LANDMARKS

Forward Thinking

The unique challenges of
preserving innovative designs

FULL SPEED AHEAD

Gary's Union Station slated to
become technology hub

LEADING EDGE

Grant program strengthens
local preservation leadership

Preservation and Progress

AT INDIANA LANDMARKS' RECENT annual meeting we honored two stellar preservation projects—the Bottleworks District in Indianapolis's former Coca-Cola bottling plant and the Eagle Cotton Mill revitalized as a hotel in Madison. In both cases, neglected historic properties were transformed into community-changing destinations. At roughly the same time, two new projects were announced that hold great promise: the incorporation of Indianapolis's long-suffering Old City Hall into a 21c Museum Hotel and the rebirth of Gary's Union Station into the Fiber Smart House, a fiber optic hub that will deliver digital technology to underserved communities.

These projects speak to the resilience of historic places. They're perfect examples of adaptive reuse—creating new uses for and bringing new life to old buildings. Adaptive reuse is, in fact, a mainstay of the historic preservation movement, demonstrating time and again that historic places are not locked in the past and disabusing naysayers of the idea that historic preservation and progress are incompatible.

So many preservation victories came about through creative adaptive reuse. Think of Indianapolis's Bush Stadium—transformed into the Stadium Lofts apartments. Or the massive General Electric plant in Fort Wayne, once a vacant hulk, now a vibrant and expanding multi-use complex. Or Evansville's former Greyhound Bus Depot, now a thriving restaurant that contributes to the city's renewed vitality. The list of transformed landmarks goes on and on.

Finding new, economically sustainable uses for historic places through adaptive reuse stands as a priority for Indiana Landmarks, and it underpins key tenets of our mission: revitalizing communities and saving meaningful places.

Marsh Davis, President

On the Cover

Reconstruction work is wrapping up on the tower at Columbus's First Christian Church, a 1942 landmark that launched the city's reputation as a Modernist destination. Read about it and other innovative designs on p. 8. PHOTO BY HADLEY FRUITS



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STARTERS

Surprise Discovery

While making grounds improvements at West Baden Springs Hotel last year, workers uncovered the resort's long-buried Neptune Spring, one of four mineral springs that in the early twentieth century drew guests from around the world to "take the waters." This fall, the resort celebrated opening of its revitalized East Park, which includes restored trails and historic steps to the spring. The area also incorporates new pickleball courts and Sprudel Field, which hosted vintage baseball games in September. The baseball diamond honors another piece of the hotel's past; it's a nod to a long-gone field, where pro ball teams such as the Chicago Cubs, Cincinnati Reds, and St. Louis Cardinals conducted spring training and exhibition games in the early twentieth century. Check out the Neptune Spring on your next visit to the historic hotel. While you're there, consider joining one of our regular tours to learn more about the remarkable property (see page 19).



PHOTOS © FRENCH LICK RESORT

LIFTING SPIRITS

On Christmas Eve in 1937, Indianapolis architect Edward D. Pierre, who was prone to last-minute shopping, noted Monument Circle's dark and somber atmosphere as he browsed for gifts downtown. He proposed a seasonal display to boost holiday spirits, launching the city's time-honored tradition of decorating Soldiers and Sailors Monument. On December 11 at Indiana Landmarks Center, Pierre's granddaughter and author Lisa Hendrickson shares the story and other anecdotes from the respected architect's life and legacy, which includes designing the Indiana State Library and Perry Stadium (later renamed Bush Stadium) in Indianapolis. See details on p. 18.



PHOTOS © PIERRE FAMILY COLLECTION

Pipe Dream

ON DECEMBER 9, attendees of Indiana Landmarks' Holiday Open House at the historic Woodbine Estate in New Albany will be treated to a short concert on the house's 1921 Estey Pipe Organ. Originally located in the living room of the Craftsman-style house,



the instrument was enlarged and integrated into the main entrance hall and stairway to showcase the musical interests of the home's original occupants. Current owners Richard and Lorna Bolton restored the organ and retained the original owner's collection of over 600 rolls of organ player music. See a list of all our holiday open houses, highlighting unique historic places around the state, on p. 19.



New Vision for Gary's Union Station

IN 1910, UNITED STATES STEEL CORPORATION helped finance construction of a grand new station for the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad in the city of Gary. Located on Broadway Street near U.S. Steel's Gary Works division, Union Station combined Classical design with emerging construction technology. Today, after decades of disuse, a new plan to adapt

the landmark as an \$8 million Fiber Smart House, job training center, and public space is poised to blend the best of old and new at the site once again.

When it opened in 1910, Gary's Union Station merged Beaux Arts design with emerging building technology, using poured-in-place reinforced concrete to create its Classical details. After passenger service ended in 1971, the station deteriorated, landing on Indiana Landmarks' 10 Most Endangered list in the late '90s. Local preservation group Decay Devils took on the station in 2016, cleaning up the site and hosting creative programs to elevate the landmark's profile.

PHOTOS BY DECAY DEVILS;
© CALUMET REGIONAL
ARCHIVES OF INDIANA
UNIVERSITY NORTHWEST

the landmark as an \$8 million Fiber Smart House, job training center, and public space is poised to blend the best of old and new at the site once again.

U.S. Steel, which owned a nearby cement plant, likely influenced architect Maurice Alvin Long's decision to build the passenger and freight depots using reinforced concrete. Designed in the Beaux Arts style, made popular in the region by the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago, most of the station's architectural features—pilasters, columns, lozenges, and quoins—were poured in place. Union Station's design set the tone for the city's building boom in the 1910s and 1920s, when many of Gary's public and commercial buildings employed Classical elements and concrete materials.

Inside the station, a grand hall with mezzanine and coffered ceiling greeted

passengers traveling to and from Gary to Hammond and Chicago. Despite the growing popularity of automobiles, Union Station remained a busy transportation hub for decades after its construction. Passenger service began waning in the 1950s and completely ended in 1971, prompting officials to close the station. As decades of vacancy accumulated, the building's once-fine interior features crumbled. Plaster ceilings collapsed, leaving the roof open to the elements. Indiana Landmarks named the building to our 10 Most Endangered list in the late '90s and early 2000s, hoping to spark interest in its reuse. But proposals for repurposing the site failed to gain traction.

In 2016, the Decay Devils, a grassroots group with an ambitious goal to save Union Station, took ownership of the site. The group joined Indiana Landmarks as a local preservation affiliate, solicited our expertise in nominating Union Station to the National Register of Historic Places, and used an Endangered Places grant to commission a structural analysis of the building. To raise the station's profile and draw people to the site, the group added a historical marker explaining the landmark's significance, installed benches and murals by local artists, restored original brick pavers, and added a viewing station where visitors could safely look at the decaying interior.

"We brought in photographers and painters, and held photo shoots, music videos, and choreographed dances. One year, we put in a big garden to get that crowd," says Tyrell Anderson, Decay Devils president. "Our goal was to create an environment where everyone was welcome and engaged. We feel as though we made the space feel like a nice park that just happens to have an abandoned building."

New possibilities opened up for Union Station in 2023, when the City of Gary and telecommunications firm Digital Equity LLC approached the Decay Devils about repurposing

the building as a technology hub, citing its location along rail lines where fiber optic cable infrastructure already runs. The Decay Devils will continue to own the building and enter into a long-term lease with Digital Equity. "We looked at Union Station and saw a magnificent building with great bones that sits at the center of fiber assets," says Tom Dakich, the company's managing director and general counsel. "There is a tech community being developed in northwest Indiana and the renovated Union Station is the next part of it."

Part of the passenger depot will become a network operations center to monitor fiber operations. Some of the building will be repurposed as a digital job training center teaching coding and other technology classes, while the grand entry will be open to the public. The adjacent freight depot is slated to house public safety emergency services. The project broke ground in late August with a goal of opening by fall 2024.

For the all-volunteer Decay Devils, it's a rewarding turn of events after years of advocacy and strategic programming. "Our gamble definitely paid off," says Anderson.

In 2023, telecommunications firm Digital Equity LLC, the City of Gary, and Decay Devils introduced a new plan to adapt Gary's Union Station as an \$8 million Fiber Smart House, job training center, and community space (rendering below right). The project broke ground in late August (below left).

PHOTO © TYRELL ANDERSON;
RENDERING BY PEDRO
ROMÃO OF AQUARI300





Building Local Leadership

IN OUR MISSION TO SAVE

meaningful places, Indiana Landmarks relies on a network of local preservation affiliates who advocate for buildings and landmarks in their communities. To help such groups—often grass-roots, all-volunteer organizations—amplify their efforts, in the late '90s Indiana Landmarks introduced a Local Leadership Challenge grant program, providing funding for affiliates to hire their first full-time staff. The program's first three recipients—Bloomington Restorations, Inc., Franklin Heritage, Inc., and Historic New Carlisle, Inc.—remain stalwart forces for preservation in their communities and serve as a blueprint for other groups looking to broaden their impact.

Founded in 1976, Bloomington Restorations had been giving loans to help rehab several historic houses when Steve Wyatt joined as the organization's

In the 1990s, Indiana Landmarks introduced the Local Leadership Challenge grant, allowing three local preservation affiliates to hire full-time staff. Bloomington Restorations used the program to become more proactive in preserving local landmarks, including the Hinkle-Garton Farmstead (top). Historic New Carlisle leveraged its grant to become a local preservation stalwart, recently restoring two downtown buildings (below).

PHOTOS © BLOOMINGTON RESTORATIONS, INC., AND HISTORIC NEW CARLISLE, INC.

first executive director in 1999. “The group was taking more of a passive approach, waiting for people to come to us for assistance instead of reaching out in advance and identifying properties likely to be torn down if we didn’t get involved,” says Wyatt. “Having full-time staff allowed Bloomington Restorations to be more proactive.”

Since receiving the challenge grant, Bloomington Restorations has expanded its scope, saving more than 60 properties, primarily by rehabbing houses for affordable housing, and buying endangered buildings before selling them to buyers to restore. The group raised its profile by acquiring the Hinkle-Garton Farmstead, a 14-acre property within the city, installing offices and a house museum in the Queen Anne farmhouse.

In Franklin, Rob Shilts marvels at the change he’s seen downtown since starting as executive director of Franklin Heritage in 2000. “When we started, it was a ghost town,” says Shilts. “You couldn’t pay people to start a business.”

When part of the Artcraft Theatre’s ceiling collapsed in 2001, Franklin Heritage leased the historic property from its owner and began hosting periodic movie screenings, using proceeds to stabilize the building and ensure it wouldn’t go dark. The group bought the Artcraft in 2004 and began restoring the theater little-by-little, expanding programming to include regular events and special festivals, giving locals and visitors a reason to visit downtown. Today, on any given evening, the Artcraft’s glowing Art Deco marquee signals activity inside. In the past two decades, local businesses and restaurants have multiplied, investing in other historic downtown buildings.

When a flood destroyed several of the city’s historic houses in 2008, Franklin Heritage partnered with the City to create an architectural salvage shop, providing a place to recycle windows, doors, and other materials. Expanded to sell historic furnishings in addition to rescued architectural details, today the shop on Madison Street provides income to further



Franklin Heritage’s restoration efforts at the Artcraft and other landmarks. “The Local Leadership Challenge program gives you three years of stability to put a plan together and watch it work,” says Shilts. “I’d encourage any group considering applying not to wait.”

Historic New Carlisle, Inc., was still an all-volunteer group in the late 1990s when it took on the daunting task of saving and restoring the town’s 1860 Jeremiah Service House, a long-vacant landmark known locally as the Old Republic. Using a loan from Indiana Landmarks to buy the house, the group reopened the high-profile landmark as a bed-and-breakfast, small local history museum, community meeting place, and rental venue. Winning Indiana Landmarks’ Local Leadership Challenge grant allowed the group to hire Dana Groves as full-time executive director, working to educate visitors and school groups, plan new programs, and raise funds.

Historic New Carlisle, Inc., sold the Old Republic in 2019, using

Restoring the Artcraft Theatre (top) as a destination for classic films and community events expanded Franklin Heritage’s reputation as a local preservation resource and community cheerleader, helping spur other downtown investment. Recognizing the lasting benefit of the Local Leadership Challenge grant, Indiana Landmarks is making the program available again, opening applications to affiliate organizations in 2024.

PHOTOS © FRANKLIN HERITAGE, INC.



funds from the sale to expand its programming and help fuel rehabilitation of two historic downtown buildings. “Having someone who can be on hand almost every day of the week interacting with the community is a great benefit to help grow an organization and make it stand out, while keeping day-to-day tasks moving forward,” says Groves.

Recognizing the program’s long-lasting impact, Indiana Landmarks is reinstituting the Local Leadership Challenge grant in 2024. Between 2024 and 2030, the program will provide \$300,000 total—\$100,000 to three affiliate preservation organizations—enabling them to hire full-time directors. Indiana Landmarks will begin accepting applications in May 2024 and announce the first recipient of the program in July. Only Indiana Landmarks’ affiliate organizations are eligible to apply. To learn more about grant guidelines, contact the Indiana Landmarks’ regional office nearest you (see p. 2).



DESIGNS AHEAD OF THEIR TIME

Designed to minimize the need for a large staff to manage prisoners, the Montgomery County Rotary Jail in Crawfordsville incorporated a revolving cell block surrounded by a stationary cage with just one opening.

PHOTO © ROTARY JAIL MUSEUM

Among great landmarks, certain places stand out as inspirational examples of forward-thinking design and innovative construction.

Because the architects of such buildings often employed experimental methods and materials, such structures can pose unique preservation challenges as they age, requiring outside-the-box thinking and significant funds to secure their future. But the extra effort pays long-lasting dividends in landmarks that assume elevated community status and purpose.

In this issue, we explore three ahead-of-their time Indiana landmarks that represent pioneering concepts, from an ingenious—if ill-fated—Victorian plan to reduce labor, to a futuristic vision for American housing, to a daring break from tradition in religious architecture.

CIRCULAR LOGIC

From the outside, the brick building at the corner of Washington and Market streets in Crawfordsville looks like almost any other nineteenth-century upper middle-class home. But looks can be deceiving. A blocky structure attached to the back of the house contains an example of state-of-the-art Victorian engineering—the world’s first revolving jail.

Constructed in 1882, the Montgomery County Rotary Jail and Sheriff’s Residence presented an economical solution to managing prisoners in the late nineteenth century by using a system invented by Indianapolis architect William H. Brown and engineer and blacksmith Benjamin F. Haugh, whose Haugh and Ketchum Iron Works Company became known for supplying architectural ironwork to build jails.

Montgomery County Commissioners hired Brown and fellow architect Edgar J. Hodgson to design the jail and engaged Haugh’s company to build it. The iron and steel design incorporated a mobile block of 16 wedge-shaped cells surrounded by a stationary cage with only one opening. By turning a crank, the jailer could rotate the entire circular two-story cell block on a central axis, aligning one cell at a time with the opening in the cage, effectively “locking” prisoners into their cells—an efficient setup meant to minimize the need for a large security staff.

Beset by mechanical breakdowns, injured prisoners, and prisoners who figured out how to defeat the rotary design,

the jail was immobilized in 1938 and closed in 1973. Locals rallied to restore the landmark, including the rotary mechanism, and reopened the former sheriff’s residence and jail as a museum in 1975. The building’s former powerhouse is now the Tannenbaum Cultural Center of Montgomery County, a place for community events.

Of the 18 rotary jails built in the U.S., the Montgomery County Rotary Jail is one of just three still standing and the only one that still rotates. The building’s provenance and architectural integrity have qualified it for consideration as a National Historic Landmark.

Today, visitors to the Rotary Jail Museum can tour the rotating cell block, see jail artifacts, and observe the massive carousel-like platform in the basement that spins the cells. Visit rotaryjailmuseum.org and their Facebook page for information about tour hours and special events.

As the world’s first revolving jail and the only one that still rotates, Montgomery County’s Rotary Jail and Sheriff’s Residence serves today as a local museum. Visitors to the site can see jail artifacts and exhibits offering fascinating insight into nineteenth-century incarceration, as well as the massive platform that spins the cells.

PHOTOS © ROTARY JAIL MUSEUM



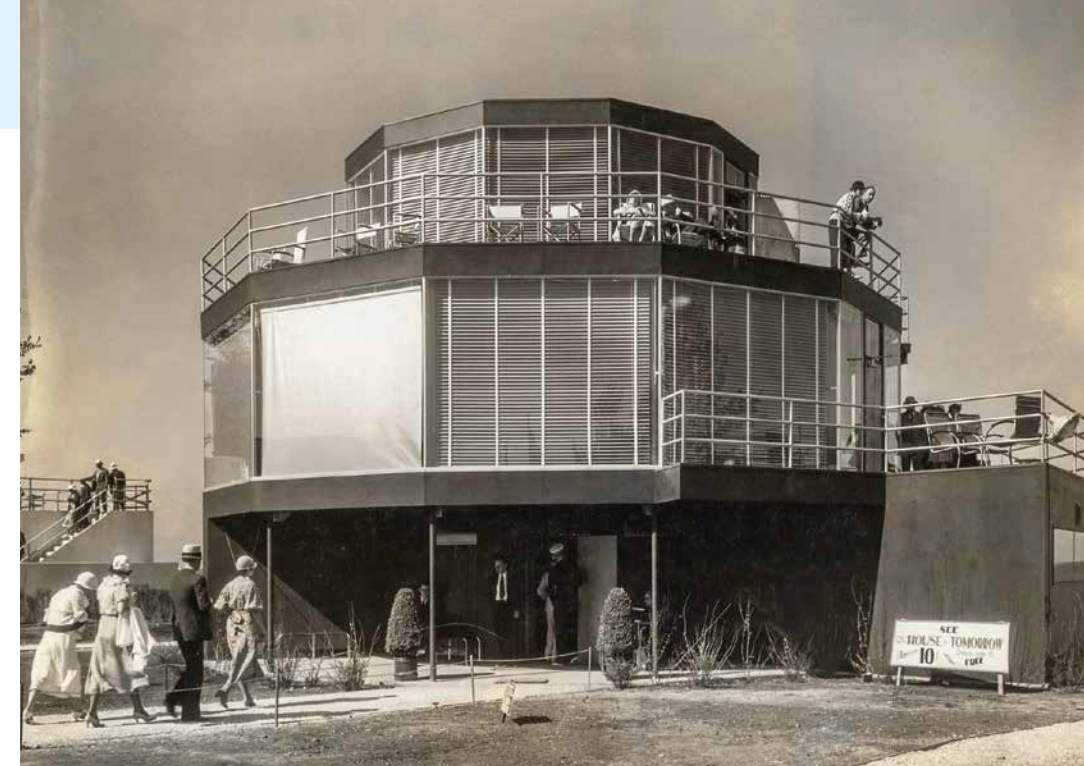
BRIGHTER TOMORROW

Central air conditioning. An innovative open floor plan. A hanger for the family airplane. When it debuted at the 1933 Century of Progress World’s Fair in Chicago, the 12-sided House of Tomorrow offered a hopeful vision of the future to millions of fairgoers that came to see how science and technology could improve everyday living.

Architect George Fred Keck’s groundbreaking design for the House of Tomorrow incorporated floor-to-ceiling glass walls, prompting media to name it “America’s First Glass House.” The extensive use of glass predated Mies van der Rohe’s Farnsworth House and Philip Johnson’s Glass House and inspired Keck to explore harnessing solar energy in his future work.

After the fair ended, developer Robert Bartlett shipped the House of Tomorrow and other exhibition homes by barge and truck to Beverly Shores, Indiana, to serve as the attention-getting centerpiece of a resort community he hoped to develop. The properties remained in private hands until the land they occupied became part of the Indiana Dunes National Park in the ’60s and ’70s. Homeowners were allowed to stay for specified periods with little incentive to maintain the unique properties, and the homes suffered.

To save the unique enclave, in the 1990s Indiana Landmarks proposed an ingenious plan: leasing the properties from the park and then subleasing them to tenants who could restore them. It’s a strategy that’s saved four of the homes, but the scale, cost, and



George Fred Keck’s House of Tomorrow offered attendees of the 1933 World’s Fair in Chicago a futuristic vision of daily living—complete with family airplane hangar (above). This spring, the National Park Service plans to begin exterior restoration of the property in Indiana Dunes National Park (right), aided by \$2 million from the Great American Outdoors Act.

PHOTOS © CENTURY OF PROGRESS RECORDS, UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO LIBRARY; BY TINA CONNOR



complexity of rehabilitating the House of Tomorrow put it out of reach for most potential lessees. Significantly altered since its World’s Fair days, the House of Tomorrow has been vacant since 1999. Now, with the support of \$2 million from the Great American Outdoors Act funded through the U.S. Department of the Interior, the future of the House of Tomorrow looks bright once again.

Recognizing the House of Tomorrow’s significant architectural legacy, the National Trust for Historic Preservation designated it a National Treasure in 2016 and collaborated with Indiana Landmarks to hire a respected team of architects and engineers to develop restoration plans. bKL Architecture—a firm with a proven track record working on buildings with significant glass features—partnered with Bauer Latoza Studio, which holds significant experience with restoration projects and National Park Service requirements, to develop plans that return the best of the 1933 Keck design while incorporating modern technology and conveniences to make the home livable



today. This fall, the National Park Service opened the project for bidding, aiming to start the first phase of the landmark's rehabilitation—restoring the structure's exterior and its concrete slab floors—in the spring of 2024. Once that work is complete, project leaders will determine the scope of interior work and the property's final use.

TOWERING TRIUMPH

When it was built in 1942, Columbus's First Christian Church broke the mold for traditional religious architecture

and launched the community's reputation as a Modernist mecca. Today, the landmark is in the news again, as work wraps up to secure and save the church's 166-foot clock tower.

Originally built for Tabernacle Church of Christ, the building's construction involved a team of the twentieth century's most notable designers, commissioned through the efforts of prominent families who would become the city's most significant architectural influencers.

As Tabernacle's congregation outgrew its original church in the 1930s, Nettie Sweeney Miller, the reverend's daughter and

First Christian Church's 166-foot tower has served as a beacon on the downtown skyline since the National Historic Landmark's construction in 1942. To address cracks that necessitated major masonry repairs, reconstruction of the top third of the tower began this past spring, fueled by a \$3.2 fundraising campaign.

PHOTO BY EVAN HALE

a member of the building committee, traveled to Michigan's Cranbrook Academy to commission Finnish architect Eliel Saarinen to design a new house of worship. When Saarinen initially resisted designing a religious building—disliking traditional designs that he considered too theatrical—Mrs. Miller changed his mind by assuring him the congregation wanted a different kind of church. "Our town is small and there are all sorts and conditions of men," she said. "While we should like the church to be beautiful, we do not want the first reaction to be, how much did the church cost? We want the poorest women in town to feel at home there."

Saarinen delivered, collaborating with his son Eero on a rectangular church that spanned a city block in the center of town. The team's

revolutionary design incorporated a façade of gridded limestone squares, a sunken courtyard, and a free-standing tower with clock. Eliel's wife Loja, a talented weaver, created a large tapestry, "The Sermon on the Mount," to hang in the sanctuary. Indianapolis firm Pierre and Wright served as associate architect. Known today as First Christian Church, the National Historic Landmark building continues to serve its original purpose.

By 2016, water infiltration threatened the sanctuary's skylight, a character-defining feature that many feared would be lost to significant repair costs. The church joined with Landmark Columbus Foundation, the Heritage Fund-Community Foundation of Bartholomew County, and Indiana Landmarks to form Friends of First Christian Church Architecture, a group dedicated to supporting and protecting Saarinen's standout design. The Friends raised \$160,000 to repair the skylight and install a shade system, making the space more versatile.

Though the congregation was already aware of cracks in the church tower from an assessment by local firm Louis Joyner Architect in 2014, the skylight project offered a new vantage point that revealed worsening conditions, prompting more in-depth evaluation by Joyner's team, Arsee Engineers, and The Engineering Collaborative. "We did more research and found documentation for previous repairs to get an understanding of what had been done," says Joyner. "It showed this tower had really been moving a lot for a long time."

Friends of First Christian Church Architecture and the congregation launched a "Save Our Tower" campaign, securing a \$500,000 Save America's Treasures grant from the National Parks Service that kicked off fundraising efforts totaling \$3.2 million. Indiana Landmarks helped the group secure a \$500,000 challenge grant from the Jeffris Family Foundation and a \$250,000 National Fund grant from the National Fund for Sacred Places and provided a \$5,000 grant through our Indiana Modern affinity group. The successful campaign allowed the church to hire the project team that had originally studied the tower, along with RATIO Architects, to evaluate again and begin repairs. F.A. Wilhelm Construction Co. served as general contractor.

Work got underway last spring to reconstruct the upper third of the tower, including significant masonry repairs. The precast concrete grilles that punctuate the tower—replaced by plastic substitutes in 1976—were recreated in limestone, a more durable material that still resembled the original concrete. A new ventilation system will prevent condensation within the structure, and a new concrete block wall will stabilize the top of the freestanding tower, which has contorted without extra support.

Workers created a new concrete block wall to stabilize the top of the freestanding tower and installed a new ventilation system to combat condensation that had contributed to its deterioration. On November 12, Landmark Columbus Foundation will host "A Towering Achievement" to celebrate the project nearing completion.

PHOTO BY HADLEY FRUITS

On November 12, Landmark Columbus plans to host "A Towering Achievement," a community celebration recognizing the project as restoration of the tower nears completion.

"The tower is critical to the overall design of the building, not only completing the façade of the sanctuary but sending a tall signal out into the community that there's a church here," says Richard McCoy, executive director of Landmark Columbus Foundation. "First Christian shows buildings can be a quest for excellence, more than just a place to gather, but the center of a community."



Perpetuating our Work

GROWING UP IN SHELBYVILLE,

Anne Scheele gained an early awareness of historic buildings walking to her grandparents’ Victorian home and visiting the family business, a mortuary in a Second Empire-style building downtown. She credits her father’s interest in architecture with instilling an appreciation for historic places that continues today, whether she’s vacationing in the family’s 1911 cottage in Michigan or visiting her grandparents’ historic farmsteads in Shelby County.

Scheele graduated from Briarcliff College in New York with a degree in geography and cartography that she thought would lead to a career as a mapmaker. Instead, she ended up in publishing, later working as associate editor of a travel magazine in New York before moving back to Indiana with her family in 1972. She learned about Indiana Landmarks while working as a Junior League of Indianapolis volunteer on the Old Northside Revolving Fund committee, created to rescue and resell houses in the neighborhood with protective covenants. Scheele helped to educate corporate leaders about the merits of historic preservation and garner their financial support, and she assisted in creating a walking tour booklet highlighting neighborhood architecture.

This early involvement sparked Scheele’s decades-long association



Anne Scheele began her decades-long association with Indiana Landmarks in the 1970s as part of the Old Northside Revolving Fund committee, which rescued neighborhood landmarks, including the Eden-Talbott House (pictured), before reselling them with protective covenants. She continues to support the organization’s work by serving on our finance and investment committees, and financially as an event sponsor and by including us in her estate plans.

PHOTO BY EVAN HALE

with Indiana Landmarks. She later served as a board member and board chair, becoming part of the leadership team that pursued saving and restoring Orange County’s West Baden Springs Hotel. She continues to offer her experience on our finance and investment committees today. “Being involved with Indiana Landmarks, I’ve repeatedly seen how historic buildings can evolve to give value to the economy and serve modern-day uses while maintaining their bones and beauty and history,” says Scheele. “It’s been an unbelievable organization to be associated with and it

has given me way more than I have given back.”

Scheele continued to use her experiences and association with Indiana Landmarks to raise awareness of historic places. In her 28 years as advancement director for The Orchard School in Indianapolis, she often found opportunities to connect her work to the organization. In one case she supported their fundraiser by taking students on a downtown walking tour, where they were fascinated by discovering animals in architecture. When her family needed to repair the slate roof on the family mortuary, she referred them to Indiana Landmarks for resources and advice.

Along with volunteering her time, Scheele has been equally generous in financial support to Indiana Landmarks, sponsoring events such as our annual Rescue Party and including the organization in her estate plans. “I’ve been engaged with Indiana Landmarks for over fifty years, and I want to see it perpetuate, so this allows me to do what I can when I’m not here to help it continue to flourish,” says Scheele. “Indiana Landmarks will always be in my heart.”

FOR SALE

LANDMARKS ON THE MARKET
see more at indianalandmarks.org/for-sale



5440 E. 75th Street

Indianapolis

Nestled on 4.88 acres with meandering streams, this 1930 Allison Estate is a French Chateau masterpiece. Swarovski chandeliers adorn grand dining and living rooms, and chef’s kitchen. 5 bedrooms, 3 full/3 half-baths, owner’s ensuite. Other features include a teen/in-law wing, walkout basement with wet bar, and 3-car garage.

\$1,699,000
Jeanne Morton
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BRIEFLY NOTED

Stevie Meyer joins Indiana Landmarks as community preservation specialist in our Eastern Regional Office in Richmond. She holds a bachelor’s degree in history from Gonzaga University in Spokane, Washington, where she previously interned in the City of Spokane’s historic preservation office.

John Kochanczyk is grant administrator for Indiana Landmarks’ Sacred Places Indiana program. Kochanczyk holds a master’s degree in public history and historic preservation from Colorado State University and previously worked as a grant manager for the non-profit Desert Rose Foundation in Martinsville.

Samara, the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed John and Catherine Christian House that Indiana Landmarks co-stewards in West Lafayette, won a 2023 Modernism in America Award from Docomomo US for its recently completed year-long, \$2 million restoration.

2023 Board Elections

INDIANA LANDMARKS' BOARD OF DIRECTORS

helps guide the organization in its work to save meaningful places and raise awareness of the state's diverse heritage. Each year, Indiana Landmarks conducts elections at its annual meeting to select individuals to serve on the board. In 2023, the governance committee, chaired by Charlitta Winston, recommended three candidates confirmed by Indiana Landmarks' membership:

Tosha Huddleston of Indianapolis is vice president of Talent, Engagement, and Development for Federal Home Loan Bank of Indianapolis. In addition to her current role, she's been a human resources leader in multiple industries, including education, advanced manufacturing, and sports. She's a member of the Women's Fund of Central Indiana's strategic planning committee and Martin University's Works Advisory, and she served as past board president for the Martindale Brightwood Community Development Corporation.



Susan Mendenhall of Fort Wayne is director of programs for Don Wood Foundation, which, among other goals, aims to fill the talent pipeline for advanced manufacturing and advance entrepreneurship. She has more than 15 years of experience in nonprofit leadership, including serving as president and CEO of Arts United of Greater Fort



Wayne, Inc., as a board member of several regional economic development organizations, and as a committee member of the Indiana Arts Commission and Fort Wayne Public Art Commission. In addition to other accolades, in 2021 she was honored by Fort Wayne's Journal Gazette as Citizen of the Year.

Joshua Claybourn of Evansville is an attorney with Jackson Kelly PLLC, where he serves as group leader on intellectual property and licensing. A historian, author, and editor with particular interest in Abraham Lincoln's youth in Indiana, he served as a featured expert in CNN's six-part series *Lincoln: Divided We Stand*. In 2022, he was recognized with *Indianapolis Business Journal's* inaugural "Indiana 250" award honoring Indiana's most influential business leaders.



Huddleston and Mendenhall will both serve three-year terms expiring in September 2026, and Claybourn will complete the three-year term of retiring director Candace Chapman, which expires in September 2025. To lend continuity, board members generally serve consecutive terms. Bruce Buchanan of Indianapolis, Sarah Evans Barker of Morgantown, Emily Harrison of Attica, Shelby Moravec of La Porte, and David Resnick of Carmel were re-elected to second terms, and Tracy Haddad of Columbus, Dave Haist of Wabash, Sallie Rowland of Zionsville, and Charlitta Winston of Indianapolis were re-elected to third terms, all ending in 2025. Sarah Lechleiter of Indianapolis and Candace Chapman of Evansville retired from the board this year. Indiana Landmarks' bylaws allow terms to be extended for those in officer positions. The governance committee proposed re-election of three board members for one-year terms as

officers: Sara Edgerton, Doris Anne Sadler, and Randall Shepard, all of Indianapolis. In addition, the governance committee recommended for approval by the board itself the following officers, which were confirmed for the coming year: Randall Shepard, honorary chair; Sara Edgerton, past chair; Doris Anne Sadler, chair; Greg Fehribach, vice chair; Hilary Barnes, secretary; Thomas Engle, assistant secretary; Brett McKamey, treasurer; Marsh Davis, president; and Judy O'Bannon, secretary emerita. See the full board slate on p. 2.

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



LOVE INDIANA PRESERVATION?

Know someone else who would, too?

A gift of Indiana Landmarks membership delivers our bimonthly magazine, e-letters featuring the latest preservation news, and discounts on special events. Best of all, it supports our historic preservation work around the state. We're offering gift memberships at a discounted rate: \$10 off the regular price for individual and household memberships. Purchase by December 18 and we'll notify recipients of your gift before the holidays. Contact Jennifer Hawk, jhawk@indianalandmarks.org, or call 800-450-4534.

Tours & Events

November/December 2023



EVAN HALE

Indianapolis Architecture Talk

Nov. 13, Indianapolis and online

Dr. James Glass, architectural historian, presents an illustrated talk taking attendees through the architectural evolution of Indianapolis houses of worship from 1820 to 1920. \$5/general public; free to members with RSVP. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. at Indiana Landmarks Center and talk begins at 6 p.m. in person and online.

Conversations in Indiana African American History and Culture

Nov. 16, Indianapolis and online

Freetown Village presents historians, researchers, and educators sharing their knowledge of Indiana's Black heritage, followed by a question-and-answer session. Sponsored by Indiana Landmarks' Black Heritage Preservation Program, Indiana Humanities, and IUPUI Africana Studies. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. at Indiana Landmarks Center and talk begins at 6 p.m. in person and online. Free with RSVP.

Morris-Butler House Collection Auction

Nov. 18, Indianapolis and online

Bid on a variety of artifacts from Indiana Landmarks' Morris-Butler House collection during a live auction benefiting preservation of the 1865 Second Empire-style home in Indianapolis's Old Northside Historic District. Indiana Landmarks restored the Morris-Butler House in the 1960s and operated it as a house museum from 1969 to 2014, showcasing decorative arts from the Victorian period.

In 2018, Indiana Landmarks' board, with the blessing of H. Roll McLaughlin and other early supporters, voted to deaccession the Morris-Butler House collection following American Association of Museums' guidelines while retaining all items related to the Morris and Butler families. Proceeds from the auction support ongoing preservation of the property, which plays an integral role on the Indiana Landmarks Center campus as a rental venue and office space for Indiana Landmarks' Sacred Places Indiana program. The Nov. 18 auction is free and open to public beginning at 11 a.m. at Ripley Auctions, 2764 E. 55th Place, Indianapolis, and online at [ripleyauctions.com](https://www.ripleyauctions.com).

Visit indianalandmarks.org/tours-events to RSVP and receive information on upcoming events. All event times are Eastern unless otherwise noted.

Holiday Church Tour

Dec. 2, Indianapolis

Explore the architecture, history, preservation, and tradition of four historic churches in and around Indianapolis's Meridian-Kessler neighborhood. Participants can go at their own pace on this self-guided tour, with church interiors open from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Tourgoers must provide their own transportation. \$20/general public, \$15/member, \$10/child (ages 6-11) in advance, with all prices increasing by \$5 on day of tour.

First Friday Reception

Dec. 3, Indianapolis

Our Rapp Family Gallery hosts a free art show, "GRANDE y pequeño: A Celebration of Scale" presented by Indy Latina Artists, 6-9 p.m. Guests may also tour Indiana Landmarks' restored headquarters.

Edward Pierre & the Circle of Lights

Dec. 11, Indianapolis and online

Lisa Hendrickson, granddaughter of Edward Pierre, highlights the prolific Indianapolis architect and man behind the "World's Largest Christmas Tree." \$5/general public; free to members with RSVP. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. at Indiana Landmarks Center and talk begins at 6 p.m. in person and online.

The Holly & the Ivy Concert

Dec. 14, Indianapolis

Experience the sounds of the season at our popular annual concert featuring singers, handbells, and instrumentalists, including accompaniment on the historic organ in Indiana Landmarks Center's Grand Hall. Colorful lighting and wintery décor set the stage for a merry evening, complete with a holiday sing-along and after-concert reception with spiced cider and holiday cookies. \$28/general public, \$22/member, free to children ages 10 and under. Doors open at 6:15 p.m., concert begins at 7:00 p.m.

SAMARA TOURS

Apr.-Nov.
West Lafayette

Explore Samara, one of Frank Lloyd Wright's most fully realized Usonian designs, on regular public tours offered at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., Wed.-Sun., except when the house is closed for private events. \$20/general public; \$18/member; \$5/child (ages 6-11); free to children ages 5 and under.

FRENCH LICK & WEST BADEN SPRINGS TOURS

Discover the fascinating history of two turn-of-the-century hotels and their award-winning restorations on daily guided tours. (Tues.-Sat., June-Dec. & Wed.-Sat., Jan.-May)

West Baden Springs Hotel

2 & 4 p.m.

French Lick Springs Hotel

Noon

Tickets cost \$15/adult, \$13/member, \$8/child ages 6-15, and are free to children ages 5 and under.

Behind-the-Scenes Tours

Get an exclusive peek at spaces not normally open to the public at West Baden Springs Hotel on a two-hour tour beginning at 2 p.m. on select Thursdays, March-December. Nov. 9 & 16; Dec. 7 & 14. Tickets cost \$50/person, \$45/member. Advance ticket purchase required.

indianalandmarks.org/french-lick-west-baden



KURT GARNER

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSES

Join fellow Indiana Landmarks members this November and December for good food and holiday cheer at open houses around the state. Each location gives guests a look at a different architectural style and preservation story, including a late nineteenth-century commercial block building, an Indianapolis 500 founder's Craftsman-style mansion, and historic private homes not normally open to the public. Free to members with RSVP. Learn more about each site at indianalandmarks.org/tours-events.

Nov. 21 – Aurora

Veraestau
4696 Veraestau Lane, 5-7 p.m. EST

Dec. 2 – La Porte

Forrester Farmstead
969 South Forrester Road, 5-8 p.m. CST

Dec. 5 – Valparaiso

Valparaiso Woman's Association
102 Washington Street, 5-7 p.m. CST

Dec. 9 – New Albany

Woodbine
1800 Old Vincennes Road, 5-7 p.m. EST

Dec. 13 – Union City

Vision Corner Learning Center
202 North Columbia Street, 5-7 p.m. EST

Dec. 14 – Indianapolis

Allison Mansion
3200 Cold Spring Road, 5-7 p.m. EST



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IN SEPTEMBER, INDIANA

Landmarks, the City of Delphi, the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, and special guests dedicated the Monon High Bridge Trail in Delphi, marking a years-long effort to save the historic bridge, a former entry on Indiana Landmarks' 10 Most Endangered list.

The rail corridor became an unofficial trail after CSX Transportation vacated it in the late 1980s, though the Monon High Bridge had been a de facto pedestrian bridge since its construction in 1891. The idea of integrating the span and rail corridor into a community trail gained traction in 2012, when Indiana Landmarks and local preservation partners Heartland Heritage, Inc., and Delphi Preservation Society initiated formal negotiations with CSX.

In 2017, CSX transferred the bridge and nearly half a mile of approach to Indiana Landmarks.



Work to save Delphi's Monon High Bridge culminated in September with a ribbon cutting to mark opening of the Monon High Bridge Trail. Indiana Landmarks took ownership of the threatened 1891 railroad bridge in 2017, stabilizing a support pier and installing new decking and railing to create safe access.

PHOTOS © CREATIVE
PHOTOGRAPHY BY JODI



We immediately began stabilizing and repairing a severely damaged support pier, using a \$248,000 grant from North Central Health Services to install new decking and custom steel railing on the west quarter of the bridge, creating safe access to the Monon High Bridge and its breathtaking views of the Deer Creek Valley.