

INDIANA PRESERVATION

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2024



INDIANA LANDMARKS

Annual Report

HANDING OVER THE KEYS

Finding preservation-minded buyers for historic properties

LOOKING UP

Prospects improve for 10 Most Endangered sites

*Thank you
for your
support!*

With Our Thanks

THE CLOSE OF 2023 also brought the close of Indiana Landmarks’ *Save the Irreplaceable* capital campaign that began, quietly, five years ago with a goal of raising \$14 million. As of December 31, we had crossed the \$36 million threshold, making this by far the largest campaign in our organization’s history.

The campaign addresses several strategic priorities: a greatly expanded Sacred Places Indiana program to assist religious congregations in the stewardship of historic places of worship; a capital investment fund to allow Indiana Landmarks to purchase imminently threatened historic places; a robust new Black Heritage Preservation Program; expanded funding for grants to local nonprofits; maintenance and improved accessibility at Indiana Landmarks’ historic sites; and, of course, funds to sustain our core services and operations.

Profound thanks—at least 36 million of them—are in order to all who participated in the campaign at whatever level. We are humbled by the great generosity of people and philanthropic organizations who value and support Indiana Landmarks’ mission. We are also grateful for the wonderful work of the campaign’s co-chairs—Cheri Dick and Dave Haist—who led us with grace and focus.

Many of the commitments to the *Save the Irreplaceable* campaign are planned gifts that will be realized in the years and decades to come, adding strength to Indiana Landmarks’ future. Meanwhile be assured we will continue to invite ongoing and new support for our programs and services beyond the campaign.

Two words we cannot say enough: Thank You!

Marsh Davis, President

On the Cover

Our improvements to Hanover’s Clemmons-Hill House attracted first-time homeowners Eli and Ally McGillan, who are continuing to rehab the 1880s house at the entrance to Hanover College. Read more on p.4. PHOTO BY GREG SEKULA



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BY THE NUMBERS

\$220,510

awarded in grants by Indiana Landmarks’ Black Heritage Preservation Program in its first year to support projects that help preserve and raise awareness of historic Black places. See p. 18 for more.



St. Augustine's Episcopal Church
GARY

LEE LEWELLEN



3,500+ people from all 50 states and 5 countries toured Samara in 2023. The Frank Lloyd Wright-designed home that Indiana Landmarks co-stewards in West Lafayette reopened in April following a \$2 million restoration.

DEE DEE LONG

Regional staff visited over

275

communities around the state to offer preservation advice, technical assistance, and advocacy.

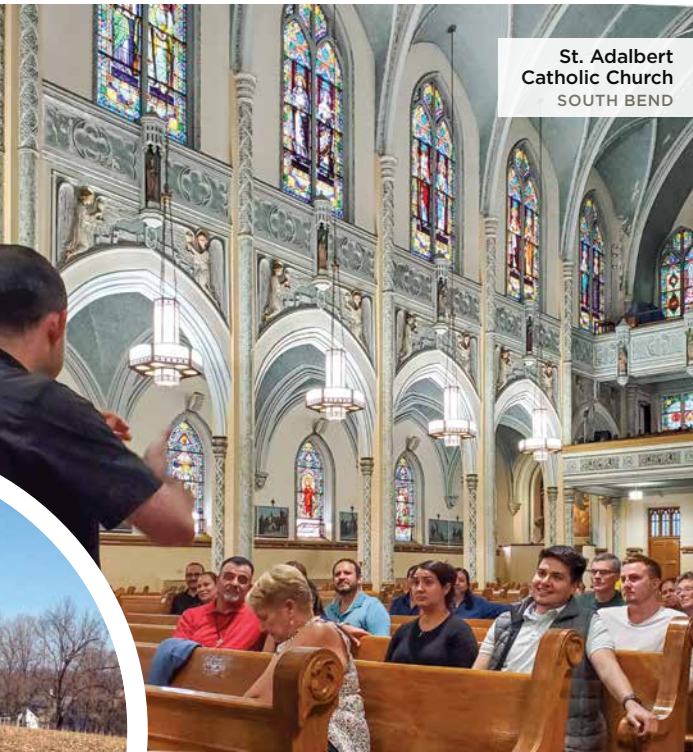
PHOTO BY GREG SEKULA



Sillings-Schoen-Mitsch Farm
FLOYD COUNTY

17

congregations received training through our Sacred Places Indiana program in 2023, learning how to engage communities and preserve their historic houses of worship.



St. Adalbert Catholic Church
SOUTH BEND

DAVID FREDERICK



Pairing Landmarks with the Right Buyers

IT TAKES IMAGINATION TO LOOK AT A

neglected building and see beyond the disrepair. To save such places, Indiana Landmarks improves the view by investing in rehabilitation that helps buyers see potential and offers a head start on repairs. Our efforts paid off in 2023, attracting like-minded new owners for properties in Hanover, Wabash, and Straughn.

In 2022, we saw potential in the Clemmons-Hill House (see cover) at the entrance to Hanover College, though dingy aluminum siding obscured its 1880s charm. Encouraged by our



First-time homebuyer Ani Weitzel (above left) looks forward to making her home in a Classical Revival house on Wabash's Allen Street, one of several landmarks Indiana Landmarks has been improving as part of an initiative to increase homeownership in the city's East Wabash Historic District. In August, Henry County residents Doug and Jessica Barger bought the 1895 Richsquare Friends Meetinghouse (left) in Straughn from Indiana Landmarks, with plans to convert it into their post-retirement home.

PHOTOS BY DIANE WEITZEL; PAUL HAYDEN, AND © INTEGRITY REAL ESTATE

work in the area, the college donated the house to Indiana Landmarks. We commenced exterior rehabilitation, uncovering the house to repair wooden siding and trim, using a historic photograph to recreate a lost front porch, and adding a fresh paint scheme.

The changes caught the eye of first-time homebuyers Ally and Eli McGillan, who were on the verge of putting an offer in on another home when they saw the Clemmons-Hill House. "We really liked the character of this house compared to every other one we looked at. It stood out," says Ally. Since moving in last October, the couple has started transforming the interior, relying on Eli's skills working in construction and his father's house-flipping experience to guide their DIY efforts. "By next year, we can't wait to get

two rocking chairs out to sit on our porch all the time," adds Ally.

In Wabash, we connected another first-time homebuyer with a Classic Revival house we had been rehabilitating as part of our initiative to increase homeownership in the East Wabash Historic District. Ani Weitzel, a graphic design teacher at Huntington North High School, was instantly captivated by the 1900 house on Allen Street, appreciating its architectural details, hardwood floors, and built-ins.

Weitzel, in her twenties, hopes that her purchase will set an example for other people her age, showing them that historic homes can retain their character while being adapted for modern living. "It had everything I wanted in a house, with so much character and historic charm," says Ani. "I don't want the same cookie cutter house everyone is going to get. I don't need to add anything to this except what makes it my home."

Henry County residents Doug and Jessica Barger acted quickly when they spotted the 1895 Richsquare Friends Meetinghouse in Straughn for sale on Indiana Landmarks' website, captivated by the former church's sturdy exterior, ornamental brickwork, art glass, and tower. Since purchasing it last August, the couple has started rehabbing the building as a residence for their retirement years. "We were surprised to find this in our backyard, tucked away quaint and quiet," says Doug. "We fell in love with the architecture and want the outside to always remain the same."

Last spring, Indiana Landmarks sold the 1841 Huddleston Farmhouse in Cambridge City to Tyler and Gentry Gough, organic farmers who intend to use the property as an educational site teaching historic methods of planting, cooking, and food preservation. After years serving as

our Eastern Regional Office, the property's new use honors its heritage, and its sale proceeds will fuel our work to save other landmarks in the region.

Indiana Landmarks also receives gifts of property donated by people who believe in our mission. Following her death, an extraordinary bequest from Zelpha Schoen Mitsch left the Sillings-Schoen-Mitsch farm near Louisville to Indiana Landmarks, including 158 acres of prime real estate, a 1910s bungalow, three barns, a tenant house, and outbuildings. Honoring Mitsch's wish to protect the buildings and land from development, we sold the property to Floyd County at a reduced rate with preservation and conservation easements to safeguard its rural character. The County intends to preserve the historic farmstead for public use—including agricultural instruction for 4-H groups—and maintain an adjacent 70-acre wooded tract as a natural park with walking and hiking trails.

Last year, Indiana Landmarks also sold historic properties in Spencer, Howe, Wabash, and Indianapolis. See current properties for sale at indianalandmarks.org/properties-for-sale.

Last spring, Indiana Landmarks sold the Huddleston Farmhouse in Cambridge City, longtime home to our Eastern Regional Office, to organic farmers Tyler and Gentry Gough, who plan to utilize the property to grow crops and teach others about historic methods of planting, cooking, and food preparation.

PHOTO © GOUGH FAMILY



Promising Progress

“PRESERVATION TAKES

time” is a common refrain among people who work to save old buildings. The sentiment is especially true of properties on Indiana Landmarks’ 10 Most Endangered list, which often face outsized financial and restoration challenges that require creative solutions, strategic partnerships, and significant investments of time and money. In 2023, we saw encouraging progress signaling a safer future for several 10 Most Endangered sites.

In Bedford’s Courthouse Square Historic District, the city’s 1917 Elks Lodge landed on our 10 Most Endangered list in 2015, when the local order’s few remaining members shuttered the landmark. The lodge’s prospects improved in fall 2023, when development partners 1930s Group and Allied Argenta purchased the building at auction—along with the nearby 1898 Krenke-Goff Building for sale by Indiana Landmarks—with plans to rehabilitate the structures as a joint mixed-use development. Indiana Landmarks and the City of Bedford will collaborate with the developers on the buildings’ preservation and community-based reuse.

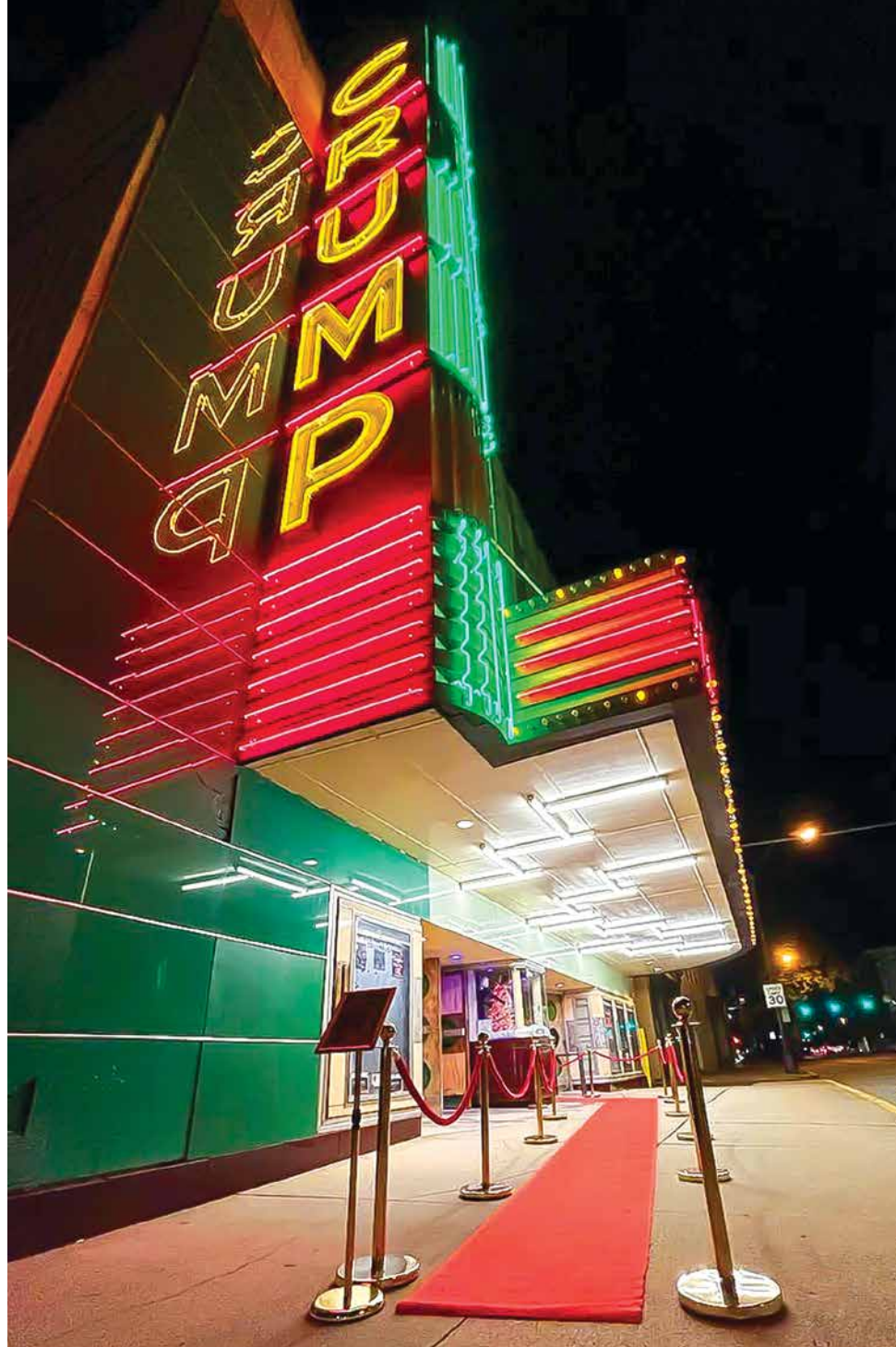
“Our initial, immediate goal was to ensure the Elks Lodge would not be demolished and to transfer it into safe hands,” said Bedford native and historic preservation leader Adrian Scott Fine, partner in the 1930s Group, in a press release announcing the sale.

Closed in 2014 over safety concerns, Columbus’s Crump Theatre reopened for events in 2023, inviting movie and concert attendees to see improvements at the Art Deco landmark. A grassroots volunteer group has been tackling repairs and organizing events in hopes of making the future more secure for the theater, which appeared on our 10 Most list in 2019.

PHOTO © THE CRUMP THEATRE

“It is too important to the community and its history to be lost, and its revitalization is part of a larger effort to activate the historic square business district.”

Columbus’s Crump Theatre appeared on our 10 Most Endangered list in 2019, five years after fire and safety concerns closed the former opera house-turned-movie theater. By that time, a rotted roof left the building open to the elements, and sections of ceilings and walls had collapsed. Inside, mildew, bird droppings, graffiti, and broken items filled the building, which issued a stench detectable from the sidewalk. In 2020, a rallying cry to save the Art Deco landmark drew hundreds of volunteers to conduct a top-to-bottom cleanup.



Guided by a structural assessment by ARSEE Engineers, the grassroots group has since started tackling repairs with donated materials and labor, and \$160,000 from the Columbus Capital Foundation, which owns the building. Workers have replaced the roof, added new marquee panels, repaired plaster, and conserved the lobby mural. The discovery of a massive honeybee hive that had to be relocated temporarily halted work near the stage, and workers found a surplus of coal under the auditorium floor. Creative thinking turned these lemons into lemonade; the group plans to eventually sell Crump Honey and Crump Coal as part of its merchandise. Since receiving an entertainment permit in August, the Crump has hosted concerts, movie screenings, and even a boxing tournament to raise money for future restoration.

“The building is not done, but we wanted people to see the progress and potential,” says Jess Schnepf, who is serving as project manager over the theater’s rehabilitation for owner Columbus Capital Foundation. “Being able to hold events again has been extremely rewarding, watching people come in and see the looks on their faces. The response has been phenomenal.”



Concerns over nearby commercial development put Lawrenceburg’s “Twin Bays” (above) on our 10 Most Endangered list in 2008, but it stands on better footing today, repurposed as offices for a waste management company. Last fall, new buyers emerged with a plan to rehabilitate Bedford’s Elks Lodge (below) and Krenke-Goff Building as a joint mixed-use development, alleviating concerns over the future of the long-vacant lodge.

PHOTOS BY MITCHELL KNIGGA AND EVAN HALE

On a hillside overlooking the Ohio River in Lawrenceburg, the c.1860 Daniel S. Major House draws admiring looks, with bracketed eaves, hood moldings, and bay windows that inspired its nickname “Twin Bays.” Surrounded by sprawling commercial development and strip malls, the house’s location along US-50 made it a potential target for demolition, prompting the house’s inclusion on our 10 Most Endangered list in 2008. Waste management company Tri-State Liquid Waste purchased the property in 2020, attracted by its strategic location and acreage that could accommodate the business’s vehicles. The good condition of Twin Bays convinced company owners to convert the house into their offices, certainly a distinctive calling card.

In 2023, two ceremonies marked a turning point for long-imperiled landmarks in Gary and Delphi. Indiana Landmarks joined state, city, and community leaders in a ribbon cutting to celebrate the opening of the Monon High Bridge Trail, which includes breathtaking views from the formerly endangered 1891 Monon High Bridge stabilized and repaired by Indiana Landmarks. In Gary, city leaders, preservation group Decay Devils, and telecommunications firm Digital Equity LLC broke ground on a project to turn the city’s 1910 Union Station into a \$8 million Fiber Smart House, job training center, and public space—a hopeful vision for a long-vacant landmark. Read more about both projects on our website indianalandmarks.org/news.

ANNUAL SUPPORT



Last summer, hundreds joined our popular “Back to the Future” tour, organized by Indiana Landmarks’ Indiana Modern affinity group, to see a collection of mid-century residences on Indianapolis’s southside, including the Mills House (pictured), restored for use as an events center.

PHOTO BY PAIGE WASSEL

Gifts from our members and supporters fuel our mission and enable us to act quickly when historic places are threatened. The following list reflects contributions above the level of individual and dual membership given between September 1, 2022, and August 31, 2023, but please know that we are grateful for the support of each and every member. Want to join our list of donors? Contact Jennifer Hawk, Membership and Annual Giving Manager, 317-822-7922, jhawk@indianalandmarks.org.

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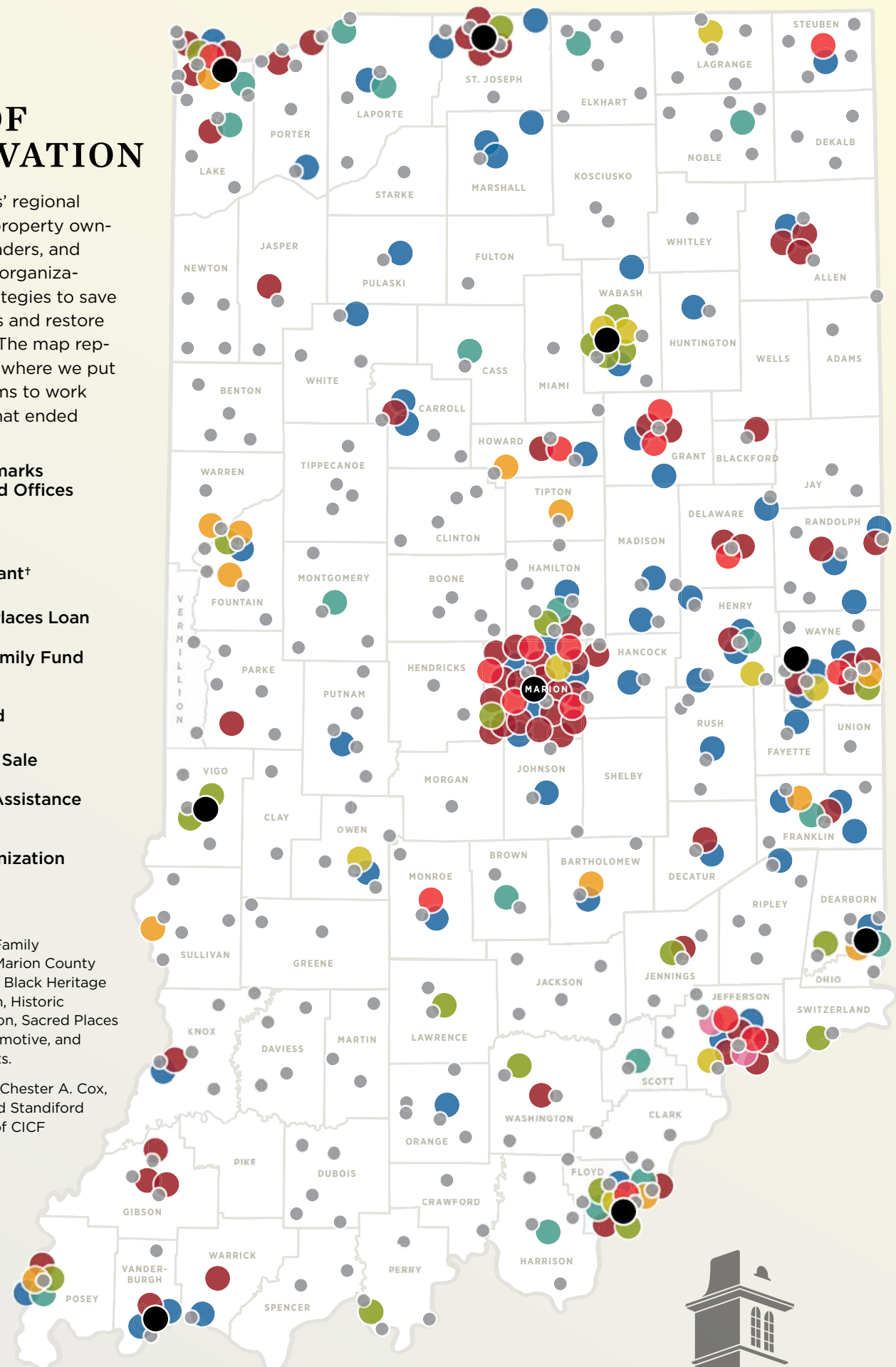
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Indiana Landmarks' regional office staff assist property owners, community leaders, and local preservation organizations, devising strategies to save endangered places and restore historic buildings. The map represents the places where we put our formal programs to work in the fiscal year that ended August 31, 2023.

- Indiana Landmarks Regional/Field Offices
- Grant*
- Cox Funds Grant†
- Endangered Places Loan
- Efroymsen Family Fund Grant/CICF
- Landmark Sold
- Landmark for Sale
- Commission Assistance Contract
- Affiliate Organization
- Site Visit

* Includes Efroymsen Family
Endangered Places, Marion County
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† Dovie Stewart Cox & Chester A. Cox,
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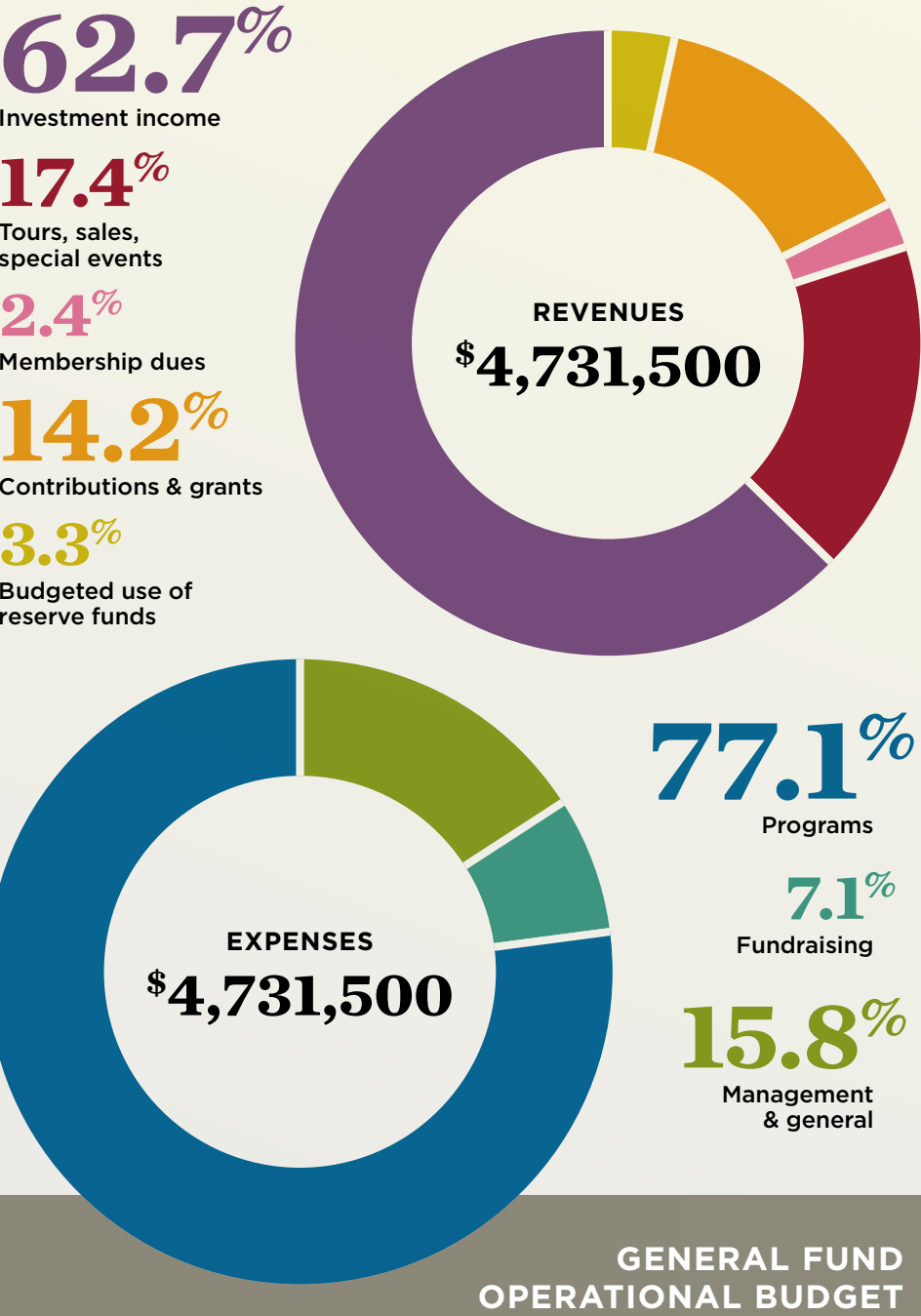
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2023 FINANCIAL REPORT

In the fiscal year ending August 31, 2023, Indiana Landmarks’ finances continued to strengthen, with our net asset balance increasing from \$96.95 million to \$110.79 million, supported by positive returns on invested endowment assets, strong earned revenue results, and generous contributions.

Indiana Landmarks’ staff and board-level finance and investment committees continue to carefully manage the organization’s resources. The graphs below identify the sources of operational revenue and our use of those funds.

For complete audited financial statements, visit Indiana Landmarks’ website, **indianalandmarks.org**, or contact Vice President and CFO Madonna Wagner at 800-450-4534.



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UP TO \$249

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Asking the Experts

WHEN IT COMES TO

identifying resources for repairing older buildings or strategies to protect and revitalize historic landmarks, community leaders and private building owners regularly turn to Indiana Landmarks’ staff for professional advice.

In cities and towns that don’t have professional preservation staff, Indiana Landmarks can provide support via our Commission Assistance Program. In 2023, we contracted with 17 communities around the state to manage local preservation commissions.

In Michigan City, the recent extension of the South Shore Line from Chicago made the community more attractive as a commuter suburb, sparking increased housing sales in the city’s local historic districts. To protect their character, exterior changes to such properties must be approved by the city’s historic preservation commission. Beginning in 2022, the commission began using model preservation guidelines developed by Indiana Landmarks, streamlining the approval process by allowing staff to sign off on certain changes without review by the commission. By late 2023, staff had approved 100 projects, including the dramatic transformation of a c.1890 house in the Elston Grove Historic District. Our staff advised the

Indiana Landmarks’ preservation professionals staff 17 historic preservation commissions around the state, offering expert advice to people who protect and rehab historic properties. In Michigan City, we guided work on a c.1890 house (above), advising the owner on uncovering original features and applying a new paint scheme. In Carmel, we assisted a homeowner interested in using local landmark designation to protect a 1932 home (below) from surrounding development.

PHOTOS BY DEBRA PARCELL AND ALEX BROOKS

property owner on the rehab, which included removing and replacing plywood siding—revealing a hidden second-story porch and attic window—installing new wood windows and applying a period-appropriate paint scheme.

“This house is a highly visible reminder that even a severely altered building can become a neighborhood asset when properly rehabbed,” says Debra Parcell, community preservation specialist for Indiana Landmarks’ northern office, which staffs the Michigan City Historic Preservation Commission.

Lilly executive Woods Caperton Sr. and his wife Sue built their French Eclectic-style house in Carmel in 1932 but beginning in the ’60s, subdivision development began to swallow much of the estate’s acreage. Concerned by how the surrounding neighborhood had grown since she moved into the house 50 years ago, current owner Eleanor Carter reached out to Indiana Landmarks about guarding the house against future demolition threats. We are helping her nominate the property as a single-site historic district and developed guidelines to protect the home’s exterior. “With all the development in the area, my kids and I wanted our house to stand as it is, because we think it’s worth saving,” says Carter.



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In 2023, the Indiana Landmarks Black Heritage Preservation Program nurtured the next generation of preservation leaders through a \$20,000 scholarship, two paid internships, and supervising an additional Indianapolis Press Club Foundation intern. Pictured (left to right): Jayden Bernavil, Sierra Ivy, Eunice Trotter (BHPP director), Mesgana Waiss, and Ahmaud Carroll-Tubbs. PHOTO BY EVAN HALE

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Impressive Start

WE LAUNCHED INDIANA

Landmarks Black Heritage Preservation Program (BHPP) in fall 2022 to build on and expand Indiana Landmarks’ efforts to recognize historic Black places around the state. In its first full year of operation, the program racked up an impressive list of accomplishments, including building strategic partnerships, advocating for threatened buildings, and awarding more than \$220,000 in grants to help preserve and raise awareness of Black landmarks in Indiana.

Among its goals, the initiative aims to cultivate local preservation partners, essential advocates who understand the history of their communities. In 2023, BHPP worked to create and strengthen Black-led preservation groups in Fort Wayne, Gary, New Albany/Jeffersonville, Vincennes, South Bend, Marion, Terre Haute, Hammond, Lafayette, and Seymour. The collaboration is already bearing

In its first year of operation, the Indiana Landmarks Black Heritage Preservation Program launched advocacy and educational efforts statewide, including a sold-out Juneteenth program at Indiana Landmarks Center (above). The program also awarded over \$220,000 in grants to help preserve Black landmarks, including a grant to nominate East Chicago’s St. Mark Zion AME Church (below), designed by minority architect Wendell Campbell, to the National Register of Historic Places.

PHOTOS BY WILDSTYLE
DAPRODUCER AND BLAKE SWIHART

fruit: the Fort Wayne group and local preservation nonprofit ARCH, Inc., partnered to undertake a survey of residences built by Black developer Roosevelt Barnes Sr., who created the city’s Southern/Suburban Heights neighborhood for Black homeowners in the 1950s-1970s.

As part of its work to raise awareness of historic Black landmarks, BHPP awarded grants to help nominate several sites to the National Register of Historic Places, from Indianapolis’s 1901 John Hope School #26 to East Chicago’s 1973 St. Mark Zion AME Church. The program is also developing walking and driving tours of Black landmarks in Indianapolis and Madison.

BHPP also acted quickly to aid threatened buildings, including helping to remove Indianapolis’s Francis Parker School #56 from a demolition list and providing \$10,000 for a feasibility study that showed how the historically Black school could be updated to continue serving students.

To help the next generation play a role in identifying and preserving Black heritage, Indiana Landmarks awarded a \$20,000 scholarship, offered two paid summer internships, and mentored an additional intern from the Indianapolis Press Club Foundation.

Among its challenges, BHPP aims to recognize Black history in places where little to no physical evidence remains. The program is partnering with the Nature Conservancy to research nature preserves around the state that overlap with historically Black settlement areas, including production of a video exploring the history of Owen County’s Boone Cave, believed to have been used as a hiding place for people escaping enslavement.

“The work we are doing will have generational impact on uncovering, documenting, and preserving Black heritage and historic Black sites,” says Eunice Trotter, BHPP director. “This work will make Indiana a leader in telling the full story of American history.”



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For a list of all Indiana Landmarks grants made during the fiscal year: indianalandmarks.org/resources

Ready to Serve

AROUND THE STATE, SACRED PLACES INDIANA (SPI) acts as a guide and advisor for congregations seeking advice on caring for their historic houses of worship and leveraging them as community assets. In 2023, a \$10 million grant from Lilly Endowment Inc. positioned SPI to broaden its reach considerably by hiring additional staff, expanding training, and setting up a grant fund to help congregations undertake significant repairs to their historic facilities.

This year, 17 congregations participated in SPI’s New Dollars/New Partners program, which helps participants identify and prioritize building repairs and makes them eligible for grants to help with planning and improvements.

Leaders at Bloomington’s First Christian Church on Kirkwood Avenue faced several challenges in 2023, including rebuilding congregational connections following the COVID pandemic, and much-needed structural repairs at its 1917 church. New Dollars/New Partners training offered church leaders an opportunity to brainstorm with other participants from around the state facing similar issues.

“It felt like the flame we needed to figure out how to move forward,” says Pastor Kyrmen Rea. “Our desire is to see all 27,000 square feet of our church utilized seven days a week.”

Building on the SPI asset-mapping exercise to help evaluate available space, First Christian invited leaders from multiple community organizations to tour the church and



Bloomington’s First Christian Church participated in Sacred Places Indiana’s New Dollars/New Partners training, gaining direction for building repairs and advice on leveraging its 1917 church as a community asset (above and below).

PHOTOS BY MARY SCHARNBERG AND INDIANA DAILY STUDENT

see if they might be a good fit as building partners. As a result, the church may soon house equity actors for a local community theater and serve as treatment space for a music therapist, in addition to providing rehearsal and classroom space for Stages Bloomington.

“We have long been supporters of and host of arts events,” says Rea. “This process has been illuminating for us as we hone in on concerns most important to our church.”

SPI will open the grant application process beginning in February 2024 for its new Sacred Places Indiana Fund, which will award \$8 million to eligible congregations ready to undertake capital campaigns to address significant capital improvement needs at their historic houses of worship. Interested congregations can visit indianalandmarks.org/sacred-places-indiana to see if they are eligible and to apply.

SAVE THE IRREPLACEABLE

In April, Indiana Landmarks announced the public phase of *Save the Irreplaceable*, the \$36 million capital campaign we’ve been gathering support for since 2018. By late 2023, we had exceeded our goal, making *Save the Irreplaceable* the largest, most comprehensive campaign in Indiana Landmarks’ history. The money raised will help expand and strengthen our mission to revitalize communities, strengthen connections to our diverse heritage, and save meaningful places. Specific objectives for *Save the Irreplaceable* include:

- Creating a capital investment fund to quickly intervene for threatened landmarks
- Improve functionality and accessibility at Indiana Landmarks’ historic properties
- Strengthening our Endangered Places Endowment, which supports grants to aid local preservation efforts
- Creating a Black Heritage Preservation Program
- Expanding support for Sacred Places Indiana and its work to aid congregations with historic houses of worship
- Creating a sustainable future for Frank Lloyd Wright’s Samara in West Lafayette
- Supporting ongoing operations during the campaign

We salute our tireless campaign cabinet whose efforts fueled *Save the Irreplaceable’s* success: Cheri Dick (Zionsville) and Dave Haist (Wabash), campaign co-chairs; and cabinet members Parker Beauchamp (Wabash and Boulder, Colorado), Sara Edgerton (Indianapolis), Scott Glaze (Roanoke), Tracy Haddad (Columbus), Christine Keck (Evansville), Fred Nation (Terre Haute), Ralph Nowak (Indianapolis), Marty Rahe (Cincinnati), Sallie Rowland (Indianapolis), Tim Shelly (Elkhart), and John Zeglis (Culver), with staff support from Indiana Landmarks President Marsh Davis and Vice President for Development Sharon Gamble.

“The success of the campaign speaks to the overall excellence of Indiana Landmarks and the work it does to protect Indiana’s heritage everyday,” says Davis.

“We are so grateful for the overwhelming support from donors across Indiana and beyond,” says Dave Haist, campaign co-chair. “The campaign leadership from Marsh Davis and his team and so many others made it such a success,” adds co-chair Cheri Dick. “I extend my humble gratitude to all!”

The following list reflects contributions made to the campaign from 2018-2023:

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Indiana Landmarks is grateful to receive philanthropic, government, and corporate support for events and preservation programs. Grants and contributions of money and buildings strengthen our ability to save and revitalize historic places statewide. The list below includes gifts received between September 1, 2022, and August 31, 2023. Want to join these donors? Contact Jennifer Hawk, Membership and Annual Giving Manager, 317-822-7922, jhawk@indianalandmarks.org.

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Saving It for Later

WHEN A PROPERTY HAS BEEN IN A FAMILY FOR 150 years, it's not surprising to find strong generational appreciation for its history. In 2023, members of the extended Selby family in Rush County took the added step of protecting their farm's heritage by donating a preservation easement to Indiana Landmarks on a farmhouse on the property their family has owned since 1873.

The c.1890 Queen Anne house has been a special gathering place for generations of family and friends prompting Marilyn Woods and her nephew Carl Harcourt to donate the easement prior to Wood's passing in 2023.

"The Selby family has worked hard to keep the farm in the family through hard times," says Harcourt, who grew up in the house. "We wanted to make sure the house was preserved in the future and taken care of in the way it deserves. My aunt did a wonderful job keeping it intact, and we want to make sure it is maintained."

In 2023, Indiana Landmarks also received preservation easements on landmarks in Vincennes and Huntingburg. In Huntingburg, Carrie Houchin donated an easement on the 1852 Geiger House, hoping to protect it from nearby commercial development. The easement safeguards the home's masonry exterior as well as significant Greek Revival features inside, including a mantel, woodwork, and staircase.

Historic property owners in Rush County, Huntingburg, and Vincennes donated preservation easements to Indiana Landmarks last year to help protect their landmark properties in perpetuity. In Rush County, we received an easement on a c.1890 Queen Anne farmhouse (above) that has been in the same family since its construction.

PHOTO BY BRITTANY MILLER

In Vincennes, the c.1840 Hilt House ranks among the city's oldest residences. When the property's owner considered demolition in 2014, Indiana Landmarks brokered a deal to donate the French Creole-influenced residence to our affiliate Vincennes/Knox Preservation Foundation and helped secure a \$10,000 Efroymsen Family Fund grant for its exterior rehabilitation. To ward off future threats, Vincennes/Knox Preservation Foundation donated an easement on the Hilt House before selling it to Jennifer Holscher and Fernando Lozano, who plan to return the property to residential use. "As a longtime member of the local group and Indiana Landmarks, I personally believe in restoring homes like this and putting them back to use," says Holscher. "I'm glad to have the easement and know the Hilt House will be protected beyond my lifetime."

Money raised through Indiana Landmarks' recent capital campaign will support work to improve functionality and accessibility at our historic properties, including Veraestau, our nineteenth-century Ohio River estate in Aurora where rehabilitation work in 2023 included new paint inside and out. PHOTO BY MITCHELL KNIGGA

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Since Indiana Landmarks’ founding in 1960, generous bequests have helped us grow into the nation’s largest statewide preservation organization. We created the Heritage Society to recognize and thank people who have made these charitable gifts.

If you have included Indiana Landmarks in your estate plans, please let us know so we can express our gratitude and add you to the Heritage Society. Contact Sharon Gamble, Vice President for Development, 317-822-7921, sgamble@indianalandmarks.org.

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Smart Money

FOR NONPROFITS PRESERVING HISTORIC buildings, every dollar counts. Indiana Landmarks’ low-interest loans help local groups buy and restore historic properties, which are subsequently sold with preservation covenants to ensure their ongoing protection.

In the past year, Indiana Landmarks made two loans to our affiliate Cornerstone Society to save historic houses in Madison, including a \$70,000 loan for rehabilitation of a double shotgun house on Second Street. The project is the first to utilize Cornerstone Society’s revolving fund, which originated with generous private donations and a grant from the 1772 foundation.

Research by one of the group’s board members revealed another 1846 shotgun house threatened with demolition in the city’s Georgetown neighborhood was originally the residence of William Anderson, a prominent Underground Railroad figure who mentioned the property in his 1867 autobiography. Upon learning its provenance, Cornerstone moved quickly to acquire the property, using a \$30,000 loan from Indiana Landmarks, a \$20,000 grant from the Central Indiana Community Foundation’s Standiford H. Cox Fund, and a private \$10,000 donation to stabilize and repair the house.

The City of Madison’s PACE program awarded \$50,000 for the projects, stretching Cornerstone’s budget even further. After rehabilitating both houses, the group plans to market the properties, using sale proceeds to repay Indiana Landmarks’ loans and seed its next project.

Learn more about Indiana Landmarks’ loans at indianalandmarks.org/grants-and-loans.

Indiana Landmarks’ affiliate Cornerstone Society is using two Indiana Landmarks loans to help rehabilitate historic houses in Madison, including a double shotgun house on Second Street (above), the group’s first revolving fund project. When work is complete, Cornerstone Society will sell the house, using proceeds to spur more preservation efforts in the Ohio River city.

PHOTOS BY GREG SEKULA

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Between September 1, 2022, and August 31, 2023, several people made gifts to Indiana Landmarks remembering departed loved ones or honoring friends, relatives, or preservation work. For information on honorial and memorial gifts, contact Jennifer Hawk, Membership and Annual Giving Manager, 317-822-7922, jhawk@indianalandmarks.org.

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MEMORIAL GIFTS

In memory of Patti Anderson
John and Sandy Anderson
In memory of William (Bill) Browne, Sr.
Mrs. Barbara J. Goddard
In memory of Elizabeth Chamberlin
Miss Leah K. Leifer
In memory of Dr. John E. Christian
Dr. Wally Rogers

In memory of Fred Clark
Ms. Sandra Woodward
In memory of Deputy Sheriff John Durm
James and Susan Ruggles
In memory of Bill Goins
Mr. David W. Willkie
In memory of Diane Foster Igleheart
Chandler and Jingle Igleheart Hagey
In memory of James (Jim) Kienle
Marsh and Grace Davis
Mr. Mark A. Dollase
Sharon L. Gamble
Bruce and Marcia Gascho
Ms. Jennifer Hawk and Mr. John Klinkose
Mr. Tommy Kleckner
Mr. Kenneth Remenschneider and Dr. Sharon Hoog
The Hon. Randall T. Shepard and Ms. Amy W. MacDonell
Bob and Suzanne Stanis
John and Cecilia Wyand
In memory of Page Lane
Ms. Nadine Fish
In memory of John Opel
Keith Ackerman
Suellen and Doug Bawel
Jim and Karen Rasche
Bob and Vickie Wahl
Bob and Linda Wehr
Mrs. Pat Weisheit

In memory of Brandoch Peters
Adam and Jennifer Green
In memory of Mary Jane Glossbrenner
Phillips and A. Warren Phillips
Mrs. Carol Phillips Wright
In memory of Kathryn Roller
Elizabeth and Philip Smith
In memory of William D. Ruckelshaus
Carol and Larry Landis
In memory of William Tuggle
Miss Candie Hopson
In memory of Richard Walker
Mr. Robert Crane
In memory of Hugh Watts Jr.
Mrs. Pamela Pryuer

Calendar

Indiana Tour Guide Symposium

Jan. 20, Indianapolis

Join fellow tour guides for an opportunity to hone skills and gain new insights. Hosted at Indiana Landmarks Center in partnership with Conner Prairie and Crown Hill Foundation. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. \$40/person.

Indiana Avenue’s Untold Story

Feb. 1, Indianapolis and online

A panel discussion moderated by A’Lelia Bundles, author and great-great-granddaughter of Madam C.J. Walker, explores the demise of Indianapolis’s Indiana Avenue as a Black cultural and business center in the 1970s and ’80s and the community’s story of activism to resist erasure. Sponsored by Indiana Landmarks Black Heritage Preservation Program, Reclaim Indiana Avenue, and Indiana Humanities. 6 p.m. at Indiana Landmarks Center with reception. Free with RSVP.

First Friday Art Show

Feb. 2, Indianapolis

Indiana Landmarks’ Rapp Family Gallery hosts a free art show highlighting Indiana’s Black Heritage presented by local artists, 6-9 p.m. Guests may also tour Indiana Landmarks Center, our restored headquarters.

Athenaeum Building Tour

Feb. 25, Indianapolis

Explore the history, architecture, and preservation of the Athenaeum, as it evolved from German clubhouse to a hub of modern urban life. 1:30 p.m. and 2 p.m. \$12/adult; \$10/member; \$5/child ages 6-11; free for children ages 5 and under.

Athenaeum Bier & Building Tour

Mar. 3, Indianapolis

Sample German-American heritage through beer, appetizers, and activities on this adults-only (ages 21+) version of our Athenaeum tour. 1:30 p.m. \$30/general public; \$25/member.

If These Walls Could Tell

Mar. 3, Indianapolis and online

Storyteller Celestine Bloomfield comes to Indiana Landmarks Center to share an original story about Indianapolis’s Bottleworks, winner of Indiana Landmarks’ 2023 Cook Cup for Outstanding Restoration. Indiana Landmarks and Storytelling Arts of Indiana host the If These Walls Could Tell series with support from Frank and Katrina Basile. 4-5:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$15/person at storytellingarts.org.

Rescue Party

Apr. 27, Indianapolis

Save the date to enjoy great music, lavish buffets, and an auction of one-of-a-kind experiences at Indiana Landmarks Center while raising money for Indiana Landmarks’ Endangered Places programs. Watch our website for details.



ELIZABETH MITCHELL

Reviving the West Baden Colored Church

Feb. 22, Indianapolis

A 2023 documentary chronicles the growth, decline, and rebirth of West Baden Springs’ First Baptist (Colored) Church, a former entry on Indiana Landmarks’ 10 Most Endangered list, rededicated in 2022 after a multi-year, volunteer-led restoration. Screening begins at 6 p.m. at Indiana Landmarks Center followed by Q&A with director Elizabeth Mitchell. \$5/general public; free for members with RSVP.

Visit indianalandmarks.org/tours-events to RSVP and learn more about upcoming events. All event times are Eastern unless otherwise noted.

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. (Wed.-Sat., Jan.-May & Tues.-Sat., June-Dec.)

West Baden Springs Hotel
2 & 4 p.m.

French Lick Springs Hotel
Noon

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

AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS

Indiana Landmarks depends on local preservation organizations as essential partners in saving and revitalizing historic places. They call attention to threatened properties in their communities and advocate for solutions to save them. Across the state, 63 groups have formally allied with us as affiliates, a status that conveys benefits, including preferred interest rates on our Endangered Places Loans, advertising historic properties for sale, and preservation workshops. Know of a group that should join us as an affiliate? Contact Suzanne Stanis, Vice President of Education, 317-822-7911, ssanis@indianalandmarks.org

ARCH, Inc.
Batesville Main Street
Beautification Committee of Albany, Inc.
Bloomington Restorations, Inc.
Cambridge City Main Street, Inc.
Cornerstone Society, Inc.
Decay Devils, Inc.
Delphi Preservation Society, Inc.
Develop New Albany, Inc.
Downtown Wabash, Inc.
Fountain County Landmarks
Fox Lake Preservation Foundation
Franklin County Citizens for Historic Preservation
Franklin Heritage, Inc.
Greendale Main Street
Greenfield Historic Landmarks
Greentown Historical Society
Heartland Heritage, Inc.
Henry County Historical Society & Museum
Heritage Preservation Society of Putnam County
Herron-Morton Place Foundation, Inc.
Historic Bremen, Inc.
Historic Connersville, Inc.
Historic Fairmount, Inc.
Historic Fall Creek Pendleton Settlement, Inc.
Historic Knightstown, Inc.
Historic Metamora, Inc.



In 2023, thousands toured Frank Lloyd Wright’s Samara, a property Indiana Landmarks co-stewards in West Lafayette, following its \$2 million restoration. The transformation drew accolades, including a Building Excellence Award from the Association of Builders and Contractors of Indiana/Kentucky, and an Award of Excellence from Docomomo US, a nonprofit that promotes and celebrates Modernist landmarks.

PHOTO BY NATHAN ALLAIRE

Historic Michigan Road Association
Historic Middletown, Inc.
Historic New Carlisle, Inc.
Historic Newburgh, Inc.
Historic Woodruff Place Foundation, Inc.
Huntington Alert, Inc.
Indiana Barn Foundation
Indiana Lincoln Highway Association
Indiana National Road Association
Jefferson County Preservation Council
Kankakee Valley Historical Society
Landmark Columbus Foundation
Main Street Greensburg
Monon Civic Preservation Society
New Harmony Business Associates
Noblesville Preservation Alliance
North Manchester Center for History
Old Courthouse Foundation
Old Evansville Historic Association
Owen County Preservations, Inc./Historic Tivoli Theatre
Preservation Society of Union City
Preserve Henry County, Inc.
Preserve Historic La Porte
Pulaski County Historical Society
Richmond Neighborhood Restoration, Inc.
Rush County Heritage, Inc.
Save Our Stories
Saving Historic Orange County, Inc.
The Paramount Heritage Foundation, Inc.
The Indianapolis Propylaeum

Twin Forks Chapter National Society
Daughters of the American Revolution, Inc.
Union Literary Institute Preservation Society
Vincennes/Knox Preservation Foundation, Inc.
Western Wayne Heritage, Inc.
Winchester Main Street Program
Wythougan Valley Preservation Council, Inc.

HELP INDIANA LANDMARKS ACHIEVE EVEN MORE

- Renew your membership
- Make a donation in addition to membership
- Include Indiana Landmarks in your estate plans

For more information talk to Sharon Gamble, **800-450-4534** or visit indianalandmarks.org



INDIANA LANDMARKS

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AND FINALLY

Good Faith Effort

WHEN WE ADD PROPERTIES

to our 10 Most Endangered list, Indiana Landmarks commits to finding solutions that remove places from imminent jeopardy. In 2023, we leveraged financial and strategic partnerships to help halt decay at Marion's long-vacant First Friends Church, a legacy of trailblazing African American architect Samuel Plato.

After an engineering assessment funded by Indiana Landmarks determined the 1914 church to be structurally sound, we secured \$148,000 in funding for exterior rehabilitation from supporters including Indiana Landmarks Endangered Places and Black Heritage Preservation programs, the Efroymsen Family Fund and Standiford H. Cox Fund of the Central Indiana Community Foundation, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and the con-

Last fall, workers installed a new roof on First Friends Church in Marion, an important first step in halting water infiltration that threatens the interior of the 1914 church designed by Black architect Samuel Plato. Indiana Landmarks collaborated with Thomas Temple Church of God in Christ to secure \$148,000 in funding for exterior rehabilitation of the vacant landmark, a current entry on our 10 Most Endangered list.

PHOTOS BY PAUL HAYDEN



gregation. Last fall, workers put a new roof on the church, halting the water infiltration that precipitated crumbling plaster, buckled flooring, peeling paint, and mold. It's a positive step forward in charting a sustainable future for a landmark designed by one of the twentieth century's most prominent African American architects.