

# INDIANA PRESERVATION

MAY/JUNE 2024



INDIANA LANDMARKS

## College Bound

Modern tour explores  
Indiana University's  
Bloomington campus

### NOVEL INSPIRATION

Perusing Hoosier places  
connected to literary leaders

### SMART INVESTMENT

Main Street program supports  
downtown renovations

# Tomorrow Begins Today

## YOU KNOW THE SAYING

“all in good time.” Well, after many years the famed House of Tomorrow’s restoration has begun. If memory serves, it was 1996 when Indiana Landmarks embarked on an innovative public-private partnership with the National Park Service to save five distinctive houses from Chicago’s 1933-34 Century of Progress Exposition. When the exposition closed, the homes were relocated to Beverly Shores, Indiana, where they stand within what is now the Indiana Dunes National Park.

To add some perspective, 1996 saw the launch of Fox News. Bill Clinton and Al Gore were reelected. And the Dow Jones Industrial Average topped 6,000 for the first time. During the 28 years that followed, four of the five Century of Progress Homes were restored with private funds. But the highly unusual design of the House of Tomorrow (top) and its degraded condition proved daunting.

That changed on April 11 when Indiana Landmarks, colleagues from the Indiana Dunes National Park, and a stellar restoration team gathered at the House of Tomorrow to celebrate the beginning of its rehabilitation (above). The first phase of the work will restore the 12-sided glass exterior, made possible through the Great American Outdoors Act of 2020 that provided funding to address deferred maintenance in America’s National Parks. One might say, with no overstatement, the House of Tomorrow is the *ne plus ultra* of deferred maintenance.

What was in danger of becoming a House of Many Yesterdays, the House of Tomorrow once again looks to a future when its advanced design will fascinate visitors to the Indiana Dunes National Park, just as it did when first seen in Chicago in 1933.



Marsh Davis, President



PHOTOS BY EVAN HALE

On June 1, our *Back to the Future: A Mid-Century Modern Tour* spotlights Indiana University landmarks including the I.M. Pei-designed Eskenazi Museum of Art, which recently underwent a \$30 million renovation. See p. 4 for tour details.

PHOTO BY JAMES BROSHER, INDIANA UNIVERSITY

On the Cover



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# STARTERS



That’s how long it took for a 1952 design by Ludwig Mies van der Rohe to be realized on the campus of Indiana University’s Bloomington campus. First proposed as a Pi Lambda Phi fraternity house, the design was all but forgotten until six decades later. Construction finally started in 2020, and the building was dedicated as the Eskenazi School of Art, Architecture + Design a year later. See the landmark on a special *Back to the Future: A Mid-Century Modern Tour* on June 1 at Indiana University’s Bloomington campus (see p. 4).

PHOTO BY JAMES BROSHER, INDIANA UNIVERSITY



TOMMY KLECKNER

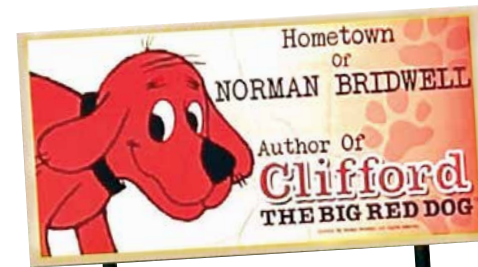
## One for the Books

Since its construction in 1855, Attica’s Jordan-Nave House has served as home to a doctor, farmers, a state representative, an artist, and an architect. Believed to have been inspired by an architectural pattern book design of the era, the stately Italianate still boasts many of its original features nearly 170 years later. Now for sale for \$175,000, the house is ready for a preservation-minded owner to write its next chapter. Learn more on our website: [indianalandmarks.org/properties-for-sale](http://indianalandmarks.org/properties-for-sale).

## DOG YEARS

A picturesque pair of houses in Kokomo served as the childhood backdrop for the writer and illustrator whose famously oversized canine is still a fixture in children’s literature, TV, and cinema. Norman Bridwell, creator of Clifford the Big Red Dog, lived with his

parents at 1014 Jefferson Street (left) until 1939, when the family moved next door to his grandparents’ house at 1020 Jefferson. The city recognized the home’s significance in 2017 to honor the memory of a man who believed in the outsize power of unconditional love. Read about other landmarks connected to Indiana’s literary figures on pp. 8-15.



© MR. NORMAN BRIDWELL TO THE KOKOMO-HOWARD COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY FOR THE HOWARD COUNTY MEMORY PROJECT



ANNE SHAW



## Modern Tour Spotlights College Landmarks

**NEARLY LOST TO TIME,** a mid-century design by a world-renowned architect now inspires students who take classes within its walls as the Eskenazi School of Art, Architecture + Design at Indiana University (IU). Completed in 2021, the streamlined, glass-walled building took shape from a 1950s commission by Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, renowned pioneer of modern architecture. Today, it's an interesting place to consider the progression of modern design.

On June 1, *Back to the Future: A Mid-Century Modern Tour* invites the public to see how modern design developed at IU's Bloomington campus by visiting landmarks built from the 1930s through today, including designs by A.M. Strauss, Mies van der Rohe, and I.M. Pei.

On June 1, *Back to the Future: A Mid-Century Modern Tour* showcases the architecture of Indiana University in Bloomington, including the recently built Eskenazi School of Art, Architecture + Design (top), modeled on a rediscovered 1952 fraternity house design by Mies van der Rohe.

PHOTO BY HADLEY FRUITS

"Indiana University presents a diverse selection of architectural styles across the Bloomington campus, one often listed among the 10 most beautiful in America," says Adam Thies, Indiana University's associate vice president for capital planning. "The introduction of the design aesthetic of the mid-century is prevalent on the campus and sits in a family of styles that range from Romanesque to Brutalist and beyond."

In the 1950s, the Alpha Theta chapter of IU fraternity Pi Lambda Phi hired Mies to design a fraternity house that was never built. Forgotten by most for decades, Mies' design resurfaced in 2013 after Sidney Eskenazi, a fraternity member who attended IU in 1952, mentioned the plans' existence to IU President Michael McRobbie. The school embarked on a research mission, eventually locating project drawings and documentation in the archives of the Art Institute of Chicago and New York's Museum of Modern Art. The rediscovered plans guided creation of the present-day school by New York architecture firm Thomas Phifer and Partners. Spanning 10,000 square feet and two stories, the white steel-frame Eskenazi School looks similar in design to Mies' groundbreaking Farnsworth House completed in 1951 near Chicago.

Near the Eskenazi School, the tour features Woodburn Hall, completed in 1940 to house IU's School of Business. Executed in Indiana limestone with Art Deco and Collegiate Gothic-influenced design elements, the New Deal-era landmark was one of a few campus buildings designed by architect A.M. Strauss and hints at the beginning of modern building forms on campus.

Tourgoers will be allowed access to Woodburn Hall 100, where docents will explain the history of the room's murals by Thomas Hart Benton. The State of Indiana commissioned Benton to paint a 26-panel mural for the 1933 Chicago World's Fair showing the state's history from its origins to the 1930s. After the fair, the artwork remained in storage at the Indiana State Fairgrounds until IU acquired the panels, dividing them among three campus buildings. Woodburn Hall became the home of two panels representing the 1920s, one depicting industry in the Calumet region and the other showing scenes representing the state's history of parks, circus, press, and the Ku Klux Klan. Discussions over the artwork's complicated material led IU officials to decide to no longer use Woodburn Hall 100 for regular classes but to make it available for special events.

The tour also features the Sidney and Lois Eskenazi Museum of Art, which underwent a \$30 million renovation in 2016. Opened in 1982 as the Indiana University Art Museum, the building was created by architect I.M. Pei with triangular forms and a soaring atrium. Pei's other museum designs include similar light-filled design elements, including the glass pyramid entrance to the Louvre in Paris and the East Building of Washington D.C.'s East Gallery



The June 1 modern tour will feature Woodburn Hall (above) built in 1940 and its Thomas Hart Benton murals, as well as the renovated campus art museum (below) designed by I.M. Pei.

PHOTOS BY JAMES BROSHER, INDIANA UNIVERSITY

of Art. Visitors will learn how recent renovations at the IU museum reconfigured spaces to make the building a teaching facility while respecting Pei's original vision.

The day also includes access to the Classical-influenced Lilly Library, a limestone landmark that holds the university's rare books, manuscripts, and special collections. Built in 1960 to house the private library donated by Josiah K. Lilly Jr., the building reopened in 2021 following a top-to-bottom renovation. Its extensive holdings include the New Testament of the Gutenberg Bible, Abraham Lincoln's law office desk, Shakespeare's First Folio, and Audubon's Birds of America, among other notable items.

Indiana Landmarks' affinity group Indiana Modern sponsors *Back to the Future: A Mid-Century Modern Tour*, Saturday, June 1, noon to 5 p.m. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$20 day of tour. Day of tour tickets are available at tour headquarters at IU's Memorial Union, where ticketholders can also obtain tour programs. Visit [indianalandmarks.org/tours-events](https://indianalandmarks.org/tours-events) for more information.





## Program Fuels Investment in Downtowns

**IN MARCH, WORKERS PEELED BACK LAYERS** from the storefront of the commercial building at 515 Main Street in Brookville, revealing transom windows spelling the word “Popper” in painted glass squares, a hidden original feature and visual reminder of the business that once occupied the building. The exciting discovery is one of many “aha” moments unfolding in downtown Brookville and Kendallville as crews apply new paint, uncover bricked-in windows, and rehab historic storefronts this spring and summer.

The improvements are part of façade transformations spurred by the PreservINg Main Street program initiated by the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs in 2021. The two towns were selected as pilot communities for the program, each winning a \$2 million grant to invest in their historic downtowns. To fulfill program requirements, both communities also raised over \$200,000 to establish a fund for downtown buildings and provide support for local Main Street groups.

Indiana Landmarks has helped advise Brookville Main Street and Historic Downtown Kendallville throughout the process, including staffing both communities’ newly established historic preservation commissions and creating guidelines to streamline applications for changes to historic buildings. Along with the transom on the storefront of 515 Main Street in Brookville, recent work on the town’s historic Knights of Columbus building uncovered an original arched window hidden behind brick.

In March, renovations revealed transom windows and other handsome original features on a commercial building at 515 Main Street in Brookville (above). It’s one of several façades in Brookville and Kendallville getting makeovers this spring and summer with support from the state’s PreservINg Main Street program. PHOTOS © MAIN STREET BROOKVILLE; RATIO

This summer, three of Kendallville’s anchor landmarks—the Strand Theatre, a historic hotel turned auto parts store, and a commercial building housing an antiques store—will get façade upgrades, including uncovering bricked-in windows, peeling off sheet metal to repair a historic cornice, and fixing the theater’s historic marquee.

The program has led to a revitalization ripple effect in both downtowns. While eight Kendallville façades received an overhaul through PreservINg Main Street funding, 32 other building owners applied for approval to install new windows, add awnings, paint façades, and make other improvements. Brookville also saw investment beyond the seven façades repaired through PreservINg Main Street, and three buildings once owned by an out-of-town landlord have been purchased by a local entrepreneur. Since receiving the grant, 10 new businesses in downtown Kendallville and 23 new businesses

in downtown Brookville have opened their doors.

“To me it was unbelievable seeing the momentum the grant caused among other property owners downtown,” says Kristen Johnson, Historic Downtown Kendallville director.

Contributing to that momentum, the group used a \$100,000 loan from Indiana Landmarks and \$100,000 grant from the Cole Foundation to acquire and begin repairs on a blighted nineteenth-century building at 211-213 S. Main Street, which the group hopes can be adapted for use as a local restaurant or brewery. It’s also rehabbing a former gas station downtown to serve as a co-working space, and helping other community groups explore creating second floor housing in downtown buildings.

Each community also received \$10,000 from Indiana Humanities for educational programming to enlighten visitors and residents about downtown landmarks and local history. In Kendallville, 24 window clings on storefronts showcase prominent Kendallville residents, drawing foot traffic through downtown. Main Street Brookville, working with Franklin County Community Foundation, created placards with QR codes that pedestrians can scan to see videos and photos sharing local history. Community leaders also organized a series of workshops on preservation and shared instructive films in the local movie theaters. Kendallville hosted the Better Cities Film Festival, a curated selection of films covering community and economic development projects, and Brookville held viewings of shows on historic building improvements.

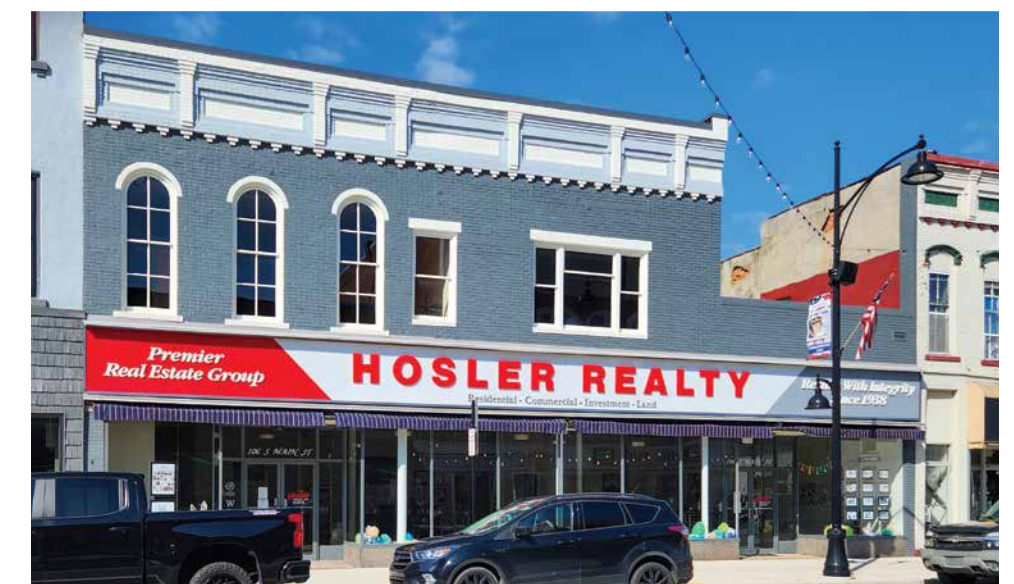
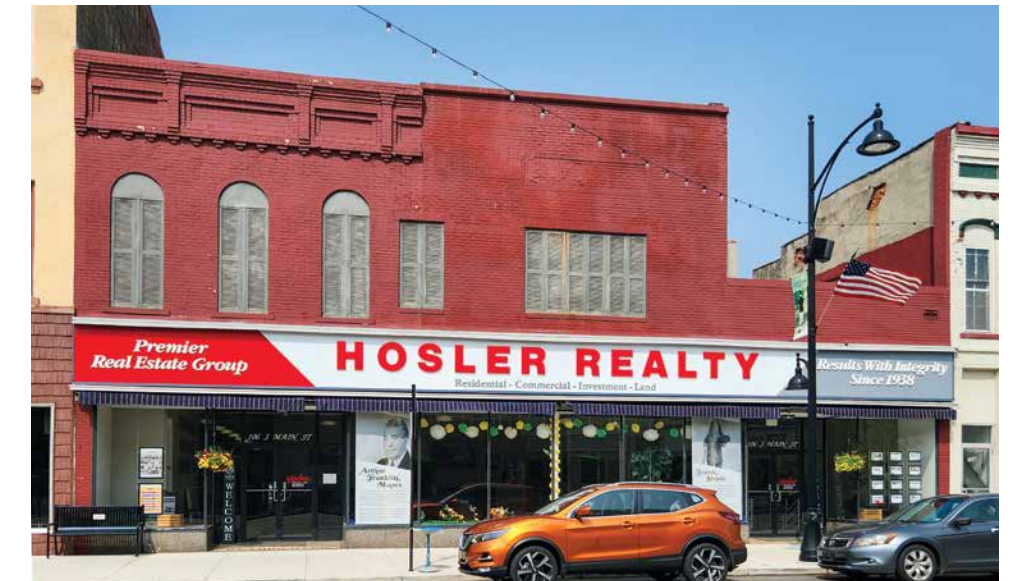
“Seeing the investment and work and how people want to make Brookville beautiful again has really

PreservINg Main Street dollars aided the transformation of eight commercial building façades in Kendallville (below) and inspired ripple investment throughout downtown, with 32 other building owners applying for approval to update their buildings.

PHOTOS BY DEBRA PARCELL

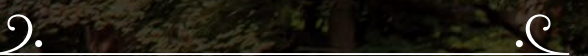
made a difference in everyone’s attitude,” says Christine Craig, Main Street Brookville executive director. “It’s really revitalized everything about the town.”

In 2023, New Castle was chosen as the next PreservINg Main Street community and began accepting applications for façade improvements from buildings owners this past spring. The City and New Castle Main Street are collaborating with Indiana Humanities on an oral history project capturing local stories, as well as planning educational presentations on historic architecture and the economic development advantages of preservation. As in Kendallville and Brookville, community leaders look forward to seeing PreservINg Main Street fuel transformation and renew interest in New Castle’s historic downtown.



# LITERARY LANDMARKS

**I**n the early twentieth century, nearly every literary bestseller list included an Indiana author. Crawfordsville native Lew Wallace's *Ben-Hur: A Tale of The Christ* had become the top-selling American novel of the nineteenth century, humorist George Ade penned plays for Broadway, and James Whitcomb Riley gained acclaim as the nation's premier poet. Gene Stratton-Porter's and Maurice Thompson's nature-influenced writings took inspiration from their Indiana surroundings, and Indianapolis-based authors Booth Tarkington and Meredith Nicholson featured Midwestern protagonists. So many Indiana authors gained national renown



Taking inspiration from the people and places of Indiana in crafting his stories, Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Booth Tarkington wrote bestsellers from his Meridian Street home in Indianapolis (left).

PHOTO © INDIANA HUMANITIES

that the years from 1880 to 1920 became known as the “Golden Age of Indiana Literature.”

Today, the places where some of these authors lived are well-preserved historic sites people can visit, including the Italianate-style home in Indianapolis where James Whitcomb Riley resided at the peak of his career, Lew Wallace’s 1890s study in Crawfordsville, and Gene Stratton-Porter’s Limberlost Cabin in Geneva and her Cabin at Wildflower Woods in Rome City.

The legacy of landmarks connected to another Golden Age author, Booth Tarkington, is less well-known. Tarkington became a household name in the 1910s and 1920s as the prolific author of novels, short stories, serials, and plays. Today, he remains one of only four authors to be awarded the Pulitzer Prize for fiction twice (along with William Faulkner, John Updike, and Colson Whitehead), winning the honor for *The Magnificent Ambersons* and *Alice Adams*, both adapted into motion pictures.

Booth Tarkington was born to a well-connected family in Indianapolis. His father, John, was a lawyer and judge, his uncle Newton Booth became governor of California



hosting dinner parties for visiting Broadway and Hollywood stars.

Since his childhood home was demolished, the Meridian Street house is the landmark most closely tied to Tarkington today. Current owners and history buffs Tim and Doris Anne Sadler knew about the property’s ties to the famous author when they bought the house in 2008. Today, they enjoy entertaining in the dining room where the Marx Brothers and Lynn Fontanne once came for dinner. To draw broader attention to Tarkington’s legacy, Doris Anne researched and submitted information on the author’s life and literary contributions to the Indiana Historical Bureau for a historical marker placed outside the home along Meridian Street in 2020. “Even though we live in the Butler-Tarkington neighborhood, so many don’t know who Booth Tarkington was,” says Doris Anne Sadler. “We felt very strongly about letting people know what a fantastic writer he was and that he was part of this community.”

Tarkington’s stories often satirized the movers and shakers he moved among, while also taking plot inspiration from the changing city he inhabited. On May 7 in a talk at Indiana Landmarks Center, architectural historian Benjamin L. Ross uses Tarkington’s work to explore Indianapolis, highlighting the real landmarks and neighborhoods that the author used to show the city’s transformation from the neighborly town of the author’s youth to the soot-stained industrial metropolis of the 1920s. “His work gives a strong sense of the rapid urban change he and others were experiencing during that period,” says Ross. See more details on the May 7 talk on p. 19.



## WRITE NOTE

Terre Haute native **Evangeline Harris Merriweather** (1893-1950) gained acclaim as an operatic soprano that propelled her to perform throughout the country, but her training as a schoolteacher prompted her writing. While pursuing a master’s degree at Indiana State Normal School, Merriweather mailed questionnaires to 500 Black elementary schools in the country asking about the availability of reading materials depicting African American culture and key figures. The scarcity of resources convinced Merriweather to write her own series *Stories for Little Tots* (1940) with biographies of Black trailblazers. Though her home was demolished, the Booker T. Washington School in Terre Haute (below) and Rockville Colored School (now Parke County Museum and Historical Society, above) where Merriweather taught remain today.



Until recently, a small marker (left) at the entry drive to Tarkington’s home offered the only outside clue to the property’s connection to the famous author. To spotlight his legacy, current owners Tim and Doris Anne Sadler researched and sponsored a historical marker placed along Meridian Street in front of the home in 2020.

PHOTOS © INDIANA HUMANITIES

and a U.S. Senator, and the Tarkingtons were friends with President Benjamin Harrison and his family. After attending school out East, Booth returned to his family home on Indianapolis’s Pennsylvania Street to commence his writing career. In 1923, Tarkington and his second wife, Susannah, purchased a 1911 Tudor Revival-style home at 4270 North Meridian Street, a rural area being developed as the well-to-do sought to get out of the increasingly industrialized city. At the grand house Tarkington wrote and entertained,



EVAN HALE

## 2. RURAL REVIVAL

Playwright and humorist George Ade's upbringing in rural Indiana provided him a world view that distinguished his work in the early twentieth century. But his fame never disconnected him from the Hoosier state, and in 1902 he built a grand estate known as Hazelden in northern Indiana near the small town of Brook. Today the property is undergoing rehabilitation to host events and draw larger attention to Ade's work.

Born in Kentland, Indiana, in 1866, George Ade became the lone Newton County resident to leave for college when he departed for Purdue University in 1883. After graduation, Ade worked for newspapers in Lafayette and Chicago, writing about the rapidly changing country around him from a Hoosier perspective.

Ade earned the nickname the "Aesop of Indiana" by spinning his observations into fables and plays, three of which ran simultaneously on Broadway in 1904.

To escape from his growing fame and the increasing commotion of Chicago, Ade found refuge back in his native Newton County. In 1902, he bought 417 acres along the banks of the Iroquois River, where he intended to build a summer cottage. Aided by Chicago architect and Sigma Chi fraternity brother Billy Mann, Ade's "summer cottage" took shape as an immense English Tudor Revival-style country home. His Indiana residence eventually included a carriage house, spring house, cow barn, lavish gardens, swimming pool, softball field, and an adjacent golf course and country club. Ade named it Hazelden after the home of his English grandparents, welcoming local children to explore and enjoy the wonders of his estate.

Hazelden may have provided a reprieve from city life, but it was not always quiet. Ade loved entertaining and hosted luminaries such as Douglas MacArthur, Ernie Pyle, James Whitcomb Riley, and U.S. Presidents Theodore Roosevelt, Calvin Coolidge, and



William Howard Taft. Taft even chose Hazelden to announce his candidacy for the Presidency in 1908 before an estimated crowd of 25,000.

Upon his death in 1944, Ade left Hazelden to Newton County, and a group known as the George Ade Memorial Association formed to take care of the property. In the 1960s and 1990s, the group oversaw interior rehab projects at the estate, including the office where Ade wrote, which remains relatively unchanged. After the all-volunteer group folded, the County established the George Ade Preservation Commission in 2018 to assess the property and chart a course for its future.

A four-pronged vision emerged: establishing the main house as a museum to showcase Ade's legacy and personal artifacts and serve as a county visitors center; adapting the carriage house as a rental venue for events; and re-establishing Ade's grand gardens a public green space and outdoor event venue.

Humorist George Ade (below left), the "Aesop of Indiana," retreated to Hazelden, his country estate outside Brook in Newton County, where he frequently hosted celebrities, political figures, and fellow writers. County residents are making plans to rehabilitate the estate (above) as a museum, events venue, visitors center, and outdoor green space.  
PHOTOS © GEORGE ADE PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Aided by a \$50,000 matching grant from Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority, \$122,794 has been raised to revitalize the gardens. A member of the Sigma Chi fraternity, Ade's house and gravesite have been recognized as national historical sites by the Sigma Chi Monuments and Memorial Commission and executive committee, designations that may qualify the estate for future funding opportunities.

With the help of a grant from Indiana Landmarks' Efroymsen Family Endangered Places Fund in 2019, the commission also began assessing the condition of the buildings at Hazelden, aiming to make the estate more accessible to the public. The group expects to receive construction documents by Schmidt Associates this fall that should help prioritize next steps.

"We know what we have and what it could be," says Krissy Wright, commission president. "We had to decide how to merge those ideas in a way that best serves our community and honors George's legacy."

To learn more about the George Ade Home and future events at Hazelden, visit [hazelden.newtoncounty.in.gov](http://hazelden.newtoncounty.in.gov).

### LARGER THAN LIFE

Indianapolis poet, playwright, author, television producer and activist **Mari Evans** (1919-2017) was a leader of the Black Arts Movement of the 1960s and author of *I Am A Black Woman* (1970), a collection of poetry that won the Black Academy of Arts and Letters poetry award. As writer-in-residence for Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis and Indiana University in the '70s, she taught writing and literature courses and helped organize a Black Celebration at IUPUI in 1970 highlighting cultural contributions of people of color. A 30-foot-mural painted by Michael Alkhem Jordan on Indianapolis's Massachusetts Avenue in 2016 honors her significance to the city and state.



# DEAR TO THEIR HEARTS

On Muncie's east side, a sign reading "Emily Kimbrough Home Museum" identifies a modest Victorian house at 715 Washington Street as the childhood residence of the novelist, journalist, and lecturer whose globe-trotting and misadventures provided material for the memorable tales she shared with good humor in books and magazines.

Emily Kimbrough (1899-1989) was born in the c.1898 house to a well-to-do Muncie family that served as business and civic leaders in the community. After finishing her schooling at Bryn Mawr College in Pennsylvania, Kimbrough embarked on a wide-ranging writing career.

Muncie's East Central Neighborhood Association is making repairs to the home (above) of globetrotting author Emily Kimbrough, who reflected on her childhood in *How Dear to My Heart*.  
PHOTO BY TOM COLLINS

She eventually became managing editor for *Ladies Home Journal* in New York, where she spent most of her adult years. Her friend, actress and co-writer Cornelia Otis Skinner said of her, "To know Emily is to enhance one's days with gaiety, charm and occasional terror."

A respected authority on design who wrote for women's and fashion magazines, Kimbrough also authored multiple books. *How Dear to My Heart* reflected fondly on



A bestselling novelist, fashion writer, and magazine editor, Kimbrough (left) demonstrated her affection for her Indiana home by returning for a ceremony celebrating the neighborhood's inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

PHOTO © COURTESY DELAWARE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Central Indiana Community Foundation aided replacement of the seamed metal roof to make the house watertight. Next up, the group plans to repair the porch and replace the heating and cooling systems.

"It is a very sweet house that retains enough of its original character that it makes an impression on people when they come in," says Tom Collins, neighborhood association president. "Our goal is to preserve it for the future and open it again for programming that helps connect the house to the culture and history of its namesake."

## FRONTIER FICTION

Methodist minister and writer **Edward Eggleston** (1837-1902) drew on his childhood in Vevay in crafting his fictional "Hoosier" series, including bestseller *The Hoosier School-Master* (1871) depicting the struggles and successes of new schoolmaster Ralph Hartsook. Vevay schoolteacher Julia L. Dumont encouraged Eggleston's literary interests, which developed into writings that gave a realistic impression of the then-Western frontier. The early 1830s house (below) on Vevay's Main Street where Eggleston grew up still stands and gained listing in the National Register of Historic Places in 1973 for its association with the author.

her Muncie childhood, including memories of visits to her grandparents' home down the street and rides in her grandfather's automobile.

Emily Kimbrough's national prominence led the City of Muncie to designate the local Emily Kimbrough Historic District in 1976. When the historic district was listed in the National Register of Historic Places two years later, Kimbrough returned to Indiana to attend the dedication ceremony. In 1981, a local nonprofit purchased her childhood home, made repairs, and converted it to a museum.

By the mid-2000s, the home had declined again and went up for tax sale. Worried it might be purchased by an owner unsympathetic to its history, the East Central Neighborhood Association acquired the house in 2014, ramping up rehabilitation efforts in recent years to secure the property's future. Aided by a feasibility study to guide the work, the all-volunteer group tackles improvements as they are able to secure funding, prioritizing repairs that will help make the house usable again for events. A \$5,000 grant from the Efroymsen Family Fund of the

## COOKING LESSONS

**Angelina Maria Lorraine Collins** (1805-1885) is credited with penning Indiana's first published cookbook, *Mrs. Collins' Table Receipts; Adapted to Western Housewifery* (1851), so popular it was reprinted as *The Great Western Cook Book*. The wife of state representative and newspaper publisher James Collins, Angelina was known for her skills as a hostess and as an anti-slavery and temperance advocate, who dramatically depicted the troubles of alcoholism in her fictional novel *Mrs. Ben Darby: Or The Weal and Woe of Social Life*. The 1852 Federal/Greek Revival-style brick house (right) where the Collins lived in New Albany still stands on East Main Street in the Mansion Row Historic District.



LAURA RENWICK



MITCHELL KNIGGA



## A Legacy of Friendship

**THOUGH HE LIVES OUT WEST, SPLITTING TIME** between San Francisco and Jackson Hole, Wyoming, Dennis Paustenbach considers himself a “Midwesterner through and through.” Born in Pennsylvania and raised in Ohio, he moved to Indiana to attend college at Rose Polytechnic Institute in Terre Haute and worked for Eli Lilly and Company after graduation. A board-certified toxicologist and industrial hygienist, today he is president and senior consultant of Paustenbach and Associates, based in Wyoming, Colorado, and California.

While pursuing his doctorate degree in environmental toxicology at Purdue University in the late '70s and early '80s, Dennis attended classes taught by bionucleonics professor Dr. John Christian. He was also an adjunct professor as he worked for Christian while teaching courses in environmental and occupational hygiene. He was a frequent guest of John and Catherine Christian at Samara, their Frank Lloyd Wright-designed home just across the street from the university. There, Dennis gained appreciation for Wright's ahead-of-his-time concepts, and Dr. Christian's enthusiasm for his home.

“We were very close,” says Dennis. “It was his passion for the last fifteen years of his life, trying to complete everything Wright specified for the house from napkins to candlesticks to upholstery. To the best of my knowledge, it is the only home by Wright that has been restored precisely as Wright designed it, including throw rugs and the rings for the napkins. It may be the only frozen-in-time example of his work.”

A self-proclaimed history buff who enjoys experiencing architecture from all eras, Dennis seeks out spectacular examples in



Dennis Paustenbach (top) gained appreciation for Samara (below) in West Lafayette as a frequent guest of Dr. John Christian and his wife Catherine when he worked with Dr. Christian at Purdue University in the late '70s. A generous gift from Dennis and his wife, Peggy, supported the recent rehabilitation of the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed home.

PHOTOS © PAUSTENBACH AND ASSOCIATES; NATHANIEL ALLAIRE

his travels, visiting the Potola Palace in Lhasa, Tibet; the Palace of Versailles in France; and the Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg, Russia. It's an interest he shares with his wife Peggy, who is currently restoring a 1950s Japanese-style house ten miles south of San Francisco. His years studying and working in Indiana shaped his appreciation for Midwestern diners, theaters, and especially barns and farmhouses, structures he's dismayed to see disappearing from the landscape. His concern for early landmarks inspired him to help raise funds for restoration of Sabbathday Lake Shaker Village in Maine.

On a trip to West Lafayette a few years ago, Dennis was disappointed to see the deteriorating condition of Samara and reached out to the Christians' daughter, Linda, to ask how he could assist its repair. She connected him with Indiana Landmarks, which co-stewards the property with the John E. Christian Family Memorial Trust, Inc. He was inspired by *Indiana Landmarks Rescued & Restored*, the coffee-table book showcasing our work across the state.

At the time, we were already making plans for Samara's rehabilitation, which the Paustenbachs supported with a generous gift. The National Historic Landmark home reopened for public tours in 2023 following a year-long \$2 million restoration that addressed structural and mechanical challenges. “John meant so much to me, and I know this house would have been lost long ago if not for people like his daughter Linda and others who respected the passion her parents had for their home and Mr. Wright,” says Dennis.



## Taking Care

**FOR MORE THAN A CENTURY**, a whimsical fieldstone cottage in West Lafayette's Grand View Cemetery has drawn the eye of passers-by, though by 2017 it was for all the wrong reasons. Broken windows, crumbling masonry, a partly collapsed floor, and a large hole in the roof spoiled the building's charm, earning it a spot on the Wabash Valley Trust for Historic Preservation's endangered list. Determined to save the building, the West Lafayette Redevelopment Commission purchased the plot the cottage occupies and launched a campaign to rehab the landmark. In March 2024, those efforts culminated at a grand reopening ceremony.

Originally built to house the cemetery caretaker, the Bedford limestone building featured picturesque details including double porches, a red tile roof, and the “1903” construction date spelled out in stones. Seeking a new public use for the 885-square-foot cottage, community leaders decided to repurpose it for rotating displays showcasing local heritage, to be curated by the West Lafayette Public Library.



A picturesque fieldstone cottage built in 1903 to house the caretakers of West Lafayette's Grand View Cemetery reopened in March following a complete rehabilitation. Today the charming landmark is open to the public as a heritage museum with displays highlighting local history.

PHOTO BY NATHANIEL ALLAIRE

With design assistance from local firm KJG Architecture and donated labor from Kettlehut Construction, the rehabilitation balanced reclaiming historic details and adding modern features, such as insulation to make the cottage climate-controlled for visitors and exhibits. Workers salvaged as many original terra cotta roof tiles as possible, incorporating replacements specially ordered from California, though they were delayed due to pandemic-related supply chain issues. Crews also installed a new copper gutter and downspout system, as well as handcrafted wood trim and flooring to match the originals. A descendant of one of the cottage's caretakers donated a wooden desk given to the family in the 1930s in lieu of wages. Community Historical Project Group provided volunteer and fundraising support for the nearly \$650,000 reconstruction.

“This has always been an unofficial community landmark,” says Devon Roddel, historical librarian and archives collection manager. “The community wanted to save it and our city leaders responded to that. It's a dream come true to see it go from mostly boarded up and destroyed to saved and restored.”

The cottage is currently open to the public Thursdays-Sundays. For hours and information on upcoming exhibits, visit [wlaf.lib.in.us/caretakerscottage](http://wlaf.lib.in.us/caretakerscottage).

**Rachel Harrold** joined Indiana Landmarks as events coordinator at our headquarters in Indianapolis. She holds a bachelor's degree in Theater Stage Management from Ball State University and is active as a volunteer and youth instructor at The Jar Community Church in Muncie.

### SACRED PLACES INDIANA DEADLINES

Congregations with historic houses of worship have until **June 30, 2024**, to apply to participate in Sacred Places Indiana's New Dollars/New Partners program, which provides intensive training to help congregations engage their communities in new ways, find uses for underutilized space, and identify fundraising opportunities and ways to become financially sustainable.

Congregations ready to undertake a capital campaign for repairs at their historic churches may be candidates for the Sacred Places Indiana Fund, which awards matching grants in a competitive process. Join an online webinar on **May 15** (see details on p. 20) to learn more. Applications will be accepted through **July 15, 2024**. Visit [indianalandmarks.org/sacred-places-indiana](http://indianalandmarks.org/sacred-places-indiana).



**BRIEFLY NOTED**

# Tours & Events

May/June 2024

Woodruff Place  
Neighborhood Tour  
INDIANAPOLIS



Visit [indianalandmarks.org/tours-events](https://indianalandmarks.org/tours-events) to RSVP and learn more about upcoming events. All event times are Eastern unless otherwise noted.

## Logs to Lustrons Talk & Tour

May 3-4, Indiana Dunes National Park

On May 4, Indiana Landmarks partners with the National Park Service to present the annual Logs to Lustrons tour, featuring 13 sites and 6 interiors highlighting a century of architecture in the Indiana Dunes. 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Central Time. 30/general public, \$25/member, free to children or youth under age 16 with RSVP.

The evening before the tour, guest speakers highlight historic and contemporary pathways of Indiana's Calumet Region during a "Trails to Rails" talk at the visitor center, tracing the centuries-old routes used by native inhabitants, freedom seekers, and rail lines, exploring their impact over time. 6-8 p.m. Central Time. \$15/general public, \$10/member.

## Woodruff Place Neighborhood Tour

May 9, Indianapolis

Stroll the tree-lined esplanades of Indianapolis's first planned suburb and first neighborhood to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Entrepreneur James O. Woodruff platted the 80-acre district in 1872 east of downtown, creating an upscale, park-like neighborhood, often cited as inspiration for settings in Booth Tarkington's early twentieth-century novels. Guided tours depart beginning at 4:30 p.m. with the last tour leaving at 6:30 p.m. from Woodruff Place Town Hall. \$20/general public (ages 12 and up), \$17/member, \$15/child (ages 6-11), and are free to children ages 5 and under.

## White River State Park Tour

May 11, May 15, & June 12; Indianapolis

Explore the cultural significance of White River State Park on a guided walking tour highlighting the area's history from Indianapolis's settlement to the present day. Take a closer look at landmarks within the park including the historic Washington Street bridge, limestone-lined river promenade, 1870 pumphouse, and more. Presented in partnership with White River State Park Development Commission. Departure times vary. \$12/adult (ages 18 and up); \$10/member; \$7/child (ages 6-17); free to children 5 and under.

PHOTO BY EVAN HALE

## Indy's Notable & Notorious

May 13, Indianapolis

Part historic walking tour, part imaginary showdown, discover Indianapolis history through the lives of some of the most memorable characters to shape the Circle City. Get to know our 16 contenders as you stroll downtown on a guided interactive tour. Tourgoers will rank their favorites tournament-style to reveal their choice for Indianapolis's most notable—or notorious—historical figure. Tours depart at 6 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. \$20/adult (ages 12 and up); \$17/member; \$15/child (ages 6-11); free to children ages 5 and under.



## Booth Tarkington's Indianapolis

May 7, Indianapolis and online

In the early twentieth century, Indianapolis was a city in transition. Sprawling suburbs and booming industry led to rapid changes in its nineteenth-century core. Inspired by the people and places of his hometown, Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Booth Tarkington chronicled this period of intense growth in his work. Architectural historian Benjamin L. Ross presents an illustrated talk using Tarkington's novels to explore Indianapolis, highlighting the real places the author used to show the city's transformation. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. at Indiana Landmarks Center and talk begins at 6 p.m. \$5/general public; free to members with RSVP.

PHOTO © BASS PHOTO COLLECTION



Cast Iron Revival  
Harry A. Davis

# Art and Architecture

Renowned for his meticulous renderings of Indiana landmarks, artist Harry A. Davis Jr. (1914-2006) inspires a devoted following among Hoosier art and architecture enthusiasts.

Following studies at Indianapolis's Herron School of Art in the 1930s, Davis launched a prolific career. In 1938, he won the prestigious Prix de Rome fellowship in painting, which led to work in Europe and North Africa. After serving as artist-in-residence in Wisconsin's Beloit College in 1941-42, Davis enlisted in the U.S. Army, working as a combat artist in Italy during World War II before returning home to join Herron's faculty. From figurative work that captured scenes from his rural Indiana upbringing to the paintings of buildings destined for demolition, Davis has left behind a legacy of hundreds of paintings.

At a talk at Indiana Landmarks Center on June 7, Rachel Berenson Perry shares the pivotal events of Davis's life that shaped and inspired his art, offering a comprehensive picture of Harry Davis as teacher, husband, father, and artist.

"He was exacting but sympathetic as a teacher and really productive and driven in his career," says Perry, fine arts curator emerita of the Indiana State Museum. "He had these really precise images of Indianapolis buildings and other places too, like perfectly measured moments of his time and place."

Following the talk, attendees can visit Indiana Landmarks Center's Rapp Family Gallery to see an exhibition of Davis's work.

## Harry Davis Lecture & First Friday Art Show

June 7, Indianapolis and online

**RACHEL BERENSON PERRY**, fine arts curator emerita of the Indiana State Museum, shares the pivotal events that shaped artist Harry Davis's life and work in a talk at Indiana Landmarks Center. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and talk begins at 6 p.m. \$5/general public; free to members with RSVP. An opening reception for an exhibition of Davis's work follows in Rapp Family Gallery. Presented in partnership with Herron School of Art and Design and IUPUI University Library Special Collections and Archives. This program has been made possible through a grant from Indiana Humanities and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

## Sacred Places Indiana Webinar

May 15, Online

Learn if your historic house of worship qualifies for the Sacred Places Indiana Fund grant program at an online informational session discussing the application process, open now through July 15. Noon via Zoom. Free with RSVP.

## Conversations in Indiana African American History and Culture

May 16 & June 20, 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.

## SAMARA TOURS

April-November  
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., Wednesdays-Sundays, 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.

[samara-house.org](http://samara-house.org)

## Modern Tour

June 1, Bloomington

See five modern landmarks on the campus of Indiana University Bloomington, including designs by architects Ludwig Mies van der Rohe and I.M. Pei., on *Back to the Future: A Mid-Century Modern Tour*, sponsored by Indiana Landmarks' affinity group Indiana Modern. Experience unique highlights at each site, including murals by famed artist Thomas Hart Benton, artifacts from the special collections of Lilly Library, and artwork at the University Art Museum. Noon-5 p.m. Tickets cost \$15 in advance and \$20 the day of the tour.

## Gospel & Blues: The Roots of It All

June 16, Indianapolis

In celebration of Juneteenth, Indiana Landmarks Black Heritage Preservation Program presents a special concert highlighting the history of gospel and blues music. Featured acts include Kelly Jo Nibbs, Damon McCane, Scrapper & Skelton, Kenny Dodson, Tad Robinson, and more. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. at Indiana Landmarks Center and concert begins at 6 p.m. \$25/general public, \$20/member. VIP tickets cost \$50/general public, \$40/member, and include a pre-concert reception and theatrical performance by Resilience Productions beginning at 4 p.m.

## Trades Training Workshops

March-November

A series of trades training workshops presented by Indiana Landmarks and South Bend TradeWorks aims to equip historic homeowners with DIY knowledge and contractors with

in-demand skills to offer clients with historic building repair needs. Pricing and locations vary. Visit our website for individual workshop details.

**MAY 1** - Wood Window Restoration 101

**MAY 17** - Wood Window Restoration 201

**JUNE 17-21** - Youth Workshop: Heritage Trades Field School

## Indianapolis Walking Tour Wednesdays

April-September

### Monument Circle Historic District

One-hour guided walking tours explore Indianapolis's most recognizable historic district, highlighting how and why these blocks have become a symbol of the city. Tours depart at 6 and 6:30 p.m. on May 1, June 5, and July 10. \$10/adult (ages 12 and up); \$8/member; \$5/child (ages 6-11); free to children 5 and under.



Boyle Racing Garage



The Assembly



The Cole



The Wolfsonian

# Indiana Automotive Indianapolis Tour

July 20, Indianapolis

This summer, Indiana Landmarks' Indiana Automotive affinity group explores Indianapolis on an all-day tour featuring landmarks tied to the city's racing and early auto manufacturing history—and two private automotive collections not ordinarily open to the public.

In the Riverside neighborhood, tourgoers will see the restored Boyle Racing Garage, saved from demolition by Indiana Landmarks in 2015. Indiana Automotive members formed nonprofit Boyle Racing LLC to take on the property's restoration, salvaging as much of the original structure as possible, and partnering with Guggman Haus, a German-inspired restaurant and brewery, to envision a sustainable use for the site.

On East Washington Street, the tour highlights changes underway on Indy's stretch of the historic National Road, including an exclusive "before" look inside the Cole Motor Car Company building. Most recently used as Marion County Jail II, the building was originally part of a large complex for the early luxury automaker that once competed with Cadillac and Duesenberg. Developer 1820 Ventures took on repurposing the campus in 2022, with plans to turn the site into a multi-use destination with loft-style apartments, retail, and more.

Attendees will also tour the nearby restored 1915 Ford Motor Company Assembly Plant, a 2016 entry on Indiana Landmarks' 10 Most Endangered list, reopened in 2020 by TWG Development as The Assembly, housing offices, a restaurant, and apartments.

The day includes access to two exclusive collections with ties to the city's automotive history—one located at a historic estate featuring racing and passenger vehicles from multiple eras, and the second at an eclectic private museum, dubbed the "Wolfsonian." Owned by one of Indiana Automotive's founders, Andy Wolf, the Wolfsonian includes automobiles dating from 1938 to 2011, more than 25 Chevrolets, eight Indy 500 pace cars, automotive memorabilia, and more.

Tickets cost \$110/general public, \$100/Indiana Landmarks members, \$90/Indiana Automotive members and include lunch at Guggman Haus Brewing Co., and an end-of-day reception at Ash & Elm Restaurant and Cider Bar at The Assembly.

## Downtown Safari

Discover animals in architecture and sculpture on a one-hour guided tour exploring downtown Indianapolis. Guides share stories and symbolism behind these creatures and explain what they reveal about the city's history. Tours depart at 6 and 6:30 p.m. on May 8 and July 17. \$10/adult; \$8/member; \$5/child (ages 6-11); free to children ages 5 and under.

## Decoding Downtown

Explore the hidden history of downtown Indianapolis landmarks on a 75-minute guided tour. Along the way, learn about architectural styles and compete for fun prizes. Tours depart at 6 and 6:30 p.m. on May 22, June 26, and July 24. \$20/general public; \$17/member; \$15/child (ages 6-11); free to children 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. (Wednesdays-Saturdays, January-May & Tuesdays-Saturdays, June-December)

**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.

### Twilight Tours

Costumed characters depict famous guests at West Baden Springs

during its heyday in the 'teens and '20s. Tours depart at 7 p.m. on May 11, June 15, and July 20; Tickets cost \$25/adult; \$20/member, \$10/child ages 6-15.

### 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. May 23, June 6, & June 20. Tickets cost \$50/person, \$45/member. Advance ticket purchase required.

[indianalandmarks.org/french-lick-west-baden](http://indianalandmarks.org/french-lick-west-baden)

## Indianapolis Saturday Morning Strolls

On select Saturdays join Indiana Landmarks for guided walking tours of some of the Circle City's oldest residential neighborhoods. Gather with friends, grab a coffee, and explore the fascinating architecture and charm of historic Indianapolis.

**MAY 18** Chatham-Arch Neighborhood Walking Tour

**JUNE 1** Herron-Morton Place Neighborhood Walking Tour

**JULY 20** Old Northside Neighborhood Walking Tour

Tours depart at 9:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. \$20/general public; \$17/member; \$15/child (ages 6-11); free to children 5 and under.



KELLY HARRIS

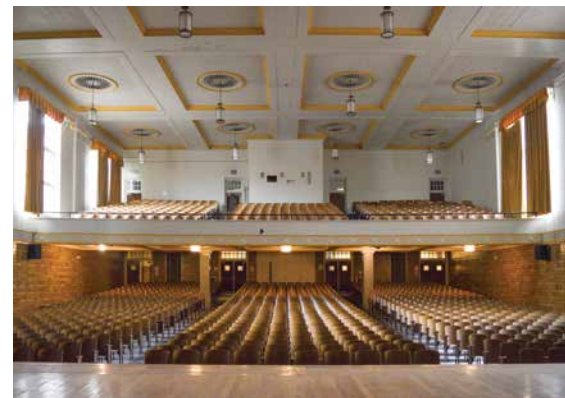


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# Legacy in Peril

**ONE OF THREE INDIANA** schools specifically built to serve African American students during the Jim Crow era, Gary's Theodore Roosevelt High School is a significant Black landmark in danger. Built in 1930 with additions completed in 1936 and 1971, the building continued to serve as a school until 2019, when failed heating systems resulted in burst water pipes and extensive damage. Vacancy and disuse

The National Trust for Historic Preservation recognized Gary's Theodore Roosevelt High School as one of America's 11 Most Endangered Places in 2024, aiming to draw attention and investment to the shuttered landmark built to serve Black students in 1930.

PHOTOS BY TIFFANY TOLBERT;  
BRAD MILLER

prompted Indiana Landmarks to put the school on its 10 Most Endangered list in 2020.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation recently named the still-vacant Theodore Roosevelt High School as one of America's 11 Most Endangered Places for 2024, a designation the community hopes will draw broader attention and support for the building's reuse. Indiana Landmarks has joined a coalition of supporters including the Gary East Side Community Development Corporation and National Gary Theodore Roosevelt Alumni Association in exploring strategies for saving the school, no small challenge given the estimated \$20 million price tag for repairs to the 700,000-square-foot building.