

INDIANA PRESERVATION

MAY/JUNE 2025



INDIANA LANDMARKS



WARM WELCOME

Introducing Indiana Landmarks' new president

REMARKABLE MAKEOVERS

Celebrating dramatic transformations around Indiana

Streamlined Design

Highlighting Mid-Century Modern in Fort Wayne

Next Chapter

IN 1960, ALARMED BY THE increasing loss of historic buildings in Indianapolis, a group of influential civic and business leaders founded Indiana Landmarks. Today, the small historic preservation group established by those volunteers now ranks as the largest private statewide preservation organization in the United States in both membership and professional staff, united around a mission of revitalizing communities, strengthening connections to our diverse heritage, and saving meaningful places.

Known for engaging in collaborative partnerships to find imaginative and often bold solutions for preserving places, Indiana Landmarks owes much of its current vision and approach to our outgoing President Marsh Davis, who retired in April after a career spanning more than four decades in historic preservation. We can't say "thank you," enough for his legacy and impact.

Now, we welcome Brad Ward to steer Indiana Landmarks' next chapter, excited to see how he will apply his experience and his love of community to expand the organization's work. In the words of architect Daniel Burnham, "Make no little plans; they have no magic to stir men's blood and probably will not themselves be realized."

You can read more about Brad on p. 4. In the meantime, here's to big plans and a bold, stirring future.

—Gregory S. Fehribach, Board Chair, Indiana Landmarks

On the Cover

On June 7, Indiana Modern's annual *Back to the Future: A Mid-Century Modern Tour* heads to Fort Wayne, featuring five mid-century houses including the 1950s home (pictured) owned by Scott and Susan Ramage. PHOTO BY CHILLUFFO PHOTOGRAPHY



INDIANA LANDMARKS

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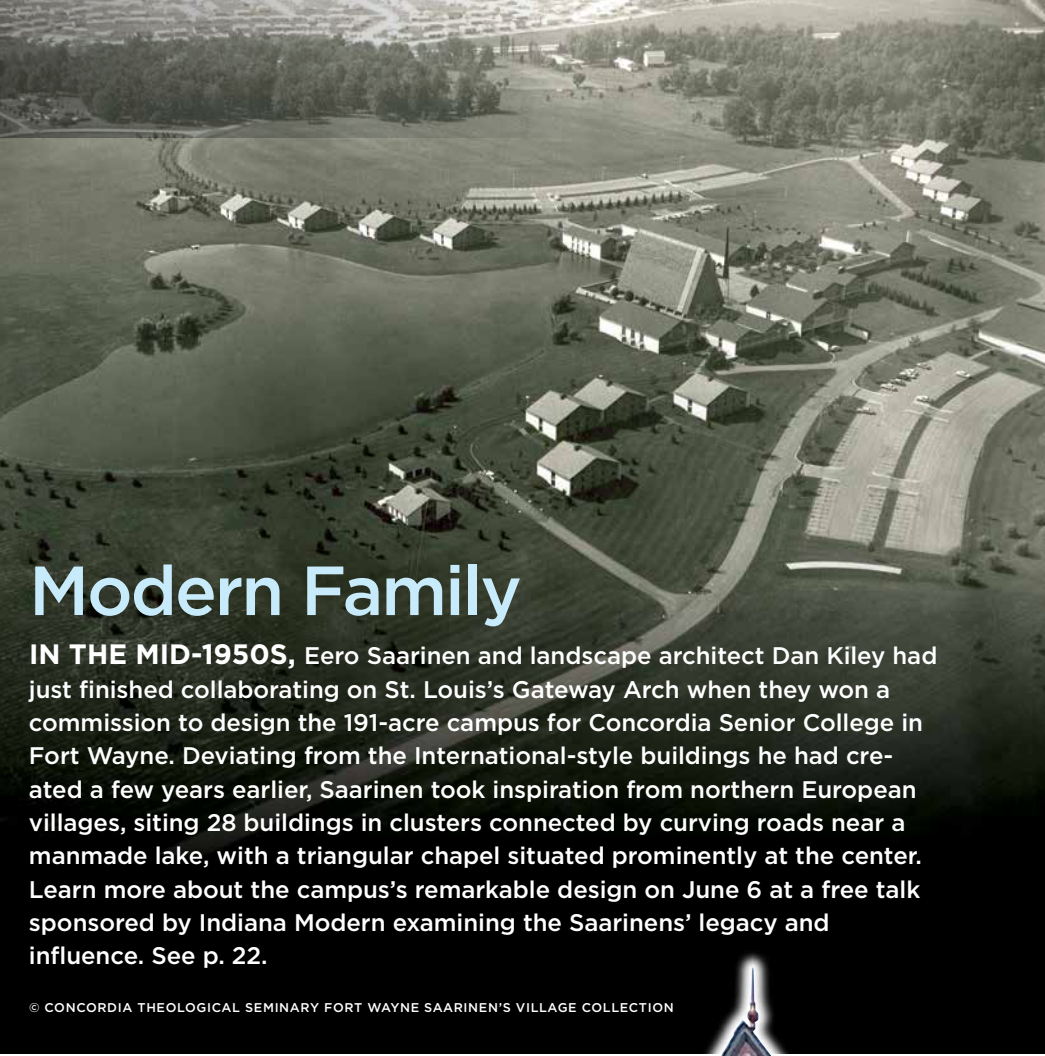
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STARTERS



3 historic flat-iron buildings stand along Indianapolis's Massachusetts Avenue. Used to describe the triangular shape of the building bordered by streets meeting at an acute angle, the term "flat-iron" became popular after architect Daniel Burnham designed New York City's Fuller Building in 1902. Two of Mass Ave's flatirons actually predate Burnham's famous example, including the Hammond Block (pictured), constructed in 1874. Learn more about the fascinating history of this commercial corridor on Indiana Landmarks' new Mass Ave Walking Tour, offered beginning June 28. See p. 23.

PHOTO BY KELLY HARRIS



Modern Family

IN THE MID-1950S, Eero Saarinen and landscape architect Dan Kiley had just finished collaborating on St. Louis's Gateway Arch when they won a commission to design the 191-acre campus for Concordia Senior College in Fort Wayne. Deviating from the International-style buildings he had created a few years earlier, Saarinen took inspiration from northern European villages, siting 28 buildings in clusters connected by curving roads near a manmade lake, with a triangular chapel situated prominently at the center. Learn more about the campus's remarkable design on June 6 at a free talk sponsored by Indiana Modern examining the Saarinens' legacy and influence. See p. 22.

© CONCORDIA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY FORT WAYNE SAARINENS' VILLAGE COLLECTION

Fishy Business

COVERED IN PATTERNS, textures, and colors, Queen Anne-style houses embody the Victorian era's passion for more-is-more design. Built in Indiana from 1860-1900, the exuberant homes' popularity grew through the spread of house plan books, including those published by architect George F. Barber. The houses featured an abundance of architectural details to add visual interest, including ornamental shingles on roofs, siding, and porches. With a half-round bottom edge, fishscale shingles take their name from the fishy feature they resemble. A veritable school of fishscale shingles decorate the gables of the John T.C. Wilkins House, a Barber design in Campbellsburg. Indiana Landmarks recently rehabilitated the house and is now offering it for sale. See p. 8.



GREG SEKULA

Meet Brad Ward

IN APRIL, INDIANA LANDMARKS

welcomed Brad Ward as new president and CEO, just the fourth person to hold the position since the organization's founding in 1960. A Jasper native with a background in community foundations and place-based philanthropy, Ward brings local and national experience in fostering partnerships to help revitalize historic places.

From 2008 to 2012, Ward led the Huntingburg Foundation in Huntingburg, Indiana, working with board leaders to guide a merger with the Dubois County Community Foundation. He served as CEO of the merged foundations until 2016, leading redevelopment of a vacant parking lot adjacent to Huntingburg's 1887 Old Town Hall into a vibrant urban park. He also worked with community leaders and business owners to adapt an underused nineteenth-century building in downtown Huntingburg as a co-working space known as Current Blend. While in the same role, he helped form and advise The Next Act, a group that guided rehabilitation of Jasper's 1936 Astra Theatre as a live entertainment and performance venue.

"Seeing mostly empty buildings transformed into vibrant destinations that are central to the character and vitality of wherever they are located has been important to me for a long time," says Ward.

He took the knowledge he gained in Indiana to his next job as lead



Jasper native Brad Ward became Indiana Landmarks' new president and CEO in April, bringing extensive experience at place-based philanthropy and community foundations. Working in Indiana and nationally, Ward gained insight that helped shape his perception of the role historic places can play in forming community identity and revitalizing historic places.

PHOTO BY EVAN HALE

strategist at the Council on Foundations, where he traveled the U.S., Mexico, Canada, and the Caribbean to help strengthen local community foundations and Main Street groups, overseeing programs providing professional development, public policy, and legal services for council members of the nonprofit association. Ward most recently served as the national director for community foundations at Foundant Technologies, a philanthropy-tech firm that supports foundations and community grantmakers.

Ward credits these experiences with shaping how he thinks about the role historic places play in shaping community identity and creating robust local economies. "I was engaged in preservation work without realizing that's what I was doing," he says. "That's inspiring to me in connecting with others who have an interest in history and old buildings, but who may not consider themselves traditional preservationists. There's a place for all of us that care about our communities."

For the past few years, Ward has lived with his family in Summerville, South Carolina—a historic town located out-

side of Charleston, a city renowned for its rich history of community-based preservation. He found inspiration in the way Preservation Society of Charleston advocates for thoughtful, collaborative development of its historic buildings as community assets and raises awareness of less-celebrated landmarks.

In Summerville, Ward served on the board of the Public Works Art Center in the town's historic post office, adapted as an art gallery and venue for hosting events, summer camps, and artist studios. "I enjoyed being part of the community's vision to expand access and use of this repurposed historic building as a downtown anchor to continue to serve as a space where people would gather," says Ward.

"In our conversations in Charleston, Brad has impressed me as a natural convener of people. He has seen firsthand and can speak eloquently to the power older places



As CEO of the Dubois County Community Foundation, Ward led redevelopment of a vacant lot adjacent to Huntingburg's 1887 Old Town Hall (top) into a vital public space and advised community partners on rehabilitation of Jasper's 1936 Astra Theatre (left) as a performing arts venue.

PHOTOS BY LEE LEWELLEN



play in our lives and bring us together," says Brian Turner, president and CEO of Preservation Society of Charleston. "Indiana Landmarks is fortunate to have this talented young leader at its helm as it builds on its legacy as one of the nation's most impactful statewide preservation organizations."

An executive search committee considered more than 60 candidates from around the country before selecting Ward, whose appointment was unanimously approved by Indiana Landmarks' board of directors.

"Brad's experience in engaging public-private partnerships both in Indiana and around the country speaks directly to Indiana Landmarks' work to support grassroots preservation efforts as a tool for community revitalization," said Doris Anne Sadler, chair of the search committee. "The committee was impressed by his passion for preservation as well as his broader vision of the role preservation plays in enhancing a sense of place—connecting Hoosiers to the past while looking to the future."

"Returning to Indiana to lead the largest and arguably most respected private statewide preservation organization in the country is a dream job beyond comparison," said Ward. "Nothing speaks to me like the opportunity to serve a mission focused on preserving and repurposing places deeply connected to communities and their heritage."



Saluting Modern Pioneers in Fort Wayne

BEGINNING IN THE 1930S, ARCHITECT ELIEL

Saارين and his son Eero collaborated on designs for homes, churches, and public buildings that would help set the tone for modern architecture in America. Their Michigan-based firm employed a “who’s who” of architects whose work became synonymous with outstanding Modernist design, including César Pelli and Kevin Roche. On June 6-7, Indiana Landmarks’ Indiana Modern affinity group explores the Saarinens’ legacy as well as other notable Mid-Century Modern designs in Fort Wayne during a multi-event weekend.

In 1941, Albert Wermuth hired the Saarinens to create a home for him and his wife, Muriel, on an open hillside outside Fort Wayne. A general contractor and frequent collaborator with the firm, Wermuth helped build First Christian Church in Columbus, Indiana—considered the nation’s first Modernist church design—as well as Saارين-designed buildings at the Cranbrook Academy of Art in Michigan. For the Wermuths’ two-story flat-roofed house, the Saarinens incorporated a stone front façade, with a punched overhang and walls of windows on the back of the home to maximize views of a wooded ravine and creek. Finished in 1942, the Wermuth House was one of a small number of house designs completed by the Saarinens.

The home’s natural views and open interior charmed Vicki James when she and her husband, Indiana Landmarks board

In June, Indiana Modern presents a weekend exploration of mid-century design in Fort Wayne, beginning on June 6 with a look at architect Eero Saارين’s legacy at a free talk on the Saارين-designed campus of Concordia Theological Seminary. Following the lecture, a ticketed tour offers rare access to the 1942 house (above) the Saارينens designed for Albert Wermuth, general contractor for several of their projects.

PHOTOS BY TONY FRANTZ;
JONAH GAROUTTE

member Rick James, were approached by the home’s second owners about purchasing the house, which abutted their property. After acquiring the landmark, the couple leased the house to interior design firm Frank Souder Design Group for use as its offices. Today, the space is outfitted in period mid-century furniture, including a Saارين Womb Chair, Eames Lounge Chair, and tulip tables. Original blueprints, a rug woven by Loja Saارين, fireplace tools designed by Eero, and Wermuth’s desk are also on display.

“The house has a very understated, commercial look on the outside, then you walk in and the whole backside is glass on the edge of this ravine that draws you in,” says Frank Souder. “You can see echoes of First Christian Church in the open staircase.”

The Wermuth House will be open to a limited number of attendees on June 6 as part of a special evening tour of the home and the Saارين-designed Kramer Chapel at Fort Wayne’s Concordia Theological Seminary. Prior to the tour, Indiana Modern hosts a free talk at the seminary featuring



Cranbrook Center for Collections and Research curator Kevin Adkisson reflecting on the Saarinens’ impact on Modern architecture.

On June 7, Indiana Modern offers even more mid-century design inspiration on its annual *Back to the Future: A Mid-Century Modern Home Tour*, showcasing five outstanding homes of the period in Fort Wayne, including two 1950s homes on the city’s north side designed by Wisconsin architect

On June 7, five outstanding mid-century houses will be open on the *Back to the Future: A Mid-Century Modern Home Tour*, including the 1945 house (below) of Thom Johnston and Bob Gould designed by O. Louis Reich.
PHOTO BY CHILLUFFO PHOTOGRAPHY

John Randal McDonald. Sometimes called the “poor man’s Frank Lloyd Wright,” McDonald created unique homes for clients throughout the Midwest in the ’50s and ’60s, echoing Wright’s work at prices more affordable for the middle class. Like Wright, McDonald focused on taking inspiration from nature and harmonizing houses within their settings.

His philosophy is evident in the home of Scott and Susan Rumage, where a window wall on the south facade of the home captures surrounding views, creating a space perfect for plants that Susan, an avid gardener, makes good use of.

The soaring living room, with stone fireplace and wooden ceilings, incorporates an open design with views of both the basement playroom and upstairs den. McDonald also considered the angle of the sun in creating an overhang on the south side, allowing sunlight to stream in for passive heating in the winter while blocking sunlight in the summer.

“It’s a beautiful space, not your typical cookie cutter construction,” says Scott. “The home is very open and inviting for company and easy to entertain in.”

Tall ceilings, a free-flowing design, tilted windows, and a large yard attracted Thom Johnston and Bob Gould to buy a 1945 house on the city’s southwest side in 2003, another site on this year’s tour. With a spacious dining room and living room with stone fireplace, the house’s layout accommodates the couple’s love of entertaining. Upstairs, the master bedroom opens onto a terrace above the garage, providing additional space to enjoy the outdoors.

Separate registration is required for the free talk, private tour of the Wermuth House, and modern home tour on June 6-7. For more information on each event, visit indianalandmarks.org/tours-events or see p. 22.





Remarkable Transformations

A cornerstone of popularity for both home improvement shows and a growing bevy of online home décor content creators, it's hard to beat the satisfaction of the “big reveal,” a time-tested hook for drawing viewers in to see a dramatic “before” and “after.” In real life, we know remarkable transformations take much

longer than a quick video edit, but the appeal of exciting possibilities and new beginnings is the same.

In the pages that follow, we celebrate dramatic transformations that have rescued landmarks in desperate need of help—a Queen Anne house, a historic barn, a commercial anchor, and a downtown theater—all projects that with time, innovation, and dedication, led to stunning reveals.

ROYAL INTRODUCTION

Even in an advanced state of dilapidation, the vacant John T.C. Wilkins House earned plenty of second looks in the small Washington County town of Campbellsburg. A Queen Anne-style standout, the house's wealth of ornamental details—from bracketed bay windows, fishscale gables, and elaborate spindled porches to distinctive horseshoe and arched stained glass windows—marked it as something special.

While the house is distinguished today by its architectural flourishes, it started out as a much simpler structure. In 1858, grist mill owner John T.C. Wilkins built a modest two-story farmhouse on Sycamore Street at the entrance to town, along with a barn, corner shoe-repair store, and several outbuildings. Later, his son William

Indiana Landmarks acquired Campbellsburg's endangered Wilkins House in 2023 and undertook a comprehensive restoration before listing the house for sale this spring.

PHOTOS BY GREG SEKULA



occupied the house, and in the late 1890s he undertook a major renovation, expanding the house's footprint and adding embellishments adapted from pattern books published by George Barber, a Tennessee architect whose designs filled popular mail-order catalogs in the 1890s-1910s.

Wilkins' other sons—James, John and Tom—also employed Barber's patterns to construct their own elaborate Queen Anne houses in the town. Today, this group of four surviving houses constitutes a rare concentration of Barber homes in a small-town setting, attracting the attention of Barber enthusiasts around the country.

When the Town considered demolishing the John T.C. Wilkins House for an auxiliary town well in 2021, Indiana



Built in 1858 by John T.C. Wilkins, the house underwent major renovation in the 1890s by his son William, who added embellishments from pattern books published by architect George Barber. During the house's most recent rehab, workers preserved handsome original features and completed extensive repairs inside and out, including new siding and trim, a new roof, refinished floors, a new kitchen and bath, and a colorful new paint scheme highlighting the house's ornate architectural features.

PHOTOS BY GREG SEKULA

Landmarks asked town leaders for time to find a preservation-minded buyer that could rehab the house. After the extensive repair needs proved to be too intimidating for most, Indiana Landmarks took possession of the endangered property in 2023 and launched a complete restoration that wrapped up this spring.

Guided by rare historic photographs of the house's exterior, workers repaired exterior trim and siding, installed a new roof, rebuilt the chimney, and repainted the house in a new color scheme that would make Barber proud. Inside, they installed a new kitchen and first floor bath with tiled shower, refinished floors, restored stained glass windows, and updated mechanical systems.

The newly rehabilitated John T.C. Wilkins House features nearly 3,000 square feet of living space, including 3 bedrooms and 2.5 baths. Indiana Landmarks is now offering the property—the house, a corner store and three additional outbuildings—for \$325,000. The house and outbuildings will be sold with preservation covenants to make sure their extraordinary architectural features are preserved. See additional details and photos at indianalandmarks.org/properties-for-sale.

BARN STORY

On the shores of Sylvan Lake near Rome City in northern Indiana, Gene Stratton-Porter's Cabin at Wildflower Woods is a state historic site set among 148 acres of fields and woods that inspired the author's novels and writings about nature. In 2000, the Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites acquired the nearby nineteenth-century Sower Farmstead where Stratton-Porter stayed with the Sower family during her home's construction in the 1910s.

In 2009, the Sower Farmhouse sat vacant when Indiana Landmarks stepped in to help find the 1888 Italianate-style home a new purpose, entering into a lease agreement with the state historic site to install a new roof, paint, and siding, and then subleasing the property to the Noble County Convention and Visitors Bureau, which continued the rehabilitation inside. Today, the refreshed landmark is home to the Sower House Shoppe and Tea Room, offering the area's visitors a historic stop for coffee, tea, and sweet treats.

The Sower Barn, however, presented its own preservation challenges. Two decades ago, the c.1890 bank barn was at risk of collapsing when the state historic site brought in a crew of Amish workers to make stabilizing repairs. Since then the barn served alternately as storage space and as a workshop for the



historic site's property manager, but over time it showed signs of worsening deterioration. As the barn's red paint faded and gaps between the wooden siding widened, the site managers recognized that a more complete rehabilitation would be necessary to safeguard the landmark's future.

"There's not a lot of bank barns left in Indiana," says Tiffany Parker, northern regional manager at the Gene Stratton-Porter State Historic Site. "It was imperative to me to see it saved."

Using funds earmarked for capital rehabilitation and repair, managers hired workers to install new wooden paneling and rebuild the barn doors

matching original construction. Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites construction and restoration staff built new windows and louvers in-house to replace mismatched windows—including some salvaged from a school bus—that had been installed in previous years as a stopgap.

During the course of the restoration, descendants of the Sower family came forward to share the history of the farmhouse and barn with the museum, noting one detail the site's staff were unaware of—that the buildings, including the red Sower Barn, had originally been painted yellow, a fact confirmed when workers uncovered yellow-hued original siding beneath the barn's newer boards. The serendipitous discovery guided a fresh yellow paint scheme on the Sower Barn in October 2023. The museum aims to complete improvements to the barn this spring, with the goal of using the transformed landmark for programming and events—a big move up from storage space for one of Indiana's humble, yet iconic, structures.

Near Rome City, Gene Stratton-Porter's Cabin at Wildflower Woods is a state historic site that oversees the nearby Sower Farmstead, where the author stayed during her home's construction in the 1910s. To save the deteriorating c.1890 Sower Barn and expand opportunities for its use, Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites recently rehabbed the barn, including fresh yellow paint matching its original color.

PHOTOS BY TIFFANY PARKER; DEBRA PARCELL





GETTING IN THE GAME

It took a little more imagination to see the possibilities in Evansville's O'Donnell Building on Sixth Street in 2016. Outside, the historic commercial building retained eye-catching original features, but inside it was littered with vacuums, boxes, and parts from the building's days as a vacuum sales and service shop that occupied the space from 1945 to 1997.

That combination of stuck-in-time appearance and original character appealed to Carl Arnheiter, who had recently relocated from New York to Evansville, his wife Jessica Jeffries' hometown. In purchasing the building, they prevented its demolition and kept the commercial block on Sixth Street intact.

"I love older structures," says Arnheiter. "They just have character we don't have in newer buildings. When they get torn down, the replacements are always less appealing."

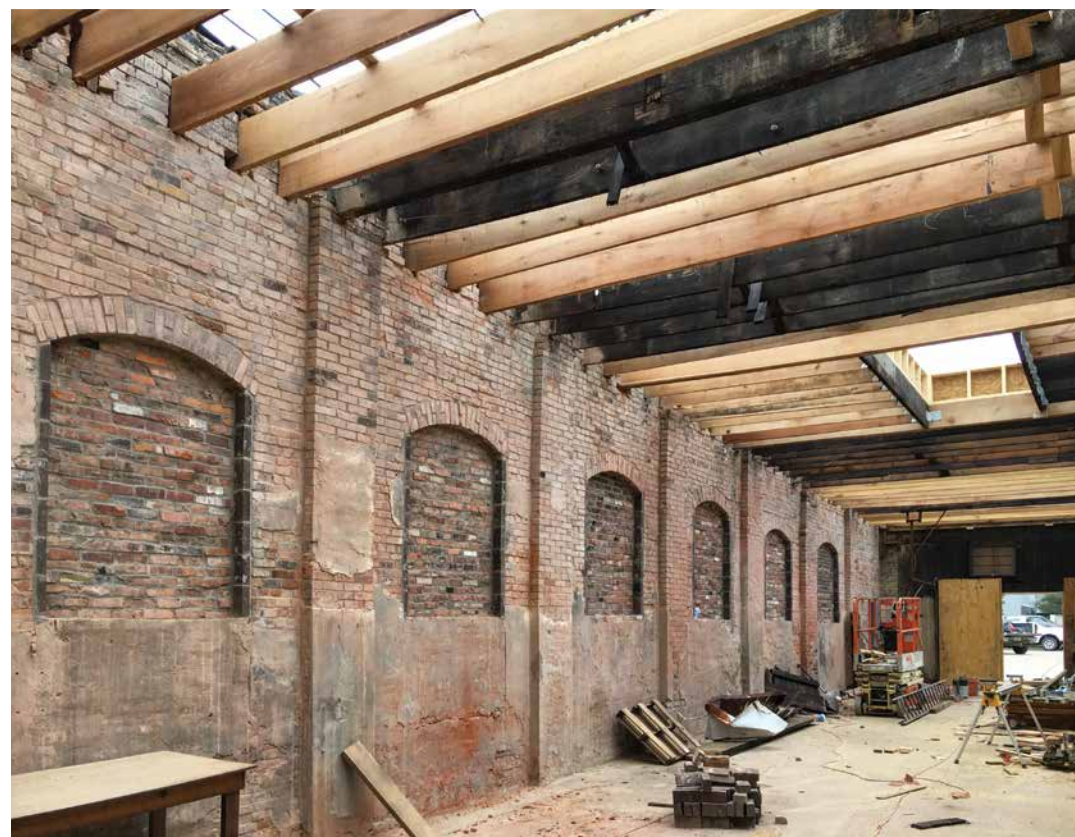
He envisioned repurposing the building as The Arcademie, a bar and arcade hall combining his interest in historic architecture with his passion

In 2016, Carl Arnheiter acquired Evansville's vacant O'Donnell Building and launched its transformation into The Arcademie, a bar and arcade hall. The makeover addressed significant structural challenges, including a leaky roof and compromised floor systems, and revived the building's front façade, which retains its Mesker cast iron storefront and prism glass.

PHOTOS BY CARL ARNHEITER; ADAM GREEN, ARCHITECT; JORDAN BARCLAY PHOTOGRAPHY

for collecting and rebuilding arcade games and pinball machines.

Years of vacancy and water infiltration had taken a toll on the O'Donnell Building, dissolving the roof and compromising floor systems. Arnheiter called in structural engineers to figure out a solution, removed paint to expose original brick walls, and directed reconstruction of the skylights, giving a clear view into the arcade below from the reinforced roofdeck. The reuse incorporated salvaged and recycled materials into the interior, including tables and a bar top built from wooden ceiling joists that couldn't be saved. Vacuum cleaner components became light fixtures and a railing separating the bar from other seating. Just as The Arcademie was ready to open in March 2020, the COVID pandemic delayed its debut; it finally opened in September 2021. "The building was



Rebuilt skylights on The Arcademie's reinforced roof deck offer a peek into the arcade below. In a nod to the building's past life as a vacuum sales and repair shop, salvaged materials became part of the interior design, including vacuum cleaner components incorporated into light fixtures and other décor.

PHOTOS BY JORDAN BARCLAY PHOTOGRAPHY

fighting back every step of the way on every level," says Arnheiter.

Arnheiter used a historic renovation grant from the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs to rehabilitate the façade, tuckpointing brick and repairing the parapet. The cast iron storefront originally made by Evansville's George L. Mesker & Co. only needed fresh paint. Locally based Mominee Studios restored the prism glass transom. Today, it's a transformation that stops first-time patrons in their tracks.

"It was a gritty workshop for many decades and looked the part," adds Adam Green, project architect. "It had not been maintained to any degree that merited restoration. It was well-suited for Carl's vision of an open, authentic interior you could fill with arcade games and interesting people."



The project faced steep challenges. The theater had a leaky roof along with a noticeable lean and termite problem, necessitating structural improvements.

Partnering with the City, McCabe brought in an expert team in 2023 to



Lawrenceburg's Liberty Theater had been underused in recent years before the City acquired it to revive the building as a central gathering space and spark downtown revitalization. Work began in 2023 to transform the theater as a live music venue, event space, eatery, and whiskey bar. The project uncovered original details, including reopening the entry and ticket booth.

PHOTOS BY RVP PHOTOGRAPHY; LEE LEWELLEN

NEXT ACT

When it was built as a German music hall in 1893, Liedertafel Hall served as one of Lawrenceburg's central gathering places. Renamed Liberty Theater during World War II, the building continued to play an important role in the Ohio River community for decades. In more recent years, however, the lights dimmed at the largely vacant theater, little used except for businesses that occupied its Walnut Street storefronts.

Knowing a reactivated theater could help boost downtown revitalization efforts, the City of Lawrenceburg purchased the property in 2023, consulting with Cincinnati-based planning firm Urban Fast Forward to brainstorm possibilities. The firm connected city leaders with Dan McCabe, who had been responsible for bringing new life to Cincinnati's Woodward Theater as a live music venue for original artists. He brought a similar vision to Lawrenceburg for rehabilitation of the Liberty Theater. "I like the ethos of putting a theater back to use in a community and using live music as the engine to sustain it," says McCabe. "When like-minded folks come together to share that experience, I've seen the sense of community that it builds."

restore original features—including the wood floors—and add period-appropriate details.

Workers from general contractor Maxwell Construction reopened the vestibule's original ticket booth and tore down a wall closing off the main stage, vestiges of modifications made when the building was converted to show movies in the 1920s. They restored the stage using a combination of original and salvaged flooring. Upstairs, former apartment spaces were converted for use as a bridal suite and private party rooms.

Cincinnati Architecture Firm Drawing Dept's design incorporated space for two new storefront businesses: Stage Right Kitchen and Stage Left Whiskey Bar. The operations incorporate nods to regional culinary heritage, serving up fried chicken and whiskey in honor of the city's long history of whiskey distilling operations. Original wood that couldn't be incorporated into the building's rehabilitation was repurposed for bar tops.

The \$4.75 million project, a public-private partnership between City of Lawrenceburg Redevelopment Commission and Dan McCabe's Thigmotrope LLC, was supported by a \$600,000 grant from the Southeast Indiana Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative (READI) program to the Lawrenceburg Redevelopment Commission. The nearly year-long transformation concluded with the building's rechristening as Whiskey City's Liberty Theater at a grand reopening last September.

Along with concerts, the theater has hosted weddings, business holiday parties, a train show, brunches, and other community events. It's already proved to be a catalyst for drawing people and business down-

The Liberty Theater reopened last fall following a \$4.75 million overhaul that addressed structural damage, added period-appropriate details, and reclaimed historic wood floors and other features. The original stage, closed off when the building was converted to show movies in the 1920s, was restored using a combination of salvaged and original wood.

PHOTOS BY RVP PHOTOGRAPHY



town, with a music store and mercantile opening adjacent to the theater since its opening.

"Live music culture builds communities, and I believe it can also save old theaters. I've seen it work in a dense urban environment," notes McCabe. "I loved the opportunity Lawrenceburg gave me to plant a seed and see if the concept would work in a more rural city. So far, the response has been wonderful. If it works here, it can work anywhere."





Northwest Field Office Moves to Modernist Landmark

THIS SPRING, INDIANA LANDMARKS BEGAN rehabilitating a standout mid-century landmark on the campus of Valparaiso University for use as our Northwest Field Office, which serves as a base of operations for preservation efforts in Lake, Porter, Newton, Jasper, and White counties.

Built in 1959 as home for university President Dr. O.P. Kretzmann and his family, Linwood House—named for the street it sits on—quickly became a hub for campus life. It con-

tinued to serve as home to university presidents through the 1970s and was later used as office space. After the university vacated the house in 2024, faculty approached Indiana Landmarks about reuse possibilities to ensure the house's preservation. The move continues our practice of investing in important community landmarks, providing an opportunity to partner with Valparaiso University to highlight an architecturally significant property and expand our outreach by hosting public programs in a fully accessible space.

Indiana Landmarks is partnering with Valparaiso University to rehab the 1959 Linwood House (above), a former home for university presidents that we are repurposing for use as our Northwest Field Office. The house's designer, architect Charles E. Stade, left his stamp on the campus in the '50s and '60s, designing several buildings including the stand-out Chapel of the Resurrection (left).
PHOTOS BY BLAKE SWIHART; LEE LEWELLEN

Architect Charles E. Stade designed the house, drawing inspiration from the Prairie-style aesthetic made popular by Frank Lloyd Wright and the Modernist principles of Le Corbusier. In the 1950s and '60s, Stade left his mark on the Valparaiso campus, designing a number of buildings including the Chapel of the

Resurrection, the campus's spectacular Modernist centerpiece.

At Linwood House, Stade situated the house on the hillside to maximize natural views, incorporating bands of large windows, horizontal sheathing, stained glass, and elongated bricks matching other campus buildings he designed in the so-called "Valpo style." Inside, Stade's spacious floor-plan featured plenty of room for the president to host dinners and entertain guests, including a 32- by 24-foot hall with fireplace.

"In leasing Linwood House to Indiana Landmarks, Valparaiso University has confidence that the significant architectural features of this campus landmark will be protected and its legacy of use as a community gathering space will continue," says Mark Volpatti, senior vice president for finance and administration at Valparaiso University.

Established in 2004, Indiana Landmarks' Northwest Field Office previously operated out of historic buildings in Hammond, Hobart, and Gary. Indiana Landmarks sold its offices in Gary's 1928 Illinois Bell Telephone Building to The Nelson Algren Museum of Miller Beach and the Miller Beach Arts and Creative District, Inc.

The Algren Museum, a long-time partner with Indiana Landmarks, houses an extensive collection of artifacts in the lower level of the telephone building that are connected to Chicago writer Nelson Algren, who lived in Miller Beach for many years. Miller Beach Arts and Creative District, Inc., is a community development corporation focused on leveraging the arts to support revitalization of Gary's Lake Street corridor.

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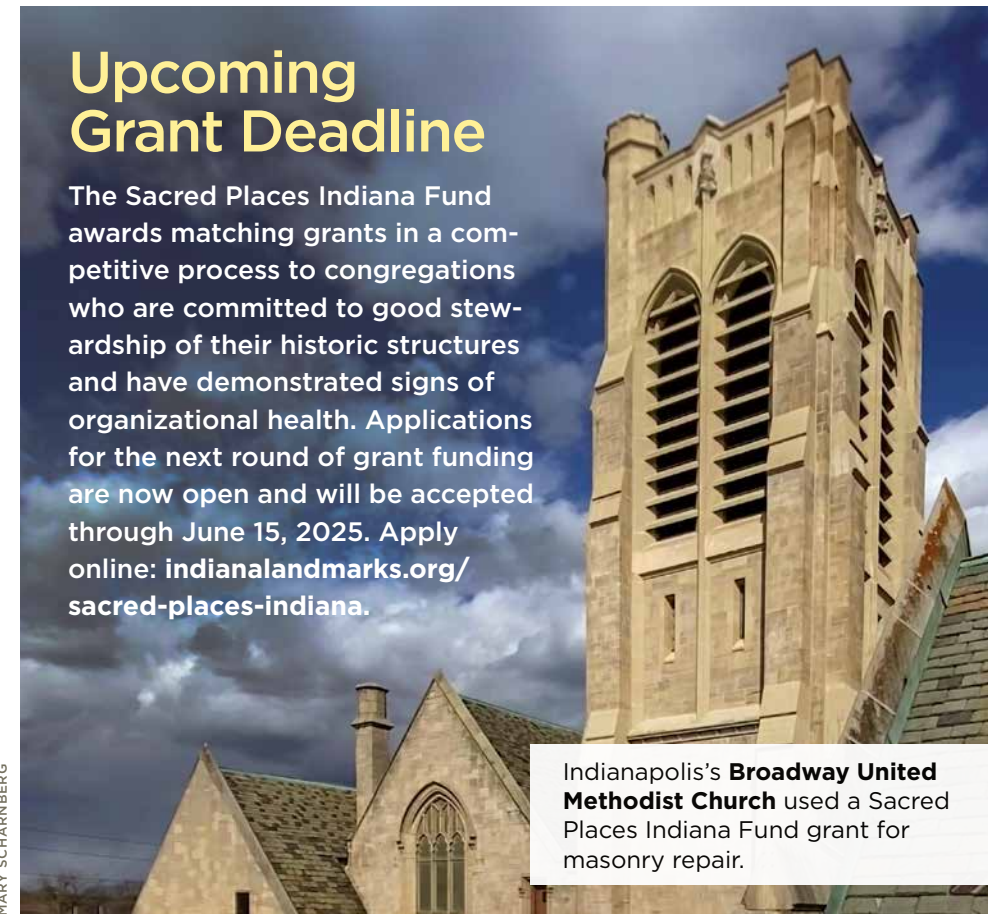
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Indiana Landmarks welcomes **Kyla Marvel** as site interpreter at Samara, the John and

Upcoming Grant Deadline

The Sacred Places Indiana Fund awards matching grants in a competitive process to congregations who are committed to good stewardship of their historic structures and have demonstrated signs of organizational health. Applications for the next round of grant funding are now open and will be accepted through June 15, 2025. Apply online: indianalandmarks.org/sacred-places-indiana.

MARY SCHARNBERG



Indianapolis's **Broadway United Methodist Church** used a Sacred Places Indiana Fund grant for masonry repair.



BRIEFLY NOTED

Amanda Arcidiacono joins Indiana Landmarks as director of our Eastern Regional Office in Richmond. Arcidiacono holds a bachelor's degree in history and museum studies from St. Mary's College of Maryland and recently completed her master's degree in historic preservation from the University of Maryland.

Indiana Landmarks welcomes **Kyla Marvel** as site interpreter at Samara, the John and

Catherine Christian House, designed by Frank Lloyd Wright and co-stewarded by Indiana Landmarks in West Lafayette. Marvel is completing her bachelor's degree in sociology at Purdue University.

Indiana Landmarks employee **Annie Roof** is now director of special events at Indiana Landmarks Center in Indianapolis. She previously served as special events manager.

Tours & Events

May/June 2025



White River State Park Tour
May 17, May 21 & June 4
INDIANAPOLIS

WRSP DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION, ALEG GRAY

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

Swedish Heritage Talk

May 2, Indiana Dunes Visitor Center

Indiana Landmarks and Indiana Dunes National Park host Jack Rogalla and Sarah Hawkinson of Chicago's Swedish American Museum for an illustrated talk exploring Swedish heritage and architecture in northwest Indiana's Calumet Region. 7-9 p.m. Central Time. \$15/general public; \$10/member.

Logs to Lustrons Tour

May 3, Indiana Dunes National Park

Indiana Landmarks partners with the National Park Service to highlight a century of architecture in the Indiana Dunes—from log homes to Victorian-era houses to Modernist residences—on the annual Logs to Lustrons tour featuring 11 sites and 4 interiors. Tourgoers park at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. State Road 49, Porter, and join a ranger-led group tour by bus. Departure times vary. \$30/general public; \$25/member; free to children or youth under age 16 with RSVP.

Wood Window Restoration

May 3, Delphi

Learn the basics of historic window repair at our popular Wood Window Restoration 101 workshop hosted in partnership with Delphi Preservation Society at the group's Delphi Opera House, winner of Indiana Landmarks' 2017 Cook Cup for Outstanding

Restoration. 10-11:30 a.m. \$25/general public; \$20/member; \$10/student (high school, college, or vocational school).

For a deeper dive into window restoration, a four-hour afternoon session gives attendees the opportunity to put their knowledge into practice and hone skills in a hands-on setting. Separate ticket required. 1-5 p.m. at Delphi Opera House. \$75/general public; \$50/member; \$40/student (high school, college, or vocational school).



Historic Landscape Tour at Marian University

May 31, Indianapolis

Experience the work of master landscape architect Jens Jensen on a two-hour guided hike covering the expansive grounds of Riverdale, a lavish estate completed in 1914 for automotive entrepreneur James A. Allison and now home to Marian University and the Nina Mason Pulliam EcoLab. Tourgoers will see a variety of features, restored and unrestored, that make up Jensen's original design, including the estate's formal garden, stone bridges, lakes, woods, the remains of a bathing house and pool, and the property's view from inside the historic Allison Mansion. Departure times vary between 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. \$23/general public (ages 18 & up); \$20/member (ages 18 & up).

KELLY HARRIS



Chatham Arch



Herron-Morton Place



Old Northside

Indianapolis Neighborhood Walking Tours

Apr.-Oct.

Explore some of the city's earliest residential areas on 90-minute guided walking tours offered select Saturdays and Wednesdays. Departure times vary. \$20/general public; \$17/member; \$15/child (ages 6-11); free to children 5 and under.

May 17 & June 18 - Chatham Arch

Chatham Arch, just off bustling Mass. Ave, developed into a thriving neighborhood of modest cottages, grander homes, apartments, churches, and commercial buildings that is still desirable today.

June 7 & July 9 - Old Northside

One of the city's best examples of historic preservation, the tree-lined streets of the Old Northside Historic District were originally home to business rivals, publishing magnates, and influential women who formed a fashionable and enduring community in the late nineteenth century.

June 11 & 28 - Herron-Morton Place

The evolution and history of Herron-Morton Place spans an impressive 160 years from its time serving as a Civil War camp to its unique role in later decades as a hub of LGBTQ+ life and culture for the city.

June 21 & July 19 - Woodruff Place

Known as the city's first planned residential suburb, entrepreneur James O. Woodruff created Woodruff Place in 1872, an upscale, park-like neighborhood of stately homes and tree-lined esplanades that remains largely intact today.

White River State Park Tour

May 7, May 21 & June 4; 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. Tours depart at 6:30 p.m. \$12/general public (ages 18 & up); \$10/member; \$7/child (ages 6-17); free to children 5 and under.

Conversations in Indiana African American History and Culture

May 15 & June 12, Indianapolis and online

Freetown Village presents historians, researchers, and educators sharing their knowledge of Indiana's Black heritage and culture as part of a monthly series. On May 15, Dr. Jazma Sutton, assistant professor of history at Miami University, leads a discussion on the 1820 case of State v. Lasselle, in which Polly Strong, an enslaved woman, successfully sued the State of Indiana for her freedom, though the victory did not result in freedom for all Black Hoosiers. 6 p.m. at Indiana Landmarks Center and online. Free with RSVP.

First Friday Art Opening

June 6, Indianapolis

Indiana Landmarks Center's Rapp Family Gallery hosts a free opening reception for Juneteenth: How Much Farther?, an art exhibit celebrating the Juneteenth holiday and recognizing Black heritage through the work of Indiana artists. Curated by InSight Art. 6-9 p.m.

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

West Baden Springs Hotel

2 & 4 p.m.

French Lick Springs Hotel

Noon

\$18/adult, \$15/member, \$8/child ages 6-15, and are free to children ages 5 and under.

Behind-the-Scenes Tours

Get an exclusive look at spaces not normally open to the public at West Baden Springs Hotel on a two-hour tour beginning at 2 p.m. on May 22, June 5, & July 10. Tickets cost \$50/person; \$45/member. Advance tickets required.

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 17, June 21, & July 19. Tickets cost \$25/adult; \$20/member; \$10/child (ages 6-15). Advance tickets required.

indianalandmarks.org/french-lick-west-baden



INDIANAPOLIS SKYSCRAPERS

June 10, Indianapolis and online

Dr. James Glass, architectural historian and author, presents an illustrated talk tracing the development of the skyscraper in Indianapolis from the 1890s through the 1980s, including how pioneering designs in Chicago and New York inspired the city's architects. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. at Indiana Landmarks Center and talk begins at 6 p.m. in person and online. Book signing for Glass's recently published two-volume *Architecture in Indianapolis* series follows the talk. \$10/general public; free to members with RSVP.

Wood Window Restoration

June 6-7, Logansport

Expert window restorer Ross Van Overberghe leads a deep dive into window restoration with a two-day event combining our 101 & 201 level window workshops. Start with the basics of window repair and progress to the hands-on skills needed to tackle your own projects, including removing, reglazing, and priming historic wood windows. No prior knowledge required. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. both days with materials and snacks provided. \$150/general public; \$125/member.

A Day of Gardens & Art

June 14, Attica

Enjoy a day of gardens, art, and music in Attica hosted by Fountain County Landmarks, including a look inside the historic Old Chapel at Cottrell Village, co-stewarded by Indiana Landmarks. 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. Tickets cost \$25/person and may be purchased in advance at fountaincountylandmarks.org or day of at the Old Attica Library, 101 S. Brady St.



JONAH GAROUTTE

Black Resilience in Indiana

June 19, Indianapolis and online

In observance of Juneteenth, Indiana Landmarks Black Heritage Preservation Program presents an in-depth exploration of Black resilience: the extraordinary ability of African Americans throughout history to overcome astounding challenges, finding joy and the power to effect positive change in their lives, families, and communities. Dr. Lasana D. Kezembe, award-winning

poet, educator, and critical Black scholar, serves as keynote speaker, followed by a panel discussion led by experts on spiritual, mental, emotional, and financial resilience. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. at Indiana Landmarks Center with program 6-8 p.m. in person and online. Free with RSVP.

Ogden Dunes Home Tour

June 21, Ogden Dunes

Tour nine diverse homes illustrating the evolution and history of Ogden Dunes, a resort community developed in the 1920s along the shores of Lake Michigan. Tour highlights include the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Armstrong House and two of the area's original "Ski Hill" cottages. Presented by Indiana Landmarks in partnership with the Ogden Dunes Centennial Committee. 8 a.m.-4 p.m. \$45/general public; \$35/member.

Paint and Coatings Basics

July 2, South Bend

Learn best practices for achieving a long-lasting paint job on your historic building. Topics covered include preparation, repairs, priming and coatings, the differences between oil and latex paints, and options for linseed oil paint. Presented by Indiana Landmarks and South Bend TradeWorks. \$25/general public; \$20/Indiana Landmarks member; and \$10/student (high school, college, or vocational school).

Indianapolis Downtown Tours

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

SAMARA TOURS

West Lafayette, Jul.-Nov.

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

6:30 p.m. on May 8 & June 12 and at 1:30 p.m. on June 7 & July 12. \$10/general public (ages 12 & up); \$8/member; \$5/child (ages 6-11); free to children 5 and under.

Decoding Downtown

Explore the hidden history of downtown Indianapolis landmarks on a 90-minute guided tour. Along the way, learn about architectural styles and compete for fun prizes. Tours depart at 6:30 p.m. on May 1 & June 5 and at 1:30 p.m. on May 17. \$20/general public (12 & up); \$17/member; \$15/child (ages 6-11); free to children 5 and under.

Indy's Notable & Notorious

Part historic walking tour, part imaginary showdown, discover Indianapolis through some of the city's most memorable characters on a 90-minute guided tour. Get to know our 16 contenders and rank your favorites tournament-style to reveal Indy's most notable—or notorious—historical figure. Tours depart at 6:30 p.m. on May 15 & June 26. \$20/general public (ages 12 & up); \$17/member; \$15/child (ages 6-11); free to children ages 5 and under.



KELLY HARRIS

Saarinen Talk & Tour

June 6, Fort Wayne

INDIANA MODERN SPONSORS two special events focusing on the works of architects Eliel and Eero Saarinen: a free lecture by Kevin Adkisson, curator for the Cranbrook Center for Collections and Research, hosted at Concordia Theological Seminary and an exclusive post-lecture tour (paid ticket required) of the seminary's Kramer Chapel, followed by rare access to the nearby A.C. Wermuth House—both designs by the famous father-and-son team.

The talk begins at 6 p.m. and is free and open to the public thanks to the support of the Cornelius O'Brien Lecture Series. The evening's tour follows from 7 to 9 p.m. and costs \$75/person. Advance tickets strongly encouraged. Space for both events will be limited.

Mid-Century Modern Home Tour

June 7, Fort Wayne

SEE FIVE OUTSTANDING mid-century homes in Fort Wayne on our 17th annual *Back to the Future: A Mid-Century Modern Home Tour*, showcasing the open designs, soaring ceilings, and nature-infused spaces popular during the period. Sponsored by Indiana Landmarks' Indiana Modern affinity group. Noon-5 p.m. Advance tickets cost \$20/general public; \$15/Indiana Landmarks members; \$10/Indiana Modern members. Day-of-tour tickets cost \$25/person.





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AND FINALLY

Digging the Dunes

THE TOWN OF OGDEN DUNES

developed in the 1920s as a resort community on Lake Michigan, originally planned to include a golf course, riding stables, and yacht basin. When property sales lagged, the real estate firm came up with an even more attention-getting gimmick, selling land for a ski-jump—the highest one in North America—which hosted international ski competitions from 1928 to 1932. After the Great Depression, the ski-jump closed, leaving only a street name to memorialize its existence in what is now a largely residential community.

On June 21, Indiana Landmarks and the Ogden Dunes Centennial Committee present a home tour in honor of the town's 100th anniversary, featuring nine houses that illustrate the community's evolution, from the 1924 home of Ogden Dunes developer Samuel Reck to a Modernist house



On June 21, a tour celebrating Ogden Dunes' centennial features nine houses spanning the Lake Michigan community's years of development, including a 1930s "Ski Hill" cottage (above) and the 1939 Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Armstrong House (right).

PHOTOS BY KENNETH R. THOMPSON



with panoramic views of the town and Lake Michigan. Other tour sites include two "Ski Hill" cottages, a Spanish Revival-style standout, a Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Usonian rarely open to the public, and the home of Dorothy Buell, whose dune conservation efforts eventually led to the creation of Indiana Dunes National Park. Buy tickets at indianalandmarks.org/tours-events.