Historic Downtown
Fort Wayne

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Fort Wayne, Indiana
Introduction

Historic landmarks come in all shapes and sizes and can be anything recognized and protected in a variety of ways. The designation of a property as historic is not a statement of the building's condition or value. Rather, it means that the property is given a degree of protection against inappropriate changes, whether undertaken as a result of ownership or as a result of market forces. The designation is a tool, made possible by Historic Preservation Districts, that communities can use to preserve and protect the historic and architectural character of a neighborhood.

Historic Downtown Fort Wayne

The confluence of the St. Joseph, St. Marys, and Maumee rivers was a gathering place and trade center for the Miami, Potawatomi, Wea, and other Native American tribes that inhabited the Great Lakes region. The rivers provided access to the Great Lakes, Michigan, and much of Ohio. In addition, a short, swampy portage (trail) to the west provided a link to the Little Wabash River which then led travelers to the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers and on to the Gulf of Mexico. The Myaamia (or Miami) tribe controlled this important portage and resided in the village of Kekionga which flourished just northeast of today's downtown. French traders from Canada reached the area in the early eighteenth century and, recognizing the advantages the rivers and portage provided for transporting furs and other goods, began to inhabit the area. The French also established a series of forts, the last of which was briefly occupied by the British from 1761 to 1765.

Between 1765 and 1794 there was an uneasy and informal Native American and British alliance as well as a large population of French traders living among the Myaamia and other tribes. The area was called Kekionga, but Europeans also referred to it as “Miami Town,” a French-Indian trading village with a distinct culture and social life.

During his presidency, George Washington saw control of Kekionga and the river portage as critical to expansion into the Northwest Territory and blocking British challenges from the west. Washington's determination to control this strategic location led to a series of campaigns by the U.S. military. The battle of Kekionga, labeled “Harman’s Defeat” by Americans and the “Battle of the Pumpkin Fields” by Native Americans, was the first attempt. The campaign led by General Josiah Harmar occurred in October of 1790. The bloody battle took place on the banks of the Maumee and St. Joseph Rivers near today's downtown and the Lakeshore Historic District. The worst defeat of U.S. forces by Native Americans up to that time, it was only surpassed by St. Clair’s Defeat in 1791, and the Battle of the Little Bighorn (Custer’s Last Stand) in 1876.

After two defeats, Washington appointed General Anthony Wayne to take control of Kekionga. Using Wayne's strategic approach, the Americans won the Battle of Fallen Timbers near present-day Maumee, Ohio, then marched up the Maumee River to build and dedicate the American “Fort Wayne” at Kekionga on October 22, 1794. This fort was located near the corner of today’s Berry and Clay streets.

The Indiana Territory was established in 1800, during a period of uneasy peace with the Native American population. The last conflicts in the area with Native Americans and the British were during the War of 1812. Fort Wayne was challenged by a siege, but never fell out of American control. After the war, Fort Wayne continued to play a key role in retaining American control of Kekionga and the Northwest Territory, allowing American settlement to begin in northern Indiana. In 1819, the same year a Federal surveyor explored the portage as a potential canal route, Fort Wayne was abandoned by the U.S. military.

The U.S. Land Office, which sold public lands for which Native American titles had been eliminated by treaties, opened in the buildings of the vacated fort in 1823. The abundant real estate and possibility of a canal at Fort Wayne created new incentives for settlement. John Barr, a merchant from Baltimore, Maryland, and John McCorckle, of Piqua, Ohio, purchased the first tract of land, which they plotted as “the original plat” of Fort Wayne. It is the heart of downtown Fort Wayne today. Two of the plat's north-south streets are named for prominent politicians known for their vocal support of canal funding and construction. DeWitt Clinton of New York was instrumental in construction of the Erie Canal and John C. Calhoun of South Carolina was a proponent of funding a national system of roads and canals. Allen County was also formed in 1823.

By the time of Fort Wayne's incorporation in 1829, prominent settlers with the names of Ewing, Hanna, Suttonfield, Swanney, Comparet, Kercheval, Rockhill, and Hamilton were busy building the future city. Samuel Hanna in particular, lobbied for the canal, and later, the plank roads and railroad to spur community development. Commerce on the rivers was enhanced by ferry crossings and boat lines that operated on the Maumee River between Fort Wayne and Toledo, Ohio.

Construction of the Wabash and Erie Canal in the 1830s and 40s led to rapid growth in population and commerce. Fort Wayne became Fort Wayne a “boom town” character and the nickname “the Summit City,” due to its location at the highest elevation on the canal. Columbia Street (The Landing) became the commercial heart of Fort Wayne.

The development of steam power rapidly replaced canals and their uncertain reliance on steady water levels. Ironically, the first railroad locomotive delivered to Fort Wayne arrived by canal boat in 1854. Tracks were laid quickly and the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne, and Chicago Railroad, later the Pennsylvania Railroad, developed the first line on the south side of town. With the railroad came a rail car manufacturing and repair shop, known as the “Penny Shops,” which dominated the local industrial world for the next century and employed up to a thousand workers. Fort Wayne's key location in the great Pennsylvania Railroad is one of the principal reasons for the City's dynamic position in the later 19th century as a center of manufacturing. In 1880, the canal right-of-way was purchased by the Nickel Plate Railroad for railroad use. The elevated tracks, constructed in 1955, continue to trace the canal route through the north edge of downtown.

Between 1860 and 1920, many railroads reached Fort Wayne, making the city a significant stop between Pittsburgh and Chicago. The city's population grew from 26,880 (1880) to 86,549 (1920), making Fort Wayne the second largest city in Indiana. Downtown thrived, expanding into the easternmost portions of the West Central neighborhood. Industries along the rail lines such as the Bass Foundry, Wayne Knitting Mills, and Jenney Electric Company welcomed immigrants pouring into Fort Wayne and generated citywide expansion. The numerous towers and church steeples of all denominations that gave Fort Wayne the nickname “City of Churches” also began to rise during this period. The pride and confidence of the period is best expressed in the Allen County Courthouse, acclaimed among the finest expressions of Beaux Arts architecture and interior decoration found in the United States.

During the 19th century, Fort Wayne was relatively compact, with all social classes preferring to live near downtown, close to merchants, churches, entertainment, and work. Increased population density set the stage for an extensive electric trolley service that allowed easy and affordable access to downtown from virtually any part of the city, and the move to early suburban neighborhoods such as Lakeside Park and Williams Woodland Park began. As growth, and the use of automobiles, increased, the George Kessler Park & Boulevard Plan of 1911 provided a scenic framework for development of outlying neighborhoods such as Forest Park, Oakdale, Arcadia/Englewood, Lafayette Place, Harrison Hill, Kensington Park, and South Wood Park. In 1913 Fort Wayne became an important city on the Lincoln Highway, the first coast-to-coast transcontinental highway, leading to growth in trucking commerce and services for travelers.

By the mid-1920s the busiest commercial area of downtown shifted from the Columbia, Berry, and Main Street areas to the Wayne, Washington, and Jefferson Street regions. Nearby all retail business and entertainment spots were centered downtown. Buildings such as the Embassy Theater, Scottish Rite Auditorium, and the Chamber of Commerce reflect the eclectic spirit of the 1920s.

Construction began for the Lincoln Tower in October 1929, shortly before the stock market crash and onset of the Great Depression. During the 1930s downtown remained the center of commerce. Development peaked in the 1940s, with hundreds of businesses from small shops to large department stores thriving in the central business district, centered on Calhoun Street. Major changes to urban development following World War Two were driven by the shift to personal cars for transportation. The increased use of automobiles was not compatible with the previous development of downtown, resulting in traffic congestion and the need for additional parking areas. Shopping centers such as Quimby Village, Rudissil Center, and South Anthony Plaza appeared in the 1950s and began to shift retail patterns away from downtown. In 1955 Southgate Shopping Center opened with more than 2000 free parking spaces and easy access to suburban neighborhoods. The elevation of the Nickel Plate Railroad tracks running through downtown encouraged suburban expansion to the north. The dedication of the Memorial Coliseum in 1952, Northwest Shopping Center in 1958, and Skyline Plaza on Goshen Road in 1959, made it clear that downtown Fort Wayne's newest competitors were the suburbs.

As business moved to the suburbs, common urban renewal ideas took over: vacant buildings were demolished to create parking lots or spaces for large municipal projects such as the City-County Building/Rousseau Center (1969), Performing Arts Center/Arts United Center (1973), Freimann Square (1971), and Grand Wayne Center (1985/2006). Simultaneously, important historic landmarks such as The Landing, Embassy Theatre, Canal House, and other buildings became designated and preserved through a combination of community efforts, private investment, government incentives, and assistance from the Fort Wayne Historic Preservation Commission.

The Flood of 1982 reminded city leaders that the rivers cannot be ignored and led to renewed interest in both controlling and beautifying the rivers. Headwaters Park, largely completed by 1999, redeveloped frequently flooded land into an adaptable community park that accommodates flooding with little damage. In 2007, the City adopted a Comprehensive Plan to further enhance downtown riverfronts, gateways, historic and arts districts, commercial and residential amenities – resulting in a series of projects that continue to connect citizens to the city’s core.
Introduction

Historic landmarks come in all shapes and sizes and can be anything from a large courthouse to a tiny diner. They are places that have importance to us as individuals or as a community — perhaps representing important people, places or events — and marking our passage through time. They are familiar sites that give our community a distinctive character. Historic landmarks may be recognized and protected in a variety of ways.

National Historic Landmarks (NHL) are historic places that possess exceptional value in commemorating or illustrating the history of the United States. The National Park Service’s National Historic Landmarks Program oversees the designation of such sites. All NHLs are also listed in the National Register of Historic places.

The National Register of Historic Places (NR) is the nation’s official list of properties considered worthy of preservation. Listing on the National Register gives properties a degree of protection from any potentially adverse effects of state and federally funded projects, and may also provide financial incentives for appropriate rehabilitation. Properties may have local, state, or national significance.

Local Historic District (LHD) designation is a tool, made possible by a local ordinance, that owners may use to ensure preservation of their property. Upon designation, elements of the property that are subject to public view are protected from inappropriate changes by a design review process which is required before building permits can be issued or exterior work begins. The historic district guidelines assure that the property’s distinctive qualities will be retained.

For more information about Historic Districts please call the Division of Community Development at (260) 427-8311 or visit www.fwcommunitydevelopment.org/preservation.
Historic Downtown Fort Wayne continues to connect citizens to the city’s core. Further enhance downtown riverfronts, gateways, historic and arts districts, and provide assistance from the Fort Wayne Historic Preservation Commission. The success of community efforts, private investment, government incentives, and Headwaters Park, largely completed by 1999, redeveloped frequently and led to renewed interest in both controlling and beautifying the rivers. Historic landmarks such as The Landing, Embassy Theatre, Canal House, and other downtown locations have been restored and preserved. Municipal projects such as the City-County Building/Rousseau Center opened in 1991 and provided more than 200 free parking spaces and easy access to suburban neighborhoods. From 1876 to 1880, 25,000 Victoria and 19,000 Liberty Street cars had been manufactured, and the blacksmiths’ trades were prominent. Business districts such as the Rite Auditorium, and the Chamber of Commerce reflect the eclectic spirit of downtown, resulting in traffic congestion and the need for additional parking. In 1955 Southgate Shopping Center opened with more parking and access from downtown. In 1955, the first shopping mall was built in Fort Wayne. The presence of Arthur D. Little and other prominent businesses contributed to the city’s economic growth.

Jefferson Street regions. Nearly all retail business and entertainment spots are located within a 3-mile radius of downtown, resulting in traffic congestion and the need for additional parking. In 1955, the first shopping mall was built in Fort Wayne. The presence of Arthur D. Little and other prominent businesses contributed to the city’s economic growth.

Jefferson County was also formed in 1823. Allen County was also formed in 1823. The first settler of Allen County was King, who built a fort on the site of the present-day city of Fort Wayne. After the war, Fort Wayne continued to play a key role in retaining American military strength. It was the site of the Battle of the Pumpkin Fields, which was the first attempt by the British to capture Fort Wayne. The battle resulted in the British losing their stronghold to the American forces.

The Journal-Gazette newspaper was started in 1899 with the merger of The Gazette and The Journal, both of which date back to the 1860s. The newspaper moved into the south end of the Bass Building in 1908, and in 1927, purchased and extensively remodeled the building to create a state-of-the-art newspaper facility. Strong bands of large windows and contrasting limestone give the building a horizontal emphasis. The decorative copper panels above the first floor windows are a unique feature.

Lincoln Bank Tower A.M. Strauss and Walker & Weeks, architects 116 E Berry St. Art Deco, 1930

Lincoln Bank Tower was constructed at the beginning of the Great Depression and the tallest building in Indiana until 1962, this streamlined tower has long been a major landmark in downtown Fort Wayne. One of the finest examples of Art Deco architecture in the State, the Lincoln Tower features terra cotta designs in cobalt blue and gold at the top, and bronze panels depicting the life of Abraham Lincoln at the main entry. The 2-story bank lobby has stylized bronze designs of plants, animals and people; murals by Glenn M. Shaw that depict elements of nature and zodiac symbols; and sculptural figures of the four seasons.

First National Bank
Thomas James & Co., Boston, architect
127 W. Berry St.
Neoclassical-Beaux Arts, 1923
This 12-story building was the largest bank and office building in northern Indiana when originally constructed. The huge limestone pilasters and engaged columns at the base of this building give it a temple-like appearance. Fluted columns are repeated at the top of the building which is capped by a cornice of glazed terra cotta. The elaborate carved bands which decorate the smooth stonework include images of once common Indian Head nickels and Mercury dimes. Murals of canal scenes decorate the original bank lobby.

Noah’s Ark/Cindy’s Diner
Valentine Manufacturing Co., Inc. LHD 1991
230 W. Berry St.
Modern, 1954
Valentine Manufacturing was incorporated in 1947 in Wichita, Kansas. The prefabricated metal buildings they constructed were designed as eight-to-ten-seat diners that one or two people could easily operate. Made to be portable, they could be lifted off their foundation and easily moved to a new location. This diner has undergone four moves and five name changes since original owner, Noah Claus, opened the diner at the NW corner of Clinton and Jefferson.

Freistroffer Block
LHD 1986
207 W. Main St.
Queen Anne, 1884
Although small in size and simple in form, a glance upward reveals beautiful details. Rising sun designs are found on each second floor window hood. The elaborate metal cornice topping the building features: brackets of varying sizes; pointed arches with palmette motifs; and a small gable with the name and year of the building. The horseshoe in the peak of the gable gives a clue as to the building’s original use as a blacksmith shop.

William S. Edsall House
NR 1976
305 W. Main St.
Greek Revival/Italianate/1-House, 1839/c.1874
William Edsall came to Fort Wayne in 1824, and surveyed for the Wabash & Erie Canal. He also served on the City’s first Common Council in 1840; was registrar of the US Land Office; and served as Allen County Clerk from 1870-74. His numerous business interests included contracting work for the canal, plank road, and railroad. The oldest structure in downtown, this building is a classic 1-House: two stories tall and one room deep, with a symmetrical facade. The eaves with their elaborate brackets are part of an 1870s remodeling.

Hugh McCulloch House
Henry Williams, architect; NR 1980, LHD 1980
616 W. Superior St.
Greek Revival 1843 / c.1895
When Hugh McCulloch, one of the most prominent financiers and bankers of his time, constructed his home, it was the center of a 100 acre estate. The house had a 2-story central section with a portico of square columns, flanked by 1-story wings. In 1863 McCulloch joined President Lincoln’s cabinet as Secretary of the Treasury; a position he continued in under Andrew Johnson and later under Chester Arthur. Sold in 1887, the house was enlarged to its present form by both the Fort Wayne College of Medicine and the Turners Club.

Wells Street Bridge
Alvin J. Stewart, builder; NR 1988
Wells St. at St. Marys River Whipple through truss, 1884
This truss type was commonly used in bridge construction and most examples tend to be fairly simple and direct in their design. However, the design of this bridge is enriched by the quatrefoil motif brackets along its length, and a band of delicate cresting at each end. Above each entry are panels set in decorative ironwork that list the names of county officials and the bridge fabricator. The flanking walkways with their lattice balustrades illustrate the early importance of both pedestrian and vehicular traffic. With construction of the Ewing Street bridge in 1982, the Wells Street Bridge was closed to autos. This is the only iron bridge that remains in the city.
Lincoln Highway Bridge
A group Center; description; HR 1901
Harrison St. at S. Marys River
Melan truss reinforced concrete, 1915
Linking New York City to
San Francisco, the Lincoln Highway
was the first coast-to-coast
transcontinental highway. Originating
on a series of arches, this bridge was completely
reconstructed in 1987; however, important features of the
original bridge were retained. The dedication plaque naming the 1915 County
is still visible in one level above the
mallage from the bridge east to New York and west to San Francisco.
The ornamental railings and lighting are similar to the original.

Fort Wayne
Engraving Company
Bradley & Babcock, architects
LHD 2000
120 W. Superior St.
Craftsmen, 1929
A producer of commercial art
and a manufacturer of engravings,
Fort Wayne Engraving Co. was a subsidiary of Wayne Paper Box
& Printing Corporation which operated in the building immediately
to the east. They produced printing plates of all kinds in one or more
colors, along with retouching, pen and wash drawings, zinc and copper
half-tone reproduction. One of only two known works by the
firm of Bradley & Babcock, the building features decorative brick
pods and both golden tan and black terra cotta details. The structural
vertical lines of the façade show the influence of the Art Deco style.

John Brown
Stone Warehouse
NR 1997; LHD 1976
114 E. Superior St.
Gable Front, 1852
The John Brown Stone Warehouse is the earliest surviving commercial
building in Fort Wayne; the only building of random stone construction;
and the only building in Fort Wayne built directly associated with the Walpacke
Canal. Its builder, John Brown, a stone cutter, mason, and merchant,
depended on this canal, which ran behind his building, to import his
materials. The goods and services which he offered for sale are
discussed in the design and construction of the building itself.

Arts United Center
Landis Kahn, architect
301 S. Main St.
Modernism, 1973
In 1961, internationally recognized architect Louis Kahn was hired by
Arts United to design an arts
campus in downtown Fort Wayne.
The building is only being constructed from the original eighth
building plan; the only theater designed by Kahn; and the only building
constructed in the Midwest. A key figure in the development of modern architecture, Kahn was interested in the look and feel of materials,
using brick and stones in ways that emphasize form and texture. He also paid attention to the use of sunlight, preferring to
have natural light enter his buildings through interesting windows and
openings. He also worships the idea of utilizing the creative use
of geometric shapes such as shapes, circles and triangles.

Western Newspaper Union Building
Dowling Building
LHD 1999
437-441 E. Berry St.
Craftsmen/Functional, 1916/1991
Built by local developers Henry
Higley and J.J. Miller, this commercial building, which originally housed the
Fort Wayne Post Express and the Daily Gazette, fully rehabilitated in 1991 to provide
space for various arts organizations, the word OFFICE remains carved over
the front door.

J. C. Pellicer House
Wing & Mahurin, architects
435 E. Berry St.
Queen Anne/ROMANESQUE, 1886
The prominent architectural firm of Wing & Mahurin was not only renowned for their mastery of the Richardsonian Romanesque and Queen
Anne styles, often mimicking them as in this example. This house has numerous round
arches, decorative brick and stone details; and a prominent entrance with double doors.

McCallugh-Wilecock
Douglas House
Thomas Talbot, architect
NR 2001; LHD 1999
134-156 E. Berry St.
Victorian Gothic Revival, 1881
After completing his east coast education and a year or two of world
travel, John Ross McCallugh followed familiar tradition and took up a career in banking. He also became a civic leader and an enthusiastic patron of the arts. He resided at 134
E. Berry Street from the 1890s until his death in 1917. Prominent among his works is the bank designed by him in 1911; said to be used for
vacuuming rubber to be used for dentistry. McCallugh was also a member of several court cases such as being sued by E.F. Goodrich in 1882 and a murder conviction which resolved for $5,000
alimony and alleging infidelity and accusing him of “being unfaithful to his marriage vows and cruel besides.”

The City Building
Wing & Mahurin, architects
NR 1973; LHD 1997
302 E. Berry St.
Richardsonian Romanesque, 1893
Constructed as the first true home for any
government, this city-like building served a variety of civic functions including a courtroom on the upper floor and a post office in the basement.
With its massive stone construction, round arches, and stone carvings, this Romanesque style of this building expressed a solid
appropriateness for a government building. The stonework includes checkerboard patterns, elaborately carved letters and foliage around the front entry, as well as winged lions perched on either side of the front facade.

Elektroon Building
Wing & Mahurin, architects
LHD 1984
213 E. Loyal St.
Beaux-Arts/Romanesque, 1895
Built to house the Jemison Electric Power Company, the building served as the first home office building for Lincoln National
Life of Fort Wayne, it was constructed from 1911 to 1923. The heavy, rusticated stone arches and large, square columns of the lower floors contrast with the delicate carving of gargoyles at the top of the building which is crowned by a shaped parapet and open balustrade. Note that the window designs are different shapes on each floor.

Mordhurst Oriental
Doug Streiner (1913/1925)
Wing & Mahurin, architects
LHD 1997
812 S. Calhoun St.
Queen Anne, 1886
The building is significant as a rare example of a Queen Anne architectural style with unusual Moorish detailing. It was
designed by the firm of Wing & Mahurin, one of the most successful architectural firms in Indiana in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.
The exterior returns in elaborate and unusual mosaic and arched windows which vary on each floor. The upper floors were originally occupied by
physicians offices and accessed by both stairs and elevator.

Mommer Building (1913 center)
LHD 1999
814 S. Calhoun St.
Italianate, 1884
While late-19th century commercial buildings were often very
common in downtown Fort Wayne, the builders varied the detailing to contribute to the design of the building. The upper windows of the building are separated by stone bands and topped by beautifully
carved lintels. The façade is capped by a deep, elaborately carved cornice topped by a carved stone block with the name and date of the building.

Commercial Building (1910s)
LHD 1995
816 S. Calhoun St.
Italianate, c.1870
Common design characteristics of late 1800s commercial buildings consists of: first floor storefronts with a recessed entry flanked by large display windows set above a low wall face, a long sign above before the storefront, tall, rectangular or arched windows on the upper floors, and an interesting cornice at the top of the building. Following the removal of other alterations, these characteristics were used to restore the original character of this building in 1995.

Louis Mohr Block
Frank & Struthers, architects, NR 1998
119 W. Wayne St.
Richardsonian Romanesque
1891-1926
Original owner Louis Mohr sold sewing machines and bicycles at this location until 1941. A woman’s complaint in “The Vogue,” added to the rear of the building in 1942, stood occupied in front of the building.
The cut limestone facade features tall second floor windows separated by clusters of slender columns as well as the massive round arches. A beautifully detailed cornice and open balustrade cap the building.

Keller Medicine Company Building
LHD 1933
825 S. Barr St.
Italianate, c.1886
Josiah O. Keller developed and manufactured dental equipment and appliances at this location, which housed printing and box manufacturing on the first floor, an office from the second, and a machine shop on the third. Patients registered under his name included a dental surgeon who once stood for $500
alimony and alleging infidelity and accusing him of “being unfaithful to his marriage vows and cruel besides.”

Alexander T. Rankin House
NR 2004; LHD 1997
818 S. Lafayette St.
Greek Revival, c.1845
Alexander T. Rankin arrived in Fort Wayne with his family in 1837 to serve as the Presbyterian pastor. After his wife died in 1841, Rankin purchased
818 Lafayette Street which adjourned the block where the Rankin’s original home was built under his direction. He resigned as minister in 1845, and left the city. Alexander Rankin is the only recorded individual who participated in the organization of both the Ohio and Indiana Antimilitaristic Societies, and his house is the only structure in Fort Wayne with known associations to abolition or Underground Railroad activities.

Robert Lyle & Dr. Bertha Macheeth House
LHD 2003
419 E. Wayne St.
Craftsmen Bangles, c.1925
The two front doors of this classic bungalow house are said to be home to
home and medicinal offices. It marks the transitionary period when a century many physicians conducted business in the home as a confirmation way to fill in from the the 19th century. While also being near home and family. The Macbeths lived on the west side, and Bertha operated her medical practice on the east side until
1942. Note the unique porch supports which show Japanese design influence.

Bostick-Keim House
LHD 2000
426 E. Wayne St.
Queen Anne, 1888
The design of this outstanding home incorporates most of the hallmark
features of the Queen Anne style: an asymmetrical facade and plan, a complex, steeply pitched gable roof, a variety of windows, decorative trim, and an elaborate, wrap-around porch. John Bostick was a prominent merchant tailor who, after retiring from retailing, became successful in real estate. His wife, Louisa, sold the house to William and Caroline Keim in 1921, and it continued in the ownership of the Keim family until 1999.

News-Sentinel Building
928-930 S. Barr St.
Georgian Colonial Revival
1925
The Fort Wayne News-Sentinel Building is the result of a 1918 merger of the Fort Wayne Daily News and The Sentinel. Along with Foellinger the publisher became the publisher
in 1920 and built this building for its offices. The building has fine brickwork accented by stone details. Both the primary entrance and a secondary entrance on Washington Blvd. have Colonial porticoes. One Foellinger, however, presumably in 1956, and his 25-year-old
daughter Helene became the youngest newspaper publisher in the United States. Helene remained publisher until her death in 1987. Known as the Foellinger Center since 1919, the building houses numerous not-for-profit organizations.

Masonic Temple
Charles Watterberg, architect; NR 1998
206 E. Washington Blvd.
Neo-classical, 1926
Masonic Temple is this building is divided into three sections by wide
entrance: the base has horizontal bands of stone masonry; the second story has four huge Ionic columns; and the attic level has paired windows and an entablature topped by antefixes. Reached by a broad flight of steps, the main entry has the appearance of a small temple with fluted Doric columns.
Flanking the entrance are square tablets with the Masonic compass symbol, and above the Ionic columns on the upper floors are round medallions with the symbol for each of the lodges originally housed in the building.
Engine House No. 3
Wing & Mahara, architects; NR 1979, LHD 1977
226 W. Washington Blvd.
Romantic Revival, 1893/1907
In 1893, the east half of this building was constructed as the first major expansion of the Fort Wayne Fire Department. The second, and a machine shop on the first floor, an office and sample room on the second, and a machine shop on the third floor were added in 1907. Large, decorative hoods of two storey 1893/1907
112 W. Barr St.
Gothic Revival, 1889/1905
With its tall proportions, numerous steep spires and gables topped by finials, and pointed archways and arches in a variety of shapes and sizes, this church is the epitome of the Gothic Revival style. The red brick, buttress, and dark grey slate contribute to the drama of the design. The site of this church has been owned by the St. Paul’s Lutheran congregation since 1839. Destroyed by fire in 1905, the church was completely rebuilt in 1905.
Central High School
Charles Waitebeyerg, architect; 1218 S. Barr St.
Rezus Arts, 1903
When this building opened in 1903 as Fort Wayne High School, it was the only high school in the city. “Central” was added to its name when South Side high school opened in 1922. It is the oldest school building in Fort Wayne, and it remains in use for education as the Arts-Career Center. Much like the Allen County Courthouse, the building is L-shaped with a variety of classical architectural details. A large addition on the west side of the building, designed by Fohnmayer & Pfeifer of Fort Wayne, was built in 1918 in the more streamlined Neoclassical style.

Fort Wayne Printing Building
Ralph B. Snyder, architect; NR 1980, LHD 1993
114 W. Washington Blvd.
Neoclassical/Chicago School, 1911
The only known work of local architect Ralph B. Snyder, the Fort Wayne Printing Building is significant as an industrial example of the Neoclassical style. The building’s red pressed brick facade is trimmed in white terra cotta, which is used for the window sills and lintels, as well as the decorative pannels of foam Houses and cornices that adorn the spandrels. A bracketed cornice extends around the top of the facade. The Fort Wayne Printing Company was headquartered here until it moved to its suburban mall in 1979.

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The only known work of local architect Ralph B. Snyder, the Fort Wayne Printing Building is significant as an industrial example of the Neoclassical style. The building’s red pressed brick facade is trimmed in white terra cotta, which is used for the window sills and lintels, as well as the decorative pannels of foam Houses and cornices that adorn the spandrels. A bracketed cornice extends around the top of the facade. The Fort Wayne Printing Company was headquartered here until it moved to its suburban mall in 1979.

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