

From April, 2020, through October, 2020, Indiana added 17 listings to the National Register of Historic Places. These listings—houses; commercial and industrial buildings; religious buildings; a farm; a park; a cemetery and mausoleum; and historic districts—have added approximately 767 historic resources to the National and State Registers. For information on Indiana properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places and the Indiana Register of Historic Sites and Structures go to <https://secure.in.gov/apps/dnr/shaard/welcome.html>.

## ALLEN COUNTY

### **St. Rose de Lima Roman Catholic Church and Rectory**

Monroeville, 1888-1931

Architecture

Listed on August 27, 2020



St. Rose de Lima Catholic Church, designed by the Fort Wayne, Indiana architectural firm of Wing and Mahurin and built in 1888, has a rough-cut limestone foundation with a limestone water table. The exterior walls are red brick laid in a running bond with limestone details. Centered on the façade is the 102-foot tall steeple in which the main entry is located. A lancet arched transom stained glass window tops the double-entry doors. At the second-story of the tower is a large, lancet arched stained-glass window. Above this is a small brick blind arcade with stone sill and two bell openings with wood louvers. The spire is accented by a small gable pitch flanked by two finials on each of the steeple's four sides. Topping the spire is a wooden cross. Flanking the center bay of the façade are two identical outer bays each having paired stained-glass lancet arched windows on the first story and a single stained-glass lancet arched window on the second story. Brick corbelling runs underneath the eaves and is continued along all of the building's elevations. The gable pitched roof has composite asphalt shingles, which replaced the original slate shingles. The c.1931 Tudor Revival-style rectory has a brick foundation and brick walls laid in a running bond pattern. The building has a steeply pitched side-gable roof with a steeply pitched front gabled cross-section roughly centered on the façade. The primary entry, a wood door with limestone-quoined surround, is located in the south bay of the front gabled cross-section. North of the door is an original small stained-glass window and an original diamond leaded glass window. Also on the first story on the side-gabled section is an original diamond leaded glass window located in the north bay and three grouped 6-over-6 vinyl replacement windows in the south bay. All of these windows have brick lintels and sills. Centered on the second story of the front-gabled pitch is a replacement 16-over-16 vinyl window. Also on the second story is a small shed-roof dormer with a 10-over-10 window in the south bay, and a gabled wall dormer with an 8-over-8 window in the north bay. The rectory retains its original slate shingles and metal gutters and flashing. The St. Rose de Lima Catholic Church is an outstanding and ornate example of a rural country church that exhibits characteristics associated with the Gothic Revival style including the lancet-arched, stained-glass windows with brick lintels and limestone keystones; corbelled brick lancet arches along the roofline and front gable; and brick buttresses on the side elevations. Similarly, the Tudor Revival style rectory, built c. 1931, is an excellent example of the style and retains a high level of architectural integrity.



## **BENTON COUNTY**

### **Oxford Community Mausoleum**

Oxford, vicinity, 1908-1969

Social History

*Early Community Mausoleum*

*Movement in Indiana*

Listed on August 24, 2020

Founded in 1868, Oxford West Cemetery features a variety of individual granite and marble markers from c. 1868 to the present, arranged in rows. The Oxford Community Mausoleum is situated in the southeastern portion of the cemetery and can be clearly seen from any vantage point. Textured concrete blocks

comprise the one-story, single bay, rectangularly massed structure as well the two-story squared towers at each corner. The original arched entryways located on the north and south elevations of the mausoleum were enclosed with concrete shortly after the completion of the structure. A single, rectangular bay with squared towers at each of the four corners forms the overall plan of the building. A smooth concrete cornice band tops the block walls and terminates in concrete bullnose trim. A green clay tile roof, gabled over the main bay, has two courses of blue glass tiles on either side of the ridge line. The four towers, each topped by a hipped green clay tile roof, project slightly from the sides of the structure and rise above the east and west walls. The identical north and south parapeted end walls are bordered by the two slightly taller corner towers. These elevations are dominated by the large, double coursed round arch with projecting outer course and keystone, which spans the distance between towers. A pair of long rectangular windows with wide stone lintels and sills are centered in each tower. Originally, these were filled with stained glass, but were replaced with 3 x 6 spans of glass block when decorative glazing fell into disrepair. The Oxford Community Mausoleum is significant as the earliest example of a community mausoleum constructed in Indiana, the only one constructed from concrete block, and is nearly identical to the original patented design that gave rise to the movement nationwide.



## **CLARK COUNTY**

### **M. Fine & Sons Building**

Clarksville, 1925-1954

Architecture and Industry

Listed on August 21, 2020

The M. Fine & Sons Building was built in two stages, although the exact dates and sequence are uncertain. Based on architectural study, it appears that the three-story structure was built first (c.1925) and the two-story structure was added at a later date (c.1939). The three-story structure features a low-sloped gable roof. The two-story structure is attached to the north face of the three-story structure. Both structures

have similar materials, exposed steel structure, red brick, and large expanses of multi-pane steel windows. The M. Fine & Sons Building is significant as the local manufacturing company facility for M. Fine & Sons, a Louisville, Kentucky-based company specializing in high quality men's shirts, jeans, and woolen trousers for nearly twenty years. The building was the workplace for hundreds of local citizens and served an important role in Jeffersonville's economy from its initial construction in the mid-1920's. The M. Fine & Sons Building



was also an historically important location during labor union disagreements in the mid-1930's, and then for its contribution to the war efforts. The M. Fine & Sons Building is also significant as a fine example of early 20<sup>th</sup> century daylight factory industrial building within the context of Jeffersonville. Designed by the highly respected firm of Joseph & Joseph, based in Louisville, Kentucky, its massing, large industrial windows, brick detailing, and interior spatial character clearly reflect the style and construction methods of the period. As of 2018, after a significant rehabilitation, the M. Fine & Sons Building operates as an affordable senior housing facility.

## **DUBOIS COUNTY**

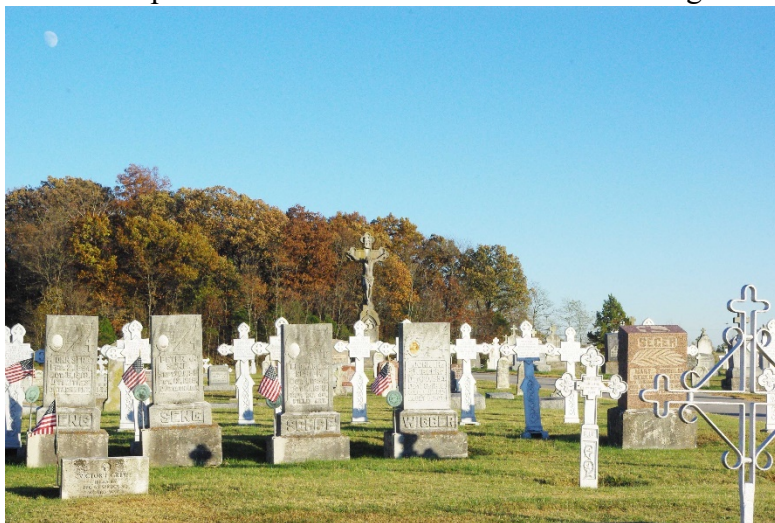
### **St. Ferdinand Parish Historic District**

Ferdinand, 1840-1958

Architecture and Ethnic Heritage

Listed on August 31, 2020

The St. Ferdinand Parish Historic District includes the church, school, rectory and other related buildings. These are set on a rise, above the town east of the main town thoroughfare. The district also includes the cemetery which has been traditionally associated with it and further east, up a hill, the Chapel of the Sorrowful Mother. The district is located on a slight rise above the main part of the town, and thus the St. Ferdinand Church spire towers above it and is particularly distinct. The highest local elevation however, is the location of the chapel, connected to the main part of the district by a gentle walkway. The Chapel of the Sorrowful Mother has been placed on this high rise, one of two in the near distance of the town. The St. Ferdinand Parish Historic District is significant for its association with ethnic heritage in the first half of the nineteenth century. It represents an important part of the era of German immigration which occurred in Southern Indiana during this period of time. The energetic efforts of Father Joseph Kundak, in particular, formed key communities in the broad region of southern Indiana, north of the Ohio between the present day communities of Jasper and St. Meinrad. The community of Ferdinand is a good example of the towns which were founded to attract and settle this new land on what was still a sparsely settled frontier. The layout of the cemetery grounds recalls the days when pedestrian walks and carriage drives were the norm. In particular, the distinctive walk between the church and the chapel retains significance for its association with ethnically inspired activities during the nineteenth century. In addition, the district is significant for the high degree of design and workmanship which are evident in most of the buildings. In addition, the statue of Christ the King is the work



of a highly respected immigrant sculptor. The church is an excellent example of a vernacular building constructed of local stone in a classically inspired style. The Chapel of the Sorrowful Mother reflects the influence of the German Rundbogenstil style and the high degree of brick work which was evident in the skilled artisans of the community. The Rectory and the Ferdinand School demonstrate excellent examples of the workmanship and design of their eras. The cemetery contains many statues and markers which, while typical of the era, also represent good examples of this Germanically influenced art form.

## **ELKHART COUNTY**

### **Robert and Susan Pletcher House**

Nappanee, 1968-1974

Architecture

Residential Planning and Development  
in Indiana, 1940-1973

Listed on August 24, 2020



The Richard and Susan Pletcher House was constructed in 1968 in a rather typical subdivision of the late 1960s on the north edge of Nappanee. Richard and Susan Pletcher selected a large double-lot location in the newer Northwood Subdivision on the north edge of Nappanee to construct their home. The subdivision was platted over a wooded area in 1965. The home is atypical of local houses constructed during this time, as it reflects contemporary architecture rather than more common Ranch or modern examples of revival styles. The one-story house features broad, modified salt-box style roofs rotated around a central core, large rooms with ample daylight from floor-to-ceiling windows, clerestory windows and skylights, and an unusual installation of wood siding on both interior and exterior walls. The home was designed by Michigan-based architect, Robert Holdeman, whose design for the home was influenced by the area's vernacular farm buildings. Low walls composed of granite fieldstone create borders for landscaping and walkways around the house and connect the outside with the interior. The Richard and Susan Pletcher House is an excellent example of contemporary architecture of the 1960s by an architect who used contextual influence of agrarian, vernacular buildings for inspiration. The home's contemporary design in a small, rural, mostly agricultural and manufacturing town further establishes the home's architecture as significant in its suburban setting of mostly Ranch houses.

## **FOUNTAIN COUNTY**

### **Veedersburg Clover Leaf Route Depot**

Veedersburg, 1902-1958

Architecture and Transportation

Listed on August 21, 2020



Veedersburg's passenger depot for the Toledo, St. Louis & Western Railroad, more commonly known as the Clover Leaf Route, was built between 1902 and 1903 two blocks east of the central business district. It has a foundation of paver brick from the Wabash Clay Company stamped "W. C. Co. Poston Block, Pat." and "W. C. Co. Culver Block, Pat. May 21, 1901." Belt courses of rusticated limestone trim the top and bottom of paver-sized, deep red brick wainscot around the perimeter of the building. The depot features simple clapboards above the wainscot and a tall frieze at the top of the walls is composed of board and battens. The clapboard-covered wall flares out slightly at the bottom where it meets the wainscot. The doors and windows feature wide wood trim. Wood arches over front entries are nearly 16" wide, mimicking heavy stone. The building has one-over-one wood windows and paneled, wood doors. The hipped roof has very wide-overhanging eaves that are flared and supported by rows of stilt-like braces with chamfered edges. Exposed rafters are under the eaves. Veedersburg's commerce thrived after three railroad companies constructed lines through town in the 1870s-1880s. The small community depot demonstrates the need for passenger amenities during the town's early 20<sup>th</sup> century rail transportation-era. The building is also significant due to the impressive quality and character of the small depot's architecture, in the

Romanesque Revival style. The depot's many original features and unaltered appearance make it an excellent example of railroad architecture from the turn of the century.

## **GREENE COUNTY**

### **Old Clifty Church**

Bloomfield, 1858-1967

Architecture and Social History

Listed on August 31, 2020

Old Clifty Church is located within a small valley. The church is a rectangularly-massed, two-bay, three-bay deep, single-pen log structure. Its isolated location and rural setting have allowed the Old Clifty Church to retain a remarkable degree of contextual integrity and serve as an authentic representation of 19th century life in rural Indiana.

The property includes an outdoor chapel, stone table, water pump and well, and outhouse. The outdoor chapel, table, and pump played a role in formalization of long-held outdoor activities at the site. Although the land was deeded in 1858, the outbreak of the Civil War delayed the construction of the church; however, after the war was over and the men returned home, the church was completed in 1867. Sitting upon a concrete block foundation, which was built during the 1942 restoration, the exterior walls of the Old Clifty Church are composed of large, squared, yellow poplar logs. According to the local history, these hand-hewn logs were taken from the surrounding woods shortly after the land was deeded in 1858. The logs of each elevation are secured with half dovetail joints at each corner of the building. The horizontal gaps between each of the logs, which were originally chinked with clay, now feature cement chinking that was applied in the 1970s. Atop these exterior walls is a gable end roof with cedar shingles. Featured on the southern elevation are two two-tread steps of Indiana limestone placed on the ground in front of the two parallel doors. These newly constructed doors are made of wood planks with a steel handle and turntable wood block serving as the lock. Situated between and slightly elevated above the two doors is a wooden sign with the carved words: "Welcome" and "Clifty Memorial Assn" which dates from the 1960s. Old Clifty Church is significant for its associations with the important patterns and activities of the pioneer families that settled in rural Indiana, and its integral role in the ongoing connection those families have to the area. As an excellent example of a rural nineteenth century log church and community meeting ground, Old Clifty Church is among the earliest buildings in Greene County and one of the earliest log churches in the state of Indiana still standing at its original location. Although the monthly religious services no longer take place, the church and its grounds have remained in continuous use as a religious site and community recreation area since 1867.



## HENRY COUNTY

### **Henry County Memorial Park**

New Castle, 1919-1968

Architecture and Entertainment and Recreation

Listed on August 26, 2020

The Henry County Memorial Park was established in 1919 as a way to honor those who fought and died during World War I. The 94-acre park includes two buildings with large meeting halls, one near the southwest corner of the park and the other near the center of the park. Rustic picnic pavilions with stone cook stoves and drinking fountains dot the hills along the main drive through the park. The park

includes two historic log cabins that were relocated to the property and several structures were constructed during the 1930s under the Works Progress Administration. These are concentrated in the east-central part of the park and include stone pedestrian bridges and steps. Monuments are also found throughout the park, at the entrances, near the large lake, and in the area of WPA work by the large shelter house. Henry County Memorial



Park has good examples of Park Rustic architecture combined with a landscape plan that takes advantage of vistas through organized drives and pathways through the park. A.W. Brayton created the first park plan in 1926, which established the overall structure of the park that is still evident today. Brayton's concepts were enhanced by the WPA improvements; these featured fine examples of characteristic New Deal workmanship and locally found materials. Appropriately for a property that memorialized the service of Americans who served in WW I, the park includes one of E.M. Viquesney's "Spirit of the American Doughboy" sculptures.

## JACKSON COUNTY

### **Westside Historic District**

Seymour, c.1868-1960

Architecture and Community Planning and Development

Historic Residential Suburbs in the United States, 1830-1960

Listed on August 31, 2020

The Westside Historic District is a large area of expanded neighborhoods on the west side of the historic commercial area of Seymour. Initial development of the area began in the late 1880s with worker class housing. Street trees, sidewalks, and common setbacks for houses help unify the overall district. In the east part of the district, most houses are of a few styles or types, nearly all one-



story, and built from about 1885 to 1905. The middle part of the district has streets lined with one-story or one-and-a-half story Bungalows dating from about 1915-1930. These are followed to the west by a movement toward revival style cottages including Colonial Revival, Tudor Revival, English Cottages, and several Spanish Revival houses. At the west end of the district, the need for housing in the middle part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century becomes evident as the streets become lined with various interpretations of American Small House architecture. The north end of Kessler and Lee Boulevards are lined with matching one-story brick houses, dating to 1943-1945, with simple Colonial and Cape Cod features. The district also includes a church, school, and public gymnasium, as well as a small number of commercial buildings. The district is composed of simple working-class houses constructed in styles popular during the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. While the features are more modest than some of the city's larger, more outstanding examples of the same styles, the repetition of certain house plans and features lining the streets of the district is significant. This demonstrates that while the



houses were scaled to be affordable, attention to detail and styles popular during the period was also important. Rows of Queen Anne Cottages, Bungalows, and cottages in revival styles of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century line the district's streets. Several houses appear to be kit houses. Many others show the influence of periodicals or catalog designs. Uniformity is most evident in the small homes from standardized plans that line Kessler Boulevard, these were specifically built to FHA guidelines. This district's cohesive collection of small homes retains a great deal of historic character and highlights working class neighborhoods of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

## **LaPORTE COUNTY**

### **Dr. Robert and Amelia Frost House**

Michigan City, 1964

Architecture

Residential Planning and Development  
in Indiana, 1940-1973

Listed on August 21, 2020

The Dr. Robert and Amelia Frost House is located on a large double lot on Michigan City's southeast side. The neighborhood was a mature forest when it was platted in the 1950s-1960s and many large, old trees remained on the lot when the house was constructed in 1964. A concrete driveway leads to the garage, attached



to the north end of the house, and concrete walkways and patios are located off the front door and bedrooms, respectively. The yard is heavily shaded by mature trees and the backyard is fairly secluded through the use of evergreens and a fence. The property contains a significant amount of historic landscaping in the form of boulders, ivy, and evergreens. Landscape beds near the house are covered with washed river stone. The one-story house features an external, skeleton-like metal frame painted black. Aluminum panels and glass form bays to enclose the walls within the metal frame. Some of the panels are painted brilliant shades of yellow and blue, the remainder are white. The roof is flat and hidden behind metal flashing, also painted black. The house is generally broken into four cube-like portions: living/dining, kitchen, bedrooms, and garage. The garage and bedroom sections step forward in the front façade at the north and south ends, respectively. This allows the living/dining and kitchen areas to be recessed in the façade where a wide concrete walkway, covered with an

extension of the black metal frame, leads from the driveway to the front doors. The garage section, at the north end, features two garage doors divided by four horizontal panels. The south wall of the garage, facing the covered walkway, is divided into a floor-to-ceiling door in its east end and a wide yellow panel in the west end. The Dr. Robert & Amelia Frost House is an exceptional example of modern architecture, in adherence to International Style precepts, and was a prefabricated design offered by Alside Homes. Designed for a growing market interested in modern architecture, Emil Tessin's creations were simply arranged and reproducible, using manufactured building components that were easily assembled regardless of location. The Frost House is a remarkably intact example from Alside's brief production period, and it includes original finishes and furnishings.

## Tryon Farm

Michigan City, 1892-c.1920  
Agriculture and Architecture  
Listed on August 21, 2020

Tryon Farm was part of a family farm operation extending back to the 1870s, but was largely developed into a modern farm by two brothers, Charles C. and Harvey H. Tryon, during the 1890s. The roughly four-acre farmstead on Tryon Road features Charles C. Tryon's house (1896), a large bank barn built for a dairy operation (1892), and a chicken coop and drive-through granary (c. 1900). A gravel driveway enters the farmstead property in



its west half, off Tryon Road. It extends to the north and terminates in a circle in front of the garage and granary. Mature trees are in the lawn and line the driveway. The house is off the west side of the drive and a wooded area (late-growth trees) is off the east side of the drive, between it and the pasture. The chicken coop is



northwest of the house. The large barn is northeast of the house and is accessed by the Tryon Farm development road east of the property. A large pasture is in front of the barn, between it and Tryon Road. Tryon Farm reflects the importance agriculture played during the 1890s-1900s, a time when agriculture was entering its golden age. The Tryons responded to local conditions by dairy farming and the farm includes the key buildings associated with their efforts. The farm is now one of few 19<sup>th</sup> century farms left in Michigan Township. The large brick house is a good example of Queen Anne architecture reflected mostly in its corner tower and porte-cochere.



## **OWEN COUNTY**

### **Spencer Courthouse Square Historic District**

Spencer, 1869-1959

Architecture, Commerce, and Transportation

Listed on August 24, 2020

The Spencer Courthouse Square Historic District, located in Owen County, comprises the commercial district surrounding the Owen County Courthouse, and extends approximately one-half block beyond the square. Architectural styles represent the period of significance, 1869-1959, and illustrate the growth and changes in a rural, county-seat town. The district illustrates

the growth of a rural, county-seat town that grew exponentially after the opening of the Indianapolis & Vincennes Railroad in 1869. The lively commerce that took place in the buildings around the courthouse square during the period of significance migrated to the north along the bypass corridor after its construction in 1959. The district is significant for its many examples of commercial architecture, most of which are Italianate. Several have intact cast-iron storefronts, cast by Indiana manufacturers. Two depression-era buildings illustrate the effect of Federal programs in the town: the Post Office (1938) and the Armory (1939). The district includes the best historic civic buildings in the county.



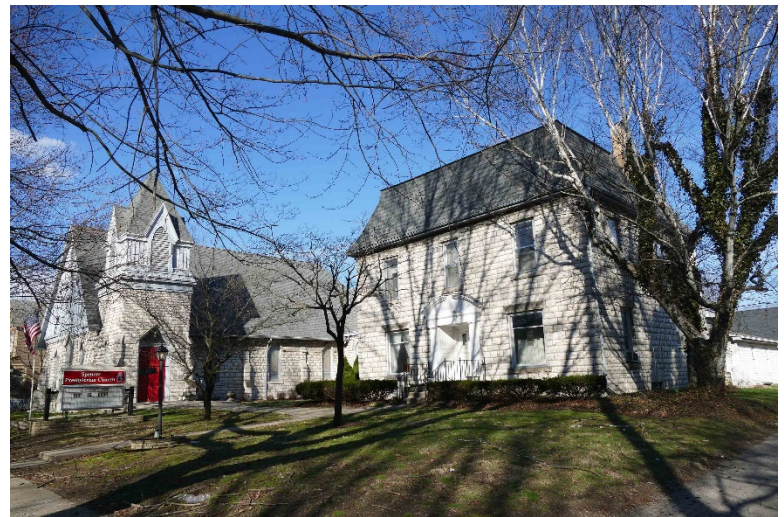
### **Spencer Presbyterian Church and Manse**

Spencer, 1879-1969

Architecture

Listed on August 31, 2020

The church was constructed in 1879 in the Gothic Revival style with Carpenter Gothic wood details. In 1909, an addition was constructed to the rear of the church to serve as a parlor. The manse was constructed in 1900 and remodeled in 1969. The two periods of construction for the manse illustrate the congregation's adaptation for contemporary needs. The Spencer Presbyterian Church and Manse are locally significant for their eclectic architecture. The architectural styles of the complex demonstrate how a small-town church evolved to



meet the needs of the congregation over 90 years of change, 1879-1969. Spencer Presbyterian Church is the oldest church structure in the town of Spencer. It is the only example of a Gothic Revival church with Stick Style influences. The church is distinguished for its early date and its Stick Style exterior and interior elements. The congregation commissioned an addition in 1909; its exterior is the same stone, but its architectural details combine Romanesque Revival and Neo-Classical Revival elements. Using the space within the 1909 addition, the congregation was able to approximate the design and worship concepts of the Akron Plan, a new and influential trend of the era.

## **PUTNAM COUNTY**

### **Roachdale Historic District**

Roachdale, 1880-c.1960

Architecture and Commerce

Listed on August 18, 2020

The Roachdale Historic District is located in the northeast section of Putnam County. The district encompasses the historic commercial area as well as the historic homes that were built to house the merchants, industrialists and workers of the town. The building stock in the district includes high-style homes constructed in the Italianate, Queen Anne, and Free Classic styles, as well as

vernacular examples of American Foursquare, Bungalow and Gable and Wing. The commercial buildings were constructed around the turn of the twentieth century and are mostly in the Italianate and Functional Commercial Styles. The buildings in the district are mainly from the town's period of greatest development, 1880-1920.

Development did continue into the pre-World War II years, although at a slower pace. Post-World War II development was typical of small Indiana towns, with a small number of residential and commercial buildings filling in vacant lots. The resources remaining include the commercial buildings and the homes of those that supported the town's commerce and who worked at the industry that grew from the local hardwood and farming. These buildings tell the story of how the town developed around the junction of two railroad lines and the commerce that arose based on natural resources. These buildings include high styles, such as Italianate, Queen Anne and Free Classic, as well as Functional Commercial, American Foursquare, Gable and Wing, Bungalow, and vernacular structures.



## **TIPPECANOE COUNTY**

### **Spring Vale Cemetery**

Lafayette, 1868-1940

Architecture, Art, Landscape

Architecture, and Social History

Listed on August 25, 2020

Spring Vale Cemetery is a long, half-octagon-shaped development comprised of just over 80 acres on the north side of Lafayette. The cemetery, containing over 18,000 graves, was established in 1868-1869 using a plan inspired by the Rural Cemetery Movement with winding drives and natural features to highlight graves and family burial plots. Several monumental

stones including obelisks and carved crosses are scattered throughout the cemetery which also features four mausolea and a pavilion-like burial marker. Stones and monuments of Gothic and Classical styles are blended with later Art Deco design in the Victorian-era cemetery. A fieldstone cemetery administration office and



receiving vault compliment the stone entryway and bridge railings and represent early 20<sup>th</sup> century development of the cemetery. Due to a growing population and a desire to have a more pleasing area in which to inter its

citizens, prominent residents of Lafayette established the cemetery as a response for this need. Several important figures in the city's history were interred at Spring Vale in the following decades. The cemetery features buildings and structures of notable architectural significance including its glacial boulder stone administration building and the classically-inspired architecture of the mausolea. Intricate carvings of monuments, such as the Celtic crosses and figures atop family stones, are artistically significant. Finally, the cemetery is important as an example of the Rural Cemetery Movement, which marries landscape design with a Victorian-era embrace of the Picturesque.



## **VIGO COUNTY**

### **Ehrmann Building**

Terre Haute, 1895-1913

Architecture, Industry and  
Social History

Listed on August 21, 2020

The Ehrmann Building, constructed in 1895, is red brick and constructed in the Romanesque Revival style. The three-story building is the only remaining historic structure on the block. The building has undergone renovations over its history. Major changes to the exterior occurred in the early 1960s for a furniture store, including a new storefront and the addition of a small, single-story shipping building attached to the rear. The most recent renovations to the building include a new storefront with a design sympathetic to the original. The highly ornamented facade is clad in hard-burned cherry brick. Decorative brick units form turrets, rounded window heads, and dentils on the cornices. Limestone accents appear at the bases of the turrets, window sills, third-floor window mullions, and third-floor pilasters. The facade is arranged in three bays, separated by turrets at the upper level, brick pilasters at the second and third levels, and original, fluted, cast-iron columns at the storefront. The three-bay storefront is constructed of black metal and glass. The center bay cants back to the full-light, double entry doors, with a large transom. Storefront walls include metal kickplate panels, large display windows and tall transoms. The building, designed by Josse A. Vrydagh, is an excellent example of Romanesque Revival Commercial architecture, and contributes to the rich industrial history of Terre Haute. The building housed the Ehrmann Manufacturing Company, makers of work clothes, from 1895-1938. The Ehrmann Company was a significant employer of women during the period. In 1913, a significant strike occurred on the property, part of the struggle between labor and management being discussed in the Indiana General Assembly and occurring throughout the nation in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. In a broader perspective, the Ehrmann labor conflict was a local instance in a wave of labor strikes in the U.S. in the early 19-teens.



## **WELLS COUNTY**

### **Bluffton Commercial Historic District**

Bluffton, 1879-1968

Architecture, Commerce, and

Politics and Government

Listed on October 15, 2020

The Bluffton Commercial Historic District is comprised of predominantly masonry commercial and public buildings constructed in the late 19<sup>th</sup> to mid-20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Bluffton was first platted in a grid system in 1838 and was the first and only county seat of Wells County. The architectural styles most represented in the district include

Romanesque Revival and Italianate, however there are examples of Neoclassical, Tudor Revival and modern styles as well. As was common in 19<sup>th</sup> century downtowns, most buildings share party walls. Later 20<sup>th</sup> century commercial and public buildings are more commonly constructed independent of other buildings and with



modest setbacks. The Bluffton Commercial Historic District is significant as the center of Bluffton's commercial and social history, as well as the center of government for the town and Wells County. It is a representation of the town's growth from a frontier town through the Indiana Gas Boom and post-World War II era. Additionally, the district is significant as a largely intact and concentrated grouping of historic architectural resources related to the downtown's role as a governmental, commercial, social and retail center. These buildings represent a variety of architectural styles and types and retain a high level of architectural integrity.