

## GRANDVIEW CEMETERY BUILDING

Salisbury Street West Lafayette c.1903

Owner: Grand View Cemetery Trust

This unusual small stone building is located on the grounds of the Grandview Cemetery. Used to store maintenance equipment for the cemetery, it is deteriorating. The current owners of the cemetery would like to restore the building, but would appreciate guidance and assistance. It could provide space for meditation, a small museum, archives, or office.



## THE INDIANA VETERANS HOME BUILDINGS

3851 North River Road West Lafayette

Owner: The State of Indiana

### ADMINISTRATION BUILDING c.1896

The Administration Building was one of the 3 remaining original buildings constructed on the site of the Indiana Veterans Home in the 1890s. Established in West Lafayette on land known as Tecumseh's Trail, the Old Soldiers Home was the result of a state-wide initiative led by the Grand Army of the Republic to provide for the care of Civil War soldiers and their wives or widows as increasing numbers of veterans from that conflict began to decline in health. It was an important effort on the part of the citizens of the state to remember the sacrifices made by the men who served their country during times of war and by the wives and children left on the home front.



### LAWRIE LIBRARY c.1896

The building now known as the Lawrie Library was among the first buildings constructed in the 1890s on the campus of the Indiana Veterans Home. Since 2008, oversight of the Indiana Veterans Home passed from the Department of Health to the Department of Veterans Affairs, and the future of the historic buildings, like the Lawrie Library, is uncertain. After being briefly held by the Trust, which began stabilization of the building with external grant support, the building was deeded back to the Department of Natural Resources in the State of Indiana in 2009.



### COMMANDANT'S HOME 1896

The Commandant's Home was one of the original buildings erected on the site of the Old Soldiers Home that opened in 1896. Among the distinctive architectural features are ionic columns, dentil trim along the roof line, and the rounded front portico. The building currently houses a bed and breakfast. Like the Lawrie Library and Administration Building, the Commandant's Home has an uncertain future on the campus.



### OLD MEN'S DORMITORY c.1915

Although not part of the original campus of the Indiana Veterans Home, the Old Men's Dormitory dates to the early twentieth century. It has been identified as one of the unused buildings on the site that is slated for demolition in 2010. Because the Old Men's Dormitory was not part of the historic district established at the Indiana Veterans Home in the 1970s, it does not have protected status.



# SAVED!



### FORD ROW HOUSES c.1890

417-425 North Fifth Street Lafayette

Owner: Triple R, LLC

These townhouses contribute significantly to the character and charm of the Centennial Neighborhood and compliment the adjacent infill row houses built in the 1990s. As urban living experiences a revival in Lafayette, rehabilitation and restoration of historic buildings like these become attractive alternatives to new construction.



### THE MISSION

of the WABASH VALLEY TRUST is to promote historic preservation through restoration and visibility of the architectural heritage of our community.

### THE TRUST

is a leading force in the community, championing historic preservation which enhances the quality of life for all citizens.

# 2010 ENDANGERED STRUCTURES Tippecanoe County



THE WABASH VALLEY TRUST  
FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

PO Box 1354 • 14 North Third Street • Lafayette IN • 47902  
[www.WabashValleyTrust.org](http://www.WabashValleyTrust.org) • 765.420.0268





## THE CAIRO SKYWATCH TOWER

8451 N 100 W Tippecanoe County 1952

Owners: John & Lori O'Connor

This tower was built in 1952 during the Korean War to protect the county against aerial attacks. The structure was cared for by the O'Conner family, who participated in the Skywatch program for many years. However, the tower has fallen into disrepair. Because of its current conditions, visitors to the site are not permitted to climb to the top. Local citizens have shown a commitment to restoration, if funds can be located for the materials. The Cairo Skywatch Tower was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2002.

## 115 SOUTH NINTH STREET

Lafayette c.1910

Owner: Gerald E. Ford



This Colonial Revival frame home was originally a one-family home and is now divided into apartments. It was considered a contributing structure for the neighborhood's National Historic Register listing in the 1990s. The structure has wood drop siding, bay walls, and a wood porch. Deferred maintenance is hastening its deterioration.



## THE PYTHIAN HOME South 18th Street Lafayette 1927

Owner: Lafayette School Corporation

In 1927, the Knights of Pythias selected this site for its area headquarters and residential home. Lafayette School Corporation purchased the property in 1992 as a possible expansion site for Jeff High School. It was used for offices and a Halloween Fright House until environmental concerns forced the closing of the building. The administration of the Lafayette School Corporation considers it too expensive to rehabilitate. The campus, however, has been an integral part of the historic fabric of the neighborhood for more than eight decades. Finding a way to rehabilitate and reuse the building is critical in saving this important Lafayette structure.

## 617 NEW YORK STREET

Lafayette c.1890

Owner: Daniel Lawrence



This Queen Anne cottage with ionic columns supporting the front porch, decorative brackets under the eaves, and unusual central turret offers a reminder of the more modest dwellings built in the late nineteenth century in Lafayette. Unlike the elaborately decorated "painted ladies" usually associated with Victorian architecture, this cottage is relatively small, but it bears many of the distinctive elements of that architectural style. It is a hidden jewel of the Ellsworth-Romig Neighborhood.



## REIFER HOUSE 12 North Eighth Street Lafayette c.1920

Owner: Central Presbyterian Church

After many years of responsible oversight, Central Church leased this Craftsman Bungalow to Lafayette Neighborhood Housing Services. After 10+ years, Central now has the house back. To accommodate its growing downtown ministry, Central hopes the house can be moved to a new location nearby, thus preserving a part of Lafayette history.



## FARMERS INSTITUTE Tippecanoe County 1851

Owner: Farmers Institute

When the Farmers Institute opened in 1851, it was the first school of higher learning in rural Tippecanoe County, and it enrolled students from the area as well as from other states. As a stop on the Underground Railroad in Indiana, the Farmers Institute building reminds present-day Hoosiers of the important role played by local Quakers to attack the institution of slavery by aiding slaves to escape to freedom. After the Civil War, the Farmers Institute continued as an educational institution until 1888. It also served as a local Meeting House for Quakers in the community. Today the Quakers can no longer maintain Farmers Institute, a seven-acre site in rural Tippecanoe County.



## AYERS MANSION

907 State Street Lafayette c.1850

Owner: Howard Ayers, Jr.

This stately residence stands at the intersection of South Ninth Street and State Street in Lafayette, a sad example of "demolition by neglect." Exterior repairs were begun over 11 years ago, but little progress has been made in the last decade. The house was built by James Wallace, owner of property east of the house now known as the Wallace Triangle Neighborhood. The house was remodeled in 1898, adding the porches and bay windows. Distinctive architectural features include ionic columns and pilasters, leaded glass windows, and curved second-floor side porch with balustrade. The home takes its name from Col. Howard Ayers, Sr., aide-de-camp to General Douglas MacArthur. Col. Ayres designed and rebuilt the network of utilities for Japan after WWII for which he was awarded the Order of the Rising Sun by the Emperor of Japan.



## ZINN-FITZGERALD HOUSE

717 Columbia Street Lafayette c.1870

Owner: Robert Cassell

Renovation of this landmark home was begun by Lafayette Neighborhood Housing Services, and then was sold to a private contractor. In 2009, the house appeared on the Wabash Valley Trust Endangered Structures list as a property that had been saved. However, renovations were halted because of severe structural concerns, and the property again changed owners. Today, the Zinn-Fitzgerald House is at risk of continued deterioration unless sufficient resources can be invested in its stabilization and rehabilitation.

Architecture  
HAS RECORDED THE GREAT IDEAS OF THE HUMAN RACE . . .  
EVERY HUMAN THOUGHT HAS ITS PAGE IN THAT VAST BOOK.  
Victor Hugo