

DNR NEWS

Indiana Department of Natural Resources
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Grants to preserve local history across state

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) helps strengthen Indiana's historical and cultural heritage through annual federal grants it administers to local communities and not-for-profit groups that these organizations use toward preservation projects.

This year, the DNR Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology has awarded 16 federal grants for historic preservation and archaeology in Indiana communities (see list below). The grants, totaling \$494,793, provide a match of \$473,756 in local and state funds, for a total projected investment of \$968,549.

The funds come from the National Park Service, a part of the U.S. Department of the Interior, which distributes federal funds to the states through the Historic Preservation Fund Program. Since 1974, the state has awarded more than \$16.5 million to Indiana communities through this program.

"Preserving our state's historic and cultural resources is a vital part of our mission," said DNR director and State Historic Preservation Officer, Robert E. Carter Jr. "These worthy projects help revitalize communities, provide local jobs and investment, and allow Hoosiers to explore the cultures and people of Indiana's past."

The projects for the 2009 funding cycle are:

Allen and Hamilton counties: The Archaeological Survey of IPFW received a \$48,939 grant to conduct an archaeological investigation of three sites in Allen County. All three sites represent large and important elements of the Late Prehistoric Western Basin settlement system. [Contact: Bob McCullough, IPFW, (260) 481-6892].

Adams County: ARCH, Inc. received a \$27,472 award for a countywide survey to document historic sites, structures and landscapes throughout Adams County. The survey will cover 339 square miles, and is expected to document approximately 1,850 sites for the state's historic sites and structures database. [Contact: Angie Quinn, ARCH, Inc., (260) 426-5117].

Carroll County: Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana received a \$26,719 award for a countywide survey to document historic sites, structures, and landscapes throughout

Carroll County. The survey will cover 402 square miles, and is expected to document approximately 2,300 sites for the state's historic sites and structures database. [Contact: Suzanne Stanis, Historic Landmarks Foundation, (317) 639-4534].

Clark County: The Archaeological Survey of IPFW received a \$43,730 grant to conduct archaeological investigations in Clark County, including two major Mississippian sites. This area contains important resources ranging from the Paleoindian to historic periods and is experiencing rapid development pressure. [Contact: Bob McCullough, IPFW, (260) 481-6892].

Fort Wayne: The City of Fort Wayne Community Development received a \$27,929 grant to prepare a nomination to the National Register of Historic Places for the Brookview-Irvington Historic District, which will include approximately 315 contributing properties. The project will also prepare a nomination to the National Register for approximately 41 parks and 12 boulevards/parkways in the historic Fort Wayne Park and Boulevard System. [Contact: Don Orban, City of Fort Wayne, (260) 427-2160].

Franklin County: Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana received a \$26,735 award for a countywide survey to document historic sites, structures, and landscapes throughout Franklin County. The survey will cover 386 square miles, and is expected to document approximately 1,400 sites for the state's historic sites and structures database. [Contact: Suzanne Stanis, Historic Landmarks Foundation, (317) 639-4534].

Hancock County: The American Military Heritage Foundation received a \$50,000 grant for the replacement of the right engine on the PV-2 Harpoon aircraft, also known as "Hot Stuff." The PV-2 Harpoon was a medium maritime anti-submarine patrol bomber used by both the Navy and the Marines throughout the Pacific in World War II. Replacement of the engine will return "Hot Stuff" to flying condition. [Contact: Penny Litz, American Military Heritage Foundation, (760) 835-7529].

Huntington: The Huntington Historic Preservation Review Board received a \$50,000 grant to rehabilitate several masonry features at the 1923 Sunken Gardens in Huntington. The gardens were created in a former quarry and feature fieldstone bridges, columns, ponds and decorative plantings. [Contact: Cathy Wright, Historic Landmarks Foundation, (260) 563-4534].

Indianapolis: Footlite Musicals, Inc., received a \$36,750 grant to rehabilitate the exterior masonry, including 12 chimneys and the roof parapet, and the four iron balconies and fire escape on the Hedback Community Arts Center. [Contact: Carol Kirk, Footlite Musicals, Inc., (317) 232-1807].

New Albany: The City of New Albany received a \$3,500 grant to prepare a nomination to the National Register of Historic Places for the Hedden Park/Hedden Court Historic District, which includes approximately 45 contributing properties; and to prepare an

individual National Register nomination for the William Young House. [Contact: Laura Renwick, Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana, (812) 284-4534].

Parke, Tipton, and Union counties: Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana received \$15,829 to publish the results of the countywide historic sites and structures survey of Parke, Tipton and Union counties conducted in 2008-2009. [Contact: Suzanne Stanis, HLF, (317) 639-4534].

Petersburg: The Pike County Commissioners received a \$46,050 grant to stabilize and restore the stained glass dome of the Pike County Courthouse. The stained glass panels are deteriorated, the dome has structural flaws, and metal fatigue has weakened the supports, all of which were exacerbated by an earthquake in the area last year. [Contact: Lisa Gehlhausen, (812) 367-8455].

Posey County: Indiana University's Department of Anthropology received a \$24,751 grant to conduct investigations at two reported but uninvestigated Yankeetown phase archaeological sites: Dead Man's Curve and the Squirrel Hunter Site, and will also conduct reconnaissance survey in the area. If eligibility is determined, one of the sites may also be nominated to the National Register of Historic Places. [Contact: Susan Alt, Indiana University, (812) 856-5260].

Spencer County: The DNR Division of State Parks and Reservoirs was awarded \$9,974 to conduct archaeological research at Lincoln State Park in Spencer County. Archaeological testing will focus on three areas significant to Lincoln's life in Indiana: Colonel Jones' property, the Gordon Homestead, and the presumed location of the Gordon horse-mill, and will include opportunities for public participation and educational presentations. [Contact: Vicki Basman, DNR, (317) 690-6566].

Wells County: ARCH, Inc. received a \$6,415 award to publish the results of the countywide historic sites and structures survey of Wells County conducted in 2008-2009. [Contact: Angie Quinn, ARCH, Inc., (260) 426-5117].

Whiting: The City of Whiting Parks & Recreation Department received a \$50,000 grant to update the obsolete and unsafe electrical systems in the 1923 Whiting Community Center. The Center was built by the Rockefeller family and Standard Oil Company as a memorial for those who fought in World War I and to provide a recreation, entertainment and social activity venue for Whiting, home of the oil company's largest refinery. The facility covers more than 70,000 square feet and includes two gymnasiums, an indoor track, a 12-lane bowling center, indoor swimming pool, billiards room, a 700-seat auditorium, a ballroom, two banquet halls, and a variety of fitness areas. [Contact: Marty Jakubowski, City of Whiting, (219) 659-0860].

For more information on the DNR Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology and the Historic Preservation Fund Program, see <http://www.IN.gov/dnr/historic/>

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