



Travels in Time

1816: Indiana Statehood

The sites included in this itinerary are in some way recognized by programming that filters through the DHPA—the State or National Registers, the Historic Theater Initiative, the Cemetery Registry, the Underground Railroad Initiative, and others. The itinerary are by no means a comprehensive list of sites in Indiana related to each theme.

Territorial Capitol of Former Indiana Territory, Vincennes (Knox County)

In 1800, the Northwest Territory was divided up into two territories, the eastern region called the Ohio Territory and the western region called the Indiana Territory. The capitol of the Indiana Territory was in Vincennes. Vincennes had been a French trading post along the banks of the Wabash River. From 1800 to 1811, the territorial government consisted of a governor and three judges who convened in various buildings around Vincennes. At some point prior to 1811, the government was divided into a two-house legislative system, whereupon in 1811, the territorial government moved into the Red House.



The wooden two-story Red House was built in 1805 as a tailor shop and held together by wooden pegs. The lower level of the building contained the House of Representatives and the upper level the Legislative Council. Today, both levels of the Red House are arranged as they would have been in 1811. In 1813, the Territorial Government was moved to Corydon for political and safety concerns (mainly because of potentially hostile native populations nearby). Since that time, the Red House has been preserved, though it has been moved three times and no longer sits on its original site. The Territorial Capitol of the former Indiana Territory was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1973.

For more information, contact:

Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites

<http://www.indianamuseum.org/explore/vincennes#>

812-882-7422

George Rogers Clark National Historical Park (Knox County)

The George Rogers Clark National Historical Park is located on the assumed location of former Fort Sackville. With the end of the French and Indian War, the American theatre of the Seven Years' War, the British controlled the region between the Appalachian Mountains and the Mississippi River. Fort Sackville in Vincennes, and two forts along the Mississippi River near St.



Louis, were the centers of British authority in the region and helped support Britain's goals to prevent pioneers from settling in the area. During the Revolutionary War, George Rogers Clark led attacks on these forts to remove the British stationed there. After Clark took the two forts along the Mississippi River, the British strengthened the troops at Fort Sackville. In February of 1779, Clark and 170 troops marched through freezing floodwaters to Vincennes. After reaching the fort, Clark forced the British to

surrender. With the taking of Fort Sackville, Clark secured the Northwest Territory for the newly formed United States. George Rogers Clark Historical Park has a thirty minute video about Clark's western campaigns and the Clark Memorial is also located within the park. The George Rogers Clark National Historical Park was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1966.

For more information, contact:

George Rogers Clark National Historical Park

<http://www.nps.gov/gero/index.htm>

812-882-1776

Grouseland / Willaim Henry Harrison Home (Knox County)

When the Northwest Territory was divided into two territories, William Henry Harrison became governor of the Indiana Territory. Prior to a nomination by then President John Adams for the position, Harrison was a territorial delegate to Congress who worked to allow settlers to buy quarter sections of land, which later became the Harrison Land Act. In 1801, Harrison moved his family to Vincennes. As governor and the most powerful man in the territory, Harrison needed a house to display his power, wealth, and prestige.



Accordingly, Grouseland was built in 1804 to be not only Harrison's home but also his work place, and if needed, a fortress in times of unrest.

Built to resemble the Harrison family home in Virginia, the home is constructed of bricks and nails that were made on site and from lumber milled using surrounding timber. The home is two-and-a-half stories with a one-and-a-half story dependency on the back for additional space as necessary. Harrison lived here with his family until his death in 1841. Grouseland was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1966; it is also a National Historic Landmark (the highest designation the National Park Service gives to historic structures).

For more information, contact:

William Henry Harrison's Grouseland

<http://www.grouselandfoundation.org/>

812-882-2096

Creole Cottage (Knox County)

The Creole Cottage, also called the Brouillet Home or the Old French House, is a French Creole Cottage located in Vincennes, Indiana. Michel Brouillet was a son of Michel Brouillet Sr., an officer in the Vincennes militia who served under George Rodgers Clark. His son Michel



Brouillet was a fur trader who did most of his business with the local Native Americans. He opened his first trading post near Terre Haute, Indiana and received a license to trade with both the Miami and Kickapoo tribes. In addition to his fur trading business, Brouillet also acted as an interpreter and spy for William Henry Harrison. In 1806, he constructed a home to raise his family in, now known as the Creole Cottage. The home is a unique example of how French settlers in the Mississippi River

Valley constructed their homes. It is built in a “post-on-sill” style, which features vertical posts common in American homes of the time.

For more information, contact:

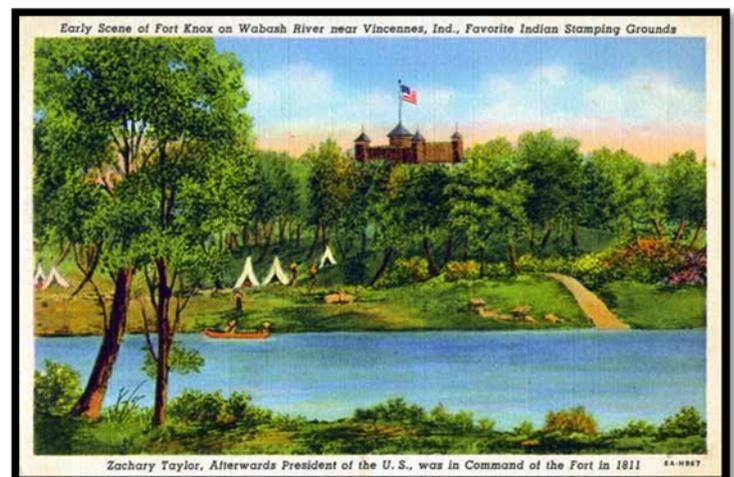
Old French Home and Indiana Museum

<http://www.vincennesvb.org/attractions/16/historic/46/old-french-house-indian-museum>

1-800-886- 6443 or 812-882-7742

Fort Knox II (Knox County)

The original Fort Knox was located in the center of Vincennes but later moved in 1803, because town residents complained about the amount of time soldiers spent in the saloons. Not only did the new fort give the military a better command over the river, but it also included a boat landing and spring. The Fort’s garrison increased in the intervening years to combat the growing



hostilities between European settlers and local native populations. In 1811, Harrison gathered his troops at Fort Knox before marching north for the Battle of Tippecanoe against Tecumseh's brother, The Prophet Tenskwatawa, and his followers. Following the battle, the fort served as a hospital for the injured and sick. Fort Knox II was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1982.

For more information, contact:

Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites

<http://www.indianamuseum.org/explore/vincennes>

812-882-7422

Judge Jeremiah Sullivan House (Jefferson County)

From Virginia in 1816, Jeremiah Sullivan immigrated to Madison, Indiana in order to practice law. In 1818, he built a Federal style home for his family, which likewise served as his headquarters for future political appointments. Sullivan ultimately became a county Judge, State Supreme Court Judge, and State Legislator. Sullivan also helped found the Indiana Historical Society and gave the city of Indianapolis its name. His home is one of the first Federal style mansions built in Madison and features tapered reed columns and an elliptical fanlight. The mansion is furnished with period furniture and an oven and smokehouse is interpreted in the backyard. The Sullivan house is part of the Madison Historic District, which was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1973 and a National Historic Landmark District in 2006.



For more information, contact:

Historic Madison, Inc.

<http://historicmadisoninc.com/properties/jeremiah-sullivan-house/>

812-265-2967

Angel Mounds (Vanderburgh County)

One of the best persevered examples of prehistoric Native American sites is Angel Mounds, inhabited from around 1050 to 1450. During this time, it was a thriving center of Mississippian Indian life. The Mississippian culture was mound building and the culture spread throughout most of the area between the Appalachian Mountains and the Mississippi River, but varied from



region to region and settlement to settlement. The Mississippian people built permanent towns with thousands of residences and practiced corn-based agriculture. Angel Mounds served as a center for government, trade, and religion for inhabitants within approximately a seventy mile region. Although it is unclear

why the settlement was vacated around 1450, it is possible that internal disorder and fewer natural resources from over hunting and agriculture may have spurred residents to leave.

While the Mississippian people left this site, they stayed in the area and formed a new center about 30 miles west of Angel Mounds, although it was smaller and consisted of more dispersed farms and villages. By the time Europeans arrived in the region, the Mississippian people no longer remained. Angel Mounds was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1966.

For more information, contact:

Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites

<http://www.indianamuseum.org/explore/angel-mounds>

812-853-3956

George Bentel House / New Harmony (Posey County)

This home was built during what is defined as the Rappite period, from 1814-1824. Multiple examples of this type of home still stand from this period in New Harmony. The Harmonists or Rappites, were a group of followers of George Rapp who immigrated to the United States from Germany to avoid religious persecution. The group first settled in Pennsylvania, but facing poor climate conditions for grape growing, increasing land prices due to westward expansion,



and conflict with neighbors, they migrated to the Indiana Territory in 1814. The Harmonists set up a utopian style of life with George Rapp as their spiritual and practical leader. They were highly successful in both agriculture and industry, and they built a thriving society, which included mass-produced brick homes, a rare sight on the frontier during this time.

While these homes were mass-produced, they were not poorly built. The roof weight was placed on the outer walls to prevent the interior walls from sustaining damage. Additionally, the fireplaces were built on one side of the house, allowing the center beam to be continuous. The George Bentel House features the only remaining original stairs from a Harmonist house. The Bentel House was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1984.

For more information, contact:

Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites

Website: <http://www.indianamuseum.org/explore/new-harmony> or <http://www.newharmony.org/>
800-231-2168 or 812.682.4474

Tippecanoe Battlefield (Tippecanoe County)

To resist the growing number of white settlers in the Indiana Territory, Shawnee brothers Tecumseh and Tenskwatawa (“The Prophet”) formed a Confederacy of Indian nations, choosing a settlement near the junction of the Wabash and Tippecanoe rivers. As the town grew to over 1,000 inhabitants, settlers in the region grew worried and petitioned the United States government to force the members of the Confederacy to disperse. Whether legitimate or not, also masked in white settlers’ fears of violent native populations was an un-quenching desire for native-held land and expansion westward. In response, William Henry Harrison, Governor of the Indiana Territory, was sent with around 1,000 soldiers as a show of force and intimidation to secure a peace treaty with Tecumseh. After a temporary peace was reached, Tenskwatawa decided to attack early the following morning against Tecumseh’s orders, who at the time was traveling south seeking an alliance with a faction of Creek natives. Tenskwatawa and his allies attacked Harrison’s camp but were driven back following two waves of attacks. Though their losses were minor, the Confederacy dispersed as the Prophet’s claims of protection had proven false. With winter already at hand, Harrison had the Confederacy’s camp burned and food stores destroyed before heading back to Vincennes. The Tippecanoe Battleground was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1985.

For more information contact

Tippecanoe Battlefield

<http://www.tcha.mus.in.us/battlefield.htm>

765-476-8411

Old Perry County Courthouse (Spencer County)

When Spencer County was formed from parts of Perry and Warrick Counties in 1818, it was decided to move the county seat of Perry County to a more central location. The town of Rome was chosen and a new county square and courthouse were planned and constructed there in 1818. The county seat remained in Rome until 1859, at which point it was moved to the Ohio River town of Cannelton, Indiana. The old courthouse was then turned into a school of higher learning called the Rome Academy, although at some point its name changed to St. Alban's Academy. It remained a school of higher learning until 1902, when Tobin Township took over the building making it a public school that persisted until 1966. Currently, the building is used as a community center. The two-story square brick building has a central cupola and is modeled after the former state capitol in Corydon, Indiana. The building was partially restored in part through the Historic Preservation Fund administered by the Department of Natural Resources, Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology. The courthouse was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1981.



For more information, contact:

Old Perry Courthouse
Center of Town Square Rome, IN

Lincoln Boyhood Home (Spencer County)

While Lincoln was born in Kentucky and established his political career in Illinois, he spent much of his childhood in Indiana. In 1816 his parents Thomas and Nancy Lincoln moved from Kentucky to a plot of forested land in what became two years later Spencer County, Indiana. A skilled carpenter, Thomas built the family a log cabin and soon established himself in the growing community of Little Pigeon Creek. Two years after settling, Abraham Lincoln's mother died from milk sickness and ten years later so too did his older sister Sarah, during childbirth. As a child, Abraham attended school, though he did not attend regularly because of his responsibilities on the farm, in part due to his aging father. The Lincolns remained in Indiana until 1830 when for various reasons, they relocated to Illinois. The current site is part of the Lincoln Boyhood National Park and contains a replica farmstead, a cemetery including his mother's grave, and the foundation of the Lincoln cabin. The Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1966 and is also a National Historic Landmark.

For more information, contact:

Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial

<http://www.nps.gov/libo/index.htm>

812-937-4541

Venoge Farmstead (Switzerland County)

In 1796, a Swiss man named Jean James Dufour immigrated to the United States with a plan to start a commercially successful winery and solve the problems plaguing American vineyards and wineries. Dufour's first attempt at a vineyard in Kentucky ultimately failed, likely due to disease affecting the grape vines. In 1802, Dufour moved to a tract of land in the southeastern corner of the Indiana territory, with hopes of forming a more successful vineyard. This second vineyard proved to be more fruitful, and other immigrants from Switzerland soon immigrated into the area. One of these newcomers, Louis Oboussier, immigrated to what became New Switzerland and started a vineyard that worked in partnership with Dufour's vineyards. In 1805, Oboussier built a one and a half story cottage in the French Lower Mississippi style of post-on-sill construction. The half story contained a sleeping room and a storage area while the primary living space occupied the main floor.



Oboussier's most famous customer was Henry Clay, who often came by to talk politics and purchase wine. In 2010, the farmstead was restored to its 1811 appearance and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1997.

For more information, contact:

Musée de Venoge

<http://venoge.org/index.html>

Venoge@embarqmail.com

Vance-Tousey House (Dearborn County)

A soldier-turned-businessman, Samuel Vance helped open Dearborn County for settlement with his establishment of Lawrenceburg in the Indiana Territory. In 1794, Vance served with General Wayne at the Battle of Fallen Timbers. Soon after the battle, Vance was appointed commander of Fort Washington in Cincinnati, Ohio. Less than a decade later, Vance decided to retire from the army and take advantage of commercial opportunities in the region. That same year, he married Mary Lawrence, step-granddaughter to General James Dill. These connections, along with his own service in the army aided Vance later in life.

In 1801, with money gained through businesses in Cincinnati, Vance bought a large amount of land in the Indiana Territory along the Ohio River to plan a new town, which he called Lawrenceburg, after his wife's maiden name. Today, the original street grid and lot patterns remain as Vance designed them. In 1818,



Vance moved his family to Lawrenceburg, where he built a mansion overlooking the river. In the early nineteenth century, this house was as grand as any home in nearby Cincinnati and an obvious sign of Vance's personal wealth. Upon Vance's death, the house passed through the hands of the wealthy in Lawrenceburg until 1908 when it became the headquarters of the Lawrenceburg Mills. In 1998 after the closing of the Lawrenceburg Mill, the county granted the land to the Dearborn Historical Society, which has been restoring the house to its early-nineteenth century appearance.

For more information, contact:

Dearborn County Historical Society

<http://focus.nps.gov/pdfhost/docs/NRHP/Text/00001547.pdf>

812-537-4075

Fort Wayne (Allen County)

Named in honor of General “Mad” Anthony Wayne, who led the United States at the Battle of Fallen Timbers, Fort Wayne was constructed as the last of a series of forts extending into the frontier of the Indiana Territory and recent lands of the Miami tribe. However, the fort was constructed not just to defend against local native populations but also to withstand attacks from British troops based at Fort Detroit. In 1798, Colonel Thomas Hunt decided a new fort was needed that could accommodate the growing number of troops and trade taking place at Fort Wayne. The new fort was completed before 1800 and the original Fort Wayne was demolished. Fort Wayne eventually saw action during the War of 1812 when Native Americans under the leadership of Chief Winamac besieged the fort. Fort Wayne endured the attack before William Henry Harrison arrived and the Native American forces broke the siege and retreated. A third Fort Wayne was built in 1816, although this fort was only in service three years before it was abandoned and the troops and supplies were sent to Fort Detroit. The current Fort Wayne is a replica of the 1816 fort.

For more information, contact:

Historic Fort Wayne, Inc.

Website: <http://www.oldfortwayne.org/>

260-437-2836

Fort Flora (Daviess County)

During the War of 1812, some American settlers in the Indiana Territory felt threatened by nearby populations of Native Americans--whether justly or not. While many Native Americans remained neutral, there were large numbers who sided with the British and attacked American settlers for a variety of reasons, including intrusions into native-owned land. Unfortunately for settlers of the Indiana Territory, the United States Army was stationed in only three main forts, as the northern forts were lost to the British. In response and to protect themselves and their families, settlers living close together would build small forts. Although these forts could not withstand the British army, they could offer protection from Native American raids. Fort Flora is an example of this type of fort built, which was built by ten families from the surrounding area. During the War of 1812, ten similar forts were built in the region that is now Daviess County, Indiana. Since these forts were not meant to be permanent defenses they have since been destroyed. The remaining evidence of Fort Flora's existence today is a historic marker placed by the Indiana Historical Bureau.

For more information:

Fort Flora

<http://www.in.gov/history/markers/390.htm>

Fort Vallonia (Jackson County)

Founded during the late-eighteenth century, Vallonia was a French-American settlement along the Muscatatuck and White Rivers. By 1810, the settlement was home to approximately ninety families in need of protection from potentially hostile natives, which led William Henry Harrison, the territorial governor at the time, to authorize construction of a fort to protect them. During the War of 1812, the fort was garrisoned with two companies of Indiana Rangers. During



their first encounter with Native Americans, the fort's troops rode back to the fort, avoiding any conflict. After this encounter, a new commander of the fort took over and drilled the rangers into fighting form. Although the troops at Fort Vallonia never saw any major action, they frequently skirmished with Native Americans. A more than 500 mile campaign launched from Fort Vallonia in July of 1813 destroyed a deserted Miami village on the confluence of the Wabash and Mississinewa Rivers, but otherwise

never encountered any Native Americans. With the destruction of this village, the number of Native American attacks decreased and the garrison in Fort Vallonia gained control over the region. Today, a replica of the fort exists, and a festival, called Fort Vallonia Days, is held each year in the third week of October.

For more information, contact:

Fort Vallonia

<http://fortvalloniadays.com/home.html>

812-358-3286

Corydon State Capitol (Harrison County)

After the Indiana Territory was divided into the Indiana and Illinois Territories in 1809, the location of the original territorial capital in Vincennes no longer proved practical due to its location on the extreme western boundary, away from more the heavily populated regions near the Ohio River. As a result, Corydon was chosen as the new territorial capitol in 1813. However, from 1811 to 1813 (prior to the change), Dennis Pennington designed and built a new limestone building to act as the courthouse for Harrison County and as the home for the Territorial Legislature--should Corydon be chosen as the new territorial capitol.

In 1816, while representatives of the Territorial Legislature were applying for statehood and drafting a state constitution, the territorial capitol building in Corydon was used by the constitutional committee, with delegates meeting both inside the building and outside as they debated and crafted the constitution. When Indiana became a state in December of 1816, Corydon was chosen as the state capitol, where according to the constitution it was to remain until at least 1825. The Senate and Supreme Court met on the second floor of the building, while the lower floor was used by the House of Representatives. The Indiana State Government met in Corydon until 1825 when the capitol was moved to Indianapolis. The original capitol building was then used as the county courthouse for Harrison County until 1919. In 1930, the State of Indiana bought the original state capitol and restored the building to its 1816 appearance. The building is in the Corydon Historic District, listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1989.



For more information, contact:

Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites

<http://www.indianamuseum.org/explore/corydon>

812-738-4890

William Hendricks House (Harrison County)



Many of the men who served on Indiana's early state legislature built or purchased homes in the state capitol of Corydon. One of these men was soon-to-be governor William Hendricks. Hendricks purchased this home from Davis Floyd, a treasurer and auditor in the territorial government, and later, a state legislator. Floyd built the home in 1817 but was soon forced to sell the home to Hendricks during the Panic of 1819. At the time, Hendricks was a

popular political figure and was serving in the U.S. House of Representatives. In 1822, Hendricks was elected as the third Governor of Indiana. During Hendricks' tenure as governor, he used this house as his home and purportedly his office. It was in this home that Hendricks approved the removal of the capitol to Indianapolis in 1825. In 1841, the home was sold to William Porter who also served on the State Legislature. The building is in the Corydon Historic District, listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1989.

For more information, contact:

Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites

<http://www.indianamuseum.org/explore/corydon>

812-738-4890

George Rogers Clark Home Site (Clark County)

Following George Rogers Clark's successful expedition to capture the British-held Fort Sackville in Vincennes in the winter of 1779, he became a nationally celebrated Revolutionary War hero. In exchange for his service and success, Clark was granted a large tract of land in the area now known as Clark County in southern Indiana. From this land, a portion was set aside for the creation of the town of Clarksville. Despite Clark's military successes, financial victories never materialized, especially after the United States Congress and Virginia declined to cover Clark's wartime debts. In 1803, Clark, nearly penniless, moved just outside of Clarksville into a two-room log cabin where he lived and operated a grist-mill with two African-American indentured servants until 1809, when a stroke and a severe burn required the amputation of his leg. Clark then moved to Louisville to live with his sister and brother-in-law. However, it was during Clark's time in this cabin that Clark's younger brother William met Meriwether Lewis, and also where Lewis and Clark departed for St. Louis ahead of their famed expedition exploring the Louisiana Purchase. Today, there is a replica cabin and historical marker where the cabin stood, located within Falls of the Ohio State Park. The site was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1974.



For more information, contact:

Falls of the Ohio State Park

http://www.falloftheohio.org/clark_cabin.html

812-280-9970

Thomas Downs House (Clark County)

Thomas Downs was a member of the General Quarter Session of the Peace, appointed by William Henry Harrison in 1801. Downs purchased lots 89 and 90, just one year after Charlestown was planned in 1809. The Downs House is thought to be one of the first homes built in Charlestown. The Downs family sold the house in 1832, and the home changed hands many times until 1901, when the Van Hooks acquired the home. The Van Hooks helped operate and establish the Keeley Institute, a treatment center for drug and alcohol abusers. The house then changed ownership several more times before becoming a property of the Clarksville Historical Society. The Thomas Downs Home is a Federal style, two-story house on a raised basement. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1984.

For more information, contact:

Clark's Grant Historical Society

<https://secure.in.gov/apps/dnr/shaard/r/8792/N/Downs, Thomas, House, Clark Co.pdf>

Scribner House (Floyd County)

In 1813, brothers Joel, Nathaniel, and Abner Scribner arrived at the Falls of the Ohio with plans to become the founders of a new town. They planned out their settlement in the area that is today New Albany, Indiana. Their original street plans called for streets eighty-feet wide, which in later years allowed the streets to be used for cars. When the brothers designed the new town, they left spaces for churches, parks, and schools, which they used as selling points in their advertisements in eastern newspapers. The 1814 Scribner House was the first frame house built in the city. The house was also used as the first Chamber of Commerce for New Albany. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1977.



For more information, contact:

http://www.historicnewalbany.com/default.asp?q_areaprimarid=4

(812) 949-1776

Little Cedar Grove Baptist Church (Franklin County)

With the Treaty of Greenville in 1795, Franklin County in the Indiana Territory was officially opened for settlement to white settlers. By 1812, the number of settlers and the increasing size of the church congregation created the need for a church. In response, Little Cedar Grove Baptist Church was built in 1812 by Thomas Carter and Thomas Winscott. For the church's construction, bricks were made on site, and the logs incorporated into the building were hand-hewn by members of the congregation. During the 1830s, the church reached its peak size with 160 members and was the mother church for other Baptist churches in the area. In the 1840s and 1850s, membership dwindled, and, after the Civil War, the church was only used for occasional services. In 1905, the Brookville Historical Society bought the church and began a restoration which lasted until 1912. Many of the church's original features remain intact, including the hand-hewn beams, pillars, and flooring. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1990.

For more information, contact:

Franklin County Historical Society

http://www.franklincountyhistoricalsociety.com/Cedar_Grove_Church.html

FranklinCountyHistSoc@gmail.com



To learn more about the National Register of Historic Places, preservation, or historic buildings or other program administered by the DNR-DHPA, visit us at www.in.gov/dnr/historic

