

Historic Preservation Plans

Section VII

Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Lake Michigan Coastal Program

LaPorte County: Interim Report

Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana

1989

<http://indiamond6.ulib.iupui.edu/cdm/ref/collection/IHSSI/id/17536>

About the Report

A county-by-county study of Indiana's cultural resources was begun in 1978 in order to ensure that historic properties are taken into consideration in planning and development through the environmental review process. The survey data are used by governmental agencies and organizations involved in project planning and development to forewarn them if historic properties will be affected by their projects. The inventory and its summary report also boost private citizens' awareness of the cultural heritage present in their own communities. Finally, the inventory materials provide a permanent historical record of a county's resources at a particular point in time. LaPorte County's survey covered 600 square miles, and 2,379 sites and structures were entered into the final inventory.

Recommendations

This inventory should be used as a starting place for encouraging historic preservation in LaPorte County. Neighborhood associations and preservation committees can work with local and state agencies in encouraging projects beneficial to preservation. They can also start projects on their own to increase awareness and appreciation of historic and architectural resources. Such activities can include walking tours, publications, exhibitions, site markings, lectures and programs, and lobbying for preservation legislation. Legally incorporated not-for-profit organizations can become even more actively involved in the financial and technical aspects of preservation. These groups can become directly involved with redevelopment through buying, marketing and selling historic properties; establishing a revolving fund for making loans; seeking governmental or private grants; securing preservation covenants and facade easements; or actually restoring specific buildings. In many localities, existing organizations such as improvement associations or historical societies can also conduct these programs.

Porter County: Interim Report

Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana

1991

<http://indiamond6.ulib.iupui.edu/cdm/ref/collection/IHSSI/id/15837>

About the Report

A county-by-county study of Indiana's cultural resources was begun in 1978 in order to ensure that historic properties are taken into consideration in planning and development through the environmental review process. The survey data are used by governmental agencies and organizations involved in project planning and development to forewarn them if historic properties will be affected by their projects. The inventory and its summary report also boost private citizens' awareness of the cultural heritage present in their own communities. Finally, the inventory materials provide a permanent historical record of a county's resources at a particular point in time. Porter County's survey covered 419 square miles, and 1,012 sites and structures were entered into the final inventory.

Recommendations

This inventory should be used as a starting place for encouraging historic preservation in Porter County. Neighborhood associations and preservation committees can work with local and state agencies in encouraging projects beneficial to preservation. They can also initiate projects on their own to increase awareness and appreciation of historic and architectural resources. Such activities can include walking tours, publications, exhibitions, site markings, lectures and programs, and lobbying for preservation legislation. Legally incorporated not-for-profit organizations can become even more actively involved in the financial and technical aspects of preservation. These groups can become directly involved with redevelopment through buying, marketing and selling historic properties; establishing a revolving fund for making loans; seeking governmental or private grants; securing preservation covenants and facade easements; or actually restoring specific buildings. In many localities, existing organizations such as improvement associations or historical societies can also conduct these programs.

Lake County: Interim Report

Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana

1996

<http://indiamond6.ulib.iupui.edu/cdm/ref/collection/IHSSI/id/11882>

About the Report

A county-by-county study of Indiana's cultural resources was begun in 1978 in order to ensure that historic properties are taken into consideration in planning and development through the environmental review process. The survey data are used by governmental agencies and organizations involved in project planning and development to forewarn them if historic properties will be affected by their projects. The inventory and its summary report also serve to boost private citizens' awareness of the cultural heritage present in their own communities. Finally, the inventory materials provide a permanent historical record of a county's resources at a particular point in time. Lake County's survey covered 497 square miles, and 8,590 sites and structures were entered into the final inventory.

Recommendations

This inventory should be used as a starting place for encouraging historic preservation in Lake County. Neighborhood associations and preservation committees can work with local and state agencies in encouraging projects beneficial to preservation. They can also initiate projects on their own to increase awareness and appreciation of historic and architectural resources. Such activities can include walking tours, publications, exhibitions, site markings, lectures and programs, and lobbying for preservation legislation. Legally incorporated not-for-profit organizations can become even more actively involved in the financial and technical aspects of preservation. These groups can become directly involved with redevelopment through buying, marketing and selling historic properties; establishing a revolving fund for making loans; seeking governmental or private grants; securing preservation covenants and facade easements; or actually restoring specific buildings. In many localities, existing organizations such as improvement associations or historical societies can also conduct these programs.

Coastal Historical and Cultural Resources Study of the Lake Michigan Watershed

Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology
2000
<http://www.in.gov/dnr/lakemich/files/historicstudy.pdf>

About the Report

The overall purpose of this study is to offer recommendations for how stakeholders should approach historical and cultural resource protection, restoration, and use in the Lake Michigan coastal area. Additionally, this document identifies trends in the restoration and protection of historic and cultural resources—heritage tourism, adaptive reuse, interpretation, zoning for historic districts, community development, workforce development, placement on the National Register of Historic Places, and corporate sponsorship. Federal, state, local, and nonprofit funding resources are explored. A sample inventory of sites in the region was conducted. Sites fell into one or more of the following categories: downtown commercial district, industry, residential district, transportation, agriculture, natural/green space, recreation/green space, significant architecture, culture/education, culture/religious, culture/sculpture, railroad, cemetery, bridges, and Native American sites.

Recommendations

The report offers several general recommendations for improved protection and restoration efforts, tourism, recreation, community organization and regional coordination. Recommendations include:

- Develop ordinances, legislation, and/or enforceable guidelines to protect historic and cultural resources within the watershed
- Educate public officials, general public, volunteers, and organizations, not just elementary school children
- Identify “go to” people and local specialists who can assist with protection and restoration on a local level
- Assist with regional planning for interpretation, marketing, and tourism
- Offer a diverse set of recreation opportunities that allow visitors of all ages to immerse themselves in the region
- Create an interpretive master plan with input from local stakeholders
- Develop a long-range strategic planning group
- Develop volunteer and hospitality training programs

Lake Michigan Coastal Cultural and Historic Resources: Public Access Inventory and Condition Assessment

Indiana Landmarks Northwest Field Office for the Lake Michigan Coastal Program
2015

<http://www.in.gov/dnr/lakemich/files/lm-LMCPublicAccessStudy.pdf>

About the Report

Northwest Indiana's cultural and historic resources reflect its rich history and range from industrial to commercial to residential to recreational. An update to the 2000 *Coastal Historic and Cultural Resources Study of the Lake Michigan Watershed*, the purpose of the Public Access Study is to develop a comprehensive survey of identified historic and cultural resources within the Indiana coastal zone to determine the potential for the incorporation of these sites into public-access projects throughout the region. The study includes a development and application of public access methodology for historic resources in order to determine the feasibility of their adaptive reuse. In order to encourage rehabilitation of historic resources within the coastal zone, the study includes recommendations on potential public-access projects and a conditions assessment on each historic property. Additionally, the Public Access Study is meant to encourage greater use of the technical and financial resources of the Indiana Lake Michigan Coastal Program for preservation of historic and cultural resources within the coastal zone.

This study provides updated information on trends for the protection and restoration of cultural and historic resources. The trends explored include: historic preservation planning, historic designation, historic rehabilitation, economic incentives, implementation of development and design standards, comprehensive planning, public-private partnerships, environmental and sustainability principles, arts and cultural districts, heritage tourism, and industrial heritage.

Recommendations

Revised recommendations from the 2000 study are:

- Increase the number of communities with active historic preservation commissions
- Increase the number of communities with preservation ordinances
- Continue to coordinate projects identified with regional plans such as the Marquette Plan or NIRPC's Greenways + Blueways Plan and Regional Comprehensive Plan

The conditions-assessment section indicates that the following properties are in fair or poor condition and need some level of maintenance and rehabilitation: Lake County Fairgrounds, Lake County Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Washington Park, Gateway Park and Miller Town Hall.