Collaborating with Local Civic Entities to Build a Course Centered on Documenting the Built Environment of our City

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BUILDING SOUTH BEND: Past, Present & Future

Partners:

Architecture Library
Historic Preservation Commission of South Bend and St. Joseph County (HPC)
The History Museum
A Call to Action
The Architecture Library
Exploring South Bend's history through Architecture

Utilizing interactive technology, Building South Bend: Past, Present, & Future documents, describes, and presents the historical architecture and neighborhoods of South Bend, Indiana. This unique tool offers historical images, blueprints, and documents along with interactive maps and 3D models.
Historic Districts are a geographically definable areas with a significant concentration of buildings united by past events, design, material, or related historical associations.

In Local Historic Districts, preservation guidelines protect the character and value of these neighborhoods. Local historic districts in South Bend have been established at different times over the years. The Common Council of South Bend designated the West North Shore Drive Historic District in 1978 as the first historic preservation...
Virtual South Bend

Downtown South Bend - Panoramic Tour

Historic Buildings - 3D Models

Oliver Rowhouses
City Hall
Bamboo Inn
Dental Palace
2 - City Hall

216 N Main

Freyermuth & Maurer

The architectural firm Freyermuth & Maurer designed South Bend’s first city hall in the late 1890’s. Recognizing a need for a civic structure, the mayor, Schuyler Colfax Jr., consulted with landowner James Oliver to construct an elegant and formal meeting space for the young South Bend. The Olliver’s land had then comprised...
2 - City Hall
HISTORY OF THE BUILDING

• Constructed: 1886-1889
• Client: Clem Studebaker
• Architect: Henry Ives Cobb
• Builders: Christopher Fassnacht & Robert L. Braunsdorf
• Ownership History:

  – 1886-1916 Clem & Ann Studebaker
  – 1916-1933 George Studebaker
  – 1933-1941 in Bankruptcy
  – 1941- bought by E.M. Morris, donated to City of South Bend
  – 1941-1946 City of South Bend used the home as Red Cross
  – 1947-1970 Became the E.M Morris School for Crippled Children
  – 1970-1974 Used as an administration building for the South Bend schools
  – 1975-1979 Southhold Restorations
  – 1979-2001 Continental Restaurant Systems
  – 2001-present Matteoni Family
• Romanesque Revival & Queen Anne styles

• Materials
  – granite base
  – limestone lintels and sills
  – regular granite fieldstone quoining
  – irregular granite fieldstone coursing
  – clay tile roof
  – copper gutters
  – stone chimneys
  – terra cotta ornamentation
  – metal standing seam roof on enclosed back porch
• Smoking porch (right, top) enclosed
• Back porch (right, bottom) enclosed
• Entrance from Porte Cochere closed off (1970s)
• New roof (original damaged in fire)
• Patio and outdoor fireplace
NORTH ELEVATION

Front Entrance
DOCUMETNATION: CHANGES IN FUNCTION

- South Bend Schools
  - Fluorescent lights
  - Flooring
  - Raised floor in family dining room; exit

- Restaurant
  - Room in front parlor (egress)
  - Kitchen
  - Furniture not original
  - Basement restroom?

- HVAC system in smoking porch
• Owner’s Information

• Transfer Date

• Legal Description of Property
• Various newspaper clippings from the South Bend Tribune
• Archival Resources and photographs from the South Bend History Museum
• Archival Resources from the St. Joseph’s County Historic Preservation Commission
• Sanborn Maps
• National Register Nomination
• Restaurant Pamphlet

-Sources outlined in greater detail in report
Next Steps

Incorporating this information into:

• website
• mobile application
• 3D printing the buildings
• adding the models into the Virtual environment