

39<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL WEST CENTRAL

# HOME & garden tour



**SEPTEMBER 11 & 12 • 2021**

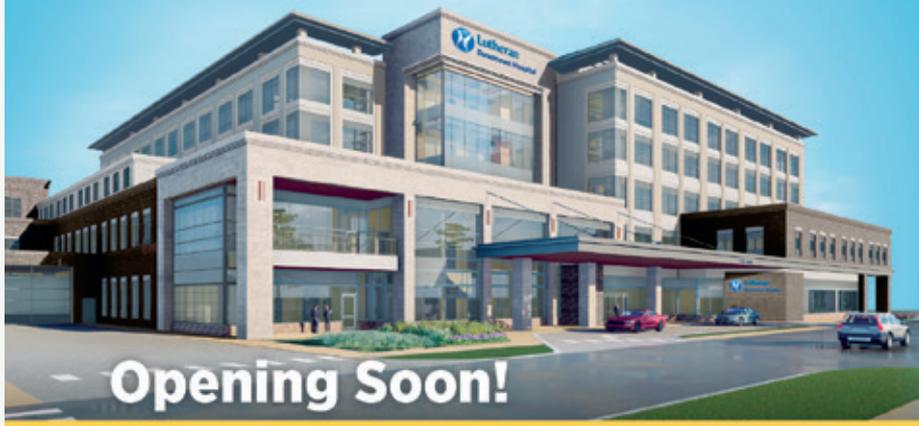
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# 39<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL WEST CENTRAL **HOME** *& garden tour*

**PLEASE ENJOY THE TOUR STOPS IN ANY ORDER. TICKETS MUST BE PRESENTED AT EACH STOP FOR ADMITTANCE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT. ENJOY THE TOUR!**

## **HOURS**

The historic Home & Garden Tour hours are 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM on Saturday & Sunday. ArtsFest artist booths are open 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM on Saturday & Sunday. The ArtsFest music runs until 10:00 PM on Saturday.

## **FREE TROLLEY & PEDICAB RIDES**

are provided by the Neighborhood Association for your enjoyment. These rides will operate along the tour route both days from 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Please take advantage of these free rides to move from one tour stop to another.

## **FOOD & REFRESHMENTS ARE AVAILABLE**

at ArtsFest on Wayne Street between Jackson and Rockhill streets.

## **RESTROOMS ARE AVAILABLE**

at Swinney Park Tennis Courts and ArtsFest.

## **PROCEEDS FROM THE HOME & GARDEN TOUR**

enable the West Central Neighborhood Association (WCNA) to further its neighborhood preservation and improvement efforts. The WCNA currently has programs for Home Beautification, Sidewalk Repair, Tree Planting, and Signage.

By opening these beautiful, historic homes, we help Fort Wayne and the surrounding area learn about the homes' architecture and interior craftsmanship. We hope to show the community that it is possible to live a comfortable, fulfilling life in downtown Fort Wayne. Residents of the neighborhood make it one of the most diverse neighborhood populations in the city. It is a charming place to live, filled with astonishing houses and people with a strong community spirit.



## **DOWNLOAD THE VIRTUAL TOUR APP**

Scan the QR code and download the free **POCKETSIGNS APP** and get access to a virtual home tour featuring home information such as photos, videos, audio walkthrough & more.

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## PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Welcome to our historic neighborhood! Thank you for participating in the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Home and Garden Tour and ArtsFest! We appreciate you being here! The boundaries of West Central are from Main Street to Taylor Street and from Swinney Park to Calhoun Street. We are proud of our Historic West Central Neighborhood and are committed to keeping it a vibrant and welcoming community. We are excited to share our neighborhood with you and hope you will come back to visit or, better yet, become one of our valued neighbors!

The tour stops have been hand selected by a committee of neighbors to provide you with an interesting and rewarding experience. We believe these homes represent a true cross-section of the types of houses you will find here. If there is anything we can do to make your visit better, please do not hesitate to share requests or comments with any of our volunteers.

Please visit [westcentraltour.org](http://westcentraltour.org) for more information about this event and [westcentralneighborhood.org](http://westcentralneighborhood.org) or like us on Facebook to learn more about our ongoing efforts to help beautify Historic West Central.

Thanks again,

Brandon Steffen, President, Historic West Central Neighborhood Association

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# TOUR EVENTS



During the Home & Garden Tour, please join us for two afternoons of art and food at **ArtsFest** and **Food Truck Rally** on W. Wayne & Union Streets.

## ArtsFest - September 11 & 12

OVER 30 EXHIBITORS WILL BE DISPLAYING CREATIVE & UNIQUE ART FOR YOU TO PURCHASE.



## Food Truck Rally - Sept. 11 & 12

AT THE CORNER OF W. WAYNE & UNION STREETS

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## Saturday Night Concert September 11 & 12

SMITH & SAUNDERS | 5:00 - 5:45 PM

MELISA'S LATIN BEAT | 6:00 - 7:30 PM

GOOD NIGHT GRACIE | 8:00 - 10:00 PM



## The Big Red Trolley

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## 1133 GARDEN STREET

This house exhibits architectural details associated with the Italianate style which dominated American house design between 1850 & 1880. Characteristic elements featured on this house include its hipped roof form and window hoods or crowns over the second-floor windows on the front façade. The portico with four fluted pillars is a later addition, around 1940. Built circa 1875, early residents included James Bowers and George Russell who lived here for several years starting in about 1879. They both worked as finishers for N.G. Olds & Sons which manufactured carriage seats & plow handles.

This home was on the 2019 Tour as a “Work in Progress”. Now one can see what has transpired from the gutted shell seen on the previous tour. This is a fine example of how these historic and sometimes deteriorated dwellings can be transformed into a modern home inside while keeping and refurbishing the historic architecture on the exterior.



### OWNER

Melissa Maddox

### STYLE

Italianate/Neo Classical

### YEAR BUILT

c. 1875/1940

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### 1025 GARDEN STREET

This house is a notable example of the Free Classic subtype of Queen Anne style architecture which applied classical ornamentation to the asymmetrical Queen Anne House form. The original 2 fireplaces are the center supports for the balloon frame construction. On this house, the hipped roof, cross-gables, square tower, bay windows and wrap around porch are elements associated with Queen Anne. The Free Classic details can be seen in the bands of dental moldings accenting the cornices and tower and the classical Tuscan columns supporting the porch.

The house has gone through numerous renovations beginning in 1903. During these renovations, most of the historical woodwork has been removed. Only the entry hall and dining room fireplace are historical. The current owners purchased the home in 2017 and began an extensive renovation. All the floors were leveled and new wood floors installed throughout the home. The archway was added between the kitchen and living room. The kitchen is all new with a laundry room and ½ bath added on the first floor. The upstairs has two master suites and a guest bedroom plus reading area. All the stained-glass transoms and windows are new to the home. The deck, landscaping and paver walkways are also new to this home.

**OWNER**

Greg & Cindy  
Brandt

**STYLE**

Queen Anne  
Classical

**YEAR BUILT**

c. 1887

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## 1017 GARDEN ST. (GARDEN ONLY)

Built in 1911 by the City & Suburban Realty Co. for the Annual Bungalow and House Show. Advertised as a “California Bungalow”, these designs are based on Asian inspired architecture and the English Arts & Crafts Movement. Characteristic features seen on this house include low-pitched gable roof, exposed roof rafter tails, decorative triangular gable braces, the gabled dormer on the front façade and square, tapered porch columns.

This home was built and used as a model home for a while and was sold to May Besson in November of 1913. May was a local seamstress, known for her fashioning and designing of women’s apparel. The current owner puts in timeless hours updating and maintaining these beautiful gardens offering color and design to the neighborhood.



**OWNER**  
Steve Miranda

**STYLE**  
Craftsman Bungalow

**YEAR BUILT**  
c. 1911

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## 1030 W. WASHINGTON BLVD.

The Gable-Front house, popular from 1825 to 1930, was created by two factors, stylistic and economic, which combined to cause a shift of emphasis from the sides of houses to the gable-end. Gable-Front may be either two stories or one story, with the gable end and front door facing the street. Simple entry or full-width porches were often placed on the façade. The Gable-Front house became an American folk house type.

In 1864, John M. & Sara Miller, a well-known cabinet maker, owned a home on this lot in the Rockhill Addition. The house was sold in a Sheriffs Sale on October 30, 1877 to real estate wholesaler R.E. Trentman. On March 27, 1882 a building permit was issued to build a new home on this lot, which is the home we see today.



### OWNER

Jerry Sullivan  
& Yvonne Dahm

### STYLE

Gable-Front

### YEAR BUILT

c. 1882



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## 926 W. WASHINGTON. BLVD.

This grand, double home built in the Queen Anne style was designed by the well-known firm of Wing & Mahurin. This double home is characteristic of the Queen Anne structures of this period with raised brick bands defining the corners of the house. Both decorative brickwork and limestone details enliven the walls. A complex roof has parapeted gables and a variety of dormers and polygonal roofs over the front bays.

The original modest home, listed as 917 Union Street was built circa 1863 by Harvey F. & Adeline L. Hinnerman. It probably sat at the site of the current garage. The house was sold to Dr. Benjamin Woodworth for his daughters on March 2, 1872. Around 1883, the home was sold to Wilder Stees Sponhauer. Wilder and Lydia lived in this modest home during the entire period of their ownership. However, with the success found in his business transactions, they did construct the gorgeous duplex we see today. In November 6, 1895, the Sponhauers were issued a permit to build a grand double home on Lot 151 for \$6,000.



OWNER	STYLE	YEAR BUILT	ARCHITECTS
Constance Mettler	Queen Anne	c. 1895	Wing & Mahurin

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## 915 W. WAYNE STREET

The original, modest home was built on this site in 1868 by John & Emeline McCartney. John served as the Allen County Sherriff from 1866 to 1869. The home was purchased in 1888 by Adolph L. & Emma S. Griebel who did extensive remodeling and is the home we see today. This stately home still adorns a key feature from the McCartney family era of ownership, the stained glass “M” in the transom of the front window. From 1921 to 1947 it was the office and parish house for the Wayne Street Methodist Episcopal Church.

From around 1890, the Colonial Revival style appeared in various forms. The earliest forms resembling Queen Anne homes with design elements and details based on colonial models. Common identifying features of the Colonial Revival include: a symmetrically balanced façade with a central door and entry porch; classically inspired features such as pilasters, columns, pediments, fanlights, and sidelights; double-hung windows with multiple panes of glass; and prominent cornices decorated with dentils or modillions.



### OWNER

Brandon Steffen  
& Bradford Ziebell

### STYLE

Queen Anne/Colonial  
Revival

### YEAR BUILT

c. 1868/1890



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## 1004 W. WAYNE STREET

The American Foursquare began appearing in neighborhoods across the United States around 1900, and was built in great numbers through the 1920s. Exteriors were box-like in shape, with two full stories, a hipped roof with a front-facing dormer, and a comfortable porch. The interiors were open and efficient, utilizing all available space. Many considered it the best blend of simplicity, practicality and value in a family home.

Replacing an earlier structure on this site, this brick American Foursquare Duplex was built circa 1914. This house exhibits the appearance of two matching houses connected back to side as the façade of the Union Street side closely mimics that of the West Wayne Street side. Early residents included Irwin & Helen Strasburger and family. Irwin was the president of Tod's Hat Store on Calhoun St. For many years this property was owned by the Dioceses of Fort Wayne-South Bend.



### OWNER

Jack & Cheri Stark

### STYLE

American Foursquare  
Duplex

### YEAR BUILT

c. 1914



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## 903 W. BERRY ST. (WORK IN PROGRESS)

The “Horatio Ward House” is considered to be one of the two best examples of Queen Anne architecture in Fort Wayne. The Queen Anne style owes its true character to the development of balloon frame construction in the late 19th century. Using newly available technology, architects developed the hallmark features of the Queen Anne style: asymmetrical facades, complex, steeply-pitched hipped and gabled roofs, and elaborate porches. Queen Anne buildings usually had a several styles and sizes of windows, and exterior walls enlivened by a variety of siding textures and decorative millwork or “gingerbread”.

Horatio Nelson Ward, born in Manchester, Lancashire in 1823. Horatio married Christina Louise Schuler and had 10 children. After residing in several homes, mainly in the 900 block of Berry Street, Horatio and Christina purchased this lot to build their family home. Horatio Ward, known as a pioneer merchant, owned H. N. Ward Co. on Calhoun Street, importers of China, glass, house furnishing goods and paper hangings. He died on May 5, 1909. The home was owned by family members until 1972 when it was sold to Alan Grinsfelder for the headquarters of Grinsfelder Associates Architects. On March 29, 2021 it was purchased by the current owners and is being restored to a single-family residence.

OWNER	STYLE	YEAR BUILT	FIRST OWNER
James & Jennifer Cameron	Queen Anne	c. 1885	Horatio Ward

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## 918 VAN BUREN ST. (ARCH)

Representing the oldest house in West Central, this hall-and-parlor house was built in the 1840s for Frederick Tyler and Mary Rockhill Tyler, the youngest daughter of Fort Wayne pioneer William Rockhill and his wife, Rebecca. From about 1910 to 1999, when restoration work on the house began, it was used as a garage. The hall-and-parlor house plan has only two rooms on the first floor. One room, the “hall,” is a multi-purpose room that is used for cooking, washing, and daily activities. The other room, the “parlor,” is used primarily as a reception room.

The upper floor of this house has three bedrooms with original woodwork. The restoration included rebuilding the staircase and missing first-floor walls and closets. Wallpaper, in patterns like those that were once on the walls, was applied, and a new cedar shake roof was recently installed. ARCH, Inc., our area’s historic preservation organization, has coordinated the on-going restoration and preservation of the house, known as the Mary-Rockhill Tyler House, since 1999.

### OWNER

ARCH

### STYLE

Hall & Parlor

### YEAR BUILT

c. 1840

### FIRST OWNER

Mary Rockhill-Tyler

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## 1203 W. WAYNE ST. (GARDEN ONLY)

Built in 1909 for Edward Gilmartin, a partner in the Gilmartin Lumber Co., this Colonial Revival style house was once the administration building for the Fort Wayne's Women's College, which formerly occupied nearby land. By 1910, the typical rectangular form with a hipped or side-gabled roof had become the common, although details were frequently exaggerated. Formal, symmetrical houses became the most fashionable form of the Colonial Revival.

The home's gardens were designed by West Central resident and landscape architect Tom Cain for the home's previous owners. The front garden features a simple symmetrical arrangement of PJM rhododendrons, Chinese hollies flanking the house, and yews flanking the steps. A pair of Chinese dogwoods frame the view from the street. In the rear, an arbor feature creates a sitting spot along with a gravel extension of the patio under the Japanese Magnolia tree.



**OWNER**  
Sabra Garner

**STYLE**  
Colonial Revival

**YEAR BUILT**  
c. 1909



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## 1202 WEST WAYNE STREET

The local architectural firm of Wing & Mahurin designed this Richardsonian Romanesque house in 1905. The house exhibits massive stone construction, a prominent round tower, and crenelated parapet. The open front terrace originally was covered by a tile roof that matched that of the house. Boston architect Henry Hobson Richardson (1836-1886) developed this style in the 1870's combining heavy masonry and prominent arches. They usually have rough-faced stonework, often in contrasting colors. Wide rounded arches supported by short, squat columns are characteristic of the style. The home's first owner, B. Paul Mossman, was born in Coesse, IN in 1870 and came to Fort Wayne in 1879. He became associated with the Mossman-Yarnelle Company of Fort Wayne, wholesalers of heavy hardware. Donated by Mossman to the City of Fort Wayne in 1949, the house served as quarters for Fort Wayne's art museum until 1983. Three apartments occupied the house from 1983 to 1995. Purchased by the current owners in 1993, they have done a great amount of restoration on the house which is now a single-family residence and home to the Castle Gallery. They even found a hidden staircase to the third floor.



### OWNER

Jody  
Hemphill-Smith

### STYLE

Richardsonian  
Romanesque

### YEAR BUILT

c. 1905

### FIRST OWNER

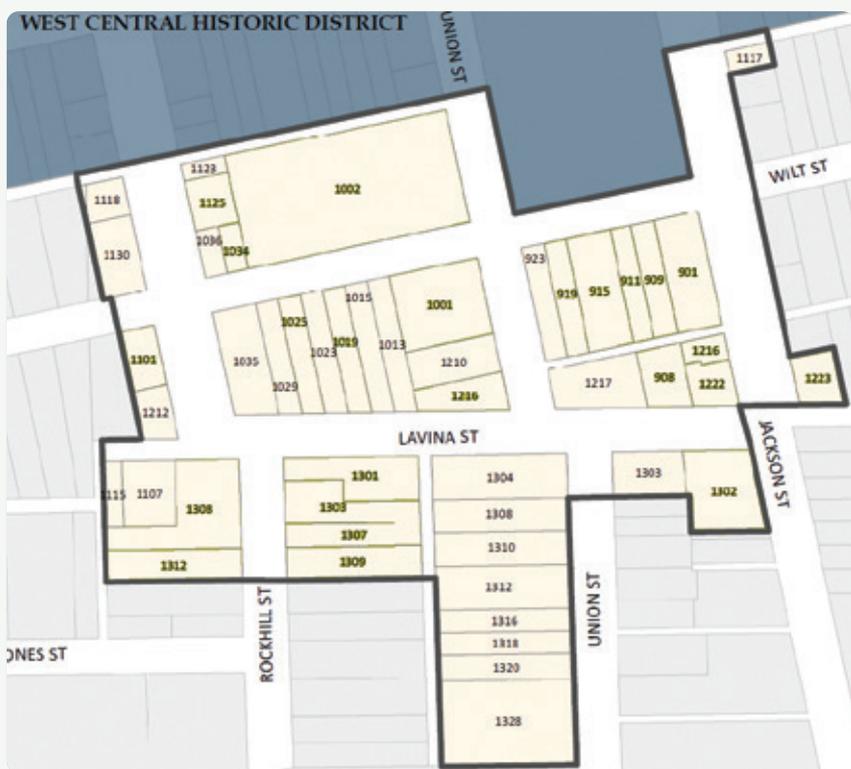
B. Paul Mossman

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## WEST CENTRAL ADDS 50 PROPERTIES TO HISTORIC DISTRICT IN 2020



### PROJECT LEAD | Tyler Bowers

In 2020, West Central expanded the existing Local Historic District to include 50 properties located south of Jefferson Blvd. between Jackson St. & Rockhill St.. This area is home to many workers cottages built from 1860 to 1890 as an expanding Fort Wayne population began to settle the areas surrounding downtown Fort Wayne. Residents of this area were part of Fort Wayne's working class population who worked at Jenny Electric (later General Electric) and other surrounding industrial centers. With new Local Historic District protections in place, the historic character of these homes will be preserved for generations to come.



# THANK YOU

Please help us say **THANK YOU** to the homeowners, sponsors, advertisers, arts fest vendors, food trucks and volunteers. Without their participation and gifts, this event would not be possible.

## HOMEOWNERS

Melissa Maddox  
Greg & Cindy Brandt  
Steve Miranda  
Jerry Sullivan  
Yvonne Dahm  
Constance Mettler  
Brandon Steffen  
Bradford Ziebell  
Jack & Cheri Stark  
James & Jennifer Cameron  
ARCH  
Sabra Garner  
Jody Hemphill-Smith  
Mark Smith

## TOUR COMMITTEE

Greg Brandt  
Tyler Bowers  
Brandon Steffen  
Cindy Brandt  
Kelly Benton  
Connie Mettler  
Bradford Ziebell  
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