

SITES ALONG THE HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE BICYCLE RIDE (STARTING FROM THE VISITORS CENTER)

PRALL HOUSE

Prall House was designed in the Queen Anne style by local architect Charles F. Sparrell in 1891. "This was the home of a dentist Dr. Will J. Prall who purchased the lot from the Irwin family with the provision that he build the Queen Anne style residence designed by Charles F. Sparrell that had been planned for that lot. The home was built sometime between 1891-1895 with Dr. Prall's dentist office along the Lafayette Street side of the corner property. In the 1980s, Clementine Tangeman (J. Irwin Miller's sister), who was living in the family mansion across the street, purchased the greatly remodeled house and restored it to the original look returning the Victorian fretwork and rebuilding a replica of the original front porch."*

ORINOCO FIRE STATION

This neo-classical style firehouse was also called No. 2 Fire House and was built in 1908 for the growing Orinoco neighborhood. Three firemen, two horses, and one fire wagon occupied this new building. A motorized fire truck was not added until 1920. Arvin, whose headquarters was nearby, bought the building and used it for a time for performing acoustical research.

GARFIELD SCHOOL

Built in 1896 and design by local artchitect Charles Sparrell, the building has served as Arvin Head-quarters and now is home for the school district administrative offices. The building was featured in Historic Preservation magazine. Note the arched main entranced and three-story tower, both signature elements of Sparrell designs. "The two-story brick Romanesque Revival building is considered by many to be Sparrell's best work. It was originally called Maple Grove school. In 1890, Joseph

Irwin purchased sixteen acres, divided the land up into lots, and the Maple Grove addition became the newest part of the city. The school was built by Caldwell & Drake (the same men who built the West Baden Springs Hotel at West Baden, Indiana). The bell tower of the school used to be used as a neighborhood fire watch, since it was the tallest point around and one could see for a wide distance in all directions."*

RUDDICK-NUGENT HOUSE

Ruddick-Nugent House Bed & Breakfast and Gardens is a fully-restored 1884 Greek Revival home on a full city block of landscaped gardens and water features, with four guest rooms, each one uniquely themed. The original home's design was by local architect Charles Sparrell, and the front was converted from a Queen Anne style to a Greek Revival style around 1920 - the large, white pillars on the porch came from a pavillion at the St. Louis World's Fair of 1904. "When first built, the Ruddick home was outside Columbus city limits, on a dirt road known as Hawpatch."*

IRWIN-SWEENY-MILLER MONUMENTS

Resting place for Irwin-Sweeny-Miller family members, including community leaders and benefactors J. Irwin and Xenia Miller.

NOBLITT HOUSE

This home was completed in 1913 or 1914. It was designed for a prominent pioneer daughter, Lydia Newson Lambert, and later it was the residence of the Noblitts, who founded Arvin Industries. The exterior of the home is limestone and said to be 16 inches thick!

NEW BROWNSVILLE COVERED BRIDGE

The New Brownsville Covered Bridge is the focal point of the circular pond in the award-winning Mill Race Park, which was created by legendary landscape designer Michael Van Valkenburgh. The hundred-foot bridge can transport you back to 1840, when it was built to cross the East Fork of the Whitewater River near Brownsville. The bridge is a stop on The Indiana Covered Bridge Loop. The bridge is also, of course, a beautiful backdrop for your Facebook and Instagram posts!

HISTORIC PLAQUE

Stop to read about the former "Death Valley," and what life was like for those who lived in this area before it became the beautiful Mill Race Park.

TANNERY ARCH

"This marker on the right side of the Fifth Street entrance near the amphitheater commemorates the many industries that were once in the Mill Race Park area along the original mill race. Bricks were used that came from demolition materials during the downtown redevelopment phase, but not necessarily from the Mooney Tannery demolition. This was constructed in 1966 during the original construction of Mill Race Park. The park was planned in 1984 to commemorate the quinquicentennial celebration of Columbus coming to America."* Margo, a 1955 Columbus High School graduate, wrote that her father worked there until 1954 and said, "I don't think we ever appreciated the extremely hard, hot work each day...by bending over and pulling the leather hides up out of the hot tanning vats and hanging them on hooks." See more here: bit.ly/mooney-tannery

* from notes and documents contributed by Ricky Berkey, David Sechrest, and Tricia Gilson