

Wandering Indiana . . .

Well this past week we finally completed the tour of the last of the [Indiana State Historic Sites](#). If you are not familiar with these sites, they are a group of historically significant places throughout Indiana with the State Museum in Downtown Indy being the “hub”. Read on for those places to visit.

There are 12 sites including the State Museum. While at the State Museum, we also took in the IMAX Theater for a movie. Great place to relax and enjoy after a tour of the museum’s historical displays.

[Limberlost](#) and [Gene Stratton Porter](#) are Sites closely tied to each other in Northeast Indiana. Check them out along with Geneva, [Loblolly Wetlands](#), Berne, [Quabache State Park](#), [Rome City](#), Chain of Lakes State Park, and all of the other interesting places in between. In addition, [Ligonier](#) is a really unique city to visit. Brook Steed (WVPA) mentioned the Jewish Synagogue, which is now the historical society. Check it out and the beautiful homes in the historic district around Main Street.



In East Central Indiana is the [Levi and Catherine Coffin House](#), which was part of the Underground Railroad. In [Metamora](#), you can see the remnants of the Whitewater Canal. Take a ride on the canal boat, visit the shops in the community and see if you can find the civil engineering wonder while there.



Culbertson Mansion

If you are into touring mansions try out [Culbertson Mansion](#) in New Albany or the [Lanier Mansion](#) in Madison. These old mansions are unbelievable. Or take in the “country mansion” of [TC Steele](#) and see his art sanctuary.

If it is history, check out [Vincennes](#), [Corydon](#), [New Harmony](#), or [Angel Mounds](#). All of these locations have different eras of history associated with the state. We enjoyed renting a golf cart in New Harmony and driving around town and seeing the sites. [Grouseland](#) in Vincennes is a beautiful old home with several historical buildings nearby in the village.

They are all fun to visit and explore. What really makes the visit is the trip there and back and the wandering and getting off the beaten path. Tell me about those places. We love to check them out.

Now to call out all of those that were going to give me some ideas for places to wander too - you know who you are - where are those places?

We ate at [Payne's](#) in Gas City. You have to try it out! Very tasty and we will return in the future. We were also in Winchester and had [Wick's](#) sugar cream pie.

Dick Vermillion - Knox County Surveyor - let me know that [Bardstown](#), Kentucky was definitely a place to visit. He mentioned the distilleries (he didn't mention the Bourbon Trail), many local sites and several quaint

B& B's.

My son Michael texted me a photo of [Joe Palooka](#) in Oolitic. Really interesting history associated with Joe. You should check it out.

Erin Schneider (Duke Energy) was supposed to give me an update on Indiana Dunes State Park. Try out the three hill challenge while you are there. It is tough climbing those sandy dunes but an enjoyable hike.

Some friends from church (Jeff and Nancy Barnett) were sharing stories about [Beck's Mill](#) near Salem. Anyone got a story regarding that place? Is it open to the public?

Keep wandering and keep sending those places to visit.

~Jeff Banning