

TIPPECANOE COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION
LIFE & TIMES

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Blockhouse Restoration Project

It may appear that the historic blockhouse at Fort Ouiatenon park has been painted. In fact, it's actually been cleaned! A recent grant from the Community Foundation of Greater Lafayette made it possible to get restoration work done on the wood timbers that make up the Fort Ouiatenon blockhouse. At 90 years old, the building was in bad need of repairs to reverse damage done by weather, insects and animals. The iconic building was constructed out of telephone poles in 1930 by several founding members of the Tippecanoe County Historical Association and has undergone several restoration projects over the years. This year's restoration work cleaned the wood and removed the insects. The chinking between the wood was repaired and large holes were filled. Finally, a seal coating was put on the wood to help preserve it. This restoration work was done by Brown's Revintage out of Delphi, Indiana.



1930 Dedication ceremony for the Blockhouse

OPERATIONS MANAGER'S REPORT

By Leslie Martin Conwell, Operations Manager

If this was a “normal” year, TCHA would be preparing for our biggest fundraiser, the Feast of the Hunters’ Moon. This most certainly *isn’t* a normal year, and the 2020 Feast had to be cancelled due to COVID 19.

During this challenging time, it is imperative that we look to our *mission statement* for guidance- and inspiration- as to what priorities should be as we reorient ourselves and work to insure the survival of the organization.

The mission of the Tippecanoe County Historical Association is to enrich the lives of Tippecanoe County residents and visitors by collecting, preserving, and interpreting our unique and exciting history.

This statement impresses the responsibility of maintaining the preservation of the collections and the facilities that house them. Recent steps have included a water line repair and two air conditioners fixed at the Arganbright Genealogy Center. Thanks to a recent grant from the Community Foundation of Greater Lafayette, the Fort Ouiatenon blockhouse has been restored. Another grant was received from the Community Foundation to upgrade the security system at the Tippecanoe Battlefield Museum, and provide for security cameras for the Arganbright parking lots. All of these actions will serve to insure that TCHA is continuing to meet its responsibility to collections care.

The mission statement stresses the importance of interpretation of our history. TCHA is committed to continuing to interpret our history during the pandemic. While some programs have been rescheduled for 2021, many others are being held under social distance protocols or else through online platforms such as Zoom.

A major challenge facing TCHA is a restructuring of the budget to reflect the income loss from the cancellation of the Feast. The Feast has traditionally supplied more than 60% of TCHA’s annual operations budget. With that income source no longer available, TCHA is cutting back expenses and reorienting to a new budget. Several board members and their families- Pete and Lorita Bill, and Kory and Elliott Cooper- have been a huge help with keeping facilities clean.

Fundraisers are planned including pancake breakfasts, several Feast food-themed events, and a virtual Feast concert made possible by a grant from Duke Energy. Watch for details on these programs!

I’ve been associated with TCHA for 46 years and during those years TCHA has gone through many challenges. I’m confident we will make it through the COVID 19 challenge with your help. What can YOU do? Renew your membership. Share our social media posts. Make a donation. Volunteer. Cheer us on. We’re on a *mission!*



“School of the Artifact” Facebook and You Tube posts.



Ball- Sholty Award Winner, Lou Ann Clugh at the 2020 Annual Membership Meeting



2020 Annual Membership Meeting at the TCHA History Center



Arganbright restroom renovations & cleaning, January 2020



UPCOMING PROGRAMS

By Leslie Martin Conwell, Operations Manager

TCHA programming continues forward! Social distancing and sanitation protocols have been put in place for the History Center, the Tippecanoe Battlefield, the Arganbright Genealogy Library, and Fort Ouiatenon to insure TCHA meets public and board of health expectations.

Program presenters are adapting to the “new normal” and embracing public programming. For August, programs included a Show & Tell on “Charlie Shambaugh, Tippecanoe County’s Tinkering mastermind,” a Tippecanoe Battlefield 4th US Infantry interpretation by John Wicket, and the living history event “Manifests and Archaeology at Ouiatenon.” These programs would not have been possible without the support of sponsors, including the National Group and La Compagnie des Beaux Eaux.

Photos by Brooke Sauter

brookesauter.wixsite.com/brookesauter



SEPTEMBER 2020						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

While some programs have been rescheduled to 2021, there are others still going on. September 12 from 10-4 at the Battlefield will be living history interpretation by John Wickett. Also in September there will be a series of lectures on archaeological topics, including “Recent Archaeological Discoveries in Indiana” by Dr. Matt Coon on September 14; “Soviet Archaeology and its Legacies in the Deserts of Uzbekistan, Central Asia” by Dr. Elizabeth Brite September 21; and “Ancient Copper Metallurgy in Alaska and Canada,” by Dr. Kory Cooper September 28. Dr. Cooper will be presenting an “Experimental Archaeology and Native Copper-Working Demonstration” September 19. These online archaeology programs are all co-sponsored by Purdue University, and pre-registration is required. The programs are free, and registration information will be at www.tippecanoehistory.org. Show & Tell on September 22 will be led by TCHA Curator of Collections Kelly Lippie, as she will select several items from the collections that are rarely seen. TCHA members are invited to bring their treasures from home to show, too!

TCHA thanks our program presenters and sponsors for enabling some great learning about history this year!

FEAST OF THE HUNTERS' MOON

By Leslie Martin Conwell, Operations Manager

Due to COVID 19, the 53rd annual Feast of the Hunters' Moon festival scheduled for October 3-4, 2020 will be postponed until October 9-10, 2021. The decision was made based upon the difficulty of maintaining social distancing and other recommended CDC guidelines for large events. The safety of the public was the factor considered foremost in the making the decision.

The difficult decision was made understanding how important the Feast is to the community as a positive, engaging historical event and as a significant fund raiser for 50 community organizations such as scout troops, churches, and civic organizations.

The Feast is the main fundraising event for TCHA, and annually provides 60% of the year's overall operating budget. The event supports all aspects of TCHA including curation of the unique and valuable artifacts in the TCHA collection, the broad expanse of community programming to educate about our incredible local history, and preservation efforts to maintain important historical sites such as the Tippecanoe Battlefield Museum, the Fort Ouiatenon Blockhouse, the Arganbright Genealogy Center and Library, and the Ouiatenon Preserve.

TCHA board president Pete Bill stated "With support from the community, our loyal membership, sponsors, and Feast participants, we will weather these tough financial times with the goal for the Feast to return in 2021 and for TCHA to remain a strong community resource."

Fundraising ideas from Feast staff, Feast committee, TCHA board, TCHA membership, community, and volunteers have been considered and several implemented in an effort to support TCHA during this difficult time.

Feast t-shirts, hats, and active wear are now on sale online through The Athlete. The graphic designer, Angela Bruntlett, donated her work. The promotion is scheduled to continue through the second week of October. The clothing can be seen here- <https://feast2020.itemorder.com/sale>

A special "COVID 19 edition" button for this year's Feast is on sale at the Tippecanoe Battlefield during their open hours of Friday-Sunday 10-5. Longtime Feast craftsman Darryl Sheldon of Sheldon Pewter crafted a beautiful pewter medallion featuring the special "COVID 19 edition" logo, and it is for sale at the Tippecanoe Battlefield.

Look for other special Feast promotions and activities, including a virtual Feast concert made possible by a grant from the Duke Energy Foundation and several special food events!



CURATOR'S CORNER

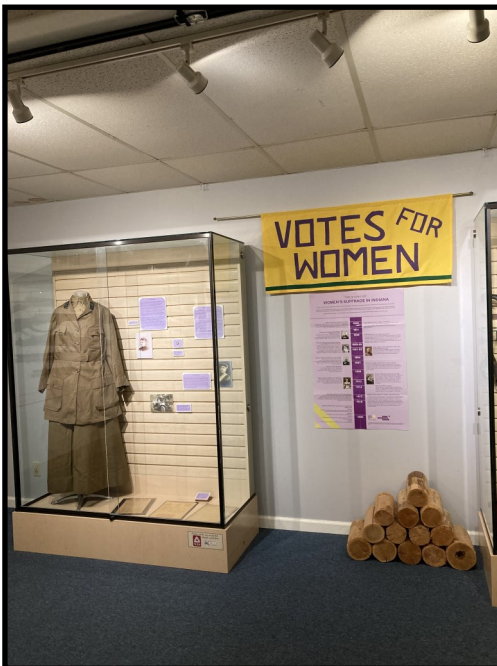


New Maps in the Research Library by Kelly Lippie

A recent donation from the offices of Stallard and Schuh included a new Sanborn map book updated to 1943 and four large area maps. Three maps will be in storage, but available for researchers, along with the Sanborn map book. The fourth map was the largest and is now hanging in the research library. This 1940 map shows Lafayette and West Lafayette on a large scale.



VOTES FOR WOMEN!



“Votes for Women!” Exhibit at the Tippecanoe Battlefield

The Tippecanoe Battlefield has long been a site for political activity in Tippecanoe County. The most famous event, the Whig Rally of 1840, helped to elect William Henry Harrison to President of the United States. Although history does not record a women’s suffrage rally at the Battlefield, its history in politics makes it the perfect place to host an exhibit about women’s right to vote. This year marks the 100th anniversary of women gaining the right to vote in the U.S. To commemorate this anniversary, TCHA has put together a special exhibit to highlight the work of Tippecanoe County women toward suffrage. This exhibit includes selections from the photographs, archives and artifacts of the Tippecanoe County Historical Association. Volunteers helped with research, label writing and creating the banner sign. The “Votes for Women!” exhibit is included with admission to the museum– which is free for TCHA members! Votes for Women! Is open now through the end of the year.

Check our website for the museum’s current operating hours.

TIPPECANOE BATTLEFIELD NEWS

By Rick Conwell, Battlefield Museum Manager



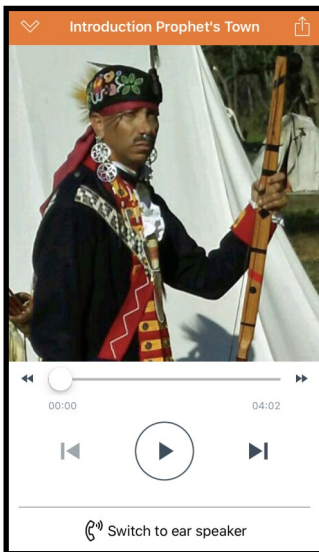
In a normal year, we would be knee deep in Feast preparations by late August. We would probably have closed the gun room to the public by this time in order to use it as a merchandise staging area. School tour bookings would be coming in, I would be preparing a book inventory for the KohKohMah Foster Living history event the third weekend of September, and looking forward to a fun-filled weekend of marquee tent set up at Fort Ouiate-non the weekend after that.

This, of course, is not a normal year. After closing entirely for 3 months, we were finally able to reopen on a limited basis in mid-June. Though we have generally been busy, the shortened work week and our inability to reorder inventory have impacted overall sales and museum admission revenues significantly. The cancellation of the Feast, the Indiana Fiddlers' Gathering, and all school tours have left us with a large stock of historic toys & games and other youth-related products.

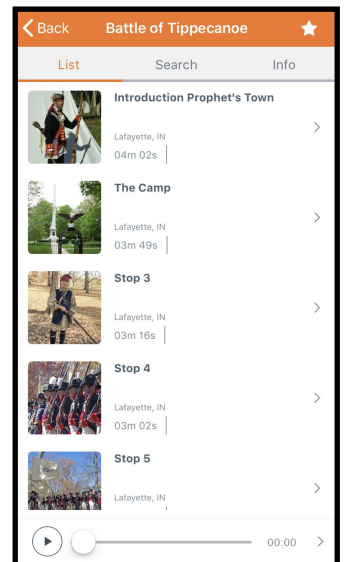
Fortunately, there are some bright spots to talk about. Book sales, particularly of adult books, have been quite good. A couple of special sales have helped move some merchandise, and museum admissions income has been higher than normal considering our restricted operating hours. We have resumed the public living history presentations by John and Nolan Wickett whose next appearance will be September 12th. Masks and social distancing will be required.

The History Store is also handling the sale of 2020 Feast buttons and medallions, which are much in demand, even though the Feast was cancelled, and we are working with the Indiana National Guard to host a large training program in September.

No, 2020 is not the year we had anticipated, but Laura and I would like to thank all our members and friends who have come out to support us, as well as the rest of the TCHA staff and volunteers for helping to find innovative ways to help steer our organization through these challenging financial times.



In November of 2019, TCHA debuted phase 1 of the Tippecanoe Battlefield audio tour. This free tour is available through the UniGuide app (which is free to download). Once you have downloaded the app, search for Tippecanoe and you will find this free tour! Out on the Tippecanoe Battlefield, look for signs for each of the 5 tour stops. This will help guide your experience. The Tippecanoe Battlefield park and memorial is open from dawn until dusk every day of the year and is owned and maintained by the Tippecanoe County Parks and Recreation Department.





ALAMEDA MCCOLLOUGH RESEARCH LIBRARY

By Amy Harbor, Research Library Coordinator

Greetings from the Alameda McCollough Genealogy Library! We continue to welcome visitors by appointment, as we observe social distancing and face covering guidelines. As always, we welcome your email and phone inquiries. Several volunteers have returned to the library, and others are working on projects from home. More and more historic documents are being cleaned, sorted, indexed, filed, and made available to researchers both in the library and on our web page.

Did you know that the genealogy library houses the original Naturalization documents for Tippecanoe County immigrants? We have citizenship papers in our collection for nearly 7300 aliens who came to Tippecanoe County between 1826 and the 1950s. These documents are a treasure trove of information for genealogists. The earliest documents give port of embarkation, date and place of arrival, age, country of birth, and sometimes even hometown. The applicant's signature may give important information when an immigrant's name was anglicized or mangled by the clerk recording the information. Later documents provide even more information, including names and birthdates of family members, name used when entering the country, physical description, and a photograph.

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No. 1008
DECLARATION OF INTENTION
(Invalid for all purposes seven years after the date hereof)

State of Indiana, Tippecanoe County, In the Tippecanoe Circuit Court of Tippecanoe County, Lafayette, Ind.

I, Edward Magnusson
now residing at 1017 Elizabeth Street, Lafayette, Tippecanoe Co. Indiana
occupation farmer, aged 59 years, do declare on oath that my personal description is:
sex male, color white, hair gray, eyes blue
color of hair light, height 5 feet, 155 inches; weight 155 pounds; visible distinctive marks none visible
race Swedish, nationality Swedish
I was born in Sweden on March 13, 1865
I am NOT married. The name of my wife or husband is never been married
I was NOT married on March 13, 1865
I was born at Gotenborg, Sweden
I emigrated to the United States of America from Gotenborg, Sweden
my lawful entry for permanent residence in the United States was at Boston, Mass.
under the name of Edward Magnusson on April 27, 1891
I will, before being admitted to citizenship, renounce forever all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty, and particularly by name, to the prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty of which I may be at the time of admission a citizen or subject; I am not an anarchist; I am not a polygamist nor a believer in the practice of polygamy; and it is my intention in good faith to become a citizen of the United States of America and to reside permanently therein; and I certify that the photograph affixed to the duplicate and triplicate hereof is a likeness of me; So help me God.

I have NOT heretofore made a declaration of intention: Number 0
at Stockholm, Sweden
my last foreign residence was Stockholm, Sweden
I emigrated to the United States of America from Gotenborg, Sweden
my lawful entry for permanent residence in the United States was at Boston, Mass.
under the name of Edward Magnusson on April 27, 1891
I will, before being admitted to citizenship, renounce forever all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty, and particularly by name, to the prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty of which I may be at the time of admission a citizen or subject; I am not an anarchist; I am not a polygamist nor a believer in the practice of polygamy; and it is my intention in good faith to become a citizen of the United States of America and to reside permanently therein; and I certify that the photograph affixed to the duplicate and triplicate hereof is a likeness of me; So help me God.

Subscribed and sworn to before me in the office of the Clerk of said Court, at Lafayette, Ind., this 4th day of September, 1921.
Witness my hand and the seal of said Court, at Lafayette, Ind., this 4th day of September, 1921.
I, Otto C. Neumann, Clerk of said Court, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the original as the same appears on the files of said Court.
Filed for record in the office of the Clerk of said Court, at Lafayette, Ind., this 4th day of September, 1921.
By Floyd Carlsson, Deputy Clerk.
Form 2890-1-A
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
NATURALIZATION SERVICE

No. 89365

Page 25
No. 368
DECLARATION OF INTENTION
(Invalid for all purposes seven years after the date hereof)

State of Indiana, Tippecanoe County, In the Tippecanoe Circuit Court of Tippecanoe County, Lafayette, Ind.

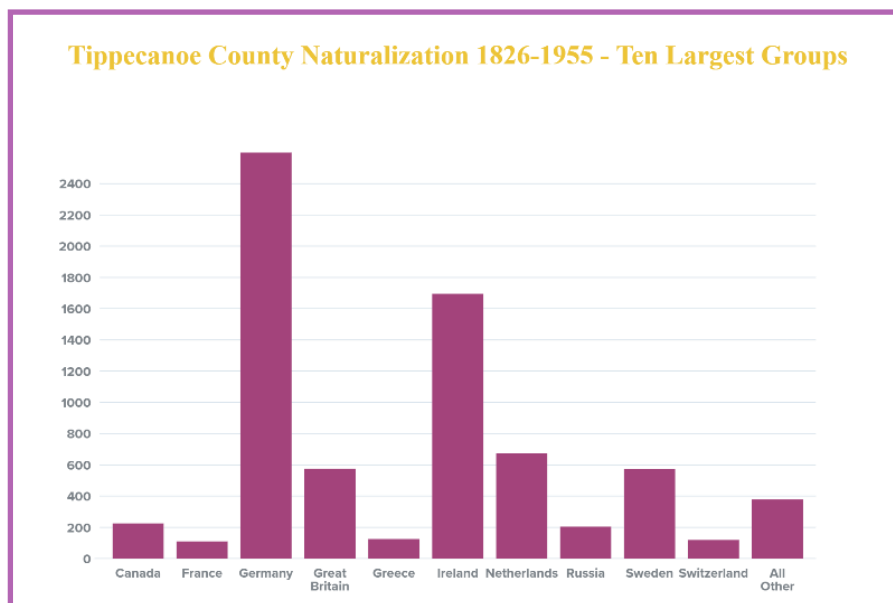
I, Josephine Hukerman (Sister Bernward)
now residing at St. Elizabeth Hospital, Lafayette, Indiana
occupation domestic work, aged 28 years, do declare on oath that my personal description is:
sex female, color white, hair fair, eyes blue
color of hair blond, height 5 feet, 0 inches; weight 160 pounds; visible distinctive marks none
race German, nationality German
I was born in Onstertwice, Germany on Sept. 26, 1890
I am NOT married. The name of my wife or husband is never been married
I was NOT married on Sept. 26, 1890
I was born at Onstertwice, Germany
I emigrated to the United States of America from Onstertwice, Germany
my lawful entry for permanent residence in the United States was at New York, N.Y.
under the name of Josephine Hukerman on Sept. 27, 1921
on the vessel S. S. Empress
I will, before being admitted to citizenship, renounce forever all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty, and particularly by name, to the prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty of which I may be at the time of admission a citizen or subject; I am not an anarchist; I am not a polygamist nor a believer in the practice of polygamy; and it is my intention in good faith to become a citizen of the United States of America and to reside permanently therein; and I certify that the photograph affixed to the duplicate and triplicate hereof is a likeness of me; So help me God.

I have NOT heretofore made a declaration of intention: Number 0
at Onstertwice, Germany
my last foreign residence was Onstertwice, Germany
I emigrated to the United States of America from Onstertwice, Germany
my lawful entry for permanent residence in the United States was at New York, N.Y.
under the name of Josephine Hukerman on Sept. 27, 1921
I will, before being admitted to citizenship, renounce forever all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty, and particularly by name, to the prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty of which I may be at the time of admission a citizen or subject; I am not an anarchist; I am not a polygamist nor a believer in the practice of polygamy; and it is my intention in good faith to become a citizen of the United States of America and to reside permanently therein; and I certify that the photograph affixed to the duplicate and triplicate hereof is a likeness of me; So help me God.

Subscribed and sworn to before me in the office of the Clerk of said Court, at Lafayette, Ind., this 2nd day of September, 1921.
Witness my hand and the seal of said Court, at Lafayette, Ind., this 2nd day of September, 1921.
I, Otto C. Neumann, Clerk of said Court, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the original as the same appears on the files of said Court.
Filed for record in the office of the Clerk of said Court, at Lafayette, Ind., this 2nd day of September, 1921.
By Floyd Carlsson, Deputy Clerk.
Form 2890-1-A
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
NATURALIZATION SERVICE

There are two types of documents in our naturalization collection: Declaration of Intention and Application or Petition for Naturalization. Beginning in 1790 immigrants to the United States were required to officially register their intent to become a citizen in court. After a required residency period, the immigrant could apply to become a citizen. The waiting period was two years in 1790, then increased to five years in 1795. For a brief time under President John Adams, the residency requirement was increased to fourteen years with five years notice of intent! This Immigration Act of 1798 also allowed Adams to deport immigrants deemed dangerous and prevent others, most of whom voted for the opposing party, from becoming citizens. The Jefferson administration revised the residency requirement back to five years in 1802. Immigration policy has always been a contentious issue!

The majority of our naturalization documents are for men over the age of 21. Children have always become citizens automatically by the naturalization of a parent, and a wife became a citizen when her husband did, until 1922. Unfortunately, biographical information about wives and children was virtually never given on naturalization documents until 1906, when it became mandatory. A few of our pre-1922 documents are in women's names, notably widows and the Sisters of St. Francis who came from Germany to establish St. Elizabeth Hospital. In fact, we have citizenship documents for nearly 200 nuns. A widow and children could become citizens if her husband had declared his intention before he died. The Expatriation Act of 1907, among other things, stripped a U.S. born woman of her citizenship if she married an alien. This provision was repealed in 1922 after large protests by members of the women's suffrage movement, but it did not restore citizenship to these women. We have 38 examples in our collection of American-born women petitioning to become naturalized.



Where did these 7300 immigrants to Tippecanoe County come from? More than 35%, a total of 2599, came from what is now Germany. A thriving German community sprang up in the north part of Lafayette which had its own German language newspapers, stores, a bank, churches and even a "German National Park". This provided an attractive support system for other immigrants. The second largest group of immigrants was Irish, which make up nearly 25% (1695) of our naturalizations. This ethnic group largely settled in the area around Wabash Avenue in the south part of Lafayette. Our earliest immigrants tended to be Irish laborers who worked on the Wabash & Erie Canal and the railroads in the 1840s and 1850s respectively, while German immigration was more concentrated in the 1870s. Together these two groups make up about 60% of our naturalization documents. They left their mark on many businesses and neighborhoods, and their names live on in their descendants who are still here. Anyone who has lived more than a few years in Tippecanoe County recognizes the German names Loeb, Thieme, Mulhaupt, Bumbleburg, Eberle and Kalberer or the Irish names Ball, Driscoll, Mackey, McCarty, Vaughan and Murdock. Other large groups of immigrants originated in the Netherlands, Great Britain and Sweden. The graph shows the ten largest ethnic groups among our naturalization documents, which taken together make up 95% of the total.

All of our Naturalization documents have been archived and indexed and are available to be viewed by visitors. Were your ancestors among them? You can see our index of names on our website at <https://www.tippecanoehistory.org/research/genealogy/>. Please visit us sometime. You can reach us at (765) 476-8411, extension 2, or email library@tippecanoehistory.org

BIRTH AND DEATH OF THE PORCH

By Quentin Robinson, County Historian

When walking or driving through our historic neighborhoods some of the architectural elements that might attract your attention are the porches on some of the older homes. Porches have not always been a feature but they reached their height of popularity, and extravagance, during the second half of the 19th century. Porch comes from the Latin, porticus but the feature has gone by many names including portico, stoop (Dutch), Veranda, plaza and others. A porch can be open or enclosed, but they all serve as a transition space between outdoors and indoors and between public and private.



Porches were built for good practical reasons but social norms evolved as the use of porches evolved. Porches quickly became social gathering spots. In some ways porches are one result of American industrialization of the 19th Century and the suburbanization of our cities. Fancy millwork was being created on an industrial scale and was readily available and much less expensive than fancy ornamentation that had formerly been created specifically for one customer, perhaps even on site at the new building.

Practical reasons for the development of porches include shading the house from the hot summer sun. A large wrap around porch, along with high ceilings, and large windows helped keep Victorian homes bearable in the summer heat. Sometimes though, even those features were not enough, and porches were used for sleeping and even eating meals. In the early twentieth century some homes were built with a porch designed specifically as a “sleeping porch” usually located on the second floor near bedrooms. If they did not have a porch our Victorian ancestors sometimes slept in tents in the back yard.



As the nineteenth century progressed the social role of the porch increased. It developed into an outdoor parlor, a true extension of the house into the landscape. Sitting on the porch became an important part of the daily routine for many of our ancestors. Rutherford B Hayes summed up the Victorian love of porches when he wrote in his journal in 1873: "The best part of his house is the veranda. But I would enlarge it. I want a veranda with a house attached."

The early twentieth century also saw the rise and use of insect screening on porches to guard against insects.



While innovations such as mass produced millwork fostered the proliferation of porches in the nineteenth century, new inventions led to the decline of the porch in the twentieth century. The automobile allowed people to get out of the house for entertainment and relaxation. The telephone allowed neighbors and friends to chat without meeting personally. Housing styles popularized in the construction boom following World War II eliminated the front porch as the back yard became the focus of family activity. The final nail in the coffin for the popularity of the porch was the invention of air conditioning and television. Why sit on the hot porch and watch traffic drive past when you could sit in your air conditioned living room and be entertained by a program playing that magic box?





Tippecanoe Historical Association
Administrative Offices
1001 South Street
Lafayette, IN 47901

765-476-8411

Tippecanoe County Historical Association is a private not-for-profit organization whose mission is to enrich the lives of Tippecanoe County residents and visitors by collecting, preserving, and interpreting our unique and exciting history.

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