Streets, facing Main. In 1878 the Streets - Originally, Short Street Town Square, Main & Main Cross Public School for all grade. In 1917, it was replaced with a new building became the Charlestown oetween Main Cross & Market 1811-1878 was located midway The 1st Clark County Courthouse connected Main Cross & Market

brick building called Jonathan Jennings School. This building was on the west side of the square facing Mar

and department stores. The Opera house with its stage, 16 food ceiling, City Hall / Opera House / Hostettler Department Store, 304 Main Cross St -Old Post Office location, about 320 Main Cross Street services, and agricultural events. In 1997 the building became the and ample seating hosted the first public high school commencement in opera house on the 2nd floor above a variety of dry goods, confectionary This building was built by William & Augusta Prather in 1870. It featured an Charlestown City Hall. 1890, basketball games, motion pictures shows, town meetings, church ket and was used as a school from 1918-1953. It was torn down in 1966

Tenadod Avenue

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- Bus Station, about 330 Main Cross Street
- Post Office, 361 Main Cross Street The post office moved here in 1953
- 7 6 5 Beeler House - 366 Main Cross St - Built about 1880, it was owned by 800 Block of Short Street - This block originally contained houses George Beeler. He operated several dry goods stores on the square
- တ္ ထ Charlestown First United Methodist Church, 423 Main Cross Street
- Handy House, 958 Water Street This federal style house was built about gave it to his daughter, Johnnie Handy, in 1948. Currently, it is Hart's Engineering and Surveying 1813. D.R. Handy purchased the home in 1931 from Julia McComb and
- Old Water Tower, behind 958 Water Street Daniel R. Handy donated the land to the city for the water tower.
- 11. Charlestown Arts & Enrichment Center, 999 Water Street
- 12. Old Jail, 464 Harrison St This federal style building built in 1819 was used as the jail and sheriff's residence.
- Green Tree Tavern location / Watson / Coombs House, 1015 Water St -Indiana, was inaugurated and married Clarissa Barbee here. It was razed in The Green Tree Tavern was a log building on the stage coach road. It was built by Capt. James Biggert in 1812. Jonathan Jennings, 1st governor of 1898 when Ward Watson built a house.
- 14. Resident Hotel, 1065 Water St Built by Ward Watson as a private home about 1917, it became a hotel and restaurant in the 1940s during the WWI opulation boom.
- . Boyer House, 1094 Water St This house was the home of the William Boyer family. It was built in 1816. He and his sons operated a blacksmithing orge on the property.
- . Mrs. Guernsey House, 1091 Water St
- Funeral Home, 1087 Thompson St Built about 1840
- . 1116 Water St Built about 1860
- Hammond House, 1096 Main St Rezin Hammond, a pioneer Methodist preacher and postmaster, owned this house.
- 20. Downs House, 1045 Main Street Built by Thomas Downs in the 1809, it is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Pleasant Ridge neighborhood 1942

- VFW Post 1427 350 Harrison St
   USO Center / Community Hall, 10
- USO Center / Community Hall, 1005 Main St Originally built as a USO Center about 1942 for the soldiers of World War II, it later became the
- 23. Baird Feed Mill, about 244 Harrison St The mill burnt in the 1960s. 24. Handy House, 959 Main St D.R. Handy lived here. He operated the Handy Store on Main across from the square.
- 25. Old Public Library, next to alley at 301, wall, with 26. Masonic Lodge, 950 Main St This is the current location of the Blazing Star Masonic Lodge #3 which was first established in 1816 as the third











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Depot Street

39

High Street Green Miles 33 53

Wall Street

mail carriers on Main Cross Stree State Road 62 4

High School is located the current Charlestown on Monroe Street where iair grounds was located The first Clark County

27. Dr. Work House, 944 Main St - It was built in 1860.
28. John Hay House, 890 Main St - John Hay was a town founder and sur-

- Andrew Hay House and the Victorian Stalker House. veyor in 1811. After the Hay House was razed, this was the site of the
- 800 Block of Main Street This block has been the location of many

to Tunnel Mill ^

- stores from the beginning of Charlestown.
- 30. Grayson Funeral Home, 893 High St31. Main Cross Independent Baptist Church, 145 Main Cross St32. Charlestown Train Station, about 1031 HWY 62 The Baltimore & Ohio train depot was built in 1861.
- the building became the Reese boarding house. school. It housed an all girl's school named Camburn's Seminary and built in 1824, Barnett Academy was a coeducational, boarding and day boy's school there. After the school was closed (probably in the 1880s) then later it was purchased by the Presbyterian Church which started a . Barnett Academy, 130 Market Street - Located in the old Masonic Hall
- 34. Ferguson House, 673 High St This house was built in 1816 by Benjamin estersbach family owned the house for over 100 years. Ferguson, who was in Indiana's first House of Representatives. The Spri-
- 35. International Order of Odd Fellows Lodge (IOOF), 297 Market St The Charlestown Lodge of IOOF was organized in 1851 and was located on
- 36. Charlestown Police Department 701 Main St This area has long been the location of Charlestown fire, police, city offices, and city garage.
- 37. Shelby House, 688 Main St A federal style house built in 1811. 38. 300 block of Market Street This side of the town square contain
- . 300 block of Market Street This side of the town square contained comthe buildings on the south side of Main as well block of Main to Walnut Street. The fire jumped Main and burned most of nesses and homes in the 300 block of Market. It continued down the 700 mercial buildings. On 6 Oct 1907, an enormous fire destroyed many busi-
- 39. Halcyon Cemetery This was the original Charlestown Cemetery which buried here but later moved to Charlestown Cemetery. was laid out in 1818. Jonathan Jennings, 1st governor of Indiana, was
- 40. Greenway Park

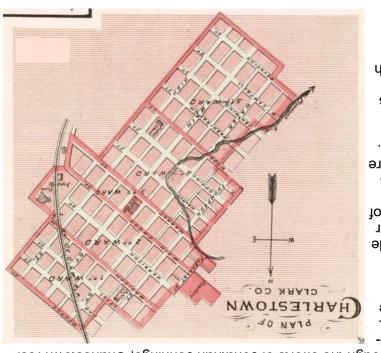
State Park --> to Charlestown

- 41. Charlestown Clark County Public Library, 51 Clark Road Libraries in ship Library was officially formed. In 1970, a fund was established for a donated by Greater Clark County School Board. Construction began in new library. A site next to Jonathan Jennings Elementary School was Charlestown Township Trustee's office. In 1966, the Charlestown Townestablished in each county. About 1907, a library began operation in the private. In 1852 an Indiana law provided that public libraries could be Clark County can be traced back to 1836. Early libraries were mostly February 1973 and the building was dedicated 9 Feb 1975
- 42. Pleasant Ridge Neighborhood Government housing built in 1942 for employees of the Indiana Ordnance Works and Hoosier Ordnance Plant The houses were pre-fabricated Gunnison Homes.
- 43. First Baptist Church, 930 Market St
- Charlestown Cemetery
   Evangel Charlestown Church, 1280 Morrow St
- 6. . Indiana Ordnance Works / Indiana Army Ammunition Plant - Plant built on over 10,000 acres beginning in 1940.
- Prisoner of War Camp In 1945, the US federal government opened a 500 German POWs Charlestown Landing Road across from the IOW Administration building German POW camp on IOW Plant 2 property at the corner of SR 62 and

working on local the POWs had jobs fersonville. Many of SR 62 from the were marched up Quadrangle in Jef-



Compiled by Michelle Adams 2021



portation. source of transwas the major Ohio River which to and from the provided access Landing Road Charlestown .8781 gə2 £2 no moved back there county seat was Louisville, the to the large city of was much closer that Jeffersonville Due to the fact .7181 ni ənsups was built on the The court house ernor of Indiana. dent and 1st gov-

state in 1816 through the efforts of Jonathan Jennings, Charlestown resi-The county seat was moved to Charlestown in 1811. Indiana became a

square. Numerous expansions have been added. McCampbell. The original boundaries included 159 lots and the town Clarks Grant. The land was owned by Barzilla Baker and James Beggs, who the town was named after, and is located in Tract 117 of In 1808 Charlestown was laid out by surveyors John Hay and Charles The Beginnings of Charlestown

and Springville faded away. can crossroads. The county seat was moved to Jeffersonville 9 Jun 1802 Jackson Road. It became a prosperous trading town at a Native Ameri-Springville was located about one mile southwest of Charlestown on High County. Springville was selected as the county seat on 7 Apr 1801. Indiana Territory. Over the years, new counties were formed off of Clark Clark County was created 3 Feb 1801 and was one-fifth of the area of Before Charlestown

Charlestown Township formed in Spring 1817. Indiana became a State on 11 December 1816. Charlestown was laid out in 1808. Clark County, Indiana Territory was formed 3 February 1801.

# A Brief History & Walking Tour Charlestown, Indiana

Sat: 9 am - 1 pm Tue & Thu: 12 pm - 8 pm Mon & Fri: 9 am - 5 pm Wed: Closed 7734-893-4577210 S Poplar St, New Washington, IN 47162 New Washington Library

Sat: 10 am - 2 pm Fri: 9 am - 5 pm Thu: 11 am - 7 pm Wed: Closed Tue: 11 am - 7 pm Mon: 11 am - 6 pm 1406-852-218 117 W Main St, Borden, IN 47106 Borden Library

Sat: 10 am - 2 pm Fri: 9 am - 5 pm Thu: 10 am - 8 pm Wed: 12 pm - 6 pm Tue: 10 am - 8 pm Mon: 9 am - 6 pm 812-294-4246

214 E Main St, Henryville, IN 47126Henryville Library

Fri-Sat: 9 am - 5 pm mq 8 - ms 9 :udT-noM 812-246-4493

430 N Indiana Ave, Sellersburg, IN 47172 Sellersburg Library



Fri-Sat: 9 am - 5 pm mq 8 - ms e :udT-noM 7888-332-218 51 Clark Rd, Charlestown, IN 47111

Charlestown Library



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1920s, church items, family papers, and much more. letters, hotel ledgers, judge docket ledgers from 1890photographs, Speed Community Fair brochures, news-Company items, Indiana Army Ammunition Plant items, from the 1800s, World War II letters, Louisville Cement letters, yearbooks, Rose Island brochure, store ledgers Great Flood post cards, Civil War letters, Korean War

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tains thousands of digital images of Clark County history including 1937 The Clark County Collection con-

and two scrapbooks. over 1600 WWII letters/post cards Correspondence collection contains The Jesse G. Dorsey World War II

collection of Indiana history.

Indiana Memory, a statewide digital Library has 2 digital collections on Charlestown-Clark County Public

## INDIANA MEMORY PROJECT



## Charlestown becomes a Boomtown

The United States federal government began acquiring land in Charlestown, Indiana in 1940 to build a smokeless powder ordnance plant to supply the US military during World War II.

Indiana Ordnance Works (IOW) Plant 1 and Hoosier Ordnance Plant (HOP) began production in 1941. IOW, the black powder manufacturing facility, was built and operated by DuPont. HOP, the bag manufacturing facility, was built on the south side of IOW and operated by Goodyear.

The facility employed over 25,000 people at its peak during the war. The population boom brought many improvements to the town including schools, fire department, housing, sewers, water and roads. In 1944, IOW Plant 2 construction began on the north side of Charlestown Landing Road.

On 30 Nov 1945 at the end of WWII, the 3 plants were combined and renamed Indiana Arsenal Between 1 Nov 1961 and 1 Aug 1963, the plant was designated Indiana Ordnance Plant. After this time, it became Indiana Army Ammunition Plant (INAAP). Production of ordnance continued at the plant until 1992. After that time, the land and facilities were leased to private industry. A large portion of the land became Charlestown State Park. In October 2016, all of the land and facilities were officially sold by the government. The area has become an industrial park.

ROSE ISLAND ACRES





#### Fern Grove & Rose Island

Fern Grove was a picnic ground and park at the mouth of Fourteen Mile Creek where it enters the Ohio River. This area was previously known as Devil's Backbone. In 1923, David Rose bought the park and added many improvements. He turned it into a family resort and amusement park. It offered a hotel, swimming pool, rides, games, zoo and cottages.

#### Tunnel Mill

Tunnel Mill was built by John Work in 1819 on Fourteen Mile Creek north of Charlestown. The name came from the 700 foot tunnel Work had dug in order to divert the water at a natural bend in the creek. The mill operated until 1917.

