

East Spring Street Historic District

The East Spring Street Historic District developed primarily from the mid-nineteenth century to the early- twentieth century. It was generally a middle- to upper-class neighborhood. It was bounded on the west by the central business district and on the east by the Vincennes Street commercial corridor. The upper-class “Mansion Row” district lay to the south, and to the north was the working-class Oak Street district.

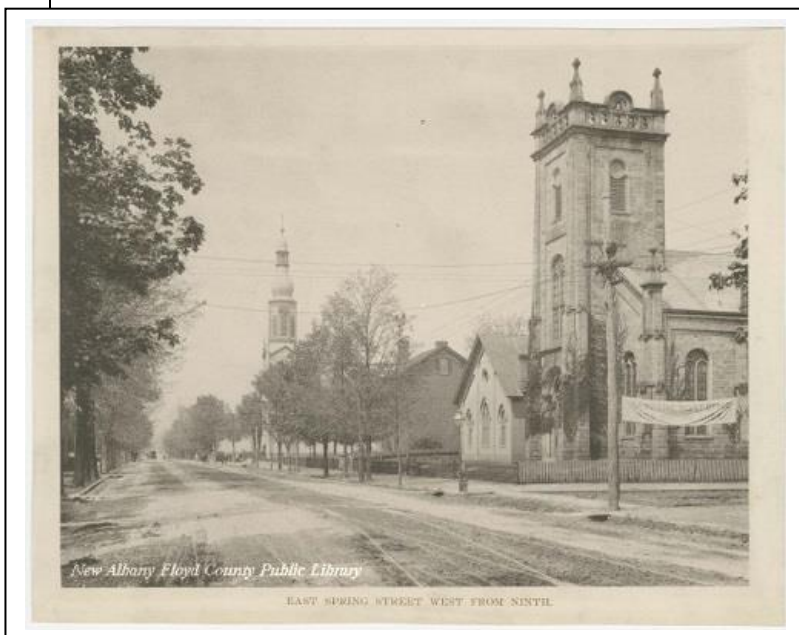
The primary, east-west streets in the district are Market, Spring and Elm Streets. The lots are largest and the houses generally grandest on Market Street, growing progressively more modest as one moves north. Many of the side streets in the district contain mostly working-class homes.

The development of the East Spring Street district can be directly related to the city’s industrial growth. The city outgrew its original plat within a few years due to the success in steamboat building and other industries. Large residential plats were made east and west of the original plat starting in the 1830s. The population grew rapidly as new jobs were created.

One of the oldest houses in the district is the Mitchell-Wolfe-Easley House, a substantial two-story brick home at 613 East Spring Street constructed in 1847. Other noteworthy residences in the district include the Second Empire-style Zinsmeister House (1420 East Market Street), built c.1870; the 1901, Queen Anne-style Connor-Cannon house at 1203 East

Spring Street; and a c.1910 Colonial Revival home at 1001 East Spring Street built by another member of the Zinsmeister family. The c.1865 Gothic Revival Armstrong cottage at 417 East Ninth Street is an excellent, very intact example of that style.

The East Spring Street district also includes many good examples of vernacular house types. These include a cross-plan cottage at 317 East 10th Street and a shotgun cottage at 319 East 15th Street.

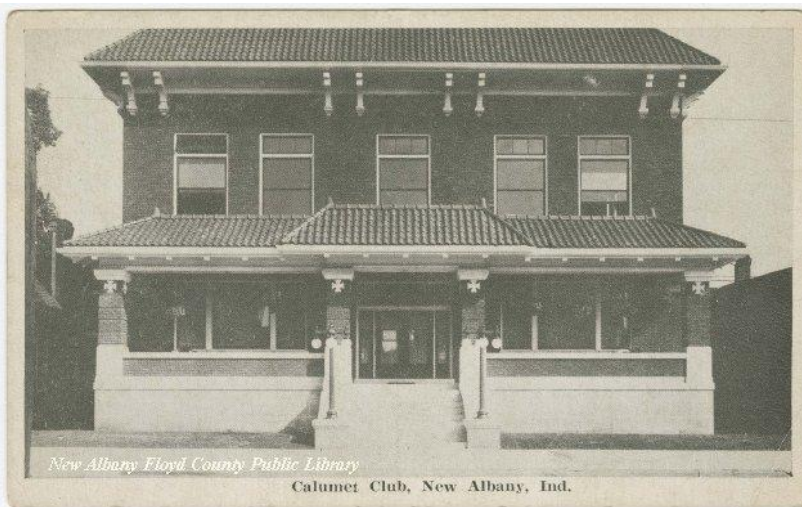


This 1893 postcard view looking west down Spring Street shows both Third Presbyterian Church in the foreground and St. Mary's Church behind.

There are several churches in the district. St. Mary's Catholic Church on the northwest corner of East Spring and 8th streets is an outstanding example of the Romanesque Revival architectural style. It was constructed in 1858 as a church for New Albany's German community and was the home church for Cardinal Joseph Elmer Ritter, the only Cardinal from Indiana. Another outstanding Romanesque Revival church is the 1868 Third Presbyterian Church, located at 813 East Spring Street.

project in 1939 to replace an earlier school on the site, and is notable for its Art Deco detailing

In 2002, the portion of the East Spring Street district roughly between 5th and 11th streets was listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The local district was designated the following year. The National Register district was expanded in 2023 and now roughly encompasses the area between Vincennes Street, Elm Street, Market Street and 5th Street.



The Calumet Club circa 1920, soon after its construction.

From the collection of the Stuart Barth Wrege Indiana History Room, Floyd Co. Library

Below: St. Edward's Hospital, also shown circa 1920. Built in 1901, it served as the city's primary hospital for a half-century.

Several notable institutional buildings are also located within the boundaries of the East Spring Street historic district. The former St. Edward's Hospital is located in the 700 block of East Spring Street and has been adapted for use as housing. The Calumet Club (1614 East Spring Street) was constructed in 1919 to house a sports and social organization, and later served as offices for the Army Reserve and Selective Service. This outstanding example of the Arts and Crafts style is has been rehabilitated for office and event space. The former East Spring Street elementary school (1613 East Spring Street) was constructed as a Public Works Administration



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