

Historic Hidden Treasures

Discover the rich past of Madison County and 80 of its significant historical sites

INFORMATION & PHOTOS PROVIDED BY STEPHEN JACKSON, MADISON COUNTY HISTORIAN

Adams Township

1. Known as "**BIG LICK**," it was the site of mineral-rich natural spring water that drew animals and thus became a hunting ground for pre-historic and historic people.
2. Built in 1838, the **MORRIS GILMORE HOUSE**, located on the north side of Gilmore Road 1/4 mile west of Indiana 109, was the first brick house built in Adams Township. The home has been designated an Indiana Historic Landmark.
3. Located on the north side of County Road 600 South at the west edge of Ovid, the **MOUNT ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH** and cemetery were established in the early 1860s.
4. Located on the north side of County Road 1000 South 1/4 mile east of County Road 100 East, Adams Township District School 10, a one-room school also known as **BUTTONWOOD** and **POLEY WALK**, was constructed in 1889.

Anderson Township

5. Located on the north side of West 38th Street 1/4 mile east of Layton Road, Anderson Township District School 11 is a one-room school also known as the **EGGMAN SCHOOL**.
6. Between Western Hills and White River on West Eighth Street, a remnant of the **INDIANA CENTRAL CANAL** constructed in the late 1830s is visible near the river. There is no public access to the area.
7. At 626 Main St., Anderson, the **GRUENEWALD HISTORIC HOUSE** is a beautiful example of Victorian-American elegance.
8. On the Lynwood Drive Cul-De-Sac on Anderson's east side is the site of a **MORAVIAN CHURCH MISSION STATION**, which operated from 1801-1806.
9. Located at 15 W. 11th St., Anderson, the **MUSEUM OF MADISON COUNTY HISTORY** collects and preserves objects, artifacts, documents, records, histories and photographs relating to the historical development of Madison County.
10. On the southeast corner of Lindberg Road and Alexandria Pike, Anderson Township District School 2 was also known as the **TOLL GATE SCHOOL** because of its location next to a toll collection gate site for the Alexandria Turnpike.
11. On the corner of Alexandria Pike and Grand Avenue in Anderson, **WEST MAPLEWOOD CEMETERY** is the final resting place for many of Anderson's early notables.
12. The **WHITE RIVER** flows east to west across the 15-mile width of Madison County, and much of the history and beauty of the county can be enjoyed along its banks.

Boone Township

13. Located at 14950N County Road 100 West, the **UNION CHAPEL COMMUNITY CHURCH** was established in 1838 on a different site. It was relocated to the present site in 1874 and stands as a symbol of that pioneer spirit that helped establish and grow Madison County.
14. On the east side of County Road 300 West 1/4 mile south of County Road 1550 North, a stone in the farm lot was the boundary marker for the southeast corner of the **MIAMI RESERVE**, surveyed in 1819. Carved into the stone are the initials "G R B," meaning Government Reserve Boundary.
15. On the east side of County Road 300 West 1/2 mile south of County Road 1550 North, Boone Township District School 8 is a one-room school house, also known as the **COLLEGE CORNER SCHOOL**.
16. At the intersection of Indiana 37 and County Road 1900 North, **RIGDON** is unique because it is divided between four different townships, two in Madison County and two in Grant County. The town's main intersection serves as the dividing point.

Duck Creek Township

17. At the southeast corner of Indiana 13 and County Road 1600 North is Duck Creek Township District School 3, a one-room school house also known as the **REEDER SCHOOL**.



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Fall Creek Township

18. In Falls Park, a historical marker denotes it as the site of the 1843 **MOBBING OF FREDERICK DOUGLASS**.
19. On the south side of Main Street in Huntsville is the **HOUSE OF BENJAMIN F. AIMAN**, who operated a grist mill that was directly south on Fall Creek.
20. At 117 North Pendleton Avenue, Pendleton, a historical marker denotes the site of **COOK'S OPERA HOUSE**.
21. At County Road 50 West south of Indiana 38, there is an **UNDERGROUND RAILROAD ROUTE** from neighboring Hancock County leading to the Quaker settlement in Spring Valley.
22. On the south side of Indiana 38 1/4 mile west of County Road 150 West is the **SOCIETY OF FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE**, erected in 1857. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1997.
23. **FALLS PARK** in Pendleton was established in 1920.
24. On the west side of North Main Street in Pendleton, the **GRAY GOOSE INN** was erected by James Gray from 1832-1837.
25. In Falls Park, Pendleton, is a monument marking the site of the **1825 HANGING** of three white men for killing Indians.
26. At County Road 950 South west of County Road 150 West is the **LAST REMAINING FORD** (Lick Creek) in Madison County.
27. At Indiana 9 and County Road 1050 South, Mendon Cemetery, Church and Fall Creek Township District School 11, a one-room school house also known as the Mendon School, are all that remain of the former community of **MENDON**.
28. On the southeast corner of County Road 50 West and Indiana 38, a **WAGON ROAD** brought the first settlers to Pendleton, passing by the south side of the Busby Cemetery. There is no public access.
29. At Falls Park in Pendleton, the **PENDLETON HISTORICAL MUSEUM** contains a large collection of artifacts from the southern Madison County area. It is open May-October.
30. On June 27, 1991, the **TOWN OF PENDLETON** became the second community in the State of Indiana to have the entirety of its early boundaries entered into the National Register of Historic Places.
31. At Falls Park in Pendleton, a **RAILROAD BRIDGE SUPPORT** was erected in 1851 to carry the railroad over Fall Creek.
32. At the southeast corner of Indiana 38 and County Road 150 West, Fall Creek Township District School 3 was a one-room school house. Erected in 1902, it was also known as the **SPRING VALLEY SCHOOL**.
33. At 233 South Main St., Pendleton, is a historical marker for the **THOMAS M. PENDLETON HOUSE**.

Green Township

34. **ALFONT** is the site of a train wreck, where an Interurban train heading south collided with a northbound train, killing 21 people on Feb. 2, 1924.
35. At Indiana 13 and County Road 800 South, the **CENTER SCHOOL** operated for 50 years from 1929 to 1979.
36. On County Road 650 West 1/2 mile south of Fall Creek Road, the gravel from the adjacent pit was loaded into New York Central Railroad cars that traveled to a **FILLING STATION** over a one-mile long spur.

Jackson Township

37. The **PERKINSVILLE CEMETERY**, on West 8th Street Road, features the grave of Frank Brewer, a Perkinsville Band leader who died of exposure in the cemetery.
38. At the northeast corner of County Road 280 North and Lamb Lane, Perkinsville, is the house built by **ALLEN COLE**, circa 1830.
39. In the White River at Perkinsville is a **LOG-CRIB DAM** built in 1835 by William Parkins to power his grist mill.
40. On the south side of County Road 400 North between County Roads 800 West and 875 West, the entrance to the cemetery and the drive leading to the home secluded in the trees is the route followed by the **FORT WAYNE TRACE**, built in 1825.
41. At 8162 W. 8th St. Road, the **CENTRAL CANAL** was built in this area in the late 1830s. A portion lies in the tree line to the north of the road. There is no public access.