



INDIANA AVENUE

For African Americans, Indianapolis was an early destination for both free and enslaved persons. From early black settlements of the 1820's, to stops in Indianapolis along the Underground Railroad, for today's 16th largest African-American population in the nation, blacks have played an essential role in the growing of this community. It was along Indiana Avenue, the commercial and social hub of black Indianapolis, that some of the hottest jazz spots in the Midwest drew the likes of Duke Ellington, Ella Fitzgerald, Lionel Hampton, Count Basie and the like. They came to Indianapolis and were astounded by the talent they found here. Indianapolis was the place to be for jazz in the Midwest and today that music heritage is alive at a variety of clubs and during Indy JazzFest. Madame C.J. Walker established her multimillion-dollar hair preparations and cosmetics business here in 1910. In addition to being a leader in business and social circles, she helped nurture already established black businesses that serviced the African-American community, one that continues to grow and prosper today. Planning and development of this district is currently in process.

Boundaries:

North: 16th St

South: Vermont St

East: Capitol Ave.

West: E. Riverside Dr

Amenities:

Art Galleries/Studios

Stutz Art Gallery
Walker Theatre architectural elements

Ethnic Restaurants

Best Taste China Buffet

Festivals

Indiana Avenue Renaissance Festival & Walking
Tour, Stutz Artist Walk

Hotels

University Place Conference Center & Hotel,
Courtyard by Marriott at the Capitol

Independent Restaurants

Bourbon Street Distillery, The Loading Dock,
Chancellor's, Zing's

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Historic Attractions

Attucks Multi-Cultural Center, Crispus Attucks Middle School & Museum, Site of Lockefield Gardens, Walker Theatre Center, Walker Heritage & Living History programs, Ransom Place Historic District, Site of the Sunset Terrace Night Club, Willis Mortuary, Original site of Witherspoon Presbyterian Church, Site of historic settlements along the canal, Site of last home of Dr. Samuel Elbert, St. Philips Episcopal Church, Bethel AME Church, Buggs Temple, Wishard Memorial Hospital, Site of Madame C.J. Walker's home, Site of Phyllis Wheatley YWCA, Site of the offices of Drs. Hummons and Stuart, Site of Ferguson's Fun Bowl, Indianapolis Urban League, Site of original Victory Field, Flanner House Homes, St. Bridget's Church, IN Ave Senior Housing

Museums

Crispus Attucks Museum, Walker Heritage Museum, National Art Museum of Sport at University Place, Nursing Museum, Bryce Building, Wishard Memorial Hospital

Parks, Memorials, Monuments

Fall Creek Park, Military Park, Central Canal, Cancer Survivors Memorial Park

Performing Arts Venues

Walker Theatre Center & Performing Arts Academy, Crispus Attucks auditorium

Public Art

Sculptures located in: Lockefield Gardens fountain, Cancer Survivors Park, Herron School of Art, Central Canal Walk

For additional information visit
www.discoverindianaavenue.com

or

contact Indianapolis Downtown, Inc. at 317-237-2222

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