



- Name of Property:** Indiana War Memorials Historic District (updated documentation, boundary change, and name change)
- City, State:** Indianapolis, Indiana
- Period of Significance:** 1887-1965
- NHL Criteria:** 1, 3, and 4
- NHL Criteria Exception:** 7
- NHL Theme:** II. Creating Social Institutions and Movements
 1. Clubs and organizations
 III. Expressing Cultural Values
 5. Architecture, landscape architecture, and urban design
 IV. Shaping the Political Landscape
 3. Military institutions and activities
- Previous Recognition:** 1994 National Historic Landmarks Program (Indiana World War Memorial Plaza Historic District)
 1973 National Register of Historic Places (Soldiers & Sailors Monument)
- National Historic Context:** VI. The Civil War
 VII. Political and Military Affairs, 1865-1939
 E. World War I, 1914-1919
 VIII. World War II
 D. The Home Front
 IX. Political and Military Affairs after 1939
 XVI. Architecture
 W. Regional and Urban Planning
 1. Urban Areas
- NHL Significance:**
- The Indiana Soldiers and Sailors Monument is being added to the Indiana World War



Memorial Plaza National Historic Landmark because both are associated with efforts by Indiana veterans, their families, and fellow citizens following two major wars in American history — the Civil War and World War I-- to commemorate the sacrifices of veterans and the victories achieved.

- The Indiana Soldiers and Sailors Monument (constructed 1888-1901) became the largest and most elaborate expression memorializing the sacrifices of Union veterans in the North after the Civil War, establishing a precedent for war memorials in the State of Indiana. After World War I, the State embarked on an ambitious and monumental memorial to the veterans of that war (constructed 1921-1965).
- Both the Monument and the Plaza are outstanding examples of architectural styles used to create large scale memorials; the Monument is European-inspired in its Neo-Baroque design while the Plaza illustrates Beaux Arts and City Beautiful design.

Integrity:

- The Indiana War Memorials Historic District consists of two principal properties: the Indiana Soldiers and Sailors Monument and the Indiana World War Memorial Plaza.
- A comprehensive rehabilitation and restoration of the Indiana Soldiers and Sailors Monument was undertaken between 1986 and 1990, and in 2011, by the State of Indiana. The Monument has excellent historic integrity and is in very good condition.
- The Indiana World War Memorial Plaza has very high historic integrity. The 2004 re-design of Obelisk Square (Veterans Memorial Plaza), which provided visual continuity through walkways and central lawn areas to the American Legion Mall, is compatible with the historic design.
- Between 2000 and 2007, an addition to the Central Public Library added a dark glass curtain wall backdrop at the north end of the War Memorial Plaza, but the library building, inspired by Doric architecture, continues to provide a Classical terminus to the Plaza's main axis.

Owner of Property: State of Indiana

Acreege of Property: 32.38 acres

Origins of Nomination: When plans were initiated to reconstruct Monument Circle in Indianapolis in 2014, Indiana Landmarks raised the issue of designating the Indiana Soldiers and Sailors Monument as an NHL. After discussion with the NHL Program staff of both the Midwest Regional Office and WASO, it was determined that revision of the Indiana World War Memorial Plaza Historic District NHL to include the Indiana Soldiers and Sailors Monument would be more feasible. The Midwest Regional Office acquired funding to prepare the boundary increase and additional documentation for an enlarged NHL with a proposed name change, the Indiana War Memorials Historic District.

Potential for Positive Public Response or Reflection on NHL Program:

- The addition of the Indiana Soldiers and Sailors Monument to the Indiana World War Memorial Plaza will not only strengthen the national significance for both properties and

the stories they tell, but will also aid in the public's understanding of the importance of these two memorials in recognizing and commemorating the service and sacrifices of the soldiers who served in the two conflicts.

Potential for Negative Public Response or Reflection on NHL Program: None is known.

Landmarks Committee Comments:

Landmarks Committee Recommendation: Designation. Mr. Hoyos moved, Dr. Allan seconded; unanimous approval.

Public Comments Favoring Designation (received as of 4/18/16):

Cameron F. Clark, State Historic Preservation Officer, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Indianapolis, Indiana

Brian Griesemer, PE, President, Indiana German Heritage Society

Advisory Board Recommendation: