

= Indiana Governor 's Residence =

The Indiana Governor 's Residence is the official home of the family of the Governor of Indiana and is located in Indianapolis , Indiana . In use since 1973 , it is the sixth official residence of Indiana 's governors .

= = Current residence = =

The Indiana Governor 's Residence is located in the historic district surrounding North Meridian Street in Indianapolis , Indiana . It sits on an estate of 6 @. @ 5 acres ( 2 @. @ 6 ha ) at 4750 North Meridian Street . Designed by Scott Wadley , with the firm of Rabush and Hunter serving as architects , the English Tudor home was built in 1928 . It was acquired by the state of Indiana in 1973 from attorney C. Severin Buschman for US \$ 242 @, @ 000 . The home was then renovated for approximately \$ 800 @, @ 000 , including \$ 125 @, @ 000 in funds from a Lilly Endowment grant . Renovation included the installation of air conditioning and modern wiring .

Approximately 10 @, @ 500 sq ft ( 980 m2 ) , with twenty @- @ three rooms , eleven of them bathrooms , it is considered a typical size for an English Tudor home and resembles many of the other homes in the neighborhood that were built in the same time period . Although the appearance is similar to the other homes , it is structurally unique because its support and foundation are made of concrete , whereas typical Tudor homes are entirely wooden . The home 's lower floor is open to the public and tours are offered regularly to visitors . The rooms available for viewing include the foyer , a library , the formal living room , formal and informal dining room , a sun porch , a kitchen , a butler 's pantry , and event space . The second floor is reserved for the first family as a living area and is off limits to the public . The home receives approximately 10 @, @ 000 visitors annually .

= = Previous governors ' residences = =

Before Indiana became a state , the Indiana Territory had two governors . William Henry Harrison , the first governor , built a plantation @- @ style home in Vincennes , and named it Grouseland for its many birds . Built in 1804 , it was one of the first brick buildings in the territory . The home is still preserved and is a National Historic Landmark . Thomas Posey , the territory 's second governor , had a home built in Corydon , but lived there only briefly before moving to Jeffersonville where he rented a room in a boarding house . The Posey House is preserved as part of a National Historic District .

There have been six official residences of Indiana 's governors since Indiana became a state , but only five were actually inhabited by the first family . There were four other unofficial residences that governors also lived in while no other accommodations were available . The first residence of a state governor was in Corydon on a small hill overlooking the first statehouse ; Governor Jonathan Jennings and his wife Anne lived in it from 1816 until 1822 . The home was visited by United States Presidents Andrew Jackson and James Monroe . The building is no longer standing but a new home has been built upon its original foundation and uses its cellar as a basement . Governor William Hendricks also lived in Corydon at Governor Hendricks Headquarters , an unofficial residence purchased by Hendricks from Davis Floyd and located on the same block as Jennings ' home . Floyd had built the home for himself , but lost it after the Panic of 1819 . Hendricks lived there during his term as governor , from 1822 ? 1825 , and later sold it .

The second official residence for the state 's governor was built in the center of Indianapolis where the Indiana Soldiers ' and Sailors ' Monument now stands . It was designed by Alexander Ralston , who also laid out most of the city . The mansion cost \$ 6 @, @ 500 and was completed in 1827 during the term of Governor James B. Ray . Ray 's wife refused to live in the home because of its lack of privacy ; it was never used by a governor . It was inhabited by Indiana Chief Justice Isaac Blackford from around 1830 until the 1850s . It was demolished in the 1870s .

Without an acceptable home for the governor , the state purchased the house of Dr. John H. Sanders to serve as a residence for the Governor in 1837 . The location , on the corner of Market

and Illinois Streets in Indianapolis , proved to be damp and unhealthy because of the wetland conditions of the area during that time . Governor James Whitcomb blamed the conditions for his wife 's death . The home was abandoned in 1861 during the term of Oliver Morton , who briefly lived in the house but refused to stay . The house was sold during his term and eventually destroyed .

The governors remained without an official residence until 1919 when the state purchased a home located at 101 East 27th St. , Indianapolis , for \$ 65 @, @ 000 and furnished it for an additional \$ 20 @, @ 000 . It was built by Henry Kahn in 1908 and had the design of an English country house . The home had a Gothic interior with high , beamed ceilings and luxurious Wilton carpeting . After a brief renovation , the home was inhabited by the governor starting in 1919 and remained so until 1945 . The building was sold by the state to the Marott Hotel , which intended to turn it into a clubhouse , but eventually demolished it in 1962 to clear land for a parking lot .

The fifth home for the governor was purchased in 1945 and located at 4343 N. Meridian St. The home was built in 1924 by Harry Lane , an auditor for the Indianapolis Stockyards . Three stories high with slated roofs and 12 rooms , it was famed for its golden bathroom fixtures and its high gilt @-@ tipped iron fence . It was purchased from his widow for \$ 72 @, @ 000 . It served as residence for the governor from 1945 until the present mansion was purchased in 1973 . The home was sold at an auction in 1973 to Robert L. Dawson , who in turn sold it to Dr. John C. Klein in 1978 .

After the building was auctioned , there was a brief period while the current residence was in renovation . During that period , governors Edgar Whitcomb and Otis Bowen took up residence in Riley Towers located at 650 N. Alabama St. The state leased the penthouse for their residence at a cost of \$ 1 @, @ 150 per month .

= = Gallery = =

= = Governor 's Residence Commission = =

The governor 's residence is maintained by a trust managed by the Governor 's Residence Commission and is part of the Indiana Public Building Foundation located at 4750 N. Meridian St. , Indianapolis . The commission was authorized in 1975 , charged with overseeing the renovation and maintenance of the home as well as event planning . In 2008 , the commission 's members included Linda Goad , Sara Barclay , David Collins , Jim Baker , Mike Bosway , Judy Warren , and Shannon Rezek . The commission is partly funded by private donations . The members are appointed by the Governor and serve at term lengths of his choosing . The commission meets monthly and officially reports to the Office of First Lady . The commission serves without pay , but is reimbursed for expenses .