East Bank Ink

The Weekly Paper for the East Bank

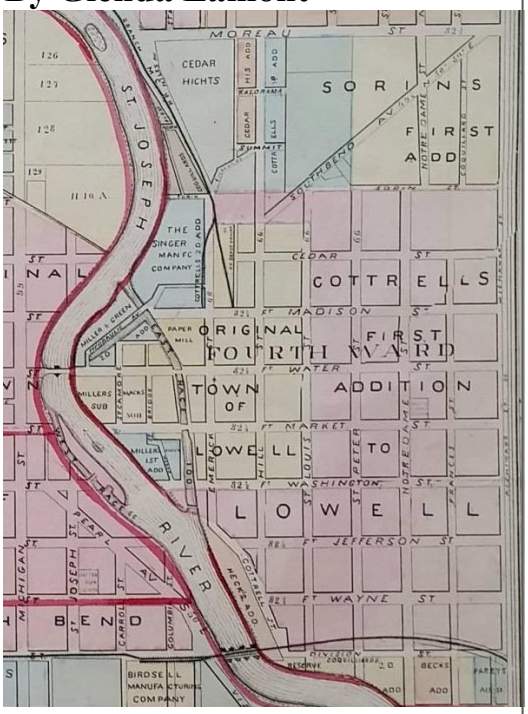
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Newest Local Weekly Newspaper

The East Bank Ink is a weekly paper published by volunteers (join us!). We always deliver to the 1,300 houses and businesses between the East Bank of the St. Joseph River, Eddy Street, and Howard Street. Today, and for the next few weeks we will also mail a copy to more houses in the 46617 zip code. Hopefully with more volunteers, we can expand to all houses in the 46617 zip code and the Sunnymede neighborhood too!

How Did the East Bank Village Begin?

By Glenda Lamont



We are lucky to live in the East Bank Village and are surrounded by reminders of its history… a history that helped form South Bend. Back in the day, water power was king and our proximity to the St. Joseph River put us in the heart of the industrial growth of the area. Platted in 1837 and named after the successful riverside manufacturing town of Lowell, MA, the narrow strip of land east of the river from Cedar Street to Jefferson and west to St. Louis Blvd. was recorded as the Town of Lowell. Additional parcels were laid out and registered by Samuel Cottrell. Although Lowell was annexed by South Bend in 1866, "Lowell" and "Cottrell" still appear in our property descriptions on our tax bills and real estate documents.

So important was the industrial history of our area that in 1999 it was placed on the National Register of Historic Places as "East Bank Multiple Property Listing." The application can be viewed online on our website, and is a fascinating read. The dam and both races were completed by 1845, their water power first used by grist and saw mills. Singer Manufacturing Company was located here from 1868 to 1901 when it outgrew its East Bank location and relocated. Several manufacturers occupied Singer's East Bank location, including South Bend Motor Car Works (fire vehicles) and South Bend Lathe. Other manufacturers in the area included A. C. Staley Manufacturing (woolen mill

...story continues on page 2

East Bank Architecture #3

By Eddie Jurkovic



Our third feature is Olivet AME Church, located on Notre Dame Avenue. Olivet African Methodist Episcopal Church was founded in March 1870 and is the oldest African American Church in South Bend. Their website provides a deeper look into their history: "Olivet was formally organized by the Rev. J. Bundy, the first pastor, and nine charter members: Mr. and Mrs. Farrow Powell, Mr. and Mrs. James Jackson, Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Bridgeman, James Hurst, J. B. Lott and John Powell. Meetings were held in various homes and then in the old Lafayette School." The building dates to 1922 and became the new home the Olivet

...story continues on page 2

...continued from page 1

later known as Stephenson Underwear Mills), a porcelain company and Indiana Paper Company, South Bend Woolen Company, Winkler Brothers Wagon and Carriage Works, South Bend Toy Manufacturing, and Lauber & Weiss Galvanized Works (J.C. Lauber Company). It is no surprise that employees of these businesses wanted to live within walking distance of their jobs. Homes were built and neighborhoods sprung up along with grocery stores, churches, schools and services to meet their needs.

Many structures from our past no longer remain but some are still standing proud serving their original purpose or having gone through successful adaptive reuse. Where else can you stand in the middle of an intersection (Colfax and Hill) and see the Queen Anne home built by the son of early Irish settlers, still owned and occupied by the family (Martin Hoban House); a school built in 1925, still thriving (St. Joseph Catholic Grade School); a Queen Anne firehouse built in 1892, now a private residence (Firehouse #3); a retail merchant building built in 1904 and still housing retail merchants like CircaArts Gallery and Carpenter Gothic (Charles McCormick Building); an 1880 Victorian home now the home of a women's boutique, Inspire Me! (the Dilly/Probst House); a woolen mill now converted to apartments (Stephenson Underwear Mills); and an electric power plant built in 1911 converted to The Commerce Center, an office building (Indiana and Michigan Electric Company)?

Only one place I know and that's the East Bank Village!

Events in the Neighborhood

(Complete list at eastbankink.com)

Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday
7 to 3:00 p.m.
River Valley Farmers' Market
The Commerce Center

Thursday, Sept. 3
6 p.m.
Zumba
Howard Park

Friday, Sept. 4
3 to 7:30 p.m.
Sgt Moody's Rib Tips
The Marine Corps

...continued from page 1

congregation in 1969. Olivet is a stop on the self-guided South Bend African American Landmark Tour, a project of the IUSB Civil Rights Heritage Center.

(Events continued)

Friday, Sept. 4
4:30 p.m.
Ten Thousand Villages Pop-Up
Chimichurri

Friday, Sept. 4
7 p.m.
Live Music by Paul Erdman
Ironhand Vineyard

Saturday, Sept. 5
4 to 9 p.m.
Vibes Music Festival
Howard Park

Saturday, Sept. 5
7 p.m.
Live Music by The Family Ferlic
Ironhand Vineyard

Tuesday, Sept. 8
7 p.m.
Live Acoustic Flow: Yoga & Live Music
Howard Park

Wednesday, Sept. 9
7 p.m. (virtual)
Chasten Buttigieg in conversation with Arielle Brandy
The Brain Lair Bookstore

What's Next?

Volunteer! The East Bank Ink is all volunteer run. This is our paper for our neighborhood. Please contact us via www.EastBankInk.com and volunteer to share a story about something happening in our neighborhood.

East Bank Ink Organizers
Carol Bradley, Grant Carlile, Cathy Dietz, Thomas Friesner, Carl Hetler, Eddie Jurkovic, David Matthews, Caroline Shapcott, Matthew Teters

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