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### **Historic Landmarks announces Central Indiana Preservation Awards**

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For immediate release

Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana singled out owners of five landmarks for recognition with Central Indiana Preservation Awards.

"In May, which is National Preservation Month, Historic Landmarks honors people who turn dilapidated structures into buildings that turn heads," says Marsh Davis, president of the state-wide private foundation. "The winners benefit the community by maintaining and restoring history in its most public form—the historic structures that add richness to the environment all of us enjoy."

The 2008 Central Indiana Preservation Awards presentation took place Thursday, May 29, preceding a free Preservation Month lecture at Christian Theological Seminary. Historic Landmarks Foundation sponsored the talk by Irwin Financial Corporation Chairman and CEO Will Miller. Miller spotlighted the Modernist home in Columbus designed for his late parents Irwin and Xenia Miller by famed architect Eero Saarinen. The lecture, a home tour on Saturday (May 31), and one of the awards concentrated attention to Mid-Century Modern architecture, an increasingly endangered species landmark.

"Historic Landmarks Foundation gives awards in several categories to recognize both long-term stewardship, high-quality restoration, and creative adaptive uses," said Mark Dollase, Vice President of Preservation Services.

Recognizing the careful stewardship of a landmark in Continued Use, Historic Landmarks presented an award to The Columbia Club. Founded in 1888, the Columbia Club's current Monument Circle home, designed by Rubush and Hunter, was built in 1925. Maintenance is the best form of preservation, and recent interior restoration is keeping the landmark in stellar shape. Greg Harris, president of the Columbia Club, and Darryl White, Vice President of the Columbia Club Foundation, accepted the award on behalf of the club.

The award for Adaptive Use went to Fletcher Place Development LLC for its creation of Fletcher Place Lofts in the former Second Baptist Church Parish House at 410 South College Avenue. Built in 1907 as meeting and recreational space for the church, the Fletcher Place landmark also served as the location of the first Goodwill store in Indianapolis. The parish house has been cleverly adapted by Fletcher Place Lofts LLC to eight loft condominiums and an office space for Perkins von Deylen Architects on the ground floor. The renovation retained historic features such as windows, trim and the gymnasium floor. Craig von Deylen accepted the award for Fletcher Place Development LLC. The annual Old House Rehab award, sponsored by Angie's List, went to Jackie Nytes and Michael O'Brien for their restoration of the Wilkinson House, 3444 Washington Boulevard. The couple led another historic home they restored to tackle the renovation of the 6,000-square-foot Georgian Revival style house. Built in 1919 as a residence, the two-story brick house had been vacant after serving for many years as a design and ad agency office. Architect Bob Kennedy designed the restoration, which included tuckpointing the masonry exterior, repairing the original windows and

dormers, and complete interior renovation. They also restored a two-story garage as a rental unit. Jackie Nytes is a member of the City-County Council and Executive Director of Mapleton-Fall Creek Development Corp. Her husband Michael O'Brien owns Printing Partners, a commercial printing company.

Historic Landmarks presented two awards for Outstanding Restoration. OneAmerica won for its restoration the Gibson Building, a structure built in 1917 for automotive manufacturing at 433 North Capitol. Architect Frank Hunter designed the building for Cecil Gibson, an auto racer, automobile dealer and partner of Carl Fisher, a founder of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. Gibson initially used the building to store, distribute and market Willys-Overland cars. He sold Hupmobiles and Empire Motor Cars from a showroom in the Gibson Building. While used as warehousing, the structure retained historic features such as the decorative terra cotta trim. Over the years, however, remodeling closed in many of the large, distinctive metal sash windows that allowed natural light into the building. OneAmerica's restoration replicated the original windows, repaired and repointed the terra cotta and brick, and reopened the storefronts. Dave Marks of OneAmerica accepted the Outstanding Restoration Award, which is sponsored by Citizen's Gas.

The Town of Amo won an Outstanding Restoration award for its transformation of a historic interurban station at 4963 Pearl Street. Constructed in 1907 as the Indianapolis & Eastern interurban depot, it now serves as a reading room and museum for the Hendricks County town. Amo raised nearly \$500,000 to restore the former station, part of a vast transportation network linking communities around the state. When the interurban disappeared in the 1940s, the building was altered and used as part of a grain mill. The town bought the landmark in 2001, and a small grant from Historic Landmarks helped launch the project. Early last year, the Depot was listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Barb Strahl, Amo Clerk-Treasurer, accepted the award.

A special Mid-Century Modern Award, sponsored by Irwin Union Bank, went to HVAF of Indiana, Inc. for its restoration of a 1951 building at 964 North Pennsylvania Street. Constructed as the headquarters of the National Retail Hardware Association, the building is in the St. Joseph Historic District. Architect Mike Halstead adapted the building for HVAF while preserving its key features. The project includes a new roof, tuckpointed facades of brick, limestone and green marble panels, and restored original steel windows. The terrazzo flooring was refinished, the original elevator cab retained, and interior storms were added to increase thermal insulation. The Mid-Century Modern structure houses HVAF offices and transitional housing for 22 homeless veterans on the first floor. The VA leases space for related programs on the second floor. Dr. Charles Haenlein, President and CEO of HVAF, and project architect Michael Halstead accepted the special award, given for the first time this year.