

NKBA

Indiana State Chapter



Student Design Competition Packet

2024 - 2025

Historic Propylaeum Carriage House

DEADLINE: March 31, 2025 12:00 AM

AWARDS EVENT: APRIL 2025

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HISTORY OF THE INDIANAPOLIS PROPYLAEUM ORGANIZATION

The Indianapolis Propylaeum was founded in 1888 by Progressive Suffragist May Wright Sewall. The original building, located at 17 E North Street on the south side between Pennsylvania Ave and Meridian St. It was dedicated on May 8, 1890. The State of Indiana purchased this land from The Propylaeum organization for expansion of the War Memorial Plaza in 1923.

The Propylaeum then purchased and moved to it's current location at 1410 N Delaware St, a mansion built in 1892 by John W. Schmidt, president of the Indianapolis Brewing Co.

Sewall was an internationally recognized icon of her era. Locally, Sewall was an active supporter of the arts who is credited for founding the Herron School of Design (1895), The Art Association of Indianapolis (1883), which later became the Indianapolis Museum of Art | Newfields, and the Indianapolis Woman's Club (1875), to name a few elements of Sewall's enduring legacy. A ripple effect and a noteworthy credit to The Propylaeum: the Carriage House was provided to Propylaeum Board President Mary Stewart Carey in 1925 to start The Children's Museum of Indianapolis. Our Student Design Competition of this historic space coincides with the 100th anniversary of The Children's Museum of Indianapolis! The Indianapolis Propylaeum and Carriage House have been listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 1973.

For more information about the Propylaeum organization go to:
<https://www.thepropylaeum.org/>

THE HISTORY:

The Propylaeum Mansion and Carriage House were built in 1891 by John Schmidt. During this time, a major shift in architecture was occurring. The gilded age brought with it many new technologies and innovations, and like many wealthy families of the time, he desired to incorporate these modern conveniences into his new home. The Neo-Jacobean or Free Classic style of the home reflects a merger of past historic references with a more modern streamline look that would eventually become the craftsman style. The asymmetrical design, limestone banding and the terra cotta roof tiles that were more modern features while the interior staircase of the mansion was in the Louis XVI style. More information about the Neo-Jacobean style and the history of the Schmidt family can be found on the application for the National Historic Registry at <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/132004016>

THE PROJECT

Now we are seeing history repeat itself. The Indianapolis Propylaeum, in keeping with the tradition of their founder, and in the architecture itself, has asked design students, to use your design knowledge and creativity to redesign an apartment in their historic carriage house. Your task is to create an apartment space that merges the timeless Neo-Jacobean architecture still present with the modern conveniences of today.

The Propylaeum board is now ready to update and renovate the second floor of the carriage house with the intent of renting the space. Because there is only stair access, their ideal tenant would be active working adults that are looking for easy walking/biking distance to work, access to the downtown entertainment, and a home that serves their busy lifestyle. However, there is concern that the stairs and small space might detract from its appeal and they are looking to create an attractive space that honors the Propylaeum's history while adding modern conveniences. Because of its historic significance, great care must be taken to preserve the architectural features existing in the space.

THE CHALLENGE:

Create a residential space that balances the commercial need to attract tenants who want modern convenience, while preserving the historic importance of the building. You the designer are being asked to honor Historic Preservation principles by preserving architectural features and elements that are original to the space. However, you do have creative license to blend historic features with an updated design. The original woodwork, baseboards, door and window casings, windows, radiators, and original wood flooring will remain where they are currently. Doors and walls cannot be moved, added or relocated. All overhead existing lighting is located in the current floor plan. No new lighting locations can be added to the ceiling drops. Exceptions to this will be called out in later detail.

THE DESIGN REQUIREMENTS:

KITCHEN:

The current footprint of the kitchen is very small and will prove difficult to provide the space and conveniences needed. To provide the best possible layout, the Propylaeum has given you permission to take out the back side of the second bedroom closet labeled on floor plan to expand the kitchen space. The closet door wall and door jamb of Bedroom 2 will remain.

The Propylaeum is ok with a smaller 24" apartment size range and 18" dishwasher, but they have asked to have a 30" refrigerator. They would also like a microwave that does not rest on the counter. This could be a space saver, an over the range or it can be built into other cabinets. They would like to provide some custom features like spice and herb storage in the cabinetry and a pull-out trash can built into the cabinets to keep the area looking neat and tidy. Because of the historic nature of the apartment, they want the style of the kitchen to complement the historic architectural features, but does not have to be period style. The Propylaeum requests that the new kitchen flooring material be resilient, durable and environmentally friendly.

One unique feature they would like you to consider is to build a custom roll away island to increase the amount of workspace in the kitchen. They would like at least one side to fold flat for tucking away against a wall or flat surface when not in use. For safety, the island must incorporate locking wheels.

Counter surfaces will be Cambria Quartz www.cambriausa.com . Sink and faucet will need to be specified from Kohler Crescent Supply www.kohlerindy.com.

BATHROOM:

The Propylaeum is open to the idea of closing off the door from Bedroom 1 into the Bathroom, to gain a larger vanity and makeup area. The toilet can be turned 90 degrees but left in the same corner of the bathroom. Removing the door from the Bathroom to Bedroom 1 would also give opportunity for a recessed medicine cabinet.

The existing hardwood flooring can be changed to tile or other material. The current fiberglass tub/shower will be removed and replaced with a new custom designed shower or tub/shower in its current location. Please provide soap and shampoo storage within the wet area. The small closet inside the bathroom will remain and can hold linens and paper goods. The Propylaeum requests (2) 18" wide minimum towel bars.

All counters, shower curbs, shower shelving and niche shelves will be Cambria quartz and can be found on their website www.cambriausa.com

The following fixtures must be specified with Kohler Crescent Supply products. All products can be found on their website www.kohlerindy.com

- Plumbing Fixtures
- Undermount or vessel sink
- Vanity
- Faucets
- Showering components
- Light Fixtures
- Medicine Cabinet

LIVING/DINING ROOM:

The built-in bookshelves and wall sconces are original to the property. Because these elements are listed under the historic registry, they cannot be modified or removed, and the Propylaeum is eager to incorporate those elements into the interior design. Lamp shades can be added to the sconces. They would prefer to provide a furnished apartment and request that you come up with furniture selections and layouts. To blend the style of the home with current trends, the board wants your design to blend a combination of antiques and modern comfortable furniture. They would like you to incorporate two turn-of-the-century side chairs that can be reupholstered with updated textiles. The Propylaeum has emphasized that they would like a new sofa that will complement the chairs but needs to be extremely comfortable for tenants and their guests. They have specifically stated that they do not want an antique style sofa, but also something not too contemporary and out of place in the apartment. They would also like you to include an area rug that will complement the furniture pieces. On the east wall they would like a large print wallpaper with a minimum 12” repeat.

The Propylaeum has approved that the walls, ceilings and all trim work of the entire apartment can be re-painted a different color, and the original wood floors will remain but can be re-stained. Because there is no dining area, the Propylaeum requests you provide at least seating for 6 somewhere in the living room for entertaining guests. This does not have to be a standard 6 person table.

To maximize airflow, the Propylaeum requests that at least one ceiling fan with light in this space and must be located in one of the current locations.

PRIMARY BEDROOM:

The Propylaeum is open to the idea of closing off the door from this bedroom into the bathroom for more wall space. This room has southern and western facing windows, and the Propylaeum wants the impact of the natural light to attract potential tenants. Include window treatments that will not block the natural light when open, but block light for sleeping. The Propylaeum requests this bedroom portray a “respite” vibe within your selections of furnishings, fabrics, furniture, window treatments and lighting. They would like the room to house a queen-size bed, at least one nightstand, and possibly additional clothing storage type of furniture.

BEDROOM 2:

Since the space is small, the Propylaeum wants to use this bedroom as a multi-purpose zone. The modern-day workplace has rapidly changed, and residential environments now need to provide an area to work remotely or accommodate someone who does hybrid work. In your layout, incorporate a work space and lateral file storage. Also include guest sleeping arrangements for one person. The closet door wall and door casing of Bedroom 2 will remain if you choose to use the closet for the kitchen footprint, but this door can be removed within in Bedroom 2. It is up to you to come up with a creative way to use the jamb depth should you remove the door.

FLOORING MATERIAL:

All flooring material needs to be labeled for each room on floor plan under room title.

GREEN SPACE:

There is an area on the roof deck that will allow for some gardening, but they would also like an area to provide biophilic and herbal relief to the indoor space by growing herbs and other plants inside. One of the spaces you select must have a biophilic space clearly labeled on your floor plan.

RADIATORS:

All radiators will remain in their current location. Radiator sizes must be called out on the floor plan.

WINDOW TREATMENTS

You are allowed to show window treatments, but they cannot damage the existing casing.

THE SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

- All Drawings should be printed on 11" x 17" paper.
- Name on all documents, DO NOT INCLUDE SCHOOL
- Drawings must use NKBA Guideline Standards
- Kitchen Graphic Standards and Guidelines can be found at: www.NKBA.org
 - LOGIN: Susan@MyDesignAlternatives.com
 - PASSWORD: UniversitySDC24-25 Go to RESOURCES > THE KNOWLEDGEBASE

SUBMISSION DOCUMENTS:

- 1) Concept statement outlining your design theme and how you solved the design challenge.
- 2) Select from the following options:

OPTION 1: Kitchen Plan

- a) Floor plan @ 1/2" scale per NKBA Graphic Standards (no electrical plan needed)
- b) All elevations of any wall with cabinetry, appliances, countertops or rolling island: 1/2" scale
- c) 1 Minimum, 2 Perspectives recommended
- d) Guidelines Schedule with the 10 most important NKBA Kitchen guidelines used. Indicate on floor plan
- e) Materials Schedule
- f) Mood Board including materials, lighting fixtures, furniture selections, color story

OPTION 2: Bathroom Plan

- a) Floor plan @ 1/2" scale per NKBA Graphic Standards. (no electrical plan needed)
- b) Elevations of walls that include showering products, cabinetry, and plumbing fixtures: 1/2" scale
- c) 1 Minimum, 2 perspectives recommended
- d) Guidelines Schedule with the 10 most important NKBA Bath guidelines used. Indicate on floor plans
- e) Materials Schedule
- f) Mood Board including materials, lighting fixtures, furniture selections, color story

- 3) Choose ONE of the following rooms: Living/Dining Room, Primary Bedroom, or Bedroom 2

Include the following documents:

- a) A Written Design Statement how you solved the design requirements
- b) Floor plan @ 1/2" Scale per NKBA Graphic Standards. Include a furniture layout in your floor plan.
- c) 2 perspectives
- d) A mood board including materials, lighting fixtures, furniture selections, color story and window treatments if requested.

THE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Designs will be judged among all participating schools. This year all the students compete as individuals and the awards will be given to the top individual student in each category. You are designing for a real-life client; therefore, the Propylaeum will also be providing judges to score and critique your designs. NKBA will also be bringing in Interior Designers from the Indianapolis area to help judge the Interior Design portion of the competition.

Qualifying score: Your design score for your Kitchen or Bath plan must meet a minimum qualifying score before being able to advance for judging of Categories 3-5. **Students will only be considered for two scholarships maximum.**

1. Best Kitchen: \$1000
2. Best Bath: \$1000
3. Primary Bedroom: \$750
4. Living/Dining: \$750
5. Bedroom 2: \$750