1820–1850

Corydon: Eldorado: portraits of early Trumans; President David Maxwell standing; Governor James B. Ray holding page from state Constitution decreeing a state university; wilderness village; earliest students traveling to school on foot and on horseback; first century building; graduating figures representing early religious strife and opposition to the seminary; President Andrew Wylie and Professors Baynard Rush Hall and John Harney; first college building; early student chores—chopping and gathering wood.

1850–1900

Neoclassical Hall (after Jordan Hall); early students; historic buildings; first Bloomington courthouse; university's first scientific cabinet assembled by David Dale Owen; background portraits of Professors Theophilus Wylie, Elisha Ballantine, Owen, and Daniel Kirkwood; first coed class; Science Building; burning of Science Hall; students orating in Dunn's Woods.

1900–1920

Maxwell Hall; David Starr Jordan; Mitchell, Owen, Kirkwood, and Assembly Halls; early scientific experiments; football and baseball costumes of the era; early nurse's training; Student Building; military training for World War I; Science Hall; President William Lowe Bryan; Rose Well House.

1920–1938

Cornerstone ceremony; President Bryan's house; social amusements such as Jordan Revues and the Follies; Administration Building; Union Building; Memorial Hall; Indianapolis Medical Center; football field; office of Daily Student; linotype and print shop; Commerce Building; Chemistry Building; Bloomington courthouse; audio-visual department.

The Modern Concept

1958–1998

Student protesters; Barry Goldwater and WTIU camera; Memorial Stadium; football coach John Pont at Rose Bowl; tennis champion Brenda Hacker; Olympic gold medalist swimmer Mark Spitz and coach Doc Counsilman; basketball coach Bob Knight and star Keith Smart in Assembly Hall; soccer player Paul DiBernardo and coach Jerry Yeagley; Cyclotron; Sample Gates with President John Ryan, Vice President Kenneth R. I. Sproul, University Lieders, and President Herman B Wells; International Center; student activists; Susan Gubar; Charlie Nelms; Eskenazi Art Museum; atrium; Prebys Amphitheater; Tobias Pavilion; Luddy Hall; Myles Brand; Michael McRobbie; AI and supercomputing; Simon Skjodt Assembly Hall; Wilkinson Hall; Peau Rouge Indiana by Alexander Calder; soprano Sylvia McNair; IU Art Museum and Indiana Arc by Charles Parry; Showalter Fountain; musicians including violinist Joshua Bell.

1998–2020

International Center; student activism; Eskenazi Hall; international engagement; Global and International Studies Building; IU international engagement; Douglas Hofstadter; Richard Shiffrin; Elinor Ostrom; David Dilcher; International Center; student activism; Susan Gubar; Charlie Nelms; Eskenazi Art Museum; atrium; Prebys Amphitheater; Tobias Pavilion; Luddy Hall; Myles Brand; Michael McRobbie; AI and supercomputing; Simon Skjodt Assembly Hall; Wilkinson Hall; Peau Rouge Indiana by Alexander Calder; soprano Sylvia McNair; IU Art Museum and Indiana Arc by Charles Parry; Showalter Fountain; musicians including violinist Joshua Bell.

Mid-twentieth century

TV studio; telescopes; industrial chemistry; foreign students; new residence buildings; Cyclotron; Law Building and moot court; married students and apartments.
When the Wright Dining Hall windows were covered in 1956, a living artistic portal opened to the history of Indiana University.

The artists

Garo Antreasian

When the Wright Dining Hall windows were covered in 1956, a living artistic portal opened to the history of Indiana University.

The process

The first six murals were painted on location, with help from Antreasian and student assistants mounting large scaffolds in the dining room to apply the paint to canvas panels. Antreasian, his student assistants, and assistants mounting large scaffolds in the dining room to apply the paint to canvas panels. Antreasian, his student assistants, and assistants worked three days each week—on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday—and consulted with University President Herman Wells on the Thursday. They would be available for the job.

The paintings

All three artists worked on the location in the Wright Dining Hall and were originally considered the public places of the university, in the same way the university is a public place. The work was done under the Works Progress Administration, which supported the arts in the United States during the 1930s and 1940s.

The murals were finished in 1957.

When the murals were restored, a seventh mural was added, painted by Mark Flickinger and dedicated to IU’s history from 1958 to 1998. In 2020, in celebration of the university’s Bicentennial, an additional mural by Caleb Weintraub was installed, tracing IU’s history from 2010 to 2020.

The Wright murals

Mark Flickinger was chosen by a committee in 2020 to create an addition to the Indiana artist and student murals. He began the project in the fall of 2020 and completed the mural during the summer of 2021. The work, titled “The Next Generation,” features three panels: two that explore the university’s role in innovation and the third that celebrates the history of the arts.

Caleb Weintraub completed his mural in 2021, depicting student murals that were exhibited across the country.

The Wright Dining Hall windows were covered in 1956, a living artistic portal opened to the history of Indiana University.

On the walls built to cover the windows high above the dining area, artist Garo Antreasian and his student assistants set to work on a series of six murals depicting IU’s history, starting with images from 1820. The murals were finished in 1957.

In 1998, the same year the Antreasian murals were restored, a seventh mural was added, painted by Mark Flickinger and dedicated to IU’s history from 1958 to 1998. In 2020, in celebration of the university’s Bicentennial, an additional mural by Caleb Weintraub was installed, tracing IU’s history from 2010 to 2020.

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