HIDDEN IU

The Wylie family secret that started the Faculty War of 1832
Dear Friends of Indiana University,

We have a milestone birthday coming up and you are invited to celebrate, commemorate, and reflect upon our 200th anniversary with us! To get you in the mood for a birthday year that will be one of the most memorable in the history of the university, let me introduce 200: The Bicentennial Magazine. This special 6-issue magazine will keep you updated on Bicentennial activities between now and 2020 and will highlight some untold or unknown stories from the dynamic history of Indiana University.

While this first issue highlights early origins in Bloomington, future issues will showcase the evolution of IU to its current statewide, multi-campus, and international scope. As we dig through the vaults on every campus and the attics of our alumni for hidden stories to share, we welcome your ideas and suggestions for future issues. Our preparations for the 200th anniversary of Indiana University are well underway, and we are excited to share this special birthday with our students, faculty, staff, alumni, and many supporters around the world. Each of you has an IU story—and your story is the story of Indiana University. Thanks for celebrating with us!

Cheers,

Kelly Kish, MA ’02, PhD ’10
Director
IU Office of the Bicentennial
Franklin Hall 200
601 E. Kirkwood Avenue
Bloomington, IN 47405
Phone: 812-855-1347
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ABOVE: Most 19th century IU students traveled to Bloomington by train, coming and going from the Monon Railroad Train Station. For more about student life in the early days of IU, see “A Day in the Life of a 19th Century IU Student” on page 10.
ASK AN ARCHIVIST

Beth South

IU East

Q: What is your favorite collection in the IU East archives?
A: My favorite collection is the Student Newspaper collection. It is our most complete collection, as we have almost every single issue printed, and it is one of the most interesting in terms of how it reflects the changes our campus has undergone over time. It’s also just really fun to look through, especially the “April Fools” issues which are really funny to read.

Q: What is the IU East archives’ biggest challenge?
A: There are actually two challenges we face. One is getting students to know that they exist. We have a lot of students who are strictly online, so giving those online students access to the content in our archives has been difficult.

Q: What is your funniest IU East archives story?
A: Well, it’s not a story, but the funniest thing about the IU East archives is that it is located behind a cage. Our archives is in a wall separating the spaces. We also have a gray curtain that helps mask the archives cage when the other half is being used by a class.

IU East

The Bicentennial Archives Development and Deployment Project will enhance archival holdings and use on each IU campus.

To support this initiative, go to 200.iu.edu and click the GIVE NOW button on the bottom of the page.

By Lynn Schuh, MA ’76, Office of the Vice President for International Affairs

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Have a question about IU history? Email it to iu200@iu.edu. We may include it in an upcoming issue!

The sculpture was the work of Dean Carter, a post graduate student who had recently completed his Master of Fine Arts degree at IU. After brief studies in Paris, he joined the faculty of Virginia Tech in 1950. He established that university’s art department, led the department for ten years, and taught sculpture, drawing, and art history there until 1992. His work has been exhibited throughout the United States.

Cosmo Club President Ghali Amin returned to Egypt. Siroos Houshmand, a native of Tehran, stayed on in Indiana. He completed his AB in 1949 and his MD at the IU School of Medicine in 1953. As Cyrus Houshmand, he studied surgery at Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center in New York City and was resident surgeon there for four years. From 1958 to 1960, he served as captain of the surgical section of the Army’s 14th Field Hospital in Germany.

Houshmand returned to Indiana to take up his surgical practice in Bloomington. He became a life member of the IU Alumni Association and a member of the Varsity Club. His donations to IU included a house east of the campus. He was active in the Indiana Division of the American Cancer Society and chaired its speakers bureau.

Dr. Houshmand died in 1972 at the age of 46 after suffering a heart attack while driving from Indianapolis to Bloomington. Herman Wells noted the untimely death: “I have known him since his student days and have valued his friendship greatly. His death will be a loss not only to his profession, in which he served the people of Bloomington so well, but also in the community’s cultural and intellectual life.”

The result was a stone relief and bronze plate, which Christiane Cudenet, an exchange student from Paris, presented to the university on May 28, 1948. The plaque read “To Indiana University in grateful remembrance of its hospitality and friendship, presented by foreign students, May 1948.”

The stone relief depicts two women, the larger sheltering the smaller. According to the public announcement, “the larger of the two women symbolizes IU and the smaller one represents IU’s foreign students.” IU installed the relief in the portico of the south entrance to Alumni Hall at the Indiana Memorial Union, where hundreds of students and visitors continue to pass each day.

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In this issue, you get three myths for the price of one. These three myths are all rooted in one family: the Dunns. The Dunn family owned a mass of land in Bloomington in the 19th century, when IU’s lone campus was located where Seminary Square park is now. In 1883, after a fire destroyed one of the Seminary Square buildings, the Board of Trustees decided to transplant the campus. After some deliberation, the Board bought from Moses Dunn 20 acres of land, known as Dunn’s Woods, which became ground zero of the present-day Bloomington campus. This transaction has since become folklore.

Legend has it that when the Dunns agreed to sell the land to IU, they set up 3 stipulations:

1. The Dunn family plot on the property shall not be moved.
2. For every one tree cut down, another must be planted in its place.
3. The Sweetheart Tree shall not be cut down or moved.

In a nutshell, all three of these legends are false: the deed for Dunn’s Woods to IU doesn’t mention a family plot, there is another deed that restricts and preserves a parcel of land on the Bloomington campus exclusively for the Dunns. Twenty-eight years before Moses Dunn signed over the 20 acres to IU, his father George Dunn Sr. drew up a deed that set the boundaries for a family burial plot.

“In order to secure and perpetuate to the descendants of Kinfay Dunn, Nancy Alexander, and Jane Irvin who be buried within the plot of ground...and to those with whom they intermarry forever a place of private burial where they shall repose together as one family in the long night of death and rise up together as from one bed at the last day.”

Because of George Dunn’s deed signed November 21, 1855, only descendants of George Dunn’s mother, Eleanor Dunn, and her two sisters are permitted to be buried there. Before the Dunns were a Bloomington name, Eleanor Dunn and her two sisters served as aides in George Washington’s army during the Revolutionary War. The cemetery where the three revolutionaries are buried is now richly referred to as “God’s Acre” and is nestled between the Indiana Memorial Union and Beck Chapel. The land is still owned by the Dunn family, but is maintained by the University.

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One tree in particular has attracted much speculation and folklore: the Sweetheart Tree. The Sweetheart Tree is the American Beech tree that sits at the center of the Chemistry Building courtyard and entranceway. Legend has it that the Dunns issued mandatory protection of the tree because their eldest daughter and her sweetheart carved their initials into the trunk. This set a precedent for other couples to monogram the tree, imbuing it with even more sentimentality. So in the 1960s, when IU constructed an addition to the Chemistry Building, the architects and builders had to build around the tree in order to follow the Dunns’ decree. Although this story is romantic and sentimental, the deed to Dunn’s Woods indicates that the Dunns never mandated the protection of the Sweetheart Tree.

So why did IU go to such lengths to keep the Sweetheart Tree during the expansion of the Chemistry Building?

The beech tree has graced the exterior of the Chemistry Building since its initial construction in 1931. Thirty years later, an addition was built onto the original Chemistry Building that had a modern, austere architectural style and the tree was untouched. When it came time to plan another expansion to the Chemistry Building in the 1980s, the challenge for University Facilities, which was headed by Terry Clapacs, and the architects was to create a harmonizing building extension that also complimented its wooded neighbor.

“Removing (the Sweetheart Tree) was never a serious consideration,” Clapacs says. “What we thought about was how to protect it because we had this tradition and all these stories that are attached to it, and alumnae like to come back and look at it. And it adds some fix to the campus.”

Clapacs also notes that it’s no surprise that there’s myth attached to the Sweetheart Tree.

“There was a student here, which was in the 1960s, there was an awareness of that tree and it had a special meaning to the students on campus. The old library was over in Franklin Hall, so walking from Ballantine to Franklin Hall was something you’d do two or three times a day.”

Although the myths that are rooted in the Dunn deed are historically false, the traditions that have arisen from them are an important part of our heritage and continue to shape the way that people experience IU.
By JAMES H. CAPSHEW, BA ’79, PH.D., University Historian

By virtue of repetition, stories acquire momentum and thus endure. A story connected with the institutional saga of Indiana University – the “Faculty War” of 1832 – has become a durable legend, a time-worn foundation stone in the narrative of IU. What was the “Faculty War”? It was a struggle for governance over the tiny Indiana College, with a student body of two dozen, pitting the two-person faculty against the president. In 1829, Andrew Wylie (1789-1851) became the first president, and also a teacher of mental and moral philosophy. He joined Baynard R. Hall (1793-1863), who had taught ancient languages since the opening of classes in 1825, and John H. Harney (1806-1868), who had taught mathematics and science since 1827. Wylie, with the presidencies of Jefferson College and Washington College under his belt, thought his authority was paramount. The professors, who had previously managed without a president, resented this attitude. It was exacerbated by the influx of students who had followed Wylie from his Pennsylvania colleges. These so-called “foreigners” were rivals to the “natives” already here.

At the end of the 1830-31 school year, a mysterious, unsigned letter arrived, addressed to Professor Hall. Left in his recitation room in the pages of his “pocket Virgil,” the letter harshly criticized Hall as “indolent, careless, superficial, and shamefully neglectful of his duties,” and urged him to resign. He was certain that Wylie was the writer because of the style and the stationary – and the wax seal was stamped with the key to Wylie’s desk. Hall showed the letter to his wife Mary Ann and to Professor Harney, who both agreed with him, before confronting Wylie, who categorically denied any knowledge. The president sent mixed signals: on the one hand, he offered to interview each student individually in an effort to determine the identity of the anonymous letter-writer, and, on the other hand, advised Hall to resign because he had lost the support of the students. Professor Hall declined the president’s offer to interview the students, and eventually resigned his post in 1831. The trustees accepted his resignation but enjoined him to stay for another year. In the spring of 1832, Professor Harney started having public conflicts with President Wylie, which led to his dismissal by the trustees in the fall. Thus, at the close of Indiana College’s seventh year in 1832, the original faculty were gone, and the president and trustees...
had to recruit teaching staff in short order, which they did.

Hall spent the remainder of his career in the East, working as a college teacher. In 1843, under a pseudonym, he published a book, *The New Purchase or, Seven and a Half Years in the Far West,* a thinly-veiled memoir of his Indiana life. President Wylie, named “Dr. Blophick,” received harsh criticism in the book. Harney went to Louisville, eventually becoming editor of the Louisville Democrat.

The letter-writer who initiated the faculty war remained silent for half a century. In December 1882, Judge David Banta, then serving as a university trustee, received a letter from a distinguished early graduate who admitted he wrote the unsigned letter. In his confession, the student, who was part of the contingent who came with Wylie in 1829, maintained the general consensus at the time. A member of the class of 1832, the student went on to study and practice law in Alexandria, Virginia, and had been serving as a federal judge since 1863, when he was appointed by President Lincoln to the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia (now the US District Court for the District of Columbia). The student admitted he was a member of the preparatory department, and Ebenezer N. Elliot, who replaced Harney. Even though Banta was writing about events 60 years in the past, he did not identify the younger Andrew Wylie as the anonymous letter-writer, calling him simply “a Pennsylvania student.” So Wylie’s role remained buried, re-interred in early issues of the *Indiana University Alumni Quarterly,* in the 1914, six in all, were published

path to gather more information from early students and faculty. Meanwhile, in 1883, Wyle traveled to Bloomington to receive an honorary LL.D. at Commencement, bestowed by President Lemuel Moses. (A few years later he became IU’s oldest living alumnus.) Ten years after receiving Judge Wylie’s letter, Banta told the story of the 1832 “Faculty War” in his 1892 Foundation Day address, using as sources Hall’s 1843 book and correspondence from Matthew Campbell, long-time head of the preparatory department, and Ebenezer N. Elliot, who replaced Harney. Even though Banta was writing about events 60 years in the past, he did not identify the younger Andrew Wylie as the anonymous letter-writer, calling him simply “a Pennsylvania student.” So Wylie’s role remained buried, re-interred in early issues of the *Indiana University Alumni Quarterly,* in the 1914, six in all, were published

The mysterious student was none other than Andrew Wylie, Jr. (1814-1905), the eldest of Andrew and Margaret Wylie’s children. He never told his father. Judge Banta’s reaction to Judge Wylie’s 1882 letter is not recorded, but it set him on a
The freshness of the new room catches his breath. The air is full of early spring. The young man surveys the building. Traces of the old rooms are evident. He takes a seat in the corner closest to a window overlooking the square. His room is simple, with a table, a chair, and a bed. The sun pours in, casting a warm glow over the room. He sits down, feels the wood beneath him, and begins to write.

The room is his, and he feels a sense of freedom. He can do what he wants, when he wants. No one is watching, no one is judging. He can be himself, just for a little while.

The day is young, and the future is vast. He has a lot of choices to make, and he knows that he will have to make them soon. But for now, he can just be. He closes his eyes and lets the world slip away, feeling the warmth of the sun on his face.

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A Day in the Life of a 19th Century IU Student

By KAYLA MCCARTHY (CLASS OF 2018)

For students at Indiana University during the school's adolescent years (1850-1870), move-in day was quite different than it is today. Until 1853, most people journeyed to Bloomington by horse-drawn stagecoach on roads that were pockmarked with tree stumps, which made travel hectic if not outright nauseating. Fortunately, 1853 brought railroad connections to Bloomington, with express trains that could go a hair-raising 15 miles per hour. All trains stopped in Bloomington at the Monon Railroad Train Station, where today's B-line Trail intersects Kirkwood Avenue and Fourth Street.

Once in Bloomington, students had two options for room and board. They could either live in boarding houses, which were similar to dormitories, or live with local families. One boarding house was owned by Indiana University and was located on the southwest corner of the Seminary Square campus. The simple two-story building wasn't without perks: barely-furnished rooms on the second floor, strict rules, and a professor as the literal next-door neighbor.

After a couple days of settling into his room and gaining a roommate, the freshman goes to enroll. He treks to his proper room, the freshman meets with university faculty, who assigns him his three courses for the semester. The first course is algebra. In the classroom, he sits erect, shoulder-to-shoulder on a bench with two other freshmen. As lecture begins, the professor calls upon the freshman. With a deep breath, he stands and recites from memory a lesson he had studied the night before.

After an hour of algebra, students have time to go to their next class, and the routine of lecture and recitation proceeds for English literature, and then again for physical geography.

On Saturday morning, the freshman goes to the campus chapel to hear a sermon from the university president. Reverend William Daily, before attending composition with Professor Kirkwood.

Academies from 1850 to 1870 were limited compared to today's diverse array of disciplines and classes. Higher education during the majority of the 19th century was ruled by the classical education model; students took prescribed curricula each year that focused on classical languages, math, and philosophy. Students could not choose majors or electives, and classes were called recitations because students were required to orally recite lessons by memory in front of the faculty.

Beginning in the 1850s, the University added science courses, and the first Bachelor of Science degree was awarded in 1855. Thirteen years later, students in the sciences track were given the option of taking either classical or modern languages – the first move toward academic freedom of choice.

The freshman's homelife finally begins to fade halfway through the semester when he joins the Philomathean Society. At the first meeting, the society president calls the house to order and a chapter in the Bible is read. After these formalities, the freshman is ushered into the room and initiated. He sits with his new society comrades, who debate the topic of the day: "Should the government build the Pacific Rail Road?" Arguments are heard, speeches are performed, and the meeting concludes at 11:30 pm, at which time the freshman walks back to his boarding house.

When not residing from textbooks and studying, what did mid-19th century students do? More writing and oratory, of course!

Literary societies dominated social life before fraternities and sorceries became popular near the turn of the century. The two most prominent societies were the all-male Athenian Society and Philomathean Society. The Athenian Society, the first women's society at IU, was started in 1870, three years after Sarah Pake Morris was enrolled as the first female IU student.

The Athenian and Philomathean Societies had their own halls, where members attended weekly meetings that sometimes lasted until midnight or later. These meetings usually consisted of debates on hot topics of the time, original speeches and poetry, and sometimes music.

In addition to these pursuits, some students passed their time by exploring the surrounding forests and caves, hunting, watching horse racing in nearby Bedford, and playing pranks on fellow students and professors.

Then there was courtship. Even before the first female students, women who attended the Monroe County Seminary and Female Institute were allowed to sit in on some lectures beginning in the 1850s. The female presence on campus created the precedent for coeducational. Campus was a romantic ritual on campus in which couples would spend sunny days chatting, flirting, and reading to each other under the shade of trees.

"Then Commencement Day. All went early to get good seats and hear the boys speak – of Greece and Rome – every one of whom their friends expected would be President or Senator (and) of course never anything less than a Representative in Congress. Every Graduate in that day had to make a speech, if he did not it was generally believed he would never amount to anything."

-- John D. Alexander, Class of 1861

Yuguitas based on the diary of John C. Wiss, who was a freshman at IU from the fall of 1857 to spring of 1858. "Recollections of Indiana University" by John D. Alexander, class of 1861, and History of Indiana University by James Woodburn, class of 1876.

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Upcoming Bicentennial Events

January 20, 2018
IU’s 198th Birthday

Tuesday, February 20, 2018
IU Kokomo Nursing 50th Anniversary Event
The Bicentennial Oral History project will interview faculty, staff, and alumni for oral histories from 4-6pm, and will host a table from 6-8pm.

Thursday, March 8, 2018
6:00pm, St. Luke’s United Methodist Church,
IU’s 198th Birthday
January 20, 2018
Events

Bicentennial Checklist:
- Submit at 200.iu.edu to find out more!

IU Historical Marker Nominations
- Nominate a person, place, event, or organization of historical significance to Indiana University to be considered for an IU historical marker. Submit at 200.iu.edu

IU BICENTENNIAL
MANY WAYS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE
THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE IU BICENTENNIAL.

CROSSWORD

by Indiana University alumnus Michael S. “Mickey” Maurer, JD ’62, LHD ’16

ACROSS
1. Stare open-mouthed
5. Tobacco mouthful
9. It’s a toss-up
15. Reserve
16. Hacienda room
17. Weakness
18. Start of aquip
21. Easy
22. Sweet white wines from Bordeaux
23. Low-lying area
24. Cup holders
25. Quip, part two
35. Blood-hyping system
36. West African land
37. Average grades
38. Admiral’s oar
39. Snyder
43. Bathroom powder
44. Appear
46. Thief
48. Sun talk
49. Movie pooch
50. Cowboy, Autry
51. Rock’s brain
52. Quip, part three
53. Tiny bit
54. Out of port
55. Salif’s sail climbing aids
56. Lingo
57. Quip, part four
71. Steering system part
72. Olympic track gold medalist Devers
74. ___ Mayor
75. Funds
76. Finishes
77. Explorer Ponce de ___

DOWN
1. “___ it!”
2. Sounds of satisfaction
3. Get ready
4. Salad staple
5. Sin City forensic drama
6. Sci-fi movie computer name
7. “___ well that ends well.”

Visit 200.iu.edu to find out more!

Email a scan or photo of your completed puzzle to iu200@iu.edu for a chance to win a Bicentennial prize pack that includes a copy of Michael S. Maurer’s latest book, Cinderella Ball.