



Embark on a journey through Allen County's rich and varied history at your Allen County Museum. From the great oil boom to the fossil and gem collection, to the transportation exhibit, to the Jess Sarber/John Dillinger exhibit and the magnificent railroad collection, you'll find a world of knowledge and information waiting for you at the Allen County Museum.

Interested in genealogy and research? The Elizabeth M. MacDonell Memorial Library inside the Museum is a wellspring of information for both researchers and genealogists. Library appointments are available during regular Museum hours.

The Museum is home to over 250,000 artifacts encompassing both objects and documents. It is the privilege and passion of the Allen County Museum and Historical Society to collect, preserve, and share those collections to inspire and educate our visitors.

The Allen County Museum
Our story starts here!

MacDonell House



This beautifully preserved and furnished 1893 Victorian home once occupied a prime location on what was known as the "Golden Block," so named for the opulent homes as well as a time of great economic growth and prosperity in Allen County. The MacDonell House is the only remaining Victorian home on Lima's Golden Block.

The Log House

The log house, built in 1848 by the Faze family, was disassembled and rebuilt on the Museum's campus between 1958 and 1960. The cabin had been located on farm ground south of Lima that was slated to become Interstate 75. Dr. David Steiner saved the cabin from demolition and donated it to the Museum.



Address

620 W. Market Street | Lima, OH 45801

Museum Hours

Tuesday – Friday, 1:00 – 5:00

Saturday, 1:00 – 4:00

Summer Hours

Tuesday – Friday, 11:00 – 5:00

Saturday, 11:00 – 4:00

Admission

Suggested Donation – \$5.00

MacDonell House

Hours: by appointment only

Admission: \$3 for adults and children ages 9 and over, free for members and children ages 8 and under

Group Tours

available for both children and adults.

Contact 419-222-9426 or

acmuseum@allencountymuseum.org

to schedule your tour.



AllenCountyMuseum.org



Allen County Museum
Our Story Starts Here

COLLECTION



HIGHLIGHTS



Shay Locomotive

The Shay Locomotive was built in 1925 by the Lima Locomotive Works. The 24 ton, two truck locomotive was used by the Lima Stone Company and donated to the Historical Society in the early 1950s.

It was one of 2,761 Shay engines manufactured by the Lima Locomotive Works.

World's Largest Oil Field

Capturing one of Allen County's largest industries, this photo highlights our extensive collection relating to the local oil industry. Enjoy displays of tools, models, photos, artifacts, products, and documents.



Sarber/Dillinger Exhibit

On December 12, 1933, gangster John Dillinger's gang broke him out of the Allen County Jail where he was serving time for robbing Citizens National Bank. Sheriff Jess Sarber was killed. This exhibit shows his office and the jail minutes before the escape.



Pioneer Home Exhibit

As the center of activity in the pioneer home, this display showcases some of the characteristics of 19th-century living.



Children's Discovery Center

The Children's Discovery Center inside the Museum is a favorite destination for families. Kids learn about their history by participating in hands-on activities. The CDC also includes a large model railroad layout popular with kids of all ages.



Things People Swallowed

One of our oddest exhibits is a collection of over one hundred objects that the patients of Drs. Walter and Estey Yingling swallowed. They include such unusual items as a diaper pin, a lengthy piece of rubber hose, and a set of dentures!



General Store

The General Store exhibit is one of the Museum's most popular collections on display. Built in 1860, the storefront is from the grocery of John G. Noble of Lafayette.