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Later this year, Indiana will open the doors to one of the nation's most innovative showplaces of history, art and science ... its new State Museum. Nestled in the center of White River State Park in Indianapolis, the new cultural institution will depict the many "stories of Indiana."

The museum, designed by Ratio Architects, uses a simple east/west and north/south axial system suggesting the state's motto: the "Crossroads of America." Separated by the Central Canal, the two-building complex is connected by a 200-foot glass enclosed walkway, symbolic of the steel railroad trestles found throughout Indiana.

The buildings themselves are an intriguing interplay of native materials, which posed an interesting challenge for mason contractor Michael Wilhelm and BAC Local #4, IN/KY.



INDIANA STATE MUSEUM Indianapolis, IN



OWNER: State of Indiana

ARCHITECT: Ratio Architects
Indianapolis, IN

GENERAL/MASON CONTRACTOR: F.A. Wilhelm

MASONRY PROJECT MANAGER: Michael Wilhelm

LOCAL UNION: International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers, Local #4 Indiana/Kentucky, Indianapolis Chapter

AREA: Two-building complex totaling 230,000 sq. ft.

LEVELS: Three-level Museum building
Four-level Administration building

PROJECT COST: \$65 million, including
\$8.6 million in masonry

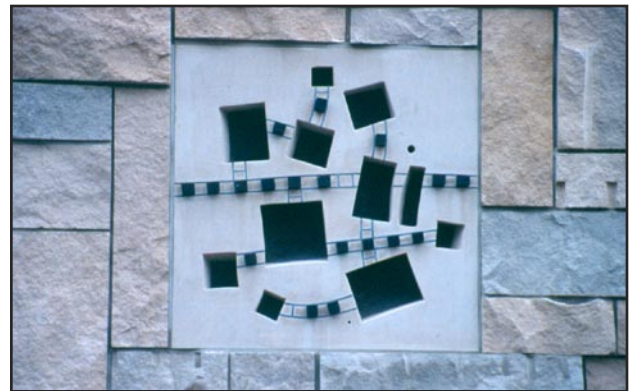
SPECIAL FEATURES: Architecturally designed to reflect Indiana's motto as the "Crossroads of America" and incorporates materials indigenous to the state.

Exterior walls called for a decorative blending of sandstone, rough stone, 3 colors of granite, cut stone, decorative terra cotta and 3 different colors of brick. In addition, 92 original works of sculpture, celebrating the contributions of each Indiana county, had to be integrated into the structure's exterior masonry.

As it nears completion, further evidence of masonry craftsmanship will be seen in a 110 ft. brick cylindrical tower, designed to house the Foucault Pendulum.

General Contractor, F.A. Wilhelm has been overseeing construction of the steel-frame facility, which blends masonry construction with stainless steel, extruded aluminum and glass curtain walls. When completed, the museum will encompass the existing IMAX Theatre, which was built by Wilhelm in 1996.

Interior exhibits, designed by Ralph Appelbaum Associates, will include a three-story limestone quarry, a lock from the Wabash-Erie Canal, the reconstructed School 5 facade, an art gallery, a 250-seat auditorium and a 200-seat dining facility. Dozens of planned exhibits and programs will use state-of the art technology and interactivity. Over 600,000 guests are expected to visit the museum each year.



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The International Masonry Institute is a labor/management cooperative serving the interests of the International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers and the contractors who employ its members.

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