

Centerville Indiana

Centerville, Indiana, so named because it is nearly on the geographic center of the county, is the second oldest town in Wayne County. It was platted in 1814. It became the Wayne County Seat in 1818 and remained such until 1873. Original streets were 100 feet wide, but with the increased activity in town when it became the county seat, the width was decreased to 65 feet. Buildings with common walls were erected in front of original buildings. These original buildings could then be reached through the archways.



Centerville Archways

Centerville Architecture focuses on Greek Revival and Italic style; yet, the area does have a few Victorian homes. The buildings in the historic area range from 1820 through 1898 with the majority being built from 1830-1860. The five existing Archways are unusual in the interior of the U.S. The Centerville Archways date from 1823 through 1836:

Backenstoos Archway

c. 1835 at 139 E. Main St

Dill Archway

c. 1830 at 109 S. Morton Ave

Shortridge Archway

c. 1820 at 205 W. Main St

Lantz Archway

c. 1823 at 212 W. Main St

Malone Archway

c. 1836 at 119 W. Main St.

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189 Years of
Centerville History
and Architecture*

Archway Days Festival, Inc.

14th Annual Archway Days

August 22-24, 2003



*Centerville, Indiana
47330*