

AIA Indiana 2022 Convention
Republic Building
October 21, 2022

CEU Submissions
Republic Building – IU students

TITLE: The Republic Building, Columbus, Indiana: Adaptive Reuse and a Home for IU Architecture Program

Description: During the AIA Indiana 2022 Convention students at the Indiana University, J. Irwin Miller Architecture Program, will be on hand to discuss with those gathered the issues involved in adapting the iconic Republic Building, which is the result of a unique collaboration between Robert N. Brown and Myron Goldsmith to their home base. Brown, an innovative publisher in Columbus, Indiana, was managing partner in a newspaper enterprise that has been in continuous operation under the leadership of his family since 1872. Goldsmith was a leading American architect with the firm of Skidmore, Owings and Merrill in the mid-20th century.

Beginning with the challenges of any project on a building bearing the Historic Landmark status to present day codes and occupancy issues, this presentation will allow attendees to wander the space and discuss topics such as the low voltage accommodations made, the minimal plan changes due to the historic nature of the building and future considerations of how best to continue to use this structure. Students will also discuss how the building was instrumental in the redevelopment plan for downtown Columbus during the 1960's.

HSW Justification: Adaptive reuse, code methodology, mechanical, electrical, and low voltage accommodations are all factors of Health, Safety and Welfare discussed during this student driven presentation. The Health, Safety and Welfare of the end users -students at the Indiana University, J. Irwin Miller Architecture Program was the top priority during this challenging renovation of the structure which is listed as an Historic Landmark with the National Park Service. Preservation of the existing footprint of the building and the future use of the structure as it relates to the Health, Safety and Welfare of the community are also key topics in this presentation.

Learning Objectives:

Following this presentation, which combines five 15 sessions, attendees will be able to

list the challenges and issues of adaptive reuse of an iconic structure that is also listed as an Historic Landmark with the National Park Service.

discuss the occupancy and code accommodations used in this project. including the methodology and existing, life safety devices.

describe how minimal plan changes were used to preserve the structures iconic architectural features.

identify mechanical, electrical, and low voltage accommodations used during this adaptive reuse.

Summarize several issues regarding future considerations of the use of this iconic building.