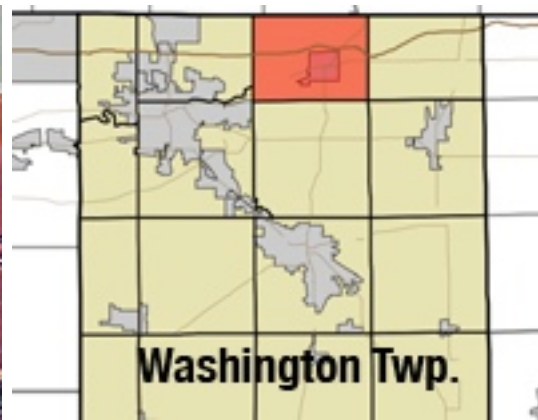




Elkhart County Historical Museum



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16 Townships Named in Elkhart County, IN

Patrick McGuire, Education Curator of the Elkhart Co. History Museum presented this on Sat. July 28, 2018. Baugo Twp. named for Baugo Creek. Benton Twp. and Town named for Senator Thomas Hart Benton from Missouri. Named for Presidents are Cleveland, Clinton, Harrison, Jackson (New Paris named after New Paris, Ohio), Jefferson, and Washington Twp. (Bristol named for Bristol, U.K.) Concord Twp. named for Revolutionary War Battle. Elkhart Twp., Town and County all share a name with a disputed meaning. Named for the shape of Island Park is a myth, and no record of a Chief Elkhart can be found. It is thought that the name comes from language of a group of indigenous people, the KasKaKis originally from Illinois but who came to the Ft. Wayne area. The name is thought to mean a place where sacrifices were held. But how the name to be attached here is unknown. Locke Twp. was named after the Town. Middlebury Twp. and the Town were called that for settlers from Middlebury, Vt. Olive Twp. is said to have been named because a resident suggested it. (Wakarusa is a town in both Olive and Harrison Twp. Originally called Salem, was renamed when another Salem found in IN. Wakarusa may mean knee-deep in mud.) No explanation can be found for the name of Osolo Twp. Union Twp. is named for the U.S. Nation. York Twp. was named for the State of New York from which many settlers came.

Just the Facts:

The Elkhart County Historical Museum is located in the Rush Memorial Center, 304 W. Vistula St., Bristol Indiana

For tours and info:

574-848-4322

Open all year

Hours:

Tues.-Sat. 9am-5pm

Closed Sunday except for special programs.

[Visit the Museum Website](#)