



AT THE BEND IN THE RIVER EVANSVILLE

An Illustrated History

ABOUT THE BOOK

In this informative yet entertaining history of Evansville, authors Kenneth P. McCutchan, William Bartelt and Thomas Lonnborg tell the story of how a small cluster of log cabins on the big horseshoe bend in the Ohio River grew to become a thriving city of nearly 125,000 inhabitants and the commercial and cultural hub of a Tri-State area. The fast-paced narrative laced with fascinating anecdotes and personality profiles of the hardy American pioneers and determined European immigrants who carved a community out of the wilderness is lavishly illustrated with dramatic historical images drawn from a wide range of sources.

For centuries only the Shawnee, Potawatomi, Miami and Delaware Indians roamed the land by the river until, in 1812, Hugh McGary purchased 400 acres at the site from the U.S. government and with the aid of his influential friend Colonel Robert M. Evans, for whom the town is named.

As Evansville rapidly expanded to become a modern city, residents began to redevelop the downtown area, building on the legacy of their pioneer forefathers.

Generously interspersed throughout this compelling tale are over 200 vintage photographs, paintings, maps and brilliant color images. Fully captioned, they tell their own vivid story of Evansville's past and present.

A special chapter, "Chronicles of Leadership," provides individual histories of Evansville businesses and organizations and details their contributions to the community.

More than simply a valuable contribution to Evansville historiography, *At the Bend in the River* is a splendid volume that will be cherished, displayed, and turned to again and again.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Kenneth P. McCutchan was a beloved and lifelong resident of Evansville, where he earned a bachelor's degree in English composition and modern language from the University of Evansville. After studying at the Sorbonne in Paris and serving with the Army Corps of Engineers, the late Mr. McCutchan worked for Evansville radio station WIKY as a disc jockey, announcer, and newscaster for the next 26 years. A past president of the Ohio-Wabash Valley Historical Society, he was also a member of the Indiana Historical Society. McCutchan's many publishing credits include *Sauersville*, *The English Settlement* and *From Then Til Now*.

William E. Bartelt is a writer and educator in the city of Evansville. He serves as an adjunct instructor of U.S. history for the University of Southern Indiana and as the social studies chairman of Harrison High School, is the history committee chairman of the Evansville Museum of Arts, History and Science and is also the historian for Trinity United Methodist Church. Bartelt holds a master's degree in education from the University of Evansville and a bachelor's degree in social studies education from Indiana State University.

Thomas R. Lonnborg serves as the curator of history for the Evansville Museum of Arts, History and Science and is an instructor of U.S. history for the University of Southern Indiana. A past vice president and current board member of the Vanderburgh County Historical Society, he is also a noted authority on Evansville's famous World War II shipyard. Lonnborg holds a master's degree from Indiana University in Bloomington and a bachelor's degree in history from the University of Southern Indiana in Evansville.