

El - 22554

## Save Buckley Homestead

Sandra Basala  
Lowell Scoping Meeting  
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- FACT:** Buckley Homestead is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.
- FACT:** Buckley Homestead was founded in 1849 by emigrants from Ireland and remained in direct family lineage continually until it was donated to the park department in 1977 with the express purpose of it being a perpetual educational facility.
- FACT:** The front part of the main house was built in 1853. The 1916 bank barn will be one hundred years old this year.
- FACT:** The Buckley School is a replica of the original one-room school where students were taught from the middle 1800s until the 1920s. It sits on the original foundation site.
- FACT:** All Buckley Homestead facilities, including the log cabin and the Woodland Indian settlement, are used to educate thousands of school children, adults, and families each year about Indiana history.
- FACT:** The proposed rail tracks will run directly adjacent to the back 80 acres of Buckley Homestead. **Save 167 years of history.**

### Buckley Homestead not only represents history made, but is making history

- FACT:** The Conway Observatory, dedicated in 2005, is a partnership between the Lake County Parks and Recreation Department, the Calumet Astronomical Society, the Lake Heritage Parks Foundation, and Purdue University Calumet (now Purdue Northwest) and hosts dozens of public events each year.
- FACT:** In September 2010 the Northwest Indiana Robotic Observatory (NIRO) was dedicated by Purdue University on the same site as Conway. It was developed utilizing fund raising efforts and a grant from the National Science Foundation.
- FACT:** PNW physics and astronomy majors, conducting research utilizing the NIRO telescope and camera, are contributing their findings to prominent worldwide publications and database outlets.
- FACT:** The proposed rail tracks will run through the park grounds that house the CAC campus, **destroying its entire mission.**

When Rose Buckley Pearce donated her family's heritage for educational purposes she trusted the Lake County Parks and Recreation Department to protect these precious resources for residents of and visitors to Lake County. The above facts should make it clear that Buckley Homestead Living History Farm should not be disturbed. Instead it should be supported in a continued effort to educate and to explore the past, the current, and the future. Sandra Basala ([sandybasala@netnitco.net](mailto:sandybasala@netnitco.net))