There are few better ways to learn The Bend's history than traveling the Studebaker-Bendix Trail. It highlights two companies that shaped South Bend and the surrounding area through the factories and homes they built and the charities they funded.

Learning more is simple. You can navigate the trail by referencing the map in this brochure or by utilizing the addresses beneath each destination. Driving the entire trail takes approximately 90 minutes. Allow additional time for visiting museums.

**STUDEBAKER BLACKSMITH SHOP & CARRIAGE FACTORY SITE**
Corner of S. Michigan St. & L. Jefferson Blvd.

Emigrating from Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, via Ashland, Ohio, the Studebaker brothers constructed their first blacksmith shop and carriage factory on this site in 1852. Located in the heart of South Bend’s growing business district near the St. Joseph River (look to the east), the Studebaker business grew rapidly as a supplier of wagons during the Civil War. They remained on this site until the late 1800s. Production then moved to Studebaker’s newer plant south of downtown.

**STUDEBAKER ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**
645 S. MAIN ST. | National Register of Historic Places

**BODY ASSEMBLY BUILDING**
635 S. Lafayette Blvd.

Designed by noted Chicago architect Solon Beman, Studebaker constructed this Administration Building (corner of Bronson and Main) in 1906. The company was still manufacturing carriages and wagons but was moving into automobiles. clad in oversize brick resembling street pavers, the building housed engineering, sales, accounting and executive offices. It provided state-of-the-art employee perks such as a men’s and women’s gym, bowling alley and cafeteria.

The 1923 Body Assembly Building west of the Administration was designed by industrial architect Albert Kahn. It is a simple industrial design with exposed concrete structure and large windows to provide ample light for workers. Studebaker automobile bodies were built here before heading to the final assembly line.

**OLIVER FACTORY SITE**
918 Oliver Ct.

This is the former factory site for Oliver Chilled Plow Works, credited with the cultivation of the western prairie. The power plant you see provided power to the factory and J.D. Oliver’s home a few blocks north—the first home in South Bend to be electrically lit.

Although not directly related to Studebaker and Bendix History, Oliver Chilled Plow is an example of a world-known industry in South Bend. See the interpretive plaques on site for more information.

**TIPPECANOE PLACE**
630 W. Washington St. | (574)232.4007 | tippec.com

The West Washington neighborhood was home to many of South Bend's successful businessmen. Here Chauncey Studebaker purchased his family home, Tippecanoe Place, designed by Chicago architect Henry Hobson Richardson in 1889. In the Richardson Romanesque style, it was completely burned and was rebuilt a year later. At one time it had a matching carriage house. It was destroyed by fire in the 1940s. Today it is one of South Bend’s most popular restaurants.

**HIGHWAY MARKER**
Sw. Corner of W. Washington & Michigan St.

**JMS BUILDING**
101 N. Main St.

Transportation and the movement of goods played an important role in South Bend's growth. As car traffic increased, major highways intersected here. These included Lincoln and D Ave Highways and the Michigan Road. John M. Studebaker constructed the JMS office building (pictured) in 1919. It was South Bend’s tallest building at the time of its construction and was connected to other nearby buildings by tunnels.

**STUDEBAKER FACTORY SITE**
Sample St.

You are now standing in the middle of what grew to become the 120-acre Studebaker factory site. The central powerhouse plant, shown above, provided power and heat via tunnels to the entire complex. It sat approximately where the South Bend Police Station is now. At its peak in 1969, the complex employed 24,000 workers and produced 343,000 automobiles.

**THE HISTORY MUSEUM**
510 W. Washington St. | (574)235.0684 | historymuseum.org

**STUDEBAKER NATIONAL MUSEUM**
207 Chapin St. | (574)235.0714 | studebakersouthbend.org

Explore the Studebaker National Museum and The History Museum. Here you'll experience a rich collection of historic Studebaker carriages, wagons and automobiles, tour the home of J.D. Oliver and learn more about the early history of South Bend and St. Joseph County.

**FORMER FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
332 W. Washington St. | National Register of Historic Places

**SAINT JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH**
117 N. Lafayette Blvd. | (574)232.4007 | stjamesbend.org

In addition to constructing factories, family homes and buildings for other commercial ventures, the Studebakers funded parks, hospitals and churches. John M. Studebaker donated funds to help construct the Romanesque-style former First Presbyterian Church with its massive stone walls and tower. Saint James is a simplified gothic with red brick, partially funded by Peter Studebaker.