

Barker Mansion

*Located at
631 Washington Street
One Block East of
Lighthouse Place Premium Outlets
Michigan City, IN 46360
(219) 873-1520*

The Barker Mansion was a gift to the city from Catherine Barker Hickox, the daughter of John H. Barker, industrialist and philanthropist who became president of the Haskell and Barker Car Co. in 1883.

From that time on, the company enjoyed phenomenal success and eventually became the largest manufacturer of freight cars in the world. In 1922, the company merged with Pullman Inc. and was known as Pullman Standard.

The mansion as it stands today is one of the tangible evidences of this success and enduring wealth: In 1900, Mr. and Mrs. Barker engaged a Chicago architect, Fredrick Perkins, to plan extensive additions to the home which had been built in 1857. Their new and beautiful English manor-type dwelling was completed in 1905. Its decor is typical of "turn-of-the-century" opulence; marble and rare woods were used in abundance, and all of the furnishings and art objects were the personal property of the Barker Family.

Barker Mansion was entered in the National Register of Historic Places on October 10, 1975. From educational, guided tours to special seasonal functions, the Barker Mansion and Civic Center is a true jewel in the crown of Michigan City.

