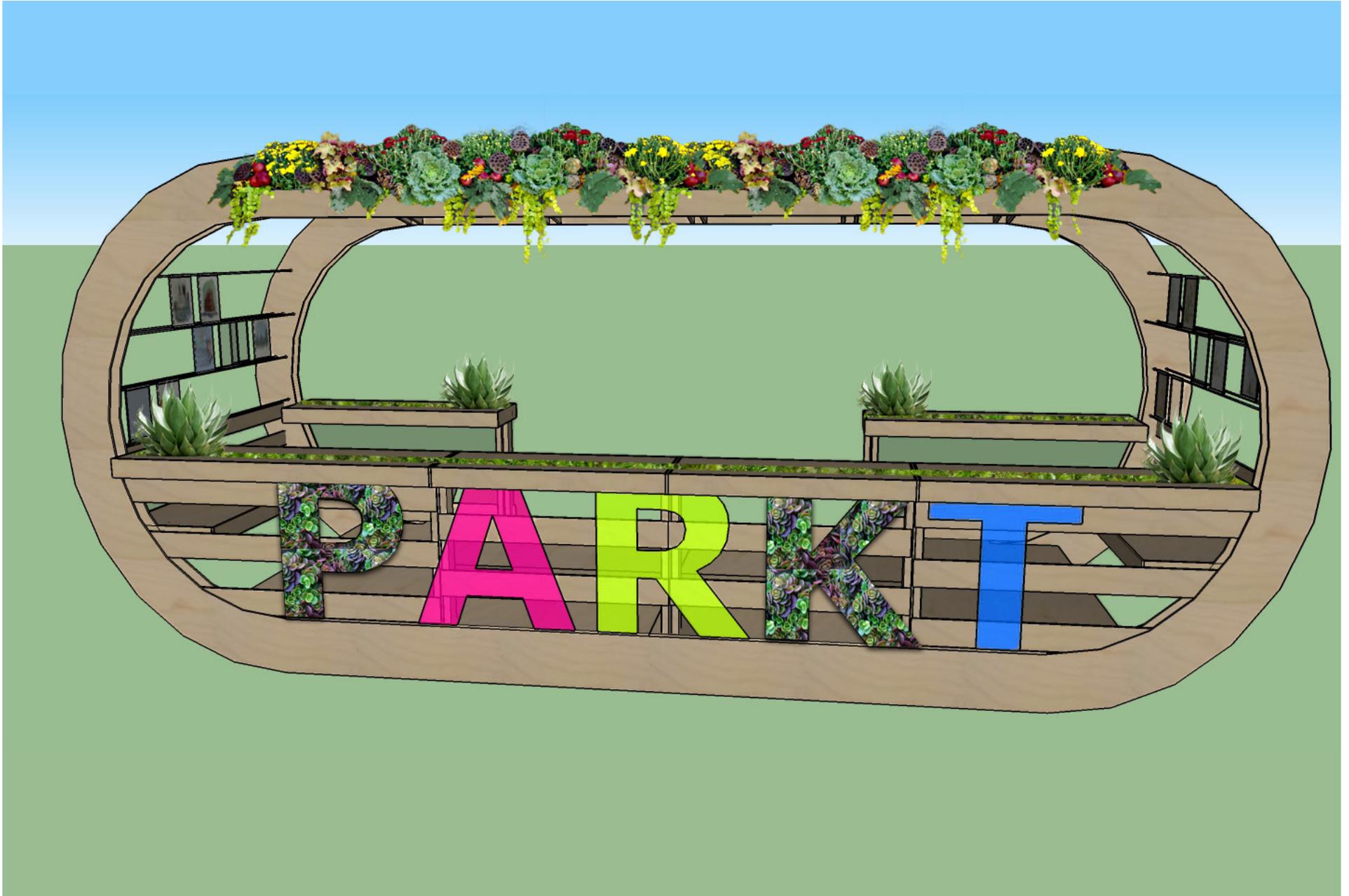


**A NEW
TYPE OF
PUBLIC
SPACE**

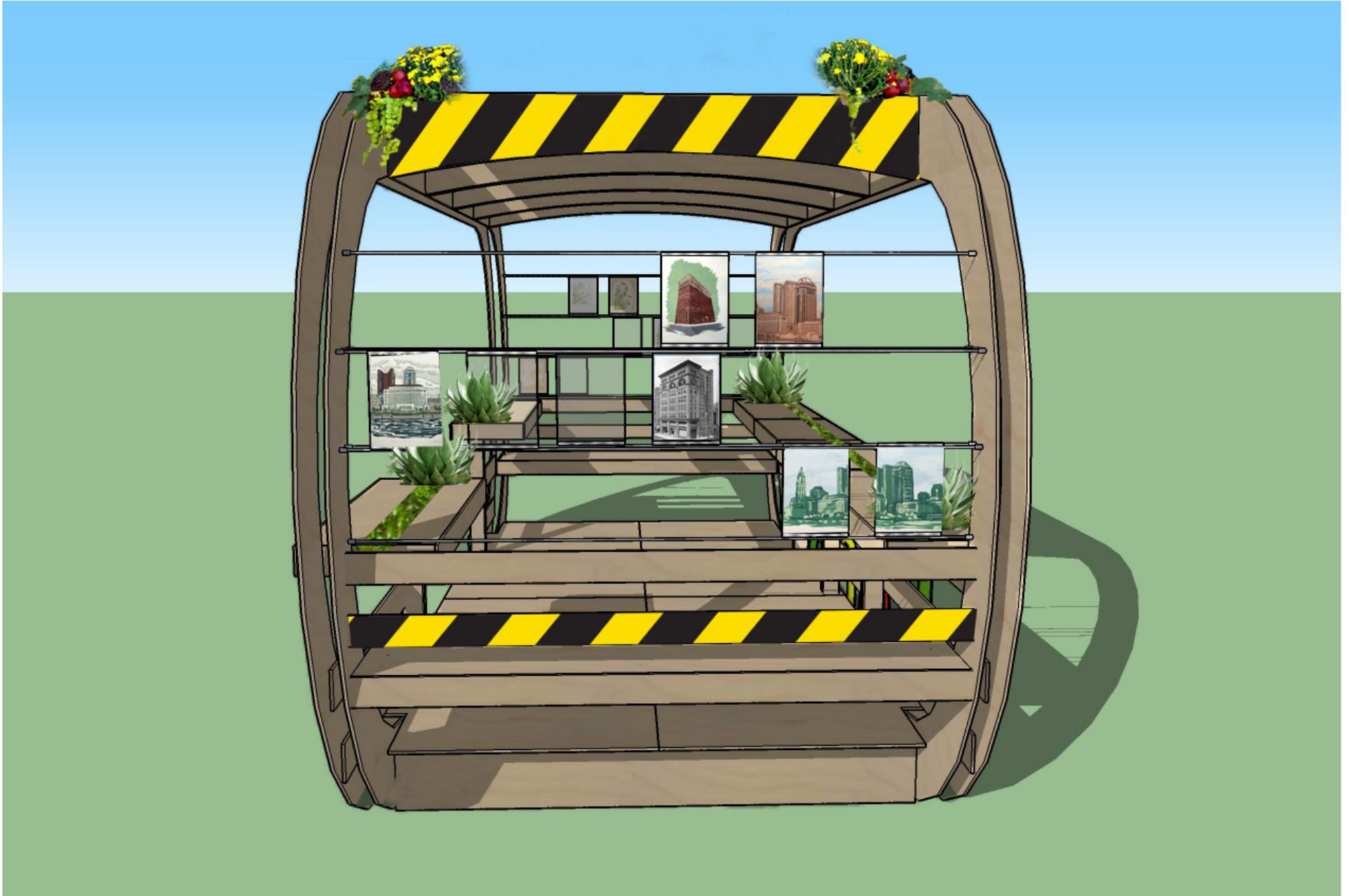


PLACEMAKES :

GAY STREET PARKLET SPRING 2016







Artist: Leah Storrs

Bio

Leah Storrs is a fine artist & printmaker based in Downtown Columbus. Originally from Saginaw, MI, she graduated from the Columbus College of Art & Design with a BFA in Fine Art and a Minor in Art History. Her work focuses on cityscapes, landscapes and architectural studies, which stems from her love to travel and embracing new places and experiences. Utilizing the skills and network she developed working at a small business in Downtown Columbus for over 3 years, she now runs her own art and design business that includes commission work, art sales and art design collaborations with individuals and creative groups.

Statement

Over the past few years, I have been exploring the historical buildings and architecture throughout downtown Columbus. As a student at CCAD, I worked in the college's archives where I learned both the history of the college and the city. My work is inspired from that history, ranging from individual building studies to more elaborate cityscapes. This new study of work will follow with the same theme and I will be experimenting with non traditional printing materials so that the prints can be displayed outside through weathering. These pieces are to be featured on the **PlaceMakes: Gay Street Parklet** that will be displayed on the North East corner of High and Gay Streets in front of the Café Briosio.

—

Leah Storrs

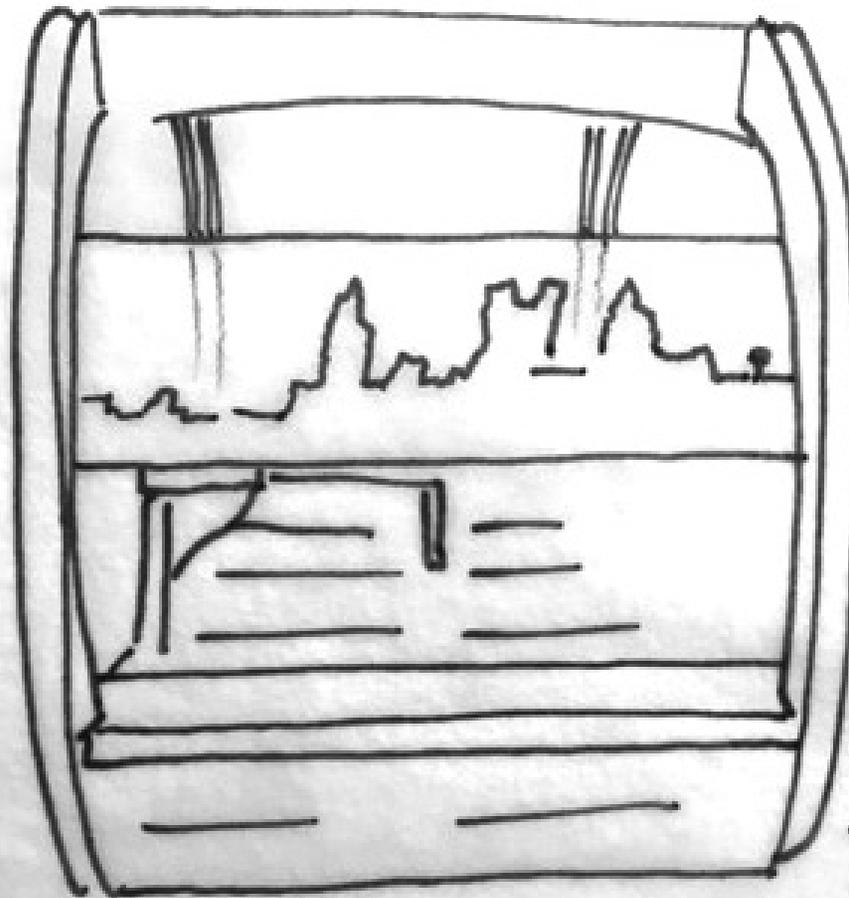
Fine Artist | Printmaker

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Sketch of Artwork Displayed in Parklet



← Frosted acrylic
4 layers total

each end showing
a different view
- 1 showing skyline from
west - other from east

end view

Process

1.



2.



3.



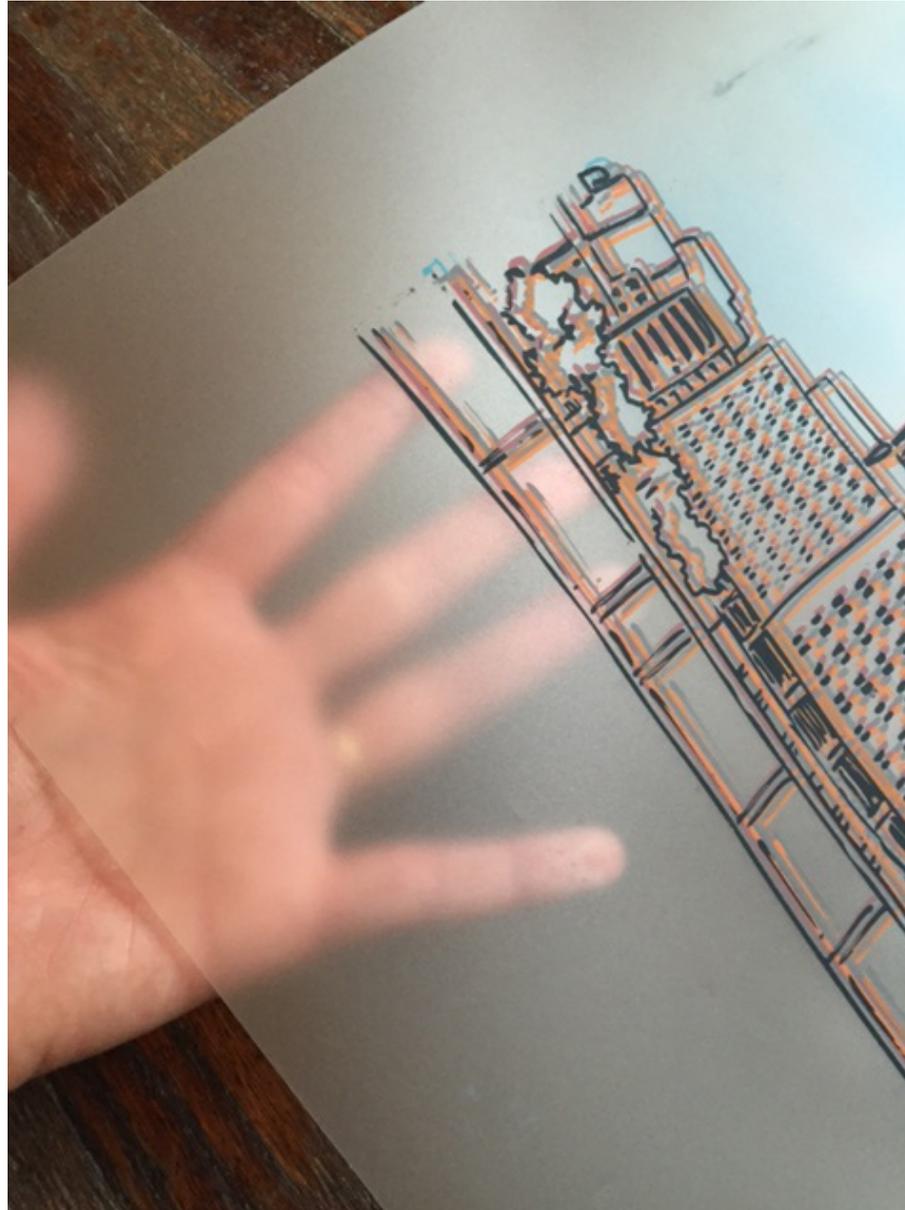
4.



Process



Process







Partnering with Columbus Landmarks Foundation to present historic facts about buildings within the High and Gay Streets Historic District



The Ruggery: 1895 and Today

Not all the interesting buildings in Columbus have been taken down. This is The Ruggery which was completed in 1895 at 20 East Gay. The Ruggery Building was designed as a fireproof office tower. It is constructed with steel and masonry which exudes a stately permanence not found in today's new buildings. In 2002 the building was carefully restored with new mechanical systems, operable windows and distinctive architectural features.

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Historic Buildings on or near Gay Street



Buckeye State Building and Loan Company
Building: 36-42 E. Gay Street, Built in 1926

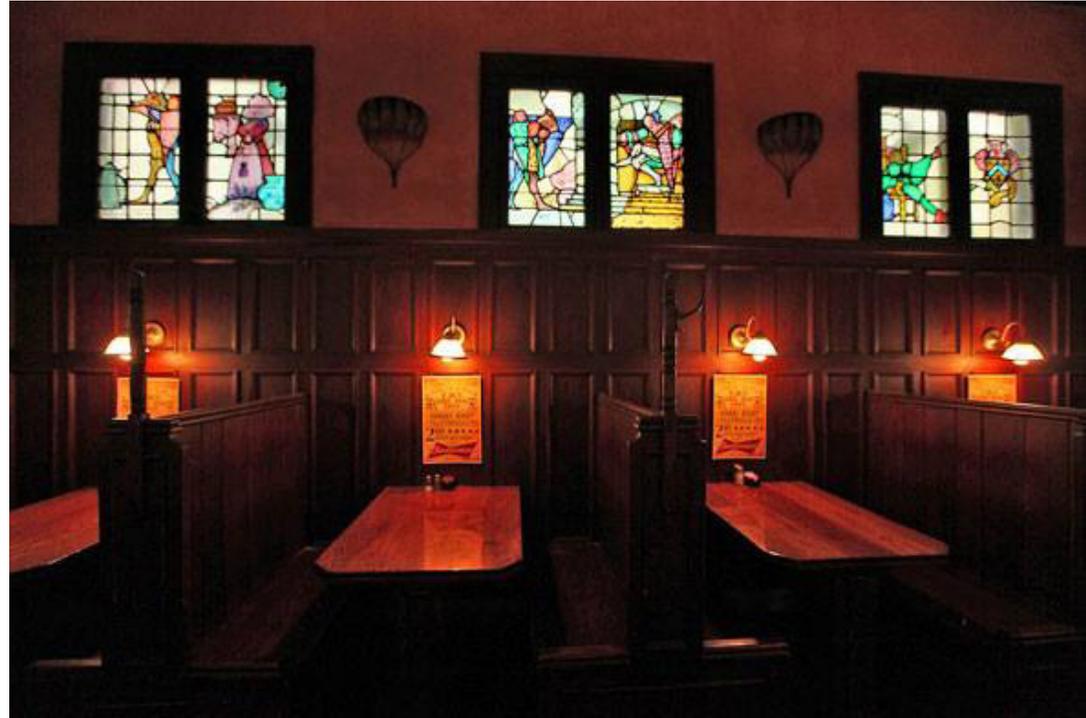


High and Gay Streets Historic District



Rankin Building: 22 W. Gay Street, Built in 1911

Historic Buildings on or near Gay Street



Ringside Cafe: 1910

There has been a tavern in this tucked away spot on Pearl Street since the late 1800s, but the present building dates to 1910.

Ringside is architecturally diminutive—25 feet by 37 feet—with a fine Arts & Crafts interior, dark woodwork and booths, Belgian stained glass windows, and only 10 bar seats. Designed by Carl Howell and James Thomas, Ringside is unusual in that it is an architecturally designed building inside and out. Howell and Thomas are credited with a variety of other buildings with very different styles - a supper club (the Marmor which is now gone), East High School (a 1922 neoclassical building where football star Chic Harley and writer James Thurber attended), the parish house for Trinity Episcopal Church, the Lincoln Road Chapel in Grandview Heights in Mission style and Gothic Revival, and a number of homes in Bexley in Tudor-influenced styles and/or Georgian Revival. Their work in the Columbus area dated from approximately 1908 through World War I when they departed to work in Cleveland in Shaker Heights.

Built by early Columbus downtown developer Mr. Mithoff, Ringside started life as the Little Cafe and later as the Chamber of Commerce Cafe until the real Chamber of Commerce, afraid of a Temperance-minded backlash, denounced the name in an effort to seem less tolerant of the nature of the business. The Ringside name came with a later owner who wanted the little bohemian Arts & Crafts style nook to be a New York-style deli aimed at downtown movers and shakers. A large copy of George Bellows painting of a boxing match looms over the interior. Bellows was a local Columbus boy and one of the best known of the Ashcan school artists—so called for their depictions of real life.

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