Begin at the Mathers Museum of World Cultures and Glenn A. Black Laboratory of Archaeology at 601 E. 8th Street. The Mathers Museum houses over 30,000 objects and photographs representing cultures from each of the world's inhabited continents. It is well-known for its artifacts from the Inupiaq, Yupik Eskimo, and Pawnee cultures, traditional musical instruments, and photographs of Native peoples as well as historic images of Bloomington past. The Glenn Black Laboratory is an archaeological research and training center focusing on Indiana history and prehistory.

Walk south on Indiana Avenue from 8th Street (passing Dunn Meadow) to the Sample Gates at Kirkwood Avenue. East of the Sample Gates you will see the Student Building (with the clock tower), one of nine university buildings built between 1884 and 1908 making up the “Old Crescent,” which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Walk east further into campus - away from the Sample Gates, following the route from A to B pictured below.

On your right, you will pass the Chemistry Building, engraved with element and alchemy symbols on its limestone exterior walls, then Ballantine Hall, the largest academic building on campus at nine stories high. Walk up a hill to the back of Morrison Hall, one of the buildings of the Agnes E. Wells Quadrangle. Morrison Hall is home to two notable cultural resources: the Kinsey Institute and the Archives of Traditional Music. The Kinsey Institute promotes the study of human sexuality, gender, and reproduction, housing a library of materials and artifacts related to sexuality. A gallery with rotating exhibits of these materials is open for public viewing. The Archives of Traditional Music contains the United States’ largest university-based ethnographic sound archive of the world’s music and oral traditions. Its listening library and Friday noon lecture/concert series are open to the public.

Exit Morrison Hall from the back and follow the wooded path past Bryan House, residence of the university president. You will walk uphill to the Lilly Library, which houses rare books, manuscripts and related objects. These include a comic book and graphic novel collection, 150,000 pieces of sheet music and 700 incunabula (books printed before 1501).

From the front of Lilly Library, look out towards the Fine Arts Plaza which consists of the IU Art Museum and the Henry Radford Hope School of Fine Arts. One of the largest university art museums in the country, the IU Art Museum contains works such as African masks, ancient jewelry, and works by artists such as Claude Monet, Pablo Picasso, Diego Rivera, and Elisabeth Vigée-LeBrun. The Grunwald Gallery inside the School of Fine Arts displays the cutting-edge work of current art students. Both venues host evening events such as gallery walks and coffee house nights that provide opportunities for both viewing art and socializing.

The Showalter Fountain is at the center of the Fine Arts Plaza. It features a two-ton sculpture illustrating "The Birth of Venus." Student ire over the dismissal of former IU basketball coach Bob Knight led to the theft of four of the fountain’s fish, which were later returned undamaged.

The newest addition to the campus’ stock of outdoor sculpture is the bronzed Hoagy Carmichael Landmark Sculpture on the walkway between the IU Auditorium and Wells Library. It celebrates Bloomington native and IU alumnus Hoagy Carmichael, who went on to pen jazz standards such as “Stardust” and “Heart and Soul.”

Across from this landmark is the IU Cinema, a state-of-the-art theater that showcases films from Bloomington’s print collections. The IU Cinema regularly features a fantastic array of foreign films and films from archives that are housed on campus, including The Kinsey Institute Film Archive, The Black Film Archive, and the David Bradley Film Collection.

Now walk west on 7th Street to the circle drive in front of the Indiana Memorial Union. Stairs between the parking lot and the building lead to the Dunn Cemetery and Beck Chapel. Dunn Cemetery is what remains of the private land leased by Moses F. Dunn to Indiana University in the late 19th century. Buried there are three sisters who cooked and made clothes for Revolutionary War soldiers.

Nearby, Beck Chapel is a small non-denominational chapel where students can spend time in quiet reflection or study. There are copies of the Bible, Koran, and Torah for visitors to use. Each year around 150 wedding ceremonies take place there, many of them between students who met at IU.