

McHenry County  
Historic Preservation Commission

1994

Reports

Memos, and

Attachments



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**DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT**

McHENRY COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER - ANNEX BUILDING A  
2200 NORTH SEMINARY AVENUE  
WOODSTOCK, IL 60098  
815/334-4560 FAX# 815/337-3720

**McHENRY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

**MEETING DATES FOR 1994**

January 11, 1994

February 8, 1994

March 8, 1994

April 12, 1994

May 11, 1994

June 14, 1994

July 12, 1994

August 9, 1994

September 13, 1994

October 11, 1994

November 15, 1994

December 13, 1994

Mc Henry County Historic Preservation Commission

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To: All Commission Members  
From: Rick Mc Grath *RM*  
Date: 01/27/94  
Subject: National Historic Preservation Week/Awards Night.

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Oh Well.

The snow and ice storm shut us out from meeting earlier this week, but I hate to lose any time on this.

What I would like to do is at our next regularly scheduled meeting on Feb 8th, (I hope all can attend) is expedite our regular agenda and focus the bulk of our time firming up our plans for the Awards Night.

I would ask that we all come prepared to contribute our ideas and suggestions to how we want to construct this.

So far, we have only spoken in general terms and nothing has been firming up. There is no framework and now is the time for ideas. We can make this as grand or modest as we have time, energy and resources for.

A couple things are firm though.

National Historic Preservation Week runs from Monday May 9th to Sunday the 15th. It is sponsored by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. This gives us 14 weeks and three regular Commission meetings (at the time of this writing) for planning and implementation. This is plenty of time, but we need to make good use of this time.

I want this project to be a reflection of all our ideas and energies. To "prime the pump", I will throw out some ideas and things that I've seen other groups do. We dont need to use these ideas, but it might generate more ideas or adaptations.

- 1) Try to get all related groups in the county to sponsor some event or hold an open meeting during the week with the Awards night capping it off at weeks end.
- 2) Try to see if some group will sponsor an historic tour of some sort. This is always a good draw for the general public and could be used as an opener to the week.

3) At the awards night:

- A) Have each related organization make a presentation of what they have been doing (slides are always good).
- B) If time allows, presentations could include:
  - Real estate developer experienced in hist. pres.
  - "Lost Mc Henry" slide show
  - "Why Historic Preservation/What's in it for me?"
  - County historic survey slide show
  - Architectural history/development/I.D.
  - The (X) Most Endangered Places/Sites
- C) I have seen awards broken down into:  
\*\*\* with slides \*\*\*
  - Best Renovation, Private Residence - Victorian and earlier.
  - Best Renovation, Private Residence - Post-Victorian.
  - Best Renovation, Retail/Office/Commercial.
  - Best Adaptive Reuse.
  - Best addition.
  - Best Infill New Construction.
  - Honorable mentions, Significant achievements by individuals and/or groups.
- D) If we can get a jump on this and get pictures of nominees into the papers we could generate additional interest and perhaps some public input.
- E) The participating, related organizations may want to take advantage of this opportunity to acknowledge or present their own awards.

I hope this is a help. See you on the 8th.

GREENWOOD SCHOOL: MIDDLE DISTRICT #4, 1859-1949  
OWNER AND NOMINATOR, CLARA M. VOGEL

"Initial Report and Recommendation"

Perhaps the only old significantly preserved structure in Greenwood, this old school, the educator of at least three generations of Greenwood Township young people, is eminently qualified for Landmark status.

It was built by subscription in 1859 under the supervision of Dr. William Hart, Clerk of the Board of Directors. The carpentry work, like the interior wainscoting that still remains inside, was done by Cummins and Lemmers.

This yellow, Milwaukee brick, Greek Revival style school building can be shown to meet seven of the fourteen possible criteria found in the ordinance. Since only "one or more" of them are required, Greenwood School easily meets the criteria test.

Its front facade and its' north and south sides are all symmetrical in design. The gabled roof is relatively low-pitched, and the return cornices at the gable ends are all characteristically Greek Revival in form.

The only obvious changes to the exterior are the tasteful, unobtrusive, frame addition at the east end of the structure, and the single front door that replaced the old, wooden, double doors. These old doors may be seen hanging on a basement wall.

Inside, the old rubble basement walls were sturdily re-enforced with concrete, leaving the exterior of the foundation as it was. This was done after the Vogels' bought and occupied the school in 1950.

It is a two storied building with accommodations for one classroom on each floor. From 1917-1920 the upper floor was used for a high school, and when the Methodist Church across the way burned in 1941, the building was also used for church services.

For these reasons this Commission unanimously recommends this building for Landmark status.

Al Kramka, Chairman  
Survey Subcommittee  
February 2, 1994

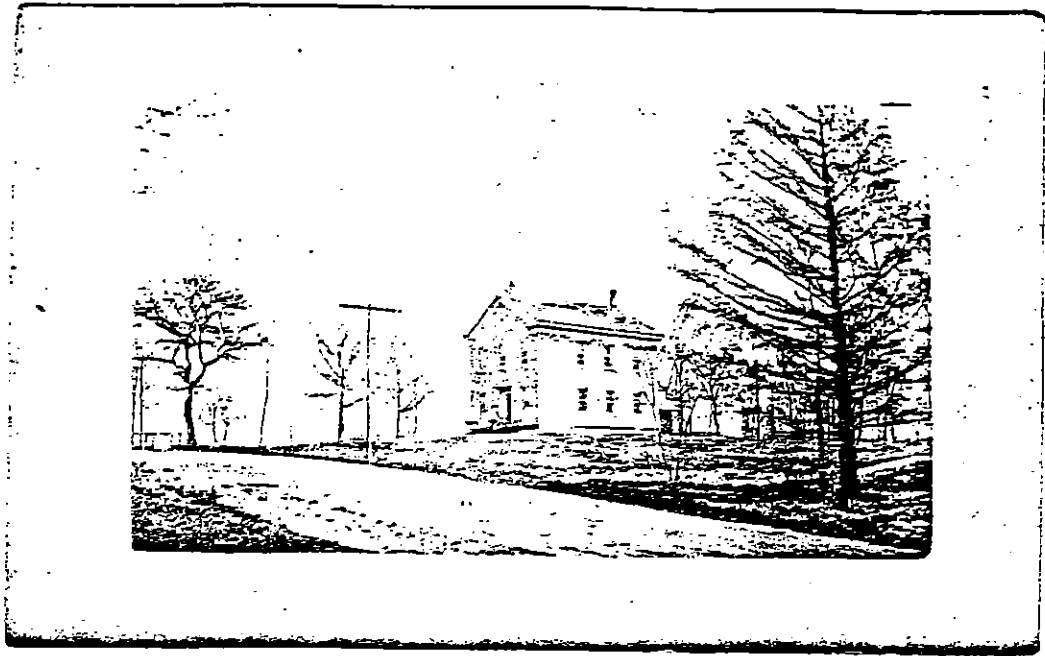
The old Greenwood school building was built in 1859 by subscription under the supervision of Dr. Willis B. Hart who was clerk of the board of directors.

According to the Woodstock Sentinel's 80<sup>th</sup> edition on August 3, 1859 the carpentry work was done by Cummings and Lemmas. The yellow brick came from Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

It is two stories with a one room classes on each floor. In 1917 the upper floor of the school building was used for High school until 1920.

The building was used for Church services when the Methodist Church burned in 1941.

The present Greenwood school building was opened in 1948. In August of 1950 the Harold Vegels purchased the 1859 building at auction.





# MCHEMRY COUNTY OLD HOUSE SUPPORT GROUP

Volume II, No. 2

March 5, 1994

## *The Most Common Mistakes in Restoring Old Houses (and How to Avoid Them)*

### 1. To Thine Own Style Be True

This is one of the fundamental precepts of "period" renovation/restoration. It refers to a home's architectural style. While many homes are clearly a specific, identifiable architectural style, many more are not. These homes may be more transitional in nature, incorporating the basic form of an earlier style with decorative elements of an emerging popular trend or *visa versa*. Or a home may originally be more of a collection of stylistic influences such as a "Greek Revival" inspired entry way along with "Colonial Revival" palladian windows, and "Shingle style" exterior treatment, or it may be a more basic local "vernacular".

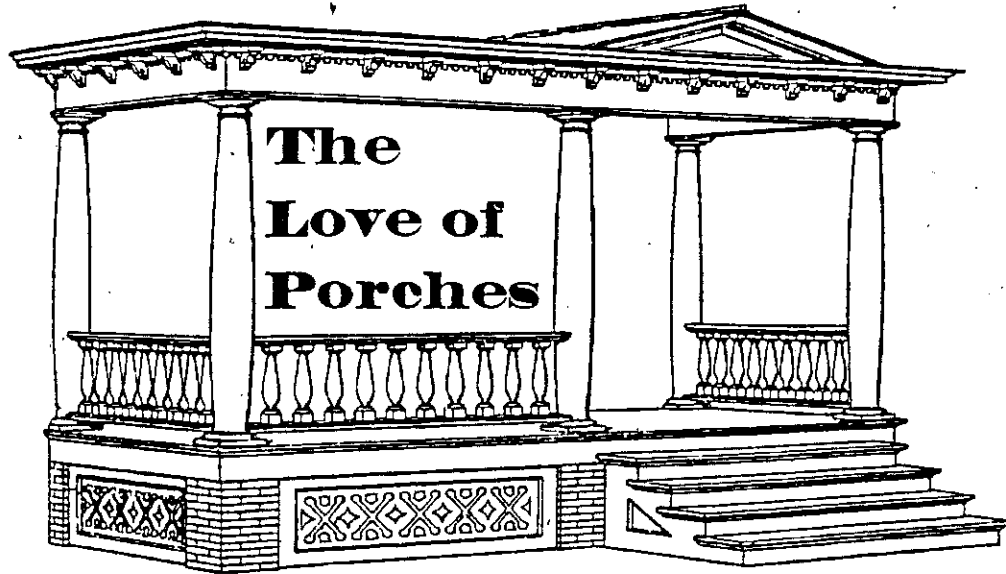
In any case, when considering renovations or remodelings consider the architectural style that identifies your home.

Granted, nobody wants to live in a museum. We all want to incorporate the modern conveniences and efficiencies into any renovation effort. This does not however, have to be at the expense of maintaining the stylistic architectural integrity of a home.

Most "Remuddelings" are the result of attempting to turn a house into something that it is not. Trying to make a Post-Victorian Bungalow into a Queen Ann by applying "gingerbread" or an Italianate into some form of contemporary by removing the ornament and applying chrome and glass.

If you need more room (the small rooms of older homes can pose a challenge to contemporary life styles), consider building off the back before enclosing the front porch

*continued on back page*



Probably the most identifiable features of "old houses" are the front porches. The whole concept conjures feelings of nostalgia and romance. Perhaps second only to a fireplace it is one of those features most sought after and treasured in an older home.

Given their exposure to the elements though, over the years they often experience greater deterioration. Often to the point of their being removed, enclosed, or left to nature's effects.

What to do?

We are fortunate enough to have within our ranks, Gene Racette. A contractor for many years who has researched and reconstructed an authentic reproduction of the porch that originally graced the front of Fran and his home in Richmond, How'd he do it? Come find out.

If you have porch problems or experience, join us. We'll endeavor to help each other out. Dress for the weather. We'll be outside.

Thursday March 17th, 7:30-9:00PM

5705 George, Richmond

## OPEN HOUSE

for March

is being hosted by

Shelly & John Trost

Thursday March 3rd 7:30-9:00 PM

One of the finest examples of the Shingle Style in the county, but more importantly, come share good company. See you there!



continued from front page

or putting up a shed dormer. Both of these fixes may be cheaper near term but they significantly alter the basic integrity of the primary facade. This could be a liability later on. Whether a homeowner is "into" period renovation or later not, chances are that they are "into" protecting and enhancing their property values. There are smart reasons to make sensitive improvements to old homes and not compromise their basic integrity.

Play to your strength. Accentuate what makes your home unique. Find out what style home you have or it's dominant influences. There are resources at the library and the historical society that will help you identify the type of home you have.

Every day there are more products and services directed towards sensitive renovation efforts. It's just a matter of knowing where to look and knowing what your options are.—Rick ■

# ...with a little help from my friends...

Have you enjoyed the programs brought to you by the Old House Support Group? Would you like to help out but not exactly sure how? The following is a break down on a number of things we would appreciate someone taking the ball on. Or, perhaps you have a talent or idea that you would like to run with. Great! We'll talk. No big whoop.

- Individual program meeting coordinators. (we could use several)
- Newsletter Editor
- Newsletter Contributor (s)
- Open House Meetings Coordinator
- Old House Directory Project Leader
- Special Events Program Coordinator. ie. coordinating trips to attend historic district and/or house walks or other events.

If you've an interest we'll be getting together at 7:00, a half hour prior to the start of our regularly scheduled Program meeting on March 17th. We will discuss the particulars. Hope you can make it or call 815/455-1096.

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Rick McGrath, Editor  
 Jed Wing, Art Direction  
 Shelly Trost, Public Relations  
 McHenry County Old House Support Group newsletter is issued monthly by the McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission  
 c/o McHenry County Dept. of Planning & Development  
 2200 N. Seminary Ave.  
 Woodstock, IL 60098  
 815/334-4560  
 815/337-3720 fax

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## National Historic Preservation Week

Now here's big news! National Historic Preservation Week runs from Monday May 9th to Sunday the 15th. The county Historic Preservation Commission will be sponsoring an Awards night. They will recognize property owners, both residential and commercial, for excellence in historically sensitive renovation/restoration efforts. There will be several classifications and they'll be looking for nominations and your support. Nominations would include:

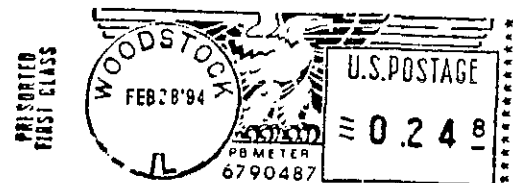
- Best Renovation/Restoration, Residential, Victorian and earlier
- Best Renovation/Restoration, Residential, Post Victorian
- Best Renovation/Restoration, Retail/Office/Commercial
- Best Adaptive Reuse
- Best Historically Sensitive Addition

There will be other categories and other events planned. More info' will follow. If you would like to make a nomination call 815/334-4560. Ask for Linda Spates and specify the category (You can nominate yourself—we won't tell anybody).

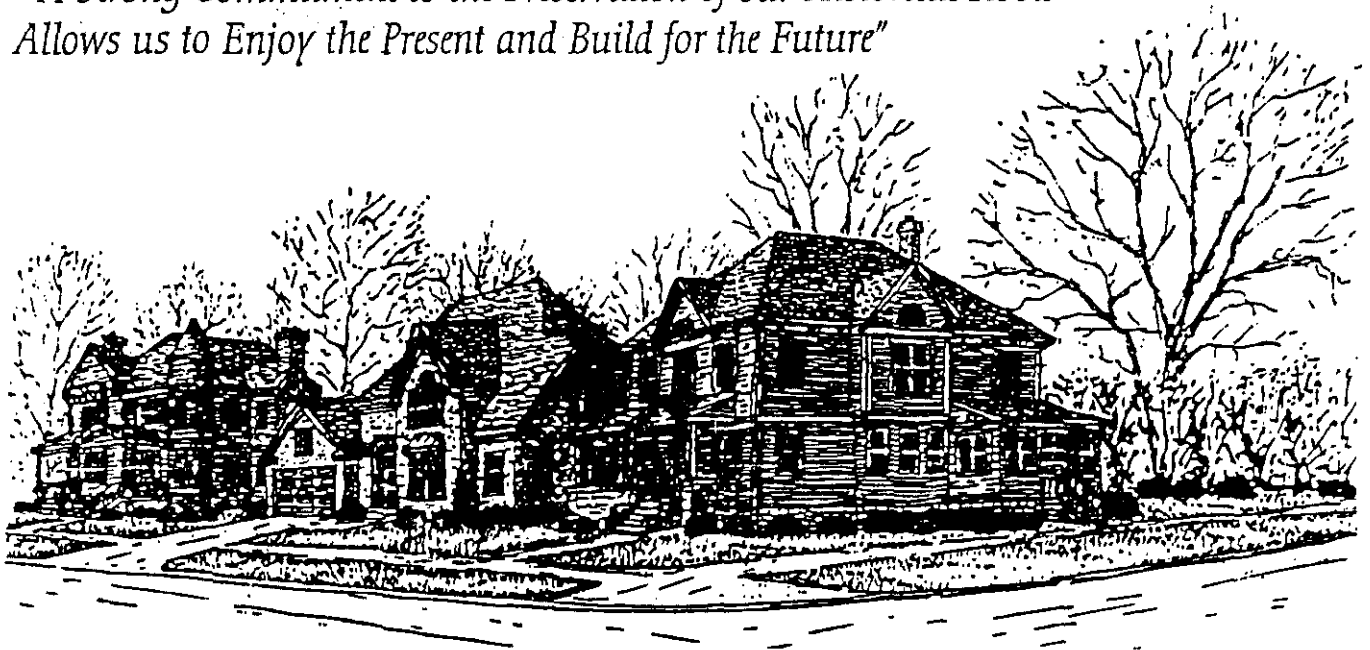
McHenry County Old-House Support Group  
 c/o County Historic Preservation Commission  
 2200 N. Seminary Ave.  
 Woodstock, IL 60098

## Open House a Big Success

As you know, along with the regular Program meetings on the third Thursday of each month, this season we initiated Open house meetings on the First Thursday of each month. We've had three so far and each one has been *such* a good time. The Obertubbesings, Racettes' and Piper's have been wonderful hosts and great people to get to know. If you've ever attended a historic house or district walk you've no doubt enjoyed the beautiful homes. But have you ever thought—I would love to meet these people or, I wish I knew how they did that. This is your chance! But the homes are only a part of it. People who love golf enjoy the company of other golfers, what do they talk about? Golf. Or perhaps they don't, but it provides a commonality for other things. Do you enjoy old houses? Come meet some new friends.



*" A Strong Commitment to the Preservation of our Historical Roots  
Allows us to Enjoy the Present and Build for the Future"*



**McHENRY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
and  
McHENRY COUNTY COLLEGE  
present  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION IN THE REAL WORLD**

- \*What are the economic benefits of preservation?**
- \*How do you balance new development with the charm of the older community?**
- \*How can municipal ordinances be effected?**
- \*Can downtown areas be revitalized?**

with

**MIKE JACKSON  
Chief Architect  
Illinois Historic Preservation Agency  
Springfield, Illinois**

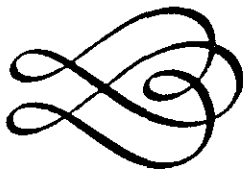
and

**NANCY WAGNER  
Landmarks Preservation  
Council of Illinois  
Chicago, Illinois**

**January 20, 1994  
7:30 P.M.**

**M.C.C. Conference Center**

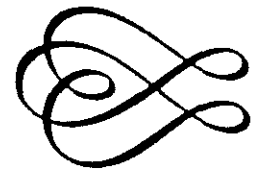
**No charge for admission. For reservations, call Molly Walsh 815/455-3700**



Open House  
for January  
is being hosted by

**Fran & Gene Racette**

January 6<sup>th</sup> 7:30-9:00



Attendance is limited — Please RSVP

*So come on up and join us in Richmond. No program planned—, just a  
time to get better acquainted. Hope you can make it!*

Sponsored by McHenry County Historic Preservation Committee and McHenry County Old House Support Group

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YOUR INVITED

To the first Open House of the season for the  
McHenry County Old House Support Group  
Hosted by:

THE OBERTUBESINGS

7:30-9:00 P.M. THURSDAY  
DECEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup>

(ON YOUR WAY, COME THROUGH THE SQUARE—IT'S BEAUTIFUL)  
ATTENDANCE IS LIMITED, PLEASE R.S.V.P. BY DECEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup> 815/455-1096

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**MCHEMRY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
AND RELATED ORGANIZATIONS**

**Algonquin Historic Preservation Commission**

2 S. Main St., Algonquin IL 60102  
Contact: Mr. Jeff Jolitz 708/688-9182  
Meeting: 8:00 AM, Third Saturday every month  
City Government Building, Annex Trailer

**Colonel Palaer House**

Rt 176 & Terra Cotta Road, Crystal Lake 60014  
Contact: Ms. Betty Wexelburg 815/459-0849  
Meeting: AM, Last Wednesday every month  
Call for time and location

**Crystal Lake Historic Preservation Study Committee**

84 North Walkup Ave, Crystal Lake, 60014  
Contact: Hugh & Virginia Englesan 815/459-3485

**Dole Mansion Preservation Society**

401 Country Club Road, Crystal Lake IL 60014  
Contact: Gary & Sue Rieglier 815/459-1822

**Environmental Enhancement Committee**

Contact: Mr. Dave Danielson 815/338-4300  
Meeting: Fourth Monday every month  
City Government Building, call for time

**Greater Harvard Area Historical Society**

308 North Hart Blvd. Harvard  
P.O. Box 505, Harvard IL 60033  
Contact: Ms. Marguerite Johnston 815/943-4919

**Historic Sites Committee**

c/o Mc Henry County Historical Society  
P.O. Box 434, Union, IL 60180  
Contact: Ms. Grace Moline 815/477-8896  
Meeting: First Wednesday every month, Spring - Fall  
7:30 PM, Call for location

**McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission**

c/o McHenry County Dept. Planning & Development  
2200 N. Seminary Ave., Woodstock IL 60098  
Contact: Mr. Rick McGrath 815/455-1096  
Meeting: 7:30 PM, second Tuesday every month  
County Government Center, Annex Bldg.

**Mc Henry County Historical Society**

P.O. Box 434, Union IL 60180  
Contact: Ms. Nancy Fike 815/923-2267  
Meeting: 7:30 PM, Fourth Monday every month  
At the museum in Union

**McHenry County Old House Support Group**  
c/o McHenry County Dept. of Planning & Development  
2200 N. Seminary Ave., Woodstock IL 60098  
Contact: Ms. Shelly Trost 815/363-8287  
Meeting: 7:30 PM, third Thursday every month  
Call for location.

**Mc Henry Landmark Commission (City of)**  
333 S. Green St., McHenry IL 60050  
Contact: Mr. Carl Fredrickson 815/363-2100  
Meeting: 7:30 PM, First Tuesday every month  
City Government Building

**Memorial Hall Steering Committee**  
10308 Main Street, Richmond IL 60071  
Contact: Ms. Chris Galagher 815/675-6524

**Questers**  
84 South Walkup, Crystal Lake, 60014  
Contact: Ms. Mary Thennes

**Illinois Historic Preservation Agency**  
Old State Capitol, Springfield IL 62701  
Contact: Preservation Services 217/785-1153

**Richmond Architectural Commission**  
5600 Hunter Dr., P.O. Box 506, Richmond IL 60071  
Contact: Ms. Irene Boore 678-6921

**Stickney House Restoration Committee**  
Cherry Hill Road, Bull Valley  
1/4 Mile north of Crystal Springs Rd.  
Contact: Mr. Ders Anderson 815/455-1537

**Woodstock Opera House Community Center Inc.**  
Woodstock Opera House, Woodstock IL 60098  
815/338-5300  
Contact: Ms. Sherry Anderson 815/338-0094  
Meeting: Quarterly, Last Wednesday; Jan., April, July and  
Oct.

Cary ( ? )

Fox River Grove ( ? )

Huntly ( ? )

Marengo ( ? )

Thank You!

We would like to thank all who were able to attend and participate in our second annual McHenry County Historic Preservation Conference during National Historic Preservation Week.

The addition to this years program of the presentation of awards was very successful. The calibre of nominations was impressive and we look forward to the growth and popularity of this aspect of the conference.

We also look forward to your continued participation and of those groups throughout the county involved in Historic Preservation and related efforts.

We hope that you will keep the second week in May 95', National Historic Preservation Week, and the Saturday of that week open for next years conference.

Additionally, we have enclosed a copy of contact information of those groups across the county. Our hope is that the continued exchange of ideas and resources can be a resource to all of us. If there are any corrections or additions please let us know.

Sincerely;

John Dalton	Gloria Mack
John Jurewicz	Rick Mc Grath
Al Kramka	Nancy Welch

The McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission



# Illinois Historic Preservation Agency

Old State Capitol • Springfield, Illinois 62701 • (217) 782-4836

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July 18, 1994

James M. Hogue  
Department of Planning and Development  
McHenry County Government Center  
Annex Building A  
2200 North Seminary Avenue  
Woodstock, IL 60098

Dear Mr. Hogue,

Thank you for sending McHenry County's Annual Report for fiscal year 1993. Since McHenry County has been a CLG for less than a year, I was not going to request a copy of the county's annual report until next year! Since you submitted the report, I would like to make the following suggestions:

- 1) Send the commission's attendance records at the meetings
- 2) Indicate attendance at an educational/informational meeting
- 3) Indicate if any National Register properties in McHenry County are in jeopardy of being demolished (monitoring). In these instances, we ask that you call us - there may be something we can do.
- 4) Indicate if any properties have been placed on the National Register
- 5) Send an updated commission list - send resumes for new commissioners

In order to assist you, I have enclosed a copy of the annual report format. I am also giving you the following options - you can send me the requested material, or you can wait until next year! If you choose the second option, you will not have to re-submit the information that you have already sent. You can just indicate that the information is already on file at our office.

I am impressed with the work that you and the commission have done so far.



**Illinois Historic  
Preservation Agency**

Old State Capitol • Springfield, Illinois 62701 • (217) 782-4836

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James M. Hogue  
July 18, 1994  
page 2

If there is anything that I can do for you, or if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 217/785-5730. I would be happy to assist you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Amy", is written in black ink.

Amy Slocombe  
Local Government Services  
Manager





# Illinois Historic Preservation Agency

Old State Capitol • Springfield, Illinois 62701 • (217) 782-4836

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## FORMAT FOR ANNUAL REPORT - CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT

1. CASES REVIEWED: Indicate the number of Certificates of Appropriateness, and Certificates of Economic Hardship, were reviewed by the Commission and the status of those reviews.
2. DESIGNATIONS: Provide a list of all landmarks and/or historic districts that were designated during the last fiscal year. Attach documentation for each designation. Provide a summary of properties considered but rejected or appealed. Indicate if any designations are pending.
3. SURVEY: Describe the progress of local survey efforts. Indicate the numbers of properties added to the survey inventory, and distinguish between intensive level survey (documentary research) and windshield survey (photo and address).
4. NATIONAL REGISTER: For each National Register nomination considered by the Commission, provide the dates of any public hearings, describe how public input was solicited, and indicate when the CLG comments were forwarded to the SHPO. Indicate if any nominations are pending review.
5. MONITORING: Describe any efforts made toward monitoring proposed or actual alterations/demolitions to National Register and Illinois Register properties.
6. ACTIVITIES: Provide a summary of the principal activities, accomplishments of the Commission during the last fiscal year. A copy of the Commission's annual report to the local government may be substituted.

Include the following ATTACHMENTS, as appropriate:

- A. Resumes for new commission members, and a revised list of commission members
- B. Documentation that the Commission was represented at at least one informational or educational meeting pertaining to the work and functions of the Commission or to historic preservation
- C. Attendance records for commission meetings
- D. Copies of any Commission sponsored publications
- E. Documentation for each new designation (see #2 above)
- F. Copy of the Commission's annual report to the local government (see #6 above)

**County of McHenry  
Department Budget Overview  
Fiscal Year 1994-5**

Fund: 0001

Department: 2260 Historic Pres:

Agency:

Financial Summary

Staff Summary

	Expense	Revenue	Full Time	Part Time
FY 92 Actual	0	0		
FY 93 Budget	\$2,120.00	N/A		
FY 93 Estimate	\$660.00	N/A		
FY 94 Request	\$2,120.00	N/A		
FY 94 Recommended				

**Total Support costs: (As Listed Below)**

FICA:		Central Services:	
IMRF:	Not	Indirect Costs:	Applicable
H/L/D:		Transportation:	
Liab Ins:			

Department Purpose

To execute the duties and obligations outlined in the McHenry County Historic Preservation Ordinance and obligations under the Certified Local Government agreement including: Holding Public Hearings on potential landmarks or historic districts, making recommendations to the County Board on historic properties, conduct surveys of historic properties and inform and educate citizens concerning the historic, archaeological, architectural or scenic heritage of the County.

Significant Changes - FY 93 to FY 94

Publications \$100.00

Memberships/Conferences/Seminars \$250.00

\*Note: Reviewed by Chairman - not approved by full Commission

McHENRY COUNTY EXPENSE WORKSHEET FY 1994 - 95

SCHEDULE EXP-101  
PAGE 1 OF 1

2200  
ACCOUNT CODE

HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
DEPARTMENT

ACCOUNT NUMBER	CHARACTER OF APPROPRIATION	FY 1993-94 BUDGETED	FY 1993-94 8 MONTHS ACTUAL	FY 1993-94 12 MONTHS EST. EXP.	FY 1994-95 REQUEST	FY 1994-95 CO. ADMIN. RECOM.	FY 1994-95 JOINT.COM. RECOM.	FY 1994-95 CO. BOARD APPROVED
4055	PRINTING	\$500	\$0	\$100.00	\$250.00			
4005	Assoc.Dues,Cont. Staff Training	0	0	0	\$250.00			
* Printing fee was split as grant money may be available through CLG program - Create line 4005								
4060	ADVERTISING	250	\$0	\$110.00	\$250.00			
\$250.00 requested for legal notice for 5 landmarkings per year (\$50.00/notice)								
TOTAL CONTRACTUAL SERVICES		750	\$0	\$210.00	\$750.00			
5030	POSTAGE	250	0	\$50.00	\$150.00			
* Reduction in postage budget to allow for publications (new lineitem 5210)								
5060	PHOTOGRAPHY	120	0	0	\$120.00			
5070	SUPPLIES	1,000	\$2	\$400.00	\$1000.00			
5210	Publications	0	0	0	\$100.00			
\$1000.00 requested to purchase landmark plaques (5 per year @ \$200.00 Each)								
TOTAL COMMODITIES		1,370	\$2	\$450.00	\$1370.00			
DEPARTMENT TOTAL		2,120	\$12	\$660.00	\$2120.00			

Round to nearest dollar.

08/19/94 14:36

815 344 8418

TEMPUS CONST SRV

003



## Illinois Historic Preservation Agency

Old State Capitol • Springfield, Illinois 62701 • (217) 782-4836

### MEMORANDUM

TO: CLGS

FROM: AMY SLOCOMBE *AS*

RE: CLG WORKSHOP 1994

DATE: AUGUST 16, 1994

Hello again! I thought I would give everyone an update on the CLG workshop this fall. We are planning to hold the workshop in Springfield at the Lincoln Plaza on October 22, 1994. I will send you all a registration form and a more detailed agenda in September. For the first half of the workshop, we are planning to have a panel discussion with aldermen from Moline and Evanston on preservation from a political point of view. The second half of the workshop will be 10 minute presentation from the following CLGs:

- 1) Aurora - deferred loan program and reconversion program
- 2) Carbondale - Woodlawn Cemetery design guidelines/ Founder's Day
- 3) Chicago - designation program/ ranking system
- 4) Decatur - preservation commission budget
- 5) Elmhurst - preservation issues within smaller communities
- 6) Normal - grant program
- 7) Orland Park - new development & preservation balance
- 8) Peoria - volunteer survey efforts
- 9) Quincy - local landmarks
- 10) Rock Island - Rock Island Preservation Society (local preservation advocacy group)
- 11) West Chicago - local preservation - downtown issues

For those of you who agreed to talk - don't panic if you decide to talk about something other than what I have listed! Just let me know sometime in September of any changes that you have. I also need to know if you need any equipment for your presentation (slide projector, screen, etc.) If you have hand-outs and want me to make copies, no problem. If I missed anyone, or if anyone has a change of heart - call (217/785-5730). Otherwise, this workshop is looking pretty good!

McHenry County  
OLD-HOUSE SUPPORT GROUP



*The McHenry County Old House Support Group is an association of "Old House" owners throughout the county who are pursuing the same objectives of restoring their homes.*

*Often we "Old House" owners have interests, projects, problems or concerns that are peculiar to an older home. Finding the information and resources, if we choose to do it ourselves, to the professional talent that is experienced in and sensitive to period work, is often difficult to find. Well, many times the best help comes from those who are doing the same sort of things, or have in the past.*

*We meet on a monthly basis and provide programs of demonstrations, workshops, and seminars lead by both professionals and experienced members to help those involved in period renovation and/or maintenance of their older properties.*

*Please contact the Commission for more information and specific meeting dates, times and places.*



**MCHENRY COUNTY  
HISTORIC  
PRESERVATION**

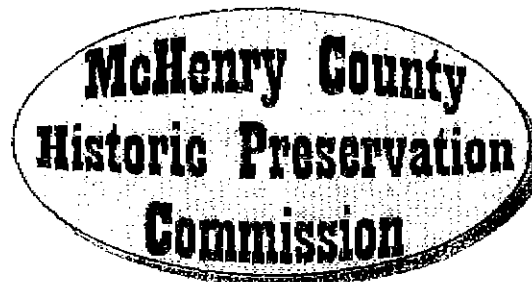
**COMMISSION MEMBERS**

As defined by the County Preservation Ordinance, there are nine commission members who are appointed by the McHenry County Board for terms of five years each. Individual commission members can be contacted through the staff liaison at the

**MCHENRY COUNTY DEPARTMENT  
OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT**

**2200 NORTH SEMINARY  
WOODSTOCK, IL 60096**

**(815) 334-2040**



How we started . . .  
and where we are Today

In 1834, Sam. Gillian and his family crossed the Fox River and became the first settlers in McHenry County. Since this time, many more pioneers followed, including names such as Walkup, Dufield, Hartman, Gibson and McClure. They were drawn to the county by its fertile soils, transportation and beauty. As time progressed, the county developed a healthy economy supported by dairy farms, mills, resorts, railroads, agricultural production and much more.

Today, McHenry County is one of the fastest growing counties in the state. The population is expected to reach 235,000 by the year 2010. Algonquin has already doubled its population in the last ten years. Lake-in-the-Hills is actively annexing thousands of acres of land in the southeastern portion of the county. Crystal Lake also grows with their aggressive development policies. While this growth is considered healthy for the area's economy, if it is unmanaged, the character of the county that draws new modern settlers will be buried under new buildings.

The McHenry County Board Historic Preservation Commission was established in November of 1991 in concurrence with the enactment of the McHenry County Historic Preservation Ordinance by the McHenry County Board.

The McHenry County Board and the McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission are sensitive to the potential disappearance of the county's culture and landmarks. *THE COMMISSION STRIVES TO PRESERVE, PROTECT AND EDUCATE THE CITIZENS OF MCHENRY COUNTY OF ITS HISTORIC PAST*

## Preservation of Landmarks

One of the objectives of the Preservation Ordinance is the preservation of landmarks. The Commission will endeavor to recommend suitable sites, structures, landscapes, vistas or districts which possess architectural, historic, cultural, or natural significance for Landmark designation. Landmark status will be designated by the McHenry County Board upon the recommendation of the Historic Preservation Commission.

Historic sites within unincorporated McHenry County are eligible for landmark status providing they meet the specific criteria as defined in the Preservation Ordinance. Sites which are located within incorporated boundaries of a village or city are under the jurisdiction of any local preservation ordinances, if any.

Any group, individual or association may nominate a structure, building, site, landscape, vista, cemetery or district which may have significance for landmark designation.

Contact the Commission for more information on the application process.

### Landmark Criteria:

(NOTE: Please refer to the McHenry County Preservation Ordinance for complete criteria definition.)

- ♦ It has value which is part of the heritage or cultural characteristics of McHenry County
- ♦ Its location is the site of a significant event
- ♦ It is identified with a person who significantly contributed to the area
- ♦ It embodies distinguishing characteristics of an architectural style
- ♦ It is identified with the work of a master builder
- ♦ It embodies elements of architecturally significant detailing and craftsmanship
- ♦ It is architecturally innovative
- ♦ It is an established visual feature
- ♦ It is a unique example of a utilitarian structure with excellent integrity
- ♦ It is suitable for restoration
- ♦ It has archaeological significance



Your Namexxxxxxxxxxxx  
Title xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx  
Phone #'s xxxxxxxxxxxxx

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2200 North Seminary - Woodstock, Il 60098

**MCHENRY COUNTY  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
COMMISSION**

*Your Name* xxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

*Title* xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

*Telephone Numbers* xxxxxxxxxxxxx

2200 NORTH SEMINARY, WOODSSTOCK, ILLINOIS 60098

**M.C.H.P.C.**

Your Name xxxxxxxx  
Title xxxxxxxxxxxxxxx  
Phone #'s xxxxxxxxx

**McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission**  
2200 North Seminary, Woodstock, Illinois 60098



## DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

McHENRY COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER - ANNEX BUILDING A  
2200 NORTH SEMINARY AVENUE  
WOODSTOCK, IL 60098  
815/334-4560  
FAX# 815/337-3720

ZONING  
PLANNING  
ENGINEERING  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

MAPPING  
PERMITTING  
DRAFTING/GRAPHICS  
FLOOD/SOILS ANALYSIS

### MEMORANDUM

To: Members McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission  
From: James M. Hogue, Staff Liaison  
Date: November 7, 1994  
Re: Correction to the 11/15/94 Agenda

Please be advised that the agenda for the Commission meeting of November 15, 1994 contains an error. The agenda states that a Public Hearing on the Spring Shire Farm will be held at 6:00 P.M. with the regular meeting to follow. This is not correct.

In the past we have held the regular meeting of the Commission first. The Public Hearing then follows the regular meeting.

As such, the Agenda should read:

6:30 Regular Meeting

7:30 Public Hearing

A corrected copy of the agenda is attached for your convenience. I apologize for any confusion this error may have caused. Should you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at 334-4560.



The section of land now called "SpringShire Inn" was once part of a purchase by William Ormsby from Isacc Torbett during the period of April, 1851 to June, 1872. According to the History of McHenry County, "William erected on this tract a fine frame house which was then regarded as one of the most complete farm houses in Dorr Township".

The property changed hands to J. A. & Mary Wilson in September of 1930 and became known as "Arrowhead Farm". An agricultural review done in 1939 states that the total acreage was 192 of which 137.5 was tillable. The property extended from Country Club Road west down McConnell Road to Lily Pond Road to the C & NW RR tracks back to Country Club Road.

In August, 1946, Philip A Starck and Elizabeth (Scott) purchased the property including a small piece directly across McConnell Road to make sure they would never have to look at a neighbor's house. Shortly thereafter, they hired John V. Anderson, architect, to renovate the original farm house along with the sizable addition. (Mr. Anderson is also noted for the renovation of the Woodstock Opera House). It was over the period of the next 5 or so years that the house took the shape it is today - an Italianate Victorian of 22 rooms over 6500 square feet. The original living room was changed to the Master Bedroom and the dining room into the Library. The walls of the Library were done in white oak that was fashionably bleached and marble was added around the fireplace. There also is a secret closet and a faux shelf of books designed to hide a television set! Anderson installed a sound system that extends into the entertainment rooms of the house. One of these rooms is located in the lower level that has an English Skylight which allows in an abundance of natural lite. The kitchen suite contains three areas - a butler's pantry, work area and eating room. A large, walk-in cooler is located off the pantry. The rectangular, white tile which covers the walls in this area came the Terra Cotta Company in Crystal Lake. The marble slabs in many of the bathrooms came from estates that were being torn down in Lake Geneva as did the chandelier in the dining room.

Two fountains were placed outside, one in the front circle garden and the other in the backyard. Both were originally connected to the house by brass tubes to supply the water. The hand-formed oval swimming pool was installed in the 60's.

The house with 10 of the original acres was sold in March, 1979 by Jane Starck, second wife of Philip.

This information was acquired from McHenry County History and conversations with Merle Anderson.

## WILLIAM M. ORMSBY.

Among the pioneers of McHenry County there are few whose history covers a longer period than that of William M. Ormsby of Ridgefield, Ill. Mr. Ormsby comes of sterling English ancestry through a colonial family of New England. There is a tradition (how well founded is unknown) that the American branch of the family was transplanted through the immigration of three brothers, who came from England and settled in Connecticut Colony at an early day. Luther (the father of our subject) was born at Lebanon, Conn., and married Sarah Chappel, a native of the same place—there being a difference of only three months in the ages of the two. Early in 1800 Mr. Ormsby removed to New York and settled in Otsego County on the headwaters of the Susquehanna. Later he removed to Broome County, in the same State, and opened up a farm of 100 acres near Harpersville. In his old age he went to Steuben County, N. Y., and spent the last years of his life with his son Elihu, dying at the advanced age of ninety-three years. His wife preceded him some five years, dying at the age of eighty-eight. Mr. and Mrs. Ormsby were members of the Baptist church, and maintained the reputation of upright and conscientious citizens—Mr. Ormsby being for many years a deacon in the church. Their children were: Oliver, Elihu, Eunice, Luther and William M.

The last of these, whose name heads this article, was born in Otsego County, N. Y., July 26, 1814, and, receiving a limited common school education, was reared to the life of a farmer. In 1837, having reached the age of twenty-three years, he emigrated to Illinois in company with his brother Luther, wife and child. The journey was made to Buffalo by means of a two-horse wagon, then shipping their team and effects on board of a steamboat, by lake to Toledo, Ohio, thence by their own conveyance to Dorr Township, McHenry County, Ill., by way of Chicago. Here Mr. Ormsby located a claim on a tract of 240 acres in Section 13, consisting of "oak openings," and for four or five years, made his home with his brother Luther, who located a claim near by. On Nov. 28, 1844, William Ormsby was married in Dorr Township to Lucia L. Bunker, daughter of John and Eurania (Tuttle) Bunker, born in

1829. Mr. and Mrs. Ormsby then settled on his claim, on which he had already erected a small frame house. After spending two years in the work of improving his land, he removed to his present location, where by industry and judicious management, he has succeeded in opening a well-improved farm of 240 acres. In 1861 he erected on this tract a fine frame house, which was then regarded as one of the most complete farm houses in Dorr Township. Mr. and Mrs. Ormsby have two children—Charles H., born July 20, 1846, and Mattie E., born June 1, 1861. Mr. Ormsby was originally a member of the Baptist church, but afterwards joined the Methodist church, of which his wife was a member. Mrs. Ormsby died June 17, 1886. She was a woman of amiable character and highly esteemed. In early days Mr. Ormsby was called upon to serve on the Grand Jury and has repeatedly served on the Petit Jury of McHenry County, also has served once on the Grand Jury since the location of the county seat at Woodstock. By fair-dealing and upright conduct, he has won the respect and esteem of his neighbors and the citizens of McHenry County generally.

Charles H. Ormsby, the son of the preceding, was brought up to the life of a farmer on the old homestead, was educated in the common schools and at an academy in Beloit, Wis., attending the latter several terms. On April 4, 1872, he was married in Dorr Township to Anna Scott, born in that township May 30, 1849, the daughter of Andrew and Sarah (Spooner) Scott, the former a pioneer of Seneca Township. Mr. Scott was born in Glasgow, Scotland, about 1818, and came with two elder brothers (William and James—both now deceased) to Seneca Township, McHenry County, Ill., in 1837. Here the brothers bought Government land, and when Andrew had reached the age of about twenty-one years, he was married to Sarah A. Spooner, a native of Vermont. After spending a few years on the land which he had originally entered in Seneca Township, Mr. and Mrs. Scott removed to Dorr Township, where he bought and improved 160 acres, erecting on it good buildings. In 1878 Mr. Scott moved to Phillips County, Kans., where he engaged in stock raising; later removed to and engaged successfully in the same business in Nebraska, but is now a well-to-do citizen of

**INITIAL REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION:**  
**ORMSBY - STARCK HOME, 1861**

The Ormsby-Starch Home, the original part of which was built in 1861, is now known as Springshire Inn and can be seen at 8909 McConnell Road, Woodstock where its prominent location at the intersection with Country Club Road helps display its unique blend of Victorian-Italianate style and mid 20th century additions.

William and Lucia Ormsby, successful homesteaders, built the original farmhouse in 1861 which at that time "was regarded as one of the most complete farm houses in Door Township." In 1946 the Starks bought the home and property and hired Architect Vincent Anderson to plan the renovation of the old farmhouse and new additions.

The well preserved building this interior features that are remarkable for their fine state of maintenance, preservation and uniqueness. There are 22 rooms with a total of 6,500 square feet, marble slatted bathrooms, large walk-in cooler and white tiled walls from the Terra Cotta Company of Crystal Lake in the butler pantry - kitchen area.

The beautifully landscaped grounds and gardens reflect the good taste and planning characteristic of the property. Even the Starck family mementos like the unique fountains front and rear and the oval, hand formed inground 60's swimming pool, grace the five acres nominated by Calaudia Henning and Jerry Peters. Inside are also preserved many evidences of the Starcks horse raising and racing interests and successes.

The commissioners feel that because of its history and the importance of its history and the importance of its past owners to McHenry County history and even that of the nation, this structure and its surrounding acreage deserve landmark status. In addition, the Italianate-Victorian style and sympathetic additions designed by noted architect John V. Anderson, and the fact that this impressive Victorian structure can be shown to meet at least 8 of the 14 possible criteria of Section 4, Article III of the Historic Preservation Ordinance lead us to recommend landmark status to the McHenry County Board.