

McHenry County  
Historic Preservation Commission

1998  
ANNUAL  
REPORTS



McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission  
c/o McHenry County Dept. of Planning & Development  
2200 North Seminary - Woodstock, IL 60098  
815 - 334 - 4560

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## McHENRY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

### MEETING DATES FOR 1998

*January 7, 1998*

*February 4, 1998*

*March 4, 1998*

*April 1, 1998*

*May 6, 1998*

*June 3, 1998*

*July 1, 1998*

*August 5, 1998*

*September 2, 1998*

*October 7, 1998*

*November 4, 1998*

*December 2, 1998*

Meetings of the McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission are held at 7:00 p.m. in the Planning Department Conference Room of Annex Building A" of the McHenry County Government Center, 2200 N. Seminary Avenue, Woodstock, Illinois unless otherwise noticed.

## McHENRY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION FY 97-98 ANNUAL REPORT OVERVIEW

Development in McHenry County continues. Rural subdivisions and land expansion by municipalities hold the potential for continued loss of structures and landscapes. In light of development trends, the McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission is committed to creating a balanced perspective for the County, to help preserve that which is best and to support a county-wide coordinated effort to identify and protect valuable sites and structures before development encroaches upon them.

### I. Cases Reviewed

In fiscal year 1996-97 the Commission reviewed and granted one *Certificate of Appropriateness* (see Appendix A and Commission Minutes from August 5th). No *Certificates of Economic Hardship* were issued.

### II. Designations (See Appendix B.)

In fiscal year 1997-98 the Commission held two (2) public hearings for local landmark designations:

- **#HP 98-01: *The Miller (Müller) Family Chapel***, Johnsburg, Illinois, was formally designated a local McHenry County landmark on August 18, 1998 by a unanimous vote of the County Board.

In the early days of McHenry County, Johnsburg, known as the "Miller Settlement," was an area populated by migrant German catholic families. In 1878 this quaint chapel was constructed by Maria Nett Miller and her children in loving memory of her husband. The family (six children in all) remained on the farm and through the years the chapel has continued to be a place for prayer and family reunions.

The chapel has remained virtually unchanged since its construction. The inside has one simple pew, a few benches, religious statues, and an altar with freshly cut flowers. It is left unlocked, open to anyone. The Miller family act as caretakers for the property which is located on the northwest corner of Wilmot

and Ringwood Roads. The chapel was designated on the request of Susan Chambers, on behalf of the John B. Miller Family Chapel Corporation.

- **#HP 98-02:** Also on August 18, 1998, the McHenry County Board unanimously voted to designate the County's thirteenth local landmark, the ***Mount Auburn Cemetery***.

Located in the extreme northeastern corner of Dunham Township, the cemetery covers more than 45 acres and is the resting place for several members of the Ayer family. Eldridge Ayer founded the City of Harvard; Edward Ayer founded the Field Museum in Chicago; and many of Elgridge Ayer Burbank's paintings can be found hanging in the Smithsonian and in the Art Institute of Chicago.

Designated on the request of the Harvard Cemetery Association, Mount Auburn became the County's thirteenth landmark.

### III. Survey (See Appendix B)

During FY 1997-98, the Committee researched seven properties/natural features, two were plaqued, one is pending, one was found not to be worthy of additional consideration, and three property owners have not responded.

### IV. National Register

In fiscal year 1997-98 no National Register nominations were considered by the Commission. No National Register nominations are pending with the Commission.

### V. Monitoring

The Commission did not review nor identify any cases of alteration/demolition's to National Register or Illinois Register properties in McHenry County.

### VI. Activities

In March, Commissioner Carol Lockwood attended *Preservation Days* in Springfield. As a result of this conference and with the support of the Joint Council

of Local Historic Groups, a "McHenry County Most Endangered Historic Sites" list was compiled.

In June, Gail Drabant was invited to participate in Hinsdale's Preservation Lecture Series. Chairman Drabant gave a slide presentation and spoke about the County's Old House Support Group.

During the summer months, interns under the direction of Carol Lockwood completed photographing sites in Grafton, Algonquin, Nunda and McHenry Townships as part of the County's 1998 CLG Intensive Survey Grant.

In September, Tony Howard, Gloria Mack and Maryanne Wanaski attended the Illinois Historic Preservation Conference in Elgin. Also in September, Tony Howard, Chair of the Grants Sub-Committee, prepared a 1999 CLG grant application seeking appropriations for an educational booklet of photographs and pertinent historical data on each the County's landmarks. The publication, compiled as a "driving tour" guide, was denied funding.

Late in the fall, the Village of Huntley and the Commission began working on an intergovernmental agreement whereby the Village purposed adopting the County's *Preservation Ordinance*. Woodstock Street, located within the corporate limits of the Village, is one of the County's last remaining brick streets and, in order to qualify for historic funding through the TEA-21 grant, the street has to be designated a local landmark by a Certified Local Government. As the fiscal year ended, the Village was in the process of preparing a nomination application for the street. (See Commission Minutes from October 7th and November 3rd.)

The Calendar of Events and the Commission's Work Program for FY 1997-98 is included in Appendix F. Attendance sheet and resumes for new Commissioners can be found in Appendix G.

Respectfully submitted,

Maryanne Wanaski, Staff Liaison  
McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission

# MCHEMRY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

1/6/99 - Annual Report - 1 9 9 8 - Gail Drabant

## COMMISSION CHAIRMANSHIP:

McHenry County has continued in its endeavor to encourage historic preservation. Specifically the McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission has contributed in this goal in the past year by two major efforts.

The first was that the Commission conducted a very **successful awards program**. We had a large number of nominations and a large crowd that attended the ceremony. Through recognition of positive efforts, we can encourage more preservation. Also, this program raised the level of awareness of historic architecture. Since much of historic preservation is done by concerned individuals, this educational process is at the heart of preservation. We can accomplish much by preservation through education of individuals as to just what is appropriate historic restoration. We are looking forward to an equally successful awards program this next year.

As a side note from the positive encouragement, we also started this year an endangered historic sites list for McHenry County to demonstrate what can happen when preservation does not occur. We have decided to expand this program in the next year.

The other major area in which we as a commission encouraged preservation was in the area of the **adoption of municipal historic preservation ordinances**. This resulted in the passage of additional ordinances, such that two-thirds of the municipalities in McHenry County now have preservation ordinances and one-third of the villages have adopted preservation ordinances. We have targeted some of those other areas for next year.

In addition to these two main areas of emphasis in 1998, we continued with programs for the Old House Support Group during the first half of the year, hosted two Joint Council of Historic Groups meetings which get historic preservationists within our county communicating better among ourselves, and of course additional landmark designations.

It has been an honor to serve as the commission chairman and I will do my best to work towards accomplishing these goals for next year as stated above.

## Survey Committee Annual Report

In March of 1998 the Committee was contacted to see if the Commission could designate the Pistakee Bay Bridge. There was a political situation regarding repairs to the bridge. Who exactly controlled the bridge was the question that needed to be addressed. Members of the Survey Committee met with a citizens' group and later with a gentleman who desired to keep the bridge as is. In the ensuing investigation, it was determined, by the Committee, that the bridge was the property of the State of Illinois and that it might be better for the citizens of the area to set up an historical district that encompassed the bridge. There are excellent summer homes and a beach area on the bay that would make for a quaint historical district. Applications were left with the group of home owners; to date the Commission has not been contacted.

The Committee investigated the home of William Gates, the original owner of the Terra Cotta factory just outside of Crystal Lake. The owners did not desire to take any action on this property at the present time.

In '98 we honored the Miller/Mueller Chapel north of Johnsburg. On a beautiful Sunday, the Miller family celebrated their annual family Mass and after the service the Vice-Chair of the McHenry County Board, Don Doherty, presented the bronze designation plaque to the family. It was very well received.

Also in the fall the Commission designated the Mount Auburn Cemetery in Harvard. Mary Lou Zierer, a McHenry County Board Member, presented the plaque. In conjunction with the plaqueing, the Harvard Cemetery Association, held a walk and had various reenactors give historical talks. The program was well attended.

The most exciting news was that Commissioner Carol Lockwood found a witness tress in Coral Township. The Committee along with Everette Thomas, a local historian, and Ed Collins from the McHenry County Conservation District started researching the history of the tree. We have now obtained the notes from the original surveyors that confirm the authenticity of the witness tree. Hopefully, the tree will be plaqued by May.

The last piece of business was just started at the end of this year. The Village of Huntley is in the process of submitting an application for designating approximately three blocks of Woodstock Street, a brick paved street in the heart of the village.

One last note, while on our way to survey the witness tree in Coral Township, the Committee also traveled to the Liberty School in Riley Township. This building has many original components and its possible landmarking should be followed up by the Committee. It is owned by a trust. A packet was sent, but to date the Commission has had no reply from the owners.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jim Keefe, Survey Committee Chairman

*McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission*

Communications Committee year-end 1998 Report

Submitted by: Jennifer Iftner/chairperson

In 1998 efforts were made to keep historic preservation in McHenry County in the news. This was accomplished by maintaining good relations with the local press, the *Northwest Herald* and the *Chicago Tribune*. The McHenry County Historical Society was also instrumental in notifying newspapers and publications of scheduled events and news stories. A month by month summary of news featuring either the **McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission**, or preservation in the county by other local groups, or news relating to the Commission and its efforts follows.

January 1998

- *Northwest Herald*

"Tracking the Underground Railroad"

- the Charles Hibbard House, local preservation groups

"Old Barn' salutes county's culture"

- local preservation of barns, McHenry County Historical Society

- *Chicago Tribune*

"Residents rally 'round endangered area barn"

- the year of the barn

February 1998

- *Northwest Herald*

"Top 10' Aims at Preservation"

- efforts of Joint Council of Historic Groups

"County groups hope to preserve past perfection"

- Joint Council of Historic Groups

"Commission helps Woodstock preserve properties"

- Woodstock Historic Preservation Commission

"Building on History - Trost and group work to revive old house"

- Old House Support Group

- *Chicago Tribune*

"Experts give tips on preservation to history buffs"

- Joint Council of Historic Groups

March 1998

- *Chicago Tribune*

"Categories expanded for preservation awards"

- MCHPC, award ceremony, Gail Drabant

April 1998

- *Chicago Tribune*

"Love of historic homes leads buff to catalog county's historic gems"

- Gail Drabant, MCHPC



June 1998

- *Northwest Herald*

letter to the editor about endangered sites

- awards ceremony, Gail Drabant, MCHPC

"Ceremony honors hard work of building owners who brought history to life"

- MCHPC, awards ceremony, Gail Drabant

- *Chicago Tribune*

"Woodstock Restoration wins honor"

- MCHPC, awards ceremony, Gail Drabant, endangered sites

July 1998

- *Northwest Herald*

"Square restorations honored for efforts"

- MCHPC, awards ceremony, Gail Drabant

- *Chicago Tribune*

"Home restorers' efforts earn historical designation"

- feature about award ceremony winner

"Past perfect"

- MCHPC, Gloria Mack, Joint Council of Historic Groups

August 1998

- *Northwest Herald*

"Cemetery walk offers rare glimpse into Harvard area history, artistry"

- MCHPC plaquing

"Mount Auburn Cemetery nears landmark status"

- MCHPC, Jim Keefe

- *Chicago Tribune*

"New Life for Old Grounds"

- Jim Pearson, preservation

September 1998

- *McHenry County Landscapes/MCCD*

"Drabant coordinates historic house restoration"

- Gail Drabant, MCHPC, Powers-Walker House

- *Chicago Tribune*

"A living piece of history"

- MCHPC, Carol Lockwood, witness tree

November 1998

- *Chicago Tribune*

"Historic oak gets a new outlook"

- MCHPC, Carol Lockwood

Exposure in the press and communications between the commission and other historic preservation continues to play an important role in historic preservation in McHenry County. It is hopeful that the internet and development of a web-page will further enhance local efforts at historic preservation and restoration.

## McHenry County Joint Council of Historic Groups Annual Report

Submitted by: Gloria Mack

The McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission and the McHenry County Historic Society are cosponsors of the McHenry County Joint Council Group. The Joint Council is comprised of members of the many historic groups in our County. The purpose of the Council is to increase communication between the historic groups and landmark commissions in McHenry County. Our meetings are hosted by the historic groups and we meet semi-annually. An important project the Group is currently working on is a comprehensive list of the most endangered sites in McHenry County.

The *Algonquin Landmark Commission* hosted the first Joint Council meeting of 1998 on February 25th. We met at the historic Algonquin City Hall. The City of Algonquin recently constructed a new municipal center and the "old" City Hall now houses the Algonquin Landmark Commission. A tour of the historic Algonquin Hall was given. Our speaker for the evening was Mike Ward of the State of Illinois Historic Office. Mr. Ward spoke on the problems preservation is confronted with. He also spoke about the importance of preservation ordinances, noting that legal protection was the only real protection for our historic treasures. A question and answer session followed.

The *Cary Historic Society* hosted the second meeting of 1998 on September 23rd. We met at the Cary Station Museum, in Village of Cary. Attendees were encouraged to peruse the artifacts at the museum. Our speaker for the evening was Rocco Zucchero of IDOT. He spoke of the funds available for preservation in the areas of transportation. His information was of particular interest to the group from Huntley. The Village of Huntley has a historic brick street that is in disrepair. The Village of Huntley is now working with the McHenry County Historic Commission in an effort to gain funding to *preserve* historic Woodstock Street in the Village of Huntley.

The Joint Council of Historic Groups is making a difference in McHenry County. As McHenry County continues to be the fastest growing County in the State. The Joint Council has the challenge of preserving, for future generations, what best represents our heritage.

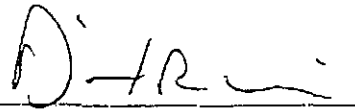
**MCHENRY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**  
**MUNICIPAL LIAISON COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT**

It is a one person committee. The Municipal Liaison Committee did not conduct regularly scheduled monthly meetings. The areas of concentration over the past year have been somewhat dominated by the Huntley intergovernmental agreement. The police report that we have an intergovernmental agreement with the municipality of Huntley similar to the agreement reached with Cary and Bull Valley. The remaining work with Huntley will be the consideration of the Woodstock Street application.

The other areas of accomplishment would be the passing of the Historic Preservation Ordinance by the City of McHenry. The proposed ordinance was highly publicized and an issue of a number of debates. Algonquin was also able to pass their Historic Preservation Ordinance under similar conditions.

For the upcoming year we have now added Michael Walkup to the committee. I look forward to turning over the committee to his capable leadership. I intend to continue to serve under Mr. Walkup. The immediate goal for the upcoming year is to begin attending McHenry County Municipal dinners and make a presentation at one of the dinners in the future.

1/26/98



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David R. Gervais, Chairperson,  
McHenry County Historic Preservation  
Municipal Liaison Committee

# **MCHENRY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

1/6/99 - Annual Report - 1998 - Gail Drabant

## OLD HOUSE SUPPORT GROUP:

The OHSG met in March, April and May during 1998. We took a longer than normal summer break that extended into the fall while trying to get new volunteers to help with the planning and organizing.

Programs during 1998 included:

**"Joint Council of Historic Groups"** meeting. (All OHSG members were invited to attend this meeting as a way to familiarize the members as to what other historical efforts are being done in McHenry County.)

**"Prioritizing Old House Projects"** ~ Presented by Gail Drabant and Shelly Trost at the historic Col. Palmer house in Crystal Lake. We had a good attendance and shared many experiences with the "mushroom factor". We then toured the house.

**"Garfield Farm House & Museum tour"** ~ We gathered for a group field trip to view this historic homestead in Kane County. We got many restoration ideas, especially those working with Greek Revival houses. The authentic nature of the site took us back in time. It was very enjoyable.

**"Member's Meeting"** ~ Hosted by the Walkup's in one of McHenry County's finest Greek Revival homes. This is one of only a few cobblestone Greek Revival homes in McHenry County. Descendants of the original family now own the home and are in the process of restoring the house. This event was well-attended and very appreciated.

## 1998 HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARDS:

The fifth annual McHenry County Historic Preservation Awards were presented in May sponsored by the McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission. Awards were presented in 9 categories. We had a good assortment of nominations and had over fifty people in attendance at the awards ceremony held at the historic Dole Mansion in Crystal Lake.

This event is becoming more widely known around the county. We are hoping for another very successful awards program in 1999. The huge success of the 1998 awards was directly a result of the active involvement of several commission members who served on the committee. Many thanks to David, Tony, Gloria, Jennifer and Carol. Also, I am now passing chairmanship of this committee for 1999 to co-chairmen Tony & David. The commission greatly supports this program that encourages and recognizes historic preservation efforts in McHenry County. See attached publication for details on the specific categories and award winners.

## PUBLICATIONS:

Publications produced in 1998 included:

- ~ County Preservation Awards press releases, award certificates, award ceremony programs and recipient's listing.
- ~ Joint Council of Historic Groups handouts, mailings and programs.

## Historical Restoration: MCCD Greek Revival Restoration:

*(Re: Powers-Walker house built in 1854 by Elon & Mary Powers, located on Harts Road in Glacial Park.)*

The commission continued to encourage and support the volunteer efforts to restore this house this year. It is appreciated that the commission has "shared" their chairman to also function as project coordinator for this historic site. I feel greatly inspired by my fellow commissioners. The commission has continued to support the volunteer efforts this year by attendance at a public program "Harvest Gathering". This house will be used as an interpretive historical site for the time-period 1858 through 1861. Four programs were held in 1998. Seven are planned for 1999 including costumed volunteers interpreting the settler time-period. This is a wonderful historic preservation opportunity.

MCHENRY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

GRANTS COMMITTEE 1998 YEAR-END REPORT

J. ANTHONY HOWARD, CHAIRMAN

Our committee's main focus this year was to seek funding for a publication. Maryanne Wanaski, Staff Liason, and I met on two occasions during the month of September, 1998, to finalize our grant proposal to the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency for a Certified Local Government grant.

The project was to have been a publication depicting the various properties currently listed on our county historic register. Contained therein would have been a brief history of each property along with at least one photo. The whole concept was to have been geared to that of a self-guided driving tour as opposed to a walking tour due to the relatively large area needing to be covered. Our intent was to educate the public about the importance and value of historic preservation by providing an easily-read and informative guide to our historic sites while at the same time allowing a leisurely drive through some of the most beautiful areas of our county.

Unfortunately, our project was not selected for funding by the I.H.P.A. We do consider this to be a worthwhile endeavor and intend to continue forward either by resubmitting our grant proposal in 1999 or through alternate funding sources or both.

*McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission*  
Endangered Sites Committee Year-end 1998 Report  
Submitted by: Jennifer Iftner

It was determined in early 1998, by Commission members, that the *McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission* should have a committee on Endangered Sites.

The purpose of this committee is to identify endangered sites in the county. These sites would then be cataloged, tracked, and brought to local public attention.

At the May 1998 Awards Ceremony, a list of sites which had been identified in McHenry County was discussed. Since that date, one of these properties has actually been demolished (Civil War home of 114 E. Main St., Algonquin). See attached list.

This topic was again brought up at the Joint Council of Historic Groups meeting held in September in Cary, Illinois. At this meeting, a list was circulated to obtain names of people interested in serving on this committee. Several names were obtained.

This committee will meet several times in 1999 to identify, photograph and discuss more endangered historic sites in McHenry County.



McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission  
c/o McHenry County Dept. of Planning & Development  
2200 North Seminary - Woodstock, IL 60098  
815 - 334 - 4560

## McHenry County's Most Endangered Historic Sites

Several local historical groups have begun to compile a list of sites which are in danger of being destroyed or are being neglected. At a meeting of the Joint Council of Historic Groups, held in Algonquin in February, time was devoted to a serious discussion of this problem.

The following is a list of sites/buildings which were cited and are of concern to preservationists.

### Algonquin

- ~ *James Philip, Esq., Home* - 1856 structure may be demolished - oldest brick residence in this town. first historically plaqued structure in county
- ~ *St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church* - 1914 Gothic Revival - may be replaced with a new church
- ~ *Peter Bros Factory (Toastmaster)* - 1911 factory with important local historical ties
- ~ *Riverview Hotel (Charles Van der Aue Hotel)* - tourist hotel of early 1900's

### Crystal Lake

- ~ *Col. Palmer House* - Greek Revival brick structure - needs new volunteers to help take care of
- ~ *Holcombville School* - Greek Revival one room schoolhouse. German style brickwork
- ~ *Sull Summer Home* - located on Crystal Lake

### Fox River Grove

- ~ *Ligot Garden Castle and Windmill*

### Huntley

- ~ *Woodstock St.* - original exposed brick paved road. one of very few left in county

### Lake in the Hills

- ~ *The Hain House* - a late 19th century house on the main lake

### Marengo

- ~ *Charles H. Hibbard House* - 1848 Italianate falling into ruin from neglect

### McHenry

- ~ *McHenry's East Campus*
- ~ *Town Club* - the county's first courthouse

### Richmond

- ~ *Memorial Hall* - built 1906 - gift to community by Chas. McConnell, the grandson of Wm. McConnell who was the first settler in Richmond Township
- ~ *Dr. Bennett House* - Greek revival house built in early 1850's; Dr. Bennett was the first village president and the first gradeschool principal
- ~ *Wooden Railway Bridge* - represented on the village logo, it is only remaining one as the other one in Richmond was removed

### Woodstock

- ~ *John A. Kennedy House* - 1853 Greek Revival on Rte. 14

### Countywide

- ~ *Cemeteries* - there may be dozens of unprotected or abandoned cemeteries in the county which should be preserved

*List compiled May 1998*



**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

February 18, 1999

Ms. Amy Slocombe  
Local Government Services Manager  
Illinois Historic Preservation Agency  
Old State Capitol  
Springfield, Illinois 62701

Re: McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission  
Annual Report for FY1997-98

Dear Ms. Slocombe,

Enclosed please find a copy of the above referenced report. This documents the activities of the Commission over the last year and should, I believe, satisfy one of the requirements of the agreement between McHenry County and the IHPA for Local Government Certification.

Thank you for the "grace" period. The extra time is truly appreciated. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact met at 815/334-4560. Again, thank you.

Sincerely,

Maryanne Wanaski, Staff Liaison  
McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission

enclosure





1 Old State Capitol Plaza • Springfield, Illinois 62701-1507 • (217) 782-4836 • TTY (217) 524-7128

February 23, 1999

Maryanne Wanaski, Planner  
Dept. of Planning & Development  
2200 N. Seminary Ave., Annex Bldg.A  
Woodstock, IL 60098

Dear Maryanne,

Thank you for submitting McHenry County's annual report for fiscal year 1998. After reviewing the report, I have determined that McHenry County has met the requirements of the Certified Local Government (CLG) program.

The commission did an excellent job during the past year. It should consider nominating itself for the Illinois Association of Historic Preservation Commission's Local Preservation Award.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 217/785-5730.

Sincerely,



Amy Slocombe  
Local Government Services  
Manager

CLG: annual report

McHenry County  
Historic Preservation Commission

1998

Monthly Reports

Memos, and

Attachments



McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission  
c/o McHenry County Dept. of Planning & Development  
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## McHENRY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

### MEETING DATES FOR 1998

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**MCHENRY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**  
**1998 AWARDS COMMITTEE**  
**Minutes ~ 1/21/98**

The Awards Committee meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. with the following commission members present:

David Gervais, Tony Howard, Carol Lockwood & Gail Drabant.

The minutes from the 12/10/97 Awards Committee meeting were approved. (Dave motion, Tony second)

It was decided that the nominations will be closed as of March 15th. This is an extension from the original date of March 1st. This will give us more time to get nominations and will still give us time to review them at the March Awards Committee meeting (March 18th). It was further decided that all of the nominations would be reviewed at that meeting and we would qualify each nomination (whether it fits the category) and make assignments as to everyone for obtaining more information where necessary.

It further determined that we would need a checklist/worksheet for each nomination to better organize the information and fill in the needed information. At the April Awards Committee meeting we will make assignments to get full information, slides, photos and then do a mailing to all qualified nominees.

It was moved, seconded, discussed, amended and voted on to replace the word "with" on Category # 5 with the words "in Continuous Use or". The intent was not to exclude properties that started out as a commercial structure and are still used in the same function.

Concerning rules and procedures, it was determined that the entire commission will vote on the awards with a voting list/ballot passed out prior to the review of nominations. Then there will be one vote by secret ballot for the entire awards. However, the issue as to how to determine whether a nomination should receive an honorable mention or not was tabled to the next committee meeting. Consideration was given to using a weighted voting and also as to the amount of nominations in the category.

Tony was able to get permission to have the awards ceremony on May 31st at 2:00 at the Dole Mansion. All of the committee was in accordance that having the ceremony at a historic site would be appropriate and preferable.

The next Awards Committee meeting will be held on Feb. 11th at 7:00 p.m. at David Gervais' office.

This meeting was adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

Minutes from the continued meeting of February 4th;

Meeting was continued from the Farm Bureau parking at 9:00 am. Present were Jim Keefe, survey chairman and two members of the committee, Dave Gervais and Mark Balasi.

The first stop at 9:30 am was the Bay View Bridge on the western side of Johnsburg on the Lake County line. The bridge is over a causeway on Pistakee lake. It is owned by the State of Illinois. It has a great history which was presented in the request for historic designation. We met Frank G----- and his wife on the bridge. They represented some of the neighbors in their concern for the condition of the bridge. We had been called earlier by a Steve Nunneman, who was unable to make the meeting. We later on had a meeting with the petitioner Paul Theis. In the discussions with both parties, it became apparent that a historical district may be an answer to some of their questions. They want to preserve the area which is rich in history. Our Commission could not solve their bridge problems as we have no control over the State. The area lends itself to a district with many beautiful historical locations and a concern by the people. Dave Gervais indicated we would be happy to meet with them at any time to discuss the district.

The next stop was the Miller Chapel at the corner of Johnsburg-Wilmont rd and Miller rd. A application is to be filled out by the Miller trust to protect the property.

Our committee then saw the Richardson home of Spring Grove, toured Alden, viewing the schoolhouse and the mill, then to Harvard where we saw the Sommers home on Brink St and the Auburn Cem. Scott Sommers has a application for the Cemetery.

Then down the highway to the Wm Estrada house at the corner on Vermont Rd and Gardenvally Rd in Seneca Twp. We viewed the home with a walk by as no one was home.

Went then to Franklinville and saw Perkins Hall and the Grange hall owner by Lisa Kelly, who has a application.

We returned to Woodstock and ajoined the meeting at 12:35 PM.



## Report of Survey Committee

Christmas party was a success. It should be held every year. It was great having past members meeting the newer ones.

The cost was right on. Thirteen were there and all paid(286) The bill came to \$286.40 with no tax. We got desert at no extra cost.

The application for the Bay View Lane Bridge was submitted in December to me. It will be presented tonight.

We should have a drive by for three locations as they are turning in apps.

- 1) Bay View Lane Bridge
- 2) Kelly House in Franklinville
- 3) Miller Church north of Johnsburg.

Lets do it on a Sat. morn in Feb. 7th---14th----21----28th.

## **MCHENRY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

**2/4/98 - Committee Report - Gail Drabant**

### **OLD HOUSE SUPPORT GROUP:**

In December we met at the Don & Sherry Brewer's house in Algonquin for a holiday Open House. We will not be meeting in January due to weather problems and low turn-out in previous year's January meetings. For February, all of the OHSG members are invited to the Joint Council of Historic Groups meeting on Feb. 25th.

### **1998 HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARDS:**

We have now had three Awards committee meetings. Categories have been set, the nomination form has been revised, and the categories have been further defined. We have also planned the awards ceremony for May 31st at the Dole Mansion.

The deadline for submitting nominations is March 15th. We are encouraging all commission members, historic group members, county board members and village/city/township officials to submit nominations from their area so that all parts of the county can be represented. Please use the nomination form included in the minutes for award nominations. At this point the major emphasis is on getting the word out and receiving in turn several nominations. Have you submitted yours yet?

The help that the committee is providing this year is greatly appreciated. Thanks, Gloria, David, Tony, Carol and Jennifer. The next Awards committee meeting will be held February 11th at 7:00pm at David Gervais' office (Rt. 176 & Walkup in Crystal Lake). Everyone is invited to attend or forward input.

### **PUBLICATIONS:**

The new revised Contact List for the Joint Council of Historic Groups has been produced. Also a mailing was done to a representative of each group (over 20 groups) as a notice of the upcoming meeting.

### **JOINT COUNCIL OF HISTORIC GROUPS:**

The next meeting will be held February 25th at 7:30pm at the Historic Algonquin Village Hall (Rt. 62 & Rt. 31). We are very fortunate to have Mike Ward, Local Government Services Coordinator, of the Illinois Preservation Agency as our guest speaker. This will be an important meeting not to miss.

### **MCCD Greek Revival Restoration:** *(Re: Glacial Park Powers-Walker house built in 1854 by Elon & Mary Powers)*

Although work been limited by weather conditions. We have replanned for the next year's budget and major tasks. We have had additional interest by others wishing to volunteer on the project. We also had a planning meeting for possible types of programs that would be appropriate for the Powers-Walker site. Several programs were proposed in the general areas of nature and historic interpretation. The site will be ready to start programs later this year.

McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission  
Vistas Committee  
February 4, 1998

The notice that I put in the Illinois Professional Land Surveyor's Association Newsletter for information about witness trees has attracted one response so far. John A. Ernst of Survey Systems of America in Dundee replied to the "blurb" via e-mail and wrote that he and some of his co-workers would be willing to volunteer some time to help with field investigation and data collection. He's worked in northeastern Illinois and northern Wisconsin and wrote that he once was on a project which located a witness tree, including its inscriptions. He did warn me that it's very unlikely that any witness trees in this county would be left standing, but he must think that it's still worth some more leg work.

I'm arranging a time for us to meet next week to discuss the plan of action.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Carol Lockwood



Minutes from the continued meeting of February 4th;

Meeting was continued from the Farm Bureau parking at 9:00 am. Present were Jim Keefe, survey chairman and two members of the committee, Dave Gervais and Mark Balasi.

The first stop at 9:30 am was the Bay View Bridge on the western side of Johnsburg on the Lake County line. The bridge is over a causeway on Pistakee lake. It is owned by the State of Illinois. It has a great history which was presented in the request for historic designation. We met Frank ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ and his wife on the bridge. They represented some of the neighbors in their concern for the condition of the bridge. We had been called earlier by a Steve Nunneman, who was unable to make the meeting. We later on had a meeting with the petitioner Paul Theis. In the discussions with both parties, it became apparent that a historical district may be an answer to some of their questions. They want to preserve the area which is rich in history. Our Commission could not solve their bridge problems as we have no control over the State. The area lends itself to a district with many beautiful historical locations and a concern by the people. Dave Gervais indicated we would be happy to meet with them at any time to discuss the district.

The next stop was the Miller Chapel at the corner of Johnsburg-Wilmont rd and Miller rd. An application is to be filled out by the Miller trust to protect the property.

Our committee then saw the Richardson home of Spring Grove, toured Alden, viewing the schoolhouse and the mill, then to Harvard where we saw the Sommers home on Brink St and the Auburn Cem. Scott Sommers has an application for the Cemetery.

Then down the highway to the Wm Estrada house at the corner on Vermont Rd and Gardenvalley Rd in Seneca Twp. We viewed the home with a walk by as no one was home.

Went then to Franklinville and saw Perkins Hall and the Grange hall owner by Lisa Kelly, who has an application.

We returned to Woodstock and rejoined the meeting at 12:35 PM.



**MCHENRY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**  
**1998 AWARDS COMMITTEE**  
**Minutes ~ 3/18/98**

The Awards Committee meeting was called to order at 7:20 p.m. with the following commission members present:

David Gervais, Tony Howard, Carol Lockwood & Gail Drabant.

The minutes from the 2/11/98 awards committee meeting were approved (Motion by David, Tony seconded) as presented.

The Dole Mansion was confirmed by Tony as the site of the Awards presentation. Tony will check on the availability of screen, refreshments, etc. We will confirm in writing the arrangements for that day.

It was resolved that the award certificates will be framed suitably for their significance.

The remainder of the meeting was spent sorting and qualifying nominations. There were over thirty nominations received. Each was examined as to whether or not it fit in the category. A few had to be recategorized. David is going to make copies and send the copies to the other award committee members, so that they can obtain more information where needed.

The next Awards Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 7th at David Gervais' office.

Tony made a motion at 9:31pm (with Carol seconding it ) to continue the meeting to the April 7th date.

337-3720

2/21/98

**Report of Survey Committee in regard to the Bay View Bridge**

**Jim Keefe, Mark Balasi, And Dave Gervais met with the petitioner and others and informed them we cannot do anything about the bridge as we do not have the authority. It is owned by the State of Illinois. I checked with Mike Ward of the State Historic Preservation Commission and he told me we can do nothing.**

**A discussion was held on the site about a historical district and my impression a application will be coming**

**I'm enclosing a report I just got from Mark. WOW!**

  
Jim Keefe

4 copies

McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission  
Vistas Committee  
March 4, 1998

Good news and bad news. I met with John Ernst, a surveyor who lives in Crystal Lake and who is willing to help me hunt for witness trees. He looked over the field notes that I have and after asking me a few questions about my "method" gently informed me that due to a misinterpretation of a direction bearing code, I did not make any accurate measurements in my previous attempts to find witness/bearing trees (I guess it's just as well that I didn't get any further than I did!). We are scheduled to meet on Sunday March 8, at 9:00 am at Country Junction Restaurant (Route 20 & Harmony Road) to start a tree-hunt - and so that he can show me the proper way to follow survey directions. Anyone wishing to join us is more than welcome.

I received one more response for my notice in the Illinois Surveyors' Newsletter. Jeff Carlson, who is a surveyor and lives in Coral township, says that he has played around with the 1837 survey notes in the past and is pretty certain that he had located a witness tree in the township. I must arrange a meeting with him to go out in the field!

I spent some time at the Historical Museum in Union looking through John Brink's field notes when he was the county surveyor in the nineteenth century. His notes were very difficult to decipher but I found one or two references to his location/use of the original government witness/bearing trees. Most of the trees he used for bearings did not seem to be related to the government survey - although that doesn't have to preclude historical significance of the other trees he used. He seemed to have done a lot of work in parts of what is now incorporated into Algonquin, so I set most of that aside and concentrated on the areas he covered which are still unincorporated. Some of Brink's ledgers included some brief notes from Barber and Captain Tryon, who did a lot of surveys related to the laying out of roads or re-establishing township lines in the county.

I'll see if either Ernst or Carlson have any advice or comments about the trees that were mentioned in these notes.

Moving away from Vistas: I'll be attending Preservation Days in Springfield on March 24-25. If there are any topics that you want me to try to bring before our district legislators, let me know.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Lockwood

*March 3, 1998*

*Public Relations Report  
McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission*

*In February the local newspapers were faxed a sheet detailing the current activities of the Commission. As to whether anything prior to the Joint Council meeting in Algonquin was published, I am not sure.*

*A reporter from the Star Newspapers contacted me at work about doing a piece on the Commission and the Joint Council meeting. Since I was unable to attend that event, due to a scheduled professional conflict, I referred the reporter to Gail Drabant. She mentioned that they planned to do a piece on the Old House Support Group, but put that on hold since the Herald already ran one.*

*I am including two submissions for the Preservation Awards.*

*Sincerely,*

*Jennifer Iftner*

February 17, 1998

To: News Bureau/Community Editor/News Director

Dear Community Editor,

The *McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission* has several events planned which we feel are newsworthy. The first item of interest is our third Joint Council of Historic Groups which will take place on February 25, 1998. The second item is our Historic Preservation Awards. We are currently soliciting nominations for this honor. Thirdly, we are seeking a new member for the *McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission*.

I don't know how you would like to handle this. You could run these news items in one story, or run them at different times. I am including a brief write up for each topic and you can feel free to use the information as best suits your needs. If you have any questions or need additional information, I may be contacted at work (Harvard Travel - 815 943-7921) or in the evening at home (815 943-6776). I am also including in this fax a copy of our nomination form. If you could run it in the paper with the story so that it could be clipped out and mailed in, that would be wonderful. I do understand if space does not allow this.

Jennifer Eftner  
(Commissioner)

Finally, we welcome news coverage at any regularly scheduled commission meeting and hope to see you at our Joint Council of Historic Groups this month.

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#### HISTORIC GROUPS TO MEET ON FEBRUARY 25

On February 25 at 7:30 pm the McHenry County Joint Council of Historic Groups will meet at the Algonquin Historic Village Hall. This is the third meeting of this council which explores a shared interest in the preservation of history in this county. All interested parties are invited to attend.

The Algonquin Historic Preservation Commission is hosting the meeting and will offer a tour of the Village Hall. The featured speaker will be Mike Ward, the Local Government Services Coordinator, who will emphasize the importance of historic preservation ordinances and practical application of these ordinances.

The meeting will also focus on sites which may be at risk for a potential historic loss. A list will be compiled of McHenry County's Most Endangered Historic Sites.

Parking is available at the rear of the building. Light refreshments will be served.

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## **MCHENRY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

**3/4/98 - Committee Report - Gail Drabant**

### **OLD HOUSE SUPPORT GROUP:**

For February, all of the OHSG members were invited to the Joint Council of Historic Groups meeting on Feb. 25th. For March we are having a program on prioritizing house projects to be held at the Palmer House on March 12th. In April we will be doing a field trip to Garfield Farm on April 18th. In May, the Walkup's, the new owners of the historic Walkup House, will be hosting our meeting. This is one of our commission landmarked sites.

### **1998 HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARDS:**

We are now accepting nominations, but only till March 15th. Don't let the time run out. Get nominations in now!

Please note the enclosed further definition of the award categories. We have also planned the awards ceremony for May 31st at the Dole Mansion.

The next Awards committee meeting will be held March 18th at 7:00pm at David Gervais' office (Rt. 176 & Walkup in Crystal Lake). Everyone is invited to attend or forward input.

### **PUBLICATIONS:**

None needed or produced this month.

### **JOINT COUNCIL OF HISTORIC GROUPS:**

This meeting held Feb. 25th at the Historic Village Hall was a great success. We had about fifty people in attendance. The talk provided by Mike Ward, Local Government Services Coordinator, of the Illinois Preservation Agency, was very informative. There was also a lot of information exchanged by all in attendance. Many thanks also to the Village of Algonquin and the Algonquin Historic Preservation Commission for hosting this meeting. The next meeting will be held September 23rd at 7:30pm.

### **MCCD Greek Revival Restoration:** *(Re: Glacial Park Powers-Walker house built in 1854 by Elon & Mary Powers)*

Although we have gotten back into work tasks now that the weather is more agreeable, time has still been somewhat limited. We are looking forward to a productive spring.

## McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission

3/4/98 - Mark Balasi, Archival Reference Committee

**WEB PAGE** - On Feb. 25 I received a message from Carle Pohrte of McHenry County Information Services indicating he was ready to create a page for the Historic Preservation Commission on the county's web site. I contacted Chuck Marke in the McHenry County Planning department, who I understood was developing the Planning Department web page and had the MCHPC draft web page, and asked him to contact Mr. pohrte and coordinate his efforts with him. On Feb. 26 I left a voice mail message with Mr. Pohrte informing him that Mr. Marke was in possession of the Preservation Commission's preliminary web page design and told him to expect a call from Mr. marke to coordinate their efforts.

Mr. Pohrte return my call on the 26th and inquired why Mr. Marke was involved. I indicated that the Commission's web page material had been passed on to the Planning Department after I had reported to the Commission in December that he had told me a \$250 consulting fee to Information Services was required to develop the page. Mr. Pohrte said he would talk with Mr. marke and get back to me. I then received a call from Maryanne Wanaski who indicated that for now the planning Department will be putting the Commission's web information on the Planning Departments web page. She requested that I prepare a one page Web Page for the 3/4/98 Commission Meeting. The draft is attached.

**LIBRARY** - On Feb. 21 the survey committee visited the home of Mr. Peter Theis. Mr. Theis made a loan of a copy of his grandfather's autobiography and a picture postcard of his home on Pistakee Lake to the Historic Preservation Commission's Reference Library.





WELCOME TO THE McHENRY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION WEB SITE !

To learn more about.....

- \* Calendar of Events
- \* Awards programs
- \* County Historical Landmarks
- \* Landmark Criteria
- \* Forms for Landmark Nomination
- \* Old House Support Group
- \* Resource Library
- \* Commissioners

Contact the Commission's Staff Liaison.....

Maryanne Wanaski  
McHenry County Dept. of Planning and Development

Phone (815) 334-4561  
Fax (815) 337-3720

LOOK FOR OUR EXPANDED WEB SITE IN THE MONTHS TO COME !

The Commission was established in 1991 to assist in educating the people of the County of McHenry regarding their historic heritage and to help preserve historic landmarks in unincorporated areas of the County. To fulfill our mission the Historic Preservation Commission has established the following goals:

**GOALS:**

1. Landmark and preserve the County's most important historic and natural sites, districts and landscapes.
2. Foster municipal cooperation to ensure longterm preservation.
3. Cultivate public knowledge of our historic heritage.
4. Maintain the character of the County through cooperation with developers.
5. Promote economic development that benefits preservation.

To meet these goals the Commission is actively involved on an ongoing basis in the development and support of programs and initiatives to promote historic preservation:

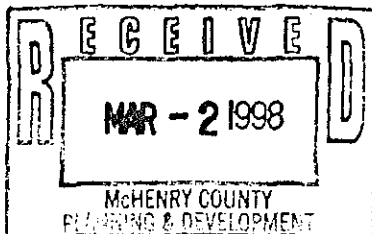
**PROGRAMS:**

- Preservation Awards Program
- Preservation Library
- Tax Assessment Freeze Program
- Historic Tours
- Old House Support Group
- Historic Site Surveys
- Grant Programs
- Educational Programs

**LANDMARK PRESERVATION:**

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

Contact the Commission for more information on the application process.



February 26, 1998

Dear Fellow Commissioners,

It is with sadness that I submit my resignation to the McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission. I was on the commission from its onset, and have most enjoyed working with all of you, especially Jim and the survey committee.

I have moved out of the county, having reconciled with my husband, who lives in Stephenson County.

I will miss the Commission lots, and hope to get involved in the Rockford area as soon as I am able. You are all doing great and important work.

Hope to see you all again some day.

Sincerely Yours,

Nancy Welch  
212 Lake Summerset Rd.  
Davis, IL.  
61019

### **Survey Committee Report**

**Received a letter from Banner Realty in regard to older apartment type bldgs. They like to restore older buildings and lease out apts.**

**Contacted Scott Summers and a member of his committee will fill out survey forms for the Mt. Auburn cemetery. It was necessary for me to drive <sup>OUR</sup> and give the forms to Sonia Stafford as she did not know who had them She will fill out as they want it plaqued.**

**Received a report from Mark Balasi in regard to Trail End in Crystal Lake. I drove to the house and no one was present. The residence was in disrepair but I took pictures and they are included in report. There was a second dwelling on the location and it was half burned down. I do not know the owners as there was no one around. (This reminds me . I need more cards)**

**I received from Gail the application for the Millers Chapel. It will be acted upon tonight.**

**While in Rockford last week I saw Nancy Welch. Looks great and happy. The change has done her good.**

**I believe we should do something about the request of J. Elaine Obenchain about the cemeteries of our county. I dont know what however.**

**Jim Keefe**

McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission  
April 15, 1998  
Vistas Committee / *Natural Features*

Due to the varied definitions of the word "vistas" the committee would like to rename itself. I propose that the "Vistas Committee" be known in the future as the "Natural Features Committee."

Our goals for 1998 include: the identification of c.1837 wooded areas which still survive in order to narrow our search for original bearing (witness) trees; the continued search for original bearing trees; initiating background research on other types of original survey monuments; initiating research for other types of natural features in the county.

I met with John Ernst and one of his colleagues (both surveyors) on the morning of March 8 to double-check the locations I'd looked at last summer/autumn - accurately this time. Unfortunately, the new inspection didn't bring us any closer to witness trees. However, we didn't get through very many sights because the very stormy weather eventually got the better of us. They suggested that we look through the Records Office for Monument Records which would note any sightings of markers/trees/etc. at places that have been surveyed. They warned me however, that just because surveyors are supposed to record monuments, that doesn't mean that it always gets done. I haven't yet had a chance to inspect the records.

\*\*\*\*\*

I attended Preservation Days in Springfield on March 24-25. The Landmarks Preservation Council announced the 10 Most Endangered Historic Places in Illinois - none in McHenry County, happily - and then sent us out to lobby our legislators in regard to an amendment to the Historic Preservation Act which would establish historic transportation corridors in the program. I received no response from Cal Skinner - the state rep. for my district. I did receive a letter from Dick Klemm which hinted that he wasn't too worried about historic preservation because none of the ten most endangered sites is in his constituency.

Given my brief training in lobbying that I received at the conference, and the emphasis that the LPCI placed on keeping preservation issues before our legislators, I propose that we invite Dick Klemm, Cal Skinner, and Ann Hughes to our Preservation Awards in May - noting, of course, that our commission's hard work has kept sites in their constituencies from being placed on the state's Ten Most Endangered Historic Places list!

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Lockwood *CL*

## **MCHENRY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

**4/15/98 - Committee Report - Gail Drabant**

### OLD HOUSE SUPPORT GROUP:

For March, the OHSG met at the historic Palmer House in Crystal Lake for a program on prioritizing house projects. This was well attended by both new and old members.

In April, we are moving the meeting to a Saturday (this Saturday, April 18th) so that we can go on a field trip. We will be meeting at 9:00 a.m. at the Burger King in Lake-in-the-Hills on Randall Road. From there we will go to the historic Garfield Farm for a tour of both the farm and house (from the 1840's). In May we will be going to a members house for a meeting.

### 1998 HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARDS:

We have received almost 40 nominations. We are very excited about the good response. All nominations have been examined and qualified as to whether it is in accordance with the category. We are now in the process of gathering more information on the nominations and taking photos and slides of each.

Please note that the awards ceremony will be held on May 31st, 2:00 p.m. at the Dole Mansion.

The next Awards committee meeting will be held March 29th at 7:00pm at David Gervais' office (Rt. 176 & Walkup in Crystal Lake). Everyone is invited to attend or forward input.

### PUBLICATIONS:

None needed or produced this month.

### JOINT COUNCIL OF HISTORIC GROUPS:

The most endangered historic site list from this meeting needs to be finalized so that it can be published during Preservation week in May.

### MCCD Greek Revival Restoration: *(Re: Glacial Park Powers-Walker house built in 1854 by Elon & Mary Powers)*

We are back working hard on a regular basis. The volunteers are all very enthusiastic.

February 25, 1998

Mr. Jim Keefe  
801 S. Jefferson  
Woodstock, IL 60098

Dear Mr. Keefe,

Nancy Fike telephoned me yesterday to say that your group, the McHenry County Historic Preservation Society, is interested in finding a way to care for the remaining unprotected abandoned cemeteries in the county. She asked that I work up a list of these cemeteries for you. That list is enclosed. Except for the last two cemeteries on the list all have been chronicled in the 3 volumes of "McHenry County Illinois Cemeteries" published to date. These books contain short histories and maps of the cemeteries and a listing of all known burials. They are available in the family history section of various county libraries or can be purchased from the McHenry County Illinois Genealogical Society.

I certainly hope you can find someone competent to take over this project. A lot of well-meaning individuals and groups have attempted cemetery clean-ups in the past with typically disastrous results. They move stones from their proper location. They use harsh and damaging chemicals to clean stones. They hack away indiscriminately at the underbrush without knowing what vegetation is worth preserving. Clear-cutting an overgrown cemetery without making arrangements for continuing maintenance only insures that the weeds and weed trees will come back even more strongly.

Even when a responsible authority takes over a cemetery there can be problems. A case in point is Spicer Cemetery which was deeded to the county many years ago by the family in hopes that would prevent its deterioration. Unfortunately the county simply ignored the property until recently. After years of nagging by myself, Centex Homes and assorted other individuals the county finally accepted its responsibility. However, I am still concerned about how well the cemetery will survive. The county has decided to maintain this small piece of land as a prairie. I am fearful that this decision was made with the idea that a prairie is a low or no-maintenance place they could safely ignore. In reality, creating a prairie from scratch is a very labor-intensive project for the first few years. In addition, the county inexplicably granted permission to the adjoining homeowner to build a solid five-foot high padlocked fence across the easement Centex Homes had created for cemetery access. The cemetery is now totally inaccessible. I hope that future attempts to protect our old cemeteries will draw up some rules to prevent problems like those besetting Spicer Cemetery.

I would like to ask that you not publicize the exact locations of the cemeteries on the enclosed list. Until such time as they are truly protected I believe they are safer if few people can easily find them. Also, if it is not possible to find someone to maintain and supervise them on a regular basis, they should be allowed to continue as wild and overgrown places to protect their anonymity as much as possible.

I wish you luck in your endeavor. I think you will need it. If there is anything further I can do to assist you, please feel free to call me at 338-2219 or write me at the address below.

Sincerely,

*J. Elaine Obenchain*

J. Elaine Obenchain  
14102 Jankowski Rd.  
Woodstock, IL 60098

CURRENTLY UNPROTECTED ABANDONED CEMETERIES  
IN McHENRY COUNTY  
compiled by J. Elaine Obenchain  
February 24, 1998

NOTE: This list does not include cemeteries on which homes or other structures have been built or cemeteries where no trace of the stones remain.

Brandow Cemetery:

Location: East of Alden on north side of Rt. 173 in Alden twp.  
Comments: 15 known burials. Site overgrown and full of trash.

Lawrence Cemetery:

Location: SW corner of Section 27 in Chemung twp. in a field west off Graf Rd.  
Comments: Only a few badly damaged stones. I have not been to this place in over a decade so it may have disappeared by now.

Hartland Union Burying Ground:

Location: East side of Rose Farm Rd. in Hartland twp. just north of Rt. 14.  
Comments: My personal favorite for rehabilitation. Charming one-acre site with a number of salvageable mature trees and quite a few stones some of which date back to the 1840s. 32 known burials.

Dufield Cemetery:

Location: Just south of Rt. 14 on the north side of Davis Rd. about 1 block west of Dean St. in Dorr twp.  
Comments: The last protector of this old family cemetery was Alice Goodfellow who died in 1985 and was the last burial here. She thought she had arranged with the township to maintain the place after her death but its status has been in limbo since that time.

Murphy Cemetery:

Location: In a high NE corner of what used to be called the McConnell place on the north side of McConnell Rd. in Dorr twp.  
Comments: I wasn't sure whether or not to include this one. Old Mr. McConnell, now deceased, removed the remaining stones from the cemetery and used them as paving blocks on the sidewalk leading up to the small house on the road just SE of the cemetery. The last time I looked this property was for sale and I presume the stones will disappear and the cemetery become part of a development.

Parks Cemetery:

Location: In a field about one block south of Rt. 14 on east side of Doty Rd. in Dorr twp.  
Comments: There are believed to be seven graves here but only one stone remains for a Civil War soldier. He has a plaque in Oakland Cemetery in Woodstock but there is nothing in the records to indicate his body was actually moved there and he is likely still at this place. The farmer has protected the area around the gravestone so far but almost nothing is known about the history of the place.

Torbert Cemetery:

Location: North side of McConnell Rd. at intersection of Lily Pond Rd. in Dorr twp.

Comments: Probably not worth trying to save. The last time I was there only a few bases for the old stones remained. Even those have probably disappeared by now.

Wingrove Cemetery:

Location: About half a mile south of Rt. 14 on the west side of Dean St. in Dorr twp.

Comments: Heavily wooded and overgrown half-acre site that has been in the news recently because of an individual's clean-up attempt.

Stewart's Burying Ground:

Location: Set back in the woods on east side of Rt. 23 north of River Rd. in Marengo twp. There used to be a cart path from 23 leading to the cemetery.

Comments: This is a charming old family/neighborhood cemetery with quite a few stones remaining. Another good rehabilitation project since its secluded location has protected it from vandalism.

Barber Cemetery:

Location: About half a mile west of Carls Rd. on the north side of Hartman Rd. in Riley twp. Cemetery is set back from the road along the fenceline with cornfields on both sides.

Comments: Someone has recently gone in and hacked down all the trees which will allow more rampant weed growth. This is a very historic old family cemetery with a number of early-day notables from that part of the county plus a Civil War soldier and a veteran of the War of 1812.

Storm Cemetery:

Location: North of Anthony on the west side of Maple St. in a small grove of lilacs in Riley twp.

Comments: Various people have hacked away at the lilacs periodically. Rumor has it that the local farmer encourages this with the hope that eventually it will disappear and he can plow over it.

Wray Cemetery:

Location: Set back on a hill in the woods on the east side of Richardson Rd. south of English Prairie Rd. in the south part of Section 18 in Burton twp.

Comments: Another very historic cemetery with quite a few notable burials. This is well worth preserving. One peculiarity is that a neighbor apparently took the opportunity to create a burial ground add-on to the cemetery on his own property abutting the old burial grounds. I wasn't aware that it was legal to bury people on private property any more, but there it is.

Jackson Burying Ground:

Location: On the south side of Miller Rd. about a block west of Johnsburg/Wilmot Rd. on the north border of McHenry twp.

Comments: This is similar to Murphy Cemetery in that the remaining stones are not on the actual cemetery site. The cemetery is in what is now the front and side yard of a house adjoining the location of the remaining stones.



Snyder's Cemetery:

Location: NE corner of Lily Lake and Wegner Rd. in Nunda twp.

Comments: Last time I was at the location about five years ago there were only bases for the old stones remaining. There are supposed to be a number of children still buried here although other burials were removed some time ago. The only argument for preserving this site is that it has been the center of a number of hot arguments over the years with some people hoping to build on the site and others equally adamant that it should be preserved as green space. Currently one of the neighbors is convinced there are unhappy ghosts coming from there onto her property - presumably to protest the way they are being neglected.

Gillilan Cemetery:

Location: South of Klasen Rd. on the west side of Algonquin Rd. in Algonquin twp. next to the gravel pit.

Comments: Nothing left here except bases for old stones but it is considered historic since the Gillilans are acknowledged to be the first settlers and their daughter's gravestone (now in Algonquin Cemetery) is the oldest remaining in the county.



McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission  
c/o McHenry County Dept. of Planning & Development  
2200 North Seminary - Woodstock, IL 60098  
815 - 334 - 4560

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April 21, 1998

Ms. Diana Kenney, Chairman  
Dole Mansion Preservation Society  
Lakeside Center  
401 Country Club Road  
Crystal Lake, IL 60014

Re: 1998 McHenry County Historic Preservation Awards Day

Dear Ms. Kenney,

This letter is just to confirm the Preservation Awards Day, sponsored by the McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission, on Sunday, May 31st to be held at the Dole Mansion.

The Commission would like to formally thank you and the Society for offering the Mansion and grounds for the Awards Ceremony. Gail Drabant, Chairman of the Commission will be contacting you with a specific timetable for the program by May 15th.

Once again, thank you for your generous offer. The Commission is looking forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maryanne Wanaski".

Maryanne Wanaski, Staff Liaison  
McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission

## **1998 Preservation Awards - Categories**

*The commission recognizes that certain nominees may qualify for more than one category. For purposes of the awards, the commission will use the style of the structure as the primary factor in determining the category.*

- 1. Outstanding Preserved Original Residence - *Pre Civil War*** - houses in this award category will include construction prior to 1865. Styles include, but are not limited to, log cabins, Greek Revival, Federal Style, and Georgian.
- 2. Original Preserved Residence - *Victorian*** - houses in this category will include, but are not limited to, Queen Anne, Italianate, Gothic Revival, Second Empire, and Octagon. These houses were typically built between 1865 and approximately 1900.
- 3. Original Preserved Residence - *Post-Victorian*** - houses in this award category will include construction from about 1900 to 1948. Several examples of post-Victorian construction are Tudor, Mission, Prairie, Craftsman, Four Square, and Colonial Revival.
- 4. Outstanding Preserved Original Residence with Adaptive Reuse** - houses in this award category will include original construction prior to 1948. These may be residences which have been converted to shops, offices, schools, etc.
- 5. Outstanding Preserved Non-Residential Original Structure in Continuous Use or Adaptive Reuse** - structures in this award category will include any building that was not originally constructed as a residence with construction prior to 1948. Examples that would fall in this category are: a church which has been converted to a museum while preserving the historic integrity of the building; a barn which has been adapted for use as a church or school; a retail establishment which is still a retail establishment.
- 6. Outstanding Historically Sensitive Addition** - structures in this award category will include additions to commercial or residential construction originally built prior to 1948 which are sympathetic to the style of the structure and do not detract from its original form.
- 7. Outstanding Preserved Barn** - barns in this category will include those constructed prior to 1948 which have been preserved. These need not be working barns, but should represent the barn as it was intended for farming use.
- 8. Outstanding Preservation or Restoration of a Natural Area** - sites in this award category may include native flora, streams, ponds, prairies, woodlands, and/or wetlands that have been preserved or restored.
- 9. Outstanding Historical Achievement by a Group** - this award is for the recognition of the efforts by a group. Activities might include, but are not limited to, research, publication, or any activity concerning the history of McHenry County.
- 10. Outstanding Historical Achievement by an Individual** - this award is for the recognition of an achievement by an individual concerning the history of McHenry County.



McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission  
 c/o McHenry County Dept. of Planning & Development  
 2200 North Seminary - Woodstock, IL 60098  
 815 - 334 - 4560

**1998 PRESERVATION AWARDS: NOMINATION APPLICATION**

Date of nomination: \_\_\_\_\_

Nomination #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (to be filled in by the award committee)

Property being nominated: OWNER NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 BUILT Circa: \_\_\_\_\_ TOWNSHIP: \_\_\_\_\_

*CATEGORIES: (CHECK ONE)*

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1) Outstanding Preserved Pre-Civil War Residence
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2) Outstanding Preserved Victorian Residence
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3) Outstanding Preserved Post-Victorian Residence
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4) Outstanding Preserved Original Residence with Adaptive Reuse
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5) Outstanding Preserved Non-residential Structure  
 in Continuous Use or Adaptive Reuse
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6) Outstanding Historically Sensitive Addition
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7) Outstanding Preserved Barn
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8) Outstanding Preservation or Restoration of a Natural Area
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9) Outstanding Historical Achievement by a Group
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10) Outstanding Historical Achievement by an Individual

Qualifications: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

List prior historic designations & recognitions: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Optional photographs (present & past) - - - Submit if available

Person submitting the nomination: NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_

*(To make a nomination, complete this form, then please send to the address above by March 15.)*

## Drabant Coordinates Historic House Restoration

Gail Drabant, a McHenry County resident of 12 years, devotes many of her waking hours to historic preservation in the county. She serves as the chairman of the McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission, and volunteers for the District as the Project Coordinator for the Powers-Walker House Restoration Project. Since May of 1996, Gail and approximately six other volunteers work at the historic house in Glacial Park each Tuesday and Thursday evening.



Gail Drabant removes 1850 siding from the Powers-Walker House for reuse later.

The Powers-Walker House (circa 1854) is a Vernacular Greek Revival style which is representative of what settlers built after living in log cabins as their permanent housing. Referring to the importance of preserving this structure, Gail says, "After 144 years, we (historic preservationists) felt that the house de-

served preservation. As farming areas are being redeveloped into commercial, industrial, or residential uses, the rural Greek Revival homes are becoming an 'endangered species' from an architectural standpoint."

Gail performs various duties. She is responsible for administrative functions such as completing and submitting status update reports, planning overall tasks and intermediate projects, assuring that materials are procured and available when needed, and actually engaging in the restoration work. "I strongly believe in historic preservation, but it isn't enough just to talk about it. The task of actually doing it must occur, so I'm more than happy to volunteer hours for that effort," Gail states.

Gail's work for the District will touch the lives of people in the county for generations to come. Her work is commended, devotion exemplary, and modesty apparent by her desire to acknowledge the work of others on the project. "There are things I could not have done without the other volunteers. There are levels of expertise which each volunteer has brought to the project," she says. Much gratitude is extended to Gail for her leadership and hours of service!

## Natural Area Volunteer Workday

QAP	Sat	Oct 3	9 am - 12 pm
LITH	Sat	Oct 3	9 am - 12 pm
PV	Sat	Oct 3	8:30 am - 12:30 pm
ASM	Sat	Oct 3	9 am - 12 pm
HUM D	Sat	Oct 3	9 am - 12 pm
CCM	Sat	Oct 3	2 - 4 pm
RH	Sun	Oct 4	9 am - 12 pm
GP	Sat	Oct 10	9 am - 12 pm
LITH	Sat	Oct 10	9 am - 12 pm
CCM	Sat	Oct 17	2 - 4 pm
LITH	Sat	Oct 17	9 am - 12 pm
HG	Sun	Oct 18	9 am - 12 pm
GP	Sat	Oct 24	9 am - 1 pm
ELM	Sat	Oct 24	9 am - 12 pm
LITH	Sat	Oct 24	9 am - 12 pm
LITH	Sat	Oct 31	9 am - 12 pm
RH	Sun	Nov 1	9 am - 12 pm
LITH	Sat	Nov 7	9 am - 12 pm
ASM	Sat	Nov 7	9 am - 12 pm
HUM D	Sat	Nov 7	9 am - 12 pm
CCM	Sat	Nov 7	2 - 4 pm
PV	Sat	Nov 7	8:30 am - 12:30 pm
LITH	Sat	Nov 14	9 am - 12 pm
QAP	Sat	Nov 14	9 am - 12 pm
LITH	Sat	Nov 21	9 am - 12 pm
CCM	Sat	Nov 21	2 - 4 pm
HG	Sun	Nov 22	9 am - 12 pm
LITH	Sat	Nov 28	9 am - 12 pm
LITH	Sat	Dec 5	9 am - 12 pm
BP	Sat	Dec 5	2 - 4 pm
HUM D	Sat	Dec 5	9 am - 12 pm
CCM	Sat	Dec 5	2 - 4 pm
RH	Sun	Dec 6	9 am - 12 pm
LITH	Sat	Dec 12	9 am - 12 pm
ASM	Sat	Dec 12	9 am - 12 pm
LITH	Sat	Dec 19	9 am - 12 pm
CCM	Sat	Dec 19	2 - 4 pm
HG	Sun	Dec 20	9 am - 12 pm
LITH	Sat	Dec 26	9 am - 12 pm

## Natural Area Stewards

**ASM - Alden Sedge Meadow**  
 Dan Wilson (815) 648-2389  
 Andy Carver (815) 648-4060  
 George Johnson (815) 943-5256

**BP - Bystricky Prairie**  
 Anne Basten (815) 678-4431

**CCM - Cotton Creek Marsh**  
 Mike Bouska (815) 759-0731

**ELM - Elizabeth Lake Marsh**  
 Tina Peterson (815) 678-4335

**HUM-E - HUM Prairie West**  
 Sue Wilkins (815) 568-3647

**LITH - Lake in the Hills Fen**  
 Al & Barb Wilson (847) 658-0024

**LPF - Larsen Prairie & Fen**  
 Richard Yonker (847) 458-1783

**LPM - Lyons Prairie & Marsh**  
 Bob Bojanowski (847) 639-4419

**NCB - Nippersink Canoe Base**  
 Joan Rosenau (847) 587-2198

May 6, 1998

McHenry County Historical Preservation Commission  
Public Relations Report  
Chairperson: Jennifer Iftner

I have not been in contact with the local press this month. However, I have prepared a news brief which I will distribute to local newspapers and the community editor of the Star 105.5 radio station. The purpose of this release is to announce our awards ceremony at the end of the month and a copy is attached.

Other activities this month were confined to meeting with the awards committee and photographing six award nominations. Mr. Philbin has requested copies of the photos/slides taken of his home, and I think that while we are having copies made for the media, any nice photos of other entries might also be copied for their owners.

Jennifer Iftner

**Press Release for McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission Awards Ceremony**  
**For more information contact: Jennifer Iftner (home) 815 943-6776/ (work) 815 943-7921**  
**The Press is welcome to attend/photos will be available**

## **Historic Awards Ceremony at Dole Mansion**

On Sunday, May 31, the *McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission* will host an awards ceremony. Local properties, groups and individuals will be honored for historic preservation/restoration efforts. The ceremony will take place at 2:00 p.m. at the Dole Mansion, a structure which itself inspired several nominations, located at 401 Country Club Rd. in Crystal Lake.

After months of organizing, defining and refining the purpose and qualifications for this event, the Awards Committee of the *McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission* was delighted to receive almost 40 nominations. This is more than had been received in the past and is good news for those interested in preserving the history of McHenry County. Entries were received in all ten categories which are: Outstanding Preserved Pre-Civil War Residence; Outstanding Preserved Victorian Residence; Outstanding Preserved Post-Victorian Residence; Outstanding Preserved Original Residence with Adaptive Reuse; Outstanding Preserved Non-Residential Structure in Continuous Use or Adaptive Reuse; Outstanding Historically Sensitive Addition; Outstanding Preserved Barn; Outstanding Preservation or Restoration of a Natural Area; Outstanding Historical Achievement by a Group; Outstanding Historical Achievement by an Individual.

At the May 6 meeting of the Commission, a secret ballot was held to determine winners in each category. Commission members agreed that this friendly competition was stiff and that all entrants are worthy of recognition. Each nomination will be mentioned and slides presented on all properties at the May 31 ceremony. Interested individuals are encouraged to attend. Light refreshments will be served.

**MCHENRY COUNTY PRESERVATION COMMISSION - - - 1998 Preservation Awards Nominations:**

**1) Outstanding Preserved PRE-CIVIL WAR Residence:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ #1 (GD) Gardner House, Solon Mills (brick)
- \_\_\_\_\_ #2 (DG) Walkup Residence, Walkup Rd, Crystal Lake (cobblestone)
- \_\_\_\_\_ #3 (JI) Peterson Farmstead, McCullom Lake Rd, McHenry (brick)
- \_\_\_\_\_ #4 (GM) Ringwood Half-Way House, Ringwood (brick)

**2) Outstanding Preserved VICTORIAN Residence:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ #5 (JI) Crittenden House, Riverside Drive, McHenry (Italianate)
- \_\_\_\_\_ #6 (TH) McClain House, Tryon St., Woodstock (Queen Anne)
- \_\_\_\_\_ #7 (TH) Kelly Frank House, Fremont St, Woodstock (Judge Barnes, Queen Anne)
- \_\_\_\_\_ #8 (CL) Brewer House, Washington St, Algonquin (James Philp House)

**3) Outstanding Preserved POST-VICTORIAN Residence:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ #9 (JI) LeFew House, Brown St, Harvard (rose-colored with brickwork)
- \_\_\_\_\_ #10 (JI) Philbin House, Bayview Ln, McHenry (Pistakee Colonial Revival lakefront)
- \_\_\_\_\_ #11 (TH) Prairie-style Fieldstone, Country Club Rd, McHenry (brown fieldstone)
- \_\_\_\_\_ #12 (JI) Kunavich House, Church St, Harvard (Prairie style)
- \_\_\_\_\_ #13 (DG) Dolce House, Oak St, Crystal Lake (Prairie style, stucco)
- \_\_\_\_\_ #37 (DG) Haleblian House, Ringling Rd, Crystal Lake (Lakefront home)

**4) Outstanding Preserved Original Residence with Adaptive REUSE: (no entries)**

**5) Outstanding Preserved NON-RESIDENTIAL Structure in Continuous use or Adaptive Reuse**

- \_\_\_\_\_ #14 (DG) Stuart Plumbing, Rt 14, Crystal Lake
- \_\_\_\_\_ #15 (CL) Algonquin Historic Village Hall, Algonquin
- \_\_\_\_\_ #16 & #17 (TH) Gould Family, (Lloyd's Paint), Woodstock Square
- \_\_\_\_\_ #18 (TH) Woodstock Movie Theatre, Woodstock
- \_\_\_\_\_ #19 (TH) Church Block Building, Woodstock Square
- \_\_\_\_\_ #20 (TH) Bohn's Hardware Store, Woodstock

**6) Outstanding Historically Sensitive ADDITION:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ #21 (GD) Fitzpatrick House, South St, Richmond
- \_\_\_\_\_ #30 (DG) Crystal Lake Road, Crystal Lake

**7) Outstanding Preserved BARN:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ #22 (CL) Malaker Barn, Harmony Hill Rd, Marengo
- \_\_\_\_\_ #23 (CL) Volkening Barn, Harmony Rd, Marengo
- \_\_\_\_\_ #24 & #34 (JI) City of McHenry, Mass Barn, McCullom Lake Rd, McHenry

**8) Outstanding Preservation or Restoration of a NATURAL AREA:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ #25 (DG) Main Street Prairie, Cary Park District, Cary
- \_\_\_\_\_ #26 (CL) Muench Wetland Area, Beck Rd, Marengo

**9) Outstanding Historical Achievement by a GROUP**

- \_\_\_\_\_ #27 (CL) Historic Homes of Marengo Committee, Vol. 1 & 2
- \_\_\_\_\_ #38 (TH) Dole Mansion Preservation Society, Crystal Lake

**10) Outstanding Historical Achievement by an INDIVIDUAL:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ #28 & #29 (TH) Lori Wilhelm, Historic Drawings
- \_\_\_\_\_ #35 (TH) Gloria Jasinski, Dole Mansion Restoration
- \_\_\_\_\_ #36 (TH) James Heisler, Crystal Lake Preservation Efforts



### Survey Committee Report

I have called both the Staffords and Scott Summers about the application for the Mount Auburn Cemetery. The best news available is that the report will be coming.

In passing the Ostend Cemetery I saw Everette Thomas putting on the plaque for Memorial Day. They installed it themselves.

Maryanne had called and given me the owners of Lands End. Mr and Mrs Walter Kummerow, 4901 Terra Cotta, Pin # 14 - 28-400-010. They are unlisted but their son was . I called the son twice and left messages but was never called back. The sons # 338-0547 and their address 9020 Robin Hill Dr, Woodstock. My assumption is they do not want to be contacted.

Lisa Kelly will have her house done this summer as well.

At the present time we will be doing the Miller Chapel and I would like Gloria to work with the Miller Family for a date and handle the event. With Gloria's permission of course.



McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission  
c/o McHenry County Dept. of Planning & Development  
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## McHenry County's Most Endangered Historic Sites

Several local historical groups have begun to compile a list of sites which are in danger of being destroyed or are being neglected. At a meeting of the Joint Council of Historic Groups, held in Algonquin in February, time was devoted to a serious discussion of this problem.

The following is a list of sites/buildings which were cited and are of concern to preservationists.

### Algonquin

- ~ *James Philip, Esq., Home* - 1856 structure may be demolished - oldest brick residence in this town, first historically plaqued structure in county
- ~ *St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church* - 1914 Gothic Revival - may be replaced with a new church
- ~ *Peter Bros Factory (Toaster)* - 1911 factory with important local historical ties
- ~ *Riverview Hotel (Charles Van der Aue Hotel)* - tourist hotel of early 1900's

### Crystal Lake

- ~ *Col. Palmer House* - Greek Revival brick structure - needs new volunteers to help take care of
- ~ *Holcombville School* - Greek Revival one room schoolhouse. German style brickwork
- ~ *Sull Summer Home* - located on Crystal Lake

### Fox River Grove

- ~ *Ligot Garden Castle and Windmill*

### Huntley

- ~ *Woodstock St.* - original exposed brick paved road, one of very few left in county

### Lake in the Hills

- ~ *The Hain House* - a late 19th century house on the main lake

### Marengo

- ~ *Charles H. Hibbard House* - 1848 Italianate falling into ruin from neglect

### McHenry

- ~ *McHenry's East Campus*
- ~ *Town Club* - the county's first courthouse

### Richmond

- ~ *Memorial Hall* - built 1906 - gift to community by Chas. McConnell, the grandson of Wm. McConnell who was the first settler in Richmond Township
- ~ *Dr. Bennett House* - Greek revival house built in early 1850's; Dr. Bennett was the first village president and the first gradeschool principal
- ~ *Wooden Railway Bridge* - represented on the village logo, it is only remaining one as the other one in Richmond was removed

### Woodstock

- ~ *John A. Kennedy House* - 1853 Greek Revival on Rte. 14

### Countywide

- ~ *Cemeteries* - there may be dozens of unprotected or abandoned cemeteries in the county which should be preserved

*List compiled May 1998*

*HPC REPORT  
Gloria Mack 7/1/98  
Advisor*

*I spoke to Mrs. Chambers from the Miller family regarding cousin Peters pronunciation of the family name. I asked that we included the original spelling on the plaque as the Commission requested. She said she would check with the Board of Directors and get back to me. At the time of our conversation she also mentioned that the date was probably going to be changed.*

*I spoke to John Heumann about the Miller Chapel and requested if at any time the Village of Johnsburg would annex the land that included the Miller Chapel we would like to enter into an intergovernmental agreement to protect the Chapel. I also suggested if the developer would donating park land it would be advantageous if it was adjacent to the Miller Chapel. He concurred. He mentioned that the Chapel at Chapel Hill Golf Course was their family chapel. We sent him an application.*

*I spoke to Nancy Fike about the McHenry HPC Ordinance, she said the vote of the City Council was unanimous.*

*I would like the Commission to send a letter of appreciation to the Algonquin City Council commending them on their 6 month moratorium on demolitions until their HPC ordinance is in place.*

*Pam Althoff from the Clerk of the City of McHenry telephoned regarding the Peterson Property, recently acquired by the City. She needed a letter from the Commission to the DAR, so the city could obtain a Plaque. I forwarded the request to Gail, who researched and responded.*

*The City of Harvard and the City of Marengo have the most beautiful historic buildings. I believe we should be working on both municipalities to get Ordinances in place. Lets talk about this.*

## **MCHENRY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**



7/1/98 - Chairman's Report - Gail Drabant

### PETERSEN FARMSTEAD:

I was asked to review and approve the plaque wording for the two plaques that are going to be placed at the Petersen Farmstead. One commemorates the Petersen Family for their efforts to preserve this farmstead. The other gives a brief summary of the history and the remaining buildings. After minor changes, I recommended for approval of the plaques.

### ENDANGERED HISTORIC SITES LIST:

I was requested to provide a copy of this list (with a cover letter) to Betty Conley of Huntley concerning the brick street. It is the opinion of the awards committee that we may be able to encourage preservation of these sites by addressing them as a committee itself and keeping tabs on the sites on an on-going basis. There may be more that can be done through correspondence or phone calls.

### ROUND BARN:

I received an inquiry from Nancy Fike concerning this historic site. It has fallen into disrepair. Could this possibly become a commission landmark?

### HINSDALE PRESERVATION SOCIETY!

Thanks to Maryanne for joining me at their 6/25/98 meeting. I presented slides & spoke of our programs, then Maryanne & I had a question & answer session.

7/1/98 - Committee Report - Gail Drabant

### OLD HOUSE SUPPORT GROUP:

On summer break!

### PUBLICATIONS:

Binders were prepared for our two new members. Their business cards will be produced for next meeting.

### PRESERVATION AWARDS:

The awards committee met last week as a follow-up/wrap-up of this year's awards. We constructed a list of good points/suggestions for change to use at the kick-off awards committee meeting in November for next year's awards. We have lots of good input. (~~See attached~~) Also, David offered to co-chair this committee next year. He suggested that Tony join him. We are looking forward to another successful award ceremony next year.

### MCCD Greek Revival Restoration: *(Re: Powers-Walker house built in 1854 by Elon & Mary Powers, located on Harts Road in Glacial Park.)*

The foundation has now been restored and rebuilt. We have also improved the look of the interior. The new electrical power should be in next week. At that point we will be able to start back at restoring the exterior. We are getting good participation from the volunteers working regularly a couple times each week.

## SURVEY COMMITTEE REPORT

The application for the Mt Auburn Cem. arrived and I took it to MaryAnn the same day. We'd like that processed as soon as possible.

I contacted the historical museum and talked to Nancy Fike about getting a article about historical designation and it's benefits in their newsletter. She will do it but the letter is quarterly and not due yet.

I have called Tom Wilcoxin and he may be at tonights meeting. He does not plan to forget project after all the work he's done.

We need people to be interested in getting their prpoerty noted in our program. Would appreciate help from all of us in getting the word out.

MAP ON WALL -

SCHOOL DIST #7 - So RILEY Rd.

**McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission**

**7/1/98 - Mark Balasi, Survey Committee**

William D. Gates Residence - "Trail's End", 4901 Terra Cotta Road, McHenry Co.

Pin # 14 - 28- 400 - 010      Section 28, W. & L. K., 9.93

Owner:      Walter Kummerow, Jr.  
                 9020 Robin Hill Dr.  
                 Woodstock, IL

Bus. (815) 455-5090  
Home (815) 338-0547

I have spoken with Mr. Kummerow and indicated that the Commission is interested in looking into the historic significance of the property at 4901 Terra Cotta Road. (See MCHPC report of 3/4/98 on Gates Residence)

Mr. Kummerow indicated that the property was inherited by himself and his three sisters from Mr. Kummerow Sr. (Deceased). He said he was somewhat familiar with the history of the house. The Kummerow family did not purchase the house directly from Mr. Gates. One of the sisters is the current occupant. He will contact his sister to see if it would be possible for the commission to survey the house. He said he wasn't sure if his sister would be interested.



McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission  
c/o McHenry County Dept. of Planning & Development  
2200 North Seminary - Woodstock, IL 60098  
815 - 334 - 4560

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June 9, 1998

The Honorable Steven Cuda  
Mayor, City of McHenry  
City Hall  
333 S. Green St.  
McHenry, IL 60050

RE: McHenry Historic Preservation Ordinance

Dear Mayor Cuda:

It is our Commission's great pleasure to congratulate the City of McHenry for the passing of its Historic Preservation Ordinance. Your fine city has been an integral part of the history of McHenry County since its initial settlement.

Our Commission recently designated the Miller family chapel, north of the city, as an historic site. We now look forward to sites within the municipality receiving similar designations under your new ordinance.

If you have any questions or comments we remain available to provide you with our assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "D R G".

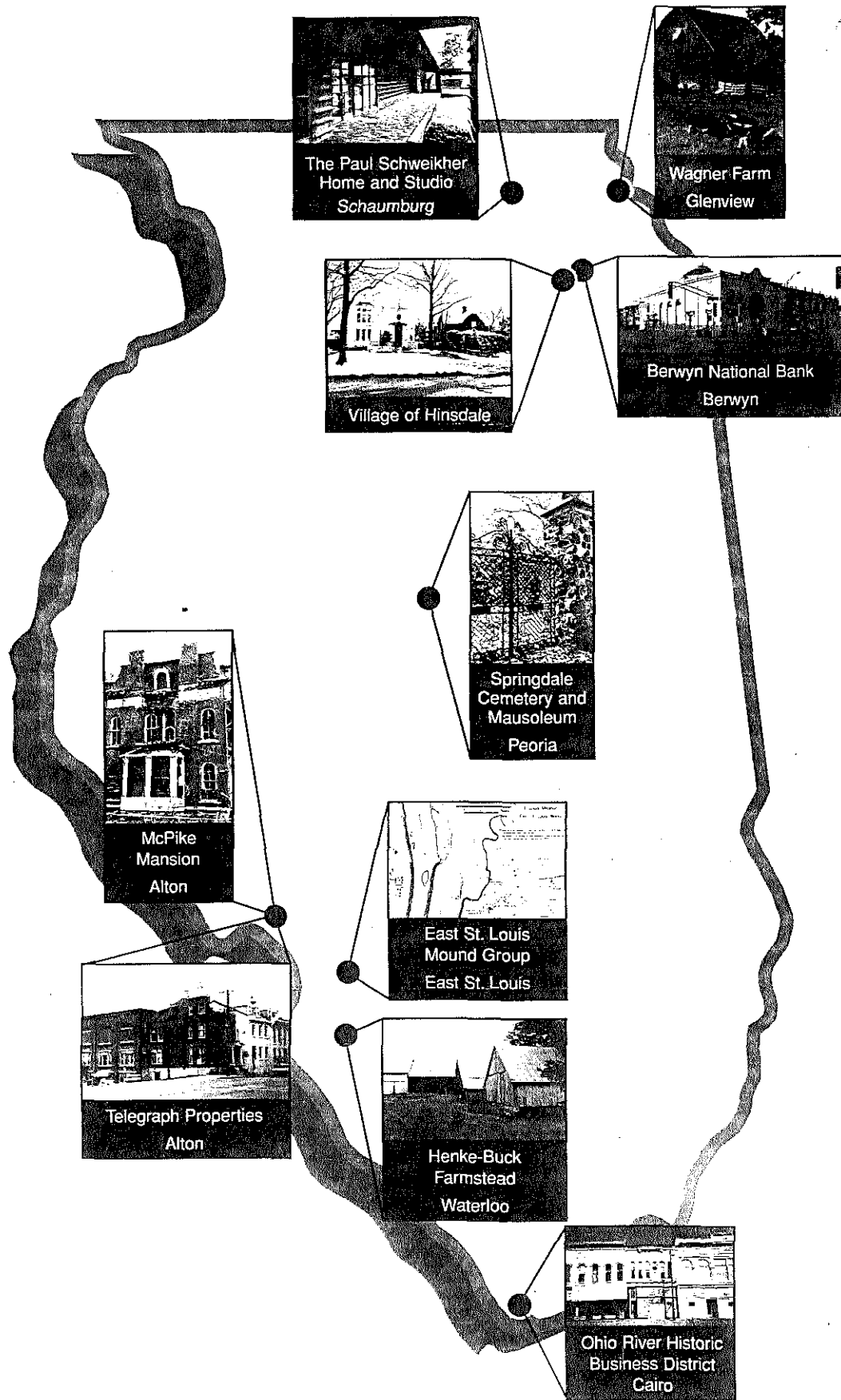
David R. Gervais  
Commissioner

DRG:mks

cc: City of McHenry Historic Preservation Commission

# The Ten Most Endangered Historic Places

MARK B.





**Landmarks Preservation Council of Illinois**  
**TEN MOST ENDANGERED HISTORIC PLACES**  
*1998 Special Report*

**1. Paul Schweikher Home & Studio, Schaumburg.** Built by the architect as his home and studio in 1938, the Schweikher property is a pristine example of the American Modern style. The low buildings exhibit characteristic Modern features such as flat roofs, large expanses of glass, and deep overhangs. The property is also unique for its landscaped prairie setting and its association with Alexander Langsdorf, an associate of Enrico Fermi and collaborator on the Manhattan Project. Now owned by the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago, the property is threatened with demolition once the current tenant, Langsdorf's widow, completes her life tenancy.

**2. Village of Hinsdale.** The Village of Hinsdale is under a siege. Founded in 1830, Hinsdale is one of several Chicago-area 19th-century suburban developments with historic resources that include: 1860s farmhouses, 1880s high-style Victorians, 1920s Tudor Revivals and Chateaus, Sears catalog houses, and pre-and post-World War II bungalows. Explosive growth during the mid-1980s and now again in the late-1990s is taking its toll on the historic housing. Since 1985, Hinsdale has lost 648 houses to demolition, which comprises nearly 15% of the housing stock. New tract mansions have taken their place and are threatening to homogenize this once beautifully eclectic historic community.

**3. Henke-Buck Farmstead, Waterloo.** The Henke-Buck Farm is a remarkably intact, 79-acre, antebellum family farm located in the American Bottom near Waterloo. The farmyard is compact and illustrates well the agricultural self-sufficiency that permeated this 19th-century German community. Several threats imperil the farmstead: the owner is aged and without the means nor support to continue maintaining the farm, especially the oldest structures; and development pressures from suburban St. Louis in the Waterloo area have increased dramatically with the endorsement of the pro-development County Board.

**4. Cairo Ohio River Commercial District.** The City of Cairo is an historical gem resting on the banks of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers. Despite nearly 70 years of population and economic decline, 19th and 20th-century commercial facades line the city's historic artery, Commercial Street, located parallel to the Ohio. Many of these historic buildings are still intact, although the district is largely vacant, and deterioration and neglect gravely threaten their viability.

**5. Berwyn National Bank, Berwyn.** The Berwyn National Bank is an important icon in this western suburban community of metropolitan Chicago. The Classical Revival building typifies a building and business type that dominated the Cermak Road commercial corridor in the pre-Depression era. Few of these icons remain. Post-World War II development and inappropriate demolition or widespread use of nonhistoric facade treatments have destroyed much of Berwyn's commercial character. Now city officials are threatening this building's future because parking at its intersection is scarce and thus thwarts development.

**6. McPike Mansion, Alton.** Built in 1869 for businessman and horticulturalist Henry G. Pike, this three-story Second Empire house is located on one of Alton's most dramatic promontories within a four-acre site. Despite its deteriorated condition, the house displays

quintessential Italianate features such as a steeply pitched mansard roof and dormers, heavily bracketed deep eaves, and round-headed windows. Vandals and neglect have contributed most to the building's decrepit condition. Renewed community interest in historic preservation may significantly change the future for this local landmark.

**7. The Telegraph Properties, Alton.** These two buildings represent different eras of Alton's development, but they are endangered by a common threat, namely the local newspaper, the *Alton Telegraph*. The Elks Clubhouse was built in the 1890s and renovated by the Elks in 1918. The Telegraph Building, known by its present owners, dates from the Federal era when Alton made its mark as a commercial river town. The newspaper owns both buildings and has acquired a demolition permit against the wishes of many members of Alton's business community. Its plans for future use of the buildings or the vacated site are vague.

**8. Springdale Cemetery and Mausoleum, Peoria.** The Springdale Cemetery was chartered by the State of Illinois in 1855, one of only two state-chartered cemeteries in Illinois, and served as the burial ground for thousands of Civil War dead. By the turn of the century, many prominent Peoria citizens found rest in Springdale's picturesque lawns, crypts, and among its winding lanes. Recently, both new and historic burials have suffered from vandals, neglect, and breach of contract by the current owners. These purveyors of perpetual care have deferred maintenance of their property but not payment for new services or burials.

**9. Wagner Farm, Glenview.** Wagner Farm is emblematic of preservation in the 1990s. As one of the last sizeable rural properties in urbanized Glenview, this 20-acre family farm is slated to be sold to the highest bidder according to the last owner's will, regardless of whether that action encourages preservation or development. However, many Glenview residents and the Glenview Park District would like to save the site for its aesthetic value, and because it represents one of the last opportunities for the Park District to acquire unadulterated open land. This farm may not possess more significant historic qualities than many farms threatened by development in other rural areas, but it does represent an important part of Glenview's past.

**10. East St. Louis Mound Group.** The East St. Louis Mound Group was one of the five major Mississippian mound centers located in the northern part of the American Bottom. Early descriptions by westerners suggested as many as 45 mounds existed making it second only to Cahokia in size. The 19th-century industrialization of St. Louis destroyed many of the areas archeological resources. Now the urban development of East St. Louis further threatens access to this cultural site. Recent excavations by Southern Illinois University indicate the presence of intact cultural deposits, despite years of urban encroachment, which could yield significant data about Mississippian culture.

**Landmarks Preservation Council of Illinois**  
53 West Jackson Blvd., Suite 752  
Chicago, Illinois 60604  
Tel 312/922-1742

## **MCHENRY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**



**8/5/98 - Chairman's Report - Gail Drabant**

### WELCOME!

We are welcoming Michael Walkup as our newest member of the commission.

### ENDANGERED HISTORIC SITES LIST:

Based on input received we need to establish a sub-committee to keep an on-going status list, prioritize our endangered list and do whatever else is deemed necessary. Any volunteers?

### ROUND BARN:

This was brought up for discussion last month. Any response from the survey committee?

### WOODSTOCK CENTER:

I have received a request for information on the Woodstock Center (property owned by MCCD near Deep Cut Road). According to the MCHS (Historical Soc.) a building there was once an inn. Does anyone have any info on this?

**8/5/98 - Committee Report - Gail Drabant**

### OLD HOUSE SUPPORT GROUP:

On summer break!

### PUBLICATIONS:

None this month. Outstanding is binders and MCHPC business cards for the three new members. Also outstanding is an update of our Comprehensive Landmark List which needs to be done prior to the September meeting of the Joint Council of Historic Groups for distribution at that time.

### PRESERVATION AWARDS:

David and Tony have accepted the position as co-chairmen of the 1999 Awards Committee. Many thanks.

### MCCD Greek Revival Restoration: *(Re: Powers-Walker house built in 1854 by Elon & Mary Powers, located on Harts Road in Glacial Park.)*

The foundation has now been restored and rebuilt. We have also improved the look of the interior. The electrical power has been restored and we now have running water to expedite restoration. Work is steadily progressing.

To Maupine 337-3720

## Survey Committee Report

**Made arraignments to have the plaque made for the Miller Chapel using both names.**

**The Mt Auburn plaque cannot be done for the plaquing event so Gail should do what was done for the Ostend Cemetery.**

**I talked to Nancy Fike about plaquing the Historical Museum and she will consider it.**

**Called the trust for the Liberty School and had Maryanne send them information. Hopefully they will respond. Did the clock start to run when Carol turned in the application?**

**The Mt Auburn event is August 23 at 4pm. I assume all's we have to do is be there. Some one should check with Sonya Stafford 943-5212**

**Sorry I could not be present but I am working the public address system at the fair.**

McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission  
Natural Features Committee  
5 August 1998

I found a witness tree. It's still subject to verification about the tree's likely age, but the location is as described in the 1837 field notes: in Coral township between sections 29 and 30 at the quarter section line, a bur oak which at the time was 10 inches in diameter and now is approximately 40 inches in diameter. It's the same tree that I've been playing around with for several months. In response to the ad I placed in the Illinois surveyors journal, Jeff Carlson, a surveyor who lives on the property adjacent to the tree's location contacted me about this tree. I met with him on July and he showed me how he made the calculations. He didn't use the compass bearings in the way that the original surveyors did; instead he used a more modern instrument called a theodolite, but the degrees came out the same.

I approached the property owner, Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Urban and they are interested in pursuing a landmark recognition of the tree. I'm meeting with Ed Collins on August 12 at 11:00 am to see if he has any idea of the age of the tree and any other comments or particulars that we should take into account.

As I've been browsing through the nomination form for the tree, I notice that the point system is largely geared towards structures and points, so I'm open to suggestions about completing the form.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Lockwood



**MCHENRY CO. HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

**8/5/98 REPORT - GLORIA MACK**

*The plaquing of the Miller Chapel has been scheduled for Sunday, September 13, 1998 @ 11:30 am, immediately following a special mass that will be said that Sunday. I spoke to the Chambers, representatives of the Miller family, and they said that using both the American and German spelling of their name on the plaque and ordinance was acceptable to the family. I will contact the family and request that one member of the family speak during the landmarking ceremony.*

*Combined Preservation Groups Meeting - September 23, 1998 @ 7:30 @ the Cary Historic Society. Betty Freeman who is the curator of the Cary HS will open the museum at 7:00 pm if anyone wishes to come early and peruse the artifacts. The speaker for the evening will be Rocco Zuccherro, IDOT. He will be speaking on historic sites, highways, etc. Nancy Fike will handle the publicity if the Commission will take care of the mailing. If Jim could bring a few extra chairs from the Farm Bureau for that evening it would be helpful.*

**McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission**

**8/5/98 - Mark Balasi, Survey Committee**

William D. Gates Residence - "Trail's End", 4901 Terra Cotta Road, McHenry Co.

Pin # 14 - 28- 400 - 010      Section 28, W. & L. K., 9.93

Owner:            Walter Kummerow, Jr.  
                      9020 Robin Hill Dr.  
                      Woodstock, IL

Bus. (815) 455-5090  
Home (815) 338-0547

I have not been contacted by Mr. Kummerow's sister, the resident of the above property.

Because of the historic significance of the property at 4901 Terra Cotta Road (see my report of 3/4/98 on Gates Residence), I believe it is important to the historic heritage of McHenry County that the Commission take steps toward landmarking the William D. Gates Residence. I would like the Commission to discuss what steps should be taken to raise public knowledge of the existence of the home and its history. I would suggest the next step is to send a copy of my 3/4/98 report to the resident and request a response regarding her interest in the landmarking of the home. I would like suggestions as to what the next steps might be to move forward with landmarking should she not respond.

I have also not been contacted by Mr. Peter Theis. The Ericsson Development on the island in Pistakee Lake is also a historically significant area (see my report on Ericsson Development) with great potential of designation as a historic district. I would like the commission to discuss what the next steps might be to move forward with landmarking should he not respond.

**Peter F. Theis  
3203 Bay View Lane  
McHenry, IL 60050**

Phone: 815-385-5122  
Fax: 847-263-7666

July 11, 1998

Mr. Mark Balasi  
McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission  
C/o McHenry County Dept. Of Planning and Development  
2200 North Seminary  
Woodstock, IL 60098

Dear Mark:

I finally have gotten around to writing in response to your very excellent report about the Bay View Lane Bridge area dated February 21, 1998.

Copies have been given to neighbors, the Piersons and the Janssens for their comments. I know they have information I don't have. For example, Carol Janssen (who is younger than I am and apparently has a better memory) recalls the sheep sheds in our back woods area. The area was used to graze sheep. Perhaps that is how they kept the lawn mowed. I am also going to get a copy to Tom Wilson to see if he can add to your core of information.

So I will continue, paragraph by paragraph, adding, commenting, and correcting in the few places where appropriate.

Page 1, First Paragraph

Henry Ericsson did not develop a resort community. His hotel, built in 1892, used the point of land where we are located ("Sandy Hook") as a bathing beach. However, he did no development. The hotel had a short life, and suffered from hard times. My understanding is that Pugh (North Pier Terminal fame) built the foundations for the current house, and then went bankrupt and could not complete the house. My grandfather then bought the property from him and finished the house.

The house on the point of Coon Island that is now being restored is where Pugh finally built a house after his fortunes improved.

Other people bought land on the island, such as the Busches, the LaMoons and the Carsons, and had their homes built in the fashion of Henry Ericsson's house. Henry actually built the Busch house next door in 1917. I don't know who built any of the other

houses, but if Henry did, it was not for development purposes but under contract to the owners.

Page 1, Last Paragraph, continuing onto page 2

Henry Ericsson built an hotel only. I don't know the Kennebeck farm, but the hotel is not in the location where the house now stands. What he built in 1892, to the best of my knowledge, was not a home, but an hotel "made of roman bricks". In other words, the home and the hotel were one and the same, in the fashion of today's B&B. The Kennebeck farm was not developed by Henry Ericsson. I think that the Kennebeck farm possibly became the Matthew's development on the south side of the bridge. Henry's purchase only marked the beginning of development, and the development was subsequently made by others.

He did not develop additional lots or sell any lots to anyone, with one exception. He either gave, or sold a lot to Augustus Busch of St. Louis facing Pistakee Lake adjacent to his home. That was not for the purposes of land development, but because he liked Augustus and wanted to have him as a neighbor.

There was no "masterplan". That is clearly evidenced in the McRoberts household (now Janssen) which was built before Henry's second house and whose property blocks any expansion or development. The area was "developed" only for Mr. Ericsson who had orchards, parks and so forth. There was NEVER any for profit residential development by Mr. Ericsson, and that is why the land today has remained so pristine.

The boardwalk was built and maintained while Henry operated the hotel. These were hard times for Henry and Carolena, and they ran the hotel to make ends meet. It is likely that they lived here for at least one year, year-around, because of the hard times. Henry left the area, probably early in the current century. When the home was built in 1910, the property was no longer used as a beach for the hotel, and I doubt that the boardwalk then existed (although it is conceivable, although unlikely, that it did.)

The lampposts are not representative of a "masterplan", but were there because that is the way people, in that era of the discovery of electrical lighting, built their homes. The lamppost castings were commonly available commercially, and similar structures can be seen around the lake. The posts at the end of the Pierson's property represent the original entrance to the Henry Ericsson property.

The brick and stone gate posts within the original Henry Ericsson property (There were five in total, of which only two remain) are similar to our posts in our house and the Busch residence. The latter was built along the same lines as Henry's house, not as a development, but because the Busch's wanted a similar (but not identical) house. The posts referenced on the eastern end, again, were built not as part of a development (Henry never had property rights over there), but because that was the style in those days.

I don't believe the boardwalk was lost because of the lake being raised. I believe it had been destroyed long before. The winters were very rough, and the ice would take away



any fixed structure. This happens today with piers. If the boardwalk were not annually maintained, it would disappear in a year.

The beach was the namesake of the area: "Palm Beach".

Page 2 Second full paragraph

Small point. The Everliegh Club was not "infamous". It was "famous".

Page 2 Third full paragraph

The adjacent house was never owned by Mr. Ericsson's descendants, nor was it built in the same time period. The property was originally owned by Mr. Ericsson. His house had been finished, and there used to be a gazebo where the adjacent house is located. In the teens, Henry deeded the property to Augustus Busch, and in 1917 Henry built the current house for Augustus Busch. Perhaps the report of Babe Pierson, the current owner of the house (for many decades) will be illuminating on this point.

I do understand the confusion about family names. The house and property you are referencing where the play house stands was owned by the McRoberts. Clarence Ericsson, probably in the early 20s, married Mildred McRoberts. They had children, whose last name, obviously, was Ericsson. However, the property ownership and development follows distinctly different paths. The cottage was not a playhouse for Henry Ericsson's family, but for the children of McRoberts-Ericsson. My guess is that the playhouse was built in the 1920s. It was not built when the McRoberts house was built (I believe that was 1905).

Page 2, Fourth full paragraph

The playhouse lot and the house lot are both the McRoberts lots. They should not be referenced as separate properties. As stated earlier, although descendants of Henry Ericsson own the house, the house is not part of Henry Ericsson's property, nor was it developed by him.

Page 2, Sixth Full paragraph

The knoll was originally an Indian camp ground, and many Indian artifacts have been found on the knoll and removed (My brother has a complete collection from the knoll). I don't know about the dates when the hotel burned down. My understanding is that Henry Ericsson still owned the Hotel when it burned, and that he built a replacement. The replacement was either torn down, or was added to when Saul built the current structure during the 1920s.

Page 2, Seventh full paragraph

The McAnsh house plaqued this year dates to the 1890s, I believe. The Leonard home could possibly be from the late 1800s as well.

Map

The two homes marked "Ericsson homes" are in error. The left hand most home was built on property Henry Ericsson originally owned but transferred to Augustus Busch. It was never occupied by an Ericsson or a descendent. The right hand most home was the McRoberts home, and only acquired the "Ericsson" name through marriage, long after the house had been built.

The left hand "Brick & Stone Gate Posts" are mislocated. They stand between the two homes referenced as "Ericsson homes" and delineated the original Ericsson property from the McRoberts property. In fact, they mark the entrance to the original Ericsson property. The posts at the eastern end of the island I know little about. What would be of interest is to find out about the Kuehn's house at the eastern end of the island. They are very long term residents, and their house is very old.

I have no information that the lamp posts were relocated. They may have been placed there originally. Remember that this type of lamppost was commercially available and everyone had this type of lamppost around their houses, just as people do now when they build a new house. The only difference is that in the teens and twenties the posts were made of concrete, or concrete and stone, rather than production metal as is done today.

Those are my comments. You will get some very interesting information (and corrections on my information herein, I am sure) from our neighbors (particularly Babe Pierson, who was around before me and who was in the "clique" )

Please call if you have any questions. My wife, Jill, will be able to help if I am out of town.

Sincerely,



Peter F. Theis

**Survey Committee**

**Tony Howard**

**Dave Gervais**

**Jim Pearson**

**Jim Keefe**

**We will adjourn our regular meeting of Oct 7th to a eating place in Marengo at 9am. The purpose is to review the application for the witness tree, to Look over the Riley School site and the Liberty School site. All in Coral Twp.**

**I may also suggest a review of different sites that the survey committee in the past have looked at.**

**Maryanne.... please include in next mo meeting pact. 337-3720**

Mary Ann - 337-3720

### Survey Report

Attended the Mt Auburn plaquing last Sunday. There were four of our members present. The local member arrived as we were leaving. Who was that person?

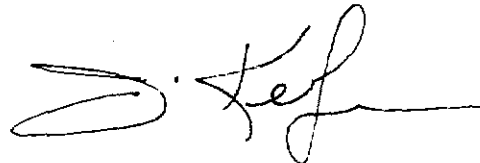
Got called that wrong spelling was on the Miller plaque. I've called Zoias, ( who orders out the plaques). They checked with their supplier. They will give us a 20% discount on the new plaque and the old one should be returned as they can use the bronze. They ordered out the new one with the spelling of Muller with the dots above the u's. The plan is to present the current plaque and tell the folks that a corrected plaque will be shortly arriving.

I noted Marks report for the last meeting. May I suggest that it be included with my survey report as it is part of our committee. Also in Marks report he refers to moving on some of these owners that do not respond. We should discuss that again. We've had that in the past with other members but we should do it again.

Have not had any reply to the Liberty School application. Carol has submitted the witness tree but a little more work need to be done before the clock starts to run.

A little comment about the Mt Auburn program. It was well attended and a lot of work went into the presentations. It was live history and we should be looking more into this line of history. It should be promoted.

We need one more site for this year

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "D. Kef" or similar, written in a cursive style.

For Incoming Chairperson of the Natural Features Committee  
September 2, 1998

Follow-up Information on the Witness Tree Application

Ed Collins and I met on 12 August 1998 to inspect the burr oak tree on Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Urban's property and he is completely satisfied that it is indeed a witness tree. Some of the things that convince him of this are:

- its location exactly where the survey describes it
- the tree is a "single trunk." He said that the roots of the tree could be up to 200-300 years old but that other shoots/trunks of the tree were probably burned back multiple times by the prairie fires which would have swept across the area before it was settled. He thought that this particular trunk, at the time it was marked by the surveyors, would have been perhaps 20 years old, given its reported diameter. After settlement, the prairie fires were suppressed which would have allowed this particular trunk to grow to its present size.
- there are stones surrounding the tree in a manner indicating that the tree was used to help mark the corner of the quarter section.
- there are marks on the bark of the tree which indicate that the tree was probably used as a fence corner marking property lines, which often run along section, lines.

When I asked for his advice on defining the tree area, he said that rather than using radius and diameter measurements, normally a "box" is drawn around the drip line of the tree (sorry Dave, I know that you were hoping for a different kind of geometric description). If this were done with this particular tree, it would indeed include very small sections of the neighboring properties. However, he suggested that we need not make things terribly complicated. He said that if MCCD were working with this, they would be satisfied to define the tree area as the "bowl" of the tree: the trunk and the majority of the feeder root system, which is on Mr. and Mrs. Urban's property. He also noted that the tree is in a kind of isolated spot and that the neighbors are not likely to bushwhack their way to the tree's roots from their properties. He thinks that if the tree isn't threatened by the neighbors we shouldn't go out of our way to complicate the issue.

Ed did note that while the tree is healthy at present, there is a potential threat to the tree from the undergrowth and silt which are around it. He said that if the owners are interested, MCCD could help them to clean up the area around the tree and "manage" the tree.

The Urbans were away on vacation when we went to inspect the tree (I did have their permission to go and look at the tree while they were away), and I left the county before they returned, so I sent a letter to them about our visit and included the information about the McHenry County Land Foundation, etc. Ed said that he would follow up and contact the Urbans about the tree and said that he was willing to talk to the commission and/or to the press etc. if anyone wanted any further information about the tree, or how the surveyors worked or anything of that nature.

In the meantime, I understand that Gloria Mack had a word with Mitch Martin from the Crystal Lake bureau of the Chicago Tribune who intends to write a story about the witness tree. He tracked down my phone number in Champaign and the best I could do was to give him a phone interview and send him in Ed's direction. I have found out that Ed did follow up and talk to Mrs. Urban, and that she has spoken with the reporter as well and is delighted that the tree is getting all this attention (even if she isn't quite sure which tree it really is! I sent her instructions on how to find it).

I encourage the commission to continue with the application to landmark the tree on the basis of its historical significance.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Lockwood



P.S. I can now be contacted via e-mail at: [clockwoo@law.uiuc.edu](mailto:clockwoo@law.uiuc.edu)

A PIN!

V L N A

**MCHENRY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION****9/2/98 - Chairman's Report - Gail Drabant****ENDANGERED HISTORIC SITES LIST:**

Based on input received we need to establish a sub-committee to keep an on-going status list, prioritize our endangered list and whatever else is deemed necessary. Any volunteers?

**WOODSTOCK CENTER:**

After a site inspection, I responded to MCCD that the historic integrity of this former inn was very low due to the countless alterations that were made when this was made into a camp/corporate center.

**RILEY TOWNSHIP SCHOOL & CEMETERY:**

I was contacted by Dale Ward to inquire as to the feasibility of a cemetery & school restoration. After doing a site inspection, it is very apparent that both are in desperate need of care. Both are located on Barber property (as of the 1872 plat book). This Greek Revival school building needs floor, roof, ceiling and wall repairs, not to mention clearing of debris and vines. There maybe interest to do the restoration as a volunteer project. The cemetery contains 17 graves and is not even noted on the 1872 plat map. It needs to be registered. It was completely overgrown. As a school project the large trees have been removed and they have cleared some brush and have started prairie burns to restore the natural plants. This property is currently owned by a church in Des Plaines. When the current farmer lease expires, there is concern that the property may be sold. There is a group of people interested in preservation of this site containing both the one-room school and the cemetery. Is there any interest in this site as a possible landmark?

**9/2/98 - Committee Report - Gail Drabant****OLD HOUSE SUPPORT GROUP:**

On summer break! Any takers to become the commission liaison for this group?

**PUBLICATIONS:**

Binders distributed this month. Outstanding MCHPC business cards for the three new members. Also outstanding is an update of our Comprehensive Landmark List which needs to be done prior to the September meeting of the Joint Council of Historic Groups for distribution at that time.

**PRESERVATION AWARDS:**

David and Tony have accepted the position as co-chairmen of the 1999 Awards Committee. Many thanks.

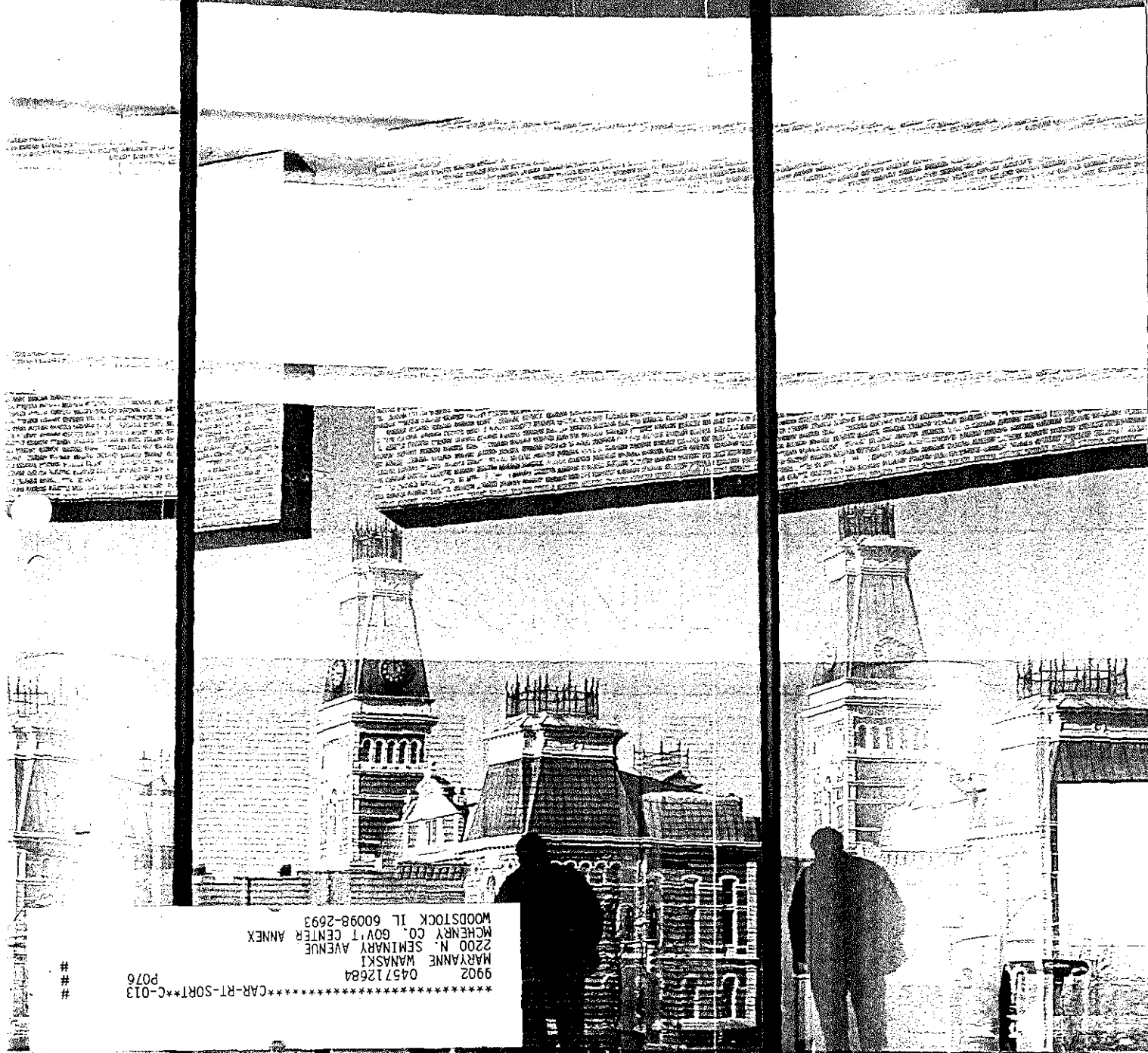
**MCCD Greek Revival Restoration:** (Re: Powers-Walker house built in 1854 by Elon & Mary Powers, located on Harts Road in Glacial Park.)

We are back painting! The grading is done from the foundation work and we even have grass growing. We are continuing with wood restoration.

SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 1993

# Preservation

THE MAGAZINE OF THE NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION



\*\*\*\*\*CAR-RT-SORT\*\*C-013  
 # # #  
 9902 045712684  
 MARYANNE WANSKI  
 2200 N. SEMINARY AVENUE  
 MCHEERY CO. GOV'T CENTER ANNEX  
 WOODSTOCK IL 60098-2693

## Modernist visions, Main Street realities

Columbus, Indiana, has 60 buildings by famous architects. Why are the sidewalks empty?

BY ROBERT CAMPBELL

JAN MORRIS' CAIRO · SARASOTA SAGA · M.F.K. FISHER'S LAST HURRAH

P R E S E R V A T I O N

# NEWS

REPORTING ON ISSUES, PEOPLE, PLACES, TRENDS, PUBLIC POLICY, AND THE LAW



## Transitions

### LOST



◀ Maria Love House, Buffalo, N.Y.: housed 1879 day-care center for poor working women, possibly nation's first, torn down without permit ■ 1856 Phillip House, Algonquin, Ill.: demolished by owner upset by order to alter his business sign in front of downtown landmark

### THREATENED



◀ Central School, St. Peter's, Minn.: among 13 historic buildings—in addition to commercial historic district—damaged or destroyed by spring tornado ■ Pair of 150-year-old houses, Colchester, Conn.: targeted as site for 10,000-sq.-ft. CVS chain drugstore in historic district

### SAVED



◀ 1928 State Theater, Ithaca, N.Y.: purchased by local preservation group from owner threatening demolition of atmospheric movie palace ■ Fallon Building, San Francisco: secured by vote to reverse demolition decision and incorporate Victorian into Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Community Center Project

### RESTORED



◀ 1895 City Hall, Portland, Ore.: sandstone exterior, 4-story light courts renewed in 2-year, \$29 million restoration and seismic retrofit ■ Poplar Forest, near Lynchburg, Va.: work completed on exterior of Thomas Jefferson's octagonal country retreat from Monticello



**A**N ILL WIND SWEEPED through southern Wisconsin on the evening of June 18, toppling a 225-year-old white oak into a wing of Taliesin, the Spring Green home and workplace of **THROUGH THE ROOF** Frank Lloyd Wright.

The tree broke windows and skylights, crushed the drafting studio's roof structure, gashed open a hole that let in rainwater, and ruined plaster and furnishings. As an arborist carefully extracted the woody debris, the staff and residents worked to stabilize the building. The oak, too, is quite a loss. Its 100-foot-wide canopy had cooled and dappled the tea circle, a courtyard, since 1911. But chopped into souvenirs, it could help fund the studio's restoration, which may take a year to complete. **-ALLEN FREEMAN**

LOGO: THE NEWSBURY C. 1898. COURTESY OF THE MILWAUKEE ART MUSEUM, THE MICHAEL AND JULIE HALL COLLECTION OF AMERICAN FOLK ART. PHOTO: BY JOHN NIENHUIS

LARGE PHOTO COURTESY TALIESIN PRESERVATION COMMITTEE; TRANSITIONS (FROM TOP): RON COLLIER; ANDRE; (NET); HISTORIC ITHACA; ECKERT & ECKERT



August 31, 1998

Ms. Maryanne Wanaski  
Staff Liaison  
Department of Planning and Development  
McHenry County Government Center - Annex Building A  
2200 North Seminary Avenue  
Woodstock, Illinois 60098

Re: McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission Membership

Dear Maryanne:

It is with deep regret that I resign as a member of the McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission. Unfortunately the travel and schedule demands associated with my professional obligations have made it increasingly difficult for me to make our monthly meetings and devote the time necessary to the work of the Commission.

I have appreciated the opportunity of working with you and the Commission Members over the last year and a half and I commend you all for your dedication and contributions to historic preservation in McHenry County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mark Balasi".

Mark Balasi

October 7, 1998

Report by Public Relations/Endangered Sites in County  
Jennifer Iftner

I faxed to several newspapers a community briefing for the opening on the McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission. I have not seen this published yet, and will re-fax this information.

I attended the semi-annual meeting of the Joint Council of Historic Groups in Algonquin on September 23. Rocco, the speaker from IDOT was excellent and provided hope about funding for local historic preservation projects.

The meeting raised the important issue of the condition of the brick street in Huntley. I spoke with two gentlemen on the town council about their options. After much discussion, MaryAnn agreed the next day to speak at that evenings council meeting in Huntley.

Dave Gervais and I will be working on scheduling a meeting with interested parties, concerning endangered sites. He did start a list at the Joint Council meeting of those who would participate and we hope to go somewhere with that.

McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission  
October 7th  
Gloria Mack

On September 18th, Mary Ann and I attended the State Conference in Elgin. We attended several seminars. The highlight of the day was that I got a chance to visit with Rick McGrath. He had a booth at the conference. He is living in Evanston and trying to get his business established. He said to say hello to his friends on the Commission.

The conference was very interesting and beneficial.

# VILLAGE OF HUNTLEY

Village Hall - 11704 Coral Street  
Huntley, Illinois 60142  
847-669-9600  
847-669-3002 Fax



September 24, 1998

Ms. Gail Drabant, Chairman  
McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission  
c/o McHenry County Department of Planning & Development  
2200 North Seminary  
Woodstock, IL 60098

Re: Letter of Intent/Village of Huntley-McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission  
Intergovernmental Agreement

Dear Ms. Drabant:

Thank you for your help and assistance that you provided Carl Tomaso and Dave Johnson at the September 23<sup>rd</sup> McHenry County Joint Historic Group Meeting. I understand that the meeting was very informative.

I am pleased to inform you that at the September 24<sup>th</sup> Village Board meeting, the Village Board authorized a Letter of Intent indicating the Village's interest in formulating an intergovernmental agreement with McHenry County regarding Certified Local Government "CLG" status. Please accept this request letter on behalf of the Village.

In addition, I have requested that Carl Tomaso and Dave Johnson attend the October 7<sup>th</sup> meeting for the McHenry County Historic Preservation to discuss this issue.

On behalf of the Village Board, I look forward to working with the Commission in an effort to complete the formulation of an Intergovernmental Agreement.

Sincerely,

Mayor James Dhamer  
Village of Huntley

cc: Village Board

C. Tomaso

D. Johnson

# President Ford's roots in Harvard, Illinois

by Margaret Pufahl Firestone

On September 7, 1912, a wedding took place in the Christ Episcopal Church at Harvard, Ill. Although the ceremony was the social event of the year attended by guests from several states, the only positive result of what turned out to be a short marriage was the birth of a son who later became president of the United States.

Dorothy Ayer Gardner, the future president's mother, married Leslie Lynch King in a ceremony which even received the attention of the Chicago Tribune, for she was the granddaughter of Harvard's founder, Elbridge Gerry Ayer. Her father was Levi Gardner, a prominent businessman and former mayor.

Her uncle, Edward Ayer, son of Elbridge, was extremely successful in his own right. He owned 12 acres of land along Geneva Lake's south shore where Abbey Springs is today and seven hundred acres of farmland to the south that extended across Highway BB.

The groom was the son of Charles and Martha Porter King, a well-known Omaha family who made their fortune raising sheep and selling wool in Nebraska and Wyoming.

## Moving west

The newlyweds went to live in Omaha, where a son was born to them on July 14, 1913, and christened Leslie Lynch King, Jr. But the couple's happiness was brief. The following year they divorced. The only explanation Dorothy ever gave her son for the short duration of the marriage was "It just didn't work out."

In the meantime, Dorothy's parents had retired to Grand

Rapids, Mich., where her father died in 1916, but was returned to Harvard for burial.

That same year, Dorothy married Gerald R. Ford, a highly successful Grand Rapids businessman.

Gerald adopted the three-year-old Leslie and changed his name to Gerald R. Ford, Jr. The relationship between the two was unusually close. In later years, President Ford never missed an opportunity to relate how he loved and respected his father by adoption.

Three sons were born to Dorothy and Gerald. The four boys grew up together in Grand Rapids where their parents became community leaders.

It is sad that none of the president's parents lived to see him in the White House (Dorothy passed away in 1971 at the age of 75). How happy they would have been; an American parent's fondest dream come true.

The 1975 Harvard Milk Day Parade commemorating the city's bicentennial year, was a special one. In honor of the occasion, Gerald and Betty Ford's daughter, Susan, rode on the Dean's Milk float.

As the parade passed the site of Susan's great-grandfather's furniture and undertaking business on Ayer Street, the great, great granddaughter of Elbridge Gerry Ayer must have been proud of her genealogy.

## Family history

Ayer had purchased a farm in 1856 where Harvard is located today. For years, he and his wife kept "an eating house" on Main Street. During the Civil War, all of the 20 to 200 soldiers who passed through each day were given a free meal.

Twenty years later, the

couple was presented with a gold cup on their golden wedding anniversary by a special delegation of soldiers who remembered the kindness extended to them. The cup was placed in the Wisconsin Historical Society by the Ayer's son, Edward.

## Just how famous?

The name Elbridge Gerry Ayer intrigued me. I knew one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence was Elbridge Gerry. Were this Ayer and the Harvard Ayers related? I tried to find out through the Library of Congress, but to no avail.

Was Elbridge Gerry Ayer named by a fancified mother? To name a son after a great statesman was not unusual then. How many sons' names began with George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, or Thomas Jefferson?

I wrote to Gerald Ford, president at that time, to inquire if he knew. The reply came on White House stationery.

"I was interested to learn that the founder of the town of Harvard, Ill. was my great grandfather," President Ford wrote. "Because our files contain very little material on my genealogy, I am unable to determine whether Elbridge Gerry Ayer was a descendant of Elbridge Gerry, who was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. While I cannot furnish the information you requested, I want you to know how much I appreciate your friendship and interest in writing as you did. With all good wishes, Gerald R. Ford."

President Ford holds the distinction of being the only man who ever held the positions of vice president and president of



Three-year-old Leslie Lynch King, Jr. with his dog in Omaha, Neb. Later in the same year, 1916, the future president of the United States, was adopted by his mother's second husband, Gerald Ford, and his name changed to Gerald R. Ford, Jr. His mother, the former Dorothy Ayer Gardner, was born, raised and wed her first husband, Leslie King, in Harvard, Ill.

the United States without having been elected to either office.

He ascended to the vice presidency from his position as speaker of the House of Representatives upon the resignation of Vice President Agnew and to the presidency when President Nixon resigned. The only office to which voters ever

elected the highly popular politician was congressman from Michigan.

Gerald Ford's defeat by Jimmy Carter in the 1976 election allowed him to enjoy a lengthy retirement supported by congressional, vice presidential and presidential pensions and perks.

== FYI ==



# Main Street

THE NATIONAL TRUST'S NATIONAL MAIN STREET CENTER

- About Main Street
- Contacts & Programs
- Conferences & Workshops
- What We Do
- Resources
- Bookstore
- Getting Started
- Technical Assistance
- Join Main Street



[Trouble logging on?](#)

Welcome to the National Main Street Center's web site, providing information and resources on the Main Street Program of downtown revitalization through historic preservation and economic development.

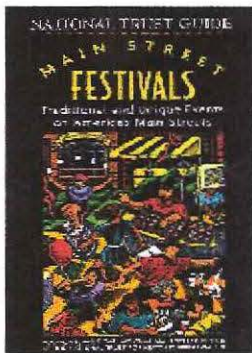


Get professional training with our new fall series of [Main Street Seminars](#) -- geared toward the Main Street revitalization leader!

Looking for expertise in the downtown revitalization field but can't find a qualified person locally? Check out our [business card listing](#) for names and numbers of consultants specializing in different areas of downtown revitalization.



[Read about Libertyville, Illinois](#)



***Main Street Festivals: Traditional and Unique Events on America's Main Streets.*** From onion rodeos to okra cook-offs, Civil War re-enactments to blues festivals, this guidebook lists events in Main Street communities and showcases their revitalization and historic preservation accomplishments! [More](#)



We're a Program of the [National Trust for Historic Preservation](#)

[Text Index](#)



# What We Do



- [Mission Statement](#)
- [Technical Services](#)
- [Training Materials](#)
- [National Main Street Network](#)

- [National Town Meeting](#)
- [Certification Institute](#)
- [Great American Main Street Awards](#)

## About the National Main Street Center

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The National Main Street Center is part of the [National Trust for Historic Preservation](#). It created the Main Street Approach to downtown revitalization, and promotes the use of the approach to communities to revitalize their traditional commercial areas. It serves as the nation's clearinghouse for information, technical assistance, research and advocacy on preservation-based commercial district revitalization.

*The National Main Street Center:*

- ▶ Provides direct, on-site [technical assistance](#) to towns, cities and urban neighborhoods
- ▶ Publishes a wide range of [training materials](#)
- ▶ Offers membership in the [National Main Street Network](#) which includes [Main Street News](#)
- ▶ Sponsors an annual conference, the [National Town Meeting on Main Street](#)
- ▶ Offers a professional certification program, the [Main Street Certification Institute in Professional Downtown Management](#)
- ▶ Organizes the [Great American Main Street Awards](#) annual competition.
- ▶ Read the [Mission of the National Main Street Center of the National Trust for Historic Preservation](#).
- ▶ View a [Listing of National Main Street Center Staff](#).

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## *Libertyville, Illinois*

**Local Main Street Organization:**  
**MainStreet Libertyville, Inc.**  
 133 East Cook Avenue  
 Libertyville, Illinois 60048  
 (847) 680-0336

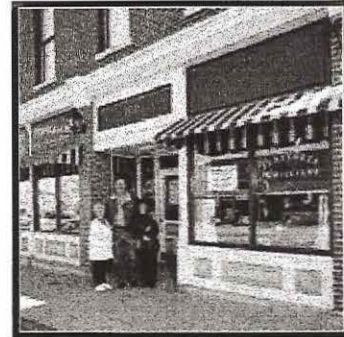
**Community's Population:** 19,200  
**Year Started:** 1989  
**Budget:** \$180,000  
**Type of Organization:** Nonprofit

### *Major Achievements:*

- **Organized Entrepreneurial Consulting Network:** Network of professionals volunteer their time to assist struggling and start-up businesses.
- **Tapped into Corporate Coffers for Event Sponsorships:** Corporations fund specific features of special events in return for free advertising, a partnership that improves events and helps promotions turn a profit.
- **Pooled Loan Funds from Seven Banks:** The MainStreet Area Loan Pool offers building owners loans ranging from \$15,000 to \$100,000 at a fixed rate of 3.85% for seven-year term to finance qualified building rehabs.
- **Produces Seasonal Variety of Promotions:** Retail and special events, ranging from a series Out-to-Lunch Friday afternoon cookouts to a Farmer's Market and HarvestFest, take place 36 days of the year and attract up to 40,000 people.

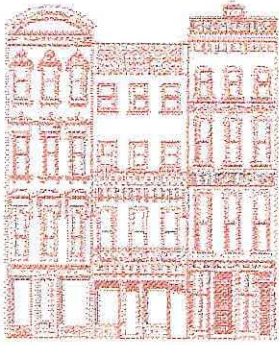
### *Economic Activity Downtown Since Start of Program*

**Financial Reinvestment:** \$13,455,000  
**Number of Rehabilitations:** 22  
**Net New Businesses:** 38  
**Net New Jobs:** 367  
**Vacancy Rate at Start:** 7%  
**Vacancy Rate Today:** 3%  
**Average Rental Rates at Start:** \$6-8/square foot  
**Average Rental Rates Today:** \$12-14/square foot



### [The Libertyville Story](#) [Corporate Contributions Perk Up Promotions](#)





Site Maintainer:

[fmarends@aol.com](mailto:fmarends@aol.com)

[Home](#)

[Endangered  
Buildings of  
Hammond and  
Beverly Shores](#)

[Images of Historic  
Indiana](#)

**Fact:** A leading urban designer invited by Gary mayor Scott King in 1996 cited downtown Gary's historic architecture as one of it's major assets  
(Post-Tribune; 11/7/1996)

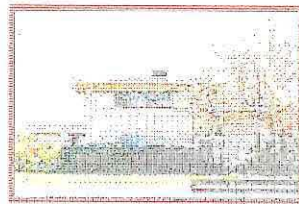
# Endangered Buildings of Northwest Indiana

*Architecturally significant buildings in danger of being lost through negligence or indifference*

Thanks to [Christopher A. Meyers](#), local preservation consultant, for research, documentation and images on this page.

*Click the thumbnails for a larger view*

## Gary:



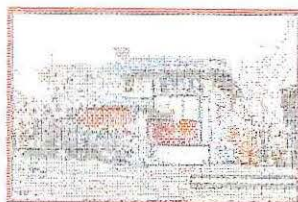
600 Fillmore

Frank Lloyd Wright, architect

1916

May 3, 1990)

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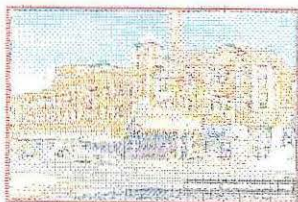


626 Fillmore

architect unknown

Prairie-style design

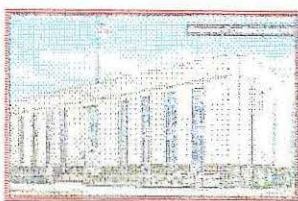
circa. 1917-1920



The Palace Theatre

John Eberson,  
architect

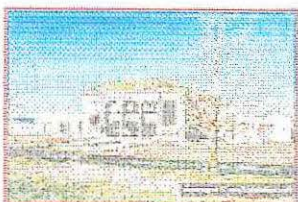
1924-25



United States Post  
Office

Howard Cheney,  
architect

1936



Marquette Park  
Bathing Beach  
Pavilion

George Maher &  
Son, architects

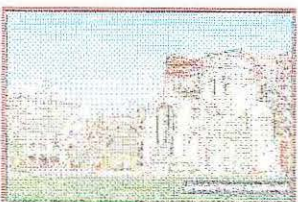
1922



Union Station

M.A. Lang, architect

1908



First Methodist  
Church

Lowe &  
Bollenbacher,  
achitect

1925





# 1999 TEN MOST ENDANGERED HISTORIC PLACES

## Request for Nominations

\*\*\*\*\*

Since 1994, LPCI has asked Illinois preservationists, community leaders, and interested citizens to nominate threatened or endangered historic properties.

Now is the time to nominate. Inclusion on the list of the *Ten Most Endangered Historic Places* in Illinois has proven beneficial for many Illinois historic resources. For some properties, nomination to the list is a last chance for survival.

### **A Ten Most designation:**

- focuses public attention on the plight of threatened historic resources
- spurs preservationists, architects, lawyers, foundations, individual philanthropists, historical associations, and other community interests to action
- exposes communities to preservation alternatives through grants and technical assistance

### **What is an endangered property?**

- A threatened historic property important to the community.
- An irreplaceable icon fallen into disrepair.
- The most picturesque farm in the county threatened by urban sprawl.
- A historic building or structure that's caught fire, been abandoned, and/or falling apart, but still standing.
- A group of resources threatened by poor planning or public policy.

If you know of a resource that fits these descriptions, do something!!! Nominate the property for designation as a *Ten Most* and make the call to preserve it heard beyond your backyard.

**PLEASE RETURN APPLICATIONS BY  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1998**

**After** nominations are received, an independent panel of judges will make recommendations to the LPCI Board of Directors, which will make the final decision for the 1999 *Ten Most Endangered Historic Places* in Illinois. The designated *Ten Most* properties will be announced at a press conference as part of Preservation Days held in Springfield in March. The press conference will expose the plight of the *Ten Most* properties and focus considerable attention upon their fate.

## MCHENRY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION



**11/4/98 - Chairman's Report - Gail Drabant**

### RILEY TOWNSHIP SCHOOL & CEMETERY:

The decision on whether to restore this one-school house is still outstanding. It would take a great deal of time and money to accomplish this with the current state of the school. Regardless, the cemetery will be restored.

**11/4/98 - Committee Report - Gail Drabant**

### OLD HOUSE SUPPORT GROUP:

We have not yet met this fall due to lack of interested volunteers. Any takers to become the commission liaison for this group?

### PUBLICATIONS:

Outstanding is an update of our Comprehensive Landmark List.

### PRESERVATION AWARDS:

This will now be reported on by the new co-chairmen, David and Tony.

MCCD Greek Revival Restoration: (Re: Powers-Walker house built in 1854 by  
*Elon & Mary Powers, located on Harts Road in Glacial Park.*)

We have completed wood restoration and painting of the south facade. For the first time we have a view of what it will look like upon completion. We are having a "Harvest Gathering" program Nov. 21st from 1:00 to 4:00 in the afternoon. Everyone that is interested in what we are doing is invited to attend this open house. Historic information concerning the house will be available that day. To date the volunteers have put in over 1000 volunteer hours! We are proud with the results of our efforts.



copy

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

MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 20, 1998

TO: Dianne Klemm  
McHenry County Board Chairman

FROM: Maryanne Wanaski  
Staff Liaison, McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission

RE: Reappointment of Gail Drabant

On November 4th, the McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission unanimously voted to recommend the reappointment of HPC Chairman Gail Drabant, whose term expires on 11/26/98.

Ms. Drabant is a respected and hard working Commissioner who truly believes in the value of preserving McHenry County's history. She not only serves as the Commission's chair, but also organizes and runs the Old House Support Group. In addition to those duties, she graciously volunteers her time and expertise helping to restore the Powers-Walker House at Glacial Park.

Thank you for your consideration to this matter. Should you have any questions, my direct extension is: -4089.



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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

November 18, 1998

Illinois Historic Preservation Agency  
Mr. Michael Ward  
1 Old State Capitol Plaza  
Springfield, Illinois 62702-1507

Dear Mr. Ward:

On behalf of the McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission, I would like to thank you for providing us with a copy of the video "Residential Architectural Styles in Illinois".

It proved to be both informative and interesting.

Thank you again, we are looking forward to viewing further video's in your series.

Sincerely,

Maryanne Wanaski  
Department of Planning and Development



Rec'd 4/9/98  
mw



**Illinois Historic  
Preservation Agency**

1 Old State Capitol Plaza • Springfield, Illinois 62701 • (217) 782-4836 • TTY (217) 524-7128

November 6, 1998

Ms. Maryanne Wanaski  
Staff Liaison  
McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission  
2200 N. Seminary  
Woodstock

Project Title: Publication Driving Tour of Properties in McHenry County

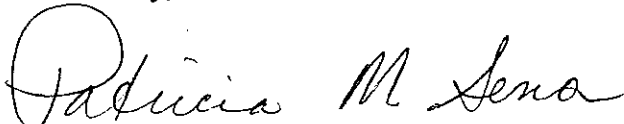
Dear Ms. Wanaski:

The Illinois Historic Preservation Agency would like to thank you for your application for the Certified Local Government Grant funded by the Department of Interior. We regret to inform you that your application did not score high enough and will not be funded this year.

The Agency will be accepting applications in the summer/fall of 1999 for the Federal Fiscal Year 2000, which begins October 1, 1999. We hope you will submit an application applying for assistance at that time.

If you should have any questions, please contact me at 217-785-2881.

Sincerely,

  
Patricia M. Senor  
Grants Administrator