1991 HERITAGE AWARDS—CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

PACA is seeking nominations for the Seventh Annual Heritage Awards. The purpose of the Awards is to increase awareness of the important buildings in the community and to promote the interests of preservation and conservation. Any building or site in Champaign or surrounding counties which has architectural or historical significance for the community and/or which has undergone recent restoration or renovation is eligible. Nominations are open to the public and everyone is encouraged to participate. Deadline: December 1, 1990.

Last year's Award winners were the following:

- **Landmark Heritage Award**
  - UI Observatory Building

- **Institutional/Commercial Heritage Award**
  - B & W Photography, 118 N. Walnut, Champaign

- **UMPH Award** (a new award, to inspire those in the middle of a long and tedious project)
  - Residence, 411 W. Hill, Champaign

- **UMPH Award** (a new award, to inspire those in the middle of a long and tedious project)
  - Atkinson Building, 104 S. Neil, Champaign

- **Institutional/Commercial Heritage Award**
  - Allied Title Building, 220 W. Main, Urbana

- **Institutional/Commercial Heritage Award**
  - Carmon's Restaurant, 415 N. Neil, Champaign

- **Landscape Heritage Award**
  - Green Street/Busey Avenue Ornamental Light Restoration Program, Urbana

- **Brick Flower Beds at Vine, Main, & Illinois Streets, Urbana**

- **Landscape Program, Urbana Free Library**

- **Environmental Heritage Award — None**

- **Outstanding Heritage Award — None**

continued on pg. 4
Notes from the Underground

Why should communities be concerned about archaeological artifacts buried underground? Should anyone besides an archaeologist care as to the remains of previous cultures — long buried and long forgotten?

Communities have been grappling with the issues of protecting the natural and built environment for a number of decades and efforts in these areas have been reinforced through various governmental incentives and regulations. Is it reasonable, or practicable, to expect overworked and understaffed local governments to determine whether early settlers or Indians have left remnants of their culture behind?

What possible value can early hand tools or pottery sherds have in the highly competitive and hectic society of today with communities pressured with land development? How can local officials who are required to administer a sheaf of ordinances expect the public to accept the idea that before a construction project can start to get off the ground, the municipality has a responsibility to determine if there is anything of value underground?

Why should communities be concerned about archaeological sites buried within their communities? There are several reasons. First of all, these are valuable and non-renewable cultural resources that contribute to our understanding of past ways of life within each community. As development of the landscape escalates, many of these windows into the past are permanently lost. The laws and regulations which we currently have to protect these resources are limited primarily to federally and state funded, licensed projects. Consequently, most of the archaeological sites facing private development are destroyed without consideration for their historical value. Communities should regard these regulations as a means of protecting their local heritage rather than as an impediment to development. The information derived from studying these buried cultural remains, which date to as early as 10,000 B.C., gives each community a sense of identification with their past. Where did the earliest inhabitants of the area come from? How did they live? How did their way of life in the community develop into those which characterize the area today?

For example, although their cultures were radically different from those in existence today, Indian inhabitants in a particular area may have farmed the same bottomlands as those presently cultivated, and hunted the same hills and mountain ranges for wild game. From controlled archaeological excavations we have learned, for instance, that many of the wild plants and weeds which are not used by today's inhabitants, provided the raw material for abundant food resources, fiber for clothing, and covering for shelter. In fact, it has been shown from archaeological evidence of charred plant remains, that many of these wild plants were more productive in prehistoric times because the Indians were carefully cultivating them, thereby increasing their productivity.

We have also learned a great deal about prehistoric technology, particularly with regard to stone, ceramic, and bone tool industries. These are just a few small examples of what can be learned from the investigation of archaeological sites within our communities.

The artifacts derived from archaeological surveys and excavation projects provide the raw material for reconstructing the history of each community. Most of what we know of the earliest history of a community is derived from very sketchy information. The archaeological data fills in the gaps by contributing a wealth of knowledge to this very sketchy picture of the prehistoric and early historic periods. This includes information on how past technologies were used to develop the resources of the region, and how these early inhabitants subsisted on locally available wild and cultivated food resources, how they built their houses, how their communities were arranged, what types of items were valued for trading from one region to another, what religious practices characterized the local community and so forth. Rather than lose these resources to land development, the opportunity is provided to learn from these valuable archaeological sites. Just as we value our artwork, architecture, literature, poetry and other contributions to knowledge, we must also consider the value of our cultural heritage resources.

This article was written by Robert Wall and is from the Pennsylvania Bureau of Historic Preservation.

---

pediment

1. In classical architecture, the triangular gable end of the roof above the horizontal cornice, often filled with sculpture. Also called a fronton, when used to crown a subordinate feature, such as a window.

2. In later work, a surface used ornamentally over doors or windows; usually triangular but may be curved.

---

Membership Application

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY:

INDIVIDUAL

Adult

Student (3/4 time or more)

Senior Citizen

Family (includes all members of any size with no more than two members over age 21)

CIVIC

Over 100 members

50-100 members

Up to 50 members

CORPORATE

Membership Application
The Orpheum Theater winterization fund raising campaign is off to a good start. In early October, the Committee mailed their first batch of fund raising letters. The response to date has been very encouraging, but additional contributions are needed. If you haven't sent in your contribution, please do soon. A $25.00 contribution from each PACA member would raise over $6,000, bringing the goal of $21,000 well within sight! Of course, larger contributions are needed, but any contribution is appreciated.

The Champaign City Council has tentatively scheduled a study session on the Orpheum Theater and historic preservation for Tuesday, November 6, at 7:30 pm in the Council Chambers. At this session, the Orpheum Preservation Committee hopes to receive permission from the Council to begin to winterize the theater's physical plant. The Committee will also propose the idea of using the facility as a community cultural arts center with a children's museum as an "anchor" tenant located in the adjacent warehouse space. Although this idea has not been extensively advertised, the Orpheum Committee has already received very positive feedback from a number of community groups and organizations. A community cultural arts center/children's museum is an ambitious but feasible idea and one which will preserve the theater's auditorium in all of its splendor. PACA urges all concerned individuals to attend the City Council Study Session and show their support for preserving this important building. Public comment is not necessary, "warm body" (read voter) support is.

Next on the agenda for the Committee is to begin a full-scale feasibility study which will assess the suitability of the Orpheum Theater and the adjacent warehouse space for use as a community cultural arts center/children's museum. It should also help develop the long-range financial and management plans appropriate to this scheme, identify funding sources, and begin capital campaign plans. Funding sources for this feasibility study are now being sought. The Committee needs additional volunteers with funding ideas or grant writing experience to help with the project; please call 328-PACA to volunteer.
NEW & RENEWING MEMBERS
Max Mitchell
Linda & Doug Mills
Chris Anderson
Wanda Bengoechea Family
John Jakl
Kathryn Anthony & Barry Riccio
Rodney Reid
John & Joan Severns
Mrs. Francis Kruidenier
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Davis
Greg & Dana Peters
Bruce Walden
Dennis & Jan Lewis
Mrs. Ruth Brookens
Laird Thompson & Marianna Murphy

T-SHIRTS, T-SHIRTS, T-SHIRTS
Christmas is coming and PACA is ready! Both PACA T-shirts and Orpheum Preservation Project T-shirts are available in a variety of sizes. PACA shirts are light brown with “PACA” resting on a squat Doric column and supporting the Greek Revival Cottage; short-sleeved shirts $8.00. The Orpheum Preservation Project logo has been silk-screened onto a variety of different colored T-shirts. The shirts are available in both long- and short-sleeves: long-sleeved, $15.00, short-sleeved, $10.00. Contact PACA to arrange for delivery.

VOLUNTEERS IN PRESERVATION
Bob Swisher
Hank Kaczmarski

SALVAGE DONATIONS
University of Illinois
Mr. & Mrs. Lachlan Blair
Mr. Thomas Hartley
Tom Ennis Excavation Service

Residential Heritage Award
1898 Apartment Building, 308 N. State Street, Champaign
Brown Residence, 406 S. Springfield, Champaign

PRESERVATION QUOTE
To recognize and hold ever present in our minds that we are stewards, that we don’t inherit from our fathers but borrow from our children — William Steiner, Kentucky Main Street Program

PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION
Box 2555, Station A, Champaign, Illinois 61825

PACA Newsletter
Published by the Preservation and Conservation Association
Kennedy Hutson, President
Steven Roemmel, Vice-President
Nancy Delcomyn, Secretary-Treasurer

328-PACA

Please submit material for publication in the next newsletter before 15th of month