Celebrate Your Heritage: National Historic Preservation Week
May 12-18

A Message: J. Jackson Walter,
President, National Trust for
Historic Preservation

Nineteen ninety-one marks the 25th
anniversary of the National Historic
Preservation Act of 1966. With this
legislation, Congress mandated that
our nation's heritage is a birthright
that must be protected. We can be
proud of what has been ac-
complished as a result.

We now have an official list of
properties that represents our
heritage. The National Register of
Historic Places today numbers al-
most 800,000 entries, each one a sig-
nificant old building, ship, landscape,
or district. We have forged an impor-
tant partnership between the Nation-
al Park Service, the National Trust,
and state and local governments to
protect those historic properties and
to identify others which should be
protected. An Advisory Council on
Historic Preservation now watches
over federal projects to ensure that
they do not alter historic areas. Now
we can rehabilitate our historic build-
ings with the aid of federal tax
credits. And we have developed the
expertise to provide communities
with the technical assistance neces-
sary to restore and revive our

treasures.

As you know, protecting America's
heritage is an ongoing task. Let us
take this anniversary year to inspire
friends, neighbors, and civic leaders
to share our commitment now and in
the years ahead.

PACA's New Logo

In celebration of our tenth
anniversary, the Board of
Directors has redesigned
PACA's stationery and
newsletter to accommodate
a new logo—a tin ceiling
panel. The Board was look-
ing for a logo which better
represented our organiza-
tion and area architecture,
and this piece of ceiling
lends significance in several
aspects. The panel was sal-
vaged from downtown
Champaign's I.O.O.F Hall,
the demolition of which was
one of the actions which
spurred the formation of
PACA ten years ago. Addi-
tionally, the ceiling panel rep-
resents our ongoing salvage
efforts which allow historic
building materials to be
reused, while providing
funds to assist with other
community projects. In more
general terms, the tin panel
represents an architectural
element found in buildings
throughout the county.

We also wish to announce that
our stationery and newsletter
are printed on recycled paper
courtesy of Nationwide Papers.

Our thanks to Bob
Swisher, Hank Kacz-
marski, B & W Photography,
and Scan Tech
for their help in the
development of our
new logo. We look for-
ward to another
decade of preserva-
tion activities in
Champaign County.
Illinois Preservation Conference:  
June 6-9

This year’s statewide preservation conference, sponsored by the Landmarks Preservation Council and the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, will be held in Rockford, Illinois. For more information, contact Nancy Wagner, LPCI, 312/922-1742.

The Rockford Files: History

Once the territory of the Winnebago Indians, the Rock River Valley was opened for settlement after the surrender of Chief Blackhawk in August of 1832. By the year 1834, New Englanders’ Thatcher Blake and Germanicus Kent along with Kent’s slave, Lewis Lemon, had founded Rockford. The site was first named by Winnebago Indians who knew it as a place where a solid rock-bottomed section in the Rock River allowed easy crossings. A year later, in April 1835, David Shaw Haight settled the east side of the river. By 1839, both east and west sides were united when they were first incorporated as a single village. In 1852, Rockford was granted a City Charter.

Rockford’s fame rests on its historical role as one of the nation’s major manufacturing centers. The production of hydraulic power in the city began with the formation of the Rockford Water Company in 1851, signalling the first major step toward manufacturing development. Drawing from its primary natural resource, the Rock River, water power gave birth to diverse industries such as agricultural implements, flour, paper and wood mills, as well as saddlery and harness making.

During the 1860s, Rockford began to receive national recognition as a major manufacturing center and important supplier of food and farm implements to midwestern communities. The City referred to itself as the “Lowell of the West,” linking it to the famous eastern textile center, Lowell, Massachusetts. By the turn of the century, Rockford ranked second among the cities in the United States in furniture production, and had built one of the largest watch factories, gas range plants, and piano action plants in the world.

Throughout the latter half of the 19th century, Rockford enjoyed remarkable growth. Rockfordites attributed their city’s continued expansion to the “Godfather of the Boom,” the Illinois Central Railroad. The central line connected Rockford directly with Chicago and Sioux City. The Central was one of four great railroad systems servicing Rockford including the Burlington Route of the C & I Railway; the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific; and the Chicago Northwestern Line. At one time, fifty passenger trains arrived or departed each day, bringing new people from all over the world in and out of the city. Although Rockford was unique because it lacked raw materials for its principal industries, the railroads provided the city with its most valuable asset—an ethnically diverse immigrant labor supply.

The availability of employment brought immigrants from all over Europe, but primarily from Sweden, Italy, Germany, Poland, and Lithuania. Ethnic neighborhoods, churches, and social clubs sprung up all over Rockford. Each individual made their own contribution to the community. Some opened small businesses like the Italian bakeries Roma and Piemonte and Marias, which was to become one of Rockford’s best-loved restaurants. Others continued in Rockford’s industrial tradition by developing companies such as Ameroc, Sundstrand, Atwood, Barker-Coleman, and Woodward Governor.

Rockford’s industrial strength continued to lure European immigrant labor, and in the twentieth century, a significant African-American population which helped to shape and inform modern Rockford. This diversity, and the legacy of transportation and industry, shaped Rockford’s history throughout the twentieth century.  

Courtesy of LPCI’s April newsletter

In the United States, we’ll often knock down old buildings rather than be inconvenienced by dragging history along with us.
Seventh Annual Heritage Awards Presented

The 1991 Heritage Awards were presented at the Annual Membership Meeting. The following is a list of the winners:

- **Outstanding Heritage Award:**
  Virginia Theatre Organ Restoration
  (Warren York, J.D. Divilbiss, David Lammers, James Webber, Bill Streeter, Chris Anderson, GKC Theatres)

- **Landscape Heritage Award:**
  412 West Green Street, Urbana
  (Dennis Postlewait)

- **Residential Heritage Award:**
  308 West Clark Street, Champaign
  (Nancy Krueger, Tom Garza)
  602 West Main Street, Urbana
  (Julie Kosarin, Stuart Muir)

- **Institutional Heritage Award:**
  Emmanuel Memorial Episcopal Church
  (102 North State, Champaign)

- **Commercial Heritage Award:**
  Silver Creek Restaurant
  (Allen Strong, 402 N. Race, Urbana)
  Precision Graphics
  (Jeffrey Mellander, 106 S. Neil, Champaign)

- **Special Heritage Award:**
  PACA Salvage Operation
  (Bo Swisher, Hank Kaczmarski)

- **"UMPH" Award:**
  Phillips Farmhouse
  (Donald Barnhart, near Trelease Woods, Rural Urbana)

**Orpheum Preservation Project**

The Orpheum Committee wishes to thank Vic Wojnar, Bill O'Shaughnessy, and the Second Wind Running Club for all of their hard work organizing the March 16, St. Pat's Day Run/Walk for the benefit of the Orpheum Theatre and Catholic Social Services. Nearly 400 participants turned out for the event, held at Crystal Lake Park on a most beautiful early spring Saturday. The Orpheum Preservation Project earned $1,455 from race registrations and direct Orpheum pledges. Orpheum volunteer, Sarah Nemeth, was the second top pledge earner with a total of $265. A tip of the "PACA hat" to all of the participants and volunteers.

The Committee is busy preparing a draft business plan for a proposed children's museum to be housed in the theatre. In order to help gather data for the plan, the Committee has been distributing surveys to area schools, teachers, day care centers, scout troops, business clubs, and other targeted groups to sample support for the children's museum idea. A copy of the survey is enclosed with this newsletter; please fill it out and return it to PACA as soon as possible. Initial returns indicate strong support for the idea, but the Committee would like to have as much documentation as possible in order to present the City of Champaign with a very convincing argument in favor of preserving the Orpheum Theatre as a children's museum.

### Membership Application P.A.C.A.

**Membership Application** P.A.C.A.

**MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY:**

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<td>Adult</td>
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<td>Senior Citizen</td>
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<td>Family (includes all members of a household with no more than two members being over age 21)</td>
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**Make checks payable to:** PACA, Box 2555, Station A, Champaign, Illinois 61825

**Contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.**
Tenth Anniversary Membership Meeting

About forty members and guests attended PACA’s Tenth Anniversary Membership Meeting held on March 17 at the offices of Norman Baxley & Associates and Carle Medical Communications. Three board members were elected to serve through 1993: Susan Appel, Alice Edwards, and Art Zangerl. Retiring from the board was James Dobrovolny (Edwards and Zangerl had been appointed by the board last year to serve out the remaining terms of past members). Current board members are Steve Roemmel (1991), Nancy Delcomyn (1991), Joan Severns (1991), Kennedy Hutson (1992), Patricia Jensen (1992), and Carolyn Baxley (1992).

New & Renewing Members
Mr. & Mrs. M. G. Snyder
Bruce C. Creamer
Helen Levin
Mrs. Norman Barnett
Mr. & Mrs. Allan Tuchman
Mrs. Ruth T. Weinard
James C. Bradbury
Sandra & George Batzli
Emile & Elizabeth Talbot
Lianne Anderson
Thomas Guback & Sylvia Linder-Guback
John Huston
Mr. & Mrs. George T. Clayton
Rose Geier-Wilson
Mrs. Ralph W. Barrymore
Mrs. Ann Fejes
Jack S. Baker
Mike & Bonnie Irwin
David Garner
Chris Stohr
Art & Glenna Bartell
Walter C. Allen
Michele Agosti
Bernadine Evans Stake
Irish/Larson Family
Ellen Brin
Irene G. Stottow
Mr. & Mrs. R.M. Sutton
Nancy & Michael J. Lacy
Bruce Stoffel
Bill & Jamie Kruidenier
Mr. & Mrs. Louis B. Wetmore
James Fallon Family
Gary L. Olsen
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur S. Replogle
Jeff Mellander
Peter Krumbel Family
Joan Ellacott
Earl Crestzburg

Orpheum V.I.P.’s
Gisele Atterberry
Perry Morris
Charles Butzow
Sharon Gunason
Pat Jensen
David Garner
Amy Daniel
Lachlan Blair
Fred Delcomyn
Marsha Stevens
Tom Todd

V.I.P’s
Keddy Hutson
Alice Edwards
Steve Roemmel
Kathy Roemmel
Hank Kaczmarski
Bob Swisher
Nationwide Papers
Abana Press
B & W Photography
Bob Venable
John Palmisano
Scan Tech

Salvage Donations
Allan Eckel
John Knox

Irma R. Lore
Atterberry Family
C-U Convention & Visitors Bureau
Anne A. Ehrlich

Charter Members
Sharon Rapp
Mrs. Wm. M. Younegerman

Preservation & Conservation Association
Box 2555, Station A, Champaign, Illinois 61825

PACA Newsletter
Kennedy Hutson, President
Steven Roemmel, Vice-President
Nancy Delcomyn, Secretary-Treasurer

328-PACA: Telephone & Answering Service