



# PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

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Number 3

## In Memorium

The preservation community is mourning the loss of two historic residences, both of which were lost needlessly.

### Carrie Busey House

The Carrie Busey House, 601 East Park, Champaign, was demolished by Provena Covenant Medical Center last April. No reuse of the land has been announced and it sits a full block away from their medical campus. "Land banking" seems to be the only motive for acquiring the site and "risk management" the only reason for razing the house without a use for the land. PACA advertised the house for relocation and numerous people expressed an interest. However, the winter time frame, the lack of nearby suitable and available lots, and utility line drop charges made the relocation unfeasible. Provena Medical Center was very gracious in allowing PACA to salvage from the site and it was a very successful operation. Interior doors, woodwork, and hardware were obtained and, on the exterior, both porches and two ornate window hoods were saved. One brave volunteer even cut a hole in the roof and retrieved the copper finial from the tower!

Built around 1892, the Busey House was one of the best examples of residential Queen Anne architecture in the twin cities. Although small in scale for a Queen Anne house, it exhibited many of the features typical of the style: irregular plan, corner tower, clapboards and decorative cut shingles, stain glass, ornate window hoods, and two ornate scroll-sawn porches. It was the life-long home of Carrie Busey, a long-time employee of the Champaign School District, in whose honor Carrie Busey School is named. The residence was clearly a Champaign Landmark.



*The Carrie Busey House, 601 East Park, Champaign, was razed last April. The site is now empty. PACA file photo.*

### Ater-Jacques House

The National Register-listed 1857 Ater-Jacques House met its demise on June 20 when a section of the east wall suddenly collapsed. The city ordered the house immediately demolished because of perceived safety conditions; repair of the structure was also deemed too expensive. The house was undergoing preparations for its move to a new site on West Main Street so that the Urbana Free Library could use the historic site for a future ad-

dition planned for sometime in the next century. Two c. 1870 additions had been removed as well as the original 1857 service wing; the walls had been repointed on the exterior and the interior. The new owner was in the process of shoring up various openings prior to the move. Although the building was structurally stable on site, various alterations made to the building when it was converted to commercial use in the 1960s seriously undermined the stability of the building for moving. The collapsed section was the

*The 1857 Ater-Jacques House, one of the oldest documented structures in Urbana, was demolished in June. The Urbana Free Library will use the site for parking. PACA file photo.*





Demolition of the Ater-Jacques House took place the evening of June 20. Many preservationists were in attendance at its demise.

last area to be prepared for the move and, without the buttressing afforded by the law office addition, probably could not support itself.

The Ater-Jacques House was constructed in 1857 by Judge Edward Ater, a County Board member who was responsible for building the third permanent Champaign County Courthouse (1861), thus assuring that Urbana would remain the county seat. The next owner was Francis Jacques, a lawyer and founder of the Urbana Free Library. Jacques was owner and operator of the Urbana & Champaign Street Railway from 1863 to 1890 and was involved in building the Champaign and Eastern Railroad in 1881. He was also responsible for founding the Urbana Building and Loan. However, it is his continued involvement, and that of his daughter, Minnie, with the Urbana Free Library, that Jacques is remembered.

PACA had lobbied extensively for the house to remain in place and for the library to build its addition to the south. This was a feasible and workable solution, but one that would not result in the "ideal" library. Unfortunately, Urbana has now lost one of its most historic antebellum houses. The Library has lost not only the home of their founder, but also the support of many in the community due to their intransigence.

**Help Save the Sheriff's Residence & Courthouse**

**Contact your County Board Members**



The Carrie Busey House was razed in April after a successful salvage effort by PACA. Photos by R. Cahill.

## Volunteer Opportunities

PACA has many volunteer opportunities for people with different interests and skill levels. Please consider volunteering for one of the following activities. Call PACA (359-7222) for more information or to volunteer.

- **PACA Board of Directors:** Fulfill the unexpired term (through 1999) of a resigning Board Member. Meetings are the second Wednesday of each month.
- **Salvage Warehouse Worker:** Get a first look at salvage items by working the "sales floor" one Saturday morning a month. Helpers are needed and coffee is provided. Hours: 9-noon.
- **Ricker House:** Help with minor repairs, scrap paint, and prime the exterior of this wonderful Queen Anne. If enough people volunteer, an appropriate Victorian color scheme will also be attempted.
- **Web Site Designer:** Help PACA move into the next century with our own Web page. Help is needed designing the content of the page.
- **Sweet Corn Festival:** PACA needs people to help staff our booth at this year's Festival, August 28. Shifts last 2-3 hours during the day. Corn provided.
- **Fall Tour Volunteers:** PACA is sponsoring a fall tour of fraternity and sorority houses, September 19. Tour shifts are 1-3 or 3-5. Free tour ticket.
- **Events Display:** PACA would like to participate in more community events by having a portable display. Design and copy help is needed.
- **Orpheum Children's Science Museum:** One PACA position on the OCSM Board of Directors is open. A hard-working, child-oriented person interested in preserving this historic theater is needed.
- **Orpheum Children's Science Museum:** OCSM is embarking on renovation of the foyer and lobby spaces. Help is needed for demolition of non-historic materials. A patient, precise person is desperately needed to strip the original wood and plaster staircase banister. Call 352-5895 to volunteer for these two opportunities.
- **Champaign and Urbana Plan Commissions:** Positions on both Commissions are apparently open. Civic-minded individuals who care about the look and development of their city need apply to the mayors' offices.

## 19th Annual Illinois Historic Preservation Conference

This year's state conference, sponsored by the Landmarks Preservation Council of Illinois, will be held Sept. 23-25 in Quincy. The theme is *Preserving Place, Maintaining Community*. Sessions include: Preservation Primer, Survey, Preservation Professionals, Preservation Partners, Underground Railroad Sites, Keeping the Farm, Preservation Forum for 2000, Economic Benefits, and Main Street. The Driehaus Awards will also be announced. The September meeting of the Illinois Historic Sites Advisory Committee, the state body that reviews National Register nominations, is being held Thursday in conjunction with the conference.

## Silent Salvage Auction

Salvage items from the Carrie Busey House are being sold by silent auction. This is PACA's first attempt at a silent auction, but it was felt that all PACA members needed to have an equal chance to purchase these rare and wonderful salvage pieces, not just those members who regularly visit the warehouse. The items can be viewed at the warehouse on Saturday mornings. Bids will be taken by phone (359-7222) or at the salvage warehouse. Closing date is August 31. PACA reserves the right to reject all bids.

**Porch:** sold as a single unit only. There are five full columns, three half columns, all of the upper decorative frieze, and some of the railing. (starting bid, \$1,000)

**Two Window Hoods:** sold only as individual sets. Includes hood, large interior windows, exterior trim, and brackets. (starting bid, \$750)



Bid on two unusual window hoods and surrounds from the Carrie Busey House at PACA's silent auction. Photo by Cahill.



Rear porch from the Carrie Busey House. Both the front and rear porches are for sale in PACA's silent auction. Photo by Cahill.

## National Preservation Conference

The National Trust for Historic Preservation celebrates its 50th anniversary this year, and the 1999 National Preservation Conference, October 19-24, will be at the heart of this celebration. With nearly 3,000 participants, the 1999 conference is anticipated to be one of the largest gatherings of preservationists ever.

The conference will take place in Washington, D.C., the home of the National Trust. Sessions offer the opportunity for behind-the-scenes exploration of the city's evolution, historic sites, neighborhood and downtown revitalization, and current preservation and development issues, as well as a chance to explore sprawl and rural preservation.

The conference theme, *Saving America's Treasures*, focuses on successful strategies and models to preserve America's diverse historic places and revitalize communities. The conference will give special

attention to saving America's treasures owned or operated by federal agencies across the nation. To this end, the U.S. General Services Administration has joined with the National Trust as a sponsor of the conference. Conference sessions will review efforts by GSA and other agencies to preserve and appropriately use historic buildings and sites, as well as exploring effective strategies and public-private partnerships for the future.

Educational sessions and related field sessions will highlight, in addition to Federal Stewardship of Historic Sites and Properties, a wide range of topics and interests: Downtown Revitalization, Cultural Diversity, Heritage Tourism, Historic Preservation Commissions, Organizational Development, Public Policy/Legal Issues, Revolving Funds/Real Estate, Residential Neighborhoods, Rural Preservation/Historic Landscapes, Historic Sites, and New Trends and Hot Issues.

### For Rent

Spacious two-room office suite with shared kitchen and conference room. Rent is \$625 per month and includes all utilities. Contact the Orpheum Children's Science Museum, Bruce Creamer, at 356-1774.

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

### MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY:

- Adult .....\$15.00  
 Student (1/2 time or more) .....\$10.00  
 Senior Citizen .....\$10.00  
 Family .....\$20.00  
 Corporate .....\$75.00

- NEW  
 RENEWAL

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTION \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

e mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to: PACA, Box 2555, Station A, Champaign, Illinois 61825**

Contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

## Salvage V.I.P.'s

Bob Swisher  
Gary Perkins  
Rich Cahill  
Mike Miller  
Pius Weibel  
Al Friederick  
Darrel Foste  
Dan Leasure  
Gail Taylor  
Robert Nemeth  
Art Zangerl  
Cheri Chenoweth  
Mike Richards  
George Longdon  
Jim Chrisman  
Dick Elkin

## Ricker House Volunteers

Robert McClintock  
Jane McClintock  
Lisa Zangerl  
Daniel Zangerl  
Art Zangerl  
Marcia McCurdy  
Colleen Brodie  
Rich Cahill

## Save the Date

### Fall House Walk Sorority & Fraternity Chapter Houses

September 19

1- 5 pm

Volunteers Needed

## Salvage Donations

University of Illinois  
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Brighton  
Erwin Goldfarb & Campus Property  
Management  
Ralph Smalley  
Paul Smith  
Jim Fallon  
Jim Freestone  
Rogers Recycling Resources  
City of Champaign  
Jewel Kurland  
Margaret Miller & Scott Dossett  
Daniel McCulley  
Jodi Nathenson  
R.J. Hettinger  
Ernis Excavating  
Tepper Electric

## Special Donations

James Corley Photography: logo reprints  
Robbi Farrell: laptop computer  
Iris Stovel: complete run of *Old House Journals*

## New & Renewing Memberships

### Charter Members (1981-1983)

Susan K. Appel  
Kirstin & Mark Replogle  
Ruth G. Dobbins  
Samuel Gove

### Over Ten Year Members

Nina Rubel  
Bruce C. Creamer  
Dolores & Roger Yarbrough  
Glenna M. Bartell  
James Fallon  
Dr. & Mrs. Robert Sutton  
Steve & Kathy Roemmel  
Dennis & Pam Lewis

*Remember to check your mailing label for  
your membership renewal date. The date  
shown indicates when you last renewed;  
membership runs for one year from that date.*

## Five to Ten Year Members

Sharen R. Slade  
Robbi Farrell  
Rebecca Henry & Michael Markstahler  
Catherine Barbercheck  
Cheryl Kennedy  
Lynda & Earl Creutzburg  
Irma R. Lore

## One to Four Year Members

Gabriella Woese  
Smith/Burgett Architects, Inc.  
Mary & Bert Barickman  
Raymond H. Lytle  
Andrew & Carol Timms  
Solberg/Seyler Family  
Ann Lucia Chen  
Dan Ginther  
Louise Krauss  
Allan D. Eckel  
Jeff & Cathy Cunningham

## New Members

Mark & Mindy Gardner  
Steven D. Brown  
B.J. Wiles  
Ann Lowry  
Bonnie Bailen  
Christine S. Fucciolo  
Brian Borg  
Ellen Beattie & Robert Damrau  
Dorothea Blue  
Kerry Butler  
Rick Kubetz  
Trevor Jones  
Kevin Webster  
Randy Cox

## PACA Newsletter

P.O. Box 2555, Station A, Champaign, IL 61825

Daniel Wurl, President  
Anthony Bamert, Vice-President  
Kristin Solberg, Secretary  
Jeffrey Gordon, Treasurer  
Karen Lang Kummer, Exec. Director



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