



# PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

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Number 2

## Preservation Week May 14-20, 2000

### Taking America's Past into the Future

Travelers embarking on a long journey sometimes carry something familiar—a favorite photo, a blanket or pillow—to help ease the uncertainty that can come from being in a strange new place. In the same spirit, as America enters a new century and a new millennium, we should give serious thought to what we want to take with us on this journey into the future. The theme of this year's Preservation Week, "Taking America's Past into the Future," calls on us to recognize the importance of preserving landmarks from our past as touchstones of stability in times of change. As tangible reminders of the generations who came before us, historic places help create the sense of continuity and community that comes from acknowledging the shared history that has shaped us as a nation and a people. But this year's theme—like historic preservation itself—is not just about celebrating the past. The theme also challenges us to think ahead, to begin planning now for the opportunities and issues that will confront us in the coming years. It is essential that we be vigilant, flexible and well informed in order to deal with the rapid changes in everything from demographics to technology that are sure to have an impact on our irreplaceable historic places. America's past deserves a bright, secure future—and the future begins right now.

*Richard Moe  
President  
National Trust for Historic Preservation*

## PRESERVATION WEEK



### NATIONAL TRUST for HISTORIC PRESERVATION™

#### Celebrate Preservation Week

Join PACA and the local preservation community in the following activities scheduled in honor of Preservation Week.

#### Ninth Annual Kids Building Fair

Our award winning fair will be held Saturday, May 20, from 11-4 pm. Sponsored jointly by PACA and the Orpheum Children's Science Museum, the Fair celebrates the building trades with hands-on exhibits and demonstrations. Learn carpentry, painting, masonry, landscaping, and plastering from a master craftsman or from a well-tutored seven-year-old! The Fair is free, open to kids of all ages, and is held in the parking lot in front of the historic landmark Orpheum Theater, 346 N. Neil Street, Champaign. Volunteers to help stage this event are very much in need! Please call PACA to volunteer.

#### 2000 Heritage Grants

PACA will also announce the recipients of the 2000 Heritage Grants. The PACA Heritage Grant Program was established to share the proceeds from the PACA Architectural Salvage Warehouse with the community. A large part of PACA's annual budget is derived from proceeds from historic building materials and furnishings that are salvaged by dedicated volunteers throughout the year and sold at the warehouse on Saturday mornings. Last year's awards, totalling \$2500, went

to three projects: Rantoul Historical Society for archival supplies and storage materials (\$1,000), Edison Middle School to replace/replicate an auditorium chandelier globe (\$500-\$1,000), and the Orpheum Children's Science Museum for a National Register plaque and exhibit on black vaudevillians (\$500).

#### ArchiTreasures Contest

The *News-Gazette* and PACA are again sponsoring the popular ArchiTreasures Contest. This year's theme will feature Religious Buildings in Champaign-Urbana. Look for the "clues" in the May 19 Weekend Section of the *News-Gazette*.

#### Banners

PACA's colorful blue and green *Celebrate Your Heritage* banners will once again fly proudly in downtown Urbana. Look for them during the month of May.

#### Annual Membership Meeting

The Watseka Lounge at the Wesley Foundation and Church in Urbana provided an elegant historic setting for PACA's 2000 Membership Meeting which was held March 12. After a short business meeting in which 1999 preservation activities were reviewed, three members were elected to the Board of Directors to serve through 2002: Raymond Lytle (reelected), Kristin Solberg (reelected), and Trevor Jones. Currently serving on the Board are Kathy Reeves (01), Anthony Bamert (01), Dan Leasure (01), Jeff Gordon (00), and Bruce Creamer (00). President Dan Wurl (00) submitted his resignation to the Board shortly after the Annual Meeting due to family responsibilities; the Board will miss his humor and advice. The Board is currently searching for a replacement to fulfill Wurl's unexpired term. Also presented at the meeting were the 2000 Heritage Awards and a very enjoyable tour of the Foundation and Church was conducted by Walt Lewis.

## Ten Most Endangered Historic Places

For the past seven years, the Landmarks Preservation Council of Illinois' designation of the Ten Most Endangered Historic Places in the state is the keystone of statewide advocacy. A select jury chose these ten structures and sites based on their relevance to statewide historic preservation issues and with the hope that recognition will lead to intervention on the state and/or local level. The list represents a diverse group of properties that are neglected or decaying structures, or under the threat of urban sprawl and developmental encroachment.

- **Central School, Lincoln**, a 40,000 square foot elementary school building, is a classic example of early twentieth-century (1915) school architecture. The brick building has tall clerestory windows, monumental double-hung windows and arched door openings. Currently, the Lincoln Elementary District 27 Board of Education is considering constructing a new school rather than renovating this property.
- **The Congregational Church, Pittsfield**, is an 1881 two-story brick structure with stone lintels and sills, a steeply pitched roof, a dominant four-story bell tower, and second-story stained glass windows capped with blue and white tiles. The structure is the anchor for historic preservation in Pittsfield. It has been unoccupied for a decade. Surviving members of the church are elderly and unable to support a preservation effort. There is an immediate need to stabilize and rehabilitate the structure.
- **Culver House, Decatur**, is located in the Decatur Historic District. The 1901 brick and limestone Queen Anne house is one of only four remaining Queen Anne-style homes in Decatur and is the only house with two turrets. Over the past year, several private citizens and community groups have made repeated attempts to purchase the property to save it from demolition. The Historic Properties Preservation Foundation has been working to raise sufficient funds for a receivership but has been stymied in its efforts.
- **The DuPage Theatre and The DuPage Shoppes, Lombard**, were designed by architect R.G. Wolff, of the famous theater-design firm of C.W. and George Rapp. Opened in 1928, the DuPage is a premier example of a "Spanish Patio" atmospheric theater

with twinkling star lights in the ceiling. The buildings have been donated to the Village of Lombard, which has initiated no steps to restore them. An Ad-Hoc Committee reviewing the property is considering demolition.

- **The Platt Luggage Building/Ginn & Company, Chicago**, was threatened once before and "saved." But this Howard Van Doren Shaw building is under attack again by The Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority which wants to replace it with a parking garage. The building is a classic Beaux Arts style, originally built for the Ginn & Company publishers, and is made of Puritan paving brick and Bedford (Indiana) limestone.
- **Sarah Atwater Denman Row Houses, in Quincy**, are five Italianate structures, constructed in 1878 as rental properties. They are rectangular homes, with brick-on-stone foundations and hip roofs. The Denman Row Houses are the only remaining historically intact personal structures associated with one of Quincy's earliest prominent residents, Mrs. Sarah Atwater Denman, responsible for, among other activities, the first women's literary club in the area and establishing Blessing Hospital in 1882. Ironically, the rowhouse structures are being threatened by the continued expansion of Blessing Hospital.
- **Spring Valley City Hall, Spring Valley**, is a two-story 1894 structure with a barn-like shape, possibly because it once housed horses for the fire department. The building is a brick structure with a slate roof and sits in a park of one square block that could be considered the Town Square. The building cannot serve as the seat of government due to twenty years of neglect and a lack of handicapped accessibility. At the time of a 1999 referendum to build a new city hall, the mayor promised citizens that the old building would be preserved as a museum. After the referendum, the mayor and city council voted to demolish the building.
- **Unity Temple, Oak Park**, Frank Lloyd Wright's 1907 masterpiece, is rapidly deteriorating. The building is one of the first poured-in-place concrete buildings completed. It was placed on the National Register in 1972. The building has a series of 17 different roof layers and there has been significant leaking, producing profound water damage to both the interior and exterior facade so severe that pieces of the building have been falling and

separating. The damage has penetrated the basement, causing rusting of the electrical wiring. Funding to restore the building is in excess of \$1.5 million. If restoration does not occur soon, all systems will fail, the building will become unusable and will be destroyed.

- **Upper Kaskaskia Trace Corridor, Waterloo**, is the remains of a trail and transportation corridor dating from 1707 that has contributed to the regional settlement and development of both historic and modern cultures. These last pristine remnants of the Upland Kaskaskia Trace are threatened by a lack of public protection policy, the absence of any public education on the matter, regional settlement, and the intrusion of urban sprawl.
- **Waltmire Bridge, Tazewell County, Hopedale Twp./Tremont**, is a 1910 bridge that crosses the Mackinaw River about five miles south of Tremont, at a point previously called Waltmire's Ford. It is a single span, eight panel Pratt through truss structure, with an overall length of almost 188 feet. The Waltmire Bridge is a good example of a Pratt through truss metal bridge, and is exceptionally long for such a bridge. The Illinois Department of Transportation is proposing to replace the bridge because the agency maintains it is too deteriorated to be repaired economically and too narrow for use in its present location.

*Article from the LPCI April newsletter, THE CORNERSTONE.*

## PACA Plans New Exhibit

PACA is working on a new traveling exhibit that will debut this summer. The exhibit is intended to inform the general public about PACA's mission, activities, and past accomplishments. It will include information about the salvage warehouse, grant and award programs, and the history of the organization. Other sections will use pictures to explore PACA's successes and failures in saving the county's historic structures. The exhibit is being developed in conjunction with PACA's new website which can be viewed at [pacacc.org](http://pacacc.org). Visit the website to watch our progress!

Visit our new and evolving website at:  
[pacacc.org](http://pacacc.org)

## 2000 Heritage Awards

### Residential Heritage Award:

- 207 West Vine, C  
Barbara Horne  
Wayne Bonnell, contractor
- 307 West Washington, C  
James & Kim Nevins
- 1502 West Springfield, C  
Gary & Jan Peters
- 501 North Neil, C  
Leon Jeske  
Gaylord Swisher, architect

### Commercial Heritage Award:

- High Dive  
51-53 East Main, C  
Tiffani Moot, Carlos Nieto,  
Marco Nieto  
Master Builders, contractor
- WEFT  
113 North Market, C  
Mick Wolf, general manager  
Peter Maas, architect
- 600 East Green, C  
JSM Development  
Mike Tankersley & Scott Kunkel,  
architects  
Carter Construction, contractor  
Roach Masonry, mason
- 101 East Washington, Philo  
Mike & Lynn Cain
- 611 East Green, C  
Bankier Apartments  
Leon Bankier, contractor  
G.T. Hardwick, architect

### Landmark Heritage Award:

- Mount Vernon United Methodist Church  
Rev. Nancy Wofford  
2201 County Road 900E, C  
(125th Anniversary)
- Immanuel Lutheran Church  
Rev. Jim Lehmann  
2498 County Road 2100E, Thomasboro  
(125th Anniversary)
- Prayer for Rain Statue  
West Side Park  
Champaign Park District  
(award presented at the June, 1999  
rededication ceremony)

### Institutional Heritage Award:

- Manager's House  
UI Experimental Dairy Barn Historic  
District  
St. Mary's Road, C  
Project Planning & Facility  
Management  
Operations & Maintenance Division
- UI Irwin Academic Services Center  
402 East Armory, C  
Project Planning & Facility  
Management  
Division of Intercollegiate Athletics

### Landscape Heritage Award:

- Pergola & Garden  
709 West University, C  
Marianne Winslett & Eric Bina  
New Prairie Construction, contractor

### Neighborhood Heritage Award:

- Sesquicentennial Neighborhood  
Association  
Barbara Horne, President

### Historically Respectful Design:

- 712 West Green, U  
Kevin Hunsinger,  
Hunsinger Enterprises  
Isaksen/Glerum, architect

### Traditional Construction:

- Pickle Tree  
305 South Prairie View Road  
Mahomet  
Dale & Maggie Foster  
Bill Mueller, Mid-Am Builders,  
contractor

### Special Heritage Award:

- Thomas Whiteside, cemetery recorder

## West Urbana Association

A new grassroots historic neighborhood association was recently established to discuss issues affecting the West Urbana area and to press for action on key concerns. Issues include enforcement of local zoning ordinances, illegal density/occupation, parking issues, code violations, and repeat offenders. The boundaries of the association are roughly Main to Washington, Lincoln to Race. For more information contact Liz Cardman at 337-4752 or check out the home page at [www.prairienet.org/wua](http://www.prairienet.org/wua).

### Volunteer !! Kids Building Fair!

Two shifts: 10 to 1 or 1 to 4 pm  
Have fun and learn a new skill!

## 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 \_\_\_\_\_

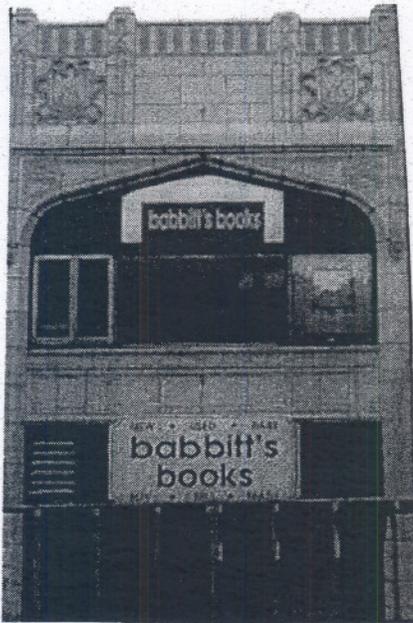
e mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

## Salvage Donations

City of Champaign - John Schneider  
Champaign Public Library  
Mr. & Mrs. Parkhill  
Villa Grove Methodist Church  
Mr. & Mrs. Finley  
Mr. & Mrs. Marzke  
Paul Kane  
Tom Schuh  
Doug Tedrow  
Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints  
Jerry O'Bryan  
Tony Bamert



The entire terra-cotta facade of Babbitt's Books was recently salvage for PACA by Pankau Masonry. The 18.5 x 30 foot elevation will be sold only as a complete unit; the price is \$4,000. Donated by JSM Properties.

## Salvage V.I.P.'s

Bob Swisher  
Gary Perkins  
Rich Cahill  
Mike Miller  
Darrel Foste

Dan Leasure  
David Speers  
Robert Nemeth  
Al Friederick  
Kathy Reeves

## New & Renewing Memberships

### Charter Members (1981-1983)

Hermenia Kruidenier  
William D. Youngerman  
Mrs. Helen Levin  
Mr. & Mrs. George A. Miley  
Linda & Doug Mills

### Over Ten Year Members

Fred & Nancy Coombs  
Joseph Marriott  
Chris Anderson  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Longacre  
Mr. & Mrs. Walter Myers  
Ruth Fliegel  
Walter Allen  
Michael & Bonnie Specchio  
Laird Thompson  
Elizabeth Rogers  
John & Dot Replinger  
Pius Weibel & Sue Feldman  
David Garner  
Jeffrey Mellander  
Michael Markstahler & Rebecca Henry

## Five to Ten Year Members

Isotech Laboratories, Corporate Member  
Anthony & November Bamert  
Kristina Engberg & Frank Wells  
Steve Leonberger & Cheryl Koranda  
Larence Mate & E. Paige Weston  
John Porter Garth  
Michael Murphy

## One to Four Year Members

Louise Krauss  
Lee Shafter  
Bill & Blaney Bogner  
Esther Patt  
Bruce Hutchings  
Randy & Bette Hughes  
John Tanner  
Jacqueline Gergen  
John & Nanci Withrow  
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Sills  
Patrick & Linda Patterson  
Susan & John Brown  
Susan & Maggie Wikoff  
Ginny Sims & Janice Lines  
Raymond Lytle  
Tod Satterthwaite

## New Members

Chuck Duckworth  
Wayne, Mary & Rachel Robinson  
Becky Hartney  
Elizabeth Delacruz  
Barb & Bill Childers  
Beavers Enterprises, Corporate Member  
Kathleen Anderson  
Christine Jenkins & Susan Searing  
Monica Willison  
Harold & Margaret Balbach  
Tim Wilson & Siri Engstrom  
Brenda Beck  
Ellen Forcier  
Tony Fabri

*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.*

## Save the Date

### Ninth Annual Kids Building Fair

Saturday, May 20  
11-4 PM  
346 N. Neil, Champaign

Volunteers Needed!

## PACA Newsletter

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

### President

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



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