Heritage Grants Awarded

PACA awarded its seventh round of annual Heritage Grants as part of Historic Preservation Week. Grants, totalling $3,495, were awarded to a school, a church, and a neighborhood association to assist in preservation-related projects.

Laurel School, 312 West Oregon Street, Urbana, is undergoing a massive rehabilitation over the next year. Budget constraints had eliminated saving the historic Art Deco tile fountain located in the 1935 kindergarten room. PACA's grant of $2000 will be matched by donations from parents and alumni. The wonderful, and very heavy, historic fountain was removed in June by PACA volunteers Art Zangerl, Tom Kamm, Glenn Berman, Rich Cahill, Dan Leasure, and Craig Huff and is being stored until its reinstallation in a hallway of the new addition.

The Channing-Murray Foundation, 1209 West Oregon, Urbana, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. However, the building has suffered with uneven settlement over the years, and PACA's grant of $510 will employ a structural engineer to examine the building's foundation and, hopefully, supply recommendations that will correct the settlement and help level the upper floors.

The Sesquicentennial Neighborhood Association has worked hard over many years to revitalize their neighborhood. Many people have been involved in this effort, and none more so than Queen Smith. A memorial garden has been established in her honor by the association on land leased from the City of Champaign. The garden has been fenced and landscaping plans will be implemented by volunteers this summer. PACA's grant of $985 will purchase and install two signs at the garden: an entry sign to the Queen Smith Memorial Garden and an informational plaque explaining the garden and its ties to Ms. Smith.

The Heritage Grant Program is made possible through revenues from the Architectural Salvage Warehouse. Historic building materials are rescued from demolition by an active volunteer salvage crew throughout the year. The volunteers also staff the warehouse, providing PACA with the largest portion of our operating budget. Much of the architectural materials are donated by individuals, businesses, and other organizations throughout the community. Overall, the salvage operation prevents the unique historic building materials from becoming landfill, and provides numerous home owners and businesses with the opportunity to reuse these valuable materials.

Architreasures Winners

Eighteen intrepid sleuths correctly identified the details in this year's building contest, co-sponsored by PACA and The News-Gazette. Although we try to make the contest hard, we need to either find really obscure details (like door hinges) or else concede that we have some great detectives in town! Congratulations to this year's winners who were chosen by a random drawing of the correct entries.

- First Place: Nathaniel and Ed Perry, Urbana
- Second Place: Janet Coleman, Champaign
- Third Place: Charles B. Drogo, St. Joseph

Ideas for contest themes or details are always welcome. Call PACA with your suggestions.

Urbana Designates Landmarks

In February, the Urbana City Council, on the recommendation of the Urbana Historic Preservation Commission, designated its first landmark properties. The nominations were prepared by UI students in the fall UP 327 Preservation Planning Workshop. PACA is proud to be an owner of one of the new landmarks, the Nathan C. Ricker House, and the other four properties are owned by Carolyn and Norman Baxley, well-known local preservationists. The five new landmarks are:

- Tieman's Block/Masonic Temple
  115 W. Main Street
- The Lindley House
  312 W. Green Street
- The Gothic Revival Cottage
  108 N. Webber Street
- Busey's Hall/The Princess Theater
  120-124 W. Main Street
- The Ricker House
  612 W. Green Street
Three New National Register Listings

Three Urbana sites were recently listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The nominations were prepared by UI graduate students in the UP 327 Preservation Planning Workshop class. The new National Register properties are:

Elm Street Court, now known as Buena Vista Court, prepared by Amanda Keating and listed on June 23, 2000.

Nathan C. Ricker House, 612 West Green Street, prepared by Jamie Clapper and listed on July 5, 2000.

A multiple property nomination of the University of Illinois buildings designed by Charles A. Platt. Under this multiple property nomination, the Library Building will shortly be listed. The nominations were prepared by Karen A. Sullivan and Kenneth M. Ide.

Preservation Conference

The 20th Annual Statewide Preservation Conference will be held on September 13-16 in the City of Lake Forest. This annual event provides individuals from throughout Illinois an opportunity to share ideas on historic preservation issues with experts in preservation, architectural history, urban planning, and land conservation. Co-sponsors of the conference are the Landmarks Preservation Council of Illinois, the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, and the Lake Forest Preservation Foundation. The feature speaker at the gala dinner will be Philippe de Montebello, director of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. The dinner will be held at the historic Onwentsia Club, designed by Harrie Lindeberg. Receptions will be held at the Two Gables, the Laurance Armour estate designed by Lindeberg and David Adler, and at Elawa Farm, the A. Watson Armour Gentleman's Farm designed by Adler and Alfred Hopkins.

Further information about conference sessions will be published in the next newsletter. To receive a conference brochure with registration forms and information, contact LPCI at 312.922.1742.

Our website is slowly evolving as is our traveling exhibit, watch the newsletter for updates.

pacacc.org
The Urbana Masonic Lodge No. 157, of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons is the oldest lodge in Champaign County. The Masonic Lodge was established in Philadelphia in 1754, where the Grand Lodge remains today. A charter from the Grand Lodge established the Urbana Masonic Lodge No. 157 in 1854. Their meetings were originally held in the first permanent courthouse in Champaign County. They later moved to Gere Hall, which was on the north side of Main Street, near Broadway. This hall was destroyed by the fire in 1871, as were many of the downtown buildings. They then held their meetings in the Odd Fellows Hall, which was located at Race and Main streets where Busy Bank is now, until they moved into Tiernan's Block in 1889. They occupied that building, along with other social orders such as the Knights Templar and the Hope Chapter 104 of the Order of Eastern Star, until 1979. They then moved to Champaign to share facilities with the Champaign chapter of the Masons.

The Masons were a fraternal order, with many well-known members, such as Judge Ater, and C.R. Griggs. There were members from all professions, including blacksmiths, millers, merchants, and lawyers. The order hosted many social gatherings, such as dinners and lectures, as well as helped with events such as blood drives.

Local architect, Joseph W. Royer, designed the Classical Revival terra-cotta facade of the Masonic Temple in 1914 and the redesigned parapet in 1953. J.W. Royer was a very prominent architect in Champaign County in the late 1890s through the early and mid-1900s, and was a resident of Urbana his entire life. He was born in Urbana in 1873, and attended Urbana High School. After graduation, he studied at the University of Illinois under Nathan Ricker, as an architectural engineer, graduating 1895. He worked as a city engineer for Urbana from 1898 until 1906, when he started his own architectural firm. He designed many of Urbana's most prominent buildings, as well as designing buildings in many other cities throughout Illinois. While he was working for the city, he designed the County Courthouse and Sheriff's Residence. He also designed the Urbana Free Library, Urbana High School, and the Urbana Lincoln Hotel (now Jumer's). The office of his architectural firm was located in the Flat Iron Building, which he designed in 1904. His office moved to the Masonic Temple Building after the Flat Iron Building burned in 1948. Several of his designs are on the National Register of Historic Places: the Alpha Rho Chi fraternity house in Champaign, the former Chi Psi house in Urbana, and the Franklin County Sheriff's House and Jail in Benton, Illinois. Alpha Rho Chi is one of six fraternity houses that he is known to have designed in Champaign County. Most of his buildings were designed in traditional architectural styles, such as his Arts and Crafts/French Eclectic design for Alpha Rho Chi, his Classical Revival style for the Franklin County Sheriff's House, and his Romanesque Revival Champaign County Courthouse. He also typically used different colors and textures of brick in most of his designs, seen also in the previously mentioned buildings. Although his works are mainly of local significance, their extent is not limited to Champaign County. He designed many courthouses throughout the State of Illinois, and his firm Royer and Davis, specialized in large high schools such as he built in Urbana. He stayed active in his profession until he died in 1954 at age 81, although most of his well-known buildings were built between 1895 and 1940. His death came only three months after his wife's, who was a local poet and interior designer.

This article was taken from the Landmarks nomination prepared by UI student Shauna J. Haas. The building was approved for landmark status in February, 2000.

New Officers Elected

At the May Board of Director's meeting new PACA officers were elected. Each officer will serve a one-year term. Elected were: President, Dan Leasure; Vice-President, Trevor Jones; Secretary, Kathy Reeves; and Treasurer, Jeff Gordon. Board meetings are held the second Wednesday evening of the month and are open to our members. Call for the time and place.

New Post Office Box Number

Due to the relocation of the Station A Post Office, PACA had to relinquish its box number. Our new address is: P.O. Box 2575. The salvage warehouse does not receive mail, so all correspondence should be sent to the P.O. Box. Thanks.

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

**MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY:**

- [ ] NEW
- [ ] RENEWAL

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

**ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTION**

**NAME**

**ADDRESS**

- [ ] mail address: ___________________  Phone: ______________

**Make checks payable to: PACA, Box 2575, Station A, Champaign, Illinois 61825**

Contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.
Farmer City Salvage

A special thanks to the Blue Ridge School District for allowing PACA to salvage from the Farmer City High School before it was demolished in June. Thanks also to Mike Richards for making all the arrangements and Cotters Glass and Piano People for donating the use of their large trucks. More on this massive salvage endeavor in the next newsletter.

Taste of Champaign Volunteers
Kathy Reeves
Tony Bamert
Trevor Jones
Kim Wurl
Dan Wurl
Ray Lytle
Karen Kummer

Ricker House Volunteers
Colleen Brodie
Nancy Coombs
Dan Zangerl
David Garner
Mark Replogle
Art Zangerl
Craig Wakefield
Lisa Zangerl
Rich Cahill
Kathe Brinkman

Salvage V.I.P.'s
Bob Swisher
Rich Cahill
Mike Miller
Darrel Foste
Dan Leasure
David Speers
Robert Nemeth
Sara Nemeth
Mike Richards
Jim Miner
Kathy Reeves
Tony Bamert
Lawrence Mate
Gail Taylor
Al Friederick

Salvage Donations
City of Champaign - John Schneider
Valerie Cravens
Robin Boynton
John Schumacher
Rhett Wisegarver
Leal School, Urbana
University of Illinois
Blue Ridge School District - Farmer City
Barbara Jones
Jill Wagner
The Pavilion
Jacqueline Gergen
Tom Gillespie & Associates

Save the Date
Old House Fair
September 9-10, 2000
David Davis Mansion
Historic Site
1000 E. Monroe
Bloomington

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.

New & Renewing Memberships
Charter Members (1981-1983)
Susan Appel
Joan & John Severs

Over Ten Year Members
Kathy & Steve Roemmel
Nina Rubel
Janine & Roger Prillaman
Dr. & Mrs. Robert Sutton
Sharen R. Slade
Bruce Creamer

Five to Ten Year Members
Bert Barickman
James Russell Vaky

One to Four Year Members
Wendy & Ron Turner
Ann Lowry
Steven D. Brown
Marya Ryan
Ellen Foran
Andrew & Carol Timms
Smith/Burgett Architects, Corporate Memb.
Dan Leasure
Lois Wacholtz
Deborah Downes
Ann Lucia Chan
Jim Foster
Grace Tsay
Solberg/Seyler Family

New Members
Carol & John Leasure
Russ Kallis
Sara Gorecki
Loretta M. Skowron
Ron Jones
Earl Jones
Claire & Brian Deal
Brian & Lara Richmond
Judy A. Skreiner
Kathy Nicholas

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