



PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

Volume 22

September-October, 2002

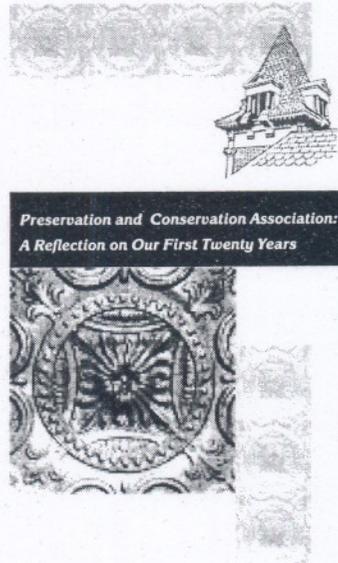
Number 5

Twentieth Anniversary Booklet

In honor of PACA's twentieth anniversary, the Board of Directors commissioned the writing of a history of PACA's projects and activities since the group was established in 1981. It is dedicated to "the spirit of preservation and conservation and the efforts of our dedicated volunteers over the past twenty years." Director Trevor Jones undertook this monumental task and spent hours delving into scrap books, minute books, photographs, slides, and old project files. The result of his herculean endeavors is an illustrated forty-page booklet entitled, "Preservation and Conservation Association: A Reflection on Our First Twenty Years."

The booklet includes a history on the origins of PACA and the philosophy around its founding and a section outlining some of the significant buildings PACA has helped save over the years and on major building losses the community has sustained. While the book does not detail all of our successes and failures, it does show the level of commitment our volunteers have to helping preserve the historic architecture of Champaign County. The history of PACA's award-winning architectural salvage program is also reviewed and there is a short discussion of the Heritage Grant and Heritage Award programs. The last half of the book contains the names of people who have served as PACA officers and directors and lists grants which PACA has received over the years, Heritage Awards bestowed, and Heritage Grants awarded.

In order to reduce postage costs, members are asked to stop by the salvage warehouse (44 E. Washington St., Champaign) on Wednesdays from 4-7 pm or Saturdays from 9-noon and pick up their copy. A mailing to the remainder of the membership will take place in late November.



Historic Preservation: Champaign's Past and Present

PACA is sponsoring a five-week course on Champaign County's history and architecture this winter. The classes, to be held on Tuesday evenings from 7-9 pm, will cover the following topics:

- Feb. 4: "Can I Sell You a Swamp?" - a brief history of Champaign County
- Feb. 11: "Fancy Buildings" - architectural styles of Champaign County
- Feb. 18: "Plain Janes" - vernacular buildings in Champaign County
- Feb. 25: "Who Built My House?" - building genealogy
- March 4: "The Future of the Past - can we protect the legacy?"

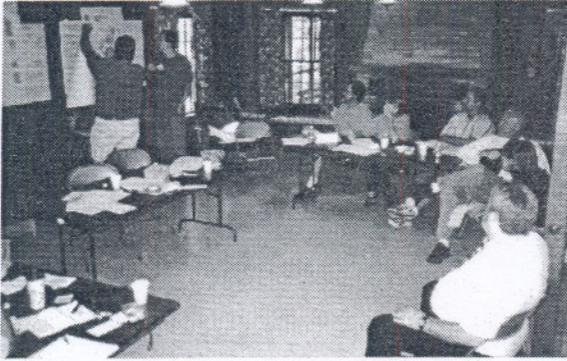
The course is part of Parkland College's "Live and Learn" program and registration details will be included in Parkland's course catalogue which will be mailed soon. Registration for the class is through Parkland and costs \$15.00. Classes will be held in Robeson Hall, 222 North State Street, Champaign. For further information contact PACA.

A Good Time was Had By All

The September 29 House Tour was a resounding success! Good weather, excellent volunteers, and spectacular historic homes combined to create one of PACA's most successful house tours. Over 500 people toured twelve historic homes in Champaign's Sesquicentennial neighborhood. The homes' interiors were varied from historic restorations to eclectic mixes, but they all were interesting and inviting. Size and type were also diverse from a small efficiency apartment to a large three-story Queen Anne house.

PACA donated the net proceeds from the tour to the Sesquicentennial Neighborhood Association. This group was instrumental in planning, coordinating, and executing the tour. SNA members served as tour volunteers and spent hours tidying their neighborhood for the event. They are also responsible for the development and maintenance of the Queen Smith Memorial Garden and for neighborhood revitalization.

PACA would like to thank the following individuals for helping to make the tour such a success. Kent Snodgrass, Michael Markstahler, Susan Storm, Chuck Segard, Robert Rowe, Cathy Wade, Barbara Home, Davee Davis, Kevin Brumback, Carrie Petracca, Mary Sullivan, Bobbie Culbertson, Dan Culbertson, Jenna Finch, John Funston, Judy McNealy, Sherry Slade, Virginia Waaler, Jack Waaler, Jan Kalmar, Susan Hopkins, Lou Hopkins, Gail Taylor, Rich Cahill, Scottie Miller, Mike Miller, Dorothy Neuman, Claire Sung, Mara Braspenning, Perry Morris, Carolyn Baxley, Chuck Jackson, Amy Crump, Eric Crump, Camille DeClementi, Catherine Barbercheck, Jane Dankert, Russ Dankert, Carol Leasure, John Leasure, Phyllis Godwin, David Godwin, Erin Reed, Bob Mihelich, Sunny Stone, Kathy Reeves, and all of the additional volunteers whose names are unknown to PACA. The *News-Gazette* provided great tour publicity and the City supplied information and security.



PACA Board of Directors' Retreat, Riverview Retreat Center.



Membership & Volunteer Recognition Party, Salvage Warehouse.

From the President's Desk

Since my last report, there has been some good news as well as bad.

Garrett House

First, the bad news. As most of our local members know, the 1898 Garrett House on East Washington, Urbana was demolished on October 7. The last proposal to move the house was withdrawn due to a large number of financial and logistical obstacles that proved insurmountable for the individuals involved. Although the Urbana School District provided ample opportunity to move the house, time ran out. Urbana has lost one more piece of its history, but perhaps a lesson has been learned. Historic structures should stay in place. Various hurdles have made relocation very costly. These include the cost of moving power lines, trimming trees, moving light poles and traffic controls, etc. Unless these obstacles can be reduced, any future relocations will again be very difficult.

Anniversary Book

PACA's 20th Anniversary booklet has been compiled by Trevor Jones. Copies were distributed to members at the house tour and at the annual membership and volunteer party. Each time I look through this document I am very proud of all that PACA has accomplished in its first 20 years. We owe our success to our loyal members, who have helped PACA grow over the years, and to our loyal customers at the salvage warehouse, whose purchases have made many of our accomplishments possible. If you have not received your booklet, it will be mailed soon or stop by the warehouse for a copy.

Board Retreat

On September 7, past and present members of PACA's Board of Directors held a planning retreat at the Riverview Retreat Center north of Mahomet. The meeting was facilitated by George Johnston of Parkland College. The meeting was held

to help answer the question, "What is PACA and where are we going?" I have attended many retreats to establish organizational goals, and frankly I was very skeptical of what, if anything, we would or could accomplish.

Johnston started the retreat by breaking us into two groups. Our assignment was, with the use of metaphors, to characterize PACA. The first group likened PACA to a large dog with a wagging tail and the other group chose a pickup truck. But both groups actually came to the same conclusion: PACA has a large membership, but it is board driven (wagging tail and truck driver), and uses salvage revenues as the food/fuel to keep its programs going. We then broke into groups that attempted to prioritize the critical needs of PACA and to decide the best way to accomplish these goals.

The overwhelming conclusion of the retreat was that, in order to accomplish our various goals, the Board needed to involve more members directly in the running of the organization. A board of nine cannot do it alone, the involvement of our members is vital in order to accomplish the goals of PACA.

New Committee Structure

The goal that had the highest priority was Community Education. Members are needed to help develop a strategy to educate our community about what PACA does and why it is important to preserve old buildings, downtown vitality, neighborhoods, and rural landscapes. Additionally, we would like to reach out to local schools and teachers and coordinate preservation/history opportunities with them. A second committee is required to establish better Public Relations through the creation of a PACA speakers' bureau, web site, advocacy at city council and county board meetings, and letter writing. An additional committee is needed to make our Events more successful. This includes the Heritage Awards, Heritage Grants, festivals, Kids' Building Fair, and house/walking tours. Other committees

suggested were a Salvage Committee to establish policies and coordinate warehouse operations and a Finance Committee. Soon you will be receiving a letter asking for your participation on one of these committees. I hope you will you will consider serving.

Membership Party

Finally, there was the Annual Membership and Volunteer Recognition party. A great time was had by all, especially yours truly. Many thanks go to David Spears of Radio Maria and to Thad Morrow and Courtney Ballard of Backaro's for their donation of the beverages. Again the Longhorn Smokehouse catered the food. Music was provided by Bill Decker and Mark Wetzel.

Until next issue.

Richard A. Cahill, PACA President

Heritage Award Nominations Needed

The Heritage Award Committee is seeking nominations for the 2003 Awards. Categories include residential, commercial, institutional, landscape, and landmark projects. Special Heritage Awards are also given to individuals who have worked to preserve a special aspect of our heritage or who have advanced the cause of historic preservation in our community. The nomination process is easy; a form is enclosed with this newsletter or can be picked up at the salvage warehouse. Self-nominations are encouraged.

One or two Board members will be on the committee, but three PACA members-at-large are also needed. The Committee selects winners in various categories from preservation projects throughout the county. A time commitment of two to three evenings in January and February is all that is required. Please consider serving on the committee, we need membership involvement.

Lachlan F. Blair Scholarship

PACA awarded the first Lachlan F. Blair Scholarships this fall to Nancy Blanford, an Urbana Yankee Ridge teacher, and to members of the Champaign Preservation Commission. The scholarship was established in memory of Lock Blair, former PACA president and local, state, and national preservationist and urban planner. It supports sending local residents to the annual State Preservation Conference.

Blanford was a speaker in the session entitled, "Getting Kids Excited About Architecture" in which was discussed how she integrated architecture and historic preservation into her 4/5 grade state-mandated history curriculum. Last year, PACA funded a week-long seminar on Illinois architectural history to prepare 50 Yankee Ridge students for a field trip to Chicago. PACA also provided funds to document the trip through photography. A the only teacher at the conference, Blanford was in high demand after her session to answer questions on how other schools can set up similar programs. Information about teaching with historic preservation can be obtained on the web at <http://www.architeacher.org>; the site is sponsored by the Champaign Center for the Study of Art and Architecture.

Three Champaign Preservation Commissioners used the scholarship to attend the conference: Susan Appel, Gary Olsen, and Lois Wacholz. They attended commission training sessions sponsored by the Illinois Association of Historic Preservation Commissions and took advantage of networking with other local preservation commissioners.

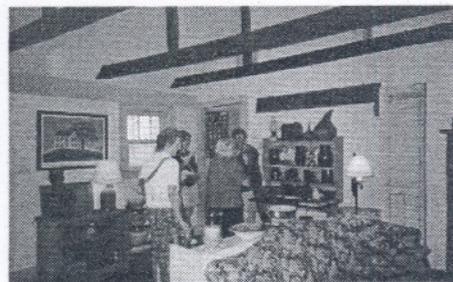


September House Tour, Sesquicentennial Neighborhood, Champaign.

Downtown Community Revitalization Assistance

After working together for two years, the Illinois Council of Main Street Communities (ICMC) now has a bona-fide product to show for their efforts. The forty-five communities involved in this project range from Chicago Metro area suburbs like Forest Park and Elmhurst, to downstate and rural communities including O'Fallon and Collinsville. The common thread that initiated this project was their involvement in Illinois Main Street.

Through networking together at workshops and seminars over the years, these communities grew to realize that although their sizes, markets, economics, and budgets vary widely, they still have much in common. Both individually, and collectively, Main Street towns have interesting independent retail stores and restaurants, historic architecture, and unique museums and cultural attractions. They also create and promote events and festivals that showcase their individual



town's heritage. Their towns are tourism magnets and the "Heritage Tourist" is their shared customer.

The first ICMC Travel Planner, "Visit the Historic Main Streets of Illinois," is a 60-page full-color brochure that highlights the attractions in all of the participating communities, and takes the concept to another level by developing itineraries by region. Theme tours include: agriculture, festivals, museums, cruise nights, Route 66, fall color drives, and heritage tours by region.

For a free copy of "Visit the Historic Main Street Communities of Illinois," call 866-457-8787, e-mail your request to iltravelplanner@mindspring.com, or stop by the salvage warehouse for a copy.

Complementary Coffee at the Salvage Warehouse on Saturdays is provided by Herriott's Columbia Street Roastery, 24 E. Columbia, C.

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: _____ Phone: _____

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

Contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Members of the University of Illinois Chapter -- Society of Architectural Historians salvaged pocket doors from the Garwood Home under the supervision Mike Miller.



Heritage Award Nominations Needed

Send in your nominations
for the 2003 Heritage Awards
to PACA
P.O. Box 2575
Station A
Champaign, IL 61825
or call and leave your
suggestion
359-7222

PACA Newsletter

P.O. Box 2575, Station A, Champaign, IL 61825

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New & Renewing Memberships (received since the last newsletter)

Charter Members (1981-1983)

Mrs. Helen Levin
Mr. & Mrs. Chris Hill
Hermeria Kruidenier

Over Ten Year Members

Harold & Patricia Jensen
Sheryl & Joe DeBarr
Marjorie & Jack Richmond
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Five to Ten Year Members

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Retta Harris
Nicole Swiss
Brian Bushley
Lea Kirtland
Caren Spencer-Smith
Pat Smith
Thomas J. Fehrmann
Richard & Eileen Schneider
Evan & Norine Dawson
Michael Strange
Larry & Barbara Slanker
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