



2009 IHPA Year in Review:

Iowa Historic Preservation Alliance Board Members:

Rod Scott, Cedar Rapids, President
Michael Wagler, Des Moines, Vice President
Sheriffa Jones, Spencer, Secretary
Martha Hayes, Mount Pleasant, Treasurer
Jim Boyt, Des Moines
Laura Carstens, Dubuque
Naura Godar, West Des Moines
Bill Sherman, Des Moines
George Wakeman, Sioux City

Iowa Historic Preservation Board Advisors:

Sam Erickson, Des Moines, National Trust Advisor
Barbara Mitchell, Des Moines, State Historic Preservation Office
Jennifer Sandy, Chicago, National Trust - Midwest Office
Dan Tindall, Grinnell, National Trust Advisor

2008 Iowa's Most Endangered Properties (January 2009)

- 9 properties listed on this year's Most Endangered Properties list
 - Gruwell and Crew General Store, West Branch
 - Len Jus Building, Mason City
 - Masonic Building, Osceola
 - Union Block Building, Mount Pleasant
 - Fort Madison Archaeological Site, Fort Madison
 - Faeth Farmstead Historic District, Fort Madison
 - Grant Wood Home, Cedar Rapids
 - Bethel African Methodist Church, Cedar Rapids
 - Flooded Historic Neighborhoods, Cedar Rapids

2009 Preservation at its Best Awards (May 2009)

- Largest participation 25 nominations, 9 awards
 - Adaptive Use – Iowa State Bar Association Office, Des Moines
 - Community Effort – Washington Neighborhood Association, Dubuque
 - Large Commercial – Security Building, Dubuque
 - Preservationist Award – Dr. Richard Thomas, Mount Vernon
 - Public Structure – Karl King Bandshell, Fort Dodge
 - Residential – Frank Bredow Home, Davenport

- Small Commercial – German Bank, Dubuque
- Small Commercial – City National Bank (Moorman's), Mason City
- Sustainability in Preservation – Durrant Headquarters, Dubuque
- Continued sponsorship of Iowa Gaming Association.
- Presented at state-wide preservation workshop co-sponsored by Main Street Iowa, SHPO and IHPA.

Iowa Historic Preservation Tax Credit Program Advocacy

- Through our advocacy efforts and the work of IHPA's State Historic Preservation Tax Credit Coalition, historic preservation celebrated a huge success with the Iowa State Historic Preservation Tax Credit Program expanded to \$50 million. This victory further underscores historic preservation as an essential tool for economic and community development.
- Coalition efforts are planned to continue into this year's legislative session.

Disaster Recovery Efforts

- Continued working relationship with FEMA, Iowa Homeland Security, SHPO, IDED and NTHP.
- IHPA actively advocating for preservation of flooded properties.
- Small salvage operation to reclaim historic flooded materials in Cedar Rapids.
- Onsite consulting in many Iowa communities.
- Partnership with Coe College for student outreach in flood impacted Cedar Rapids.

AmeriCorps/VISTA Partnership

- Partnership with AmeriCorps and VISTA program volunteers to salvage historic materials from four 3,000+ square foot historic homes in Cedar Rapids.
- Worked to recruit AmeriCorps volunteers to assist with salvage of historic materials from historic school building slated to be demolished in Haysville, Iowa.

Sacred Places Initiatives

- IHPA partnership with Partners for Sacred Places, a national non-profit dedicated to the sound stewardship and active community use of America's older religious properties.
- Worked with college student, Zac Hingst (master's student at the University of Iowa's Department of Urban & Regional Planning), to conduct full survey of disaster effected religious structures in the Cedar Rapids area. Survey now located on IHPA website.
- Survey hoped to be extended throughout Iowa.

Sturdevant House

- Partnering with local volunteers to create local non-profit to restore this historic home in Waverly, Iowa.
- IHPA applied and received HRDP grant with local match coming from local volunteers for the stabilization of the home.

Education Efforts

- Co-Sponsored, with AIA-Iowa, "Foundations of Historic Rehabilitation" in August 2009. Future workshops are being planned for 2010 that expand on discussions.

- Co-sponsored, with the State Historic Preservation Office and Main Street Iowa, "Preservation in Progress" a statewide preservation workshop in May 2009. Planning has begun for 2010's conference to be held in Red Oak.

Conference Presence

- 3 IHPA representatives at National Trust Conference in Nashville. IHPA received a National Endowment for the Humanities grant for a portion of the travel expenses.
- Invited to present "3 Minute Success Story" at Partner's Meeting at National Trust Conference in Nashville.
- Rod Scott presented session on historic barns at National Trust Conference in Nashville.
- Service provider booth at 2009 Iowa Downtown Summit in Ames.

Website Improvements

- More interactive site through news and calendar updates.
- Online membership now offered through partnership with National Trust for Historic Preservation.
- Secure board section of website created for IHPA board of director's use.
- Future plans for interactive mapping to identify historic properties, award sites, and endangered properties.

Technical Assistance

- Assisted property owners with acquiring TAN visits where possible.
- Onsite consulting visits to historic sites.
- Facilitated public presentation on importance of historic preservation and local history.

Executive Order 17

- Partnership with Sioux Landmarks, IHPA, State Historic Preservation Office and Main Street Iowa for new executive order which puts preference of State agencies and Regent university to locate/retain facilities in downtown or historic districts.

2009 Country Schools Conference

- Sponsored 10th Annual Country Schools Conference.
- Independence, October 2-3.
- Highest attendance – 65.
- Portion of profit from conference will be used to further develop IHPA Country School Initiatives.
- 2010 Country Schools Conference will be held second week-end in October at Jackson County Historical Society museum in Maquoketa.

Preservation Iowa & Rebranding

- Branding exercises facilitated through Grandview University Department of Marketing in April 2009.
- New name selected to streamline organization identity and more closely reflect the marketing efforts of the National Trust's Preservation Nation.
- Worked with student ideas, IHPA board, graphic artists and IHPA membership to develop a new logo.
- Working with Des Moines area graphic artist for finalized designs and materials.

- New brand roll out for early 2010.
- “Grand unveiling” planned for Cultural Advocacy Day, February 17, 2010.
- Update of all marketing materials (brochure, website, merchandise).
- New website www.preservationiowa.org launched early 2010. Will retain both URLs for 6 months.

Main Street Development Loan Program

- Received \$200,000 grant through IDED for creation of loan program
- Partnership with NTHP, Main Street Iowa and Community Vitality Center to create loan program for small business assistance in historic downtowns buildings.
- IHPA acting as host non-profit for loan program creation.
- Newly created Main Street Development Committee to oversee and manage loan program and process. Committee made up of 9 representatives of participant communities.
- Iowa CVC to act as loan administrators and underwriters.

Terrace Hill Foundation

- Invited to speak at Terrace Hill’s 140th Celebration in October 2009.
- Forging new partnership with foundation for membership and educational development.

New board members

- Naura Godar, Struxture Architects, West Des Moines
- Laura Carstens, City of Dubuque, Dubuque

2009 IHPA Annual Meeting

- IHPA will hold our annual meeting on Monday, December 7, 2009 in Historic Valley Junction in West Des Moines.

Preservation Partners Planning Retreat

- Participating in annual joint planning retreat for Iowa’s preservation partners: State Historic Preservation Office, Main Street Iowa, National Trust for Historic Preservation and Iowa Historic Preservation Alliance.
- This is the 23rd year for this annual planning retreat. Iowa is one of the only states that holds an annual preservation partners planning retreat.

Strategic Planning

- A strategic planning session for the organization is being planned for February 2010 to continue efforts to strengthen IHPA and work towards official partnership with the National Trust.
- Strategic planning facilitator will be partially funded through a matching grant from National Trust – Midwest.
- Strategic planning will be followed up with a mentoring visit with Preservation Alliance of Minnesota to further strengthen organization/board and act as an accountability benchmark.