



IOWA HISTORIC PRESERVATION ALLIANCE

Building Partnerships
for Historic
Preservation

Volume 13 Issue 1

Spring 2003

Economy “Unconference” and Advocacy Day

Forget what you think you know about conferences. We're ditching the ties, the suits and the conference rooms for a truly unique creative experience. The Iowa Creative Economy Unconference will be held March 5, beginning at 10 a.m., at the State Historical Building in Des Moines.

See that light bulb over your head? Turn it on! The Unconference, presented by the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs, is designed for Iowans who want to generate new ideas and methods that will boost economic development and build cultural attractions in their communities.

Our special guest will be Dr. Richard Florida, author of the bestselling book, *The Rise of the Creative Class and How It's Transforming Work, Leisure, Community and Everyday Life*. Florida will conduct a panel discussion at noon called "Plugging the Brain Drain: Strategies for Keeping Our Best and Our Brightest." Florida will also present an evening keynote address, "Transforming Iowa's Economy: The Creative Catalyst," during a dinner event at the Temple for the Performing Arts in downtown Des Moines.

There will be many workshops to attend throughout the day, but these won't be held in boring neutral-tone conference rooms with no windows. Workshops will be held in historic buildings, artist's studios, and rehabbed spaces in Des Moines' Historic East Village to demonstrate the idea of the Creative Economy.

Workshops include: Mark Barone of Paducah, Ky., discussing Paducah's Artist Relocation Program; Dr. Willard "Sandy" Boyd on "Nonprofits in the Creative Economy"; Dr. David Skorton, president of the University of Iowa, on "Creating a Climate for Economic Growth"; Jim Salmons and Timlynn Babitsky of Sohodojo.com discussing "Nanocorps"; "Housing in the Creative Economy" presented by the Iowa Finance Authority and much more.

Full registration for The Creative Economy Unconference is \$85. For complete details on the Unconference and registration, visit <http://www.culturalaffairs.org/>

Cultural Advocacy Day will be Thursday, March 6 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. It is sponsored by the Iowa Cultural Coalition, a group of organizations dedicated to having the legislature properly funding all cultural and historic preservation programs.

Participants will meet at the Historical Building at 8:00 a.m. for a rally and team training, and then march to the State Capitol at 9:30 a.m. for Legislative meetings.

The purpose of the event is to gain legislative support for additional resources for cultural and preservation programs which were drastically reduced or eliminated last year, including: the Department of Cultural Affairs budget, Iowa Community Cultural Grants; Historic Resource Development Program/Resource Enhancement and Protection Act; Historic Site Preservation Grants, Rebuild Iowa Infrastructure Fund and the Cultural Trust.

Inside this issue:

<i>President's message</i>	2
<i>National Register</i>	3&4
<i>Iowa Cultural Coalition</i>	5
<i>"Downside Up"</i>	6
<i>Award Nominations</i>	7
<i>Annual Meeting</i>	8

For additional information or to sign up for the event, check out the web site www.helpiowagrow.com



**cultural
advocacy day**



Participants at last year's Cultural Advocacy Day gather in front of the Capitol



TOM SMULL
President
Des Moines

LAURA HOOVER
Past President
Amara

GEORGE WAKEMAN
Vice President
Sioux City

MARTHA HAYES
Treasurer
Mt. Pleasant

JACKY ADAMS
Secretary
Red Oak

DR. MICHAEL KRAMME
Executive Director
Washington

BOARD MEMBERS

JIM BOYT
Des Moines

DEBRA DANIELSON
Council Bluffs

CAROL CARPENTER HANSON
Waukee

BARB MITCHELL
Des Moines

COOPER NORMAN
Fairfield

TIM REINDERS
Des Moines

ROSE ROHR
Monticello

BILL SHERMAN
Des Moines

DANELLE STAMPS
Des Moines

DOUG STEINMETZ
Cedar Rapids

LOWELL SOIKE
Ex Officio - State Historical
Society of Iowa
Des Moines

CYNTHIA WAKEMAN
Sioux City

MIKE MATTS
Ex Officio – National Trust

The Iowa Historic Preservation Alliance Newsletter is published quarterly as a benefit to its members.

Iowa Historic Preservation Alliance
P.O. Box 814
Mt. Pleasant, IA 52614

The Alliance is a 501c (3) organization.

President's Message

What Preservation Does for Economic Development

Often, when people ask why we're preservationists, it's hard to articulate. There's the aesthetic argument - that preservation improves our built environment. Simply consider any European town or city and how the beauty of the environment enhances the quality of life. But that doesn't always resonate with Americans, who, as a whole, like to think of ourselves as modern and on the cutting edge. As Americans, we tend to think newer is better and that new construction is economic development.

There are a few key arguments for historic preservation that should resonate with Americans and especially Iowans. That is that historic preservation is economic development. One needs to look no further than the restored Temple for Performing Arts in Des Moines, the Orpheum Theater and 4th Street District in Sioux City, the small and beautiful community of Bonaparte in Southeast Iowa, the town square in Albia or downtown Dubuque to find good examples. There are hundreds of other examples across the state and later I will invite you to provide them.

The most recent example and most apparent for me as a resident of Greater Des Moines is the Temple for Performing Arts at 10th and Locust in Des Moines. Some strong Des Moines activists stayed the bulldozers and developers Harry and Pam Bookey turned a beautiful and aging building into a hub of activity downtown. The Italian restaurant, Centro, draws a huge crowd every single night. Not to mention the crowds drawn by the comedy show "Triple Espresso" which was extended well beyond the original closing date due to response. In addition, several annual events I attend are scheduled to happen at the Temple this year, including the Ad Pros of Des Moines Addy's Awards Show and a reception during the Iowa Newspaper Association convention to name a couple. This is an excellent example of historic preservation as economic development. The only unfortunate thing about it is that EVERY historic building near the Temple was demolished to make way for the Gateway West plan. It is an absolute tragedy and a hindrance to further economic development that there are no other historic buildings to renovate and play off of the Temple's success. In other cities, such as Kansas City and Omaha, they are able to expand their successful historic districts because they did not demolish all of their buildings (though they did demolish too many in each case).

In addition to the economic development value of historic preservation, something not often noticed is that young people are very supportive of historic preservation. It is another misconception among Iowans that young people want new buildings and urban sprawl. From what I've observed, that is not the case. Young people might live in the suburbs of the metro areas, but that is because that is where the housing is. Most would prefer an open loft in a downtown historic neighborhood where they could walk to get groceries, go to a movie or restaurant and bar. Ask them for yourselves. This type of living is as much why young people move to Chicago and Minneapolis as is the availability of jobs.

Iowa could do two things to create economic development. 1) Restore historic downtowns, creating loft apartments and walkable activities, and 2) Foster young entrepreneurs to create jobs within the state. State and community leaders should consider what changes in laws, codes, incentives, taxes and the like could be made to accomplish these two steps and we would see economic development flourish in Iowa along with a growth in our population, especially among young people.

Earlier, I mentioned that you would have the opportunity to tell about your own community or neighborhood example of economic development. Please email us your story and we will publish it on our website and excerpts of some in upcoming newsletters. We would like to have a "database" of examples of preservation as economic development to provide to state and community leaders. Please send your stories to ihpa@iowatelecom.net.

Thank you for being an IHPA member, together we can preserve Iowa's historic resources.

Tom Smull



Recent National Register Additions

JOHNSON COUNTY

ASHTON, NED RESIDENCE, 820 PARK ROAD, IOWA CITY



The Ashton house is associated with the productive career of a noted bridge engineer. Designed and constructed by Ashton and used as his office and drafting room, it directly embodies his career and his Iowa aesthetics.

ENGLERT THEATRE, 221 E. WASHINGTON STREET, IOWA CITY



The Englert Theatre is locally significant as a cultural landmark and downtown amusement venue known to generations of Iowa City residents and University of Iowa students. Host to both live performances and first-run movies since its construction in 1912, the importance of the building to the community was acknowledged as early as 1926 when it was nearly destroyed by fire. With the interior quickly reconstructed, the theater remained open to the public for another 73 years.

LOUISA COUNTY
COMMERCIAL HOTEL, 227

N. MAIN STREET, WAPPELLO



The Commercial Hotel is locally significant under criterion A as an important element of the business community of the town of Wapello. It might have significance in Criterion C, but more research is needed. The hotel was designed by Wapello architect and contractor, H.O. Pease.

MARION COUNTY

VANDER WILT, DIRK AND CORNELIA J., COTTAGE, 925 BROADWAY STREET, PELLA

Completed and first occupied circa 1854, the Dirk and Cornelia J. Vander Wilt Cottage is significant under Criterion C as a representative of the first generation of residential structures constructed in Pella and calls attention to the architectural influence of Holland, the homeland of Pella's settlers.

MITCHELL COUNTY

DEERING, NATHANIEL COBB AND LUCRETIA (BAILEY) HOUSE, 903

STATE STREET, OSAGE



The Deering House is significant under Criterion B as the home of a prominent politician.

MONONA COUNTY

MANN SCHOOL #2, 3 1/2 MILES NORTHWEST OF PREPARATION CANYON STATE PARK ENTRANCE ON OAK AVENUE, MOORHEAD



The Mann School is locally significant under Criterion A in education and social history, and Criterion C architecture.

MUSCATINE COUNTY

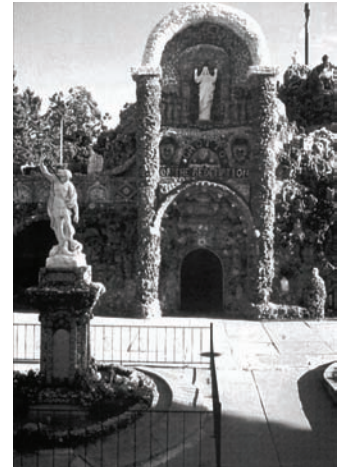
GREENWOOD CEMETERY CHAPEL, 1814 LUCAS, MUSCATINE

(Photo not available)

The Greenwood Cemetery Chapel is the oldest and longest-serving public facility still available for group services at a cemetery in Muscatine. The Chapel provides a historical picture of past mortuary/funeral practices and local architectural development.

PALO ALTO COUNTY

GROTTO OF THE REDEMPTION, 300 NORTH BROAD-



The Grotto is eligible under Criterion C as the finest and grandest example of a phenomenon known as regional grottos, where an ancient architectural form was transplanted to the Midwestern prairie landscape. It is one of the world's largest manmade grottos and the most extensive mosaic ever created.

PLYMOUTH COUNTY

REEVES FARMSTEAD HISTORIC DISTRICT, 15991 HWY 60, LE MARS VICINITY



The Reeves Farmstead Historic District is locally significant under Criterion C as a fully integrated farm complex from the early to mid 20th century. As a whole, the complex visually depicts a small family-owned farming enterprise of that time.



LE MARS MUNICIPAL PARK AND GOLF COURSE HISTORIC DISTRICT, NE CORNER OF LEMARS, 4TH AVE. NE OR HWY 3, LE MARS



The Le Mars Municipal Park and Golf Course is significant under National Register criterion A as one of Iowa's most extensive municipal park development projects undertaken during the 1930s. The park is also significant under Criterion C because of the park design, including several outstanding stone buildings and structures, represents an interesting adaptation of Park Rustic design aesthetics to achieve a natural-like quality in what is almost entirely a human-made setting. The park design and its individual components retain a high degree of historical integrity.

POLK COUNTY

CRANE BUILDING, 1440 WALNUT, DES MOINES



The Crane Building, locally important under Criterion C, is an industrial building of significance among the works of the Des Moines architectural firm of Sawyer and Watrous.

HENSHIE-BRIGGS ROW HOUSE, 1106 HIGH STREET, DES MOINES



The Henshie-Briggs Row House is architecturally significant under Criterion C as a fine example of a row house. Although popular in Des Moines during the 19th century, exceedingly few examples of this architectural form survive in the city today.

SYNDICATE BLOCK, 501 E. LOCUST, DES MOINES



The Renaissance Revival



building remains an excellent example of its style as applied to a commercial building, and it serves as a prominent reminder of the 1880s period of physical development of the East side of Des Moines.

POTTAWATTAMIE COUNTY

BENNETT BUILDING, 405 WEST BROADWAY, COUNCIL BLUFFS

Completed in 1924, the Bennett building is significant under Criterion A for its contribution to the role of women in the medical profession. The building is also important under criterion C as a significant example of the Commercial style of architecture and the design skills of several local architects and contractors.

STORY COUNTY

BUDD, PROF. J.L., SARAH M., AND ETTA BUDD, HOUSE, 804 KELLOGG AVENUE, AMES



The Budd house is significant under Criterion B as it calls attention to J.L. Budd, a botanist of national prominence, whose contributions to horticulture included the introduction to the US of non-indigenous plant material, as well as service to higher and public education.

WINNESHIEK COUNTY

BURR OAK SAVINGS BANK, 3608 236TH AVENUE, BURR OAK



The Burr Oak Savings Bank is significant locally under National Register Criteria A and C. Under Criterion A, it derives significance from its association with the economic prosperity of Burr Oak at the beginning of the 20th century.

Its construction in 1910 was during a boom period for agricultural production and land values in Iowa that saw



IOWA CULTURAL COALITION

The Iowa Cultural Coalition was formed in reaction to the drastic cuts of the Iowa Legislature in 2002. Organizations in the Coalition include the Iowa Historic Preservation Alliance, Iowa Museum Association, Iowans for the Arts, State Historical Society of Iowa, Iowa Genealogical Society, Iowa Library Conservation Consortium, Resource Enhancement and Protection Alliance and more - representing over 40,000 Iowans.

Mission

The mission of the Iowa Cultural Coalition is to work to properly fund all cultural and historic preservation programs to provide Iowa communities with essential economic development, educational and cultural resources.

Legislative Platform

Our 2003 Legislative Platform is to apply the mission statement to the five key areas:

- 1) DCA Preservation and Administrative Budget – (Increase the DCA budget)
- 2) Iowa Community Cultural Grants including Cultural Enrichment Grants – (Restore the budget to \$600,000)
- 3) HRDP/REAP (Historic Resource Development Program / Resource Enhancement and Protection Act) – (Increase the budget to \$20,000,000 with 5% going to HRDP)
- 4) HSPG/RIIF (Historic Site Preservation Grants / Rebuild Iowa Infrastructure Fund) – (Restore the HSPG portion of the RIIF budget item to \$1,000,000)
- 5) Cultural Trust (Begin funding the Cultural Trust)

Why Our Mission is Important for Iowa

Funding for the key grants in our platform was virtually eliminated in the 2002 legislative session resulting in a dramatic negative economic and cultural impact on cultural organizations and on communities who rely on the positive economic impact of cultural and historic preservation activities.

What We've Accomplished

- Formed a coalition of cultural organizations with an inherent interest in our mission.
- Sent a survey to all legislative candidates.
- Compiled the survey results of 75 candidates responding with over 95% agreeing with our mission and platform.
- Reported the results back to survey respondents, legislative leaders and directors of caucus staff.
- Committed to meeting with legislators to communicate our platform and why it is essential in the economic and cultural development of our state.
- Initiated an effort to hire an organizer to coordinate Cultural Advocacy Day when we drive home our platform to the legislators.

What We Plan to Do

- Have the legislature restore proper funding to our key areas as outlined in our platform.
- Hire an organizer to coordinate an effective Cultural Advocacy Day, bringing in volunteers from across the state to communicate our platform and its benefits to their legislators.
- Proposed Cultural Advocacy Day budget:

Organizer Compensation (3 months)	\$ 8,000			
Event Expenses	\$ 3,000			
Mailing/Printing/Phone	\$ 3,000	TOTAL		\$14,000

How You Can Help

-Show your support by contributing. Please make contributions to the Iowa Cultural Coalition c/o Iowa Historic Preservation Alliance, 205 E Washington, Washington IA 52353. Questions? Please call any Coalition member or Tom Smull, 515-280-7234.



IHPA Website to Serve Members

Let the IHPA Website help you.

Any member of IHPA may have items listed on the site free of charge.

Listings include:

- ◆ Calendar of Events
- ◆ Historic Properties for sale
- ◆ Historic Inns and Hotels
- ◆ Contractors and suppliers of preservation services and products
- ◆ News items

Members who would like to have something placed on the web site should send the information to:

ihpa@iowatelecom.net
or mail it to: Iowa Historic Preservation, Attn: Dr. Michael Kramme, 205 E. Washington, Washington, IA 52353.

Students Help IHPA

As a class project, students from Washington High School (Washington, Iowa) Special Education classes are helping fold, address label and add postage for the mailings of the IHPA.

The students, under the direction of their teacher B. J. Wetherell, have helped with this and the last newsletter, as well as a special mailing to members of the National Trust asking them to join IHPA.

IHPA

Web site:

iowapreservation.org

Email:

ihpa@iowatelecom.net

Phone: (319) 863-7141

Fax: (319) 863-7207

Address:

205 East Washington
Washington, IA 52353
(Office)

P.O. Box 814

Mt. Pleasant, IA 52641

(Membership)

“Downside Up” PBS Program Materials Available

“Downside UP” a project, at the intersection of art, culture, and economic development will air on PBS on February 25 at 10 p.m. It is also available in communities for use to raise the level of dialogue about historic preservation.

“Downside UP” by Nancy Kelly, is a story about the role of art in community development. Kelly grew up in the Massachusetts mill town of North Adams, and was drawn back by the odd story of North Adams’ transformation from depressed blue-collar community to the home of America’s largest contemporary arts museum, MASS MoCA. Some saw it as a chance for renewal of economic life and pride.

Using her own family as a kind of Greek chorus, Kelly’s film follows people in North Adams as they gradually warm to the museum and its artists. As Kelly points out, no matter how many times people didn’t “get” the art, the art was getting to them. The film is a very entertaining profile of the subsequent economic ripple through the local economy and local consciousness.

Materials available for groups to use include:

- ◆ a VHS tape of the film “Downside UP”
- ◆ a toolkit for discussion (downloadable at <http://www.downsideupthemovie.org/interact/toolkit.htm>)
- ◆ postcards for promotion

This kit is available for one organization per state who would like to use the film to draw a community

together in dialogue, especially about the role of historic preservation in the arts and in community economic development.

Any organization interested in the project, should write or call, and provide a brief paragraph about the organization and its interests.

The goal is to provide a comprehensive list of communities where this kind of work is planned.

Discussion will taking place on our web site after the PBS broadcast.

The “Downside UP” web site (<http://www.downsideupthemovie.org>) can provide information about the film thus far and how other organizations have applied it to their own work.

For more information contact: Suzanne Stenson O’Brien, Communications and Special Projects.

651-291-8891 or at suzzo@bitstream.net.

September 30 – October 5, 2003

Denver
2003

National
Preservation
Conference

New Frontiers in Preservation

Join the National Trust at the National Preservation Conference:

- Learn how this historic city has become a model of preservation-based revitalization and livability.
- Share leading-edge ideas and tactics for financial incentives, neighborhood revival, downtown revitalization, affordable housing, transportation, and organizational development.
- Return to your community armed with successful tactics and lessons from colleagues across the country.

Request registration information today from the National Trust for Historic Preservation

Call: 800-944-6847

Web: www.nthpconference.org

Email: conference@nthp.org



NATIONAL TRUST
for HISTORIC PRESERVATION



COLORADO
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY



IOWA HISTORIC PRESERVATION ALLIANCE
PRESERVATION AT ITS BEST 2003 - NOMINATION FORM

For Historic Properties REHABILITATED or RESTORED and completed in 2002.

CATEGORIES: (CHECK ONE)

1. Residential _____ 2. Public _____ 3. Rural _____ 4. Archeological _____

5. Commercial a. under 5,000 sq. ft. _____ b. over 5,000 sq. ft. _____

Property Name _____

Property Address _____

Property Owner _____

Applicant's Name and Phone Number _____

Is the Property listed on the National Register? Yes _____ No _____ Eligible _____

Architect's Name and Address _____

Please answer the following four descriptions on one 8" x 10" sheet of paper.

1. Describe the **Before Condition** of the Property.
2. Describe the **Work** done to the Property.
3. Describe the Property's **Historical Significance**.
4. Describe how the project was **funded**.

Please attach at least **two photographs**: Before and After

Mail Nominations to: Iowa Historic Preservation Alliance
 205 East Washington
 Washington, IA 52353

Questions may be directed to: Dr. Michael Kramme, (319) 863-7141 or ihpa@iowatelecom.net

ALL ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 30, 2003



Nominate Best Preservation Awards

Each year the Iowa Historic Preservation Alliance calls for nominations to recognize the best historic preservation projects in Iowa. There are six categories for awards: residential, rural, public, archeological and commercial (large and small.)

These projects are then recognized at an awards ceremony held in Des Moines as part of National Historic Preservation Week. This event is a celebration that also recognizes annual National Register listings and CLG (preservation commission) grants. In the past there has been a luncheon, followed by afternoon of educational workshops. Preservation Day activities are scheduled to take place in May at the State Historical Society Building.

IHPA would encourage you to make sure projects in your community are submitted and recognized. We depend on **you** to let us know about the most exciting and creative projects happening in Iowa.

A nomination form is on page seven of this newsletter and can be downloaded from our web site: iowapreservation.org. Photo-copied forms are also welcome.

Anyone may nominate a property, membership in IHPA is not required.

National Register Workshops

The State Historical Society is sponsoring a series of workshops designed to help individuals with the process of listing properties on the National Register.

The workshops will be from 8:00 a.m. to noon in Des Moines on April 18 and October 24. And in Lansing from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m..

For more information contact Beth Foster Hill at The Historical Building, 600 East Locust, Des Moines, IA 50319 or at: beth.foster.dca.state.ia.us.

Annual Meeting

Participating museums will include the Lincoln - Harlan House, the Theatre Museum and Midwest Old Threshers Heritage Museum.

Events will include presentations, workshops and tours.

The keynote speaker will be Mike Zahs presenting "What It is to Be an Iowan."

Participants will be able to attend a special production of *Toby Goes to Washington* by Iowa playwrights Neil and Caroline Schaffner.

More details will appear in the next newsletter.

IOWA HISTORIC PRESERVATION ALLIANCE
PO Box 814
Mt. Pleasant, IA 52641

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit NO. 172
Iowa City, Iowa
