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Preservation Iowa Transitions to Volunteer-Driven, Staff-Led Nonprofit

After nearly five years as a volunteer, board-led organization, Preservation Iowa is pleased to announce Vincent Lintz of Windsor Heights, Iowa as the new executive director. Vince comes to Preservation Iowa with over 30 years of experience working with communities promoting affordable housing, community betterment and economic development on local, state and national levels. Vince was selected through a nationwide, eight-week hiring process. His experience in fostering partnerships, nonprofit development and banking and lending were seen as positive assets to assist the organization in its next phase of growth and development.

Vince's primary responsibilities will include implementing the programs and policies of Preservation Iowa with specific emphasis on the promotion and development of the Main Street Development Loan Program, an innovative new program



of Preservation Iowa through partnerships with the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Iowa Microloan and Main Street Iowa.

During these exciting times, Preservation Iowa will be in transition with communications, office locations, and contact information. During the transitional period, Vince can be reached via email at info@preservationiowa.org. Please join us in welcoming Vince to the Preservation Iowa family!

Main Street Iowa: A Quarter Century of Change

It's hard to believe that Main Street Iowa is celebrating its 25th anniversary. Some of us can recall Main Street's early days back in the late 1980's when our state was experiencing significant population

loss and communities were trying to rebound from the devastating effects of the Farm Crisis. Main Streets were shuttered and seemingly abandoned.

Continued on Page 5.



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NATIONAL TRUST FOR
HISTORIC PRESERVATION®

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President’s Corner

News from Naura Heiman Godar

It has been another busy quarter for the board of Preservation Iowa. Since the last newsletter, Preservation Iowa has reached several important milestones! At the beginning of April, we hired an executive director that you will read more about in this newsletter. The board of directors are very excited about this hire. We looked nationwide and had applications from Florida to Alaska.

Making the commitment to full-time staff will help grow our programs and catapult Preservation Iowa into a leadership role in preserving Iowa’s heritage. Just last fall, PI became a statewide Preservation Partner with the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The partnership was contingent on PI employing at least one full-time staff person. The leadership of the National Trust took notice of our accomplishment, and sent a letter in mid-April praising us for completing this task two and-a-half years ahead of schedule.

On the 2nd of April, I was fortunate enough to attend Main Street Iowa’s 25 Year Awards celebration along with four other board members. The Main Street program is revitalizing downtown communities all over the country. The Iowa program is one of the strongest in the nation, so much so that the National Main Street convention will be held here May 22-25. Several of us sat with members from the Main Street community of Mason City, home to Frank Lloyd Wright’s last standing hotel, commonly known as “Wright on the Park.” It is currently being rehabilitated. In addition, we sat with the director of the 6th Avenue Corridor, a Main Street Urban Commercial Neighborhood in Des Moines. It was uplifting to learn about what they have accomplished in the last year and plan to accomplish in the coming months.

The most touching part of the evening for me was seeing each community’s “volunteer of the year.” Each of the Main Street Communities nominates one of their hard working volunteers for this honor. Many of the awardees were in attendance and the cheers from each community were overwhelming in support and gratitude to the individuals who gave so much of their time and of themselves to make better places for all of us to live. While at the Main Street awards, I was able to meet and speak briefly with the Vice President of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, David Brown. When the National Main Street convention convenes, Iowa’s preservation partners – the State Historic Preservation Office, Main Street Iowa and Preservation Iowa – will meet with the National Trust leadership to discuss what works in our great state.

Preservation Iowa has a great deal more ahead for the year. August 5th and 6th we will be holding our annual Preservation Workshop in the “Pearl of the Mississippi,” Muscatine. Together with the Friends of Muscatine Historic Preservation, we hope to educate and invigorate you in your quest for historic preservation. Also included in the workshop are tours highlighting Muscatine’s historic downtown, country schools, and residences. Mark your calendars now, but look for more information to come!

In addition, there are the 11th annual Country Schools conference in Creston this October and a Historic Theater event you won’t want to miss!

Partner's Page: Silos & Smokestacks

Golden Silo Awards Honor Best in Agricultural Heritage

Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area (SSNHA) honored the best in heritage development during their annual Golden Silo Awards Luncheon, Wednesday, April 6, 2011.

Regional partners gathered at the Sky Event Centre in Waterloo to honor this year's award recipients. Golden Silo Awards are presented to individuals and organizations whose contributions demonstrate excellence in preserving and telling the America's agricultural story.

"We are pleased to have such great partners within the region preserving this important story. Without their passion and dedication, this story could be lost for future generations," commented Don Short, SSNHA President.

The following individuals and organizations were recognized for their contributions:

- ♦ Jerome Thompson of the State Historical Society of Iowa, was recognized with the Alan Hutchings Outstanding Visionary award. This award honors an individual, organization, business, agency, or local government who has shown sustained support for the Heritage Area for more than five years, created a legacy in heritage development, and provided leadership in the heritage development movement.
- ♦ Tammy and Kelly Rundle of Fourth Wall Films were recognized with the Outstanding Preservation in Agriculture award for their extraordinary effort in preserving American agricultural icons.
- ♦ Mines of Spain in Dubuque was recognized with the Outstanding Partner award for showing support and partnering with SSNHA on numerous occasions to create awareness for the Heritage Area.
- ♦ Val Abbott of Iowa City was recognized with the Outstanding Volunteer award for giving tirelessly to SSNHA.
- ♦ Heartland Acres Agribition Center in Independence was given the "People's Choice" - Site of the Year award. Voted on by the public, the other finalists for the award included Four Mounds Inn in Dubuque and the University of Iowa Museum of Natural History in Iowa City.



Tammy and Kelly Rundle of Fourth Wall Films were awarded the Outstanding Preservation in Agriculture for their production of the documentary Country School: One Room – One Nation. A project supported by Preservation Iowa, the film documents the lasting legacy of America's country schools along with the importance of preserving them.

National Register Actions

Adair County Democrat—
Adair County Free Press
Building, Greenfield, Adair
County. Listed February 7,
2011.

Master Service Station,
Waterloo, Black Hawk County.
Listed February 7, 2011.

Charles H. & Theresa H.
McBride Bungalow, Shell Rock,
Butler County. Listed February
7, 2011.

Upper Main Street Historic
District, Dubuque, Dubuque
County. Boundary Increase
Listed February 11, 2011, under
the Dubuque, Iowa MPS.

Schroeder-Klein Grocery
Company Warehouse,
Dubuque, Dubuque County.
Listed February 28, 2011, under
the Dubuque, Iowa MPS.

Washington Street and East
22nd Street Historic District,
Dubuque, Dubuque County.
Listed February 28, 2011, under
the Dubuque, Iowa MPS.

Grandview Park Music Pavilion,
Sioux City, Woodbury County.
Listed February 28, 2011.

Saint Patrick's Catholic Church
And Rectory, Perry, Dallas
County. Listed March 22, 2011.

Calmar Passenger Depot,
Calmar, Winneshiek County.
Listed March 21, 2011, under
the Advent & Development of
Railroads in Iowa MPS.

Preservationists Fight Foreclosure Vacancies

Sioux Citians Come Together to Tackle Financial Crisis by Preserving Historic Properties

Sioux City, Iowa, like many cities across the country, has experienced a large number of foreclosures, and subsequent vacant properties. The failure of a local landlord, who owned dozens of significant properties, began a domino effect of vacancies to further complicate the problem.

The Sioux City Historic Preservation Commission recognized the coming tidal wave of foreclosures and knew it could not address the phenomenon alone. The HPC chair approached the City Manager seeking a coordinated effort to evaluate the problem and develop possible solutions. As a result, an assistant to the City Manager chaired a series of meetings over several months in order to identify the scope of the foreclosures, uncover hidden obstacles, share knowledge, and explore solutions. Members of the task force came from the HPC, SiouxLandmark (a local nonprofit preservation group), Habitat for Humanity, local landlords, realtors, and city staff.

After everyone was brought to the same knowledge level, exploration of solutions began. The meetings generated excellent dialogue, educated members, and involved sharing of innovative ideas. It was generally agreed that inner city neighborhoods have specific characteristics which give a sense of place, historic preservation is economic development, and preservation fosters sustainability. Also, it was decided that immediate steps were needed to ease the demolition process, give individuals or



groups time to find a buyer and the buyer time to renovate.

Since the conclusion of the meetings, many positive outcomes have been realized. The city council has been very receptive to slowing the demolition process and has seen houses renovated and maintained on the tax rolls. City staff has been very supportive to exploring ways to keep vacant properties secured and standing. The council has deferred demolition of properties and one by one has seen them saved. The Sioux City inspection services department has become more involved in counseling the owner of a vacant property in order to help them develop options.

In March 1991 the Siouxland Housing Development Corporation (SHDC) was formed as a nonprofit entity, partnering with the city to provide affordable housing. However, over the years, it had gone dormant. Early last year, SHDC under the leadership of a local architect, has reformed and is organizing a project

that will build townhouses in an inner city neighborhood. The project was jump-started with the city's contribution of Federal funds to be used for construction. In the future, the group will turn their attention to renovating existing housing.

Additionally, the city has been working with Siouxland Habitat For Humanity to acquire and rehabilitate five houses located in the inner city. The HPC has been leading an effort to identify interested contractors and see that they receive information about preservation and sustainability. A guide has been developed for residents who plan to buy an older home. The commission has developed design guidelines, according to the Secretary of Interior's *Standards for Rehabilitation*, for a historic district in the city. Furthermore, they are in the process of developing a guide for real estate agents that will tell the benefits of older homes.

Continued next page.

Preservationists

(Continued From Page 4)

Sioux City provides revitalization tax abatement for qualifying improvements and new construction. Property owners may select a three-year abatement or ten-year graduated schedule. According to city staff, \$30.4 million in improvements were completed in 2010, with \$4.2 million of which was spent on improvements to existing structures. For more information, visit Sioux-city.org.

Several ideas have been discussed and have potential for future consideration and evaluation. Chapter 657A of the state code allows cities to acquire an abandoned or unsafe structure and deed it to a party who is willing to rehabilitate it. A certificate of appropriateness may be instituted along with design guidelines. This requires an owner to submit a plan of work to be done on a structure in a historic district. Finally, penalties may be imposed against the owner of a vacant property in order that the city does not bear the brunt of expenses.

This has been a long, challenging process, but has brought groups together, and is still generating discussions, positive solutions and change within Sioux City.

It must be noted here that much credit for sharing knowledge, being concerned, and just listening must be given to Paula Mohr Ph.D., State Historical Society and Paul Barnes MBA, AICP, Neighborhood Services Supervisor, Sioux City Community Development Department.

Jim Jung, Chair

Sioux City Historic Preservation Commission

Main Street Iowa

(Continued From Page 1)

But Iowans are a resilient populace who cherish their sense of place and understand the importance of community. This passion for “place” motivated local leaders in every Main Street Iowa community to take the future of their Main Street districts into their own hands and steer it towards a path of positive economic and physical change.

Opera Houses, movie theaters and historic hotels are making a comeback! As cultural and entertainment uses strengthen their foothold as economic generators, Main Streets, home to most of Iowa’s historic venues, are capitalizing on this opportunity. Iowans are excited once again about visiting authentic and historic places which through rehabilitation and continued use demonstrate that these places matter!

Main Street is once again the place where Iowans connect. Numerous districts are well known today as having inviting third spaces for friends, family and colleagues to meet, to socialize and to reconnect in pleasant environments.

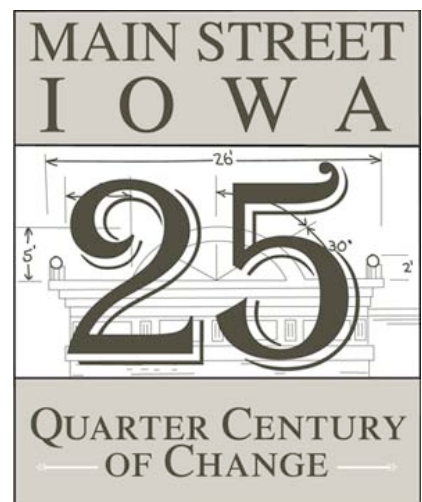
Main Streets are implementing sustainability practices into their everyday lives. They are becoming environmentally conscious by incorporating energy saving measures into their rehabs and developing greener streetscapes. From rain gardens to geothermal heating and cooling, Iowa’s Main Streets are thinking globally and acting locally.

Another remarkable change has been the resurgence of living on Main Street. Amazingly wonderful

upper-floor apartments and condos are now commonplace in nearly every Main Street Iowa district. Main Street residents with riverfront vistas or town square views are strengthening their district’s economies by simply using and enjoying the same upper floors that had been vacant for decades. Main Street living is attracting empty nesters, recent retirees and young professionals, each looking for unique spaces to experience during this chapter of their lives.

2011 is the opportune time to celebrate and reflect on Main Street Iowa’s Quarter Century of Change. It has been an honor to instigate, collaborate, and commiserate with Main Street’s real heroes, our local community leaders, these past decades. Because of them, Iowa has some of the best Main Streets in America.

*Thom Guzman, Director
Iowa Downtown Resource Center*



Historic Preservation Fueling Economic Development in Iowa

National Trust President Stephanie Meeks Praises Preservation in Iowa

One of the enduring myths about the field of historic preservation is that preservationists, by insisting on the stringent enforcement of laws meant to protect historic places, hinder development and slow economic growth. To disprove this myth, Iowans need only take a stroll along the business district in any one of the dozens of Iowa communities that have participated in the state's Main Street Iowa program to see first-hand how historic preservation is revitalizing communities and driving economic growth.

Over the past 25 years, Main Street Iowa communities have seen over \$720 million in private funding invested in the rehabilitation of more than 8,000 commercial buildings—many of which were abandoned or underused historic structures that have been given new life as coffee shops, restaurants, unique retail outlets and other businesses. When the annual National Main Streets conference comes to Des Moines this May, hundreds of community revitalization professionals from across the country will be looking to learn from Iowa's remarkable track record.

Iowa's reputation as a state where preservation is fueling economic development extends beyond its Main Streets program. Take for example Iowa's use of preservation-based tax incentives like federal and state historic preservation tax credits, which have leveraged almost \$300 million in rehabilitation through the federal program since 1995, and over

\$900 million investment through the state historic tax credit program since it was established in 2000. This is money that in most cases would simply disappear if historic tax incentives were not in place.

Credit for Iowa's outstanding historic preservation successes goes to a number of people and organizations, including the elected officials who support preservation legislation, Preservation Iowa, Main Street Iowa, and the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).

Despite their impressive success, historic preservation still confronts the myth that it is a drag on economic development. Recently, some members of Iowa's Legislature have decried what they see as excessive government regulation of development activity in the state, and have specifically called out the State Historic Preservation Office as an example of a government agency standing in the way of growth and development. Not only does this point of view miss the enormous benefits historic preservation has brought to the state, we believe much of this criticism is the result of misinformation and a lack of understanding about the Iowa SHPO's federally-mandated role in approving projects.

The SHPOs were created by Congress as part of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966. The primary role of each SHPO, as defined by the NHPA, is to review local development projects receiving federal funding to determine what impact the project



might have on historic resources. Coming on the heels of federal programs like Urban Renewal and the Interstate Highway Act—both of which left widespread demolition of the nation's historic fabric in their wake—the creation of the SHPOs was a critical breakthrough in federal historic preservation policy.

The fact that seems to be missing from Iowa's debate about the role of its SHPO is the level of binding legal authority that the SHPO is able to exercise. For instance, recent media articles erroneously stated that the SHPO was responsible for requiring extensive archeological analysis of sites receiving Federal Emergency Management Agency funding. In fact, in several instances the SHPO has recommended less archaeological survey than FEMA on recent projects. However, the ultimate authority rests not with the SHPO but with the federal agency funding the project.

Federal preservation law does not mandate preservation. The underlying basis of federal

Continued next page.

Right: The successful relocation of the Hale Bridge in March 2006 was the result of consultation under Section 106. Today, the bridge is a popular destination in Wapsipinicon State Park. The relocation received a Preservation at Its Best Award in 2006.

Below: As reported in the last issue of The Iowa Preservationist, Preservation Iowa recently wrapped up an architectural salvage project in Waverly, successfully salvaging 23 flood-damaged homes slated for FEMA buyout and demolition. A direct result of consultation under Section 106, the effort kept demolition debris out of the landfill and provided architectural materials to projects throughout the region.



preservation law is to require the federal agency funding the work to stop, look, and consider the effects that their work will have on historic properties. The SHPO plays an advisory role in this process, but again, the federal agencies have the ultimate authority to decide on appropriate preservation steps—not the SHPO.

Iowans should be proud of their state's record in preserving its heritage. Rather than blaming preservation for slowing progress, I would encourage all Iowans to consider the many ways that preserving the state's unique historic assets have made Iowa an ideal place to live, work, visit and do business.

*Stephanie Meeks, President
National Trust for Historic Preservation
(Reprinted with permission)*

Above, Right: The Crescent Community Health Center, Project Concern, and Washington Court Apartments Project in Dubuque received a Preservation at Its Best Award in 2008. In addition to historic preservation tax incentives, this unique mixed-use project received federal funding and met the requirements of Section 106.

Below: Honored with a Preservation at Its Best Award in 2010, Grant and Lincoln Elementary Schools in Oskaloosa are stunning examples of preservation. Once again, federal funding paired with preservation tax incentives to turn these buildings into much-needed living spaces.



Member Highlights: Karen Bode Baxter and John Ryan

Past and Current Board Members Have Helped Preservation Iowa Succeed

Wondering just who is interested in preserving Iowa historic resources? We thought you'd like to learn a little bit more about some of Preservation Iowa's members.

If you know a member who should be highlighted, write to us at membership@preservationiowa.org.

Karen Bode Baxter

Karen Bode Baxter is a 19-year member of Preservation Iowa. She served as the organization's Board President during the floods of 1993. During her tenure as president, she dealt with the ramifications of the flood, FEMA paperwork, and governmental restructuring of State of Iowa preservationists.

Karen grew up in Oklahoma. She moved to Iowa to become the Main Street director in Grinnell. Most of Karen's work as a preservation consultant has been in Missouri since 1998. She still does work in Iowa. Her company's services includes work on community grants for historic surveys, district grants, tax credit applications, and National Register nominations.

Having learned a great deal about preservation techniques as a Main Street manager, Karen's practical experience, plan reading capability, and hands-on approach allow her to work easily with contractors. Usually, she writes and works as part of a development team, which includes preservation from the beginning of a project. Karen and her team have worked on projects as small as a two-room alley house to a \$40 million factory complex.

Karen is looking to focus her efforts in the upcoming years to smaller community projects. She particularly loves to work on court house squares. Throughout her career she has worked on several renovations where the buildings were not habitable at the beginning of the project. Being able to help direct clients to save as much historic fabric as they can makes her happy. She views preservation as a positive influence on the economic development of a community. Currently, Karen serves as the board president for Missouri's statewide preservation organization.

John Ryan

John Ryan is Preservation Iowa's newest board member, elected during the first meeting of 2011. John, his wife Hannah, and their daughter Isabelle are Polk City residents. Originally from a farm outside Iowa

City, John spent his childhood helping in his dad's construction business, roofing houses and repairing barns. During that time, he developed an interest in engineering. John graduated from Iowa State University with a degree in Construction Engineering. Upon graduation, John began working for Ryan Companies US, Inc. His experience ranges from small remodels to new buildings and from large-scale retail development to renovations of prominent historical buildings.

In 2005, John moved to Le Mars, Iowa for about a year and a half to work on a project. While living in Le Mars, he met his wife Hannah. Most recently, John has been working a great deal in Cedar Rapids. He has served as project manager for the rehabilitation of several historic buildings including Theatre Cedar Rapids, CSPS Hall, and The Paramount Theatre.



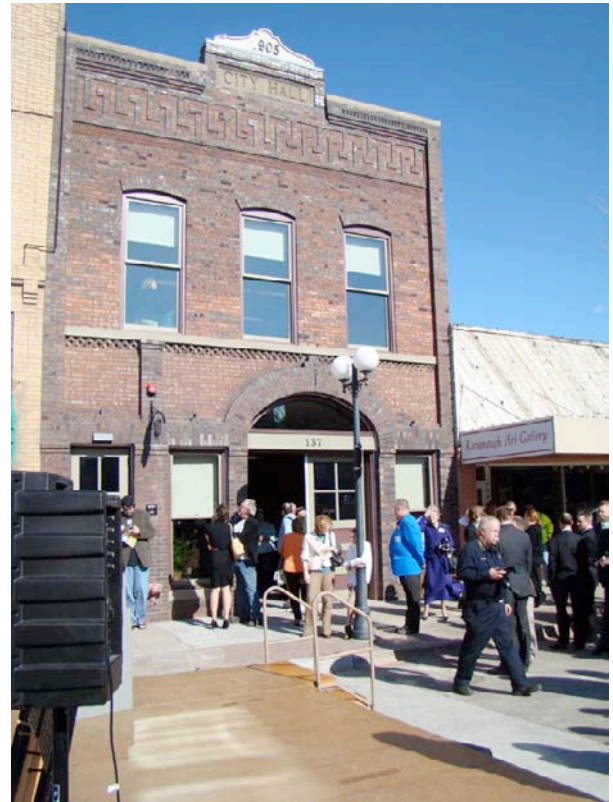
Left: The Stork Inn in St. Louis was Karen Bode Baxter's first nomination and tax credit project when Missouri started their state historic tax credit program. It was historically one of the taverns for Anheuser-Busch, built on the eve of prohibition and designed to improve the image of bars. Right: John Ryan, with his wife Hannah and daughter Isabelle.





Above: Attending the 2011 Main Street Iowa Awards April 1 are (L to R): Sam Erickson, board advisor; Naura Heiman Godar, board president; Dan Tindall, board advisor; and Sheriffa Jones, board vice-president.

Right: On April 28, Preservation Iowa attended the rededication of Historic City Hall in West Des Moines, which will now house the Historic Valley Junction Foundation. This awesome historic preservation effort is projected to achieve LEED Gold! Congratulations to Historic Valley Junction and the City of West Des Moines!



\$20,375 in Grants Awarded to Iowa Preservation Projects

(Continued from Page 12)

Lastly, the National Trust was pleased to award \$16,425 to Golden Hills Resource Conservation and Development, working with the Tabor Historical Society. This grant from the Jeffris Heartland Fund will result in a comprehensive Historic Structure Report for the Rev. John Todd House in Tabor. The Todd House was completed in 1853, only a year after Rev. Todd and fellow Congregationalists founded the town of Tabor. Rev. Todd played an important role in building Iowa's Underground Railroad network, working with fellow abolitionists and ministers to aid freedom seekers. The Jeffris Heartland Fund supports advanced planning studies for projects in seven Midwest states, leading to the development of community-centered capital campaigns. Projects in



Rev. John Todd House in Tabor. Photo courtesy of the Golden Hills RC&D.

communities with more than 150,000 in population are not eligible to apply. The next deadline for the Jeffris Heartland Fund is June 1, 2011!

For more information on these and other National Trust grant funds,

contact Jennifer Sandy, Iowa Program Officer, at jennifer_sandy@nthp.org or 312-939-5547 x37225.

*Jennifer Sandy, Program Officer
National Trust for Historic Preservation*

May 2011

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July 2011

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August 2011

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Calendar of Events

May 2011—May is Preservation Month!

May 6 • Green & Main Sustainable Renovation #3: Foundations; Framing & Roofing; Radon, Lead & Asbestos. Mickle Neighborhood Resource Center, 1620 Pleasant Street, Des Moines, Iowa. For more information: icosc.com.

May 13 (3:00 pm - 5:00 pm) • Public Meeting: NPS Four Trails Feasibility Study. State Historical Building, 600 East Locust, Des Moines, Iowa. For more information: parkplanning.nps.gov/projectHome.cfm?projectId=31277.

May 16 • Deadline: Historical Resource Development Program (HRDP). Statewide, Iowa. For more information: www.iowahistory.org/about/grants/hrdp.

May 22-25 • 25th Annual Dubuque Tour of Homes. Hill Street area, Dubuque, Iowa. For more information: www.dbqohe.org/tours/2011-tour-preview.cfm.

May 22-25 • 2011 National Main Streets Conference. Des Moines, Iowa. For more information: www.preservationnation.org/main-street/training/conference/2011-des-moines/.

June 2011

June 1 • Deadline: Jeffris Heartland Fund grant for projects in Iowa. For more information, contact Jennifer Sandy at 312-939-5547 or jennifer_sandy@nthp.org.

June 3 (9:00 am - 12:30 pm) • Green & Main Renovation #4: Systems: Plumbing, Mechanical, Electrical. Mickle Neighborhood Resource Center, 1620 Pleasant Street, Des Moines, Iowa. For more information: icosc.com.

June 13 - July 8 • Field School in Vernacular Architecture. Madison, Wisconsin. For more information, contact Professor Anna Andrzejewski, at avandrzejews@wisc.edu.

July 2011

July 4 • Celebrate Independence Day by visiting one of Iowa's historic state parks! Find one online at: www.exploreiowaparks.com.

August 2011

August 2-6 • 15th Annual International Preservation Trades Workshop. Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology, 750 E. King Street, Lancaster, Pennsylvania. For more information: www.iptw.org/iptw_2011_home.htm.

August 5-6 • Preservation Workshop. Muscatine, Iowa. For more information, keep an eye on the PI website: www.preservationiowa.org.

Submit your event to events@preservationiowa.org for publication online and in *The Iowa Preservationist*.



2011 National Main Streets Conference

Join the Celebration in Des Moines This Month!

Last summer, the National Trust for Historic Preservation selected Des Moines as the host city for the National Main Streets Conference scheduled for May 22-25, 2011. Main Street Iowa, a program of the Downtown Resource Center of the Iowa Department of Economic Development, is a key conference coordinating partner. Preservation Iowa is proud to sponsor the National Main Streets Conference in partnership with our statewide preservation partners Main Street Iowa and the State Historical Society of Iowa.

Attention, ALL Iowa communities! Don't miss this chance to participate in a great national conference right in your own backyard. The first annual National Main Streets Conference was held in 1986 and has never been held in Iowa—until now! More than 1,000 attendees from across the nation are expected.

Thom Guzman, director of the Iowa Downtown Resource Center said, "Our goal is to have 500 Iowans participate in this outstanding training, raising the total attendance to more than 1,500."

Leaders and volunteers from ANY and ALL communities across the United States interested in learning more about successful downtown development, through a focus on historic preservation, are welcome. Conference participants do not have to represent an officially designated Main Street district to attend.

More detail can be found at the National Trust for Historic Preservation's website, www.preservationnation.org/main-street/training/conference/.

12th Annual Country Schools Conference

Join Us in Creston This October!

The 12th annual Iowa Country Schools Preservation Conference sponsored by Preservation Iowa will be held October 7-8 at Southwestern Community College in Creston. This year's conference will focus on the various ways country schools and their memories are being preserved.

The conference will open with remarks by four writers who have recently produced new publications about their country school experiences. The writers include Dr. Barbara Dilly, Butler County; Sandra Host, Sac County; Joe Millard, Greene County; and Paul Juhl, Webster County. The authors will describe why they decided to write about country schools and how they got their writing into print. Artists, photographers, re-enactors and country school museum operators will also appear on the program. Friday evening the new country school documentary supported by Preservation Iowa entitled *Country School: One Room – One Nation* will be shown.

Saturday morning there will be a tour of historic sites including preserved country school museums. There is a \$30 conference registration fee. To obtain a copy of conference program/registration brochure, contact Bill Sherman at wsherman41@gmail.com or call 1-800-434-2039. It is also available on the Preservation Iowa website, www.preservationiowa.org/initiatives/schools.php.

Become a Member!

Help us preserve Iowa's historic resources by renewing your membership to Preservation Iowa or by becoming a Preservation Iowa member for the first time. Simply fill out the information below and send it to us with your check today! Any amount over \$10 is deductible.

Membership Levels:

- ☐ \$20 – Door (*Students*)
- ☐ \$30 – Pendant (*Individuals*)
- ☐ \$50 – Front Porch (*Families & Organizations*)
- ☐ \$100 – Cornice (*Businesses & Consultants*)
- ☐ \$500 – Cornerstone
- ☐ \$1000 – Schoolhouse
- ☐ \$5000 – Skyscraper

I am interested in:

- ☐ Getting more involved with Preservation Iowa.
- ☐ Planned giving

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

Phone (am): _____

Phone (pm): _____

Email: _____

Return with check to:

P.O. Box 814

Mt. Pleasant, Iowa 52641

Or, join online at

www.PreservationIowa.org



Preservation Iowa

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Mt. Pleasant, Iowa

\$20,375 in Grants Awarded to Iowa Preservation Projects

This spring, the National Trust for Historic Preservation provided grant funding to three outstanding preservation projects in Iowa. The National Trust's grants are intended to provide seed funding for planning and educational projects, and are often the critical piece of the puzzle for jumpstarting preservation efforts. Learn more on our website at www.preservationnation.org/resources/find-funding/grants/.

The Dr. Frank Henry Landes Fund provides grants specifically for projects within the state of Iowa. This year, the Landes Fund supported two worthy efforts. \$1,950 was awarded to the North Skunk River Greenbelt Association for a Survey Work Plan at McIntyre Bridge, Montezuma. The 1883 McIntyre Bridge is listed on the National Register of Historic Places but was damaged by flooding in 2010. The Survey Work Plan supported by the Landes Fund is critical to the North Skunk River Greenbelt Association's plans to repair the bridge on its original piers. The McIntyre Bridge provides access to Millgrove Access Wildlife Area, which is enjoyed by area residents for hiking, hunting, and outdoor recreation.

The Blair House Nonprofit Corporation in Washington also received a grant from the Landes Fund. \$2,000 in grants



McIntyre Bridge from upstream in 2010. Photo courtesy of Julie Bowers.

will help Blair House complete a much-needed Roof Renovation Plan. Built in 1880, the Italianate style Blair House shares many characteristics with Des Moines' Terrace Hill. The building is located in a very prominent location at the east entrance to Washington's downtown square and is used for events, office space, and meetings. The next deadline for the Landes Fund is February 1, 2012.

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