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## Statewide Partners

Heritage Ohio  
Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana  
Landmarks Illinois  
Michigan Historic Preservation Network  
Missouri Preservation  
Preservation Alliance of Minnesota

## Main Street Statewide Coordinators

IA: Main Street Iowa/Iowa Downtown  
Resource Center  
IL: Illinois Main Street Program/ Office of  
Lieutenant Governor  
IN: Indiana Main Street/Indiana Office of  
Community and Rural Affairs  
MI: Michigan Main Street/Michigan Economic  
Development Corporation  
MO: Missouri Main Street Connection  
OH: Heritage Ohio  
WI: Wisconsin Main Street Program/  
Wisconsin Department of Commerce/  
Bureau of Downtown Development

## Questions? Comments? Suggestions?

Contact Kristin Twedt-Mottier, Program  
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## Preservationists Converge on DC for Lobby Day

On February 28th, hundreds of activists met in Washington, D.C. to lobby Congress on behalf of preservation. The annual **Preservation Lobby Day** is organized by the **National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers (NCSHPO)** and **Preservation Action** with the **National Trust**, the **National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (NATHPO)**, and the **National Alliance of Preservation Commissions (NAPC)**.

Lobby Day provides an opportunity for preservationists to ask Congress for support on urgent preservation issues such as the newly-introduced **Community Restoration and Revitalization Act**

(HR1043), which would expand the Federal Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit's utility for community revitalization and affordable housing. Advocates also asked for more funding for SHPOs, THPOs, Save America's Treasures, and Preserve America, along with a one-time appropriation for an expanded & digitized **Historic Resources Inventory**.

Concurrent with Lobby Day, the **National Trust Board of Advisors** held their bi-annual meeting in Washington, D.C. Many Advisors joined Lobby Day delegations and played integral roles in scheduling legislative appointments and advocating for national and state preservation issues.



Minnesota Lobby Day delegates visit with Rep. Keith Ellison. From left, Andrea Kajer, MN Historical Society; Rep. Ellison, 5th District; Roger Brooks, National Trust Advisor; and David Kelliber, MN Historical Society (Photo courtesy of Roger Brooks)

## Landmark Town of Arrow Rock, MO Threatened

Construction of a **Confined Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO)** housing 4,800 hogs just two miles from **Arrow Rock, Missouri**, could have serious negative consequences for this National Historic Landmark town and one of the **National Trust's Dozen Distinctive Destinations**.

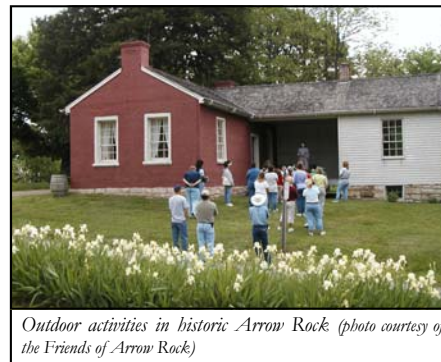
Residents and business owners are concerned that CAFO odors will discourage tourists from participating in outdoor activities at Arrow Rock and other nearby historic sites. The town hosts more than 150,000 tourists annually and plays a major role in Missouri's heritage tourism industry.

In response to this threat and other proposed CAFOs near cultural resources and public lands in Missouri, the **Citizens to Protect State Parks and Historic Sites (CPSPHS)** was formed in January. CPSPHS is advocating for legislation that would create a CAFO buffer zone around state parks and historic sites, but other proposed legislation would prohibit local governments from regulating

agricultural operations, which often nullify local health and zoning ordinances that primarily target large hog farms blamed by opponents for foul odors, dirty water and falling property values. For more, see [www.protectparks.org](http://www.protectparks.org).

The Midwest Office has joined the **Friends of Arrow Rock** and CPSPHS to seek greater protection for Missouri's historic and cultural resources from the potential negative effects of CAFOs.

Sadly, this threat is not confined to Missouri nor the Midwest. Many of our Trust colleagues have been assisting local preservation efforts to protect historic resources from CAFOs across the country, including near **Eleutherian College** in Indiana; **Allensworth State Park** in California; and **Minidoka Internment National Monument** in Idaho. With the help of our **Law Department**, the Trust's **Regional Offices** will continue to work to address these threats and provide assistance to preservationists facing CAFO battles.



Outdoor activities in historic Arrow Rock (photo courtesy of the Friends of Arrow Rock)

## Midwest Office Leads Teardown Advocacy

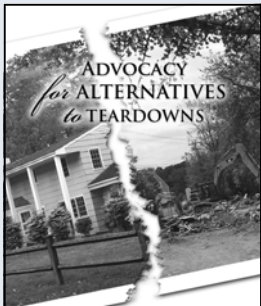
In February, Chicago hosted a national convening on the teardown issue that is destroying the character of historic neighborhoods across the country. The **Midwest Office**, in conjunction with the National Trust's **Northeast Field Office** and **Mountains Plains Office**, hosted the retreat bringing together a small and diverse group of people to share their knowledge and experience on teardowns and advise the National Trust as we shape our work and goals on this issue in the coming years. The outcomes were a three-year vision, strategies and next steps for the National Trust's continuing work on the teardown issue.

Last summer, the **Midwest Office** began to build partnerships with the **American Planning Association (APA)** and other affinity organizations around the teardown issue. In March, the National Trust co-sponsored an APA Audio/Web Conference, a series that draws over 1,000 APA members monthly.

The live broadcast, titled *Maintaining Neighborhood Character*, addressed how neighborhoods are responding to teardowns while promoting viable, character-rich neighborhoods. The Midwest Office facilitated the participation of Jim Lindberg of the **Mountains/Plains Office**, who was a featured speaker.

Midwest Office **Program Officer Genell Scheurell** and Ms. Paula Pezza of Elmhurst were recently honored by the **Citizen Advocacy Center** for their work in forming the **Chicago Suburban Alliance**, a group of 90 representatives from 32 communities in the Greater Chicagoland Area who gather to share best practices in maintaining community character.

The **Citizen Initiative Awards** recognize people who act as catalysts for democratic participation in local communities, and the Midwest Office congratulates Genell on this much-deserved honor!



To learn more about the National Trust's work on teardowns, check out [www.nationaltrust.org/teardowns/](http://www.nationaltrust.org/teardowns/). Our online **Teardown Resource Guide** provides advice on a variety of tools and approaches.

Contact the Midwest Office at [mwro@nthp.org](mailto:mwro@nthp.org) or 312-939-5547 if you'd like to obtain a free copy of the brochure "Advocacy for Alternatives to Teardowns."

## Funding for Preservation in the Midwest

The Midwest Office is pleased to announce the creation of the **Dr. Frank Henry Landes Preservation Fund for Iowa**. Thanks to a generous gift from Dr. Helen L. Luyben in memory of her grandfather Dr. Landes, the Fund will provide grants to organizations across the state of Iowa, with a preference for those located in Mt. Ayr, to enable preservation of historic sites, buildings, structures and districts in jeopardy and empower local communities to plan for and utilize their historic resources.

National Trust grants are already at work in Iowa; last April we awarded Thorne Intervention Funds to the **City of Iowa City** and the **Friends of Historic Preservation (FHP)** for tornado recovery assistance.

As the one year anniversary of the tornado approaches, the recovery process is almost complete. Most of the houses on Iowa Avenue, Washington Street, and College Street have been restored, while work continues on a few structures.

The City and FHP's quick and effective mobilization in the wake of the tornado resulted not only in restoration of damaged historic structures but also raised the profile of historic preservation in the community and increased Iowa City's preservation ethic.

In February, the **Michigan Preservation Fund** awarded its second round of grants to two worthy projects. The **City of Charlevoix** received a grant to match local funds supporting establishment of a Central Business Historic District Forum, and the **City of Grand Rapids** received a grant to support the *House Remedies & Tax Incentives, a Historic Preservation Workshop*.

Five preservation projects in Wisconsin received grants from the **Jeffris Preservation Fund** in February. Funds will support Historic Structures Reports for the **GAR Hall in Boscobel** and the **Municipal Building in Colfax**; an architectural study of **St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Fond du Lac**; a fundraising consultant for the **Manitowoc County Courthouse**; and a feasibility study for **Saxonia House**.

The National Trust was also pleased to award a **Hart Family Fund for Small Towns** grant to the **Bismarck Depot Preservation Committee** in Bismarck, Missouri.

Hart funds will allow this grassroots group to complete a feasibility study and construction drawings. The Committee hopes to convert the depot into a community hub, gathering place, museum, and library.



National Trust grants helped restore the front porch of 934 Iowa Avenue. The structure was considered for demolition but a new owner took great pride in restoring it. (Photo courtesy of City of Iowa City)

## Mineral Point Chosen as Distinctive Destination

On March 7, **Mineral Point, WI** was named one of the National Trust's **2007 Dozen Distinctive Destinations**. Named for the abundant lead discovered there in 1828, Mineral Point is also home to the **Wisconsin Field Office** of the Trust. The Dozen Distinctive Destinations program was created to recognize unique and lovingly preserved communities that offer alternative vacation destinations. Mineral Point was selected from 63 destinations in 27 states.

Although secrets in small towns can be hard to keep, the award was top secret until an offi-

cial press conference held at the historic Mineral Point Opera House. That evening the community celebrated at the Old Royal Inn, where **WFO Program Officer Jeanne Lambin** presented the award to Mayor Gregg Bennett. Over 150 citizens turned out to celebrate the announcement, and the city plans a series of celebrations in honor of its DDD designation. To find out more visit [www.mineralpoint.com](http://www.mineralpoint.com).

To date, there are 96 DDDs in 41 states. To learn more, visit [www.nationaltrust.org/dozen-distinctive-destinations/2007/](http://www.nationaltrust.org/dozen-distinctive-destinations/2007/)



Mineral Point residents celebrate their DDD award

## State Historic Tax Credits Gain Support

### Ohio

Preservationists in Ohio celebrated a victory in early January when outgoing Governor Bob Taft signed **House Bill 149**, a state-level historic rehabilitation tax credit making Ohio the 29<sup>th</sup> state to enact such a credit. Original sponsors **Sen. Schuring and Rep. Calvert** were honored by our Statewide Partner **Heritage Ohio** for their leadership on the bill.

The new law provides a **25% refundable tax credit** for qualified expenditures on eligible rehabilitation projects, beginning with 100 projects per year for an initial two year pilot phase. A provision requires that state officials do a cost-benefit analysis before awarding the credit to a project, and only those projected to bring in additional tax revenues will be eligible for the credit. The SHPO will begin taking applications for the state historic tax credit in July.

### Iowa

After three years of hard work, advocates have succeeded in enhancing the **Iowa Historic Tax Credit Program**. On April 24th, the Iowa House passed **Senate File 566**, almost a month after the Senate unanimously passed the bill. The bill is now awaiting signature by the Governor.

The bill **raises the program cap** from \$6.4 million to \$10 million in the fiscal year beginning July 2007; \$15 million in the fiscal year beginning July 2008; and \$20 million in the fiscal year beginning July 2009, and each fiscal year thereafter.

In addition, 10% of the new credits will be set aside for smaller projects of \$500,000 or less, and 40% will be allocated for projects in **Cultural & Entertainment Districts** and **Iowa Great Places**. The bill will also allow the Department of Cultural Affairs to re-issue tax credit certificates reserved until 2017 with a new redemption date of no later than 2010, helping to relieve some of the backlog experienced by this popular program. To see the bill in its entirety, visit [www.legis.state.ia.us](http://www.legis.state.ia.us).

### Illinois

**House Bill 1739**, introduced by Illinois **Rep. Rich Bauer**, a sixth generation family farmer and **Illinois Historic Preservation Caucus** co-chair, would create a 25% state tax credit for eligible expenditures made when

rehabilitating a qualified historic building.

The bill requires expenditures equal to at least 50% of the total basis of the property for structures listed individually on the National Register, contributing to a National Register historic district, or located in a certified local historic district.

In March, the Illinois House Revenue Committee heard testimony from supporters of Rep. Bauer, including representatives from Statewide Partner **Landmarks Illinois** and **Illinois Main Street**, and referred the bill to their Income Tax Subcommittee for a hearing. The National Trust's **Vice President for**

**Public Policy, Emily Wadhams**, sent a letter to the House Committee on behalf of Illinois National Trust members endorsing the bill and citing state tax credit success in 29 other states.

### Minnesota

Advocates for a proposed **Minnesota state rehabilitation tax credit** presented testimony before the Minnesota Senate Taxes Committee on Thursday, March 8. **National**

**Trust President Richard Moe** also sent a letter of support on behalf of the 3,400 Minnesota members of the National Trust for the proposed bill, **Senate File 385**. Citing examples from other states, Moe wrote "rehabilitation tax credits allow older communities to compete for investment with the sprawling new areas being developed farther and farther away from existing urban centers." An alert was also sent out to National Trust members urging them to contact their elected officials and register their support for both **Senate File (SF) 385 and House File (HF) 1240**.

In late April, legislators included the Historic Rehab Tax Credit proposal in its **House Tax Bill**. Although narrower than the original proposal, the 20% state credit remains for commercial properties. In addition, for residential properties the House proposal also revives a 1993 law that provides a **valuation increase exclusion** for properties over 50 years of age on which improvements are made. For more information about the proposed credit and the current advocacy campaign, contact our Statewide Partner the **Preservation Alliance of Minnesota** at [www.mnpreservation.org](http://www.mnpreservation.org).



*Heritage Ohio Trustees and staff honor Sen. Schuring for his leadership on passage of HB149. Front: David Monder, Sen. Schuring's legislative aide; Yolita Rausche, Heritage Ohio Board of Trustees; Sen. J. Kirk Schuring, John Moore, Jr., Heritage Ohio Board of Trustees; Joyce Barrett, Heritage Ohio staff. Back: Gene Krebs, Executive Director, Greater Ohio; Pauline Eaton, Heritage Ohio staff; Curtis Burris, Heritage Ohio staff; Franco Ruffini, Ohio Historic Preservation Office; Frank Quinn, Heritage Ohio staff*

## Preservation Around the Midwest Region

The third annual **Steel Bridge Songfest**, a free concert that has helped raise almost \$150,000 to save and maintain the historic bridge and build community awareness, will take place from **June 14-16 in downtown Sturgeon Bay**. The two-lane Michigan Street Bridge was built in 1930 and is only one of two bridges of its type in the US. The bridge has become a familiar sight for Door County vacationers.



With the bridge as its beneficiary, the songfest has developed into much more than a concert. It celebrates live music, activism, historic preservation and creativity. This year's events include an all-day concert headlined by **Jackson Browne**. Visit [www.steelbridgesongfest.org](http://www.steelbridgesongfest.org) for more information.

Congratulations to **Lynn and Heather Faeth and Loren and Arleen Faeth of Fort Madison, Iowa**, winners of a 2007 **Barn Again!** award. Since 1988, the National Trust for Historic Preservation and *Successful Farming* magazine have partnered to present these awards to barn owners who put forth exceptional efforts to preserve and maintain their historic barns. For more info, see [www.barnagain.org](http://www.barnagain.org).



Six generations of the Faeth Family have maintained fruit orchards on their historic southeast Iowa farm. The family recently put a new metal roof on their historic barn and cupola and repaired several other historic farm buildings. Other 2007 Barn Again! award winners were Brad and Karla Thykeson of North Dakota; Wayne Gularde of Salinas, California; Doug and Ruby (Helinger) Bussell of Shelby, Montana; and Scott and Ed Bender of Mitchell, South Dakota.

In March, several members of the **Midwest Office** staff participated in an all-day **Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) Workshop** in Madison, Wisconsin.

The **Wisconsin Historical Society** offered the workshop to allow commissioners from HPCs across the state to preview and provide input on an online commission training module that should be available by the end of 2007. The event was standing room only at Frank Lloyd Wright designed Monona Terrace and the participation was lively, with commissioners eagerly offering input to make the training as relevant and helpful as possible for both new and experienced commissioners. See [www.wisconsinhistory.org/hp/clgs/workshop](http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/hp/clgs/workshop) for more information.

## Funding for Ohio's Main Street Program

Ohio Governor Ted Strickland's administration has proposed \$250,000 in funding for the state's **Main Street Program**, which is operated by **Heritage Ohio**, our Statewide Partner. If approved in the final budget, this would be the first time Ohio has appropriated public money towards their Main Street program. The Governor included the proposal as part his "Turnaround Ohio" initiative, which aims to revitalize Ohio's cities and towns, spur

job growth and retain existing jobs, increase the quality of education, and attract private investment into communities.

Heritage Ohio's highly successful Main Street program fits this vision. Across 32 communities, the program has created 382 new businesses, nearly 1,936 full-time jobs, 1,364 rehabilitation projects, as has led to \$315 million in total investment in Main Street communities since the program's inception in 1996.

## Save the Date for Curtains Up!

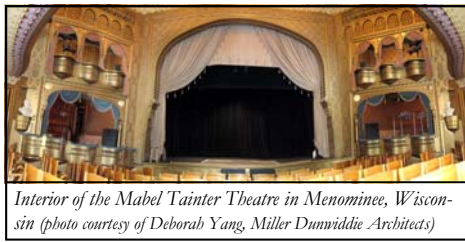
*Curtains Up! Restoring Historic Theatres, Revitalizing Communities* will be held on **November 8-10, 2007** at The Pfister Hotel in downtown **Milwaukee, Wisconsin**.

Is there an old theatre in your community that's calling your name? Do you have an historic building you'd like to turn into a community theatre? Have you just acquired an historic theatre and are wondering what to do next? Then join the National Trust for Historic Preservation at a two- and a half

day workshop designed to show you the way through the maze of decisions that precede the launch of a successful historic theatre venue.

This hands-on, project specific workshop will be held in collaboration with the **League of Historic American Theaters** and the **Wisconsin Historical**

**Society** using nationally recognized experts with extensive expertise to help you through the initial planning stages of your project. Contact the Midwest Office for more information.



Interior of the Mabel Tainter Theatre in Menominee, Wisconsin (photo courtesy of Deborah Yang, Miller Dunwiddie Architects)

## Scholarship Applications due June 1st

National Preservation Conference scholarship applications are online at [www.nationaltrust.org/information/scholarships.html](http://www.nationaltrust.org/information/scholarships.html), includ-

ing the **Diversity Scholarship Program** and special scholarships for **Minnesota** and **Wisconsin** residents. Hurry, they're due **June 1st!**

## Feasibility Assessment Manual Now Available

"That old building isn't good for anything – let's demolish it and start fresh." Preservationists know otherwise, and a new publication available from the **National Trust's Preservation Books** series will help them make an informed and realistic argument for reuse.

The *Feasibility Assessment Manual for Historic Buildings*, by real estate consultant Donovan Rypkema, provides a step-by-step process and a set of questions to enable an assessment team to determine whether or not a building project is feasible and then prepare a written report to support the team's findings.

Following the steps set out in the manual, the feasibility team begins by identifying objec-

tives, gathering and evaluating information, and finally reaching a conclusion as to the feasibility of reusing the building. An enclosed CD-ROM includes Microsoft Excel spreadsheets to help team members calculate capital costs, income and expenses, and operating costs. The manual includes an outline for the final report, which allows the team to organize its research into a logical format to answer the question, "Is the project feasible?"

The *Feasibility Assessment Manual for Historic Buildings* is available for \$30 to Forum and Main Street members, \$36 to National Trust members, and \$40 to members of the public. Order from [www.preservationbooks.org](http://www.preservationbooks.org).

## Preservation Month Is Coming... Are You Ready?

This year's theme is "**Making Preservation Work.**" Join the National Trust and our partners across the country during the month of May as we showcase America's diverse and unique heritage! Visit [www.nationaltrust.org/preservationmonth/](http://www.nationaltrust.org/preservationmonth/) for an event calendar, sample publicity plan, volunteer opportunities,

and ideas on how you can organize your own event!

While you're there, make a bid at the **Preservation Month Online Auction**, featuring getaways at historic hotels, special access to historic sites, and much more. Proceeds will support preservation nationwide.

## Mark Your Calendar

### May is Preservation Month!

**3rd-6th**—Michigan Historic Preservation Network Annual Conference, Mackinac Island, MI

**16th-17th**—Heritage Ohio Statewide Conference, Cincinnati, OH

### June

**1st**—Scholarship applications due for **National Preservation Conference**.

Download application at [www.nthpconference.org/Information/scholarships.html](http://www.nthpconference.org/Information/scholarships.html)

**14th**—America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places 2007 announced

**14th-15th**—Iowa Main Street /CLG Workshop, Waterloo, IA

**14th-16th**—Landmarks Illinois Annual Conference, Hyde Park, Chicago, IL

**14th-16th**—Steel Bridge Songfest, Sturgeon Bay, WI.

**21st-22nd**—ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on 20th Century Heritage (ISC20C) & International Scientific Committee on the Analysis and Restoration of Architectural Heritage (ISCARSAH) Joint Meeting, Chicago, IL

**25th-29th**—Preservation Leadership Training, Owatonna, MN—see [www.nationaltrust.org/plt/about\\_plt.html](http://www.nationaltrust.org/plt/about_plt.html)

**30th**—National Historic Landmark Photo Contest Entries due. The National Park Service is seeking images that celebrate the heritage and history of the nation's National Historic Landmarks. Print and digital formats will be accepted and must be post-marked or e-mailed by June 30. Winners will be announced in September and the top photos will be compiled into a 2008 calendar. Visit [www.nps.gov/nero/nhlphoto/](http://www.nps.gov/nero/nhlphoto/) for more information

### August

**28th-29th**—Main Street Iowa Downtown Summit, Council Bluffs, IA

### September

**25th-27th**—Tri-State Main Street Conference, Platteville, WI

### October

**2nd-6th**—**National Preservation Conference, Twin Cities, MN**

Join us for information, ideas, inspiration, and contacts. For details, visit [www.nthpconference.org](http://www.nthpconference.org)

**18th-20th**—Cornelius O'Brien Historic Preservation & Indiana Main Street Conference, Richmond, IN

**18th-21st**—Missouri Preservation Annual Conference, Jefferson City, MO

### November

**8th-10th**—Curtains Up!, Milwaukee, WI (see article this page for more info)