Lake Forest, Illinois

NEW NUMBERED SERIES • Volume 3, Number 2

Awards 2010



#### **2010 HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARDS**

2010 marks the 20th consecutive year of the Foundation's Historic Preservation Awards program. This year there was again an extraordinary number of outstanding entries, of which 10 received awards from the Foundation at the April 25th Annual Meeting. Since the inception of the program, 161 awards have been presented, recognizing efforts that help preserve the historic visual character of Lake Forest. The solid bronze award plaque contains an inscription of the type of award and year, and is proudly displayed on award winning structures throughout Lake Forest. Previous awardees were recognized with a lawn sign for several weeks before and after the April 25th meeting. All awardees are listed on the Foundation's website at www.lfpf.org.

440 East Wisconsin Avenue - Restoration

FRED AND LAURA FELLOWS

#### LANDSCAPE RESTORATION: ROCCO FIORE & SONS

This Howard Van Doren Shaw house was built in 1922 as a summer residence for J. O. Hinckley. In 2007 Fred and Laura Fellows purchased the property. Original materials were meticulously researched and replaced in kind. Mercury glass window panes,



no longer available here, were imported from England. The home's exterior sand finish stucco was carefully repaired but not washed lest the near century-old patina be lost. The focal point of the restoration is a sunken English garden and patio. Set below two massive elms, the decaying bluestone garden and patio surfaces were removed, cement repoured and stone reset. A fountain, which had not operated in years, was rebuilt and a bronze statue of a playful girl skips atop the bubbling water.

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hopefully you noticed the green and white signs scattered around town recognizing the 161 Historic Preservation Award recipients distinguished over the last 20 years. Each of these recipients has done an outstanding job preserving the historic visual character of Lake Forest, and the sheer number and visibility of these signs for the couple of weeks prior to and through Mother's Day is testament to the fervor of our residents. We thank them for their dedication in keeping our city a true gem. You will read about the newest award recipients in this issue of the newsletter.

The east side train station study we commissioned and funded is providing a vision to restore one of the most visible structures in downtown Lake Forest. But cost is an object, especially in the current economy, so we continue to work with the City to identify essential, perhaps temporary fixes to preserve the integrity of the building until more extensive funding can be secured. This elegant, historically-significant landmark must be preserved.

We continue to offer wonderful programs throughout this year, including the ongoing series "Exploring Lake Forest's Neighborhoods and Gardens" and the annual "Family Fair in Market Square" that will be on June 19th. Please consider attending one or all of these, as they are intended to help celebrate the excellence of our beautiful community for all to enjoy.

We have several new members on our Board of Directors who bring a wealth of talent and experience to your Preservation Foundation. They include Norman Abplanalp, Kristen Chun, Stephen Douglass, Linda Medema and Carl Silberman. Please join me in thanking them for volunteering their time and effort, as well as all of the other hard working, diligent Board members listed in this newsletter.

We recently held a half-day working retreat for the entire Board of Directors as a means to promote collaboration, education, orientation, and a consistent vision for the Foundation not only for the upcoming year but for the future. We hope you see the fruits of these efforts as our strategies for preserving the historic visual character of our town unfold.

Lastly, but most importantly, please join the Preservation Foundation if you are not already a member. We need your support if we are to continue working effectively for preservation. If you are already a member, we thank you sincerely for your generosity and consideration, and hope you continue to see value in your membership as we do our best to ensure the breathtaking visual character of our town is preserved for posterity.

Tom Daly

"We shape our buildings and afterwards, our buildings shape us."

- Winston Churchill

### PRESERVATION FOUNDATION OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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Richard J. DuBourdieu 1995-1997
Edward H. Bennett, III 1999-2001
Alice F. Moulton-Ely 2003-2005
James F. Herber 2005-2007

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#### 797 Oakwood Avenue - Rehabilitation

### JAMES AND LYNN ENGELLAND ARCHITECT: LAKE FOREST LANDMARK DEVELOPMENT

This residence, built in about 1895, is sited on property that was captioned as the Devillo Holt subdivision. The

original owner of the home is not known. A comparison of Sanborn fire insurance maps for the years 1917 and 1929 indicate a front porch was added to the home and



what appears to be a garage was erected at the rear of the property. The years that followed were not kind. The dwelling fell into disrepair and could have been classed as a "tear-down." The homeowners, however, recognized an opportunity to restore a period residence's charm and undertook a masterful rehabilitation of the home.

#### 1230 North Green Bay Road - Infill

## THE RAGDALE FOUNDATION ARCHITECTS: IIT ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR FRANK FLURY AND A TEAM OF IIT ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS

The original Meadow Studio was designed and built in 1943 by architect John Lord King for Sylvia Shaw Judson, daughter of Howard Van



Doren Shaw. The structure served as a sculpture studio for Mrs. Judson for 35 years. Upon her death in1976, ownership was transferred to Alice Ryerson Hayes and later the Ragdale Foundation. Mounting structural and maintenance problems dictated demolishing the original studio in favor of a replacement facility. The new studio, a collaborative effort between the Foundation and IIT architectural students, sits atop the footprint of the original studio. Windows and a skylight create a form similar to the original. Natural cedar was used, which when weathered, will blend into its prairie surroundings.

#### 367 East Wisconsin Avenue - Restoration

#### **LAURA SWIFT**

The current homeowner recognized the charm that lay below the weather- worn, aluminum siding of this older

home. Intent on restoring the original façade, the homeowner had the siding removed thus revealing the home's stucco exterior. Windows and

newly-revealed



walls were restored and shutter-like, decorative panels were set at front window edges. The total effect has been to restore a home to its original character, one that is harmonious with its neighbors.

#### 246 West Laurel Avenue - Infill

## BLAIR AND BECKY NAGEL ARCHITECT: MELICHAR ARCHITECTS

This colonial Connecticut farm-style house and landscape are located along West Laurel Avenue, comfortably compatible in scale and materials with neighboring homes and adjacent Open Lands preserves. Completed in 2008, it drew inspiration from the 1926 David Adler designed summer home built for

William and Helen Blair at Crab Tree Farm. The exterior building materials include Halquist Wisconsin limestone, cedar roof shingles, and beaded siding, which echo the



residence's colonial design. The detailing is in character with the home's design and includes dormers, copper gutters and downspouts, detailed cupolas and classically dimensioned columns. Becky Nagel wrote of her home: "The house is meant to be simply elegant but emphasizing its interrelationship with nature, especially as we are situated within preserved land and are lovers of the out-of-doors."

#### 120 Woodland Road - Rehabilitation

#### **SUZANNE BOREN**

This West Park property dates to the early 1900s. Records indicate the William Atteridge farm was divided and that Ellen Atteridge Griffis and her husband, Willis Griffis, Sr., purchased the lot at 120 Woodland

in 1907. A 1917 fire insurance map shows the house and identifies it as a stucco residence. The present owner purchased the home in 2000 and embarked on a decade-long rehabilitation



journey. The entire exterior of the home and garage were renovated and included extensive stucco repair.

#### 301 Oakdale Avenue - Restoration

#### **DAVID AND GAIL WESSON**

This house was designed in 1938 by Louis Bouchard, an architect of office buildings, as his personal

residence. A subsequent owner clad the dwelling's cedar siding with aluminum. The current homeowners have restored the façade to reflect its original intent and



appearance which included removal of the aluminum siding and restoration of a porch entrance.

#### 570 Rosemary Road - Preservation

## HEATHER HEIBERGER AND C.J. OATES ARCHITECT: MICHAEL MOLINARO

The homeowners undertook a three-year project to preserve the character and appearance this 1928 Stanley Anderson designed



home. The grounds, which include portions of a ravine, were restored by Clifford Miller.

#### 207 Maple Court - Rehabilitation

## DENNIS AND CATHRYN JOHNSTON ARCHITECT: RAYMOND A. SHLAUSTAS

When this simple Gardener's cottage was built c. 1910, access was over a ravine bridge from the Rumsey estate at 900 Illinois Road. (Maple Court was opened in 1928.) In 1953,

the property on the north side of the ravine was subdivided into three lots (Sir Arthur subdivision). The eight-gabled cottage was moved



about 100 yards to the east (and a new house was built between the cottage and original carriage house). In the late 1990s, the current owners undertook a massive rehabilitation of the dwelling. The foundation was stabilized and previous additions were altered to fit more harmoniously with the wooded areas and the home's proximity to the Mayflower ravine.

#### 900 East Illinois Road - Preservation

## ROGER AND SANDY DEROMEDI LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT: KETTELKAMP & KETTELKAMP

The original gardens were designed by the famous Midwest landscape architect, Jens Jensen, known for his "prairie style" design work. This would often consist of open spaces and pathways, which allowed one to

stay in the shade while viewing the light. (The English manor-style house was designed 100 years ago by Charles Coolidge of Shepley, Rutan and Coolidge for Henry Rumsey.



Coolidge also designed the Art Institute of Chicago.) Working with original planting and garden design plans, Kettelkamp & Kettelkamp returned the grounds to a Jensen design and planting character.

### National Register Lake Forest Historic District to be Updated and Revised

The City of Lake Forest recently received a Certified Local Government (CLG) Grant from the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency. It was awarded to update the survey that Suzanne Germann assembled for the city in 1998 and to revise and update the 1976 *Lake Forest Historic District* National Register nomination.

The CLG grant was for \$12,833, with a local "soft match" of \$5,453 in time spent on the project. Benjamin Historic Certifications was hired to complete the project. Susan Benjamin and her associates, Gwen Sommers Yant and Courtney Gray, will be assembling information and revising the nomination. Volunteers from the Preservation Foundation will be providing research, and city staff will be lending their technical assistance as the local "soft match." Foundation members Gail Hodges, Linda Liang, Rommy Lopat, Art Miller, Pauline Mohr, Shirley Paddock and Sally Wimmer will be assisting.

The 1976 Lake Forest Historic District National Register nomination form was not nearly as comprehensive as is required today. Only 60 buildings in the District were called out as significant in an area rich with historic resources. There was no listing as to which buildings in the District were considered "contributing" to the significance of the District and they needed to be over 50-years-old. In 1976 it meant that every building constructed after 1926 was "non-contributing." Many buildings will be need to be reclassified.

The survey portion has started. Susan Benjamin and Peter Coutant have reviewed all of the buildings in the District constructed between 1948 and 1965, all buildings that have been altered since 1998, and new construction. This information is being entered on the forms and after a "start up" meeting, the volunteers will undertake permit and library research. By 2011 Lake Forest will have an updated, hot-off-the-press and informative National Register nomination.

Certified Local Governments are recognized for their local preservation activities that include adopting a preservation ordinance that meets state and federal guidelines and establishing a preservation review commission that administers the local landmark and design review programs. There are currently 70 CLGs in Illinois and over 2,000 throughout the country.

#### **FOREST PARK**

The Lake Forest Garden Club's gift of a Conceptual Master Plan to rehabilitate historic Forest Park was accepted by the City Council at its meeting on May 17th. The Foundation Board has written a Position Paper on the Plan that can be viewed on its website at lfpf.org.

## EAST SIDE RAILROAD STATION UPDATE

A year ago, the Preservation Foundation commissioned an Historic Structures Report to help guide a much-needed rehabilitation of Lake Forest's historic 1901 east side railroad station. Although it is not possible to fund the entire project at this time, the City has nonetheless allocated \$150,000 for immediate repairs. Metra has agreed to replace the failing roof with a temporary one made of asphalt. At such time that economic conditions improve, a new slate roof will be considered along with other updates, repairs and restorations.

The Preservation Foundation newsletter is published by the Lake Forest Foundation for Historic Preservation and distributed without charge to the residents and businesses of Lake Forest.

Become a Member! Together, we can assure the preservation of the historic visual character of Lake Forest.

## WELCOME NEW BOARD DIRECTORS

The Preservation Foundation would like to welcome our newly elected Directors Norman Abplanalp, Kristen Chun, Stephen Douglass, Linda Medema and Carl Silberman. They bring a variety of talents to the Board and we look forward to working with them. We would also like to thank Director Jane Partridge whose term has expired. We appreciate the time and expertise she put into the Foundation.

A reception to honor new and departing Directors and Preservation Award winners was held after our annual meeting at the historic "Broadlea" Carry Playhouse located off of North Green Bay Road.



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# LAKE FOREST PRESERVATION FOUNDATION'S 2<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL FAMILY FAIR IN MARKET SQUARE SATURDAY, JUNE 19, 2010 • 11:00 AM TO 3:00 PM

It's that time again! Remember last year? Lots of families enjoyed the Family Fair in Market Square as they toured the train station tunnel, ate sno-cones and popcorn, solved the architectural bingo game, and played croquet with the experts. This year it will be even better as we combine forces with the Lake Forest-Lake Bluff Chamber of Commerce and offer free 30-minute trolley rides in the historic district and learn about the history of Lake Forest.

The Lake Forest Preservation Foundation is again sponsoring an afternoon family event in Market Square, Saturday June 19, 2010 from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm., to encourage appreciation of and support for architect Howard Van Doren Shaw's 1916 ground breaking, precedent-setting, first-ever shopping center. The Foundation is rolling back the time to 1916 when Market Square was built and electronic games hadn't been invented. This is a children's event to have fun while learning about our historic Market Square.

Children from all ages and their parents will visit stores in search of missing clues and architectural bingo games. Families can also take tours of the Lake Forest Train Station underground tunnel and receive souvenirs. There will be sno-cones, and popcorn! Other activities will include an interactive activity for children to build an architectural structure, a croquet demonstration by the Lake Forest Woman's Club, and for older children and adults, trolley tours and guided architectural tours of Market Square. We invite everyone to take part in our Family Fair. Please join us on Saturday, June 19, for this fun-filled event in Market Square!

For more information, please visit the Foundation's website, www.lfpf.org or call 847-234-1230.

## Visit us on the web @ www.lfpf.org