

## PA 2007 Annual Meeting at Beech Hill in Maceo

### Ben Taylor and Sandi Phillips preserve 1832 home for future generations

Friday • October 12, 2007 • 4-6 PM

**PA 2007 Annual Meeting at Beech Hill**  
Historic home of Sandi Phillips & Ben Taylor  
419 Yelvington-Grandview Road, Maceo, KY

Hors d'oeuvres & Refreshments • \$15 per person

**Please make reservations by October 8**  
Phone 270-926-3992 or Email [Jshaycraft@aol.com](mailto:Jshaycraft@aol.com)

Short Business Meeting to Elect Board Members & Officers  
Updates on Longfellow School & Smith-Werner  
Comments by Sandi & Ben about their home



Beech Hill (orig. 1832) today, after 2002 renovation / addition

## Jonathan G. Taylor and Susan E. Hawes began construction of Beech Hill in 1832

By Benjamin A. Taylor

**The house I grew up in**, and have now retired to, was built by my great-grandparents, Jonathan G. Taylor and Susan E. Hawes. As a young man, Jonathan Taylor moved to Daviess County from Winchester, Kentucky. His father, Samuel Taylor, came to Kentucky as a boy with his father. Samuel became Circuit Court Clerk at an early age, and built a brick house that still stands on a farm in what is now Winchester. Later in life Samuel served one term as a state senator. Jonathan Taylor set up a sawmill near Blackford Creek.

Susan Hawes was the daughter of Richard and Clary Hawes. Richard Hawes, for whom the town of Hawesville is named, had come to Kentucky from Virginia and had acquired considerable wealth from coal mining. Richard built a house on the river, which burned. He died, and his widow built a second house overlooking what is now Kingfisher Lake in Yelvington.

**Jonathan and Susan** had become acquainted while she was attending a finishing school in central Kentucky and he was attending an academy in Danville. It seems plausible that she apprised him of the opportunities for an ambitious young man in Daviess County. In any case, they were married in 1832 -- he was 21, she was 15. They began building their home, known as Beech Hill, on land deeded to them by Richard Hawes or his widow. The couple lived with Susan's mother while the house was being constructed. Susan would ride behind Jonathan the two miles to follow progress on construction of the house.

**The house was sited** on a ridge above a good spring. Initially the house was two stories, constructed of poplar logs -- basically, two large rooms, one above the other. The logs

were clad with clapboards, some of which showed smoke damage indicating that they had been salvaged from another dwelling. The roof was apparently covered by cedar shakes.

**Soon afterwards**, two-story extensions were added at both ends -- a hallway and parlor to the south and a kitchen/workroom to the north downstairs, with bedrooms upstairs. Probably a few years later, a dining room was added adjacent to the parlor. This part of the house was of post and beam construction with 3" x 4" posts and mortise and tenon joints. A cellar was located below the dining room. A long front porch was added at some point. A metal roof covered this part of the house, replacing the cedar shakes over the original portion.

**For water**, originally there was the spring, which was supplanted by a cistern, a dug well, and after electrification, a driven well. ....

... Continued on page 2



**INSIDE: Longfellow School to fall for 500-car parking lot**

## Beech Hill History

*Continued from page 1...*

Some rainwater was diverted to a tank in the upstairs storage room, which could be gravity-fed to the downstairs.

**Jonathan and Susan** had a large family. Two sons became lawyers, including E. P. Taylor, who was also a farmer, businessman, and politician. Two sons fought for the South in the civil war; both were captured and one died while in prison at Rock Island, Illinois.

**In the 1880s**, my grandfather, George E. Taylor (the youngest son), inherited the house and a share of the farm and married Mildred Gibson, the daughter of a river-bottom farmer. The couple extended the house in the back, adding a "little dining room", kitchen, back hall, bathroom, a storeroom, and three 'working' porches downstairs, and a sleeping porch, backstairs and storeroom upstairs. The cellar was extended to accommodate a coal furnace. This completed the house that was passed on to my father, Benjamin Taylor, Sr., and then to me.

**I inherited the house** when I was a very young man. Although I was very attached to the place, I made the decision to go to Wisconsin for graduate school, and subsequently spent my career as a scientist in Bar Harbor, Maine. I managed to rent the house for a while, but it was in need of repairs that I could ill afford at the time, and so it was then left vacant for many years. It was damaged by vandals, weather, termites, and time. I did manage to keep an intact roof over it. However, the foundation wall around the basement and cellar collapsed at one point, destroying most of the back part of the house.

**In the late 1990s**, my wife, Sandi Phillips, and I decided that we would restore the house and retire to the farm in Maceo. After endless planning, three architects, multiple contractors and subcontractors, and lots of expended money, the present restoration/addition was completed in early 2002, fulfilling my lifelong dream.

**The north end of the house** was dismantled because it was in bad shape and would not give us the 'comfort' space we needed. We decided to remove plaster to expose some of the interior log walls. The rooms of the old part were left intact; rather than adding closets and baths to the old part, these were built adjacent to the two large bedrooms upstairs. The original floors of the old part were retained (all poplar, except for the original downstairs room, which is ash). Floors were patched using salvaged flooring from the dismantled part. The dining room was rebuilt to match the original including the large doorway to the parlor. Sandi and I salvaged poplar floor-boards from the attic, and ripped and planed them for the dining room floor. Sandi stripped and restored the doors and

fireplace surrounds. We also salvaged the old brick used for the foundation, fireplaces, and front walk. The surfaces of these bricks reveal finger marks of the workers who handled the bricks prior to firing. The front doorway was custom-made to match the original, an uncommon style.

**Many of the antiques** came from Beech Hill and others came from my maternal grandmother. The rest were mostly collected by Sandi. All of the original light fixtures were either stolen or destroyed by vandals.

**The layout of the most recent addition** was designed by Sandi with help from an architect friend, Christine Schultz of Rochester, MN. We used poplar flooring throughout the addition. In a hundred years it should match the patina of old floors.

**The restoration/addition** was done with an eye to the future. Many of our choices were for low maintenance. Extra insulation, geothermal heating/cooling, extra space, and

metal roofing should make this house a practical and attractive home for whoever succeeds us. The downstairs bathroom also has a shower. We plan to use the family room as a bedroom when we no longer want to climb stairs. Hopefully these choices will help to assure that the house gets preserved.

**Planning:** Architect Christine Schultz provided lots of advice about the addition including rough sketches of specific designs. RBS Design Group provided building plans. Architect Terry Blake gave us lots of good advice. Pat Strehl of TetraTech Engineering did the structural analysis. Bowersox Construction dismantled portions of the house and did some of the site work. MCF Construction (Newburgh, IN) jacked up the house and installed a new foundation under the old part of the house. GinMike, Inc. poured the concrete walls and floor for the basement under the addition. The rest of the project was completed by Rick Thomas Construction, substantially by March 2002. ■



### Longfellow School to fall for new OHS gym and parking lot

**The city school board** voted at its 7/26/2007 meeting to approve the Schematic Drawings for the Owensboro High School expansion. The approximately \$22 million project will include demolition of Longfellow School. The architects say that renovation of the 76-year-old structure would cost at least \$3 million and still would not satisfy program space needs specified by the OHS expansion planning committee. After demolition, "Longfellow Hill" will be cut down, providing space for a unified parking area for almost 500 cars.

**The parking lot** will lie behind the new arena-type gymnasium, which will attach to the north wall of the current cafeteria. According to Owensboro Public School officials, major safety and security objectives will be satisfied by keeping the high school facilities connected internally and having all parking located within the same block; all student drop-off and pick-up for both parents and school buses will be internal to the block, avoiding dangers for pedestrians from the large volume of vehicular traffic on Frederica Street. The architectural design of the exterior of the two-story gymnasium and other building additions is anticipated to emulate the design character of the main building of the original high school.

**At the recommendation of Preservation Alliance**, the school board formed a salvage committee to review artifacts that may be removed from the building prior to its demolition, likely to occur sometime in 2008. Architectural artifacts already considered for possible salvage include... 1) The ceramic tiles in the water fountain niches that are icons of nature and technology and reflect an artistic style common in children's publications in the early decades of the 20th century. 2) Cut-stone detailing on the building, such as the pediment over the entrance doors and the building cornerstone on which is inscribed the 1931 date of erection and the architect's signature - William Butts Ittner, FAIA. The cornerstone likely conceals a time capsule from 1931. 3) The two limestone pillars that stand in front of the building that were saved from the Robinson mansion at the site that predated the school. 4) Other items yet to be determined.

**Many people who have found memories** of attending Longfellow grade school are very disappointed over its impending demolition. ■



# Preservation Alliance Celebrates Silver Anniversary

## Selections from happenings taken from PA newsletters from 1982 to present



### August 4, 1982

**Preservation Alliance of Owensboro-Daviess County, Inc.** was formed by its initial incorporators: Glenda Thacker, Aloma Dew & the late Richard Edwards. Its initial fundraising event, which raised \$5,300, was held at the grand opening of the renovated Union Station as the offices of David Hocker & Associates. Today, 25 years later, RBS Design Group and others continue to maintain and occupy the former railroad station at 1035 Frederica Street.

**The purpose of the PA incorporation** was, on a charitable, educational and non-profit basis, to furnish and provide means necessary to restore, renovate and otherwise bring back into existence landmarks of a historical nature in Owensboro and Daviess County, Kentucky.

#### PA intended to...

- Inherit property, borrow money;
- Own both real and personal property wherever so situated and to sell property, both real and personal;
- Renovate, restore and beautify historical landmarks;
- Make applications for grants, federal, state and local; and
- Make application to the local planning and zoning commission for construction permits and zoning ordinance proposals;
- Petition the local governments of competent jurisdiction to prevent destruction of local landmarks pursuant to any such ordinances so enacted in the City of Owensboro or Daviess County;

- Make and enter into leases of any property, both real and personal, which this Corporation may own;
- Assist others in making applications for grants to restore, renovate and beautify historic landmarks;
- Receive all donations of both real and personal property and to hold and renovate same and to sell or lease such property. ■

### November 1983

#### National Register Nominations

Preservation Alliance will be working with the Heritage Council in 1984 to nominate eligible historic property within the city limits to the National Register. Staff member Bob Polsgrove suggested several districts and around 20 individual structures that should be nominated. He recommended that we apply to the Heritage Council for a grant to hire a preservationist to do our nomination. The board of directors will recommend to the membership Thursday night that \$500 be budgeted for this project. Glenda Thacker of Downtown Owensboro, Inc. and Gary Adams of the Planning Office will assist with the research. Eligible property outside the city limits will be nominated in the near future. National Register status provides recognition and protection to all historic property plus tax advantages to commercial property. ■

### May 1984

#### Preservation Alliance Members

Gary Adams, Sally Anderson, Georgia Alvey, Chuck Ballard, Mr. & Mrs. Rodney Berry, Cecilia Boarman, Terry Blake, Tom Blue, Jr., Charles S. Boone, John S. Brown, Mrs. Marshall Bruner, Nelda Callis, Ruth Layson Campbell, George Collignon, Sue Coomes, Mr. & Mrs. Fred Coomes, William H. Cottrell, Aloma Dew, Richard Edwards, Frances Wells Evans, Patricia Ann Faith, Elizabeth Gasser, Sue Hastings, Sue Haycraft, Shelia Heflin, Jayne Henderson, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Hall, Charles Kamuf, Bob Kirtley, Joanne Johnson, John F. Jones, Russell C. Jones, Dan Lanham, Marian Lewis, Wilhelmina Lebold, Joseph May, Mary Medley, Mrs. Harlan Mitchell, Beverly G. McEnroe, Roberta McEnroe, Dennis Newberry, Ann Padgett, Jim Parr, Gerald Poynter, Mike Ranney, Doris & Shirley Ray, Susie Reno, Mrs. Thomas E. Sandidge, Helen Schmidt, Kathryn Simonds, Katy Shiveley, Mrs. M. J. Trenton, Frank Wagner, Golda

Mae Walt, Richard Weiss, Henry Willett, Nancy Wilson, Catherine Wink, Mr. & Mrs. John Yager, David L. Yewell, Larry Younger. ■

### January 1985

#### A Message from PA President Terry Blake

Very seldom are we blessed with the opportunity to express ourselves in written form; an opportunity not to be taken lightly and yet an opportunity not to be wasted. In this brief message I hope to equip you with a few "tools of the trade" that will allow a better understanding of the levels of preservation.

The objective of preservation is to conserve those buildings, facilities and sites which contribute to our environment and culture by their historic or architectural significance. Preservation may involve individual buildings or groups of buildings requiring various architectural approaches. When completed, all should serve a useful, economically feasible purpose, since few buildings warrant preservation in order to exist as museums or static exhibits. Generally, there are a few terms that have special meaning to the preservationist. They are terms used to describe properly the types of preservation involved. Each reflects the extent of involvement relative to preservation.

**Restoration** involves returning the building or facility to its condition, and appearance, at a specific period in time. It is very important to recreate the original conditions meticulously.

**Rehabilitation** involves equipping the building or facility for an extended useful life with a minimum alteration of original construction. The adherence to strict historical accuracy will depend on each project.

**Conservation** involves the up-dating of mechanical and structural systems. This includes interior alterations necessary to extend the useful life of the building or facility. The architectural character and integrity of the exterior should be retained. With conservation, there is no requirement to expend much effort to achieve strict historical accuracy or to precisely recreate the original construction.

**Reconstruction** involves using documentary evidence to design and construct a replica of an earlier building which no longer exists.

Hopefully, these terms will equip each of us with a clearer understanding of the scope of preservation. ■

## April 1986

### PA seeks adaptive reuse of historic Saint Joseph Church

In October 1985 Preservation Alliance learned of the possible demolition of Saint Joseph Church, located at Fourth & Clay streets. The PA Board requested and received from Bishop McRaith a two-year period in which to find a use and a tenant for this historic building. PA asked several persons to serve on the Saint Joseph Center Committee. Kentucky Wesleyan professor Dr. Lee Dew was appointed chairman.

The building is structurally sound but, of course, some repairs are needed, especially to the steeple. Any public use would call for the installation of restrooms.

To date, four organizations are exploring the possibility of adapting the church for their uses. Theatre Workshop of Owensboro will soon need a larger hall; Saint Joseph is a possible candidate. Owensboro Symphony Orchestra is considering the building as a performance hall for chamber music, use by the youth orchestra and for symphony rehearsals. Mary Bryan Hood, Director of the Owensboro Museum of Fine Art, has suggested a museum for Kentucky's wealth of religious art and artifacts. In such a museum collection, Saint Joseph's important stained glass windows would certainly be a major feature. The Junior League of Owensboro is thinking of the church as a potential community reception center.

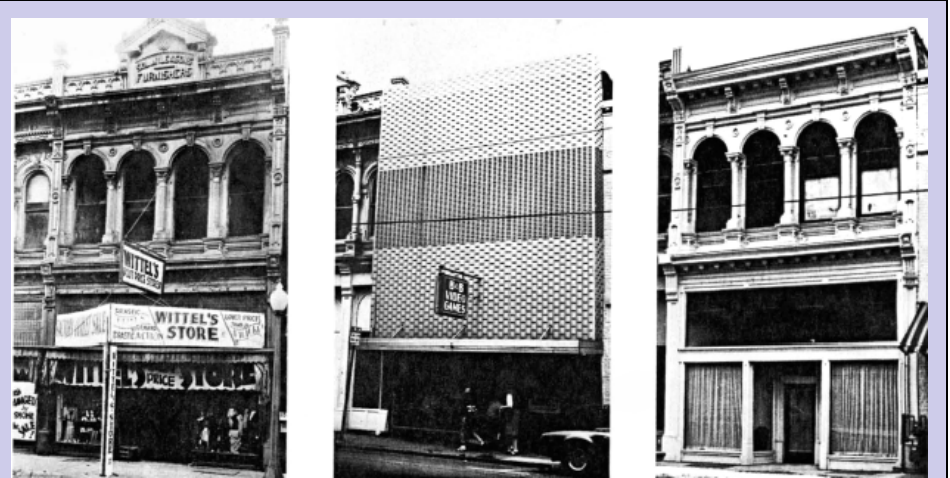
Meanwhile, Saints Joseph & Paul Neighborhood advocates Helen and Fred Coomes have been kept busy unlocking the church doors so these various groups may tour and explore and admire the building. ■

## April 1987

### What downtown can learn from suburbia

The City Commission has adopted a downtown action plan that includes a preservation element, sending an encouraging message to local preservationists. But paper plans will not bring about revitalized bricks and mortar without special attention to implementation. Those interested in downtown must recognize that suburban shopping, office and residential complexes have a competitive advantage in that they are typically new developments under a unified management plan, which promises participants a defined part of an attractive whole.

Downtown must create similarly attractive environments to compete with the suburbs. But because there are many different property owners with divided interests, there is no



**April 1986** - These three photographs of a commercial building in Owensboro demonstrate the evolution of a historic building. The first (left) is a historic photograph taken soon after construction in the late 1800s; the center photo shows a 20th century alteration; and the photo on the right shows the results of a recent restoration effort. ■

shared management concept to address the suburban challenge. Other cities have resolved this dilemma by use of zoning regulations that establish design guidelines and qualified review boards. Direction is provided for quality rehabilitation of old buildings and compatible design of new ones. Thereby a unified sense of place can result that would otherwise be impossible to achieve. Serious consideration should be given to such a specially regulated district for Owensboro's Main Street. - Gary Adams ■

## May 1989

### Country Churches to be Toured

A tour of country churches will be held on Sunday, June 11 by special request from the many members of Preservation Alliance who enjoyed our tour of country homes last year. Invitations will be mailed in May with more information but the committee promises more of the unique Daviess County architecture, good food and fun that we had last year. Watch your mail for an invitation. The tour will not be limited to members, so invite a small group of friends to join you for the evening or come alone and meet new people.

### Wendell Ford Backs Preservation Tax Laws

Owensboro's [US Senator] Wendell Ford is cosponsoring a significant piece of legislation to benefit preservation tax laws. Last year's effort to amend the federal Tax Reform Act of 1986 and modify provisions that have had a negative impact on historic rehabilitation projects nationwide died when Congress adjourned without passing the bill in either the House or the Senate.

The bill was reintroduced in Congress in early February. The Community Revitalization Tax Act of 1989 received co-sponsor support from Wendell Ford. The main provision of the Act calls for removal of the rehabilitation tax credit from the passive activity rules which limit annual use of the rehab and low-income tax credits, for many taxpayers, to \$7,000 per year. These rules account for a sharp reduction in the availability of equity capital for rehabilitation and local income housing projects. Since tax reform, use of the rehab credit has dropped by two-thirds nationally. Kentucky witnessed a drop of 31% in the number of projects between 1987 and 1988, and a 97% decrease in investment between 1986 and 1988. Let Wendell know how much we appreciate his support on this bill.

**Board Members:** Dan Lanhan, President, Shelia Heflin, Vice President, Gary Adams, Second Vice President, Frank Wagner, Treasurer, Helen Coomes, Secretary, Glenda Thacker, [DOI] Ex Officio, Aloma Dew, Joyce Edwards, Katie Shively, Lee Stearman, Jan Evans. ■

## September 1991

### Little Bits about Big Events

**Waxwork, Inc.** is about to complete the renovation of the former Wright Machine Co. building on east Main St. Owner Terry Woodward is planning a mini-gallery of historic artifacts concerning the history of this important industrial building. Lanham Brothers Construction Co. has been responsible for the renovation and architect Mike Wells has been responsible for planning and design. ...Continued on page 5

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**Newberry-Wile Building** will be offered for sale by sealed bid by the Tourist Commission. The commission is committed to making a sale only to a buyer who will restore the National Register building. Contact Burley Phelan at 926-1100 for more information.

**Turley Building**, part of the RiverPark Center complex, will receive a new façade which will give it a completely new look that is contemporary yet compatible with the adjacent Miller Building. The three bays of **Miller Building** are being restored in keeping with the Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.

**Continental Trust** will soon become H.R.H. Dumlins, serving up spiral cut ham and other delicacies. The building was also formerly occupied by the Owensboro National Bank and will retain that refined and dignified look. Owner Jack Simpson predicts that the restaurant will open in mid-fall.

**Bogard House** at 4th and J.R. Miller is being renovated by Ted and Patty Lolley for a residence. While they were originally attracted to the house as a prospective bed and breakfast, they decided to purchase and renovate it for their home instead.

**WeatherBerry**, Owensboro's first Bed and Breakfast Inn, and the former home of Henry and Eudora Payne on West Second St., is busier than owners Bill and Susie Tyler ever imagined it would be. Local tourist commission director Burley Phelan has said that bed and breakfast inns are the fastest growing part of the tourism industry in Kentucky and our first B and B is no exception. We need more of these. ■

## July 1992

### We're 10 Years Old!

Preservation Alliance of Owensboro-Daviess Co. celebrates its 10th anniversary this summer as a formally organized group dedicated to promoting the preservation of historic buildings and sites. Highlights of the past ten years include the following activities and efforts:

**Advocacy:** Petitioned county government not to demolish the Newberry-Wile Building for a parking lot but make it available for public use. Persuaded Catholic Diocese not to demolish St. Joseph Church for one year while a task force was formed to work toward its preservation. Our efforts helped keep the windows in the community. Encouraged appropriate design for infill buildings located within the historic districts. Recognized good preservation projects in several major newspaper ads.

**Preservation:** Provided grant to Downtown Owensboro, Inc. to hire an architectural historian to place the Main Street Historic District on the National Register. Salvaged pieces of the historic Guenther Building to be used in a public garden in future years. Purchased the Rosenwald School which was in danger of being demolished and developed plans to move it to Yellow Creek Park and restore it for public use. Received Bicentennial Grant for the renovation of the Rosenwald School and raised over \$13,000 in matching money and services.



**Rosenwald Schoolhouse being moved from Pleasant Ridge to Yellow Creek Park.**

**Fundraising:** Celebrated the renovation of Union Station by David Hocker and Associates for their corporate offices with a large benefit party. Held one of the most unique Halloween parties in Owensboro's history at the La Vega Clements House prior to its renovation. Sold plaques to owners of historic homes to identify those which are placed on the National Register.

**Education:** Provided a representative on the city's Design Review Commission. Directed annual walking tours of the downtown in conjunction with Preservation Week or local festivals. Developed a children's program on architecture. Planned an exhibit on local architectural styles. Studied feasibility of publishing a photograph book of historic county buildings. Held a seminar on rehabilitation for owners of historic buildings. Co-sponsored tour of a historic cemetery.

**Programs for Members:** Organized walking tour of five homes in the J.Z. Moore Neighborhood. Presented "History of Main Street" slide show. Toured the Major Hampden Smith house. Toured Triplett house. Sponsored two programs on English Country Gardens. Toured Jim and Janis Westerfield's renovated house on 5th St.

**Bus Tours and Trips:** 1988 - Country homes of eastern Daviess County, followed by dinner at the Henry Payne home (now WeatherBerry). 1989 - Daviess County historic churches and cemeteries, followed by dinner at the David Young home (Sweeney House). 1990 - Historic homes of Princeton

and Paducah, including Adsmore and Whitehaven. 1991 - Historic buildings of Bardstown, Makers' Mark Distillery and the Old Kentucky Home Dinner Train. 1992 - Harrodsburg and Pleasant Hill, including an overnight stay at Shakertown.

**Research:** Developed photograph file on historic buildings. Identified current owners of all historic buildings which were included in the 1978 state survey. ■

## September 1996

### PA records moved, books go to library

In August, records and preservation books belonging to Preservation Alliance were moved from the offices of Downtown Owensboro, Inc. PA's books are now on loan to the Kentucky Room at the Daviess County Public Library. Our filing cabinet is temporarily located at the offices of Richard Edwards and Associates, who have graciously provided free space.

The board regrets the loss of PA's close association with DOI, which goes back many years. In fact, PA was founded by DOI officials and others who were active in the Downtown revitalization effort during the 1980s. During that period, DOI was focused on preservation, gaining National Register status for Owensboro's Main Street historic district, and initiating a local Main Street program under National Trust guidelines. For several years since then, DOI had provided secretarial services to PA under contract, which gave both agencies the same mailing address.

Last year, DOI stopped secretarial services to PA. Since then, PA board members have been managing the group's paperwork. Regrettably, as a result, we have produced fewer newsletters to the membership. Several months ago, we changed our mailing address to President Mike Well's office at 319 Booth Avenue. Since then, Wells' office has graciously provided services to PA.

**Annual meeting held in J. Z. Moore neighborhood:** Our annual luncheon meeting was held on Friday, June 21, 1996, at the home of Janis Brizendine, 1204 Daviess Street. President Michael Wells reported our past year's projects and introduced the slate of officers for the coming year. Mrs. Brizendine gave a talk on the history of her home and Dot Howell spoke about the J. Z. Moore Historic District. After lunch, we toured houses at 1215, 1309, 1311, and 1316 Allen Street. There were 33 members and guests present.

—skh ■

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## March 1998

### Downtown Design Guidelines: Working or Irking?

Differences of opinion have arisen over the last year about the effectiveness of the Downtown Design Guidelines. Originally adopted by the City a decade ago, the guidelines apply to changes in the appearance of property in the Downtown Core. Administered by Downtown Owensboro, Inc., the guidelines are a set of urban design standards for rehabilitation of old buildings, construction of new buildings, arrangement of parking lots, and characteristics of signs that seek to build upon the unique, historic fabric of Downtown.

Proposals to change the appearance of property -- from paint to building demolition - must be presented for consideration by the Downtown Design Review Commission. After review, the owner decides whether or not to comply with any of the commission's recommendations. Ted Lolley, a member of the design commission, considers this process of "mandatory review - voluntary compliance" to be ineffective. PA President Neal Tong has noted that Madison, IN, mandates compliance with its Old Town design guidelines.

On the other hand, Glenda Thacker, who ushered in Owensboro's guidelines when she was DOI Director, believes it would be difficult politically to require mandatory compliance in Owensboro. She believes we are lucky to have the current rules. As it is, some people object to the submission process even though they can ignore the commission's opinions.

Thacker believes, as do others, that it would take a strong expression of support from the general community to adopt stricter procedures. ■

## April 2001

### Historic Preservation Districts Near Approval

In April 2000 the Owensboro City Commission established the Owensboro Historic Preservation Board and a process for the local designation of historic districts subject to mandatory design guidelines. Changes to the physical characteristics of buildings within the districts can be regulated, affecting new construction, alterations, and demolition. Each district can have unique design guidelines as appropriate to the area and as agreed upon by affected property owners. Two proposed local historic districts are near adoption. Recently, the preservation

board held a public hearing and recommended approval of the districts to the city commission. The planning commission, which must also review the proposal, voted in support at its April 19 meeting. The city commission is expected to consider final approval soon. ■

## April 2002

### PA Funded Study of Old Jail

Last fall, PA and Downtown Owensboro Inc. commissioned an architectural and structural review of the Old Jail complex. PA provided \$1500 for the study and a Southern Intervention Grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation provided an additional \$1000. The study report was published on February 18, 2002, and is online at [www.iompc.org/documents/OldJail/](http://www.iompc.org/documents/OldJail/). ■



July 2003 - Old Jail under demolition

## April 2005

### Preservation Bits

**Theatre Workshop of Owensboro's slate roof repaired:** Last year, TWO spent \$5,900 to repair the Old Trinity Centre's slate roof, supported by a grant of \$3,000 from Preservation Alliance. PA's offer, made in 2003, stipulated that the building be registered as a local historic landmark under the review authority of the Owensboro Historic Preservation Board, which oversees preservation of local historic districts and landmarks.

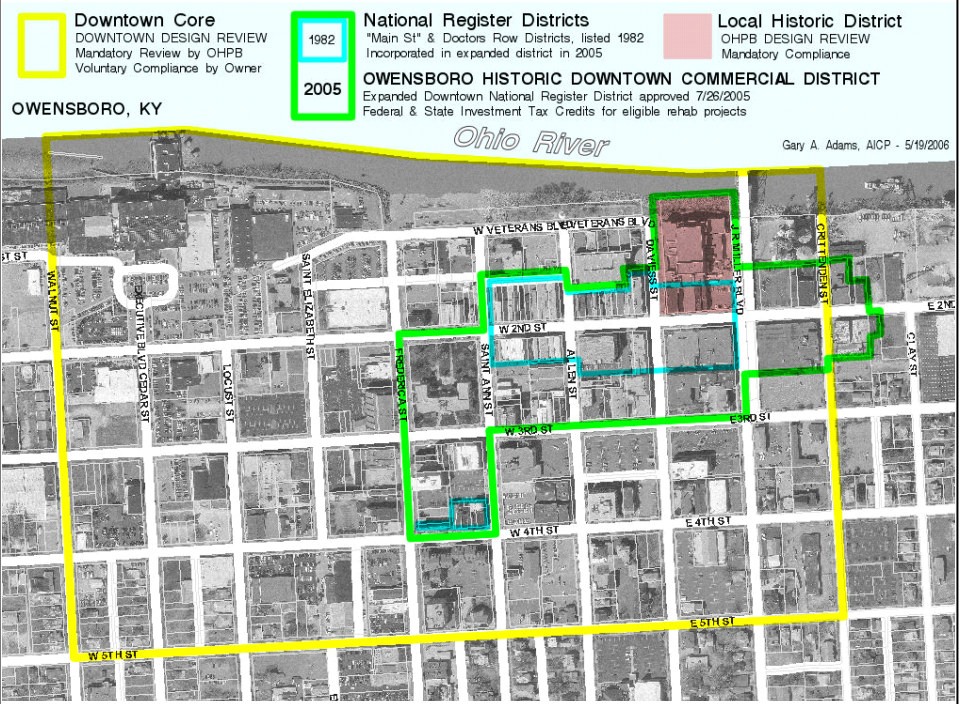


Old Trinity Centre John Hampden Smith wing

Recently, PA donated \$1,000 to the Phoenix Rising campaign, which in part is renovating the John Hampden Smith wing of the Owensboro Museum of Fine Art in accordance with national historic preservation standards. ■

## May 2006 - Owensboro Historic Downtown District expanded

The National Register Review Board approved the expanded downtown historic district, which became effective 7/26/2005. The expanded area includes the original 1982 "Main St" district and the Doctors Row district along W 4th St just east of Frederica. There are several overlapping districts in the downtown for which different review processes are applicable. ■



**Your name and postal address are on the back of this form.**

Please correct as needed. Then, return this form, along with your check made payable to:

**Preservation Alliance**  
 c/o Sue Haycraft  
 1828 Bonnie Castle Dr  
 Owensboro KY 42301-3547  
 270-926-3992

**2007-2008 Preservation Alliance Membership Form**

If "2008" is NOT printed on your mailing label, please renew today with PA.

- ☐ 2008 PA Membership @ \$20 per household  
☐ \_\_\_\_ Persons for 2007 Annual Meeting @ \$15 per person

Total enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**SUBSCRIBE to the PA Email List** to receive more frequent updates and comment on preservation issues as they emerge. We send emails only by blind copy and do not disclose your email address to others. Unsubscribe at any time.

Your email address \_\_\_\_\_

**Status Watch for Historic Buildings**

**Preservation Alliance** monitors particular historic buildings to encourage their preservation. As a community, we are not always successful – Longfellow School will fall in 2008. But, Smith-Werner and many other historic buildings still stand.



**LONGFELLOW SCHOOL • 1931 • 1716 Frederica St**  
 Owned by Owensboro Public Schools, until recently it was occupied by WKUO. It is currently used by OHS ROTC. The OPS board voted in July 2007 to demolish the building as incompatible with the plans and budget for the \$22M expansion of OHS. *See story on page 2.*



**SMITH-WERNER • 1880s facade (1860s) • 118-124 W 2nd St**  
 Daviess County Fiscal Court has owned this important downtown building since October 2000, and is showing laudable stewardship of our county's cultural heritage by preserving it. The county is using a \$31,000 Renaissance Kentucky grant (obtained by the city) and \$250,000 in general funds to renovate the structure and its distinctive Italianate facade, one of the last remaining downtown examples of 19th-century pressed-metal technology. In June 2007, the Owensboro Historic Preservation Board approved the color scheme for the facade paint. The rear portion of the 1860s structure will be altered to satisfy building codes and provide improved accessibility to the second floor. The county is seeking a developer to complete the interior renovation to make the building suitable for occupancy.



**OWENSBORO ARMORY • 1947 • 1501 W Parrish Av**  
 Was listed in the National Register in 2002. The large, two-story brick building is arranged in a U-shape and is identical to the armory at Ashland except for brick color. Many original features are intact. Changes over the years have not adversely affected the armory's historic integrity. The city soon will build an ice arena just north of the armory. The National Guard unit eventually may move to the airport. Then, the armory may be threatened by expanded recreational uses.



**BATES BUILDING • 1880s • 101 W 2nd St**  
 Waterfront 101 LLC, an investment group, owns this building. Interest in downtown property is expected to grow as the Riverfront Master Plan is implemented over the next several years. The impressive facades on 2nd and Allen streets make this building a cornerstone of downtown's historic "Main Street" corridor.



**ELMER MILLER HOUSE • 1905 • 301 E 5th St**  
 This very prominent and architecturally elaborate building has been undergoing slow rehabilitation by owner Larry Kirk. The house has several beveled glass windows. It is a jewel of the Old Owensboro Neighborhood, only three blocks north of Old Germantown Park.



**E 2ND ST ARTS DISTRICT • Early 1900s • 300-400 blk E 2nd St**  
 Owner Terry Woodward has made significant renovations to several buildings including the Barret-Fisher and Coca-Cola. The two blocks between J.R. Miller Blvd. and Clay Street add several contributing buildings to the downtown National Register historic district.

**PA Email List Topics in Past Year**

Listed below are selections from emails sent in the past year to members of the PA Email List. **You can join the list by providing your email address on the dues form above.**

**6/3/06:** Willow Hill, a home established in 1821, is for sale by its owner. Information can be found online at [paupdate.org/topics](http://paupdate.org/topics).



**6/5/06:** Reminder about PA 2006 Annual Meeting: Campbell Club to Longfellow School, held 6/9/06.

**7/31/06:** Panoramic photo of the backyard of Longfellow School taken 7/28/06 showing grading work to create new parking lot.



**8/23/06:** Began tracking city board of education meetings, which are held the fourth Thursday of each month at 4:30 PM at the central office, 1355 W. 11th Street. Awaiting architects' site plan for the fate of Longfellow.

**9/9/06:** Co-chairs of the Greenwood Cemetery Restoration Committee, Wesley Acton and Emily Holloway, to participate on a panel about researching and preserving cemeteries at state preservation conference 9/28-30/2006.

**10/13/06:** Impending auction of the late Eulema Goodall's home, 1205 Saint Ann St in the historic JZ Moore neighborhood.

**10/26/06, 11/25/06, 12/13/06, 1/17/06, 2/22/07:** Ongoing watch of school board meetings, while awaiting the formal announcement of the fate of Longfellow school.

**7/19/07:** The public will finally learn the city school board's architects' recommendation on the fate of the Longfellow school building.

**9/10/07:** Mark your calendars: The PA 2007 Annual Meeting will be held 10/12/07, 4-6 PM, at historic Beech Hill in Maceo, KY. ■





**Preservation Alliance Annual Meeting**  
**Friday – October 12, 2007 – 4:00-6:00 PM**  
**Beech Hill, Maceo, KY**



Invitation on Page 1

**Preservation Alliance Membership Roster 2005-2008**

Gary A Adams.....	2005-2006	William H Greer, Jr.....	2008	Tom & Lucy H Neal.....	2005
Joe & Sally H Anderson.....	2005-2006	John & Marjorie Hager.....	2005	Mr & Mrs Larry Neuner.....	2005
Richard & Sally Anderson.....	2005-2006	Elaine & John N Hall III.....	2005-2006-2008	Mr & Mrs Dennis Newberry.....	2005-2006
David & Eva Glahn Atkinson.....	2008	Robert & Carolyn Hast.....	2005-2006-2008	Mr & Mrs Richard Oexmann.....	2005
Homer & Eleanor Barton.....	2005-2006	Sue & Larry Hastings.....	2005	Scott & Sally Plain.....	2005-2006
Josephine Bigger.....	2006	Joe & Sue Haycraft.....	2005-2006	Betty Puckett.....	2005
Lois Boeckman (deceased).....	2005	Mary Michael Hayden.....	2005-2006	Calvin Ray & Janet Robinson.....	2005
Wendell & Mary Bryan Booth.....	2005-2006	Mr & Mrs Scott Holder.....	2005-2006	Elisabeth B F Roszel.....	2005-2006
Jackie & Rebecca Braden.....	2005	Dr & Mrs Jack C Keeley.....	2005-2006	Mr & Mrs Gary Satterwhite.....	2006
Darrell & Anita Bruner.....	2006	Ann Murphy Kincheloe.....	2005	Dr & Mrs Charles Schertzinger.....	2005-2006
Maurice & Clara Burton.....	2005	Kasey Kirk.....	2006	Anne Sheriff.....	2006
Dr Robert & Linda Byrd.....	2005-2006	Larry & Jeanne Kirk.....	2006	Benjamin A Taylor & Sandra J Phillips ..	2005-2006-2008
Helen Coomes (deceased).....	2005	Bob & Pam Kirtley.....	2005-2006	George & Glenda Thacker.....	2005-2006
William H Cottrell & Geneva Cottrell.....	2005	Mary Lewis Kurre.....	2005	Rachel Thacker.....	2005
Mrs William Craig, Sr.....	2005-2006	Mr & Mrs Forrest Lewis.....	2005-2006	Jack & Sue Thayer.....	2006
Downtown Development Corp.....	2005-2006-2008	Dr & Mrs Noel Maddox Jr.....	2005	Mr & Mrs Neal Tong.....	2005-2006
Ms Clara Eaton.....	2005	Steve & Pat McFarling.....	2005-2006	Joel Utley.....	2005
Joyce Edwards.....	2005	Dr & Mrs William McManus.....	2005-2006	Frank & Helen Wagner.....	2005-2006
Lisa & David Epling.....	2005-2006	Cecilia Medley.....	2005	Dr & Mrs William Ward.....	2006
Grace & Joe Ford.....	2006	Jeanette Medley & Wathen Medley, Jr, MD ..	2005-2006	Mr & Mrs Edward C Wathen.....	2005
Mary Ellen Gant.....	2006	Mr & Mrs John Medley.....	2005-2006	Mr & Mrs Michael Wells.....	2005
Gay R Gipe.....	2005	Paul Morsey.....	2005-2006	William R West.....	2005
Donna Goodlett-Collins.....	2006	Joyce & George Nall.....	2006	Nancy F Wilson.....	2005-2006
Greenwood Cemetery Restoration Committee.....	2006	Lucy Gip Neal.....	2005-2006		