



RIPS NEWS

Advocates for Historic Architecture

www.RockIslandPreservation.org

Membership Meetings

- May 11, 2015 **Rock Island City Hall Council Chambers, 1503 2nd Avenue**
Monday Award Presentation and Reception during City Council Meeting. Please
6:45 PM be prompt as the RIPS Awards will be first on the agenda and join us at
the reception immediately following the presentation. *See related articles*
- June 16, 2015 **Home of Clayton Peterson, 1202 21st Street**
Tuesday Regular business meeting. Weather permitting, members will gather
7:00 PM on the patio, otherwise we will be on the second floor of his home.
- July 21, 2015 **Hauberg Civic Center, 1400 24th Street**
Tuesday Annual Summer Indoor Potluck. Bring a dish to share and enjoy the
6:15 PM company. A program or speaker will be announced soon.

*Remember to keep the third Tuesday of each month marked on your calendar
for monthly RIPS meetings and activities*

LANDMARKS ILLINOIS

2015 Conference on Illinois Main Street and Historic Preservation

June 23-25, 2015
Carbondale, Illinois

This statewide summit is for the community members of Illinois Main Street communities, preservationists, planners, historic preservation commissioners, architects, and development professionals.

This conference brings together inspiring speakers for four content-driven tours and over a dozen sessions that will present best practices, planning tools, success stories, and how-to's for preservation based economic development and community preservation & revitalization.

Go to www.Landmarks.org and link to the Preservation Conference. Other members of RIPS are already making plans to attend and would welcome new participants.

AWARDS RECEPTION

As we have done for many years, RIPS celebrates National Historic Preservation Month by presenting Historic Preservation Awards. Our awards are given primarily for exterior details that can be enjoyed from public right of way and are generally for work completed the previous year.

This year's presentation will take place at the Rock Island City Council meeting on **Monday, May 11, at 6:45 PM** on the third floor of City Hall, 1528 Third Avenue. Please come to celebrate our winners and join them for a reception immediately afterwards in the basement conference room. Members are asked to bring an appetizer or dessert to share.

This year we are presenting five Historic Preservation Awards, two Certificates of Recognition, and two Special Awards. More information is inside this newsletter.

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HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARDS

Award: Julie and Paul Hansen 2223 17th Street

Sometimes new garages are hidden behind a vintage house. However when Julie and Paul



Hansen at 2223 17th Street decided to add a garage, they took special care. Because their home is located on a corner

lot and their garage is visible from the street, the Hansens designed a garage that reflects the architecture of their historic home. It is joined to their stucco house by a new room that expanded a former rear porch. Both the room addition and the garage are covered in the same stucco as the original house and have similar corner detailing. Moreover the garage, although large, is recessed from the street and accessed by a narrow, offset, and unobtrusive driveway. Plantings also are used to partially screen the garage from view. This is an outstanding example of how modern conveniences, such as attached garages, can be added to a historic home. The home has special meaning to the Hansen family because belonged to Julie's grandparents, who purchased it in 1957.

Award: Audrey Brown 724 19th Street

A woman with vision, Audrey Brown, at 724 19th Street, accomplished a true transformation of her 1880s Italianate home. By the time she purchased it, the home was in poor condition and the historic style was not apparent. About the only thing visible of the original home were the paired eave brackets, the round attic window, and the overall shape. Windows had been cut down to rectangles and the ornate hoods – round in front and rectangular on the sides – were long gone. New vinyl covered the original clapboard. Fortunately her father was skilled and could reproduce the original window hoods and other missing pieces. The interior, which had extensive damage, also



required major renovation and restoration. Eventually Ms. Brown hopes to reconstruct a small stoop over the front door like the home had originally.

Award: David and Barbara Parker 702 20th Street

The preservation efforts of David and Barbara Parker at 702 20th Street are nearly invisible.



Although it was a major and expensive project, the Landmarked home, which has been in their family for seventy years, and which they now share as the Victorian Inn B&B, looks unchanged to

the passerby. Those decades of ownership have seen continued maintenance, renovation, and restoration. The recent installation of a new roof is not normally an award candidate. However the Parkers undertook an outstanding restoration of built-in gutters during the same project. These gutters are located directly above the exterior masonry walls with no roof overhang. When the roof was replaced, leaky tin gutters were removed and copper replacements were installed. The work was done well, with the copper extending up the slope of the roof several inches. Although barely visible, this is an outstanding work of preservation. Often built in gutters are roofed-over and exterior gutters installed. However because there is no overhang, adding gutters would have required modification of the ornate cornice beneath the eaves. The Parkers are also recognized for rebuilding and restoring the balustrade over the front porch as well as restoration of the north side porch.

Award: Michael and Jessica Matherly 807 21st Street

Just a block away, Michael and Jessica Matherly restored a delightful Victorian Cottage at 807 21st Street. Although modest in scale, this home once again



enhances its block. For decades, it was hidden under shingles with a “home center” blank steel front door. Over the past years, the Matherlys have carefully removed the shingles, unveiling the original clapboard and fish scale shingles in the gable. The clapboard was repaired where needed and many other exterior repairs were made before it was painted an appropriate color. Original wood storms were restored and used, rather than replacing them with aluminum. The final touch was a vintage Victorian front door, just like the home may have had originally.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARDS

AWARDS, continued

Award: Alexandra Elias 848 21st Street

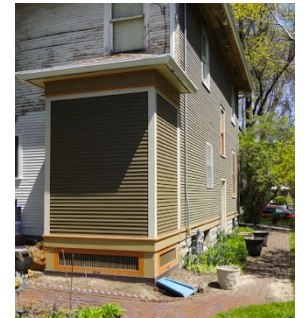
Alexandra Elias owns a stucco bungalow cottage at 848 21st Street. It had been vacant for many years and was in danger of demolition when she stepped in to save it. Both the interior, which was in very poor condition, and the exterior were completely restored and updated. Tile inserts in the stucco walls were retained as a major architectural feature. Potentially damaging trees growing next to the foundation were removed. This modest but detailed home is located on a highly visible corner and serves as an example of what can be accomplished with vision and hard work.



CERTIFICATES of RECOGNITION



Both of our Certificates this year are for porch work. *Jeanette Jones'* home at **1010 21st Street** had a porch that had been reconfigured and enclosed for decades. Louvered windows surrounded the porch and the entrance had been moved to the side. She removed the enclosure and added appropriate columns and railings. She reconfigured the sidewalk to recenter the porch entrance on the front door.



Pat and Verne Stevens of **1712 21st Street** in the Highland Park Historic District restored a small rear porch. Despite its size and location, the Stevens family took special care when they rebuilt and restored it. Even the lattice skirting beneath the porch matches the original.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION



Although RIPS usually gives awards to those who own buildings, *Steven and Cynthia Pressly* are the former owners of 520 18th Street. However they are honored for being good neighbors when their *Wheelan-Pressly Funeral Home* moved from this address to their current 7th Avenue location. After that move, they did not abandon this building, but continued to maintain it for several years. They never permitted it to become an eyesore as has happened in many other business moves. By offering it at a marketable price, they were able to sell it to new owners who converted the building to a residence and the popular Skeleton Key antique mall. Working together, old and new owners achieved an excellent example of adaptive reuse.

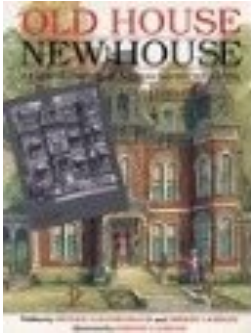
The *Karpeles Manuscript Museum*, **700 22nd Street**, took over the former First Church of Christ Scientist after years of semi-abandonment. It was in rough condition, both inside and out. Leaky roofs and vandalism had done extensive damage to the building. This Special Recognition is for the work completed on the restoration of the large sanctuary. While complete restoration of the entire structure is ongoing, the sanctuary is once again a beautiful space after undergoing extensive repair, plaster patching, and refinishing.



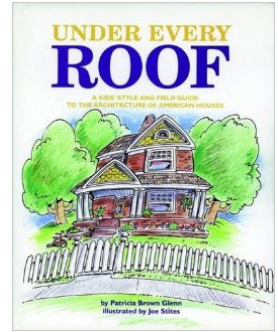
Award photos courtesy of Daryl Empen

LIBRARY DONATION

It is never too early to begin to appreciate our history and built environment. A good book can provide a great introduction.



Old House New House by Michael Gaughenbaugh and Herbert Camburn takes young David Scott on a unique architectural journey. His parents have just purchased a Victorian mansion badly in need of repair. As David follows the progress of carpenters, painters and roofers, the restoration architect guiding all this work reveals how American houses have changed over the past 400 years.



Under Every Roof by Patricia Brown Glenn and illustrated by Joe Stites is a delightful book that will help kids and adults alike understand and identify architectural styles and architectural features. Use this book as a field guide

with its wonderful drawings to identify the architectural features of your own home. Take it on a walk and it will help you identify the wide variety of architectural styles in your neighborhood and community.

In honor of Historic Preservation Month, RIPS will donate copies of these two books to our Rock Island Public Library.

Watch for details of the presentation on our Facebook page.

Check the mailing label on this newsletter. If you're membership is current, it should say "Membership Expires Feb 2016" (or later). If your membership is not current, please send your \$10 per person annual dues to RIPS, PO Box 3261, Rock Island, IL 61204-3261. If you think you've sent your dues and they're not reflected on the label, please call 788-1845 or email blueskies78900@yahoo.com



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