

Membership Meetings

- February 15, 2022**
Tuesday 7:00 PM We thought that meetings in person would have resumed by now. But since we want to be cautious, we will plan Zoom meetings as needed. For the next three months, the dates are as indicated – but whether they will be in person at Hauberg or via Zoom will have to be decided each month. We will let you know via email.
- March 15, 2022**
Tuesday 7:00 PM
- April 19, 2022**
Tuesday 7:00 PM

Joining a Zoom meeting is easy and does not require you to download an app or special software. You can use your cell phone, tablet, laptop or desktop computer. Simply connect from the link on the meeting announcement email, usually sent by Diane Oestreich on the Monday before the meeting.

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

RENEW MEMBERSHIP

You may recall that last year, we extended every current membership for another year, at no cost. This year, however, we ask you renew your membership with dues.

Your mailing label shows your expiration date and our ‘year’ runs from March through February. If your label says “2/1/2022” or anything earlier, it’s time to renew your membership. We are a 501c3 organization so dues and additional donations are tax deductible, as allowed by law. Please use the enclosed renewal form. Dues are only \$15 for individual or \$25 for family memberships.

DIVERSITY IN PRESERVATION

In the earliest days of the historic preservation movement, the goal was to preserve key sites that were a critical part of the history of the United States. Private citizens came together to preserve and protect George Washington’s home, Mount Vernon. The National Historic Preservation Act was passed in 1966 and created the National Register of Historic Places along with a regulatory process to protect historic places. Initially, most of what people thought should be preserved were attached to important national figures or were the very large, ornate, beautiful, and pristine structures. But in recent years preservationists have been rethinking these criteria.

Rock Island has a wonderful array of local and nationally landmarked buildings and neighborhood districts that contribute to the understanding of our history. But are we telling the entire story?

February is Black History Month and is an appropriate time to consider identifying sites in Rock Island that are important to our Black community. The first step is a reconnaissance project collecting information from residents about homes, businesses, places of worship, places of entertainment, and more. The story must include residents and neighborhoods, how people and places impacted the community, and how time and events impacted them. I encourage us to take this first step.

One building that tells an important story is Prince Hall, located overlooking the Rock River at the west end of 37th Avenue. (No, it’s not called “Hall” because it is a large building, but rather honors a man named Prince Hall, the father of Black Masonry). It is featured in the Postcards From Home section of our website articles. Please go to our website or follow this link to learn more about this important building and its story: www.RockIslandPreservation.org/postcards-from-home/postcards-from-home/prince-hall-masonic-home-maple-ridge-apts/



What buildings do you think have important stories to tell?

Send me an email at lwickerrph@aol.com or post your comments and pictures on our Facebook page. We look forward to reading and sharing more stories!

Written by Linda Anderson, President

Photo – Diane Oestreich

WEBSITE NEWS

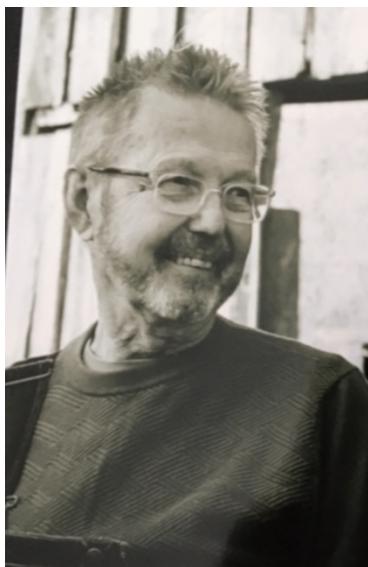
www.RockIslandPreservation.org
is finally back on line!

We are grateful to Pixouls for hosting us for free for the past six years. But, they have upgraded their system. The new system offers *"a more expensive, robust, and secure server with daily malware scans and a hack fix guarantee"*. That would have cost RIPS about \$600 a year. Since we don't really need that level of security, we opted to change to GoDaddy, and Pixouls kindly provided us our data to enable a seamless transition. After a couple of glitches, Daryl Empen managed to get us back. Our cost is now a manageable \$108 annually. Enjoy and tell your friends.

COURTHOUSE NEWS

Preservation organizations have lost the battle to save the courthouse. The state has decided to permit demolition once the building is fully documented. There are professional standards that must be met in this documentation. At this time, there appears no recourse, even though those of us in the preservation community believe the county did not act in good faith by at least permitting exploration of reuse. The recordation contract has been awarded to an experienced preservation company and work should begin when weather is a bit more accommodating. After that recordation is approved, demolition can begin.

CLAYTON PETERSON MEMORIAL

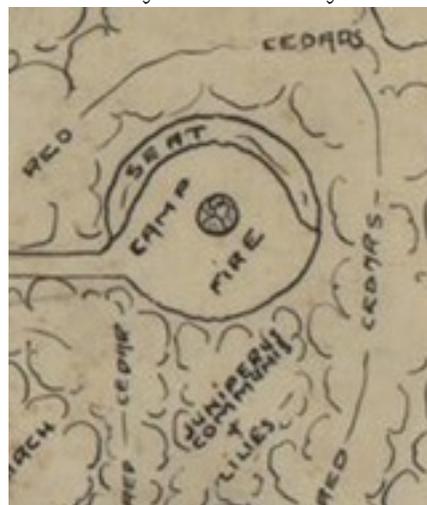


Clayton Peterson was one of our most committed and reliable members. We were shocked and saddened by his death in December. Because of Covid, many could not even attend his services – but it does not mean he is forgotten.

While searching for a suitable memorial for Clayton, it was suggested that a restoration project at Hauberg would be perfect. Hauberg is only a block from Clayton's home and he was a strong supporter of the restoration. This autumn, the upper pond at Hauberg was excavated and uncovered. During that process, the long-hidden, covered by layers of mud and debris, council ring site was uncovered.

The council ring was a signature element of Jens Jensen landscape plans, and the Hauberg Estate was no exception. He planned council rings in in both public and private spaces. Normally the ring is a complete circle, and is intended to bring people together in a way where everyone is equal.....there is no head. (Watch this [YouTube video](#) to learn more about Jensen's council ring philosophy.) We feel this is particularly appropriate for Clayton, who always showed that sense of equality.

The Hauberg council ring is unique. It is relatively small, only half a circle, with a full circle cleared and a fire pit in the center. The view from the semicircular seat is of the watercourse. It is illustrated on the original Jensen drawings for the estate, but it will need to be constructed. Your memorial donation can help accomplish that.



If you would like to make a donation to this memorial, please send a check payable to RIPS or to Friends of Hauberg. Both are 501c3 organizations. Mark "Clayton" in the memo section of your check. For RIPS, mail the check to RIPS, P.O. Box 3261, Rock Island, 61204-3261. If you want to send it directly to Hauberg, mail it to Friends of Hauberg, P.O. Box 3174, Rock Island 61204-3174. We will keep the donations open until early April to provide the donations to Hauberg.



Rock Island Preservation Society
P.O. Box 3261
Rock Island, Illinois 61204-3261