“With year one of our new five-year strategic plan coming to a close, I invite you to join us at our Annual Meeting June 29 to celebrate our progress.”

Landmarks Illinois prefaced National Preservation Month this year with the April launch of our 2017 Most Endangered Historic Places in Illinois, which you’ll find included in this issue. The annual list is always a fascinating and telling reflection of the state of our economy, as well as political and real estate trends. I was pleased to be our Snapshots speaker on May 18 to discuss the Most Endangered Historic Places in Illinois program. Over this program’s 23 years we’ve successfully prevented the demolition of, and moved into the “saved” category 75% of the 250 listed properties. Find out more about the Most Endangered program, as well as Landmarks Illinois’ upcoming events, at our website www.Landmarks.org, and make sure you’re receiving our email alerts by providing us with your email address.

With year one of our new five-year strategic plan coming to a close, I invite you to join us at our Annual Meeting June 29 to celebrate our progress. Your voice helped to shape this plan and I’m eager to report back to you what we’ve accomplished. The Annual Meeting will highlight the incredible transformation of Chicago’s All Saints Episcopal Church and the congregation’s dedication to its preservation. We’ll also feature student documentary films made in partnership with Kennedy-King College, Illinois Humanities and the Richard and Julia Moe Fund of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Come and see a student-eye view of “People Saving Places.”

The Annual Meeting is also your opportunity to influence Landmarks Illinois’ future by electing new board members. Please join us for this important member activity and help us thank our sunsetting board members for their service: Graham Grady, Michael Rachlis, Colleen Reitan, Janet Rotner and Anne Voshel. We will also celebrate chairman Will Tippens as his two-year tenure comes to a close and welcome our new officers to their positions. Learn more about this event on Page 8.

Finally, I want to ensure the PastForward Conference in Chicago is on your calendar for November 14-17, 2017. Landmarks Illinois is proud to be the presenting sponsor. Super Early Bird registration opens July 5 and closes on August 4. Visit www.pastforwardconference.org/pastforward2017/ to sign up for conference updates. Super Early Bird registration is $395 for National Trust Forum Members and $700 for non-Forum Members.

Many thanks for your support,

Bonnie McDonald
President & CEO
Landmarks Illinois announced its 2017 Most Endangered Historic Places in Illinois in April. Last year, the historic places on the annual list focused on publicly owned historic properties and the challenge all levels of government face with reduced funding and budget cuts. The 2017 list— with three historic bridges, two state-owned buildings, one forest preserve-owned building, several city-owned buildings and a city-owned monument—demonstrates not only the continued challenge for local and state governments to maintain and invest in their own real estate and infrastructure, but also the need for partners from the private sector to help find solutions and raise the necessary capital funds.

Legislation is moving forward to permit the sale of the state's James R. Thompson Center in downtown Chicago. LI supports the state's sale of this valuable asset, but because it is determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, we believe the state should market the building as a rehabilitation and reuse opportunity rather than a demolition candidate. If listed in the National Register, federal historic tax credits could be used to help finance its redevelopment. A second option offered by Thompson Center architect Helmut Jahn, proposes a new tower could be positioned on the site connecting to the original building, while retaining most of its original form.

While not all the places on this year’s Most Endangered list are publicly owned, many will rely on important government programs to encourage private investment, such as the now threatened Federal Historic Tax Credit. We must view our historic places, whether private or publicly owned, as sustainable, non-disposable parts of our built environment. Historic places give value, meaning and character to our communities. With your help, LI will continue to work hard to protect them.

Singer Pavilion, another one of our 2017 Most Endangered sites, is the last standing Modernist building on the former Michael Reese Hospital campus in Chicago. The building is part of a request for proposals (RFP) issued by the City of Chicago for the hospital site’s sale and redevelopment. Although, the City encouraged the building’s reuse in the RFP, it was not required. At press time, the selection of a developer has yet to be announced. Whatever the accepted proposal, LI will continue to urge the building’s preservation.

Ryan’s Round Barn in Henry County (pictured on the cover), owned and managed by the state’s Department of Natural Resources, and three historic bridges owned by local governments in Long Grove, Mauston and St. Francisville, are historic resources that without local fundraising for critical repairs, face an uncertain future. Citizens stand ready to step in financially and need the full cooperation of government officials to develop preservation plans.

Landmarks Illinois is bringing financial assistance to some of these preservation efforts through our Preservation Heritage Fund Grant Program and the recently announced World War I Monument Preservation Grant Program, both of which are matching grant programs to help leverage additional funds. In Mauston, LI has awarded a $2,500 matching grant for the Mauston Bridge’s $40,000 rehabilitation budget. In Danville, city officials are preparing an application to support the relocation and conservation of Lorado Taft’s Victory WWI Monument, which has suffered from decades of deterioration.

“We must view our historic places, whether private or publicly owned, as sustainable, non-disposable parts of our built environment.”


Landmarks Illinois’ 2017 Most Endangered Historic Places

JAMES R. THOMPSON CENTER
Chicago, Cook County

O’HARE ROTUNDA BUILDING
Chicago, Cook County

SINGER PAVILION
Chicago, Cook County

RYAN’S ROUND BARN
Johnson-Saalk Trail State Recreation Area, Henry County

MCKEE HOUSE
Lombard, DuPage County

NORWAY TEMPERANCE HALL
Norway, LaSalle County

FEDERAL HISTORIC TAX CREDIT
Statewide

HISTORIC BRIDGES
Statewide (Long Grove, Mauston and St. Francisville)

ROUTE 66
Statewide

WORLD WAR I MONUMENTS
Statewide

Johnson-Sauk Trail State Recreation Area, Illinois

RYAN’S ROUND BARN

SINGER PAVILION

O’HARE ROTUNDA BUILDING

JAMES R. THOMPSON CENTER

**STATEWIDE NEWS**

**THE STATE OF PRESERVATION**

More 2017 Most Endangered Historic Places in Illinois

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**ROTUNDA BUILDING**

O’HARE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, CHICAGO

The Rotunda Building at O’Hare International Airport is largely intact, while most of the original airport has been reconstructed and dramatically changed. The Rotunda has no landmark protection and remains vulnerable to future redevelopment. The building was designed in 1962 by Gertrude Lempp Kerbis while at C.F. Murphy. Kerbis was a trailblazer for women in the male-dominated field of architecture in the 1950s. Today, the Rotunda is an oft-overlooked space in the airport, serving as a vestibule to Terminal 3’s Concourse G. Its Seven Continents Restaurant is long gone, but spaces are leased and the building should continue to serve travelers.

(Credit: Landmarks Illinois)

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**RYAN’S ROUND BARN**

HENRY COUNTY

Situated within the Johnson-Sauk Trail State Recreation Area, the picturesque Ryan’s Round Barn connects visitors to Illinois’ deep agricultural heritage but is threatened by deferred maintenance and a failing roof. Built in 1910 and listed in the National Register of Historic Places, Ryan’s Round Barn is managed by the Friends of Johnson Park Foundation and owned by the State of Illinois, Department of Natural Resources. As a result of the state budget crisis, repairs have been put on hold indefinitely, allowing water to infiltrate the interior. Funding for essential repairs, such as the rapidly deteriorating roof, is critical for protection of this iconic round barn.

(Credit: Landmarks Illinois)

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**ROUTE 66**

STATEWIDE

Visitors from around the world seek out the unique historic character of Route 66, but could see revitalization stall along the road as the National Park Service’s Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program is set to legislatively terminate in 2019. Recognizing the economic impact of tourism on the “Mother Road,” U.S. Rep. Darin LaHood (R-IL18) has introduced bipartisan legislation (H.R. 18) to designate Route 66 a National Historic Trail. Landmarks Illinois supports this proposed designation, which would create a permanent program to preserve, promote and revitalize landmarks along the most famous road in America.

Gennie Grant in Wilmington (Credit: Landmarks Illinois)

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**MASSAC THEATRE, METROPOLIS**

When the Massac Theatre in Metropolis was listed in Landmarks Illinois’ Most Endangered Historic Places in Illinois in 2010, the 1938 movie theater was lacking a roof after decades of neglect. Saving the building from condemnation, a community organization formed and partnered with the City of Metropolis to fund a reuse feasibility study, by White and Borgonon Architects. After a new owner cleared out the debris and put a new roof on the building, Save the Massac, Inc., purchased it in 2012. While the new roof has prevented additional water infiltration, the western wall is in danger of collapse from previous water damage. In March, Save the Massac received a $25,000 grant from Landmarks Illinois’ Preservation Heritage Fund Grant Program for stabilization and repairs to the wall. These critical repairs are a necessary step toward the goal of revitalizing and reopening the only event center in Massac County.

(Credit: Landmarks Illinois)

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**OSCAR STANTON DE PRIEST HOUSE, CHICAGO**

Landmarks Illinois received a $250,000 grant through the National Park Services’ African American Civil Rights Grant Program to help restore the historic Oscar Stanton De Priest House, which is a National Historic Landmark located in Chicago’s Bronzeville neighborhood. The Oscar Stanton De Priest House is associated with its namesake, a 20th century Chicago political figure who dedicated his life to the African American Civil Rights struggle at both the local and national levels. In 1938, he became the first African American elected to Congress in the 20th century. During his three terms (1929-1935), he saw himself not only representing Illinois, but his race, and tried to address social, educational, economic and legal disparities. Landmarks Illinois plans to use the grant funding to replace the roof and make necessary masonry repairs to the nearly 100-year-old building.

(Credit: Landmarks Illinois)

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**FORMER FOX RIVER COUNTY DAY SCHOOL, ELGIN**

Included in the 2012 Most Endangered Historic Places in Illinois list, this former school, located in a wooded setting near the Fox River, has several significant buildings by noted Prairie School architect John Van Bergen. Closed in 2011 due to bankruptcy, some of the school’s 53 acres were sold to the Kane County Forest Preserve while the remainder of the campus is now owned by the city of Elgin. While it remains a prime development site, the city has recognized the historic integrity of the campus and accepted LI’s offer to provide pro bono condition assessments for the historic buildings. Three teams of architects from Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc.; Klein and Hoffman; Revive Architecture; and Simpson Gumpertz & Heger assessed four historic buildings and a concrete silo. The reports were provided to Elgin city officials to help them continue careful planning for the historic campus future.

(Credit: Landmarks Illinois)

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**IN THE FIELD**

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

**CONVENTIONAL**

**ARCHITECTURE**

**INTEGRATED DESIGN**

**ENGINEERING**

**INTERIOR DESIGN**

**CONSTRUCTION**

**LEADERSHIP**

**RESEARCH**

**STATEWIDE**

**SUBURBAN**

**COMMUNITY**

**PRIVATE**

**PUBLIC**

**RECREATION**

**LOCAL**

**REGIONAL**

**NATIONAL**

**INTERNATIONAL**
In February and March, Landmarks Illinois traveled around Illinois with Kennedy-King College student interns and faculty to conduct field visits to hundreds of historic sites, homes, districts and landmarks on the statues of historic preservation efforts.

What has been your favorite part of this video project? Cedric Barksdale: The amount I learned about historic preservation. I learned how important this work is and how much it means to preserve these landmarks not just for ourselves but for generations to come.

Monique Harvey: Meeting polished investors and preservationists has sharpened my knowledge as a person who wants to preserve a home that’s special in her life. Being on the road with my fellow interns this semester has also been memorable – they have taught me things about myself and skillsets.

Ennis Young: I enjoyed the experience of being a part of shooting and editing videos of historic landmarks.

How has your personal understanding of historic preservation changed or grown throughout this project? CB: It’s like night and day. Being a former investor, I have been involved in many rehabilitation projects, but I was never involved in historic preservation projects. This was an awesome experience. The character in the places we have visited, you can’t get that in contemporary buildings.

MH: My knowledge of historic preservation has grown after hearing how people took different paths to achieve their own preservation goals. I have learned about the multiple challenges as well as the fulfilling experiences involved in historic preservation.

JL: I have learned a lot more people are working toward preserving the past than I knew about. I learned that there are resources and organizations like Landmarks Illinois to help people save the places they care about.

EV: I can see the passion and fire behind everyone involved in preserving landmarks in Illinois. Everyone takes pride in their landmarked buildings.

*Read an extended version of this interview and hear what specific historic preservation project personally resonated most with each student at our website www.landmarks.org.

TRIBUTE Charles Leeks, a passionate historic preservation partner of Landmarks Illinois who worked for the Neighborhood Housing Services of Chicago, passed away in January. In 1999, he became the founding Program Director in North Lawndale for NHS, and developed the Historic Chicago Greystone Initiative in 2006.

Charles Leeks. (Credit: Matt Cole)
More than 750 of Landmarks Illinois’ supporters attended the 12th Annual Legendary Landmarks Celebration to honor 2017 Legendary Landmarks Fred Eychaner, Richard Hunt and Daniel McCaffery of McCaffery Interests. The celebration raised $860,000 for Landmarks Illinois advocacy programs, with a record-breaking $203,000 brought in from the evening’s live auction and paddle raise. The Legendary Landmarks Celebration was reimagined this year with an extended pre-event cocktail reception, a shortened, yet crowd-pleasing awards ceremony and dinner, during which our new Landmarks Illinois organizational video premiered (which can be viewed at our YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/LandmarksIllinois). A newly added dessert reception capped off the evening. Landmarks Illinois thanks those who attended and supported the celebration.

Above left: Mark Terasik and Hector Arvelo at dinner. (Credit: Diane Alexander White Photography)

Left: The night’s three honorees from left to right: Daniel McCaffery, Richard Hunt and Fred Eychaner. (Credit: Diane Alexander White Photography)

CONTRIBUTIONS

THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTORS

The 12th Annual Legendary Landmarks Celebration to honor 2017 Legendary Landmarks Fred Eychaner, Richard Hunt and Daniel McCaffery of McCaffery Interests. The celebration raised $860,000 for Landmarks Illinois advocacy programs, with a record-breaking $203,000 brought in from the evening’s live auction and paddle raise. The Legendary Landmarks Celebration was reimagined this year with an extended pre-event cocktail reception, a shortened, yet crowd-pleasing awards ceremony and dinner, during which our new Landmarks Illinois organizational video premiered (which can be viewed at our YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/LandmarksIllinois). A newly added dessert reception capped off the evening. Landmarks Illinois thanks those who attended and supported the celebration.

Above left: Mark Terasik and Hector Arvelo at dinner. (Credit: Diane Alexander White Photography)

Left: The night’s three honorees from left to right: Daniel McCaffery, Richard Hunt and Fred Eychaner. (Credit: Diane Alexander White Photography)
CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

2017
LANDMARKS ILLINOIS
RICHARD H. DRIEHAUS FOUNDATION
PRESERVATION AWARDS

DEADLINE JUNE 1, 2017
Award categories include, but are not limited to: individuals and institutions, outstanding preservation projects, successful advocacy efforts, and effective or innovative public policy leadership. Guidelines and nomination forms are available online at www.Landmarks.org.

SAVE THE DATE

2017
LANDMARKS ILLINOIS
RICHARD H. DRIEHAUS FOUNDATION
PRESERVATION AWARDS

Awards Panel Discussion and Awards Ceremony
SEPTEMBER 16, 2017
5:00 P.M.
VENUE SIX10
610 S. MICHIGAN AVENUE

More details coming soon!