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PEOPLE SAVING PLACES



STATEWIDE NEWS
THE STATE OF PRESERVATION



PEOPLE
MEET THE ROTNERS



EVENTS SKYLINE SOCIAL



CONTRIBUTIONS THANK YOU

Front cover: Frank Lloyd Wright's 1908 Unity Temple in Oak Park recently underwent a major and long-awaited restoration. In July, Unitarian Universalist Congregation and the Unity Temple Restoration Foundation (UTRF) celebrated the restoration with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. Landmarks Illinois provided a Preservation Heritage Fund grant to UTRF to help the restoration, which you can read more about on Page 6. (Credit: Lee Bey)



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FROM THE PRESIDENT

TO OUR MEMBERS

Since our founding in 1971, Landmarks Illinois has been guided by a Board of Directors comprised of professionals in the field of preservation, history, real estate, law and other allied disciplines. The Board of Directors is the governing body that sets policy for Landmarks Illinois, as well as defining the strategic direction of the organization in collaboration with its professional staff. What may impress you most is that this group of more than 30 active individuals volunteers their time and expertise to benefit the organization and its mission. The average Landmarks Illinois board member devotes dozens of hours of their time per year, serves on at least one committee, attends organizational events and becomes a member at our highest giving level. These members make a commitment to serve Landmarks Illinois, and by doing so, lead the preservation movement in our state.



"What may impress you most is that this group of more than 30 active individuals volunteers their time and expertise to benefit the organization and its mission."

At its June Annual Meeting, the membership of Landmarks Illinois elected the following new directors that we welcome to the Board of Directors.

- » Jean Follett, Ph.D., a preservation consultant and historian, returning to the board for a third term.
- » Nick Koricanac, Vice President, Commercial Real Estate Lending Team, Wintrust
- » Blair Todt, Chief Legal Officer, Health Care Service Corporation
- » Jack Tribbia, President, Restoration Division, Berglund Construction, returning for his second board term.

We also welcome the following reelected board members and thank them for their service: Andy Ahitow, Gary Anderson, Lee Brown, Inga Carus, Joshua Freedland, Tim Frens, Krista Gnatt, Jake Goldberg, Mark Henning, Frieda Ireland, Tiffany Hamel Johnson, Robin Schabes, and Martin V. Sinclair, Jr.

Landmarks Illinois also wants to recognize board members who have reached their sunset period, a required end of their term per the Bylaws. The following five board members have cumulatively served Landmarks Illinois for 48 years: Graham Grady, Michael Rachlis, Colleen Reitan, Janet Rotner, and Anne Voshel. We are grateful for the generous devotion of your time and talent to this organization.

Finally, we welcome our new chair, Mark Henning, and Vice Chair, Sandra Rand, and recognize the extraordinary service of outgoing chairman Will Tippens. It is a pleasure to serve with all of these individuals to benefit Landmarks Illinois.

Best regards,



Bonnie McDonald President & CEO

INSIDER'S GUIDE TO THE 2017 PASTFORWARD CONFERENCE

PEOPLE SAVING PLACES

By Bonnie McDonald, President & CEO

The best minds in preservation will gather in Chicago this November for the National Trust for Historic Preservation's PastForward Conference, which Landmarks Illinois is a proud presenting partner of. I've had the privilege of attending 12 National Trust conferences in my career, and I want to give you an insider's view and encourage you to attend! Please encourage others in your community to come as well, including your local city or town officials, preservation commissioners, local advocacy organization board members and Main Street participants. This is our opportunity to grow our network to strengthen preservation across Illinois.

What is PastForward?

PastForward, hosted by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, is the annual convening of preservationists from across the United States. In recent years, the National Trust reorganized and reenergized the conference by adding targeted themes, refining program content and engaging more voices in and around preservation.

When and where is PastForward?

November 14-17, 2017, at the Palmer House Hilton in Chicago.

How do you register and what does it cost?

Register online at https://pastforward conference.org/pastforward2017/. Landmarks Illinois members receive the discounted Forum rate. Early bird registration at the Forum rate is \$550 if you register by September 15.

Why attend PastForward?

Preservation is about people raising awareness and delivering solutions to save places that matter. Here, you'll network with, and learn from, more than 2,000 like-minded people.

How is Landmarks Illinois involved in PastForward?

- » We are proud to be the PastForward Presenting Partner providing significant support to the National Trust to bring our colleagues to Chicago
- » I will give a brief welcome at the opening plenary on Wednesday, November 15.
- » Kaitlyn McAvoy, our Communications Manager, will lead a Power Session on our "People Saving Places" video series



"This is our opportunity to build an even stronger network to strengthen preservation across Illinois."

with Illinois Humanities, Kennedy King College, and the Richard and Julia Moe Fund of the National Trust.

- » LI is leading two Field Sessions: one on the preservation of public housing in Chicago and one about institutional community organizing and preservation in the Chicago Lawn neighborhood.
- » Our Skyline Council is teaming up with the PastForward Diversity Scholars to host a party to celebrate the future of preservation on Thursday, November 16 at the former Chicago Defender Building, now known as Revel Motor Row.

Landmarks Illinois' Presenting Partner status is made possible by a generous grant from The Alphawood Foundation. The Foundation is specifically supporting our efforts to bring programming to the conference that helps to identify place-based and preservation initiatives that seek to address systemic policies and practices that lead to violence.

See you there! I look forward to seeing the familiar faces of Illinois' preservation community at PastForward in November. If you are interested in supporting Landmarks Illinois' PastForward efforts, please contact me at bmcdonald@landmarks.org or (312) 922-1742 to learn about sponsorship opportunities.

clockwise from above: One of the conference's 18 Field Studies will take participants out to Elgin to see midcentury architecture, including the local SOM-designed Robert Gilliam Municipal Complex.

Kennedy King College student filmmakers interview Nathan Watson of CL Enterprises inside the historic Kaskaskia Hotel in LaSalle for Landmarks Illinois' "People Saving Places" video project. Landmarks Illinois will give a Power Session presentation during the Trust conference on the video project.

Another field study will take place at Unity Temple in Oak Park (also pictured on our cover). Landmarks Illinois awarded Unity Temple a Preservation Heritage Grant in 2016. Read more about the grant on Page 6.



HIGHLIGHTS

TrustLive Marquee Presentations

Four TED-like talks focused on the conference's themes of ReUrbanism, Technology, Health and Connections, given by the nation's thought leaders.

Learning Labs

Intensive educational sessions on topics ranging from real estate tools and digital documentation resources, to racial equality, storytelling, physical wellbeing and preservation, and the neuroscience of place.

Power Sessions

Quick overviews of pressing issues like using Instagram for preservation, crowdfunding, how the NPS is modernizing its buildings. You can even learn about the development of the Chicago skyscraper.

Field Studies

18 opportunities to visit the places in Chicago and its suburbs that make this city the nation's architecture capitol. Field study sites include Pullman, Quinn Chapel AME Church, closed Chicago Public Schools, Unity Temple, Elgin's legacy of midcentury architecture, and the House of Tomorrow from the 1933 World's Fair.

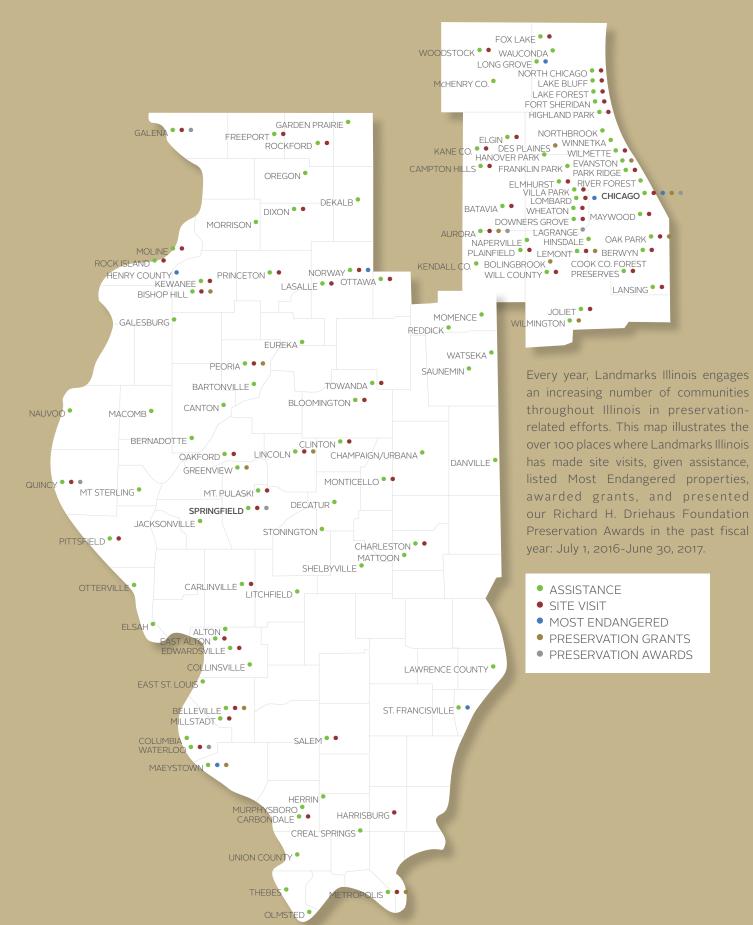
Affinity events

The Historic Chicago Bungalow Association hosts the Candlelight Tour in the Rogers Park Manor Historic District, the Preservation Action after party is back, as well as university meet-ups and topical gatherings like the law breakfast.





THE STATE OF PRESERVATION



IN THE FIELD





MCKEE HOUSE Lombard

This 1936 Colonial Revival home, built by the Federal Works Progress Administration, is located in the Churchill Woods Forest Preserve and was shuttered by the DuPage County Forest Preserve Board in 2002. Since Landmarks Illinois included the building on our 2017 Most Endangered Historic Places in Illinois list in April, the Forest Preserve Board entered into an agreement with the village of Glen Ellyn to lease the home for a 50-year term, as long as advocates raise \$400,000 by Oct. 1, 2019, to renovate it. Without the funding, it may be demolished. The McKee Preservation Group is leading fundraising efforts, with a goal of raising an initial \$65,000 this summer to replace the roof. Contact mckeepreservationgroup@gmail.com for more info.

(Credit: Linda Gilbert)

NICHOLS LIBRARY Naperville

This former 1897 public library, located at 110 S. Washington St. within a National Register-listed historic district, had functioned as a church for nearly 20 years. It was purchased earlier this year by a developer looking to build a large-scale, mixed-use development on the site. When the City of Naperville sold the library to the church in 1996, a covenant was created that mandated the façade and vestibule be preserved. The current development proposal would deconstruct the façade and apply it to a new, four-story building elsewhere on the property, demolishing the remainder of the historic library. More than 1,000 citizens have signed a petition in protest and two residents prepared a local landmark nomination, which at press time was yet to be sent to the Historic Preservation Commission for review. To sign and share the petition opposing demolition, go to: https://gopetition.com/petitions/save-old-nichols-library.html.

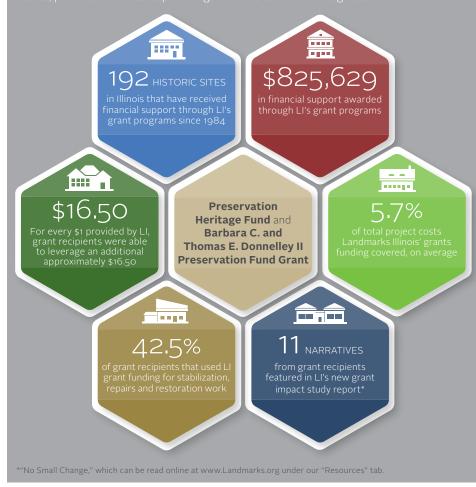
(Credit: Charlie Wilkins)

RIVER EDGE HISTORIC TAX CREDIT EXTENSION

Legislation to extend the River Edge Redevelopment Zone (RERZ) Historic Tax Credit in Illinois through 2021 was approved by the state legislature in May. The extension of the RERZ Historic Tax Credit received strong bipartisan support, receiving a vote of 101 to 12 in the House and a unanimous vote in the Senate. At press time, the Governor was yet to sign the legislation, but has shown support for the program, which is available in Aurora, Elgin, East St. Louis, Peoria and Rockford and has leveraged over \$150 million in private investment. In Peoria, Mayor Jim Ardis cited the historic tax credit as the driving force behind the redevelopment of the city's Warehouse District. In May, Landmarks Illinois board members toured the Chic Manufacturing Building in Peoria's Warehouse District. The vacant, 40,000 square-foot building is a reuse opportunity for which the RERZ Historic Tax Credit would provide a critical source of financing.

(Credit: IHPA)







Two grants have been awarded in the first round of funding through the Landmarks Illinois World War I Monument Preservation Grant Program. The recently launched grant program provides monetary assistance to preserve World War I outdoor monuments and memorials within the state of Illinois.

The City of Aurora will use the grant funding to restore the "Branches of Services Plague" on the city's New York Street Bridge that crosses the Fox River and was constructed in 1931 as a tribute to WWI soldiers. The bronze plaque on the bridge has suffered corrosion from the weather and prolonged exposure to chemical compounds since its dedication. Restoring the plague is part of the City of Aurora's multi-year project to restore all historic elements of the New York Street Bridge.

The Second Indianhead Division Association will use the grant funding for cleaning and restoration of the Belleau Wood WWI monument, located within the Cook County Forest Preserve in Des Plaines. The monument commemorates the three-week Battle of Belleau Wood in 1918. It is the largest memorial to honor the U.S. 2nd Division outside of Washington, D.C. The Second Indianhead Division Association wishes to clean the monument in preparation for a rededication ceremony in August.

The Belleau Wood WWI Monument in Des Plaines. (Credit: Second Indianhead Division Association)

EASEMENT PROFILE

celebrated the long-awaited completion 11-Most Endangered List in 2009. of the restoration of Frank Lloyd Wright's

Universalist Congregation and the Unity come a long way from being included on Temple Restoration Foundation (UTRF) the National Trust for Historic Preservation's

1908 masterpiece with a ribbon-cutting The building's façade of exposed, pouredceremony. The two-year project included a in-place concrete established Unity Temple complete restoration of the interior finishes as an early experiment, and masterpiece, including: replication of original plaster and of modern architecture. The new materials restoration of all wood doors and hardware. building's concrete surface was repaired by at www.utrf.org.

On June 17, Unity Temple Unitarian The building (pictured on the cover) has applying a layer of shotcrete – pneumatically applied concrete - known as "Gunite," which closely matched the original material. Nine new geothermal wells for new ground source heating and cooling system were also installed.

A \$10 million donation from the Alphawood Foundation funded much of the project, but donations are still needed to close the paint finishes, restoration and reinstallation and unprecedented design elements caused last funding gap. For more information of all wood trim, stripping and cleaning almost immediate structural problems, as about this amazing transformation and of all concrete and magnesite floors, and did years of hidden water infiltration. The to make a donation, visit UTRF's website

MEET THE ROTNERS

Janet Rotner served on the Landmarks Illinois Board of Directors for six years before sun-setting this June. Janet said she has "the highest respect for the Landmarks Illinois staff and 'family," and will remain active by joining the Emeritus Board and continuing committee work. Janet and her husband Philip Rotner also recently made a generous planned gift in support of Landmarks Illinois' mission and programs. We asked Janet and Philip to reflect upon their deep commitment to the organization.

Landmarks Illinois: What drew you to Landmarks Illinois in the first place, and what has kept you with us for the past six years?

Janet Rotner: I've always been very interested in art and architecture. I love the idea of holding communities together by reusing buildings that are part of our heritage, rather than allowing them to be destroyed and replaced with generic structures that don't reflect a community's roots.

LI: During your service on the board, you've volunteered on several committees including the Legendary Landmarks Celebration Host Committee. How has this event evolved and what are you most proud of?

JR: Just six years ago we had 300 attendees at the event, and now we attract nearly 800 guests. That means more people are introduced to LI and the work we do in Chicago and statewide. We can thank Shelley Gorson, past LI board chair, for helping reinvent the annual fundraiser back in 2006 to our current, successful

LI: You recently made a generous planned gift to Landmarks Illinois. What made you want to invest in its future?

JR: Philip and I have great confidence in the organization's president, Bonnie McDonald, the staff and the Board of Directors. Prospective board members are carefully screened and chosen to represent an area of expertise to further the organization's mission and goals. LI gets results! Its Preservation Heritage Fund and Donnelley Preservation Fund Grant Programs as well as The Richard H. Driehaus Foundation Preservation Awards have supported and mobilized communities to save their historic buildings. We are revitalizing communities and

LI: Philip, what inspires you about Landmarks Illinois?

Philip Rotner: Of course, I couldn't be more supportive of Janet's commitment and contribution to LI. But more than that, I've been inspired by the number of LI success stories, none more so than the Farnsworth House, where Janet and I had the opportunity to visit for a small group dinner. It's so important to remember and honor that part of our history that is visible in the structures around us every day. It



The Skyline Social

Sponsored by Landmarks Illinois' Young Professional's Committee, the Skyline Council, Revel Motor Row, and the National Trust Advisors.

Preservation PastForward Conference, the Skyline Council will host its 6th Annual Skyline Social at Revel Motor Row. The event will take place at the newly restored Chicago landmark, the Chicago Defender Building (1936) designed by Philip Maher for the Illinois Automobile Club, and best known as the publishing house for The Chicago Defender, country. Attendees will enjoy heavy hors d'oeuvres, cocktails, music and evening tours of the building. For sponsorship opportunities and reservations visit www.Landmarks.org.

Revel Motor Row was the former home to The Chicago Defender, one of the oldest African American newspapers in the U.S. (Credit: Revel Motor Row)





Richard H. Driehaus Foundation Preservation Awards

Join Landmarks Illinois and The Richard H. Driehaus Foundation for an inspiring evening that celebrates historic treasures across Illinois and the local individuals called to action to preserve and protect the places that matter to them. The Preservation Awards ceremony will honor nine award winners for advocacy, leadership and preservation. The event includes a panel discussion featuring award winners, an awards ceremony and a cocktail reception.

Landmarks Illinois President & CEO Bonnie McDonald (left) with 2016 Preservation Award Recipients from the Grand Army of the Republic Memorial Museum in Aurora. (Credit: Diane Alexander White Photography.)



JOHN VINCI: Life and Landmarks

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19

ROBERT SHAROFF WILLIAM ZABAREN JOHN VINCI

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ICHICAGO ARCHITECTURE BIENNIAL

Landmarks Illinois is an Affiliate Program Partner with the Chicago Architecture Biennial.

More lectures and information at www.Landmarks.org.

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Daniel A. Fortman

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PRESERVATION HERITAGE FUND

BARBARA C. AND THOMAS E. DONNELLEY II PRESERVATION FUND FOR ILLINOIS

LANDMARKS ILLINOIS WWI MONUMENT PRESERVATION GRANT PROGRAM

Learn more about Landmarks Illinois grant programs and how to apply by visiting the "Financial Resources" section on our website, www.landmarks.org.

The Victory Monument in Danville is one of the many memorials dedicated to soldiers of WWI in Illinois.

