



LANDMARKS
ILLINOIS



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Cover: Artist Jim Jenkins works on repairing one of the four "Memory" sculptures on the New York Street Memorial Bridge in Aurora. The 660-foot-long bridge spans the Fox River and serves as a tribute to WWI soldiers. LI awarded the City of Aurora two grants through its World War I Monument Preservation Grant Program in 2017 and 2018 to help with the bridge restoration project. Read more on pages 2 and 3 about the grant program and the WWI memorial restoration project in Aurora. (credit: Jim Jenkins)

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Landmarks Illinois thanks its Annual Corporate Sponsors. To learn more about this new program, please contact Amy Ege at (312) 922-1742.



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FROM THE PRESIDENT TO OUR MEMBERS

The dawn of a new year makes me both reflective and eager. Landmarks Illinois' performance in 2018 was strong as we made headway on our biggest challenges: lack of financial resources for preservation, intractable local governments and long-vacant historic spaces. Kaitlyn McAvoy, our industrious Communications Manager, has made it easy to read about our momentum with the "Top Preservation News of 2018" roundup that you can find on our website under the Resources/Preservation News tab.

Visit the Preservation News section at www.landmarks.org and you'll find regularly updated blog posts on LI news and preservation topics. *The Arch* newsletter offers only a synopsis of LI's reach and work throughout the state. Our online blog posts allow us to expand on these topics with news and opinion pieces by staff and guest authors. Stay tuned in 2019 for personal reflections and serious how-to posts.

"We've honed our messaging to focus on the positive impact preservation has on people's lives, and it's resonating."

One of my own blog posts explains why I was eager at the start of the New Year. Landmarks Illinois adopted its Strategic Plan in 2016, which puts us at the halfway mark for implementation. I'm keen to evaluate the progress we've made toward accomplishing our goals and how to proceed. (Find the Strategic Plan on our website under About Use/Our Accountability – are you seeing a theme here? Our website is the place to go!) As previously credited, Kaitlyn has made significant strides toward our goal of providing a platform to tell local preservation stories – our own and others. We've honed our messaging to focus on the positive impact preservation has on people's lives, and it's resonating. Our three boards, and our staff, are successfully engaging more people in the work of preservation.

For all our successes, there are also areas where Landmarks Illinois needs to amplify efforts to meet our strategic goals by June 2021. Our digital content needs to expand with more data, case studies, model adaptive reuse scenarios, best practices and "how-to" guides to walk users through common preservation processes. Providing more programming, especially outside of the Chicagoland area, is vital to support our statewide efforts, although it is challenging from a capacity standpoint. We also need to continually innovate to diversify our funding streams, like focusing on legacy giving for those who want to sustain Landmarks Illinois long into the future.

I'm proud to play a role in bringing best practices to Illinois from our peers across the nation. My ability to do so was enhanced this past November when I was elected chair of the National Preservation Partners Network. I'm honored to voluntarily serve this new, national nonprofit that continues the work of the former National Trust for Historic Preservation Partners Network. The Partners Network members come from local, regional, statewide and national preservation organizations, including the National Trust, as well as site-specific organizations, all of which have preservation as an integral part of their mission. This position is just another way that Landmarks Illinois seeks to be a leader in our field. Thank you for your support as a member, which enables our continued growth and achievements.

May 2019 bring you success in all your pursuits.

Bonnie McDonald

Bonnie McDonald
President & CEO



PEOPLE SAVING PLACES

A Look Back on LI's WWI Monument Preservation Grant Program

As 2018 came to a close, Landmarks Illinois wrapped up its two-year World War I Monument Preservation Grant Program. Launched in the spring of 2017 in conjunction with the 100th Anniversary of the U.S. entry into WWI, and running through the end of last year, the grant program provided financial resources to WWI outdoor monuments and memorials throughout Illinois in need of restoration to recover their original quality and appearance.

Over the four rounds of funding offered through the program, Landmarks Illinois awarded financial support to 13 WWI monument preservation projects in 11 different communities. In all, the grant program provided \$73,775 in funding to communities and nonprofits to help restore these important, yet aging and sometimes forgotten, historical markers.

Landmarks Illinois wishes to thank the Pritzker Military Foundation for the financial support that made the LI WWI Monument Preservation Grant Program possible. Learn about a few of the recipients of this special grant program below.

NEW YORK MEMORIAL BRIDGE AURORA

The City of Aurora received two grants totaling \$15,000 through the World War I Monument Preservation Grant Program – one in 2017 and another in 2018. The two grants helped the city repair various elements of the New York Memorial Bridge, a 660-foot-long bridge spanning the Fox River and constructed in 1931 as a tribute to WWI soldiers. According to reports, about 3,600 men and 14 women from Aurora served in WWI and about 85 died.

The city's LI grant-funded projects included restoring the bronze "Branches of Services Plaque," which had suffered corrosion from weather over the years. Funding also went to restoring the bridge's four "Memory" sculptures (pictured on the cover of this newsletter) and a 12-foot bronze Messenger Goddess Victory statue, which sits atop a 10-foot limestone base. LI was proud to provide funding for

the City of Aurora's large-scale, multi-year project aimed at preserving this significant piece of local history.

BELLEAU WOOD WWI MONUMENT DES PLAINES

In 2017, LI awarded a \$3,000 grant to the Second Indianhead Division Association to clean and restore the Belleau Wood WWI monument within the Cook County Forest Preserve in Des Plaines. The monument, which was originally dedicated in 1926, commemorates the three-week Battle of Belleau Wood of 1918 and is the largest memorial outside of Washington, D.C., to honor the U.S. 2nd Division.

Following the project's completion, the Second Indianhead Division Association held a rededication ceremony in August 2018. Since working on the WWI monument in Des Plaines, the Second Indianhead Division Association – the official organization of veterans who served in the 2nd Infantry Division of the U.S. Army – has expanded its focus to other WWI monuments throughout the nation and the world. For instance, the organization is looking to restore and add to the existing WWI Second Division Memorial in President's Park in Washington, D.C.

DOUGHBOY STATUE HERRIN

An iconic image of WWI is the doughboy, and a number of doughboy statues dedicated to WWI soldiers exist in Illinois. Among them is the doughboy statue in Herrin, which received a World War I Monument Preservation grant from LI in 2017. The E.M. Viquesney "Spirit of

the American Doughboy" statue was dedicated Sept. 6, 1927. It was originally located in Herrin's downtown area but has since moved several times and now sits across from Herrin's City Hall. LI awarded the Herrin American Legion Post 645 \$10,000 in grant funding to aid with restoring the aging memorial. The copper and concrete statue suffered years of degradation from the elements, and a metalsmith was needed to help restore it. The restoration project was completed in 2018. Those involved said the LI grant provided a base of financial support to make the project possible.

For a full list of LI World War I Monument Preservation Grant Program recipients, and to learn more about each grant-funded project, visit our website at www.landmarks.org and click on "Financial Resources" under the "Resources" menu. 🇺🇸

Clockwise from above: The Belleau Wood WWI monument in Des Plaines received a \$3,000 grant from LI's World War I Monument Preservation grant program to help restore the 1926 memorial.

The bronze "Branches of Services Plaque" on the New York City Bridge in Aurora was among the restoration projects LI helped fund through its WWI monument grant program.

The Second Indianhead Division Association held a rededication ceremony in August 2018 for the restored Belleau Wood WWI monument in Des Plaines.

The E.M. Viquesney "Spirit of the American Doughboy" statue in Herrin is restored.

Jim Jenkins works on repairing a "Memory" sculpture on the New York City Bridge in Aurora.

A metalsmith was brought in to help restore the copper doughboy WWI statue in Herrin.



THE STATE OF PRESERVATION

HARLEY CLARKE MANSION EVANSTON

In a surprise action on Dec. 10, 2018, influenced by a successful November referendum where more than 80% of voters supported preservation, the Evanston City Council voted not to appeal the Preservation Commission's denial of the city's demolition request for the Harley Clarke Mansion. This was despite the offer of funds by a small group of private citizens to pay for demolition. The vote, for now at least, signals the city will not pursue demolition and will reevaluate next steps. LI will continue to work with local advocates and partners to ensure the preservation of this local and national landmark and to find a viable reuse solution.



EVANSTON

WHITNEY SCHOOLHOUSE CAMPTON HILLS

Since 2015, LI's Skyline Council of young professionals has been committed to a service project to save this 1852, one-room schoolhouse - the oldest in Kane County. Working with public officials from the village, township and county, a relocation is planned from private property to Campton Township's Gray Willows Farm for future public use. Skyline Council has raised nearly all the needed funds and acquired donated materials for the project's first phase, which includes the building's relocation, a new foundation and stabilization. For more information on this project and Skyline Council's efforts, contact Tiffanie Williams at LI.

Skyline Council member Erica Ruggiero and Campton Township Supervisor John Kupar at Whitney Schoolhouse.



CAMPTON HILLS

FREEPORT CITY HALL, FREEPORT

Freeport City Hall, included on LI's 2012 Most Endangered Historic Places in Illinois, was demolished in December. The City of Freeport had listed the 1899 building for sale but did not receive any offers. The building had been vacant since 2011. The local advocacy organization, Citizens for Saving Freeport City Hall, criticized the demolition timing with the new State Historic Tax Credit program beginning in 2019. Landmarks Illinois facilitated a building assessment in 2012 via Gary Anderson Architects, and the Citizens group placed the building on the National Register in 2016. Despite the loss, the effort inspired local preservation advocate Kathy Wilken to run for City Council in 2019.

(Credit: John O'Connor)



FREEPORT

IN THE FIELD



1000 BLOCK OF SOUTH CLAREMONT CHICAGO

The worker's cottage in Chicago is disappearing, often due to its small square footage and easy replacement where zoning allows higher density and building lots accommodate larger single-family homes. Chicago Patterns blogger John Morris wrote of cottages, "The change in neighborhood demographics... is different as wealthy newcomers often opt for large single-family homes often built after tearing down an existing home." After a cottage demolition, homeowners of the 1000 Block of South Claremont in the Tri-Taylor neighborhood approached LI to assist with a historic district effort to protect the remaining 1884 Queen Anne cottages that line the street. LI provided a grant through its Preservation Heritage Fund to hire a consultant to prepare a Chicago landmark designation report and is working with residents, the alderman and city staff on a landmark district designation to be completed in 2019.



OLD KENDALL COUNTY RESIDENCE & JAIL YORKVILLE

This past fall, local advocates and LI convinced the Yorkville City Council to delay a vote on demolishing the former residence and jail in favor of issuing a new request for proposals (RFP) for those interested in purchasing and rehabbing the property. LI further assisted the city by providing building experts who conducted on-site inspections and confirmed the structural stability of the National Register-eligible building, included on LI's 2003 Most Endangered Historic Places in Illinois. LI also provided information on financial incentives for the RFP to attract a preservation-minded buyer. As part of a redevelopment project, a buyer could take advantage of the 20% Federal Historic Tax Credit and apply for the new 25% statewide historic tax credit. The city is offering TIF assistance as well. Responses to the RFP are due March 26, 2019. More information can be found on the United City of Yorkville's and Landmarks Illinois' websites.



OLD MILLSTADT WATER TOWER MILLSTADT

The Friends of the Old Millstadt Water Tower recently passed the halfway mark in its \$200,000 fundraising goal to restore the Old Millstadt Water Tower. Built in 1931, the rare "tin man" style tower has sat empty since 2011 following the construction of a new tower. Plans for demolition of the historic tower led LI to include the Old Millstadt Water Tower on its 2014 Most Endangered Historic Places in Illinois. Galvanized by the listing, the Friends of the Old Millstadt Water Tower successfully negotiated a 10-year lease for the water tower in 2016 with a requirement that it be repainted within five years. With two years to go, the nonprofit friends group is hard at work to raise the second half of needed funds. More information is available at www.millstadtwatertower.org. Donations are accepted via the website or at P.O. Box 335, Millstadt, IL 62260.

GET TO KNOW
SUZANNE GERMANN

LI'S DIRECTOR OF GRANTS & EASEMENTS

Suzanne Germann has worked at Landmarks Illinois for nearly 15 years, first brought on staff to oversee the organization’s existing preservation easements. Over her decade and a half at LI, Suzanne has taken on a number of additional responsibilities, from significantly expanding LI’s grant funding to managing programs that have become pivotal for the organization. Below, Suzanne tells us about her work and how she helps people save places in Illinois.

As the Director of LI’s grant programs, you work closely with people from all over the state to provide financial support to preserve historic places in their communities. What inspires you about these local preservation projects?

Suzanne Germann: Although the majority of the grants LI awards are considered small—between \$1,000 and \$5,000—they can make a significant impact on a project and a community. Our grants are often awarded early in the project and used to leverage additional funding, providing the foundation for additional financial support and offering credibility to the grantee and their project. One of the best parts of my job is getting into smaller communities across the state and meeting the people doing the work to preserve our history.

You also manage Landmarks Illinois’ preservation easements. How many preservation easements does Landmarks Illinois hold, and why are these legal agreements important to ensure historic sites are preserved properly?

SG: Landmarks Illinois protects more than 550 Illinois properties with preservation easements. This legal protection is thought to be the strongest preservation tool as the oversight that LI provides ensures the property is preserved and maintained forever. I manage the annual monitoring of all easement properties to ensure they are maintained. I also staff the Easement Committee, made up of preservation professionals who make certain any proposed alterations to an easement property meet the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation.

How has your role at Landmarks Illinois evolved over the years?

SG: In April, I will celebrate my 15th anniversary with Landmarks Illinois. When I started in 2004, my job was almost exclusively managing our existing preservation easements. In 2005, I worked with LI Director of Advocacy Lisa DiChiera to create the Preservation Heritage Fund and expand our grant program from an average \$5,000 per year to \$26,000 per year.



Over time, I have taken on more responsibilities including managing the Richard H. Driehaus Foundation Preservation Awards program, the Donnelley Preservation Fund Grant program, WWI Monument Preservation Grant Program, Cornerstones for Community program and the Restoration Resources Directory. I am also currently assisting a property owner with the restoration of the Oscar Stanton De Priest House.

What is the most rewarding part of your job at Landmarks Illinois?

SG: I love being able to assist, in any small way, someone who shares a passion for historic buildings and communities. As in anything, there are wins and losses in preservation, but I am the fortunate one who gets to share in the wins. There are few things more enjoyable than informing someone that LI is supporting their work through a grant or an award. 🇺🇸

PEOPLE
BARBARA DONNELLEY

The Barbara C. and Thomas E. Donnelley II Preservation Fund for Illinois provides monetary assistance to preserve or protect significant structures and sites in Illinois, a grant program that was transferred to Landmarks Illinois in 2013. Barbara “Barbi” Donnelley and her long-time colleague Gerald W. Adelmann, President & CEO of Openlands, head the advisory committee for this endowed fund. Landmarks Illinois recently sat down with Barbi for an interview.



Landmarks Illinois: Landmarks Illinois launched the Barbara C. and Thomas E. Donnelley II Preservation Fund five years ago. What inspired you to fund this grant program and make it available for planning activities?

Barbara Donnelley: I am a former trustee of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and that is where this fund started. Additionally, Tom and I are grassroots people – Illinois means everything to us, especially Chicago where we have a lot of family history. For example, my great, great grandfather was a member of the congregation at Second Presbyterian Church in Chicago, which was a recent grant recipient. Our purpose with the fund was to be able to preserve the history in our home state and town.

LI: Thanks to your generous support, Landmarks Illinois is able to provide seed funds to people saving places important to them throughout the state. Why is it important to you, personally, to be a part of preserving historic places in Illinois?

BD: In addition to the personal, family connections to places around Chicago, it has been really fun for us to explore and learn about downstate communities. Through the grant program, we are connecting with people from other parts of the state and visiting places where the grant funding has had an impact, like Jacksonville and Princeton. It’s a great way to see the state and the places you have helped.

LI: Is there a specific grant recipient or historic preservation project since the grant program launched in 2013 that you found notable or especially inspiring?

BD: I think it would be the project in Princeton to list the city’s downtown districts on the National Register. I had the chance to visit Princeton after the city received the grant in 2016 and was treated to tours of the town and lunch with the mayor. The city and the residents really made an impression on me! These people truly care about their community, and I think it is so important.

LI: Can you tell us about a historic place in your own community that is important to you and why it is meaningful to you?

BD: Prairie Avenue in Chicago. Back in 1972, I took the docents training course for the Chicago Architecture Foundation (now Chicago Architecture Center) at Glessner House on Prairie Avenue. I did not know at the time, but I would find out that my great grandfather’s former house was right across the street from Glessner House, so that avenue ended up having a big effect on me.

While I was chair of the Mies Van Der Rohe Society at IIT, we played a large part in the restoration of Carr Chapel, a stunning nondenominational building and Mies Van Der Rohe’s only religious structure.

Additionally, we were recently involved in a small way with the restoration of Unity Temple in Oak Park. What is special is being a part of history, seeing it come alive and seeing it become not only structurally sound but relevant today.

Wrightwood 659 is another one right in our neighborhood. Architect Tadao Ando is one of my absolute favorites.

LI: What would you say to encourage others to consider creating historic preservation donor-advised funds?

BD: I think sense of place is so important, and people need to feel engaged. A personal involvement really makes a difference, too, and it doesn’t have to be a family connection. Take the Princeton example – the town went all out to show us how proud they were of their community. That pride in our city is what we need to show more of. 🇺🇸

BY THE NUMBERS

At right are statistics on LI’s grant programs during calendar year 2018. Visit www.landmarks.org to learn more about our grant programs and to read about our grant recipients.

Number of grant programs LI offered in 2018: the Preservation Heritage Fund, the Barbara C. and Thomas E. Donnelley II Preservation Fund and the Landmarks Illinois World War I Monument Preservation Grant Program.

3

Total amount of grant funding LI awarded in 2018 through the three grant programs.

\$92,075

24

Number of grants LI awarded in 2018 through its three grant programs.

18

Illinois communities where 2018 LI grant-funded preservation projects are located.

14th Annual Legendary Landmarks Celebration



MARCH 7, 2019
HILTON CHICAGO GRAND BALLROOM
720 S. MICHIGAN AVE., CHICAGO
Cocktail Reception 5:30 p.m.
Awards Ceremony & Dinner 6:30 p.m.
Dessert After Party 8:30 p.m.

At its 14th Annual Legendary Landmarks Celebration, Landmarks Illinois will honor Judith and Raymond McCaskey, Murphy Development Group (John T. Murphy, Chairman & CEO) and Wintrust (Edward J. Wehmer, President & CEO) as its 2019 Corporate and Legendary Landmarks. The awards program and ceremony gathers Landmarks Illinois’ biggest advocates for an evening of celebration and tribute to its honorees and their civic and business contributions in Illinois. This event fills Hilton Chicago’s Grand Ballroom each year with nearly 800 guests and funds a significant portion of LI’s Advocacy Program, which is at the heart of LI’s work. For reservations and table sponsorship opportunities, visit www.Landmarks.org.

(Left to right): Judith and Raymond McCaskey, John T. Murphy and Edward J. Wehmer.

Skyline Council raised over \$50,000 for Landmarks Illinois in a record-breaking fundraising season. The 7th Annual Skyline Social was held Oct. 25, 2018, at Marshall’s Landing in Chicago’s historic Merchandise Mart. With over 200 in attendance, young and seasoned professionals enjoyed a fun evening of tours, music and networking. In addition to the Social, the council held its first Fall Pub Crawl in Andersonville on Dec. 6, 2018, and hosted two evenings of its popular Trivia Night at Revolution Brewpub in Logan Square on Jan. 28 and 29, 2019.

Members of the Skyline Council of Landmarks Illinois. (credit: Pivot-Photography)



Record Breaking Fundraising Efforts by Skyline Council

On Nov. 29, 2018, Landmarks Illinois’ Real Estate and Building Industries Council celebrated the upcoming restoration of Uptown Theatre, the long shuttered movie palace and live music venue in the Uptown neighborhood. In partnership with Farpoint Development and Jam Productions, RBIC hosted its annual fundraiser in the Uptown Entertainment District. The evening included a cocktail reception in the historic bank lobby of Bridgeview Bank and tours of Uptown Theatre led by Friends of the Uptown. For decades, Uptown Theatre sat vacant and was listed on LI’s Most Endangered Historic Places in Illinois four times. Landmarks Illinois is excited to see Uptown Theatre reimagined and thanks Farpoint and Jam for helping LI raise close to \$90,000 for its advocacy programs.

LI Board Member Jack Tribbia, Maria DiGrino, Jerry Michelson of Jam Productions, and LI President & CEO Bonnie McDonald. (credit: Pivot Photography)



Real Estate and Building Industries Council Celebrates Uptown Theatre



PRESERVATION SNAPSHOTS

Bringing the Underground Railroad Home
Saturday, March 9, 2019
Quinn Chapel AME Church, Chicago

CONTRIBUTIONS
THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS

\$25,000 & ABOVE Van Dam Charitable Foundation		AUGUST 26-DECEMBER 1, 2018 Through membership dues, contributions, event sponsorship and grants, Landmarks Illinois is able to preserve, protect and promote Illinois’ historic buildings and sites. The Board of Directors, volunteers and staff sincerely thank all our supporters for their contributions. However, space allows us to only list the following.	
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Together, we are people saving places! When you join our convenient monthly giving program, you'll become a **SUSTAINING PARTNER*** in the effort to save Illinois' historic places. Monthly giving allows you to immediately maximize your support for the preservation of our state's remarkable past creating a better future for all of us.

Monthly giving allows Landmarks Illinois to reduce our overhead costs and spend more time working to protect historic places that give value, meaning and character to Illinois communities.

* Correction from the November 2018 newsletter.

Advocates in front of the Old Nichols Library in Naperville, a site included on LI's 2018 Most Endangered Historic Places in Illinois.

(credit: Gail Diedrichsen)

MONTHLY
GIVING

Visit us at
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SUSTAINING PARTNER

