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**KENDALL COUNTY  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

111 West Fox Street • Rooms 209 and 210 • Yorkville, IL • 60560  
(630) 553-4141 Fax (630) 553-4179

**AGENDA**

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March 21, 2022 – 6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL: Eric Bernacki (Secretary), Elizabeth Flowers (Vice-Chair), Kristine Heiman, Marty Shanahan, and Jeff Wehrli (Chair)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Approval of Minutes of December 20, 2021 Meeting (Pages 2-4)  
Approval of Minutes of January 18, 2022 Gathering (Page 5)  
Approval of Minutes of February 16, 2022 Meeting (Pages 6-62)

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

NEW BUSINESS:

1. None

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Discussion of February 16, 2022, Meeting with Historic Preservation Organizations
  - a. Approval of Invoices for Food and Beverages in the Amount of \$68.74; Invoices to Be Paid from PBZ Department's Historical Preservation Line Item 11001902-63830 (Pages 63-68)
  - b. Follow-Up Discussion Regarding the Meeting
2. Review of Historic Preservation Award Applications; Commission Could Select Award Winner(s) (Pages 69-72)
  - a. Kohlhammer Barn (19 North Street, Oswego) (Pages 73-85)
  - b. Historic Yorkville Jail and Sheriff's Residence (111 W. Madison Street, Yorkville) (Pages 86-126)
  - c. Union School (7935 Route 71, Yorkville) (Pages 127-132)
  - d. Fern Dell School (Pages 133-137)
  - e. Misner Blacksmith's Shop (Pages 138-144)
  - f. Bev Casey (Pages 145-151)
  - g. Yorkville Historic Preservation Society (Pages 152-161)
3. Discussion of Historic Survey Project/Certified Local Government Grant (Pages 162-164)
4. Discussion of Cemeteries (Pages 165-167)

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. February 19, 2022, Little White School Museum Press Release (Pages 168-170)

PUBLIC COMMENT:

ADJOURNMENT:

If special accommodations or arrangements are needed to attend this County meeting, please contact the Administration Office at 630-553-4171, a minimum of 24-hours prior to the meeting time.

**KENDALL COUNTY**  
**Historic Preservation Commission**  
***Kendall County Office Building***  
***County Board Room (Rooms 209 and 210)***  
***111 W. Fox Street, Yorkville, Illinois***  
**6:00 p.m.**

**December 20, 2021-Unofficial Until Approved**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Jeff Wehrli called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Eric Bernacki (Secretary), Elizabeth Flowers (Vice-Chairwoman), Kristine Heiman, Marty Shanahan, and Jeff Wehrli (Chairman)

Absent: None

Also Present: Matt Asselmeier (Senior Planner)

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Member Flowers made a motion, seconded by Member Heiman, to approve the agenda as presented. With a voice vote of five (5) ayes, the motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Member Flowers made a motion, seconded by Member Shanahan, to approve the minutes from the November 15, 2021, meeting. With a voice vote of five (5) ayes, the motion carried.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Chairman Wehrli apologized for not reviewing the packet prior to the meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

***Approval of Certified Local Government Annual Report***

Commissioners reviewed the draft Annual Report.

Mr. Asselmeier reported that the State was not requiring proof of courses or trainings.

Commissioners had no concerns to report in relation to question 25.

Commissioners requested that "for structure survey of two townships" be added to question 26 regarding successes.

The State does not require official action by the County Board.

Without objection, the Commission approved the Annual Report with the addition to question 26 and no concerns related to question 25.

***Discussion of a Contract Between Kendall County and Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. Regarding the Historic Structure Survey in Kendall and Bristol Townships***

Commissioners reviewed the draft contract.



After review by the Commission, the proposal will be forwarded to the Planning, Building and Zoning Committee for referral to the State's Attorney's Office.

Member Bernacki expressed concerns that the exclusion of Helmar was not referenced.

Member Shanahan noted that the court of competent jurisdiction should be Kendall County courts.

Commissioners reiterated several times that the maximum cost of the project should be Forty-Two Thousand, Five Hundred Dollars (\$42,500). Volunteer hours would not be quantified and Staff's salary would not go towards the match.

Commissioners requested to know the number of volunteers needed for the project. Mr. Asselmeier will contact Ken Itle for an answer.

Mr. Asselmeier was unsure when the State's Attorney's Office would review the contract. The earliest the proposal would be sent to the State's Attorney was after the January Planning, Building and Zoning Committee meeting.

Discussion occurred about using the group meeting in February as a way to recruit volunteers.

Member Bernacki asked how many binders would be produced and the cost of those documents. Mr. Asselmeier will ask Ken Itle about the costs and number of these items.

No permits would be required to complete this project.

Mr. Asselmeier will check if the CD-Roms would be compatible with GIS.

Without objection, the consensus of the Commission was to forward the contract to the State's Attorney's Office.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### ***Discussion of Historic Preservation Awards***

Commissioners reviewed the award application packet and press release.

Discussion occurred about nominating the old barn in Henneberry Woods. There were concerns about nominating a project that was not significantly completed.

The Yorkville Jail was suggested for possible award. Mr. Asselmeier will contact the owner of the Yorkville Jail.

Discussion occurred regarding nominating the Little White School Museum for an award for their building and as an organization.

### ***Discussion of 2022 Meeting with Historic Preservation Groups***

Commissioners reviewed the proposed agenda for the February 2022 meeting. The consensus of the Commission was to add Discussion of Volunteers for Structure Survey and Historic Preservation Awards after the Presentation on the Historic Structure Survey.

### ***Discussion of Historic Survey Project/Certified Local Government Grant***

There was no update on this project; the Commission was waiting on the State for information regarding grant award.

### ***Discussion of Cemeteries***

Commissioners reviewed the updated map and list of cemeteries with the information from the Kendall County Historical Society.

Member Bernacki walked around the Seward Mound Cemetery. He noted the various names of the cemetery. He noted that many headstones were knocked over. The local American Legion or VFW seemed to have some accounting of the cemetery.

Member Heiman discussed the Kendall County IL GenWeb website. Discussion occurred about purchasing information related to each cemetery. Mr. Asselmeier will research the cost and who owns the information. Chairman Wehrli suggested documenting the information, making the information available for the public, and honoring veterans.

Member Heiman asked what the Commission intended to do with the cemetery information.

Member Bernacki asked if the cemetery associations were still active. Discussion occurred regarding whether or not these organizations were completing the required tax information.

Member Heiman discussed oral histories of World War II veterans.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

#### ***December 2021 Edition of The Bell Tower***

Commissioners reviewed the newsletter.

Chairman Wehrli suggested putting an article in The Bell Tower; Chairman Wehrli will ask if publishing an article was possible.

#### ***December 6, 2021 Letter from the Edith Farnsworth House***

Commissioners reviewed the letter.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Member Flowers made a motion, seconded by Member Heiman, to adjourn. With a voice vote of five (5) ayes, the motion carried. The Historic Preservation Commission adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Matthew H. Asselmeier, AICP, CFM  
Senior Planner

**KENDALL COUNTY**  
**Historic Preservation Commission**  
*Kendall County Office Building*  
*County Board Room (Rooms 209 and 210)*  
*111 W. Fox Street, Yorkville, Illinois*  
**6:00 p.m.**

**January 18, 2022-Unofficial Until Approved**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Jeff Wehrli called the meeting to order at 6:20 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Eric Bernacki (Secretary) and Jeff Wehrli (Chairman)

Absent: Elizabeth Flowers (Vice-Chairwoman), Kristine Heiman, and Marty Shanahan

Also Present: Matt Asselmeier (Senior Planner)

**ADJOURNMENT**

Due to an absence of a quorum, the meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Matthew H. Asselmeier, AICP, CFM

Senior Planner

**KENDALL COUNTY**  
**Historic Preservation Commission**  
*Little White School Museum*  
*72 Polk Street, Oswego, Illinois*  
**6:00 p.m.**  
**February 16, 2022-Unofficial Until Approved**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Jeff Wehrli called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Eric Bernacki (Secretary), Elizabeth Flowers (Vice-Chairwoman), Kristine Heiman, Marty Shanahan, and Jeff Wehrli (Chairman)

Absent: None

Also Present: Matt Asselmeier (Senior Planner), Lisa Wolancevich, Johanna Byram, Mike Bortal, Scott Gryder, Jeff Nakaerts, Subash George, Ed Hatteberg, Sarah Skilton, Jane Burke, Philip Buchanan, Ken Wolf, Ken Donart, Marilyn Thompson, Scott Gengler, Ruben Rodriguez, Mark Harrington, Ted Clauser, Kenneth Itle, Annie Jordan, and Jon Pressley (Attended Remotely)

**WELCOMING REMARKS**

Chairman Wehrli welcomed everyone and thanked everyone for attending.

Attendees introduced themselves.

Kendall County Board Chairman Scott Gryder thanked everyone for attending.

Chairman Wehrli thanked the Little White School Museum for hosting.

Chairman Wehrli discussed the history of Kendall County, importance of historic preservation, and the story of the creation of the Historic Preservation Commission.

**UPDATE FROM ILLINOIS HISTORIC PRESERVATION AGENCY**

Jon Pressley, Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, discussed the effort of making Kendall County a Certified Local Government. He also discussed the Certified Local Government Grant Program and the Amplifund Program. All of the grants have been graded; there will be a meeting between the State and County on February 17, 2022. He noted an extension to complete the historic structure survey timeline. He also discussed the Historic Preservation Fund. He discussed future grant cycles.

Chairman Wehrli asked if extra money would be available next year. Mr. Pressley said there would be an extra year for completion, possibly June 30, 2022. Extra money might be available. Mr. Pressley said a new grant window would open around September.

Mr. Pressley explained the types of projects funded by Certified Local Government Grants. These projects included surveys, brochures, other public relations documents, camps for historic preservation commissions. He discussed cultural resource management hazard mitigation planning.

**PRESENTATION BY LITTLE WHITE SCHOOL MUSEUM**

Annie Jordan, Museum Manager of the Little White School Museum, provided a history of the building and the Oswegoland Heritage Association. She also discussed historic preservation efforts in the Oswego area. Discussion also occurred regarding the windows of the building. Discussion occurred regarding Museum's

collection, how the Museum acquired items, and efforts to preserve items in the collection. There are over thirty-four thousand (34,000) items in the Museum's collection. Discussion also occurred regarding the bell that used to be in the building when the structure was a church. The church may have been moved to this location.

Chairman Wehrli asked if the Museum had an additional location to display their collection. Ms. Jordan responded the Oswego Heritage Association owns the Stewart House, but there were not any plans to use that property for displaying artifacts. The Museum was doing more programs in Downtown Oswego. Discussion occurred regarding doing a traveling show and engaging youth.

### **PRESENTATION ON HISTORIC STRUCTURE SURVEY**

Kenneth Itle, of Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc., discussed historic structure surveys, how they occur, and the deliverables of such surveys. He also discussed the importance and roles of volunteers when doing a survey. The focus of the project would be unincorporated Kendall and Bristol Townships. The maximum number of volunteers would be around eight to ten (8-10) and the minimum number of volunteers needed would be around three to four (3-4). The work would probably occur simultaneously in Kendall and Bristol Townships. Discussion occurred regarding where the finished reports would be located.

Mr. Asselmeier explained that each township would be surveyed. The results of the surveys would be used to create a Preservation Plan for the County. He also explained the Commission's reasons for selecting Kendall and Bristol Townships.

Few counties in Illinois have undertaken rural surveys.

Mike Bortal, Plainfield Historic Preservation Commission, discussed surveys in the Plainfield area. He also offered to write a landmark nomination for the Stewart Farmstead if the Oswego Heritage Association was interested.

### **DISCUSSION OF VOLUNTEERS FOR STRUCTURE SURVEY**

Chairman Wehrli said the Commission would reach out to the network to ask for volunteers when the project reaches that point.

### **DISCUSSION OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARDS**

Mr. Asselmeier explained the historic preservation awards, including past award winners. The application deadline is February 28<sup>th</sup>. He also explained the process of selecting awards. Awards may be granted to buildings, groups, and individuals. Structures must be over fifty (50) years of age.

### **ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION**

Ken Donart, Chapel on the Green, discussed the Chapel on the Green structure. He noted that the Chapel received a COVID grant from the County. There will be a memorial bench dedication for the Mantheis later this year.

Subash George, Oswego Preservation Commission, discussed filling vacancies on the Oswego Preservation Commission. He discussed engaging children in historic preservation.

Ed Hatteberg, Norsk Museum, said funding was a problem. He also said several board members have passed and there has been difficulty getting younger board members. There will be a breakfast for the grand opening in June. The Sons of Norway Polar Star Lodge will be hosting the Norwegian Dancers on March 6, 2022, at Cross Lutheran Church in Yorkville; the event is free.

Sarah Skilton, Oswego Library District, discussed their partnership with the Oswegoland Heritage Association.

Mark Harrington discussed his background and the Sandwich Historical Society. He discussed the possibility of doing a Museum Minute on WSPY Radio. He discussed engaging children in historic preservation. He discussed changes at museums; people seem to be more interested in history from the 1940s to 1980s.

Marty Shanahan discussed the Grand Army of the Republic Museum.

Lisa Wolancevich, Yorkville Historic Preservation and Kendall County Historical Society, discussed the Save the Kendall County Jail. She discussed their library and assisting people with genealogical research. They will have events April 14<sup>th</sup>. Discussion occurred about Abraham Lincoln's connections with Kendall County. There will be an Easter egg hunt at Lyons Farm on April 16<sup>th</sup>. She also discussed the car show at the Lyons Farm in 2021.

Johanna Byram, Yorkville Historic Preservation and Kendall County Historic Society, discussed the challenge of engaging people and working with students in need of service hours. She also discussed their digitizing project.

Marilyn Thompson, Ferndell, said they were busy during COVID because people wanted to get out and do things when other places were closed. She discussed the importance of having people sign the attendance sheets at events so that they can be contacted for future activities. She discussed the collections in their museum. She noted their blacksmith's shop was operating and that people love watching him work. She noted the renovations to their buildings. She also discussed their fundraising dinners. She discussed children touring the museum and what the children like at the museum. She discussed using social media for dialogue.

Jane Burke, Naperville Historical Society, discussed historic preservation in Naperville and the need to preserve other structures outside of Naper's Settlement. She and Philip Buchanan were at the meeting to learn.

Jeff Nakaerts, Dickson Murst Farm, explained the history of the organization. He also explained farming activities and other related activities that occur on the property.

Eric Bernacki discussed a Facebook group related to Mokena history. He discussed historic cemeteries. He also discussed development pressure at the Bronk farm.

Mr. Asselmeier read an email from Tina Beaird, Plainfield Historical Society. The Plainfield Historical Society will reopen February 12, 2022, with new exhibits. Discussion occurred regarding the Great Race which will be stopping in Plainfield on June 22, 2022. The Plainfield Public Library will be adding historic newspapers to their website.

### **DISCUSSION OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

Chairman Wehrli said the Commission hopes to have another group meeting this summer. He hoped collaboration will increase. He discussed finding the tombstone of Peter Minkler. He also discussed witnessing youth talking with a Native American and the Hoover Forest Preserve.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Discussion occurred regarding the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Declaration of Independence in 2026 and having a museum pass featuring each museum. Discussion also occurred regarding museums adapting to new technology.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

Member Flowers made a motion, seconded by Member Bernacki, to adjourn. With a voice vote of five (5) ayes, the motion carried.

The Historic Preservation Commission adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

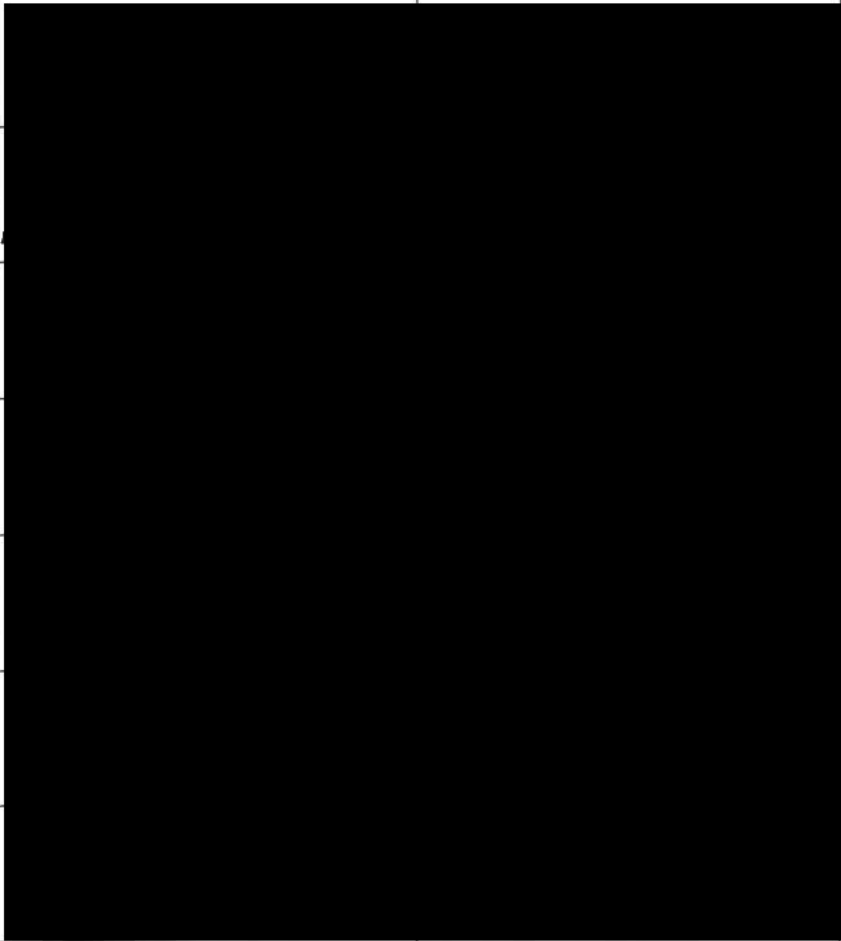
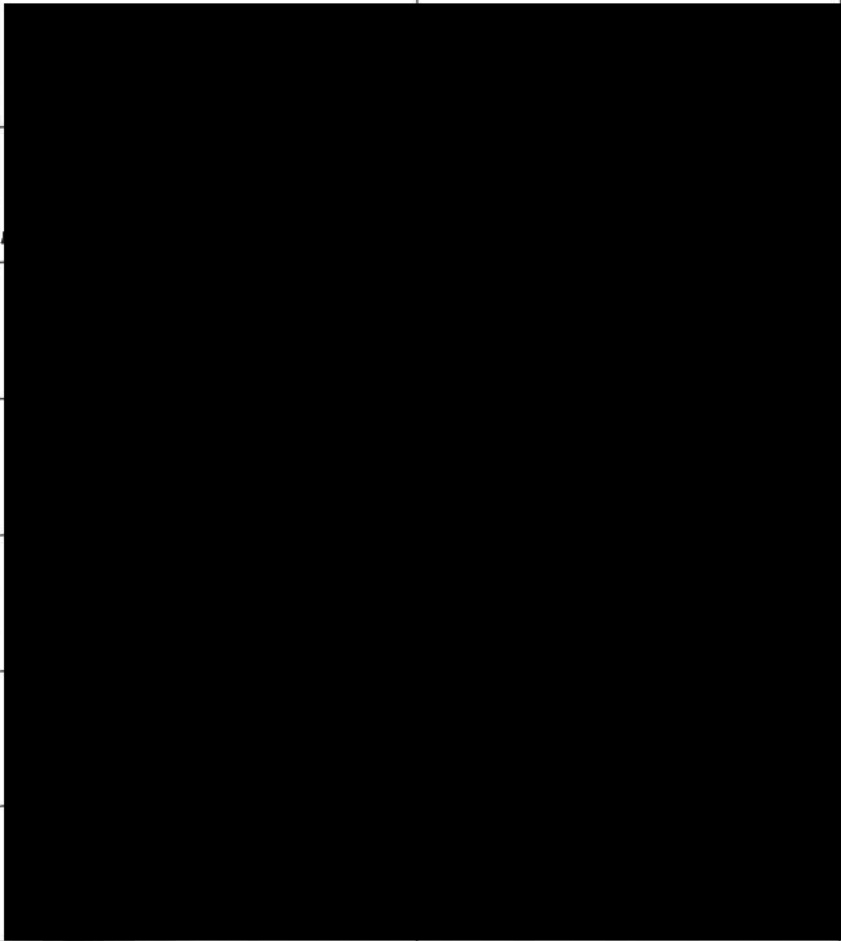
Respectfully Submitted,  
Matthew H. Asselmeier, AICP, CFM  
Senior Planner

Encs.

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**KENDALL COUNTY  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
FEBRUARY 16, 2022**

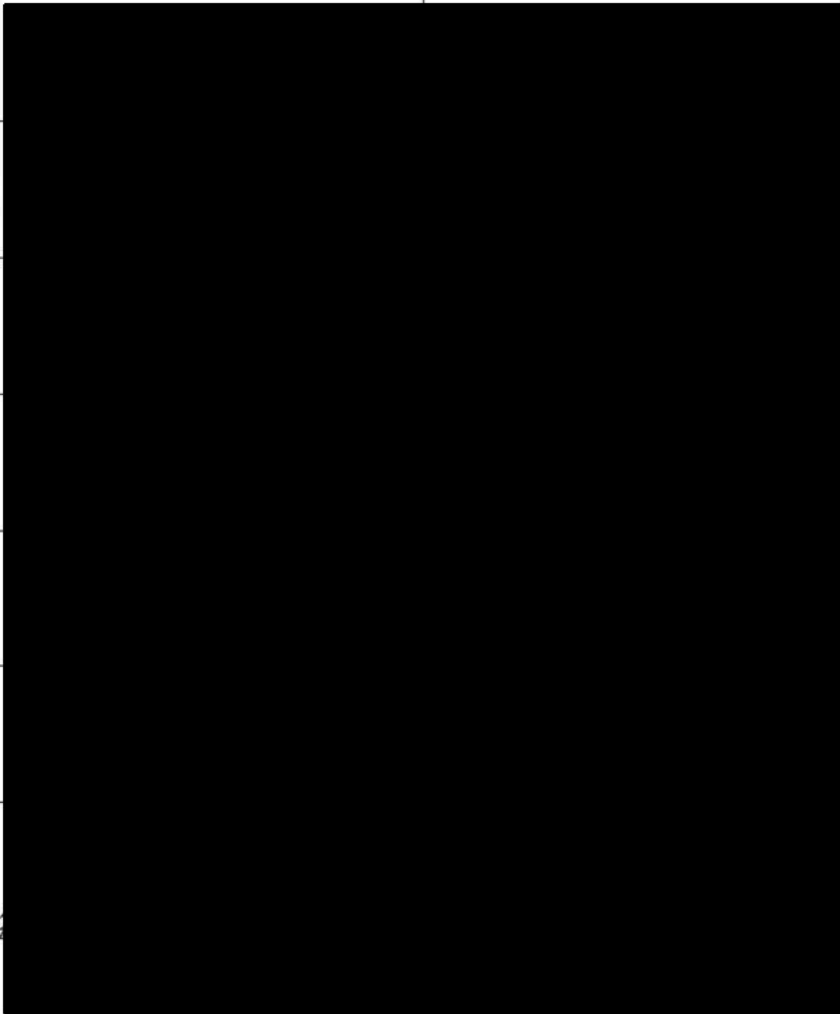
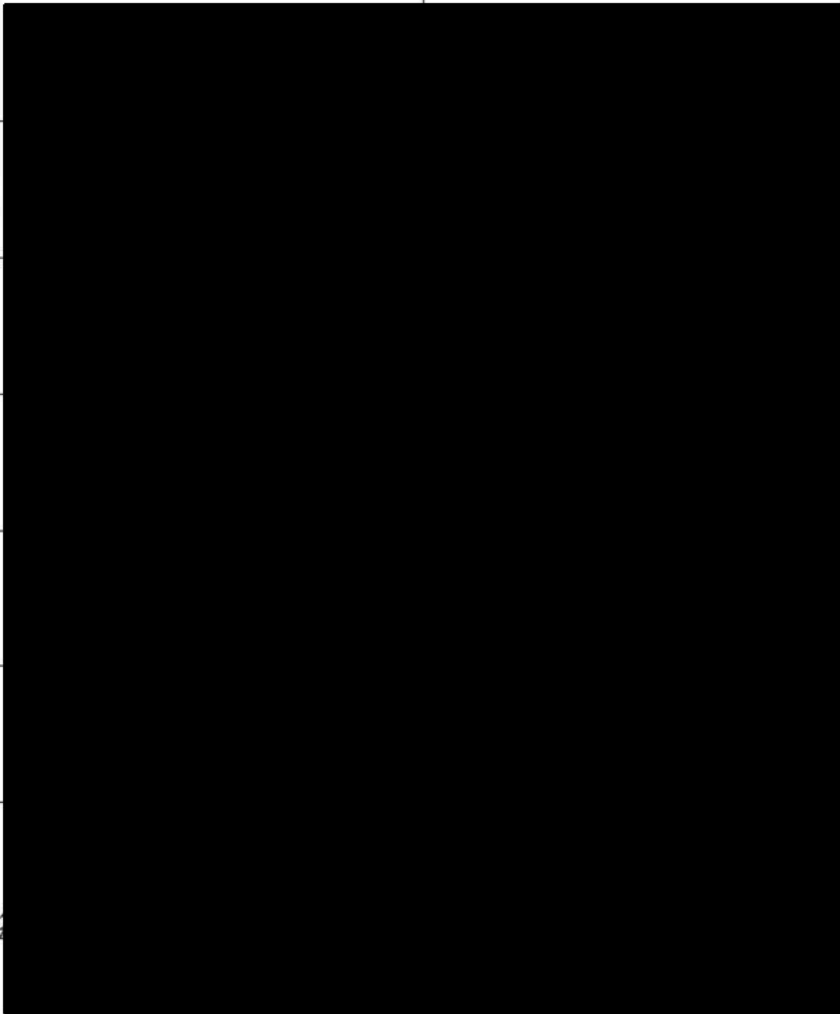
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE CONTACTED ON FUTURE  
MEETINGS REGARDING THIS TOPIC, PLEASE PROVIDE YOUR  
ADDRESS OR EMAIL ADDRESS

NAME	ADDRESS (OPTIONAL)	EMAIL ADDRESS (OPTIONAL)
Kristine Heiman		
Lisa Wolancevich		
Johanna Byram		
Mike Borkel		
Scott Gaylor		
JEFF NAKAERTS		
Subash George		



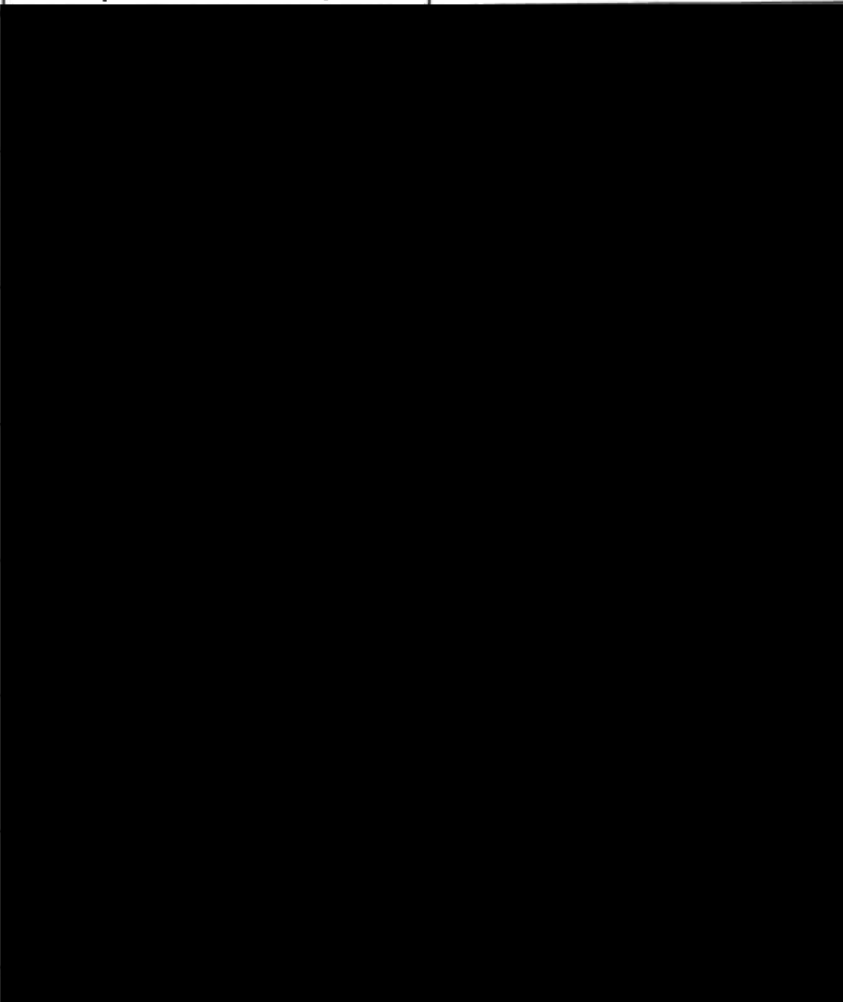
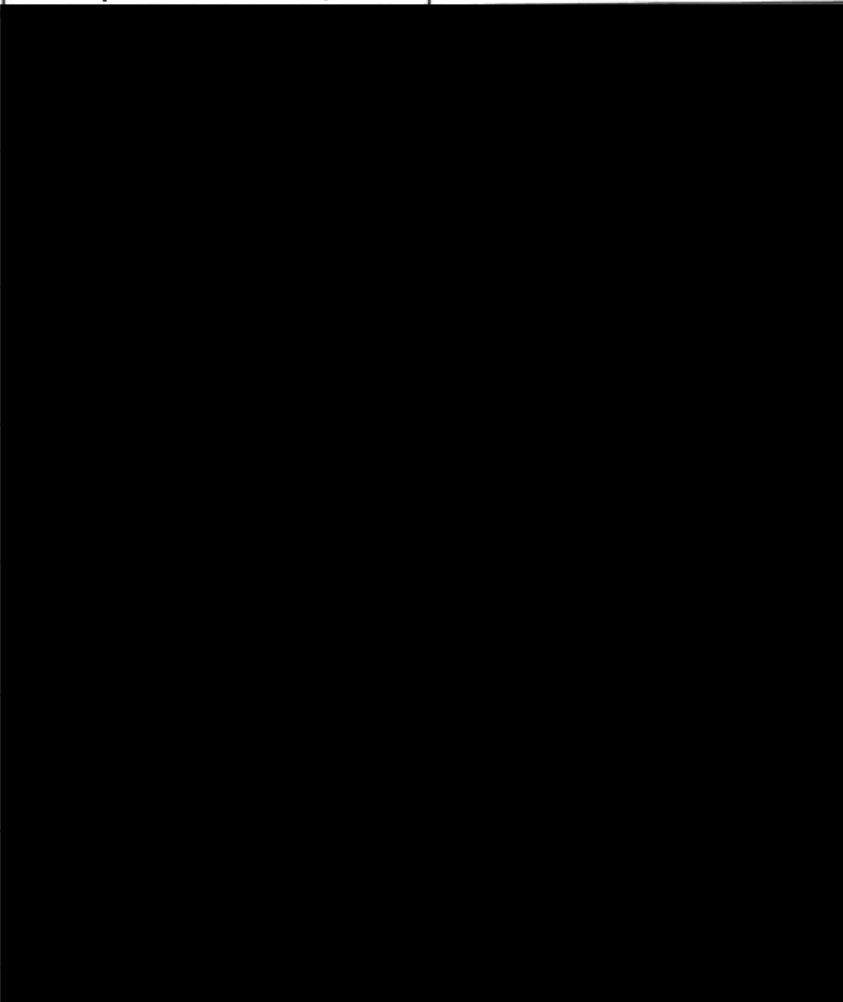
**KENDALL COUNTY  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
FEBRUARY 16, 2022**

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE CONTACTED ON FUTURE MEETINGS REGARDING THIS TOPIC, PLEASE PROVIDE YOUR ADDRESS OR EMAIL ADDRESS

NAME	ADDRESS (OPTIONAL)	EMAIL ADDRESS (OPTIONAL)
ED HATTEBERG		
Shirley Skuier		
Jane Burke		
Philip Buchanan		
Ken Wolf		
Ken Donant		
Marilyn Kemp		

**KENDALL COUNTY  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
FEBRUARY 16, 2022**

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE CONTACTED ON FUTURE MEETINGS REGARDING THIS TOPIC, PLEASE PROVIDE YOUR ADDRESS OR EMAIL ADDRESS

NAME	ADDRESS (OPTIONAL)	EMAIL ADDRESS (OPTIONAL)
Scott Gengler		
Marty Shanahan		
Mark Harrington		
Ted Clauser		
Kenneth HUE		
Annie Jordan		
JEFF WARRIL		

**Norwegian Dancers Perform Live  
Cross Lutheran Church Gymnasium  
8609 Rt. 47, Yorkville, IL  
Sunday, March 6, 2022  
1:30 p.m.**



**The Sons of Norway Polar Star Lodge 4-472 will host a live performance of the Stoughton, Wisconsin, Norwegian Dance troupe on Sunday March 6, 2022. The traveling troupe consists of high school students who perform traditional Norwegian folk dances in authentic Norwegian folk costumes (*bunader*) throughout the Midwest.**

**The performance is open to all vaccinated members of the community. Doors will open at 1:00 and the performance will begin at 1:30 p.m. Polar Star Lodge members will all sell traditional Norwegian pre-packaged baked goods following the performance.**

**For more information contact Polar Star Cultural Director, Barb Johnson, at 630-553-7389 or [barbjjohnsonb@aol.com](mailto:barbjjohnsonb@aol.com)**

## Matt Asselmeier

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**From:** Tina Beaird [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, January 31, 2022 8:10 PM  
**To:** Matt Asselmeier  
**Subject:** [External]Re: February 16th Kendall County Historic Preservation Group Meeting

Hi Matt,

Sorry, I can't be there, I have another commitment for that night. I know Roger was looking for another LWSM board member to be present to talk to the group. I think it was going to be Ted Clauser. Have a great meeting! Here are are a few updates:

The Plainfield Historical Society will reopen on February 12th with two new exhibits for 2022. One exhibit is on cameras and photography and another on the Plainfield fire of December 1891.

The historical society is hosting participants in the "Great Race", a road rally type race with classic cars that takes drivers from Rhode Island to North Dakota. They will be stopping in Plainfield on Wednesday, June 22, 2022, from 5-8 p.m. The village and society are planning a village-wide celebration, everyone is welcome! We'll provide details as the event draws closer. [The Great Race » 2022 Great Race Announced: Warwick, Rhode Island to Fargo, North Dakota](#)



**The Great Race » 2022 Great Race Announced:  
Warwick, Rhode Island to Far...**

Plainfield Public Library has just revamped its website. The local history page will be adding additional Plainfield Enterprises from June 2001-December 2007 in the next couple of months. Currently, the digitized paper spans 1956-2001. [Plainfield History - Plainfield Public Library](#)



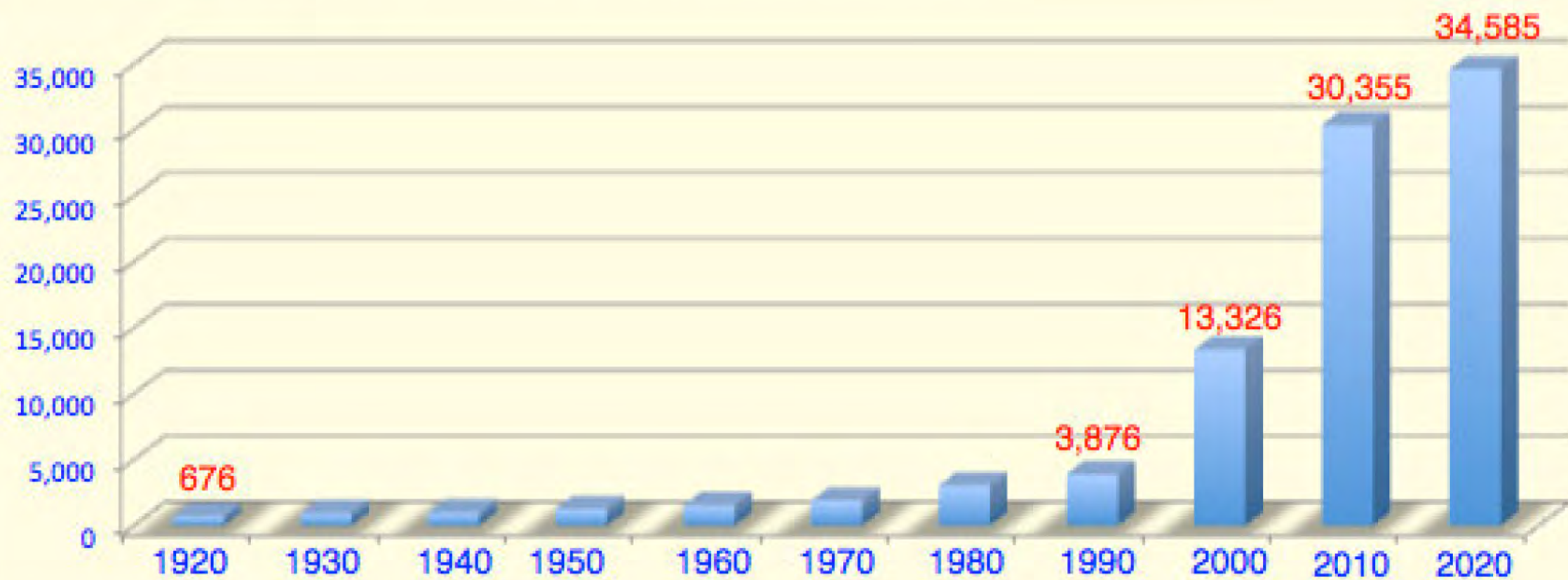
A brief history of  
Little White School Museum

Oswegoland Park District  
Oswegoland Heritage Association  
2022



Between 2010 and 2020, Kendall County was, in percentage terms, the fastest growing county in Illinois...

## Oswego's population, 1920 - 2020





With population growing, both local landmarks and local history were disappearing quickly.



One landmark lost to the wrecking ball in 1965, just a block away from the Little White School Museum, was the iconic Red Brick School.





A few years later, the Oswego Jaycees announced they were working with the CB&Q Railroad to obtain title to and open a community history museum in the old Oswego Depot...





But without informing the Jaycees, the railroad suddenly had the depot demolished, and the community lost a second landmark within just a few years.





As the nation began preparations to celebrate its Bicentennial in the mid-1970s, the Oswego School District Board announced plans to either sell or demolish yet another landmark, the Little White School.







Built in 1850 as a Methodist-Episcopal Church, the building was turned into a one-room school in 1915, undergoing several modifications through the years. Classes were held in the building until 1965, after which it was allowed to deteriorate.





Unwilling to see another landmark fall, a grassroots non-profit organization, the Oswegoland Heritage Association, was established to save and restore the building and open a community museum and historical archives in it.





A three-way partnership was hammered out between the school district, the Oswegoland Park District, and the heritage association to save the building, with the heritage association responsible for coordinating and funding restoration efforts.



Exterior restoration priorities were set as 1) replacing the roof, 2) painting the building, 3) restoring the bell tower, with work starting in 1977.



Roof Replacement  
1977



Painting, 1978



Bell Tower, 1980



Bell Tower, 1980



Bell Tower, 1980



Bell Tower, 1983



While exterior work was going on, the building's 1936 classroom addition was being remodeled into a museum gallery.



By the time work on turning it into a museum gallery began, the room was in bad shape.

Instead of restoring the room, it was decided to completely renovate it with new lighting, electrical service, and a drop ceiling







After the room's renovation, heritage association volunteers worked to put on exhibit some of the hundreds of donated items that had accumulated. The gallery opened in April 1983, in time for the celebration of Oswego's 150th birthday party.





In the autumn of 1983, work on restoring the museum's main meeting room got underway.



North Classroom

That meant the 1930 wall that divided the room into two classrooms, the drop ceiling, and the vestibule had to be removed.

After much discussion, it was decided to restore the main portion of the building to its appearance during its transition from a church to a school.



South Classroom





By the early winter of 1983, demolition was completed and restoration was ready to begin.





Starting in 1977, community residents had begun dropping off artifacts and archival materials at the museum with little or no accounting.



By the early 1990s, the museum basement was cluttered with a mixture of priceless artifacts and archival materials. In 1994 heritage association volunteers drew up an action plan to organize, classify, take legal ownership of, and safely store the growing collection.



In 1995, volunteers Keith Coryell and Stephenie Todd conducted a macro sort of the collection.











Museum staff developed their own database using Filemaker Pro software, and the process of cataloging began. Given the steady stream of donations that kept arriving over the years, the cataloging backlog was not eliminated until 2017.



Meanwhile...

The original vestibule was reproduced using evidence uncovered during restoration work...



The original patterned window glass was recreated by glue-chipping



The sashes were restored and the window trim was reproduced by an Aurora millwork firm





Antique kerosene store lamp fonts were purchased and restored, and Aurora tinsmith Lee Winckler reproduced the lampshades. The hanging fixtures were placed at the same locations as the building's original hanging lights





In 2002, 25 years after restoration began, the final project, flooring the pulpit platform, was completed.







Although occasionally upgraded, the museum gallery's exhibits remained based around the same layout established in 1983. Then in 2016, the heritage association decided to upgrade.





Thanks to a bequest from an estate, funds were available to hire museum consultant Lace Tawzer, who redesigned the gallery and the core exhibit...





Today, the fully restored Little White School Museum has nearly 34,000 items in its database from archival materials to artifacts, while also offering a variety of special exhibits and historical programming, all aimed at protecting, preserving, and interpreting the rich history and heritage of the Oswego area.







That's important  
because history matters...

History connects people to something larger  
than themselves. People need history to  
understand the world around them and  
develop solutions for the future.



The End

© 2022 Oswegoland Heritage Association



## Rural Historic Structures Survey



[www.wje.com](http://www.wje.com)

**WJE** | ENGINEERS  
ARCHITECTS  
MATERIAL SCIENTISTS  
Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc.

February 16, 2022



# Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc.

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Kenneth Itle



# Rural historic structures survey

- Historical research
- Database development
- Mapping
- Field survey
- Report preparation

# Historical research



# Research materials

## HISTORY — OF — KENDALL COUNTY

ILLINOIS.

FROM 1789

Earliest Discoveries to the Present Time.

REV. E. W. HICKS.

Author of "Life of Jesus, for Young People."

AURORA, ILL.:

KNICKERBOCKER & HOOVER, Steam Printers and Blank Book Makers,  
Nos. 24, 26 & 28 Broadway,  
1899.

K. & H.

## GENEALOGICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD OF KENDALL AND WILL COUNTIES ILLINOIS

Containing Biographies of Well Known Citizens of the  
Past and Present

BIOGRAPHICAL PUBLISHING COMPANY

CHICAGO

1901

## Prairie Farmer's Director of Grundy and Kendall Counties Illinois

Complete Directory of the Farmers of Grundy and Kendall Counties, with valuable information about each family.

Breeders' Directory, giving full classified list of breeders of purebred livestock and poultry.

Business Directory, giving list of all business houses in Grundy and Kendall Counties.

Valuable statistics and general information.

Copyright, 1917

By PRAIRIE FARMER PUBLISHING COMPANY

1917

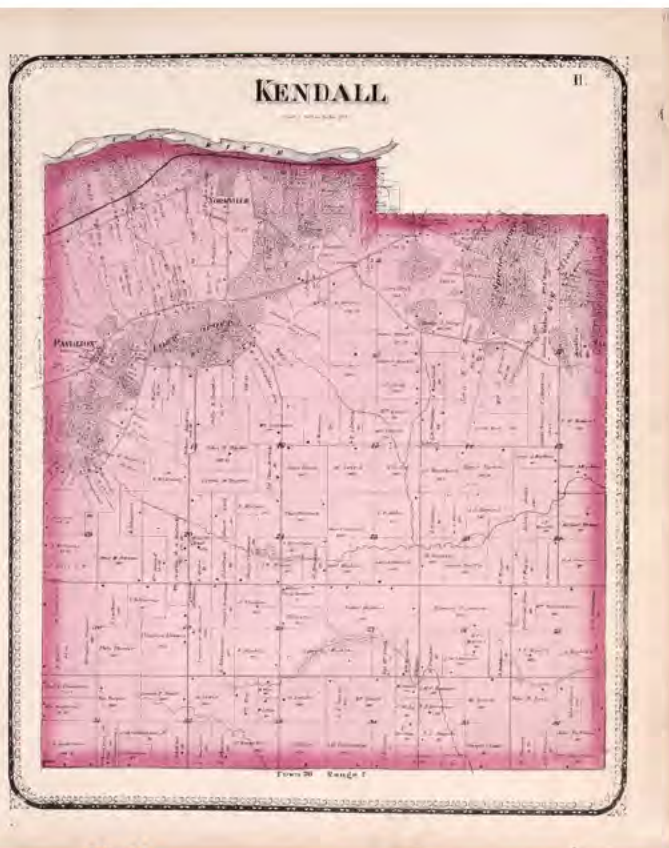
Compiled and Published by

Prairie Farmer Publishing Co.

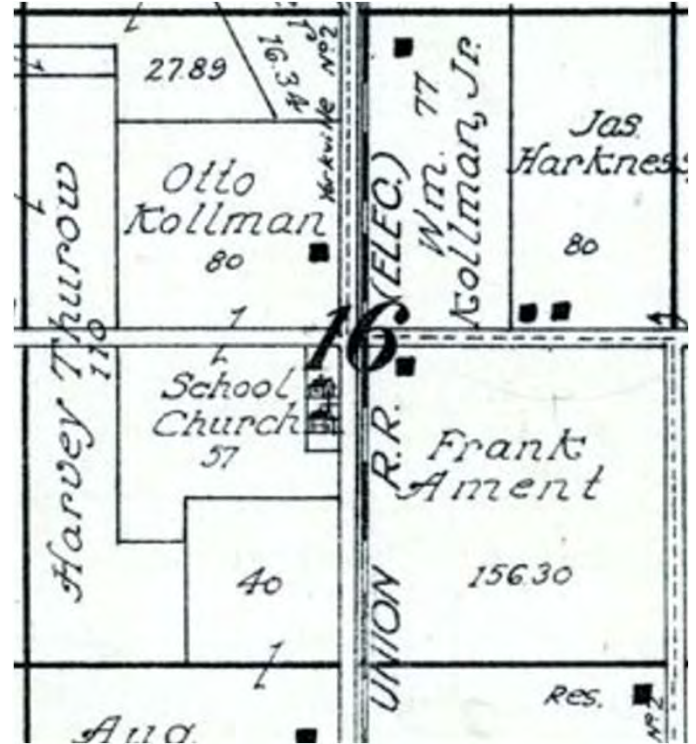
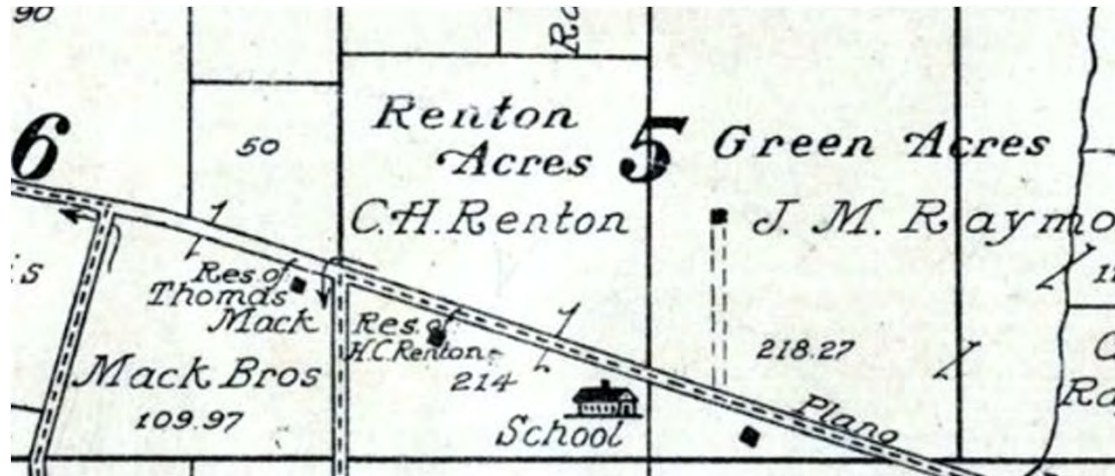
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS



# Atlases and Plat Maps



# Atlases and Plat Maps





# Research materials



KENDALL COUNTY COURT HOUSE, YORKVILLE, ILLINOIS.



"ORCHARD HOME,"  
Residence of Peter J. Schlapp, Five Miles Southeast  
of Oswego.



RESIDENCE OF O. C. KNUDSON,  
YORKVILLE, ILLINOIS.



# Database development





# Microsoft Access database

Property Basic Data Entry Form

214 304

Sketchplan:

PIN Number: 02-03-400-005  
 Street Number: 522  
 Street Name: Dickson Road  
 Congress\_twp: T37N  
 Congress\_range: R7E  
 Section\_num: 3  
 Parcel: NW 1/4 of SE 1/4  
 Surveyor\_initial:  
 Survey\_date:  
 Name:  
 Hist\_func:  
 Cur\_func:  
 Orientation:  
 History\_notes: House: 1939  
 fieldnotes:  
 add\_structures:  
 significance:

Extra Photo 1

Extra Photo 2

Record: 16 of 126

PIN Number	Street Number	Street Name	Section	Parcel	History_notes	Name
				1 E 1/2 of NW 1/4		
				1 NE part NE 1/4		
02-01-200-005	6136	Galena Road		1 part SE 1/4 NE 1/4	House: 1918	
				1 middle part S 1/2		
02-01-300-016		Orchard Road		1 NW part SW 1/4	May be relatively recent construction.	
				1 NW part SW 1/4		
02-01-300-006	6920	Galena Road		1 part SW 1/4 SW 1/4	House: 1880	
02-01-200-001		U.S. Route 30		1		Jacob Keck Memorial Cemetery
02-02-101-004				2 W 1/2 of NW 1/4		
				2 W part of NE 1/4		
				2 E part NE 1/4		
02-02-476-006	7027	Galena Road		2 small part SE 1/4	House: 1979	
02-03-100-001	8822	U.S. Route 30		3 N 1/2 of NW 1/4	House: 1933	
02-03-200-001	8218	U.S. Route 30		3 NE 1/4	House: 1940	
02-03-300-002	421	Dickson Road		3 NE 1/4 of SW 1/4	House: 1928	
02-03-400-005	522	Dickson Road		3 NW 1/4 of SE 1/4	House: 1939	
02-03-481-006	1004	Dickson Road		3 SW 1/4 of SE 1/4	House: 1862	
				3 SE 1/4 of SW 1/4		
02-04-100-007	9338	U.S. Route 30		4 W 1/2 of NE 1/4	House: 1880	
02-04-200-001	9124	U.S. Route 30		4 E 1/2 of NE 1/4	House: 1875	
02-05-200-004	10034	Baseline Road		5 NE 1/4 of NE 1/4	House: 1960	
				5 SE 1/4		
02-05-300-005	10724	Galena Road		5 SW 1/4	House: 1890	
02-05-300-002	10502	Galena Road		5 small parcel	House: 1959	
02-05-400-012	10318	Galena Road		5 S part SE 1/4	House: 1963	
02-06-100-010	11843	Galena Road		6 part NW 1/4	House: 1850	
				6 part SE 1/4		
02-06-300-009	790	Eldamain Road		6 part SW 1/4	House: 1910	
02-07-100-011	1414	Eldamain Road		7 SW 1/4 of NW 1/4	House: 1900	
02-07-100-008	1327	Beecher Road West		7 SE 1/4 of NW 1/4	House: 1880	
02-07-200-001	1128	Beecher Road West		7 W 1/2 of NE 1/4	House: 1967	
				7 S 1/2 of SW 1/4		
02-08-100-005	1410	Beecher Road East		8 NW 1/4	House: 1900	
02-08-300-008	10791	Cornells Road		8 W part SW 1/4	House: 2000	
02-08-400-002	10417	Cornells Road		8 SW 1/4 of SE 1/4	House: 1960	
				9 W part NW 1/4		
02-09-100-013	9525	Galena Road		9 N part NW 1/4	House: 1890	
02-09-200-003	5074	Galena Road		9 NE 1/4	House: 1890	
02-09-300-003	9619	Cornells Road		9 SE 1/4 of SW 1/4	House: 1940	



## Mapping





# GIS

- GIS stands for geographic information system, a computerized methodology for organizing data geographically.
- Combines database-like organization of information with coordinate information (latitude and longitude)



# Aerial photographs (1939 to present)

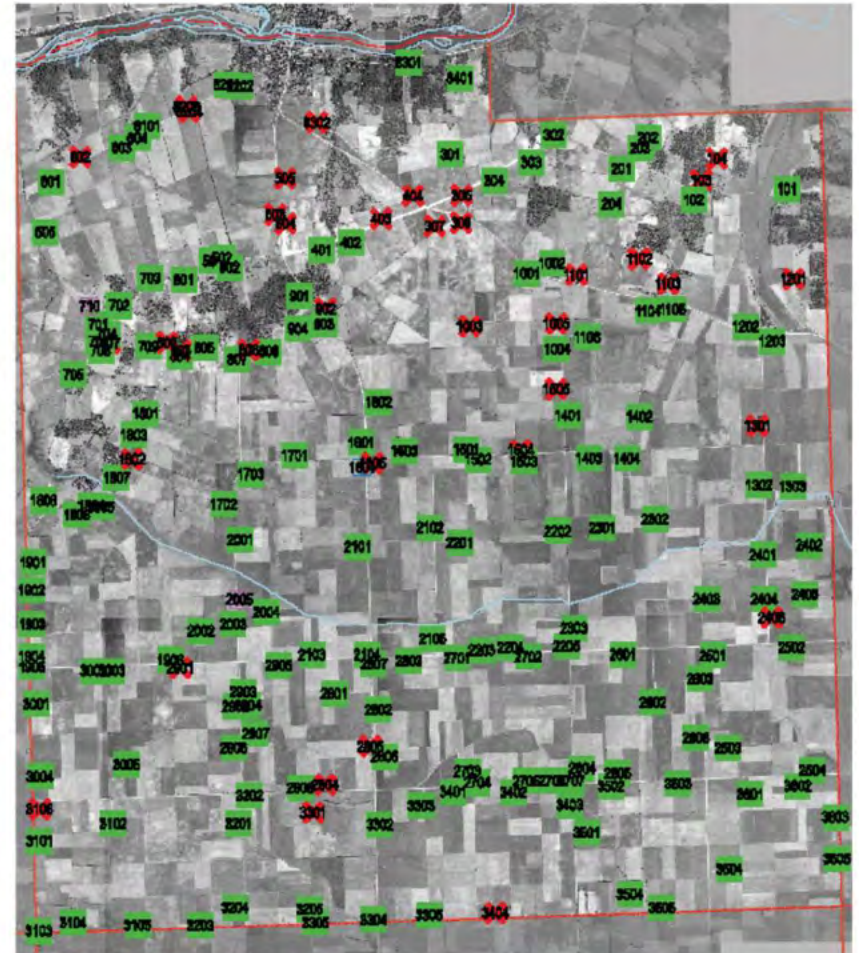


53





# Survey maps





## Field survey





# Momence Township Rural Historic Structures Survey

Address  Property Name

ID No.  PIN No.  Survey Date  Surveyor(s)

T31N R14E

Section

Parcel

W 1/2 of NE 1/4



07  
photo  
0737-40

## History Notes

[Walter Brown (1934) refers to this as the old home of Dr. David Lynds, an early settler, now owned by Mr. Peterson.]

## Fieldnotes

1955



VENHUIZEN, JOHN  
Momence Sec. 19 Rt. 1  
140 acres

List Each Structure

List Materials of Foundation, Walls, Roof, Porches, and Trim

① Garage  
conc. parg. found. walls, wood trim, mtl windows  
asp sh hip roof

② ~~Machine~~ outbuilding  
vertical mtl siding, mtl roof  
wood post found.

③ outbuilding / machine storage  
conc. post found, mtl siding + roof





# Report preparation





# Report preparation

- Correlate historical research and field survey information
- Finalize database and mapping
- Assess significance: Potential National Register-eligible, potential local landmark, contributing, non-contributing
- Compile narrative summary report



# Typical report contents

- Background and methodology
- Historic context
  - History of local area in general
- Architectural context
  - Styles and construction types, building types
- Survey summary
  - Listing of potential landmarks
  - Description of notable properties
  - Tabulated survey results



# HISTORIC AND ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY OF MOMENCE TOWNSHIP, KANKAKEE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

September 2020



## MOMENCE TOWNSHIP HISTORIC STRUCTURES SURVEY

5967 East 5000N Road		Property Name		Novack Farmstead	
PIN No.	11-02-100-005	201	Survey Date	8/26/2020	Surveyor(s) TMP

Township	E31N Range	R14E	Orientation	West
Section	2	Parcel	NW 1/4 of NW 1/4	
Historic Use	Agricultural			
Current Use	Agricultural			
Significance	Local landmark potential			

### Fieldnotes

A small portion of this farmstead extends into Yellowhead Township, PIN 04-35-300-027



### House

House Type	Bungalow
House Style	
Number of stories	1
Roof Type	Hip
Window Type(s)	Vinyl double-hung
Dormer Type	Hipped
Date or Approx. Decade of Construction	1930s
Foundation	Concrete masonry
Wall Material(s)	Vinyl siding
Trim Material(s)	Vinyl
Porch Material(s)	None
Roof Material(s)	Asphalt shingle
Significance	Contributing

### Notes

Original front porch enclosed.





# Outcomes

- Record of existing conditions
- Overview of history and historic themes
- Identification of potential landmarks or districts



## Questions?







Store 2702 Dir Marie McJannet  
Main: (630) 553-1517 Rx: (630) 553-8615  
234 E Veterans Parkway  
Yorkville IL 60560

### GROCERY

ICE MTN 24-16.9 FZ 3.67 B  
Regular Price 5.99  
Sale Savings 2.32-

TAX 0.04  
\*\*\*\* BALANCE 3.71  
Cash 20.00

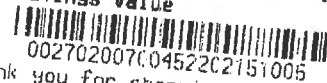
### CHANGE

TOTAL NUMBER OF ITEMS SOLD = 16.29  
02/15/22 10:05 2702 7 45 6028 1

YOUR CASHIER TODAY WAS Germaine

### YOUR SAVINGS

Store Savings 2.32  
Total 2.32  
Total Savings Value 39%



00270200700452202151005

Thank you for shopping Jewel-Osco!  
For JEWEL-OSCO FOR U questions call  
877-276-9637 or JewelOsco.com/foru



## Matt Asselmeier

---

**From:** Panera Bread <panera@e3.panerabread.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 10, 2022 10:24 AM  
**To:** Matt Asselmeier  
**Subject:** [External]Your Panera Order - 686823805

CAUTION - This email originated from outside the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Thanks for your order! Order number: 686823805

Hi Matt



[Order Online >](#)

# THANKS, MATT!

I'm Here



Order: #686823805

Total \$45.04



## CURBSIDE DETAILS

ORDER READY (ESTIMATED)

FEB 16, 2022

05:00 PM

CAFE LOCATION

📍 Yorkville

☎ 630-553-2355

CURBSIDE INSTRUCTIONS

Please click I'm Here when you arrive and we'll meet you with your food shortly.

VEHICLE DESCRIPTION

Silver Car

ORDER DETAILS: #686823805

2 items · \$45.04 · Curbside

**Cafe Blend Light Roast Coffee Tote**

**\$19.49**

**Qty: 1**

**\$19.49**

---

**One Dozen Mixed Cookies**

**\$19.99**



Qty: 1

\$19.99

Subtotal	\$39.48
Tax	\$1.61
Tip	\$3.95
<b>Order Total</b>	<b>\$45.04</b>

**VISA**

ending in 5720

\$45.04



## JOIN MYPANERA

It's absolutely free to join, and you'll receive a reward  
just for signing up!



## Matt Asselmeier

---

**From:** Panera Bread <panera@e3.panerabread.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 10, 2022 10:49 AM  
**To:** Matt Asselmeier  
**Subject:** [External]Your Panera Order - 686869087

CAUTION - This email originated from outside the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Thanks for your order! Order number: 686869087

Hi Matt

**Panera**  
B R E A D®

[Order Online >](#)

# THANKS, MATT!

**I'm Here**



Order: #686869087

Total \$19.99



## CURBSIDE DETAILS

ORDER READY (ESTIMATED)

FEB 16, 2022

05:00 PM

CAFE LOCATION

 Yorkville

 630-553-2355

CURBSIDE INSTRUCTIONS

Please click I'm Here when you arrive and we'll meet you with your food shortly.

VEHICLE DESCRIPTION

Silver Ford Fusion

ORDER DETAILS: #686869087

1 item · \$19.99 · Curbside

**One Dozen Mixed Cookies**

**\$19.99**

**Qty: 1**

**\$19.99**

---

Subtotal

\$19.99

Tax

\$0.00

**Order Total**

**\$19.99**



# Annual Kendall County Historic Preservation Awards

*A recognition of properties that have undergone recent exterior and/or interior preservation, restoration, rehabilitation, adaptive use, or sympathetic additions as well as for people or groups that exhibit dedication to the field of historic preservation or for sites that possess importance to the history of Kendall County, State of Illinois, or the United States.*

## MAIL NOMINATION FORM TO:

Kendall County Historic Preservation Commission  
111 W. Fox Street  
Yorkville, IL 60560

## EMAIL NOMINATION FORM TO:

Matt Asselmeier, [masselmeier@co.kendall.il.us](mailto:masselmeier@co.kendall.il.us)

**DEADLINE:** February 28, 2022-4:00 pm

**Street address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Current property owner:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Historic name and/or original owner (if known):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Current use:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Historic use:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Year built (if known):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Year rehabilitated, renovated, restored (if known):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Architectural style / form (if known):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Reason for nomination:** *Please provide a short description, between 50 and 500 words, explaining the project or person being nominated. The statement should clearly identify the purpose and scope of work, unusual challenges or innovative approaches, sensitive treatment of historic fabric, long-term impact and any other information that supports the nomination as being exceptional.*

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**Images:** *Please provide a minimum of five photographs or quality digital photographs in .jpg format on a CD ROM, flash drive, or by email highlighting the project. Before and after pictures are encouraged.*

**Submitted by:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_



# Annual Historic Preservation Award

---

<b>Application for Award Nomination Announcement:</b>	January 14 and February 14
<b>Deadline for nomination:</b>	February 28 by 4:00 pm
<b>Date of HPC Review:</b>	March and April HPC Meetings. <i>HPC shall be provided with applications prior to the March meeting for their review</i>
<b>Date of final selection:</b>	April HPC meeting
<b>Award given:</b>	Second May County Board meeting

**How the final selection will occur.** The HPC will review the nominations at their March and April meetings and make a final selection at their April meeting. The Secretary of the HPC will notify award recipient(s) by May 1. The Kendall County Board will bestow the award via a proclamation at their second May meeting, which typically occurs the third Tuesday of the month at 9:00 am.

**Physical Description of Award:** At a minimum, the recipient will receive a certificate, which will be bestowed at the County Board meeting. The HPC also aspires to provide award recipients with a small sign that they could place on their property. County staff is still researching whether the HPC has funds to purchase signs annually for this program. If the County does not have funding for this, donations may be sought.

Aluminum garden flags cost around \$70



Wooden garden flags cost around \$25



**Nomination Procedure:** Each nomination must include a completed application form and a minimum of five photographs or quality digital photographs. Applications will be available on the County's website as well as in hard copy form at Planning, Building and Zoning Department at 111 W. Fox Street in Yorkville.



**Award categories and number of awards to be given:** Nominations may be for a structure (residential or commercial) that has undergone exterior or interior preservation, restoration, rehabilitation, adaptive reuse, landscape restoration or sympathetic additions OR for a person or group that exhibits dedication to the field of historic preservation OR for a site that possesses importance to the history of Kendall County, State of Illinois, or the United States.

The HPC reserves the right to offer one or more awards based on the quality of submitted nominations. The HPC also reserves the right to offer zero awards.

Award designation may simply be: "2022 Historic Preservation Award (s)," "Person of the Year," or "Project of the Year."

Examples

- "2022 Kendall County Historic Preservation Award" *for the restoration of the home at* \_\_\_\_\_
- "2022 Kendall County Historic Preservation Award" *for the adaptive reuse of the building at* \_\_\_\_\_
- "2022 Kendall County Historic Preservation Award" *for the sympathetic building addition at* \_\_\_\_\_

**Award Review and Selection Criteria:**

***Preservation/Restoration***

- Only completed projects shall be considered.
- Historic character and features of the property shall be retained and preserved.
- Features, spaces, and spatial relationships that characterize a property shall be retained.
- Distinctive materials, features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a property shall be preserved.
- Original materials shall be retained (example: slate roof repair/replacement, removal of artificial siding, repair/restoration of wood siding).
- Historic materials and features shall be repaired rather than replaced.
- When material is replaced, the new shall match the old in composition, design, color and texture.
- Landscape and site features original to the site shall be preserved.

***Architecturally Compatible New Addition:***

- Only completed projects shall be considered.
- New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction shall not destroy historic materials, features, and spatial relationships that characterize the property.
- The new work shall be differentiated from the old but shall be compatible with the historic materials, features, size, scale and proportion, and massing to protect the integrity of the property and its environment.



### **HPC Commissioner Award Selection Procedure**

- **Meeting:** Each Commissioner secretly ranks applications by number of applications. For example, if there are 7 applications then you they are ranked 1-7 with #1 being the highest ranking.
- Rankings are discussed.
- Recommendation made on number of awards to be bestowed followed by a recommendation and formal vote on awardees.
- A tie may result in a second vote for one.



# Annual Kendall County Historic Preservation Awards

*A recognition of properties that have undergone recent exterior and/or interior preservation, restoration, rehabilitation, adaptive use, or sympathetic additions as well as for people or groups that exhibit dedication to the field of historic preservation or for sites that possess importance to the history of Kendall County, State of Illinois, or the United States.*

## MAIL NOMINATION FORM TO:

Kendall County Historic Preservation Commission  
111 W. Fox Street  
Yorkville, IL 60560

## EMAIL NOMINATION FORM TO:

Matt Asselmeier, masselmeier@co.kendall.il.us

**DEADLINE:** February 28, 2020-4:00 pm

**Street address:**

19 North St., Oswego IL

**Current property owner:**

Board of Trustees, Oswego Public Library District

**Historic name and/or original owner (if known):**

Kohlhammer Barn

**Current use:**

Historic/learning/program site

**Historic use:**

Temporary residence, barn for horses and carriages

**Year built (if known):**

1904

**Year rehabilitated, renovated, restored (if known):**

2019- Oct. 2021

**Architectural style / form (if known):**

Bank barn

**Reason for nomination:** Please provide a short description, between 50 and 500 words, explaining the project or person being nominated. The statement should clearly identify the purpose and scope of work, unusual challenges or innovative approaches, sensitive treatment of historic fabric, long-term impact and any other information that supports the nomination as being exceptional.

The project to be nominated is Kohlhammer Barn 19 North Street (exterior). This barn was one of

six urban barns rated as significant in Architectural Resources in the Oswego Survey Area,

Granacki Historic Consultants, 2009, p. 29. ([www.oswegoil.org](http://www.oswegoil.org)). This is the only urban barn that

is owned by a public entity. Historic family photos and public documents were used to provide

information about features such as paint color and reversing recent changes to the windows.

The exterior of the barn has been recently used as a site to explore local history on an urban barn

tour and as an outdoor library program site. The project included repairing windows and doors,

adding gutters and a new roof, and putting lightning rods and a weathervane on the roof.

**Images:** Please provide a minimum of five photographs or quality digital photographs in .jpg format on a CD ROM, flash drive, or by email highlighting the project. Before and after pictures are encouraged.

**Submitted by:**

**Phone:**

**Address:**

Library District  
Email: [sskilton@oswego.lib.il.us](mailto:sskilton@oswego.lib.il.us)



## Fred and Katherine Kohlhammer



Fred and Katherine Kohlhammer both immigrated from Germany. Fred Kohlhammer was a carpenter who built houses and barns. He built this barn in 1904 for his family and used it as a residence while he built the house. The barn was then used for horses and carriages.



Fred Kohlhammer in front of house

Historic photos  
courtesy of the

## Kohlhammer Family

## Kohlhammer Barn

19 North St., Oswego IL



### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

OSWEGO PUBLIC  
LIBRARY DISTRICT  
32 W. Jefferson St.  
Oswego, IL 60543  
1111 Reading Drive  
Montgomery, IL 60538  
630-554-3150  
[www.oswego.lib.il.us](http://www.oswego.lib.il.us)





# Barn Restoration Stages



## Mothballing the Barn: 2016

The Library District purchased 19 North St. in 2016, including almost 3 acres of land and the Kohlhammer Barn. Due to the condition of the barn, the Library Trustees decided to mothball the barn to stop the deterioration.



## Barn Restoration: 2019

In 2019, Library Trustees agreed to move forward with the restoration of the barn on the condition that no property tax revenues would be used to pay for the building's restoration and land improvements, instead using funds from grants, donations, and other sources. Using historic photos and interior color to research the original features, the added windows on the 3rd floor were removed and a red paint was selected to match the 1904 color.



Katherine Kohlhammer in front of barn

## Future Plans: 2021

After new paint, repaired windows and doors, fixed foundation, new gutters and roof, lightning rods, and a new weathervane, the barn is ready for the next 100 years.

In a 2018 Community Survey conducted by NIU, the community responded that the barn and open space would be best used as a historic/learning/concert site, natural area, place for reading, and a place to walk and be with nature. The library continues to work toward these goals through grants and partnerships.

Windmill built by Fred Kohlhammer on path to creek























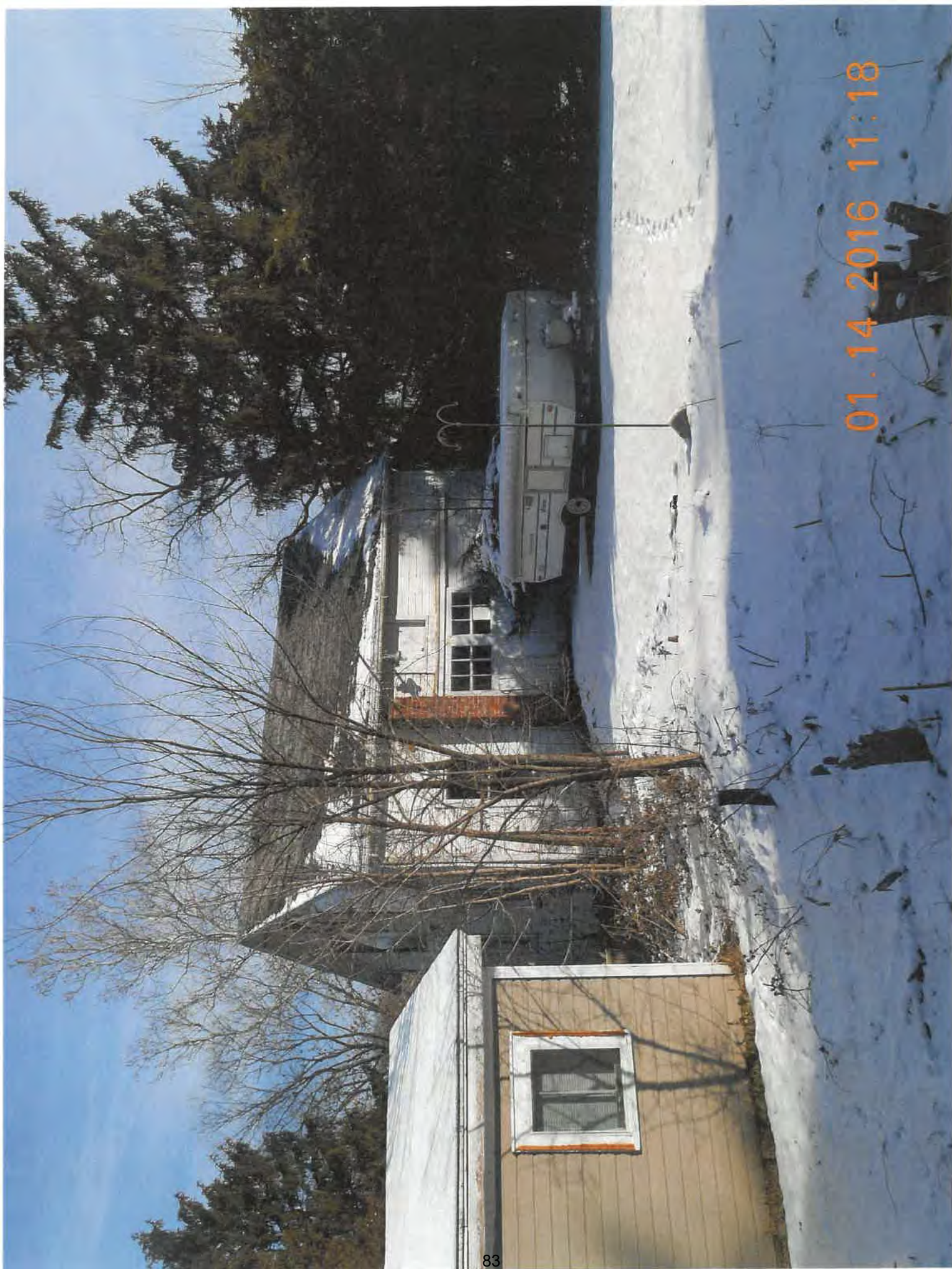












01.14.2016 11:18





01.14.2016 11:15



## BARNES

Oswego stands apart from other towns in Northeastern Illinois with its enduring collection of urban barns. Typically found on the rear of the lot, particularly in parts of the village with alleys, these accommodated horses or cows to serve immediate family needs. Some of them remain as garages or outbuildings while others have been converted to residences. Of the 22 barns or stables still used as secondary structures, six have been rated significant — 192 North Adams Street, 196 North Adams Street, 274 South Adams, 19 North Street, 1437 Route 31, and 26 East Van Buren Street.



274 S. Adams Street



2470 Route 31

One impressive stone barn now a residence is the Seely Barn at 2470 Route 31 dating from c.1845 and rated significant in this survey. This structure was converted into a tea room and residence by James Curry in the 1920s. Many of the window openings are historic, but the large central entrance is a more recent alteration.

## OTHER 19TH CENTURY VERNACULAR TYPES IN THE SURVEY AREA

Several other vernacular types are represented in the survey but were not illustrated. These include the Upright and Wing, which com-

bines a 1 1/2 or two-story gable front section with a same height wing that meets it at a right angle; the Gabled Ell with an L or T-shaped form and the entry tucked into the corner of the L; the New England 1 1/2 which is side-gabled with an additional half-story under the roof; and the Four Over Four, a two-story, rectangular and symmetrical side-gabled house with four rooms per floor on either side of a central hall. Of the 30 houses in these styles, only one, the Robert Johnson 1907 Four Over Four at 58 Chicago Road from 1907 was rated significant. 55 and 61-63 South Madison Street are two Upright and Wing houses that were noted as historically significant for being the two halves of the original Kendall House Hotel from 1850.

## 20<sup>th</sup>-CENTURY HIGH-STYLE ARCHITECTURE

In the first decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, some building designs began to bear no reference to prior historical architectural styles. The earliest of these, the Craftsman and Prairie School styles, looked to other areas of inspiration than the past. There was clear intent to tie architecture to the surround-



## Historic Yorkville Jail and Sheriff's Residence

111 Madison  
Yorkville, Illinois

**Current Property Owner:** Peter McKnight,

**Historic Name:** Kendall County Jail and Sheriff's Residence

### Current Use: Mixed use project:

- Commercial in historic first floor (in front of the jail).
- Old 24 x 24 x 24 garage turned into 4 studio apartments with a massive deck with a view of the Fox River.
- Historic upstairs turned into a single 2-story apartment.

**Year Built:** House: 1893, Garage 1960's

**Year Renovated:** 2021

**Architectural Style:** House: Victorian with East Lake Detailing

### Participants in project's preservation:

- Kendall County Historic Preservation Commission, esp. Lisa Wolancevich for her advocacy and perseverance
- City of Yorkville , for negotiation with Peter McKnight on the sale of the buildings, financial support and building dept. cooperation
- Allen+Pepa Architects for furthering the community vision, detailing all aspects of the work for Permit and Construction, managing the concerns of the building dept. in respect to the unique detailing of the project.

**Submission by:** Allen+Pepa Architects, Lane Allen, AIA, LEED AP  
(630) 346-4469, [lallen@allenpepa.com](mailto:lallen@allenpepa.com). Jarod Pletcher, Assoc. Architect





# Historic Yorkville Jail and Sheriff's Residence

111 Madison  
Yorkville, Illinois

**Category:** Preservation/Adaptive Re-use

**Project Owner and General Contractor:**

*Peter McKnight*



**Architect:**

*Allen+Pepa Architects, Inc.  
215 Fulton St.*

*Geneva, IL 60134*

*(630) 346-4469*

*lallen@allenpepa.com*

*Lane B. Allen, AIA, Jarod Pletcher*

**MEP Consultants:**

*Archer Engineering*

*Homer Glen, IL 60491*

*(630) 588-3535*

*Larry McElheny, PE*

**Other Preservationist:**

**City of Yorkville:**

- Valerie Burd former Mayor who facilitated the project
- Aldermen in 2018/2019 who voted to work with Peter McKnight
  - John Purcell, Daniel Transier, Joel Frieders, Ken Koch, Arden Joe Plocher, Chris Funkhouser, Seaver Tarulis, Mark Marek, Jason Peterson, Jackie Mischiewski
- Pete Ratos, Building Dept.

**Yorkville Historic Preservation Committee, esp. Lisa Wolancevich**

**Project Data:**

Gross Square: 8,200

4-plex: 2,500 s.f.

Historic House:

Jail (2 floors): 1,600 s.f.

Breezeway and deck: 1,450 s.f.

Site Size: 10,180 sq.ft.

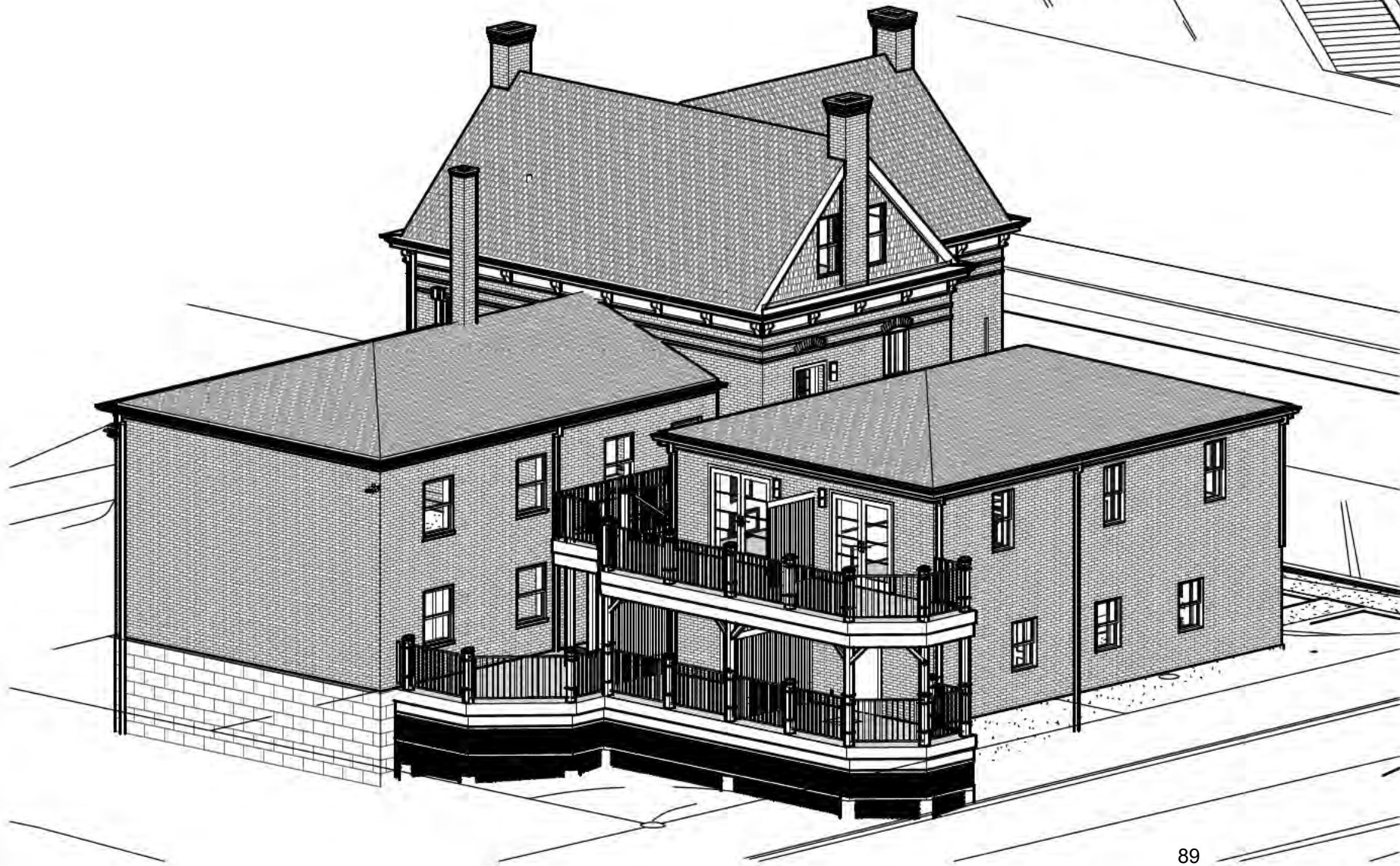
Date of Completion : August 2021



## **REASON FOR NOMINATION**

- Building was on the **Landmarks Illinois** “List of “Most Endangered Historic Places in Illinois”. Now that it’s restored it is a Win/Win for everyone.
- Peter McKnight should be commended for his efforts as the General Contractor. Bringing the manpower, cashflow, personal vision, cooperation with the Building Dept. and Inspections are all very difficult and require a positive attitude to get the work completed. Peter never let up or stopped the work, assuring its completion.
- Allen + Pepa Architects did superlative 3D Revit drawings with full permit and construction detailing. To evolve the drawings from site to 3D drawings assures that more aspects of the work are resolved with less site issues. The important preservation work on this project were:
  - Masonry tuckpointing scope was well documented.
  - Moving the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor stairs 3’ south so one does not hit their head on the underside of the roof when coming up the stairs. Also, they stairs were still confirming to code since we did not recreate them.
  - The funniest detail was Lane was standing on the porch looking south toward the Grand Old County Seat Building and saw the column fascia used as a horizontal fascia trim. The team made it right and put it back on the vertical column. See photos.
  - Peter did a nice job restoring the wood shingles, trim and sheet metal in the gable ends.
  - The exterior doors and windows are a nice complement to the historical appearance.
  - Interior finishes as well and Mechanical, electrical and plumbing scope were clearly detailed allowing all trades to expedite their work.
  - One example: The masonry around the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor door was in bad shape so we leveraged the condition by making this our new front door to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor residence, accessed with the breezeway stairs and deck, that overlooks to the south in view of the old courthouse on the hill.
- We appreciate the trust of the community in suggesting the hiring of Allen + Pepa Architects and Peter McKnight, GC.
- Lane and Peter want to thank the City and the Building Department for their dedication to seeing this iconic building preserved.
- There is a mindset that goes with a project like this.
  - For architects, it is to help others succeed in their work efforts as craftsman of the trades should. Similarly, by meditating on the existing conditions we find the opportunities for enhanced design and end-user experience.
  - For the GC: Peter got it done!
  - For the City and the Building Department it was faith that we would get it done on budget and expediently.



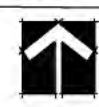
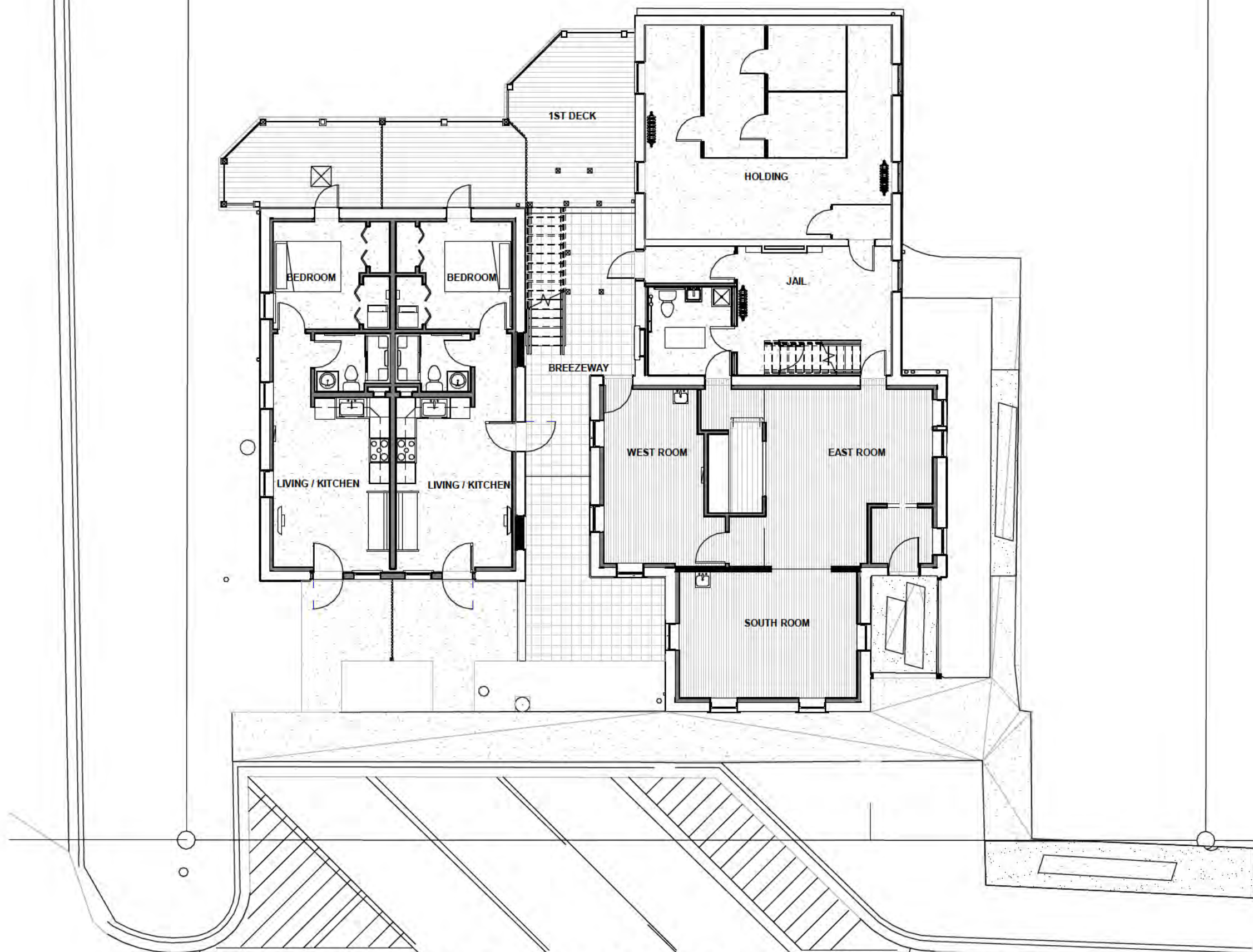


① 111 MADISON NW CORNER



② 111 MADISON SE CORNER





① 01 FIRST FLOOR ON SITE  
3/32" = 1'-0"

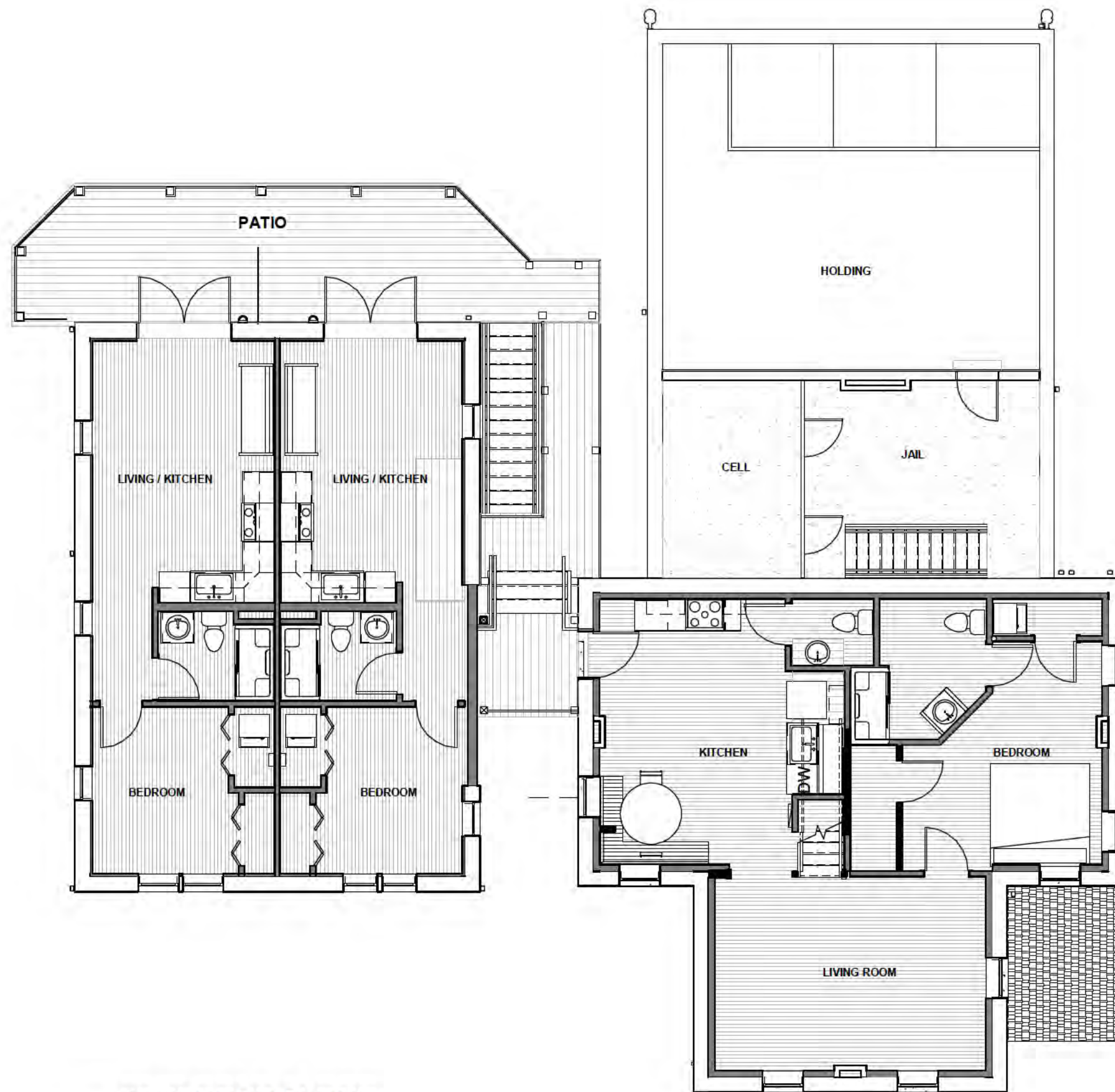
HISTORIC RES. / JAIL & 4-PLEX  
111 W MADISON STREET, YORKVILLE, IL 60560

DATE:	07/02/20
DRAWN:	JDP
SCALE:	3/32" = 1'-0"
PROJECT NO.:	2020-12

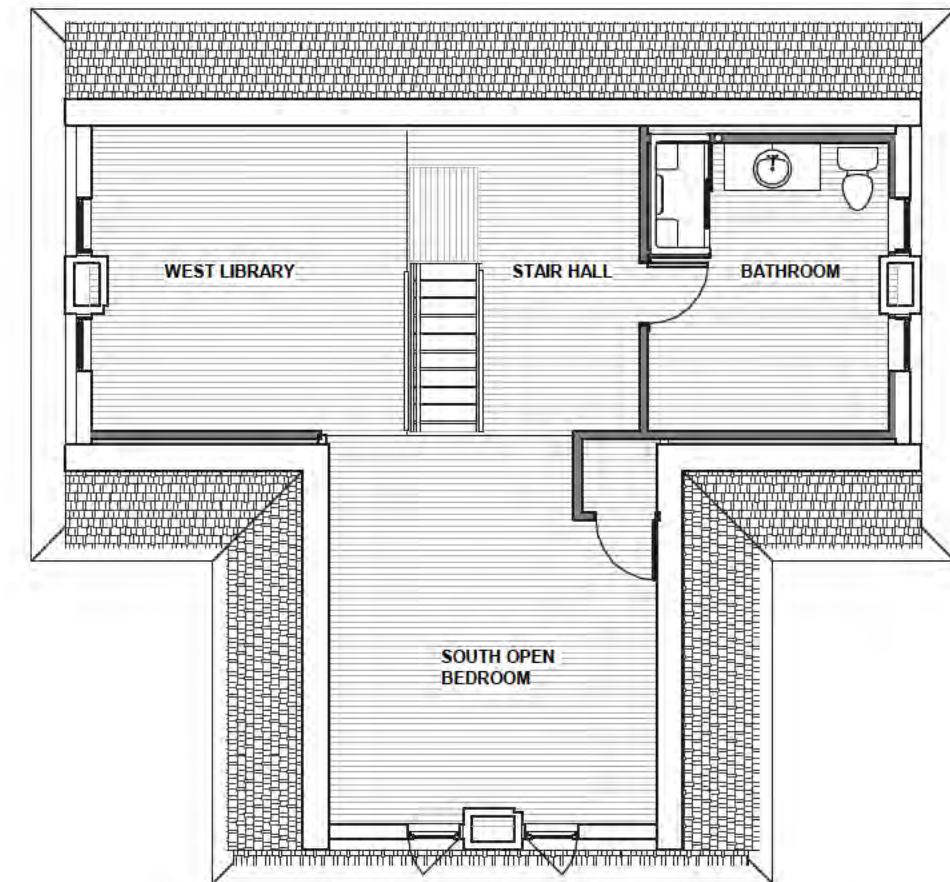
**ALLEN PEPA**  
ARCHITECTS

215 FULTON STREET  
GENEVA, IL 60134  
Ph. 630.578.1105  
www.allenpepa.com





① 02 SECOND FLOOR.  
1/8" = 1'-0"



② 03 THIRD FLOOR.  
1/8" = 1'-0"









2ND FLOOR DOOR INTO RES. UNIT



OLD COLUMNS USED AS FASCIA - REINSTALLED AT COLUMNS



PETER MCKNIGHT WITH DISPATCH MEMORABILIA

# 1 CONSTRUCTION PHOTOS 1" = 30'-0"

A5

215 FULTON STREET  
GENEVA, IL 60134  
Ph. 630.578.1105  
www.allenpepa.com

ALLEN PEPA  
ARCHITECTS

DATE: 02/21/22  
DRAWN: Author  
SCALE: 1" = 30'-0"  
PROJECT NO.: 2020-12

HISTORIC RES. / JAIL & 4-PLEX  
111 W MADISON STREET, YORKVILLE, IL 60560



# Restoration and Redevelopment of the Historic Old Kendall County Jail

By Christian S. Landorf



# Summary of the Old Kendall County Jail

The Historic Kendall County Jail located in Downtown Yorkville Illinois was originally built in 1893 with additions in the 1960s and late 1970s it operated as the sheriff's office, residence, and jail of Kendall County Illinois for nearly a hundred years before it became severely outdated and small for the county. In the early 1990s a new jail opened on the westside of town and the old one was shuttered. A few county offices operated in the old jail, but by 2000 it sat empty. The city bought it with hopes of turning it into a tourist attraction, but those plans fell apart. By 2018 after years of neglect the old jail was in a deplorable abandoned state the city was set on demolition, but after a group fought to get it saved Peter McKnight bought the old jail in 2019 and over the past 2 years has restored and redeveloped it into Residential and a commercial Spa. This photo-journal has been assembled by Chritian S. Landorf.



# Commercial And Residential Units In The 1893 Section





# W. Madison St. View

July 2018



November 2021





# W. Madison St. View

May 2019



November 2021





# S. Main St. View

September 2019



November 2021





# Front Porch to 1893 Section

April 2018



November 2021



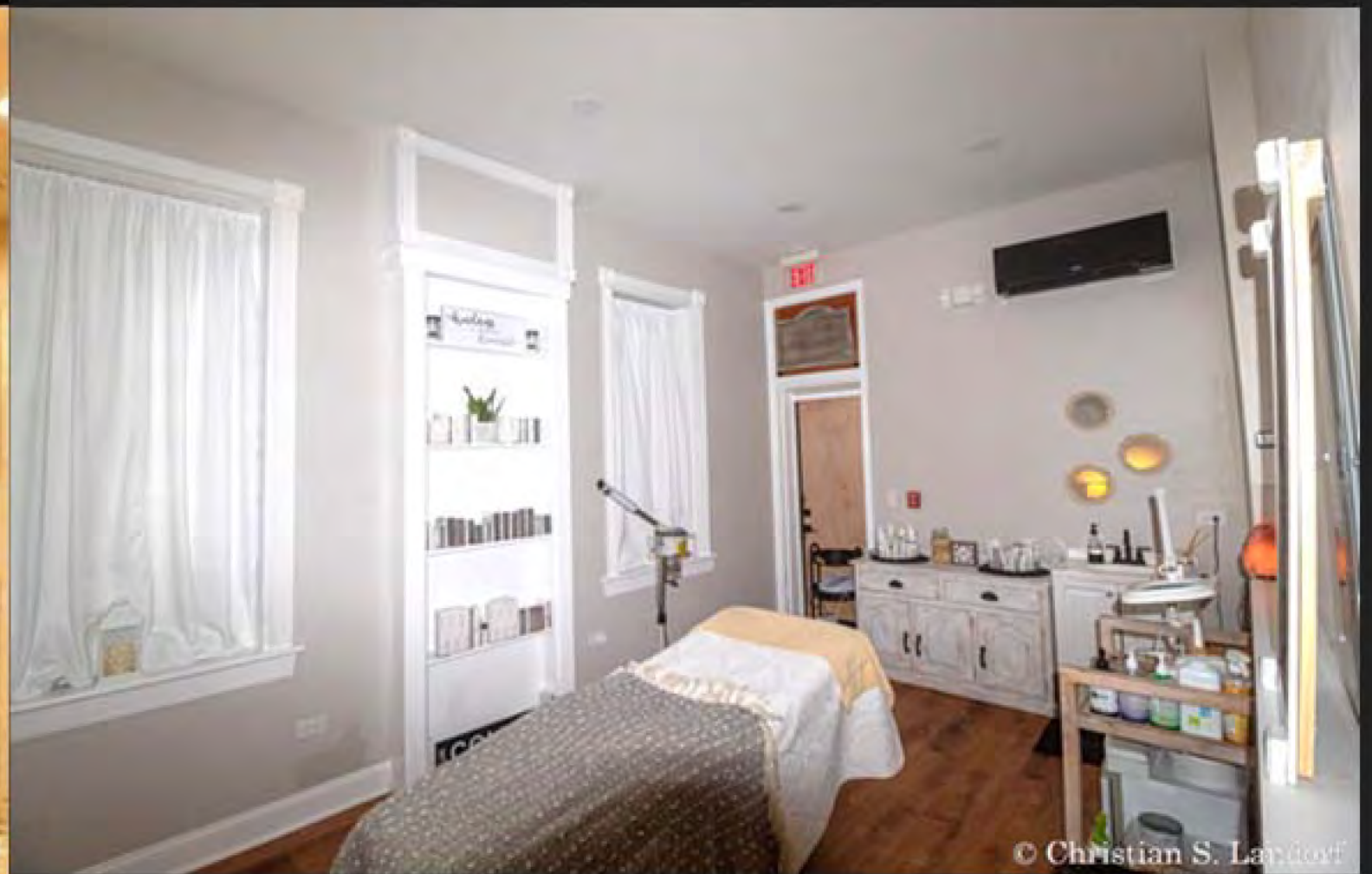


# First Floor 1893 Section

April 2019



November 2021





# First Floor 1893 Section

February 2020



November 2021





# First Floor Commercial Unit

Original glass from the Sheriff's Department incorporated into the unit





# Third Floor 1893 Section

February 2020



November 2021





# First Floor 1960s Section

February 2020



May 2021





# Jail Section First Floor

April 2019



February 2020





# First Floor Jail Section

April 2019



February 2020





# Second Floor Jail Section

April 2019



February 2020





# Residential Unit in Second And Third Floors

Stairs to third floor from front room and view at top of stairs



© Christian S. Landorf



© Christian S. Landorf



# Residential Unit in Second And Third Floors

## Third floor full bathroom





# Residential Unit in Second And Third Floors

Open space on third floor for another bedroom, office, or sitting area





# First Second Floor Residential Unit

View from kitchen of front room and close up of the kitchen





# First Second Floor Residential Unit

Bedroom and view of the Historic Old Kendall County Courthouse from window





# Second Floor 1960s Section

October 2018



May 2021





# First Second Floor Residential Unit

Hallway to bedroom and bathroom





# Second Residential Unit On Second Floor

## Bedroom and bathroom





# Second Residential Unit On Second Floor

View from front door inside and out





# Second Residential Unit On Second Floor

Close up of kitchen and view of front room from kitchen





# Second Floor Residential Units Deck

Top of stairs, walkway takes you to the residential unit in the 1893 section opposite the second floor residential units in 1960s section





# Residential Unit in Second And Third Floors

When entering you walk into the kitchen





# Residential Unit in Second And Third Floors



© Christian S. Landorf



# First Floor Commercial Unit

Restroom and Wall shelf built in old door frame from 1893 that was discovered during renovations that was long ago covered over





# First Floor Commercial Unit

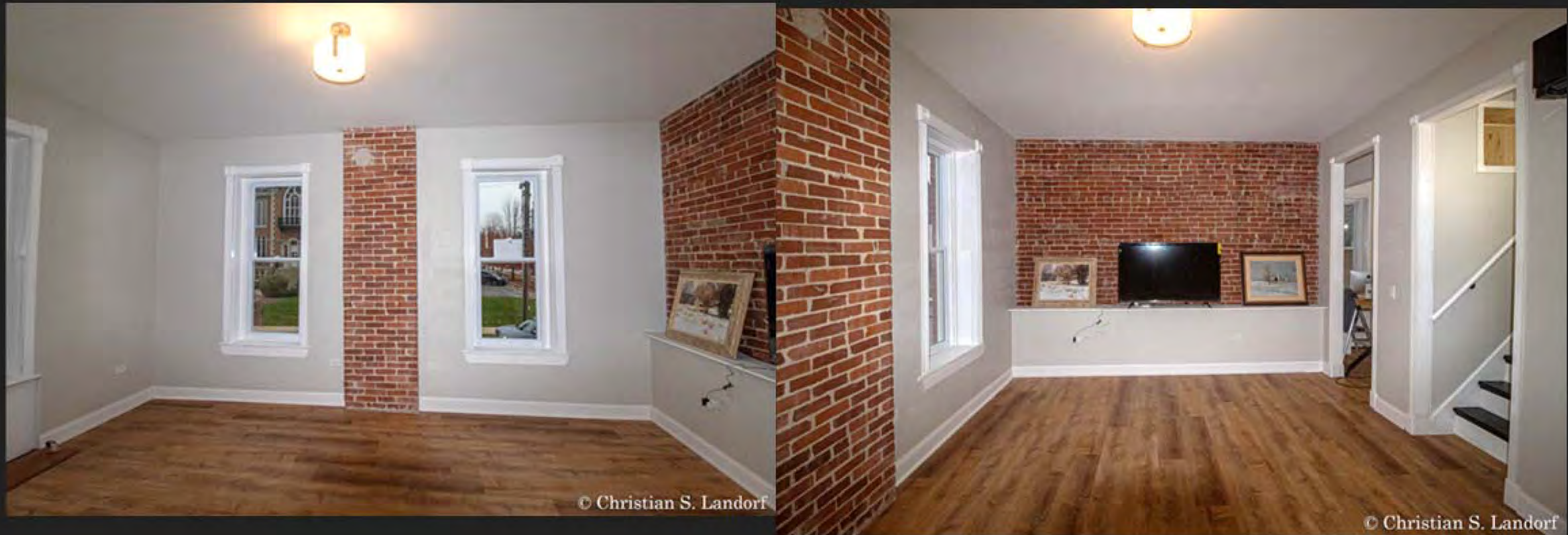


© Christian S. Landorf



# Residential Unit in Second And Third Floors

Front room off of kitchen





# Residential Unit in Second And Third Floors

Bedroom with bathroom off of front living room





Special thanks to all who helped with saving the  
Historic Old Kendall County Jail and bringing it back  
from its state of despair to a beautiful historic  
building that will continue to be apart of Historic  
Downtown Yorkville Illinois





# Annual Kendall County Historic Preservation Awards

*A recognition of properties that have undergone recent exterior and/or interior preservation, restoration, rehabilitation, adaptive use, or sympathetic additions as well as for people or groups that exhibit dedication to the field of historic preservation or for sites that possess importance to the history of Kendall County, State of Illinois, or the United States.*

## MAIL NOMINATION FORM TO:

Kendall County Historic Preservation Commission  
111 W. Fox Street  
Yorkville, IL 60560

## EMAIL NOMINATION FORM TO:

Matt Asselmeier, masselmeier@co.kendall.il.us

DEADLINE: February 28, 2022-4:00 pm  
Street address:

7935 Illinois State Route 71, Yorkville, IL 60560

Current property owner:

Kendall County Historical Society

Historic name and/or original owner (if known):

Union School

Current use:

Muse

Historic use:

School

Year built (if known):

1947

Year rehabilitated, renovated, restored (if known):

2021

Architectural style / form (if known):

Greek Revival Victorian

**Reason for nomination:** Please provide a short description, between 50 and 500 words, explaining the project or person being nominated. The statement should clearly identify the purpose and scope of work, unusual challenges or innovative approaches, sensitive treatment of historic fabric, long-term impact and any other information that supports the nomination as being exceptional.

See attached

**Images:** Please provide a minimum of five photographs or quality digital photographs in .jpg format on a CD ROM, flash drive, or by email highlighting the project. Before and after pictures are encouraged.

Submitted by:

Johanna Buram and Lisa Wolancevich

Phone:

Email:

Address:



Union School is a one room school built in 1847 on Wheeler Road in Na-Au-Say Township. It is a single story, one room schoolhouse in the Greek Revival style. The building is covered in white clapboard siding with a stacked stone foundation and a single gable roof. The building was used as a school until 1937, when it was decommissioned by School District 42. For the next ten years the building was used by Au Sable Grove Presbyterian Church. In 1976 the school was moved by the Kendall County Historical Society to Lyon Farm on Route 71 in Yorkville (Oswego Township).

The wood shingle roof on the schoolhouse had outlived its usefulness by 2020. The shakes shingles had curled and cracked, and a hole had formed in the rear north corner of the roof. In addition to water entering the building through this hole, squirrels and raccoons entered the building. Stains from water damage to the plasterwork was visible where the walls met the arched ceiling. The plaster in the northwest corner of the schoolroom interior was crumbling and a hole had formed. The water damage was obviously endangering the structure of the building, but equally as dire was the damage to the contents of the schoolhouse.

In October of 2020, members of the Kendall County Historical Society applied for a matching grant from Landmarks Illinois. In November 2020, the society was awarded the Heritage Grant to replace the roof. ABC Roofing of Sugar Grove replaced the roof at cost, and Green Speed Painting of Oswego repaired inside plaster and did the exterior and interior painting. An anonymous donor covered the cost of the repair of the plaster, painting the building, out house and the picket fence around the Oswego House. A society member donated engineered lumber to rebuild the steps at the front entrance to the schoolhouse and townhall. The labor to rebuild the steps for the two buildings was donated by society members and handrails were added to bring the stairs up to code.

With the structural repairs and painting completed, the volunteers at the historical society dedicated approximately fifty person-hours cleaning and redecorating the schoolhouse. A family member of one of our directors donated to the historical society an antique craftsman style barrister case to display our collection of schoolbooks from the 1800's safely behind glass. Volunteer also spruced up the grounds around the schoolhouse. The brick walkway leading to the schoolhouse was weeded. in front of the building and around the flagpole flowers were planted, and the playground equipment was repainted. The restoration of Union School was completed in May of 2021.

The Kendall County Historical Society members should be commended for their hard work and dedication to preserving and maintaining the Union School. The school is a unique structure that provides visitors a window into what life was like for those who made Kendall County their home in the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century.



# Union Schoolhouse

## Building Exterior Before Restoration





# Building After Restoration

**Photo with old staircase**



**Photo with new staircase**





# Schoolhouse Interior Before Restoration

**Water damage along the rear ceiling**



**Plaster damage in right corner**





# Schoolhouse Interior After Restratation





## Matt Asselmeier

---

**From:** Fern Dell <ferndell1835@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 26, 2022 10:55 AM  
**To:** Matt Asselmeier  
**Subject:** [External]2022 Kendall County Historic Preservation Award  
**Attachments:** fern dell school moving day.jpg; fern dell school in newark.jpg; fern dell school flag.JPG; fern dell school black and white photos.jpg; newark 4th grade in fern dell scholl 2, 05-20-2016.JPG

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### Fern Dell Historic Association – Historic Preservation Award

Fern Dell School, District 80, was originally located two miles south of Newark on Fern Dell Road. It was built in 1892, to replace an older structure, and operated until summer of 1951.

The building itself, consisted of the main schoolroom, a large closet of storage and supplies, an entryway with shelves for lunch pails, and hooks for coats. The rope for the bell was in the entry as well. Along one wall were very tall windows, on the back wall were 2 smaller windows and on the remaining was there were shorter windows allowing for bookshelves beneath. There were eighteen desks of various sizes, a recitation bench, the teacher's desk and a Franklin stove for heat. Outside the building were 2 outhouses, and a few pieces of play equipment.

In 1985 the building was cleaned and loaned to the Newark Sesquicentennial Committee as part of their 150<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration. Desks and books were found and borrowed for the display. A former one room school teacher was enlisted to conduct classes during two days of open house. Local children, ages 6 thru 14 were brought in to be actors/students. They were encouraged to dress in period clothes. Visitors included family, friends, and a couple portraying Abraham and May Lincoln.

The Fern Dell Historic Association was formed in 1985, an outgrowth of the Sesquicentennial Committee. Their mission was to preserve and showcase the history of Newark and the surrounding area. Their first task was to build a membership and raise funds to move the school. Van and Lowell Mathre, owners of the school, offered to donate it to Fern Dell if funds could be raised to move it to a new location. Wilma Anderson, long time local librarian, offered a small parcel of land, just across Chicago Road from the current Grade School.

After a year of membership solicitations and donations, the funds were raised. A contractor was hired and a date was scheduled for the move. September 1986 saw the little one room school house being hauled up Route 71 to its new home. It sat up on blocks over an excavated basement until concrete could be poured for the walls. Other finishing, such as leveling dirt, building front steps and planting bushes could wait until funds could be raised.

Over the years, school desks, books and maps have been donated for display in the schoolhouse. In conjunction with the Charles B Phillips Library, the summer reading program included a visit to the school. A teacher, dressed for 1921, had a class inside the school. They began by saying the Pledge of Allegiance outside around the flagpole. Inside, they rang the bell then took their seats to learn about a day in a one room school. They learned about heating the school, reciting lessons, raising their hands to be called on and wearing the dunce cap. Each family was given a booklet about Fern Dell School. It was published in 1992 to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of the school. This living museum intended to show children how school was carried out in the "old days".









FERNDELL  
1892  
DIST. 80

135











# Annual Kendall County Historic Preservation Awards

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## MAIL NOMINATION FORM TO:

Kendall County Historic Preservation Commission  
111 W. Fox Street  
Yorkville, IL 60560

## EMAIL NOMINATION FORM TO:

Matt Asselmeier, masselmeier@co.kendall.il.us

**DEADLINE:** February 28, 2022-4:00 pm

**Street address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Current property owner:** \_\_\_\_\_

Fern Dell Historic Association

**Historic name and/or original owner (if known):** \_\_\_\_\_

Misner Blacksmith Shop

**Current use:** \_\_\_\_\_

Blacksmith Shop

**Historic use:** \_\_\_\_\_

Blacksmith shop

**Year built (if known):** \_\_\_\_\_

1833-34

**Year rehabilitated, renovated, restored (if known):** \_\_\_\_\_

1996

**Architectural style / form (if known):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Reason for nomination:** *Please provide a short description, between 50 and 500 words, explaining the project or person being nominated. The statement should clearly identify the purpose and scope of work, unusual challenges or innovative approaches, sensitive treatment of historic fabric, long-term impact and any other information that supports the nomination as being exceptional.*

The Misner Blacksmith shop has been home to many businesses, including a craft store, pizza place, State of Illinois truck storage and shop. It was purchased for Fern Dell Historic Association in 1988. This stopped it impending demolition. Fern Dell paid the men who rescued it and took ownership. In 1996 plans were drawn and renovation began. The roof was completely removed and replaced. Today this building is rented to a working blacksmith. It is open to the public on special activity days such as 4th of July and WinterFest. Some recent outside refurbishing was done. Trim has been painted, and a new paver sidewalk was installed out front. The roof is scheduled for replacement in the next year.

**Images:** *Please provide a minimum of five photographs or quality digital photographs in .jpg format on a CD ROM, flash drive, or by email highlighting the project. Before and after pictures are encouraged.*

**Submitted by:** Fern Dell Historic Association

**Phone:** 815-736-6190

**Email:** mkt1948@gmail.com

**Address:** Main St., Newark, IL 60541





This building is one of the oldest in Newark. Previously known as the "Stone Shop" or the "Koska Shop" it was most recently called the "Bellows". Robert Koska operated a blacksmith shop here for over 40 years. Hazel Koska Collection.























**Matt Asselmeier**

---

**From:** mark harrington [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 28, 2022 10:34 AM  
**To:** Matt Asselmeier  
**Subject:** [External]KENDALL COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARD NOMINATION

CAUTION - This email originated from outside the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

## Annual Kendall County Historic Preservation Awards

*A recognition of properties that have undergone recent exterior and/ or interior preservation, restoration, rehabilitation, adaptive use, or sympathetic additions as well as for people or groups that exhibit dedication to the field of historic preservation or for sites that possess importance to the history of Kendall County, State of Illinois, or the United States.*

### MAIL NOMINATION FORM TO:

Kendall County Historic Preservation Commission 111 W. Fox Street  
Yorkville, IL 60560

### EMAIL NOMINATION FORM TO:

Matt Asselmeier, [masselmeier@co.kendall.il.us](mailto:masselmeier@co.kendall.il.us)

**DEADLINE:** February 28, 2022-4:00 pm **Street address:**

**206 W. Walnut St. Millington, IL 60537**

**Current property owner:** Village of Millbrook

**Historic name and/or original owner (if known):**Millington Grade School/Village of Millbrook

**Current use:** Museum and Village Hall

**Historic use:** Museum, formerly Millington Grade School

**Year built (if known):** 1919

**Year rehabilitated, renovated, restored (if known):** 2022

**Architectural style / form (if known):** \_Two story brick building

**Reason for nomination:***Please provide a short description, between 50 and 500 words, explaining the project or person being nominated. The statement should clearly identify the purpose and scope of work, unusual challenges or innovative approaches, sensitive treatment of historic fabric, long-term impact and any other information that supports the nomination as being exceptional.*



Bev Casey of Millington is nominated for her devotion and dedication to preserving the history of Millington, Illinois and creating the Millington Museum, repurposing an old classroom in the 103-year classroom of the old grade school. While most museums trace a community's history in one county, Bev has the task of two counties for research.

Through her volunteer efforts, she has preserved the business, industry (sand pit and button clamming), military, education, Native American, Illinois Midland Railroad, special events, and the people through photos, letters, and artifacts.

However, her work and love of history goes beyond Millington, where she helps and collaborates with other museums like the Lyons Farm of the Kendall County Historical Society and the Fern Dell Museum Association.

Her personable and enthusiastic attitude draws all ages as evident by the recent fall festival at Lyons Farm, where she led groups through the Corrigan General Store as a tour guide, captivating children and adults alike. Bev used questions and her interpretations of artifacts within the store to bring that "cool-awe" moment to her visitors.

She also is a good storyteller that keeps Millington history alive while proud of its past and present. Bev tirelessly researches, always digging further and further, to get the story of an event, person, or artifact.

Her museum has exhibits that tell a story instead of just an "antique store" display that often permeates most local museums.

Without her, the history of Millington might have been forgotten.

**Images:** *Please provide a minimum of five photographs or quality digital photographs in .jpg format on a CD ROM, flash drive, or by email highlighting the project. Before and after pictures are encouraged.*

### **NOTE: IMAGES SENT IN ANOTHER EMAIL**

Submitted by: Mark Harrington and Lisa Wolancevich

Phone [REDACTED] (Mark) or [REDACTED] (Lisa)

Email: [REDACTED] Address [REDACTED] (Mark) or Kendall County Historical Society Lyons Farm, 7935 Rt. 71, Yorkville, IL 60560























# Annual Kendall County Historic Preservation Awards

*A recognition of properties that have undergone recent exterior and/or interior preservation, restoration, rehabilitation, adaptive use, or sympathetic additions as well as for people or groups that exhibit dedication to the field of historic preservation or for sites that possess importance to the history of Kendall County, State of Illinois, or the United States.*

## MAIL NOMINATION FORM TO:

Kendall County Historic Preservation Commission  
111 W. Fox Street  
Yorkville, IL 60560

## EMAIL NOMINATION FORM TO:

Matt Asselmeier, masselmeier@co.kendall.il.us

**DEADLINE:** February 28, 2022-4:00 pm

**Street address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Current property owner:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Historic name and/or original owner (if known):** \_\_\_\_\_ Organization: YORKVILLE HISTORIC PRESERVATION S

**Current use:** \_\_\_\_\_ Historic Preservation

**Historic use:** \_\_\_\_\_ Preserving the Old Kendall County Sheriffs Residence and Jail

**Year built (if known):** \_\_\_\_\_ started spring of 2018

**Year rehabilitated, renovated, restored (if known):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Architectural style / form (if known):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Reason for nomination:** Please provide a short description, between 50 and 500 words, explaining the project or person being nominated. The statement should clearly identify the purpose and scope of work, unusual challenges or innovative approaches, sensitive treatment of historic fabric, long-term impact and any other information that supports the nomination as being exceptional.

The Yorkville Historic Preservation Society began as a group of concerned Yorkville Residents who were worried about the city of Yorkvilles plan to demolish the old Kendall county Sheriffs Residence and Jail. The group formed at former mayor Valorie Burds home in February of 2018 . Alderman Joe Plocher reached out to Lisa Wolancevich, who had perservation experience and expressed the desire to save the Queen Anne struture. Lisa Wolancevich, Robyn Sutcliff, Howard Mathei, Valorie Burd, were the founding members. Soon we were join by Thomas Milsehewski, Johanna Byram, Thomas Usry Jr, By July of 2018 we were several hundred members strong .the project required the community involve Public speaking, local business involvement, placing the building on state for nomination to nation

**Images:** Please provide a minimum of five photographs or quality digital photographs in .jpg format on a CD ROM, flash drive, or by email highlighting the project. Before and after pictures are encouraged.

**Submitted by:** Lisa Wolancevich

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_



Placing the building for consideration by the state of Illinois for the National Register of historic places. The group then began fund raising for the eventual purchase of the building from the city of Yorkville simultaneously reached out to landmarks Illinois for structural examination of the building to see if it was structurally sound. Awareness of the potential loss of one of the last historic buildings in the downtown area was imperative. Our volunteers created several fund-raising activities which included life size monopoly Christmas event all events at the old courthouse marching in holiday parades within the city. We spoke with the City Council on several occasions and eventually convinced them to give us 10 weeks to find a solution for the building. We met that challenge when it became apparent that the historic preservation society would not be able to take on the building renovation, we went out into the community and found two individuals interested in developing the building for mixed use. The second person that we presented to the city was Peter McKnight he had a who had an established history repurposing historic buildings. Through the hard work and relentless dedication of the members of the Yorkville Historical Society, convinced the city to redevelop a historic building rather than tear it down. The building now has a new life and new purpose, we now have a new gem in the downtown of Yorkville the downtown has now become even more vibrant than before with an emphasis on saving more historic buildings, the City Council just recently voted to put \$4.1 million into the buildings of the downtown what we started is now expanding into something even greater appreciation for Yorkville's historic buildings.















# Go directly to jail

## Yorkville group fighting to save historic building

By Erika Wurst

For Chronicle Media

A group of Yorkville residents are on a mission to save the Old Kendall County Jail from demolition in a last-ditch effort to keep its history alive.

The city is contemplating tearing down the building after a recent inspection showed its deteriorating state.

Built in 1893, the building was home to not only inmates, but the families of the acting sheriff until the 1970s, said Thomas Milschewski, who is help leading the preservation efforts.

"It's not just some building, it was someone's home," he lamented. "We want to save the building because it deserves to be saved."

Aside from marching in the city's Fourth of July parade, waving a giant "Save the Jail" banner, the group has started online petitions and spoken out at City Council meetings. The group's goal is to get the word out that the building is in jeopardy, and to impress upon the community the historic nature of the jail.

"Once it's gone, it's gone," Milschewski said. "If we keep

tearing down old buildings we'll have nothing but a highway running through town."

The city estimates full renovation would cost upwards of \$1 million. A secondary recommendation, which could save and essentially only secure the older part of the building with a tear down of the newer part, would cost between \$130,000 and \$180,000.

Milschewski and his group said they are willing to fundraise until they get enough money to preserve the jail.

"I'm not giving up without a fight," he said. "You have to know where you come from in order to know where you're going."

The City Council meets again to discuss the building's future on July 24. Milschewski will be there again, making his voice heard. He's hoping dozens of others will join him.

"The community needs to come together," he said.

So, on July 1st, he wants residents to do exactly that. Milschewski will be hosting a community meeting at the Chapel on the Green at 7 p.m. He's looking for residents to

Continued on Page 8



ABOVE: Members of the Save the Jail organization raised awareness by marching in the city of Yorkville's Fourth of July parade. The city council supports tearing down the building. (Photo courtesy of Save the Jail)



LEFT: A banner carrying the message of the Save the Jail group adorns the old Kendall County Jail in downtown Yorkville. The building, located at 111 W. Madison St., is slated for demolition. (Photo courtesy of Save the Jail)

Group Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/godirectlyto-jail/>

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July 11, 2018

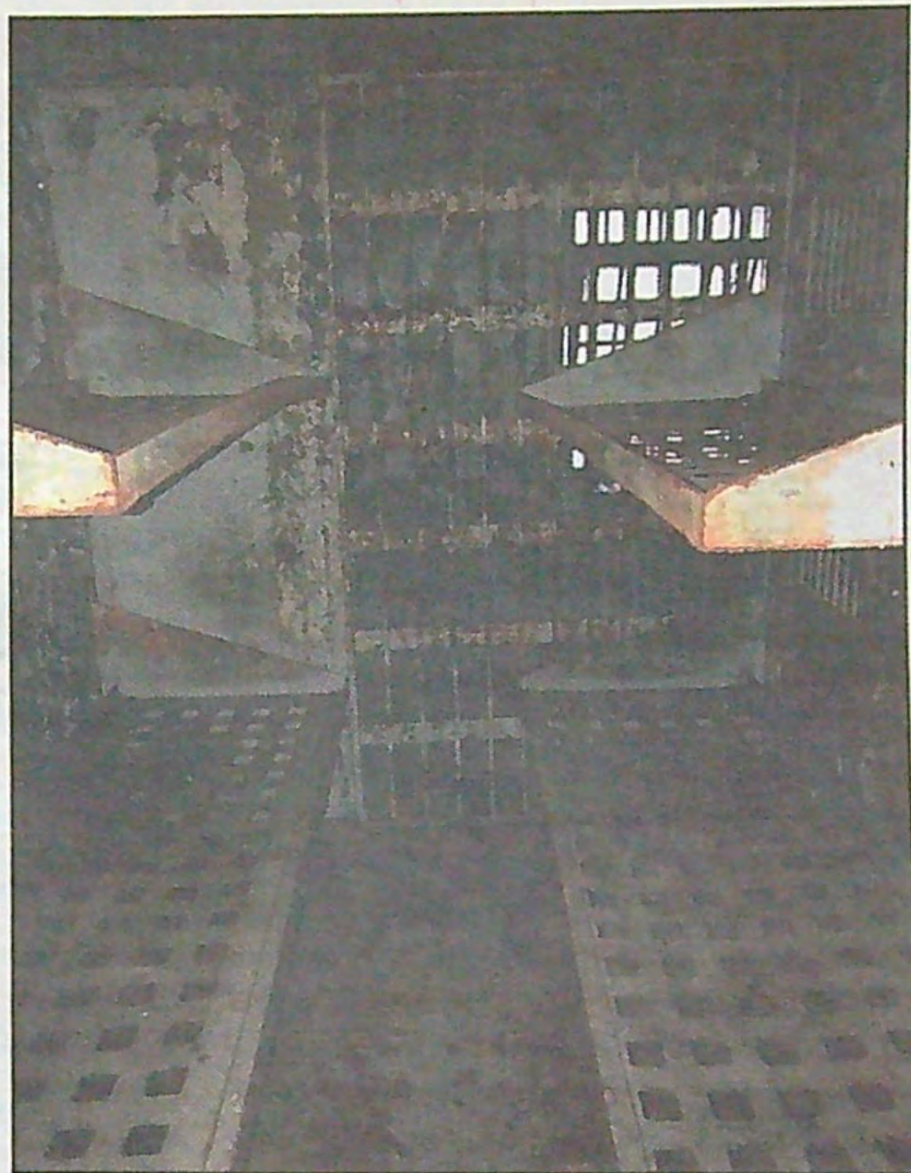
m page 3

to help change the city's  
said there's proof these  
...  
) courthouse was saved  
his summer. Parkview  
d 23 years ago. Chapel  
as saved just two years  
's time to take a stand  
Queen Anne Victorian  
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draisers, and volun-  
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*A sitting area inside the old Kendall County Jail, which was built in the late 19th century and was in some use until 1992. (Photo courtesy of Save the Jail)*



*A cell inside the old Kendall County Jail. (Photo courtesy of Save the Jail)*



# **SAVE THE JAIL**

**ONCE GONE, IT IS LOST  
FOREVER!**

**MEETING @ THE CHAPEL ON THE  
GREEN JULY 12<sup>TH</sup>, 7PM  
BE A PART OF SAVING  
YORKVILLE'S HISTORY**









## development of residential units, commercial space

By KATIE FINLON  
kfinlon@shawmedia.com

YORKVILLE – Attendees of the Tuesday, Aug. 27, Yorkville City Council meeting and city officials broke into applause after the City Council unanimously approved the sale agreement for the old county jail, 111 W. Madison St.

After more than a year of residents trying to save the historic building, the City Council voted, 8-0, in favor of KCJ Restoration LLC purchasing the old jail from the city for \$1,000. After the vote, meeting attendees and City Council members cut a jail-themed cake in celebration of the approved sale.

Peter McKnight, one of the developers of KCJ Restoration LLC, said it took a long time to get to this point and no one can ever tell how a final vote like that is going to go, but he thought it ended up being a wonderful outcome.

"[It was] better than we expected," McKnight said. "It's nice having a unanimous decision."

City officials, including former Yorkville Mayor Gary Golinski, previously were in favor of tearing the building down within the past year and a half.

That's when a few concerned citizens started to get involved in trying to save the old jail as the city was about to vote on bids to tear down the building.

Yorkville Mayor John Purcell said he was excited for the contractors to get started with the old jail renovations. He pointed out the irony of being part of the county selling the jail to the city as a county board member and now, as a city mayor, going through another sale process of the building.

Purcell said he's happy with the action and thinks the City Council is happy about the sale, since it means the property can go back on the tax rolls and city can get revenue from the property.

"I think it's going to be a positive



Yorkville Mayor John Purcell (left) smiles as developer Peter McKnight cuts the celebratory jail-themed cake after the City Council vote approving the sale of the old county jail during the council's Tuesday, Aug. 27, meeting at City Hall in Yorkville.

Katie Finlon – kfinlon@shawmedia.com

thing for the city," Purcell said.

When renovations are completed, the building will house commercial space and five residential units. Plans for the project are included in the terms of an agreement between the city and the developers outlined during of the city's Aug. 6 economic development committee meeting.

City officials had said one of the terms of the proposed agreement include the developers receiving 100% of whatever TIF tax revenue the building might generate for five years starting with any taxes received in 2020. The developers would then receive 90% of those revenues as a rebate from the city during the next four years, 85% during the three years after that and 80% during the three years thereafter.

According to city documents, other terms for the agreement include

the city paying the developer a total of \$115,000 in out-of-pocket tax increment financing, or TIF, funds, with the developers receiving those funds incrementally, contingent on finishing the roof of the building, removing the lead-based paint in the house, completing the residential units and completing the entire project. There is also a deed restriction that the historic eastern part of the building may never be torn down and the city is also waiving building permit and plan review fees.

McKnight said next steps are in motion for the renovations. He said the contract with a contractor to start removing the interior lead paint is set to be drafted following the City Council vote on the sale.

McKnight said he originally fell into the project after the Yorkville Historical Preservation Society consulted his

brother, who is a construction worker, about options in helping save the old jail. He said all credit for the arrangements to save the jail goes to the group.

"This wouldn't have happened without them," McKnight said.

Lisa Wolancevich, chairwoman of the Yorkville Historical Preservation Society, said she was elated and pleased for the long journey to save the jail to come to an end. She said she was happy about the jail sale's outcome so the past can be saved for the future.

"We look forward to working with [McKnight] and seeing the next building in Yorkville saved," Wolancevich said.

The old jail was constructed in 1895 and later expanded. The county vacated the building in the early 1990s, when the new county jail was constructed on John Street.

PERSONALIZED HEART HEALTH

STARTS RIGHT HERE



Proposed Project Term Start Date  
3/1/2022

Proposed Project Term End Date  
06/30/2023

## Applicant Certification

By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications\* and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances\* and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 18, Section 1001)

(\*)The list of certification and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list is contained in the Notice of Funding Opportunity. If a NOFO was not required for the award, the state agency will specify required assurances and certifications as an addendum to the application.

Applicant Certification

☒ I agree

**When you're finished answering the questions on this page, click Mark as Complete. An application cannot be submitted until all pages are marked as complete.**

Not finished with this page yet? Click [Save](#) or [Save & Continue](#) to fill out the missing information at a later time.



## Performance Plan

### Proposed Performance Plan

#### Estimated Project Timeline

Goal Name	Goal Type	Goal Details
Project Kickoff	Milestone	Due Date 04/30/2022
Initial Research and Planning	Milestone	Due Date 05/31/2022
Field Work, Volunteer Training, and Sample Survey	Milestone	Due Date 06/30/2022
Field Work, Continued Research	Milestone	Due Date 09/30/2022
Data Compilation	Milestone	Due Date 10/31/2022
Summary Report Preparation	Milestone	Due Date 01/31/2023
Project Completion	Milestone	Due Date 06/30/2023

### Proposed Performance Narrative

#### Estimated Project Timeline

Estimate how long the Project will take to complete, and include relevant benchmarks along the way. Associate each goal with a monthly period throughout your projects lifecycle, and describe monthly goals throughout the Estimated Project Timeline. If the grant is awarded, this Timeline will be incorporated into the Grant Agreement.

#### Project Kickoff

Receipt of Grant

#### Initial Research and Planning

Completion of Initial Survey Map and Field Sheets. This step can be completed quickly after notification of grant award.

#### Field Work, Volunteer Training, and Sample Survey

Training of volunteers will also occur early in the process. One initial day of field survey work will document at least ten properties and survey forms will be compiled as a sample format and content for review.



## **Field Work, Continued Research**

All field and survey work completed. This involves the remainder of the field survey work. Concurrently, historical research will continue.

## **Data Compilation**

Database/survey sheets will be substantially complete. After completion of the field work, one month is needed to compile the field documentation into a database, survey sheets, and mapping. Preliminary determinations of landmark eligibility are also made at this step.

## **Summary Report Preparation**

Draft Report for Historic Preservation Commission Review.

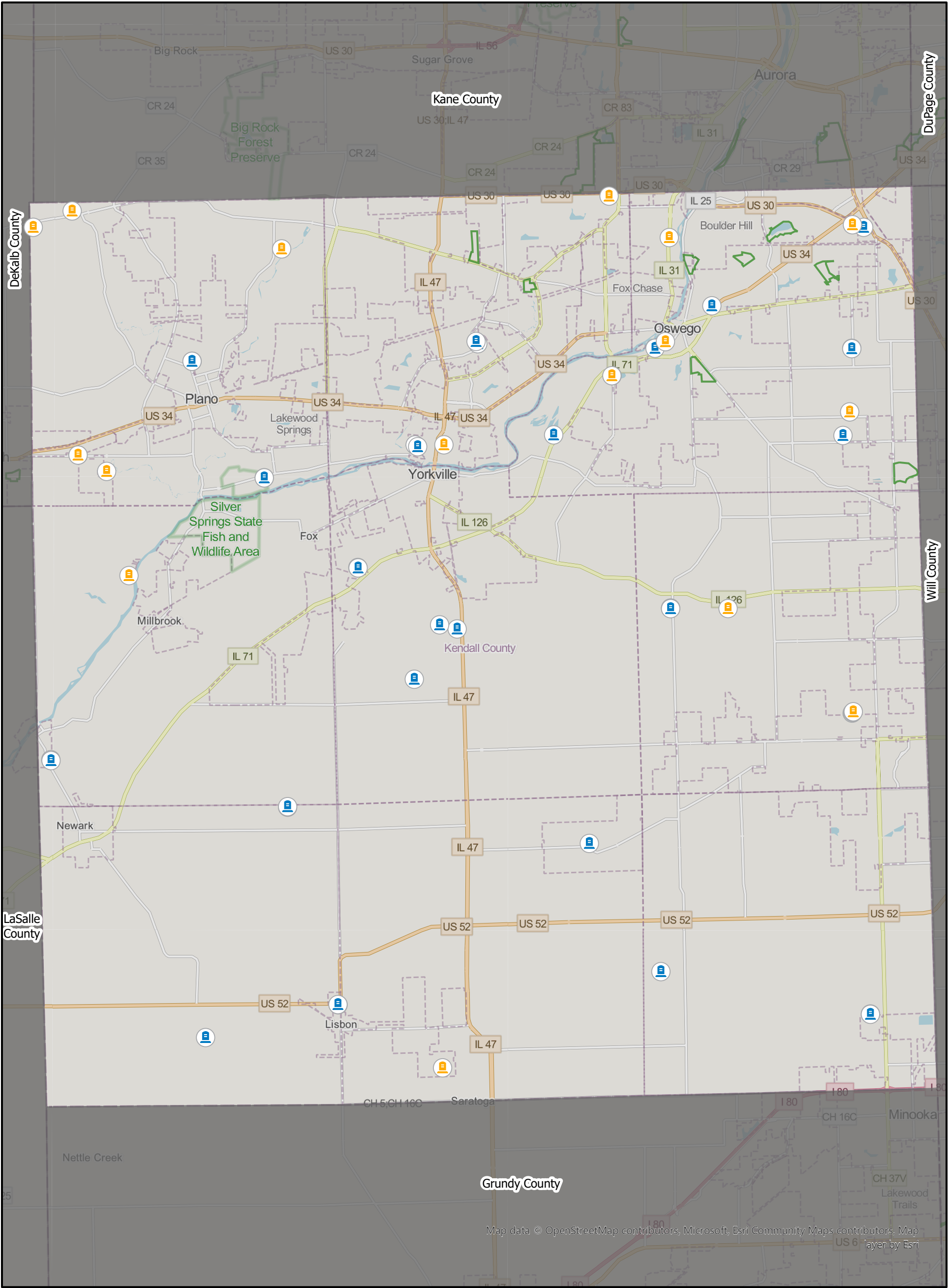
## **Project Completion**

Compile Final Deliverables.



pin	name	location	town	status	active	notes
02-26-300-006	Cowdrey Cemetery	SE SW Sec 26	Oswego	1.61 Re-Activat	y	
02-24-001-003	Doud Cemetery	NW SE Sec 24	Oswego	0.58 Inact, Inat	N	
03-23-001-001	Evergreen Cemetery	NW NE Sec 23	Oswego	1.16 Inact, Inat	N	
03-01-351-001,03-02-400-005	Lincoln Memorial Cemetery	NE SE Sec 2 & NW SW Sec 1	Oswego	73.3 Active sinc	y	
03-19-226-001	Oswego Cemetery	NW NE Sec 19	Oswego	6.75 Active	y	
03-17-229-022	Pearce Cemetery		Oswego	2.2 Active	y	
03-05-353-005	Wornley Cemetery	SW SW Sec 5	Oswego	0.75 Inact, Inat	N	
02-29-451-008	Elmwood Cemetery	SE SE Sec 29	Bristol	22.3 Active sinc	y	
02-01-200-001	Keck Memorial Cemetery: 1841-1936	NW NE Sec 1	Bristol	1.13 Burials fro	N	
02-16-476-003	Oak Grove Cemetery	SE SE Sec 16	Bristol	4.76 Active	y	
02-16-476-005	St Patrick's Cemetery	SE SE Sec 16	Bristol	2.28 Active, Not	y	
01-30-476-008	Hart Cemetery	SE SE Sec 30	Little Rock	0.11 Inact, Inat	N	
01-06-100-003	Hubbell Cemetery	SW NW Sec 6	Little Rock	13.3 Despoiled	N	
01-06-200-002	Orlitt Cemetery	NE NE Sec 6	Little Rock	11.4 Despoiled	N	
01-15-300-003,01-15-300-006,01-22-126-001,01-22-126-008	Piano Township Cemetery	SW SW Sec 15 & N1/2 NW Sec 22	Little Rock	16.4 Active	y	
06-18-200-003	Aux Sable Grove Cemetery	SE NE Sec 18	Na-Au-Say	4.55 Active	y	
06-26-100-001	Brook Cemetery	SE NW Sec 26	Na-Au-Say	1.5 Abandone	N	
06-16-100-003	Sullivan Cemetery	W1/2 NE Sec 16	Na-Au-Say	45.3 Despoiled	N	
05-16-300-009	Cross Lutheran Cemetery	NE SW Sec 16	Na-Au-Say	16.4 Active	y	
05-20-400-001	Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery	NW SE Sec 20	Kendall	2.25 Active	y	
05-07-176-010	Pavillion Cemetery	NE NW Sec 7	Kendall	2.25 Active	y	
04-30-355-013,04-31-126-001,04-31-126-002	Millington-Newark Cemetery	NE NW Sec 31	Fox	14.1 Active	y	
04-08-200-008	Sacred Bluff Cemetery AKA Darrell Cemetery	SE NE Sec 8	Fox	1.47 Abandone	N	
09-19-400-001	Plattville Lutheran Cemetery	NW SE Sec 19	Seward	3.33 Active	y	
09-26-200-002	Seward Mound	SW NE Sec 26	Seward	3.37 Active	y	
08-32-200-002	Munger Cemetery	E1/2 NW Sec 32	Libdon	0.1 Abandone	N	
08-02-476-001	Plattville Cemetery	SE SE Sec 2	Libdon	5.11 Active	y	
07-01-100-003,07-02-200-004	Helmar Lutheran Cemetery	NW NW Sec 1 & NE NE Sec 2	Big Grove	2.99 Active	y	
07-27-300-002,07-27-300-004	West Libdon Cemetery	NE SW Sec 27	Big Grove	6.17 Active	y	
07-24-400-005,07-24-400-018,07-25-226-001	Libdon Cemetery	SE SE Sec 24 & NE NE Sec 25	Big Grove	3.86 Active	y	
03-26-300-003	Risen Lord Cemetery	SW Sec 26	Oswego	80.3 Active	y	
01-35-252-001	Griswold Cemetery	SW NE Sec 35	Little Rock	1.09 Active	y	
05-16-100-016	Cross Lutheran Cemetery			Active, Inat	y	
	Albee's Cemetery	Unknown	Oswego	DE	N	Approximate location - inactive before 1870
	Albert Hassel	SE NW Sec 26	Na-Au-Say	DE	N	Also known as Brook. Also known as Bingham
	Bingham	SE NW Sec 26	Na-Au-Say	DE	N	Also known as Brook. Also known as Albert Hassel.
	Bristol Burying Ground	SE SW Sec 28	Bristol	DE	N	This cemetery no longer exists. The gravestones were moved to Elmwood Cemetery in Yorkville.
	Collins Cemetery	SW NE Sec 26	Oswego	DE	N	
	Griswold Springs Cemetery	SW NE Sec 35	Little Rock	1.09 Active	y	Also known as Griswold Cemetery.
	Hafenrichter Cemetery	SW SE Sec 14	Oswego	Active	y	Also known as the Oswego Prairie Cemetery.
	Kohlman Cemetery	NE SW Sec 16	Kendall	Active	y	Also known as Cross Lutheran Church Cemetery.
	Long Grove Cemetery	NE NW Sec 7	Fox	Active	y	Also known as Pavillion Cemetery.
	Milford Graveyard	NE NW Sec 31	Oswego	Active	y	Also known as Millington-Newark Cemetery
	Minkler Road Cemetery	NW SE Sec 24	Oswego	Inactive	N	Also known as Doud Cemetery.
	NeAUsay Cemetery	SE NE Sec 18	Na-Au-Say	Active	y	Also known as Aux Sable Grove Cemetery
	North Libdon Cemetery	NE NE Sec 25	Big Grove	3.86 Active	y	Also known as Libdon Cemetery
	North Prairie Cemetery	NW NW Sec 1	Big Grove	Active	y	Also known as Helmar Lutheran Cemetery
	Piano Cemetery	NE NW Sec 22	Little Rock	16.4 Active	y	Also known as Piano Township Cemetery.
	Sandy Bluff Cemetery	SE SE Sec 30	Little Rock	0.11 Inactive	N	Also known as Hart Cemetery.
	Sports Cemetery	SW SW Sec 1	Little Rock	DE	N	Despoiled and abandoned.
	Howard Cemetery	SW NE Sec 32	Little Rock	DE	N	Despoiled and abandoned.
	Oswego Cemetery	SW SW Sec 17	Oswego	DE	N	Despoiled and abandoned.
	Chapman Cemetery	SW NE Sec 26	Seward	Active	y	Also known as Seward Mound.
	Union Burying Ground	SE NE Sec 18	Na-Au-Say	Active	y	Also known as NeAUsay Cemetery. Also known as Aux Sable Grove Cemetery.





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Active

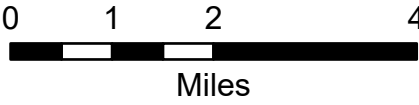


Yes



No

# Kendall County Cemeteries



**Kendall County GIS**  
111 West Fox Street - Room 308  
Yorkville, Illinois 60560  
630.553.4212



Blank Cemetery

BINGHAM CEMETERY

on Albert Hasset Farm

William Mitchell, Pvt.

d 9-30-1866

7th Ill. Vol. Inf.

2. Robert Mitchell

7th Inf. Co. C

4 years' service

3. Samuel Mitchell

7th Inf. Co. C

4 years' service

4. Anthony Mitchell

7th Inf. Co. C

3 years' service

5. George Mitchell, Sergt. & 1st Sergt.

d 4-7-1862

7th Ill. Vol. Inf. Co. C

Killed at Shiloh, Tenn.

6. Henry Mitchell, Sergt.

d 5-12-1863

20th Ill. Vol. Inf. Co. K

Killed at Raymond, Miss.

7. Hiram O. Bingham

20th Inf. Co. K

Served 3 years

Tr. 4th Cav. Co. C

I understand no one is allowed in the Bingham Cemetery,  
so a flag is placed near Phillip Garlock's grave and the  
cannon in the front of cemetery - on your right as you enter.  
This, in memory of the six Mitchell brothers.



## Matt Asselmeier

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**From:** Museum Director <director@littlewhiteschoolmuseum.org>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 20, 2022 9:37 AM  
**To:** Enterprise; AHS; Daily Herald; Tim Draper; The Republican; Oswego Chamber; Ledger-Sentinel; Oswego Patch; WNIU; rralston@illinois.edu; Naperville Sun; Beacon; Kendra Potter; jetheredge@shawmedia.com; info@willcountycoffeenews.com; Wedgewood Manor; Linda Girardi; Debbie Buchanan; Pat Feeley; Geneva History; The Voice; illinoisextension; Plainfield Historical Society; illinoismuseums@gmail.com; Illinois Preservation Agency; Oswego Community Relations; AASLH; Stephanie Just; Natalie Zine; IHA; Elgin Courier News; WSPY; Kristie Vest; Laura Finch; Fox Valley Shopper; Patch Editor; Sarah Skilton; Museum Director; Anne Jordan; Geneva History; AASLH; AHS; Fern Dell; illinoismuseums@gmail.com; IHA; Illinois Preservation Agency; Kendall Co. Historical Society; KCForest; Oswego Chamber; Pat Feeley; Plainfield Historical Society; Wedgewood Manor; Anaski-Figurski, Carol; Kay Arbizzani; Batavia Depot Museum; Tina Beaird; Chapel on the Green; Mary Church; cathycutter; Garfield Farm Museum; George; Tina H; Daniel J Hoisington; Ken Holmstrom; Joliet Area Historical Museum; Stephanie Just; Matt Asselmeier; Jean Woolley Kent; Marla Kief; Sarah Kimes; Brian LeClercq; Nancee Margison; Museum Director; Catherine Mundsinger; Oswego Community Relations; Patch Editor; Sarah Skilton; Richard Zielke; Jerry and Carol RUCKS; Ruth Ann Herren Seney; Stonehill Dental; Peggy McQuethy Sutton; Taylor, Karla; Lance Tawzer; daleupdike; Mark Van Fleet; Kristie Vest; Darrell & Gail Voitik; grantwegner; Judy Wheeler; Ken & Jane Wolf; Jim & Cheryl Wormley; Cindy Benson  
**Subject:** [External]Oswego museum celebrating Black History Month, Women's History Month...  
**Attachments:** 1893 Hughes, Nathan & Wife.jpg

CAUTION - This email originated from outside the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

## NEWS RELEASE...NEWS RELEASE...NEWS RELEASE...NEWS RELEASE

Saturday, February 19, 2022

For immediate release...

\*\*\*\*\*

Cutline: Nathan Hughes, who served during the Civil War in the 29<sup>th</sup> U.S. Colored Infantry Regiment, settled on a farm near Oswego after the war where he raised his family and became a respected member of the community. This photograph was taken in 1893 to celebrate his 20<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. Hughes is the subject of a new special exhibit at Oswego's Little White School Museum, "Nathan Hughes: Union Soldier." Along



with the exhibit, the museum will host programs on both Black History Month and Women's History Month. Regular hours are Thursdays and Fridays from 1 to 5:30 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; and Mondays, 4 to 9 p.m. The museum is closed to visitors on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Admission is free. The museum's located at 72 Polk Street. For more information, call them at 630-554-2999, visit their website at [www.littlewhiteschoolmuseum.org](http://www.littlewhiteschoolmuseum.org), or send an email to [info@littlewhiteschoolmuseum.org](mailto:info@littlewhiteschoolmuseum.org).

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## **Oswego museum celebrates Black History and Women's History months now through March**

The Little White School Museum, 72 Polk Street, Oswego, is celebrating Black History Month and Women's History Month with special programs and a special exhibit now through March.

The observances of both commemorative months began earlier this month when the museum opened "Nathan Hughes: Union Soldier," a special exhibit honoring Black Civil War veteran Nathan Hughes, who is buried in the Oswego Township Cemetery. The exhibit, curated by museum manager Anne Jordan, recounts Hughes' history as an escaped slave who enlisted in the 29th U.S. Colored Infantry Regiment and who brought his family to the Oswego area after the war. He farmed and raised his family on Minkler Road south of Oswego. His grandchildren became the first Black high school graduates in Kendall County.

Regular hours are Thursdays and Fridays from 1 to 5:30 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; and Mondays, 4 to 9 p.m. The museum is closed to visitors on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Admission is free.

Black History Month's observance at the museum continues at 1:30 p.m. this Saturday, Feb. 26, when the museum hosts "Every Day a Struggle: African-Americans and the Pullman Experience before World War II," in the museum's Roger Matile Room. Admission will be free for this program sponsored by the Oswegoland Heritage Association in partnership with the Oswegoland Park District.

The presenter will be Andrew Bullen, information technology coordinator for the Illinois Secretary of State where he manages the Illinois Digital Archives. He is a longtime resident of the Pullman neighborhood and is a volunteer at the Pullman National Historic Site.

What was everyday life like for African-Americans working and traveling on Pullman passenger trains throughout segregated America, particularly in the South? What was it like being African-American and living in the Pullman neighborhood in Chicago or working for the Pullman Company? For one hour, Bullen will use contemporary images, newspaper articles, films, and music to answer these and more questions and help visitors understand the Black Experience and Pullman before World War II.

The Pullman Company and its services found themselves at the heart of the frequently toxic racial relations in the U.S. Plessy v. Fergusson, decided by the U.S. Supreme Court in May 1896, ruled that racial segregation laws did not violate the U.S. Constitution as long as the facilities for each race were equal in



quality, a doctrine that came to be known as "separate but equal". The case began in 1892 when Homer Plessy, a biracial resident of New Orleans, deliberately violated Louisiana's Separate Car Act of 1890, which required "equal, but separate" Pullman railroad accommodations for white and non-white passengers.

Those planning to attend the presentation, which is aimed at those age 16 and older, should note that since this is a lecture on racial discrimination, there will be disturbing and sometimes deeply painful historical images and offensive language presented. Historical images, etc. are presented solely to document history to better understand our past.

Then at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 6, the museum will celebrate both Black History Month and Women's History Month when Marlene Rivero presents "Elizabeth Keckley—Presidential Seamstress." All ages are welcome for this presentation about Mary Todd Lincoln's seamstress. Admission is \$5.

Initially known for the clothes she created for President Abraham Lincoln's wife, Mary Todd Lincoln, Keckley gained a reputation as a first-rate dressmaker while enslaved. For over two and a half years, she used her hands and needle to provide for the 17 people in her slave master's household. After she gained her freedom, she eventually started her own business and employed 20 women, a feat unheard of in those days.

The presentation will be hosted by the Little White School Museum and the Oswegoland Park District in partnership with the Illinois Humanities Road Scholar Speakers Bureau.

Pre-registration is urged for this program, but walk-ins the day of the program are welcome. To preregister, call the park district at 630-554-1010 or visit their web site, <https://www.oswegolandparkdistrict.org/>

For more information on the Little White School Museum, call 630-554-2999 or visit their web site at [www.littlewhiteschoolmuseum.org](http://www.littlewhiteschoolmuseum.org).

-30-

**Roger Matile**

Director

Little White School Museum

Oswego, Illinois

[www.littlewhiteschoolmuseum.org](http://www.littlewhiteschoolmuseum.org)