

Cityscape Detroit E-News Issue #25 – 7 July 2005

Cityscape Detroit advocates for improving Detroit's quality of life through excellence in architecture, urban design, urban planning, and historic preservation. Our built environment affects us daily, and it is Cityscape's goal to demonstrate how through improving these four key design elements, Detroit will become a dynamic and wonderful place to live, work, and play for all its area residents.

Cityscape Detroit's E-news periodically reports on items of interest in each of these four urban disciplines. Included in this issue of the Cityscape Detroit E-News are the following 11 news items.

- 1) National Trusts Announces New Guidelines for Neighborhood Schools**
- 2) James Marston Fitch Announces Mid-Career Grant Program in Historic Preservation**
- 3) New Guide to Michigan Historic Sites Hits Bookshelves**
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- 10) State History Award Nominations Due August 1**
- 11) Oakland County Workshop on MI's DDA's – 14 July 2005**

1) National Trusts Announces New Guidelines for Neighborhood Schools

In 2000, the National Trust placed Historic Neighborhood Schools on the list of the nation's 11 Most Endangered Places. *In Why Johnny Can't Walk to School: Historic Neighborhood Schools in the Age of Sprawl*, the National Trust explained that America's older and historic schools – crucial community anchors – are being abandoned due to policies that encourage consolidation and new construction over maintenance and renovation.

There's good news: the Council of Educational Facility Planners International (CEFPI), which published the 1940s-era guidelines that often served as the basis for these problematic policies, has released four new publications which specifically encourage the maintenance, rehabilitation and continued use of our older schools. CEFPI's updated guidelines incorporate many community-friendly changes advocated by the National Trust and others, including significant changes to acreage standards and siting recommendations.

Recently the National Trust partnered with CEFPI, the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training, and the US Environmental Protection Agency to help promote the new guidelines to governors, state departments of education, state historic preservation officers, and statewide and local historic preservation organizations. New CEFPI's materials will help local citizens, city officials, school board members, school district personnel, and land-use planners make informed decisions about school renovation and construction.

Advocacy Tips have been developed to aid community efforts. Goal is to invest responsibly in our schools, preserve neighborhoods and conserve our irreplaceable historic and natural resources.

For background material in your advocacy effort, please consult the National Trust website at www.nationaltrust.org for reports and links to other organizations including CEFPI:

- *Public School Facilities Policy Report (2005)*
- *Historic Schools: A Roadmap for Saving Your School (2003)*
- *State Policies and School Facilities: How States Can Support or Undermine Neighborhood Schools and Community Preservation (2003)*
- *Why Johnny Can't Walk to School (updated 2002)*

2) James Marston Fitch Announces Mid-Career Grant Program in Historic Preservation

The application deadline is September 8, 2005. The foundation (<http://www.fitchfoundation.org/>) works to advance the study and practice of preservation by supporting preservation endeavors through a research grant program as well as publications, seminars, and lectures.

The foundation will award \$25,000 research grants to mid-career professionals with an advanced or professional degree and at least ten years' experience in historic preservation or a related field (e.g., architecture, landscape architecture, architectural conservation, urban design, environmental planning, archeology, architectural history, and the decorative arts).

The grants are intended to support innovative original research or creative design projects that advance the practice of historic preservation in the United States. Funded projects must demonstrate usefulness to practitioners and include results in publishable form. Grants are made possible, in part, through the generosity of the Samuel H. Kress Foundation. See the James Marston Fitch Charitable Foundation Web site for eligibility requirements.

3) New Guide to Michigan Historic Sites Hits Bookshelves

"Traveling Through Time: A Guide to Michigan's Historical Markers," a new guidebook listing the official state historical markers in Michigan, is now available for purchase. "Traveling Through Time" is the definitive illustrated guide to nearly 1,500 Michigan historic sites. Aided by this book, travelers can journey through the state, discovering the many historical sites in Michigan's neighborhoods, along its highways, and in city centers. The book, published by the University of Michigan Press, is available at the Michigan Historical Museum Store and other booksellers, on the Web, or by calling (517) 373-1663. Proceeds from the sale of "Traveling Through Time" support the programs of the State Historic Preservation Office, which administers the Michigan Historical Marker Program.

4) "The Section 106 Essentials" Registration Information – Three Training Sessions

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation is pleased to announce that openings remain to register in its course, "The Section 106 Essentials" at one of the last three sessions being held during 2005. This very popular course will take place on the following dates in the following locations: 1) July 19 & 20, 2005 in Chicago, IL, at the Hyatt Regency Chicago; 2) August 23 & 24, 2005 in Atlanta, GA at the Hyatt Regency Atlanta; 3) September 26 & 27, 2005 in Portland, OR at the Benson Hotel (in conjunction with the annual conference of the National Trust for Historic Preservation).

A limited number of rooms blocked at the government rate at each hotel where the course is to be held. Please let anyone interested in attending that if they are also interested in lodging, they should book reservations soon!

For registration and further information, please visit the ACHP's website at: www.achp.gov/training.html or contact Diane Secchi, the ACHP's meeting planner, at dsecchi@achp.gov or 202-606-8521.

5) MHPN 2005 Fall Fundraiser Auction Call for Donations!

This year, the Michigan Historic Preservation Network (MHPN) Fall Fundraiser & Auction will be held on Friday, October, 28, 2005 at the beautiful and historic Matthaei Botanical Gardens in Ann Arbor, Michigan. This event includes a fun filled evening of cocktails and dinner, and the increasingly popular Live and Silent Auctions! They are seeking donations of all kinds for our Auctions this year!

Past donations include items such as: Gift Certificates to popular and historic restaurants and hotels, autographed books related to historic subjects, local gifts and art specific to Michigan's landscape or history, tours of historic buildings, and general entertainment items. Of course, we will be happy to welcome donations of all kinds and appreciate your creativity and new ideas for theme packages! To express your interest in donating or for further information, please contact: Amanda D. Wettergren, Auction Coordinator, 586-322-7880 or at Moonda5@excite.com.

6) Washington Twp. Octagon House Fundraiser – 30 July 2005

The Friends of the Octagon House are hosting a fundraising dinner and silent auction, "Rescue the Roof," 7-11 p.m. on July 30 at the Octagon House Barn, 57500 Van Dyke, north of 26 Mile.

The eight-sided structure, built in 1860, is a museum and community gathering spot that has played host to school field trips, craft shows and other community events since it was rescued from the wrecking ball in the 1980s.

The 3,200 square-foot structure, which has undergone extensive renovation during the past few years, was a stop on the Underground Railroad, and later served as a restaurant, a farm and a classroom for college agricultural students.

Now, two 85-year-old barns on the historic property are the focus of renovation plans. Refurbishing the largest barn, a hulking two-story, 5,230 square-foot brick structure, will be the first job tackled, said Tammi Graber, chairwoman of the Save our Barns campaign. Cost: \$35. For information, call (586) 781-0084.

7) Michigan Historic Preservation Network Golf Outing, Friday 15 July 2005!

For \$110, you will get 18 holes of golf on a beautiful Ann Arbor course (Lake Forest Golf Club), a basket of practice balls at the range, a sporty golf cart to whisk you around, breakfast, lunch at the turn, appetizer and cocktail reception, a chance for prizes and awards, and plenty of fun!! Come on! Let's go! Get your partner and sign yourselves up, TODAY!

Don't wait--To register and/or sponsor, contact: Joanne Hartmeyer, Golf Outing Chair, joannejh@umich.edu, (734)998-6323 V (734) 998-6508 F

8) Fundraising for Historic Properties Training Seminar – 19 July 2005

Preservation Maryland is offering a workshop on raising funds for historic properties on July 19 from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the Surratt House Museum in Clinton, Maryland. Rose Colby, grants administrator for the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission will lead the session. Cost is \$25 members/\$50 non-members. Register online.

Preservation Maryland is the state's oldest historic preservation organization founded in 1931 as the Society for the Preservation of Maryland Antiquities.

<http://www.preservationmaryland.org/html/preservationcolleagues.html>

9) ICCROM Courses in Hanoi, Vietnam – 1-12 Dec. 2005

ICCROM, the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property, is offering its Asian Academy for Heritage Management 2005 Field School, "Conservation and Presentation of Archaeological Heritage in an Urban Context," in Hanoi, Vietnam, December 1-12, 2005. Application deadline is August 31. The complete ICCROM training schedule is online.

http://www.iccrom.org/eng/training/events/2004_2005/200512Hanoi_en.htm

<http://www.iccrom.org/eng/training/events.htm>

10) State History Award Nominations Due August 1

The Historical Society of Michigan is seeking nominations for its State History Awards to be presented at the State History Conference in East Lansing, September 23-25. Each year the Society presents State History Awards (formerly known as Awards of Merit) to those individuals and organizations that have made outstanding contributions to the appreciation and understanding of Michigan history.

Awards are presented in the following categories: Restoration and Preservation, Special Programs and Events, Local Societies, Distinguished Volunteer Service, Educators, Educational Programs, Distinguished Professional Service, Michigan History Publications (including newsletters and websites), Media, Businesses, and Institutions.

If you know of a person or organization who has made an outstanding contribution to Michigan history in one of these areas you can find a nomination form at www.hsmichigan.org or call the Historical Society of Michigan toll-free at (800) 692-1828 and we will send or fax a form to you. Nominations are due on or before August 1, 2005.

11) Oakland County Workshop on MI's DDA's – 14 July 2005

Oakland County Planning and Economic Services Department will be holding a workshop on Thursday, July

14th at our new Downtown Design Studio & Resource Center, 17 S. Perry Street in Downtown Pontiac (1 block east of Saginaw Street) on the "Issues, Abuses and the Future of DDAs in Michigan." The workshop starts at 9 a.m. with 'Issues & Abuses' and ends with a panel discussion from 2:30 - 4:00 p.m. with John Czarnecki of MEDC, Tim Wittebort of Butzel Long Attorneys, and our County Treasurer, Pat Dohaney. There will also be a look at the Wyandotte case/issue (even though it has been dropped by their DDA) as a Case Study at 11:00 a.m. This is important info that those involved in community development with Downtown Development Authorities will want to hear. Anyone interested can RSVP to JoAnn Browning by email at browningj@co.oakland.mi.us or by calling her at 248/452-2166.

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