RIPS NEWS

Advocates for Historic Architecture

www.RockIslandPreservation.org

November 19, 2019  The Wagner House, 904 23rd Street, Rock Island
Tuesday  Home of Bridget Ehrmann
7:00 PM  General business meeting

December 10, 2019  Hauberg Estate, 1300 24th Street, Rock Island
Tuesday  Annual Holiday Social
6:30 PM  Please note the early date and time. More info in the article below

January 21, 2020  RI Police Conference Room, 1212 5th Avenue
Tuesday  General business meeting.
7:00 PM

Remember to keep the third Tuesday of each month marked on your calendar for monthly RIPS meetings and activities

HISTORY TALKS

The RIPS Hauberg History Series
1300 24th Street  Rock Island, Illinois

Thursday, November 21, 2019  7:00 PM
The Photography of John Hauberg

As part of a weeklong celebration of John H. Hauberg’s 150th birthday, the history series returns with a presentation on The Photography of John Hauberg. John was an avid photographer and took thousands of photographs over his lifetime in a variety of formats. His collection is now housed at Augustana College in their Special Collections Center at the Treadway Library. We will get to see some of his images and learn how they are stored and cared for.

Thursday, January 9, 2020  7:00 PM
Helen Van Dale: A Women of the Criminal Underworld

Most of us are familiar with the infamous John Looney and his illegal empire including gambling, prostitution and alcohol. But are you familiar with Helen Van Dale? You will have the opportunity to get to know her at our January History Series presentation: Helen Van Dale: A Women of the Criminal Underworld presented by representatives from the Richardson-Sloan Special Collections Center, housed in the Main Street location of the Davenport Public Library.

RIPS HOLIDAY SOCIAL

Annual Holiday Social

Altrusa Room at the Hauberg Center
1300 24th Street, Rock Island

Thursday, December 10, 2019  6:30 PM

Please join us for the annual holiday snack/dessert potluck and social meeting in the holiday decorated Hauberg Mansion.

If you are able, please bring an appetizer or dessert to share. Friends and family are welcome.

Please note that this is the second Tuesday of the month and starts a little earlier than our usual meeting time.

Doors open at 6:00. Arrive early if you would like to help set up.

Rock Island Preservation Society  P.O. Box 3261  Rock Island, Illinois 61204-3261  www.RockIslandPreservation.org
Friends of Hauberg Estate win a 2019 Illinois State-wide Preservation Award

The Friends of Hauberg Estate were honored on October 18, 2019 with a Landmarks Illinois Richard H. Driehaus Foundation Preservation Award for advocacy. The awards ceremony and a following reception were held at the Chicago Cultural Center. For the past 26 years, these awards have honored individuals, organizations, projects and programs whose work demonstrates a commitment to historic preservation.

Awards are presented in categories including stewardship, rehabilitation, restoration, adaptive use and advocacy. Other award winners this year included Turner Hall in Galena, Stellwagen Farm in Orland Park, the Illinois Governor’s Mansion in Springfield, and the Illinois Historic Preservation Tax Credit Advocacy Effort. On Thursday evening Landmarks Illinois hosted a panel discussion to share first-hand information on preservation; Deb Kuntzi, Executive Director of Hauberg Estate, was a participant.

Richard H. Driehaus is a Chicago native who began his public philanthropy in 1983. Much of his focus has been on Chicago, funding projects that reflect his belief that design plays an important part in quality of life. His areas of focus are: Art and Culture, Built Environment, Investigative Journalism and Economic Opportunity. Awards programs were established and funded to spotlight excellence in these areas. Today the Driehaus Foundation funds the Landmarks Illinois Preservation Awards and also national awards presented by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. He also supports the Driehaus Museum which is housed in the Nickerson Mansion in Chicago. He sponsored the extraordinary restoration of the mansion that today features his permanent collection, touring exhibits, guided tours, music concerts and special events. The Driehaus Foundation has also funded special initiatives like the Illinois Courthouse Project that funded the restoration or rebuilding of special features such as clocks and towers that were part of courthouse restoration projects. The Driehaus Collection of Tiffany glass was a recent special show at the Figge Art Museum in Davenport.

The Landmarks Illinois Richard H. Driehaus Foundation Preservation Awards are truly prestigious in the Illinois preservation community. Being awarded one is a great honor. Rock Island Preservation Society members wish to congratulate the Board of Directors, Executive Director Deb Kuntzi, the City of Rock Island, the Parks and Recreation Department, and all of the volunteers on their award-winning dedication to Hauberg Estate.

**HISTORIC BRIDGES OF THE QCs**

Join the Moline Preservation Society for
**Historic Bridges of the Quad Cities Area**
November 12th, 6:30 at
Butterworth Center in the first-floor Library.
1105 8th Street, Moline.

Presenters will be Curtis Roseman and Robert Replinger. Dr. Curtis Roseman is professor emeritus of geography, University of Southern California and Mr. Replinger is a geographer from Rock Island. Together they have written a book on the area bridges from Muscatine, Iowa to Savanna, Illinois and have included bridges that cross both the Rock River and the Mississippi River. The historical and geographical context of the bridges will be covered with photos and images of each bridge. With the new I-74 bridge being built today, now is a good time to look back and see the different styles of bridges that have been built and the cost and time it took to construct them.

**AWARDS ALERT**

Take a look around your neighborhood, your business or work place, and the City of Rock Island. As the weather changes, a lot of building restoration projects are finishing up. Make note of potential Preservation Award nominees. We are also interested in projects that are still in progress so that we know to watch for completion.
Last year, RIPS decided to become more proactive in making Rock Island Landmark applications, using the Preservation Commission’s “Most Significant Unprotected Structures” (MoSUS) list as a starting point. The original First National Bank building, later the Modern Woodmen Bank, was selected as a good candidate last summer because it had been largely vacant. That was a fortuitous choice as on August 27, a story appeared in the Dispatch/Argus that MWA was going to demolish the bank citing non-cost effective needed upgrades. RIPS submitted the application last month, basing the nomination on the premise that the building meets four criteria of the Preservation Ordinance. Only one criterion needs to be met. Those criteria are:

**Criterion 1:** It has significant value as part of the historic, cultural, artistic, social, ethnic or other heritage of the nation, state or community.

When constructed in 1962-63 for First National Bank of Rock Island, this building represented the culmination of a historic banking company, which had begun over a century before. By creating a building which represented the best of its time period, the leaders of First National were preparing the business for another century.

**Criterion 3:** Representative of the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural and/or landscape style inherently valuable for the study of a period, style, craftsmanship, method of construction or use of indigenous materials and which retains a high degree of integrity.

First National Bank is a rare Rock Island representative of the International Style, which had its American roots mostly after 1930. It retains a high degree of integrity.

**Criterion 4:** Notable work of a master builder, designer, architect, or artist.

The First National Bank building was designed by William Stuhr and William Appier of the firm Stuhr, Parkhurst, & Appier, which is directly descended from the architectural practice of Olof Cervin established in 1896. The firm still continues today under the name Studio 483. Both Mr. Stuhr and his younger partner, Mr. Appier, are directly responsible for dozens of buildings that have had a lasting effect on the appearance of Rock Island.

**Criterion 5:** Identifiable as an established and familiar visual feature in the community owing to its unique location or physical characteristics.

The siting of this multistory building that occupies a full keystone-shaped block in the heart of downtown makes it a dominant structure in the area. It is an effective and important part of the street wall. Moreover, the building with its essential plaza is still, after over 50 years, an attention-getter.

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**About Your House**

In the latter half of the 1990’s, “About Your House with Bob Yapp” was a PBS feature program that focused on historic architecture and presented hands-on preservation techniques. Bob Yapp, then of Rock Island, produced the show which the National Trust for Historic Places underwrote. Much of the filming was done here in the QCs and often featured homes in the Broadway Historic District, as well as showcasing many of our local craftsmen and contractors. The program is now becoming available on YouTube, with some updated information that reflects current knowledge and costs.

Go to YouTube and search “About Your House with Bob Yapp”. Be sure to click on “subscribe” so that you won’t miss any of the 50+ programs which will be added in the near future.

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**County Courthouse Update**

Last March, after Judge Jody Hoos in Peoria determined not to hear the case to halt demo of the courthouse, Landmarks Illinois, National Trust, and others, including RIPS, filed an appeal with the appellate court. On November 6, that court will hear oral arguments in Ottawa. Courthouse supporters are represented by attorneys from the Chicago branch of an international law firm, Jenner Block, who are working pro bono on the issue. It is not known how long it will take for the appellate court to issue their opinion and instructions. The County Board and Public Building Commission have refused all attempts at communication and resolution of their intent to demolish the historic building.

We are optimistic that the oral hearing will have a positive outcome and that the building will be sold or leased long term to a developer. This could result in a commercial outcome or even renting back to the county for offices.
To recognize the US involvement in World War I, Landmarks Illinois launched a statewide survey of monuments to soldiers and veterans of the Great War. The intent was to inventory every such monument in the state. Afterwards, preservation grants were provided to restore over one dozen of these monuments throughout the state. The project was underwritten by the Pritzger Military Museum in Chicago.

Markers in Rock Island County have not been photographed or, occasionally, even identified. RIPS members recently noted and photographed one such monument on 18th Ave. in Reservoir Park.

We have received a request to find and photograph the following markers. Any help is appreciated.

1. Rock Island Arsenal Cemetery - Colonel David Matson King Memorial
2. 1-74 Bridge – It may have been moved, but there was a plaque beneath the old bridge in Moline
3. Moline High School - There should be a plaque here, 3600 Avenue of the Cities
4. Moline WWI Memorial - 19th St. and 7th Avenue, now Moline Twp. Office. Probably by flagpole
5. Chippiannock Cemetery – a 1915 monument with a WWI soldier
6. RIPS added this one and sent photo - Near the reservoir on 18th Avenue just west of 24th Street

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