

# 32nd Annual Ann Arbor Preservation Awards: June 6, 2016



Residential: Mid Century Modern



Institutional: Italianate



Residential: Queen Anne Vernacular



Commercial: Early 20th C. Vernacular

# AWARDS OVERVIEW

## Rehabilitation

Presented in recognition of projects that have substantially returned a property to its historic condition.

## Preservation

Presented in recognition of superior maintenance of a significant property to preserve its essential historical, cultural or architectural value for a period of 10 years or more.

## Centennial

Presented in recognition of businesses and organizations that have existed in Ann Arbor for 100 years.

## Special Merit

Presented in recognition of exceptional projects, landscapes or other unique preservation projects, including lifetime achievements.

## In Memoriam

Presented posthumously in recognition of an individual whose contributions to Ann Arbor's history and/or the city's historic preservation efforts were exemplary.

# Rehabilitation

909 South University, 1923  
Clements Library  
University of Michigan  
Kevin Graffagnino, Director



Designed by Albert Kahn, the Clements Library has always been a jewel on the University Campus and was one of Kahn's favorite buildings. It was inspired by the Late Renaissance 1530 Villa Farnese in Italy by Vignola. A two-year, \$17 million renovation required the library's contents to be moved off site. During this time the heating, cooling and plumbing systems were updated and a new underground section was built to house its precious collections of maps, diaries, manuscripts and books relating to the exploration of America and particularly the American Revolutionary War. Renovations also include tables for scholars in the Reading Room, new offices in the basement for staff, and enhanced accessibility. The Clements celebrated a rededication in April with a ribbon cutting by UM President Schlissel. It is in the UM Central Campus Historic District.

306 Burwood, 1928  
Springmann House  
Steve McCauley + Kara Dupuy-  
McCauley, Owners



This craftsman style house was built for Johanna Springmann, widow of John, and her son Richard J. Springmann, an assembler at Motor Products Corp. It was still the home of Mr. Springmann until 1937—one of only five houses on that block then. McCauley completely restored the home including refurbishing the original wooden storm windows and replicating original shingles on the roof and second floor to match the originals. It is a meticulous restoration and one which sets a high standard for others.

326 W. Liberty, 1870  
Peter Brehm House  
Turtle Bay Holding Company,  
Owner



This home was originally built for brewer Peter Brehm and is in the Second Empire style, characterized by the mansard roof. It is a rare survivor of this style in Ann Arbor. After World War II it became the home of the IOOF—International Order of Odd Fellows—and later the Moveable Feast restaurant. It has most recently been renovated by the software company, Turtle Bay Holding Co, who restored the porch and long missing Italianate brackets from old photographs, and did a beautiful job on the interior as well. These renovations have greatly enhanced the drive up Liberty Hill in general and the Old West Side Historic District in particular.

# Rehabilitation

529 Sixth, 1890-1891  
Frederick C. Strecker House  
Justin + Allison Waugh, Owners



Another home from the Old West Side Historic District, this two-story folk style was occupied by the Strecker family until at least 1910. Frederick Strecker was a driver for John Ross. The Waughs have removed vinyl siding, restored the wood clapboards underneath, and redesigned an inappropriate addition to make it more compatible with the historic home.

1002 W. Liberty, c. 1880s  
Schwartz Family  
Paul Kuchinski + Wei Cao,  
Owners



This very large upright and wing home at Liberty and Eighth has the classic colored glass bordered windows and saw tooth gingerbread common in the 1880s and but may have been a smaller farmhouse in an earlier period. The owners have replicated original porch details that were missing and painted the home in striking colors in keeping with the late Victorian era. It is in the Old West Side Historic District.

# Centennial

113 W. Washington  
Vogel's Locksmiths, established 1913  
Denise + Robert Vogel, Owners



Denise and Robert, who took the reins in 2005, have changed only the carpet in a shop which otherwise is like walking into a time capsule from the early 20th century. Rob's great Grandfather, Gus Vogel Sr., started the shop and Rob and Denise have preserved the original cash register, workbench and hammers used by Gus. They have refused to modernize for keyless locks or key cards and instead focus on older and classic cars and re-keying locks for property managers and sororities. When Gus Sr. purchased the business in 1913 it was a machine shop owned by the Lutz family. He added bicycles and sporting goods, guns and camping equipment. After 1945 when Gus Jr. took over, they made the switch to locks and keys when the carefree days of leaving doors unlocked ended. He invented

some key machines but forgot to patent them and his wife was one of the few female locksmiths in the country. Today Rob is the 4th generation of the family and employees are still Vogel family members. They intend to stick around for many years to come. They are in the Main Street Historic District.

711 North University  
Moe Sport Shops, established 1915  
Ryan Gregg + Rishi Narayan, Owners



Current owners of Moe's are proud of their business, recognizing that it is "a slice of history" providing sports equipment for 100 years and U of M memorabilia and clothing since 1935. Ryan Gregg and Rishi Narayan have been celebrating this centennial year with special events and handouts charting the history of the business. George J. Moe opened his sporting goods store in 1915, introducing U of M clothing in 1934. "Bud" VandeWege, Sr., a former employee, purchased the shop in 1972, followed by his son, "Bud" Jr. Each owner has maintained the quirky interior with original drawers, wooden floors, and shelving dating back to 1927. The present owners purchased the business in 2010 and have launched a web-store ushering Moe's into a new era of selling sports clothing, yet continuing to recognize the importance of the store itself to the history of Ann Arbor and Michigan sports. The business is in the State Street Historic District.

# Centennial

906 South University  
Martha Cook Dormitory, built 1915  
University of Michigan  
Marion Law, Building Director



This residence hall, built in 1915 with money from New York lawyer William W. Cook (who also donated the money for the law school), was designed by the New York firm of York and Sawyer. Named in honor of Mr. Cook's mother, it is one of three all-female residence halls on campus. Above the main entrance is a statue of Portia by Furio Piccirilli, described as "Shakespeare's most intellectual woman." "Cookies" as the residents are called, still maintain old traditions such as weekly teas and a dress code and delight in their medieval English interiors. They also enjoy their garden from 1921, designed by Samuel Parsons, a prominent landscape architect. They celebrated their 100th anniversary in October 2015. It is in the UM Central Campus Historic District.

Rotary Club of Ann Arbor  
Established 1916  
Ashisah Sarkar, President



The nation's 252nd Rotary Club was started in June of 1916 by Dr. Theron S. Langford with 15 charter members. It met at the Catalpa Inn at the corner of E. Ann and N. Fourth Ave. Other members were the elite of Ann Arbor: Charles Sink of the University Musical Society; Lloyd C. Douglas, pastor of First congregational church and author of the Magnificent Obsession, The Robe and other books; Harlan Edison, Editor of the Ann Arbor News; Shirley Smith, and Secretary (male) of the U of M. When the Catalpa Inn closed, they moved to the Michigan Union, where they've met ever since. They have over 300 members and are one of 33,000 Rotary clubs worldwide. Their motto is "Service above Self."

For their Centennial Year, the Rotary Club of Ann Arbor is creating a Centennial Playground in Gallup Park in partnership with the City of Ann Arbor's Parks and Recreation Services. The universal access playground is designed to be used by all people, exceeding standards of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

# Special Merit

Moving of Oak Tree, 701 Tappan  
University of Michigan Ross School of Business  
Alison Blake-Davis, Dean  
Marvin Pettway, Senior Grounds Supervisor



When the University of Michigan's Ross School of Business took on a construction project in 2014, concerns arose about the future of a 200-year-old, 65-foot tree that was directly in the path of the new building. The Ross community felt that destroying the tree was inconsistent with its belief in positive business—that business can be a force for good.

The school came up with a solution that allowed it to preserve its living history by giving the tree a new home 100 yards to the west, with more room to grow and better exposure to sunlight. First, the soil outside the tree's root ball was excavated. Then, a platform made of metal pipes was placed under the root ball, which was carefully wrapped. When moving time arrived, massive air bladders were inflated underneath the tree to raise it up enough for wheeled, self-propelled carts to be slid under the root ball. After a slow roll along the Monroe Mall, the tree reached its new home on Nov. 4, 2014, where it's now thriving in its second spring since the move.

The idea of saving the tree was to be a symbol of strength, resilience, and community; and was about history, tradition, pride, and respect. We heartily agree.

# In Memoriam

Wystan Stevens  
February 12, 1943 to July 26, 1915



Wystan, who was always referred to as Ann Arbor's unofficial historian, will be remembered for his tours of Forest Hill Cemetery, his work on the Ann Arbor Sesquicentennial and Bicentennial Commissions, and establishing Ann Arbor's original historic districts; his mellifluous voice narrating the video about the Downtown Street Exhibit Program; and his incredible Flickr page with hundreds of images of Ann Arbor buildings. Wystan also was President of the Washtenaw County Historical Society, Caretaker of the Kempf House, and author of a book on Northfield Township. His contributions to our knowledge, awareness, and appreciation of the history of Ann Arbor are invaluable, and he will be greatly missed.

Photos of Wystan: Ann Arbor News file photos

# Preservation

416 S. Ashley, 1889  
Toledo + Northern Michigan  
Railroad Depot, The "Annie"  
Sherry Doughty, Owner



This charming Victorian railway depot served the Ann Arbor Railroad in its many incarnations and names from 1889 until passenger service ended in 1950. It had a checkered career after that serving as an antiques shop, a coffee house, and finally as a school, which it remains today. The Doughty Montessori School opened in 1985 when the interior and exterior were restored with meticulous attention to detail. Today the school continues its excellent care of this marvelous building.

120 S. State, 1940  
First United Methodist Church



This Indiana limestone church at the prominent intersection of State and Huron replaced an earlier Methodist Church (original cornerstone laid 1866) on the same site. It is built in the Gothic Revival style and was dedicated in October of 1940. The Wesley Wing opened in 1942 and the Education wing in 1955. A Memorial Garden was added in 1981 and a barrier free Promenade in 1986. A substantial interior renovation and small addition were undertaken in 2001, with other interior projects continued until 2006. The First United Methodist Church and the Wesley Foundation campus ministry continue to occupy and wonderfully maintain their home of over 75 years. Their continued downtown presence adds to a sense of community and the link between town and gown.

1 Regent Drive, 1960  
Borden Chase House  
Claire Turcotte, Owner



Traditionalism meets modernism in this mid-century modern house designed by David Osler in 1960. The hip roof and centralized entrance give the house formality that is different from Osler's usual plans. Osler used crown moldings to hide fixtures for ambient light and ventilation, and cherry wood instead of light woods. Windows and views are a major part of the experience of this house, enhancing the outdoor landscape and street activity.

The Turcottes are the third owners and have owned it since 1989. They have made some cosmetic changes to the kitchen and updated the bathrooms, but on the whole it is quite the way it was built in 1960. It is one of David Osler's daughter Molly's favorite works of her father.

# Preservation

1520 Broadway, 1862  
Jay C. + Harriet Taylor House  
Patrick + Patricia McLaughlin,  
Owners



This beautiful red brick Italianate house with its hipped roof, brackets and round top windows with six over six panes, sits up the Broadway hill in Lower Town overlooking the Huron River Valley. Once the home of wealthy physician Jay C. Taylor (who, in the spirit of the times also manufactured bed springs) and his wife, it contained over 1200 peach trees and acres of grape vines in the 1880s and was one of several fruit farms along Broadway. Today it is in the Broadway Historic District.

Son Jay C. Taylor Jr became a nationally known singer but moved into the home after his parents died. He lived there until his death in 1956 and the home remained in the family until 1974. Today's owners Patrick and Patricia McLaughlin have lived here since 1992 and have maintained the building in great condition on its lofty perch overlooking Ann Arbor.

220 N. Ingalls, 1929  
Phi Rho Sigma Fraternity  
Zeta Chapter



The medical fraternity Phi Rho Sigma, organized in 1897, built this English Tudor style stone cottage in 1928 using designs by Myron Pugh. It replaced a previous building on its original site, which was the NE corner of Ingalls and Catherine. In 1950 it was moved to the SE corner of Ingalls and Catherine when St. Joseph Mercy hospital "coveted their land." Supposedly it went so smoothly that no china was broken! The fraternity became co-ed in 1975 when it became an official medical society.

The society has kept the house in mint condition and recently replaced all the storm windows to match the style and colors of the half-timbering and mortar. Leaded glass, oriel windows and an arched doorway framed by quoins are also features of the style. It is in the Old Fourth Ward Historic District.

632 S. First, 1885  
Raab-Harlacher House  
Gregory + Sarah Lee, Owners



This brick house in a vernacular style with a round window in the gable facing the street shows us what the Old West Side must have looked like when it was humming with new buildings in the 1880s. The house still retains its shutters and has a porch which is early 20th century and not original, but still probably 100 years old! The Raab family still occupied this house in 1977 when the first book on Ann Arbor's historic buildings was published after the Sesquicentennial. Matilda Harlacher said the house was unchanged from her childhood except for indoor plumbing.

The Lees have maintained the house and kept the shutters on almost all the windows. They added a major addition using a breezeway design that respects the older house and allows massing that doesn't overwhelm it. Directly to the west is a twin of this house, which was modernized in the 1960s and is a stunning contrast to the older, original version.

# Preservation

1444 W. Liberty, 1864  
Jacob Beck House  
John + Laura Baur, Owners



With its deep setback from Liberty, this brick Greek Revival from 1864 is almost hidden from view to the average motorist. It displays the traditional Greek Revival elements of gable front, four over four windows, an entry with sidelights and transom window, dentils in the eaves, frieze windows on the second floor, and deep green shutters. The bay window on the west is an addition.

The Baur's have owned the house since the 1980s and furnished it with period antiques. Before them it had been the home of Dr. L. Dell Henry and Elizabeth Robinson. Both families were recognized for their preservation efforts years ago. For their continued stewardship of this house, we recognize the Baur's with this award.

2659 Heather Way, 1967  
Elmer Gilbert House  
Elmer Gilbert + Lois Verbrugge,  
Owners



Robert Metcalf designed this home for Elmer Gilbert when Elmer was a bachelor. The north side is entirely two-story full windows. With open space between the main and upper floors, the view outdoors to the property's woods is expansive. Metcalf took advantage of the steep drop toward the north to create a ground floor with rooms leading directly outside. The house was, and is still, furnished with Knoll and Herman Miller furniture. After Lois and Elmer married, Metcalf designed an office for her on the ground floor, plus an exercise room. The house has its original owner, and its architectural structure is unmodified.