

2016 Honor Awards

On Thursday, April 21, 2016 the Missouri Alliance for Historic Preservation (Missouri Preservation) presented its 36th annual Statewide Preservation Honor Awards. The Awards recognize people and projects that have advanced the field of Historic Preservation in Missouri. The Awards ceremony took place in the Capitol Rotunda (first floor) in Jefferson City at 201 West Capitol Drive at 11:00 a.m. There are twelve recipients of the 2016 Honor Awards, that represent individual historic building projects, people and/or projects that have created or inspired synergy in historic preservation, published works promoting Missouri's architectural history, and lifetime achievements in the field of historic preservation. This year's award recipients are:

The Rozier Award

Named in honor of Elizabeth McReynolds Rozier, one of the founding members of Missouri Preservation and a noted Jefferson City Preservationist, the Rozier Award was established to recognize individuals who have made significant achievements in the field of historic preservation in Missouri. This is Missouri Preservation's most prestigious annual award.

Rozier Award Winner

Geraldine 'Gerry' Friedman

Labadie, Franklin County



Gerry Friedman is a long-time advocate for historic preservation; one of the state's earliest and strongest supporters of preservation. Her understanding of preservation as a tool to save individual buildings as well as the positive impact those rehabilitations have on the surrounding community (higher property values, new businesses, safer streets, etc.) led her to the belief that

“historic preservation *is* economic development.” Acting on this belief, Gerry lobbied the Legislature to adopt the Missouri State Income Tax Credit for Historic Rehabilitation (and continued its defense in subsequent years) and traveled the state organizing seminars to inform property owners in smaller towns about the Tax Credit and encouraging them to use it. Subsequently, she served on the Governor's Advisory Council for Historic Preservation, as liaison between the Missouri Department of Resources and the State Historic Preservation Office, Executive Director of the Old Webster Redevelopment Corporation in Webster Groves, and Rehabilitation Coordinator of Ferguson Corner in Ferguson, Missouri.

As an undergraduate majoring in History/Fine Arts, Gerry Friedman fell in love with architecture. Although she later obtained a master's degree in Urban Affairs, the charm and personality of design and the intrinsic beauty and substance of the materials in the historic buildings in old St Louis neighborhoods captured her attention. In addition to her long record of advocacy, she has held a Missouri Real Estate License since 1985, attended a National Main Street Training Program, held an internship with the East-West Gateway Coordinating Council, and served on the board of Downtown Washington, Inc. Of no little importance is Gerry's role as the driving force behind the Statewide Preservation Honor Awards. As a member of the Missouri Preservation Board of Directors, Gerry coordinated the first awards ceremony over thirty years ago. This ceremony abides by the original mission to honor individuals, groups, and projects from across the state that preserve, protect, and advocate for Missouri's historic resources.

McReynolds Awards

The McReynolds Awards, named in honor of Elizabeth McReynolds Rozier, are given annually to individuals or groups who have made significant achievements in the field or are in the midst of a long-term preservation project, creating synergy in the field of historic preservation. The McReynolds awards are among the most important awards given out each year by the organization.

McReynolds Award Winner

Florissant's Historic Treasures

Florissant, St. Louis County



At the heart of the City of Florissant is the large and active St. Ferdinand Historic District. Having maintained many historic properties throughout its rich history and first establishing a historic preservation ordinance in 1971, the City has many of its historic properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places and/or designated as Local Landmarks. In 2011, the City of Florissant and the City's Landmark and Historic District Commission (LHCD) kicked off a Cultural Awareness campaign which began with the City of Florissant Archaeology Planning & Outreach Project. In 2012, the City initiated the Green Line Tour, a bus tours and outreach program for the historic district. The Missouri Department of Natural Resources State Historic Preservation Office issued a second grant to the City of Florissant to enhance its outreach efforts. The City used this grant to fund the latest piece of the program in 2015, "Florissant's Historic Treasures" Premier. LHDC prepared five separately themed videos featuring a total of fourteen historic properties. Although the videos were designed to be viewed on demand through websites and social media, the City hosted events to premier the programs to the public, successfully distributing them for area-wide viewing, the ultimate goal of public outreach.

McReynolds Award Winner

Wyeth Tootle Mansion Restoration & Community Engagement Project

St. Joseph, Buchanan County



The City of St. Joseph and the St. Joseph Museums have completed two phases of a three-phased project to restore the 1879 Wyeth Tootle Mansion. Phase 1, completed in 2012, included masonry repairs and restoration on the west façade and main porch. Phase 2, completed in 2014, addressed exterior woodwork, including the painstaking restoration of the historic wood windows. With preservation work continuing, the majestic Wyeth Tootle Mansion is a monument to its historic past with an optimistic outlook for the future. It anchors the surrounding historic residential neighborhood, named Museum Hill in honor of the mansion, and draws heritage and architectural tourism from near and far. It is a venue for hosting private events and

weddings, and is the headquarters for many community-centered art and cultural events. The Wyeth Tootle Mansion is an example of a building that has been successfully brought “back to life” by hard work and prudent investment of a coalition of many preservation groups that include the City of St. Joseph, the St. Joseph Museums, and the Museum Hill neighborhood.

McReynolds Award Winner

Patty Maher, Tiger Lily Development, LLC

City of St. Louis



Patty Maher has been rehabilitating old, forgotten, historic buildings in south St. Louis for the past twenty-five years. With a bachelor’s degree in Philosophy from the University of Missouri at Columbia and a master’s degree in Religious Studies from Washington University, Ms. Maher’s graduation from the Ranken Technical College in carpentry completed her well-rounded education. As developer, general contractor, and property manager, Ms. Maher coordinates all aspects of the rehab project. The typical project begins as an uninhabitable, derelict building that has been boarded up, often vandalized and stripped, and unoccupied for many years. These buildings are often over one hundred years old with massive limestone basements, brick walls, and timber framing. In addition to meeting historic standards, these rehabilitations also meet Energy Star standards for high efficiency as well as the Secretary of the Interiors Standards for historic rehabilitation. Ms. Maher also enjoys working with communities and residents that are thrilled to have these once vacant properties restored and once again contributing to the life and character of their neighborhoods.

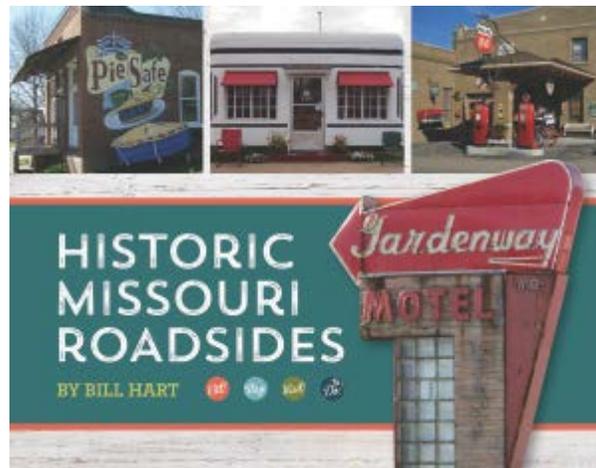
Osmund Overby Award

The Overby Award was established to recognize published works that contribute to the documentation and interpretation of Missouri's architectural history. It honors Dr. Osmund Overby, Art History Professor Emeritus and former head of the historic preservation program at the University of Missouri, Columbia. Dr. Overby was a founding member of Missouri Preservation, lifetime board and advisory board member and a nationally recognized leader in historic preservation.

Overby Award Winner

Historic Missouri Roadsides, Bill Hart

City of St. Louis



Historic Missouri Roadsides is a richly illustrated travel/history/photography book, consisting of several tours of Missouri on mostly two-lane roads and highways. Varying greatly in length, most of the tours mark their beginning points near Kansas City and St. Louis, making them attractive to Missouri “staycationers” who are eager to get out of the city. Illustrated with photographs from the author’s personal collection, the six tours outlined in this book highlight the historic buildings, local places to eat and stay, and area attractions or events in communities around the state. Author Bill Hart grew up in Perry County in southeast Missouri. After pursuing a degree in historic preservation from Southeast Missouri State University, Bill did his graduate coursework in architectural history at the Savannah College of Art and Design. His interest in small towns and roadside attractions in Missouri was fostered by his work for the past several years with Missouri Preservation, where he currently serves as executive director. This book features a wide variety of roadside architecture in an effort to bring awareness to some of Missouri’s vanishing building types in addition to bring heritage tourism dollars to smaller communities statewide.

Preserve Missouri Awards

The Preserve Missouri awards recognize outstanding efforts and projects around the state. Suggested categories include, but are not limited to: Commercial Revitalization, Institutional/Civic Building Restoration, Neighborhood Revitalization, Residential Rehabilitation, Historic Landscape Preservation, Rural Preservation, and Preservationist-in-Action.

Preserve Missouri Award Winner

Boo Cat Club

City of St. Louis



Patrick and Carol Schuchard restored the former St. Louis Artists’ Guild building at 812 Union Boulevard in St. Louis. Constructed in 1908, the building served the St. Louis Artists’ Guild as a center for meetings, exhibits, and performances for artists in the St. Louis community until 1980.

While it later served as a neighborhood youth services center, the building had undergone major interior alterations. The recent rehabilitation removed layers of non-historic materials, restoring its original appearance. Work included replacing the asphalt shingle roof with a more appropriate clay tile roof; replacing non-historic windows and doors to more closely match historic windows and doors visible in historic photographs; and restoring the skylights in the gallery and theater. The sensitive rehabilitation restored this building to its former grandeur. It now functions as an event venue

Preserve Missouri Award Winner

The Arcade Building

City of Saint Louis



The Arcade Building, constructed in 1906 and 1919, is unique as one of the largest mixed-use retail and office complexes in the Midwest. Deluxe retail stores lined the two-story grand arcade with its thirty-five-foot ceilings and wide promenade. Over the years, building owners and tenants modernized the storefronts, completely covering its signature arched openings. The first story closed in 1978 and the entire building was vacant by the early 1990's. The rehabilitation of the historic Arcade Building, featuring 80 luxury lofts and 202 affordable artist apartments, is the largest new residential development in Downtown St. Louis since the opening of Mansion House in 1965. Work included the complete restoration of the faux tile finish of the Arcade's vaulted ceiling and the installation of new glazed terra cotta to match historic terra cotta lost to earlier storefront modernizations. The project also restored the entire two-story arcade, four floors of interior storefronts, and ten floors of historic corridors.

Preserve Missouri Award Winner

Heer's Luxury Living

Springfield, Greene County



Heer's Luxury Living occupies the former department store that anchors the northwest corner of the public square in downtown Springfield. The eight-story, 1915 building with its three-story 1951 addition functioned as the Heer's Department Store until 1995. Selective demolition initiated during three previous failed renovation attempts (in 2003, 2005, and 2008) left the interior in significantly deteriorated condition. Water infiltration and prolonged vacancy caused extensive damage to plaster walls and ceilings and to hardwood floors. With strong support of city officials and civic leaders, anxious to convert another blighted building into productive downtown space, the Dalmark Group initiated a project to restore the building with residential living units, tenant amenities, and unique commercial spaces. Historic photographs guided the design of new windows and exterior ornament to match the appearance of elements removed when a screen was installed in 1967 and removed in 2002. The wide open floor plates were easily converted to residential apartments. The crowning achievement for this project was the rehabilitation of the first floor lobby for commercial tenant use, where the historic 1915 coffered ceiling and the 1951 mezzanine balcony convey the historic volume of the space as well as the layers of historic alterations. The sensitive rehab of this monumental commercial building enhances the on-going revitalization of the downtown square and brings new energy to the historic center of Springfield.

Preserve Missouri Award Winner

Historic Truman Courthouse Interior Renovation

Independence, Jackson County



The Historic Truman Courthouse was originally constructed in 1826 and underwent five substantial renovations. The purpose of this project was to restore the interior to the 1933 design, the renovation Harry S. Truman oversaw when he was Presiding Judge of Jackson County. The phased renovation included the abatement of hazardous materials such as lead paint and asbestos; the removal of all non-original construction and only the partial removal of three small original walls, two of which were in the basement. Design features include the preservation of all common areas; the restoration of the original high plaster ceilings throughout the building; the cleaning and restoration of existing woodwork, doors, and hardware; the restoration of the bell tower, and the restoration of the original flooring, including the existing “battleship linoleum.” The interior renovation reorganized spaces to provide efficiencies in County departments and updated security and information technology systems. County officials praised the renovation as an investment in the future while honoring the past.

Preserve Missouri Award Winner

Linwood Area Ministry Place

Kansas City, Jackson County



The 1923 Linwood Presbyterian Church and 1931 Home for Convalescent Employed Women had been unoccupied since the mid-1970s. This project represents the culmination of over two decades of planning and collaboration to create a center for social services on Kansas City's distressed east side. The church building had deteriorated significantly during the 30 years it sat vacant. Work in the 1990s stabilized and secured the structure for future rehabilitation. Most of the historic windows had been removed and the openings boarded up when the congregation sold the building in the 1970s. Little plaster remained on walls or ceilings due to extensive water infiltration. In 2012, Linwood Place Development, LLC embarked on a sensitive rehabilitation of this unique space, retaining key historic elements of the church, with particular attention to the volume and extant ornament in the sanctuary, while accommodating the functional and physical needs of multiple tenants with distinct requirements. The buildings now house multiple non-profit tenants, including the Heartland Presbytery, the Front Porch Alliance, and ReDiscovery. Together these groups bring 60 jobs plus much needed social services for children and adults to the area. Their efforts will support the resurgence of the Linwood corridor and the Ivanhoe neighborhood. The delicate rehab of this unique building proves that the reuse and repurposing of religious buildings is possible with thoughtful planning and design.

Preserve Missouri Award Winner

Linwood Lawn

Lexington, Lafayette County



Linwood Lawn is widely recognized as one of the finest antebellum mansions in the Midwest. When completed in 1859, this magnificent structure contained the latest mechanical features available at the time, including hot and cold running water, a forced air heating and cooling system, an indoor bathroom, its own coal gasification plant, a speaking tube and bell system, and a built-in wood-burning cook stove. Decorative features include fireplace mantels imported from Italy, sterling silver door knobs, and gasoliers from the Philadelphia based lighting company Cornelius and Baker. While most of the historic fabric was intact, broken water pipes caused damage to several plaster ceilings. Restoration work included repairing plaster ceilings and elaborate wood trim, rewiring chandeliers, and repairing and refinishing the heart pine and marble floors. Non-historic alterations were removed and historic finishes were painstakingly restored.

Preserve Missouri Award Winner

St. Charles Old Post Office

St. Charles, St. Charles County



The building operated as a post office from the time it was constructed in 1909 until 1960 when a new post office was constructed and this building was converted to office use. The rehabilitation project included removing the non-historic second story and restoring the first floor's vaulted ceiling, installing a new roof with the half-round dormers that originally graced the building's roof, upgrading the heating and cooling systems, and installing fiber optics. As a new co-working center for the emerging digital startups district in the western region of St. Louis, the 10,000 square foot Old Post Office building provides regional startups with affordable workspace and access to mentors, potential investors, programming, educational resources, and a community of local entrepreneurs. Early-stage companies can use this space as needed, rather than entering a more traditional lease, a tremendous asset for nascent IT companies. After six months of operation, the Old Post Office housed more than twenty-five startups.

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