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Faulkner Art/Home Preview Party

May 16, 2013

On May 16, the BGT hosted 200+ guests at the Faulkner Art/Home Preview Party to benefit the Trust at artist Henry Faulkner's former home on Third Street. Visitors enjoyed seeing 50 works of Henry's art from the Greene A. Settle Collection and visiting with friends and neighbors over wine and appetizers in this lovingly restored home. It was a truly special evening. Cheers to Henry.

The Board of the Blue Grass Trust for Historic Preservation thanks Mr. & Mrs. Jay Farmer, The Greene A. Settle Collection, Howard and Mickey Settle, Katie Cassidy Sutherland, Daniel V. Scully/Architects, Pete Cassidy, Crawford Builders, Chip Crawford, Hockensmith Fine Editions, John Stephen Hockensmith, and Exhibit Curator Bob Morgan for making this wonderful event possible. Additional thanks to Judi Burchard, Kelly Spencer, Shana Wilson, Foster Pettit, Geneva Donaldson, and Donna Potter of Catering by Donna.



*Clockwise from top left: 1. Dining Room: filled with artwork by artist Henry Faulkner
2. Foyer: Guests arriving!
3. L to R: State Representative Ruth Ann Palumbo chatting with homeowner Jay Farmer and BGT's Sheila Ferrell
4. L to R: Chip Crawford of Crawford Builders with Isabel Yates
5. L to R: Show Curator Bob Morgan and Architect Katie Cassidy Sutherland with guests*



BGT deTours Committee receives 2013 Ida Lee Willis Historic Preservation Award.

L to R: Grant Mills, Jason Sloan, Rachel Alexander, Peter Brackney, Brandon Warren, Mollie Eblen, Will Adams

BGT's Award-Winning deTours
BGT 2013
Historic Preservation
Award Winners

Ashland Park becomes
Lexington's 15th
Historic District

Danville's Historic
Willis Green Home
saved by consortium

A Good Walk Unspoiled:
Lower Howard's Creek
Heritage Park & State Nature Preserve

Preservation: Italian-Style
& Much More!

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PRESERVATION

Matters

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Summer 2013

Cover Photo: BGT deTour of Sayre School, July 2013





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Message from our President: Greetings from Market Street

As The Blue Grass Trust starts a new year, I am excited about the opportunity to serve as President. The Blue Grass Trust has taken the lead over the last three years in the many issues facing the Lexington community and central Bluegrass area on issues of historic preservation. It's impossible to recount the many individual successes over the last three years, but it has by any measure been the result of the incomparable dedication and leadership of Linda Carroll as President. On behalf of everyone, we extend our heartfelt thanks and look forward to her continued involvement and wise counsel.

My interest in historic preservation was forced on me at an early age when I spent an entire summer during high school as the laborer for the contractors who were doing the restoration work on an early family home into which our family was moving. The mess of the demolition and tear-out work made it hard to imagine the home as suitable for human habitation. The work was at last completed, and along with the joy of moving, was a sense of pride and accomplishment in having preserved this beautiful house.

Later, after graduation from law school and marriage, my wife Nancy and I began looking for our first home. Neither of us had an interest in buying a new house, and being short on money and long on energy we gravitated to looking in the South Hill and Western Suburb neighborhoods. We settled on a house on West Short Street which needed everything and in 1978 became proud owners facing a lot of work.

At the time, the Gratz Park neighborhood was well established and served as a beacon for what could be achieved in the other neighborhoods. A handful of houses had been restored in the South Hill neighborhood and on West Short Street. The North Limestone, Woodward Heights and many other downtown areas were similarly blighted by the deterioration of the historic structures and criminal activities.

Oh, the fun we had as urban pioneers. The neighborhood was full of others with similar determination, and bonds formed with everyone working toward the same goal. Lifelong



*Tom Meng,
Blue Grass Trust Board President*

friendships were made with Pete Laughlin, the Kerrs, Duffields, Dot Crutcher and many others. Through it all, we all loved and still love The Blue Grass Trust as the force that would continue to educate and advocate on behalf of historic preservation. Today, 35 years later, the downtown landscape and environment has experienced a quantum change for the better. So many of the formerly deteriorated structures have been restored to their full potential, and downtown has become an entertainment destination and fashionable place to live.

The issues facing the historic preservation community continue unabated, and through the loyal support of our members, the Board and staff of The Blue Grass Trust will continue to meet the challenges with a thoughtful and firm approach. Our work is accomplished through the efforts of those on our various volunteer committees. We encourage you to volunteer for work on these committees and to participate in the numerous social events sponsored by The Blue Grass Trust during the year, and in particular, to take advantage of the opportunity for inside tours of our many local historic properties under the efforts of the award winning De-Tours Committee. These events are on the first Wednesday of each month at 5:30 p.m., and you will find them both educational and fun. In any case, watch your emails for the many notices of upcoming events sponsored by The Blue Grass Trust. You'll be glad you did. 🙏

Saved and Ready for Re-Sale: *The Magnificent Willis Green House in Danville*

In 1955, the Blue Grass Trust for Historic Preservation was founded when an architecturally significant house, home to historic Kentucky leaders, was saved from demolition by citizens of the newly-formed BGT. The Hunt-Morgan House, the cornerstone of Gratz Park, is living testament to 58 years of good deeds by the Trust, its membership, and the citizens of Lexington.

In 2013, the Blue Grass Trust and a consortium of historic preservationists came together when an architecturally significant house, home to historic Kentucky leaders, needed to be saved from demolition. The Willis Green House in Danville, one of the very few surviving Kentucky Georgian mansions, was purchased at an absolute auction on June 8 for \$87,200 by the consortium that included the BGT, the James Harrod Trust in Harrodsburg, the Crutcher Family Foundation in Lexington, and Angela and Jess Correll of First Southern Bank in Stanford. The group bought the house, located at 120 West Erskine Avenue, to ensure it could never be demolished. They took possession as of July 8 and have secured the house and removed overgrowth from the exterior.

What's next for the Willis Green House? The historic house and its 2+ acres are for sale for \$87,200 to someone who is able to restore it. Easements will be put on the house when it is sold to prevent it from ever being torn down.

Interested, qualified buyers may call (859)221-1514 for information.
www.willisgreenhouse.com 🙏



Willis Green House in Danville, front exterior



Left: Exquisite interior moldings, living room; Right: Dining room fireplace and molding



Left: Willis Green, back exterior; Right: Basement: massive beams

BGT Calendar of Upcoming Events!

September

September 4, 5:30 p.m. BGT deTour Walking Tour of Bell Court, deTour begins at Bell House, 545 Sayre Ave. AfterHour @ Thoroughbred Antique Gallery, food and beverage compliments of Jerry Shrout. Free & open to the public

September 18, 6 to 9 p.m.

PAWS 4 Preservation Atomic Café Patio, 265 Limestone (@ Third Street) Pet the Night Away at a Fun & Furry Party! Reservations: \$15 for 1 person & 1 pet, \$20 for non-members and @ the Door Includes Contests, Giveaways & Snacks for Pets & People; Cash Bar Give the BGT a bark @ (859)253-0362 for Reservations or Sponsorship Info

September 20, 5 to 8 p.m. Gallery Hop at Hunt-Morgan House Presented in cooperation with LexArts Free & open to the public

October

October 2, 5:30 p.m. BGT deTour to UK's VisCenter* *UK's Center for Visualization & Virtual Environment, corner of Maxwell and Rose Streets, in the Davis Marksbury Building, the first building on UK's campus to receive LEED Gold certification AfterHour: Sav's Grill Free & open to the public

November

November 6, 5:30 p.m. BGT deTour to Central KY Bluegrass Seed Company Bldg, 321 Henry St. AfterHour: TBA

Congratulations & Welcome Ashland Park! Lexington's 15th Local Historic District



An important event for historic preservation in Lexington occurred on January 22, 2013. The Lexington-Fayette Urban County Council approved the application of Ashland Park to become Lexington's 15th historic district. As most of the readers of this newsletter understand, applying a historic overlay is the primary vehicle for ensuring that our historic properties are preserved. As we learn almost every day, historic properties that are not protected by a historic overlay can be altered or demolished at the whim of the property owner. The best that we can do in those situations is to plead and cajole.

The Urban County Council's approval of H-1 status for Ashland Park came after a three-hour hearing. The Ashland Park Neighborhood Association is to be applauded for successfully guiding this matter through the BOAR, the Planning Commission and the Urban County Council. In the future, proponents of historic districts would be wise to study and copy the Ashland Park Neighborhood Association's efforts. They were highly organized, transparent, diligent, dedicated and educated on the issues. It also did not hurt that their neighborhood contained everything that a neighborhood should contain in order to achieve historic district status.

There are many others to thank for this result. Randy Shipp and others at the Office of Historic Preservation prepared a thorough and well-supported study of the neighborhood and made a convincing presentation to the Urban County Council. Bo Fugazzi, legal counsel to the Neighborhood Association, did a fine job of organizing the presentation and summarizing the neighborhood's arguments. Residents of the neighborhood and

other proponents who spoke at the Council hearing were eloquent and convincing. Finally, the members of the Urban County Council who voted to approve the application are deserving of our appreciation.

This was a learning experience for everyone. We came away from the hearing with some things to consider and work on when the next historic district application comes down the line. The following are just a few issues which will need to be addressed:

- Clarify purpose of the "indication of interest" cards that are distributed to the owners of properties within the proposed district by the Planning Commission staff. There was some confusion on the part of residents and Council persons alike with regard to these cards. They are merely a preliminary indication of whether there is sufficient support from the district property owners for the historic district designation. They are distributed and returned very early in the process, long before the first hearing before the BOAR. They are NOT supposed to be an absolute and final ballot reflecting the number of those who support or oppose the overlay.

- Better understanding of the ramifications of owning property within a historic district. Many still believe that the H-1 overlay changes the underlying zoning of the properties. It does not. It simply adds an additional layer of regulations geared toward historic preservation but does not change the underlying use of the property.

- It was difficult to know what materials the Council members had been given prior to the hearing. Clearly, the study that was done by the Office of Historic Preservation should have been available to them. That study is required under the zoning ordinance and the Council is re-

The Council also declared "as a matter of public policy that ... the use of historic districts ... are public necessities".

quired to review it. It was unclear as to whether copies of the study had been given to each Council person or whether other relevant materials were available for their review.

- Finally, it was disturbing to hear at least two members of the Planning Commission (at the hearing held prior to the hearing before the Urban County Council) vote against the historic overlay for Ashland Park simply because they do not agree with the concept of historic districts and do not believe it is appropriate to tell private property owners what they can and cannot do with their properties. As was mentioned during the hearing before the Urban County Council, historic districts were authorized by the Urban County Council several decades ago. In the authorizing zoning ordinance (*Article 13*), the Council declared that historic districts were "essential" in order "to promote the economic and general welfare of the people of Fayette County". The Council also declared "as a matter of public policy that ... the use of historic districts ... are public necessities". Basically, two of the Planning Commission members chose to ignore the zoning ordinance. Sitting as a quasi-judicial body, the Planning Commission and the Urban County Council are charged with determining whether an application for historic district status meets the criteria set forth in the zoning ordinance. They are not a legislative body

when they review an H-1 application and they are not charged with deciding whether historic districts should or should not be a part of Lexington's planning and zoning process. That has already been decided in the affirmative. It would be as if a judge decided that drunk driving

should not be a crime and dismissed all drunk driving charges pending before him/her. That would be a violation of the judge's duty to apply the laws as written. Similarly, whether a member of the Planning Commission or Urban County Council agrees with the concept of historic districts should be of no consequence. Perhaps a more thorough orientation of the members of these bodies as to their legal duties and responsibilities would be in order.

The Blue Grass Trust for Historic Preservation welcomes Ashland Park as Lexington's 15th historic district and the BGT congratulates those who worked hard to make it happen. 🏡



November 15, 5 to 8 p.m. Gallery Hop at Hunt-Morgan House Presented in cooperation with LexArts Free & open to the public

December

December 4, 5:30 p.m. BGT deTour: Abraham Barton House, 200 N. Upper Street @ Second St (current home of DelCotto Law Group) Free & open to the public

December 4, 7 to 10 p.m.

BGT Members Holiday Party at Hunt-Morgan House, 201 N. Mill Street, BGT Members: \$50 per person BGT Members 35 & Under: \$35 p/p Non-members: \$100 p/p (includes one year \$50/single membership)

January, 2014

*January 8, 5:30 p.m. BGT deTour: St. Paul Church & Rectory Free & open to the public *Note: Due to holiday, deTour will be on the second Wednesday

February, 2014

February 5, 5:30 p.m. BGT deTour: TBA Free & open to the public

March, 2014

March 5, 5:30 p.m. BGT deTour: TBA Free & open to the public

March 6, 7 to 10 p.m. AGS Gala Preview Party

Kentucky Horse Park's Alltech Arena, BGT Members: \$125 per person Non-members: \$150 p/p

March 7, 8, 9, 2014 The Blue Grass Trust's Antiques & Garden Show

Kentucky Horse Park's Alltech Arena, Friday & Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Daily Admission: \$15 p/p Run of Show: \$20 p/p

"What Preservation Means to Me" is a new feature in *Preservation Matters*. We are pleased to have our preservation-minded friend and Board member Fran Taylor pen the inaugural column; she did a beautiful job.

If you are interested in submitting a "What Preservation Means to Me" column for a future issue, please call the BGT at (859)253-0362 or email soferrell@bluegrasstrust.org

About the painting in the article:

Renowned artist Peter Williams did a superb job painting this charming house portrait of Fran Taylor and Tom Cheek's home. Historically known as the Williamson House (1889) it is an anchor in the Woodward Heights neighborhood. Woodward Heights was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1980 and became a local, regulated historic district (H-1) in 1987.

An eclectic Victorian mansion, this house was owned by Ella Williamson, a widow of a building contractor who had emigrated from Scotland with his brother in the 1960s. The house's many ornate wood decorations reflect his connection with the East End Planning Mill on the Town Branch (1867). Rough-cut limestone lintels, dentil work, and Roman columns are also evident. A large bay with a turret and bracketed eaves are featured.

This home was featured on the BGT's June 5 deTour which coincided with the Trust's release of its newest Walking Tour guide featuring Woodward Heights. BGT's deTours which occurs the first Wednesday each month at 5:30 p.m. are free and open to the public, and include a social AfterHour at a nearby restaurant or bar.*

*Except Holidays



What Preservation Means to Me

by Fran Taylor

Home is your refuge. Or at least it should be. It is the place you retreat to when life gets hard or you are worn out. You breathe a sign of relief when you get there and somehow, instinctively, you feel that the house does, too, because it knows it is loved.

Hopefully, it is also a place that makes you happy and where loved ones reside or visit regularly. It is filled with things that have the power to evoke good memories. It is also a lot of hard work but worth it because it is your home.

If you are really lucky, your house has a soul. And if you are extraordinarily lucky, it is an

Preservation is another word for grace. It is about respect and responsibility and caring about the past.

old soul with the wisdom of the ages tucked in every corner and reflecting off of the shimmering, wrinkly windows. It is your home but it has a story and you are just a small part of that story.

If you are really, really lucky, your house is in a neighborhood surrounded by houses with old souls and people who are quite different but alike in that they love old houses with old souls. These houses feel different from new houses – they have patinas and crumbly edges; they are deeply rooted in the soil and grow in clusters with other old houses – if they and you are supremely lucky and they have been appreciated and preserved.

Fran Taylor is a BGT board member. She and her husband Tom Cheek live in downtown Lexington's historic Woodward Heights. Her fifth book, on the history of the Blue Grass Airport, will be coming out later this year.

Preservation is another word for grace. It is about respect and responsibility and caring about the past. It is either in your DNA or an acquired trait because on family vacations your parents marched you through countless historic homes when you were young and impressionable. It is apparently what Europeans are born knowing over the millenniums and upstart Americans are just beginning to understand (all said tongue in cheek and relatively speaking of course).

Learning to appreciate old houses, old cities, pristine farmland and forests is akin to learning to like Brussels sprouts or tomatoes after years of people telling you, "you don't know



what you're missing ..." and when you try it, you realize that it was always missing and life will never be the same because it is part of you now and you crave it. You are wiser because you have come to love something that has a soul and is of the ages.

You can never truly replicate history. You can only preserve it. And it is worth preserving because in a world that often makes no sense, it's something that you can count on. It is the familiar sight of the old house in the old neighborhood. Full of memories, full of stories, full of characters. Waiting for you to go by – pulling at you to stop and look in the wrinkly old window and wave to the souls that reside within. ☼

Portrait Restoration & Gallery Hop at the Hunt-Morgan House



L to R: John Hackworth with Beverley Spears

Five portraits that reside in various rooms at the Hunt-Morgan House have been beautifully restored to their original quality by Terry Boyle of Collector's Art Group in Cincinnati. This was made possible through the funds generated by the sale in February of Hunt-Morgan House deaccessioned furniture, which was not of the interpreted Federal time period or relevant to the narrative of the house.

But wait. We need to back up a considerable distance to see how we got to where we are now with these paintings. It all began with Chris Ertel, a docent at the Hunt-Morgan House, who with excellent research skills and resolute persistence was able to locate a portrait of Rebecca Gratz Bruce Morgan, the first wife of Confederate General John Hunt Morgan. In July of 1861, Rebecca died at age 31 after suffering for several years with septic thrombophlebitis following the stillborn birth of their son. Rebecca is an important part of the Hunt-Morgan House story, and Chris discovered that her portrait belonged to Beverley Spears of Port Charlotte, Florida. Beverley's husband, the late Esten Warfield Spears, was a descendant of the Bruces, and Mrs. Spears decided to gift the portrait to the Hunt-Morgan House so it can be shared with all who visit the house.



Mrs. Spears & Linda Carroll

that have been long neglected. These are portraits of John Wesley Hunt, his wife Catherine, and his sons Abraham and Francis Key Hunt.

The Hunt-Morgan House committee has

So in early January, board member and chair of the Hunt-Morgan House Committee John Hackworth and his wife Carolyn, who is a docent at the house, had a delightful visit with Beverley Spears in her Florida home.

The portrait of Rebecca was carefully wrapped and crated for the journey back to Lexington. When Rebecca arrived at the HMH, she was enthusiastically received by everyone including art expert, Estill Pennington. However, it was clear that before she was to take her place in the house, she needed to be cleaned and repaired.

Only a week after Rebecca came back to Lexington, the long-planned auction of deaccessioned items took place at the Hunt-Morgan House. Items that did not help tell the story of the house and were not family pieces were included in the sale. That auction, conducted at no cost to the Trust by Filson Graham of Bluegrass Auction and Appraisal, yielded \$11,500. With the need to have Rebecca restored, the Hunt-Morgan House committee received approval from the BGT board to use the auction proceeds to rejuvenate not only Rebecca, but four other portraits in the house

that have been long neglected. These are portraits of John Wesley Hunt, his wife Catherine, and his sons Abraham and Francis Key Hunt.

The Hunt-Morgan House committee has long recognized the need to have these portraits restored, but when caring for a house, which is approaching its 200th birthday, there are many items that require immediate (sometimes urgent) attention. There is seldom funding available for things that do not demand the committee's prompt attention. The committee feels quite fortunate that the Hunt-Morgan House auction provided the funds for this very worthwhile and much needed expenditure.

John Hackworth kicked off the June 25th Gallery Hop, presented in conjunction with LexArts, and curated by Estill Pennington, by welcoming Beverley Spears and her family, and art restorer Terry Boyle to the Hunt-Morgan House and officially unveiling the delightful Rebecca Bruce Morgan portrait. The BGT's three-day exhibit entitled "Kentucky Founders," welcomed close

to 500 viewers and featured twenty-nine fine portraits. They included treasures on temporary loan to the BGT by Mack and Sharon Cox, Mrs. Nancy Iliiff, Mrs. Nancy Meng, Mr. and Mrs. Foster Pettit, W. Gay Reading, the Lexington Public Library, and Transylvania University Collection, in addition to the Trust's five restored portraits, and portraits from the HMH's Civil War Museum. We hope you will join us at the next LexArts Gallery Hop which will be held on Friday, September 20. ☼



L to R: Mr. and Mrs. Terry Boyle with Tom Moore

to 500 viewers and featured twenty-nine fine portraits. They included treasures on temporary loan to the BGT by Mack and Sharon Cox, Mrs. Nancy Iliiff, Mrs. Nancy Meng, Mr. and Mrs. Foster Pettit, W. Gay Reading, the Lexington Public Library, and Transylvania University Collection, in addition to the Trust's five restored portraits, and portraits from the HMH's Civil War Museum. We hope you will join us at the next LexArts Gallery Hop which will be held on Friday, September 20. ☼

BGT's Pop-Up Preview Party July 11 at Enoteca, Renee & Seth Brewer's new wine & tapas bar on Jefferson & Second, played host to a capacity crowd.



Debbie Chamblin, Kim & Tim Hites visit with Enoteca's Seth Brewer



Sommelier Renee Brewer talks wine with BGT guests



Leslie Beatty and Coleman Calloway are all smiles at Enoteca



BGT's Jason Sloan welcomes guest Dave Elbon

Cultural Resources Abound in Study Area for Proposed I-75 Connector in Jessamine and Madison Counties

As many well know, the idea to build an interstate connector through the palisades from Nicholasville in Jessamine County to I-75 in Madison County is nothing new. Rumors and studies (and more rumors) related to this connector have circulated for nearly two decades now, fueled largely in part by local government's long-standing desire to better accommodate commercial traffic to and from the Nicholasville area. But the challenges facing such a project, including topography, natural and historic resources, limited existing infrastructure and of course cost, are enough to make a seasoned engineer sigh. What many may not know however is that the current effort by the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet and their general engineering consultant to fully evaluate the project's purpose and need in relation to the environmental



Guest Column by
Craig A. Potts, M.A., M.F.A.
Executive Director & State Historic
Preservation Officer (SHPO),
Kentucky Heritage Council

and financial cost is both robust and efficient this time around. If this project is ever going to happen, now may be the time.



Substantial financial support from the Federal Highway Administration is essential for this project to be built, and permits from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers must be obtained for the numerous stream and Kentucky River crossings. Because of this federal involvement, the Kentucky Heritage Council, State Historic Preservation Office has a pivotal role to

play in the implementation of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as amended). Our primary role is to ensure that historic properties are fully considered in the environmental review and planning processes in consultation with the public and other consulting parties. That consultation provides an avenue for preservationists with a demonstrated interest in the

protection of cultural resources in the study corridor to be involved in a meaningful way.

To date, several groups and individuals have signed on to be consulting parties to this project. The Blue Grass Trust for Historic Preservation and the National Trust for Historic Preservation are two such groups that bring important information and valuable perspective to a Section 106 Review process that is still in the early stages. Due to the immense size of the study corridor,

Many hurdles will need to be cleared for this project to be built, and the "no build" alternative remains on the table.

the cultural resource management reports will be split into two phases; one that focuses on the identification of historic resources and one that focuses on effects that the project may have on those resources determined to be eligible for or listed in the National Register of Historic Places. This is fairly commonplace with large projects, particularly when sizeable study corridors are being considered in advance of highway design. Knowing where historic resources are located on the landscape increases the likelihood that highway engineers can design avoidance alternatives on the front end.

That said, the study corridor for the I-75 Connector project has no shortage of significant historic resources, and eliminating all potential for effect is unlikely. The identification phase of the cultural resource management report (completed in November, 2012) found 428 sites that were 50 years of age or older, 30 of which had been previously identified through earlier surveys or National Register nominations. Thirty-two individual sites including four historic districts and two multiple property resource groups that contain many additional contributing elements were identified as meeting National Register eligibility criteria. Properties such as White Hall Historic Site, the Valley View Ferry, and remnants of the old "Riney B" Railroad Line will be fully considered in the upcoming effects phase of the Sec-

tion 106 process. We anticipate that phase to begin once the various potential alignments for the connector have been developed within the study corridor by highway engineers.

The Kentucky Heritage Council and Blue Grass Trust for Historic Preservation's board members and staff have worked together on various Section 106 Reviews in the past, and we value their continued participation and input on this project. As highway alignments are considered, the nature and

severity of impacts will be discussed and avoidance, minimization or mitigation measures will be evaluated. Many hurdles will need to be cleared for this project to be built, and the "no build" alternative remains on the table. Until a final decision is made by the lead federal agency, the Kentucky Heritage Council will continue to work closely with consulting parties and the project team to fully consider protections for our irreplaceable historic and prehistoric heritage.

For more information on the Section 106 Review process, please visit the Kentucky Heritage Council's Site Protection webpage at <http://heritage.ky.gov/siteprotect/>.

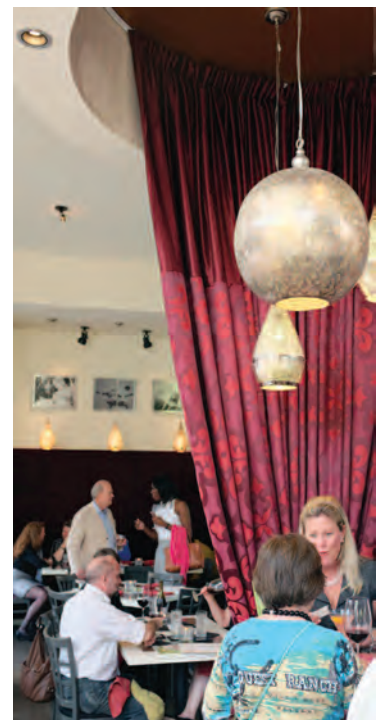
For more information on the consulting party process specifically, please see the Citizen's Guide to Section 106 Review found on the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's website at <http://www.achp.gov/citizens-guide.html>.

To request consulting party status for the I-75 Connector project, visit the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet's website at the following link: <http://transportation.ky.gov/Environmental-Analysis/Pages/CulturalHistoric.aspx>.

The Jax hosted a fun BGT Pop-Up Preview Party on May 9. Located at the corner of Short & Limestone, their new décor, menu and hospitality are wonderful.



L to R: BGT members Ashley Grigsby with Brenda & Foster Pettit.



The Jax is a colorful new hotspot in downtown Lexington.



Burl McCoy and Bill Fortune enjoyed good conversation and libations at the BGT's party at The Jax.

The Heritage Society is a special group of individuals who made a commitment to the future of the Blue Grass Trust for Historic Preservation by naming the Trust as a beneficiary in their wills or whose estates include gifts, revocable or irrevocable, to the Trust. All too often such gifts go unrecognized because they come at the end of the donors' lives. The Heritage Society was created to honor these individuals for their generosity and support. Their patronage enables the Trust to continue its mission of education, service and advocacy. Please consider including the BGT in your estate planning and join the growing number of those whose legacies benefit the Trust. For more information please call us at (859)253-0362.

- Dr. and Mrs. Gayle V. Alexander
- Ms. Jane Hamilton Blachly
- Mrs. Hazel Bush
- Ms. Rose Jewell Collier
- Mr. and Mrs. Richard DeCamp
- Ms. Linda Carroll
- Dr. and Mrs. Elvis Donaldson, Jr.
- Mr. and Mrs. Joseph G. Floyd
- Mr. and Mrs. John Hackworth
- Ms. Liz Harper
- Mrs. Gail Hendrickson Hart
- Mr. and Mrs. Richard Hulette
- Ms. Norma Jean Gibson
- Mr. Charles Jones
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- Mrs. Zee Faulkner Kurfees
- Mr. James McKeighen
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- Mr. Tom Moore
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- Mr. and Mrs. H. Foster Pettit
- Mr. W. Gay Reading
- Dr. and Mrs. Daniel Rowland
- Mr. Jeff Ritzler
- Mr. David Stuart
- Prof. and Mrs. John R. Thelin
- Ms. Joyce Vanlandingham
- Mr. and Mrs. Arlyn Wagner
- Mr. E.M. "Jack" Webster
- Ms. Vivian M. Weil
- Mr. and Mrs. William T. Young, Jr.

Love Historic Preservation: Italian Style

Guest Columnist Jessica Case

Interested in a sure-fire way to avoid routine roof replacement? Construct your roof using foot-wide timbers and layers of stone. This was the practice adopted by thirteenth century residents of Italy's Ossola Valley, and today hundreds of small homes in hamlets dotting the foothills of the Alps boast pristine examples of centuries-old original roofs. Many others, however, have fallen prey to neglect and abandonment, leading to the destruction of the craftsmanship of centuries past by invading vines and trees.

Luckily for the rest of the world, The Canova Association, founded in 2001, has made its mission the study and revival of this unique style of vernacular architecture. I discovered the Canova Association and its work through a University of Oregon historic preservation field school hosted by the Association in 2007. This Spring, I returned with friends



L to R: John Winters and Jessica Case with hosts Kali and Ken Marquardt

to share the beauty of the fairy-tale like villages and the groundbreaking restoration work being accomplished by this dynamic group of preservationists.

The Canova Association is spearheaded by Ken Marquardt and his wife, Kali, transplanted Americans who two decades ago acquired and restored a house in Canova, Italy. In the intervening years, their work expanded to



include ten more houses in the abandoned medieval village and spurred a modest revival. Canova now has a population of several families and a few part-time residents who share a common appreciation for stone architecture.

The Association's work is guided by a dedication to the principle of reuse, a deep knowledge of materials, and an approach to restoration that looks at a structure's myriad incarnations over the course of history.

"We are dedicated to preserving a way of life lived throughout the mountainous regions of Europe," said Mr. Marquardt. "This building



style exemplifies sustainability through the use of local materials and consideration of the environment, which is so different from the



Italy:

The Association's work is guided by a dedication to the principle of reuse, a deep knowledge of materials, and an approach to restoration that looks at a structure's myriad incarnations over the course of history.

planned obsolescence of modern building techniques employed in most of the world."

While laws in Italy facilitate the protection of national monuments such as castles, fortresses, and piazzas, restoration of private houses is left to individual communities.

For more information about the Canova Association, including its Annual Architect Encounter, various field school programs, and to learn more about the possibility of purchasing your own pile of rocks in the Ossola valley, visit www.Canovacanova.com.

Jessica Case, an attorney with The Getty Law Group, is on the board of the Blue Grass Trust for Historic Preservation and serves as secretary of the BGT Board.

This means that local jurisdictions often indulge the interests of well-financed applicants who choose complete rebuilding over structurally sensitive restoration. The deeper problem is not with the Italian law, but with a predominant aesthetic of newness which tends to favor luxe, symmetrical villas over modest, and often idiosyncratic, homes. Changing that mentality through education, collaborations, and consultation, is part of the Canova Association's mission.

Though the organization's focus is on Italy, similar stone houses are found in a belt stretching from Ireland through the Alps to distant Turkey, where the Marquardts' field-school model has been adopted. Canova Association's members are mostly local restoration architects, teachers, builders, and residents, and the group hosts field schools and offers restoration consultations throughout the valley. This summer, the University of North Carolina, Spring Hill College, Willowbank School of restoration, and Politecnico di Milano are all bringing field schools to the outdoor classroom known as Ghesch, which consists of seven stone houses across the river from Canova. Last year, the Canova Association, thanks to donations from supporters, purchased a large ruin in the midst of the village, setting the stage for what the Association likes to call the "infinite laboratory."

First documented in the thirteenth century, Ghesch has been abandoned for about 100 years. The houses have all been reduced to rubble, destroyed by invasive vines or knocked over by the trees that grew up from the inside of the buildings, eventually breaking free from their confines. The wooded setting, near a gurgling river, and at the base of a ter-

aced farming area also long-abandoned, is pervaded by a sense of mystery that invites exploration and kicks imagination into high gear.

Ken and Kali Marquardt "rediscovered" the village more than twenty years ago, while working on the restoration of Canova, and have since dreamed of the day it could be resuscitated. Two years ago an ambitious young couple from the area, and active members of the Canova Association, Maurizio Cesprini and Paolo Gardin, began to turn this dream into reality. The couple purchased "Casa Alfio" and are now in the final phases of restoration, carrying out the majority of the work themselves. Having visited Ghesch in 2007, when the entire village was literally a pile of rocks, I was excited to see the progress of rehabilitation efforts. I was amazed by the transformation of Casa Alfio, and upon seeing this structure completely revived and in use, it was easy for me



to picture the rest of the village following suit. And, considering the ground-up rehabilitation that has already taken place in Canova, there is no reason to think it won't.

Lower Howard's Creek: *Beautiful Sweeping Views*

On a Saturday in late Spring, Clare Sipple, the Preserve Manager for the Lower Howard's Creek Heritage Park and State Nature Preserve (LHC or the Preserve), led a guided tour of this spectacular 338-acre portion of Clark County. Sipple's knowledge of the land is not merely professional, it is personal. Growing up nearby, her earliest memory of visiting the creek dates to age 3 – traversing the snow-covered creek banks on a horse-drawn sled. Her passion for this Preserve was evident through both the knowledge of an expert and the wonderment of a child.

As the rest of us entered the Preserve, as adults visiting for the first time, we were taken aback by the beautiful sweeping views of the region's agricultural landscape. As we gathered near an old dry stone limestone fence, we anticipated our three-hour hike.

The dozen or so of us gathered soon began the descending trail into the gorge formed by the creek. As we trekked, Sipple regaled us with detailed explanation of the many flora (several endangered) we encountered. Rare plants in the Preserve include water stitchwort, running buffalo clover, Kentucky viburnum, white walnut, and nodding rattlesnake-root. A second growth forest largely covers the LHC

Preserve with approximately 400 different plant species growing under the canopy.

But this is not merely a State Nature Preserve filled with flora and fauna, it is also a Heritage Park that contains multiple structures listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Though described today as remote, one must examine LHC with the sense that it was once an industrial center for water-powered stone milling from the late 1700s until the mid-19th century.

In 2002, Transy students conducted archaeological research around the Martin House and their findings were presented by Eric Thomason. The research examined the ceramic shards at the property to find an unusually high concentration of refined earthenware. Thomason concluded that "although secluded and isolated by today's standards, the valley was at one time connected to a larger national and global economy through its position on the Kentucky River."

The John and Rachel Martin House began as a log cabin in the 1780s, but two stone additions were added in the following decades to create a rather significant structure. Though the log cabin is lost to history, great effort is being made to preserve the remaining stone structure. And though the National Register of Historic Places (as well as the majority of documentation on the property) identifies the property as the "Martin House," it may well be in error.



Clare Sipple and dry-laid limestone walls

To understand this conundrum, local historian Harry Enoch provided me with several documents explaining the long standing confusion. Apparently, Clark County's history contains no fewer than five John Martins. The John Martin associated with Lower Howard's Creek owned a 250-acre farm here, but it was situated outside the bounds of what is now the Preserve. Enoch and Sipple both suggest that the stone house and nearby mill were those belonging to Jonathan Bush as the Bush family held title to the land and the elaborate tablet over the tomb box from Jonathan's second wife, Diana Emerson Bush, was discovered near this significant stone house.

Whether Martin or Bush, the house and the nearby mill are both spectacular examples of stone construction in this remote corner of the world. The sheer size and grandeur of the structures seem to support Thomason's conclusions of the area's economic connectedness to the nation and world.

The Bush Mill is in such good condition that one can understand the workings of Oliver Evans' automatic flour mill (U.S. Patent No. 3) from what remains. A dam, nearly a half mile upstream from the mill, diverts water down the gravity-fed mill

race to a point some thirty feet above the mill. From the pooled water, a sluice transports the water to the twenty-foot mill wheel which then turns the numerous inner workings of the mill. Turned water then drains through a series of channels back into the creek. A significant portion of the corner fireplace in the mill's interior, as well as the chimney, remain.



Peter Brackney hiking the creek

Throughout the Preserve, the limestone walls seemingly indigenous to Kentucky abound. Several have been rebuilt in the past decade through joint efforts with the Dry Stone Conservancy. Two parallel dry-laid limestone walls create a wide path along what would have been part of the wilderness road linking Fort Boonesborough to the Blue Licks.

And it is clear that settlers would repurpose their own cut limestone which was no longer utilized along roads or in structures. Knowing several members of the Blue Grass Trust were in her audience, Ms. Sipple was careful to note one area where our ancestors exercised 'adaptive reuse' by converting dry-laid limestone walls into a pig pen for the fattening of their hogs.

Another interesting story was that of the triple murder at Hieronymous Place. Of the house, begun as a cabin in the early 19th century and added to through the years, only the chimney remains. The story of intrigue dates to January 3, 1939. *The Lexington Herald* reported "three men were shot to death late this afternoon during a bloody gun battle staged in a ramshackle three-room cabin on the side of a hill near the Kentucky River in Southern Clark County." Apparently, one of the three (Sowers) "had been awful drunk since about Christmas Day." So, naturally, Sowers and Robert Martin spent the afternoon finishing off three pints of whiskey before they started to argue. Sowers shot Robert Martin who escaped

with only a buckshot wound to the face. Sampson Estep, whose family lived in two of the three rooms of the cabin, heard the shot and went forward to investigate. He arrived to find a 12-gauge shotgun firing at him at point-blank range.

John Martin, who lived across the creek and is different from the other five John Martins mentioned above, rushed over to see what the commotion was about; he was instantly killed by Sowers. Finally,

John Martin's brother, Stanley, arrived. Seeing his brother dead on the floor must have sent him into a rage for the scene that followed would have appropriately fit into the song "Cell Block Tango" from the Broadway revival of *Chicago*. Stanley shot Sowers ten times with a .22 before bludgeoning Sowers' head with the butt of not one, but two, shotguns. The force was such that neither shotgun was operable after the incident which the presiding judge described as "the bloodiest in Clark County history." Unlike the ladies in the "Cell Block Tango," the claims of self-defense and of temporary insanity were successful as the murder charges brought against Stanley Martin were ultimately dismissed.

In our three hours, I feel that we merely scratched the surface of the Preserve. There is so much history and so much beauty that you could easily explore Lower Howard's Creek for days. One option of seeing the Preserve is to hike the publicly

accessible John Holder Trail. This trail opened in 2012 as a 3-mile loop with the trailhead at the parking lot of Hall's on the River restaurant.

Most of the trails through the Preserve, including those which we traversed on our visit are accessible only on official tours which are conducted almost every Saturday on trails not connected with the John Holder Trail. For these guided treks, reservations are required and a \$5 donation is suggested for those who are not members of the Friends of Lower Howard's Creek. Information about these tours, and about the Preserve are available at <http://www.lowerhowardscreek.org>.



Left – Jonathan Bush Mill chimney
Above – Flat interior and exterior surface edge at Jonathan Bush mill



Martin or Bush House



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Bill Johnston Honored with Dorothy Crutcher Award at July 12 Founders Day Event

The Blue Grass Trust for Historic Preservation was incorporated July 12, 1955. In honor of the people and work that began when the Trust was founded on this date, the BGT decided in 2012 to begin an annual Founders Day event on July 12 to honor, thank and celebrate current Trust members. In conjunction with the Founders Day event, the Community Preservation and Education Committee elected to begin giving an award in honor of Dorothy "Dot" Crutcher to a long-time Trust member and supporter of historic preservation. John Rhorer was selected as the inaugural recipient of the Crutcher award.

For 2013, Tom Meng, board president of the BGT, presented the award to Bill Johnston. In addition to being a valued Trust member and preservationist, Bill has the deepest appreciation for his historic neighborhood, the Western Suburb.

Bill has been at the forefront of every issue that could potentially impact his beloved neighborhood. He attends every meeting, speaks at the podium, organizes his neighbors, rallies a defense team, and more. Over the years, the issues ranged from the closure of Vine Street in front of the Civic Center (he was opposed) to throwing his considerable support behind the Artek Development on Old Georgetown which added cool, contemporary and affordable housing while cleaning up long term problems. Bill worked for several years on the Downtown Master Plan only to see it trampled and ignored in the wake of the CentrePointe demolition. He served on a self-appointed Code Enforcement Team in 2004 and

2005 and made considerable progress with the office and their approach to open communication. Bill is a great friend to the BGT, always, always ready to drop his plans to help fix computers in the Trust office, appear at city hall, or go on a fact-finding mission four counties away. And, the man can write! Often his emails come through when most of us are sleeping, but he finds the late evening and early morning hours, along with a glass of Kentucky's finest, are great inspirations when producing his tomes.

By presenting Bill Johnston with the 2013 Dorothy "Dot" Crutcher Award, the Blue Grass Trust thanks and honors him for his fine work and dedication to preserving the Bluegrass, and the Historic Western Suburb neighborhood. We hope he will continue his work with the BGT for many years to come.

We were pleased to welcome so many BGT members to the Hunt-Morgan House for this year's Founders Day party. Our guests included Dottie Crutcher Cordray, Dot's daughter, as well as Joe and Hart Graves, Barbara Hulette, Foster and Brenda Pettit, Councilman Steve Kay and wife Rona Roberts, and John and Sharon Thelin. 📍



Bill Johnston accepting the award from BGT Board President Tom Meng



Clockwise, L to R: Linda Carroll, Andrea Gottler, Barbara Hulette Foster Pettit & Councilmember Steve Kay Bill Johnston, Dottie Cordray, Sally Johnston, Tom Meng Steve Manella, Carolyn & John Hackworth



Front: Maureen Peters, Anne Brooks, Bill Johnston, Matt Brooks, Joe Turley; Back: Jack Woods, Jason Sloan

Dorothy "Dot" Crutcher

This award presented on Founders Day recognizes Dorothy "Dot" Crutcher, a long-time member and supporter. Dot, as we all affectionately called her, left us in 2008 at the age of 90. She started early in the preservation movement in Kentucky. In the late 70's she saved 609 West Short Street, and a rare half-timber in the 700 block of Short Street, the current home of Bettye Lee Mastin. After the Pope Villa fire, she was on the scene the next morning with Patrick Snadon and Clay Lancaster and her quiet determination from that moment led to the purchase of Latrobe's Pope Villa by the BGT. She was fortunate to have a deep friendship with Barbara Hulette and the late Elizabeth Wagner and the knowledge they all had each other's backs when it came to preservation. Every aspect of her life focused on the greater good so it honors the BGT to honor her with this award. 📍



BGT deTours: Award-Winning!

It has been a year since *Preservation Matters* examined the journeys made by the award-winning Blue Grass Trust's deTours. For the uninitiated, you may be curious: what is a BGT deTour? And what award did they win?

On May 23, 2013 the BGT deTours Committee received a prestigious Ida Lee Willis Memorial Foundation Historic Preservation Service to Preservation Award at the Foundation's 35th annual ceremony. Held at the Governor's Mansion in Frankfort, the awards are presented in partnership with the Kentucky Heritage Council and the State Historic Preservation Office. The deTours award citation noted "Blue Grass Trust for Historic Preservation deTours Committee, led by board member sponsor Pamela Perlman." The monthly outings at downtown locations, free to the public, were cited for attracting a new generation of young professionals to become more engaged in historic preservation. "The deTours are literally opening doors to unique locations and providing a social venue to encourage residents to become more familiar with local history and the process and benefits of adaptive reuse."

Presented each May during National Historic Preservation Month, the Ida Lee Willis Awards recognize those who have demonstrated an understanding of and appreciation for the value of preserving and reusing Kentucky's historic resources, whether through the rehabilitation of an important structure or community resource, or life-time commitment to encouraging and promoting historic preservation. The awards are named for the late Ida Lee Willis, a former Kentucky first lady who was ap-

pointed first executive director of the Kentucky Heritage Commission (now the Kentucky Heritage Council) in 1966. The foundation was chartered in 1979 to honor her efforts in helping preserve Kentucky's historic and archaeological resources. Her daughter, Sally Willis Meigs, continues her mother's legacy with her service on the foundation board. Stephen L. Collins of Shelbyville was honored with the Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award. In addition to the BGT's deTour Committee, other Service to Preservation award winners were Nancy Adams, Pine Mountain Settlement; Keith Nagle, Discover Downtown. This year's Project award winners were The Cox Building, Maysville; Rockcastle River Historic Truss Bridge; and Sadieville Rosenwald School. New this year, the awards selection committee voted to give special awards to two groups "for the extraordinary passion the nominees had for the historic sites they were working to

preserve, and for the very personal commitment of time and resources these individuals had invested to ensure these places were preserved for future generations." Recipients of the first Grassroots



L to R: deTours committee members Grant Mills, Jason Sloan, Rachel Alexander, Peter Brackney, Brandon Warren, Mollie Eblen and Will Adams in Frankfort, with Ida Lee Willis Award.

Preservation Awards were Obie Fardo, Frank Hussung, Billie Newman and Charlie Pyles, for rehabilitation of Bethel Church and Cemetery in Pendleton County; and Friends of Sherman Tavern, Dry Ridge.

And what is a deTour? Do not be confused with the more familiar 'detour' which is defined merely as "a roundabout way or course." For a deTour is its own destination. And while not exhibiting any signs of Francophobia, we do not insert a space to the French word for 'tower' (de tour).

'deTour' has become a proper noun, at least for central Kentuckians. The word is defined by a monthly event (first Wednesday of every month), hosted by the Blue Grass Trust and free to the public, involving a tour of and discourse on a historic location significant to the heritage of the Bluegrass.

The deTours have become a vibrant and instrumental component to the Blue Grass Trust's mission of education, service, and advocacy. The behind-the-scenes deTours and their festive AfterHours are popular with the young (and the young at heart)! Here's where we've been in the past year:

In August, an exploration of the Kentucky Theatre found us behind and beneath the stage. Our tour was, of course, courtesy of Fred Mills. Mills' name cannot be spoken without mention of the theatre at which he has worked since 1963, and vice versa.

A rainy drive to Spindletop Hall in September revealed to many for the first time the enormous forty-room, seventeen-bay mansion owned by the University of Kentucky. For those familiar with Pansy Yount's estate, it was likely their first foray into an immense attic and the small passageway off the Saddlehorse Lounge where Christmas decorations (and organ pipes) are kept neatly hidden from view.



Left: Central Fire Station fire pole; Right: Firetrucks



Lexington Children Theatre's Larry Snipes giving backstage tours



Left: old Centenary Church facade; Center: Ades Building; current home of Thomas & King and Portofino; Right: Caretaker's Cottage at Old Episcopal Burying Grounds



Our deTour on October 3 observed Fire Prevention Month by touring the ca. 1929 Central Fire Station on East Third Street. In keeping with our "behind the scenes" tradition, the deTour included the fire-fighters' living areas, locker rooms, kitchens, offices, and the boiler room. With four working fire poles, even the youngest of historic preservationists are known to enjoy our monthly excursions! We also explored the Old Episcopal Burying Grounds, next door on East Third Street.

The Lexington Children's Theatre has provided children the "opportunity for creative expression" since 1938, though they didn't find a permanent home until moving into the old Sleepy Head House furniture store in 1998. Our November deTour of their two stages, sound rooms and creative spaces revealed costume and set designers busy at work in preparation for an upcoming show.

Only the most adventurous managed their way into the belfry during the December deTour of the old Centenary Methodist

Church on North Broadway. Designed by Cincinnatus Shryock and dedicated in 1870, the now-empty church still reveals its "incredibly preserved geometric style stained glass, flat level hardwood floors, [and] very high ceilings."

Few might recognize the name of David Ades, but those on the January 2013 deTour of the Ades Dry Goods Building know his story. An immigrant from Lithuania, David Ades came to America penniless and excelled in business and in politics. His suc-

(Continued on Page 20)



L to R: Samuel Oldham House exterior with deTour guests, interior stair molding detail; Federal Courthouse interior

cess resulted in a handsome five-story, five-bay brick commercial building in the Chicago style which, thanks to an incredibly successful adaptive reuse conversion in the late 1980s, is now home to Thomas & King, Cornett Integrated Marketing and Portofino's Italian Restaurant (the location of the evening's AfterHour). The leaders of these companies led us through the building and expressed their passion for being downtown and shared the benefits of being in a historic structure transformed for today's modern use.

In celebrating African American History Month, our February deTour remembered Samuel Oldham who purchased himself and Daphney, his wife, as well as their children from slavery. He built the ca. 1835 house situated at 245 South Limestone which was the first in Lexington constructed for ownership by a freed black couple. Once listed on the BGT's Most Endangered Properties list, the property has in recent years been fantastically restored by Coleman Callaway III. The rich walls of this home spoke, in 2008, through Ain Gordon's *In this Place*, a one-woman stage performance through the eyes of Daphney Oldham. The February AfterHour was at the historic Ohavay Zion Synagogue, better known through the adaptive reuse project as Joe Bologna's.



Central Christian Church: stained glass window

The Federal Courthouse on Barr Street was the scene for our March deTour. Though

always open to the public, few unnecessarily venture into a courtroom and even fewer have the opportunity to so freely explore and photograph this government-owned architectural treasure. Originally the site of Lexington's postal operations, the courthouse has remained a hub of judicial activity necessitating thoughtful adaptation to this beautiful Neo-Classical. A small suite of offices at the end of the Grand Hall in the Federal Building is home to the US Marshals for the Eastern District of Kentucky; the space bears no resemblance to

the fictional Marshals, including Raylon Jennings, on FX's hit television show, *Justified*.

In planning the April deTour of Central Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), it was suggested to the very knowledgeable senior minister, Dr. Michael Mooty, that our group enjoyed seeing the typically un-

seen parts of historic structures like attics and basements. We were not disappointed as we were taken into the narrow passages both above and below the church: boiler rooms with exposed foundation of the Masonic temple which preceded the church on the site and an attic above the sanctuary accessible only by two narrow ladders (one vertical, and one on which you crawl a good distance!). Dr. Mooty also discussed the church's architectural features and art – a fantastic structure and an impressive collection reflective of the church's mission.

May's deTour celebrated National Preser-

vation Month and May flowers with tours to Michler's Florist and Latrobe's Pope Villa. Michler's Florist at 417 W. Maxwell is a family-owned business and Lexington staple since 1901. Owner John Michler led the tour of their greenhouses and focused on the family's 112-year history. The deTour group then headed to Latrobe's Pope Villa for the AfterHour to celebrate Benjamin Latrobe's 249th birthday, National Preservation Month, and the 200th year of the house. This AfterHour had 150 guests



Central Christian Church: exterior view

on hand who enjoyed a BBQ dinner from Billy's Bar-B-Q and birthday cake, compliments of the BGT.

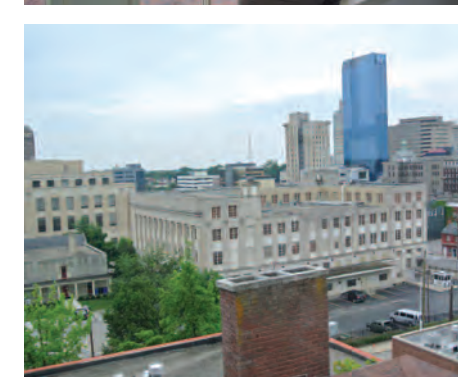
A walking tour of Woodward Heights, a local historic district since 1987, was fea-

tured at the June deTour. With dark rain clouds looming overhead, sixty-eight optimists gathered at the Community Action Council parking lot at 710 W. High Street as the BGT unveiled its new walking tour brochure of historic Woodward Heights and began the "deTour" of the beautiful neighborhood. The neighborhood, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, has a fairly complete spectrum of 19th and early 20th century Lexington residential architecture. In addition to the sidewalk tour, we viewed interiors of homes at 300 and 312-A Madison Place and 722 West High Street, which exhibit some of Lexington's finest pre-Richardsonian residential architecture. Following the miraculously rainless deTour, we headed to Paulie's Toasted Barrel at 517 W. Main Street for a fun social AfterHour.

On Wednesday, July 3, the BGT deTour visited historic Sayre School, with the AfterHour in Gratz Park to enjoy the Patriotic Concert just across Third Street on the lawn of Transylvania University's Old Morrison. Sayre School was founded by David Sayre in 1854 as the Transylvania Female Institute. The school was renamed Sayre Female Institute the following year. At the heart of Sayre's campus at 194 Limestone, is Old Sayre – a five-story Greek Revival topped with its landmark cupola. Learning of the deep history of Sayre School and taking in the 360-degree view of historic downtown Lexington from the cupola were highlights of the tour.

It's been a lot of fun these past twelve months thanks to board liaison Pamela Perlman and past co-chairs Jason Sloan, Mollie Eblen and Peter Brackney. Plans for upcoming fall and winter deTours are underway with new co-chairs Peter Brackney and Linda Carroll, and committee members Will Adams, Rachel Alexander, Grant Mills, Whitney Rhorer, Griffin Van Meter, Brandon Warren, and BGT staff Jason Sloan.

For more information about deTours, find them on Facebook at [facebook.com/BGTdeTours](https://www.facebook.com/BGTdeTours), sign up to receive BGT E-Blasts, or call (859)253-0362. 📍



Clockwise from top left: • John Michler welcoming deTour guests to Michler's Florist • Pope Villa: exterior, 2nd floor interior • Woodward Heights deTour: guests entering 722 W. High • Interior woodwork at 722 W. High • Sayre School deTour: exterior view from cupola • Interior view from cupola • AfterHour @ Paulie's Toasted Barrel with Paul Nierzwicki • Pope Villa second floor interior

BGT's 2013 Historic Preservation Awards, presented June 23 at Hunt-Morgan House

The Blue Grass Trust presented its 2013 Historic Preservation Awards on Sunday, June 23, 2013 at the Hunt-Morgan House in historic Gratz Park. Lead by outgoing Board President Linda Carroll, the event began at 5:00 p.m. with an annual membership meeting with 161 members in attendance. Board Treasurer Randy Miloszewski, a CPA with Crowe Horwath, gave a brief report on the Trust's sound financial status. Board member John Hackworth shared the nominating committee report recommending Tom Meng as President, Maureen Peters for Vice President, and David Harper and W. Gregory Pettit as new board members. A motion and second came from the membership floor and was unanimously approved. Hackworth ended with a lovely recognition of Linda Carroll's tremendous dedication and great work during her three-year term as President. Carroll then welcomed Craig Potts, Kentucky's recently appointed State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) to the podium to say a few words about preservation efforts throughout the Commonwealth, and followed with her presentation of the annual Historic Preservation Awards. The list of 2013 award winners and photos from the evening follow. The beautiful summer evening concluded after an al fresco Sunday Supper and many good conversations amongst preservation-minded Kentuckians.

The BGT's 2013 Historic Preservation Award Winners:

Preservation Craftsman Awards (2): Given to a building industry craftsman who has exhibited a strong commitment to quality craftsmanship for historic buildings: George Neel; Prajna Design, Garry Murphy and David Wittmer accepted the award

Public Service to Preservation Awards (2): Given to a government agency or official for service to preservation movement or to a specific project: Dr. Derek

Paulsen*, LFUCG Commissioner of Planning; Janet Graham, LFUCG Commissioner of Law

Clay Lancaster Heritage Education Award: Given to an individual or group for service in researching and disseminating information about the Central Kentucky region: *Bluegrass Renaissance*, accepting: Daniel Rowland* and James Klotter, editors, and the essayists

Community Preservation Award: Given to a non-governmental organization or individual for service to the preservation movement or to a specific project: North Limestone Neighborhood Association, Griffin Van Meter accepted the award

Barbara Hulette Award: For efforts in



L to R: Garry Murphy, David Wittmer, and George Neel

the preservation of central Kentucky's history, heritage, built environment, landscape, archaeological resources, sense of community or significant endeavors: Ashland Park Neighborhood Association; accepted by Rev. Bob Sessum, Wanda Jaquith, and Tony Chamblin.



John Hackworth and Linda Carroll



Linda Carroll and Griffin Van Meter



Award winner James Klotter with wife Freida



Ashland Park Neighborhood Association members

Lucy Shropshire Crump Award: Given to an individual who has provided exemplary service to the Blue Grass Trust throughout the year: Estill Curtis Pennington

Lucy Graves Advocacy Award: Given to an individual or group that has exhibited advocacy leadership in supporting the historic preservation movement in central Kentucky: Peter Brackney for *Kaintuckeean* blog

Betty Hoopes Volunteer Service Award: Given to a volunteer from the Antiques and Garden Show Committee: Brenda Pettit

Clyde Reynolds Carpenter Adaptive Re-use Award: Given to an individual or group for outstanding efforts towards the rehabilitation and adaptive re-use of a building or buildings within Central Kentucky: The Bread Box; accepting: Ben Self, Brady Barlow and Joe Kuosman*

NEW! Landscape Preservation Awards(3): Given to an individual or group for the preservation, design, stewardship, restoration or enhancement of an historic cultural landscape in the Bluegrass: Vaucluse (Clay Hancock)*; Botherum (Jon Carloftis and Dale Fisher); The Garden of Dorothy Crutcher Cordray (Joseph Hillenmeyer Garden Design)

John Wesley Hunt Award: Given to an individual for lifetime service to the preservation movement in Central Kentucky: H. Foster Pettit 🇺🇸

*unable to attend.



Linda Carroll and Janet Graham



Linda Carroll and Estill Curtis Pennington



Linda Carroll and Peter Brackney



Carolyn Hackworth with award-winner Brenda Pettit



Ben Self, Linda Carroll and Brady Barlow



Dale Fisher, Linda Carroll and Jon Carloftis



Joseph Hillenmeyer and Linda Carroll



H. Foster Pettit and Linda Carroll



Guests enjoy the Gala Preview Party

BLUE GRASS TRUST Antiques & Garden Show

The Blue Grass Trust presented its wonderfully successful 28th Antiques and Garden Show at the Kentucky Horse Parks Alltech Arena March 8, 9, and 10, 2013 with the Gala Preview Party March 7. Award-winning keynote speakers featured Christopher Hirsheimer and Melissa Hamilton of Canal House Books; Hall of Fame Interior Designer Laura Bohn, and Kentucky treasure and dear friend of the BGT, Jon Carloftis. Additional highlights were the vintage car show, Kentucky Treasures from the Speed Art Museum, appraisal fair, and a complimentary lecture series with speakers Martha Birchfield, Floral Designers from the Kentucky Governor's Mansion, Joseph Hillenmeyer, Taylor Thistlethwaite, Mack Cox, and Jim Birchfield.

Mark your Calendars for the 2014 BGT Antiques & Garden Show at the Kentucky Horse Park's Alltech Arena. Show dates are March 7, 8, 9, 2014, with the Gala Preview party March 6.



Artist Peter Williams painting at the show



Cool collectibles



Joseph Hillenmeyer gave a great complimentary garden lecture



Beautiful things to buy!



L to R: John Nicholson, KHP's Executive Director, Zee Faulkner Kurfees, Nancy Iliff & BGT Executive Director Sheila Omer Ferrell

Photo credit: Neil Sulter



L to R: Simon Morgan, Dr. Pearse Lyons, John Morgan and Deirdre Lyons



Kate Savage and Linda Carroll



Vintage Car Show



Linda Bruckheimer chatting with Lucille Carloftis



Designer Vignette by Thomas Birkman of Kimbrel-Birkman



L to R: Charlotte Ward talks with Keynote Speakers Jon Carloftis and Christopher Hirsheimer



L to R: BGT's Becky Eblen, and interns Ashley Paul, Annie Wright and Heather Lamplough

Photo credit: Neil Sulter



Designer Vignette from Matthew Carter Interiors



Dale Fisher with Keynote Speaker Laura Bohn



Fine antiques and collectibles



Jon Carloftis, giving his keynote speech on landscape design

Message from our Past President: A Look Back from Market Street

When our publications committee met to discuss the articles we would write for this issue they suggested I use my final president's column to talk about accomplishments. This newsletter, *Preservation Matters*, is one of those accomplishments. With a good team of writers like Peter Brackney, Bill Johnston, John Rhorer, Jason Sloan and guest articles like those in this issue from Jessica Case and Fran Taylor, we can cover issues thoughtfully and bring you words from the world of preservation in the Commonwealth, throughout the United States and beyond. Sheila Ferrell puts her touch on every issue with photo selection and layout and design. It has a magazine quality to it and I'd say it rivals some of the best in preservation publications in the country. The board has backed the efforts with a commitment to three publications per year and an increased budget to support the printing.

The sense of relief with an 11 to 1 LFUCG Council vote in favor of the 15th Historic District, Ashland Park, also felt like a huge victory in a city where the prior two applications were fraught with misrepresentations, angry citizens and public officials who did not want to deal with either. The telling point in the most recent



February 2013 deTour group at Samuel Oldham House, 245 Limestone

hearing belonged largely to LFUCG's Historic Preservation Commission Chair, John Rhorer, and it is addressed again in an article in this newsletter. He reminded the members of the



Linda Carroll, Blue Grass Trust Board President 2010-2013

Council that Article 13 of the zoning ordinance "declared" that historic districts were "essential" in order "to promote the economic and general welfare of the people of Fayette County". The Council also declared "as a matter of public policy that ... the use of historic districts ... are public necessities" ... there is no need to debate the worth of a historic district, only the merits of the one under consideration – in this case, Ashland Park. This may be a time for other neighborhoods or other communities to consider the benefits of the historic zoning overlay.

There could be no single better thing to have accomplished than the sale of 543 West Third to Don and Barbara Wathen. The sale, however, was such a small portion of the achievement. Back up to September of 2011 when the BGT's Finance

Committee issued ten coil-bound documents to PNC Bank and specifically Harry Richart, then Regional President. The BGT Finance Committee detailed a proposal for the bank to

gift us the mortgage and allow us to foreclose on the property for the purpose of sale. When we met to discuss this with Mr. Richart, the feeling of warmth and trust toward our organization was palpable. The good will on both sides turned into a year-long transaction to transfer the mortgage for a small fee and carry out the foreclosure with the expert legal skills of Tom Meng, then our Vice President. On the day of the sale by the Master Commissioner, we could have held a BGT board meeting, so many members wandered over to the courthouse to see the property become ours with one bid and one gavel and a rousing cheer.

The sale represented additional good will with the government and the surrounding neighborhood. The house at 543 West Third is no longer a blight on the neighborhood with falling chimneys and overgrown weeds and the government no longer needed to send in lawn crews only to pass the bill along to a deceased owner. We settled all the debt with the government and still cleared a good amount of profit for our next project. If you have a vacant property in your neighborhood, please let us know so we can, perhaps, be of assistance.

New programs like deTours enhance every aspect of our organization. It serves to educate, entertain, build membership and enhance a sense of community as we explore areas of Lexington. The deTours steering committee has young, imaginative, curious members who will continue to enlighten all of us on preservation. The program received statewide recognition from the Ida Lee Willis Memorial Foundation "Service to Preservation" awards on Thursday, May 23.

The Advisory Board, led by Barbara Hulette, is a group richly knowledgeable about Ashland, Shakertown, decorative arts, the Heritage Council, the Preservation Program at the University of Kentucky and the institutional history of the

BGT. They are a remarkable resource for the BGT and it's been such a pleasure to work with them.

Perhaps more than anything I personally wanted to accomplish with the Blue Grass Trust was a desire to be in the room when preservation matters were the topic of conversation. It wasn't hard to achieve thanks to the Community Preservation & Education Committee and its co-chairs Maureen Peters and Bill Johnston. Starting in November of 2010, when Donna Horn-Taylor told us about the demolition of the Pennington House in London, Kentucky, Bill Johnston and I drove to London to meet with the residents who tried in vain to save the historic building. It is now a parking lot used by one of the many new courthouses in the Commonwealth. The same committee successfully worked with the University of Kentucky and the LFUCG to pre-



John Rhorer and Linda Carroll after the real estate closing of 543 W. Third

vent the Alpha Phi sorority from demolishing property in the Maxwell Street Corridor for a chapter house. We continue to participate as official "Consulting Parties" on the development changes to the old Eastern State Hospital, the I-75 Corridor Connection, and HealthFirst of the Bluegrass on Southland Drive. Sometimes it can be intimidating to take a strong position for preservation and we don't always prevail, but over the past three years we made sure our organization was heard.

The Membership and Development Committee shows tremendous growth financially for our organization. Under Pamela Perlman's

leadership we took a conservative budget for the Annual Campaign up by almost 40%! But more importantly, we found new ways to have fun together. As restaurants, clubs and bars appear in Lexington, Pamela and her committee members ask for a preview party before the official opening. Owners almost always agree and allow our members to pay a nominal fee to enjoy their fare before the official opening. Over the course of the year this can generate several thousand dollars of what can only be called "fun money."

There is another element to the last three years that doesn't really rank as an accomplishment, but more a sense of the strong camaraderie among our members. I chose, as the president, to participate in all the committee meetings and I've seen first-hand a professionalism and devotion to the organization at every level. Whether the Hunt-Morgan House Committee, chaired by John Hackworth, is overseeing construction of a handicap accessible bathroom or the Antiques and Garden Show Committee, led by Andrea Gottler, is coming together to make the move from Keeneland to the Kentucky Horse Park, there is a careful and sometimes fearful approach to making the right decision for the BGT.

We also have an extraordinary staff who put countless hours into this organization and I am thankful every day for Sheila Ferrell, Jason Sloan, Becky Eblen,

Annie Wright, Heather Lamplough, and Ashley Paul.

So as I bid farewell to my term as president, I want send a warm thank you to everyone associated with this organization and I look forward to continuing my work with you as a member of the BGT board. We have all put in a lot of hard work and worry, but we balanced it against an opportunity to get to know each other better and have many hours of fun. We are a 58-year-old success story and I know our dedicated members and staff will see the organization accomplish many more things in the future. 🌟

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