

**KENDALL COUNTY**  
**Historic Preservation Commission**  
*Harris Forest Preserve*  
*10460 Route 71, Yorkville, Illinois*  
**6:00 p.m.**  
**July 17, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Jeff Wehrli called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Eric Bernacki (Secretary), Elizabeth Flowers (Vice-Chairwoman), Kristine Heiman, Marty Shanahan and Jeff Wehrli (Chairman)

Absent: None

Also Present: Matt Asselmeier (Director), Ken Itle, Sarah Skilton, Michele Houchens, Mary Lou Wehrli, Jeanne Valentine, Lisa Wolancevich, Johanna Byram, Ken Donart, Sharon Lowry, Jane Burke, Ed Hatteberg, Sharon Merwin, Jane Johnson, Jeff Farren, and Susan Kritzberg

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Member Flowers made a motion, seconded by Member Heiman, to approve the agenda. With a voice vote of five (5) ayes, the motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Member Flowers made a motion, seconded by Member Heiman, to approve the minutes from the June 21, 2023, meeting. With a voice vote of five (5) ayes, the motion carried.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Chairman Wehrli noted the historical importance of the Harris family to Kendall County's history.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**NEW/OLD BUSINESS**

***Nomination of Officers for 2023-2024***

Member Flowers, seconded by Member Shanahan, nominated Member Bernacki to the position of Vice-Chairman. There were no additional nominations.

Member Bernacki, seconded by Member Shanahan, nominated Member Heiman to the position of Secretary. There were no additional nominations.

The votes on the nominations will occur at the August meeting.

***Presentation of Historic Structure Survey Project in Unincorporated Kendall and Bristol Townships-Ken Itle from WJE***

Ken Itle from Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. presented information on the historic structure survey.

Chairman Wehrli noted the importance of keeping the document updated.

Johanna Byram and Lisa Wolancevich said there may have been a farmhouse missed; Ken Itle will investigate the matter. They also encouraged sending a postcard prior to doing the survey; postcards were sent.

Susan Kritzberg said that she assisted with the survey. She requested that future surveys not occur in the winter. She said volunteers should have some nametags or other identification. She noted the importance of having local individuals assist with the survey in terms of having connections with property owners.

Mr. Asselmeier said the Mr. Itle will finalize the document. The final version will be reviewed by the Commission in August. A presentation is planned before the County Board in September and the County Board will be asked to accept the results of the survey.

The plan is to survey additional townships in 2024 and, eventually, survey all nine (9) townships. After each township is surveyed, the County will work on a preservation plan. Conducting the surveys and preparing the preservation plan is contingent upon grant funding. Certified Local Government grants fund seventy percent (70%) of the costs; the County funds thirty percent (30%).

Ms. Wolancevich asked why Na-Au-Say and Seward were selected as the next townships to survey. Mr. Asselmeier responded that the intent was to survey townships that were experiencing development pressures. Discussion occurred regarding development pressures in Oswego Township; Seward Township was the fastest growing township in the County.

Discussion occurred regarding the impact of the widening of Route 71 on preservation.

Discussion occurred regarding using the 1939 aerials as the starting point for the research.

Member Bernacki asked about sharing results with the community. Mr. Itle discussed placing the information online. Discussion occurred about having the results on file with the local libraries, townships, and the farmer bureau.

Jane Johnson suggested that property owners should come to the County instead of having the County solicit property owners to landmark their property.

#### ***Discussion of Future Historic Structure Surveys***

Chairman Wehrli presented a price quote from Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc to survey unincorporated Na-Au-Say and Seward Townships. The total cost would be Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000). It would cost Twenty-Two Thousand Dollars (\$22,000) to survey the townships individually. The surveys would only occur if grant funding was available.

#### ***Discussion of Cemeteries***

Chairman Wehrli discussed the publication of the honor roll of veterans from 1956 buried in Kendall County. Elmer Dixon was recognized for his work to create the document.

Ms. Byram asked who should be contacted to do maintenance on tombstones. Mr. Asselmeier responded that the owner of the cemetery should be contacted.

Chairman Wehrli encouraged people to obtain permission from property owners before visiting private cemeteries.

Ms. Wolancevich discussed the cemetery at Griswold Springs Road and Sandy Bluff Road; she was advised to contact the township for more information. Discussion occurred regarding Revolutionary War veterans buried in Kendall County. Discussion also occurred regarding the Sears Cemetery.

### ***Updates from Historic Preservation Groups***

Susan Kritzberg, Chapel on the Green, is working on an application with the National Park Service to get the Chapel added to the network of places involved in the underground railroad. She discussed maintenance of the Chapel. She discussed the two (2) eagle scout projects. They plan a window restoration project.

Jeanne Valentine, Plano Historical Society, discussed the new museum in Plano. She discussed the fundraiser to restore their harvester. She has written a children's book on the harvester.

Lisa Wolancevich and Johanna Byram, Kendall County Historical Society at Lyon Farm, discussed their eagle scout project to restore their sign. They discussed re-roofing the blacksmith shop. They worked on the platform in front of the old Plano railroad station and were working on their graveyard. They are doing a fundraiser for animal rescue. They discussed their fall festival. Discussion also occurred regarding the ticket booth from the original Kendall County livestock fair.

Ed Hatteberg, Norsk Museum, discussed renovations to their church and a related building. They are preparing to celebrate the bicentennial of the establishment of Norway, Illinois, in 2025. The king of Norway has been invited. They did restoration work in the cemetery.

Jane Burke, Naperville Preservation, Inc., discussed a property on the Illinois Most Endangered List in one (1) of the forest preserves of DuPage County. She encouraged attendees to contact residents of DuPage County and the DuPage County Forest Preserve Board to help preserve the property. Discussion occurred regarding the methods used to save the historic jail in Kendall County.

Michele Houchens, Three Rivers Library District, discussed their local history archives. She was happy to hear that the structure survey was planned for Seward Township.

Sarah Skilton, Oswego Library District, discussed their resource website.

### ***Discussion of Upcoming Meetings with Historic Preservation Groups***

Chairman Wehrli asked if attendees were in favor of having two (2) meetings per year. The consensus was to continue having two (2) meetings per year. February 2024 would be the next target meeting date. He noted that historic preservation does not have any boundaries.

Discussion occurred regarding the digitization efforts of the Library of Congress at [loc.gov](http://loc.gov).

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Commissioners review the newsletter from the Farnsworth House.

Chairman Wehrli said that his cousin has a copy of a treaty between the Native Americans and the United States from 1829 regarding the ceding of lands in Northern Illinois.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ms. Wolancevich asked what happened to the light pole in front of the Hart House. Mr. Asselmeier will ask the Facilities Department about the location of the light pole. She would like to restore the light pole.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Member Flowers made a motion, seconded by Member Heiman, to adjourn. With a voice vote of five (5) ayes, the motion carried. The Historic Preservation Commission adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

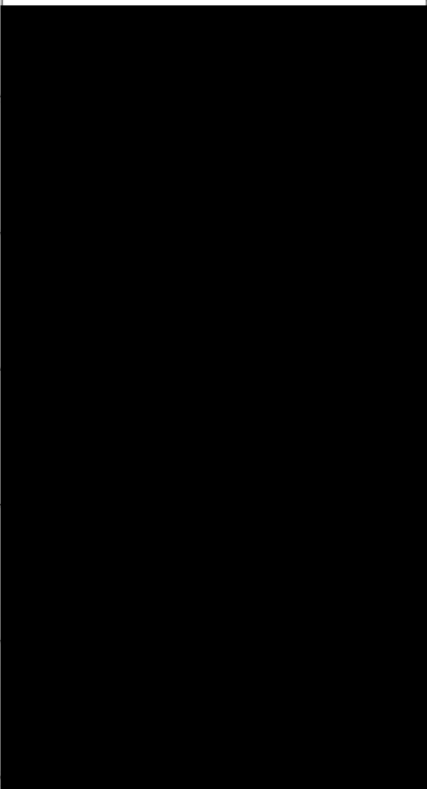
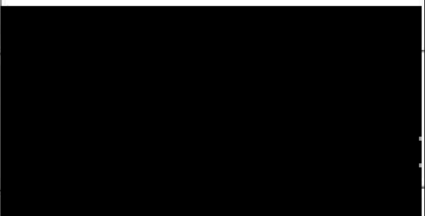
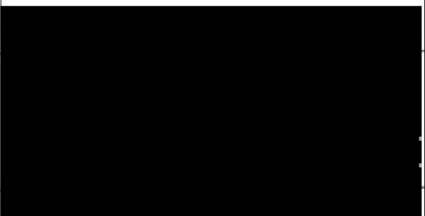
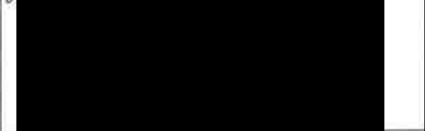
Respectfully Submitted,

Matthew H. Asselmeier, AICP, CFM  
Director

Encs.

**KENDALL COUNTY  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
JULY 17, 2023**

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE CONTACTED ON FUTURE MEETINGS REGARDING THIS TOPIC, PLEASE PROVIDE YOUR ADDRESS OR EMAIL ADDRESS

NAME	ADDRESS (OPTIONAL)	EMAIL ADDRESS (OPTIONAL)
SARAH STEW	OSwego Liby.	
Michelle Houchens		
Mary Lou Wehrli		
Jeanne Valentine	Plano	
Lisa Wolaniewicz	Yorkville	
Johanna Byram		

# Sign IN

Name

Address  
(optional)

Email Address  
(optional)

Ken Donart

Sharon Lowrey

Michele Houchens

Jane Burke

ES HASIEBERG

Naperville Presentation Inc.

NORSH MUSEUM

Sharon Merwin

John HPC

Jane Johnson

Kankakee Co. HPC

Jeff Farnen

Chapel on The Green

Susan Kritzberg

Chapel on The Green

JEFF WEHRLI

KCMP

Johanne Byram

KCHS

LISA Lubowcevic

KCHS

KENNETH KIE

WJE



ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL SURVEY

# Kendall and Bristol Townships



[www.wje.com](http://www.wje.com)

**WJE** ENGINEERS  
ARCHITECTS  
MATERIALS SCIENTISTS

Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc.

July 17, 2023

- Overview of Survey Project
- History of Kendall and Bristol Townships
- Building Types
- Survey Results



# Kendall County Survey Project Goals

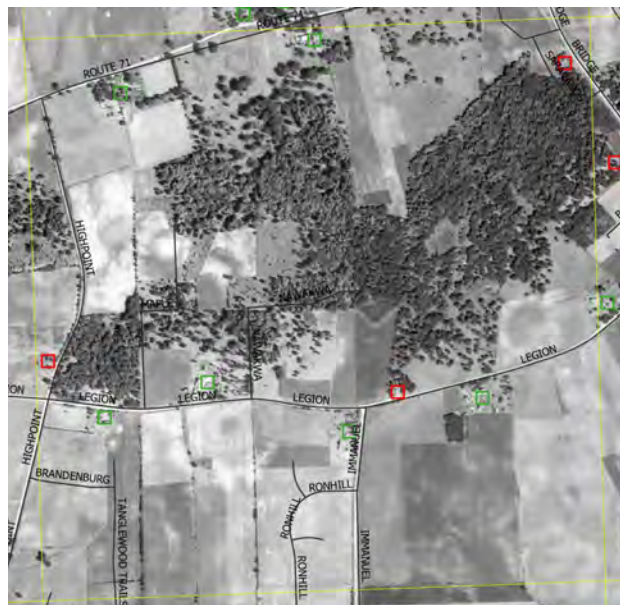
- Provide background history of the county and survey area
- Provide architectural context of building types
- Document historic rural structures
- Assess and identify potential landmark properties
  - Currently, no designated county landmarks in these townships
  - 3 National Register-listed properties: Kendall County Courthouse; Bristol Congregational Church; Yorkville School

# Kendall County Survey Project Process

- Historical research
- Field survey work from December 2022 to May 2023
  - Assisted by volunteers
- Database and map preparation
- Report writing
  - Review of final draft now in process



1870




1939



2023



Kendall Township Rural Historic Structures Survey			
Address	9123 Helmar Road	Property Name	
ID No.	3356	PIN No.	01-33-400-003
		Survey Date	
		Surveyor(s)	
T36N	R7E		
Section	33		
Parcel			
SE 1/4			
			
History Notes			
House: 1958			
Fieldnotes			
List Each Structure		List Materials of Foundation, Wall, Roof, Porches, and Trim	
HOUSE - BRICK MASONRY - POURED FNDN.			
ASPHALT ROOF SHINGEE - VINYL WINDOWS			
MORTON BARN (RED)			
STEEL			
CORRUGATED STEEL BLDG.			
GRAIN BINS X 2			
STEEL			



# KENDALL TOWNSHIP HISTORIC STRUCTURES SURVEY

9111 Ashley Road	Property Name	Ashley Farmstead
PIN No. 05-22-200-002	2252	Survey Date 2/15/2023
	Surveyor(s)	JH

Township T36N Range R7E Orientation East

Section 22 Parcel NE 1/4

Historic Use Agricultural

Current Use Commercial

Significance National Register potential

## Fieldnotes

Sold 2016, now used as an events venue, Ashley Farm Weddings ([www.ashleyfarmweddings.com](http://www.ashleyfarmweddings.com))



## House

House Type Four-over-four

House Style Italianate

Number of stories 2

Roof Type Hip

Window Type(s) 2-over-2 double-hung

Dormer Type Hipped

Date or Approx. Decade of Construction 1860s

Foundation Stone

Wall Material(s) Wood siding

Trim Material(s) Wood

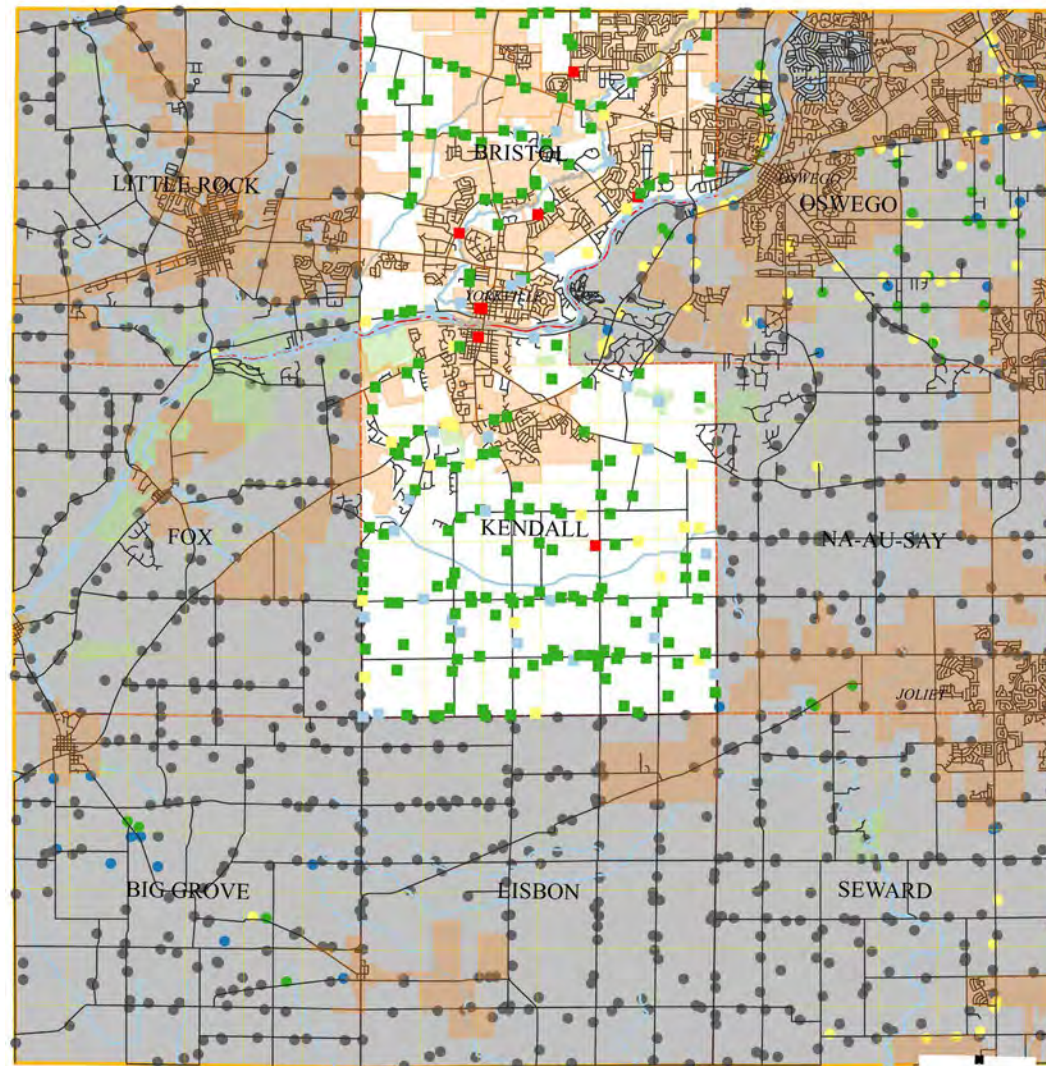
Porch Material(s) Wood

Roof Material(s) Asphalt shingle

Significance Contributing

## Notes

Very large, well preserved, and elaborately detailed example of Italianate style house.



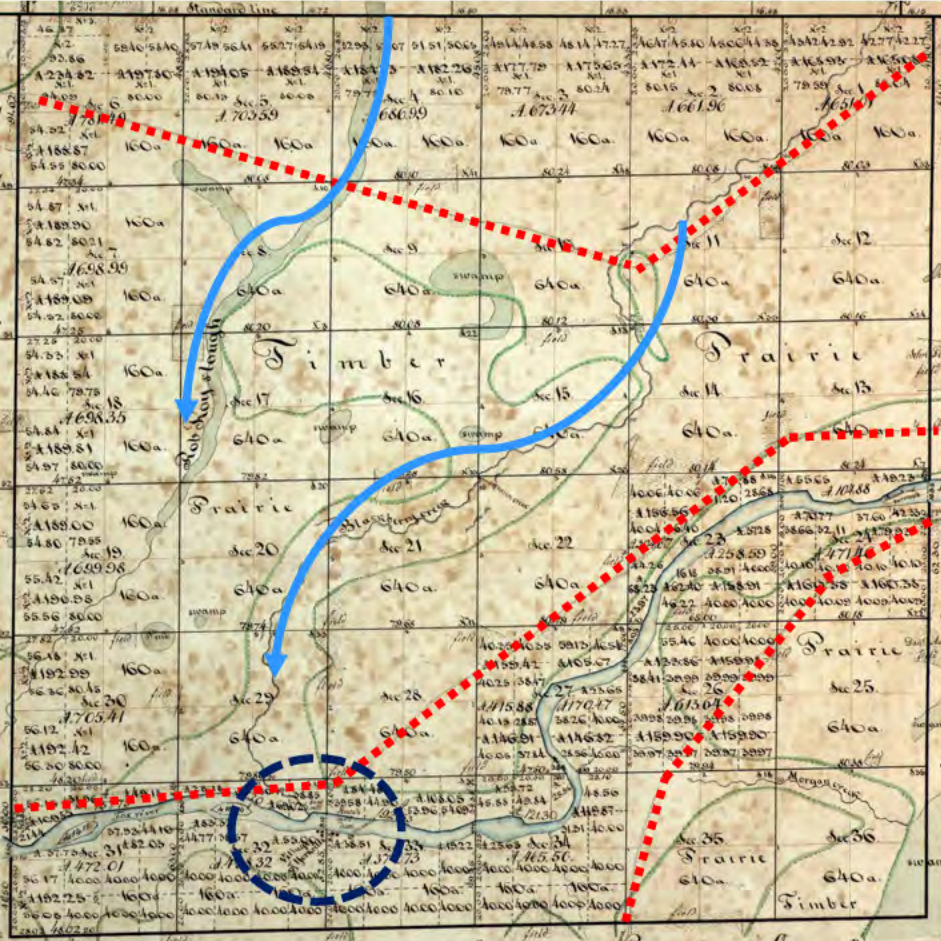
# History



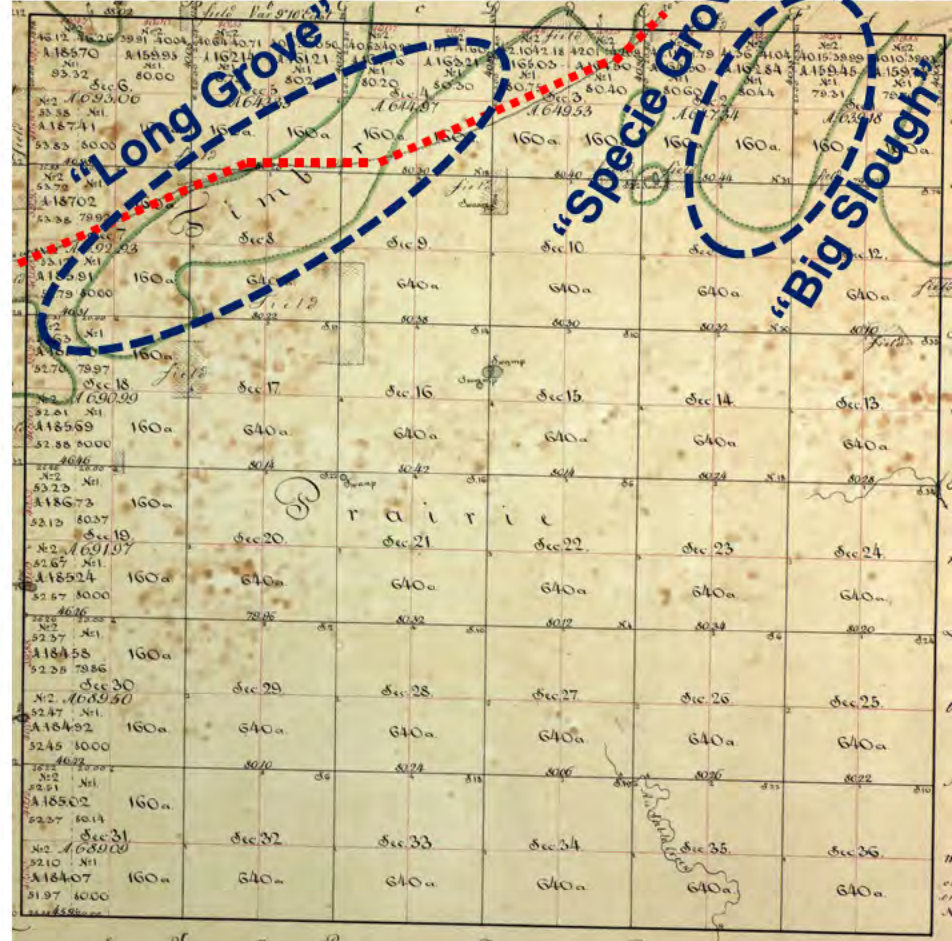
1816



Bristol, 1837



Kendall, 1837

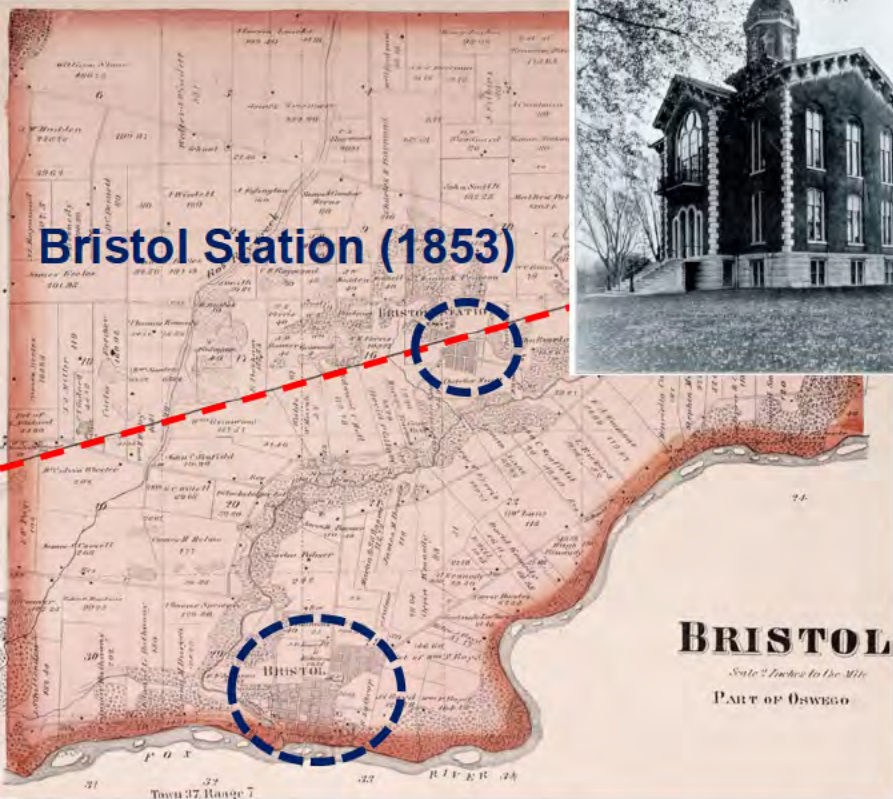




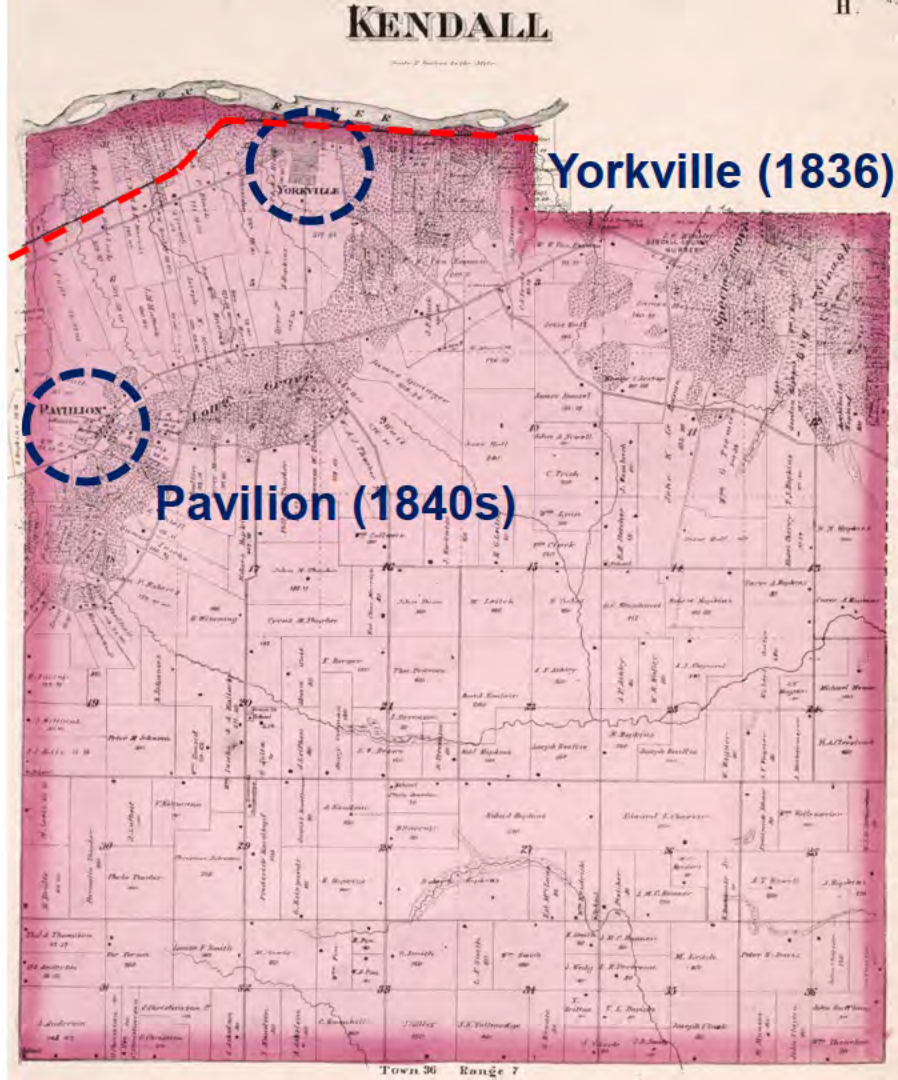
1870



**Bristol Station (1853)**



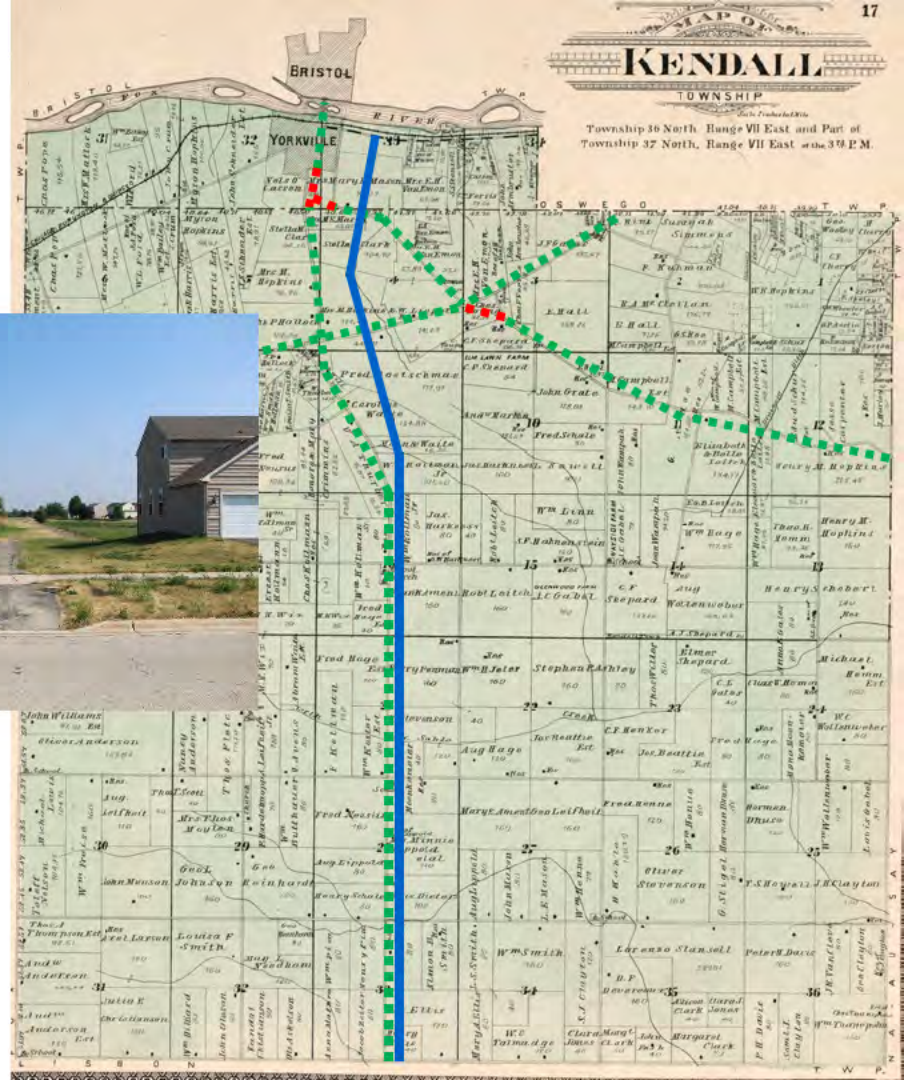
**North Yorkville / Bristol (1830s)**



**Yorkville (1836)**

**Pavilion (1840s)**

1903



MAP OF  
**KENDALL**  
 TOWNSHIP  
 Township 36 North Range VII East and Part of  
 Township 37 North, Range VII East and 39 E.M.

1941



(Bristol Twp Page 7)

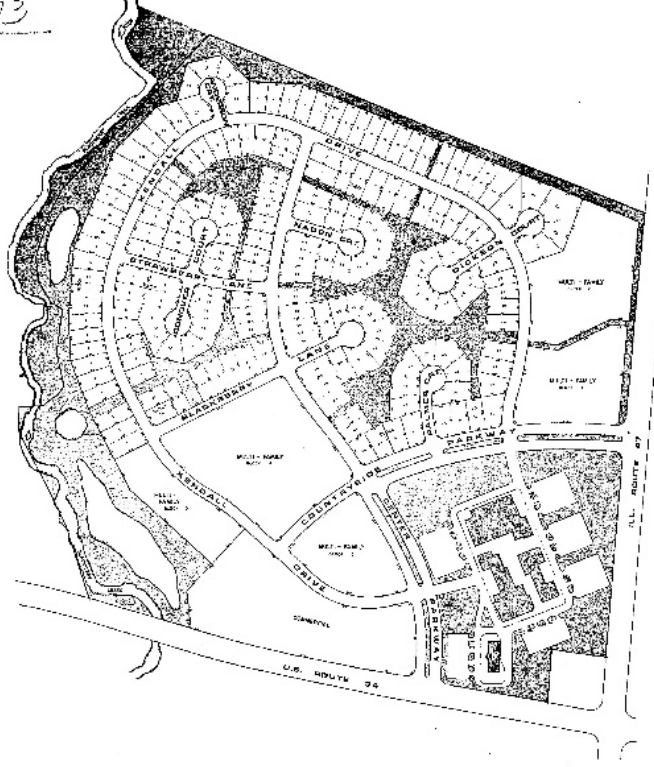
PLAT MAPS  
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE  
STATE OF ILLINOIS  
PLAT MAPS  
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE  
STATE OF ILLINOIS  
PLAT MAPS  
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE  
STATE OF ILLINOIS

T.36N. AND PART OF T.37N. R.7E. 3<sup>RD</sup> R.M.

KENDALL TWP.

(Lisbon Twp Page 19)

1973



- SHOPPING CENTER & BANK BUILDING:**
- "A" - Department store, garden shop, barber shop, beauty salons, florist, optician, restaurant
  - "B" - Food market, grocery, meat specialty shop, butcher's shop, fish clothing store, snack shop, misc. specialty stores to be announced
  - "C" - Gift shop, major hardware store, card shop, ladies specialty and clothing shop, children's shop, liquor store, misc. stores to be announced soon
  - "D" - Bank with division for PAs, misc. professional offices including medical and dental, insurance and real estate



3 1129 00026 8694

17306272



# COUNTRYSIDE CENTER

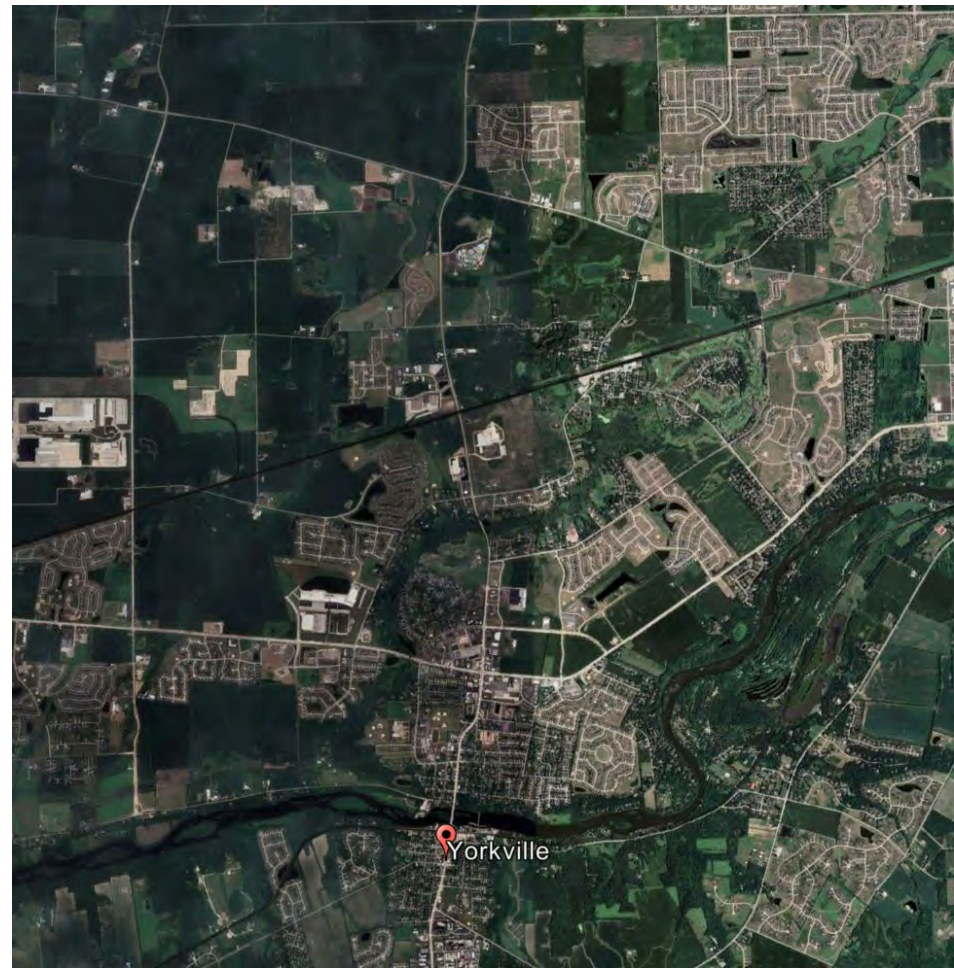
"SUBURBAN LIVING IN A RURAL ATMOSPHERE"

BY NATIONAL CARE

1998



2020



# Building Types



# House Styles



*Greek Revival*



*Italianate*



*Queen Anne*



*Colonial Revival*

# House Types



*I-house*



*New England 1-1/2*



*Gabled Ell*



*American Foursquare*



# Barn Types



*Three-bay Threshing*



*Dairy*



*Bank*

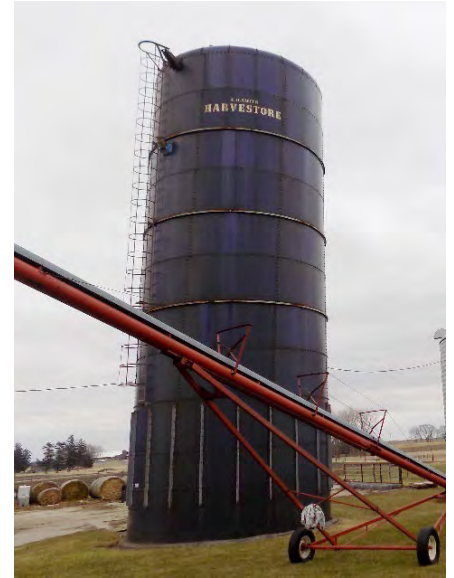


*Round Roof*

# Other Outbuildings



# Silos



# Other Outbuildings



# Survey Results



# Survey Results

- Bristol Township: 328 structures at 69 properties
  - At least 9 suggested for potential local landmark designation
  - Of which, 4 judged to be National Register eligible
- Kendall Township: 561 structures at 149 properties
  - At least 20 suggested for potential local landmark designation
  - Of which, 1 judged to be National Register eligible

# Ashley Farmstead



# Dickson–Murst Farmstead





# Helme Farmstead



# Orrin Kennedy Farmstead



# Carter–Betz Farmstead





**Matt Asselmeier**

**From:** Edith Farnsworth House <farnsworthhouse@savingplaces.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 14, 2023 3:46 PM  
**To:** Matt Asselmeier  
**Subject:** [External]Edith Farnsworth House Summer Happenings

**CAUTION** - This email originated from outside the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

EDITH  
FARNSWORTH  HOUSE

**Edith Farnsworth House Summer Happenings**



The summer season at Edith Farnsworth House is calm stillness contrasted with subtle movements and sounds of water, sky, deep-rooted trees, vegetation and a choir of birds. Mark your calendar, grab your tickets and join us for these upcoming events!

**Come celebrate with us!**



**A Lawn  
Party for  
Lord  
Palumbo!**

Sunday, July 23, 2022

**A Lawn Party for Lord Palumbo  
July 23, 2023  
1:30 PM -4:00 PM**

Join us for an afternoon of family fun as we celebrate the birthday of Lord Peter Palumbo, esteemed former owner and preservation advocate of the iconic Edith Farnsworth House! We invite you to immerse yourselves in the picturesque surroundings of this architectural gem while enjoying a fantastic lawn party. With activities and entertainment suitable for all ages, it's the perfect opportunity to get to know the Edith Farnsworth House and explore the house and grounds. From engaging games and crafts to jamming to Lord Palumbo's record collection and birthday cake, this family-friendly event promises an enchanting experience for everyone. Mark your calendars and come celebrate Lord Peter Palumbo's birthday in style at the Edith Farnsworth House!

**RESERVE YOUR LAWN PARTY TICKETS!**

***The Last of the Animal Builders***

## Exhibition Walk-through



Join us this summer for a special tour of our current exhibition, *The Last of Animal Builders*, with the exhibition's curator Alberto Ortega Trejo. Ortega Trejo will guide visitors through the house and grounds as he provides special insight into the artists, works, and inspiration behind the exhibition.

This tour will be held on the following dates:

July 29

September 9

October 7

November 11

**LAST OF ANIMAL BUILDERS SPECIAL TOUR TICKETS**

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## Chicago Women and Architecture Tour



EDITH  
FARNSWORTH HOUSE



# Home Makers

Chicago Women and Architecture

August 26th, 2023



GLESSNER HOUSE



## Registration is open!

Join us for an extraordinary collaboration between the Edith Farnsworth House and Glessner House as we unveil an illuminating new tour, shining a spotlight on the visionary women who played pivotal roles in their respective houses' creation and construction. We will delve into the extraordinary lives and legacies of Dr. Edith Farnsworth and Frances Glessner, examining the enduring architectural influence of their homes and the power of women's contributions in shaping our built environment. The tour includes both transportation to and from the houses as well as a catered lunch. Don't miss out on this exclusive opportunity to explore these iconic sites through the lens of their pioneering female patrons. Spaces are limited, so we encourage you to reserve your spot early. Click on the link below to book your tickets now and we look forward to welcoming you on this enlightening architectural adventure!

[LEARN MORE & SECURE YOUR TOUR TICKETS TODAY!](#)

**THANK YOU!**  
**Modernism Road Rally 2023**





***Thank you*** to everyone who took part in the 2023 Modernism Road Rally! From the homeowners to the amazing volunteers and all of our wonderful participants, you made the day so special. See you in 2025!

A special thank you to all of our sponsors and partners! *We couldn't have done it without you!*

Photos by Marcellus March – Bionic Content



Robin Jarrett, Ph. D.  
Consulting Services  
robjarrett@att.net



Special Savings from Atomic Ranch Magazine

Want more midcentury modern home restoration or renovation stories, resources and inspiration? Atomic Ranch is the the only architecture and design magazine dedicated to celebrating this timeless style. We're thrilled to offer **friends of Edith Farnsworth House** our lowest subscription rate (up to 71% off!):

\$34.99 for 2 year subscription (12 issues)  
\$19.99 for 1 year subscription (6 issues)

atomic  
ranch

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Click the image to secure your subscription with Atomic Ranch!*

**A TrueLook at Edith Farnsworth House**

Did you know that you can see a live feed from the Edith Farnsworth House 24/7/365? Since 2021, there has been a **“Live! From EFH”** link on the right side of our website landing page – courtesy of **TrueLook Corp** of Winston-Salem, NC. TrueLook manufactures a variety of construction site cameras for indoor and outdoor use, with live jobsite viewing, customizable time-lapsing and motion-alert settings for after hours. Farnsworth visitors can send the link to friends and family when you arrive onsite, then wave to them in real time from the southwest corner of the house!

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## Help Us Restore the Broken Glass!



In early 2024, we hope to replace several cracked windows – but we need your help! Installed in 1950, the original glass was not tempered and rust build-up around the sills and deterioration of the original gaskets have put the panes under pressure. Freeze/thaw and extreme heat have caused the steel frames to push against the glass panes, making them crack. Several windows have been restored over the last few years, requiring the frames and glass to be removed, sills and openings to be repaired, with new glass, gaskets and reconditioned steel frames installed. Now we need to restore five more!

***Help us raise \$25,000 to make this project possible!***

**Let's Fix the Glass Together, Donate Now!**

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## Edith Farnsworth House Stewardship Council

Founded in 2019, the Council participates in strategic, operational, and financial planning; advises on preservation and development projects, as well as marketing and public programs;

and contributes to the nonprofit National Trust for Historic Preservation specifically for Farnsworth campaigns, appeals, and projects. The Council meets four times per year, via Zoom or in-person, and members can participate from anywhere in the world! The three-year term requires a minimum annual contribution as well as purchasing tickets to special events. Current members include: Bob Hursthouse, Dirk Lohan, Richard Marritt, and Marty Newman. Immediate past members are Justin Ahrens, Will Forrest, and the late Glen Johnson. We are so thankful for their expertise and support!

### Stewardship Council Positions Now Available

Are you a "Farns Fan"? Would you like to help guide the evolution and improvement of this National Historic Landmark? As we approach the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of opening to the public in 2024, and the 75<sup>th</sup> birthday of the home's completion in 2026, this is a *once-in-a-lifetime opportunity* to help chart the course for our future! If you would like to learn more, please contact Farnsworth's Executive Director, Scott Mehaffey, at [smehaffey@savingplaces.org](mailto:smehaffey@savingplaces.org)

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## Connect With Us



Edith Farnsworth House | [edithfarnsworthhouse.org](http://edithfarnsworthhouse.org) | 630.552.0052

14520 River Rd, Plano, IL 60545

[Visit our Website](#)

Edith Farnsworth House | 14520 River Rd, Plano, IL 60545

[Unsubscribe masselmeier@kendallcountyil.gov](mailto:masselmeier@kendallcountyil.gov)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [farnsworthhouse@savingplaces.org](mailto:farnsworthhouse@savingplaces.org) powered by



BECOME A MEMBER OF THE

# NORSK MUSEUM

### Membership Benefits:

- ◆ A free private tour of the museum
- ◆ 10% discount at our gift shop
- ◆ Annual member dinner and meeting
- ◆ The satisfaction of helping to preserve the oldest Norwegian church in America, and now listed on the National Register of Historic Places!

### Annual Memberships:

- Individual \$25
- Family \$35
- Bronze Corporate \$100
- Silver Corporate \$250
- Gold Corporate \$500

Your additional donation supports continued restoration and enjoyment of this historic landmark

Cash \$ \_\_\_\_\_

⇒ All contributions are tax deductible! ⇐

### Personal Contact Information

Name/Business \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

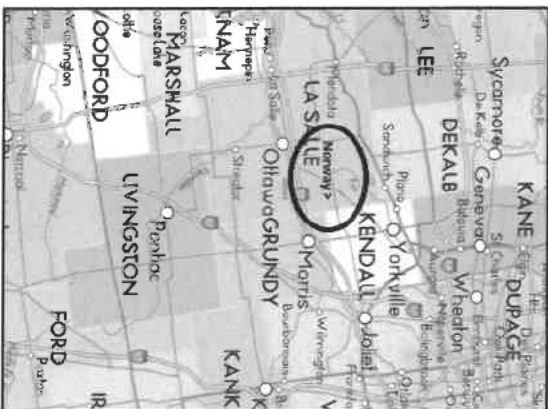
City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please send this form and your membership donation to:

**NORWEGIAN CENTER INC.**  
415 Lewis St.  
Marseilles, IL 61341



Located in Norway, Illinois on Highway 71, just 9 miles northeast of Ottawa, IL Directly behind the Norway Store.

**3656 E. 2631st Road Sheridan, IL 60551**

**School Field Trips Welcome!**

### CONTACT:

Dave Johnson

Cell: 815-343-5070

Email: david7dog@yahoo.com

www.norskmuseum.org

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VELKOMMEN TIL

# NORSK MUSEUM

Norway, Illinois

Listed on the  
National Register of Historic Places



Open June thru September  
Saturday & Sunday  
1:00 to 5:00 p.m.  
Other times by appointment

**www.norskmuseum.org**  
Like us on facebook

501c3 not-for-profit



# First Permanent Norwegian Settlement in America – 1834

This historic building represents a significant portion of our Norwegian-American history. Not only is this the oldest Norwegian Lutheran Church in North America, it



Cleng Peerson

was built in the oldest permanent Norwegian settlement in North America, founded in 1834 by pioneer Cleng Peerson and the Sloopers. Cleng Peerson is known as the Father of Norwegian Immigration. The Sloopers were Norwegian Quakers and



Fox River Lutheran Church – 1839

Hauge Lutherans, who came to America in 1825. They sailed on the Sloop Restauration with 46 passengers and a crew of 6. This museum is dedicated to Norwegian lifestyle, art, worship and industry.



## Bunads

**Bunad:** is a range of both traditional Norwegian rural clothes (mostly dating to the 19th and 18th centuries), as well as modern 20th-century folk costumes.



## Rosemaling and other Norwegian Art

Rosemaling, is the name of a traditional form of decorative folk art that originated in the rural valleys of Norway.



## Immigration from Norway to America



## Leif Erikson and Viking Travel



## A Viking timeline depicting dates of specific events from early arrival to current



## Rural Farm Life and Norwegian Pioneers.



## An Early Kitchen



## Farming Tools