

KENDALL COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

United Plattville Association Hall • 6617 Chicago Road • Yorkville, IL • 60560

(630) 553-4141

Fax (630) 553-4179

AGENDA

January 17, 2024 - 6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL: Eric Bernacki (Vice-Chair), Elizabeth Flowers, Kristine Heiman (Secretary), Marty Shanahan, and Jeff Wehrli (Chair)

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Tour and Discussion of the History of the Building (Pages 2-21)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approval of Minutes of December 18, 2023, Meeting (Pages 22-28)

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

NEW BUSINESS:

1. None

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1. Discussion of 2024 Historic Preservation Awards (Pages 29-34)
- 2. Discussion of February 2024 Meeting with Historic Preservation Groups (Pages 35-39)
- 3. Discussion of Historic Structure Surveys
- 4. Discussion of Having Commission Meetings at Historic Locations in the County
 - a. Plano Masonic Lodge in March 2024
 - b. Henneberry Barn and Ashley Farm
 - c. Pickerill Pigot House for Summer Meeting with Historic Preservation Groups
- 5. Discussion of Native American Tribes Associated with Kendall County (Page 40)

CORRESPONDENCE:

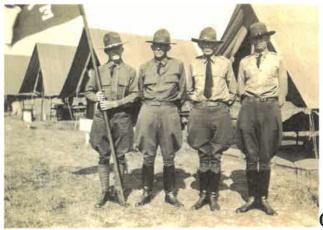
- 1. December 28, 2023, Emails from Edith Farnsworth House (Pages 41-43)
- 2. Proactive Historic Preservation and Adaptive Reuse in Chicago Event Flyer (Page 44)
- 3. Preservation Approaches for Cultural Landscapes Webinar (Pages 45-46)

PUBLIC COMMENT:

ADJOURNMENT: Next Meeting February 21, 2024 (Wednesday)

If special accommodations or arrangements are needed to attend this County meeting, please contact the Administration Office at 630-553-4171, a minimum of 24-hours prior to the meeting time.

It started this way: During the night of April 19, 1933, someone broke into the Illinois National Guard Armory in the tiny unincorporated Kendall County community of Plattville. Local, state, and national law enforcement and military officials were alarmed because taken was a virtual armory of four Browning Automatic Rifles (nicknamed with its initials, the BAR), along with 11 Colt M1911 .45 cal. automatic pistols and several hundred rounds of ammunition.



Officers of Company E, 129th Infantry, Illinois National Guard based at Plattville in Kendall County. The photo was taken, about 1933 during summer drill at Camp Grant near Rockford. Capt. Charles G. "Timmie" Howell is second from left. (Little White School Museum collection)

The semi-automatic pistols, the standard .45 cal. U.S. Army sidearm, featured a 9-round box magazine, were heavy, rugged, and extremely dependable. The BARs were powerful, fully automatic weapons that served the U.S. Army as well as the National Guard as their standard squad automatic weapon. Each eight-man squad was generally equipped with one BAR to augment the firepower of the rest of the squad's Springfield M1903 bolt-action rifles that were standard equipment during those pre-World War II days. Both the BAR and the Springfield rifles were chambered for the powerful .30-06 cartridge.

Plattville was the smallest community in the nation to boast its own National Guard Armory, the base for Company E of the 129th Illinois Infantry Regiment. The armory had been the brainchild of Kendall County resident Charles G. "Timmy" Howell, who commanded it, holding the rank of captain.

The armory was built with community donations and labor and through the pay it provided, Company E provided badly needed cash for more than 100 young men, mostly farm boys, during the dark years of the Great Depression. It also provided valuable training for those young men, most of whom would go on to fight their way through the island hopping campaigns in the Pacific during World War II.

But given its location in a sleepy farming community, the security provided for Company E's arms and ammunition was simply not up to the task of fending off the new breed of mobile criminals that had lately blossomed.

As soon as the theft was reported law enforcement and military officials alike, began worrying about who, exactly, had taken the guns and why.

Word got around via the neighborhood telegraph while officials did their best to downplay the theft. They did such a good job minimizing it, in fact, that 60 years later, no one had an inkling such a thing had ever happened. As an example, in an oddly naive, but apparently serious, comment, the editor of the *Kendall County Record* remarked in the paper's May 3 edition: "Hope the person who stole the four [BARs] from the armory is honest; we'd hate to face these guns in the hands of a crook."

We can only hope he was prepared to be disappointed, because after a spectacular July 20 shootout between the notorious Barrow Gang—the Bonnie and Clyde and associates made so famous in subsequent movies—and law enforcement officers just outside Kansas City, Mo., some of the BARs and pistols were recovered from the motel rooms the gang had occupied.

The Barrow Gang, made famous to a new generation in Arthur Penn's 1967 film, "Bonnie and Clyde," was one of the most violent of the criminal groups afflicting the Midwest during the lawless 1920s and 1930s.



Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow

pose with one of Clyde's beloved V-8 Ford automobiles in this colorized photo of the pair.

Clyde Barrow was the leader of the gang, with his girlfriend Bonnie Parker (Parker was married to another man who was in jail at the time). Besides Bonnie and Clyde, Clyde's brother, Melvin "Buck" Parker, and Buck's wife, Blanche, along with C.W. Jones comprised the most consistent members of the gang. They were occasionally joined by Henry Methvin, Raymond Hamilton, Joe Palmer, and Ralph Fults.

Although the gang garnered a lot of attention thanks to Bonnie and Clyde's knack for publicizing themselves, they were mostly notable for the short period of time during which they were active, a period that only ran from 1932 to 1934, not to mention their extreme violence.

Early on, the gang primarily engaged in small business hold-ups, but then decided to add bank robbery to their repertoire. The Barrow Gang was notorious among law enforcement for its ferocious counterattacks whenever confronted by authorities. The BAR was Clyde Barrow's weapon of choice, something that easily out-gunned the revolvers and shotguns of most lawmen of the era. Although limited to 20-round detachable magazines, the BAR on full automatic could fire more than 500 rounds a minute. John Browning invented the weapon for U.S. troops during World War I, where it proved extremely effective, with its relatively light weight, mobility, high rate of fire, and long range—the BAR was accurate up to 1,500 yards and had a maximum range of nearly three miles. It could also be loaded with armor-piercing rounds, something else Barrow favored.

The automatic weapon with which most law enforcement agencies of the era were armed was the Thompson Submachine Gun—the famed Tommy Gun. The Thompson, however, while having a faster rate of fire than the BAR, fired the same cartridge as the .45 cal. pistol, and had an effective range of only 170 yards or so.

On April 13, 1933, when police officers raided the apartment in Joplin, Mo., where Bonnie, Clyde, Buck, Blanche, and W.D. Jones were hiding out after a four-month crime spree, they thought they were raiding a bootlegging operation, which is what suspicious neighbors had reported. But when they confronted the gang, the police were caught by surprise as the Barrow gang opened up with a vicious barrage of automatic weapons fire, killing Constable John Harryman and police officer Harry McGinnis. Although the gang escaped, they were forced by the gunfight to leave most of their belongings and weapons behind.



WW U.S. Army soldier displays his

Browning Automatic Rifle (BAR) while serving in France in 1918.

Gangster Clyde Barrow favored the BAR for its rate of fire and power.

Six days later, the Platteville National Guard Armory was raided and the four BARs, 11 Colt .45 automatic pistols and hundreds of rounds of ammunition were stolen. A week or so later, the gang hit a bank in Indiana.

During the next two and a half months, the Barrow Gang continued its wide-ranging campaign of lawlessness in Indiana, Minnesota, Iowa, Texas, Arkansas, and Missouri as they sped from crime scene to crime scene using the Ford V-8 autos Clyde favored.

In 1934, in fact, Clyde (who had worked as a mechanic before taking up outlawry) wrote to Henry Ford congratulating him on his Ford autos and their V-8 engines: "While I still have got breath in my lungs I will tell you what a dandy car you make. I have drove Fords exclusively when I could get away with one. For sustained speed and freedom from trouble the Ford has got every other car skinned and even if my business hasn't been strictly legal it don't hurt anything to tell you what a fine car you got in the V-8."

On July 20, 1933, the gang decided to find someplace to lay low, choosing the Red Crown Tourist Court in Platte County, Mo., just outside Kansas City. But their suspicious behavior caused people in the neighborhood to call the authorities.



Colt Arms' .45 cal. semi-automatic pistol was the standard U.S. Army sidearm for most of the 20th

Century. It was favored by gangsters because it was rugged, dependable, and fired a heavy round of ammunition.

This time the police showed up in force armed with submachine guns, a car that had been armored, plus a mobile plate steel bulletproof shield. The armored sedan pulled up to block the garage door behind which the gang's car was parked, and Sheriff Holt Coffee rapped on the door of one of the two tourist cabins the gang occupied, demanding they come out. No dummy, he immediately ducked behind the steel shield.

Clyde, Buck, and Jones instantly replied with a withering fusillade of BAR fire, literally driving Coffee's heavy steel shield backwards, although it proved proof against Clyde's armor-piercing ammunition. The gang also shot up the armored car, this time their armorpiercing .30-06 rounds perforating the car's light armor, and wounding the driver who backed up to get out of the line of fire, allowing the gang to escape. But both Buck and Blanche Barrow were seriously wounded. Amazingly, none of the dozens of spectators who had gathered to watch, nor any of the police officers were badly injured in the furious gun battle.

It took a while for the Feds to identify and trace all the weapons and other materials they found in the gang's motel rooms, but on Oct. 19, 1933, FBI Agent J.J. Keating of the bureau's Chicago office wrote to his superiors: "Will consult commander of Company E, 129th Infantry, Illinois National Guard, with respect to the loss of the Colt 45 pistols, and Browning automatic rifles mentioned in report of Special Agent Dwight Brantley, 9/1/33, Washington, D.C., and inform him that said firearms were taken from the Barrow gang and are in possession of the Kansas City office of this division."

Presumably, the weapons were later returned to Company E and, hopefully, better secured from being pilfered by passing bandits. And there the matter largely rested until 2003 when Winston Ramsey, editor-in-chief of a World War II history magazine based in England, traveled to the U.S. while researching his book, *On the Trail of Bonnie and Clyde Then and Now* chronicling the days of Bonnie and Clyde,

visiting places the notorious couple frequented during their crime spree.

Ramsey contacted reporter Tony Scott at the *Kendall County Record* concerning reports he had obtained that the Plattville Armory had been robbed of weapons and ammunition by Bonnie and Clyde, something that no one in the community recalled—or at least would admit to recalling. But then in 2011, Agent Keating's letter became public, and Tony revisited the story in a couple articles. And by then I'd been working on transcribing the *Record's* "Oswego" news columns, along with other news items that sounded interesting. One of those was the *Record's* editor writing about the theft of weapons from the Plattville Armory in the paper's April 26 edition and a follow-up the next week, May 3, 1933.

Granted, there's no physical evidence the Barrow Gang were responsible for stealing the weapons from the Plattville Armory. And the question of how the gang would have known about the Plattville Armory still raises a few doubts.

But in the book Blanche Barrow wrote about her harrowing adventures with the gang, she said that Clyde and W.D. Jones robbed the Plattville Armory. At least three other books on the gang repeat the same story. And it is a fact that the FBI recovered many of the stolen weapons after the Red Crown shoot-out in Missouri, so the gang certainly had them in their possession.



The bullet-riddled Ford

V-8 auto Clyde was driving when law enforcement officers

ambushed Bonnie and Clyde in rural Louisiana is on exhibit in the casino at Whiskey Pete's in Primm, Nevada.

Would the theft have made sense in terms of opportunity? The gang was in the Joplin, Mo. shootout on April 13, where they lost a lot of their arms and ammunition. They then attempted a bank robbery at the Lucerne State Bank in Lucerne Indiana on May 12. The Plattville robbery took place the night of April 19-20, and Plattville is sort of right in between Joplin and that Indiana bank. Given Clyde's love of long-distance high-speed driving taking random zigzag routes, it's certainly possible—maybe even probable—Clyde and W.D. Jones really were the ones who stole all those weapons in the middle of his gang's crime spree. Which leaves the question of how the gang knew about the Plattville Armory in the tiny rural community unanswered.

In any case, Bonnie and Clyde's criminal spree came to a violent end a year later. On May 23, 1934, lawmen, taking no chances with the pair's habit of replying with overwhelming firepower, set up an ambush in rural Bienville Parish, Louisiana, and riddled Clyde's car with more than 130 rounds of shotgun, rifle, and pistol fire, killing both of the outlaws. Federal authorities said the pair and their gang was responsible for at least 13 murders and robberies and burglaries too numerous to count.

In retrospect, local officials did a pretty good job consigning the Barrow Gang's Plattville Armory robbery to the memory hole. But like most history, it eventually floated to the surface once again, assuring at least a footnote in the story of one of the most violent crime sprees the Midwest has ever seen.

History Mystery: Did Bonnie or Clyde Rob the Plattville Armory?

The Illinois National Guard armory no longer exists, but federal records show authorities found weapons reported stolen from the

Plattville armory in a cabin after a shootout involving the infamous pair.

Jillian Duchnowski, Neighbor

Posted Sun, Dec 4, 2011 at 2:08 pm CT|Updated Sun, Dec 4, 2011 at 11:02 pm CT







Part of the mystery behind whether Clyde Barrow of Bonnie and Clyde infamy robbed an armory in the small Kendall County village of Plattville may come down to typos and misspellings.

As reporter Tony Scott wrote in the Countywide section of the Dec. 1 Kendall County Record, multiple books claim Barrow and his associate W.D.

Jones stole guns from the Plattville armory on Aug. 20, 1933. The purported robbery happened nine months before authorities ambushed and killed Barrow, 25, and his companion Bonnie Parker, 23, on May 23, 1934, according to a Wikipedia article.

Skimming through United States Bureau of Investigation (as the FBI was then known) records in the online reading room, one finds a hodgepodge of dates and references to Plattsville and Flattsville.

The underlying story, though, is that authorities found two weapons reported stolen from an Illinois National Guard Armory in Plattville when they searched a cabin in Missouri after a shootout involving Barrow, Parker and three other fugitives.

Authorities searched the tourist camp near (ironically enough) Platte City, MO., on July 20, 1933, according to the Aug. 17, 1933, report of D.W. Brantley. The confusion over the date of the armory robbery may be linked to this report listing a date of Aug. 20, 1933, (rather than July 20) in a few places in what appears to be an error.

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The gunfight happened the night before, on July 19, 1933, inflicting an ultimately fatal wound on Barrow's brother Marvin/Buck. The gang fled.

When authorities searched the cabin, they found five Colt .45-caliber automatic pistols and a Browning automatic rifle, as well as 47 empty shells, according to the Aug. 17, 1933 report. Some of the weapons' numbers matched those reported stolen from an armory in Enid, OK, on July 7, 1933, and from the "Company E, 129th Infantry, Illinois National Guard" on April 19, 1933, at "Flattsville, Illinois."

Apparently, this caused some confusion, as the report continues: "A search of the Postal Guide fails to show any Plattsville, Illinois."

The confusion was short-lived, though. According to an Oct. 7, 1933, report by G.B. Norris, authorities at the Illinois National Guard Headquarters in Springfield indicated that five pistols and three automatic rifles were stolen

from the Plattville armory on April 19, 1933, with two of the weapons' numbers matching those recovered at the Missouri campsite. The matter of spelling and geography was clarified: "They state that their records show that Company E of the 129th Infantry is located at Plattville, Illinois, and that mail received at Plattville goes through the Yorkville, Illinois, Post office."

Officials at headquarters suggested talking with Captain Charles G. Howell, who was the armory's commanding officer, about the theft.

As I clicked through the online FBI records for Barrow and Parker, I did not find any explanation of the theft or a report of an interview with Howell. However, I did find a tersely worded letter to the investigations division director at the U.S. Department of Justice. Bureau of Investigations Special Agent in Charge F. J. Blake stated in part:

"I am bringing this to the attention of the Division with the thought that it may desire to make some representations to the War Department whereby armories may be more securely protected from depredation, particularly those containing Browning automatic rifles.

"The number of rifles and automatic pistols found in possession of the Barrows, as well as the quantity of ammunition so found, indicates that the Government is furnishing ammunition and equipment to these outlaws."

It is not clear from these records whether Barrow and Jones stole the weapons from the armory themselves or acquired them some other way after they were stolen. The group, as portrayed in Bryan Burrough's Public Enemies: American's Greatest Crime Wave and the Birth of the FBI, led a nomadic life mostly robbing gas stations or drug stores. Burrough wrote:

"Unlike Dillinger and Pretty Boy Floyd, Clyde and Bonnie made no effort to establish a permanent base until the last weeks of their lives; for months the closest they came to a home was an abandoned barn outside the Dallas suburb of Grand Prairie. As their notoriety grew, they would resort to living out of their car, which was littered with guns, license plates and food wrappers. They gave up bathing and normal hygiene. Their clothes were dirty. They smelled."

Who knows how long the guns stolen from Plattville's armory littered the bottom of the gang's car before being discarded in the shootout that injured two police officers and a bystander?

About the Plattville armory: The Illinois National Guard armory was established on July 16, 1923, and burned down in January 1946, according to Scott's Countywide article. Charles G. Howell, of Plattville, was captain of the Company E, 129th Infantry, from 1925 to 1941, and died in June 1969, at age 83, according to Scott's article. The Veterans Community Hall at 6617 Plattville Road was built on the former armory site.

From the archives: Bonnie and Clyde in Kendall County?

JUNE 30, 2015TONYBONNIE AND CLYDE, KENDALL COUNTY, TRUE CRIME, YORKVILLELEAVE A COMMENT

This article was published in the Dec. 1, 2011, issue of the Kendall County Record, Yorkville, III.



Photo courtesy of FBI.gov

Bonnie was a waitress in a small cafe Clyde Barrow was the rounder that took her away They both robbed and killed until both of them died So goes the Legend of Bonnie and Clyde. -Merle Haggard

"The Legend of Bonnie and Clyde," 1968

Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow terrorized the Midwest throughout the early 1930s, robbing and killing until they were ambushed and killed by authorities in Bienville Parish, La., on May 23, 1934.

According to a profile of the killers by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), "at the time they were killed in 1934, they were believed to have committed 13 murders and several robberies and burglaries."

Like many gangster figures of the 1920s and '30s, the duo's legend is

From the archives: Bonnie and Clyde in Kendall County?

JUNE 30, 2015TONYBONNIE AND CLYDE, KENDALL COUNTY, TRUE CRIME, YORKVILLELEAVE A COMMENT

This article was published in the Dec. 1, 2011, issue of the Kendall County Record, Yorkville, Ill.



Photo courtesy of FBI.gov

Bonnie was a waitress in a small cafe
Clyde Barrow was the rounder that took her away
They both robbed and killed until both of them died
So goes the Legend of Bonnie and Clyde.
-Merle Haggard

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This was from the 2011 article. Dec 1st of the Kendall County Record.

I've never heard this," said Fletcher, who lives on his family farm in Lisbon, said when asked about the Bonnie and Clyde legend.

The armory in Plattville was the site of the Company E 129th Infantry of the Illinois National Guard. The captain of that company from 1925 to 1941 was Charles G. Howell of Plattville, who died at the age of 83 in June of 1969, according to his obituary in the Record.

Fletcher said Howell was able to get the armory located in the small town of Plattville because he knew people in Washington, D.C.

The site of the armory has a plaque, placed as part of the county's American bicentennial celebration in July of 1976, that states that Plattville was the smallest village in the U.S. to be awarded a National Guard armory. The armory was established on July 16, 1923, according to the plaque.

"He's the one who got it started," Fletcher said of Howell. "He knew everybody in Washington; he got this National Guard company going. It was the only (armory) in the country that did not have a set of railroad tracks next to it. The mailing address was Yorkville so the big kahunas back in Washington thought it was in Yorkville."

Fletcher said he had an idea of one person who might know more about the alleged Bonnie and Clyde robbery, a friend of his brother Jack. Perhaps the grandson of Charles Howell will know more, he said.

Jay Howell sent a note alluding that his father, Clyde Howell, had told him about the robbery.

"As it was told to me, the guns were sawed off at both ends to use at their convenience," Howell's note read. "I'm not sure of the year, month or day of the robbery by 'Bonnie and Clyde."

Plattville resident: 'I don't know a thing about it'

However, talking to others who grew up in Plattville or have lived in the town much of their lives, no one seems to recall being told of the Bonnie and Clyde – or Clyde and Jones – robbery.

Betty Langeland's husband is originally from Plattville and she has been researching whether Bonnie and Clyde visited Plattville, but her search has come up empty.



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Newspapers'

Change Guard Unit.

Springfield, Ili., May 13—Company E. 129th infantry, Illinois National Guard, Plattville, Kendall County, will replace Company L, Kankakee, on duty in Christian County tomorrow in connection with a factional mine union controversy it was announced here taday by Adjutant General Carios E. Black.

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Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow DEATH CAR

On display at our showroom at 1610 Sixth avenue, Moline. This is the actual car these bandits were slain in. Hear the educational and instructive lectures, every 20 minutes from 1 p. m. till 9 p. m. today and Saturday.

-WHERE-

Auto Service Co. of Moline

1610 6th Ave.

MOLINE, ILL. CHEVROLET DEALER 515 13th St.

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Newspapers

KENDALL COUNTY

Historic Preservation Commission
County Boardroom
111 W. Fox Street
Rooms 209 and 210 Yorkville, IL 60560
6:00 p.m.
December 18, 2023-Unofficial Until Approved

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Jeff Wehrli called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: None

Also Present: Matt Asselmeier and Wanda A. Rolf

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Member Bernacki made a motion, seconded by Member Flowers, to approve the minutes from the November 20, 2023, meeting. With a voice vote of five (5) ayes, the motion carried.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion of 2024 Historic Preservation Awards

Commissioners reviewed the press release and application for the awards.

The awards application window opens on January 12, 2024. Commissioners will discuss a list of potential nominees at the next meeting. Mr. Asselmeier stated that the following previously received awards: Chapel on the Green, LaSalle Manor, Howard Manthei, Historic Yorkville Jail and Sherriff's Residence, Beverly Casey, Lowell Mathre, and Stephenie Todd. Mr. Asselmeier stated the next meeting for Historic Preservation is on January 17, 2024. The window to accept nominations closes on February 28, 2024.

Commissioners discussed projects that were previously nominated, but did not receive awards, including Lyon Farm. It was noted that several nominees, such as the Ferndell Museum and the Misner Blacksmith Shop were still incomplete at the time of application submittal. Mr. Asselmeier will compile a list of nominees that did not receive awards in previous years. Chairman Wehrli asked if the historic commission can have Roger Matile come to one of our meetings as a guest. Mr. Asselmeier mentioned he would look into inviting Mr. Matile.

Discussion of 2024 Meeting with Historic Preservation Groups

Commissioners reviewed the list of invitees, save the date card, and letter to invitees.

Mr. Asselmeier stated that the "Save the Date Card" will include sentences regarding the nominees for the historic preservation awards and identifying the oldest structures and businesses in Kendall County. The "Save the Date Card" will be sent in January 2024.

Discussion of Historic Structure Surveys

Mr. Asselmeier stated the County Board approved Forty-Four Thousand Dollars (\$44,000) to survey unincorporated Na-Au-Say and Seward Townships. The grant window is expected to open in February 2024. The County Board is still waiting for a reimbursement check for the previous structure survey.

Discussion of Having Commission Meetings at Historic Locations in the County

Mr. Asselmeier reported that the below list are some of the locations the Commission could have tentative meetings:

United Plattville UPA hall is available for the January 17, 2024. They are still trying to find someone to speak on the history of the arsenal.

Plano Masonic Lodge is tentative for the March 2024 meeting.

Henneberry Barn and Ashley Farm have no insulation and meetings could be held in the spring or summer of 2024.

Pickerill Pigot House will be reserved after the Summer 2024 meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

November 20, 2023, November 22, 2023, November 27, 2023, and November 30, 2023, Emails from Edith Farnsworth House

Commissioners reviewed the emails from Farnsworth House. There were four (4) emails sent in November. On December 18, 2023, another email was sent for the 2023 Annual Appeal.

Member Heiman asked if other counties have invited Kendall County Historic Preservation to their meetings. Mr. Asselmeier responded that geographically our neighboring counties are much larger than Kendall County and do not necessarily have the same types of meetings.

November 28, 2023, Federal Highway Administration and Illinois Department of Transportation Section 106 PA Development Notification Letter

Discussion occurred regarding notification of historic places. Chairman Wehrli asked about Lyon Farm receiving a Section 106 notification letter. Mr. Asselmeier stated that the Planning, Building and Zoning Department receives the Section 106 notification letters, but the Lyon Farm letter might have been sent before he started with Kendall County in January 2017.

Chairman Wehrli spoke about several old homes being torn down on Wolf's Crossing and how this type of demolition can be prevented.

Chairman Wehrli discussed the possibility of inviting Native American Tribes to a future Commission meeting. Member Bernacki mentioned having a Native American Tribe do a presentation on historic traditions at one (1) of the meetings. Member Flowers asked to possibly contact Aurora University to see if they have a contact. Mr. Asselmeier will check with Larry Nelson and Fran Klaas to see if they have contacts with some of the Native American Tribes historically associated with the area.

December 4, 2023, Email from Landmarks Illinois

Commissioners reviewed the email which included nominations for the most endangered historic structures in Illinois.

December 2023 Edition of the Bell Tower

Commissioners reviewed the newsletter.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURNMENT

Member Flowers made a motion, seconded by Member Shanahan, to adjourn. With a voice vote of five (5) ayes, the motion carried. The Historic Preservation Commission adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Wanda A. Rolf Administrative Assistant

Matt Asselmeier

From:

Edith Farnsworth House <farnsworth@farnsworthhouse.org>

Sent:

Sunday, December 17, 2023 7:45 PM

To:

Matt Asselmeier

Subject:

[External]You're Invited to be a Part of Our Future

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.

FARNSWORTH HOUSE

A site of the National Trust for Historic Preservation

Ignite, Engage, Transform, and Build with Us



Our Foundation for the Future is You!

Whether its **igniting** a passion for preservation, art, architecture, nature, and history; **engaging** new and diverse communities with programs, tours, and events; **transforming** lives through educational experiences leading to new discoveries; or **building** a bridge to the future by preserving and protecting this unique historic site, **we invite you to join us** as we strengthen our foundation and move forward into 2024.

IGNITE curiosity and passion though the arts with curated tours and special events.



ENGAGE on and offsite at one-of-a-kind events and community collaborations.



TRANSFORM through education, exploration, and discovery.



You're Invited to BUILD Our Future

In 2024 we look to diversify our audience by expanding school visits, developing specialized guided tour experiences, deepening outreach efforts through offsite programs and collaborations, encouraging nature exploration, and increasing sustainability initiatives while maintaining and improving the natural environment of this unique setting.

No gift is too small, and we appreciate everyone's support as we strive to meet our yearend fundraising goal.

We invite YOU to be an integral partner in achieving these plans.

Donate Now

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

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Sent by farnsworth@farnsworthhouse.org powered by





KENDALL COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

111 West Fox Street • Room 204 Yorkville, IL • 60560 (630) 553-4141 Fax (630) 553-4179

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

January 12, 2024

Chairman Jeff Wehrli, (630) 553-4139

<u>Kendall County Historic Preservation Commission Announces Historic</u>

<u>Preservation Awards Application</u>

The Kendall County Historic Preservation Commission invites applications for recognition of historic preservation in Kendall County. Awards will be given for structures that have undergone exterior or interior preservation, restoration, rehabilitation, adaptive reuse, landscape restoration or sympathetic additions. Awards will also be given to a person or group that exhibits dedication to the field of historic preservation or for a site that possesses importance to the history of Kendall County, State of Illinois, or the United States. The County Historic Preservation Commission reserves the right to grant multiple awards in the same category or zero awards within a category.

Applications may be found on the Kendall County website at: https://www.kendallcountyil.gov/departments/planning-building-zoning/historic-preservation. Completed applications are due by February 28, 2024, at 4:00 p.m., and can be submitted by mail to the Kendall County Historic Preservation Commission, 111 W. Fox Street, Yorkville, IL 60560 or by email at masselmeier@kendallcountyil.gov.

The Kendall County Historic Preservation Commission shall review applications at their April meeting and the awards will be distributed at a County Board meeting in May as part of Kendall County's celebration of Historic Preservation Month.

The Kendall County Historic Preservation Commission was established to influence comprehensive historic preservation planning within the County and to recognize, support and protect the quality of life enjoyed by the residents. The Historic Preservation Commission uses the technical standards issued by the Department of the Interior which produces reliable, understandable, and up-to-date information for decision-making related to the identification, evaluation, and protection/treatment of historic resources. The Historic Preservation Commission is composed of 5 volunteers appointed by the County Board Chairman with the approval of the County Board and normally meets the 3rd Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m. in the County Administration Building on Fox Street in Yorkville. Our meetings are open to the public and we invite anyone interested in Kendall County attend our meetings. More information history can found https://www.kendallcountyil.gov/departments/planning-building-zoning/historic-preservation.

Annual Kendall County Historic Preservation Awards

A recognition of properties that have undergone recent exterior and/ or interior preservation, restoration, rehabilitation, adaptive use, or sympathetic additions as well as for people or groups that exhibit dedication to the field of historic preservation or for sites that possess importance to the history of Kendall County, State of Illinois, or the United States.

MAIL NOMINATION FORM TO:

Kendall County Historic Preservation Commission 111 W. Fox Street Yorkville, IL 60560

EMAIL NOMINATION FORM TO:

Matt Asselmeier,
masselmeier@kendallcountvil.gov

drive, or by email highlighti	ing the project. Before and after pictures are encouraged.
drive, or by email highlighti	ing the project. Before and after pictures are encouraged.
images. Pieuse provide a m	
Images Plages provide a m	ninimum of five photographs or quality digital photographs in .jpg format on a CD ROM, flash
	
nomination as being except	
-	ement should clearly identify the purpose and scope of work, unusual challenges or innovative Ement of historic fabric, long-term impact and any other information that supports the
Reason for nomination:Ple	ease provide a short description, between 50 and 500 words, explaining the project or person
Architectural style / form ((if known):
Year rehabilitated, renova	ted, restored (if known):
Year built (if known):	
Historic use:	
Current use:	
Historic name and/or origi	inal owner (if known):
Current property owner:	
DEADLINE : February 28, 20 Street address :	
DEADLINE, E-1	masselmeier@kendallcountyil.gov

Annual Historic Preservation Award

Application for Award Nomination Announcement: January 12 and February 14

Deadline for nomination: February 28 by 4:00 pm

Date of HPC Review:March and April HPC Meetings.

HPC shall be provided with applications prior to

the March meeting for their review

Date of final selection:April HPC meeting

Award given: Second May County Board meeting

How the final selection will occur. The HPC will review the nominations at their March and April meetings and make a final selection at their April meeting. The Secretary of the HPC will notify award recipient(s) by May 1. The Kendall County Board will bestow the award at their second May meeting, which typically occurs the third Tuesday of the month at 9:00 am.

Physical Description of Award: At a minimum, the recipient will receive a certificate, which will be bestowed at the County Board meeting. The HPC also aspires to provide award recipients with a small sign that they could place on their property. County staff is still researching whether the HPC has funds to purchase signs annually for this program. If the County does not have funding for this, donations may be sought.





Nomination Procedure: Each nomination must include a completed application form and a minimum of five photographs or quality digital photographs. Applications will be available on the County's website as well as in hard copy form at Planning, Building and Zoning Department at 111 W. Fox Street in Yorkville.

Award categories and number of awards to be given: Nominations may be for a structure (residential or commercial) that has undergone exterior or interior preservation, restoration, rehabilitation, adaptive reuse, landscape restoration or sympathetic additions OR for a person or group that exhibits dedication to the field of historic preservation OR for a site that possesses importance to the history of Kendall County, State of Illinois, or the United States.

The HPC reserves the right to offer one or more awards based on the quality of submitted nominations. The HPC also reserves the right to offer zero awards.

Award designation may simply be: "2024 Historic Preservation Award (s)," "Person of the Year," or "Project of the Year."

Examples

- "2024 Kendall County Historic Preservation Award" for the restoration of the home at _____
- "2024 Kendall County Historic Preservation Award" for the adaptive reuse of the building at _____
- "2024 Kendall County Historic Preservation Award" for the sympathetic building addition at _____

Award Review and Selection Criteria:

Preservation/Restoration

- Only completed projects shall be considered.
- Historic character and features of the property shall be retained and preserved.
- Features, spaces, and spatial relationships that characterize a property shall be retained.
- Distinctive materials, features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a property shall be preserved.
- Original materials shall be retained (example: slate roof repair/replacement, removal of artificial siding, repair/restoration of wood siding).
- Historic materials and features shall be repaired rather than replaced.
- When material is replaced, the new shall match the old in composition, design, color and texture.
- Landscape and site features original to the site shall be preserved.

Architecturally Compatible New Addition:

- Only completed projects shall be considered.
- New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction shall not destroy historic materials, features, and spatial relationships that characterize the property.
- The new work shall be differentiated from the old but shall be compatible with the historic materials, features, size, scale and proportion, and massing to protect the integrity of the property and its environment.

HPC Commissioner Award Selection Procedure

- **Meeting**: Each Commissioner secretly ranks applications by number of applications. For example, if there are 7 applications then you they are ranked 1-7 with #1 being the highest ranking.
- Rankings are discussed.
- Recommendation made on number of awards to be bestowed followed by a recommendation and formal vote on awardees.
- A tie may result in a second vote for one.

Previous Nominees

- 2022 Kohlhammer Barn (19 North Street, Oswego)
- 2022 Union School (7935 Route 71, Yorkville)
- 2022 Fern Dell School-Was an Ongoing Project
- 2022 Misner Blacksmith's Shop-Was an Ongoing Project
- 2022 Yorkville Historic Preservation Society
- 2023 Dickson Building-Was an Ongoing Project



KENDALL COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION HISTORIC PRESERVATION ORGANIZATION MEETING

5021 Wheeler Road • Au Sable Presbyterian Church • Yorkville, IL • 60560

AGENDA

February 21, 2024 – 6:00 p.m.

- I. Call to Order
- II. KCHPC Roll Call and Introductions

Eric Bernacki (Vice-Chair), Elizabeth Flowers, Kristine Heiman (Secretary), Marty Shanahan, Jeff Wehrli (Chairman), and Non-KCHPC Attendees

III. Welcoming Remarks

Jeff Wehrli, Kendall County Historic Preservation Commission Chair

- IV. Presentation by Au Sable Grove Presbyterian Church
- V. Presentation on the Importance of Landmarking Properties

 Jon Pressley, MA, RPA Illinois Department of Natural Resources
- VI. Discussion of Historic Preservation Awards
- VII. Discussion of Oldest Building and Oldest Business in Kendall County
- VIII. Round Table Discussion

What Activities Have Your Organizations Been Doing?

Successes?

Challenges?

Strategies for Encouraging Historic Property Owners to Have Open Houses? Opportunities for Collaboration?

- IX. Discussion of Future Meeting(s)
- X. Other Business
- XI. Public Comment
- XII. Adjournment

If special accommodations or arrangements are needed to attend this County meeting, please contact the Administration Office at 630-553-4171, a minimum of 24-hours prior to the meeting time.

Historic Preservation Organization Meeting

The Kendall County Historic Preservation Commission would like to invite you to a meeting on **February 21, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.,** at Au Sable Grove Presbyterian Church, at 5021 Wheeler Road, Yorkville. The purpose of this meeting is to explore collaborative opportunities between historic preservation groups in Kendall County and to receive updates on the activities of local historic preservation groups.

Guest speakers include a representative from Au Sable Grove Presbyterian Church, discussing the history of their building and congregation which celebrated their 175th anniversary in 2023. Also, Jon Pressley, from the Illinois State Historic Preservation Office, will discuss the importance of landmarking property.

The Commission is also requesting the assistance of attendees in identifying the oldest structure and oldest business in Kendall County.

The Commission is also looking for nominees for the 2024 Kendall County Historic Preservation Awards.

Please RSVP to Matt Asselmeier at <u>masselmeier@kendallcountyil.gov</u> or 630-553-4139 by **February 14, 2024.** Any questions or requests for additional information should also be sent to Mr. Asselmeier.



Name Organization

Mr. John Purcell United City of Yorkville

Mr. Terry D'Arcy City of Joliet Mr. Ryan Kauffman Village of Oswego Mr. John Argoudelis Village of Plainfield Ms. Jackie Kowalksi Village of Millbrook Mr. Doug Holley Village of Millington Mr. Paul Pope Village of Lisbon Mr. Ric Offerman Village of Minooka Mr. Jim Davis Village of Newark Ms. June McCord Village of Plattville Mr. Todd Latham City of Sandwich

Mr. Matt Brolley Village of Montgomery

Mr. Mike Rennels City of Plano
Mr. Richard C. Irvin City of Aurora

Lyon Farm Kendall County Historical Society
Mr. Lee Hohmann Kendall County Historical Society

Subash George Oswego Historic Preservation Commission

John Brenneman Oswego Resident Kelly Schomer Oswego Resident

Shaunna Barrow Oswego Historic Preservation Commission
Juan Terrazas Oswego Historic Preservation Commission
Kevin Zentner Oswego Historic Preservation Commission

Rod Zenner Village of Oswego Rachel Riemenschneider Village of Oswego

Jon Prouxl Plainfield Historical Commission
Michael Bortel Plainfield Historical Commission
Roger Matile Little White School Museum
Ted Clauser Oswego Historical Association

Deanna Howard Plano Library

Jeanne Valentine Plano Historical Society
Ken Donart Chapel on the Green
Suzie Kritzberg Chapel on the Green
Sharon Lowery Chapel on the Green

John Aman Montgomery Historic Preservation Commission

Sonya Abt Village of Montgomery

Robyn Sutcliff Yorkville Historic Preservation Society

Krysti Barksdale-Noble Yorkville
Victor Scott Ferndell
Marilyn Thompson Ferndell

Joan Hardekopf Sandwich Historical Society
Chris Phillips Sandwich Historical Committee

Kendra Parzen Landmarks Illinois Scott Mehaffey Farnsworth House Carolyn Lioce Farnsworth House

Jill Morgan Aurora Preservation Commission

Skydan Equity Partners, LLC Gaylord House

Jayne Bernhard City of Joliet
Greg Peerbolte Joliet HPC
Sharon Merwin Joliet HPC

Brook McDonald Dickson-Murst Farm

Sarah Skilton Oswego Public Library District

Lynette Heiden Charles B. Phillips Public Library District

Lisa Pappas Plainfield Library District
Tina Beaird Plainfield Historical Society
Amanda Bennett Sandwich Public Library

Michaela Haberkern Aurora Library
Megan Millen Joliet Library
Shelley Augustine Yorkville Library

Lauren Offerman Three Rivers Library District
Michele Houchens Three Rivers Library District

Anne Sears
James Morris
Jeff Mathre
Ken Wolf

Leigh Anne Scoghton

Paul Burd Jeff Farren Todd Milliron

Barb Klock Village of Lisbon

Martha Stephenson Village of Lisbon

Cliff Fox Village of Newark

Natasha Didos Ritsma Executive Director of Schingoethe Museum

Dr. Mark Soderstrom
Dr. Gerald Butters
Lisa Wolancevich
Valerie Burd
University of Aurora
Save the Historic Jail
Save the Historic Jail

Johanna Byram Yorkville Historic Preservation Society

Jason Peterson **Kendall County Board** Seth Wormley **Kendall County Board** Ruben Rodriguez **Kendall County Board** Matt Kellogg **Kendall County Board** Dan Koukol **Kendall County Board** Scott Gengler **Kendall County Board Brian DeBolt Kendall County Board** Elizabeth Flowers **Kendall County Board** Zach Bachmann **Kendall County Board Brooke Shanley Kendall County Board** Kristine Heiman Kendall County HPC Eric Bernacki Kendall County HPC Jeff Wehrli Kendall County HPC Marty Shanahan **Kendall County HPC**

Todd Volker Kendall County Economic Development Coordinator

Kelvin Johnson Bristol

Ed Hatteberg Norsk Museum

Sandy Vahl Sheridan
Shannon Bronn Minooka
Jane Lauterbach Minooka
Bev Casey Millington
Janet Blue Millington

Mark Harrington

Thomas Milschewski

Victoria Lundh Kendall-Grundy Farm Bureau

Scott Baietti LaSalle Manor

Jon Pressley IHPA

Annie Jordan Oswegoland Park District

Jane Burke Jeff Nakaerts Philip Buchanan

Ken Itle WJE

Jane Johnson Kanakakee County

Mary Lou Wehrli

Eric Pry Aurora GAR Museum

Matt Asselmeier

From: Galloy, Joseph < Joseph.Galloy@Illinois.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, January 2, 2024 9:26 AM

To: Matt Asselmeier

Subject: RE: [External]Tribal contacts for Kendall County

Matt.

Several federally recognized Tribes claim Kendall County as counties of interest (these include but are not limited to ancestral lands). These currently include the Peoria, Miami, one of the Winnebago tribes, four Potawatomi tribes, and the Sac and Fox. Also, Tribes occasionally add and remove counties of interest.

Joe

Joseph M. Galloy, PhD, RPA Cultural Resources Unit Manager Chief Archaeologist & NAGPRA Officer

Bureau of Design & Environment
Illinois Department of Transportation
2300 S. Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, IL 62764
217-785-7833 • Joseph.Galloy@illinois.gov

From: Matt Asselmeier < masselmeier@kendallcountyil.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, December 26, 2023 1:40 PM
To: Galloy, Joseph < Joseph. Galloy@Illinois.gov>

Subject: RE: [External] Tribal contacts for Kendall County

Joe:

Would you be able to tell me which tribes formerly lived in Kendall County?

Thanks,

Matthew H. Asselmeier, AICP, CFM Director Kendall County Planning, Building & Zoning 111 West Fox Street Yorkville, IL 60560-1498

PH: 630-553-4139 Fax: 630-553-4179

From: Galloy, Joseph < Joseph.Galloy@Illinois.gov>

Sent: Friday, December 22, 2023 4:03 PM

To: Matt Asselmeier < masselmeier@kendallcountyil.gov > Subject: [External]Tribal contacts for Kendall County

Matt Asselmeier

From:

Edith Farnsworth House <farnsworthhouse@savingplaces.org>

Sent:

Thursday, December 28, 2023 6:01 AM

To:

Matt Asselmeier

Subject:

[External]Double Your Impact Today

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A site of the National Trust for Historic Preservation

Farnsworth & Friendships - Building & Growing Together



Thanks for being a friend!

During this season of giving, we so appreciate your support of the Edith Farnsworth House Historic Site. Your gift helps us preserve, protect, program, and interpret this National Historic Landmark for visitors of all ages.

College architecture and design students from around the world come to study and discuss the house – a milestone of modernism. Active seniors and Midcentury Modern design

enthusiasts come to check it out – and check it off their bucket list. Young adults come to photograph the minimalist glass pavilion in the woods they've seen in so many design books and magazines – and maybe take an aspirational "selfie" or two!

Whatever your connection to Farnsworth, we want to continue to be *your* destination for memorable experiences in 2024 and into the future. With every dollar donated by December 31, the National Trust for Historic Preservation receives a matching gift – so your generosity will have *double the impact!* AND from now through January 15, all donors of \$100 and up will receive a BOGO (buy one, get one free) single-use discount code* so you can bring YOUR friend!

With all best wishes for the holidays,

Scott Mehaffey Executive Director *single-use code will be emailed to you after January 15, good for any regular-priced Guided Tour through Sunday, December 1, 2024. Limited to published tour times and subject to availability and possible rescheduling due to severe weather conditions.

DONATE HERE & DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT

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

<u>Unsubscribe masselmeier@kendallcountyil.gov</u>

<u>Update Profile | Constant Contact Data Notice</u>

Sent by farnsworthhouse@savingplaces.org powered by



Naperville Preservation Inc. presents:

Proactive Historic Preservation
Adaptive Reuse in Chicagoland



Proactive Historic Preservation and Adaptive Reuse in Chicagoland

A panic-free approach to pre-planning a building's possible next life for its highest and best use with owner and community in mind.

Wednesday
January 24th
7 PM
Naperville Municipal Center
Meeting Rooms A/B
400 S. Eagle Street, Naperville, IL

RSVP Link*

Our speaker is John Curley, Chief Development Services Officer, City of Aurora, IL. He has been instrumental in Aurora's many preservation successes. You'll hear about:

- How to identify and preserve historic buildings that make a community unique.
- How historic buildings can be repurposed often at lower cost and less harm to the environment than new construction.
- How genuine communication between various community groups can lead to successful outcomes for all.

Please join us.



Naperville Preservation, Inc.

www.napervillepreservation.org napervillepreservation@gmail.com 331-472-0817

^{*} If you cannot attend in person, you may <u>register for a zoom viewing</u>. The event will also be recorded.

Matt Asselmeier

From: Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. <webinars@wje.com>

Sent: Wednesday, January 10, 2024 8:31 AM

To: Matt Asselmeier

Subject: [External]You're Invited to a WJE Webinar

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YOU'RE INVITED

Preservation Approaches for Cultural Landscapes



The National Park Service defines a cultural landscape as "a geographic area, including both cultural and natural resources and the wildlife or domestic animals therein, associated with a historic event, activity, or person, or exhibiting other cultural or aesthetic values." Cultural landscapes range from abandoned coal mines to remote coastal fishing villages, historic farmsteads, urban neighborhoods,

battlefields, national cemeteries, and Cold War-era missile sites, among others. Each historic site presents unique challenges in terms of assessment and stewardship. Cultural landscape studies provide a basis for the preservation and rehabilitation of the landscape and its features.

In this complimentary, one-hour webinar, WJE conservator and historian **Deborah Slaton**, with historical landscape architects Liz Sargent and Jane Jacobs, will provide an overview of cultural landscapes and the approaches used to evaluate, document, and develop treatment recommendations for these significant historic places.

By the end of the webinar, you will be able to:

- Describe the types of natural and cultural resources that may be encountered in cultural landscapes
- Identify examples of cultural landscapes to illustrate the wide variety of sites for which studies may be prepared
- Differentiate between cultural landscape reports and cultural landscape inventories
- Explain some of the challenges encountered in the preservation of cultural landscapes today

There will be plenty of time for your questions during the presentation. Attendees are eligible for one American Institute of Architects (AIA) HSW Learning Unit.

DETAILS

Tuesday, January 23, 2024 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM Eastern Time

REGISTER

ABOUT WJE

Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. (WJE), is a global firm of engineers, architects, and materials scientists committed to helping clients solve, repair, and avoid problems in the built world.

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