

ColumbusLandmarks.org  
(614) 221-0227

## Columbus Landmarks & The Bicentennial

Columbus Landmarks is offering a full slate of events and activities in celebration of Columbus's Bicentennial and our organization's 35th Anniversary. There's something for everyone in 2012 and we hope you will make plans to join us.



From the private historic postcard collection of Doreen Uhas Sauer

### Historic Tavern Tours

Our popular Historic Tavern Tours return with a "mystery tour" featuring three all new-to-the-tour watering holes: a traditional neighborhood bar that has been quietly in existence for over 50 years; an up-and-coming tavern with a somewhat "shady" past and historic tie to Columbus as a "foodie" town; and a new bar/restaurant residing in an 1890s tavern. Offered monthly on Thursdays through August, get your tickets early as these tours fill up fast. Members - \$25; Non-Members - \$30

### 200 Years of Stories & Stone

Rich, modest, powerful, humorous, unassuming, scandalous, heartbreaking, or inspiring—the lives of the people buried at Green Lawn Cemetery reflect the history of our 200-year-old city and the attitudes, hopes, perils, and dramas of an emerging nation. Volunteers from Friends of Green Lawn Cemetery and Columbus Landmarks Foundation will discuss the monuments and tell the stories of sixteen individuals or families in the cemetery at regular intervals throughout the afternoon. A free event; donations appreciated.

### Lit, Lives & Landmarks

What do prisoners and poets, belles and bluestockings, radicals and reporters all have in common? They lived in or were influenced by life in Columbus, Ohio. Join the first in a series of bus tours offered by Columbus Landmarks and Ohioana Library to explore the better known and sometimes overlooked worlds of O'Henry, R.L. Stine, Billy Ireland, William Dean Howells, Lois Lenski and others. You might be surprised how place has influenced writing – and how some of the biggest names in literature were influenced by a place they never lived in. Members - \$35; Non-Members - \$40

**PLUS**, more tours & events to look forward to this summer, including:  
**It Takes a Village (or Two) to Make a City 200 Years Old--**  
**Neighborhood Walking Tours • Illuminated Spaces: Sacred Places**  
stained glass tour • **Forbidden City Tours • and more!**

## COMING UP

### Historic Tavern Tours

Thursday, May 10 6-9:30 p.m.  
Thursday, June 14 6-9:30 p.m.  
Thursday, July 19 6-9:30 p.m.  
Thursday, August 16 6-9:30 p.m.

### Annual Membership Meeting

Thursday, May 17 5:30-7:30 p.m.

### Green Lawn Abbey Workday

Saturday, May 19 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

### Old House DIY Workshops

**Troubleshooting & Investigating**  
Thursday, May 31 6-8 p.m.

### Vacant Buildings Roundtable

Wednesday, May 23 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

### 200 Years of Stories & Stone

**Green Lawn Cemetery**  
Sunday, June 3 1-4 p.m.

### Lit, Lives & Landmarks

Saturday, June 23 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.  
Friday, July 27 12:30-3:30 p.m.

### City Hop Party

Saturday, June 29 6-9:30 p.m.

### INFO/TICKETS:

columbuslandmarks.org  
or call 614-221-4508

## "Landmark or Scrap Heap?"

This headline referring to the grand Old, Old Post Office building appeared in the *Columbus Citizen Journal* on April 24, 1973, ironically (but probably not coincidentally) the same year that the former United States Courthouse and Post Office was listed in the National Register of Historic Places. This public debate was taking place four years before Columbus Landmarks' founding in 1977, the same year the postal substation where some of us remember purchasing stamps closed in the building. The building, built in 1887 and expanded in 1912, was occupied by various federal offices until 1982.

Ten years after the article, on the heels of the announcement by the GSA (Government Services Administration) that it planned to divest itself of the Old, Old Post Office building, Columbus Landmarks held its 1983 annual meeting at the property. Our 1983 newsletter states, "It is hoped that the Old, Old Post Office finds a sympathetic new owner. The location of the building on Capitol



From the private historic postcard collection of Doreen Uhas Sauer

Square is ideal, and the Post Office CAN be successfully rehabilitated into first class office space within today's standards of efficiency, serviceability, and safety, while providing the community with a visible commitment to preservation and reuse of the built environment, preserving the irreplaceable amenities and historic importance of the building for generations to come."

A sympathetic new owner indeed was found. In 1985 the City of Columbus purchased the High

Victorian Gothic building and entered into an agreement with Bricker & Eckler as the long term tenant, enabling the sensitive rehabilitation to take place and the firm's vision to convert the building into their headquarters come to fruition in 1987. Bricker & Eckler's dedication and persistence through the two-year endeavor under the leadership of Rich Simpson and the City of Columbus' cooperative role is meritorious. The project, designed by Bohm-NBBJ (known as NBBJ today) was awarded the James B. Recchie Design Award in 1990.

Nearly 40 years after the ominous question was posed, Columbus Landmarks returns to the venerable landmark in this bicentennial year, celebrating our 35th anniversary at our Annual Meeting on May 17th. Please join us for the opportunity to tour the building and its neighbor, Central Presbyterian Church. The Romanesque Revival building was recently vacated by the congregation and is now in contract for an adaptive use that will preserve the building ... another reason to celebrate national Historic Preservation Month!

The Board of Trustees of Columbus Landmarks Foundation  
invites you to the  
**2012 Annual Membership Meeting  
& 35th Anniversary Celebration**

Thursday, May 17, 2012

5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Bricker & Eckler LLP, 100 S. Third Street  
Slate of Trustees: David Binkovitz, Cynthia Hunt,  
George O'Donnell, Dan O'Harra, and Jeffrey Porter

Free Event for Members

Please RSVP online at [columbuslandmarks.org](http://columbuslandmarks.org)  
or by calling 614-221-4508

## Cornerstone

Spring 2012

*Columbus Landmarks Foundation advocates for, promotes and preserves Columbus landmarks and neighborhoods.*

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# Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Members & Friends,

Applause is in order!

May is national Preservation Month and in Columbus it commences with positive news on the preservation front. The recently closed historic Central Presbyterian Church (132 S. Third St.) is in contract with a buyer who plans to preserve the building! Join us at our Annual Membership Meeting on May 17th for a tour of its glorious vaulted sanctuary (and if available, details about its prospective new owner and proposed re-use). The meeting will convene next door at Bricker & Eckler LLP (100 S. Third St.), formerly the Old, Old Post Office building, where tours will also be offered. We will meet in what was once the grand U. S. District Courtroom, celebrating Columbus Landmarks' 35th anniversary in style amidst the book-matched marble and oak coffers. The surroundings will provide a taste of what our bicentennial City Hop Party in June will offer - the opportunity to wine and dine in the swank of three Columbus private clubs: Columbus Club, Athletic Club of Columbus and Capital Club. Both events are most fitting with the National Trust's theme for Preservation Month, "Discovering America's Hidden Gems."

As a next step in addressing the national vacant and abandoned houses epidemic, Columbus Landmarks is sponsoring a conversation in Columbus on May 23rd, inviting preservation organizations to participate. Royce Yeater of Chicago, a consultant who has extensively researched the topic and shares a national perspective, will facilitate the discussion. This opportunity to exchange information and learn about creative solutions in other communities is supported by our United Way and National Trust funded Neighborhood Preservation Initiative. Thanks to Ohio's two statewide preservation organizations, Heritage Ohio and Preservation Ohio, for assisting in organizing the event.

Are the historic taverns calling your name? While taunted with fits and starts of unseasonably warm weather, our to-do list has included planning the many spring and summer programs - including neighborhood walking tours and yes - tavern tours (see calendar), ushering our auditors in - and out - proudly with

unqualified results, and dispatching multiple grant applications out the door. Homeowners, if you missed the many workshops of "March Maintenance Madness," you have another opportunity May 31 to gain hands-on experience. Check out our newly redesigned website for details and additional workshops to be offered this summer (columbuslandmarks.org). While on the web, you can also link to an invaluable new and expandable resource page related to technical preservation topics for owners of historic buildings recently launched by the City of Columbus Historic Resources Commission. Before you logout, don't miss Columbus and Columbus Landmarks' national web presence in an article in the National Trust's online magazine about our Field Representative's collaborative work with the Weinland Park neighborhood and Habitat for Humanity-Greater Columbus.

Thanks to sponsor Arshot Investment and those who joined us at our successful behind-the-scenes Shadowbox Live fundraiser in March. Thank you also to those who contributed to the auction or volunteered. One lucky auction winner drove off on a new scooter and another anxiously awaits more temperate weather for a narrated boat tour of Buckeye Lake, the Cranberry Bog and the Greater Buckeye Lake Historical Society Museum. The most coveted auction item? Unquestionably, the VIP ticket for President Doreen Uhas Sauer's fall backroads tour and bakery crawl of Cleveland gets this distinction.

Next on that to-do list...order the birthday cake - check! Happy Birthday, Columbus Landmarks!

*Kathy Mast Kane*

## Shop at Kroger?

You can earn money for Columbus Landmarks when you use your Kroger Plus Card. Visit [krogercommunityrewards.com](http://krogercommunityrewards.com), click on "OHIO" and then "Enroll." It's re-enrollment time for those who have participated previously, so please sign up and select Columbus Landmarks again this year!

## Columbus' Oldest Buildings Archive

by Doreen Uhas Sauer

Columbus Landmarks Foundation encouraged the public to help us locate some of the oldest buildings in the City of Columbus. *Columbus Dispatch* reporter, Jim Weiker, had featured the Beers-Baker-Zeigler cabin and carried out a request as part of his February story.

We heard from several people who gave us leads and some great information-but some of them ran into the same challenges that we did-the buildings were not actually in the City of Columbus but were in townships and neighboring communities. Still, we thought it was important to share with you what we learned and encourage you to continue to look and let us know what you are finding out. This is just part one and we will continue to update you:

- Mike Flegle's parents have a 1790s log cabin on East Columbus Street in Canal Winchester.
- Tracy Liberatore, President of Grandview Heights/Marble Cliff Historical Society told us about the Rook Cabin and shared with us the image above of eight seniors from Grandview Heights High School (1949) as they relaxed on the edge of the ravine behind the former Brotherhood of the Rook cabin. Built in 1860, the cabin was originally the farmhouse of the Garrett Miller family and was located on their property between Cardigan and Fifth near Cambridge Blvd. It was dismantled, each log was tagged and the cabin was rebuilt in its original form on a new site on Wyandotte Road. Its unusual name, the Brotherhood of the Rook cabin, comes from the fact that it served as a clubhouse of the Rook's fraternity from 1915-1920.
- Chuck Hoisington shared with us that a residence on Central College Road is listed as being constructed in 1850.
- Bill Good of Southwick-Good & Fortkamp Funeral Chapel, 3100 North High Street, reminded us that his building is the 1838 Clinton Chapel Methodist Church and was once a well-documented stop on the Underground Railroad.
- We were also told that the Davis House on the corner of Med-o-Mac Lane and Dublin Road was built in 1803.
- Radyn (Metz) Credeur wrote about her childhood home, built in 1890, and she has the original and fascinating abstract of the home, 1356 Hunter Avenue, in the Dennison Place Addition.

This is only a small portion-more to come in the next issue-but because so many of you offered to share abstracts, photos, and personal histories of the properties, perhaps this could be the beginning of a program or tour? We will be in the process of contacting each of you who expressed a desire to share to see if we can build on this interest. And, yes, those of you who let us know about properties in Sharon Township, Dublin, Worthington, and elsewhere, including Columbus, watch for more information in the next newsletter.



*Brotherhood of the Rook Cabin from Grandview Heights/Marble Cliff Historical Society*

## City Hop Party to Feature Exclusive Downtown Clubs

by Ryan Szymanski, Trustee & City Hop Chair

We are excited to announce changes to our annual City Hop event. This year's City Hop will be held on Friday, June 29 and is a progressive party featuring the exclusive clubs of downtown Columbus.

The party will begin at the **Columbus Club**, 181 E. Broad St., and will feature wine and cheese. We will then "progress" across the street to **The Athletic Club of Columbus**, 136 E. Broad St., for heavy hors d'oeuvres and cocktails. Finally, we will stroll down Broad to the **Capital Club**, 41 S. High Street, where we will enjoy champagne and dessert on the terrace.

Columbus Landmarks will not conduct the traditional City Hop tour of downtown condominiums this year. Instead, we are offering a broad range of tours and events, including this City Hop Party, in celebration of Columbus' Bicentennial and our organization's 35th Anniversary.

Each of the featured clubs has a rich history and architectural heritage. The Columbus Club opened in 1887 in the 1860s former residence of Benjamin E. Smith, a successful railroad contractor and banker who built what he considered as the most imposing house in Columbus. The contract for building his home provided that each of the bricks used in the structure was to be pressed in Philadelphia, wrapped separately in paper, and shipped to Columbus. The Athletic Club of Columbus is celebrating its centennial this year and was recently listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The six-story brick clubhouse, an example of Spanish Renaissance Revival with Italian influence architecture, was designed by Richards, McCarty & Bulford with Frank L. Packard as Advisory Architect. The Capital Club, located on the seventh floor of the impressive Huntington Center, was founded more than 20 years ago on a policy of inclusion and celebrating membership diversity.

We are very pleased to be able to offer access to these private clubs for City Hop and to celebrate their continued role in downtown Columbus. We hope you will join us!

Tickets for the City Hop Party are \$75 for members and \$85 for non-members and are available online at [columbuslandmarks.org](http://columbuslandmarks.org) or by calling 614-221-4508. Tickets are limited, so be sure to purchase early.