

The Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas's

Fragile Five: 2014 List of Arkansas's Most Endangered Places



About the Most Endangered Places Program

The Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas began Arkansas's Most Endangered Places program in 1999 to raise awareness of the importance of Arkansas's historic properties and the dangers they face through neglect, encroaching development, and loss of integrity. The list is updated each year and serves to generate discussion and support for saving the state's endangered historic places. Previous places listed include the Johnny Cash Boyhood Home and the Dyess Colony Administration Building in Dyess, Bluff Shelter Archaeological Sites in Northwest Arkansas, Rohwer and Jerome Japanese-American Relocation Camps in Desha County, the William Woodruff House in Little Rock, Magnolia Manor in Arkadelphia, Centennial Baptist Church in Helena, the Donaghey Building in Little Rock, the Saenger Theatre in Pine Bluff, the twentieth century African American Rosenwald Schools throughout the state, the Mountaineer Apartments in Hot Springs, Forest Fire Lookouts statewide, the Historic Dunbar Neighborhood in Little Rock, Carleson Terrace in Fayetteville, the Woodmen on Union Building in Hot Springs.

Properties are nominated by individuals, communities, and organizations interested in preserving these places for future Arkansans. Criteria for inclusion in the list includes a property's listing or eligibility for listing in the Arkansas or National Register of Historic Places; the degree of a property's local, state or national significance; and the imminence and degree of the threat to the property.

The Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas was founded in 1981 and is the only statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving Arkansas's architectural and cultural heritage. The mission of the Alliance is to build stronger communities by reconnecting Arkansans to our heritage and empowering people to save and rehabilitate historic places.

Arkansas's Most Endangered Places 2014

Arkansas Mound Sites
1500 BC - 1700 AD
Statewide

—

**Central High School Neighborhood
Historic District**
1870-1961
Little Rock, Pulaski County

—

Downtown Hot Springs
1886-1930
Hot Springs, Garland County

—

John Lee Webb House
1900
Hot Springs, Garland County

—

Thompson Building
1913
Hot Springs, Garland County

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Photos and individual news releases on all sites are available at

www.preservearkansas.org

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Fragile Five: Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas Announces 2014 list of Arkansas's Endangered Places

Sites in Hot Springs, Little Rock and statewide named to list

LITTLE ROCK—The Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas's 2014 list of Arkansas's Endangered Places is comprised of earthworks that serve as representation of native people from 1500 BC – 1700 AD, a residential historic district that bore witness to nationally significant events, one of Arkansas's most recognizable commercial strips, the home of a prominent African American leader and a prominent neoclassical landmark designed by George Mann. Other properties highlighted this year from previous lists include the 1931 White River Bridge in Clarendon, the V.C. Kays House in Jonesboro and the St. Joseph Home in North Little Rock. The announcement also highlighted the Federal Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit, which has been proposed for elimination in one version of tax reform legislation.

The announcement took place on May 22 at the historic White-Baucum House, 201 S Lizard in Little Rock. The Historic Preservation Alliance chose to release the list of threatened properties at the White-Baucum House which was itself listed as endangered in 2011. The house is currently being rehabilitated as offices for J Chandler and Company and will be removed from the endangered list.

Arkansas's Most Endangered Places Program was started in 1999 to raise awareness of the importance of Arkansas's historic properties and the dangers they face. The list is updated each year to generate discussion and support for saving these places that matter to Arkansas.

Named to the 2014 list were:

Arkansas Mound Sites, 1500 BC - 1700 AD, Statewide

Central High School Neighborhood Historic District, 1870-1961, Little Rock, Pulaski County

Downtown Hot Springs, 1886-1930, Hot Springs, Garland County

John Lee Webb House, 1900, Hot Springs, Garland County

Thompson Building, 1913, Hot Springs, Garland County

Arkansas Mound Sites, *Statewide* (1500 BC - 1700 AD) serve as an important representation of the native people of Arkansas through many different cultures and time periods and they represent the largest material symbols of cultural heritage for native peoples who identify themselves as descendants of those ancient people. Mounds in Arkansas have been destroyed by looters looking for items to sell, by erosion caused by dig-

ging and stream cutting, by the creation of lakes and reservoirs, by residential and industrial development and by people using the soil as a source of fill dirt. The greatest current threat is the landscape modifications that go along with irrigation agriculture and associated land levelling. Large scale industrial development poses another immediate threat in both the Delta and on the periphery of metropolitan areas. Land owners, developers, native peoples and archeologists and historic preservation professionals need to work together to preserve those sites that can be saved and to document those targeted for destruction.

The Central High School Neighborhood Historic District in *Little Rock, Pulaski County* (1870-1961) was named for the Art Deco school which was called the “most beautiful high school in America” when it was built in 1927. Its historic buildings tell the story of Little Rock’s growth in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and bore witness to nationally significant events during the desegregation of Central High School. While private investment has been made in pockets of the district, decades of disinvestment have led to vacancy, neglect, alterations of character-defining features and demolitions at the hands of the City of Little Rock and private owners. The alterations and demolitions, particularly, jeopardize the historic district’s designation and property owners’ access to state and federal historic tax credits. Residents hope to bring attention to the historically rich and important area, encourage sensitive rehabilitations and build support for protection of the historic structures and character of this important neighborhood.

Downtown Hot Springs, (1886-1930), Garland County

The Central Avenue Historic District encompasses a wealth of historic buildings dating from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Until recently, city ordinances allowed and even provided incentive for upper stories above Central Avenue storefronts to be left undeveloped by exempting the upper floors from meeting building codes as long as they remained unoccupied.

The fire that destroyed the oldest section of the Majestic Hotel in February dramatized the issues facing “legacy structures” that define one of the most recognizable commercial districts in the state. Despite general recognition of the importance of the buildings along Central Avenue, some property owners remain resistant to making required updates and investing to make the buildings safe and suitable for occupancy.

The recent designation of a Thermal Basin Fire District allows for installation of fire suppression systems per the International Existing Building Code to preserve historic features while meeting modern safety expectations. We hope that the loss of the Majestic Hotel will encourage property owners, developers, city officials, community and state leaders to work together to address the issues of large-scale vacancy and find solutions for reuse and rehabilitation of these important assets for the benefit of Hot Springs and the state of Arkansas.

The **John Lee Webb House, (1900), Hot Springs, Garland County**, is a centerpiece of the Pleasant Street Historic District in Hot Springs. The house at 403 Pleasant Street was home for three decades to one of the most influential leaders of the African American community in Hot Springs. Webb served as Supreme Custodian of the fraternal or-

ganization Woodmen of the Union and as President of the National Baptist Laymen's Convention. The house was a wood-clad frame structure, but the red brick veneer and green tile roof were added in the 1920s by Webb. The dark red brick is characteristic of buildings Webb developed, including the Woodmen of Union Building (also known as the National Baptist Hotel) on Malvern Avenue. The house has been vacant for many years and it is vulnerable to vandalism and fire in its current state. Limited resources for rehabilitation and its deteriorated condition make the building's future uncertain. We hope to bring attention to this little-known, but important resource and to encourage and bolster efforts to preserve this important place.

The **Thompson Building** (1913), *Hot Springs, Garland County* is one of the most recognizable landmarks in the Central Avenue Historic District. The building, which features an ornate glazed terra cotta façade, was designed in the neoclassical style by architect George R. Mann, the principal architect of the Arkansas Capitol. Like many other structures in the district, the first floor is occupied but the upper stories are vacant.

The Thompson Building is particularly vulnerable to fire due to a vertical shaft that runs through the top four floors, which would inevitably spread fire quickly throughout the building. Though it is eligible for state and federal historic rehabilitation tax credits, the Thompson Building's owner has to date not invested in improving or updating the property beyond the first floor.

This architecturally and historically significant building needs to be retrofitted in order to meet recently-adopted International Existing Building Codes to protect it from fire and further deterioration.

The Historic Preservation Alliance is the statewide non-profit organization dedicated to building stronger communities by reconnecting Arkansans to our heritage and empowering people to save and rehabilitate historic places. For more information about the Alliance and becoming a member, contact Vanessa at 501-372-4757, vmckuin@preservearkansas.org, or visit preservearkansas.org.

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Arkansas Mounds

Statewide



There are at least 1275 mound sites listed in the Arkansas Archeological Survey database, but they make up only 3% of the total number of sites reported in the last 45 years and it is difficult to know how many of the recorded sites still exist. Mounds serve as a representation of the native people of Arkansas through many different cultures and time periods. Recent discoveries show that Archaic People began building mounds over 5,000 years ago as sites for rituals and social gatherings.

The more common form of mounds found in Arkansas are the Woodland mounds that serve as memorials and resting places for the deceased. Most of these mounds were designed to commemorate astronomical events. The youngest mounds are more the 300 years old and most are well over 500 years old making them the oldest human construction in the state. They were homes to priests and chiefs and the last resting place for honored members of ancient societies. The Arkansas Mounds represent the largest material symbols of cultural heritage for American Indians who identify themselves as descendants of those ancient people.

Mounds have been destroyed by people curious about their contents, by looters looking for items to sell, by erosion caused by digging and stream cutting, by the creation of lakes and reservoirs, by residential and industrial development and by people using the soil as a source of fill dirt. The greatest current threat is the landscape modifications that go along with irrigation agriculture and associated land levelling. Large scale industrial development poses another immediate threat in both the Delta and on the periphery of metropolitan areas. Illegal looting of mounds on private and public lands continues to be a serious threat.

Under current circumstances, it is likely that there will be no more mounds in many agricultural areas in Arkansas in the near future unless some efforts are made to accommodate mound survival with economically important agricultural and industrial development. Land owners, developers, native people and historic preservation professionals, including archeologists, need to work together to preserve those sites that can be saved and to document those targeted for destruction.

Central High School Neighborhood Historic District, *Little Rock* | *Pulaski Co.*



Named for the 1927 Art Deco school, the Central High School Neighborhood Historic District is listed in the National Register of Historic Places for its association with the westward expansion of Little Rock, the 1957 Central High School desegregation crisis, and its eclectic blend of 19th and 20th Century architectural styles. The neighborhood's namesake and the museum are top destinations for visitors to Arkansas's capital.

The Central High Historic District is home to two National Historic Landmarks and a National Park, as well as numerous individually listed properties. Many current residents have strong connections to the Central high Historic District and a good deal of private investment has been made in the historic district in the last decade. However, decades of disinvestment and discriminatory lending policies have led to vacancy, neglect, alterations of character-defining features, and demolitions at the hands of the City of Little Rock and private owners. While disinvestment has caused the most loss, development pressure is also an issue. Arkansas Children's Hospital and Arkansas Baptist College have actively demolished contributing historic structures. While part of the neighborhood has a design overlay district to define scale, massing and setback of new construction, the historic district remains unprotected from common threats.

In addition to the loss of individual structures and character, the historic district designation itself is in jeopardy. The loss of structures and historic integrity threatens the percentage of structures within the historic district boundaries that contribute to the distinct. In a recent count of properties declared "Unsafe and Vacant" by the City of Little Rock, the Central High Historic District had 65 contributing historic properties on the list, which is often the beginning of the end for houses. Losing the properties listed on the U/V list would bring the percentage of contributing properties well below the required 51%.

The State and Federal Historic Tax Credits have been crucial for encouraging sensitive rehabilitations throughout this district. Such tax credits are powerful tools for leveraging redevelopment; however, if contributing buildings continue to be demolished, residents and investors will lose access to the tools, putting this important neighborhood at further disadvantage.

Central High School Neighborhood Historic District, *Continued*



There is strong support for preservation among the public. A handful of small-scale developers are focused on the Central High area and many current residents and homeowners clearly value the neighborhood in which they reside. Great strides have been made on the 2300 block of Summit Street, a block entirely comprised of American Foursquare style houses that was listed as endangered in 2010. Additionally, people who see the value of historic places in the Little Rock have expressed support for alternatives to large-scale demolitions in the city. A recently started Facebook page called, "Stop the Demolitions, Little Rock" gained 400 fans in 24 hours and now has close to 700 fans. A group of concerned citizens have been meeting regularly with City staff to try and understand the factors and processes which lead to loss of historic infrastructure and to make suggestions about policies and practices that would lead to improved neighborhoods and a more stable city. These efforts have had limited success.

Residents and stakeholders want to be engaged in a planning process for the area to identify and address the challenges and desired outcomes for these neighborhoods. In 2013, the district was one of the finalist areas for Metroplan's JumpStart planning grants. Having a plan that considers redevelopment potential and principles could help identify specific solutions for that will result in more productive use of space and address neighborhood concerns and needs. Continuing to demolish existing resources without any sort of plans for our fragile core neighborhoods will continue to harm this important neighborhood.

The hope is that this listing will help bring attention to this historically rich and important area, encourage sensitive rehabilitation by current residents, build support for protection of the historic structures and character and attract investment to the area. Other desired goals are to encourage reevaluation of policies that affect the area and to bring actions both allowed by and taken by the City of Little Rock more in line with development principals set forth in Planning Department documents for the City as well as to build support for protection of this historic district that tells the story of Little Rock's growth in the late 19th-and early 20th-centuries and that bore witness to nationally significant events and changes in our nation.

Downtown Hot Springs

Hot Springs | Garland Co.



On February 27 a fire broke out in the oldest section of the Majestic Hotel, a long shuttered landmark that anchored the northern tip of Hot Springs's Central Avenue Historic District. Coincidentally, the fire followed a set of rousing articles from writer Rex Nelson, the most pointed of which was called, "The Shame of Hot Springs." The article summarized the issues clearly: the treasures of arguably the grandest avenue in all of Arkansas had been allowed to languish and deteriorate until the majority of the space was vacant. The article called attention to the adjacent mid-century Velda Rose Hotel and further south on Central, the Medical Arts Building and the Howe Hotel, both vacant, as well as the declining Arlington Hotel. "That stretch of Central Avenue — from its intersection with Grand Avenue north to where Central runs into the decaying Majestic Hotel — is one of the most iconic stretches in the South," Nelson wrote. The widely-read articles and the fire at the Majestic called statewide attention to the plight of many prominent historic buildings in downtown Hot Springs and spurred the creation of a downtown task force, a series of public hearings and much discussion about the future of this landmark district at the center of Arkansas's tourism economy.

Despite the successful rejuvenation of the National Park-owned buildings along the east side's Bath House Row, redevelopment along the west side of Central Avenue has been slow and spotty. Until recently, city ordinance allowed and even provided incentive for property owners to leave upper stories above the Central Avenue storefronts vacant and undeveloped by exempting the upper floors from meeting building codes as long as the remained vacant.

The City of Hot Springs recently established a special fire district "to protect life, property and commerce from the effects of fire within the city's legacy structures." The ordinance for the Thermal Basin Fire District allows fire suppression systems to be installed to meet building codes in lieu of modifying existing structures to resemble new construction—thus bringing historic buildings into compliance without altering historic character. Through the creation of the Thermal Basin District the City of Hot Springs seeks to "insure that all unsafe structures are brought back into a safe condition in an economically feasible manner."

Downtown Hot Springs,

continued



According to the City of Hot Springs, 24 of the 74 buildings--over 30% of all structures--in the new Thermal Basin District have been determined to be "unsafe" because they do not currently meet the Existing Building Code. The new city ordinance requires building owners to bring upper stories up to code. The City of Hot Springs is preparing to make infrastructure improvements to accommodate the added water capacity needs for fire suppression systems in downtown buildings and a phased approach has been proposed to allow property owners to make improvements over a period of time depending on the height of the building.

Still some property owners are resistant to making the updates. This seems to be the largest obstacle facing downtown Hot Springs. As long as the downtown buildings remain vacant and unsecured, the threats of further deterioration, vandalism and fire remain critical issues. The Central Avenue Historic District is a local ordinance historic district, meaning that a city Historic District Commission reviews and approves major changes to historic buildings within the district, but the local ordinance does not contain minimum maintenance standards or allow for enforcement of demolition by neglect.

Despite recognition by Hot Spring citizens and state-wide leaders of the importance of downtown Hot Springs as well as strong support for redevelopment and for preservation of the historic buildings that make up the core of the city, the district still faces an uphill battle. Until property owners are compelled to make the necessary improvements to their buildings, these properties will remain at risk. And even with the necessary improvements to stabilize and protect the properties, the redevelopment of the downtown structure are not guaranteed. While many agree that the downtown historic buildings are ripe for redevelopment for commercial and residential use, successful development will require vision and perseverance.

It is our hope that momentum will continue from the tragic loss of the Majestic Hotel and that property owners, developers, city officials, and community and state leaders will work together to address the issues of large scale vacancy and find solutions for reuse and rehabilitation of these important assets to enrich the Central Avenue Historic district, for the benefit of Hot Springs and the State of Arkansas.

Thompson Building

338-344 Central Avenue, Hot Springs | Garland Co.



The Thompson Building (1913), located in the Central Avenue Historic District in downtown Hot Springs, is a landmark Classical Revival building designed by renowned architect George R. Mann, the principal architect of the Arkansas State Capitol. Its elaborate detail and ornamented white terracotta façade extend to the top reach of the five story building. The Thompson Building is a showpiece of the district, featuring ornate fluted Corinthian columns that reach from the top of the first floor to the massive cornice between the fourth and fifth floors. The elaborate Cornice is detailed with Modillions, dentils and egg and dart moldings. The Thompson Building was one of Hot Spring's most prominent office buildings in the early 1900's, housing doctors offices in the upper floors and retail spaces below. The upper floors were later used for residential purposes.

Much of the historic fabric of the building is still intact with the exception of a few interior spaces that have been reconfigured. The building's first floor is currently used as retail space, but the top four floors have been vacant for decades. Threats to the property include continued vacancy and vandalism. According to a study of legacy buildings by the Hot Springs Fire Marshal, the building is in fair to good condition however, a vertical shaft that runs though the top four floors to a skylight at the top of the building is of particular concern because fire would likely spread through the building quickly through the vertical shaft linking all of the floors. A recently adopted city ordinance requires that buildings in the Thermal Basin Fire District be brought up to meet International Existing Building Code, which allows for a fire suppression system to be installed in order to protect character-defining features which do not meet the standards of new building requirements.

Though it is eligible for both State and Federal Historic Rehabilitation Tax credits and has good reuse potential, the owner has been unwilling to invest in the property beyond the first floor. This architecturally and historically significant building needs to be retrofitted to protect it from fire and further deterioration.

John Lee Webb House

403 Pleasant Street, Hot Springs | Garland County



John Lee Webb was born in 1877 in Tuskegee, Alabama. Though his formal education was delayed by obligations to help supporting his family, he entered Tuskegee Institute at the age of 19, leaving only in 1898 to volunteer in the United States Army during the Spanish-American War. After the war and the completion of his education, Mr. Webb worked as a general contractor in Mississippi and Arkansas, and in 1913, joined the Supreme Lodge of the Woodman of the Union, a fraternal organization that he would eventually lead. By 1930, Mr. Webb and his family were living in Hot Springs, and Mr. Webb was the Supreme Custodian of the Woodman of the Union, president of a large insurance company and president of the National Baptist Layman's Convention. He was a highly influential leader in the African American community in Hot Springs and at his death in 1946, was regarded as one of the most important citizens of Hot Springs.

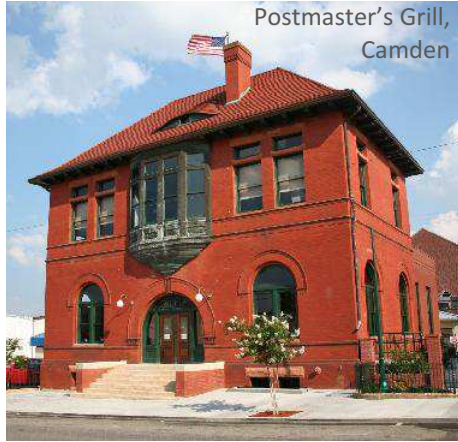
The house where John L. Webb and his family lived in Hot Springs remains as a focal point in the Pleasant Street Historic District. The building that is now known as the Webb House was constructed around 1900 by the Edwin Hogaboom family, whose business associates included Milo and Aaron Buckstaff, operators of the establishment which became the Buckstaff Bath House. The house was built in the frame Victorian style, but the brick veneer and green tile roof were added by John L. Webb in the 1920s. The dark red brick is characteristic of John L. Webb's work on many of the buildings in the neighborhood, including the National Baptist Hotel (Woodmen of Union Building) on Malvern Avenue. The Victorian style home was home to the Webb family for almost thirty years, from the early 1920s through the 1940s.

The house has been vacant for many years, but has recently been acquired by owners who would like to rehabilitate it for use as a bed and breakfast. However, its current vacant state leaves it vulnerable to vandalism and fire until it can be secured and stabilized. Limited resources for rehabilitation and its deteriorated condition make the building's future uncertain. We hope to bring attention to this little-known, but important resource and to encourage and bolster efforts to preserve this important place.

Policy in Peril: Federal Historic Tax Credit Program



Mann Building,
Little Rock



Postmaster's Grill,
Camden

On February 26th, the chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee – Rep. Dave Camp (R-MI) – released a draft of his proposed Tax Reform Act of 2014 that calls for the elimination of the Federal Historic Tax Credit (FHTC) program. This program is the backbone of historic preservation efforts throughout the nation and our state. If eliminated, it would bring a virtual halt to historic rehabilitation projects in Illinois.

Since 1976 the federal FHTC program – a 20% dollar-for-dollar income tax credit – has nationally leveraged nearly \$109 billion in private investment, created more than 2.4 million jobs and adapted more than 39,600 buildings for new and productive uses. The credit more than pays for itself. Over the life of the program, the IRS has issued \$21 billion in credits while generating more than \$26.6 billion in direct federal tax revenue.* In Arkansas, since 2010 the FHTC has generated over \$45 million in private development investment and helped create over 3,700 jobs.**

U.S. Rep. Tim Griffin is a member of the House Ways & Means Committee. Please contact your U.S. Representative and ask him to reach out to Rep. Griffin and to Chairman Camp to let them know that the Federal Historic Tax Credit program is vital to the economic health of Arkansas's cities and neighborhoods.

*National Trust for Historic Preservation

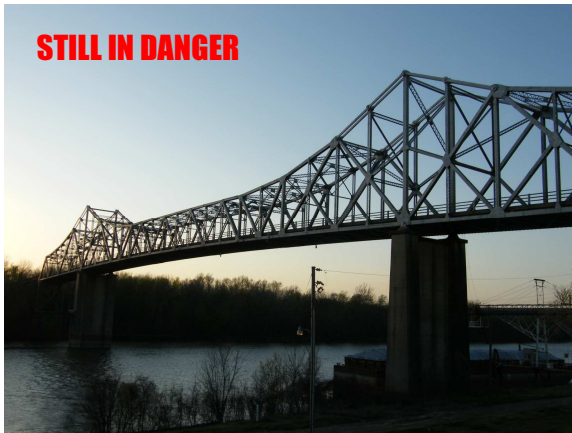
** Arkansas Historic Preservation Program



Lesmeister Guest
House, Pocahontas

Greatest Hits: Updates on Previously Listed Properties

By highlighting the significance of endangered places and elevating these properties for statewide attention, listing on the Alliance's Most Endangered Places list has bought important properties some time and has been important to the efforts to preserve many irreplaceable historic resources. These selections from previous lists highlight some of the properties that are still in danger and some great illustrations of what can be accomplished through dedication and collaboration to preserve important historic places.



White River Bridge, Clarendon (MEP 2000)

Completed in 1931, the Clarendon Bridge is one of only two remaining double cantilever Warren through truss bridges in Arkansas. The bridge is currently used for highway traffic, but it is scheduled to be demolished upon completion of a replacement bridge.

Efforts to preserve the bridge for a pedestrian and bike trail have spanned close to 20 years. Previously local authorities previously opposed the project, but the current Clarendon City Council and Mayor Stinson are on board to take ownership of the bridge. A Bridge Preservation committee has been appointed by the City Council and is working hard to see it saved.

If the City of Clarendon acquires the bridge, the Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department will reimburse for modifications for recreational purposes. The United States Coast Guard (USCG) has opposed saving the bridge because of navigation, though advocates are in the process of working with USCG to reverse their decision on bridge.

A successful "save" of the bridge would mean reconditioning the bridge into a walking/biking/nature trail extending almost a mile into the Cache River National Wildlife Refuge, used by the community and visitors from around the nation. Proponents of saving the bridge eventually hope to connect the trail to other long-distance bike trails.

Public awareness and support are urgently needed to help local efforts to save the bridge. The city of Clarendon will have to make a decision about taking ownership when the replacement bridge is completed, which is scheduled for this fall.

V.C. Kays House, Jonesboro (MEP 2012)



V.C. Kays House on the ASU Jonesboro Campus was built in 1936 by the first University President, Victor C. Kays, who lived there during and after his tenure at ASU. When ASU announced plans to raze the house as part of constructing a sorority row, opposition attracted significant media attention. After the house's listing on the Most Endangered List, the Chancellor announced that proponents would

be given one year to raise funds to preserve and maintain the Kays House.

Since then local advocates have been working to raise money and support for the rehabilitation of the house among its new neighbors of Sorority Row. The main floor will include an information and visitors' center for Arkansas Heritage Sites program, information about President V. C. Kays emphasizing his life, the house, his involvement in saving Arkansas State College in the 1930s and his important relationship with U. S. Senator Hattie Caraway. The remainder of the house will house the Heritage Studies Ph.D. Program, Arkansas Heritage Sites and Arkansas Delta Byways as well as space for public for gatherings, scholarly presentations, meetings and social events.

St. Joseph Home, North Little Rock (MEP 2013)



St. Joseph Orphanage was commissioned in 1908 to house and care for orphaned children. Architect Charles Thompson designed the 56,000 sq. ft. home atop a hill as a beacon of hope which served the North Little Rock and Little Rock communities for almost a century.

When the Catholic Diocese of Little Rock considered selling the property in 2008, a group of concerned citizens formed St. Joseph Center of Arkansas, Inc. (SJCA) to assume fiscal and management responsibility while researching adaptive re-use options to make the property self-sustaining. Since the property's endangered listing, work has begun use surrounding land and part of the building as a farm and sustainable agriculture center. In February, the Historic Preservation Alliance and St. Joseph Center of Arkansas secured a grant from the National Trust to conduct an assessment and preservation plan for the structure. Addressing the building's issues and funding rehabilitation will be challenging, but with a firm plan in place, the outlook is positive for this landmark.

Notes

The Historic Preservation Alliance is the statewide non-profit organization dedicated to building stronger communities by reconnecting Arkansans to our heritage and empowering people to save and rehabilitate historic places.

The Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas is the only statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving Arkansas's architectural and cultural heritage. Founded in 1981, the Alliance has been the statewide voice for historic preservation for three decades.

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**Historic
Preservation
Alliance
of Arkansas**