

*Historic
Preservation
Alliance
of
Arkansas*



*2010 Awards
Banquet*



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Program

Reception

Dinner

Welcome

Alliance Board President Frances Ross

Awards Program

*Master of Ceremonies John Gill
Immediate Past President*

Recognition of Award Recipients

David Pryor

Theodosia Murphy Nolan Tribute

Mrs. Nolan's Preservation Legacy

Presentation of Parker Westbrook Award

Frances Ross

Acceptance

William Nolan

Closing Remarks

Vanessa McKuin



Speakers

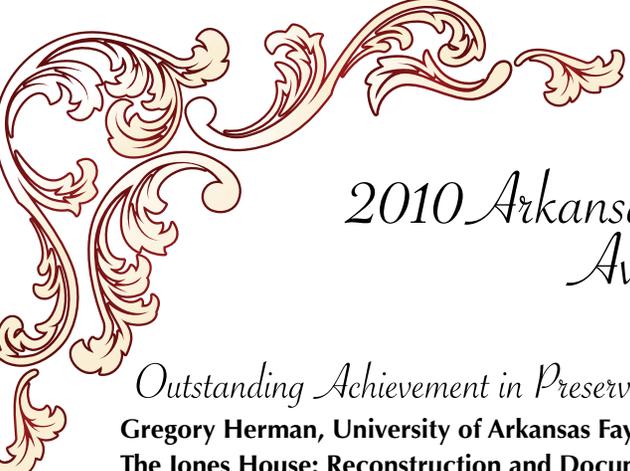
John P. Gill is a life-long Arkansas resident with degrees in history and law from Vanderbilt University, a retired Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, and a member of the Gill Elrod Ragon Owen & Sherman firm. In addition to his 45+ years of law practice, his experience includes Chairman of the Arkansas History Commission and President of the foundation that restored Little Rock's historic Curran Hall. Leader of the 2002 expedition that, for the first time in 187 years, crossed the base line of the Louisiana Purchase from the St. Francis River to the initial point for the first survey of the American West. Publications include *On the Courthouse Square* in Arkansas; *Post Masters*, *Arkansas Post Office Art* in the *New Deal*; *Journal of the Survey of the Baseline of the Louisiana Purchase* and *Open House*.

David Pryor has served Arkansas as member of the United States House of Representatives and United States Senate. Mr. Pryor served as Governor of Arkansas from 1975 to 1979 and as a member of the Arkansas House of Representatives from 1960 to 1966. Mr. Pryor has served as Director of the Institute of Politics at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts. He also served as the Founding Dean of the University of Arkansas Clinton School of Public Service. With the gift of funds and the contribution of his gubernatorial and congressional papers, Pryor helped establish the David Pryor Center for Oral and Visual History at the University of Arkansas. Mr. Pryor is the author of *A Pryor Commitment: The Autobiography of David Pryor*, published by Butler Center Books, (2008). Over the course of his career Mr. Pryor has received numerous awards and distinguished service presentations from virtually every nonprofit organization in the state, including the Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas. Senator Pryor received the Parker Westbrook Lifetime Achievement Award in 1996, a award that was also received by his mother, Suzie Pryor, in 1981, the year of the Alliance's founding.

Frances Mitchell Ross is a member of the Department of History at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. She is a past president of the Quapaw Quarter Association, the Arkansas Historical Association and past chair of the Capitol Zoning District Commission. Ross is a past president of the Historical Society of the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit and is completing work on a collection of biographical essays of judges of the U.S. District Courts of Arkansas, 1836-1960. She currently serves as chair of the Historic Arkansas Museum Commission and looks forward to working closely with the Preservation Alliance in 2011.

Vanessa Norton McKuin is the Executive Director of the Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas. An Arkansas native with family ties in South Arkansas and in the Ozark Mountains, McKuin holds a B.A. in Art from Hendrix College and an M.S. degree in Historic Preservation from Pratt Institute. After living in North Arkansas and New York City, Vanessa and her husband Tim are currently rehabilitating a 1902 Colonial Revival style home in Little Rock's Central High School Historic District.





2010 Arkansas Preservation Award Recipients

Outstanding Achievement in Preservation Education

Gregory Herman, University of Arkansas Fay Jones School of Architecture
The Jones House: Reconstruction and Documentation
Fayetteville

Honorable Mention:

Outstanding Achievement in Preservation Education

Lakresha Diaz, Oakland-Fraternal Cemetery Cell Phone Tour
Little Rock

Outstanding Service in Neighborhood Preservation

Reeds Bridge Preservation Society
Jacksonville

Special Citation: Excellence in Public Policy

City of Little Rock and Thomason and Associates
Little Rock Citywide Preservation Plan

Outstanding Preservation Reporting in the Media

Rex Nelson

Outstanding Work by a Craftsperson

William Looney Tavern
Randolph County

Excellence in Preservation through Rehabilitation

John French, Southern Bancorp CDC
eStem Charter School
Little Rock



Honorable Mention:

Excellence in Preservation through Rehabilitation

Jerry Holland, Cromwell Architects Engineers
Entergy Building
Little Rock

Excellence in Preservation through Restoration

- Large Scale -

Polk Stanley Wilcox Architects, Washington County Courthouse
Fayetteville

- Small Scale -

Selma Rosenwald School, Sheilla Lampkin and Bob Ware
Drew County

Excellence in Personal Projects

Harry Truman Moore
National Bank of Commerce Building
Paragould

Outstanding Achievement in Preservation Advocacy

John Wheeler and Bill Hawkins
Camden

Outstanding New Construction in a Historic Setting

Hillcrest Kroger
Little Rock

The Ned Shank Award for Outstanding Preservation Publication

Mary Kwas, Digging for History at Old Washington

Excellence in Heritage Preservation

City of Dumas Gospel Institute Masterplan

Parker Westbrook Award for Lifetime Achievement

Theodosia Murphy Nolan
El Dorado





The Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas

As Arkansas's only statewide nonprofit organization focused on preserving Arkansas's architectural and cultural resources, the Alliance has been educating, advocating and assisting preservation efforts across Arkansas since 1981. From educating lawmakers to assisting individual property owners, the Alliance is committed to protecting the many valuable heritage resources that make our state unique.

The Alliance's numerous educational programs include the quarterly Arkansas Preservation Digest, the annual Arkansas Preservation Conference and the Ramble tours of historic sites. The Alliance has effectively advocated for public sources of preservation funding and incentives, such as the Real Estate Transfer Tax and the Arkansas Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit. The Alliance assists local governments and historic downtown communities through administration of the federal Preserve America program in Arkansas and participation in the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program's Main Street Arkansas program—programs which promote historic preservation and heritage tourism as economic development tools. We hope that you will support the Alliance in these efforts by becoming a member and staying informed of our many programs and events which enrich the sustainability and quality of life in Arkansas.



Board of Directors

Class of 2010

*John Gill
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Parker Westbrook
Charles Witsell, Jr., FAIA*



30th Anniversary

The Alliance has been a voice for preservation in Arkansas for three decades. We see this milestone as an opportunity to not only examine our institutional history of the Alliance but to plan for the future to ensure that the Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas will continue to serve as the catalyst for historic preservation in Arkansas well into the future. Building on the legacy of revitalized neighborhoods, restored main streets, and an expanding preservation ethic, we will continue to work with communities around the state to promote historic preservation as a tool for creating and maintaining vital, sustainable communities. Our future, just as our past thirty years have, will depend on support from our members and supporters like you! Join us in celebrating the Alliance's 30th anniversary throughout 2011.

- May 5 Founders' Lunch
Honoring signers of the Articles of Incorporation
Carl Miller, Jr., Bobby Roberts, Kirby Smith III,
Parker Westbrook and Charles Witsell
- May 5-7 Arkansas Preservation Conference
Difficult Histories:
30 Years of Preserving a Richer Heritage in Arkansas
- Mid-May Most Endangered Places List Announcement
Preservation Libations friend-raising event
- Fall Historic Ramble tour of historic sites in Arkansas



Special Thanks

Susan Clark
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Catherine Johnson & Associates
AJvisuals - Andrea Johnson
Missy McSwain
Michael Mueller Productions
Madison Murphy
William C. Nolan
David Pryor
Frances Ross
Tom Whitehead

*Parker Westbrook Award
for Lifetime Achievement*

Theodosia Murphy Nolan
El Dorado



The Parker Westbrook Award recognizes significant individual achievement in historic preservation. It is the Alliance's only award for achievement in preservation over a period of years. The award may be presented to an individual, organization, business, or public agency whose activity may be of local, statewide, or regional importance.



From her earliest childhood trips to Louisiana to visit the family-owned Cherokee Plantation, historic places have inspired Theodosia Murphy Nolan to be an active participant in preservation efforts throughout the south.

Having served as a founding board member of the Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas and as commissioner of the Arkansas Arts Council for 20 years, Mrs. Nolan's contributions to preserving and enhancing Arkansas's culture and heritage are great.

Mrs. Nolan's generous support of restoration efforts of the Historic Washington Foundation in Washington, Arkansas, the Pike-Fletcher Terry Mansion (1840) and Trapnall Hall (1843) in Little Rock has helped preserve these important pieces of Arkansas's history and architectural heritage for future generations. Her careful stewardship of the Charles Thompson-designed home build in 1925 for her father, Charles H. Murphy, Sr. can also be counted among the significant preservation legacy that Mrs. Nolan continues to give to Arkansas.

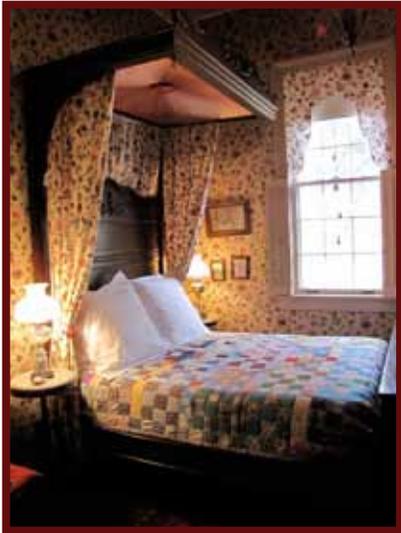


Mrs. Nolan was instrumental in the restoration of the oldest remaining house in El Dorado, the John Newton House (c. 1853). She gave her own time and resources and gathered support for the restoration of the building's chimneys. Along with her sister-in-law she donated funds and period furniture for the restoration of a room in memory of her mother. The John Newton House now serves as the headquarters for the South Arkansas Historical Foundation and occupies an important place in the community.



Mrs. Nolan has given her appreciation for the history of the area and her love of these special places on to her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren, demonstrated by the fact that each year members of her family join her in leading tours of Cherokee.

For her regional impact in preservation that spans over seven decades and a legacy of stewardship of some of the south's most valuable treasures, we are pleased to recognize Theodosia Murphy Nolan with the Lifetime Achievement Award.



Mrs. Nolan carefully restored and continues to maintain several significant properties on Cane River Lake in Louisiana. Cherokee Plantation, an excellent example of French Creole vernacular architecture from the 1830s and Melrose Plantation, the place to where beginnings of the Creole culture can be traced are two of the most remarkable places in the Cane River area. Mrs. Nolan also has instilled in her family a love of the historic landscape in Talla Bena, Louisiana where her family's care for the property has helped to preserve the Native American

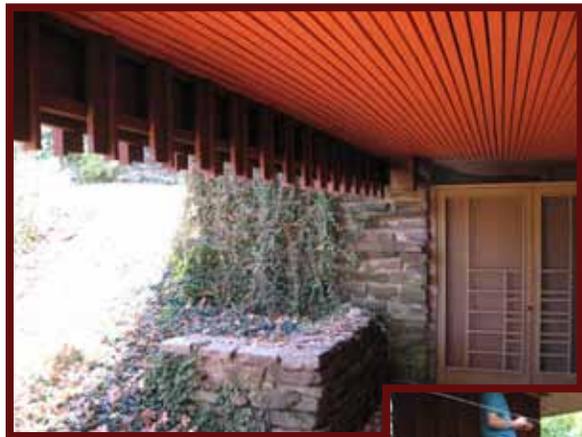
mounds and the Old Military Road.



Outstanding Achievement in Preservation Education

Professor Gregory Herman
Fay Jones School of Architecture
University of Arkansas

With students: Addison Bliss, Chloe Costello, Jillian Jung, Tyler Meenen, Sean Paquin, Anthony Parsons, Matt Poe, Adrienne Presley, Micah Szabo, Ginger Traywick, and Joseph Weishaar, and craftsman Tim Latourette



**The Jones House:
Documentation and
Restoration**
Fayetteville



The Outstanding Achievement in Preservation Education Award recognizes significant contributions to the cause of historic preservation in Arkansas through education.

When Fay Jones, a 1950 graduate of the University of Arkansas School of Architecture, rejoined the School in 1953 as a member of its faculty, he designed and constructed a house for his family. Utilizing ideas of space developed in the course of his own education and during his fellowship with Frank Lloyd Wright at Taliesin, Jones designed a small yet very open house that would be conducive to fresh ideas of how one lived, and would welcome nature into its midst. Completed in 1956, the house is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The first building bearing the architect's mature style, it is an icon of Ozark Modern architecture.

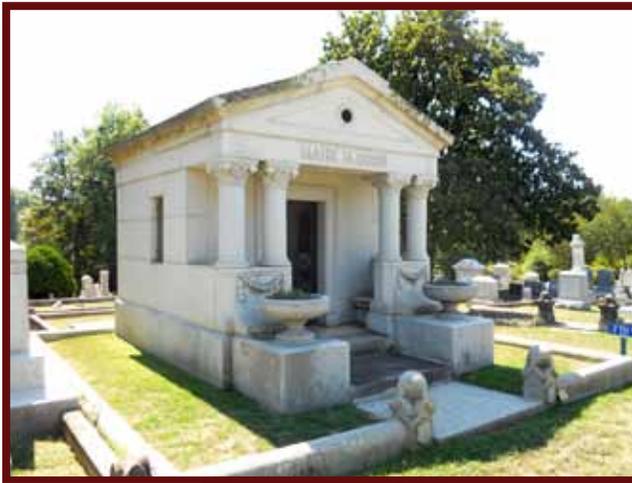


Since Jones's death in 2004, the house has received only deferred maintenance. As a result, some areas of the house were in particular need of repair. The School of Architecture, named in 2009 to honor Jones, spearheaded a course of action to preserve the house, and to make it an accessible structure for learning about Fay Jones, his 'organic' design, and mid-twentieth century modernism. This effort began in earnest last summer when architecture students, under the direction of Professor Gregory Herman carried out two primary tasks: Reconstruction of the terrace balustrade which had become dangerously degraded, and documentation of the Jones House to the exacting standards of the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS). Through these activities, the students not only developed an understanding of the processes of documentation and restoration, but, moreover, they garnered an appreciation for preservationist's obligation to protect the integrity of the architect's vision.

Combining the intensity of HABS documentation, with practical, hands-on experience and dedicated public outreach, the Jones House Documentation and Restoration, impressed the Awards Jury as a model of preservation education. Without question, the impact of the project will resonate in the work of the students, future architects who, through their participation in this project, will appreciate and understand the importance of treating historic building with care and respect.

*Honorable Mention
Outstanding Achievement in
Preservation Education*

Lakresha Diaz
Oakland-Fraternal Cemetery
Cell Phone Tour
Little Rock



The Outstanding Achievement in Preservation Education Award recognizes significant contributions to the cause of historic preservation in Arkansas through education.

By the early 1860s, public health concerns over private burials within the city limits, overcrowding at Mount Holly Cemetery, and the increasing number of soldiers dying in its hospitals during the Civil War prompted the City of Little Rock to seek additional land for a public cemetery. On December 31, 1862, the city purchased the 160-acre Starbuck Estate to address this dilemma. Named the Oakland-Fraternal Cemetery, the newly designated burial ground was located outside the city limits, surrounded by farmland. Today, it forms the southern boundary of the Hanger Hill neighborhood that Lakresha Diaz, owner of the National Register-listed Edward Reichardt House, calls home.

Dedicated to the improvement and preservation of the neighborhood, Diaz immediately became interested in the cemetery's history. Oakland-Fraternal Cemetery actually consists of seven separate cemeteries: Oakland Cemetery, National Cemetery, two Confederate Cemeteries, and two Jewish cemeteries (B'nai Israel, Reformed Jewish and Agudath Achim, Orthodox Jewish), and Fraternal Cemetery, an African-American burial place. Together, they contain more than 38,000 burials, 87 percent of which are historic. Diaz's research resulted in the designation of the cemetery on the National Register of Historic Places, but making its history of diversity and its vast collection of funerary art accessible to the public was on her agenda as well. To do so, Diaz authored the "Oakland-Fraternal Cemeteries: A Brief History and Tour," providing cemetery visitors with an easy-to-read guide as well as 73 biographical sketches of those interred at Oakland-Fraternal, and complemented the booklet with a website rich in maps, virtual tours, and photographs. Most importantly, Diaz was instrumental in obtaining grants from both the Arkansas Humanities Council and the National Endowment for the Humanities to fund Oakland-Fraternal Cemetery's new cell phone tour, which she developed with the assistance of various narrators. Since its launch in September 2010, the cell phone tour has generated significant publicity and interest in the cemetery's history and preservation.



The Awards Jury recognizes Lakresha Diaz for her efforts to promote and increase awareness of Oakland-Fraternal Cemetery by making the cemetery's history easily accessible to a general public that, increasingly, relies on the convenience and versatility of new electronic media.

Outstanding Service in Neighborhood Preservation

Reeds Bridge Preservation Society
Jacksonville



Outstanding Service in Neighborhood Preservation recognizes an activity or project that has made a significant contribution to an historic area in Arkansas.

The Battle of Reed's Bridge was fought during the 1863 Little Rock Campaign as Union soldiers tried to force their way south while Rebel Troops tried to protect the Capitol. The battle took place after Federal victories at Vicksburg, Mississippi and Helena, Arkansas, when U.S. forces began their march west toward Little Rock. A 6,000-man cavalry division under Gen. John W. Davidson intended to cross Bayou Meto, in what is now Jacksonville.

They clashed with 4,000 men under Confederate Gen. John S. Marmaduke as they neared Reed's Bridge. The bridge was burned and Marmaduke defended the crossing under heavy artillery and musket fire throughout the day. After several failed attempts at crossing the bayou, the Federals withdrew from the field at sunset.

During the weekend of September 11-12, 2010 the public was made aware of the historic significance of Reed's Bridge Battlefield, a property listed on the National Register of Historic Places, by witnessing the re-enactment of the August, 27, 1863 Civil War engagement along the Bayou Meto in Jacksonville. One hundred fifty federal and confederate troops along with living historians portrayed the gallant charge of the First Iowa Cavalry as they stormed across Reed's Bridge on that hot summer day in 1863 only to be repulsed by entrenched dismounted Confederate Cavalry.

500 spectators were present each afternoon to witness the exchange of canon fire, a flanking attack by Federal Cavalry, and precision troop movements of the Confederate troops who were outnumbered 2 to 1 in the original battle. The re-enactment included drill by the soldiers each day. A civil war wedding was held on Saturday on the back porch of the log cabin. A Civil War Era dance was held Saturday night and on Sunday, a period worship service was held in the morning. Each afternoon the Battle of Reed's Bridge was brought to life.

Most of those in attendance were not aware of the historical significance of the Military Road which crosses the Bayou Meto at Reed's Bridge or of the Battle that occurred in 1863. 1000 spectators left the battlefield with a greater understanding of the historic site and its role in Arkansas' history. Registered visitors included Arkansas residents as well as visitors from as far away as California.



Without the efforts of the Reed's Bridge Battlefield Preservation Society the event would not have been such a resounding success. For the re-enactment the members of the Society garnered the support of several public and private organizations, organized extensive media coverage, and produced high-quality materials to continue educating the public about the significance of the site. The attention that this program drew will aid in the continued preservation and appreciation of the site whose protection is threatened in this day of urban sprawl.

*Special Citation:
Excellence in Public Policy*

City of Little Rock and Thomason and Associates
Little Rock Citywide Preservation Plan



**Little Rock
Citywide
Historic
Preservation
Plan**

2009

**City of Little Rock
Planning and
Development
Department**

Thomason and Associates
The Walker Collaborative



The City of Little Rock partnered with Thomason and Associates to create the "Little Rock Historic Preservation Plan" in 2009. The Plan was funded with a federal Preserve America grant matched by local resources. City planner and Historic District Commission staff person, Brian Minyard, served as principal staff on the project and

worked with consultant Phil Thomason of Thomason and Associates and a local steering committee comprised of 14 representatives to help the consultant understand the nature of the historic preservation community in Little Rock and to identify the most important issues to cover in the Plan. The Steering Committee had representatives from the Capitol Zoning District Commission, Quapaw Quarter Association, the Little Rock Historic District Commission, Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, and local preservationists. Beginning in October 2008, the City of Little Rock hosted a series of three public meetings to discuss preservation issues and take input from citizens.

The Little Rock Preservation Plan is the first true preservation document in the city's history. The Little Rock Historic District Commission adopted it on October 13, 2009 and the Little Rock Board of Directors later approved the Plan on November 3, 2009. The Plan is a valuable resource for information about the existing historic neighborhoods and for neighborhoods or areas of the city that could have historical significance.

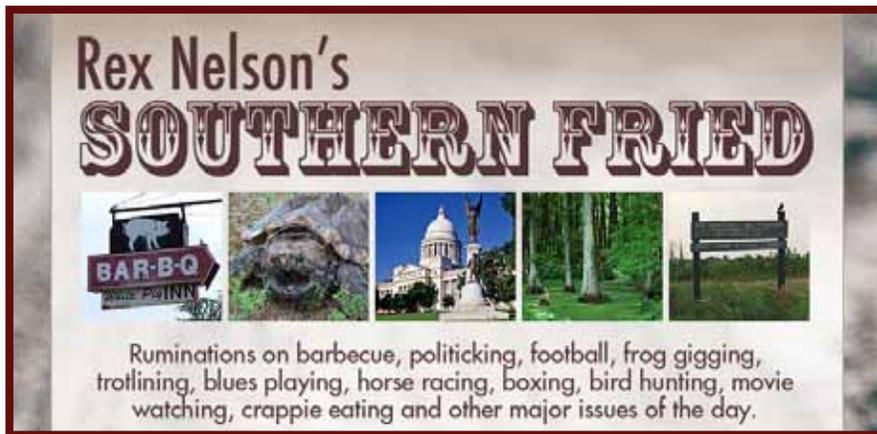
The final product is a well-organized, informative document, and it is already serving as an exceptional resource for the City of Little Rock. The public involvement in the drafting process, the public hearings at the historic District Commission and the Board of Directors, and the press coverage have all been instrumental in increasing interest in preservation projects within the City of Little Rock.

The combined efforts of the City of Little Rock staff, the Historic District Commission, and Thomason and Associates has resulted in Little Rock being one of the only cities in the State of Arkansas to have a completed Citywide Preservation Plan. As the largest city and the capital of the state of Arkansas, it is important for Little Rock to implement a Preservation Plan to help encourage preservation throughout the state.

Outstanding Preservation Reporting in the Media



Rex Nelson



Rex Nelson returned to the private sector again in 2008 from a life of journalism, politics and public service. No matter what career path he was following at the time, one theme remained constant - his love of Arkansas and its history. In a newspaper account late last year, Rex was called Arkansan-at-large by the Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas's 2008 media award recipient, Kane Webb.

Outstanding Preservation Reporting in the Media means something different in 2011 than it did in 1981. In the world of blogs, video blogs, Facebook, Twitter and whatever pops-up tomorrow, getting our message out is done differently than it was 30, even five years ago. Rex Nelson does it all.

His blog, RexNelsonSouthernFried.com is Arkansas heritage's biggest champion. Mr. Nelson has been a constant promoter of neighborhoods, small towns and the rich culture of the south via his Saturday columns in the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette. Through that outlet, he's worked to promote everything from the state's barbecue culture to the history of the Ozarks, to answering the question "Why the (Arkansas) Delta Matters?"

Mr. Nelson's advocacy, succinct prose style and passion for our state give credibility to his crusade. In terms of preservation of the historic built environment, his fight to save Ray Winder Field was epic and tireless. His formation of the Ray Winder Foundation, the mission of which is to ensure viability of this notable structure is a preservation effort as noble as any that have been undertaken in the state. His fight has led to a compromise with the city but it gives hope of what could happen in the next ten years. Aside from strict historic preservation, Nelson advocates for density (of which preservation is a key component) through his various columns advocating for the War Memorial area becoming a world-class city park..

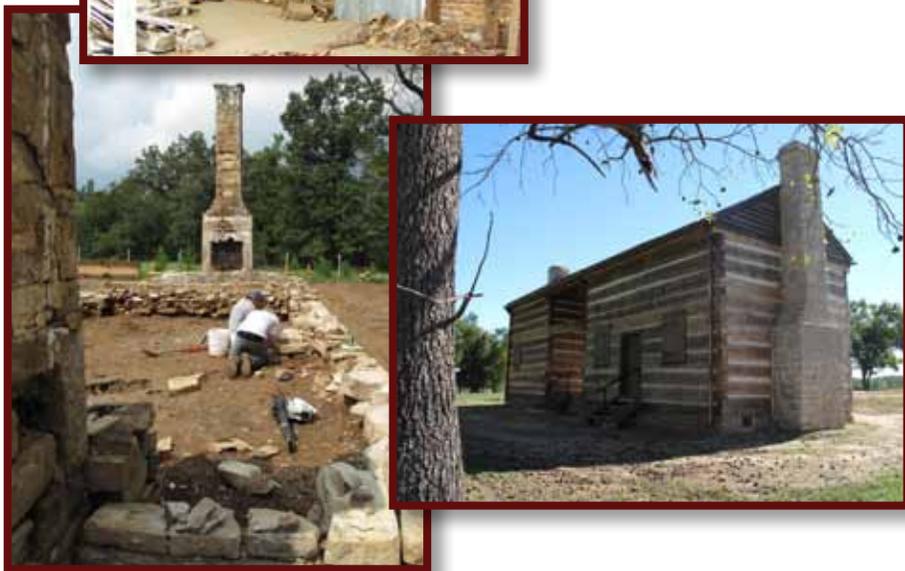
If you search for "preservation" on his blog you will find numerous specific entries, including significant pieces on the Lakeport Plantation, Old Washington and the Dreamland Ballroom. These columns and blog entries tell tales that make you want to visit our small towns and spend money in the grand buildings that often house our barbecue joints and catfish restaurants. The Alliance is proud to call him a friend and advocate.

Outstanding Work by a Craftsperson

William Looney Tavern

Randolph County

Eric Sammons, Log Specialist
Ben Hurd, Stonemason
JAMESON Architects, PA
Construction Network, INC
Ronnie Walker,
Construction Manager
Preservation Matters



William Looney moved from Northeast Arkansas from Tennessee in the early 1800s. He settled on a plot of land bordering the Eleven Point River, approximately 2 miles southeast of Dalton. He married, had 10 children and became a wealthy farmer with extensive apple orchards on the rolling hills of what is now Randolph County. Initially built in 1833 as a utilitarian dependency, the Looney Tavern served as an outbuilding dedicated to Looney's growing distilling industry. He is reputed to have produced up to 1500 gallons of apple brandy a year and, according to probate records, had 21.5 gallons in his possession in 1846 when he died, along with a large inventory of bedsteads. Thus are the origins of the tavern name and the pre-statehood date of interpretation. Only after his death in 1846, was the structure converted into a dwelling. Although the newly restored Looney Tavern is the only remaining historic structure on the homestead, there are downed chimneys, grave stones, and archaeological evidence showing that numerous structures once populated the area.

In 2006 Jack and Christina French donated the National Register listed William Looney Tavern to the Black River Technical College, where its restoration became the second phase of a multi-part education program called REACH-Researching Early Arkansas Cultural Heritage.

During reconstruction and after months of multidisciplinary review of historical, archaeological, and physical evidence, the decision was made to restore the structure to its earliest period. Given the number of lower logs slated for replacement and due to safety considerations, project proponents decided to disassemble the structure. The roof was braced and removed by crane, each log was numbered, unstacked, evaluated and sorted by level of intervention. Once the building was disassembled restoration began with the repair of the original dry stacked stone foundation and west pen cellar. Simultaneous to masonry work, new replacement logs were prepared so that restacking could begin as soon as the foundation work was complete. Each new log was hand hewn and notched to match the log it was to replace. Restoration of the Looney Tavern continued with restacking of the logs using approximately 60% of the original timbers. Once the lower eight courses of logs were restacked, the 2nd floor structure was craned back into place, as was the roof once all restacking was complete. The entire structure was re-chinked and daubed and new gable end siding fabricated to match the remaining original pieces. A new wood shingle roof was installed on the original stripping, and the east chimney was rebuilt from the shoulders up.

The project is noteworthy for the attention to archival and physical detail taken into consideration while planning the project as well as the level of detail exhibited during project execution. The caliber of craftsmanship that was employed to repair and replace with materials and techniques that are true to the time period and character of the original construction is most impressive.

Outstanding Work by a Craftsperson recognizes high-quality work that demonstrates an understanding of the principles and practice of preservation techniques on a specific project.

Excellence in Preservation Through Rehabilitation

Southern Bancorp, CDC
John French, President

eStem High Public Charter School/ Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

John French, President Southern Bancorp, CDC

John Bacon CEO, eStem Public Charter Schools

John Greer, Jr., AIA, Principal, WER Architect

Mason Ellis, Project Manager

Toni Wyre, ASID, Interior Design

Jerome Sorensen, AIA, Construction. Management

Van Tilbury, V.P., East-Harding Construction

Shawn Carroll, Project Manager

John Newkirk, Superintendent

Patrick Murray, Project Manager

Mike Nail, Superintendent



Excellence in Preservation through Rehabilitation recognizes projects that retain significant historic fabric but do not attempt to restore a structure to an earlier appearance. Special consideration is given to how new materials and design were integrated with historic fabric to make the project successful.

Since the eStem Charter school opened its elementary school years ago in the 1908 Arkansas Gazette building, the educational facility has been used on a national level by the National Trust for Historic Preservation as a shining example of community centered schools, both for its location in the heart of downtown Little Rock and its position in the community. eStem's addition of the middle school and high school again capitalized on an important building in Arkansas's history: the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis.

The Indiana limestone-clad Little Rock Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis was built in 1924 at the corner of 3rd Street and Louisiana in downtown Little Rock. Designed in the Neoclassical style by noted firm Thompson & Harding Architects, the building was a sign of significant financial development in Arkansas and it also helped to illustrate Little Rock's growing importance as a financial center. The interior reflects the monumental style of the exterior with rich marble flooring and decorative elements. The Bank was constructed adjacent to the existing Gem Theater, which burned in 1929 and was rebuilt as a 3-story concrete framed and brick structure, which became known as the Gem building and in 1959 was incorporated as vault and storage space for the bank. The Federal Reserve Bank was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1986.

The designers of the rehabilitation gave special attention to preserving the original historic materials from the 1924 construction, including the plaster ornamentation and marble floors and column wainscoting in the original bank lobby. Damaged plaster walls and ornamentation were replicated and repainted the original paint colors from 1924 giving a bright fresh new look to the building. Windows that were once bricked in on the Gem building have now been reopened to allow natural light to filter through each classroom space throughout the day.

With the help of Federal and State Historic Rehabilitation Tax credits, the Federal Reserve Bank and Gem buildings were given an exceptional renovation and restoration, providing the school 49,693 square feet, state-of-the-art learning space and new building systems. The school currently serves approximately 375 students in the 9th-11th grades with planned addition of 12th grade in the 2012-2013 year, bringing the total combined enrollment to 500 not including teachers and staff. The 21 high school classrooms include a chemistry lab, physics lab, art room, media center (library), multi-purpose room/cafeteria and support offices. Each classroom is equipped with 4 computer workstations, a built in audiovisual system complete with a 3D projector, screen, speakers, teacher workstations and a building wide wireless network. Technology in the classroom has always been a priority for eStem and this high school is no exception. This project demonstrates the potential for historic buildings to be state-of-the-art learning centers to engage generations of children to come.

*Honorable Mention
Excellence in Preservation
Through Rehabilitation*

Jerry Holland
Cromwell Architects Engineers
Energy Building
Little Rock



Excellence in Preservation through Rehabilitation recognizes projects that retain significant historic fabric but do not attempt to restore a structure to an earlier appearance. Special consideration is given to how new materials and design were integrated with historic fabric to make the project successful.

The “new” office building for the Arkansas Power and Light Company, designed in 1953 by the architect Fred Arnold of the Little Rock architectural firm of Wittenberg, Deloney and Davidson was the first building within the city of Little Rock to be designed in the International style. It was heralded at the time not only for its “modern” appearance, but also because it was one of the first buildings in Little Rock after the city had formally adopted the “Little Rock 1969” master plan for influencing new commercial design and encouraging private and public partnership toward the end of downtown beautification over the next ten years.

Over time several of the large marble sheets began to become deformed through the bowing of the marble. To address this potentially dangerous situation Energy Corporation, formerly Arkansas Power and Light, hired Jerry G. Holland of Cromwell Architects Engineers to oversee the replacement of the marble. After removing two of the panels from the south elevation of the building, it was found that the original marble panels were structurally inadequate which necessitated replacement of all marble panels.

Initial plans called for replacing the marble panels with a monochromatic aluminum panels, but there was concern that this drastic change would jeopardize the building’s National Register status. In consultation with the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Technical Assistance Coordinator, Brian Driscoll, Energy and their architect, Jerry Holland, elected to replace the existing marble panels while retaining the style, aesthetics, and function of the original panels.

In addition to identifying several suppliers of aluminum honeycomb panels designed for structural strength with a marble veneer facing, the project architect discovered that the Georgia Pearl Grey marble, original to the building, was still being produced from the same quarry. Though much more costly, Energy decided to replace the failing marble panels with the veneer marble panels instead of the monochromatic aluminum panels. This decision was consistent with the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Rehabilitation of Historic Properties. The property possesses material integrity, is no longer a danger and maintains National Register listing.

The benefit of the collaborative effort of Energy Corporation and Architect Jerry Holland with assistance from the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program to go the extra mile to ensure preservation of significant historic elements is epitomized in this important contemporary resource.

*Excellence in Preservation
Through Restoration
-Large-scale-*

Polk Stanley Wilcox Architects
Washington County Courthouse
Fayetteville



Excellence in Preservation through Restoration recognizes projects in which a primary goal was returning a structure to a documented earlier appearance. The jury considers efforts to retain the integrity of the structure and the process involved in achieving the result, including research, and solutions chosen to problems presented by modern mechanical intrusion, meeting code requirements, etc.

Designed by noted Little Rock architect Charles Thompson and constructed in 1904-05, the Washington County Courthouse was named to the National Register of Historic Places in 1972. One of a number of county courthouses designed by Thompson, this building is an excellent example of the Richardson Romanesque style. Unfortunately, the exterior and interior had been compromised by inappropriate repairs, modernizations and replacement of materials.

In 2007, following a detailed survey of existing conditions, the architects prepared drawings and specifications for the exterior restoration. All exterior masonry surfaces were carefully cleaned and joints were re-pointed to match the historic mortar. Badly deteriorated stone surfaces at the building base required the application of a consolidation treatment to prevent further damage. Original wood windows were restored and inappropriate windows from an earlier renovation were replaced. The side porches were restored to their original appearance and use. The extensive work also included restoration of fire escapes and railings, deteriorated portions of metal cornice, downspouts and roof flashings.

The interior restoration began in 2009 and was completed in September of 2010. All inappropriate materials added over the years to the original design were removed. Restoration efforts were focused on the public circulation spaces and the third floor courtroom. During the restoration, the original wall paint color was uncovered and used throughout. Antique heart pine wainscots, doors and trim were repaired with recovered old-growth material refinished to match existing. Mosaic ceramic "penny tile" flooring was cleaned and repaired using custom-made tiles.

A second floor mural painted in 1920 as a memorial to Washington County men who served in World War I was cleaned and sealed by conservators and highlighted by new recessed lighting.

The third floor courtroom had been subdivided into two courtrooms years ago, the balcony removed and a dropped lay-in ceiling with recessed fluorescent lighting installed. The courtroom, believed to be the largest in the state, was restored to its original size and position as was the balcony above. Since the original metal ceiling was removed in an earlier "modernization" process, a new metal ceiling was installed at the original 22 foot height. Because proceedings from this courtroom are often televised, the project required the careful integration of audio/visual systems together without compromising the space.

The beautifully restored courthouse provides a courtroom and supporting facilities for Circuit Judge Mary Ann Gunn, offices for County archivist Tony Wappel and as a repository for county records dating back to the 1830s.

*Excellence in Preservation
Through Restoration
- Small-scale -*

Sheilla Lampkin and Bob Ware
Selma Rosenwald School
Drew County



The story of the restoration of the Selma Rosenwald School began in 2002 when the National Trust for Historic Preservation listed Rosenwald Schools on their 11 Most Endangered List. Through the efforts of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program a statewide survey to identify surviving Rosenwald Schools was undertaken, and the Selma Rosenwald School was discovered. In 2005, the Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas listed Rosenwald Schools in Arkansas in its statewide list of endangered places, bringing more attention to the priceless resources.

Built in 1924, the two-room school cost \$2,275 to build with \$500 coming from the local Black community, \$1,075 coming from public funds, and \$700 coming from the Rosenwald Fund. Today, the Selma Rosenwald School is the only surviving Rosenwald School in Drew County.

A group of Drew County residents, led by Sheilla Lampkin, began the effort to restore the Selma Rosenwald School back to its original 1924 appearance. Unsympathetic alterations to the building, most notably the alteration of window openings and reconfiguration of the front facade to turn the building into a Masonic lodge, had compromised the building's original design. Working from historic photos of the building along with the original plan of the building in the Rosenwald Fund Archives at Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee, the Selma Community Center Board Members pursued grants to help in the restoration of the building.

Two grants from the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program's Historic Preservation Restoration Grant program in 2007 and 2008 totaling \$27,182 plus a \$50,000 grant from the Lowe's Preservation Fund in 2009 - the only school in Arkansas to receive such funding - helped the Selma Community Center Board realize its goals. The grant funding that the local residents received allowed them to work with architect Gary Clements of North Little Rock to complete several aspects of the exterior restoration. Replacing shifting foundation piers and replacing siding as necessary have been two tasks undertaken. However, they have also used the funding to restore the building's front facade to its original appearance and to reconstruct the missing windows on the building's rear facade. In addition, a wheelchair ramp has been added to make the building more accessible to the community. Other site improvements have included a new picnic pavilion to allow outdoor community gatherings. Other grants from the Arkansas Department of Rural Services and Southeast Arkansas Economic Development District will allow completion of the rehabilitation and modernization of the building's interior.

To celebrate the completion of the exterior restoration of the Selma Rosenwald School, a celebration attended by approximately 100 people was held on October 23, 2010. Speeches by board members, former students, representatives of the Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas, Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, Lowe's, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation, along with a skit about the Selma Rosenwald School presented by local children and a barbecue lunch highlighted the day, which was a true community celebration.

Excellence in Personal Projects

Harry Truman and Linda Lou Moore National Bank of Commerce Building Paragould



The Excellence in Personal Projects award recognizes the achievement of individuals in preserving, rehabilitating, or restoring structures for their own use. At the time of nomination, the project should be substantially complete. Nominations for this award should focus on the completed project, the process involved, and the owner/user's specific efforts and contributions to the project.

Harry Truman (H.T.) Moore purchased the long neglected historic National Bank of Commerce building in the "One and Only" Downtown Paragould in 2009. Built in 1923 and listed as a contributing structure to the downtown commercial district, this classic revival style structure had seen better days. Moore, a local attorney, has long been in love with downtown. He is an amateur historian and wanted to make a difference in his community. He's put a great deal of love, time and money into a building that had been inappropriately altered over the years and has now brought it back to life.

Although some contractors recommended sandblasting the exterior, Moore ordered environmentally approved cleaning solvents to be gently used to address the muck and grime that had grown on the structure. On the south side of the exterior, the exposed brick was cleaned and tuck-pointed. Interior walls, with a lattice-work "ceiling," were inappropriately installed somewhere along the line. They've since been removed and in their place, multiple bookcases are used to house the law library which dates to the original firm founded 121 years ago.

When the worn carpet was removed, another piece of history was found - the original terrazzo floor. The uncovered floor featured multiple patterns which are believed to have delineated the original bank teller area, waiting area and office area. The floor was professionally cleaned and restored. Only one heavily damaged area required the installation of replacement tiles which were found with the help of the Main Street Arkansas interior design consultant. The marble walls and ledges below the downstairs windows were restored. Two places were found to be damaged almost beyond repair were able to be replaced with marble from the original construction that had been in storage since 1923.

Upon cleaning the bank's barrel-vaulted ceiling, beautiful medallions with Mercury head dimes denoting U.S. currency along with intricate feathers depicting Native American currency were revealed. The historic paint colors for the walls and the moldings and the ceiling were painstakingly re-mixed seven times to find the correct shades for the interior of the building.

The west mezzanine of the bank, originally the board room, now houses H.T Moore's personal office. The mezzanine office features multiple antique pieces which help display Moore's collection of historical political memorabilia.

The top floor, which housed the law firm's predecessors from 1923 to 1964, features loft apartments which add vibrancy to the historic downtown. The apartments were built in compliance with fire code standards which were enacted during the course of construction and feature a state of the art fire and security system, including keyless entry locks and video surveillance. The custom tile floors were designed by a Main Street Arkansas consultant.

The building is frequently the site of charity events hosted by the Moores. Thanks to the Moores' commitment, it has become quite the hub in the bustling "One and Only" historic downtown Paragould.

Outstanding Achievement in Preservation Advocacy

John Wheeler and Bill Hawkins
Camden



Photo courtesy of the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette

The award for Outstanding Achievement in Preservation Advocacy recognizes individuals, publications, organizations, etc. that have had a strong impact on preservation through advocacy efforts and have made a notable contribution to championing the cause of preservation.

Few people have done more for preservation advocacy in Camden than John Wheeler and Bill Hawkins. Beginning in 1997, the two Camden residents have completed architectural surveys and National Register nominations for two neighborhood historic districts in Camden - the Clifton-Greening Historic District and the Washington Street Historic District - and they have purchased and restored several properties in the districts.

When they noticed that the historic neighborhoods to the west of downtown Camden were deteriorating due to several factors in the 1980s and 1990s, Hawkins and Wheeler sprang into action. Both had family connections to Camden, including some of the town's settlers, and they decided to do something to save the community. They began by buying some of the properties and starting restoration of them. Wheeler's first purchase was the 1890 Greening House, which was purchased for \$34,000. Today, Wheeler owns or has shares in 15 houses in the Clifton-Greening Historic District, while Hawkins has five other properties.

However, it was not just through purchasing properties that Wheeler and Hawkins brought recognition to the neighborhoods. In 1997, they completed an architectural survey and National Register nomination for the Clifton-Greening Historic District, which was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1998. Further work by Wheeler and Hawkins led to two boundary increases to the district in 2001 and 2007. The first increase encompassed the Lato Duplexes, which have since been restored.

Hawkins and Wheeler then undertook the huge process of surveying and nominating the Washington Street Historic District, which encompasses many of Camden's architectural masterpieces, to the National Register. Their hard work again paid off with National Park Service approval and listing of the district on January 22, 2010.

However, now that they have finished work on the Washington Street Historic District, they are not content to sit back and relax. The recent purchase of the property at 140 California Street will be their next project. An example of the small duplexes built in the 1940s to accommodate war-time workers at the Schumaker Naval Ammunition Depot in East Camden, the property is a prime candidate for restoration. Chances are that the Clifton-Greening Historic District boundary will also be increased again in the future to encompass the property.

Rather than sit on the sidelines and watch their community deteriorate, Bill Hawkins and John Wheeler take a hands-on approach in saving and restoring the areas of Camden that are important to them. Although it has not been easy - as preservation rarely is - the results are spectacular. For more than two decades Wheeler and Hawkins have been true advocates for Camden, a role that has paid off in dividends way beyond their imaginations.

Outstanding New Construction In a Historic Setting

Hillcrest Kroger



The Outstanding New Construction in a Historic Setting recognizes contemporary buildings located within an historic context, including a major addition to an historic building. The project is expected to respect and complement the historic integrity of its setting. Nominations should focus on significant aspects of the historic setting and the manner in which the contemporary design acknowledges and complements them.

The Beechwood Kroger store in Little Rock is a model of neighborhood cooperation. Early in their plans to expand the popular grocery, Kroger's leaders approached the Hillcrest Residents Association with plans for a modest footprint expansion (a few thousand square feet) that would have moved the western exterior wall of the store closer to the street and caused the loss of several trees. When the immediately affected neighbors objected, Kroger withdrew its proposal and modified their plans to provide for a far more limited footprint expansion (eliminating a covered exterior area in front of the store) and communicated with the neighbors and Residents Association about their plans.

The store is on a relatively small lot in the core of the Hillcrest neighborhood, a National Register Historic District, nestled by residential streets and historic commercial buildings. Built in the 1970s the previous store lacked the distinctive character that Hillcrest generally brings to mind.

The new store was designed by the Roark Perkins Perry Yelvington, also known as the RPPY Architects firm. David W. Perry, AIA served as the principal architect. A native Arkansan and a resident of the Hillcrest area, David used the historic neighborhood, one of Little Rock's most popular, as inspiration for the design of this neighborhood store.

The Hillcrest Kroger was closed for nine months in 2010 while the \$5.5 million renovation was completed, creating buzz and anticipation throughout the construction period. The renovation addressed both the interior and exterior of the store. The goals of the project were to "maximize the amount of square feet on the restricted site, improve the shopping experience, and utilize details found in the fabric of the surrounding Hillcrest neighborhood," according to architect Perry. The architects drew on and incorporated elements of the neighborhood's characteristic Craftsman-style residences and historic commercial buildings.

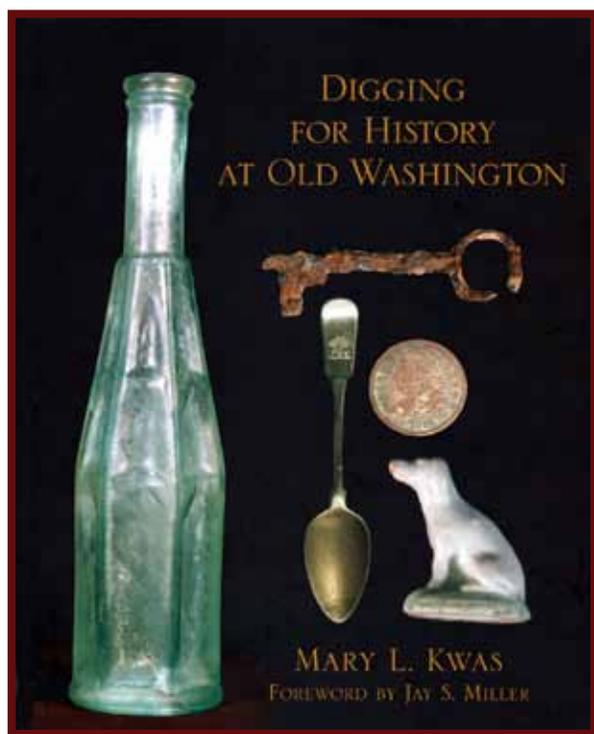
The jury was impressed by the use of tile on the roof, which is similar to surrounding buildings as well as by the attention paid to the columns and pilasters that were designed with similar proportions to Bungalow porches in the neighborhood. The entry design is similar to the entry of nearby restaurant "The Afterthought," which is in a historic Charles Thompson-designed commercial building. Exterior wall materials and colors as well as windows are designed to reflect those elements found in surrounding residences. The exterior colors of the building are reflective of the residences.

This Kroger corporation and RPPY Architects are commended for the construction of the Beechwood Kroger store in a style which adds to the neighborhood. The engagement of the neighborhood during the design and the construction of the building make the Hillcrest Kroger an excellent example of service to neighborhood and community.

The Ned Shank Award for Outstanding Preservation Publication

Mary Kwas

Digging for History at Old Washington



The Ned Shank Award for Outstanding Preservation Publication combines excellence in writing with preservation achievement. It recognizes authors, editors, and publishers who write or create books or significant journal articles about preservation in Arkansas. Publications may document a particular preservation project, profile a person or group active in preservation, or discuss general preservation themes and issues.

Mary Kwas' achievement is demonstrated in her richly detailed resume which shows her to be both an experienced author and an educator with extensive works accomplished to date. Two recent books are her highest attainment to date: *Digging for History at Old Washington*, (University of Arkansas Press, Fayetteville, 2009) and the forthcoming *The Old State House*, a thorough and well-illustrated history of Arkansas's first statehouse to be released this spring by the University of Arkansas Press.

In *Digging for History at Old Washington*, Mary Kwas, a member of the staff of the Arkansas Archaeological Survey, brings together the scholarship of an experienced archaeologist, rich research finds and the quality of presentation of a career educator. *Digging for History at Old Washington* puts the archaeological work at Washington in the context of its history and architecture, creating a book that informs and captures the reader. Three sites are described in the book: the Abraham Block House (1832), the Sanders House (1840s) and the 1836 Courthouse and Clerk's Office. Archeology is illustrated by photographs of the excavations in progress, by selections of artifacts and by mapping the findings of the artifacts and features. History is illustrated by portraits and photographs of the occupants and architecture is demonstrated by the restored (or reconstructed) buildings shown in color photographs of excavation sites and fascinating findings at Historic Washington State Park engage anyone who picks up this book.

Kwas devotes chapters to explaining the context of Washington and the importance of archaeology at a historic park. In subsequent chapters, Kwas details findings at each of the sites where excavation took place. Finally, the text is completed by an extensive "Bibliographic Essay and List of References" and a useful index.

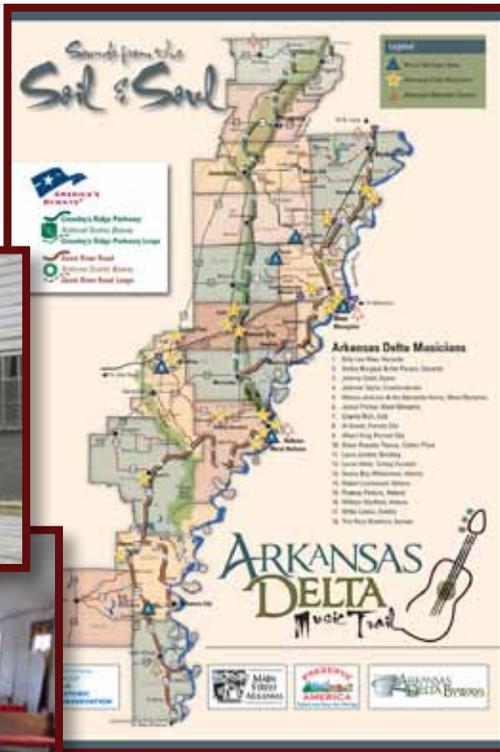
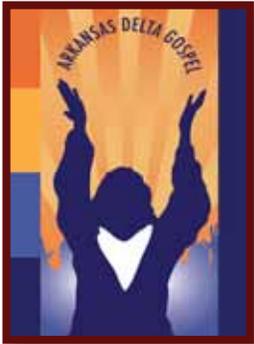
Digging for History at Old Washington fills a long-standing gap in discussions of Arkansas history. Mary's original research, her ability to assemble disparate existing treatments of the topic and her superb writing skills combine to make a timely publication that appeals to professional historians and lay readers alike.



Fig. 2.5. The brick paving excavated at the Sanders House by Arkansas Archaeological Society members is an example of an archaeological feature. Courtesy of Arkansas Archaeological Survey

Excellence in Heritage Preservation

City of Dumas Dumas Gospel Institute Master Plan



The Excellence in Heritage Preservation award recognizes Preserve America communities or organizations in designated communities that have proven their commitment to the preservation of their historic, cultural, and natural heritage and strive to meet the goals of Preserve America: a greater knowledge of the nation's past, strengthened regional identities and local pride, increased local participation in preserving cultural and natural heritage assets, and support for the economic vitality of our communities.

Many of Arkansas's cities and towns have embraced their rich architectural and cultural heritage, but few have done as much as Dumas: a Preserve America Community, Arkansas Main Street Community and an active participant in the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Rural Heritage Development Initiative (RHDI).

For the past several years Main Street Dumas, the city of Dumas and several other partners have been working to develop the Delta Gospel Institute. They have secured a building, completed a master plan and are seeking funding to implement the plan. Gospel Music originated in the Delta but has not been interpreted in the Arkansas Delta or surrounding states. Many significant artists have come from Desha County and southeast Arkansas. Main Street Dumas and its partners saw an opportunity to start a Gospel Institute in Dumas, Arkansas, that will contribute to the African American Heritage Trail and other music and heritage based tourism initiatives in the area. The Desha County Museum and RHDI secured, moved, and later stabilized the deconsecrated Pickens Baptist Church on the museum grounds to house the institute. It is located on Arkansas Highway 65, making it eligible for funding through the National Scenic Byways program.

In 2008, Main Street Dumas was awarded a Preserve America grant to develop a Gospel Institute Master Plan. Among their partners to raise the match and guide the process were Desha County Museum, Desha Forward, the City of Dumas, Arkansas Delta Byways, Rural Heritage Development Initiative, the Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas and Main Street Arkansas, making this truly a collaborative effort.

The group hired Noble Erickson from Denver, Colorado to meet with community leaders, stakeholders and musicians in the area to develop a plan. The master plan has three components: plans for the rehabilitation of Pickens Baptist Church as the gospel institute, an educational component, and the economic impact the institute will have on Dumas and the surrounding areas. The steering committee was mindful to consider the sustainability of the project throughout the planning process and is already seeking funding from multiple sources. The citizens of Dumas, Arkansas embraced the rich history and heritage of the area and are using limited resources available to create a unique destination showcasing an aspect of the Delta that is truly distinctive.

The Delta Gospel institute will attract heritage tourists and will be connected to musical destinations in Little Rock, Helena, Memphis and Clarksdale. Dumas sets a fine example for how other rural towns can use their unique histories and promote regional tourism.

Theodosia Murphy Nolan



*recipient of the
Parker Westbrook Award
for Lifetime Achievement*