

Can you guess which St. Louis building this architectural detail is from? Test your knowledge with our column, Elements Page 2 >>>

# Landmarksletter

## The Summer of Our Discontent>>

On June 21st, the official start of summer, the first in a series of proposed demolitions in the St. Louis metropolitan area came to light. The former Del Taco at 212 South Grand was deemed blighted and in need of demolition by the St. Louis Land Clearance and Redevelopment Authority (LCRA). Three weeks later, the Rock Hill Planning and Zoning Commission passed an ordinance paving the way for the



demolition of the 166 year old Rock Hill Presbyterian Church for a gas station. Finally, on July 7th, the St. Louis Planning Commission voted in favor of a zoning change giving the green light for developers to raze the 1976 AAA Building on Lindell Boulevard. These three demolitions, along with others that are covered in the "Most Endangered" section, generated much public outcry throughout the city and county.

### 212 South Grand

212 South Grand, designed by Richard Hemni of Schwarz and Van Hoefen, was originally constructed in 1967 as a gas station for the Council Plaza development. Listed as a National Register District in 2007, the complex was constructed between 1964 and 1968 by the Teamster Local 688 as a complete community intended to serve the city's elderly population.

The future of the flying saucer on South Grand was placed in jeopardy by a recent study executed by the LCRA identifying one or more criteria which could qualify the former gas station as blighted and insanitary. The findings were placed in an ordinance (Board Bill 118) which circumvented the due process of review by the Cultural Resource Office (CRO) prior to the demolition of historic buildings. During public testimony at the bill's introduction, Landmarks Association and nearly a dozen

citizens raised concerns about the content of the bill and questioned the blighting designation. Despite the opposition, the bill passed the first reading by a 5-2 vote.

At the second reading, several aldermen including Ogilvie, Cohn and Florida worked with Alderwoman Davis to amend the bill to require review by the CRO prior to approval of a demolition permit. The amended bill was passed and carried to a third and final reading by the full Board of Aldermen on July 8th. Following intense lobbying from concerned constituents, aldermen began to defect from the tradition of aldermanic courtesy. Several aldermen stated they agreed with the bill, but due to the uproar of opposition, they felt obligated to heed the will of their constituencies. In the end, the bill with amendments passed the Board of Alderman by a 15-9 vote.

The onslaught of protests coupled with the interest of Pi Pizzeria and Kaldi's Coffee as potential tenants, resulted in a stay of demolition for 212 South Grand. The developer, Rick Yackey, appears to be temporarily backing down from his plans to raze the building for new construction and recently expressed his willingness to explore feasible alternatives before applying for a demolition permit.

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## LANDMARKS ASSOCIATION OF ST. LOUIS, INC.

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Landmarks Letter is the official publication of Landmarks Association of St. Louis, Inc. for its members and friends. Opinions expressed in articles are those of the Editor and contributors and do not necessarily represent the opinion of the Board or membership of Landmarks Association. Please address all correspondence, comments and inquiries to the Editor.

### Elements >>



The detailed image of a cocktail glass featured on the front cover is a portion of the neon sign promoting Uncle Bill's Pancake and Dinner House located at 3427 South Kingshighway. The sign was crafted and assembled in 1961 for Bill Ernest, the restaurant's namesake, after he purchased the property. Composed of electrified glass tubes filled with rarified neon, the sign at Uncle Bill's is an example of an extremely popular form of advertising at the end of its heyday.

Neon signage is virtually unchanged since its inception at the Paris Motor Show by Georges Claude in 1910. An engineer by trade, Claude developed neon signage to exploit the neon gas produced as a byproduct of his air liquefaction business. Realizing the economic possibilities of a business based on the production of neon signage, Claude launched Claude Neon. Soon, his glowing glass tubes adorned the built environment of Paris. Neon signs debuted in the United States in 1923 when Los Angeleno Earle Anthony purchased two signs reading "PACKARD" from Claude Neon for his car dealership. This nascent innovation dominated advertising for nearly 50 years. The invention was used by business owners attempting to attract new customers to their stores. Owners sought to "intensify" their aging buildings with modern technology to adapt to the needs of their clients. These fragile glass tubes essentially became building materials in new construction

during the mid-twentieth century. Giant marquees adorned with an assortment of neon colors were intended to capture the attention of potential customers and convey messages to the public. At the time of the installation of the Uncle Bill's sign, neon signage was falling out of favor. The cost of repairing and recharging the fragile tubes coupled with the commercialization of fluorescent lighting created a decline in neon sign production.



The half-timbered, Tudor Revival commercial building occupied by Uncle Bill's was actually constructed for another

Bill 28 years prior. St. Louis native, William Medart opened the establishment as Medart's Log Cabin. The restaurant, which only served hamburgers, was a spin-off of his highly successful stand known as The Cottage. Located at the intersection of Clayton Road and Skinker Boulevard, Medart's Cottage evolved into the present Cheshire Inn. Before opening The Cottage in 1931, Medart was living in Hollywood, California working as an insurance salesman. During his travels across the city, Medart noticed the popularity of the roadside hamburger stand. Precursors to fast food, these stands were housed in old street or rail cars. They were typically situated on main thoroughfares near industrial areas catering to the working class during their lunch breaks. At the dawn of the Great Depression, Medart returned to St. Louis with his new Hollywood starlet wife and transplanted the stands he saw in California to his hometown. Medart's two restaurants were hugely successful. His newfound fortune enabled the Medarts to take lavish trips around the world. During a trip to Paris in 1951, Medart fell to his death from a fourth story window at the Continental Hotel. His widow continued the operation of both enterprises until she sold Medart's Log Cabin to the DiFranco Restaurant, Inc. The DiFrancos briefly owned the property before selling it to Bill Ernest in 1957. 0

## Route 66 Bridge Update

The Meramec River (Route 66) Bridge in St. Louis County was recently awarded a National Park Service – Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program grant for \$15,000. The grant has been generously matched with \$15,000 from Great Rivers Greenway (St. Louis) and an additional \$15,000 from Great River Associates (Springfield). The funds will be used to complete a Historic Structures Report for the bridge – a critical step in the master planning effort to stabilize the bridge for future rehabilitation. The bridge, which is on the National Register of Historic Places, was closed in 2009 and slated for demolition.

A grass-roots movement to save the bridge has secured more than \$50,000 for long-term management; but the property remains without secured ownership. Additional funding is sought for the phased stabilization and restoration work ahead. If you would like to make a donation to help preserve this unique structure which remains on Missouri Preservation's "Most Endangered Properties" list, please do so by sending your contribution to Landmarks, which serves as fiscal agent of the bridge.

### >The Summer of Our Discontent continued...

### **Rock Hill Presbyterian Church**

The City of Rock Hill Board of Aldermen met on the evening of July 5th to consider the adoption of Bill 1807. The bill would repeal a municipal code pertaining to a limitation on the number of gas stations in the city. Adoption of this bill would allow the demolition of the Rock Hill Presbyterian Church and the third relocation of the 1839 Fairfax House for a U-Gas filling station and car wash. Before the discussion and adoption of any bill occurred, the public was allowed to speak regarding any items on the agenda. Four individuals, including representatives from Landmarks Association, spoke in opposition to the bill. After a rebuttal from the attorney for U-Gas, Bill 1807 passed the Board of Alderman by a 5-1 vote.

The following evening, The Rock Hill Planning and Zoning Commission met to discuss the site plan and architectural review for the new gas station. Similar to the previous night, the public was allowed to comment. Among the five individuals voicing opposition was Harold Schnedler, former pastor of the church. Schnedler, who traveled from his home in Keosauqua, lowa, pleaded for preservation of the church. He equated the selling of the church by the Presbytery for monetary gain to the biblical story of Esau giving his birthright to his brother Jacob for a bowl of soup.

The deliberation of the site plan and future of the church was interrupted by the city attorney who came as a spectator. He suggested the board meet in a closed session to mitigate the contention amongst themselves. During the closed meeting, an amendment was created stipulating that the church would remain for six months. During this time, a plan could be devised to save and relocate the building. If the church is not moved to

a new location within six months, U-Gas has to give the city thirty days notice before demolishing the building. The amended site plan was approved by all commissioners with the exception of one abstention.

### **AAA Building**

The final disgrace was the passage of a zoning ordinance initiating a plan to demolish the American Automobile Association (AAA) Building at 3917 Lindell Avenue. AAA, owner of the property, reached an agreement with Indianapolis developer Gershman, Brown and Crowley to raze the distinctive building for a CVS pharmacy.

The proposed project was supported by Alderman Terry Kennedy of the 18th Ward, where the AAA Building is located. When the ordinance was introduced to the St. Louis Planning Commission, Commissioner Ivy Pinkston questioned the developers on reusing the current building as a CVS. The developers stated that the company has a standard prototype it uses for all of its stores and was not inclined to retrofit the building. Assistant to the Mayor, Patrick Brown and Chairwoman Susan Stauder also opposed the plan. After nearly 90 minutes of debate, the measure was passed 5-3.

In 1976, the AAA hired architect W.A. Sarmiento to design a branch office for their company in the Central West End. A native of Peru, Sarmiento had previously worked as the head designer for the Bank Building and Equipment Corporation (BBEC) from 1951 to 1961. During his employment with the BBEC, Sarmiento designed banking institutions across the United States. Once his tenure was complete, Sarmiento started his own practice in St. Louis. Sarmiento practiced in St. Louis until moving to California in 1978.

equated the selling of the church by the Presbytery for monetary gain to the biblical story of Esau giving his birthright to his brother Jacob for a bowl of soup."

The AAA Building is not located within a historic district or preservation review district which would authorize a review of any application of a demolition permit by the CRO. Due to public dissent through e-mails and phone calls, Alderman Terry Kennedy has stated that he is currently not satisfied with the proposed plan of demolition. Rather than endorse the plan as is, he has stated that he welcomes the interest CVS has in the area and thinks that there are benefits to having one of their stores in the community, but that CVS must meet the residents' vision for the area and address their concerns.

The proposed demolitions are terribly upsetting to preservationists and those people who simply value history and unique environments. Fortunately, many of our elected officials so far have been responsive to public comment. Please continue to call your representatives in the respective city governments and let them know about your appreciation of the built environment and your support of adaptive reuse.

## Most Endangered



### 212 South Grand Avenue

The "flying saucer" of South Grand, constructed in 1967, originally housed a gas station and is one of four contributing buildings in the Council Plaza Historic District. On June 21st, the building was deemed blighted by the St. Louis Land Clearance and Redevelopment Authority. This designation paved the way for demolition of 212 South Grand without review by the Cultural Resource Office (CRO). After a tremendous outcry from the general public, the bill allowing the demolition of the building was amended stipulating review by the CRO.



### 4722 Tennesee

This dwelling was likely constructed c. 1873 after Frank Ambs purchased the lot where it stands and several others in the surrounding South St. Louis Suburb Subdivision. This dwelling's central passage form and the fact that it is an early building of frame construction make it a rare property type in the City of St. Louis. The owner of the property, New Life Evangelical Center, is seeking to sell the land and the realtor believes that demolishing the home would make the property more marketable.



### **AAA Building**

A building permit was issued in 1976 to the American Automobile Association (AAA) for the construction of a one story commercial building designed by W.A. Sarmiento. Developers from Indiana have proposed demolition of the building to make way for a CVS chain pharmacy. The scheme was approved by the St. Louis Planning Commission with a 5-3 vote on July 6th. The AAA Building is not situated in either a historic district or a preservation review district, and therefore lacks protection from unwanted demolition.



### The Lustron House

The Lustron house, model number 2, at 3036 Coleman was assembled in 1949 for Russell L. Bentley. Only about 3,000 Lustron homes were constructed between 1948 and the company's bankruptcy in 1950, and only an estimated 2,000 remain today. The home is threatened with demolition for a car dealership.



### Loler House

The dwelling at 2137 N. St. Louis Avenue was constructed c. 1870 for Irish immigrant and former steamboat captain John Loler. Likely the earliest extant home in what we hope will soon be the St. Louis Place National Register District; the elegant Italianate style dwelling has significantly deteriorated in recent years. Unfortunately, many of the Loler home's windows on the side and rear elevations are open to the elements and the home does not appear to be occupied. As such, the magnificent building is highly vulnerable to both deterioration from the elements as well as the scourge of brick theft. •



### Oak Grove Mausoleum

The Oak Grove mausoleum, constructed in 1928 (with later additions in the 1930s), is attributed to architects Tom P. Barnett and Sidney Lovell. Vandalism has stripped the mausoleum of original exterior copper details, and deferred maintenance has resulted in extensive interior mold and water damage. Hopefully the non-profit organization in charge of the building will be able to successfully stabilize and restore the Byzantine style mausoleum, though funding remains a major hurdle.

## Most Endangered



### Brownhurst

Around 1890 Daniel Brown, Vice President of the Pioneer Cooperage Company, commissioned the rare and beautiful Richardsonian shingle style home in Kirkwood known as "Brownhurst". Around 1918, the property was sold to the Society of Mary. They are the group who today operate Vianney High School on the land. The building has been empty since 1989 and has suffered from deferred maintenance. A National Register nomination of the property is currently underway, and demolition has been delayed by the Kirkwood Landmarks Commission until September 9th when, if funding is not found to move the house, it will be demolished. This house is for sale. If anyone out there wants to move it, please contact the Kirkwood Landmarks Commission.



### Hodgen School

The St. Louis Public School System announced plans in January of 2011 to demolish the historic Hodgen School on California Avenue to make way for more parking and a playground for the newer Hodgen Elementary School directly to its west. Constructed in 1884, Hodgen is the only known extant school designed by prominent St. Louis architect Otto J. Wilhelmi. A landmark in the "Gate District" and a unique example of a Wilhelmi school, Hodgen underwent a nearly half-million dollar renovation in the late 1990s, only to be abandoned a few years later following the construction of the new school in 2001.



### Rock Hill Presbyterian Church

In 1845, James Collier Marshall donated a portion of his 900 acre farm at what was then the terminus of the Rock Hill Road (currently Manchester Road) for the construction of a Presbyterian church. The church and adjacent Marshall residence, known as the Fairfax House, were the genesis of the village of Rock Hill. The current site of the church and residence were purchased by U-Gas, which plans to raze the buildings for a gas station and car wash. The site plan initiating demolition and relocation was approved by the Rock Hill Board of Aldermen and the Planning and Zoning Commission in July. Currently there is a six-month waiting period before demolition can proceed, which is designed to allow time for a plan to materialize to save or move the church.



### St. Elizabeth's Academy

St. Elizabeth's Academy has had a presence in Tower Grove East since the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood of O'Fallon, Missouri opened a boarding school for girls there in 1882. In 1892, the Sisters hired the firm of Joseph Stauder & Son, to design a new school building, completed in 1894. This building forms the visual focus of the eastern end of what is today the Crittenden National Register District. The school was enlarged with a north wing in 1914 and a south wing and chapel in 1922. Currently the school is raising funds to implement a master plan. This plan calls for the demolition of the majority of the historic campus, including the original school and gymnasium, and a renovation of the 1957 school building.



### Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church

Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church is located in the Hyde Park Historic District and was completed in 1893 by architect Louis Wessbecher. The property remains under the ownership of the Lutheran Church, though services are held in the adjacent school building. Unfortunately, many parts of this stunning building, a Hyde Park landmark, are open to the elements. Currently the building suffers extreme disrepair due to neglect and lack of funds for maintenance.

### TOURS

Reservations are required for all events.

For more information and to purchase tickets, please call Landmarks Association at (314) 421-6474.

## Civil War Walking Tour of Lucas Place and a stop at the Schlafly Tap Room

Saturday, October 1, 2011, 2:00-4:00 PM



Join Executive Director Andy Hahn for a walking tour of the Lucas Place neighborhood. In honor of the Civil War's sesquicentennial, you will learn how this exclusive street used to look, and you can hear about the politically and militarily influential figures who lived here. The Campbell House was in the thick of the Civil War, both in terms of location and Robert's business and social connections, and this tour will illustrate just how tumultuous life in St. Louis was. The tour will begin with a walk through the Campbell House Museum, and then the group will take to the street for a 6-block walk that will end at the Schlafly Tap Room. One beer is included in your tour admission. The tour is limited to 40 guests, so make your reservations early with the Cambell House, 314-421-0325. Tickets are \$25.00 or \$20.00 for Campbell House or Landmarks Association members. •

## Tour Grand Center Arts Academy (former Pythian Hall/ Carter Carburetor/Beaux Arts Building) 703-11 N. Grand

Thursday, September 29, 6:00-7:15 PM, Grand Center Arts Academy, 703-11 N. Grand.



Designed in 1925 by Hugo Graf for the Carter Carburetor Company and the Knights of Pythias, the massive complex in Grand Center (which has been empty for decades) will open this fall as Confluence Academy's new Grand Center Arts Academy. Joseph Cyr, Director of Development Services for The Lawrence Group, will lead the tour of this spectacular adaptive reuse. For those of you who took the tour of the building with us prior to redevelopment, the change will be stunning. For those who are seeing the building for the first time, get ready to applaud the newest addition to the burgeoning Grand Center arts scene.

Tickets required: \$10.00 for members, \$15.00 for non-members.

This fall, author/historian NiNi Harris will continue her series of tours exploring early 20th century architecture in South St. Louis with visits to the St. Louis Hills and Holly Hills neighborhoods. Meeting points for the start of each tour are to be determined. Reservations required; cost is \$20.00 per person.



## Holly Hills Walking Tour

Saturday, September 10, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Silent movies provided the inspiration for this South City Neighborhood. The developers combined early Hollywood images from the silent screen with the Revival styles that were so popular during the 1920s and 1930s to create this unique neighborhood. The tour will include a visit to adjacent Carondelet Park.



## St. Louis Hills' Art Deco Walking Tour

Saturday, September 17, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

The smooth lines, the soft colors and the sunbelt themes of the Art Deco movement merged with the German building traditions of South St. Louis to create the St. Louis Hills community. The tour will include the history and evolution of Francis Park.



Tour the Laurel and the Mercantile Exchange (formerly Stix, Baer and Fuller and St. Louis Centre Mall complex) Downtown between 6th and 7th on Washington). Saturday, September 17, 1:00-2:30 PM, Northwest corner of 7th and Washington

Renovation of the former Stix, Baer and Fuller complex, a building now called the Laurel in honor of Washington Avenue's original moniker, is now nearly complete. The historic components of the project date to 1906 and 1919 from plans by Mauran, Russell & Garden, and Mauran, Russell & Crowell respectively. After years of effort involving various plans and developers, Spinnaker Real Estate Partners has converted the buildings into a 212 room Embassy Suites Hotel, 205 apartments, and 120,000 square feet of retail space in both the historic building and in the former St. Louis Centre mall building across Washington Avenue (now rebranded as the Mercantile Exchange). In addition, the project will include the three-screen MX Movies, a live theatre venue, restaurants, and retail at the adjacent Macy's. Plans are also taking shape to build the National Blues Museum in the Laurel. Come take a look behind the scenes of this exciting new project designed by Trivers Associates Architects.

Tickets required: \$10.00 for members, \$15.00 non-members.

On Friday, September 23, Landmarks Association will offer a once in a lifetime opportunity to tour portions of the caves beneath the Lemp Brewery with owner Shashi Palamand.

Friday, September 23-Tour number one begins promptly at 1:00 PM and lasts until 2:15 PM; tour number two lasts from 2:30-3:45 PM (approximately).

Where: The office building off the interior courtyard—enter from Lemp Avenue at the foot of the grain elevators.



The brewery site was originally purchased by the Lemp family because of the cave system, which was used to store ice and beer that was brewed at Adam Lemp's first brewery on what is today the Arch Grounds. In 1864, Adam's son, William began construction of the brewery at the present site on Cherokee Street. Closed without notice on May 3, 1919, the months before the advent of Prohibition were the last time beer was produced at the site. The cave system beneath the brewery is one of the most sought-after behind the scenes tours in all of St. Louis, and Mr. Palamand has graciously offered to share it with Landmark's members. Today, the Lemp Brewery is an active multi-tenant business park with a wide variety of spaces for lease for storage, warehousing, offices, artist's studios and industrial uses. The complex offers low rates, 24/7 access and flexible lease terms to tenants large and small. The rental income from the brewery's many tenants helps maintain and preserve this important historic landmark.

Participants MUST sign a liability waiver. THIS TOUR IS PHYSICALLY DEMANDING. The cave is largely unimproved, surfaces are wet and slippery and will be lit only with flashlights and lanterns carried by participants. The Lemp Brewery and Landmarks Association reserve the right to deny participation (with refund) to individuals who we believe are not physically capable of handling the requirements of this event.

Tickets required: MEMBERS ONLY—the cost is \$65.00 per person.

For more information on renting space at the Lemp Brewery call 314-577-0405.

### The Castle Ballroom

The Castle Ballroom, originally known as Cave Hall, was designed by architect John Paulus, and constructed in 1908. The ballroom was built for owners Cornelius Ahern and Herman Albers as a replacement for Uhrig's Cave, where they had previously operated a dance academy and hall. Known as the Cave Ballroom, the new facility opened on August 29, 1908, with music provided by the former Uhrig's Cave Orchestra. The venue hosted dances six nights a week, in addition to private balls and masquerades. Beginning in the 1920s the hall became a popular venue for Jazz concerts, and in 1922 changed its name to the Castle Ballroom.



In 1934, the ballroom closed as the neighborhood underwent a demographic shift. African Americans were becoming a majority in the nearby Mill Creek Valley due in part to racially-based housing restrictions. The venue reopened in 1935 under new ownership, and was managed by famed African American promoter Jesse Johnson. By the end of the 1930s, Eddie Randle's St. Louis Blue Devils were playing regularly, and a parade of talent including Jimmy Forest, Clark Terry, Ernie Wilkins, and a young Miles Davis graced the stage. Duke Ellington played the club in 1939, and Count Basie followed in the 1940s. Closed in 1949, the venue reopened as The Mocambo around 1950, and stayed in business long enough to host acts like the Ink Spots, and Louis Armstrong before closing in 1953. Beginning in 1959, the adjacent Mill Creek was wrecked in the name of urban renewal, and the Castle was left, an abandoned and lonely reminder of the incredible vibrancy of an earlier musical age and a neighborhood that was no more.\* The building is currently for sale and it is hoped that a new owner will bring life back to this incredible venue and important piece of St. Louis' cultural heritage.

For more information, contact Leigh Maibes, Re/Max Results

314-324-3322 324-352-7770

http://www.postlets.com/res/5832049

\*For more information on the history of the Castle Ballroom via the National Register nomination, visit:

http://www.dnr.mo.gov/shpo/nps-nr/11000024.pdf

## The Hudson River Valley Tour: October 12-16, 2011

The Historic Hudson River Valley of New York is home to some of the finest examples of several historic styles of architecture, landscaping, and interiors, from the early Federal period to the revival styles of the late 19th and early 20th century. Writers, politicians, businessmen, and socialites have been drawn to the region for its bounty and natural beauty, leaving a rich history evident in its diverse estates, each a tribute to its owner and the popular American trends of its time. We will visit the opulent mansions of the Rockefellers and the Vanderbilts, and tour



Franklin D. Roosevelt's Hyde Park estate, his refuge and final resting place. We will stop at Olana, home of artist Frederick Church, which has on display some of the finest examples of the Hudson River School of Painting; and Locust Grove, the Tuscan villa of Samuel Morse; in addition to many other inspiring homes unique to the Hudson Valley. In addition to experiencing the architectural treasures of the area, we will also experience the culinary treats of the Hudson Valley, including a dinner at the celebrated Culinary Institute of America. Unparalleled architecture in a diversity of styles, exquisite landscaping and gardening, and superior collections of artwork, furnishings, and the decorative arts maintained in their period condition await us on this five day trip of a lifetime.

The total cost for this all-inclusive five-day, four night tour is \$1950 (\$200 additional cost for single occupancy). This fee includes meals, accommodations, airfare, motorcoach transportation, tickets and entrance fees. To reserve a space on this tour, a \$400 per-person deposit is required. Final payment is due no later than September 15. For more information or to make reservations, please contact Landmarks Association at 314-421-6474.



## Spring Ramble

Our spring ramble to Pike County, Missouri took place on Saturday, May 21. We made stops at St. John's Episcopal Church and the Griffith-McCune Farm in Eolia before heading to downtown Clarksville. In Clarksville, we were welcomed by Mayor Jo Anne Smiley, followed by a tour of the Elgin Cottrell House, which overlooks the Mississippi River. After lunch at the Station Restaurant/Overlook Farm, we returned to Clarksville where we toured Harris Armstrong's Grace Episcopal Church. Afterward,

we were welcomed to Three Barn Farm by Georgia Nafsiger, who designed the unique Amish-constructed house on the property near Paynesville. Our final stop was at Fieldstone Farms near Elsberry, where we indulged in cocktails and light eats before heading home to St. Louis. Thanks to our guide for the day, Ted Wight, and to those who assisted him in making our trip to Pike County one of our most enjoyed rambles to date!

## Penrose Park Neighborhood

We need you! Landmarks is working on an upcoming publication about the Penrose Park Neighborhood. The book will be part of the Images of America series published by Arcadia Press. We are seeking photos and images to scan for the book. Do you have photographs or other printed images (such as postcards) that you would be willing to share? Do you know anyone who grew up, lived, or lives

in the area? We are looking for images of people, places, events, and buildings – whatever you are willing to share. If you have anything relating to Penrose Park, please call us at 314-421-6474. We would love to see your history in this book, which will explore and document this unique St. Louis neighborhood.

St. Louis native **Andrew Wanko** graduated in 2010 from Drury University in Springfield, Missouri with majors in both Architecture and Art History. He has a great love of traveling and has lived on three different continents. While enrolled Andrew spent six months living in Volos, Greece and after graduating spent a year living and teaching English in Shenzhen, Guangdong, China. Andrew is set to begin graduate school in the fall of 2012 pursuing a Master's degree in Historic Preservation. This summer he has assisted in many capacities around the office, but had the greatest impact on the National Register nomination for the Penrose district, where his background in architecture has served us well.

Katie Graebe hails from Belleville, Illinois, and is currently enrolled in an MFA program for Historic Preservation at the Savannah College of Art and Design. Previously, Katie received bachelor's degrees in both Classical Humanities and History of Art and Archi-

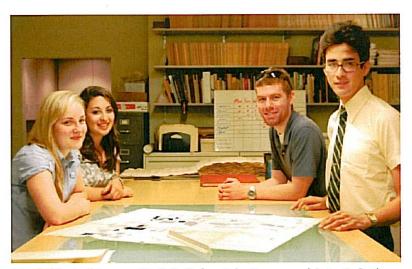


Andrew Wanko and Katie Graebe

tecture with a minor in Eastern Religions. After graduation, Katie hopes to be professionally involved in downtown revitalization and planning. A hard worker and a pleasure to have around the office, Katie has been an invaluable help this summer and we are glad that she is devoting her considerable talents to a career in historic preservation.

Daniella Gafen is a senior at Washington University majoring in architecture with a minor in writing. Originally from South Florida, she loves being in St. Louis for its beautiful brick buildings and its seasons – even summer. In her spare time, Daniella enjoys reading, scrapbooking, watching movies with friends, and programming with student groups on campus. After she graduates this coming May, she hopes to find a way to combine her various interests in her future job, although she's still figuring out what exactly that will be.

Daniella has been a constant and welcome presence in the office this summer and has been a great help putting the finishing touches on the fourth boundary increase for the Central Carondelet Historic District, organizing the Hudson River Valley trip, and working on the Penrose Park nomination.



L to R: Nicole Schepers, Daniella Gafen, John Brown, and Antonio Pacheco

John Brown moved to St. Louis in 2010 after completing a Bachelor of Design at the University of Florida. He is currently taking graduate classes at Washington University, and will be receiving a Masters of Architecture next spring. As a newcomer to the area, working at Landmarks has been a great way for John to learn about the geography of the city and its rich history. John has worked on a number of projects for Landmarks this summer and his diligence has been a great help to the staff. Upon graduation John hopes to work in a firm that specializes in healthcare-related design.

Another native St. Louisan, **Nicole Schepers** is enrolled in a cooperative program between UMSL and Washington University, which allows her to pursue both a Bachelor's degree in Art History and a Master's degree in Architecture. Nicole has a talent for creative design and a love for buildings, which will serve her

well in her planned profession. Her interests and skills were a great asset to Landmarks Association this summer, and she has been of great assistance in doing a wide variety of tasks including primary document research for several projects including the College Hill neighborhood survey.

**Antonio Pacheco** left his hometown of Los Angeles to study architecture at Washington University. This fall he will be pursuing a graduate degree in Historic Preservation from Tulane University. Antonio was instrumental in completing several projects that included the VA Hospital, College Hill and Penrose Park. His assistance was invaluable to Landmarks this summer.

### March 1, 2011 - July 31, 2011

NEW MEMBERS SUSTAINING Jim Goodwin

CONTRIBUTING

Michael & Mary Ann O'Reilly

#### FRIEND

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## Farewell to Jeff



It is with sadness that
Landmarks Association bids
farewell to Executive Director,
Jefferson G. Mansell. Jeff
came to us in the summer
of 2008, taking the reins
from longtime Director
Carolyn Toft. Entering
a new position in a new
city can be a very difficult
proposition, but Jeff made

it look easy. His ready laugh and passion for architecture and historic preservation ensured a good fit around the office, and his outgoing and friendly personality quickly made him new friends all over the city. Jeff's leadership invigorated Landmarks' tours and events, and he oversaw an update of the newsletter for the 21st century. Along with a dedicated Board committee, he made sure the 50th anniversary gala was a huge success, and re-instituted a long-dormant program of architectural tourism with trips to Columbus, Indiana; Natchez, Mississippi; and the upcoming excursion to the Hudson River Valley (yes, thankfully he will be leading this as well, and space is available!). Despite his successes in St. Louis, and amidst much gnashing of teeth and rending of garments from friends and colleagues, the lure of his native Mississippi proved too strong for him to resist. After two and a half years in St. Louis, and decades of service as a journeyman preservationist around the country, Jeff headed home in July taking a position with the Natchez National Historical Park. We miss him already. Thanks to Jeff for his service and friendship, and we wish him the best of luck in Natchez.