

REVITALIZE OHIO

SUMMER 2023 | A HERITAGE OHIO PUBLICATION



ELDER HIGH SCHOOL



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REVITALIZE OHIO

Summer 2023

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ON THE COVER:



The winner of the 2023 Heritage Ohio Preservation Month Photo Contest, in a landslide, popular vote by the public, is the beautiful Elder High School in Cincinnati, captured by Brian Hiles. Learn more about this historic school on page 10.

Executive Director Note

Summer is the perfect time to hit the road and visit some of the beautiful and historic towns across Ohio. Heritage Ohio is proud to regularly work with over fifty communities that follow the Main Street Approach for downtown revitalization, and to champion their efforts to create vibrant communities.

Main Street was established as a program of the National Trust for Historic Preservation in 1980 as a way to address the issues facing older and historic downtowns. Working with a nationwide network of coordinating programs and local communities, Main Street has helped over 2,000+ communities across the country bring economic vitality back downtown, while celebrating their historic character, and bringing communities together.

The Main Street Approach relies heavily on historic preservation and authentic places to protect the integrity of each community. When you visit a Main Street town, you are engaging in an experience that you will not find in any other place in Ohio, or in the world. Today, lifestyle centers and open-air malls are popping up everywhere, replacing farms and natural areas with cookie-cutter, concrete-coated Styrofoam, mixed use boxes with no architectural integrity. The irony of these new developments is that they are faking what we have authentically in Main Street communities.

It's often been said that small businesses are the backbone of the economy, and that's 100% true in Main Street towns. Small business owners and residents have a vested interest in downtown development, and are more likely to engage with their local Main Street program as volunteers on committees, planning special events for residents and tourists, planting flowers or sprucing up the district, holding small business education classes, and promoting the importance of shopping locally.

Here are a few interesting facts about small businesses (<https://www.fundera.com/resources/local-shopping-statistics>)

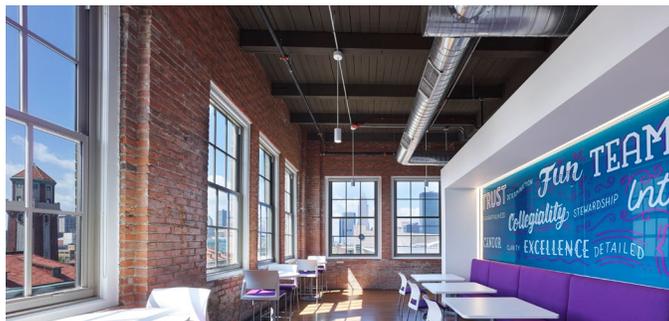
- Small businesses generate \$68 of local economic return for every \$100 spent with them.

- Over \$9.3 billion would be directly returned to our economy if every US family spent just \$10 a month at a local business.
- Businesses with fewer than 500 employees account for 99.7% of all US employers.
- Small businesses donate 250% more than large businesses to community causes.
- Local business generates 70% more local economic activity per square foot than big box retail.
- More than a quarter of small business owners are immigrants.
- 25% of local businesses closed because of low sales or limited cash flow.

This summer, while you're enjoying the farmers market, attending a community festival or downtown concert, or just road-tripping on a beautiful day, please make a point to shop local and support the local community. Grab lunch at the local diner. Buy that wedding or birthday present in a local boutique. Treat yourself to gourmet popcorn or ice cream from the local parlor. And maybe even thank the business owner for investing in their town.



Matt Wiederhold,
Executive Director of Heritage Ohio



GBX Group does more than preserve the nation's historic structures. Together with our investors, development partners and members of the historic preservation community, we transform neighborhoods, stimulate economic growth, and protect the cultural and historic fabric of communities.



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Heritage Ohio Webinar Series

Since 2011, Heritage Ohio has been producing an educational webinar series, highlighting numerous aspects of our work such as historic preservation, downtown revitalization, heritage tourism, restoration projects, and so much more. The series is generously supported in part with funds from the Ohio Arts Council, and the Ohio Department of Development. The webinars are generally broadcast on the third Wednesday of the month, between 1-2pm, and they are always free to attend. Links to sign up for the webinars may be found at www.heritageohio.org, and on our Facebook and LinkedIn pages. If you miss a webinar, you can always visit our YouTube channel, where there are nearly 200 webinar recordings for your learning and sharing pleasure.

Check out these upcoming webinars.

June 28: Strengthening your business community: the importance of regular check-ins

Justin Copenhaver, CEO and Founder of Urality

Join us for an informative webinar on the importance of regular check-ins with your business community to ensure the health of your local economy. As a Main Street director and downtown manager, it is crucial to support and strengthen the businesses in your community by regularly checking in with business owners to understand their challenges, successes, and needs. In this webinar, Justin from Urality will explore why check-ins are important, how check-ins can impact your long-term success as a Main Street, how to conduct effective check-ins, and the tools and processes that will make them an essential tool for your economic development. Don't miss this opportunity to strengthen your business community and ensure the success of your local economy!

July 19: Restoration Housing

Isabel Thornton, Executive Director

Restoration Housing is a nonprofit organization that develops affordable rental properties benefiting limited-income individuals and families through the preservation of neglected historic structures. Restoration Housing's business model combines historic tax credits, in-house schematic drafting, tax credit syndication, and construction management. Through this model, they are able to support the preservation of timeless buildings, provide affordable rental options, and strengthen families and communities.

August: Heritage Ohio Annual Conference: Why visit Dayton!

Dayton CVB

Come find out all the amazing things you can see in Dayton when you're here for the 2023 Heritage Ohio Annual Conference in October!

September 13: Tourism Ohio: Resources and programs to support heritage tourism

Melinda Huntley, Executive Director, Ohio Travel Association

Ohio's travel industry is increasingly recognized for providing good jobs, business profits, government revenue, entrepreneurial opportunities and an unprecedented quality of life for Ohio residents. The industry is strong, equipped, and more profitable thanks to the work of the Ohio Travel Association. Director Huntley will share the latest trends in destination marketing, tourism trends, and some insights on how to position your community as a desired destination.



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What and where in the World is Historic Downtown Millersburg?

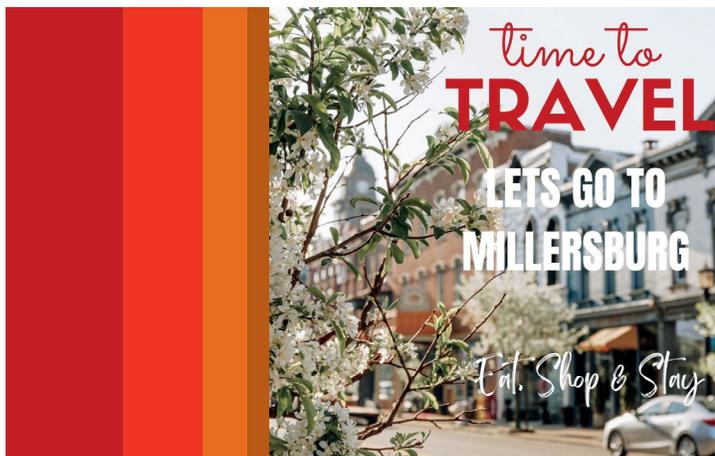
The where is easy; Millersburg is located at the intersection of State Routes 83, 62, 241 and 39. As they like to say, "All roads lead to The Burg"! It's a beautiful, scenic 80-mile drive from both Cleveland and Columbus. Millersburg is the county seat of Holmes County, which is the home of the largest Amish population in the world.

Millersburg has a rich culture that blends the Amish community with a booming historic downtown. Millersburg prides itself on being an artisan community. Soap-making, pottery, handmade candies, and local art are just some of the beautiful and tasty artisan crafts you can purchase from the merchants of The Burg. Millersburg also features wonderful pubs with handmade potato chips, delicate pastries, craft beers and wine. It's a fun place to spend a day or a weekend, indulging in the local culinary and arts scenes.

Millersburg has a colorful past and storied history, including being part of the main Buffalo migration path to being located on the oldest State Route, and home to Hotel Millersburg, the 3rd oldest, longest running hotel in the state. It's a great place to step back in time and imagine what those long-ago years must have looked like.

On September 19th, join us in Millersburg as we host the final Revitalization Series Workshop of 2023. These workshops are designed to educate the Ohio Main Street Program, and other Ohioans interested in preservation and downtown revitalization on aspects related to the Main Street Four-Point Approach.

This day-long workshop will include experts on increasing local tourism, how to increase program funding with hotel bed tax money, and how Google can help support small businesses in Ohio. Find more information at www.heritageohio.org. Registration opens in late June.



Who's Who at Heritage Ohio

Meet Three Heritage Ohio Board Members & See Why They Serve

Graham Kalbli



What is your career?

I'm the Principal at New Republic Architecture, and architect and project manager for projects ranging from \$400,000 - \$75,000,000. My focus is on private development and redevelopment of sites in the urban core of Cincinnati and other metropolitan areas.

How did you get involved with Heritage Ohio?

I first attended a Heritage Ohio annual conference on a whim in 2003, and liked what I saw. Upon founding the firm in 2014, I decided to sponsor, present, and exhibit as a way to get more involved. My first effort was at the conference in 2017, I believe, and have had fun mixing with like-minded preservation professionals, so I pestered various folks for a position on the board until it happened in 2023.

What do you value about Heritage Ohio?

The passion and effort that the members and the board display about our heritage.

What is your favorite historic building in Ohio?

The Betts House in Cincinnati, the oldest brick dwelling in the city, 1804. You can almost feel the era of the states founding when you tour this house.

What is your dream vacation destination?

Croatia with my wife.

What do you collect, and why?

Primitive antiques. Something simple, and clean, almost modern, about a shaker dresser, or a painted cupboard from the 1850s.

What is your favorite community in Ohio and why?

TIE: Short North in Columbus. Plenty of historic architecture along high street, and in flanking neighborhoods of Italian Village and Victorian Village, yet modern architecture woven in, with taller new buildings -it feels like a stretch of 7th avenue in NYC. **AND** Over the Rhine in Cincinnati. It's where our office is, and has been for the last 9 years. No matter how many times I walk it, I spy some new, eclectic bit of architecture, a quirky vista, or a hidden gem that makes it feel like I am exploring a village in Europe.

WHO'S WHO

Continued from page 5

What do you foresee as the future of preservation?

What are we missing in the conversation?

Density and modern infill construction. The key to preservation is more than just preserving old buildings, its securing vitality of historic districts by completing streets, filling in vacant parcels with new buildings that speak to their own times, and the power of architecture that is of our time is key to preserving old communities as a whole.

Mark Snider



What is your career?

I am a partner at the Porter Wright law firm. I focus my practice on historic and affordable housing tax credits, state and local tax matters, and tax issues in merger and acquisition transactions. I live in a small 104-year old workman's house in German Village, Columbus, that I have very slowly renovated over the past 17 years, often with folks from

my church and neighborhood who I take in on a short or medium-term basis. There's always something broken in my house.

How did you get involved with Heritage Ohio?

I had been aware of Heritage Ohio for some time and was invited to join the board a couple of years ago by former Executive Director Joyce Barrett. I jumped at the chance because I love historic preservation, and small-town revitalization especially. I grew up in a town of 2000 people.

What do you value about Heritage Ohio?

I love the multiple ways Heritage Ohio assists in preserving not only historic structures, historical sites, and streetscapes across the state, but also assists smaller communities access resources, professional input, and ideas to thrive as places to live, run a business, and work.

What is your favorite historic building in Ohio?

As a state and local tax lawyer, I've had the pleasure of visiting about 44 of Ohio's 88 courthouses for property tax cases. Many of them are of similar age, style, and beautiful,

but the Clinton County and Hardin County courthouses take the cake in my opinion.

What is your dream vacation destination?

A safari on the Serengeti in Tanzania or Kruger National Park in South Africa.

What do you collect, and why?

Maps. I have hundreds of maps and atlases, and many of my maps are framed and count as my house's artwork. Two of my favorite possessions are my 1950 schoolhouse pull-down maps of the United States and Africa that I got from a great, sprawling treasure shop in Bainbridge, Ohio. A meal at the town diner and a trip to that store are a great cloudy Saturday morning adventure.

What is your favorite community in Ohio and why?

I initially was going to say Granville since I spent four years there at Denison, but really, it's the sister towns of Minster and Fort Loramie because of the beautiful churches, super clean and tidy homes and businesses, hard-working people, and the great annual events such as Oktoberfest and County Concert.

What do you foresee as the future of preservation?

What are we missing in the conversation?

People who live in the bigger cities love to escape for the day to smaller towns that have real character and small businesses. I love what the leaders of Somerset in Perry County, for example, have done to revitalize the town square and open restaurants and stores. There's a lot of history and uniqueness to many of our rural county seat towns and other smaller communities. These assets can be an economic engine of rural areas while also preserving Ohio's heritage. I think Heritage Ohio is the best positioned organization to assist with these efforts around the state.

Luke Stedke



How did you get involved with Heritage Ohio?

In my role at the Ohio Department of Development, I'm honored to serve on the Heritage Ohio Board.

What do you value about Heritage Ohio?

Heritage Ohio's lens of fostering economic development through the preservation of historic buildings and supporting the revitalization of downtowns is why I value this institution.

What is your favorite historic building in Ohio?

For me, it is the Ohio Statehouse. The form, the function, the history; the Statehouse is a masterpiece of Greek Revival architecture.

What is your dream vacation destination?

A cottage on a beach, a skiff, a fishing pole, and blue skies.

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Gordon Goldie
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WHO'S WHO

Continued on page 7

WHO'S WHO

Continued from page 6

What do you collect, and why?

I like watches. They are tools that help us navigate life and are beautifully designed.

What is your favorite community in Ohio and why?

I love Ohio. Ohio's geography and cultural diversity help tell the story of the United States from founding to today.

What do you foresee as the future of preservation? What are we missing in the conversation?

Those are great questions. It's hard to predict the future, but I would argue we need to stay engaged in the conversation. If we are engaged in the conversation, we will be part of the solution.

Uptown Westerville Joins the Ohio Main Street Family

Heritage Ohio is pleased to announce that Westerville has become the newest Ohio Main Street Program community!



Uptown Westerville has been working toward becoming an Ohio Main Street program over the last few years, originally joining as a Downtown Works member. After completing a DART visit with Heritage Ohio staff and joining the Downtown Affiliate program, their hard work paid off this winter when their application to the Ohio Main Street Program was formally accepted.

More about Westerville

Westerville is located on the northeast side of the Columbus metropolitan area. It was once known as "The Dry Capital of the World" for its strict laws prohibiting sales of alcohol and for being the home of the Anti-Saloon League, one of the driving forces behind prohibition at the beginning of the 20th century.

Cultures have inhabited the Westerville area for several millennia. Paleo-Indians and their successor cultures inhabited the area between Big Walnut Creek and Alum Creek. The Wyandot were the primary inhabitants by the time Europeans arrived, living along Alum Creek. They were forced out of Ohio in 1843.

The land that is today Westerville was settled by those of European ancestry around 1810. In 1818, Matthew, Peter, and William Westervelt, settlers of Dutch extraction, migrated to the area from New York. Matthew Westervelt donated land for the construction of a Methodist church in 1836, and the settlement was subsequently named in the family's honor. In 1839, the Blendon Young Men's Seminary was chartered in Westerville; Matthew Westervelt was one of its first trustees. The Church of the United Brethren in Christ bought the seminary in 1846, and the next year the seminary was reformed, and renamed Otterbein College after the church's founder Philip William Otterbein. It continues today in Westerville as the private Otterbein University.

Throughout the Antebellum era, several homes in Westerville were stations on the Underground Railroad. Among these is the Hanby House, located one block from the college. Benjamin Russell Hanby had moved to Westerville in 1849, at the age of sixteen, to enroll at Otterbein University. Hanby went on to write many familiar hymns and songs, among them "Darling Nelly Gray" (inspired by his sympathy for Southern slaves), "Who is He in Yonder Stall?", and the Christmas favorite "Up On The Housetop". His home in Westerville, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, was dedicated as a museum in 1937, and is now owned by the Ohio Historical Society and managed locally by the Westerville Historical Society. It is the only state memorial to a composer in the state of Ohio.

This community of 40,000 residents has dozens of super quaint shops, delicious restaurants, and is a short distance from many amazing parks, gardens, and Alum Creek Lake and Hoover Reservoir.

Visit uptownwestervilleinc.com to find all the events, shopping, and dining experiences you'll find when you visit historic uptown Westerville.



Structure Column

The Elements and Historic Architecture

Don Gillie, Forensic Structural Engineer at American Structurepoint, Inc.

Empty and neglected buildings are an all too familiar sight when driving through rural Ohio. Boarded up windows, cracks in the brick masonry, and a swimming pool in the basement. It seems as though there is no hope for these structures on these streets, but an ambitious person can stop the neglect and begin the healing.

The exterior of the building is the first thing you're likely to notice. Unlike modern structures with brick veneer, the multi-wythe brick masonry of these buildings is the structural component supporting the weight of the floor and roof framing. Narrow and wide cracks meander through the masonry like scars from the continuous struggle against the elements. Relentless weathering and expansion and contraction of the materials eventually takes its toll on the materials. Fortunately, as masonry consists of thousands of individual pieces cemented together, repairs are often as simple as removing one broken piece and replacing it with a new one. Piece by piece the walls come back together.

Wood doors and windows are often not maintained, and their protective coatings crack and erode, exposing their frames to continuous moisture. Water is the enemy of the building, finding any weak point to make entry and do its damage. As wood persists in a damp condition, tiny microbes move in and begin to eat away at the fibrous material. It appears as though all hope is lost as a once strong and resilient piece of wood becomes soft and deteriorated. However, unlike the modern vinyl windows you're likely to find in your home, these wood-framed windows can be repaired. The frames are removed and

deteriorated pieces are discarded. New pieces of wood are cut to match and the frames are reassembled. A little sanding and a little staining, and your neglected window is like new again.

Roofs and floors were often made of deep wood joists that span between exterior walls. As roofing materials begin to fail, water begins to intrude into unwanted areas. Since the buildings lack any kind of HVAC system, the moisture persists inside the building and permeates the wood framing. Once again, the strong and enduring wood framing becomes soft and unable to perform. The joists begin to crack and deflect until they fall to the floor. These wood-framed floor and roof structures closely resemble the wood framing of today and can easily be replaced. Although the old wood used in these structures is stronger than the new wood of today, many options exist with engineered wood products that can be used to replicate the original structure. Take one joist out and replace it with another, and soon you'll have a floor like new again.

It's never too late to breathe life back into a neglected structure. The construction practices of the era make repair and replacement a relatively simple task. Remove the damaged piece and replace it with something new. Compatible materials must be used with care, otherwise more harm may be done than good. And just like that you've turned a blighted building into a beacon.



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Photos by Jeff Goldberg, Esto Photographics



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The beautiful, enduring structures we create for government, education, cultural and other public and private clients are inspired by the people that interact with them where they live, learn, work and play.

Pictured: the Cartisle Building in Chillicothe, OH



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Understanding the Standards

Standard 7: Learning to Clean the Right Way

By Frank Quinn, Director of Preservation

In our Spring edition of Revitalize Ohio, we introduced an ongoing series of articles highlighting the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation, a set of 10 common-sense guidelines we use to make sure that construction plans, and the subsequent construction work, preserve the historic character of the building in focus.

Standard 7 addresses how to properly clean historic materials: Chemical or physical treatments, such as sandblasting, that cause damage to historic materials shall not be used. The surface cleaning of structures, if appropriate, shall be undertaken using the gentlest means possible.

When considering how best to repair an old building, there are all kinds of well-intentioned—but disastrous outcomes—that can result in permanent damage to the structure. Contractors with little experience in working with historic building materials may suggest procedures that may not only harm the structure, but may require thousands of dollars in remediation at a future time.

A particular bane of historic masonry buildings was the sandblasting craze that first emerged decades ago. Sandblasting painted brick allowed for the quick removal of layers of paint, restoring the original look of the brick. While the sandblasting process was great for removing multiple layers of paint, it was also unfortunately great at removing the face of the brick, too. Unfortunately, sandblasting removes the original hard face of the brick which resulted in much higher rates of water absorption. When water is absorbed, and then goes through freeze-thaw cycles, the brick and the wall could be literally blown apart.

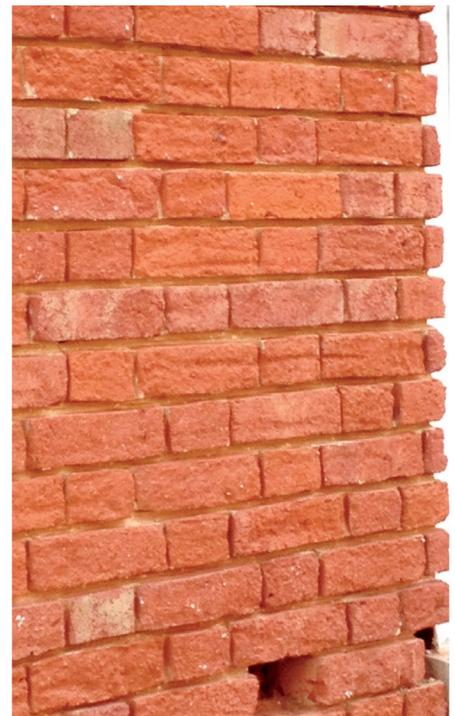
Over the years, different products have been introduced to replace sand, so today someone may advertise blasting done with baking soda, glass beads, corncobs, or even dry ice. However, any blasting process done with the improper materials, at too high of a pressure, or too close to the material, can do extreme damage.

Each building is different, so heed the words of the Standard and that term, “gentlest means possible.” Start with the

mildest treatment option, tested in a minimally visible location, and only increase the harshness of treatment options when materials can withstand the effect to gain the outcome you're seeking.

As these images of Contractors Gone Wild sadly demonstrate, even using only water on a brick building can be dangerous, when the pressure is set too high and the operator is too close to the building. Yes, the paint has been completely removed (obliterated, even), but at what cost? The brick has completely lost its fireskin and will now be susceptible to much higher levels of moisture infiltration and damage from freeze-thaw cycles.

If you're interested in learning more about Secretary's Standards and how to interpret them, check out the National Park Service website. Here's a good place to start: <https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1739/secretary-standards-treatment-historic-properties.htm>



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The 2023 Heritage Ohio Preservation Month Photo Contest

We're pleased to announce the winning entry, *Elder High School* from photographer Brian Hiles!

Elder High School is a school built on tradition. Construction began in 1922 and was completed in time to receive its first class in the fall of 1923. Elder was conceived as a collaboration between 11 local parishes that recognized a need for secondary education for the area's youth. Today, Elder's campus has grown from the original 38,000 sq. ft. building to a campus with half a dozen buildings and five times the space. But it is this main, iconic building that has been the second home to over 23,000 graduates.

The school celebrated its 100th Anniversary this year with numerous events and activities, including a ceremony where the tower was fitted with lighting to create a purple beacon to shine throughout the community, both literally and metaphorically. Elder has committed to be a positive force in our community for another 100 years and will maintain this historic and magnificent school building for future generations.

Congratulations, Brian!



Join Heritage Ohio in the Gem City this October 10-12th for the 2023 annual preservation and revitalization conference!

A Unique Experience

When you join us for this year's conference in Dayton, you'll be one of the first people to experience the newly rehabbed, historic Dayton Arcade! For years, it was a foregone conclusion that the arcade would be demolished; it was only a question of when. Luckily for all of us, the redevelopment plan was accepted and the results are stunning. Come see for yourself what makes the Dayton Arcade a truly unique experience.

More Sessions

This year, we are pleased to announce we're partnering with the State Historic Preservation Office and we have

some amazing sessions to share with you. You will have the opportunity to learn more about the National Register of Historic Places, including sessions with National Park Service technical services staff, Section 106 review, incentives for historic rehabs, and plenty of case studies. For those of you looking for sessions focused on community revitalization, we're offering sessions on regional roadmapping, the ever-changing restaurant landscape, utilizing Ohio's natural resources, and improving healthcare access. View the up to date schedule of events and continuing education credit opportunities for AIA members on our website.

Networking with Your Peers

The Heritage Ohio Annual Conference is a great way to build your professional network and share your experience with other leaders in preservation and revitalization in Ohio. And if you're looking to get your business, products, and services in front of conference goers, we have several vendor and sponsor opportunities to fit your needs.

Registration is now open! Get your tickets, book your hotel room, and get ready for another amazing conference this fall.



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GREEN CAPITAL



Historic Preservation Tax Credit Case Study: The Open Air School in Columbus

By Lisa Brownell, Ohio Department of Development

This University-area redevelopment project, completed in 2022, showcases the unique history of the Open Air School. Now home to a restaurant and bar, studios and event spaces, the building was designed as a school specifically for students at risk of contracting tuberculosis and was constructed in 1928. At the time, there were not widespread effective treatments for the disease, so the open-air design that centered fresh air, sunlight, exercise, rest, and good nutrition as part of the children's school day was an important effort at prevention.

After its intended use was no longer relevant, the building (plus a 1956 addition) went on to serve neighborhood children as Neil Avenue Elementary School until 1975. Columbus City Schools continued to use the building for offices until it became vacant, awaiting rehabilitation. The building was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2019 and awarded Ohio Historic Preservation Tax Credits in December of 2019.

The building retains a remarkable degree of integrity and still tells the story of its history as a unique school. Lockers still line the hallway, expanses of windows for good ventilation, outdoor areas that used to be play spaces, and the former cafeteria with serving windows. The building once again serves the community, tying the neighborhood to the Olentangy River and trail and offering spaces of gathering and connection.

Preservation Award from SHPO: <https://www.ohiohistory.org/preserving-ohio/state-historic-preservation-office/shpo-awards/open-air-school/>

Columbus Neighborhoods video on WOSU: <https://www.pbs.org/video/open-air-school-lv6bxv/>

Historic Photos from Columbus Metropolitan Library: <https://digital-collections.columbuslibrary.org/digital/collection/ohio/id/16664>

Location: 2571 Neil Avenue, Columbus

Developers: Kelley Companies of Columbus

End uses: restaurant, bar, artist studios, fitness studio, event spaces

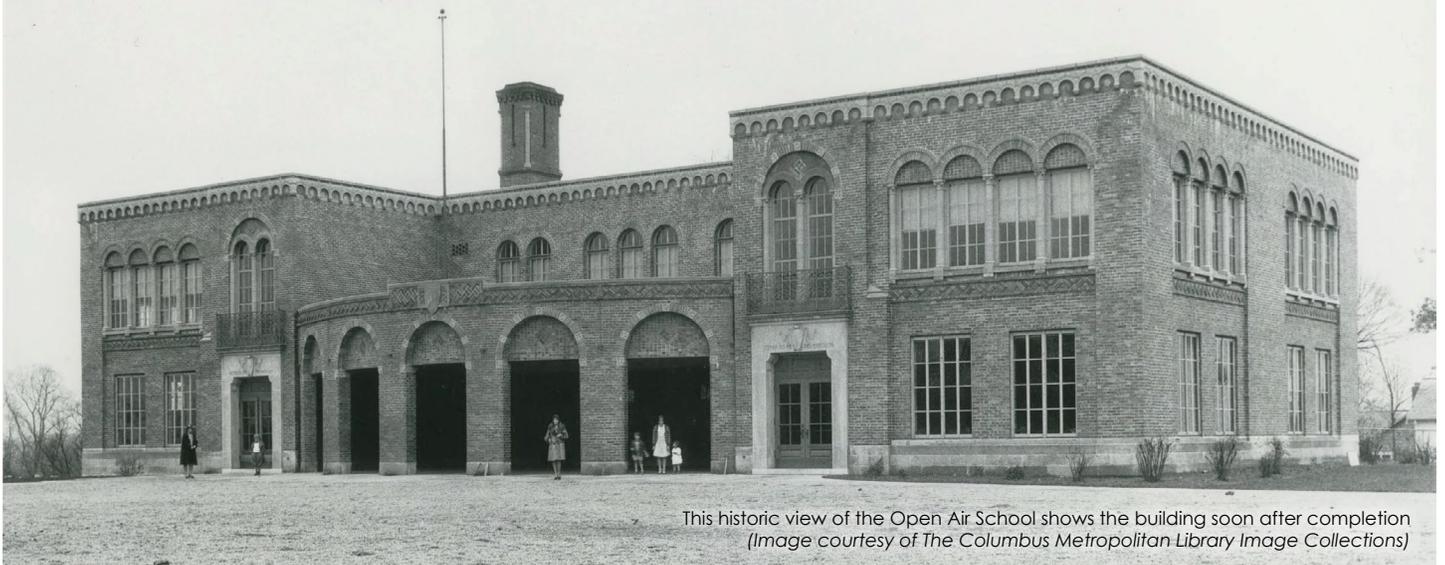
Size: 30,586 square feet

Total Project Cost: \$5,828,668

Qualified Rehabilitation Expenditures: \$4,380,567

OHPTC: Awarded in Round 23 in December 2019; Certified in 2022

Tax credit amount: \$250,000



This historic view of the Open Air School shows the building soon after completion
(Image courtesy of The Columbus Metropolitan Library Image Collections)

Rediscovering Ohio's Lost History: The Green Book and Its Legacy

Allison Hoyer, OSU Creative Writing intern



Wendell Hawkins

As the vibrant melodies of jazz music filled the smoky air of the dimly lit club, a singular spotlight reflected off of the piano in center stage. A Black pianist's fingers danced over the keys with unmatched skill and passion, captivating the audience with every note he played. However, the talented musician, Wendell Hawkins, was performing in Columbus, Ohio, during the 1950s, when African Americans faced racial segregation across the United

States.

Traveling in America during the early 20th century was risky for African Americans, as they had limited access to public facilities and were vulnerable to discrimination and danger in every state. But amidst the turmoil, thousands got to see Mr. Hawkins perform because he played at Club Regal (originally called Club Rogue), one of the thousands of establishments listed in the Green Book.

The Green Book was created in 1936 by a Black Postal Worker named Victor H. Green, who became frustrated with his personal travel experiences. Inspired by a guide that helped Jewish travelers during WWII, the Green Book contained a comprehensive list of hotels, restaurants, service stations, taverns, and other businesses which offered safe spaces for those facing harsh discrimination.

There is a common misconception that segregation only happened in the South, but African American travelers used the Green Book in all fifty states. The book held a special significance in Ohio because the state was a vital part of the Underground Railroad and played a pivotal role in the abolitionist movement. The establishments listed in the

Green Book touched all of Ohio. They stood in major cities: Cincinnati, Columbus, and Cleveland; they could be found in Toledo, Akron, and Springfield. The locations were scattered throughout the state, but no matter how big or small the city was, each business was a testament to the resilience and entrepreneurship of Ohio's African American community.

Mrs. Lynn Sweeney, a sixth-grade teacher, works the Green Book into her curriculum at Columbus School for Girls. "One of my major themes of teaching history is that history teaches us who we are," she said.

Mrs. Sweeney inspires her students to learn about history as if they are wearing the shoes of a historian: piecing together parts of a story to gain a deeper understanding of historical events.

"The grave efforts in history that African Americans had to go through to support each other, while facing harsh oppression throughout the United States, is not easily understood all at once because the American Civil Rights Movement is so vast," she said.

Although Mrs. Sweeney doesn't teach a civil rights unit, by teaching about the Green Book, she hopes to plant seeds in her students that grow and develop their big-picture understanding of the American Civil Rights Movement as they learn more about it down the road.

Following Green's death in 1960, the Civil Rights Act of 1964 passed, and the last version of the Green Book was published in 1966.

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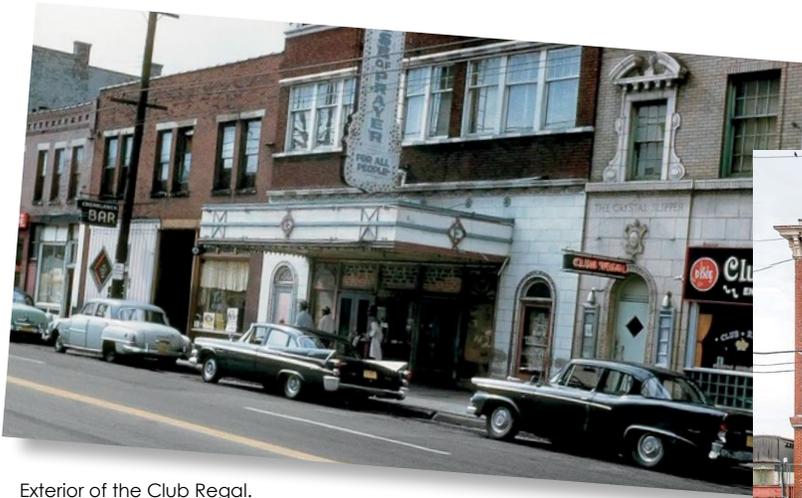
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Interior of the Club Regal, at a performance by Sticks Evans, Milt Buckner, and Bernie McKay.



Exterior of the Club Regal.



The Macon Hotel, Columbus, Ohio.

Unfortunately, many locations in the Green Book have been lost to history. The establishments that once welcomed Black travelers have been demolished, repurposed, or forgotten. While many of the physical buildings no longer stand, efforts are being made to ensure that the stories and importance of the Green Book are remembered.



Club Regal site today.

If the walls of the Edgemont Inn in Walnut Hills could talk, they'd share secrets from the parties that African American political groups threw there.

Inside the broken shell of a building once known as the Macon Hotel and jazz lounge, people danced and sang, enjoying the safety and sense of community the Green Book provided.

Learning about the historical significance of Green Book establishments plants seeds in communities, which grows peoples' understanding of how close the history of the Civil Rights Movement is to them. As more people learn about the Green Book, hopefully, the remaining buildings will be kept alive along with their stories.



The Edgemont Inn, Walnut Hills, Ohio.

To learn more about the Green Book and its locations, check out the map on this website listed below: <https://publicdomain.nypl.org/greenbook-map/map.html#layer=cluster&year=1947>



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Sentinels of Ohio's Rural Landscape Disappearing

Tom O'Grady, Director, Athens County Historical Society and Museum

They were the most frequently encountered structure dotting the hills and plains of Ohio's rural landscape from Lake Erie to the Ohio River. The traditional Ohio barn was the most important building in the Ohio country for nearly a century, the barn supported the production of and protected the harvest which enabled and sustained the growth of Ohio towns and cities. More than ninety percent of the people lived on farms when Ohio led the world in agricultural output.

The last refuge of Ohio's primeval forests is in the walls and holding up the roofs of the remaining Ohio barns. These iconic structures were built by teams of barn builders who erected the barns from trees harvested from the wilderness and stone cut from the crust of Ohio's bedrock. These timber frame structures were designed with mortise and tenon joinery pinned together with wooden pegs. The only metal in these buildings was the hand cut nails that fastened on the protective roofing and siding. The barns were built largely to store loose hay and to thresh grain on a central threshing floor. They were built to last a thousand years. Buildings like this will never be built again.

There are no two barns alike in Ohio. Yet barn enthusiasts find three standard barn types distributed across the state. The New England three bay barn, built on flat ground or into a



A New England three bay barn with basement and ramp to the threshing floor and a side door entry on a ridgetop in Morgan County in the Ohio Company Purchase.

bank with a basement, always a side entry. The Pennsylvania German barn with an overhanging fore bay was typically built into a bank creating a basement for livestock. It too had a side entry. These two barn types had a central threshing floor and were designed for the storage of a vast amount of loose

hay. Both barn styles were designed with a side entry. The Southern barn, having a gable end entry with a drive through, often featured a hay hood and was less likely to be used for threshing wheat.

The subdivision of the Ohio country after the American Revolution and the pathways into the wilderness had much to do with the geographic distribution of the various barn

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A Pennsylvania German bank barn with side entry at right rear from the bank and an overhanging fore bay at left in Greene County.

types across the rural landscape. Settlement began at the confluence of the Muskingum and Ohio rivers by New Englanders from Boston Massachusetts with the establishment of Marietta. The New England three bay barn is predominant

throughout the Ohio Company Purchase and examples drifted northward into the Congressional Lands and the Military District. The New England barn is also common in the Connecticut Western Reserve across northern Ohio but it can be found nearly everywhere in Ohio as there were no restrictions on who could own land and farm it.

The Pennsylvania German bank barn is common throughout the Congress Lands of Ohio, in the counties along Zane's Trace and in counties along the Great Trail, the important link connecting Fort Pitt and Fort Detroit. The Pennsylvania German barn is not found in the Connecticut Western Reserve or the Ohio Company Purchase. A few examples can be found along Zane's Trace near the Ohio River in the Virginia Military District but they are rare. The Pennsylvania German bank barns are some of the largest barns in Ohio.



A Southern barn with a hay hood and gable end entry located in Hocking County.

The Southern barn with its distinctive hay hood and gable-end entry is the principal in the Virginia Military District between the Scioto and Great Miami Rivers. It is also seen in nearly all counties along the Ohio River where Southerners migrated into Ohio. The

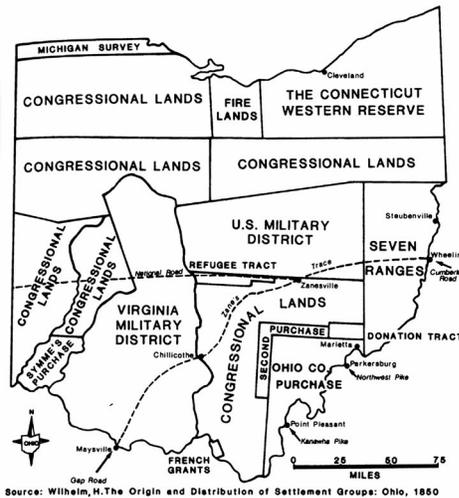
Southern barn can be seen in nearly all counties but dissipates in abundance as one gets further north in Ohio.

The Congress Lands of Western Ohio and the Great Black Swamp were settled somewhat later. Many barns in that region appear to be hybrids with features of New England and Pennsylvania German barns together. Some of these barn may even have a hay hood common to Southern barns. After a generation of building farm structures, teams of barn builders from different cultures may have been working together. States west of Ohio do not exhibit the great examples of barns representing the distinctive culture groups of New England, the Mid-Atlantic States, and the Upland South.

The old barns can be roughly dated by the materials inside. The earliest barns were built with hand hewn timbers and the hewing marks are still clearly visible. Water-powered sawmills used sash saws and the timbers were show parallel and straight scurf marks. When the steam engine and circular saw came into Ohio around the Civil War the timbers began to exhibit curved scurf marks. These characteristics are clearly visible indicators to barn enthusiasts.

Nearly all the early barns were built with a simple gable roof. As harvests increased the need for more hay storage space resulted in the raising of roofs to the gambrel or round rood style. The later introduction of the hayrack resulted in a modification of barn frames on the interior – often to the detriment of the structural integrity of the barn.

The iconic Ohio barn is loved by all. Keeping them standing will require the support of more than the owners. While some are being restored and repurposed many of these barns are disappearing at an alarming rate; and the rate increases annually. The barns are being harvested like crops and the materials are being shipped out of state to make second homes for people in New England, the Carolinas and the Rocky Mountains. Some are harvested for the wood which is converted to flooring.



Source: Wilhelm, M. The Origin and Distribution of Settlement Groups: Ohio, 1860

Original Ohio land subdivisions after the Revolutionary War with Zane's Trace and the National Road.

It takes highly skilled craftsmen and timber framers to repair and restore barns. It is not an inexpensive undertaking. Some states have designated funding for the protection and repair of barns. Thanks to a group of students from Westerville High School on the border of Franklin and Delaware counties, they worked with lawmakers to

introduce a bill to designate the traditional Ohio barn as Ohio's State historic architectural symbol. The historic barn was signed into law by Governor John Kasich, and it joins the cardinal, the carnation, and the buckeye as a state symbol.

Source: Dr. Hubert G.H. Wilhelm

Photos by Tom O'Grady, Founding Member of Friends of Ohio Barns



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