

# PA Update

Mike Wells, President  
Neal Tong, Vice-Pres.  
Joyce Edwards, Treas.  
Gary Adams, Secretary  
Sally Anderson  
Mary Bryan Booth

Sue Haycraft  
Dot Howell  
Ted Lolley  
Lucy G Neal  
Glenda Thacker  
Frank Wagner

Preservation Alliance of Owensboro-Daviess County, Inc.

SPRING 1997

## PA Annual Meeting at Home of Mrs. Cecilia Medley

You are cordially invited to attend the Annual Spring Meeting of  
Preservation Alliance of Owensboro-Daviess County, Inc.

**Thursday, May 15, 1997**  
**11:30 am**

**Home of Mrs. Cecilia Medley**  
**320 Maple Avenue**  
**Owensboro, Kentucky**

**Catered Box Lunch \$10.00**

**Please call for Reservations by Sunday, May 11**  
**Sally Anderson 233-9230 or Sue Haycraft 926-3992**

{ Mrs. Medley will provide a tour of her home and talk about its history.

{ There will be a short business meeting, with election of 1997 officers:

### Current Preservation Alliance Officers:

President ..... Mike Wells  
Vice-President ..... Neal Tong  
Treasurer ..... Joyce Edwards  
Secretary ..... Gary Adams

## Economic Impact of Historic Preservation in Kentucky

Commonwealth Preservation Advocates, a statewide, lobbying organization on issues of historic preservation, has joined forces with the Kentucky Heritage Council to commission a study on the economic impact of historic preservation throughout Kentucky.

The study will show the positive effects of preservation on jobs, business and the overall health of the Commonwealth's communities.

Armed with the study, preservation advocates will be better positioned to inform local, state, and national elected officials about preservation's positives, to increase the general understanding of the value of investing in historic assets, and to build support for particular preservation projects.

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Copies of the study will be printed and broadly distributed throughout the state after a May 1997 media event.

In order to maximize the information contained within the study and to promote the media event and distribution of the study results, a series of training sessions have been held in April at various locations around the state. *-from cpa newsletter, ga-*

## PRESERVATION BITS

### „ Salm's Building Now Sheffer Hoffman Law Offices!

Owensboro Symphony attendees were invited to a post-symphony reception this past winter at the new, expanded offices of Sheffer Hoffman attorneys-at-law. After milling throughout the building's several renovated floors, the crowds lingered at the buffet table with its irresistible offerings. Congratulations to Bruce Peters, Sheffer Hoffman, and all involved in polishing another jewel of Main Street Owensboro.

### „ Historical Quarterly Ceases Publication; Lee Dew Retires

The *Daviess County Historical Quarterly* is no longer being published by the Daviess County Historical Society. After 11 years of valiant service, Quarterly Editor Lee Dew has retired to other interests. PA wishes to thank Lee Dew (and Aloma Dew, former PA board member) for their many years producing the Quarterly. It represents a wonderful resource for current historians and preservationists in Owensboro-Daviess County. Future generations will turn to it, as well, to better understand their past. Now, are there any volunteers out there who want to carry on the tradition?

### „ Gillam House Refurbishing

Bob Kirtley is heading the effort to turn the old Gillam House at 415 Saint Ann Street into shared offices for small non-profit agencies. The two-story, brick building, owned by the Safe Children Foundation, appears structurally sound, but needs repairs to the roof and windows. Contact Bob Kirtley if you wish to volunteer your time or services. The idea is for a number of small charities or other non-profits to share secretarial and office equipment expenses, and to have a staffed mailing address and phone answering service. Sounds great. Good luck, Bob!

ALL  
ABOARD!  
(this time)



PA reschedules  
trip to Madison,  
IN, for Saturday,  
May 31, 1997

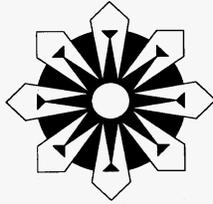
SEE PAGE 3 for Details

## Historic Preservation Conference in BG this September

Kentucky's Historic Preservation Conference will be conducted in Bowling Green September 11-13, 1997.

The "Preserving Community" theme will include sessions on...

- ◆ Economic Benefits
- ◆ Downtown Revitalization
- ◆ Heritage Tourism
- ◆ African-American Heritage
- ◆ Heritage Education
- ◆ Rural Preservation
- ◆ Kentucky Images
- ◆ Civil War Sites
- ◆ Old House Preservation
- ◆ Preservation Bookstore



**Preserving Community**  
September 11-13, 1997  
Bowling Green, Kentucky

Conference headquarters will be Bowling Green's University Plaza Hotel, the Big E's new regional rival, where rooms will run about \$76 a night.

Registration materials will be available in August from the...

Kentucky Heritage Council  
300 Washington Street  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
(502) 564-4005

The PA Board may organize a group attendance as a Fall Trip if there appears to be interest. More on this later. -ga-

## WHOOOPS! Trip Last Fall Fell Through; Time to Spring Back into Action

Sorry, but we just couldn't resist the pun. Preservation-minded tourists must be very busy folks. PA received few reservations and, therefore, decided to cancel the Fall Day-Trip to Madison, Indiana, last October.

But, because the itinerary sounded so very enjoyable, PA has revived it as the *Spring Day-Trip* to Madison, Indiana.

Those who have experienced PA trips over the years know that a good time is had by all.

So, please join us for this promising one. See page 3 for details.

## 'Stately' Mary Ellen Hart Taught in the Public Schools of Owensboro for Many Years

PA Board Member Dot Howell spent some time at the Kentucky Room at the Public Library researching the Hart family members who resided for many years at 521 Daviess Street. The pre-Civil War home was recently auctioned, along with its remarkable collection of books, furniture and other items, many of which were more than a century old.

As reported in the *Messenger-Inquirer* by Greg Kocher, Feb. 19, the most recent resident, Margaret Elizabeth Evans, died Jan. 22 at age 88. Evans had lived since the 1940s with her former sorority sister, Ellen Hart Smith, who died in 1985.

What did Dot find? A reference to "H. P. Hart, school-teacher" in *Wiggins & Weaver's Ohio River Directory* for Owensboro, dated 1871-1872. Also, in *Emerson & Williams' Owensboro Directory*, 1882-83, Dot found a listing for "Mrs. M. E. Hart, teacher, upper ward school."

Most interesting, however, is the picture included here and the narrative Dot found in *Sixty Years of Owensboro, 1883-1943*, by William Foster Hayes, which was mentioned in the newspaper story.

The following is an excerpt:

"Mr. H. P. Hart is also mentioned ... as one of the best of the earlier teachers, and the one who started the Owensboro Academy.... Mr. Hart afterwards taught on the south side of Fifth Street between Lewis and Daviess Street, where he was assisted by Mrs. M. E. Singleton and occasionally by Mrs. Hart.



Mary Ellen Hart

"After Mr. Hart's death, his widow, Mrs. Mary Ellen Hart, taught in the public schools of Owensboro for many years, and there are many who will have the kindest and most pleasant memories of her stately but lovely and gracious presence, cheerful disposition, and efficiency as a teacher. Before her marriage she was a Miss McClarty, and was reared in Hardinsburg, a girlhood friend of my mother. Her daughter, 'Miss Susie,' became the wife of our own E. W. Smith, and is survived by a daughter, Miss Ellen Hart Smith. Miss Lettie Boyd, another teacher with a record of long and honorable service, is Mrs. Hart's niece."

We thought you might find interest in this historical note. -ga-

### ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF PRESERVATION ALLIANCE OF OWENSBORO-DAVIESS COUNTY, INC.

August 4, 1982

#### ARTICLE IV. PURPOSES

The purpose for which the Corporation is organized is to, on a charitable, educational and non-profit basis, furnish and provide means necessary to restore, renovate and otherwise bring back into existence landmarks of a historical nature in the community of Owensboro and Daviess County, Kentucky. In the furtherance of this pursuit, the organization shall have and intends

- ◆ to inherit property, borrow money;
- ◆ to own both real and personal property wherever so situated and to sell property, both real and personal;
- ◆ to renovate, restore and beautify historical landmarks;
- ◆ to make applications for grants, federal, state and local; and
- ◆ to make application to the local planning and zoning commission for construction permits and zoning ordinance proposals;
- ◆ to petition the local governments of competent jurisdiction to prevent destruction of local landmarks pursuant to any such ordinances so enacted in the City of Owensboro or Daviess County;
- ◆ to make and enter into leases of any property, both real and personal, which this Corporation may own;
- ◆ to assist others in making applications for grants to restore, renovate and beautify historic landmarks;
- ◆ to receive all donations of both real and personal property and to hold and renovate same and to sell or lease such property.

**DAY-TRIP  
RESERVATIONS  
DEADLINE: Fri. May 23**

Please fill out the form at right.  
Send it, along with your check made payable to *Preservation Alliance*, to:

**Preservation Alliance  
c/o Joyce Edwards  
1125 Griffith Avenue  
Owensboro, KY 42301**



*If you are disabled, or need assistance in any way, please make arrangements to be accompanied on the day-trip.*

**5/31/97 Day-Trip to Madison // 1997 Member Dues**

- \_\_\_\_\_ „ \$95.00 per person - Day-Trip - Nonmembers
- \_\_\_\_\_ „ \$70.00 per person - Day-Trip - Member households
- \_\_\_\_\_ „ \$19.97 per household - 1997 MEMBER DUES

**TOTAL**

NAME/ADDRESS if different from mailing label:

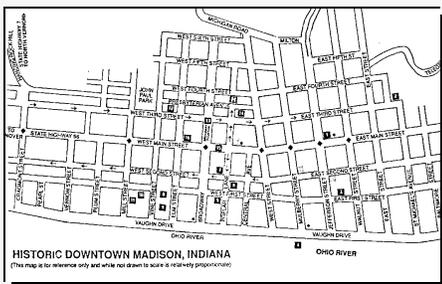
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**DAY-TRIP to**



**MADISON  
INDIANA**

**Saturday,  
May 31,  
1997**



**You are invited to enjoy a day-trip aboard a motorcoach to Madison, Indiana.** Madison established one of the first "Main Street" historic preservation programs in the country.

**TENTATIVE ITINERARY- Saturday, May 31, 1997**

**7:30 AM (8:30 Eastern) .. Leave Owensboro for Madison, Indiana**  
Drive to Madison Visitors Center. View 30 minute movie at Visitors Center.

**12:00 LUNCH .....** **Broadway Tavern & Hotel**  
Indiana's oldest tavern offers a variety of items such as gumbo, quiche, hot browns, burgers, wings, etc. LUNCH NOT INCLUDED IN TRIP COST.

**1:00 .....** **Guided bus tour of historic district**  
Madison has 133 blocks listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

**1:30 .....** **Lanier Mansion State Historic Site**  
This Greek revival home was built in 1844 for a financier who financially saved Indiana during the Civil War. It overlooks the Ohio River and features period furnishings and magnificent columns.

**2:00 .....** **Shrewsbury House**  
This Greek revival home is known for its famous free-standing spiral staircase and decorative ironwork. The garden overlooks the majestic Ohio River. (Decorative Art Museum on 2nd floor)

**2:30 .....** **Jeremiah Sullivan House**  
This home, built in 1818, is an excellent example of Federal architecture. This home is considered to be the first mansion in Madison and features detailed window panes and reeded columns.

**3:00 .....** **Dr. Hutchings Office**  
This 19th Century "horse and buggy" doctor's office is one of the most complete restorations in the country. The building and contents were preserved intact from Dr. Hutchings' death in 1903.

**3:30 .....** **Francis Costigan House**  
Francis Costigan, the architect of the Lanier and Shrewsbury homes, built this house in 1850 for himself. The home displays Greek inspired columns and moldings as well as ornate woodwork and plaster work.

**4:00 - 5:00 .....** **Return Options**  
Depending on group's desire: Leave for Owensboro (dinner in Louisville?), or remain in Madison and visit Thomas Family Winery or browse antique shops.



Preservation Alliance

of Owensboro-Daviess County, Inc.  
319 Booth Avenue, Owensboro, KY 42301 502-926-5058

Non Profit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Permit No. 487  
Owensboro, KY  
42301

## Thank You, \$19.96 Preservation Alliance of O-DC Member Households

Gary Adams  
Mr & Mrs David Adkisson  
Mr & Mrs Richard Anderson  
**Charles Ballard 1997**  
Mary Rose Barr  
Frankie G Barron  
Mr & Mrs Homer Barton  
Mr & Mrs Ed Bell  
Mr & Mrs Wendell Booth  
Lowell D and Gail L Branham  
Mrs John Brizendine  
Mr & Mrs Maurice Burton  
Dr & Mrs Robert Byrd  
Nelda Callis  
Mr & Mrs John Combs  
Martha Condon  
William & Geneva Cottrell  
Mary W Craig

Mr & Mrs George Crowder  
Mr & Mrs Richard Edwards  
Frances Wells Evans  
Gay R Gipe  
Susan Guilfoil  
Mr & Mrs Harold Hall  
Netta & Robert Harris  
Dr & Mrs Robert Hast  
Mr & Mrs Larry Hastings  
Lora Hawes  
Joe & Sue Haycraft  
Mary Michael Hayden  
Mr & Mrs Scott Holder  
Mr & Mrs Robert Howell  
Mr & Mrs Forrest Lewis  
Dr & Mrs Noel Maddox  
Dr & Mrs William McManus  
Dr & Mrs Wathen Medley

Mr & Mrs John Medley  
Mr & Mrs Robert Merriam  
Deborah Mesplay & Monty Helm  
Sara Ghee Miller  
Mr & Mrs W S Moreland  
Waymond Morris  
Paul Morsey  
Lucy G Neal  
Mr & Mrs Dennis Newberry  
Nina O'Hearn  
Mr & Mrs Richard Oexmann  
Dr & Mrs David Orrahood  
Henry & Eudora Payne  
Susie Reno  
Dr & Mrs Leslie Riherd  
Mr & Mrs Calvin Robinson  
Elisabeth F Roszel  
Steve & Cathy Rusher

Mr & Mrs James D Ryan  
Dr & Mrs Charles Schertzinger  
Connie Schrecker  
Judge & Mrs Robert Short  
Rachel Taylor  
George & Glenda Thacker  
Mr & Mrs Neal Tong  
Mr & Mrs Frank Wagner  
Mr & Mrs Ed Wathen  
Mr & Mrs Michael Wells  
**William R West 1997**  
Father Henry Willett  
Nancy F Wilson  
John Yager  
Mrs Marilyn Young  
**Don't forget your  
\$19.97 Dues**