

Date: Tuesday, January 23, 2018

Survey results are embargoed until: February 6th, 2018

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WESTPORT HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY

Presentation and Release of Results



Images Left to Right: Harry's Bar, Nutterville, Westport Presbyterian Church, Harris-Kearney house, Westport Public Library.

Kansas City, MO – Historic Kansas City (HKC) announced today the release of the Westport Historic Resources Survey, the first comprehensive survey to inventory, map and describe Westport's significant cultural resources. The survey will be an important tool for protecting and preserving Westport's distinctive character as the area continues to grow and change.

The public is invited to attend a presentation to learn more about the survey, including the process and eligible historic resources that were identified:

Date: Tuesday, February 6th, 2018

Registration: 6:00 pm

Program: 6:30 pm

Location: Westport Presbyterian Church, 201 Westport Road, Kansas City, MO

The survey showcases the diversity of cultural resources in Westport, including places of social importance, architecturally significant buildings, and historic districts. This inventory will be accessible online via www.HistoricKansasCity.org by anyone interested in Westport's cultural resources. As Westport continues to be a district of rapid change, the survey gives developers, property owners, residents, policymakers, and the general public information about significant historic resources in their community.

The survey effort was sparked by stakeholder concerns that new development proposals endanger the character of "Old Westport." A coalition calling itself Help Save Old Westport mounted a GoFundMe campaign to raise awareness and funding to support the survey. The survey was paid for by the generous contributions from Help Save Old Westport GoFundMe contributors, the Kemper Fund for Kansas and Missouri of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and the City of Kansas City, Missouri.

"The survey reveals Westport's rich cultural history," said Joan Adam, President of Historic Kansas City. We hope the survey will enrich and enlighten users and will encourage people to truly explore Westport and be conscious of the history around us."

In addition to the historic resources that are currently listed on either the local or national registers, the team of Rosin Preservation staff members identified fifteen individual resources that may be eligible for register listing, five potential historic districts, and two areas that warrant additional study. "We hope these findings will help the community leverage heritage as a key component of the on-going prosperity of Westport," said Elizabeth Rosin, Principal of Rosin Preservation.

The survey will help us conserve our important cultural heritage, and can help us protect Westport's important past as the district grows dynamically into the future," said Lisa Lassman Briscoe, executive director of Historic Kansas City. "Westport has always been an area of diverse architecture and history, but the Westport survey also sheds light on the areas rich character of place." ###