ADVOCACY UPDATE

Hearing Postponed for 12-story Development Proposal
Case Continued "off-docket"

The case to consider a development plan for the northwest corner of 47th St. and Pennsylvania was NOT heard on April 2nd. Additional revised plans and studies were not received by the appointed deadline. The case should be continued “off-docket” to provide the applicant time to provide supplemental information. If and when this would occur, there will be new notifications sent out (letters to surrounding property owners, ads in the newspaper, and posted sign on the property) notifying everyone about the hearing date. For case information click [here](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

HKC ANNUAL MEETING

On Tuesday, May 14th, come celebrate with Historic Kansas City as we look back at 2018 and discuss where preservation efforts are headed and what we have accomplished this past year.

Michael C. Kathrens – Author: Kansas City Houses 1885-1938 will be our featured speaker for the event along with Steve Noll.

- FREE to All HKC Members. (Members Only)
- Not a Member? Click [Here](#) to join.
To learn more about the program and to reserve your Members Only FREE ticket CLICK HERE.

2018 Preservation Award Winners!

Historic Kansas City is pleased to announce the finalists for the 2018 Historic Preservation Awards. The Preservation Awards highlight numerous historic preservation efforts that occurred in the Kansas City area in the year 2018. HKC feels that the long-term quality and character of a community is directly related to its willingness to identify, protect, and enhance those historic places that define and differentiate it. That is why we host the Preservation Awards, in order to celebrate and bring awareness to those companies and individuals who help preserve these unique historic places for future generations.

The 2018 Historic Preservation Awards took place at The Westport Plexpod in Kansas City, Missouri on Wednesday, March 27th at 6:30 pm. The final award winners were announced before an audience of owners, industry leaders, and representatives from around the Kansas City metro. Nominee finalists were selected from nominations received from historic preservation supporters, prior award recipients, community leaders, and leadership from Historic Kansas City. “It is an honor to congratulate all the 2018 award nominees,” said Lisa Briscoe, Executive Director, Historic Kansas City. “The nominee finalists exemplify the finest historic preservation projects from the across the metro area. We applaud the dedication and passion of the hundreds of individuals working at these iconic properties and neighborhood reinvestment initiatives that keep the stories alive from the past.”

Thank you to our Silver Sponsors - Marvin Windows & Doors and STRATA Architecture, through your continued support and partnership we have expanded on our successes every year and continue to promote preservation in meaningful ways.
Best Adaptive Re-Use

**Excellence**

**St. Mary's Church/Police Athletic League**

St. Mary's Church, constructed between 1890 - 1903, is located in KCK, in the Strawberry Hill community. The catalyst behind this project is Matt Tomasic, a retired police officer; born and raised in Strawberry Hill. Matt and his team took great pride, care and respect transforming the building. Everything from the clean-up and removal of tons of pigeon guano, to the countless hours spent caulking, sealing and preserving the windows to tediously removing paint that covered the historic frescos. As a Police Athletic League location, it offers youth the opportunity to interact with police officers in a positive setting while participating in academic, cultural, mentoring and sports programs with boxing.

**Excellence**

**Traders on Grand/The Grand Apartments**

In 1962, Traders on Grand was the first high-rise building erected in downtown Kansas City after the Great Depression. This historic 21-story building was reimagined from Class C office space into luxury high-rise apartments with mixed-use space on the ground level. The design team’s desire was to recapture the
building’s original 1960s style while repurposing the narrow 10,000-square-feet floor plates from less desirable office space into high end rentable apartments. Reusing the building’s original steel curtainwall, over 1,200 individual panes of glass were replaced. A multi-level atrium, which was at one point covered over in order to increase leasable office space, was reintroduced in the building’s lobby.

Honors
Norman School/Norman School Lofts

The Norman School was built in 1898 and designed by Charles A. Smith, architect. The school was decommissioned in 2006 and subsequently suffered from neglect and vandalism. It has been restored and renovated into 61 multi-family apartments, 39 units in the historic school and 22 at the additions. The seventeen original classrooms, principal’s office and music room were converted into unique layouts of one and two bedroom units. To help offset the expense of the restoration two new wings were added. With the support of the Valentine neighborhood this blighted building has now once again become a central structure in the history of the area.

Merit
Interstate Building/
Holiday Inn Express

The Chicago style Interstate Building, with Sullivanesque ornamentation, was completed in 1915. The building was designed with open floorplates so tenants could lease and finish out entire floors. Alterations over the years
left few historic finishes. The rehabilitation project retained the marble stairs from the lobby to the landing. The building’s re-use as a hotel takes advantage of its prime location in the heart of the central business district and maximizes the historic building’s value in Kansas City.

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**Best Preservation Practices**

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**Excellence**

**Kemper Arena/Hy-Vee Arena**

The historic Kemper Arena, built in 1974, was designed by internationally acclaimed architect Helmut Jahn. The building’s use declined and was replaced by the Sprint Center in 2007. Foutch Brothers and a group of persistent individuals, including HKC, began a near decade long preservation and redevelopment effort to save the structure and help repurpose the arena. Rescued from demolition, the iconic Kemper Arena is now reimagined as Hy-Vee Arena, a sports lifestyle destination for nationally emerging athletes, Special Olympians and Kansas Citians who enjoy recreational sport.

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**Honors**

**Hotel Savoy/21C Museum Hotel**

The Hotel Savoy, built between 1888 to 1916, is a Kansas City landmark. After a fire in 2014 the iconic Hotel Savoy Grill was closed. The new owners undertook a rehabilitation to open a Kansas City location of the 21C Museum Hotel. Significant aspects of the rehabilitation included restoration of eroded sandstone on the exterior facades; replacement of original windows; and restoration of the historic storefront and historic art glass. The iconic arts and crafts Savoy Grill dining room space was carefully restored and remains a focal point.
The project maintains the original function and features of the building to create a historic backdrop for the innovative display of twenty-first-century art.

**Merit**

University Club/Kansas City Club

On the picturesque 900 block of Baltimore Ave in the quiet Historic 9th District, the new Kansas City Club has been transformed into a premiere event venue. The neo-classical building, built in 1922 for the University Club, later merged with the Kansas City Club. Designed as a men's social club it included a commercial kitchen, locker rooms, fitness rooms, racquetball courts, meeting rooms, pub, ballrooms and dining rooms. Spanning over one and a half years, local craftsmen were sourced for plaster recreation, trim work, tile work, paint, as well as for various mechanical systems. Each space has been restored and features the timeless neoclassical architecture that the Kansas City/University Club was known for.

**Contemporary Design in a Historic Context**

**Excellence**

Pabst/Pendergast Buildings/Crossroads Hotel

Completed in 1911, the Pendergast Building and the Pabst Building both served warehouse and distribution functions for the Pabst Brewery. The Crossroads Hotel adapted both buildings to create a boutique hotel showcasing the buildings' raw industrial character. One of the biggest challenges of the project was the large floorplate of the Pabst Building that inhibited programming of the space in the center of the building. The architects created a new interior atrium that
allowed insertion of hotel guest rooms in the center of the building, as well as around the perimeter. The completed hotel with restaurant and bar housed in historic buildings is a welcome and compatible addition to the historic district.

Honors
St. Peter’s Church/Multipurpose Space

Established in 1925, St. Peter’s Parish has grown into a multi-building campus, including the North school building (c. 1928) and the church (c. 1948). The design concept for the multipurpose space was born out of the project team’s desire to preserve the architectural integrity of the original design. Great care was taken to conceive a design solution that respected the past and looked to the future. Activating the underutilized gap between the historic school and church structures is the new Multipurpose Space. Distinct in its simple language of structural silicone glazed curtain wall, concrete columns, and timber roof structure, the addition is intended to be as transparent as possible and defer to and visually link the existing stone structures, providing new interior gathering space that serves students, educators, and parishioners alike.

Neighborhood Stabilization

Excellence
Blenheim School/Blenheim School Apartments

The Blenheim School became vacant in 2009 during a right-sizing effort by Kansas City Public School District. The district’s “Repurposing Program Initiative” did extensive outreach to the Tri-Blenheim Neighborhood Association. The community
feedback was clear – neighbors wanted to see the school reused as affordable senior housing. The project transform the vacant school into 52 units of safe, quality affordable senior housing. The adaptive re-use retained the primary spaces such as corridors and the auditorium space, which is now a theater. Many walls retain historic chalkboards and historic fireplace mantels adorns an apartment unit.

Honors

Campbell Baking/Wonder Shops + Flats

The Campbell Baking Co. factory, established 1915, shuttered its doors after nearly a century as a Kansas City staple that provided food and jobs for thousands of Kansas City residents. Inspired to preserve its Romanesque Revival features and to reinvigorate the graffiti-scrawled blight for the benefit of its neighbors, the team of architects, investors and project managers planned to convert the vacant factory into modern housing and commercial storefronts. The 87 modern apartments with an industrial edge within the historic Wonder have attracted a diverse tenant mix of age groups, backgrounds, and professions dedicated to the revitalization of Troost.

Merit

Rock the Block

Habitat for Humanity of KC

Habitat for Humanity of Kansas City’s Rock The Block event concentrates hundreds of volunteers on clusters of homes in strategic neighborhoods, making needed repairs of all sizes. Rock the Block is a one-day annual event designed to make a targeted impact in a specific neighborhood. Volunteers help with exterior home repairs to windows, doors, porches, railings and stairs; as well as yard work, painting, lot clean up, yard work. By partnering with local REALTORS, Habitat for Humanity of KC hopes to create positive long-term change for the areas served by the Rock the Block program each year, including higher property values and a general feeling of well-being and community pride for current and
Outstanding Work by a Craftsperson

Excellence
Boley Building Facade Restoration
Structural Engineering Associates

The Boley Building was built in 1909 and designed by Architect Louis Curtiss. The Boley Building is one of the first metal-glass curtain wall buildings in the world, and the first structure in the United States to use hot rolled steel columns instead of built up section design. Moisture infiltration areas were wide spread and created extensive corrosion to the structural steel framing resulting in fracturing of the Terra Cotta veneer. Structural Engineering Associates was tasked with keeping the building open while performing repairs. These repairs included replacing complete sections of structural steel framing above the curtain walls on both the east and south ends of the building and repairs to the steel columns at the corners of the building. A debt of gratitude is owed to the Andrews McMeel Publishing Company for their substantial investment in such a historic building in downtown Kansas City.

Honors
Savoy Grill Millwork Restoration
Tudor Woodworks

Tudor Woodworks' original scope of work included restoration and repair of all woodwork in place. Issues related to the installation of new mechanical/sprinkler systems necessitated out of the box thinking to maintain the spaces historic integrity. Tudor Woodworks' solution - hide those systems within the historic columns and beams. This effort required a full inventory and removal of 8,132 pieces. After all mechanical systems were installed, all 8,132 pieces were reinstalled, repaired and refinished. The space is like a time capsule, with its dark wood wainscoting,
original stained glass windows, carved oak bar, 1903 murals depicting scenes from the Santa Fe Trail, and Harry Truman’s Booth No. 4, has returned with the renovation of the Savoy Hotel/21C Museum Hotel.

**Honors**

**Savoy Grill Bar Restoration**

**Joe Munson Studios**

Joe Munson’s work resulted in a new Savoy Bar for the new 21C Museum Hotel. The design process was challenged with keeping much of the original bar intact, including the original 1903 bar stools. The Back Bar includes extensive wood carving on doors to emulates the craftsmanship of the original bar, and the top of the back bar is fabricated out of green marble that matches the green tile on the bar. The Upper Back Bar Shelving units are up against the original columns and woodwork of the bar; including the original mirrors that are behind the shelving units. Restoration of the carved oak columns with scarab designs remain above the bar, paired with sconces, green subway tiles, brass foot rails and other bar materials makes the bar a special Kansas City landmark patrons will really enjoy.

**Richard Nadeau Award for Organizational Achievement**

**KC Home Rehabber Loan Fund**

**ALTCAP & Legal Aid of Western MO**

Kansas City-Based AltCap partnered with Legal Aid of Western Missouri, with pro bono legal support from Stinson Leonard Street, to build a fund focused entirely on “rehabilitation” of housing in Kansas City’s urban core. AltCap manages the funds, underwriting and services loans to rehabbers that are working in partnership with neighborhood associations. The short-term loans are used to hire laborers, contractors, plumbers, electricians and other construction trades. Legal Aid of Western
Missouri assists neighborhood associations in gaining clear ownership of the abandoned homes, and then turning them over to rehabbers who restore them, and sell or lease them. With more than 5,000 vacant homes and lots in Kansas City, there is an urgent demand for housing rehab funding to improve abandoned and blighted residential properties in the urban core.

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**Jane Flynn Award**

*Councilwoman Katheryn Shields*

Our award recipient this year has demonstrated tremendous leadership in preservation and public policy through more than 35 years of public service. Katheryn first demonstrated her support for preservation during her first term in office when she negotiated the creation of a $1M fund, resulting from the loss of General Hospital, to be used for historic preservation projects in the city.

As Jackson County Executive, she worked to preserve the historic courthouses in downtown Kansas City and in Independence. More recently, again serving as a Councilwoman, Katheryn was a critical player in the effort by preservationists to retain 5 historic buildings surrounding the Nelson Atkins Museum, originally slated for demolition. Together with strong neighborhood leadership, she advocated for a neighborhood Master Plan which mandates the continued use of these historic properties.

Upon taking office in 2015, Katheryn opposed the demolition of 4 large historic apartment buildings on Armour Blvd. Katheryn developed a plan to entice the developer to undertake a complete renovation of these buildings. They now provide many apartments to mid-town residents and are part of a very handsome mid-town block. The Council recently voted unanimously for an overlay district proposal submitted by and championed by
Councilwoman Shields. The Plaza Bowl overlay district is a major “win” for preservation in Kansas City. It codifies existing recommendations but, as a city ordinance, adds more “teeth” to height and use regulations for the bowl, or central low rise area of our iconic Country Club Plaza.

Councilwoman Katheryn Shields follows in the strong tradition Jane Flynn gave us.

George Ehrlich Award

Michael C. Kathrens  
 Kansas City Houses 1885-1938

The great houses of Kansas City weave a rich architectural tapestry, filled with exquisite detailing and sumptuous effects. Kansas City Houses 1885-1938 reveals the architectural treasures built during the city’s boom years. This is the first book to survey the rich architectural heritage of this major Midwestern hub, which straddles the state line between Kansas and Missouri. Architectural historian Michael C. Kathrens spotlights the work of highly accomplished architects, many based in Kansas City who have long been overshadowed by their high-profile East Coast counterparts. He places the significant but little-known architectural legacy of Kansas City in a historical context and traces the development of the city’s exclusive residential neighborhoods starting in 1857, which helped transform the once rough-and-tumble town into a fashionable city with tree-lined blocks populated by handsome houses and private clubs.