

MY HOUSE SHALL BE CALLED  
*of ALL NATIONS* *the* HOUSE *of* PRAYER  
MARK 11:17

THE  
ARCH

february 2018 / volume 4 / number 2



# THE ARCH

february 2018 / volume 4 / number 2

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# FROM THE PRESIDENT TO OUR MEMBERS

The State Bicentennial Commission kicked off its year of celebration in December for Illinois' 200th anniversary. Conceived as a privately funded endeavor, the success of this commemoration is truly dependent upon local organizations taking up the banner to develop programming. This is a fitting opportunity to highlight the vital role preservationists have played to save the very places and shared history the Bicentennial will celebrate. We encourage you to submit creative and compelling preservation-focused programs so that one outcome of this

Education is the first step in engaging people in preservation, because knowing the importance of a place inspires a connection.

anniversary is stronger support for our collective advocacy efforts. Education is the first step in engaging people in preservation, because knowing the importance of a place inspires a connection. Go to [www.illinois200.com](http://www.illinois200.com) to submit an event or project for endorsement and join us in filling Instagram, Twitter and Facebook with photos of people saving places across Illinois using the hashtag, #IllinoisProud.

Using technology, like social media, to inspire evolution of the preservation field was one of four themes advanced at the PastForward 2017 Conference, hosted in Chicago in November by the National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP). ReUrbanism, health outcomes, and diversity and inclusion were the other areas of focus for the TrustLive TED-like talks, which you can find online at the NTHP Facebook page. Landmarks Illinois was the Conference Presenting Partner, made possible with generous support from Alphawood Foundation Chicago. You can see our participation in the videos of the Opening Plenary and TrustLive Health presentations. We were especially gratified that Stephanie Meeks, President & CEO of the NTHP, featured our 2017 organizational video and tagline as evidence of the evolving preservation movement in her opening ceremony remarks. Our focus on "People Saving Places. For People." resonates with a movement that is in the process of expanding its view of the meaning and impact of historic preservation.

Landmarks Illinois has deepened its own understanding of the core values that drive us toward fulfilling our mission. In November, the Board of Directors adopted a new Statement of Values that has been in development for the past year. Conversations with board, staff and LI members led to four focus points: Innovation, Education, Stewardship, and Empowering People and Improving Lives. If "innovation" isn't the first word you associate with preservation, you're not alone. Read our definition by visiting our website, [www.Landmarks.org](http://www.Landmarks.org), and clicking on the "Our Accountability" webpage under the "About Us" menu. You can send me your thoughts, too, at [bmcdonald@landmarks.org](mailto:bmcdonald@landmarks.org).

Preservation is the practice of people saving places for others. Here at LI, our impact depends on the many volunteers who willingly give their time to leverage and expand our capacity, and we dedicate this issue to them. For Valentine's Day, we're giving some love to our volunteers and to the places they are saving. Keep an eye out on social media for how we "show the love" and why we are #IllinoisProud.

Thank you for being one of the people saving Illinois' historic places for our future and for helping to celebrate the Bicentennial with us.

May 2018 bring you success in all things,

*Bonnie McDonald*

Bonnie McDonald



2



**PEOPLE SAVING PLACES**  
LANDMARKS ILLINOIS VOLUNTEERS  
DEDICATE TIME AND RESOURCES TO  
SAVE SPECIAL PLACES

4



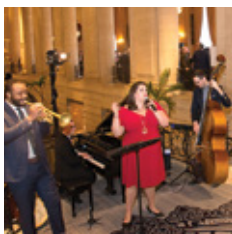
**STATEWIDE NEWS**  
THE STATE OF PRESERVATION

7



**PEOPLE**  
MEET HECTOR ARELLANO

8



**EVENTS**  
2018 LLC

Front cover: In October 2017, a group of volunteers helped clear debris and dirt during a clean-up day organized by LI at the former Central Park Theater. Members of Landmarks Illinois' Skyline Council, Theater Historical Society and Neighborhood Housing Services were among the volunteers, as were LI Director of Advocacy Lisa DiChiera, New House of Prayer's Pastor Robert Marshall and church members. The theater, listed on LI's 2015 Most Endangered Historic Places in Illinois, has sat vacant for several years. Learn more about the clean-up day and other LI-led volunteer efforts on pages 2-3. (Credit: Stephen Perreault)

\*Did you have a chance to read about our 2017 award-winning preservation projects? If not, head to our "Richard H. Driehaus Foundation Preservation Awards" webpage under the "Programs" tab at our website, [www.Landmarks.org](http://www.Landmarks.org).



# PEOPLE SAVING PLACES



## Advocacy Volunteers in Action at Central Park Theater

In October, LI organized a volunteer clean-up day at the former Central Park Theater in Chicago's North Lawndale neighborhood, which the New House of Prayer Church has called home since the 1970s. The 1917 theater designed by famed theater architects Rapp and Rapp was listed on LI's 2015 Most Endangered Historic Places in Illinois. For the last several years, New House of Prayer Church has been unable to worship inside the building due to building court violations and subsequent bankruptcy. The congregation is trying to return to the historic space, however, and the recent clean-up day helped the church get one step closer to making that a reality. Volunteers from Landmarks Illinois' Skyline Council, the Theater Historical Society and Neighborhood Housing Services of Chicago joined LI Director of Advocacy Lisa DiChiera, New House of Prayer's Pastor Robert Marshall and church members to clean out debris and dirt from the former theater lobby and auditorium left after years of vacancy.

LI also recently provided the church \$2,500 in emergency funding to help restore electricity to the building. Pastor Marshall sent LI a letter after the clean-up day thanking the organization and volunteers for their service.

"Landmarks Illinois has embodied service to the community. We are extremely grateful for the volunteers who took time to clean the Central Park Theater," Pastor Marshall wrote. "I wish you could have

Landmarks Illinois volunteers are people saving places. In the last year alone, more than 150 dedicated individuals have given their time to help Landmarks Illinois save the historic and special places that make our communities unique and vibrant. Without their help, we would not be able to carry out our mission-driven programs, put on our annual events and ensure that our state's cultural heritage and historic structures remain intact for future generations to enjoy and appreciate. Here, we share a few examples of the impact and importance of the work of Landmarks Illinois' volunteers. For some impressive statistics on LI volunteers, see our "By the Numbers" on Page 6.

seen the hope in my parishioners' eyes when they were able to reenter the facility after years of being locked out. However, it was not just a clean facility that provided the hope, it was also with the switch of a button we were able to turn on lights in the theater that made that day remarkable."

## Skyline Council Continues Long-term Service Project at Whitney Schoolhouse

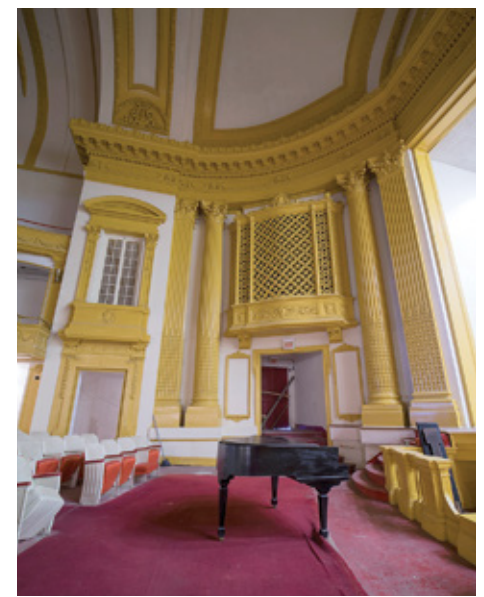
For the last several years, members of Landmarks Illinois' young and emerging professionals committee, the Skyline Council, have been volunteering their time to restore the historic Whitney School, a pre-Civil War, one-room schoolhouse in Campton Hills. The schoolhouse is Northeastern Illinois' second oldest, intact one-room schoolhouse, and Kane County's oldest surviving school structure.

In the fall of 2015, Skyline Council members worked to clean up and secure the schoolhouse, which had fallen into a state of disrepair. They also prepared a Historic Structure Report and Phased Work Plan to document existing conditions and provide prioritized recommendations for rehabilitation that address the building's structural system, exterior and interior spaces. Later, the Skyline Council completed a Relocation and Reuse Site Study, which convinced Campton Township officials to green light a move of the schoolhouse for a new public use, once funding is secured.

In addition, the Skyline Council has prepared a preliminary determination of eligibility for the National Register of

Historic Places and a draft local landmark nomination and are taking necessary steps to ensure any changes or relocation of the schoolhouse will not jeopardize landmark listing. Throughout the project, the Skyline Council has also worked closely with the State Historic Preservation Office and the Kane County Office of Community Reinvestment to make sure rehabilitation work and the relocation are appropriate to the historic character, setting and context of the schoolhouse.

Skyline Council Member Erica Ruggiero said the ultimate goal is to see the Whitney Schoolhouse repurposed into an environmental education center at the township-owned Gray Willows Farm in Campton Hills, which is already home to the Monarch Corridor restoration program, native wetlands, Wheaton College Living Laboratory classes, native oak propagation



"Our work together helps reinforce to our community the cultural significance and value of preserving our built environment."

and Boy Scouts of America campgrounds. The Skyline Council plans to continue to pursue funding in 2018 for moving the schoolhouse, including applying for a grant through Kane County's Grand Victoria Riverboat Fund.

"It's important to me to preserve a structure with such significant local and regional historic, architectural and intrinsic value, not only for the community of Campton Township, who built the schoolhouse 166 years ago, but also for its contribution to the early settlement history of Northeastern Illinois and its place in the legacy of the Illinois educational system," said Ruggiero.

## Volunteers Ensure Historic Character Maintained at Easement Properties

Landmarks Illinois holds nearly 550 preservation easements on historic properties throughout the state. An LI easement is a legal agreement between LI and the owner of a historic property that ensures the protection and historic integrity of the exterior elevations. To

oversee all these easements, LI relies on its dedicated and knowledgeable volunteers. If the owner of the property wishes to make a change to the exterior of their historic home or structure, they must first obtain approval from LI to make sure federal preservation guidelines are followed. LI has a volunteer Easement Committee – a group of historic preservation, real estate and building professionals that reviews proposed alterations to easement properties and advises LI staff. Additionally, easement monitors evaluate all easement properties both on an annual and as-needed basis and report back to LI. LI relies on many volunteers to complete this work.

Simpson Gumpertz & Heger (SGH) has long been involved in the field of preservation and has partnered with LI to perform easement inspections since 2014.

"Our work together helps reinforce to our community the cultural significance and value of preserving our built environment," said David Sacks, an architect with SGH and

an LI easement volunteer. "Recognizing that good information is necessary to make good decisions, we strive to provide LI with meaningful information to maximize the value they're providing to every project. Good information drives good decisions, and good decisions benefit the entire community." ■

Learn more about LI's preservation easement program on our website: [www.Landmarks.org/preservation-programs/preservation-easements/](http://www.Landmarks.org/preservation-programs/preservation-easements/).

*Clockwise from far left: David Sacks, R.A., David Lutz and Andrea La Greca (from left to right) from Simpson Gumpertz & Heger are among LI's easement monitors. (Credit: David Sacks)*

*Skyline Council members work inside Whitney Schoolhouse. (credit: Chris Enk)*

*Skyline Council Members Erica Ruggiero (on the ladder) and Lauren Garvey take measurements of the outside of Whitney Schoolhouse. (Credit: Matthew Seymour)*

*Inside the Central Park Theater designed by architects Rapp and Rapp. (Credit: Tatyana Perreault)*



# THE STATE OF PRESERVATION

## CHARLES HENRY HERMANN RESIDENCE GLENCOE

With an improved real estate market, teardown projects have resumed at a rapid pace on the North Shore and in the western suburbs. Most shocking is the number of large estate homes on the North Shore that are selling for millions of dollars, to be demolished and replaced by new, luxury homes. In August, the Village of Glencoe placed a 180-day demolition delay on an application by Highgate Builders to demolish the 1911, Howard Van Doren Shaw-designed Hermann residence at 411 Lakeside Terrace, due to its honorary landmark status. The delay expires February 23, 2018, and no further regulatory delay is possible after that date.

*(Credit: Architectural Record)*



HERMAN HOUSE

## JACKSON PARK



## JACKSON PARK CHICAGO

A federal review process, known as Section 106, was initiated for the future Obama Presidential Center at Jackson Park. This process, in which federal agencies study the impact of proposed plans on historic sites, buildings and cultural resources, was triggered due to proposed road changes in and around Jackson Park to accommodate the Obama Presidential Center. Because Jackson Park and the Midway Plaisance are listed in the National Register of Historic Places, the Federal Highway Administration, the lead agency, initiated the review process. Section 106 will allow for "consulting parties" to consider potential impacts to the historic integrity of Jackson Park and propose mitigations. LI is among several designated consulting parties. The first public meeting for this review process was held December 1, 2017.

*(Credit: Jackson Park, Chicago, IL, 2017. Courtesy The Cultural Landscape Foundation, photo © Steven Vance.)*

## MOTT BUILDING ELSAH

Faced with a deteriorating 19th-century building in its historic district, the Village of Elsau opted to restore, rather than demolish, the two-story Mott Building, which originally served as a drugstore. Elsau leaders saw its continuing deterioration as a threat to the village's historic charm, tourism industry and economic vitality. The Village identified historic preservation as a cornerstone of its recent strategic plan. The restoration of the Mott Building is seen as an opportunity to put that plan into action. Landmarks Illinois is contributing to the project with a \$3,000 Preservation Heritage Fund grant to assist with repairs to the building's limestone foundation.

*(Credit: Village of Elsau)*

## MOTT BUILDING



# IN THE FIELD

statewide

## FEDERAL HISTORIC TAX CREDIT (FHTC)

Congress passed its tax bill December 20, 2017, which retained the FHTC. While the delivery of the FHTC has changed to a 5-year payout period, eliminating the ability for a property owner to claim the full 20% credit in one year, this was a victory over previous proposals to reduce the credit to 10%, or eliminate it altogether. LI thanks our members and colleagues throughout the state for reaching out to their U.S. Representatives about the value of historic preservation's most important financing tool. We especially thank our board members in the Rockford, LaSalle and Peoria regions (Gary Anderson, Inga Carus and Katie Kim, respectively) for their tireless outreach to U.S. Reps. Adam Kinzinger and Darin LaHood, who remained dedicated advocates for the FHTC during the tax reform negotiations. The Old Main Post Office in Chicago, pictured, is a planned rehabilitation project that is using the FHTC.



## STRAN-STEEL HOUSE Wilmette

An original model home from the Century of Progress International Exposition of 1933-34 in Chicago was recently rediscovered in Wilmette at 2105 Chestnut St. LI was contacted by a former commissioner of the Wilmette Historic Preservation Commission regarding her concern that the house was marketed as a teardown despite its historical significance. LI contacted architect John Eifler, who took on additional research and, after an onsite inspection, confirmed it to be the Good Housekeeping Stran-Steel House, one of two Stran-Steel houses that were moved after the fair. A different model was previously moved to Palos Heights, but was demolished in the 1990s. The developer, who purchased the Wilmette home with the intention of replacing it with two new houses, was informed of its importance and, as of press time, was considering his options, including a move or sale of the property.

*(Credit: Landmarks Illinois)*



## CHAUTAUQUA AUDITORIUM Shelbyville

Despite significant progress in stabilizing the Chautauqua in Shelbyville, the Chautauqua Auditorium Preservation Committee experienced a setback in recent months. An engineer found moisture rot where the exterior wall meets the roof, causing the roof to sag. Addressing the damage to the support columns and replacing the roof as soon as possible are essential if the building is to be saved. Prior to an awareness of this issue, the preservation committee had made steady progress in restoring the auditorium, including making structural repairs, fixing windows and solving drainage issues. Committee members continue to work with LI on fundraising and advocacy for this 20-sided building. LI included the Shelbyville Chautauqua on our 2009 Most Endangered Historic Places in Illinois. The building is also on the National Register of Historic Places. To donate to the Chautauqua Auditorium Preservation Committee's efforts, go to [www.shelbyvillechautauqua.org](http://www.shelbyvillechautauqua.org).

*(Credit: Landmarks Illinois)*



statewide





## WWI GRANT Doughboy Statue, Herrin

The E.M. Viquesney "Spirit of the American Doughboy" statue in downtown Herrin commemorates those who fought in World War I. The statue was acquired through a project spearheaded by members of various veterans groups. This is one of only five original Viquesney Doughboys remaining in Illinois. It was dedicated on September 6, 1927, in the center of the intersection of Park Avenue and Monroe Street, in Herrin's downtown area. The statue was moved several times before settling across from City Hall in 2002.

In recognition of the 100th anniversary of U.S. entry into WWI, the Herrin Doughboy Committee, which is comprised of representatives of various organizations throughout the city, has been charged with ensuring the preservation of the statue. The Committee, which recently began fundraising for this effort, will use a WWI Monuments Preservation Grant from Landmarks Illinois to support the cleaning and repairs of the statue.

LI's WWI Monument Preservation Grant Program is made possible with generous support from the Pritzker Military Foundation. For more information about the WWI Monument Preservation Grant Program and the other LI grants recently awarded, visit our website at [www.Landmarks.org/resources/financial-resources/](http://www.Landmarks.org/resources/financial-resources/).

GRANT  
PROFILES



## PRESERVATION HERITAGE FUND GRANT First National Bank, Rantoul

The First National Bank building, constructed in 1884, is the oldest standing bank in Rantoul. The local landmark is one of the original buildings in the downtown of this historic railroad hub between Chicago and southern Illinois. The Village of Rantoul acquired the property, which has been vacant for several decades, with the intention of stabilizing the building for future restoration. The Village was awarded a Preservation Heritage Fund Grant in December 2017, and will use the funding to work with Melotte Morse Leonatti Parker Architects from Springfield to create accurate cost estimates and identify realistic adaptive reuses for the corner building. The Village will also be doing market studies for residential uses and considering the improvements needed to stabilize the structure prior to sale or recruitment of new owners or tenants. This is an example of a community taking the initiative to ensure the preservation of one of its local landmarks. For more information about the Preservation Heritage Fund Grant Program and the other grants recently awarded visit our website at [www.Landmarks.org/resources/financial-resources/](http://www.Landmarks.org/resources/financial-resources/).

## BY THE NUMBERS

Landmarks Illinois is grateful for the incredible generosity of our supporters and volunteers. Here are some impressive volunteer numbers for the year of 2017.

151

Number of active  
LI volunteers

1,808

Est. number of  
donated hours  
(or, almost a full-time  
staff person)

\$66,195

Value of professional  
contributed  
services

47 years

Longest consistently  
serving volunteer:  
Dr. Martin Tangora

PEOPLE

## MEET HECTOR ARELLANO

**Hector Arellano is the Director of Pointing, Cleaning and Caulking with the International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers, Administrative District Council 1 of Illinois. During his nearly 30 years in the union, Hector has served as a foreman and assistant superintendent and was a part- and full-time apprenticeship & training instructor for 18 years before becoming a Business Representative for the union in 2014. Hector is also a supporter of Landmarks Illinois, sponsoring and attending our Legendary Landmarks Celebration each March. Below, Hector talks about why he enjoys tuckpointing and restoring historic buildings in Chicagoland. An extended version of this interview can be found at our website, [www.landmarks.org](http://www.landmarks.org).**



### Landmarks Illinois: What led you to become a tuckpointer?

**Hector Arellano:** There was a slowdown in construction activity when I was working in the industry in the late '70s, so I took an opportunity to work for a tuckpointing outfit, and I fell in love with the trade. Initially, what fascinated me about the trade was hanging off the scaffolding. The level of skill required to do the work also impressed me.

### LI: What do you find most rewarding about working on older, historic buildings?

**HA:** Walking around downtown Chicago, you see people admiring beautiful, old buildings and you get a sense of pride knowing that you worked on that building and were a part of keeping it around for generations to come. Sometimes, too, when we are dismantling or restoring older buildings, you find memorabilia like old union cards, calling cards or messages written on walls. That is something most people will never see.

### LI: What are the challenges associated with repairing historic buildings?

**HA:** One challenge is learning to work with new materials to fit or match with the older materials on the building. Obviously, you

won't have materials that exactly match the old stone or masonry because of age and wear, so you have to learn to tweak or fit it in so when people look at it, they do not see major differences.

### LI: Has there been a favorite historic building you have worked on in your career?

**HA:** The Carson Pirie Scott & Co. Building in Chicago. The job included very satisfying, beautiful detailed work, cleaning and preserving parts and reinstalling others. It is amazing to be able to see famous architecture up close and see how pieces were fastened to the buildings so they stay in place.

### LI: Why do you support Landmarks Illinois?

**HA:** I support Landmarks Illinois because of the education the organization brings to the public. LI brings attention to our older buildings around us and helps communities understand their historical significance and value. The organization has done a great job spreading this awareness to the public.

*Hector Arellano (right) with guests at the Tuckpointers Promotional Trust table at LI's 2017 Legendary Landmarks Celebration. (Credit: Diane Alexander White Photography)*

"Walking around downtown Chicago, you see people admiring beautiful, old buildings and you get a sense of pride knowing that you worked on that building and were a part of keeping it around for generations to come."



# Legendary Landmarks Celebration

MARCH 15, 2018  
Hilton Chicago Grand Ballroom  
720 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago

5:30 p.m. – Cocktail Reception  
7:00 p.m. – Award Ceremony & dinner  
8:45 p.m. – Dessert reception

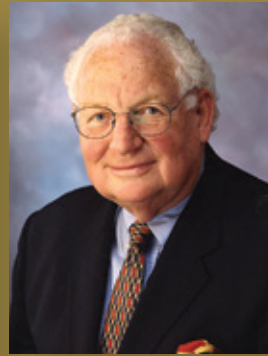
Join Landmarks Illinois as Berglund Construction, Daniel Levin and Toni Preckwinkle officially join the ranks of influential people and corporations named “Legendary Landmarks” at the highly anticipated Legendary Landmarks Celebration. In its 13th season, the celebration gathers Landmarks Illinois’ biggest supporters and most dedicated advocates for an evening of networking, dinner, cocktails and entertainment. This year’s event is expected to attract over 800 guests and drive record-breaking support for Landmarks Illinois’ mission-driven programs. For reservations and table sponsorship opportunities, visit [www.Landmarks.org](http://www.Landmarks.org).

## 2018 HONOREES



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Fred Berglund,  
President

*Corporate Legendary Landmark*



**DANIEL LEVIN**  
Founder and Chairman  
of The Habitat  
Company

*Legendary Landmark*



**TONI PRECKWINKLE**  
Cook County Board  
President

*Legendary Landmark*

## PASTFORWARD 2017 Partners

Thank you to the Landmarks Illinois partners who helped underwrite PastForward 2017, the National Trust for Historic Preservation’s national conference in Chicago this past November. As Presenting Partner, Landmarks Illinois called upon many friends to help make this national gathering of preservation-minded people possible. Hats off to these generous supporters!



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## Skyline Social

SKYLINE COUNCIL HOSTS ITS LARGEST FUNDRAISER! Skyline Council, Landmarks Illinois’ young and emerging professionals committee, hosted the largest fundraiser in its history on November 16, 2017, in support of LI’s advocacy programs. The 2017 Skyline Social was hosted in partnership with PastForward, the National Trust for Historic Preservation’s annual conference, which took place in Chicago for the first time in 20 years. Over 400 individuals from across the nation enjoyed this fun evening of tours, music and cocktails at Revel Motor Row, the former Chicago Defender building in the city’s Motor Row District. The event also celebrated the 25th Anniversary of NTHP’s Diversity Scholarship Program, which, like Landmarks Illinois, is dedicated to engaging the next generation of preservation leaders and prioritizing an inclusive movement.

*Skyline Council members gather at the 2017 Skyline Social event.  
(Credit: JM Photo Chicago)*

## CONTRIBUTIONS

# THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS

SEPTEMBER 10 – DECEMBER 16, 2017

Through membership dues, contributions, event sponsorship and grants, Landmarks Illinois is able to preserve, protect and promote Illinois’ historic buildings and sites. The Board of Directors, volunteers and staff sincerely thank all our supporters for their contributions. However, space allows us to only list the following.

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Van Dam Charitable Foundation

### \$10,000 AND ABOVE

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3.8

**LEGENDARY LANDMARKS CELEBRATION**

4.25

Release of  
**LI'S 2018 MOST ENDANGERED HISTORIC PLACES IN ILLINOIS**

5.15

**APPLICATION DEADLINE FOR LANDMARKS ILLINOIS GRANT PROGRAMS**  
Preservation Heritage Fund, Barbara C. and Thomas E. Donnelley II Preservation Fund and the WWI Monument Preservation Grant Program

5.3

**PRESERVATION SNAPSHOTS**  
SHELDON PECK: BRINGING THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD HOME  
DuPage County Historical Museum  
*Sheldon Peck Homestead, Lombard (Credit: Jean Follett)*

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