

LANDMARK LINK

The newsletter of the Oak Park Historic Preservation Commission

Celebrating Oak Park's commitment to history

A night to remember at the Preservation Awards ceremony

Oak Park's Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) recognized property owners for their outstanding work on historic buildings last fall at the annual Preservation Awards.

Unity Temple graciously played host to the 2012 "Celebrating Stewardship: Heritage, Environment, Design" event on the evening of Nov. 13, when the HPC honored six projects around Oak Park for their sensitive and creative rehabilitation of buildings.

For the first time, the event was also shared by the Environment & Energy Commission's Green Awards and the Community Design Commission's Cavalcade of Pride Awards.

Architects, contractors, and designers joined property owners in Frank Lloyd Wright's stunning sanctuary to receive their awards from former Village President David Pope.

To receive monthly email notices about historic preservation in Oak Park, just send an email to historicpreservation@oak-park.us to be added to the list.



Christina Morris, HPC chair, welcomes attendees to the annual Preservation Awards ceremony on Nov. 13. Below, winners celebrate their awards following the presentation.



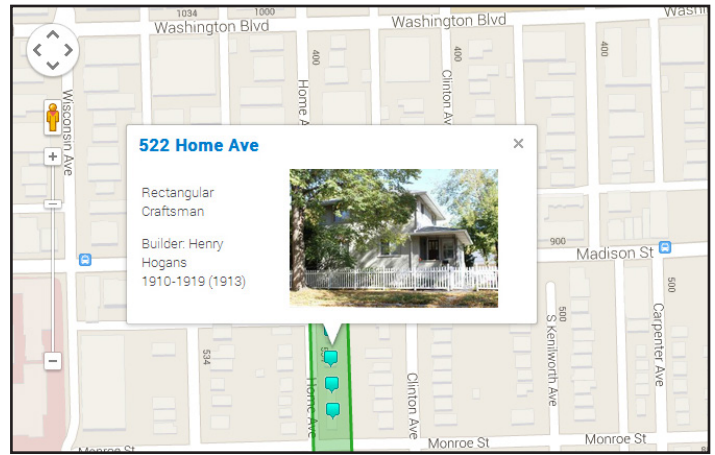
Fall 2013

For more information, call 708.358.5417 or e-mail historicpreservation@oak-park.us.

Student project helps identify historic resources in Oak Park

Graduate students from the Historic Preservation Program at the School of the Art Institute completed an intensive architectural survey of the Hogans Home Subdivision on Home Avenue and the Hulbert Subdivision on Clinton and South Kenilworth avenues between Madison and Harrison earlier this year.

The surveys were uploaded directly into the Village's RuskinArc software, available for viewing on-line at www.ruskinarc.com/oak-park. The class was taught by architect Charles Pipal. As a result, the Historic Preservation Commission is currently seeking a determination from the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency on whether these two subdivisions would be eligible for listing as National Register Historic Districts. More information will be available in the late Fall 2013.



The project allows visitors to browse maps of historic districts and see historic details on individual residences.

Archaeology in Oak Park?

Archaeology is the study of the ancient and recent human past through material remains. It is a subfield of anthropology, the study of all human culture. From 2 million-year-old fossilized remains of our earliest tool-making human ancestors in Africa, to 19th and 20th century buildings in present-day Oak Park, archaeology analyzes the physical remains of the past in pursuit of an understanding of human culture.

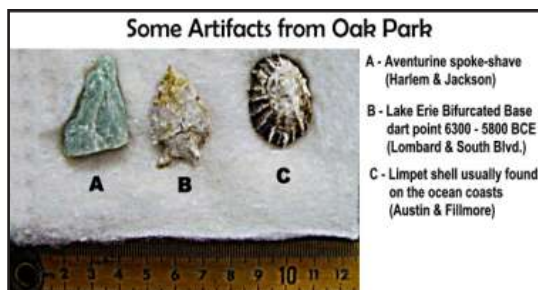
Archaeology is part of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and needs to be considered in any Historic Preservation Plan. Until recently, it was not known that archaeology existed in Oak Park. However, folk names hinted at it, such as Skeleton Park—the name long-time local residents had for Taylor Park.

In the photo below, **Artifact A** is a “spoke-shave,” used to strip the bark off of saplings which would be used as short spears for hunting or as arrow shafts.

Artifact B is an example of a dart point. Archaeologists study these types of artifacts to determine what the native peoples ate.

Artifact C is a shell of a limpet. Although commonly found on the rocky coasts of oceans, there are freshwater limpets found along the shores of the Great Lakes.

(Source: Triton College Behavioral Sciences Department, compiled and edited by Dr. John P. Tandarich, Adjunct Professor of Anthropology and Geography, jtandari@triton.edu, who welcomes comments and questions.)



New Landmark



209-211 S. ELMWOOD AVE. The Carlton H. Catlin Flats was designed by architect E. E. Roberts in 1905 in the Prairie style. Designated on April 1, 2013.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

The Historic Preservation Division is part of the Community and Economic Development Department. According to the preservation ordinance, all building and demolition permits must be reviewed if they are designated as Historic Landmarks or located within a Historic District. There are approximately 4,000 buildings which fall under those categories. During FY2012, the Historic Preservation Division reviewed 1,217 permit applications, of which only 58 required review by the Historic Preservation Commission.

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

The Architectural Review Committee (or ARC) is a sub-committee of the Historic Preservation Commission made up of five architects and contractors. The role of the ARC is to meet with applicants in an informal setting to discuss a proposal and provide feedback and direction based on the Architectural Review Guidelines. The ARC, as well as Staff, may also approve applications for Certificates of Appropriateness and Certificates of Advisory Review when the proposed work involves restoration of original conditions, no changes in materials, changes not visible from the street, work on non-contributing structures, or other types of activities determined by the Commission to have limited effect on the historic, architectural, or aesthetic qualities of Landmarks or districts.

Historic Preservation Commission Members

Rosanne McGrath, Chair

Joerg Albrecht
Greg Battaglia
Fred Brandstrader
Garret Eakin
Frank Heitzman

Regina Nally
Drew Niemann
Gary Palese
Tony Quinn
Tom Sundling

The Historic Preservation Commission is an 11-member body of citizen volunteers appointed by the Village President to implement the Village's Historic Preservation Ordinance. Its mission is to preserve, protect and enhance the distinctive historic

and architectural heritage of Oak Park. The Commission strives to preserve the historic integrity of the Village by reviewing alterations of the exteriors of historic properties to ensure that the historic character of the building exteriors is preserved. The

Commission also identifies landmark buildings and historic districts, and seeks to enhance the attractiveness of the Village by educating property owners and citizens about the importance of preservation, restoration and rehabilitation of properties.