

Cornerstone

December 2013

Columbus Landmarks Foundation advocates for, promotes and preserves Columbus landmarks and neighborhoods.

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Executive Director

Ed Lentz
elentz@columbuslandmarks.org

Associate Director

Becky West
bwest@columbuslandmarks.org

In Memory

Columbus Landmarks wishes to express sympathy for the loss of former trustee James L. Beier who passed away November 20, 2013.



Welcoming the Challenges

by Ed Lentz, Executive Director

Having had the pleasure of being the Interim Executive Director of Columbus Landmarks since February, it is with gratification that I take the position of Executive Director of Columbus Landmarks Foundation on a permanent basis. Having held this job for five years in the 1980s and for more than a few months in 2013, I have no illusions about the work we face as a preservation organization. I am not awed by these challenges and opportunities. I welcome them as I hope the friends of Columbus Landmarks will welcome them as well. For more than 35 years, Columbus Landmarks has been a force for the preservation of the built environment and the advocacy of sound new design.

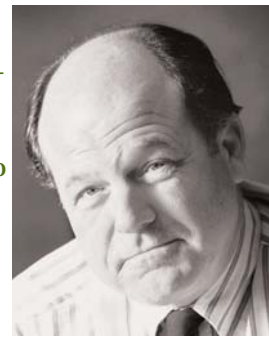
That is what we do. That is who we are.

I chose to come back to Columbus Landmarks on a permanent basis because Columbus and central Ohio are on the verge of achieving what has been sought for this city since the day it was brought into being by the Ohio General Assembly on February 14, 1812. We have always been a good and generous city. We now are on the verge of being a great city as well.

Over the course of the past several years we have become the largest city in land area and the largest city in population in Ohio. Over the next several years we will become even larger and even more significant as a national center for creativity, innovation and positive social change.

As our city changes and our people change with it, it is even more important that we do not lose our living links with the past. A city is defined not only by its people but also by its streets, its structures and by the story of who it has been. We have a great story to tell - and Columbus Landmarks likes to tell it.

Over the next several years we will continue to do what we have always done so well. We will conduct walking tours, bus tours and a variety of other educational programs. We will recognize the best in Columbus design with our awards program - anchored by the prestigious James B. Recchie Design Award. And we will do our best to save the best of the built environment for the enjoyment of the people who will follow after us.



As we do all of these things, we will also move forward with new initiatives as well. In January, Columbus Landmarks will hold its regular strategic planning exercise and our Board will plan the direction of our next three years. If there are things we need to be doing - or doing in new ways - this is the time for you to let us know. I hope you will. Please support our work with a year-end donation, annual membership, and by making a donation to the African American Landmarks Preservation Initiative and the Columbus Endangered List through power2give.org by January 14.

Big Give Thanks

Columbus Landmarks received **50 donations totaling \$17,476.28**, including bonus pool and credit card fee reimbursement funds, during The Columbus Foundation's Big Give in September. This generosity will help us to continue to be the voice of preservation in central Ohio, advocating for important historic structures like the Old Port Columbus Airport Terminal and more.

Thank you for supporting Columbus Landmarks through the Big Give!

Match Available

Support Two Projects With



Greater Columbus Arts Council has launched an exciting new crowdfunding platform called power2give. Columbus Landmarks Foundation is very pleased to have two worthy projects featured on this unique fundraising website – the **African American Landmarks Preservation Initiative** and **Columbus Most Endangered Historic Sites List**.

The minimum donation on power2give is just \$1. As an added incentive for donating, the **City of Columbus is matching donations** to the African American Landmarks Preservation Initiative and **Cardinal Health** is matching donations to Columbus Most Endangered Historic Sites. This tremendous support doubles your gift.

African American Landmarks Preservation Initiative

Goal: Raise \$10,000 (\$5,000 through match)

Deadline: January 13, 2014

In February 2013, Columbus Landmarks launched the African American Landmarks Preservation Initiative to collect histories of significant African American people, buildings, and communities in order to better understand, recognize and protect these local historic treasures. The initiative is funded in part by grants from the Ohio Humanities Council, a state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, and by the Richard and Julia Moe Fund of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

To date, over 30 volunteer researchers have been trained and are responsible for researching and documenting African American settlements in Columbus including Burnside Heights, Hanford Village, Flytown, Poindexter Village, Bronzeville, and more. Church members, community residents, elders and others are invited to sweep away the dust and contribute their

valuable information to help fill out the story of African American settlements in Columbus. This important research will be included in a publication and archived for the future.

Your donation is now needed to expand the initiative in 2014, ensuring that the research team grows and is equipped to uncover and document little known treasures, uncovering the rich history of significant African American people, buildings and communities in Columbus. The following neighborhoods and landmarks will be added to the study: Lucy Depp, Shepard, Eastgate, Mudsock, Teakwood Heights, Urbancrest, and Walnut Hills Country Club. A lecture series, exhibit and publication will be produced.

Most Endangered Historic Sites List

Goal: Raise \$10,000 (\$5,000 through match)

Deadline: January 13, 2014

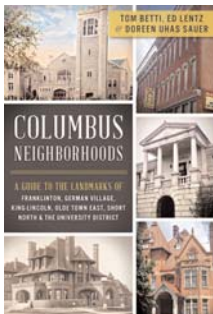
We are also raising funds for the inaugural Columbus Most Endangered Historic Sites List, helping us to spotlight the most threatened structures and areas. The list will be widely promoted to protect our shared heritage and make Columbus an even richer environment for future generations. Cities our size throughout the country have developed similar programs that have engaged their residents to make preservation a priority.

The \$10,000 raised through power2Give will website construction (\$2,500), professional support of public relations and social media (\$4,000), advertising and promotion (\$2,500), and p2g admin fees (\$1,000).

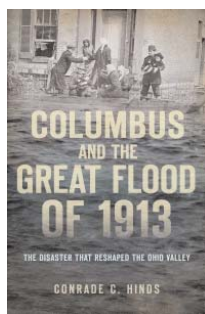


Columbus Landmarks Books Available For Holiday Gift-Giving

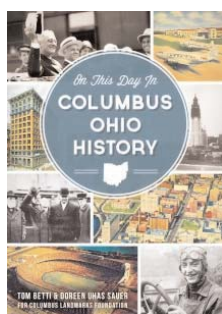
Order online at columbuslandmarks.org/by phone at 614-221-0227/or visit us at 61 Jefferson Ave.



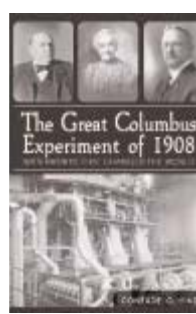
PRICE:
\$15
(or \$20 with shipping)



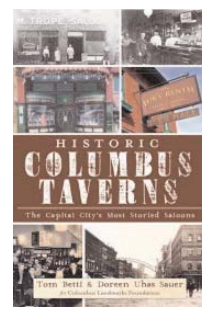
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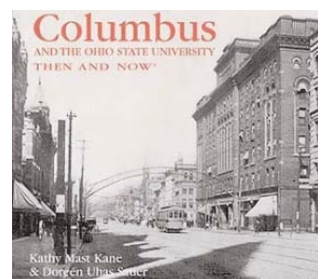
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\$10
(or \$15 with shipping)



PRICE:
\$15
(or \$20 with shipping)



PRICE:
\$15
(or \$20 with shipping)



PRICE:
\$20
(or \$30 with shipping)

61 Jefferson Avenue Columbus, OH 43215
(614) 221-0227



ColumbusLandmarks.org

Gunning House Revisited

We receive regular inquiries about the fate of the 1940 Glenbrow Gunning House, a rare example of Frank Lloyd Wright-influenced architecture located at 7495 E. Broad Street. The house, vacant since 2005, still stands but continues to deteriorate and is now being marketed as commercial property by The Robert Weiler Company (list price \$297,500). The home was designed by Tony Smith (Wright apprentice), Theodore van Fossen (designed Rush Creek Village), and Laurence Cuneo (Wright apprentice, interior designer). It is an important and early example of Smith's architectural work, who also went on to be a nationally known artist and sculptor in the mid 20th century. The Gunning House was a catalyst for the development of van Fossen's philosophies of organic architecture. The evolution of his designs for Rush Creek Village in Worthington can be directly traced to the Gunning House. Although the house has suffered some deterioration from the elements and lack of maintenance, it remains a rare and early example of mid 20th century Organic-Modernist architecture in central Ohio. Rikki Santer wrote the following poem after visiting the property last summer.

The Readability of Place; Blacklick, Ohio

by Rikki Santer

Steamy July morning to trespass
and bear witness to the junction
of three quarters of a century
and the Glenbrow Gunning House
where a miniature epic
slips slowly away.

How to abandon cedar, sandstone
and cypress to the stubborn
stubble of field and ravine
that beards over ghosts
of blueprint genius,
and domestic stride.

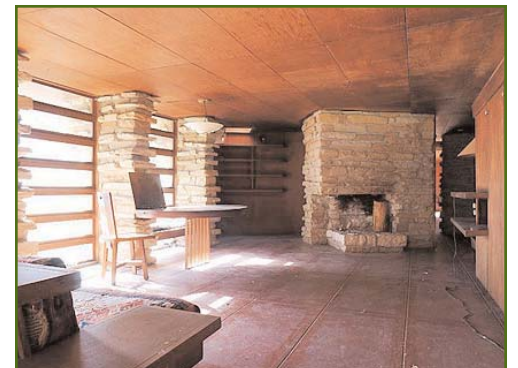
How to surrender the poetry
on two and a half acres--
a tennis court ragged
greens between its teeth,
swimming pool molasses
pregnant with cattails,
two vulture chicks stumbling
inside a stone tower.

Musty echoes of clinking
martinis and moonlit
soirees. Walls of drawers

pardon barren shoe boxes,
and dissolving sachets.
How much can a prairie
tiara sag with its beauty
still brave?

Squint beyond the warping
and cobwebbing. Kitchen
cabinets of butter, coral,
teal. Mathematical grids
of clerestory windows and
rainbowed light screens.
Stacked slabs of arenite
to cantilever the heart
of fireplace. A horizontal
vocabulary, the opened
body of home.

Jet planes and highway
traffic scar the memory
of this evaporating retreat
while spiders, mice
and dragonflies
keep the rhythm.





Hanford Village On Track For National Register Listing

by Rory Krupp, Historic Preservation Consultant

Note: The Hanford Village George Washington Carver Addition Historic District National Register nomination was reviewed and passed by the Ohio Historic Site Preservation Advisory Board on September 27, 2013. The nomination is awaiting final approval by the National Park Service. The National Register of Historic Places is the official list of properties recognized by the federal government as worthy of preservation for their local, state, or national significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, or culture. Columbus Landmarks was awarded a Certified Local Government Grant from the Ohio Historic Preservation Office to prepare this nomination. Rory Krupp, Historic Preservation Consultant, prepared the nomination and contributed the following article.

Almost everyone in Columbus has seen the four houses on the left when you exit I-70 on Alum Creek Drive. However, what many people don't realize is that those four houses are on track to be a National Register historic district for African American history.

The four houses on Alum Creek Drive, plus 89 other Cape Cod houses opposite of I-70 along Nelson Road between Main Street and Livingston Avenue, make up the George Washington Carver Addition, one of the first FHA-financed, veterans-preference housing developments for black veterans in the country. The Carver Addition was constructed in 1946-1947 in Hanford Village, a historically segregated municipality sandwiched between the cities of Columbus and Bexley. The Hanford Village George Washington Carver Addition Historic District illustrates the intersection of federal housing policy, civil rights, and limits placed on African American citizenship in the late 1940s.

Hanford was founded in 1909. The village became a majority African American municipality during the 1920s Great Migration. Boasting its own city government, fire and police departments the village was its own municipal entity until it was annexed by Columbus in 1955.

Originally designed to be wartime housing for black workers, Hanford Village construction was delayed until after the war by local whites opposed to expanding the area where blacks could live in Columbus. Also in 1946-47, the Tuskegee Airmen (the 477th Composite Group of the Army Air Force) were moved to Lockbourne Army Air Base--once again, after facing strong local opposition. Many of the active duty Tuskegee Airmen purchased homes in the Carver Addition.

During this time, the Federal Housing Administration was moving to increase housing opportunities for African Americans, and the Carver Addition was featured in FHA promotional materials to show that African American suburbs were not only profitable for developers, but also were good investments for communities. The campaign was successful; thanks to the Carver Addition's example, federal mortgages and housing opportunities for African Americans increased radically. The new district will include not only the Carver Addition but also two of its key community assets: Hanford Park and St. Mark's Missionary Baptist Church. All three were instrumental to Hanford residents' lives in segregated Columbus and served as a national example of how African Americans were capable and worthy of all aspects of American citizenship.



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COMING UP

Holiday StopAround December 7
Discovery District

