

PRESERVATION OKLAHOMA NEWS

A joint project of the State Historic Preservation Office and Preservation Oklahoma



July 2008 Volume XIV No. 4

Dye, Ferrell, and Fritz Receive Preservation Oklahoma Awards



Karen Dye receives Preservation Oklahoma 2008 award from Bret Carter



Sally Ferrell celebrates receiving Preservation Oklahoma 2008 award



Beth Terrill accepting Preservation Oklahoma 2008 award for Herb Fritz

Preservation Oklahoma honored the 2008 Preservation Oklahoma Award recipients at the annual meeting held on June 5 in Ponca City, Oklahoma. Recipients were recognized for their tenacity, courage and determination that have come to epitomize the strong unifying qualities of successful preservation projects across Oklahoma.

The 2008 Preservation Oklahoma Award winners included:

Karen Dye, Newkirk, Oklahoma

Karen was honored for her on-going efforts to preserve the heritage of Newkirk. She has worked diligently to restore and rehabilitate historic

buildings in Newkirk. She is currently a member of the Oklahoma Historical Society and is a former board member of the Oklahoma Foundation for the Humanities and the Oklahoma Museum Association. She's also a member of the Newkirk Business Club.

Continued on Page 2

National Preservation Conference to be held in Tulsa

Oklahoma is pleased to host the National Preservation Conference in Tulsa, Oklahoma, October 21-25, 2008. This conference is the premier preservation conference in the United States for professionals in preservation and

allied fields, dedicated volunteers, and serious supporters. It is the single best source for information, ideas, inspiration, and contacts, and this year it will be in Tulsa. Among the featured speakers are Oklahoma's own Bob L. Blackburn,

Ph.D., Executive Director of the Oklahoma Historical Society and Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Officer, who will present a special lecture titled "The Oklahoma Preservation Story", sponsored by the Bank of Oklahoma and the Tulsa Community Foundation. Other featured Oklahomans include Tulsa mayor Kathy Taylor, award-winning author Michael Wallis, and Wilma Mankiller, the first female in modern history to lead a major Native American tribe. For more information, visit www.PreservationNation.org/conference. If you would like the Preliminary Program mailed to you, email your request to conference@nthp.org.



Updating Oklahoma's Statewide Preservation Plan

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), Oklahoma Historical Society, is responsible for the development of the statewide preservation plan and for encouraging other agencies, organizations, and individuals to participate in its implementation. *Tomorrow's Legacy: Oklahoma's Statewide Preservation Plan* is developed in consultation with the state's preservation community and was last published in January 2005. Copies of the State Plan are available from the SHPO (405/521-6249 or mheisch@okhistory.org) or online at <http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/stateplan.htm>.

In accordance with the cycle set forth in the State Plan, the next edition will be published in January 2010. Your input is needed to

help the SHPO insure the relevance of this edition of the State Plan's goals and objectives for all of its users, and there are two ways for you to provide your comments.

First, we invite you to complete Needs Assessment for Updating Tomorrow's Legacy: Oklahoma's Statewide Preservation Plan. To request that a copy of the assessment be mailed or e-mailed to you, contact the SHPO at 405/521-6249 or mheisch@okhistory.org. Or, you may complete the assessment online at <http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/needs.php>. The deadline for completing the assessment is August 15, 2008.

Second, the SHPO will hold a public discussion about the State Plan and its

update at 1:30pm on Friday, September 5, 2008, in the Oklahoma History Center Classroom, 2401 North Laird Avenue, Oklahoma City. The SHPO staff will discuss how the State Plan is developed, how it is used in the SHPO's programs, and how others participate in its implementation. The public is invited to attend and share their views about the State Plan's goals and objectives.

All comments received through the needs assessment and the public discussion will be considered as the updated State Plan is developed. A draft document will be available for public review and comment in early 2009. If you have questions, contact Melvena Heisch, Deputy SHPO, at 405/522-4484 or mheisch@okhistory.org.

Dye, Ferrell, and Fritz Receive Preservation Oklahoma Awards

Continued from Page 1

Sally Ferrell, Chandler, Oklahoma Public Leadership Award

Sally was recognized for her passion and tireless leadership in the acquisition and rehabilitation of several historic properties including an abandoned 1903 territorial commercial building on Chandler's main street (Manvel Avenue) and the Route 66 Interpretive Center in Chandler, Oklahoma.

Herb Fritz, Tulsa, Oklahoma Advocacy Award

Herb has dedicated years of service to his love of architecture, particularly historic architecture. Herb has volunteered for 15 years as a senior member of Tulsa Preservation Commission and the Tulsa Foundation for Architecture (TFA). His expertise and love of history are the guiding passions in Herb's architectural career. With his guidance, TFA is a dedicated partner with the National Trust for Historic Preservation and has been

instrumental in bringing the 2008 National Conference to Tulsa. Beth Terrill accepted the award for Herb.

Also honored at the annual meeting were Bret Carter, Konrad Keesee, and Julie

Miner, retiring members of Preservation Oklahoma Board of Directors. Dr. John Feaver was recognized for his service and leadership during his term as the president of Preservation Oklahoma's Board of Directors.

If you would like to receive email notices regarding preservation related grants, workshops and upcoming events, please forward your email address to: preservationok@yahoo.com

Preservation Oklahoma News, the newsletter of Oklahoma's historic preservation community, is published quarterly as a joint project of Preservation Oklahoma and the Oklahoma Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office.

Co-Editor Melvena Heisch
Deputy State Historic
Preservation Officer
Oklahoma Historical Society
405/522-4484
www.okhistory.org/shpo/shpom.htm

Co-Editor Sheila Spurgeon, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.
Overholser Mansion
405 Northwest Fifteenth Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73103
405/525-5325
www.preserveok.org

Preservation Oklahoma Board of Directors

President Dr. John Feaver, Ph.D. Chickasha
Past President Bill Gumerson, Oklahoma City
Treasurer Suzette Hatfield, Oklahoma City

Board
Cathy Ambler, Tulsa
Kay Decker, Ph.D, Freedom
Katie Gumerson Altshuler,
Oklahoma City
Blake Hoenig, Oklahoma City
Lisa Melchior, Pryor
Julie Roszypal, El Reno
John Snyder, Tulsa
Ann Thompson, Oklahoma City

All correspondence, materials, or address changes should be sent to:

Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.
405 Northwest Fifteenth Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73103
preservationok@yahoo.com

The activity that is the subject of this publication has been financed in part with federal funds from the National Park Service, Department of the Interior. However, the contents and opinions do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Department of the Interior, nor does the mention of trade names or commercial products constitute endorsement or recommendations by the Department of the Interior. This program receives financial assistance for identification and protection of historic properties. Under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1972, the U.S. Department of the Interior prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, or handicap in its federally assisted program. If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity or facility as described above, or if you desire further information, please write to:

Office of Equal Opportunity
U.S. Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

Preservation Oklahoma News, the newsletter of Oklahoma's historic preservation community, is published quarterly as a joint project of Preservation Oklahoma and the Oklahoma Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office



Preservation Oklahoma Board of Directors member Bret Carter with Board President Dr. John Feaver

In the Company of Layton: *Architects Practicing in Oklahoma City Around Statehood*

— Cynthia Savage, Architectural Historian
Part Three of Four Part Series

Oklahoma City, of course, had its share of architects who received formal training. The firm of VanMeter and Schmitt is one example of this. G.W. VanMeter arrived in Oklahoma City in 1902. VanMeter was a graduate of the Architectural College of the University of Illinois. The firm's junior partner, W.T. Schmitt, was a graduate of the School of Architecture of Washington University. Previous to coming to Oklahoma City, Schmitt was the superintendent in charge of the construction of the Mississippi State Capital in Jackson. Prior to creation of the firm, VanMeter had his own practice in Oklahoma City. Among others, he designed buildings for the city's Epworth University and State Military Academy. Together, the firm designed a number of residences in Oklahoma City, including homes for Dr. Marvin Hubbard, Gardner-Durrall and Charles Phillips. Notably, the firm "...introduced here for the first time the Dutch style of architecture in the new home of Judge William H. Zwick....," located at Ninth and Central Avenue. The firm also designed commercial buildings, including buildings for the J.W. Jenkins' Sons Music Company and J.M. Eberle. One property designed by the firm which would be readily recognized by people today is the Charles Payne home in Lawton. At an estimated cost of \$20,000, the home is now popularly known by the maiden name of the more famous half of the couple, Mattie Beal.

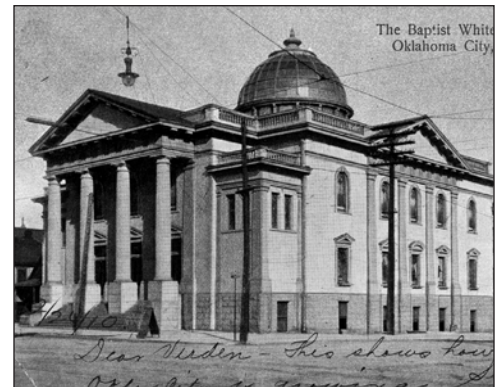
Another formally trained architect working in Oklahoma City in the first decade of the twentieth century was Edward Coady. After 1908 and until 1911, Coady operated a firm simply called E. Coady and Company; however, these associates were not specified. After 1911, Coady again became a sole proprietor. Coady opened his office in Oklahoma City around the turn-of-the-century, moving from San Antonio, Texas. He continued to practice architecture in the city through 1917. The son of "...one of the most prominent architects of London, England," Coady was a graduate of the Massachusetts School

of Technology. According to the local paper in 1904, "There is an originality about Mr. Coady's designs that creates a demand for his services." In addition to designing the buildings at the State Fair, Coady was responsible for a number of school buildings and commercial buildings in Oklahoma City, including the pre-statehood Baltimore and India Temple building and the post-statehood Herskowitz building. Having an "enviable reputation throughout the southwest....," Coady also worked in many key towns across the state.

Another firm with international connections was that of Bailey and Bailey, formed in July 1908. This firm was the successor to the partnership of Matthews and Bailey. Formed by 1906, Matthews and Bailey designed the White Temple and Catholic churches, the St. Anthony Hospital and St. Mary's Academy. The firm was also responsible for the Overholser residence and the Overholser Avery business block, as well as "...many other prominent buildings throughout the state." The senior member of Bailey and Bailey, Leonard Bailey, was a graduate of the London Polytechnic Institute of Art. By the time he entered into business in 1908 with his brother, Thomas Wendell Bailey, Leonard had been practicing architecture for fourteen years, with the latter five of those being in Oklahoma City. Born in 1877, Thomas Wendell Bailey graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology with a Bachelors of Science degree in architecture in 1899. Thomas moved from Boston to Oklahoma City in 1908 where he had "...had a large and varied experience on a number of very important buildings." Thomas passed away in December 1910, having been ill with typhoid fever for some weeks before. Leonard continued to operate an architectural firm under the name of Bailey and Bailey for several years after Thomas' passing. L.H. Bailey maintained an architectural office in Oklahoma City through the early 1940s.



Charles Payne home, Lawton, Oklahoma



Baptist White Temple, Oklahoma City



Herkowitz Building, Oklahoma City

Ibid., 12 July 1908, 22 April 1910 and 10 December 1910.

Citations of Merit Presented

The Oklahoma Historical Society's State Historic Preservation Office presented its 2008 Citations of Merit to government agencies, organizations, firms, and individuals who have had positive impacts on the preservation of Oklahoma's significant historic properties at the awards banquet, a special event of the statewide preservation conference. The banquet was held in the E. W. Marland mansion on Thursday, June 5. The SHPO recognized accomplishments in the areas of research, publications, public programming, leadership, and restoration/rehabilitation work. The recipients included:

#1. Rogers State University Public Television

Miami's Coleman Theatre is a 1929 vaudeville and movie palace and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Owned by the City of Miami, the historic theatre's rehabilitation was completed by the Miami Downtown Redevelopment Authority and Friends of the Coleman. Rogers State University Public Television selected the story of the Coleman's rehabilitation and dedication of the community as the subject of an exceptional documentary produced last spring titled, "The Coleman Theatre Beautiful". The production shares the history of the theatre and the story of the people involved in the preservation project. Rogers State University Public television's outstanding effort serves as an educational tool and as a record of a highly significant local preservation initiative.

#2. Donna Broyles

The Citation of Merit was presented to Ms. Broyles for her adaptive reuse of Newkirk's historic Masonic Building. Ms. Broyles and her business partner, Sue McAnnich, leased space in the 1925 building for the location of their quilt shop. Kay County owned the building and used most of it for storage. Ms. Broyles finally convinced the County to sell her the property. With no major changes, she converted the community/dining room to a sewing room for quilting classes. In the temple room, she added 10 small sleeping quarters for retreats. These were constructed so that they could be easily removed without altering or damaging the original space. The parlor serves as just that, complete with television, couch, recliner and one of the original gas fireplaces. The upper floor was

completely rewired, new heat and air system installed, pressed metal ceilings restored, walls repainted, the woodwork cleaned, and an elevator installed for accessibility.

#3. City of Durant and Durant Main Street

The SHPO was pleased to recognize the City of Durant and Durant Main Street for their highly successful Market Square Streetscape Project. It centered on the rehabilitation of the Historic Market Square Café. A stage was erected within the project for community performances, and during the past year, people crowded into the new public gathering space for 47 special events that featured music and other entertainment. The impact on downtown revitalization is most evident in the five newly rehabilitated buildings near Market Square with a new business set to occupy the spaces.

#4. Rand & Jeanette Elliott and Elliott+ Associates

Rand and Jeanette Elliott and Elliott + Associates were recognized for the certified rehabilitation of Oklahoma City's Buick Building. Constructed in the Classical Revival style in 1911, the building is the oldest car dealership in the Automobile Alley Historic District. The Buick Building retains all of its original exterior cast stone masonry and upper floor wood windows and is a contributing resource to the National Register listed district. Rehabilitation work consisted of rebuilding the lost entrance canopy and first floor storefronts. The interior features a unique use of neon to provide great atmosphere for Red Prime, one of the City's finest new steakhouses. Automobile Alley is a vibrant restaurant and entertainment area, and the federal and state rehabilitation tax credits are contributing to its continued redevelopment as the Buick Building project certainly demonstrates.

#5. Steven & Elizabeth Harshman

Steve and Liz Harshman purchased the historic Farmers National Bank building in 2005 and converted the upper floor into a residence for their family of six. Their objective was to preserve the historic windows and the pressed metal ceiling. The space consists of approximately 2,400 square feet and contains four bedrooms, two baths, living room, dining room, kitchen and laundry room. By not using standard floor

to ceiling partitions in the areas that retained the pressed metal ceiling, important historic fabric was retained. "The Spot", a recreation center for students, now occupies the 1906 building's first floor. Mr. Harshman is the pastor of Newkirk's Christ's Church and saw the need for young people in the community to have a place to call their own. Every effort was made to retain the historic character of this space, too.

#6. Edinborough Point LLC

The Kivlehen House, located in Edmond, is a Colonial Revival style house built in 1910 from *Plan Number 582 of the Keith Company Architects Minneapolis*. The SHPO congratulated Edinborough Point LLC, directed by Mariana Lloyd, on the certified rehabilitation of the house for office space. Working closely with the SHPO and the National Park Service, Ms. Lloyd's project adapted the 3,000 square feet, three-story house into the Edmond headquarters for Keller Williams Realty Offices. The rehabilitation work included installation of an automatic fire sprinkler system to meet code requirements for the new use, and the work qualifies the owners for the federal and state rehabilitation tax credits.

#7. Hardie & Younghee Higgins

According to the Citation of Merit nomination form submitted to the SHPO, the First National Bank building sits on the northwest corner of Main and 7th Street, the crossroads of the community and home of Newkirk's only stoplight. Constructed in 1899, the building housed numerous businesses through the years and finally sat vacant. Then Hardie Higgins, a retired Army chaplain, and his wife, Younghee, decided to move to Newkirk and began the search for office space and a place to live. Seeing the great potential in the 3,000 square feet historic building, the Higgins purchased it in 2005 and adapted it for both of their needs. They opened up all the upper windows, completely rehabilitated both floors of the building, had the building cleaned, tuckpointed, installed new electric and plumbing, added central heat and air, and had the trim painted. Rev. Higgins has his office on the first floor and the family has a beautiful home on the second floor.

Continued on Page 6

SHPO Announces 2008/2009 Workshops

The Oklahoma Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office, is pleased to present its 2008/2009 series of special events. The location of each event or series is given below. There are no registration fees unless noted. If you have questions, call 405/521-6249 or visit www.okhistory.org/shpo/events.htm.

Note: If you have a disability and need an accommodation, please call 405/522-4484 at least two (2) days before the event.

NOTE TO ARCHITECTS: Registered architects will earn American Institute of Architects Continuing Education System

(AIA/CES) Learning Unit Hours (LU Hours) for attending these programs. Contact Catherine Montgomery, Education Committee, AIA Central Oklahoma Chapter, at 405/522-5237 or catherinem@okhistory.org if you have questions about the credits.

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE AND DESCRIPTIONS:

SEPTEMBER 2008

- 5: Public Meeting for the SHPO's FY 2009 Historic Preservation Fund Grant Application (10:30am)**
- 5: Updating Oklahoma's Statewide Historic Preservation Plan: A Public Discussion (1:30pm-4:30pm)**
Location: Oklahoma History Center Classroom, 2401 N. Laird (immediately NE of the State Capitol), Oklahoma City

DECEMBER 2008

- 17: Federal and State Tax Incentives for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings (9:30am-12:00noon)**
- 17: The Secretary's Standards and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings (1:30pm - 4:30pm)**

- 18: Working with Section 106: A Workshop for CDBG Applicants and Consultants (9:30am - 4:30pm)**
[presented jointly with the Oklahoma Department of Commerce]
- 19: Working with the National Register of Historic Places (9:30am - 4:30pm)**
Location: Oklahoma History Center Classroom, 2401 N. Laird (immediately NE of the State Capitol), Oklahoma City

MAY 2009

- 13: The Section 106 Review Process: Introduction and Overview (9:30am - 12:00pm)**
- 13: Determination of Eligibility under Section 106 (1:30pm - 5:00pm)**
- 14: Working with the National Register of Historic Places (9:30am - 5:00pm)**

- 15: Federal and State Tax Incentives for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings (9:30am -12:00pm)**
- 15: The Secretary's Standards and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings (1:30pm - 5:00pm)**
Location: Student Center Bldg. (Ranger Room, ground floor), Northwestern Okla. State University, 709 Oklahoma Blvd., Alva, OK (visitor parking lot north of Herod Hall/ Administration Building)

JUNE 2009

- 3-5: Oklahoma's 21st Annual Statewide Preservation Conference, Quartz Mountain Resort Arts & Conf. Center**
Details available late April at www.okhistory.org/shpo/conference.

SHPO Seeks Public Input for FY 2009 Program

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) will hold a public meeting at 10:30 am, on Friday, September 5, 2008, in the Oklahoma History Center Classroom, 2401 N. Laird Avenue (just northeast of the State Capitol), Oklahoma City, to provide information about the statewide preservation program and to receive public input for development of the Fiscal Year 2009 Historic Preservation Fund application. The SHPO expects to receive approximately \$675,000 from the U.S. Department of the Interior's FY 2009 Historic Preservation Fund to carry out its programs and operations. Ten percent of the award is reserved for pass-through grants to Certified Local Governments (CLGs).

Under the National Historic Preservation Act, the SHPO has responsibility for administration of the federal historic preservation program in Oklahoma. In brief, the purpose of the program is to encourage preservation of the

state's archeological and historic resources for everyone's benefit. Specific activities directed toward this goal include identification of properties important in history, architecture, culture, and archeology; evaluation and registration of significant properties; formal review of federal and federally assisted projects that could affect archeological and historic resources; development and implementation of the statewide historic preservation plan; administration of the CLG program; administration of the federal and state investment tax credits program for certified historic structures; and public outreach activities.

Tomorrow's Legacy: Oklahoma's Statewide Preservation Plan (2005) [available from the SHPO or at www.okhistory.org/shpo/stateplan.htm] sets forth the goals and objectives for historic preservation efforts in the state, including the SHPO's programs listed above. The SHPO's priorities for addressing

the State Plan's goals are continuation of the archeological and historic/architectural resources survey program to document property types under-represented in the state's inventory and to extend survey coverage to previously unstudied areas, preparation of nominations for the National Register of Historic Places, and provision of public outreach and technical assistance programs. Your comments will help the SHPO determine its specific projects and activities for FY 2009 to address these priorities.

If you are unable to attend the meeting, your written comments and suggestions are welcome. You may complete the SHPO's "Project Suggestion Form" and return it by 5:00 pm, Friday, September 5, 2008. Just call the SHPO at 405/521-6249 or send an e-mail message to Betty Harris at bharris@okhistory.org to have the form sent to you. You may also obtain it at www.okhistory.org/shpo/events.htm.

Citations of Merit Presented

Continued from Page 4

#8. City of Enid and Waverley Historic District Neighborhood Association

The SHPO recognized the important partnership and many accomplishments of the City of Enid and the Waverley Historic District Neighborhood Association to raise public awareness about and protect the Waverley Historic District. The district is listed in the National Register of Historic Places and designated under the local preservation zoning ordinance. Recently, the City and the Association partnered to purchase and install a marker telling the story of the neighborhood. The Association shares information about the City's designation and the design guidelines with new homeowners. Additionally, the Association publishes a bimonthly newsletter, hosts an annual homes tour, and now publishes a calendar featuring photographs of houses throughout the neighborhood.

#9. Gardner Tanenbaum Group and BDR Architects

The Citation of Merit was presented to Gardner Tanenbaum Group and BDR Architects for the certified rehabilitation of the Citizens Bank Tower. Located immediately south of the Gold Dome at N.W. 23rd and Classen, the building is Mid-century Modern at its best in Oklahoma City. The building stands apart from all other tall, post-war era buildings in the community. It remains a distinct reminder of the end of the period of custom-built, architecturally distinctive construction in speculative building in the city. At the same time, its unique geometry and construction method pay homage to Frank Lloyd Wright and his Price Tower. The original office use was seamlessly converted to luxury mid-rise residences on floors above ground level. Sixty-six units share the interior space which totals over 140,000 square feet. We appreciate the reuse of this building and the project's contribution to redevelopment efforts at this key Oklahoma City intersection.

#10. Caryl Morgan

Ms. Morgan, a rural Newkirk resident and retired art teacher at Arkansas City, Kansas, public schools, had a dream of opening her

own art studio in downtown Newkirk. The Newkirk Community Historical Society owned a historic building in downtown Newkirk with a second floor that they wanted to convert into a more useful space than storage for old records and Christmas ornaments. Ms. Morgan and the Society formed a partnership to fulfill both objectives. With a \$10,000 centennial grant and plans drawn by the State Main Street architect to utilize this space as a bed and breakfast, Caryl modified the design to fit her specific needs. In her plans, she also left space for two storage closets for the Society. The Society installed a chair lift making the second floor handicapped accessible.

#11. MCLI, LLC and Elliott + Associates

Located at the edge of Oklahoma City's Heritage Hills and Mesta Park Historic districts, the Midcontinent Building was individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1979. The architecturally significant building was headquarters for the Midcontinent Life Insurance Company. However, the building now serves another purpose. Its more than 41,000 square feet on four floors was recently rehabilitated to house the Oklahoma Heritage Association. The project was completed in December 2006, by MCLI, LLC, and Elliott + Associates designed the certified rehabilitation. The project is an excellent example of how modern design can be incorporated into projects that must meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and how federal and state tax credits can benefit rehabilitation of buildings being adapted for a wide range of uses.

#12. Newkirk Main Street Board and Volunteers

Since 1992, Newkirk Main Street Board and volunteers have worked tirelessly to revitalize their National Register listed commercial district. One hundred percent of the district's buildings have undergone some rehabilitation work, and private reinvestment in the buildings now totals \$5,330,160. With proceeds from fundraisers, the design committee offers seven separate grant categories including facade, upper window, interior, back door, structural, energy, and guttering/downspouts. While the grants are certainly making a difference, the volunteers also invest their own sweat and equity. Over the years they have wielded paintbrushes and

spent countless hours on ladders and lifts changing the face of Newkirk one building at a time.

#13. Park Harvey Apartments LLC and Merriman Associates/Architects

Historically known as the Fidelity National Building and listed in the National Register of Historic Places for its architectural significance, this International style building was designed by the noted Oklahoma architectural firm of Sorey, Hill, and Sorey, and was constructed in 1957. Today it is known as the Park Harvey Center, and this 199,000 square foot office building has been converted into 164 luxury apartments. The project further demonstrates the wealth of mid-century modern architecture in Oklahoma City and the growing interest in preserving it. The SHPO commended Park Harvey Apartments LLC and project architects, Merriman and Associates, for completing this certified rehabilitation through presentation of the Citation of Merit.

#14. Blue Dome LLC and Mike Kertok

The SHPO awarded its Citation of Merit to Blue Dome LLC, headed by Michael Sager, and to Mike Kertok, project architect, for their certified rehabilitation of Tulsa's Vickery Service Station. Listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2004, the station is significant for its relationship to historic Route 66. Commuters to downtown Tulsa fueled their cars at the Vickery from 1931 to 1959. This "cottage style" station was perfectly sited and perfectly designed to serve Tulsa during these boom years. The certified rehabilitation provides a new home for Mr. Sager's Avis Rental Agency while preserving an important property along the "Mother Road." Federal tax credits and a matching grant from the National Park Service's Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program assisted this project.

#15. Ponca City Historic Preservation Advisory Panel

The City of Ponca City enforces a local historic preservation zoning ordinance and participates in the SHPO's Certified Local Governments Program. One of their projects carried out under the program was an architectural survey of the Gateway Historic District, and the local

Continued on Page 7

Spurgeon Joins Preservation Oklahoma as Executive Director

Sheila Spurgeon, Ph.D. recently began her position as Executive Director of Preservation Oklahoma. Spurgeon has been a life-long advocate of historic preservation. Spurgeon has a bachelor's degree and master's degree in special education and a doctorate in educational psychology. Although her education and experience are in education and psychology with an emphasis on services to children with disabilities, her avocation has always been in the field of history,

particularly Oklahoma's history. She owns historic properties in both Oklahoma City and Ponca City. In addition to her personal passion for historic preservation, she has extensive experience as a public speaker and has organized and made presentations at conferences at the local, state, national, and international level. She has successfully applied for and served as administrator of numerous state and federal grants totaling millions of dollars. "I am very concerned

about the decline of so many historic buildings in Oklahoma," Spurgeon observes, "often as a result of deferred maintenance and to a lesser extent, vandalism and natural disasters. At this phase of my professional life, I look forward to combining my vocation, avocation, and my passion for historic preservation to continue the crucial mission of Preservation Oklahoma". You may contact Dr. Spurgeon at (405) 525-5325 or preservationok@yahoo.com.

Citations of Merit Presented

Continued from Page 6

historic preservation zoning designation was extended to the district. All of these accomplishments and many more, including development of a citywide preservation plan, were at the direction of the Advisory Panel. The SHPO greatly appreciates its partnership with the City through the CLG program and recognized the panel for their ongoing commitment to protecting Ponca City's heritage.

#16. Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Youth Group

The SHPO was especially pleased to recognize the Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help youth group's work last summer in Abbeville, Louisiana, a town devastated by Hurricane Rita. The group joined others from Wisconsin and Texas and helped repair two historic houses dating from the 1880s. Getting to know the occupants of the houses and learning about their culture (with a side trip for food and music in Erath, Louisiana), these youth and adults had more than a textbook experience of connecting architecture to historic events. These volunteers gained new respect not only for this special place, but also for their own homes scattered throughout many historic Oklahoma City neighborhoods. The group's presentation was a highlight of the

morning's conference program. We commend the youth and their leaders for their efforts to help rebuild the ravaged community and believe the experience will encourage the youth to assume leadership in Oklahoma's future preservation programs.

#17. Sandalwood Properties, LLC

Built in 1917, Sandalwood Properties LLC's Craftsman Bungalow style house and carriage house contribute to the Brady Heights Historic District, which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The SHPO recognized the outstanding efforts of Sandalwood Properties LLC to rehabilitate the buildings under the federal tax credits program. The certified historic rehabilitation has adapted the buildings for use as three residential apartments. The project demonstrates that the rehabilitation tax credits can benefit small projects just as they do multi-million dollar developments.

#18. City of Guthrie, Guthrie Historic Preservation Commission, Guthrie Chamber of Commerce/Convention & Visitors Bureau, Guthrie Arts and Humanities Council, Guthrie Centennial Commission, Guthrie Museum Complex, Logan County Historical Society, and United States Postal Service

Preservation Is a Capital Idea: Oklahoma's

19th Annual Statewide Preservation Conference was held in June 2007 in historic downtown Guthrie, the perfect location for the conference during Oklahoma's statehood centennial year. The SHPO extended its sincere appreciation to the local conference cosponsors for their hard work, generosity, and hospitality through presentation of the Citation of Merit. Without the support of local cosponsors, the statewide conference would not be possible.

#19. City of Ponca City, E.W. Marland Estate Commission, and E.W. Marland Estate Foundation

The City of Ponca City, the E.W. Marland Estate Commission, and the E.W. Marland Estate Foundation were presented the Citation of Merit for their efforts to preserve and share the E.W. Marland Mansion, a National Historic Landmark, with the public. The citizens of Ponca City voted a sales tax into effect to acquire and maintain the magnificent home of E.W. Marland. The most recent efforts of the nominees resulted in a Save America's Treasures grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to restore decorative plaster ceilings. The exemplary work executed by Evergreene Studios, New York, was featured in the statewide preservation conference sessions and tours June 4-6.

Save the Date!

Route 66 Motels July 12

Preservation Oklahoma is excited to host a lecture on the “**Endangered Route 66 Motels**” and welcomes award-winning reporter and author, Michael Wallis. Mr. Wallis has written several best-sellers including, *Route 66: The Mother Road* and was featured as the voice of “Sheriff” in the movie *Cars*. **The event will be held at the Will Rogers Memorial Museum, 1720 W. Will Rogers Blvd., Claremore, Oklahoma, on Saturday, July 12th, 10am in the theater. Driving tour of local Route 66 Motels tentatively scheduled to follow.**

The event is free and open to the public. For more information: info@preserveok.org

This program is part of the Oklahoma's Most Endangered Historic Places List, a project co-sponsored by Preservation Oklahoma and the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office.

Join Preservation Oklahoma today

and become a member of the Statewide Preservation Network.

Preservation Oklahoma's goal is to encourage the preservation of Oklahoma's historic places through advocacy, education and leadership.

As a member, you become part of a vital network of individuals and organizations working to rebuild communities, strengthen neighborhoods, restore historic properties...*you become part of Oklahoma's future.*

name

address

city | state | zip

phone

email

from (if gift)

- Victorian \$10,000 or more
- English Tudor \$1,000 - \$9,999
- International \$500 - \$999
- Colonial Revival \$250 - \$499
- Arts and Crafts \$100 - \$249
- Vernacular up to \$100

Mail, along with check, to:
Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.
405 Northwest Fifteenth Street
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73103

Preservation Oklahoma, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) organization.
Membership contributions are tax deductible.