



THE HISTORICAL BULLETIN

December 2016

Vol. XXXV, No. 4

A newsletter by the Brown County Historical Society dedicated to the preservation of history in Brown County, Wisconsin.

2015 PRESERVATION AWARD WINNER —

NATIONAL REGISTER LISTING THE DIVINE TEMPLE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST 425 CHERRY STREET, GREEN BAY

by Jerry Abitz

Had you attended the Brown County Historical Society's annual dinner/business meeting last February, it would be one that you will remember for a long, long time. The BCHS Historic Preservation Committee gave one of its annual awards to Sharon Harper for her efforts in getting the Divine Temple Church of God in Christ complex of buildings (the former Christ Episcopal Church) on the National Register of Historic Places. When she stepped forward to accept the award, she asked if she could say a few words. What followed was an inspirational, sometimes emotional,

and entirely entertaining sermon on her appreciation for Historic Preservation, the challenges that she and her con-

gregation faced during such a project, and how her faith and the support of her church leaders and congregation helped her see this project through to completion. Of course, she was preaching to the choir and, when she was finished, the audience burst into applause.

After her congregation purchased in 2005 the former Christ Episcopal Church, a building erected in 1898 to replace the original which had burned, she was struck with its beauty and magnificence. In spite of its age, very little had been altered in its century-long existence in downtown Green Bay.

Harper felt called to get her place of worship placed on the National Register of Historic Places. Hiring someone to write the nomination was not an option because there was no money available. With the spiritual backing of her pastor and congregation, she undertook this endeavor knowing there would be no reimbursement of expenses. For a lay person to achieve what Sharon Harper has accomplished took a lot of patience and

(continued on page 2)



At the Divine Temple Church of God in Christ (formerly Christ Episcopal Church) complex, Green Bay Mayor Jim Schmitt cuts the ribbon to mark the Church being registered on the National Register of Historic Places. (June 28, 2013). Photo obtained from https://commons.m.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Christ_Episcopal_Church_Historic_Recognition_Ribbon_Cutting.jpg;

Inside this issue:

| | |
|---|---|
| The Divine Temple <i>(cont.)</i> | 2 |
| A Proud Past — An Inspired Future Send Us Your Favorite Winter Memories! | 3 |
| The Red Chapel Message from the Director | 4 |
| Events Calendar | 5 |
| Events <i>(cont.)</i> The Divine Temple <i>(cont.)</i> | 6 |
| History's Minute | 7 |
| Spotlight on Our Neighbors— Green Bay Historic Preservation Commission | 8 |

THE DIVINE TEMPLE

(continued from page 1)

perseverance. To required specialized vocabulary, a great deal of research and a flawlessly written nomination. This is generally beyond the skills of most individuals. She does acknowledge the advice and assistance of many individuals in preparing this nomination.

First and foremost was the willingness of Daina Penkiunas at the Wisconsin Historical Society's State Historic Preservation Office to assist her. She responded when contacted, "Sharon Harper's passion for her congregation and for the historic buildings under Green Bay's Divine Temple's care led Ms. Harper to pursue historic designation for the property . . . Ms. Harper began the task of preparing the nomination for the property and worked diligently on the project for several years. While working on the nomination, she explored the history of the building's construction and its founding congregation and honed her knowledge of architectural styles."¹

Certainly she had the prayers of Pastor L.C. Green and her fellow parishioners which helped her emotionally. She consulted with a number of experts, including an architect within the congregation, visited and used the archives of the Fond du Lac Archdiocese of the Episcopal Church, taught herself how to

access and utilize microfilms, and acquired other skills necessary to hunt down and dig up information. Most importantly, she refused to give up, a trait she attributes to her upbringing.

In the 24 sessions I attended as a member of the Wisconsin Historic Preservation Review Board, only once did a nomination written by a lay person come before the board. Ray Selner, a retired farmer, wrote the nomination for the historic St. Lawrence Church in Kewaunee County. Like Ms. Harper, he was

(continued on page 6)

BROWN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

OUR MISSION – To preserve, present and share the heritage of Brown County history through preservation activities, exhibitions, educational programs and events.

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Top: Front view of the Divine Temple Church of God. **Middle:** The church interior reveals elaborate woodwork drawn from English Gothic precedents and is noted for its open roof design. **Bottom:** Fannie D. Johannes Memorial Hall, built in 1924. Photos used with permission, courtesy of the Wisconsin Historical Society.



A Proud Past — An Inspired Future

BCHS' CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

*The Brown County Historical Society
preserves the past, but its future
is in your hands.*

The BCHS Capital Campaign kick-off in late 2015 created an energetic start to a *significant* goal to raise \$1.6 million dollars. The Capital Campaign Committee, Winston Group (campaign consultants) and BCHS Board of Directors designed a three-part initiative to reach this goal over a three-year period (2016-2018).

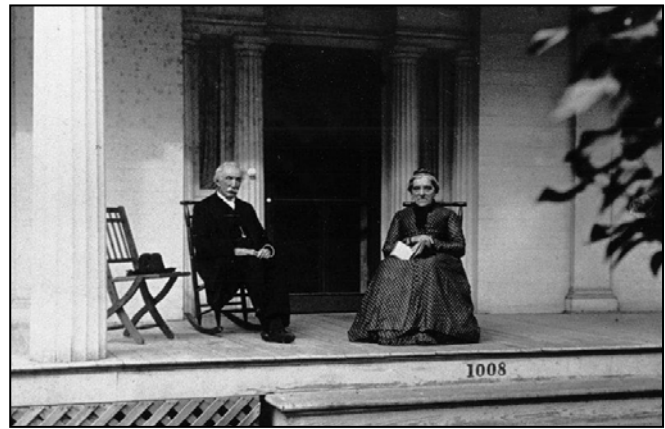
- \$350,000 - for immediate (1- to 3-year) Hazelwood renovation, repairs and maintenance, which include new HVAC system, roof, security system, exterior and interior painting, upgraded safe walkways in front and back of house, artifact storage, UV window protection, and renovations to the lower level community room, as well as program and exhibit updates.
- \$1,000,000 to increase the Society's Hazelwood Endowment to support future Hazelwood preservation expenses, ongoing operations expenses and educational programming.
- \$250,000 to increase the *Voyageur* Magazine Endowment to fund annual contract costs.

The initial phase of the Campaign targeted businesses, corporations and foundations, and secured cash and commitments of \$431,305 as of October 1, 2016. In the months ahead, we will be presenting our case to our friends and neighbors, asking them to make an investment in the Society's future.

We hope we can count on you now. Each contribution is significant and provides a chance to build on our past decades of accomplishments and to position the Society for even greater success in the years ahead.

Contributions to the Brown County Historical Society can be made easily and safely only through our website, by mail or by contacting the Brown County Historical Society by email (bchs@netnet.net) or by phone ([920-437-1840](tel:920-437-1840)).

We are deeply grateful for your support.



Top: Elizabeth Martin and her half-brother, Melancton Smith, at Hazelwood (c. 1880-1892). **Bottom:** Front of Hazelwood House (c. 1910-1920) with north addition. Photos courtesy of Brown County Neville Public Museum.

SEND US YOUR FAVORITE WINTER MEMORY!!

"Winter is the time for comfort, for good food and warmth, for the touch of a friendly hand and for a talk beside the fire: it is the time for home."

— Edith Sitwell

Winter is around the corner and BCHS wants to know your favorite winter memory! Share a picture or a winter memory with us on our Facebook page (on Facebook, search for Brown County Historical Society & Hazelwood Historic House).

In December 1900, Hazelwood's Elizabeth Martin wrote her memoirs for the *Milwaukee Sentinel*, describing the early times as appearing like one long holiday with sleigh bells always on the jingle. She describes the Christmas tree of 1900 as glowing with myriad wax tapers, each branch festooned with loops of tinsel and the vanity of expensive toys. Sharing Elizabeth's stories with Hazelwood's visitors inspires them to share their own stories and that exploration is our goal — **to keep history alive!**

*"We shape our buildings;
thereafter, our buildings
shape us."*

Winston Churchill

THE RED CHAPEL AT ALLOUEZ CATHOLIC CEMETERY

~ UPDATE ~

by Chris Dunbar

Historic buildings differentiate one community from all others. The Brown County Historical Society has a commitment to safeguard the historic, architectural and aesthetic character of our community. We know that our stories are not just printed on paper; they also are written in brick and mortar. The Society launched an effort to preserve the historic Red Chapel in the Allouez Catholic Cemetery after hearing of its impending demolition. Historic Allouez Society and the Brown County Trust for Historic Preservation are partners in the effort.

Initial reporting in late spring by Paul Srubus in the *Green Bay Press-Gazette* got the ball rolling, and several donors and volunteers came forward to assist. Addressing the safety concerns of the Catholic Diocese, the Society engaged Brander Construction to produce a structural survey of the chapel. The survey determined the work needed and bids for the restoration have been procured. Our restoration costs are currently at \$98,000 although we are working to lower construction costs. Initially the Diocese required all work be completed in 2016 but they have extended the deadline to spring/early summer of 2017. In order to begin any restoration work all funding will have to be in place by early Spring. We wholeheartedly believe that the Chapel and its story are worthy of our very best efforts to save it.

Thank you to those who have donated.

**HELP US PRESERVE OUR PAST —
SAVE THE RED CHAPEL!**

Please contact Christine Dunbar
920-437-1840 or bchs@netnet.net

*See full article in BCHS Historical Bulletin,
September 2016, Vol. XXXV, No. 3*

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

by Chris Dunbar

Over the course of 2016, we launched a new art and history exhibit titled "Handmade: Victorian and Contemporary Art." The three-week event incorporated the work of local artists in mediums that included paint, paper, sculpture, metal, pottery, photography, needlecraft, jewelry and clothing. Artists offered workshops and activities, making this an interactive event.

We have found a niche with cemetery walks and offered these popular programs in all three of Green Bay's cemeteries, and included several adult bus tours. Attendance and feedback were excellent for all programs. In partnership with Jefferson School and the Pulaski Area Middle School, we offered school-based cemetery programs at Woodlawn Cemetery that connected students to the social, economic and cultural heritage of the community. We engaged new audiences with downtown architectural tours and a Brown County Museum Federation History Treasure Tour. Five historic characters came to life in our new innovative "Women of Early Green Bay" program. We revamped the "Fairy Faire" so more young children could take part and will make it even larger next year.

"Poe Evermore," our first Halloween event, incorporated readings from Poe's macabre stories, a Victorian séance, fortune telling, and marshmallows and scary stories around a bonfire. We look forward to "A Dickens of a Christmas" and "Victorian Holiday Teas" in December. Hazelwood Historic House tours continue to connect students and visitors to the past with meaningful programs. In partnership with the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, two excellent issues of *Voyageur* magazine were produced. All these efforts were possible because of you. Without our members, *Voyageur* professionals, devoted volunteers, partners and generous donors, meeting our goals would not be possible. We are grateful for your participation, dedication and support this year.

In 2017, we will launch our new "Digital Archives" program and create a summer camp program. We are just getting started researching a Medicine Show program and a school-based program on 19th-century disease.

*Your ideas and input are welcome.
Contact us and get involved!*

EVENTS

Join us for one or all!

HOLIDAY VICTORIAN TEA FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, DEC. 2 AND 3 1:00 TO 3:00P AT HAZELWOOD HOUSE

Join us for a Holiday Victorian tea! The Victorian afternoon tea reflects that serene and gracious era which allows us to withdraw from the



busyness of our lives and pay respect to the passage of time. With a cup of tea in hand and sumptuous savories and sweets to eat, we are content and the world outside has to wait for our return. Local musician Mary Eisenreich's *The History of Christmas Carols* program enhances the holiday spirit.

\$20/person. Reservations required
Call [920-437-1840](tel:920-437-1840).

A DICKENS OF A CHRISTMAS! DECEMBER 10, 11, 17, AND 18 SATURDAYS 12:00-4:00P AND 5:00-8:00P SUNDAYS 12:00-4:00P



Relive Christmas of the past with scenes from the Dickens' 1843 classic, *A Christmas Carol*. Follow from room-to-room as portions of the drama play out right in front of you. Witness the miserly Ebenezer Scrooge's Christmas Eve encounter with the spirit of Jacob Marley or one of the three ghosts; visit nephew Fred's Christmas Party; enjoy a jovial gathering with the Fezziwigs; and experience Christmas preparations in the Cratchit's kitchen! Then join us for hot cider and cookies.

General admission \$5/ adults;
\$4./seniors 65+; \$3/ children ages 5-17

Image above obtained from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Charles_Dickens-A_Christmas_Carol-Title_page-First_edition_1843.jpg. Retrieved Nov. 5, 2014.

(See more Events continued on page 6)

CALENDAR*



DECEMBER 2016

Friday and Saturday, Dec. 2 and 3, 1:00-3:00p – Holiday Tea. Advanced reservations required. \$20/person.

Saturdays and Sundays, Dec. 10, 11, 17 and 18; Saturdays 12:00-4:00 and 5:00-8:00p; Sundays 12:00-4:00p – A Dickens of a Christmas. \$5/person; \$4/seniors 65+; \$3/children ages 5-17.



EVENTS FOR 2017

MAY

Wednesday, May 17, 4:00-8:00p – Treasure Tour
Saturday, May 20, 10:00a – Walking Tour

JUNE

Wednesday and Thursday, June 14 and 15, 6:30p – Fort Howard Cemetery Walk

JULY

Saturday, July 29, 1:00-3:30p – Fairy Faire

AUGUST

Wednesday and Thursday, Aug. 2 and 3, 6:30p – Allouez Catholic Cemetery Walk

SEPTEMBER

Wednesday and Thursday, Sept. 6 and 7, 6:30p – Woodlawn Cemetery Walk

Saturday, Sept. 9, 4:00p – Woodlawn Cemetery Walk

Saturday, Sept. 23, 10:00a – Walking Tour

DECEMBER

Friday and Saturday, Dec. 1 and 2, 1:00-3:00p – Holiday Tea

Saturdays, Dec. 9 and 16, 12:00-4:00p and 5:00-8:00p – Ethnic Christmas

*Events can be added, changed or cancelled without notice. To make sure you stay informed, make our website one of your Favorites – www.browncohistoricalsoc.org

EVENTS

(continued from page 5)



THE BROWN COUNTY LIBRARY PRESENTS: GENEALOGY 101

Saturday mornings, Jan. 21 – March 25
Green Bay Central Library
515 Pine Street

Sign up now for this popular series – Mary Jane Herber is not going to work forever! Registration is required (920-448-5815). Leave a message anytime.

THE DIVINE TEMPLE

(continued from page 2)

acknowledged for this unusual achievement. Customarily the owner of a building or a site hires a private consultant due to the complexity of the nomination process. The Divine Temple, nominated for its architectural style, required Ms. Harper to become familiar with a specialized vocabulary utilized mainly by architects and historic preservationists.

This aforementioned board reviews all nominations, which must be completed according to state and federal standards. Approved nominations are forwarded to the National Park Service where the information is filed.

The Divine Temple's Historic Preservation Award is one of four awards given to downtown Green Bay properties this year. There is renewed interest in historic preservation in our city center and the Green Bay Historic Preservation Commission is currently attempting to establish a downtown historic district.² (See also this issue's "Spotlight on our Neighbors" on page 8.)

In 1985 the Green Bay authorized a historic and architectural survey to help the city identify and preserve its historic resources.³ In 1988, following the publication of the survey a down town historic district was proposed but never established. The BCHS Preservation Committee backed the proposal. For those of us in the preservation movement with our opposition to the current tear down, fill up the landfills ethic we support the shift in values and back the establishment of a down town historic district.

For Sharon Harper's efforts, we applaud her sense of civic duty, her work ethic, and her refusal to give up on her quest. We also acknowledge the support she received from her congregation in getting this complex of buildings on the National Register. For her effort, she received BCHS'



Sharon Harper accepting Preservation Award from Don Kraft at BCHS' 2016 annual dinner. Photo by Chuck Golueke.

Historic Preservation Award under the category of Preservation Special Achievement.



Footnotes –

¹Email correspondence with Daina Penkiunas, Ph.D., Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, State Historic Preservation Office.

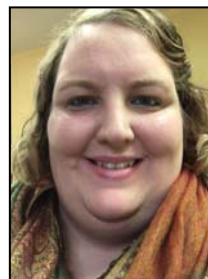
²"Green Bay Seeks Historic Listing for Downtown." *Green Bay Press-Gazette* (Green Bay, Wis.), Oct. 4, 2016.

³Green Bay Intensive Resource Survey: City of Green Bay Redevelopment Authority. Green Bay, Wis. December 1988.

Sources –

Notes from telephone conversations with Preservation Committee members Don Kraft and Christine Dunbar.

Welcome, Brooke!



My name is Brooke Uhl. I am the new Volunteer Coordinator/Program Manager for BCHS! I recently earned my Master's of Arts degree in Public History and Museum Studies at UW-Milwaukee in December 2015. It's been an exciting beginning here at BCHS! I have gotten a taste of what we do here by helping to plan cemetery walks and even our fall event, Poe Evermore. In addition, I have met some of our volunteers already, and I have to say that everyone has been very warm in welcoming me to BCHS and Hazelwood! I'm ecstatic to learn more about everyone and how we can keep progressing BCHS and Hazelwood!

HISTORY'S MINUTE — FORT HOWARD HOSPITAL TREATMENTS

by Tony La Luzerne and Daniel Liedtke
of Brown County Historical Society

How many of us are already tired of cold and flu season? Many of us probably have been sick already. These illnesses are an interesting link to the past. Many before us have gotten ill, and many will after us. Thankfully, medical technology has changed though!

Today, if we are ill, we can go to a licensed doctor and get some antibiotic, the real name of which we can't even pronounce! But, for fun, let's imagine ourselves at Fort Howard in 1836. We have at least two doctors at the fort, Drs. Richard Satterlee and Joseph Wright; we have a hospital that is brand new and some of the "latest" medical treatments. Unfortunately, our doctors did not have very formal medical training, nothing is sterilized at our hospital, and the latest medical treatments could make us even sicker than we are now!

The common cold has survived thousands of years. Treatments over time have varied. If we visited our good friend Dr. Satterlee, he would give us a "brisk purgative," followed by an opiate and a strong emetic (this makes everything come up).¹ This was a simple treatment. What about a bad stomachache and diarrhea? Well, we would simply

roll up our sleeve and let the doctor bleed us for awhile, take some laudanum and rest. After twenty-four hours, we are able to take boiled milk and toast.² Hopefully, no one has gotten cholera recently, but, just in case you did, Dr. Satterlee would prescribe a dose of calomel (a chalky mercury compound) and more bloodletting to "render the system more susceptible to the action of grand remedy, Mercury."³

Whether it was the treatments what worked, or the fear of the treatments, in 1836 there were only 28 reported illnesses in November and December at Fort Howard: 1 fever, 1 case of pneumonia, 3 of catarrh (the common cold), 1 of cynache (croup), 4 of rheumatism, 4 of diarrhea, 1 of dysentery, 1 of colic, 3 of syphilis (oops!), 8 wounds and 1 report of drunkenness.⁴ There also was one death reported on December 25th.

So, while we can say that we have had the common experience of getting the cold or flu, we can rest easy knowing that we don't have to have any bloodletting done or worry about having any mercury or arsenic in our pills!



Photo above and at top right: Reproduction surgeon's table and medical equipment (c. 1836). Photo courtesy of Heritage Hill State Park.

Footnotes —

¹Stokes, William, MD, and John Bell, MD. *Lectures on the Theory and Practice of Physic*. Ed. Barrington &

Geo. D. Haswell. Philadelphia. 18742. pg. 170.

²Cecil, Russel L., ed. and Robert F. Loeb, ed. *A Textbook of Medicine*. W.B. Saunder Company. London. 1951, pg. 719.

³Rosenberg, Charles E. *The Cholera Years: The United States in 1832, 1849 and 1866*. The University of Chicago Press, Chicago. 1962, p. 66.

⁴Quarterly Reports of Sick and Wounded at Fort Howard, 1936. Fort Howard Interpretive Files. Officers' Quarters. Heritage Hill State Historical Park. Green Bay, Wis.

SPOTLIGHT ON OUR NEIGHBORS —

GREEN BAY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

The City of Green Bay's Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) is continuing to pursue Certified Local Government (CLG) status for the City. The CLG program is jointly administered by the National Park Service and the State Historic Preservation Office and, once certified, the city will be able to apply for annual grants of up to \$25,000 for activities related to historic preservation.

The short-term goal of the HPC is to champion a revision to Green Bay's historic preservation ordinances. This is required in order to qualify for CLG status; however, this is not the only project that the HPC is currently pursuing. A national register nomination is

being prepared for an east side downtown historic district. This district will include just under 40 buildings, roughly bound east to west by Washington and Madison streets, and north to south by Pine and Doty streets. A number of buildings within the proposed district are already individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places, including the Hotel Northland, the YMCA, the Meyer Theatre, the Brown County Courthouse and the former Kellogg Library.

The HPC hopes to have this district listed in the National Register by the end of 2017 (or shortly thereafter).



Submitted by
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**HOURS for
DECEMBER 2016 – MARCH 2017**

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Phone: [920-437-1840](tel:920-437-1840) / www.BrownCoHistoricalSoc.org

HAZELWOOD HISTORIC HOUSE MUSEUM
See details for events on pages 5 and 6 of this issue.
Tours, programs and teas scheduled at your convenience
by appointment throughout the year.

ADMISSION
Adult \$5.00 • Seniors (60+) \$4.00 • Children (5-17) \$3.00
Children under 5 are FREE. AAA discounts.

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