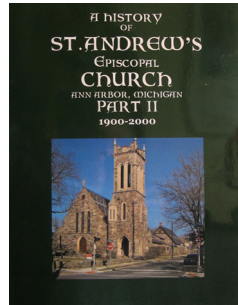


# 31st Annual Ann Arbor Preservation Awards

June 1, 2015



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# Preservation Awards

Given to owners who have maintained the historic character of their property for at least ten years.

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## **John and Patty Zeichman: 332 Eighth St.**

This classic OWS home in the Colonial Revival style was built in 1919 on the site of a factory that made furniture for libraries, offices and even the University of Michigan. It was built for Arthur and Eva Lupke. After a succession of owners, the Zeichmans purchased the house and have lived here for 37 years. Over time they have restored much of their house with the help of their four sons. It is in the Old West Side Historic District and they were on the OWS Homes Tour in 2014.



## **Lee and Susan Kaufmann: 630 Fifth St.**

In the heart of the Old West Side Historic District, this small bungalow was built in 1922 by William Hohlenkamp, a carpenter who worked at a lumber mill, on a street populated with other Germans. The Kaufmanns bought the house in 1986 from Walter and Ethel Schlecht and like them have kept it in beautiful condition. They were featured in 2014 on the Old West Side Homes Tour.



## **Stephen Muller and Christina Tsien:**

### **1150 Mixtwood**

This mid-century modern beauty was built by Edward and Irene Olencki in 1954. Note the large eaves and nearly flat roof supported by large rafters with exposed ends. They frame the large plate glass and smaller clerestory window. Panels on stilts cover the front façade and replace the traditional porch.

Olencki was a modernist architect who studied in Chicago with Mies van der Rohe before coming to Ann Arbor. He was on the UM Faculty in the School of Architecture where he was Dean in 1964. He spent 40 years teaching architectural, construction and furniture design with a special interest in churches. He was also in private practice with his colleague and neighbor Joseph Albano (at 1158 Pomona).

The current owners have kept it in excellent condition leaving the essential features of the long and low profile of mid-century modern intact. They purchased the house in 2002 from Brian Carter, a former dean of the UM Architecture School. It's been in good hands for many years.

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# Preservation Awards

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## **Walter and Geraldine Mayer: 1000 Berkshire**

Alden Dow, the Architect Laureate of Michigan, designed this house for his sister Margaret Dow Towsley and her husband Harry Towsley in 1932. The home is considered the first modern house in Ann Arbor. It is also considered to be the first house with attached garage in the US. The Mayers have been wonderful stewards of the house for decades keeping the copper roof and garden walls in beautiful shape. The long and low profile stands out in this neighborhood of traditional revival style houses.



## **Hoover LLC: 2015 Washtenaw**

This immense French Chateau was designed by local architect Rupert Koch in 1917 for Leander Hoover, wealthy founder of Hoover Ball Bearing Co. Sadly, Hoover died in the Flu Epidemic of 1918 and didn't get to enjoy the small theater, ballroom, greenhouse, gazebo and extensive gardens. The steep slate roof, smooth limestone, tall stone chimneys and classical balustrade are typical of the style. Following Hoover's death the house had a checkered history. It was the Kappa Sigma fraternity after 1922 and vacant in the 1930s. It was almost demolished but rescued by Carrol Benz in 1946. In 2005 it became the home headquarters of University Bank. Their stewardship has resulted in a beautiful presence on the street, accented by the deep setback from Washtenaw Avenue.



## **Marcia Feingold: 352 Hilldale**

Fifty years ago this house was built for Mr. and Mrs. Eugene (Marcia) Feingold. This marks a half century for Ms. Feingold. Her house was built in 1965 and designed by Ted Smith, a student of Robert Metcalf, the premier designer of modern houses in Ann Arbor. The house features the characteristics of modern houses: a flat roof, box-like exterior of white with black accents along the roof line, and a recessed doorway. She has kept the house in pristine condition all these years and enjoys a fantastic view of the Huron River Valley.

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# Preservation Awards

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## **Clayton and Ann Wilhite: 2101 Hill St.**

Built in 1913 and designed by noted Detroit architect Albert Kahn, this was built for George and Merib Patterson in a stately Georgian Revival style. Patterson was on the UM Engineering faculty and lived here with his wife until 1943. Note the symmetrical arrangement of red brick, the contrasting white windows and the unusual copper shingled roof with five round topped dormers. The home has a deep setback from Hill St on its two-acre lot. The current owners have lived here since 1998 and have done a great job in maintaining this lovely residence.



## **Robert Samborski: 3865 Glazier Way**

This home, built in 1842, is a Greek Revival gem hidden amongst UM's north campus buildings and residences. It was built by Lemeul and Abi Foster and we know from an 1874 engraving that it is nearly intact today, including all of the original windows. Note the small scale of 1 1/2 stories, the lack of a high foundation, the central classical entry with sidelights and transom, wide pilasters, two-panel door and the six over six windows—all hallmarks of the style. The Samborskis purchased the property from the Fosters in 1946 and have maintained this unusual property beautifully. Thus, only two families have owned the property in over 170 years!



## **Anne Chase: 2855 Devonshire**

This 1965 home was designed for Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Chase by David Osler, an Ann Arbor architect who died last year. Mrs. Chase is also an original owner and with her husband a steward of the property for 50 years. Osler's mid-century design features a flat roofed central cube with gabled portions surrounding it, large overhangs, walls of windows and a hidden doorway referencing his training with Frank Lloyd Wright. Lovely modernist landscaping completes the effect.

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# Rehabilitation Awards

Given to owners who have substantially returned a property to its historic condition.

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## Steve Gutterman: 713 and 715 Miller

These two houses were recently rehabilitated by the owner after being derelict for many years. They were built by the Frederick F. Haas and Herman Graf families in 1894 (or earlier) and 1900. They are on a heavily traveled road and thus noticed by many. Gutterman purchased the houses in 2009 and 2010 and immediately set to work. In the wall cavity of 713 he found 1891 ticket stubs from the Ann Arbor Railroad and a 1904 car registration for Fred Haas. Both houses are in the typical Colonial Revival style popular in this time period.



## Daniel and Marianne Clauw: 514 Lawrence

This 1850s home started as a small, single level cottage and had multiple additions over the years. After several decades as a student rental, little remained inside of historical significance. Essentially, a new house was constructed within the old exterior, including rebuilding of a new porch on the porch footprint documented in a 1908 Sanborn map. Michael Mahon, of Adaptive Building Solutions, managed the demolition and construction within the main house, and Greg Leder, of Leder Construction, directed the construction of a new sunroom addition and a new two story garage. Robb Burroughs of reFORM studios was the project architect. A geothermal HVAC system and other environmentally sensitive design and implementation approaches yielded LEED Gold certification, managed by Mike Mahon. The Clauws would like to thank the many people involved in the restoration project, and particularly appreciate the guidance of Jill Thacher of the City of Ann Arbor Historical District Commission. The Clauws relate a fond memory of meeting the student tenants on a cigarette butt littered front stoop shortly after purchase of the house in 2011 and hearing “*You’re going to live here?!?*” Yes, indeed.



## Victor and Sheryle Lacca: 402 Second St.

This 1850s house in the Old West Side Historic District was recently renovated by the removal of asbestos siding and porch renovation which are noticeable on this corner lot. The earliest known occupant in 1868 was Gottlieb Kurtz, a teacher at the German school nearby. The Kurtz family maintained its residence here until around World War I. Later Mrs. Schriber was here for three decades. Last year the house finally lost its coating of fake brick asbestos shingle and this corner now gleams with new paint and a sense of renewed purpose.

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# Adaptive Reuse Award

Given to a property that has been remodeled to a new use.

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## **Kathy Sample and Bill Brinkerhoff: Argus Farm Stop 325 W. Liberty**

A derelict and abandoned gas station from the 1930s (most people remember the 1970s remodeling) was transformed into Ann Arbor's latest hot spot for coffee and fresh, locally sourced produce and meat. Farmers drop off their produce and then go back to farming... a win-win for both growers and consumers. Originally the site of a house for the Weitbrecht family going back to the 1860s, the station was built in 1938. Corner Stone Design helped figure out how to change the building and friend Scott Fleck helped. It is already on its way to becoming a neighborhood institution. It is in the Old West Side Historic District.

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# Special Merit Awards

Given to unusual single changes to the historic character of a building or other projects relating to local history.

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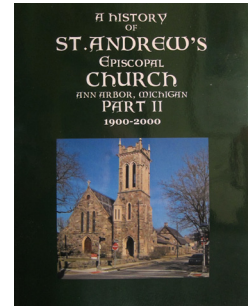
## First Baptist Church: 420 E. Huron

This fieldstone church, which dates to 1880, was designed by Elijah Myers, the architect of the State Capitol in Lansing. The congregation recently replaced the slate roof at great expense. It was worth it. The church still serves a large and diverse congregation from its downtown location. It has been lovingly preserved inside and out and is in the Old Fourth Ward Historic District.



## St. Paul's Lutheran Church: 420 W. Liberty

Another great church (this one in the Old West Side) replaced its slate roof with the same result. The church dates to 1929 and has been an anchor in the community for decades served by members of the Brauer family. It is often the Headquarters for the Annual Old West Side Homes Tour.



## Dr. H. Mark Hildebrandt: Author of "A History of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Part II"

Dr. Hildebrandt is receiving a Special Award to acknowledge his dedication in researching and writing *A History of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Part II*, which was published in 2015. The book is over 300 pages and covers the history of the church from 1900-2000. The last history of the church was written in 1906! It was and is a labor of love and the love shows throughout. Dr. Hildebrandt was aided by a dedicated group from the History and Memorials Committee who wrote several chapters in the book.

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# Preservationist of the Year

Given to an individual who has provided the City of Ann Arbor with exemplary services in the pursuit of historic preservation, incentives, and/or education.

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## Judith (Judy) Chrisman: 2015 Preservationist of the Year

This year the award goes to Judy Chrisman, Collections Chair, Recording Secretary and Past President of the Washtenaw County Historical Society. Since the 1980s Judy has given unselfishly of her time and talents. She has a degree in historic preservation from EMU and helped the Museum of Main Street (MOMS) of the WCHS come into being. As Collections Chair, she undertook the challenge of dealing with a jumble of artifacts stored at Willow Run, re-catalogued them, and formed a state of the art system for inventory. She has cheerfully designed exhibits for the Museum ranging from funeral practices, agriculture, wedding dresses, and tools—all things Washtenaw. She has also served on the boards of the Ann Arbor Historical Foundation, Cobblestone Farm and Kempf House. She did this all while working for 41 years at St. Joseph Hospital in the chemistry labs until her retirement in 2002. She is truly an outstanding asset to our community.