

HYDE PARK HISTORICAL SOCIETY BULLETIN



November/December 2020

www.hydeparkhistory.org, 773-493-1893

**SEASON'S GREETINGS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE
HYDE PARK HISTORICAL SOCIETY!**



UPCOMING EVENTS

Hyde Park Book Club – Monday, January 18, 2021, 7:30pm via Zoom. Authors Richard Courage and Christopher Robert Reed will join us for a discussion of Black History and Arts in Chicago. Books to be discussed include: *The Muse in Bronzeville*, *Roots of the Black Chicago Renaissance*, *Black Chicago's First Century*, *All the World is Here!* *The Black Presence in the White City*. Registration required.

[Register Here](#)

Hyde Park Book Club – Monday, February 15, 2021, 7:30pm via Zoom. The featured book will be the soon to be republished *W-3* by Bette Howland (1937-2017). *W-3* is a memoir of her stay in a psychiatric ward (W-3) at a University of Chicago Hospital. Now a celebrated writer, Bette entered the University at the age of 15, was named a MacArthur Fellow in 1984, and later taught literature at the Committee on Social Thought. She was a close friend and mentee of Saul Bellow. Her sons, Frank and Jacob Howland will be present to discuss the book. Brigid Hughes, representing the publisher, A Public Space, will join the conversation. Registration required.

[Register here](#)

Book Club Contacts: Carol Vieth, ultra5300@earthlink.net; Michal Safar, Archivist@hydeparkhistory.org.

ANNOUNCEMENT!

HPHS Membership Drive Ongoing!

The HPHS Annual Membership Drive will take place in December 2020. Look for details in your email/snail-mail. We need your support!

Contact Mark Mandle for more information. Membership@hydeparkhistory.org

HPHS 2021 OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

On December 15, 2021 the HPHS board elected a new slate of officers and board members as follows:

President: Janice A. Knox

Vice-President: Dr. Chris Stacey

Treasurer: Carol Vieth

Secretary: Gary Ossewaarde

Board Members: Estrella R. Alamar, Tanya Bolen, Clinée Hedspeth, Cleveland Holden, Kathy Huff, Dottie Jeffries, Ruth Knack, Jerry Levy, Camille Long, Mark Mandle, Brigid Maniates, Joseph Marlin, Mallory Price, Michal Safar, David Schalliol, Jack Spicer, Frances Vandervoort

To reach any of the board members contact info@hydeparkhistory.org

ANNUAL FUND UPDATE

The HPHS Annual Fund drive kicked off in October and the response has been gratifying. To date we have received \$11,505 in donations from over 60 donors. **THANK YOU** to everyone who donated. If you have not yet donated you can send a donation through our web site or to Michal Safar, 5530 S. Shore Drive, Apt 9A, Chicago, IL 60637. Make checks payable to the Hyde Park Historical Society. Contact Michal Safar for more information. Archivist@hydeparkhistory.org

PRESERVATION NEWS



Washington Park Green Line 'L' Station Wins Preservation Excellence Award

The Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) won a 'Preservation Excellence' award from the Commission on Chicago Landmarks for its restoration of the original Garfield Green Line 'L' station house in Washington Park.

"The restoration is a stunning example of historic preservation,' said Commissioner Ernest Wong at a Nov. 17 meeting of the Landmarks Commission. The Green Line station renovation was one of nine preservation projects to win the award.

"The restoration project was part of the \$43 million renovation of the Garfield Green Line station completed in 2019. Earlier this year, the University of Chicago opened a business accelerator in the space.

"The original Green Line station was built in 1892, a year ahead of the World's Columbian Exposition. Part of the city's first rapid transit line, it was built to ferry passengers to and from the fair. 'The station house consisted of one large room with an attendance booth, a newsstand and a concession booth,' said Wong. 'A gatekeeper allowed passengers entry through the rear doors leading to an elevated platform.'

"The exterior of the station house itself was mostly made of terracotta brick, with rough brick on the upper portion of the wall creating a diamond pattern. A curved wooden canopy, flanked by wooden doors, is supported by ornamental green brackets.

"The old station house was closed in 2001, replaced by a more modern structure across the street. That same year, it also became a city landmark, affording it protection from demolition.

"Marlise Fratinardo, a senior project manager with the CTA, quoted a Chicago Daily Tribune article describing the scene a few days before the dedication of the Columbian Exposition: 'One may stand on the platform and look over the rural scene, whose picturesqueness is heightened by the beautiful boulevard which to the east curves gracefully and is lost in a wood of sturdy young oak trees over the tops of which rise the domes and roofs of the World's Fair buildings.'"

[Read the full story at Hyde Park Herald](https://www.hpherald.com/evening_digest/garfield-green-line-station-wins-preservation-award-from-city/article_aa29e540-35b6-11eb-b06f-9b8c8f818b85.html#utm_source=hpherald.com&utm_campaign=%2Fnewsletters%2Flists%2Fevening-digest%2F%3F-dc%3D1607041817&utm_medium=email&utm_content=headline)

https://www.hpherald.com/evening_digest/garfield-green-line-station-wins-preservation-award-from-city/article_aa29e540-35b6-11eb-b06f-9b8c8f818b85.html#utm_source=hpherald.com&utm_campaign=%2Fnewsletters%2Flists%2Fevening-digest%2F%3F-dc%3D1607041817&utm_medium=email&utm_content=headline

OPEN CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR PRESERVATION CHICAGO'S 2021 7 MOST ENDANGERED LIST!

Worried about a great vintage building or home in your neighborhood...Please let us know! We need your help to identify neglected or threatened buildings for consideration for Preservation Chicago's 2021 Chicago 7 Most Endangered List.

To be eligible it must be:

1. **Historic**
2. **In danger**
3. **In Chicago**
4. **Too special to lose!**

Tell us through social media, call 312-443-1000 or email info@preservationchicago.org. The 2021 Chicago 7 Most Endangered announcement will be held remotely on February 24, 2021 due to the pandemic. We hope you can join us. More details to follow.

Since 2003, the "Chicago 7 Most Endangered" has sounded the alarm on imminently threatened historic buildings and community assets in Chicago to mobilize the stakeholder support necessary to save them from demolition.

FEATURED HPHS WEB SITE VIDEOS

Take a look at some of our program and Book Club videos from the past year:

September Book Club – *An Oral History of Chicago Theater*

Author Mark Larson was joined by Pemon Rami for a discussion of Chicago theater as presented in Mark's book *Ensemble: An Oral History of Chicago Theater*.

The video of this book club meeting and Mark's presentation is available on the HPHS web site at: [Ensemble](#)

August Program - Chicago Policy King House Tour

On Saturday, August 15, 50 participants journeyed to West Woodlawn via Zoom for an extraordinary tour of a historic house at South Eberhart Avenue and East 65th Street built in 1926 by the legendary Chicago policy king Henry Young. The tour was led by HPHS Board member Clinée Hedspeth, proud owner of the home.

The video of this program is available on the HPHS web site at: [Chicago Policy King House Tour](#)

August Book Club – *Chicago Artist Colonies*

Author Keith Stolte and Zac Bleicher of the Edgar Miller Legacy led 20 members of the Hyde Park Book Club through a presentation and discussion of the many artists colonies in Chicago from the 1800's through the 1940's as featured in Keith's book *Chicago Artist Colonies*.

The video of this book club meeting and Keith and Zac's presentation is available on the HPHS web site at: [Chicago Artist Colonies](#)

June Program – There's Art in Them Thar Revetments!

On Saturday, June 27, 2020 Bill Swislow gave a presentation on the stone carvings found in the revetments found along Chicago's lakefront. These carvings are one of the world's most remarkable outdoor art treasures that lies hidden in plain sight along Chicago's Lake Michigan waterfront.

The video of this program is available on the HPHS web site at: [Revetments!](#)