

BROWN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2004 HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARDS



Jorgensen Building, 107/109 North Broadway, Green Bay

In 1879, J.L. Jorgensen constructed a two-story building at Walnut and Broadway to house his growing retail business. Eight years later, however, he partnered with his brother-in-law, and the Jorgensen-Blesch Department Store moved to prosper on the east side. The Jorgensen Building had several tenants since then, and like much of Broadway, had become worse for wear. Recently, Curt Czachor and Tim Polack purchased the building for their law offices and contracted with Direct Development to renovate both the exterior façade and the interior spaces. The south and west sides received a new brick veneer, the front cornice and lintel were cleaned and accentuated with new distinctive paint colors, and the later cararra glass tile and the glass storefront were refurbished. The building now presents a fresh and attractive face towards the Broadway District.



Lucia Stanfield, Green Bay

With degrees from Carroll College and UW-Madison, Lucia Stanfield had taught at both East and West High Schools in Green Bay until her retirement in the late 1970s. Not one to remain idle, she started volunteering on a regular basis at the Neville Museum. After receiving museum training in artifact handling, she assisted in the packing, handling, storage, and unpacking of textiles and other artifacts as the museum made the move from its former Jefferson Street location to its current site on the west side along the river. On nearly a weekly basis, she has volunteered in the preservation and inventorying of special collection materials. She is currently viewing historic slides, writing descriptions, and cataloging them to make the materials more accessible for community researchers. The museum considers her an invaluable asset to their mission.



Neighborhood Housing Services, Green bay

Neighborhood Housing Services of Green Bay, Inc. (NHS) is a nonprofit corporation working with residents, government, business, and other organizations to stabilize and revitalize Green Bay's downtown and near-downtown neighborhoods. Part of that mission has been to rehabilitate housing with the intention of either renting or reselling. Recently, NHS undertook the renovation of the former Allouez Mineral Springs "Soda Pop Factory" building at Chicago and Jackson that had been vacant and fallen into disrepair. The preserved building now provides six two-bedroom stylish loft apartments. Plans are also in the works for rehabilitation of the former Wells Fargo Express and National Guard Armory buildings across the street. NHS continues to play an important role in the preservation of older buildings in Green Bay's historic core neighborhoods.



Olde School Past-to-Present, De Pere

Like so many other charming rural schoolhouses that dotted the countryside in the early half of the century, the 1909 schoolhouse on Creamery Road in Ledgeview closed 44 years ago. 20 years ago, it was converted into a residence, which probably saved the abandoned building from the eventual wrecking ball that has claimed so many other schoolhouses. Recently, however, Ledgeview development probably would have jeopardized the building had Pat Drury not stepped in. Although the building was very close to the County G right-of-way, he obtained permission to restore the building on its original site. The schoolhouse currently houses his office and an antiques store, and will serve as the cornerstone for an early 20th century style commercial district. Plans are to move at least one more century-old building to the site to complement the school.



St. John The Evangelist Catholic Church, Green Bay

Like many Catholic churches in the early 1970s, the interior of St. John's was greatly modified to meet the demands of Vatican II. The original theater style sloped mosaic tile floor was covered with a concrete topping to level the floor, a concrete platform was installed to raise the altar, and the entire church floor was covered with carpeting. In 2003, a decision to remove deteriorated carpeting unfolded into a major interior renovation as the original building materials were revealed. The concrete fill was demolished, the few salvageable areas of original mosaic were preserved while the remaining floor was retiled, the granite entry stairways were cleaned and repaired, the damaged marble sanctuary stairs were replicated and replaced, the plaster walls were repaired and repainted, the faux-marble scagliola walls were restored, and the pews were refinished. The restored interior is once again on par with St. John's grand exterior.