



August 2018

# Quapaw Quarter Association Chronicle

## Executive Director's Letter

Greetings!

Summer is in full swing as we update you on our activities since our last Chronicle in April and share information on upcoming opportunities.

The 54<sup>th</sup> Spring Tour of Homes in the Central High School Neighborhood Historic District over Mother's Day weekend was magnificent. The homeowners and neighbors were excited, the volunteers were trained and ready, and the public was eagerly awaiting the opportunity to explore the homes! We've received positive feedback on the tour, and have had numerous suggestions for the



location of next year's tour. You'll have to stay tuned in to find out where the 55<sup>th</sup> Spring Tour of Homes will take place. The Spring Tour of Homes is our largest single outreach tool and fundraiser, and by all accounts it was a success! For more details on this year's tour, see below.

Once the Spring Tour of Homes was put to bed, I began in earnest to finalize plans for our Preservation Conversations with our VP of Education, Shana Graves, and work on programs for the rest of the year. As of today, two of our Preservation Conversations are done: "The Original City of Little Rock, 1818" by Mike Hood and "The Mosaic State Temple Building" by Ralph Wilcox. We could not have asked for better programs or participants! There are two more Preservation Conversations coming up this summer: "The Quapaw Treaty of 1818" by Carrie Wilson, and "The Adaptive Imagineering of Main Street, Little Rock: A Case Study of Personal Investments and Outcomes as Perceived by Agents of Change" by Dondi Warren. See below for more information about these events.

QQA Board Member Laura Sergeant lined up three Summer Suppers for 2018. The first one, Welcome to the Gayborhood, hosted by Ted Holder and Joe van den Heuvel, at the historic Scull House, featured great food by Trio's and professionally crafted cocktails by Mark Hooper.

The second Summer Supper was held at the Root Café, historically, the Sweden Crème. The lavish 5 course meal of locally sourced fare was paired with wines for each course and the meal was quite



decadent. The third Summer Supper will be held at the Turner-Ledbetter House with a meal sponsored by 42 bar and table at the Clinton Library. This will be an intimate affair limited to 12 participants, and is already sold out.

Top most on the QQA's Advocacy Agenda was the release of the Draft Environmental Assessment for 30 Crossing by the Federal Highway Administration. Following the release was a public meeting followed by a comment period. The comment period closed on Friday, July 27, 2018. In coordination with the QQA Board, we have been in consultation with the Arkansas Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration, the Arkansas State Historic Preservation Office, Metroplan, and numerous and varied constituencies for well over a year to assess the undertaking and seek ways to eliminate any adverse effects on historic properties within the project's Area of Potential Effect. While some of our initial concerns, raised in our letter of August 2017, were addressed, several were not, and our submitted comments reflect this.

**Click [here](#) to see QQA's comments.**

We hope that you saw the news about the special pricing for our historic markers. The QQA Board has subsidized the cost of the markers to property owners, so they are comparable in cost to their original price in 2015! This special price will only last until the subsidy runs out-so if you are interested in a marker, apply now. More information and the application can be found **[here](#)**.

Mark your calendars! We have a couple exciting upcoming events

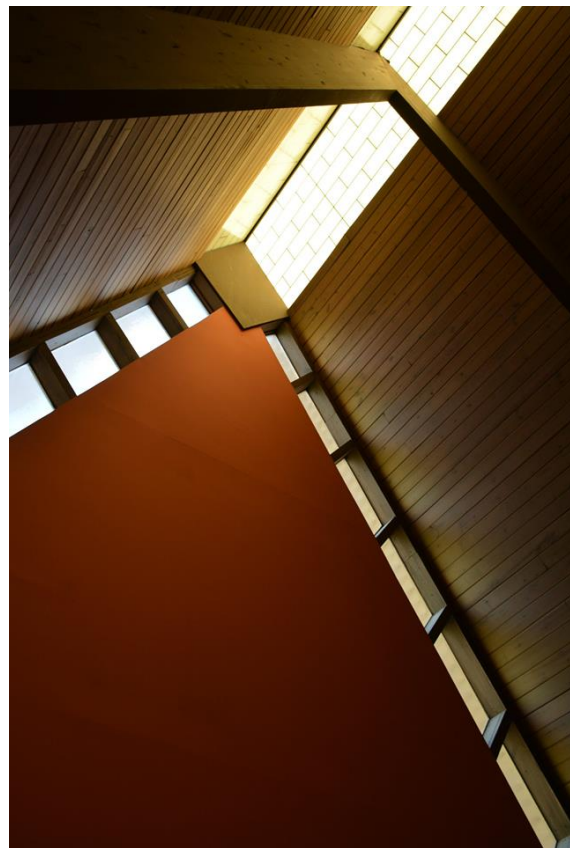




and you'll want to pencil them in: the bi-annual Greater Little Rock Mid-Century Modern Tour, conducted by Mason Toms, is coming up the last weekend in September, more information is available below. Our Annual Membership Meeting will take place on Wednesday, November 14, 2018 at the Historic Arkansas Museum, details will follow. At this year's meeting we will have the QQA Business meeting, presentation of Greater Little Rock's Preservation Awards, and presentation of new historical markers.

As always, thank you for your continued support. We would not be able to carry out our mission of preserving greater Little Rock's historic places without you!

Sincerely,  
Patricia M. Blick  
Executive Director





## Education & Development

### 54th Spring Tour of Homes

The 2018 54<sup>th</sup> Spring Tour of Homes in the Central High School Neighborhood Historic District attracted nearly 1,000 participants, including ticket holders to various tour-related events and volunteers.

In recent years, a resurgence of rehabilitation in the Central High School Neighborhood Historic District made it an excellent location for the tour, according to Quapaw Quarter Association (QQA) Executive Director Patricia Blick.



While the tour is a fundraising event for the QQA, it also offers an educational opportunity for participants, raises awareness, and builds pride for the neighborhoods. The last QQA Spring Tour of Homes in the district was in 1991; much has changed during those 27 years, both for the district and other historic neighborhoods in Little Rock. A post-tour survey offered several comments that expressed the beauty and livability of the neighborhood.

The 2018 event started with a preview party at the Moxie Warehouse behind Central High School, with 87 ticket holders. The Candlelight Dinner and Tour attracted 124 ticketholders, the Sunday Brunch at Curran Hall sold 88 tickets, and the tour itself attracted 504 tickets holders. 190 volunteers assisted staff and committee members as tour guides, set up crew, and ticket sellers. Committee members assisted with securing sponsors, marketing and public relations, cultivating more earned media

than in many previous years. Stories appeared in the Arkansas Democrat Gazette, the Arkansas Times, and the Daily Record. Several local television stations also covered the tour.

Planning for next year's tour, QQA's 55<sup>th</sup> Spring Tour of Homes is already underway!

## Upcoming Preservation Conversations

### Quapaw Treaty of 1818

Lecture by Carrie Wilson, Quapaw Native American Graves Protection Repatriation Act Program Director. In partnership with the Central Arkansas Chapter: Arkansas Archeological Society.

August 24, 2018

5:30 pm (reception); 6:00 pm (lecture)

Location: Curran Hall, 615 Capitol Ave., Little Rock. **RSVP Here.**



### The Adaptive Imagineering of Main Street, Little Rock: A Case Study of Personal Investments and Outcomes as Perceived by Agents of Change

Lecture by Dondi Warren, Ed.D., Center for Excellence in Education at Arkansas State University.



September 13, 2018

5:30 pm (reception); 6:00 pm (lecture)

Location: CALS Darragh Center, 100 Rock Street, Little Rock. **RSVP Here.**

*Preservation Conversations are made possible in part by the [Arkansas Humanities Council](#) and the [National Endowment for the Humanities](#).*

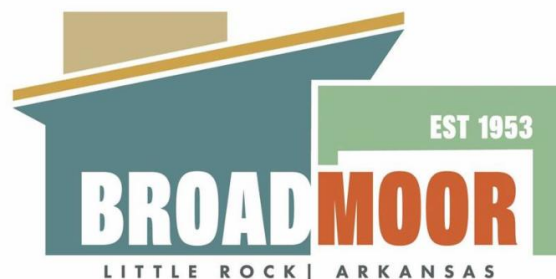
Greater Little Rock  
Mid-Century Modern Tour



Join us as we explore the remarkable history and beautiful architecture of Little Rock's Broadmoor area.

Experience the simplicity and elegance of the houses of worship in the area and learn more about the innovative ideas of the developers of Broadmoor. The tour will include four churches and the Broadmoor Clubhouse. It will be lead by Mason Toms, Exterior Design Consultant & Architectural Historian for Main Street Arkansas and Mid-Century Modern expert. Join

us for two events related to the Greater Little Rock Mid-Century Modern Tour, a Saturday night reception on August 29 at at Curran Hall from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm, and the tour itself on August 30 at 1:00 pm.



*Tickets will go on sale very soon! Check your e-mail, our website, or Facebook for more information.*

## Reception

**Date and Time:** September 29, 2018 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

**Location:** 501 Woodlane Drive, Suite 600 Little Rock, AR 72201

## Tour

**Date and Time:** September 30, 2018 1:00 pm

**Meet at:** University Plaza, 5820 Asher Ave, Little Rock, AR 72204 outside Big Lots. A trolley will pick up tour participants outside Big Lots, and return them to the parking lot after the tour.

## QQA Historical Building Markers

The Quapaw Quarter Association (QQA) is pleased to announce an opportunity to secure a Historical Building Marker at a reduced price. The **QQA Cheryl Griffith Nichols Historic Building Marker Program** recognizes historically and architecturally significant

buildings located anywhere in the City of Little Rock that have been well-maintained or have undergone exemplary rehabilitation; brings to the attention of the general public buildings that are unique assets to Little Rock; and promotes the QQA as Little Rock's leading historic preservation organization.



In 2015 the QQA launched a new Historical Building Marker Program. Aided by a state grant, the QQA was able to offer the new Markers at a reduced price and in the fall of 2015 awarded and installed over 30 of the new Markers.

This year the QQA Board has set aside funds to make this program affordable for property owners. These funds will defray the cost of the Markers on a first-come, first-served basis during 2018. While the available funds last, qualifying applicants may purchase the Markers for \$496 for pole mounted Markers (cost is \$946 after available funds to defray costs are depleted) and \$296 for wall mounted Markers (cost is \$546 after available funds to defray costs are depleted).

The markers are aluminum, sized 14 inches wide by 12 inches high. Their design will allow them either to be attached to the wall of a building or pole-mounted. Each marker includes the building's historic name and construction date. Markers have a lifetime warranty for materials and finish.

To be considered for a Marker, a building must satisfy five general criteria:

1. Building must be located within the boundaries of the City of Little Rock
2. The building must be a contributing structure in a National Register listed historic district or be individually listed or eligible for individual listing in the National Register of Historic Places, as determined by the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program.
3. The construction date and ownership history of the building must be documented.
4. If the building has been rehabilitated (as opposed to maintained), all exterior work must be complete.
5. Rehabilitation work must generally conform to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitation Historic Buildings.

Applications will be received from June 1, 2018 to August 31, 2018. The 5-person Marker Committee will review the applications in the order in which they are received. Successful applicants will be notified as soon as a building is approved for a Marker. Once an application is approved, the property owner and QQA will sign an agreement. When the agreement is executed, and payment received, fabrication of the new markers will start. The new markers will be presented to the property owners at QQA's Annual Membership meeting on November 14, 2018 at the Historic Arkansas Museum. The new Markers will be installed before the end of the year.

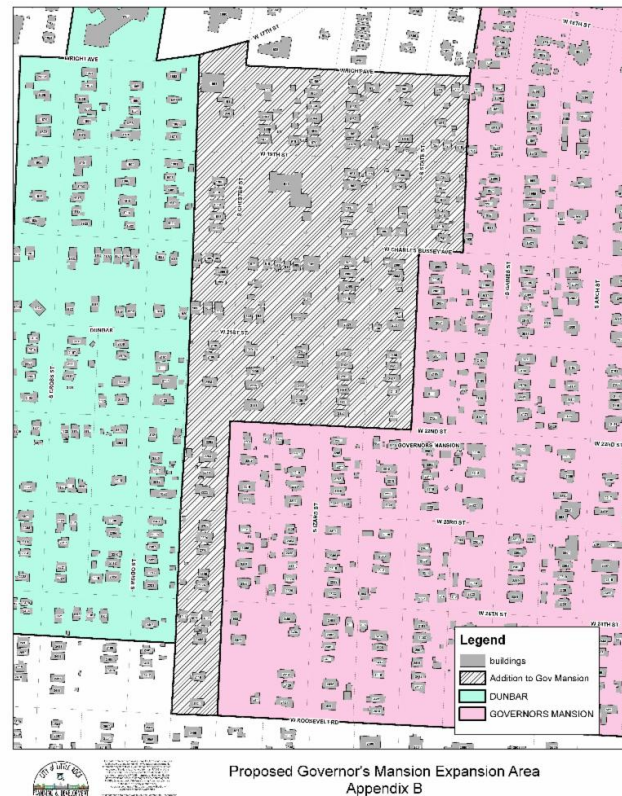


## Advocacy

### Governor's Mansion Historic District Expanded

The Governor's Mansion National Register Historic District was expanded via approval from the National Park Service in May 2018. The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program (AHPP) started a re-survey of the district in late 2016. Eighty-seven contributing buildings will be added to the district.

According to Ralph Wilcox, National Register Coordinator for the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program (AHPP), there was an area between the boundaries of the Governor's Mansion National Register Historic District and the Dunbar School Neighborhood National Register Historic District that was previously unsurveyed. Property owners in the area contacted both AHPP and Brian Minyard, staff to the Historic District Commission of the City of Little Rock, requesting an expansion the district so that they could pursue rehabilitation tax credit projects.



The expanded portion of the district includes the west side of Chester Street between 22<sup>nd</sup> Street and Roosevelt Road; Chester Street, Izard Street, and the west side of State Street from Charles Bussey Avenue to 22<sup>nd</sup> Street; and the east side of State street between Wright Avenue and Charles Bussey Avenue. The Period of Significance for the Governor's Mansion Historic District was modified from ca. 1880 – 1952 to ca. 1880-1967. There were various periods of development for the expanded area, including seven building built prior to 1900, approximately two dozen built both between WWI and WWII and post WWII and the remaining built between 1900 and 1918.

Costs associated with the expansion were funded through city match

money and private donations to Little Rock's Historic District Commission. The City of Little Rock posted a bid to survey the additional area and was able to contract with Cultural Resource Analysts, the company that was already hired by AHPP to re-survey the existing Governor's Mansion area, which reduced costs associated with the project.

Private donations came from area property owners and interested organizations. The Quapaw Quarter Association (QQA), the Downtown Little Rock Partnership, and the Downtown Neighborhood Association donated to the cause, as well as five business and property owners in the area. The expansion area was reviewed by the Little Rock Historic District Commission on July 10, 2017 and followed by the State Review Committee for Historic Preservation in August 2017.

According to Gabe Holmstrom, Executive Director of the Downtown Little Rock Partnership and QQA board member, "Increasing the footprint of the Governor's Mansion historic district is an essential step to preserving this historic neighborhood in our downtown core. The benefits of historic districts are well known and well documented, and the benefits of this addition will be seen immediately and for years to come."

"Watch the economic impact of this expansion. This area of the neighborhood will see a great improvement in the near future," Said Matt Foster, a local contractor who does work in the Governor's Mansion Historic District and contributor to the fund.

According to Patricia Blick, QQA Executive Director, "We were very excited to support the work to bridge the gap between the Governor's Mansion Historic District and the Dunbar Neighborhood Historic District. We anticipate an uptick in rehabilitation in this newly designated area. Also, if we are successful with our initiative to lower the expenditure threshold for rehabilitation tax credits of owner-occupied properties, homeowners who have small projects and wouldn't previously undertake work on their historic properties now won't hesitate to do the work."

*If you live in the expansion area and want more information about how tax credits might apply to your property, contact Tom Marr, Rehabilitation Tax Credit Coordinator at the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program via phone (501) 324-9880 or e-mail [tom.marr@arkansas.gov](mailto:tom.marr@arkansas.gov).*

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