

History of the Quapaw Quarter Association
By Dana Daniels Nixon

During its more than forty years of existence, the Quapaw Quarter Association (“QQA”) has been part of a nationwide historic preservation movement that has changed dramatically over the years. In the 1960s, preservation efforts still tended to focus on saving a few very important historic landmarks. Today preservation is a means of revitalizing entire neighborhoods, containing urban sprawl, returning life to small-town Main Streets and rural areas, sustainability, green building, and much, much more. As the QQA determines how best to operate in the 21st century, it is helpful to look back at how it has evolved since its incorporation in 1968.

The Quapaw Quarter Association is the second oldest organization dedicated to historic preservation in the state of Arkansas (the oldest is the Pioneer Washington Foundation, founded in 1958) and one of the oldest in the region. Since its incorporation, the QQA has been a leader in improving the image of the historic downtown area known as the Quapaw Quarter and making the area a more attractive place to live, work and play. In the past 40+ years, hundreds of 19th and early 20th century buildings and homes have been rehabilitated and returned to productive use as homes, apartments and offices, and new structures have been added to complement the old. People seeking to live downtown may now chose from unrestored structures, restored “grand dames” to cottages and bungalows, new residences designed to look old and those obviously new, as well as restored condos in former hotels and apartments and new loft and high-rise luxury residences. Tourists seeking to learn about the heritage of our city have wonderful areas to roam and study. The Quapaw Quarter has not only become a source of pride and enjoyment for the residents of Greater Little Rock, but has also earned a national reputation as a preservation success story.¹

The QQA is a non-profit, membership-based corporation that evolved out of a working group established in 1961 at the behest of John Robinson, then associated with Little Rock’s Housing Authority.² Robinson appointed five prominent citizens to a “Significant Structures Technical Advisory Committee” – David D. Terry, Mrs. George Rose Smith (Peg), Mrs. Walter Riddick Sr., Dr. John L. Ferguson, and James Hatcher – who determined that the area, in decline, needed a campaign to create a more positive image. After considering eleven names for the area, the group chose “Quapaw Quarter”³ based upon the Quapaw Treaty Line of 1818, which ran through the neighborhood.⁴ In 1962, the group adopted the name “Quapaw Quarter Committee” (the “Committee”) and expanded its membership. The Committee identified several structures in the neighborhood in need of protection and in 1963 held the first tour of homes to acquaint citizens with the area’s beautiful and historic architecture. In 1963, the Committee also began recognizing important preservation projects with Quapaw Quarter Historic Plaques: Trapnall Hall, then just restored by the Junior League of Little Rock, received the first plaque.

The Committee continued its work and, in 1968, members joined others to incorporate the Quapaw Quarter Association (“QQA”). “Quapaw Quarter” is actually a fictitious name for the area, not a legally or even historically defined place. Rather, it was first defined in the original articles of incorporation of the QQA (the “Articles”), as a 16-square block area (1/4 of a township) bounded by Capitol Avenue on the north, Scott Street on the west, 9th Street on the south, and Bond Street on the east. As the preservation movement expanded, the Quapaw Quarter itself grew through amendments to the Articles and now includes all the area from the Arkansas River on the north, Fourche Creek on the south, the old Rock Island Railroad tracks on the east and the Central High School neighborhood on the west. The fact that “Quapaw Quarter” refers to a fictitious entity has caused

¹ “A Queen Anne Revival in Little Rock,” *The Old House Journal*, June 1974:2; “At Little Rock, Restoring the Quapaw Quarter,” *This is Arkansas*, July-August 1976:4; “Victorian Exuberance Blooms Again,” *Southern Living* May 1977: 96; *American Preservation Magazine* Oct-Nov. 1977; “Easygoing, Hardworking Arkansas”, *National Geographic Magazine*, March 1978:396; “Little rock: The Coming Place,” *The Texas Flier*, June 1978: 45; “Hooray for Little Rock,” *Town and Country Magazine*, 1981:155); “A Queen Anne Jewel Sparkles in Little Rock,” *Historic Preservation*, April 1984:6; “Arkansas Stencilers,” *Americana Magazine*, June 1987:35; “Becky Witsell on the Age-Old Tradition of Stenciling,” *Active Years*, August 2001:10; “Little Rock is On a Roll,” *Los Angeles Times* March 22, 2009, p. L-4.

² The City of Little Rock was embarking on a major urban renewal plan for the central business area and the surrounding neighborhoods, and Mr. Robinson felt it was important for the planners to have input from knowledgeable, concerned residents about the historic fabric of the older parts of the city and its structures.

³ Mr. Hatcher, an architect, is credited with the name: ““Quapaw, for the tribe, and “Quarter” for the alliteration.

⁴ When the first European settlers arrived in the area, it was inhabited by the Quapaw Indians. The Quapaw Line was a boundary determined in an 1818 treaty between the U.S. government and the tribe and was, for a time, the eastern boundary of the city of Little Rock.

confusion through the years, so much so that it was one of the factors leading the QQA, for awhile in 1999 - 2000, to change its name to "Landmarks Trust of Greater Little Rock".⁵

The area now commonly referred to as the Quapaw Quarter encompasses the oldest section of the city and contains nine square miles; it contains three large historic districts – MacArthur Park, Governor's Mansion, and Central High – and eleven small ones⁶ and structures representing the first century of the city's history, plus modern buildings that have since replaced many of the older ones. The oldest dwelling is the Hinderliter House, a log structure characteristic of the earliest dwellings in the Quapaw Quarter and a part of the Historic Arkansas Museum complex. The classical elegance of the 1830s, 40s and 50s is represented both in public buildings and private homes such as the Old State House, Curran Hall (now the Little Rock Visitor Information Center) and Trapnall Hall. The MacArthur Park area contains most of the oldest buildings. The Mansion area homes generally date from about 1880 to 1920, with the Queen Anne, Colonial Revival and Craftsman architectural styles predominating. The Central High area contains those styles as well as American Foursquare.

The focus of the QQA, originally established to protect only the MacArthur Park area, now extends to all of historic Little Rock.⁷ The Articles established the goals of the QQA: (1) "to encourage, promote and assist in the restoration and preservation of historically and architecturally significant sites and structures located within the QQ, (2) to encourage research and the study of the history of early Arkansas and its citizens significant to said area, and (3) to encourage the study of and to foster an appreciation of various styles of architecture, furniture, furnishings, and ornaments historically significant to early Little Rock". In 1979, the QQA's Board of Directors (the "Board") adopted this mission statement: "The QQA is a voluntary organization that exists to encourage and support the preservation of the architectural and historical heritage of the Quapaw Quarter and the revitalization of its neighborhoods through direct community projects, research, planning and public education". In 1984, the board altered the mission statement to provide for the QQA "to preserve, protect and enhance the historic buildings, sites, and neighborhoods of Greater Little Rock. Of special concern is the area known as the QQ, as defined in the QQA bylaws. This mission is accomplished through education, advocacy, support of preservation efforts and encouragement of public involvement. The QQA sponsors activities and programs designed to educate the public in the value and benefits of historic preservation; advocates preservation policies and actions, and encourages the development of safe, healthy, and attractive residential neighborhoods and commercial districts". The QQA thus "officially recognized that the so-called Quapaw Quarter, or downtown Little Rock, really is not the only place in this area that has historic buildings., ... in order to begin raising the level of awareness of the many early twentieth century neighborhoods in Greater Rock (including Hillcrest, the Heights and Park Hill)."⁸ In March 2009, the QQA Board again amended the mission statement, to simply state, "The Quapaw Quarter Association promotes the preservation of Little Rock's architectural heritage through advocacy, marketing and education".

The core beliefs of the QQA have been stated as, "A belief in the value of education about, advocacy for and support of historic preservation; a belief in the value of developing safe, attractive, economically healthy residential neighborhoods and commercial districts; and a belief in the value of older neighborhoods as good places to live, work and trade and that their stability is anchored by their historic structures and sites."⁹ Through the years, the group has used several methods of communicating its goals and beliefs and encouraging the recognition of the importance of our architectural heritage in historic Little Rock. Probably the most recognized activities have been the Spring Tour of Homes (the "Tour") and its bi-monthly publication, "The Quapaw Quarter

⁵ The discussion of a possible name change appears to have been discussed as far back as 1987, when Cheri Nichols, then Executive Director of the QQA, wrote in the Chronicle (Dec. 1986/Jan. 1987; Vol. 13, #6, p9), "While I am aware that there is no 'quick fix' for these problems ... I think the remedy must include two major changes, both of which will probably seem heretical to long-time QQA supporters. First, the QQA needs a new name and, second, the pretense that 'QQ' is anything more than an alternative name for downtown Little Rock must come to an end". Cheri advocated adopting a "community-wide name" such as "Greater Little Rock Preservation League" and deleting the definition of Quapaw Quarter boundaries from the QQA's Articles of Incorporation so the name "QQ" could "sink or swim on its own merits." Ultimately, the name change met with much resistance from the membership and the community and, in 2001, the QQA board voted to revert back to the organization's original name.

⁶ East Markham Street, Hanger Hill, Marshall Square, Tuff Nut, Philander Smith, Railroad Call, South Main Commercial, South Main Residential, South Main Apartments, West Seventh Street and South Scott Street.

⁷ This was another factor cited in making the 1999 name change. Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, November 30, 1999.

⁸ Message of the Executive Director, 1984

⁹ Chronicle, Aug.-Sept. 1996, Vol. 23, #4.

Chronicle” (“Chronicle”).¹⁰ The Tour and the Historic Structure awards began in 1963 and continue today. Chronicle publication began in 1974, continuing, with a break in publication from 1998 – 2000 (during this time the tabloid-style newspaper was replaced with a newsletter printed “in-house”), until 2006 when publication was again suspended due to the increased cost of printing and distribution. (The Chronicle is scheduled to be reintroduced as an electronic newsletter in 2009.) The newspaper was recognized repeatedly with journalism awards for staff members and the paper itself during its publication. The QQA has added other annual awards and held other tours and events through the years- Christmas Potpourris, Christmas House Tours, Easter Eggs Hunts at the Villa Marre, - and implemented a Speakers Bureau with slide presentations. In addition, the QQA works closely with the Department of Arkansas Heritage and the Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas. In 2001, the QQA was recognized as a “Local Partner” of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, which has enabled it to bring their technical assistance, grants and other programs to Little Rock.

The annual Spring Tour of Historic Homes has evolved over the years, but all have had the same basic goal of introducing people to Little Rock’s historic resources and the need for their preservation. Peg Smith noted that, in the beginning, when the tour was sponsored by the Committee, most Little Rock residents “didn’t know the houses in that neighborhood existed.”¹¹ The first tour included 6 houses; attendance was estimated to be around 1,000. By 1968 (the first Tour by the newly formed QQA), the number rose to 21 buildings and sites. Several landmarks appeared on the Tour year after year, including Trapnall Hall, the Pike-Fletcher-Terry House, Hanger House, the Old State House and the Villa Marre. Until 1975, Tours were concentrated in the MacArthur Park area and focused on landmark properties. The 1975 Tour showcased a second neighborhood- the Governor’s Mansion area- a neighborhood full of families and individuals. Tours since 1975 have usually showcased 5-7 structures and featured mostly single-family homes (with an occasional historic church and/or Mt. Holly Cemetery) and emphasized neighborhood preservation. In 1976, to honor the state’s bicentennial celebration, the tour expanded to cover nine days and 15 houses shown in three separate tours. George Worthen, then QQA board president, and Tom Wilkes, tour chairman, oversaw the training and costuming of 400 tour guides, who guided over 2500 registered visitors from 16 states and 4 foreign countries.¹² Tours during the late-1970s through the 1990s routinely utilized the talents of over 300 volunteers and drew over 2,000 visitors; the QQA staff and board, with other dedicated volunteers and standing, well-organized committees, worked year-round to make the event a success. A fee for Tour entry was implemented as early as 1969, but the Tour was not viewed as a fundraiser for the QQA until the addition of a “Candlelight Tour” in 1977, which included champagne bars, dinner, and dancing. Often, the Tour included two days of open houses in addition to the Candlelight Tour, although the Candlelight event replaced the Sunday tour completely in 1978, 1979, and 1983. Until the early 2000s Tours, many guides dressed in costume and, during most years from 1970s through the 1990s, street entertainment was often provided: traditional country dancers, Maypoles, clowns, dancing bears, and choirs were among the items mentioned in reports in various Chronicles. In 1988, the Tour included homes outside of the Quapaw Quarter, including three in Hillcrest along with three in the Governor’s Mansion Area, for the first time. In 1988, the Tour also included a one-hour fashion show of “the Best of the Best fashions popular from 1860 to 1960, with costumes provided by Carter/Dunn Vintage Clothing and a brunch at one of the tour houses. For several years in the 1990s, an Antique Show and Sale was conducted during Tour weekend. Most Candlelight dinners were donated by local restaurants and caterers; all large Tours included lengthy lists of donors ranging from individuals to numerous corporations in the Greater Little Rock area. Various factors – lack of volunteers, increased privacy concerns of a newer generation of homeowners, etc - led to a brief hiatus of the Tour in 2005. Since 2008, the Tour has been a one-day event. The modern Tour has also showcased historically-compatible new infill construction in addition to restored historic structures.

In the earlier years, the QQA sponsored a number of bus tours in order to spark interest in preservation and educate its members. The first tour was a four day trip to Natchez (Mississippi) Pilgrimage in April, at a cost of \$95 (which included a \$10 contribution to the QQA.) In 1974, QQA members took a day trip by bus to Old Washington. In 1975, the QQA sponsored an overnight bus tour to Jefferson, Texas (\$58 cost, including a contribution) and, in 1984, a longer tour to Charlestown, South Carolina, led by Mary Worthen.

¹⁰ The QQA published a predecessor newsletter, The Quapaw Quarterly, edited by John V. Robinson from 1969 until 1973. (Chronicle May-June 1974; Vol. 1, #2, p15.)

¹¹ Chronicle April-May 1987; Vol. 14,#2, p4.

¹² Chronicle June/July 1976; Vol. 3, #2, p1.

Throughout most of its history, the QQA has been not only an advocate for but, also, a reporter of, preservation efforts (and sometimes the lack thereof) in Little Rock. The bimonthly Chronicle started with a \$5,000 grant from “50 for the Future,” a group of businesses devoted to the economic growth of central Arkansas, to “preserve the colorful life and times of Downtown Little Rock.”¹³ The first edition put 9,000 copies into circulation.¹⁴ The paper was initially produced by volunteers - a six person editorial board, three person advertising and circulation staff - and a part-time staff research and archivist person who wrote much of the content and produced the paper, but quickly grew into a niche market that supported advertising for numerous business and required a full-time staff person to oversee sales and production. Its articles and ads contain a fascinating history of the changing face of Little Rock historic neighborhoods and business areas, and the people involved in promoting and/or hindering those changes, during its 30+ year publication. (Archival sets can be found at the Butler Center at the Institute for Arkansas Studies, the University of Arkansas Special Collections Library in Fayetteville, and the QQA office.)¹⁵ Originally dedicated to life in the downtown neighborhoods, in 1987 the Chronicle added a “Hillcrest Highlights” section.¹⁶ In 1988, the Downtown Partnership began including a section to serve the downtown business district.¹⁷ Both of these additional sections continued for several years.¹⁸

The Committee and then the QQA, beginning in 1963, leased space for headquarters at the Villa Marre, an elegant Victorian Home at 1321 Scott.¹⁹ In 1979, Jimmy Strawn, the owner and restorer, donated the structure to the QQA, and the “carriage house”, an apartment building built by Strawn in 1969 next door to the Villa at 1315 Scott was subsequently also donated to the QQA. The QQA remained the owner and steward of the property until 2002, when the Board of Directors, decided to sell the Villa Marre as a private residence. The board cited operational costs, mounting deferred maintenance, and staffing requirements, saying that it would be better to sell the property rather than risk insolvency to the QQA itself caused by its continued subsidization of the property, and the subsequent loss of the QQA voice in the preservation community that would occur with insolvency.²⁰ With the proceeds of the sale, the Board created a permanent endowment fund, the Preservation Little Rock Endowment Fund, at the Arkansas Community Foundation. The QQA retained the “carriage house”, and it remained QQA headquarters until its sale in 2004. In 2004, the QQA leased space at 1206 S. Main Street, next to the Community Bakery; in 2007, the Board voted to submit a proposal to the City of Little Rock for the QQA to

¹³ Chronicle March 1974; Vol. 1, #1, p1.

¹⁴ Minutes of the Annual Meeting, 1974.

¹⁵ A sampling of the contents of various issues illustrates: the first volume, March-April 1974, reports the beginning of the restoration of the Blass Building at 4th and Main by FABCO, the holding company for Worthen Bank, with an accompanying history of the Blass Building; descriptions of the houses on the Spring Tour featuring Scott Street, including three then being restored; Hanger House at 1010 Scott, Garland-Mitchell House at 1401, Terry-Jung house at 1422; a report of the 91st birthday party for the Aesthetic Club of Little Rock (of which the author is a current member and which recently celebrated its 126th birthday) held at the Hanger House, “the former home of an early member, for 50 years the guiding light of the ... Club”; the startup of The Old House Journal, a monthly magazine published in Brooklyn, NY, dedicated to making house restoration easier and less expensive (still in publication); an editorial supporting construction of the Metro-Centre Mall (constructed and later removed); a “Neighborhood Chit-Chat” column; the creation of a Downtown Development Corporation by downtown residents to purchase and rehabilitate properties to be resold or rented (this group disbanded after rehabbing several properties); a “New Town-In Town Plan” project to be undertaken by Little Rock Unlimited Progress (“Little Rock UP”), a non-profit whose executive director was Jimmy Moses.; a listing of new residents of downtown neighborhoods, and; a report on the 100th anniversary of the M.M. Cohn company (the remaining Cohn’s closed in 2007). The second issue of the Chronicle reported Little Rock UP’s opening of a downtown Farmer’s Market (still going strong, now at the River Market); an oral history of the Quarter project sponsored jointly by the QQA and the History Club of UALR; an ad for Kempner’s (a store long-closed and its 1912 building at 4th and Main recently demolished despite protests by the QQA and other groups and citizens); a list of the 42 churches located in the Quarter; and the names of the 500+ members of the QQA. (A note to the advertisers in that issue noted a circulation of over 2500 residents, including 2,000 Little Rock families in the highest income bracket.) (Aug./Sept. 1985, Vol. 12 #4) featured, for the first time in its 11 year run, the Heights and Hillcrest neighborhoods, recognizing that there are other areas of Little Rock than could then be considered historic with interesting histories and houses (and reflecting the QQA’s altered mission statement noted above). Also in that issue, “Live In It, Research It, Then Rehabilitate,” setting out “rules” of rehabilitating old house, and an article about 2 infill projects to be built on 2 sites that the QQA was to along a new section of Interstate 630 under a 1978 agreement with the Arkansas Highway Department (Flake & Co. was to build 58 1-bedroom apartments at a cost of \$1.5 million, 36 at 14th Street between Rock and Commerce and 22 at 15th and Bragg. (Legal difficulties sidelined this project.)

¹⁶ Chronicle, June-July 1987; Vol. 14, #3

¹⁷ Chronicle, January-February 1988, Vol. 15, #1

¹⁸ Chronicle Editors have included Kay Powers, (1974-78); Starr Mitchell (1978-85); C.S. (Chuck) Heinbockel (1985-86 and 1994); Tom Kasas (1987); Jane Browning (1988); Martin Thoma (1990-93); Jo Stewart (1994); Kitty Chism (1996); Virginia Wallis-Creason (1998-2000); and Allison Hester (2001-06).

¹⁹ The Villa Marre was also noted for its use in the TV show “Designing Women” in the 1980’s and as the site of a gala fundraiser in 1987, at which the entire TV cast appeared, and which grossed over \$20,000 for restoration of the Villa.

²⁰ Chronicle, Oct./Nov. 2001, Vol. 27, #2.

manage historic Curran Hall at 615 E. Capitol Avenue as the City's Visitor Information Center in order to avert the planned closing of the building. That proposal was accepted and, in May 2007, the group moved its offices to Curran Hall, where it remains today.²¹

As part of its educational program, the QQA began compiling a library in 1974 with 15 volumes.²² Donations and gifts of books, collections, and files grew the library²³; the "Preservation Resource Center," as it was called, also contained over 1,000 "Street Files" on historic houses compiled during architectural surveys conducted by QQA staff and volunteers. With the creation of the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies at the Central Arkansas Library in 1997, the QQA began considering the need to move much of its collection there, where valuable historic photographs, documents, and other materials could be properly conserved and catalogued for greater public access. With the move of the QQA offices to Curran Hall in 2007, the QQA donated much of its library and archives to the Butler Center, where the collection remains and is now housed in the newly constructed and restored Arkansas Studies Institute buildings.

The changing composition of the Board²⁴ and its officers²⁵ over time has reflected the changing interests and focus of the QQA. The first incorporators (the Articles set a board of directors at a maximum 18 people and a

²¹ In June 2006, the Little Rock Advertising and Promotion Commission, citing increased operational costs, decided to close Curran Hall at the end of 2006. Then Mayor Jim Dailey appointed a 14-member Curran Hall Task Force to decide the future of the building. Several local preservationists, including some QQA members, were appointed to the task force. The task force ultimately decided that Curran Hall's use as a Visitor Information Center should be continued and that proposals be solicited from private organizations to operate the facility. The Quapaw Quarter Association and three other organizations submitted proposals; and ultimately, the QQA's proposal was selected. The City of Little Rock and the Advertising and Promotion Commission negotiated a three-year management agreement with the QQA, and on March 1, 2007 the contract was signed.

²² *Chronicle* Sept.-Oct. 1974, Vol. 1, #4.

²³ It included such items as the Hampton Roy/Charles Witsell resource materials used in writing their book "How We Lived: Little Rock as an American City"; large number of books, magazines and pamphlets concerning research techniques and restoration techniques for old houses; a 1905 book published by the Kimball Piano Company with photographs showing over 70 Quapaw Quarter homes and buildings (over 75% of which were gone already when the book was donated in 1978; a list of the buildings is included in *Chronicle*, Oct. 1978, Vol. 5, #5); and, records of 273 buildings made in 1959-61 by Bill Meeks, Jr., owner of Block Meeks Realty, appraising the structures in anticipation of being affected by the proposed freeway and urban renewal plan.

²⁴ Board Members have included (those serving multiple years are generally only listed once, and the author apologizes for any missed names: records are not always complete): 1969: Charles Lower, Mack Ferguson, John V. Robinson, James W. Strawn, Jr., Colonel Preston Davis, Mrs. Robert Eubanks, Richard Butler, Martha Mashburn, James Eison, Carl Miller, Jr., Stanley Gray, Mrs. Frank Whitbeck, Peg Smith; 1972: Brymer Dooley, Earl Farish, Tom Baxley, Mrs. Robert Smith, Mrs. Joanne Jennings, Janie Norton, Diamond Marshall, Frances Ross; 1973: Betty Field, Carl F. Keller, Marguerite Gamble, Barry Travis; 1974: Joan Baldrige, Joe C. Kasalko, Clay H. Moore, (Honorary: Adolphine Terry; Ex Officio: John V. Robinson and Jimmy Strawn) 1975: Kirby Smith III, Tom Wilkes, Leslie Hunt, Porter Briggs Jr., Bob Joblin, Robert Johnston, Carl Miller Jr., Sam Strauss Jr., George Worthen, Pauline Hoeltzel, Anne Bartley, Selma Hobby, Jo Anne Jennings, 1977: Gwyneth Erxleben, Dickson Flake, Kirby Smith III, Fred Stark, Selma Hobby, Matilda James, Bob Joblin, Robert Johnston, Cleve May, Arch Pettit, Raida Pfeifer, Kay Powers, Don Venhaus, Parker Westbrook, Bill Worthen, Dink Witsell, Mrs. Lamar Field, Bill Bowen; 1978: Peggy Merriwether, Carl Miller, Jr., Richard Stephens, Zoe Ellen Vogler, Max Goolsby, John Jarrard, Bill Cravens, k Robertson, Bob Ross; 1979: Mark Stodola, Rick Calhoun, John Matthews, Mary McCall, Sallye Phillips, Charlotte Brown, Don Evans, Sandra Hanson; 1983: Robin Borne, Ben Combs, Jim Guy Tucker; 1984: Rick Cobb, Jr., Ralph Coppess, Carol Herget, Myra Moran, Bill Rector, Dorothy Webb, Donald Gold, Elsa Crocker; (1985) Jim Coles, Nat Griffin, Donna Gay, Tommy Jameson, Muriel McCord, Sharon Mosley, Scott Mosley, Sandra Cook; 1986, Irma Hunter Brown, Pat Caviness, Jim Coles, Robin Borne, Ben Combs, Nat Griffin, Jim Moses, Martha Rimmer, Nancy Roy, Michael Waddington, Julie Wiedower, Mark Abernathy, Carol Williams, Becky Thompson, John Jewell, Eve Yancey, Jim Lynch; 1988: J. Tucker Morse, Anne Speed, Tom Wilkes, Cassandra Wilkins; 1991: Joe Calhoun, Mark Abernathy, Mark Hayes; 1992: Dan Cook, Judith Faust, Renie Rule, Wally Nixon, Felton Lamb, Kay Kelley Arnold, Ann Brown, Leonard K. Dunn, Tom McGowan, Jane McNally, Carl Menyhart, Beth Peck-Cooper, Constance Sarto, Tom Wilkes, Kim Henderson-Evans, Craig Rains, Susan Gordon-Gunter; 1996: Donna Gay, Kathi Jones, Jim McKenzie, Jim Metzger, Clay patty Jr., Delbra Caradine, Paul Esterer, Diane Woodruff, Mark Zoeller, Dabbs Cavin, Eric Spencer Buchanan, Susan Maddox; 1997: Johnny Mitchum, Ron Newman, Tom Fennell, Dennis Hendrix, Shannon Torbett, Joe Volpe; 1998: Mary Ann Bailey, Willard Procter Jr., Harold Evans, Todd Rice, Pamela Walker, Shalah Brummett, John K. Baker, Mary Rose, Martha Ann Norton, Jerry Boon; 1999: Amy Barnes, Ann Ballard Bryan, Ann Dodson, Mark Henry, Kaki Hockersmith; 2000: Bridgette Williams, Kathi Jones; 2001: Mike Harris; 2002: Robert Blair, Stasia Burk, Susan Feuers, Albert Hurst, Randy Jeffrey, Joe Rantisi; 2003: Jeremiah Gardner, Amber Jones; 2004: Cindy Pruitt, Cynthia Stone, Dana Nixon; 2005: Phil Bordeleau, Paul Dodds, Amber Roth; 2008: Lynn Hamilton, Peter Hartstein, Tony Bozynski; 2009: Mark Brown, Jill Brown, Lester Matlock, and Alice Lightle.

²⁵ Board Presidents have included: Mrs. David D. Terry, Sr. (Adolphine) (1963); Peg Smith (1964-65); John V. Robinson (1968-9); James W. Strawn, Jr. (1970-1); Mack Ferguson (1971); Betty Field (1972-3); Frances Ross (1974-5); George Worthen (1976); Sam Strauss, Jr. (1977); Kay Powers (1978); Bob Ross (1979); Mark Stodola (1980); Don Evans (1981-82); Bill Rector (1983); Calvin Biggers (1984); Pat Caviness (1985); Bill Kennedy (1986); Jimmy Moses (1987); Nancy Roy (1988); Eve Yancey (1989); Mark Abernathy (1990); Tom Wilkes (1991); Robert Johnston (1992); Robin Loucks (1993); Renie Rule (1994); Judith Faust (1995); Scott Mosley (1996); Donna Gay (1997); Jim Metzger (1998); Tom Fennell (1999); Joe Volpe (2000); John Baker (2001); Mike Harris (2002-3); Pam Walker (2004); Albert Hurst, Jr. (2005-6); Cynthia Stone (2007-8); Dana Daniels Nixon (2009)

minimum of 6, for terms of up to 3 years, as set out in by-laws) were drawn from many old Arkansas families and were well-established and long-time residents of Little Rock: John V. Anderson (president); George Wildgen; Mrs. Lamar Field; Mrs. Booker (Mary) Worthen; Bruce R. Anderson; Mrs. Zack Bair; Richard Butler, Jr.; John Bruton; Mack Ferguson; Stanley M. Gray; Mrs. Charles F.W. Loewer; Mrs. George Rose (Peg) Smith; J. W. Strawn, Jr.; Mrs. David D. Terry; George F. Trapp; James R. Eison; and Mrs. Joseph W. Brown. William L. Terry was attorney for the incorporation. In the early 1970s, many younger families and individuals began moving to the historic neighborhoods downtown and joined the QQA. By late 1973, they wanted a voice in the direction of the organization and submitted an unsolicited slate of nominees for the board at the QQA's annual meeting, and by 1974, the Board included many younger members.

Beginning that year, the QQA took a much more active and visible place in the community. Membership stood at 125 at the beginning of 1974, 789 in 1975²⁶, and reached 1000 by 1977 (with membership fees \$5 student, \$15 family, \$25 contributing)²⁷. It then settled at about 500 memberships (representing probably about 800 individuals, where it remained through the 1980's and 90's. Membership today stands at around 325 households, with dues of \$25 for individuals, \$35 for families and \$50 contributing.

The board hired the first paid staff in 1975 (Joan Baldrige and Starr Mitchell). Tours became larger and much more complex. In 1976, the board adopted plans to give structure to its management and added officers designated as Vice Presidents for Conservation and Preservation, for Community Affairs, and for Finance and Operations, in addition to the President, Treasurer and Secretary, "to organize responsibilities into identifiable and manageable areas, improving communications between related areas and establishing a management team that can better operate through result-oriented management techniques".²⁸ The board also converted the 2-person part-time staff into a 2 ½ person full-time staff. That staff composition continued until 1995, when a 3-year \$99,000 grant from Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation funded 2 additional part-time positions: a development director and assistant. Paid staff has, since 2000, been a full-time director only.²⁹

Beginning in 1978, the annual membership meeting, at which the awards and plaques are presented, was combined with dinner and a speaker. (Most recently, awards are presented at a May fundraising event on the evening prior to the Tour; and the annual meeting has been moved to January.) Speakers through the years have included not only local dignitaries, but an array of nationally and internationally important preservationists.³⁰

The QQA has, from its start, recognized both the people important to preservation in historic Little Rock and the important structures themselves. Two major QQA awards are named for their first recipients, James W. Strawn, Jr., and Mrs. George Rose (Peg) Smith. The Jimmy Strawn Award recognizes persons "whose efforts on the behalf of the preservation of Little Rock's heritage are an inspiration to the entire community."³¹ The Peg Smith

²⁶ Minutes of Annual Membership Meeting, Nov. 23, 1975.

²⁷ The huge increase in membership in the mid-1970's is credited largely to the exposure permitted by the publication of the *Chronicle*. (*Chronicle* Aug./Sept. 2001; Vol. 27, #1.)

²⁸ Message of the President, 1976.

²⁹ Executive Directors. Joan Baldrige, 1975-78, Ralph Megna, 1977-83; Cheri Nichols (1984-87 and 91-97); Charlotte Wilson Johnson, 1987; Jeanette Krohn, 1987-88; Jennifer Polk, 1988-89; Elissa Gross, 1989-91; Sarah Brown, 1998-2000; Guy Couch, 2000; and Roger Williams (2000-present).

³⁰ Lee Adler, past president of Historic Savannah (Ga.) Foundation (1978); Brown Morton, internationally renown conservationist (1979); Michael Ainslie, Director of the National Trust for Historic Preservation (1980); Senator Dale Bumpers (1981); Peter Brink, Executive Director of Galveston Historical Foundation (1983); Patricia Gay, Executive Director of the Preservation Resource Center of New Orleans (1984); Kay Kelley Arnold, Director of the Arkansas Department of Heritage (1985); Cy Sutherland, Professor of Architecture at the University of Arkansas (1988); Elizabeth Kent, Founding Director of Vermont National Bank's Socially Responsible Banking Fund; J. Myrick Howard, Director of Historic Preservation Foundation of North Carolina (1989); Mayor George M. Israel III of Macon, Ga. (1995); Representative Vic Snyder (1996); North Little Rock Mayor Pat Hays (1998); Little Rock Mayor Jim Dailey (2000); Daniel Carey, Southwest Office Director of the National Trust for Historic Preservation (2002); John Gill (2003); Dr. C. Fred Williams, UALR Department of History (2004); Valecia Crisafulli, Associate Director, Statewide and Local Partners, National Trust for Historic Preservation (2005); Little Rock Mayor Mark Stodola (2009)

³¹ Other recipients of the Jimmy Strawn Award have included: 1981, Edwin B. Cromwell; 1982, Carl Miller, Jr.; 1983, Charles and Becky Witsell; 1984, members of the William S. Mitchell family: Virginia Williams, daughters Starr and Marilyn Mitchell, daughter and son-in-law Frances and Bob Ross; 1985, Hampton and Nancy Roy; 1986, John J. Truemper, Jr.; 1987, Wilson Stiles; 1988, John Jarrard; 1989, Dan and Sandra Cook; 1990, Cheryl Nichols; 1991, the Booker Worthen family (Mary, George, Sherry, Bill and Kathy Worthen); 1992, Peg Smith; 1993, Tom Wilkes; 1994; Sandra Taylor Smith; 1995, Gary Clements; 1996, Tommy Jameson; 1997, Scott Mosley; 1998, Steve Adams; 1999, Jean Sizemore; 2000; John Bush and Constance Sarto; 2001, Martha Ann Norton; 2003, Richard Butler, Jr.; 2004, Richard B. Dixon; 2005, Junior League of Little Rock; 2007, Robert Blair and Sharon Welch-Blair; 2008, Scott and Sharon Mosley; 2009, Bobby Roberts.

Award is the “Volunteer Award,” for persons “whose volunteer work on QQA projects and programs has been particularly exemplary.”³² In 1985, a “Greater Little Rock Preservation Award” was added to specifically honor buildings, sites, projects and people not located in the Quarter, and the first award was given to Nancy Newell and Gary Woods, the then owners of the McHenry House (aka the Stagecoach House, on Stagecoach Road in southwest LR).³³ In addition, special “Awards of Merit” are often given to specific individuals, groups, and projects that the QQA board feels deserve special recognition but do not necessarily fall within the purview of the other awards.³⁴ In 2000, the Board established its newest award, in memory of Tom Wilkes, to honor a member of the board for outstanding service to the board of directors.³⁵ Historic Structure Plaques, when given, are also presented at the same event.³⁶

The QQA staff, board members and volunteers have routinely appeared to monitor hearings and offer testimony and opinions to, among others, the state legislature, the Little Rock City Board, the Board of Adjustment, the Planning Commission, the Historic District Commission, and the Capitol Zoning District Commission, and have assisted in many other ways. Several architectural surveys have been conducted by the QQA, two leading to designation of historic districts that set the stage for millions of dollars of private investment in rehabilitation of buildings.³⁷ In the last 30 years, the QQA has assisted city government in several other endeavors; in 1984, with

³² Later recipients of the Peg Smith Volunteer Award have included: 1981, Dickson Flake; 1982, Pauline Hoetzel and Martha Mashburn; 1983, Kay Powers; 1984, George and Sherry Worthen; 1985, Sandra Cook; 1986, Calvin D. Biggers; 1987, Sharon Mosley; 1988, Muriel McCord; 1989, Carl and Marie Menyhart; 1990, Eve Yancey; 1991, Beth Peck-Cooper; 1992, Robert and Sandra Berry; 1993, Julie Wiedower; 1994, Donna Gay; 1995, Anne Jarrard; 1996, Mark and Karol Zoeller; 1997, Dennis and Trish Hendrix; 1998, Heather Hendrix; 1999, Chuck Heinbockel; 2000, Joyce Flye; 2001, Sharlett Craig; 2003, Ann Ballard Bryan; 2004, Susan Maddox; 2005, Carolyn Newbern; 2007, Paul Dodds; 2008, Pulaski County Master Gardeners; 2009, Cheryl Nichols.

³³ Other recipients have included: 1991: Engelberger (2105 N. Maple, North Little Rock), Justin Matthews, Jr. (257 Skyline, North Little Rock), Knoop (#6 Ozark, Hillcrest), Buhler (1820 Fair Park) Houses; 1992: Kahn-Jennings (5300 Sherwood), Wright (3418 Hill Road) and Matthews (406 Goshen, North Little Rock) Houses, North Little Rock City Hall 1996: Noack House (Ozark Street in Hillcrest, 1929); Stortz House (450 Midland in Hillcrest, 1927); 418 N. Willow in the Argenta District in NLR; 1997: Ole Main High School in NLR, St. Joseph’s Home in NLR, Kahn House (Hillcrest), Moore House (Armistead Road in the Heights); 1998: Rock Island Argenta Depot at 4th & Hazel.

³⁴ These have included: 1983: Judi and Roland Anderson; John and Julie Truemper; Dean Teague of Bray Sheet Metal; Bo and Chippy Herrin; Gene Eberle; 1985: Kaye and Alan Cash; Madison Guaranty Savings & Loan; Secretary of State Paul Revere; Jim Pfeifer; 1986: The Group; Stephens, Inc.; William Ketcher; Donald Gold; Little Rock Department of Public Works; 1987 Main Street Project; Tom McGowan; Keith Newton, Jim Crow, Andy Terzia; 1987, Designed Communications (Becky Witsell and Suzanne Kitrell) for stenciling restoration work on the Lafayette Hotel lobby; 1991: Spaghetti Warehouse, Inc.; Mark Stodola; Julius Breckling; Tom Wilkes; 1992: Joe Fox and Charles and Michelle Ray; 1995: Pulaski County, Annie Abrams and Ethel Ambrose, Mark Riley; 1996 Allison, Moses & Redden for development of Heritage Centers West and East; the Terry Family, Arkansas Arts Center, and City of Little Rock for rehab of the Pike-Fletcher Terry House; 1997: Stuart Yancey and Donna Dayer, Mayor Pat Hayes, Gene Pfeifer, Jim McKenzie, Dean Kumpuris, Jimmy Moses, Mayor Jim Dailey, Charles Marratt, Ron Brimberry and the Downtown Community Development Corp. and the Little Rock Parks & Recreation Department; 1998: Val Hansen, Drs. Jamie Howard and Ron Brimberry, Jay Core, Kyle Boswell, John Greer, Steven Bullock, Gary & Ann Clements; 2000: Susan Branch, Karol Zoeller, Connie Manning, Jim Walsmith; 2001: Richard Butler, Jr., Anne Guthrie, Stephen McAteer; 2003: Mosaic Templars Building Preservation Society, Dee Herring and Todd Rainey, Philander Smith College, ARC of Arkansas; 2004: Central Arkansas Library System, JM Associates, Herron-Horton Architects, Jerry Hooker & Greg Elliott; 2005: Ed and Laura Sergeant, The MORE Group; 2007: Don and Judy Bryant, Little Rock Visitors Foundation; 2008: St. Edward’s Church and School, Marshall Peters.

³⁵ Jim Metzger received the initial award in 2000. Mike Harris, a board member who helped guide the QQA through the sale of the Villa Marre, was honored in 2004; Albert Hurst, Jr. was given the award in 2008.

³⁶ Prior to 1975, were presented to the First State Capitol (constructed in 1836), Federal Arsenal Building (1838), Absalom Fowler House (1839), Pike-Fletcher-Terry (1840), Garland-Mitchell (1872), Capital Hotel (1972), C.J. Lincoln (1872), Reichardt (1874), Ward-Hays (1880), Villa Marre (1882), Rozelle-Murphy (1887), Hanger (1889), Ferling (1892), “New” Hotze (1900), Walters-Curran (1842), Trapnall Hall (1843), Aurhur Jones (1860’s), “Old” Hotze (1869), Riegler Cottage (1903): Welch-Cherry (700 Rock, 1875); Later honorees have included: 1977: Ward-Heiskell (1000 W. 2nd), Ada Thompson Home (2021 Main Street); 1983: Cornish (1800 Arch), Cochran-Pugh (320 W. 18th), Vaughan (2201 S. Broadway), Hornibrook (2120 Louisiana) Houses and Mt. Holly Cemetery; 1985: Vinson, Bragg, O’Brien, Keith Houses and Bale Chevrolet; House; Bragg; 1986: Compton-Wood House (800 High Street, 1902); Mann Building aka Urquhart or Atkins Building (1906), 114 East Capitol, Central High School (the first structure in the Central High neighborhood, then recently added to the QQ); 1987: Lafayette Hotel, Albert Pike Hotel, Plunkett House (1719 Arch); 1992: Little Rock Community Church, Taborian Hall, Women’s City Club, Altenberg House; 1996: Ragland House (1617 S. Center); First Methodist Church (1896-1900), Pollock House (914 Scott, 1874), Max Mayer (2016 Battery, 1922), Hardy House (1892); 1997: Turner-Fulk (1903), French-England (Broadway); 1998: Butler House (609 Rock).

³⁷ In 1977, using grant funds from the Arkansas Humanities Program and the Little Rock Historic District Commission, the QQA conducted a survey of structures within the MacArthur Park neighborhood. In seeking the grants, the QQA noted that a survey could establish a comprehensive insight into just how rich is the heritage of our historically and architecturally significant 19th and early 20th century structures and also show how this heritage is translated into the practical living of today through restoration and preservation of the heart of Little Rock. (Chronicle, February 1977, Vol. 4, #4) Using funds from the Capitol Zoning Commission, surveying efforts continued in the 100 block area around the Governor’s Mansion, which contained about 635 structures. (Both surveys led to the creation of historic districts.) Additional architectural surveys were conducted in the 1980’s and 1990’s in Hillcrest, Central High, Capitol View/Stift Station neighborhoods in Little Rock and the Argenta and Park Hill areas of North Little Rock

the Downtown Partnership, the QQA undertook a survey of historic buildings on and adjacent to the then existent Metrocentre Mall. In 1987, the QQA “Taskforce for Improvements to the QQ” (made up of QQA board members, city and utility representatives and community leaders) developed a “Streetscape Plan” to advocate improvements to the downtown neighborhoods: underground utilities, installation of brick sidewalks and historically compatible street lights and signs and placement of signs designating the historic districts within the QQ, all to be phased in over a 10-year period and paid for by a city bond issue; the QQA sponsored the issue on the ballot in the Little Rock election of that year. In 1998, the QQA received a \$23,935 grant from the short-lived Little Rock Landmark Building Fund for repair work for the Villa Marre. The following year, the QQA received a grant from the City of Little Rock to salvage and store architectural elements following the January 1999 tornado that devastated much of the Governor’s Mansion and MacArthur Park Historic Districts. By 2002, most of the area’s damaged homes had been repaired, and the salvage program was discontinued.

At times, the QQA has formally intervened to attempt to guide various zoning decisions and preservation projects. In 1974, the QQA supported the City’s changing of the 1500 block of Broadway from heavy commercial to quiet business by filing an “amicus curiae brief in court. In 1975, the QQA helped pass one of the first pieces of legislation intended to directly assist preservation projects, sponsored by then QQA board member and state representative Robert Johnston; the legislation made enforceable preservation easements or restrictions on properties of historical or architectural significance, gave the Commemorative Commission a review capacity for the state, and affirmed the ability of charitable organizations and the state to acquire such easements. In 1991, the QQA filed a successful lawsuit to stop the demolition of West Side Junior High School and, at the same time, advocated for the saving of the Old Federal Building, then recently vacated by the University of Arkansas at Little Rock School of Law. In the 1990’s, the QQA’s advocacy and publicity helped save the Kramer School, Curran Hall and the Donaghey Building from demolition and assisted the City with the Mayor’s Task Force on Preservation and with downtown planning efforts. (This resulted in \$400,000 for 3 items being included in Little Rock’s 1997 operating budget: continuation of the Historic Building Façade Grant Program, a new Neighborhood Residential Incentive Program, and a Landmark Building Grant.)

Workshops, publications and advocacy projects have long been integral QQA activities.³⁸ Publications have included, in 1976, The Quapaw Quarter: A Guide to Little Rock’s 19th Century Neighborhoods, edited by Tom Wilkes, which included 300 old and new photographs of structures along with histories and architectural comments; three walking tour brochures (first published in 1985); Little Rock: Driving Tours of Three Historic Neighborhoods (1989) by Cheryl Nichols; three full-color driving tour brochures, published in November 2004 for the opening of the Clinton Presidential Center; and Historic Little Rock: An Illustrated History (2008) by Dr. C. Fred Williams, UALR Department of History. The Association has also sponsored others in their publications, most notably, More Than a Memory: Little Rock’s Historic Quapaw Quarter (1981), a book of drawings of the Quapaw Quarter by Richard DeSpain; Charles Thompson and Associates, Arkansas Architects 1885-1938 (1983) by F. Hampton Roy; and How We Lived: Little Rock as An American City (1984) by F. Hampton Roy, Sr., Charles Witsell, Jr., and Cheryl Nichols.

Staff and volunteers compiled two slide shows, one covering the history of LR, beginning with excerpts from journals of earliest European travelers to “the Rock” and continuing through the early 20th century and one containing an overview of the Quapaw Quarter with emphasis on what was happening with preservation at that time (from 1975-78, over 90 presentations were given by 20 different people, reaching over 3500 people. Another significant project of the group has been its Historic House Marker program, attractive yard markers featuring the historic name of the particular house, date of construction, and the QQA logo. Over fifty of these markers have been placed throughout the Quapaw Quarter since the program’s inception in 1994, and a program to restore old markers and install new ones has recently been initiated by the QQA.

³⁸ In 1974, the QQA, along with the Broadway Neighborhood Association and Little Rock UP, proposed a revolving loan fund for low and moderate income persons in the Quapaw Quarter through the Community Development Act. (Chronicle, March-April 1975, Vol. 2, #1.) 1974 also saw the Library Committee of the QQA presenting an “Old House” workshop designed to instruct and guide people in researching old houses and how to maintain the research results in an historical library. In 1978, QQA hosted the National Trust for Preservation for its Maintenance Workshop. QQA and the Arkansas Historic Preservation Alliance joined for a one day seminar in March 1986 on “Getting to Know Your Old House: A Workshop for Owners of Houses Built Between 1865 and 1930” and included sessions on “Restoring and Documenting the Historic House and Its Occupants,” “Architectural Styles,” “Fashion in Interior Design,” “Stewardship of the Historic House: Preserving Our Heritage”. That workshop was so successful that a second was presented in 1988. In 1997, The QQA sponsored Becky Witsell for her workshop on “Documenting and Recreating Historic Stenciling” and Tommy Jameson on “Historic Houses and Artificial Siding”.

In 2001, the Quapaw Quarter Association became a “Local Partner” of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The National Trust formed the Statewide and Local Partners program in 1993, as a way to help established and emerging state and local non-profit preservation groups to become more effective.³⁹ Through this partnership, the QQA has received organizational development assistance and grant support, as well as access to specialized workshops, training, and networking opportunities. Roger Williams, the current QQA executive director, has been actively involved in the National Trust’s Statewide and Local Partners program, having been a participant on several task forces and working groups as well as a presenter at the 2007 Statewide and Local Partners meeting in St. Paul, Minnesota.

With the sale of the Villa Marre, in 2002, the board of directors began exploring ways to revitalize the organization and increase its effectiveness as a preservation organization in the 21st Century. The board engaged the National Trust for Historic Preservation to help it develop a new strategic plan in 2003. From that process, and subsequent board retreats, the board realized the need for the organization to become actively involved in rescuing and preserving abandoned and neglected historic properties, especially those in areas of Little Rock not historically served by the QQA (such as the Hanger Hill, Dunbar, and Central High neighborhoods). After researching various models from across the nation, in 2007 the board voted to create the Quapaw Quarter Heritage Homes Program, modeled after successful programs in Knoxville, Tennessee (Knox Heritage) and Macon, Georgia (Historic Macon Foundation).⁴⁰ The QQA recruited other partners in the project, including the Arkansas Development Finance Authority, the City of Little Rock, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation, which expressed interest in offering a line of credit to the QQA to help fund the program. Unfortunately, the national economic recession and banking crisis of 2008 has forced the QQA to postpone this program for the time being.

Jimmy Moses, leading the 1986 corporate membership drive, said corporations should join because “the QQA is the heart and soul of downtown. As goes our heart goes our community.”⁴¹ In 2009, the QQA remains a vital and important force in protecting our architectural heritage and in educating the public as to its importance, although demographic and social changes have led to some decline in membership and volunteer involvement.⁴² The establishment and growth of other worthwhile and energetic volunteer groups in recent years, including Southside Main Street (“SoMA”), the Downtown Dames, and The MORE (Marshalling Our Resources Effectively) Group, have increased the demand on the limited human and monetary resources available in the area, but the QQA has by far the broadest interest in historic preservation, and the vitality, diversity and spirit of the historic downtown neighborhoods would not be at nearly the levels they are today without its continued existence and activity.

Because of the work of QQA over the years, the historic neighborhoods of downtown Little Rock have gone from unknown and unappreciated to loved and vibrant. However, the fight to preserve Little Rock’s architectural heritage is far from over, and many still remain unaware of the great diversity of architecture and culture that awaits them in the historic areas of the city. The QQA continues to be the main organization making certain that Little Rock’s architectural heritage is preserved and that our residents learn, appreciate and experience its uniqueness. With its stewardship of the very important Curran Hall as the flagship Little Rock Visitor Center and by expanding its program of tours, workshops and publications, the QQA is introducing more and more people to the architectural and cultural significance of historic Little Rock and honoring its remarkable and irreplaceable structures.

For information and to become a member or volunteer, please visit the QQA at Curran Hall, 615 E. Capitol Avenue in Little Rock, call 501-371-0075, or visit the website at www.Quapaw.com.

³⁹ Partners Program Summary, National Trust for Historic Preservation website, www.preservationnation.org/about-us/partners/statewide-local-partners

⁴⁰ Resolution of the Board, September 10, 2007.

⁴¹ *Chronicle*, Feb/March 1986; Vol. 12, #7, p10.

⁴² The decrease in membership and number of volunteers have been attributed to several factors. While the name change in 1999-2000 and the sale of the Villa Marre in 2002 no doubt accounted for some loss of membership, the majority of the decline has been attributed to other factors, such as: the death or retirement of some of the key founding members; the increase of women in the full-time workforce; a newer generation less inclined to volunteer than previous generations; and the devastating tornado of January 1999, which resulted in some long-time residents moving away from the area and many others absorbed in rebuilding of their own homes