



HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
MONDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2019
Maple Conference Room – 2nd Floor – 6:00 P.M.
201 West Ash Street, Mason MI

AGENDA

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **ROLL CALL**
3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - A. Approve Minutes of Regular Historic District Commission Meeting September 16, 2019
5. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
 - A. 412 S. Jefferson, Kean's – Discussion on proposed railing for back of building. ***Continued from September 16, 2019.***
 - B. General Updates:
 - Status of SHPO CLG Grant for Library
 - SHPO CLG updates - email/staff mtg
 - Newsletter/awards from Historical Society of Michigan
 - Proposed HDC November workshop for workplan/projects
 - Updates on activity in the Historic District
6. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. Correspondence received from the Sowles Family regarding the sign at the Presbyterian Church
 - B. 2020 Meeting Schedule
7. **LIAISON REPORT**
8. **ADJOURN**

**CITY OF MASON
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 16, 2019
DRAFT**

Clinton called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm in the Maple Conference Room 2nd floor at 201 West Ash Street, Mason MI.

Present: (4) Clinton, Cummings, Klein, Shattuck
Absent: (3) Linsley, Schulien, Vogel
Also present: Elizabeth A. Hude, AICP, Community Development Director

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Cummings, second by Klein, to approve the Historic District Commission meeting minutes from August 19, 2019.

Yes (4) Clinton, Cummings, Klein, Shattuck
Absent (3) Linsley, Schulien, Vogel

MOTION APPROVED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Letter of Support for State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) grant application for Mason Library renovations. Staff will provide letter at the meeting and provide overview for discussion. Staff also requested approval of Resolution to City Council authorizing an application to SHPO Certified Local Government (CLG) Grant to fund Phase 1 of the Mason Library Renovations.

Discussion took place regarding the history of the library and the deed requiring it to remain as a library.

MOTION by Cummings, second by Klein, to approve Letter of Support from Historic District Commission for CLG Grant for Library.

Yes (4) Clinton, Cummings, Klein, Shattuck
Absent (3) Linsley, Schulien, Vogel

MOTION APPROVED

MOTION by Klein, second by Shattuck, to recommend City Council adopt Resolution 2019-XX authorizing

an application to the SHPO CLG Grant to fund Phase 1 of the Mason Library Renovations as presented subject to City Manager edits.

Yes (4) Clinton, Cummings, Klein, Shattuck
Absent (3) Linsley, Schulien, Vogel

MOTION APPROVED

- B. 412 S. Jefferson, Kean’s – Discussion on proposed railing for back of building. Staff will provide sketch at the meeting.

Discussion took place regarding the materials used in the project, the members suggested the cables be black and look similar to what the Oracle building used. Concern about the sun glare from the steel and impact to drivers. Staff will request more information from the applicant.

Prefer black cables, similar to Oracle; re: final with building permit
Sun-glint/cables

MOTION by Shattuck, second by Klein, to continue the matter to the October 21 meeting to allow staff to request more information from the applicant.

Yes (4) Clinton, Cummings, Klein, Shattuck
Absent (3) Linsley, Schulien, Vogel

MOTION APPROVED

LIAISON REPORT

Hude provided an update on a pending request to amend City of Mason ordinances to allow for short-term rentals in the C-1 Central Business district. It overlaps with the Historic District and staff is asking for comments from Historic District Commission members on the matter.

Discussion took place and the commission generally supports the amendment with the added sunset provision allowing for recheck in three years and the requirement of a Special Use Permit as proposed.

Cummings inquired about activity in the Historic District. Discussion took place regarding signs at the Presbyterian Church, Courthouse Pub and the new Hair Company.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:03 p.m.

Elizabeth A. Hude, AICP, Community Development Director



TO: Historic District Commission

FROM: Elizabeth A. Hude, AICP, Community Development Director

RE: 412 S. Jefferson – Back railing

DATE: October 16, 2019

Teresa Wren of 412 S. Jefferson Street previously received a Certificate of Appropriateness on September 17, 2018 as part of an application to the Planning Commission for Final Site Plan Review proposing the renovation of the existing two-story building that had sustained extensive fire damage. The plan includes a 1st floor restaurant and 2nd floor apartments. The basement previously contained restaurant storage but will be renovated to include a proposed bar and storage for the proposed restaurant.

On September 25, 2019, Ms. Wren submitted a building permit application (PB19-0147) with plans for the deck repair consisting of horizontal grey steel cables and treated wood for the deck, and a cedar horizontal fence to cover the area below the deck.

Section 31-5(a) of the City of Mason's Ordinances requires that a permit be obtained for work "... performed within an historic district affecting the exterior appearance of a resource ...". The subject property is located within the Mason Historic District. The applicant is, therefore, requesting Historic District Commission approval.

Mason Main Street Façade Study

The Main Street Façade Study is the manual by which each building within the Mason Historic District was evaluated. The Study provided architectural consultation to the building owners and the Historic District Commission. The recommendations provided in the Study were based on the U.S. Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. This property was discussed on page 34 of the study, referenced as Davis Men's Wear 400 S. Jefferson Street.

U.S. Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation

Section 31-5(d) states that the review of any application shall follow the U.S. Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings. Section 31-5(3) lists the discretionary standards that the Commission shall consider and are as follows:


1. *The historical or architectural value and significance of the structure and its relationship to the historical value of the surrounding area.*
2. *The relationship of the exterior architectural features of the structure to the rest of the structure and the surrounding area.*
3. *The general compatibility of exterior design, arrangement, texture, and materials proposed to be used.*

4. Other factors, including aesthetic value, which the commission considers pertinent.

Analysis

The proposed railing appears to be consistent with both the Mason Main Street Façade Study and the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation.

Staff offers the following recommendations for consideration:

STATUS/ NOTE	REQUIREMENT
M = Appears to meet requirement; D = Does not appear to meet requirement; I = Information Needed; R = Recommendation; W = Waiver Requested; <i>Italics = Staff comments</i>	
M	<p><i>1. The historical or architectural value and significance of the structure and its relationship to the historical value of the surrounding area.</i></p> <p><i>2. The relationship of the exterior architectural features of the structure to the rest of the structure and the surrounding area.</i></p> <p><i>3. The general compatibility of exterior design, arrangement, texture, and materials proposed to be used.</i></p> <p><i>4. Other factors, including aesthetic value, which the commission considers pertinent.</i></p>
<p>The rear of the building was previously part of an alley, similar to the alley behind the Vault deli. There was no railing or deck. The railing is subject to review as discussed in the section beginning on p. 156 of the Secretary of Interior’s Standards regarding new exterior additions to historic buildings and related new construction.</p> <p>The applicant has confirmed that it will be grey steel and wood consistent with the railing used on the top of the Oracle building – see picture below. In addition to the railing, a horizontal cedar fence will be added to cover the area below the deck.</p> 	
Recommended Action	

The Historic District Commission has the following options per Section 31-5 of the City Ordinance:

1. Approve a Certificate of Appropriateness
2. Deny a Certificate of Appropriateness
3. Issue a Notice to Proceed, under specific conditions, in accordance with Sec. 31-5(f)(3)

They may also continue the matter to a future time and date certain.

In each motion, HDC members will need to incorporate findings (reference specific details of the proposed project) to support the reason why the project does or does not meet the criteria.

Staff offers the following motion for consideration, subject to amendment for additional findings:

Motion – Option 1: Approve a Certificate of Appropriateness

The Historic District Commission **approve** a Certificate of Appropriateness for the back railing proposal for 412 S. Jefferson Street as submitted on documents dated September 25, 2019 based upon the findings that it is consistent with the standards listed in Section 31-5(3) of the Mason Code, specifically:

1. That the property is listed as a contributing building in the City of Mason Historic District and the railing will enhance the historic and architectural value of the structure appear complimentary and generally compatible to the remainder of the building and will not have a significant negative impact on the surrounding area as demonstrated by <insert findings>; and,
2. The proposed project will be compatible with prior restoration of key historic features of the building as demonstrated by <insert findings>; and,
3. The proposed railing consists of horizontal grey steel cables and treated wood for the deck, and a cedar horizontal fence to cover the area below the deck which we find to be appropriate textures and materials for the historic structure; and,
4. The proposed railing will complement and enhance the District as it is consistent in design and materials of another railing approved for use on another historic building in the district as demonstrated by <insert findings>.

Motion – Option 2: Deny a Certificate of Appropriateness

The Historic District Commission **deny** a Certificate of Appropriateness for the back railing proposal for 412 S. Jefferson Street as submitted on documents dated September 25, 2019 based upon the findings that it is not consistent with the standards listed in Section 31-5(3) of the Mason Code, specifically:

1. That the property is listed as a contributing building in the City of Mason Historic District and the railing will not enhance the historic and architectural value of the structure, does not appear complimentary, and is not generally compatible to the remainder of the building and will have a significant negative impact on the surrounding area as demonstrated by <insert findings>; and,

2. The proposed project will not be compatible with prior restoration of key historic features of the building as demonstrated by <insert findings>; and,
3. The proposed railing consists of horizontal grey steel cables and treated wood for the deck, and a cedar horizontal fence to cover the area below the deck which we find to be inappropriate textures and materials for the historic structure as demonstrated by <insert findings>; and,
4. The proposed railing will not complement and enhance the District as demonstrated by <insert findings>.

Motion – Option 3: Issue a Notice to Proceed, under specific conditions, in accordance with Sec. 31-5(f)(3)

The Historic District Commission grants a **notice to proceed** for the back railing proposal for 412 S. Jefferson Street as submitted on documents dated September 25, 2019 based upon the following findings (must describe the facts that serves as the basis for meeting the selected condition(s)).

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

that the proposed railing meets the following condition(s) and that the proposed work is necessary to substantially improve or correct the condition(s):

- _____ a. The structure constitutes a hazard to the safety of the public or the occupants.
- _____ b. The structure is a deterrent to a major improvement program which will be of substantial benefit to the community.
- _____ c. Retention of the structure would cause undue financial hardship to the owner.
- _____ d. Retention of the structure would not be in the interest of the majority of the community.

From: [Higgins, Steven \(MSHDA\)](#)
To: [Higgins, Steven \(MSHDA\)](#)
Subject: SHPO CLG: Program Updates
Date: Tuesday, October 15, 2019 10:29:08 AM

Good morning, CLGs!

I wanted to send a few notes regarding the CLG program and related items now that SHPO has settled back to normalcy after our transition to MEDC.

First of all, I've enjoyed meeting many of you and visiting your communities these first two months. I'm thankful for the conversations and insight into local preservation programs, and I look forward to strategizing with you going forward about how we can enhance efforts to use preservation as a community tool. I know it had been years since some of you had been visited by a CLG representative, so I appreciate the time you all have set aside to allow me to start a new dialogue about the CLG program. I am excited to get to the rest of the communities over the next couple of months and then to maintain a more proactive approach to the program going forward.

Informal Survey: Over the next few weeks I will be sending out additional items of interest and sharing news about some of the things that we are looking to do. One of the things that you will have coming your way soon is an informal survey to gauge that status of local programs and your interest in various topics. This survey should not take more than 10-15 minutes. I'd like to request that each community identify at least one representative to participate in the survey (ideally this will be the CLG liaison or some other entity well versed in local preservation issues). While I'm sure none of us are fans of surveys, the collected information really is important as we continue to establish a new baseline for the CLG program and its direction. I appreciate everyone's participation.

Annual Report: **All CLGs are required to submit an annual report upon the completion of each fiscal year (October 1-September 30). Reports for FY2019 (October 1, 2018 – September 30, 2019) will be due March 1, 2020.** In the coming weeks, I will be sending a separate message regarding annual reports, which will include a new template that we are going to be using going forward. All community's will also receive a hardcopy of the template in case you'd prefer to complete the report by hand. This new template will standardize the collection of information a bit to streamline things on both sides, provide regularity in expectations regarding the types of information collected, and, in the long-term, allow us to use a simplified four-year evaluation process. **Please do not use last year's annual report format for FY2019.**

Local Contacts: I would like to make sure that our contact list for the CLG program is up to date. **I'm asking that each community please send me an email identifying any individuals they wish to be included on communications from the CLG program going forward.** In addition to the local government contact for the preservation program, communities may choose to have certain HDC members, planning/zoning staff, or others on the list. **If you identify multiple contacts, please make sure to denote the primary contact for the local preservation program.**

Thanks, all!

Alan

S. Alan Higgins

Certified Local Government Coordinator
State Historic Preservation Office

Michigan Economic Development Corporation

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From: [HSM Conference](http://HSM.Conference)
To: hsm@hsmichigan.org
Subject: NEWS RELEASE: 2019 State History Awards and History Hero Award Presented in Ludington
Date: Wednesday, October 9, 2019 1:13:23 PM



Historical Society of Michigan
7435 Westshire Drive
Lansing, MI 48917
Contact: Nancy Feldbush
(517) 324-1828
hsm@hsmichigan.org

For Immediate Release

**2019 STATE HISTORY AWARDS AND HISTORY HERO AWARD
PRESENTED IN LUDINGTON, MICHIGAN**

LUDINGTON, Mich.—The Historical Society of Michigan awarded 16 top honors during its annual Michigan History Conference in Ludington, Michigan, Sept. 27-29, 2019. The Society presents the State History Awards every year to individuals and organizations that have made outstanding contributions to the appreciation, collection, preservation and/or promotion of state and local history. The awards are the highest recognition presented by the Historical Society of Michigan, the state's official historical society and oldest cultural organization.

The winners are: (Detailed descriptions of each recipient are listed at the end of this news release.)

- **Lifetime Achievement Award**—**Geneva Kebler Wiskemann** of Lansing
- **Distinguished Volunteer Service**—**Donald H. Sanborn** of Portage
- **Books: University & Commercial Press**—
 - **“Guardians of Detroit: Architectural Sculpture in the Motor City”** by **Jeff Morrison** (Wayne State University Press)
 - **“John E. Fetzer and the Quest for the New Age”** by **Brian C. Wilson** (Wayne State University Press)
 - **“Once Upon a Time at the Opera House: Drama at Three Historic Michigan Theaters, 1882-1928”** by **James Berton Harris** (Michigan State University Press)
- **Books: Private Printing**—
 - **“Cheboygan Twin Lakes: Community in the Woods”** by **Thomas R. Knox** (Thomas R. Knox)
 - **“Edward Beebe’s Historic Leelanau Photographs: Leland, Suttons Bay, and North Manitou Island, 1909-1915”** by **Jack Hobey** (Leelanau Press)
 - **“Hope College at 150: Anchored in Faith, Educating for Leadership and Service in a Global Society”** by **Jacob E. Nyenhuis** et al (Van Raalte Press)
- **Books: Children & Youth**—
 - **“Sport: Ship Dog of the Great Lakes”** written by **Pamela Cameron** and illustrated by **Renée Graef** (Wisconsin Historical Society Press)
- **Communications: Printed Periodicals**—“The Dearborn Historian” published by the Dearborn Historical Commission
- **Education: Educational Programs**—**Jackson College Heritage Center** for the center’s ongoing programs
- **Education: Educator**—**Darrin Silvester** of Canton
- **Media**—**David B. Schock** of Grand Haven for the documentary **“A.J. Muste: Radical for Peace/Finding True North”**
- **Restoration/Preservation**—**The Michigan Theater Foundation** for the renovation and restoration of the State Theatre in Ann Arbor
- **Special Programs/Events**—**Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation** for its “History, Homes + Heritage Tour”
- **Best Article in Michigan History Magazine**—**“Keep ’Em Fighting: Chris-Craft’s Contribution to WWII”** by **Geoffrey D. Reynolds**

The Michigan History Conference explores significant people, places and events in Michigan’s past through a diverse offering of keynote speakers, breakout sessions, workshops and tours. Each year, the conference moves to a different location to feature the local history of that area and to address notable statewide historical matters.

The lead sponsor of this year’s Michigan History Conference was The Meijer Foundation. The conference was also sponsored by the Mason County Historical Society, West Shore Community College, Lake Michigan Carferry, Jamesport Brewing, Ludington Area CVB, Ludington Beverage, Ludington Daily News, MetalWorks, Pennies from Heaven Foundation, Synergy Media, Tom & Shirley Rasmussen, Watson Ludington, Western Land Services Inc. and West Shore Bank, along with the Dave and Chrissie Hall Fund of the Community Foundation, Great Lakes Castings, Harbor Front Financial Group, Hegg’s Gallery of Fine Furniture, House of Flavors, Ludington Public Schools and Riemer Eye Center.

The Historical Society of Michigan also hosts the Upper Peninsula History Conference, which focuses on the history of the Upper Peninsula, and Michigan in Perspective: The Local History Conference,

which concentrates on southeast Michigan and statewide history.

THE 2019 HISTORY HERO AWARD

The History Hero Award is bestowed by the executive leadership team of the Historical Society of Michigan to a person who, while usually not working directly in the history field, has made significant and lasting contributions that align with the mission of the Historical Society of Michigan and who has given a lifetime of dedication to the preservation and promotion of Michigan's rich and storied history.

This year, the Society awarded the History Hero Award to Dr. William Anderson of Ludington, Michigan. Among many other achievements, Anderson served as the founding director of the cabinet level Michigan Department of History, Arts and Libraries; written several books on Michigan's history, including several on the Detroit Tigers; and served as member of the Historical Society of Michigan's board of trustees. Anderson is currently writing a book on rural life and working to promote the community of Ludington and Mason County.

The Historical Society of Michigan is the state's oldest cultural organization, founded in 1828 by territorial governor Lewis Cass and explorer Henry Schoolcraft. A nongovernmental nonprofit, the Society focuses on publications, conferences, education, awards and recognition programming, and support for local history organizations to preserve and promote Michigan's rich history.

The Historical Society of Michigan recognized Geneva Kebler Wiskemann of Lansing with the 2019 Lifetime Achievement Award. Wiskemann joined the ranks of Michigan historians in 1954 and has since played an instrumental role in crafting the present and future of our state's past. The historian started out at the Library of Michigan in 1946; eight years later, she moved to the State Archives of Michigan, where she served until 1973. She co-founded several institutions, undertook the restoration of statues and monuments, and helped establish historical markers. In addition to all those endeavors, Wiskemann found time to write about history, and she published several works promoting Michigan's heritage.

The 2019 State History Award for Distinguished Volunteer Service was presented to Donald H. Sanborn of Portage for his decades of service to promoting and preserving the history of the state. Sanborn has spent his life dedicated to volunteer service. He helped found the Schoolcraft Historical Society and played a key role in restoring the building known today as the Underground Railroad House. In recent years, Sanborn has become a popular volunteer guide at the Air Zoo Aerospace & Science Museum in Kalamazoo. He has contributed almost 10,000 hours as a docent at the Air Zoo; served on several committees; and written dozens of articles for the museum's newsletter.

A State History Award in the category of Books: University & Commercial Press went to Jeff Morrison of Oxford for "Guardians of Detroit: Architectural Sculpture in the Motor City," published by Wayne State University Press. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Detroit experienced a massive building boom in which architectural sculptures of gargoyles, griffins, grotesques and other figures were popular. Those stone figures were often placed high on buildings and went unnoticed by passersby. In his book, author and photographer Jeff Morrison utilizes four maps and 770 photographs to bring Detroit's sculptures down to earth, where readers can appreciate them.

A State History Award in the category of Books: University & Commercial Press was given to Brian C. Wilson of Kalamazoo for "John E. Fetzer and the Quest for the New Age," published by Wayne State University Press. While many Michiganders remember Fetzer as a pioneering television and radio figure and longtime owner of the Detroit Tigers, Wilson's book explores a lesser-known aspect of Fetzer's life: his metaphysical religious beliefs. Fetzer's wealth, which came from multiple television and radio enterprises, allowed him to create the Fetzer Institute—a foundation that he hoped would lead to a global spiritual transformation.

The Historical Society of Michigan presented a State History Award in the category of Books: University and Commercial Press to James Berton Harris for "Once Upon a Time at the Opera House: Drama at Three Historic Michigan Theaters, 1882-1928." Published by Michigan State University Press, the richly illustrated book explores how opera houses were centerpieces of community cultural life around the late 1800s and early 1900s. Author James Berton Harris of Ann Arbor focuses on three Michigan opera houses—in Coldwater, Calumet and Manistee—that have survived to the present day. The book also takes readers through the golden age of opera houses with historical facts, anecdotes, urban legends and tall tales.

A State History Award in the category of Books: Private Printing went to Thomas R. Knox for his self-published book, "Cheboygan Twin Lakes: Community in the Woods." Knox began writing about Cheboygan County after retiring from teaching history at Bowling Green State University in Ohio. His nuanced book takes readers through the geographic history of the Great Lakes region to set Cheboygan in historical context, discussing the Native-American and French-colonial history of the area. There are the customary highlights of settlers and businessmen, but the author gauges their impact on Twin Lakes' development instead of attempting to paint them as heroes or villains.

"Edward Beebe's Historic Leelanau Photographs: Leland, Suttons Bay, and North Manitou Island, 1909-1915" by Jack Hobey, which is published by Leelanau Press, received a State History Award in the category of Books: Private Printing. Edward Beebe started out as a studio photographer in the early 20th century but soon devoted more and more of his time traveling by railroad and wagon to capture images of remote communities in northern Michigan. In addition to showcasing the best of Beebe's work—300 photographs of farms, logging operations, railroads, shipping ports, resorts and street scenes—author Jack Hobey of Glen Arbor has included a well-researched and engaging narrative about the places and times captured in the photographer's images.

A State History Award in the category of Books: Private Printing was presented to "Hope College at 150: Anchored in Faith, Educating for Leadership and Service in a Global Society," published by Van Raalte Press. In the two-volume compilation, Jacob E. Nyenhuis and other contributors take a thematic approach to Hope College's history, with each chapter focused on a different topic, including the school's academic work, financial stewardship, athletics and commitment to diversity. Of particular note is an extensive section about the college's architectural history, which features a thorough account of each building and an overview of the various architectural styles during different eras of campus development.

"Sport: Ship Dog of the Great Lakes" received a State History Award in the category of Books: Children & Youth, published by Wisconsin Historical Society Press. Written by Pamela Cameron and illustrated by Renée Graef, the engaging children's book tells the real-life story of the dog Sport, a Newfoundland-retriever mix. In the early 20th century, the crew of the Great Lakes lighthouse tender Hyacinth spots a puppy treading water in the Milwaukee River. Once rescued, Sport becomes the ship's newest shipmate, a beloved mascot and a great asset to the crew. In addition to telling Sport's story, the book includes educational details about lighthouse and marine procedures, ship terminology, and life on the Inland Seas.

The Historical Society of Michigan presented the 2019 State History Award for Communications: Printed Periodicals to the Dearborn Historical Commission for its quarterly journal, "The Dearborn Historian." In 2011, "The Dearborn Historian" decided to highlight challenging topics of local history, offering readers a compelling series of articles on subjects traditionally left untouched, such as Dearborn's rapidly growing Arab community and longtime mayor Orville Hubbard's advocacy of racial segregation. Worldwide attention fixed on Dearborn this year when the current mayor prohibited distribution of an edition of the publication highlighting Henry Ford's anti-Semitism. The commission has continued publication of the journal, but its future remains undetermined.

The Historical Society of Michigan presented a State History Award in the category of Education: Educational Programs to the Jackson College Heritage Center for its ongoing programs. The Jackson College Heritage Center helps college students and Jackson County residents connect with the past through research and storytelling. The center's important role in the county began in 2007 with its Veterans History Project, which involved 1,200 hours of work and resulted in 22 oral histories and a film. Many projects have followed that initial program, including revitalizing the Sparks Museum and an oral history project exploring Jackson County during the Great Depression.

A State History Award in the category of Education: Educator was presented to Darrin Silvester in recognition of his outstanding work in history education. Darrin Silvester has spent his career as a teacher in Plymouth-Canton Community Schools. During that time, he introduced project-based learning experiences in local and community history. Over the years, he and more than 1,000 students transformed the Shearer Cemetery from an abandoned plot to a beautiful site with recovered gravestones, conducted an oral history project that contains the memories of school alumni, and produced a video project telling students' stories.

David B. Schock of Grand Haven received a State History Award in the category of Media for his documentary, "A.J. Muste: Radical for Peace/Finding True North." Abraham Johannes Muste was one of America's most influential peace activists of the 20th century. A Michigan resident from the west side of the state, Muste dedicated his life to activism. He became a labor organizer and led the Brookwood Labor College in Katonah, New York, where he worked with W.E.B. DuBois to aid African-American students. Schock's documentary is the first of a series planned to highlight Muste's work. It traces Muste's life through the 1930s and includes archival images and interviews with biographers and the people who knew and worked with him.

A State History Award in the category of Restoration/Preservation went to the Michigan Theater Foundation for its work in preserving and restoring the iconic State Theatre in Ann Arbor. The State Theatre opened in 1942. Audiences loved the building's pleated brick façade; the brilliant marquee; and its 1,900-seat auditorium. As times changed, the State Theatre struggled to compete. It was remodeled, and in 2013, its owners slated it for conversion into an office building. At that point, the Michigan Theater Foundation stepped in. A \$6.5 million capital campaign rescued, renovated and restored the theater, which reopened on December 8, 2017.

The Historical Society presented a State History Award in the category of Special Programs/Events to the Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation for its "History, Homes + Heritage Tour." Historic house tours offer a popular way to educate the public about the importance of architectural preservation. In 1977, the Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation launched its first historic homes tour. Since then the tour has opened the doors to nearly 300 historic gems in the city. In 2019, the event was renamed the "History, Homes + Heritage Tour" to better showcase other historic buildings, such as stores, schools, churches and factories.

The 2019 State History Award for the Best Article in Michigan History Magazine was presented to Geoffrey D. Reynolds of Holland for his article titled "Keep 'Em Fighting: Chris-Craft's Contribution to WWII." The article appeared in Michigan History's July/August 2019 issue and explored the role that boat builder Chris-Craft played as part of America's Arsenal of Democracy during World War II. Before the war, Chris-Craft factories were famous for their high-quality wooden pleasure boats. After Pearl Harbor, those factories turned out thousands of military watercraft, some of which were the first Allied landing craft to touch the sands of Normandy on D-Day.

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This e-mail is sent to our members and friends to keep you updated on historical activities and opportunities to learn more about our state's history. To opt-out, please respond to this e-mail with "remove" in the subject line. If you received this e-mail as part of your participation in the Michlib-1 mailing list (listserv), please follow their removal process.

Dear Elizabeth,

Thank you so much for all your help making our son's Eagle Project come a reality! After 6½ years of his passing, we have a closure of Spencer's vision. The Presbyterian Church sign looks amazing. Please share this thank you with the Historical Society as well. Again, thank you all from the bottom of our hearts.

Warmly,

Steve and Tammy (Spencer, too!)

Thank
you
so
much

2020 Public Meeting Schedule
DRAFT

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION 6:00 PM (3rd Monday, as needed)	PLANNING COMMISSION 6:30 PM (2nd Tuesday after the 1st Monday)	ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS 5:30 PM (2nd Wednesday, as needed)
January 20 (MLK)	January 14	January 8
February 17 (Presidents)	February 11	February 12
March 16	March 17**	March 11
April 20	April 14	April 8
May 18	May 12	May 13
June 15	June 9	June 10
July 20	July 14	July 8
August 17	August 11	August 12
September 21	September 15	September 9
October 19	October 13	October 14
November 16	November 10	November 11 (Veterans)
December 21	December 15	December 9
	** Moved due to elections	