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## Landmark Report (Vol. 4, no. 10)

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# LANDMARK REPORT

Vol. 4 No. 10

of Bowling Green & Warren County

APR. 1984



WILLIAM VOLTAIRE LOVING HOUSE  
1253 STATE STREET CA. 1840

## *Decorators' Show House 1984*

Under the able leadership of Romanza Johnson and Mary Frances Willock, Bowling Green's first ever Decorators' Show House is almost ready for its Grand Opening on April 29th. Volunteers from both the Landmark Association and Arts Alliance have put in many hours of work in preparation for the big event. Some 14 interior designers and landscaping designers are now adding the final touches to the rooms and grounds at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wahn Raymer, 1253 State Street.

Opening day on Sunday, April 29th, will include an afternoon Preview Tea from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. Tickets for the Tea are available at \$10.00 per person at the door. Also, a preview party will be hosted by Mr. O.V. Clark in the evening. Tickets for the preview party are available at \$25.00 per person.

Decorators' Show House 1984 will be open to the public from April 29th through May 13th, 1984 during the following hours: Monday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Sunday from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., and other times by appointment. Tickets will be available in advance for \$4.00, \$5.00 at the door and \$3.00 for students. Advance tickets may be purchased through the Landmark office (781-8106) or the Capitol Arts Center (782-2787). Proceeds from this event will be used to support the on-going programs for the Landmark Association and Arts Alliance.



## LANDMARK ANNUAL MEETING

Make your plans to attend Landmark's Annual Meeting on Wednesday, May 2, 1984 at 7:30 p.m. at the Decorators' Show House, 1253 State Street. Annual Meeting Chairman, Carol Burford, is planning a special viewing of the Show House and a wine and cheese reception. Election of officers and board members for the coming year will be held in addition to presentation of 1984 Landmark and Heritage Awards. Reservations for the Annual Meeting are \$5.00 per person. Anyone purchasing tickets for the Preview Tea or Preview Party to be held on April 29th in conjunction with the Decorators' Show House will be admitted to the Annual Meeting at no charge. For further information, contact the Landmark office at 781-8106.

### *— Show House Boutique —*

A boutique at the Decorators' Show House will be offering items for sale to the general public. Anyone wanting to donate appropriate items for the boutique is encouraged to call the Landmark office (781-8106) or Capitol Arts Center (782-2787). Appropriate items for donation include jewelry, paintings, candlesticks and candelabra, vases, figurines, antique glassware and china, and suitable craft items. Donors will be provided a receipt verifying the donation for tax purposes.

## ARCHITECTURAL SALVAGE

Landmark's architectural salvage material currently includes two fine mantel pieces. A cast iron mantel with insert was donated by Mrs. June Sinclair and was salvaged from the Ella Potter Kirtley House, 1340 College Street, built circa 1874-1877. An oak mantel with Classic Revival motifs was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Wilk and was salvaged from the Lena Runner House, 1350 Park Street, built after 1877. Both mantels are available for \$50.00 each. For further information, contact the Landmark office at 781-8106.

## WARREN COUNTY ARCHITECTURE

Available in May, Architecture of Warren County, Kentucky 1790-1940 is an architectural overview of Warren County containing several sections highlighting Oakland, Smiths Grove and the Smiths Grove Historic District, Woodburn, the Brinton B. Davis Thematic Resource, Upper East Main Street Historic District, Downtown Commercial Historic District, St. Joseph's Historic District, and College Hill Historic District. Illustrated with over 250 photographs, this guide also includes several special features including a full list of surveyed properties not pictured, a select bibliography of architectural and local history materials, an architect index, contractor index, style index, building form index, and a fold-out copy of the 1877 D.G. Beers and Company Map of Warren County.

Architecture of Warren County, Kentucky 1790-1940 will have a cover price of \$10.00. As a benefit of membership, Landmark members will be able to purchase this catalog at \$7.50, a 25% discount off the full cover price. These catalogs will be available at the Landmark office or they may be purchased through the mail for an additional \$1.30 postage. For further information, contact the Landmark office, P.O. Box 1812, Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101, (502) 781-8106.

## NATIONAL REGISTER

From time to time, Landmark receives questions and comments regarding the National Register. The following information concerning the National Register should be of interest to Landmark members.

The National Register is simply the federal government's official list of historic buildings, structures, sites, objects and districts worthy of preservation. Listing in the National Register provides recognition of a property's archaeological, architectural or historical significance.

In order to be placed in the register, a historic resource must meet criteria written into federal law. The resource is nominated to the register through a state office in each state. Each nomination is screened on the state level by a state review board before being sent to the National Register staff in Washington. The nomination is reviewed by the National Register staff and, if qualified, placed in the National Register.

Created in 1966 by an act of Congress, the National Register was designed as a planning tool for federal agencies. Federal and federally-funded projects have had an unfortunate history of destroying historic resources on a massive scale. As designed, the register would induce planners of projects using federal money to plan the projects around historic resources. Should "planning around" prove impossible, provisions are made for thorough documentation of the resource before destruction.

In practice, the National Register has worked fairly well as a planning tool and has come to serve other purposes as well. Since its inception, the National Register has been a symbolic designation that has helped generate community support for preservation. More recently, the register has become a source of financial leverage that has helped make a great deal of commercial preservation work profitable and therefore possible.

What are the benefits of National Register listing? There are three. First, a public recognition of historic values that merit preservation. For years, listing in the register has fostered pride in ownership of listed properties. This recognition has helped to focus community attention of the need for preservation and has had the general effect of raising property values. Second, a listed property is provided a limited measure of protection from federally-funded activities through the environmental review process. Third, listing provides a financial break in the form of a 25% investment tax credit for those who rehabilitate National Register properties for income producing use within a set of rehabilitation guidelines maintained by the Secretary of the Interior.

What are the restrictions, limitations or disadvantages of National Register listing? For the private property owner, there is only one. Should a National Register building be torn down, the owner cannot deduct demolition expenses. Other than this, there are no restrictions placed on the owner of private property listed in the National Register. Restrictions are all placed on the federal government, protecting the private owner from ill-advised federal projects.

Basically, the National Register recognizes important cultural resources and serves as a planning tool for federal, state and local agencies. Because the National Register is often misunderstood, this information has been included in the Landmark Report in order to create a better understanding of the National Register.

(Information courtesy Kentucky Heritage Council and History-Gram, Winter 1984, No. 31.)



**Preservation  
is taking care  
of America.**

Preservation Week May 13-19, 1984  
National Trust for Historic Preservation



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Western Kentucky University  
Bowling Green, Ky. 42101



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914 1/2 State Street P.O. Box 1812  
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502/781-8106

## LANDMARK ASSOCIATION

### *Calendar of Events*

Apr. 29-May 13: DECORATORS' SHOW HOUSE  
(William Voltaire Loving House)  
1253 State Street  
Mon.-Sat. 10AM-4PM  
Sunday 1PM-5PM  
Tues. & Thurs. 7PM-9PM

May 2: LANDMARK ANNUAL MEETING  
Decorators' Show House  
(William Voltaire Loving House)  
1253 State Street  
7:30 PM

May 19: Bowling Green Garden Club  
Open House  
June 9: Parks and Recreation Department  
"Life-Be In It"  
Fountain Square Park  
June 16: Arts Alliance Street Fair  
Fountain Square Park  
9AM-6PM  
June 20: LANDMARK BOARD MEETING  
7:30 PM Landmark office  
June 27: LANDMARK MONTHLY MEETING  
7:30 PM BG Public Library

**LANDMARK REPORT** is a publication of the Landmark Association of Bowling Green and Warren County, Inc., a non-profit corporation organized to promote historic preservation/economic development. Landmark, a participating agency in the Kentucky Main Street Program, is supported by the membership of concerned citizens.

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