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From: David Powers
Communications Director
708.358.5781

Contact: Doug Kaarre
Urban Planner
708.358.5417

Free workshops offer property owners preservation guidance

The [Historic Preservation Commission](#) and the [Pleasant Home Foundation](#), with the help of a \$2,500 grant from the [National Trust for Historic Preservation](#), will offer a series of workshops in May, June and July. For more information, call 708.358.5417 or e-mail planning@oak-park.us. Here's the schedule:

- **Your Home has Stories to Tell: A Step-by-Step Research Approach** – Learn how to uncover and decipher the details about the history of your building using a wide range of sources including newspapers, maps, photos and databases. While focusing on the resources in the collection of the Historical Society of Oak Park and River Forest, this presentation will include tips about resources accessible through the internet and public records used by researchers. **7 p.m., Tues., May 5, Pleasant Home, 217 Home Ave.**
- **Save Money with Historic Preservation** – Discuss the economic benefits and incentives available to owners of historic properties who undertake historically sensitive work on their homes. State and local financial incentives and criteria needed to qualify for these programs will be covered. **7 p.m., Tues., May 12, Pleasant Home, 217 Home Ave.**
- **Historic Preservation and a Sustainable Future: A Community Conversation** – As part of the [Burnham Plan Centennial Celebration](#), [Unity Temple Restoration Foundation](#), [Pleasant Home Foundation](#), the Oak Park [Historic Preservation Commission](#), the Oak Park [Environmental & Energy Advisory Commission](#), [Landmarks Illinois](#) and the [Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning](#) (CMAP) will team up to encourage active citizen participation in the development of Chicago's first comprehensive long-range regional plan. This [Go to 2040](#) community conversation will focus on historic preservation as a green solution. A panel of experts will facilitate the discussion, helping raise important issues and prioritize solutions to improve the region's quality of life for future generations. Participants' comments will be integrated into the final plan, to be completed in 2010. **7 p.m., Thurs., June 4, Unity Temple, 875 Lake St.**
- **Historic Windows: The Do's and Don'ts of Repair and Replacement** – Learn about the importance of original windows and window styles to the historic integrity and character of a home, the benefits of window restoration rather than replacement, repair and maintenance techniques for historic windows, and the energy efficiency and costs of renewed windows to new windows. **7 p.m., Tues., June 9, Pleasant Home, 217 Home Ave.**

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- **Historic Interiors** – Learn about locating vintage fixtures, hardware, furniture and accessories, buying salvaged items, installing vintage and reproduction elements and guidelines for decision-making. See examples of both vintage and appropriate reproduction items in a variety of price points found through local resources. **7 p.m., Tues., June 16, Pleasant Home, 217 Home Ave.**
- **Architectural Styles** – Learn about and identify the many different styles of buildings in Oak Park. **7 p.m., Tues., July 14, 2009, Pleasant Home, 217 Home Ave.**

The program was funded in part by a \$2,500 grant from the Donnelley Family Endowed Preservation Fund created in 1991 by former National Trust Trustee Barbara Donnelley, her husband, Thomas, and family. The Donnelley Fund encourages grassroots preservation of Illinois' architectural and historic resources.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation is a nonprofit membership organization chartered by the U.S. Congress to encourage public participation in historic preservation.

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HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Educational Workshop Series

Tuesday, May 5, 7 p.m. **at Pleasant Home, 217 Home Ave.**

Your Home Has Stories to Tell. Finding the history of a home or building can be a fascinating journey, which can result in discovering historic photographs, learning about previous owners, the original architect and builder. Frank Lipo, Director of the Historical Society of Oak Park and River Forest.

Tuesday, May 12, 7 p.m. at Pleasant Home

Save Money with Historic Preservation! This workshop will discuss the economic benefits and incentives available to owners of historic properties who undertake historically sensitive work to their homes. Anthony Rubano, Project Designer with the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency.

Thursday, June 4, 7 p.m. **at Unity Temple, 875 Lake St.**

Historic Preservation and a Sustainable Future: A Community Conversation. Unity Temple Restoration Foundation, Pleasant Home Foundation, the Oak Park Historic Preservation Commission, the Oak Park Environment and Energy Advisory Commission, Landmarks Illinois and the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) will team up to encourage active citizen participation in the development of Chicago's first comprehensive long-range regional plan. This "Go to 2040" community conversation, a component of the Burnham Plan Centennial being held this year, will focus on historic preservation as a "green" solution. Mike Jackson, Chief Architect with the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, will lead a panel of experts in this discussion.

Tuesday, June 9, 7 p.m. at Pleasant Home

Historic Window Repair. How and why you should repair rather than replace your windows. Roger Keys, Preservationist and Master Carpenter.

Tuesday, June 16, 7 p.m. at Pleasant Home

Historic Interiors. This workshop will focus on locating historic hardware, furniture and accessories, buying salvaged items, and installing vintage and reproduction elements. Jofrid Stavig, Interior Designer.

Tuesday, July 14, 7 p.m. at Pleasant Home

Architectural Styles. A Chicagoland Primer. This workshop will serve as a quick introduction to architectural styles while also offering new insights on the evolution of styles and combinations of styles that define Oak Park and the Chicago Region. Vincent Michael, Ph.D., Architectural Historian.



For more information, call
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and the Pleasant Home Foundation.*

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