FORUM 2010   JULY 28 - AUGUST 1

PROGRAM

NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF PRESERVATION COMMISSIONS

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National Alliance of Preservation Commissions
The National Alliance of Preservation Commissions is pleased to present its Seventh biennial National Commission Forum—the only national conference specifically for preservation commission members and staff. Forum’s unique combination of educational breakout sessions and working roundtables brings you the best information from commissioners, staff, and others working on preservation’s front lines across the country. You will return from Forum energized, and full of ideas and information to build your local preservation program!

**LEARN** from some of the most experienced preservationists in the country about essential ingredients for strong local preservation.

**PARTICIPATE** in working roundtables where we identify the issues, address the challenges, find the solutions, and chart our future course.

**CELEBRATE** local preservation with friends and colleagues from across America at the only national gathering dedicated to local preservation commissions and their work.
Welcome to Forum!
The two years since we were last together have flown by, and here we are in beautiful, historic Grand Rapids! I am pleased to welcome you to NAPC’s 2010 National Commission Forum – the only national conference dedicated to local preservation commissions.

Located on the Grand River in western Michigan, Grand Rapids is a city steeped in history and culture, combining urban sophistication and small town warmth. Its local preservation story goes back to the 1960’s when concerned citizens came together to lobby for state and local preservation legislation. They succeeded; and since then, six local historic districts and 75 local historic landmarks have been designated.

Work didn’t stop there! Preservation has played a crucial role in the transformation of commercial corridors from havens for vandals and thieves to vibrant active districts. Today, the work continues with the up and coming Arts Corridor, a multi-year community revitalization effort creating a district that merges arts and entertainment with commercial and residential uses while keeping current residents and business owners in place. None of Grand Rapids’ success would have been possible without the contributions of local volunteers working in the trenches. Grand Rapids is the perfect home for Forum 2010.

As with every Forum, this one will build on the successes of the past, with participant-driven content, more field sessions, more breakout sessions, and plenty of time for camaraderie and celebration.

NAPC has been helping build strong local preservation programs through education, training, and advocacy since 1983, and Forum is where it all comes together. Welcome to Grand Rapids, and welcome to Forum!

Marty McCune
NAPC Chair
Grand Rapids, named for the Grand River, was incorporated in 1838 and quickly developed from a trading outpost to a bustling city known nationwide as “Furniture City.” This downtown walking tour features: the restored 1912 Ryerson Library; 1894 St. Cecilia’s Music Hall; and, Monroe Center—the “Main Street” of downtown, highlighting four national register listed commercial buildings dating to the mid-19th century.

**Downtown Walking Tour**

- **12:30 pm - 2:30 pm**
- **Registration Open**
- **Tour: Lake Michigan Coastal Towns and Lighthouses**
- **New State CLG Coordinators Training**
- **NAPC Board of Directors Meeting**
- **Departs promptly from the Lyon Street hotel entrance**

**Norton Indian Mounds National Historic Landmark**

This workshop features the Norton Indian Mounds, a National Historic Landmark, dating to A.D. 0-100. Attendees will learn about the Hopewell Indian Nation—how they lived and their burial practices. The tour will end with a site visit to the Mounds, where issues of preservation and education will be discussed.

**Warning** - please wear proper attire, the mounds are located in a wooded area that is heavy with poison ivy. There will be strict rules and procedures involved in visiting this site to ensure the mounds are not touched. Also note the site visit will be weather permitting.

**Departs promptly from the Lyon Street hotel entrance**
Surviving Unpopular Decisions
You can't please all people all the time, and sometimes local preservation commissions have to make unpopular decisions that are seen as too strict, or not strict enough. This roundtable will explore the challenges, as well as ways to survive and come back from unpopular decisions. Location: Governors Room

Economics
What challenges and opportunities has the recession caused and how are they being met? What will be the long-term effects of the economy, and how can local preservation commissions address them? Location: Gerald R. Ford Room

A Future for the Preservation Movement
Nearly 45 years have passed since passage of the National Historic Preservation Act. What will the next 45 years bring? Join preservation leaders from the national, state, and local levels for a frank discussion of where preservation should be going and what is needed to get there. Location: Imperial Room

Issues in Enforcement
Every commission has been through the heartache of poor or no enforcement, or penalties that don’t deter the determined. What are the hallmarks of successful enforcement programs? What are the challenges of strong enforcement that is accepted by the rest of local government? What are the simple and innovative ways they are being met? This roundtable will find the answers. Location: Ambassador Ballroom

10:45 am - 11:30 am Closing Forum Gathering
Reconvene for our final gathering to share our work, ideas, and conclusions; and to plan for local preservation’s future. Location: Ambassador Ballroom
FORUM 2010  Program Details

Wednesday, July 28

3:00 pm - 5:00 pm  Registration Open

Thursday, July 29

7:30 am - 5:00 pm  Registration Open

Pre-Forum Tours

8:30 am - 5:30 pm  Lake Michigan Coastal Towns and Lighthouses
With 3,200 miles of shoreline and more lighthouses than any other state, a trip to Michigan would not be complete without a visit to the lake shore. This day-long trip examines: the proposed West Michigan Pike, the region's first auto tourist highway, looks at lighthouse preservation, and gives a taste of our beautiful sandy beaches and quaint resort towns. Limited on-site registration available  $65
Tour departs promptly from the Lyon Square hotel entrance.

1:00 pm - 4:00 pm  Overview Tour
Explore Furniture City from its origins as a trading post, through urban renewal, to its reinvention as a regional medical, cultural, and commerce center. Visit historic trestle bridges, a bustling riverfront, and a variety of diverse and vibrant historic neighborhoods containing stately mansions, early 20th century and vernacular homes, churches, and commercial corridors, including the National Register District of Heritage Hill. Limited on-site registration available  $30
Tour departs promptly from the Lyon Square hotel entrance.

Saturday Afternoon Working Roundtables 3:30 pm - 4:45 pm

Town and Gown—Friend or Foe?
Many schools, colleges, universities, and local governments own historic properties and most are exempt from any regulatory review by the local preservation commission. How can they work together? What are the issues and challenges of good town and gown relations and how can they be addressed? Location: Imperial Room

Preservation, Professionalism, and Volunteerism
As the preservation movement has evolved, so has the preservation profession. Volunteers and professionals have to work together, and sometimes-contentious issues can arise. This roundtable will explore potential areas of conflict between volunteers and professionals, how they can be avoided, and how volunteers and professionals can best work together toward shared goals. Location: Vandenberg Room

Diversity, Demographics, and Historic Districts
Local historic districts are not immune to demographic change. What effect does it have on community character as new residents move into historic neighborhoods? Can the change be managed? Should it be? This roundtable will examine difficult and potentially uncomfortable issues surrounding demographic change in historic districts. Location: Governors Room

New Construction in Historic Districts – The Great Debate
In most historic districts, new construction is a fact of life and commissions find themselves grappling with thorny issues of what is and is not compatible. Should historic styles be replicated? Should new construction depart from traditional forms? Is something in-between the two the best option? This roundtable will delve into the questions surrounding replica verse replica light versus contemporary design. Location: Gerald R. Ford Room

Modern Resource Discourse
Building on the work done in the last two Forums, this roundtable will look at the state of recent past preservation, innovative work by commissions and state and national partners, and identify next steps as local preservation commissions continue to address recent past preservation. Location: Emerald Room

5:00 pm - 5:45 pm  Forum Gathering
Reconvene to share the expertise, experience, and findings from the day’s working roundtables. Location: Ambassador Ballroom

Reception at Dwelling Place 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm
Join Grand Rapids’ Dwelling Place for camaraderie and celebration as you stroll along the Avenue of the Arts enjoying refreshments and live music while visiting artists’ studios and galleries. Limited on-site registration available  $35
Reception-goers should gather at the Lyon Square hotel entrance following the Forum Gathering. The group will depart at 6:00 p.m. The Saturday Reception is sponsored by Dwelling Place.

AIA CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS AVAILABLE!

Continuing Education Credit is available from the American Institute of Architects for the following sessions and workshops: Commission Short Course, Commission Chair Training, Neighborhood Commercial Corridors and Theatres, Tax Credit Success Stories, all breakout sessions, and all working roundtables.
**Pre-Forum Meetings**

**Thursday, July 20 Continued**

- **9:00 am - 12:00 noon**
  - **New state CLG Coordinators Training**
    - This half-day workshop provides essential training for new state CLG coordinators and a refresher course for veterans. National Park Service personnel will bring you up to speed on procedures and responsibilities, pass through subgrants, NPS resources, and much more. Limited to state CLG coordinators.  
    - **Location:** Emerald Room

- **9:00 am - 12:00 noon**
  - **NAPC Board of Directors Meeting**
    - **Location:** Atrium Room

- **1:00 pm - 5:00 pm**
  - **State CLG Coordinators Meeting**
    - State CLG coordinators will meet with National Park Service personnel to discuss the CLG program and related issues. Meet your colleagues from across the country and bring your questions, ideas, and issues. Limited to state CLG coordinators.  
    - **Location:** Emerald Room

- **Friday, July 30**

  - **7:30 am - 5:00 pm**
    - **Registration Open**

  - **Workshops**
    - **9:00 am - 3:30 pm**
      - **Commission Short Course**
        - High level, intensive training for commission members and staff, the Commission Short Course includes: preservation law, meeting procedures, local designation, the design review process, public outreach, and much, much more! Some of the field’s leading preservationists will get you up to speed on the who, what, when, and where of commission operations. Great for first-time commissioners and staff, or veterans who want a refresher course. Limited on-site registration available $70  
        - **Location:** Governors Room

    - **9:00 am - 3:30 pm**
      - **Commission Chair Training**
        - Designed specifically for current and future commission chairs and staff, Commission Chair Training is a full day intensive workshop including: leadership techniques, working with staff, thorny legal and ethical issues, resolving conflict, partnering with other commissions and organizations, program review, updating guidelines, and other topics. Experienced trainers from preservation’s front lines will make sure you have the training you need to lead your commission. Limited on-site registration available $70;  
        - **Location:** Imperial Ballroom

  - **1:45 - 3:15 pm**
    - **Saturday Afternoon Breakout Sessions**
      - **Substitutes and Synthetics**
        - This special session presents and demonstrates the materials evaluation methodology developed at the 2008 Forum and refined in the following months using real applications that have been reviewed by commissions. Bring your materials dilemmas to discuss.  
        - **Location:** Imperial Room

    - **Lead Paint: Myths, Facts, and Regulation**
      - Most buildings constructed before the mid-1970s contain lead paint, and federal regulations concerning lead paint abatement can be confusing and easily misinterpreted. This session will give you the facts and practical information about lead abatement in historic buildings.  
        - **Location:** Vandenberg Room

    - **Interpreting Architectural Plan and Elevation Drawings**
      - For commission members with a limited background in architecture, construction, or design, analyzing plan and elevation drawings can be intimidating. This session will give commission members the information they need to more confidently read architectural drawings and ask the right questions.  
        - **Location:** Governors Room

    - **Hiring and Working With Consultants**
      - From design guidelines to preservation plans to ordinance revisions, local preservation commissions frequently use consultants for projects they can’t handle on their own. This session explores the ins and outs of hiring and working with consultants from writing RFPs to what to do when the final product doesn’t pass muster.  
        - **Location:** Gerald R. Ford Room

    - **Scattered Values: Thematic Designation**
      - Sometimes significant resources like industrial buildings or properties associated with important events or movements are scattered throughout a city and don’t form a definable district. Learn how they can be identified, evaluated, and protected.  
        - **Location:** Emerald Room

  - **1:00 pm - 5:00 pm**
    - **State CLG Coordinators Meeting**
      - State CLG coordinators will meet with National Park Service personnel to discuss the CLG program and related issues. Meet your colleagues from across the country and bring your questions, ideas, and issues. Limited to state CLG coordinators.  
      - **Location:** Emerald Room

  - **7:30 am - 5:00 pm**
    - **Registration Open**

  - **Window Restoration Demonstration**
    - Old windows CAN be saved! Be sure to visit this all day exhibit hall demonstration to watch expert window repair by master craftsmen, talk with them, and learn about the pros and cons of window weatherization, window frame restoration, sash restoration, paint removal, epoxy repair, glass removal and re-installation methods, and much more.
Workshops

9:00 am - 12:00 noon Giving Voice to the Preservation Message: Advocacy 101
All of us know that preservation is good, but how do we get the message across to others? This half-day workshop will give you the tools and techniques you need to build understanding and even inspire enthusiasm for preservation with elected officials, property owners, developers, contractors, realtors, and others. Take advantage of NAPC's and Preservation Action's more than fifty years experience to learn how you can spread the word make preservation's voice heard!

Limited on-site registration available $25 Location: Vandenberg A

1:00 pm - 3:30 pm Grant Writing Workshop
This half day workshop covers the fundamentals of grant writing including identifying potential funders, making initial contact, proposal development, budgeting, and submission protocol. Program specific instruction will be provided about Certified Local Government and Preservation Services Fund grants.

Limited on-site registration available $25 Location: Vandenberg A

Mobile Workshops

8:30 am - 12:00 noon Neighborhood Commercial Corridors and Theatres
As cities grow, expanded housing needs move residents away from downtown, leading to the creation of neighborhood commercial corridors. These commercial strips contained many businesses and entertainment venues, becoming vibrant social hubs. Unfortunately, these areas were also first to fall to urban flight and the advent of big box stores. During this workshop you will explore two such corridors and learn of the revitalization efforts that took place to bring them back to life.

Limited on-site registration available $30
Tour departs promptly from the Lyon Square hotel entrance.

8:30 am - 4:15 pm Tax Credit Success Stories
Join us at the beautifully restored ICCF Headquarters, former Blodgett Home for Children, and learn about Michigan’s latest Tax Credit Incentive program. Then tour successful rehabilitation projects throughout the city, made possible by state, and federal tax credits. Sites will include the National Register listed Berkey & Gay Furniture Factory, the Monroe Water Filtration Plant, and many more.

Limited on-site registration available $40
Tour departs promptly from the Lyon Square hotel entrance.

9:00 am - 4:00 pm The Kalamazoo Preservation Story
Kalamazoo has integrated preservation into the master plan, paid for a reconnaissance-level historic resource survey with general funds, and designated ten percent of the city as historic. This tour will examine 40 years of preservation projects on site including historic districts, flood control projects, 106 reviews, and an ongoing complex multi-tax credit rehab.

$60 Limited on-site registration available
Tour departs promptly from the Lyon Square hotel entrance.

Green Luncheon
Join us as Chris Miller, Esq. discusses the connection between the environmental and preservation movements and how they can and must work together to make best use of limited resources. Mr. Miller is President of the Piedmont Environmental Council, initially serving as coordinator of the local organization that challenged Disney’s America development proposal. In recent years, he has also become a leading advocate for a less transmission-dominated approach to energy planning. Mr. Miller has also worked for the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund, the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, the Environmental Law Institute, and the American Council on U.S./Soviet Relations. Limited on-site registration available $45; Location: Pantlind Ballroom

Saturday Morning Working Roundtables

10:45 am - 12:00 noon
Developers and Commissions—An Uneasy Alliance?
The relationship between historic preservation commissions and developers working in historic districts doesn’t have to be antagonistic; but working together can be a challenge. Learn how commissions and developers can come together for everyone’s benefit.

Location: Imperial Room

The Public Realm—Streetscape Planning and Capital Improvements
Projects on public land and changes to infrastructure can have significant effects on historic districts’ character. Unfortunately, local preservation commissions are frequently limited in the role they can play in these projects. This roundtable will look for ways local preservation commissions can play a role and be effective in guiding public space and infrastructure projects.

Location: Vandenberg Room

Changing Times—Preservation is Sustainability
What does the ever-increasing awareness of climate change and the need for environmental and economic sustainability mean for preservation? How can, or should, preservation commissions drive the discussion?

Location: Governors Room

Where Everyone Knows Your Name—Tiny Towns
Small towns in America face unique preservation challenges—and opportunities, and may feel overlooked by the larger preservation movement; yet some of the most effective preservation happens in tiny towns. This session identifies the challenges and opportunities and seeks best ways to make the most of each.

Location: Gerald R. Ford Room

Facing Reality—Preservation in Low-income Neighborhoods
Preservation in low-income neighborhoods requires creative solutions and partnerships. This roundtable will explore different approaches to the issue and the role preservation commissions can play.

Location: Emerald Room

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Location: Emerald Room

The Green Luncheon is sponsored by the Savannah College of Art and Design
Mobile Workshops

**Avenue for the Arts: Building Unique, Creative Communities**
Come explore the initiative of an organization known as Dwelling Place. Through a combination of affordable housing, live-work units and the arts, a once abandoned commercial corridor is undergoing a rebirth. Explore how public and private art, innovation and entrepreneurship, restored historic structures and working with the existing community and residents, has driven the revitalization of Division Avenue.

*Limited on-site registration available $25*
Tour departs promptly from the Lyon Square hotel entrance.

**Downtown Walking Tour**
Grand Rapids, named for the Grand River, was incorporated in 1838 and quickly developed from a trading outpost to a bustling city known nationwide as “Furniture City.” This downtown walking tour features: the restored 1912 Ryerson Library; 1894 St. Cecilia’s Music Hall; and, Monroe Center—the “Main Street” of downtown, highlighting four national register listed commercial buildings dating to the mid-19th century.

*Limited on-site registration available $15*
Tour departs promptly from the Lyon Square hotel entrance.

**War Stories: Grassroots Advocacy in Grand Rapids**
Techniques and strategies; from those who live it. Learn from their successes and failures in the fight against urban renewal, city neglect, and institutional expansion. Stroll through the Heritage Hill and Cherry Hill Historic Districts and experience firsthand the triumphs and losses of this successfully revitalized residential districts.

*Limited on-site registration available $35*
Tour departs promptly from the Lyon Square hotel entrance.

Saturday, July 30

**Saturday Morning Breakout Sessions 9:00 am - 10:30 am**

**Have you Been Friended?—Social Networking Sites and Preservation Commissions**
A growing number of commissions are using Facebook, Myspace, Blogger, and other resources, some more effectively than others. We are fast approaching the point where commissions will be expected to use Web 2.0 applications. This session will start with a basic orientation to social networking and how commissions can use it, then conclude with real examples. *Location: Imperial Room*

**When Disasters Strike**
Hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes, floods, fires, and other natural disasters can have devastating effects on historic resources. Learn about developing disaster plans and best practices for responding to natural disasters from experts with first-hand experience.

*Location: Vandenberg Room*

**Solar Panels in Historic Districts**
The number of applications for solar panels in historic districts has been and will continue to rise, and many commissions are finding their guidelines lacking. This session presents NAPC’s sample guidelines for solar panels, and how commissions can make their guidelines “green” friendly without sacrificing integrity.

*Location: Governors Room*

**Beam Me Up, Scotty – New Technology Redefining Local Surveys**
The days of paper survey forms and 35mm film photographs are fading fast. This session will cover what technology is taking their place, explore benefits and pitfalls, and look at specific survey programs at the cutting edge of survey methodology.

*Location: Gerald R. Ford Room*

**The What, Why, and How of Section 106 Review**
Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act provides for review of federally funded, licensed, or permitted projects to be reviewed to determine whether or not they will have an adverse effect on historic resources; but who does what and what role can/should a local preservation commission play?

*Location: Emerald Room*

**Afternoon Information Sessions 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm**

**All about Preserve America**
Learn about this federal initiative to recognize communities using cultural and natural resources to promote heritage tourism and what Preserve America funding can do for you. *Location: Emerald B*

**Your Friend on The Hill: Preservation Action**
Since 1974, Preservation Action has served as preservation’s national grassroots lobby. Learn about its mission, vision, and work and how you can get involved. *Location: Emerald A*

**What the National Trust Can Do for You**
Everyone knows the National Trust for Historic Preservation provides leadership, education, advocacy, and resources for preservation; but how can it help you? Come find out! *Location: Ruby Room*
Afternoon Information Sessions 2:30 pm - 3:00 pm

Meet Your National Park Service
Most people know that the National Park Service cares for national parks; but it also helps preserve historic resources. Join NPS personnel and learn more. Location: Ruby Room

Let's Get Legal—Understanding Local Preservation Law
From the National Historic Preservation Act to your local preservation ordinance, local preservation commissions operate with a strong legal foundation and under strict legal requirements. This session will give participants the information they need to understand where the commission gets its authority and how to stay on the right side of the law. Location: Thornapple Room

Taking it to the Streets—Winning the War for Windows
With the window replacement industry more powerful and influential than ever, local historic preservation commissions are constantly reviewing window replacement proposals in designated areas. This session will explore the myths and facts of the restore vs. replace debate, and provide commissions with clear, concise review strategies for window replacement proposals. Location: Grandview A & B

Friday Special Topics Sessions 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Staff Training
A must attend session for new commission staff and a great opportunity for seasoned veterans; this session brings experienced commission staff persons from around the country together to discuss tricks of the trade and how to handle the harsh realities of staffing a commission. Bring your questions and be prepared for an intense and information-packed time! (Serves as first time attendee orientation for staff.) Location: Thornapple Room

First Time Attendee Orientation
If this is your first time at Forum, this is the session for you! Learn about how working roundtables and Forum gatherings work, how Forum has evolved, and how to make the most out of the only national conference for preservation commissions. Location: Heritage Hill Room

Opening Reception at Grand Rapids Children’s Museum 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm
Reconnect with old friends and make new ones at the 2010 Forum opening reception in the Grand Rapids Children’s Museum! Located just a few short blocks from the Amway Grand Hotel, this former Art Deco car dealership now houses the Grand Rapids Children’s Museum and is the perfect place to get into the spirit of Forum, so come join us!

The Children’s Museum is a short walk away from the Amway. Just follow Monroe Center Street south and turn left on Sheldon Avenue. The museum will be on your left with ample food and beverage awaiting.

Opening Forum Gathering and Commission Excellence Awards 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm
Come together with friends and colleagues from throughout the United States to kick off the only national conference dedicated to local preservation commissions, enjoy welcoming remarks from Grand Rapids preservation advocate and former city commissioner David LaGrand, and watch the 2010 Commission Excellence Awards presentation recognizing and honoring outstanding achievements by local preservation commissions to protect landmarks and landmark districts through legislation, education, and advocacy. Location: Ambassador Ballroom

The 2010 Commission Excellence Awards are sponsored by the Richard H. Driehaus Charitable Lead Trust

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NAPC is grateful to the following Forum partners whose work and support make Forum possible.

Grand Rapids Downtown Alliance
Kent County Council for Historic Preservation
Michigan Historic Preservation Network
Preservation Action
Getting Around the Amway Grand

All tours and mobile workshops depart from here.

Third Floor Exhibitors Building
Take elevators by the Lyon Street Entrance

Second Floor Concourse Level

Lower Level Tower Side
Below Bentham's Riverfront Restaurant

First Floor Lobby Level