

# Historic Preservation in Michigan

## Governor's Awards for Historic Preservation

Historic structures and archaeological sites tell us about the past and help us maintain Michigan's identity. The preservation of these sites is vital to Michigan being a place where people want to work, live, and spend their leisure time. Each year the State Historic Preservation Office and the State Historic Preservation Review Board identify worthy recipients of the Governor's Awards for Historic Preservation, which are presented in May during National Historic Preservation Month. The awards recognize homeowners who rehabilitate their homes, developers who transform under utilized historic structures into vital economic assets, academic institutions, archaeologists, nonprofits, and local governments, among others, who strive to preserve Michigan's important historic and cultural resources.

### 2012 Recipients of the Governor's Award for Historic Preservation

- **Keweenaw National Historical Park, Quinn Evans Architects, Valmer Matilla Contracting Inc. and the Keweenaw National Historical Park Advisory Commission**  
The rehabilitation of the Union Building, *Calumet*
- **G.A. Haan Development, U.P. Engineers and Architects, and Oakwood Construction**  
The rehabilitation of the Adams and Masonic Temple Buildings, *Sault Ste. Marie*
- **Swanee Inc. and Barry Polzin Architects**  
The rehabilitation of the Richter Brewery, *Escanaba*
- **City of Boyne City, C2AE, Richard Neumann Architect and Graham Construction**  
The rehabilitation of the Boyne City Water Works Building, *Boyne City*
- **Eastside Armory LLC, Studio Intrigue Architects and Kincaid Henry Building Group**  
The rehabilitation of the Lansing Artillery National Guard Armory, *Lansing*
- **Michigan State Medical Society**  
Stewardship of the Michigan Medical Society Building, *East Lansing*



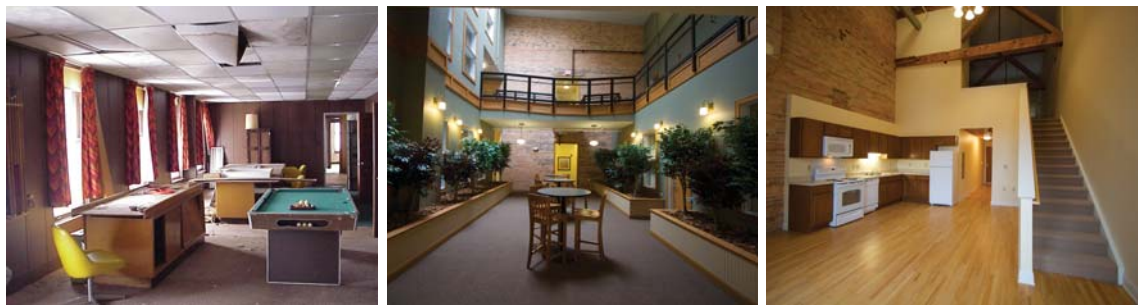
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**Adams and Masonic Temple Buildings, Sault Ste. Marie**



G.A. Haan Development, U.P. Engineers and Architects, and Oakwood Construction for the rehabilitation of the Adams and Masonic Temple Buildings, Sault Ste. Marie

The Adams Building and the immediately adjacent Masonic Temple Building stand at a major intersection three blocks south of the Soo Locks. The buildings were under utilized for years and presented a negative image of Sault Ste. Marie to thousands of visitors each year. Harbor Springs developer G.A. Haan's rehabilitation of these buildings required him to step away from "raw land" development into the world of historic preservation.

Haan put together a complex package of financing, including Federal and State Historic Preservation Tax Credits, Brownfield Tax Credits, Low Income Housing Tax Credits, HOME funds, and American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds as well as private dollars. By doing so he transformed the buildings into Park Place City Center, a mixed use development with low income housing units.

The rehabilitation of the Adams Building and the Masonic Temple Building represents an investment of \$8.6 million in Sault Ste. Marie.





**Boyne City Waterworks Building, Boyne City**



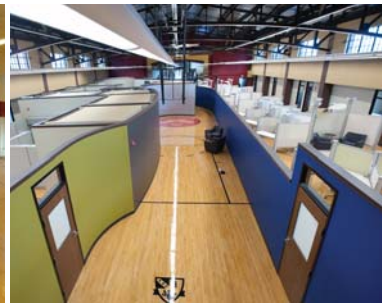
## City of Boyne City, C2AE, Richard Neumann Architect, and, Graham Construction for the rehabilitation of the Boyne City Water Works Building, Boyne City

By rehabilitating the Boyne City Water Works Building, the City of Boyne City took a community landmark that had been unused for 30 years and returned it to public service. The building came very close to being demolished; however, the city chose to keep the building. Using Federal Certified Local Government grant funds, Community Development Block Grant money, and local funds, the project team rehabilitated the building and returned it to its original role as part of the community's water system.

After three decades of disuse, the building is once again a point of community pride serving not only as water booster station for Boyne City's water system but also in new ways as public restrooms for adjacent recreational uses and as an upcoming historical interpretive center.



**Lansing Artillery National Guard Armory, Lansing**



## Eastside Armory LLC, Studio Intrigue Architects and Kincaid Henry Building Group for the rehabilitation of the Lansing Artillery National Guard Armory, Lansing

Developer Pat Gillespie of the Gillespie Group had grown up on Lansing's east side and knew the Lansing Artillery National Guard Armory well. When the building was decommissioned in 2008, Gillespie's LLC purchased the building and embarked on rehabilitating the interior space as offices for nonprofit organizations. The Eastside Armory, LLC used Federal and State Historic Preservation Tax Credits and Brownfield Tax Credits to rehabilitate the structure. The interior work included removal of a dropped ceiling in the former drill hall, which revealed the original arched trusses and wood ceiling. The rehabilitation represents a \$5 million investment in Michigan's capital city.

The neighboring community is pleased to have people working in the building and upgrading and maintaining the surrounding grounds, and it has brought more stability to the neighborhood.





**Michigan Medical Society Building, East Lansing**



## **Michigan State Medical Society for outstanding stewardship of the Michigan Medical Society Building, East Lansing**

The Michigan State Medical Society Building was designed by world-renowned architect Minoru Yamasaki and his firm Yamasaki & Associates, of Troy, Michigan. The original structure was completed in 1961. The society expanded the building's space in 1979 with the Stockwell Wing. The new wing, also designed by the Yamasaki firm, complements the original building in design.

Since the original building's construction, the Michigan Medical Society has been an exemplary steward. The society has not made any updates or alterations to the building without consulting with the original interior designer.

While many people recognize the significance of older architecture, there is often a failure to recognize the significance of Modern architecture. The Michigan Medical Society, however, has always understood and appreciated the significance of its building and the importance of maintaining it. For more than fifty years the society has remained true to the original design intent of Minoru Yamasaki and has held to the highest preservation standards.



**Richter Brewery, Escanaba**



## Swanee Inc. and Barry Polzin Architects for the rehabilitation of the Richter Brewery, Escanaba

Matt and Beth Sviland bought the Richter Brewery in 2008 intent on preserving an anchor building at the westernmost entrance to downtown Escanaba. Using Federal and State Historic Preservation Tax Credits, Brownfield Tax Credits, New Market Tax Credits, and Urban Development Action Grants, they rehabilitated the building and converted the vast open brewery space into fifteen loft apartments. The most transformative exterior change was the removal of baby blue cement-like coating from the storefronts.

The Richter Brewery rehabilitation represents a direct investment of \$4 million. As Escanaba City Manager James O'Toole told Second Wave media, "The rehabilitation and repurposing of this property is a huge step forward in Escanaba and Escanaba's downtown because it has taken an obsolete building and repurposed it for a better use, which will be a benefit not only to downtown but to all of Escanaba."



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**Union Building, Calumet**



Keweenaw National Historical Park, Quinn Evans Architects, Yalmer Matilla Contracting Inc. and the Keweenaw National Historical Park Advisory Commission for the rehabilitation of the Union Building, Calumet

When Keweenaw National Historical Park acquired Calumet's Union Building in 1999, weathering and lack of maintenance had resulted in extensive water damage and deterioration. From 2006 through 2011, the park undertook a phased rehabilitation to repurpose the 1889 lodge hall for use as the Calumet Visitor Center. Exterior work included a new roof, masonry repairs, storefront and window restoration, and replication of missing architectural features. With the building envelope secured, the park adapted the interior to provide visitor orientation and interactive interpretive exhibits about the area's immigration, labor, and social history.

This National Park Service facility not only speaks to the local community but also a national audience who are invited to experience the copper mining heritage of Michigan's Keweenaw Peninsula.