

A photograph of the interior of a grand, ornate dome, likely the Michigan State Capitol. The dome features a complex pattern of gold-colored ribs and panels, with blue and white decorative elements. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the architectural details.

2014 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.

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2014 Recipients of the Governor's Award for Historic Preservation

- The Michigan Department of Natural Resources; the Michigan Department of Technology, Management and Budget; Cornerstone Architects; and BCI Construction
Rehabilitation of the Lake Michigan Beach House, *Ludington State Park*
- John and Nancy Hand
Stewardship of the Frederick Kennedy Jr. Farm, *Hanover Township*,
and the Hugh Richard House, *Jackson*
- Michigan State Trust for Railway Preservation, Inc.
Restoration of Pere Marquette Railway Steam Locomotive No. 1225, *Owosso*
- Lafayette Place Lofts, LLC, West Construction Services, and TDG Architects
Rehabilitation of the H. V. Mutter Building, *Pontiac*
- Wayne State University, Quinn Evans Architects, and McCarthy & Smith Inc.
Restoration of the McGregor Pond and Sculpture Garden, *Detroit*



Rehabilitation of the Lake Michigan Beach House, Ludington State Park

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources; Michigan Department of Technology, Management and Budget; Cornerstone Architects; and BCI Construction

The Civilian Conservation Corps built the Lake Michigan Beach House at Ludington State Park in 1935. Sand, wind, and sun took its toll on the building, and in 2008 the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) put together a team to carry a rehabilitation project forward. The team included people from the DNR; the Department of Technology, Management and Budget; the State Historic Preservation Office; and park users.

The building's exterior was restored, including painting in its original 1935 color scheme, and the interior was rehabilitated to allow for improved visitor services and interpretive programs. The building is now more easily accessible to people with disabilities.

The attention to detail, the outstanding work done to the physical structure, the involvement of the public, and the spirit of collaboration that drove this project set an example within state government and for the private sector.



2014 Governor's Award for Historic Preservation





Rehabilitation of the H. V. Mutter Building,
Pontiac

Lafayette Place Lofts, LLC, West Construction Services, and TDG Architects

The former H. V. Mutter Building, long known as the Sears department store, occupies a prominent lot in downtown Pontiac. The building sat vacant for decades until Lafayette Place Lofts, LLC, invested in the building and rehabilitated it, transforming the building into 46 mixed market-rate and affordable loft-style apartments, a fresh market, and a fitness center. The project is the largest development Pontiac has seen in 30 years, and the Lafayette Market and Anytime Fitness Center are the first businesses of their kind in Pontiac in 40 years.

The developers responded to a demand in Pontiac for downtown housing, and the building was fully leased prior to its completion. They used Federal and Enhanced State Historic Preservation Tax Credits, Neighborhood Stabilization Program 2 funds, Brownfield Tax Credits, and other incentives.

The developers report additional investment taking place downtown, which will foster growth in the city's economy. The rehabilitation of the Mutter building represents \$20 million in direct investment and \$22.9 in additional investment for a total economic impact of \$43 million in the city of Pontiac.



Stewardship of the Frederick Kennedy Jr. Farm,
Hanover Township, and the Hugh Richard House,
Jackson

John and Nancy Hand

Dr. John Hand and his late wife, Nancy, have been outstanding stewards of two properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places. In 1980 the Hands purchased the Frederick Kennedy Jr. Farm: 80 acres with a deteriorating Greek Revival house and outbuildings. The house had vegetation growing out of the roof, and it had been used as a garage—complete with an oil pit and machine shop. According to Dr. Hand, his wife fell in love with the house at first sight.

The Hands rehabilitated the farm complex as their home, doing much of the work themselves. They located historic brick and roofing slate, cutting both to fit their needs. Every feature of the house needed to be rebuilt or repaired, including the columned porch.

In addition to the Kennedy Farm, beginning in 1988 the Hands rehabilitated the Queen Anne-style Hugh Richard House in Jackson and converted it to office space for Dr. Hand's psychology practice. This major rehabilitation project included replication of the ornate trim and the curved porch.

Thinking of the future, the Hands put legal protections in place for the Kennedy Farm. Dr. John Hand's hope is that future owners of both buildings will continue the stewardship he and Nancy provided over the years.



Restoration of the Pere Marquette Railway
Steam Locomotive No. 1225, Owosso

Michigan State Trust for Railway Preservation, Inc.

The restoration of Pere Marquette Railway Steam Locomotive No. 1225 brought together railroad enthusiasts from around the country—either as financial donors or as volunteers who contributed time to the project.

The Michigan State Trust for Railway Preservation raised more than a half a million dollars for the project, including a \$300,000 Transportation Enhancement Grant from the Michigan Department of Transportation. In addition, volunteers donated more than 20,000 hours working on the rebuilding of the engine, which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Original factory blueprints from 1941 were used to replicate parts.

In November 2013 the restored locomotive took passengers on the first of many rides. The initial outings transported more than 5,000 youths and adults on weekend excursions. Locomotive No. 1225 served as the sound and image model for the train in the movie the *Polar Express*, but to the citizens of Owosso, it is more than a movie icon: it is a tourist destination and a source of pride for the community.



Restoration of the McGregor Pond and Sculpture Garden, Detroit

Wayne State University, Quinn Evans Architects, and McCarthy & Smith Inc.

The McGregor Memorial Conference Center, with its pool and sculpture gardens, is frequently hailed as a masterpiece of modern architect Minoru Yamasaki. Completed in 1958 on the campus of Wayne State University, the center and gardens were designed as a serene gathering place for the campus and the local community.

During the 1990s the pond was drained due to problems and the grounds lost much of their integrity. People no longer gathered in the space. In 2011 Wayne State hired Quinn Evans Architects to design a \$1.8 million-project that would restore the original character and appearance of the pond and garden while improving the pool's performance. The project involved installing new sanitization and recirculation systems, correcting problems with the pond basin to prevent leakage, replacing non-original brown pavers with white marble, and replacing non-original plantings with those that were in the original plan. In addition, the entry ramp to the plaza was modified to meet current accessibility standards.

In May 2013 dignitaries poured ceremonial pitchers of water into the pool to celebrate the restoration of the purity of Yamasaki's design.