

BIRMINGHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Newsletter

May 2007

PRESERVATION WORKS

The theme of Preservation Month 2007 "Preservation Works" calls on Americans from coast to coast to put their heritage of buildings and places to work for future needs. Here in Birmingham, our award winners are doing just that. We salute them!

2007 PRESERVATION AWARDS

For the exciting mix of folk art and historic fabric

The Birmingham Museum of Art-Annex: the Alabama Folk Art Gallery at the Young & Vann Building

1731 First Avenue North

Client, Curators, Designer Birmingham Museum of Art: Gail Treschel & Emily Hanna; Terry Beckham

Developer Sloss Real Estate: Cathy Crenshaw, Tim Blair

Supporter Alabama Bureau of Tourism and Travel, Lee Sentell

Architect Goodwyn, Mills and Cawood, Inc., Chris Engel

Contractor Stone Building Company Inc., Bill Stone, Tricia Taylor

Supporters City of Birmingham: Bill Gilchrist, Chief, Planning & Engineering; Jim Wyatt, Chief, Building & Operations; Ricky Sanders and Richard Broome, Plans Examiners



The space in the Young & Vann Building was empty and talk a plenty of showcasing Alabama folk art somewhere in the city center. But when the players listed above focused, the resulting new exhibition space and its changing contents became an unqualified success, attracting rave reviews, bus tours and visitors from across the nation. *Photograph above by Sean Pathasema.*

Congressman Artur Davis and BMA Director Gail Andrews. Kubar Holley, Lee Sentell, Cathy Crenshaw, Charlie Lucas, Lonnie Holley, Al Head, and Chris Clark, pictured at the opening. Photographs by Arden Ward.



For creating a city center landmark

The Fish Market in the Harris Transfer Buildings

Sixth Avenue and 22nd Street South

Client George Sarris

Architect ArchitectureWorks: Dick Pigford, Principal in Charge; Marshall Anderson, Project Architect

Landscape Architect Ross Land Design: Jane Reed Ross, Lea Ann MacKnally

Interior Design DesignSouth: Lisa Beasley

MEP Engineer Parks Engineering Co.: Keith Parks

Contractor Multicon Construction: Angelos Petelos, Billy Petelos, Tony Petelos

People had been storing things in these large brick warehouses for many a decade when George Sarris decided to expand his nearby restaurant. His design team helped open up the building shell, reveal its massive columns and rafters, and focus on receiving, preparing, and serving seafood — all the while creating a comfortable back drop to make diners feel at ease. A new outdoor porch transitions the entrance from the parking area. Here a landscape buffer with its cypress edge and climbing figs welcomes 2,000 persons daily. George Sarris' Fish Market nourishes body and soul. *Photographs by Sylvia Martin.*

For excellence in residential rehab

Drury & Susan Ellard, Ellard, LLC, Historic Renovations

Contractor/developer Dru Ellard has perfected techniques for refurbishing early 20th century residences. At his website www.ellardllc.com, Birmingham's old house revival expert takes you on virtual tours of his seven recently renovated properties. Of the Isherwood House at 1801 11th Place South, Ellard writes: "This beautiful American Foursquare house has been completely restored. All the character of rich molding remain and are coupled with all new kitchen, electrical, plumbing and a master bedroom suite." We salute Dru, and Susan who keeps the books, and wish them many more successful ventures. *Photographs by Dru Ellard and Jason Wallis, Portico.*



For the exterior stabilization and restoration to its 1963 appearance

Sixteenth Street Baptist Church (1909-11, 1963-64)

1530 Sixth Avenue North

Clients Trustee Board, Sixteenth Street Baptist Church: Lemarse Washington, Chair; Rev. Arthur Price Jr., Pastor; 16th Street Foundation, Inc. Neal Berte, Carolyn McKinstry, co-campaign chairs.

Architect ArchitectureWorks Dick Pigford, Principal in Charge; Allison Tyler, Project Manager
Contractor Brice Building Co. Inc., Bruce Adams, Harold Coleman, Stephen Green, Mark McCraw
Masonry Masonry Arts, Inc., Roy Swindal

Structural Engineers LBYD, Inc., Greg Robinson, Dale York

Site Soil Analysis Gallet & Associates, Alain Gallet

Seeking to secure the building envelop, the recent \$3.8 million effort focused on things unseen that had deteriorated and were causing significant damage: problematic soil conditions beneath the foundations and wicking water away from the building and multiple new roofs. Joints in the mortar were expertly repointed (*by removing and replacing the mortar, see photo*) and the tile on the front steps removed and original limestone steps renewed. The superb workmanship has beautifully restored the church exterior to the 1963 era when children gathered to worship and campaign for civil rights. *Photographs by Steve Barnett, The Birmingham News.*



For the sensitive reuse of the historic BEBCO garage and warehouse

BEBCO-Davis Architects, Inc. (1926, 1950-51)

120 23rd Street South

Owner David Duffee

Developer Tom Carruthers, Carruthers Real Estate

Architects/Occupant Davis Architects Inc. Neil Davis, Project Designer; Don Cosper, Project Architect; Stephanie Pope, Interior Designer.

David Duffee's family has owned BEBCO since it opened here in 1926 and still sells automotive parts at a nearby location. In a recent tax act renovation, Davis Architects transformed a rear garage bay along an alley — with its interior steel trusses, multi-paned metal transom windows, and concrete floor — into a drafting room for the firm and also incorporated conference, library and offices into other warehouse spaces along 23rd Street. Skylights, fire doors and unwired electrical boxes all remain. A new entrance to the studio is through the Moorish gable. *Photographs courtesy BPL Archives and Lewis Kennedy.*



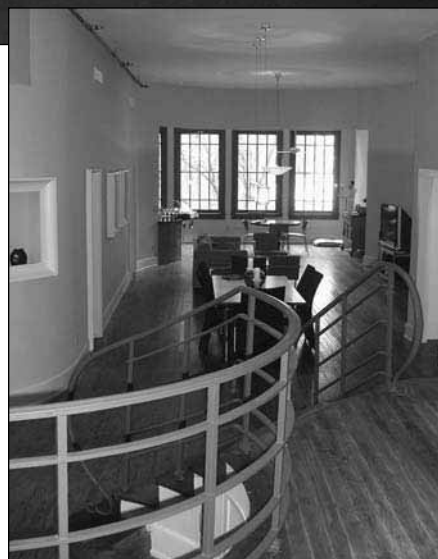
For the dramatic transformation of the historic Rialto Theatre to home and office

The Rialto Theatre (1915)

1923 3rd Avenue North

Owner/Occupant Chad and Chesney and Moore & Moore Solutions

The Moore's trendy office furnishings fill the vaulted auditorium of this former silent movie house above which they live and entertain. Their sleek modern showroom creates daily and spectacular encores. *Photographs by Chad Moore.*



For making the city center home

Eubanks Building (1889)

2017 Third Avenue North

Owners Drs. Jim and Tara Bryant and family

Originally a dental office, it's now home to five teenagers and their parents, as well as an art gallery. All have their own rooms, a basketball court and amenities of loft living, including a short walk to the library, church, festivals, and food. *Photograph of Edward (17), Mary Paty (15), Peyton (13), Julie (12) and Tommy (11) by Jim and Tara Bryant.*

For Passionate Preservation



Bill Murray
Part Owner/Developer The Tutwiler (1914)
2021 Park Place

A long-term player in the local hospitality industry, Murray wanted to own and manage the historic Tutwiler. His love of our flagship hotel and of our history welcomes every guest to his exciting \$9 million renovation completed in April 2007.



Bob McKenna
Owner W. S. Brown House-Women's Clubhouse (1911)
Partner Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs-Third District
2908 Highland Avenue

Bob McKenna is shaping up this grand and intact Craftsman-Prairie-Frank Lloyd Wrightian residence. The roof and foundations don't leak and fowl no longer roost in the eaves. The ladies gather for weekday meetings at the clubhouse which is being bit-by-bit restored to glory by their new partner and steward of this landmark residence.



Rick Mumalo
Owner/Developer McCants House (1888)
1321 19th Street South

Collapsed wall courses, drooping floor joists, and a tipsy tower confronted Rick Mumalo at one of the city's oldest houses. To exacting standards, Mumalo solved the structural defects and restored the original floor plan and interior millwork.

For Supporting the Public Good



Sam Frazier
From the initial legal research in the 1970s to save Forest Park from a federal highway to his long-term leadership of that neighborhood, the Birmingham Historical Society, and the City of Birmingham's Design Review and Historical Commission, Frazier has been a creative and visionary leader and the unshakable guardian of the rules.



For renovating Nygren House (1923) and developing the Norwood Resource Center
1501 27th Street North

Founding partners of the resource center: Robert Gilmore, Norwood Neighborhood Association; St. Luke's Episcopal Church; The Crisis Center

Robert Nygren often worked with his neighbors on community projects. At his death in 1999, his daughter donated the family home to the neighborhood for use as a resource center. Following a \$135,000 capital campaign to restore the house, the resource center opened in 2005 to provide residents counsel and support. The center also hosts health fairs, clean up days, tree planting and planning initiatives. It does so with many community partners including St. Luke's Episcopal Church, the Crisis Center, the Department of Justice, McWane, Inc., and UAB medical clinics.



No Elevated-Citizens to Save 280

Citizens in Mountain Brook and Homewood joined with city officials to oppose the construction of an elevated expressway through their neighborhoods and hired a community and transportation planning firm to recommend alternative and less costly solutions.

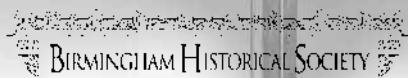


Views along 280 with and without the elevated. Watercolors by Bob Moody.



For Listing Slossfield on the National Register of Historic Places and working for its preservation
Slossfield Community Center
(designed by E. B. Van Keuren, 1936-1939)
1901 25th Court North
Leader Henrietta Tripp

In 1940, the cast-in-place concrete buildings of this campus were hailed as a national model for providing medical, educational, and recreational services to the North Birmingham community. The Art Deco structures adjacent to Lewis School and a library branch are in sound condition and neighborhood leaders hope they may once again provide programs for the neighborhood.



One Sloss Quarters
Birmingham, Alabama 35222

Join us for
Preservation Awards
Presentation

May 17, 2007, 5:15 p.m.

Photograph of the BMA Annex at the
Young & Vann Building by Sean Pathasema

