
DANE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER



The Dane County Historical Society Office and the Otto Schroeder Records Center are located on the lower level of the Lussier Family Heritage Center, 3101 Lake Farm Road just south of the Beltline near Lake Waubesa.

Volume 42

Spring 2024

Number 1

2024 Annual Meeting • Seven Acres Dairy in Paoli • Monday, June 10, 2024



Arrive by Noon

Program approx. 1:30 pm.

Historic Fischer Hall tour (6904 Canal St.) approx. 3 pm

We loved it so much last year that we had to go back. The location and building were beautiful, the food was excellent, and the program was well-received. Hopefully, lightning will strike twice at Seven Acres Dairy, Paoli's Landmark Creamery.

Our luncheon presentation provides an exciting opportunity to hear from three esteemed Dane County Planning staff members. Todd Violante, Director; Aaron Krebs, Deputy Land Records Administrator; and Bridgit Van Belleghem, Senior Planner, will share insights into their Mapping Prejudice program and website. This is a rare chance to learn firsthand about the history of racial covenants in Dane County and how they were a critical factor in the 20th-century segregation of the suburbs.

Also presenting will be Rick Bernstein, Executive Director of DCHS, on the accomplishments and plans for the Dane County Historical Society and our student employee, Chloe Foor, instrumental in our digitization program.

Our delicious Custom Buffet, now at a reduced price of just \$28 per person, offers a variety of mouthwatering options. From 1/2 Roast Beef sandwich (Sauce on the Side) to 1/2 Grilled Cheese sandwich, Soup, Pasta Salad, and Fresh Garden Salad to cookies and 1/2 Pie, there's something for everyone. This is an incredible deal so reserve your lunch by returning the registration form by mail or email. If you prefer just email us at danecountyhistory@gmail.com to reserve your spot and payment can be made onsite the day of.

As a special bonus, we offer a unique opportunity to tour Fischer Hall, Paoli's historic dance hall. This is an extraordinary chance to meet Dana Duppler, a renowned historic preservationist and the owner-renovator of this landmark building. Dana will share his perspective on the building's history and the status of his ongoing renovation.



Dane County's Mapping Prejudice Project 2024 DCHS Annual Meeting

Racial covenants were an insidious tool for restricting home sales and segregating residential neighborhoods. They became widespread once the Supreme Court invalidated racial zoning in 1917. In 1948, the Supreme Court made covenants unenforceable by public law in the *Shelley v Kraemer* decision. Although unenforceable by a court of law, they could still be included in a land deed and enforced by private action. The Civil Rights Act of 1968 prohibited **discrimination concerning housing sale, rental, and financing based on race, religion, national origin, sex, (and as amended) handicap, and family status**. Title VIII of the Act is also known as the Fair Housing Act (1968).



Beginning in June 2022, Dane County Planning and Development, the Dane County Office of Equity and Inclusion, and the Dane County Boys and Girls Club partnered for a summer program of research and mapping. The result was Dane County's **Mapping Prejudice Project**. (Scan the QR code on the left to link to the website.) The interactive map makes it easy for anybody to see many properties with covenants.

Inspired by the **Mapping Prejudice Project** at the University of Minnesota, Dane County Planning searched Dane County's land records for racial covenants and restrictions. Dane County land records from 1937 to the present are digitized. Earlier records are not, but work is progressing in that regard.

Staff and volunteers searched the digitized records using keywords such as "Caucasian," "Servant," "Italian," and "Race." They identified 1,700 specific land records that might have racial restrictions. Each document was reviewed, and the plat was mapped if restrictions were found. Racial covenants were primarily recorded on deeds between the 1920s and 1940s, but examples have been seen as early as 1858 and as recent as 1965. More racially restricted land records will be uncovered as the Register of Deeds' digitizing work progresses past 1937.

The Dane County Historical Society is honored to have Todd Violante, Director; Aaron Krebs, Deputy Land Records Administrator; and Bridgit Van Belleghem, Senior Planner, as our guest speakers for our next annual meeting on June 10. They will present their initial intention, progress, findings, and potential next steps for racially based covenants and restrictions within Dane County.

Dane Arts Awards \$1300+ Grant to DCHS

Dane Arts has awarded the Dane County Historical Society a grant of \$1300+, which adds to the \$2300 granted to us by the Evjue Foundation December 2023. The combined funding will help us develop a traveling exhibit that will describe the history of Racial Covenants, from their inception in the early 20th century until they were made illegal by the Fair Housing Act of 1968.

The exhibit will be unveiled February 2025 at the Monona Public Library and travel to other Dane County venues throughout the year. If you want to host the exhibit, please contact us at danecountyhistory@gmail.com. We are excited to work with each location to develop associated programming that resonates with its audience and community.

Recent Acquisitions

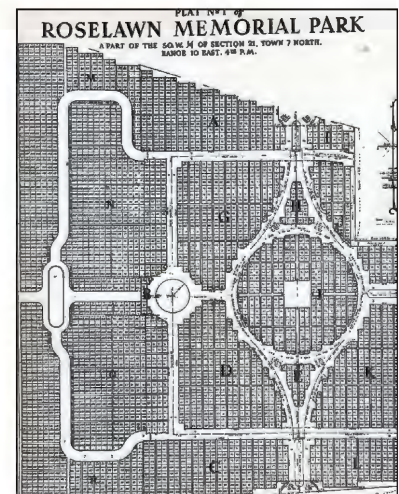
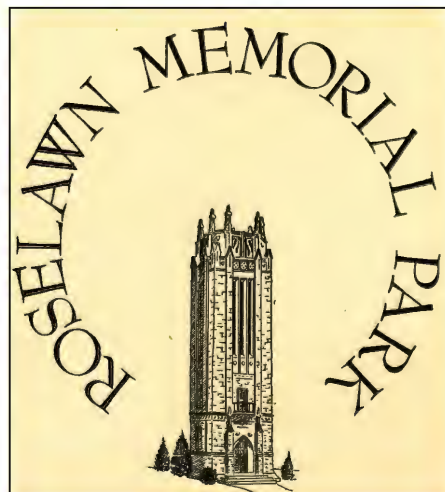
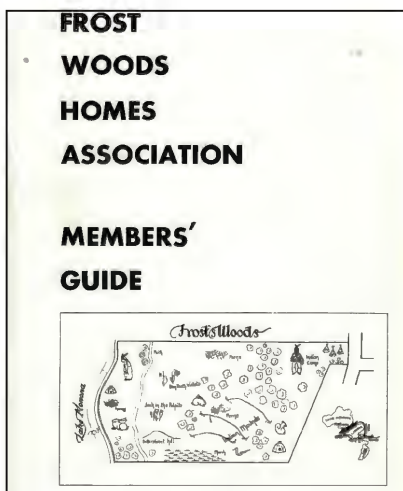
- This photo shows Gimbel's (1962) and the State Office Building under construction probably c. 1963. (The building was formally dedicated in June 1964.) The photographer was Craig J. Wilson Aerial Surveys. The photo is 36" wide x 22" high, is framed and originally hung in the office of one of the Karen Apartments until it was donated to the Dane County Historical Society. We will hang it in our office. When we posted the photo on Facebook, many people learned for the first time that there was a Gimbel's in Madison, another remembered their father worked in the furniture department in the first year it was open.



- A 6" high stack of Historic Madison, Inc. papers were donated recently. These materials include HMI journals, a newsletter or two, a few annual reports, and brochures from a Forest Hill walking tour developed by HMI, plus three folders of meeting minutes, agenda, notes (primarily notes from monthly meetings), treasurer's reports, by-laws, lists of members, and the sorts of materials usually distributed at meetings of similar organizations. These were from the donor's tenure as an HMI board member and newsletter editor, 1991-1995. The journals date from 1976-1990, 1992, and 1995, plus an index. We have many of HMI's papers already, but this will greatly supplement what we have, so we are glad to accept them into our collection.

- We recently received a couple of significant pamphlets from the same individual. The first was a 1963 Members Guide to the Frost Woods Homes Association, an early neighborhood in Monona. (As an aside, the Monona Landmarks Commission is working on nominating Frost Woods to the National Register of Historic Places.)

- Also included in this donation was a brochure from the Roselawn Memorial Garden, a large cemetery in Monona. The pamphlet is full of early photographs of the cemetery when it first opened with more open space than mature trees. We plan to post both of these pamphlets on-line with *Recollection Wisconsin*, so anyone with access to the Internet can easily find and enjoy them.



From the Archives

Barbara Furstenberg, DCHS Archivist

On a picturesque Saturday in February, I embarked on a journey to Janesville to collect a treasure trove of documents chronicling the accomplished career of architect Henry Kiyoshi Kanazawa. This visionary architect, whose work left an indelible mark on the mid-western landscape, dedicated six decades of his life, from the 1960s to the 2010s to shaping the built environment.

It was fate that I discovered Kanazawa's work. I had always admired the home of a high school friend. Knowing it was remodeled from a 1920s farmhouse into a beautiful Mid-Century home, I asked my friend how the family had transformed it. He explained that Mr. Kanazawa did the design.

Henry Kanazawa's life was a testament to resilience and determination. Born to Japanese immigrant parents in Seattle in 1922, his family's lives were abruptly disrupted when they were interned in Montana by the US Government during World War II. Despite these challenging circumstances, Henry's spirit remained unbroken. He eventually enrolled in architecture at the University of Nebraska before enlisting in the U. S. Army, serving in the U. S. Military Intelligence in the Pacific. After completing his degree in Nebraska, he attended the Illinois Institute of Technology with Mies van der Rohe as his mentor. He established his architectural practice after joining his sister and a small Japanese American community in Madison. He was widely recognized for his beautiful, functional designs and project dedication. He died in 2015, leaving behind a legacy of resilience and creativity.

The journey to uncover Kanazawa's papers was a fascinating one. After learning about his work, I began my search for his descendants. Eventually, I came across Mia Kanazawa, a Maine dancer who had preserved some of her father's papers. When she visited her mother and sister in Janesville, she brought these papers back with her. The family was thrilled to find a permanent home for these documents, preserving Mr. Kanazawa's accomplishments for posterity.

Discovering the typed and handwritten pages listing countless projects between 1962 and 1994 was inspiring. The variety and significance of Kanazawa's work was eye-popping. From partnering with Bowen, Zimmerman, and Williamson to later working independently, Kanazawa's influence was far-reaching. The list of projects includes many new residences and remodels, demonstrating his versatility. But what truly stands out is the geographical range of his work. Kanazawa's projects spanned across Madison and Dane County communities, many Wisconsin sites, Iowa, Illinois, and even Colorado, a testament to the impact of his work on the built environment.

There is a bound volume of copies of drawings, plans, and photos for St. Clements Roman Catholic Church in Lancaster, WI, the Associated Physicians Clinic, the Citizens National Bank addition, Ponwood Development in Madison, the U. W. Platteville Student Union, Madison Masonic Temple addition and parking facility, the John Rafoth resident near Madison, as well as projects from his Chicago days. (His work on Mies van der Rowe's iconic designs like the Seagram Building and others is worth mentioning.)

A large manila envelope contains treasures documenting the home that Kanazawa designed for Nina Leopold Bradley, including a letter in which Ms. Bradley described her joy in living in the house: "On sunny days, the living room is full of sunshine; on cloudy days, the room is still cheerful." Kanazawa's reply vividly recalled the day he, Bowen, and the Bradleys traipsed through snowy woods to locate the site for the home. This anecdote not only showcases Kanazawa's dedication to finding the perfect site but also the immense joy his work brought to his clients. Mia told me that Kanazawa always enjoyed finding the perfect site for a building, a testament to his commitment to creating spaces that brought happiness, comfort, and a true appreciation for his work, to his clients.



Mia Kanazawa with her father's materials



Miye and Henry Kanazawa

*Alan P. and Janet W.
McKenzie House
2525 Marshall Parkway
Built 1966*



*MacKenzie House
South Madison Day
Care Center
2012 Fisher St.
Built 1968*

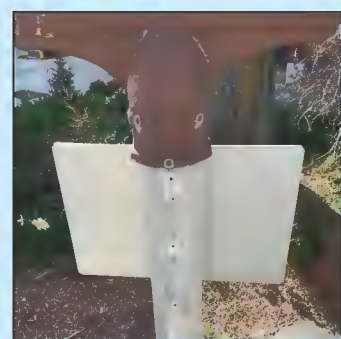
- Several Knights of Columbus group members are fundraising to repaint the Haney's Tavern marker on County KP near Cross Plains. We look forward to working with this group to raise the necessary funding to repaint this older historical marker.

- The 2024 Dane County budget included \$28,000 to research and locate a new group of historical markers. The goal is to find stories and locations to spotlight the history of Dane County's under-represented communities. Dane County Planning staff will coordinate with community organizations to uncover where some of these sites and stories might be. In addition, the County will broadly circulate surveys by early June, asking the general public for similar information.

- One of the sites we are investigating for a future marker as part of this survey is associated with the 1944 immigration of Jamaicans, then British subjects, to work on a farm in Mazomanie. To supplement farm labor during WW II, at least 114 Jamaicans immigrated to Dane County, while many more did the same throughout the Midwest. To the right is a photo from the 1944 Dane County Ag Extension agent's report showing the Jamaican emigres on a Mazomanie farm.



- The Frank J. Hess and Sons Cooperage in Madison's Shanks-Atwood Neighborhood suffered some damage to one of its attached photos. Lucky for us the owner of the Ideal Bar nearby quickly alerted us that the photo had fallen from its post. We retrieved the photo and have contacted the grandson of Frank Hess, Gary Hess, to do the repair work on the fallen image and all should be good soon. Thank you, Gary! It takes a "neighborhood" to preserve a historical marker.





Dane County Historical Society

2023-24 Annual Report

COLLABORATION WITH DANE COUNTY AGENCIES

- DCHS Executive Director Rick Bernstein chaired the Cultural Resources Planning Subcommittee to the **Zoning and Land Regulation Committee**. The Subcommittee developed a revised Cultural Resource Element for the **Dane County Comprehensive Plan**. The Plan calls for creating a Dane County Heritage Preservation Commission, which is currently underway.
 - The DCHS was awarded a \$2300 grant from the **Evjue Foundation** to develop a traveling exhibit about **Racial Covenants in Dane County**. In collaboration with the **Dane County Planning Department** and the **Dane County Library Service**, the exhibit will travel around Dane County to local libraries and other public venues.
- Dane Arts** recently awarded DCHS a \$1300+ grant for a traveling exhibit about **Racial Covenants in Dane County**.

HISTORICAL MARKERS

- The Dane County Department of Planning received \$28,000 in county funding to research and identify Dane County locations for historical sites for under-represented communities and individuals. The DCHS is participating in this project.
- DCHS has had a marker program since 1963. During that time, 48 markers were installed across the county. Some are very old and need maintenance, so DCHS has decided to survey its four dozen historical markers to assess and document their maintenance needs.
- DCHS recently repainted the posts **Haney's Tavern historical marker**, but the marker itself also needs restoration. The Dane County Historical Society will survey its 48 markers this year to document maintenance needs county-wide.



CIVIL WAR MEMORIAL TABLETS

- The Dane County Historical Society continues to fundraise to restore the 20 Civil War Memorial bronze tablets. The tablets were made in 1912 and displayed at the Grand Army of the Republic Hall on Wisconsin Avenue (now MLK Jr Blvd). The memorial tablets list the 722 dead from Dane County arranged by township or municipality. The tablets went into warehouse storage after the GAR Hall was demolished in 1978. The tablets came into DCHS's possession in the Summer of 2020. DCHS has raised over half the needed funding (\$10,000) to restore the tablets.



DIGITIZATION PROGRAM

The Dane County Historical Society has made digitizing many of its most prominent collections a programmatic goal. This will make them more accessible and relevant to the public in Dane County and beyond.

DCHS has added the following collections to the statewide portal **Recollection Wisconsin**.



One of 150+ designs by Ferdinand L. Kronenberg that are now available online

- DCHS has digitized and made public 60+ oral histories of prominent Madison citizens. The interviews were conducted in the 1980s and '90s by members of **Historic Madison Inc.**
- DCHS has digitized and made public the architectural drawings of two well-known Madison-based architects, Ferdinand L. Kronenberg and Martin Schneider.
- DCHS has put its digitized collection and made its collection of **The Madison Mirror** on Recollection Wisconsin public. **The Madison Mirror** was the **Central High School** newspaper from 1924 until 1969, when the school closed, producing 575 issues. This collection includes the Central High School yearbook (1900-1969), **Tycoberahn**.
- DCHS has scanned and made public 27 photos of **Cherokee Marsh** taken in 1962 by the Wisconsin Department of Conservation before the state and the city purchased much of it for conservation purposes.



1962 Aerial Photo of Cherokee Marsh taken by the Wisconsin Department of Conservation

Dane County Historical Society 2024 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

☐ Renewing Member

☐ New Member

Levels of Membership (check only ONE)

<input type="checkbox"/> Student, w/valid student ID	\$15.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Aldo Leopold	\$100.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Membership	\$25.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Thornton Wilder	\$250.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Family Membership	\$40.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Eston Hemings Jefferson	\$500.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Business/Professional Membership	\$50.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Belle LaFollette	\$1,000.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Golden Membership	\$50.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Frank Lloyd Wright	\$2,500.00

I am enclosing an extra donation of \$ _____ in addition to my membership.

If you would like to designate your gift to a specific use other than our general fund, please let us know here:

Donations to DCHS in memory of loved ones are an excellent way to help our non-profit 501(c)(3) organization.

Make checks payable to & mail to:
Dane County Historical Society
3101 Lake Farm Road
Madison, WI 53711

Please answer the following questions by checking the appropriate boxes.

How would like to receive the newsletter: ☐ Mail ☐ E-mail

Would you like to receive an email reminder about special events?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Dane County Historical Society
3101 Lake Farm Rd.
Madison, WI 53711

Address Service Requested



2024 Annual Meeting Seven Acres Dairy in Paoli Monday, June 10, 2024

- Arrive by Noon**
- Program approx. 1:30 pm.**
- Historic Fischer Hall tour (6904 Canal St.) approx. 3 pm**