



THE DELPHI OPERA EXTERIOR FACADE LOOKS STUNNING!

By Joe Mayfield

Did you notice some exterior work going on at the Delphi Opera House? Last fall we received a grant from the Carroll County Community Foundation, which along with matching funds from the Delphi Façade Improvement Program and private contributions, the total cost was covered for this vitally important painting project. The last time the beautiful trim was painted was in 2007. We hope the smiles that were on the faces of those who first saw the stunning Delphi Opera House in 1865 will again be on our patron's faces when we reopen later this summer.

A SINCERE THANK YOU

The Delphi Preservation Society would like to sincerely thank the Carroll County Community Foundation for our Delphi Opera House Façade Restoration Grant. The completed facade, with its bright historic colors is a stunning sight to behold. The fact that it would look brand new 155 years after its first opening is a testament to the profound impact resources provided by the Community Foundation can have in Carroll County. The Delphi Preservation Society has deep respect for the Community Foundation and its vital work and is indeed grateful for the money provided to us for this project. Thank you.

DELPHI PRESERVATION SOCIETY RECEIVES AN INDIANA HUMANITIES CARES GRANT AND A CITY OF DELPHI SMALL BUSINESS RESILIENCE GRANT

By Joe Mayfield

Receiving the Indiana Humanities CARES Grant and the City of Delphi's Small Business Resilience Grant was crucial support to the survival of the Delphi Preservation Society during this unprecedented time. We had many plans for 2020 until the pandemic of COVID-19 put a halt to all programming and dramatically decreased private funding for the organization. As the owner of the wonderfully restored Delphi Opera House, our commitment to its continuing success for the long term is unwavering. The expenses which keep the lights on, heat and cool it, and keep it insured are never ending. A portion of these two grants will help cover those ongoing expenses. In September 2020 we are planning for an Historic Home Tour in

Delphi. Previous home tours have been so well received that we are continually asked, "When is the next one?" Walking through these late 1800 and early 1900 houses is like time travel into the history of Carroll County. Look for more information in July! The Delphi Preservation Society is very appreciative of our receipt of these two grants. With this vital help and continued income from our members, friends and businesses renting space, we plan to push forward and continue our work in Delphi and Carroll County. Thank you Indiana Humanities, the City of Delphi and all our members, friends and business associates!

For the Indiana Humanities CARES grant application, we were required to submit our mission statement and a list of activities the organization has accomplished over the years. That process was eye-opening and a wonderful reminder of all DPS has done in Delphi and Carroll County. This newsletter seemed to be the perfect way to share this with all of you. As you read this list, take pride in the knowledge that as members and friends of DPS you were a part of these accomplishments.

DELPHI PRESERVATION SOCIETY- OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The Delphi area retains historical resources and structures that remind us of our need to nurture and care for these features. It shall be the mission of the Delphi Preservation Society to preserve, protect and restore these historic structures in the greater Delphi area from neglect and obsolescence, while maintaining a positive connection with the modern community. To achieve this mission DPS will encourage, inform, and educate the public of the architectural significance, history, and heritage of the greater Delphi area.

The Delphi Preservation Society (DPS) has undertaken a variety of activities and programs showcasing the city of Delphi's rich history and heritage. Through these programs, DPS seeks to provide community members with meaningful learning and engagement experiences.

The Delphi Preservation Society conducts architectural tours of Delphi's historic downtown and residential districts focusing on both architectural styles and local history.

In cooperation with the Delphi Public Library, the Society sponsored the microfilming and digital conversion of early Delphi and Carroll County newspapers. These papers are the primary sources of historical research for the area and have proven to be a vital asset.

DPS has sponsored a variety of programs during Carroll County's annual Old Settlers Celebration. These include annual trolley tours highlighting local history and architecture, fashions during the era of the Delphi Opera House, History through Postcards, and One-Room Schools in Carroll County.

In 2018, DPS prepared and hosted an Historic Home Tour of Delphi. Over 350 people toured the interiors and exteriors of 11 historic Delphi homes. Historic information on each home was available. Transportation was provided for by the Delphi trolley. It was so well received that plans are in place for a late 2020 event featuring more historic homes in the city.

Additionally, as part of its mission, the Delphi Preservation Society has prepared or supported applications nominating Carroll County districts and structures to the National Register of Historic Places. Those include:

- The Delphi City Hall and Opera House (1998)
- Wilson's Bridge over Deer Creek on County Road 300N (2001)

- Deer Creek Valley Rural Historic District along Deer Creek (2002) It was the second district in Indiana to achieve this status.
- The Carroll County Courthouse (2003)
- Delphi Courthouse Square Historic District (2010) including 43 buildings in the blocks immediately surrounding the square.
- The Delphi Methodist Episcopal Church (2015)

In 2015, the Society published the brochure "Carroll County Sites and Structures in the National Register of Historic Places and the State of Indiana Register," made possible by an Historic Preservation Education Grant from Indiana Landmarks, Indiana Humanities, and the National Endowment for The Humanities.

The following historical publications have been completed in cooperation with local historians, grant money and funds raised by Delphi Preservation Society:

Mystique of Deer Creek
An essay by Delphi historian Charles Gerard providing an in-depth description of Deer Creek in Carroll County, especially the area near Delphi. Newly illustrated with photos and maps. First published in 1981, this revised edition was released in 2009.

William Henry Whistler
Richard L. Funkhouser's definitive essay summarizes the published accounts of Whistler's involvement with the ill-fated Greely expedition transcribed here. Transcriptions of Whistler's own journals are also included.

DPS Cookbook
Prepared by DPS members as a fundraiser for the opera house restoration project, this features locally-contributed recipes of all kinds and many color photos of historic buildings, residences, and favorite spots in the area.

An Illustrated Historical Atlas of Carroll County, Indiana, 1874
Reprint by DPS, 2010. Landowner maps of the townships, town plats, engravings of homes and public buildings, brief history, and lists of businesses and residents.

Up the River of Time
Delphi attorney, mayor, agriculturalist, historian, and prolific author, William C. Smith penned a series of historical articles "Up the River of Time" for the Delphi Citizen from late 1929 to early 1931.

Delphi
Featuring the Delphi Courthouse Square Historic District, Industry, Neighborhoods, Transportation, and Entertainment from the 1850s to the 1950s in more than 200 photos with detailed captions. It was published by Arcadia Publishing as part of their Images of America series.

HISTORY OF CARROLL COUNTY BY THOMAS B. HELM

A reprint of this classic history of Carroll County was a major collaborative project with Delphi Preservation Society, Delphi Public Library, Carroll County Historical Society with input from many other local organizations. Delphi Preservation Society maintains The Charles E. Gerard Archive Room inside the Delphi Opera House. It is an extensive collection of Carroll county history compiled over many decades. It is open to the public by appointment. More details are available at <https://www.delhipreservationociety.org/charles-e-gerard>.

Delphi Preservation Society now owns through a gift, a collection of 8 Roy Trobaugh (1878-1955) paintings. Mr. Trobaugh was a local artist, whose paintings are historically significant to Delphi and Carroll county, and currently have national recognition among art dealers and collectors. Displayed in the Delphi Opera House, they are viewed and admired by several thousand people each year.

INDIANA LANDMARKS HAS JUST RELEASED "RESCUED AND RESTORED"

By Joe Mayfield

The new book wonderfully highlights more than 50 rescued and restored "saves" in which Indiana Landmarks has played a significant role. The book is filled with beautiful photographs and a brief history of each property. Delphi Preservation Society will have this fine "coffee table" book for sale in the Gallery of Contemporary Art next to the Opera House. Carroll County is in it! Pages 108, and 109. It is at a very reasonable \$30.00. Many of you may have been to the "Save" on the cover!



June 30, 2020

Dear Delphi Preservation Society Members and Friends

Half the year is over and all I can say is, "This has not been fun." This has been a stressful time for all of us. Giving to DPS is down dramatically, businesses that rent space from us have been in what can only be called a "life-or-death" struggle, and people are hurting. In these unprecedented times, I want to assure you, DPS is still working hard to fulfill our mission. As you will see in this newsletter, we have secured two grants of \$5,000 each, which are designated to cover operational expenses. These grants are extremely helpful because utilities, repairs, and insurance must be paid even in a pandemic! We are now working on a grant application to purchase awnings and UV protective film for the front entrance of the Opera House. This will reduce heat transmission, and substantially reduce UV damage. And, no matching money is required!

For the second half of the year we are cautiously making plans for resuming activities. We are working closely with the Opera House and their re-opening plans and we are continuing to plan for our September 26th Historic Home Tour. (Always considering the possibility of a pandemic prompted postponement.)

The DPS board is asking each of you to please renew your membership when it comes due, and to consider us for a special donation to help continue our important preservation and restoration projects and to build for the future.

If you would like to renew or donate, please send your check to Delphi Preservation Society, P.O. Box 161, Delphi, Indiana 46923. Please add Donation, Membership, or Capital Campaign to the memo line. If you would like to join the Delphi Preservation Society, and have internet access, please go to our website at delhipreservationociety.org and choose "About," then choose "Become a Member" and download the PDF version of our membership form, enclose the form, a check, address and send it in. Easy!

Thank you so very much for your support,

Joe Mayfield, President

SAVE THE DATE

Remember to mark September 26th on your calendar for our 2020 Historic Home Tour but check Facebook or our Website August 1st to see if we had to cancel because of Covid 19. We hope not !