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Third Annual Preserve Iowa Summit set for June 25-27 in Winterset *Register now for historic preservation sessions, activities and programs*

DES MOINES – Registration is now open for the third annual Preserve Iowa Summit June 25-27, 2015, in Winterset, where historic preservation professionals and volunteers will gather for a wide range of educational sessions, activities and programs.

Coordinated by the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs' (DCA) State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and the Madison County Historic Preservation Commission, the "2015 Preserve Iowa Summit: The Power of Preservation" is the premier statewide annual conference for historic preservation in Iowa. [Register](#) for the summit at www.madisoncountyhistory.net.

"Historic preservationists and other Iowans who want to learn more about projects and programs really should attend the Preserve Iowa Summit," said Steve King, the state deputy historic preservation officer. "The sessions are targeted to specific areas and we will be showcasing many historic preservation projects and other points of historical interest in Winterset and around Madison County. This will be an exciting event full of many activities and learning opportunities, so I encourage Iowans to register today and attend the summit."

The summit is designed to help Iowans discover, preserve and enhance their communities' unique history and sense of place, and the following people are encouraged to attend:

- Historic property owners
- Members of historic preservation commissions
- Main Street staff and board members
- Preservation professionals, consultants and enthusiasts
- Developers
- Planning professionals
- Local government officials
- Community leaders and civic organizations
- Architects
- Citizens interested in quality of life issues

This year's [keynote speakers](#) include Ed McMahon of the Urban Land Institute in Washington, D.C., Bonnie McDonald, president of Landmarks Illinois, and Underground Railroad authority Matthew Pinsker. Preserve Iowa will present its "Preservation at its Best" awards, and preservationists from across the state will share "Three-Minute Success Stories."

Attendees will have a busy [schedule](#) and the opportunity to discuss numerous topics, including:

- State and Federal Historic Preservation Tax Credits
- Historic preservation grant programs
- Rural cemeteries and preservation
- Rehabilitation of historic interiors
- Board and commission development
- The preservation of historic brick, stone and plaster

The conference will also feature an all-day Underground Railroad (UGRR) workshop with Pinsker discussing "Underground Railroad Reconsidered," sessions about on-line teaching and research, and a tour of the historic Hitchcock House with Lane Trail Thoughts by Floyd Pearce. Registration for this workshop is included as part of the summit. Individuals not attending the summit may register for the [UGRR workshop](#) separately.

In addition, attendees can enjoy several "parklets" on Winterset's Courthouse Square. These innovative temporary parks re-purpose parking spaces for seating, planting, art installations and conversation, and will be available for attendees to enjoy throughout the summit.

Attendees looking for some physical activity can join Rich Mills of the Madison County Bike Club and Leo Landis and Jess Rundlett of the State Historical Museum of Iowa on a 13-mile round-trip bicycle ride from the Cutler-Donahue Covered Bridge in Winterset's City Park to Pammel State Park. Bike helmets are required and riders will need to sign a waiver. Advance registration is required.

Other activities include the “Meet Me at Cedar Bridge” reception, where attendees can enjoy wine, hors d’oeuvres and live music while receiving a warm welcome from Winterset Mayor James Olson; a tour of the John Wayne Birthplace and Museum; a self-guided walking tour of Winterset gallery/studio spaces located in historically significant buildings; and a car caravan to Greenfield to see the recently rehabilitated E.E. Warren Opera House and the 1920 Hotel Greenfield.

During the summit, DCA staff will hold a State Nominations Review Committee Meeting to review nominations to the National Register of Historic Places. The committee will consider nominations for Winterset’s Courthouse Square, a post-World War II school in Cedar Rapids, Manning’s downtown and many other interesting Iowa properties. The committee meeting is free and open to the public.

The summit is supported by Preservation Iowa, Madison County, the City of Winterset, Madison County Development Group, Madison County Chamber of Commerce, Madison County Historical Society and the community of Winterset. It is funded in part with Federal funds from the National Park Service, U. S. Department of the Interior.

A special early bird registration is available until May 1 that offers a \$30 discount off the \$155 registration fee. Detailed information about the summit, sessions, speakers and registration is available at www.madisoncountyhistory.net.

For more information, contact Brenda Hollingsworth, Madison County Historic Preservation Commission, at madisoncountypreservation@gmail.com or Paula Mohr, DCA’s State Historic Preservation Office, at Paula.mohr@iowa.gov.

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The Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs is responsible for developing the state’s interest in the areas of the arts, history and other cultural matters with the advice and assistance from its three divisions: the State Historical Society of Iowa, the Iowa Arts Council, and Produce Iowa – State Office of Media Production. DCA preserves, researches, interprets and promotes an awareness and understanding of local, state and regional history and stimulates and encourages the study and presentation of the performing and fine arts and public interest and participation in them. It implements tourism-related art and history projects as directed by the General Assembly and designs a comprehensive, statewide, long-range plan with the assistance of the Iowa Arts Council to develop the arts in Iowa. More information about DCA is available at www.culturalaffairs.org.