Madam “Eliza Haycraft” to Highlight HCJ’s 2015 Annual Dinner Meeting

By Carolyn Bening

You really don’t want to miss the HCJ 2015 Dinner Meeting on Sunday, March 29 at McClung Park Pavilion, beginning at 4:30. We will celebrate several preservation honorees and HCJ volunteers who keep our organization on an even keel, elect officers and board members, and be entertained by a very successful Madam and Philanthropist from St. Louis.

The dinner entrees of Cornish hens and pork roast, catered by Quality Catering, will start off the meeting following the wine reception/social at 4:30. Invitations will be sent out mid-February to be returned by March 14 with checks of $25 for members or $30 for non-members.

Against the backdrop of a special slide show, HCJ’s Year of 2014 will be reviewed as well as the highlights and awards of HCJ 2015. Our own Jefferson City native and eminent preservationist, Robert L. Hawkins, III, now residing in Nashville, Tennessee, is returning to the Capital to accept the 2015 Preservation Pioneer Award. Bob saved the Marmaduke House, the old Penitentiary Warden’s Residence that had fallen into a severe state of disrepair, restoring it to one of the crown jewels of East Capitol Avenue.

The 2015 Volunteer of the Year Award will be presented to Laura Ward who took the helm of the Golden Hammer Award committee after long-time chair Deedie Bedosky moved to Atlanta. A former HCJ vice president, Laura also has served for the last three years as Web Master for the HCJ web site. A past Golden Hammer Award winner herself, she rounds out her schedule these days as a member of the City Council, representing the second ward.

Members will be asked to elect the nominated slate of officers: Tammy Boeschen for President; Kevin McHugh, Vice-President; Katherine Keil Owens, Secretary; and Sue Higgins, Treasurer.

Since several HCJ board members termed out, board nominations of Pam Taylor, Terri Rademan, and Tim Morrow will be voted on.

(Continued on page 2)
Excitement of the evening builds to the Keynote Speaker, Eliza Haycraft, one of St. Louis’s most notorious madams, but also one of its greatest philanthropists. The actor bringing Eliza to real life in her forty-five minute production from the Missouri History Museum is Elizabeth Pickard. Elizabeth will portray Eliza’s more polite adventures in the City of St. Louis during the pre- and post-Civil War era.

Eliza Haycraft is actually returning home, being born in Callaway County in 1820, but soon forced by the age of twenty into a life on the St. Louis streets, penniless and illiterate, but good-looking to provide for herself as a “lady of the night.” Eliza was fiscally clever to manage five working establishments by the end of the war, later diversifying into property investments. She left an estate valued at $30 million in today’s market, leaving most to her sisters but stipulating the inheritance be “free from interference” from husbands.

However, Eliza Haycraft was not famous for her successful ventures but for her well-known generosity to the city’s poor, at a time when the government provided no security. The Rev. John Linn of the Centenary Methodist Church presided at her funeral, held at her home; heaven forbid it be held in the church for a “fallen woman.” Linn spoke of her “generous impulses”: she “gave largely, gave always to the poor, to the widow, to the orphan—to all that asked and needed her charities.”

The Bellefontaine Cemetery trustees finally relented to sell Eliza a plot, prior to her death, but it would be unmarked. Many years later, a marker of sorts was placed on her grave—“Civil War 27” to mark the cemetery’s Civil War public tour!

But Who is Elizabeth Pickard, the Woman behind the Madam?

Elizabeth Pickard wears many hats as director, producer, and actor of interpretive programs for the Missouri History Museum. In 2007 Pickard founded “Teens Make History,” the ground-breaking work-place learning program that was honored in November, 2014 at a White House ceremony for the 2014 National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award. The community-based program was one of twelve after-school programs chosen from across the country for the prestigious honor, each receiving $10,000 and a year of communications and support from the President’s Committee on the Arts and the Humanities. A creative youth development program, “Teens Make History” was recognized for using engagement in the arts and the humanities to increase academic achievement, graduation rates, and college enrollment. In addition, Pickard teaches theatrical writing and acting. She believes in “putting the people in museum interpretation, one program at a time. It’s all about the stories.”

Be sure to mark calendars for **March 29** and send in your reservation and check by **March 14th** to hear the stories—all the stories—of our Historic City of Jefferson for 2015. Log on to [www.historiccityofjefferson.org](http://www.historiccityofjefferson.org) for more information.

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**Position Available**

**Administration Assistant** - Part-time support staff for the HCJ organization. Previous experience working in an office environment is preferred. Knowledge of Microsoft Office including Excel is required. Schedule would be flexible, averaging 8 hours week - actual number of weekly hours will depend on the activities of the organization at the time. Duties include data entry, correspondence, filing, and other clerical tasks. Must be reliable, detailed, and able to work independently. Wage: $10/hour. If interested, please email your cover letter and resume to HCJprez@gmail.com, or send to Historic City of Jefferson, P.O. Box 105056, Jefferson City, MO 65110.
EER Students Display their Research Skills at HCJ Christmas Program

What better way to raise public awareness of Jefferson City’s architectural and cultural history than to start with our school children? HCJ members and former teacher Janet Maurer with Marilynn Medley brought their interest in education and historic preservation together for a Living Landmark Christmas reception at McClung Park Pavilion December 16. The result was 32 reports on local Jefferson City landmarks from 64 students from area public and parochial elementary schools. It was an impressive display of talent among our youth.

The students are part of the Jefferson City Public Schools EER program (Enrich, Explore, Research) under the direction of EER teacher Ruthie Caplinger. The projects involved researching their landmark, taking pictures, and putting all of this information into a display. Thirty-two displays were set up for viewing.

Many thanks to all these students, Ruthie Caplinger, and to the Jefferson City High School string quartet that provided music.

Dear Community Member:

Working with community members who remember their contributions during World War II, on the Home Front or as soldiers, our EER students will conduct interviews that will be recorded and edited into iMovies to preserve memories of the war years. The intent of this project is for students to gain an appreciation for the courage and sacrifice made to win the “Good War,” and to contribute to the preservation of history using technology, both new and old.

If you are interested in telling the story of your life during World War II, we’d like to hear from you. Because we are working with the Churchill Museum in Fulton, Missouri, we are especially interested in interviewing those who remember when Truman and Churchill came through town on their way to Fulton, Missouri for the famous “Iron Curtain Speech” on March 16, 1946. However, if that event isn’t part of your past, don’t let that deter you from participating! All interviews will be recorded using audio and video.

If you are interested in participating in this project, please contact me by email at ruthie.caplinger@jcschools.us.

Thanks for considering! Sincerely, Ruthie Caplinger EER Teacher
In 2014 the Historic City of Jefferson (HCJ) devoted four articles in our quarterly newsletters to the problem of abandoned properties in Jefferson City. The articles may be viewed on the HCJ website under “2014 Newsletters” tab: www.historiccityofjefferson.org. At this time we can report the following results:

1. On 10/6/2014 City Council passed Resolution #RS2014-21:

   NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the City Council of the City of Jefferson, Missouri does hereby declare correcting code violations and nuisances to be a high priority of this Council.

   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council encourages staff to utilize all tools provided to City staff, through existing ordinances, and to utilize a progressive enforcement methodology in order to affirmatively and proactively address neighborhood code enforcement issues.

2. On 12/4/2014 the City filed a lawsuit against Barbara Buescher to recover the costs of abating problems on her properties. As of 1/15/2015 this petition had not been served on Mrs. Buescher.

   I am encouraged. The 10/6/2014 resolution was a good step, as was filing a lawsuit against someone who owns twenty-one properties on the city’s abandoned property list. But I am not that encouraged.

   After pointing out the inequity of this city-wide issue, the problem in deteriorating neighborhoods still exists, including the monetary loss to the city in tax dollars; decreased property values in areas with many abandoned properties; and increased neighborhood crime. I believe more proactive action is necessary.

   We are not the only city in America facing this problem. One of the HCJ newsletter articles provided information about what other communities are doing. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and Paducah, Kentucky, for example, have seen results with the city-sponsored tools that they have used. Revitalization of formerly blighted neighborhoods has resulted from these cities’ passing of ordinances that make it economically unfeasible for an owner to allow property to become blighted.

   Here in Jefferson City, however, we have wasted years taking a wait-and-see, slow, ineffective approach.

   To affect change, Jefferson City must pass and then enforce more aggressive ordinances to deal with the blight and decay in our city’s inner core. We are not going to see any change if we don’t radically alter how we deal with this problem. Change, however, can be difficult. Truthfully, our city council and Mayor are not going to pass and enforce the necessary ordinances unless they are assured that the community fully supports their actions.

   So it is time for you, the members of HCJ and others interested in this issue, to bring about change. If you have not contacted your council representative, now is the time to do so. If you have contacted city council members, contact them again. Let them know how you feel about the abandoned property problem in Jefferson City. Let them know that you want the historic buildings undergoing demolition-by-neglect to be saved. Let them know that you are aware that their decisions and actions will make many in this community angry, but that you will support the city council as they make the necessary changes.

   And please tell your elected council representative that demolishing nineteen buildings on Capitol Avenue is not an option. Now is the time to save the Capitol Avenue neighborhood, as well as Old Munichburg, the Southside, the Eastside, the Central Eastside neighborhood, West Main, and the other neighborhoods and streets that are dealing with buildings on the abandoned property registry, or those structures that should be listed. Now is the time for you to make your voices heard. Contact your city council. Speak up. Be the squeaky wheel.

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**Abandoned Buildings: Old Town at Risk**

**NOW IT’S UP TO YOU!**

By Cathy Bordner

“So it is time for you, the members of HCJ ....to bring about change.... Be the squeaky wheel.”
CONTACT YOUR CITY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

Your Voice Makes a Difference!

The City of Jefferson Government web site makes it easy to send an email to your council representative. Phone numbers are provided below but to access them by email, go to:
http://www.jeffcitymo.org/council/contactamember.html
Select the link below their photo “email councilman…….”

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This Place Matters

A new feature to highlight endangered historical properties.

Ivy Terrace at 500 East Capitol Avenue, epitomizes the finest in architectural history of our capital city. As part of the Capitol Avenue Historic District, she proudly attests to her unique stature as one of the most intact and representative examples of the Queen Anne style in the city. Designed in 1893 by local architect Charles Opel, the 2 ½-story house remains substantially unaltered from when it was lived in by State Treasurer and later Governor Lawrence Stephens.

Probably its most significant characteristics are its rounded open-air tower; wrap-around porch with stately entrances; high, irregular roofline; fish-scale shingles, and asymmetrical façade. The interior retains original ornamental fireplaces, sliding doors, trimmed windows with stained glass inserts, as well as the entry’s grand staircase with spindlework balustrades.

This historically significant 19th century property is mostly intact, although an upstairs window has been boarded over and some of the ornamental columns are in need of serious attention. In 2014, this building was listed on the City’s registry of abandoned buildings. Ivy Terrace could be, and should be, one of the crown jewels of East Capitol Avenue.

This Place Matters!
Jefferson City’s Lafayette Street:

Corridor of Social Conscience

By Toni Prawl

Just a few months ago, the name of one of Jefferson City’s most historic streets was threatened for a second time in the past fifteen years. In 2000, the NAACP proposed changing Lafayette Street to “Martin Luther King Avenue” and in 2014, Lincoln University petitioned to rebrand a portion of it “University Avenue.” With its identity and future in jeopardy, Lafayette Street advocates paused to reflect on its meaning and took actions to defend its historic name. More than just an address, Lafayette Street represents a place, a community, and a dynamic corridor of social conscience. Home to some of our most noteworthy landmarks, from the Missouri State Prison to Jefferson City High School, Lafayette Street has played and continues to play an important role in the city. The street has historical and cultural value for its established location as well as the events, people, properties, and information associated with it over the past 178 years.

When one thinks of the variety and type of places along Lafayette Street, a surprising conclusion may be reached. Besides the eclectic concentration of historic properties that dot the street, a number are institutions that share an inconspicuous characteristic—their ability to stir social consciousness. They were established at different periods spanning nearly two centuries and functioning to promote justice in our society: a federal courthouse to determine justice; a state penitentiary to serve justice; businesses to welcome customers rejected elsewhere; an institution of higher learning to teach those previously denied an education; and a public high school to accommodate the city’s ever-growing student population. The corridor, like a sentinel, has witnessed much.

Street’s Namesake

Lafayette Street, one of the oldest streets in the city, is located within the area known as “Old Town,” described as the “historic core and ‘heart’ of Jefferson City.” The name of Lafayette Street was established in 1836 by Council Ordinance. A city map dated 1849 reveals that Lafayette was one of only twenty-seven named streets in existence at that time. Like nearby Marshall, Jackson, Adams, Monroe, Madison, and Washington streets, Lafayette was among the first streets in the city named for notable leaders of national significance, reflecting the city fathers’ respect for our country’s early history and heritage. Lafayette Street was named just two years after the death of Marie-Joseph-Paul Yves Roch Gilbert du Motier, marquis de Lafayette (1757-1834). The celebrated French statesman, soldier, and general served under George Washington, aiding American colonists in their fight for independence. Congress recognized his vital contribution to the war and the young country by compensating him with $200,000 and land in Florida. Besides the close bond he shared with Thomas Jefferson, the capital city’s namesake, Lafayette also was a friend to Monroe and Madison for fifty years and was granted United States citizenship. He achieved international fame for his military career and is appropriately regarded “a hero of two worlds.” Upon Lafayette’s death, President Jackson set a time of national mourning and John Quincy Adams delivered a three-hour eulogy before both houses of Congress. At his request, Lafayette was buried with American soil in Paris.

A painting of U.S. General (and Missouri native son) John J. Pershing honoring Lafayette’s tomb during World War I decorates the Missouri State Capitol. It recognizes the United States’ debt to Lafayette for his Revolutionary War aid, and in return, the United States’ devotion and support to France as a World War I ally. The depicted event was part of a celebratory parade with the procession of American troops through the streets of Paris, terminating at Lafayette’s final resting place at Picpus Cemetery where the words “Lafayette, we are here!” were proclaimed. The date was July 4, 1917—ninety-seven years ago and eighty-three years after Lafayette’s death. To this day, 180 years following Lafayette’s death, a new United States flag is ceremoniously placed on his tomb every Fourth of July.

Lafayette’s likeness is found in at least two mediums at Jefferson’s home, Monticello: a bust in the Tea Room and a painting in the Parlor. Jefferson ordered the bust of Lafayette in 1789 and referred to the Tea Room as his “most honorable suite” where he displayed the busts of friends and American heroes, including Benjamin Franklin, John Paul Jones, and Washington, all in the company of Lafayette. Like the persona of Lafayette within Monticello’s “gallery of worthies,” Lafayette Street resonates within the City of Jefferson.

In 1824, when the marquis was the sole surviving major general of the Revolutionary War, President James Monroe and Congress invited him to visit the United States and...
embark on a two-year tour of the country. From July 1824 to September 1825, Lafayette traveled more than six-thousand miles by stagecoach, horseback, canal barge, and steamboat, making a tour of all twenty-four of the American states, celebrating the nation's 50th anniversary and infusing 'l'esprit de 1776' among the younger generation. His reception was overwhelming, “rivaling the frenzy of audiences at music concerts today.” Lafayette’s personal secretary described their river voyage to St. Louis aboard The Natchez, attended by jubilant citizens on a companion ship, The Plough Boy. Upon their encounter, “… the Nation’s Guest was saluted by a triple cheer that made the forests of Missouri echo with Welcome Lafayette.” The celebration continued at the scene of the General’s arrival in St. Louis on April 29, 1825, where “the riverbank was covered by the entire population, who answered by their shouts of joy the clamorous greeting of the artillery of our two ships.”

While Lafayette was wildly popular, some of his views were less readily adopted. His ideas of democracy for all included promoting the emancipation of slaves in the United States. In a letter to Jefferson, he referred to “Negro slavery” as a “wide blot on American philanthropy.” An example of the marquis as “one of the best exponents of genuine democracy that our country has known” involves a patriotic Virginia slave named only James. The marquis and James were affiliated through their military service in 1781. James, seeking the consent of his master, participated in the Revolutionary War as Lafayette’s spy and became known as the first United States double agent. In respect and admiration for the marquis, the spy adopted his last name to honor him. Among his many accomplishments, James Lafayette gained his freedom from the legislature in 1819. During his triumphal tour of America in 1824-1825, the marquis recognized James in Richmond, Virginia, and embraced him. Thus, Lafayette Street bears the name of not one, but two historical figures.
Lafayette Street as Transportation Corridor
The street serves as a north-south axis, presently linking ten east-west trending streets (alleys excluded): State, Capitol, High, McCarty, Miller, E. Elm, E. Dunklin, Roland, Franklin, and Stadium. Ashley and Atchison do not connect from the west to Lafayette Street, although house numbers change from the 700 through 900 addresses where the streets would intersect if they were extended to Lafayette; a park is located at the rear of these houses. Maps of the city show that Atchison once intersected with Lafayette Street and continued east; however, its former connection to Lafayette Street has been severed.

Lafayette Street has been shortened and extended at various times. The 1849 plat shows city streets and numbered in-lots within the city. This map identifies Lafayette Street as a north-south alignment extending eight blocks from Edwards Street bordering the river, south to Dunklin Street. The most northern block is a partial block, from Edwards Street, or the northern edge of the prison grounds backed by the river, to Hough Street. From there south, the blocks continue as full, not partial, blocks and are marked by the seven intersecting streets as they are today, although the names of two have changed. Water Street became State Street and Main Street is Capitol Avenue. The northern two blocks and majority of the third block to State Street were eventually enclosed within the prison walls, but the street was rebuilt north of State Street after the prison closed, with redevelopment of the site for the Federal Courthouse. The 1849 map reveals that the city’s east and south corporation lines were only a few more blocks beyond Lafayette and Dunklin Streets. Linn Street, one block east of Chestnut and two blocks east of Lafayette, was the eastern corporation line and Atchison Street, one block south of Dunklin Street, was the southern limit. Although Atchison Street is identified on the 1849 map, there are no numbered in-lots for the blocks between Jackson and Chestnut Streets from Dunklin to Atchison.

The blocks south of Franklin Street have a contrasting “rural” history when compared to the urban blocks to the north. Before 1946, Lafayette Street ended at the present junction of Franklin Street. Prior to World War II, the area south of Franklin Street was used for farming. South of Franklin, on the east side of the street where Lincoln’s football field is now located, the property was privately owned. There were two ten-acre parcels stretching south from Franklin and east to Chestnut Street owned by twin brothers Gus and Robert Michael. Gus’s parcel was the northern one; Robert owned the tract to the south. These combined twenty acres supported a truck farm where wholesale produce was grown and marketed to local grocery stores, along with some out-of-state shipments. When brothers Paul and Otto Michael took over the gardens from their father Robert, the modernization of irrigation and greenhouse food processing began. 11

During the pre-1946 era, the property southwest of the present intersection of Franklin and Lafayette Streets also was used for agriculture. A Mrs. Neutzler owned the property where, with assistance from her son, she operated a dairy farm and managed a milk delivery route. 12 In 1959, the Route 50/63/Whitton Expressway was constructed over Lafayette Street between Elm and Miller Streets, in the middle of the 500 block, intersecting the street’s north/south axis and the neighborhood rooted within it.
Lafayette Street Places

The oldest part of Lafayette Street is its northern end where numerous historic properties are located. They are listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) either as individual properties or as part of a historic district. Twelve addresses for properties on Lafayette Street are contributing resources to the Capitol Avenue (NRHP) Historic District: 100, 102, 104, 106, 108, 110 A&B, 210, 212, 214, 211, and 215 Lafayette Street; and 623 East Capitol Avenue at the northwest corner of Lafayette and Capitol Avenue. Another three neighboring properties are individually listed in the NRHP as well as being designated Local Landmarks by the City of Jefferson Historic Preservation Commission: Lester S. and Missouri “Zue” Gorden Parker House, 624 East Capitol Avenue; Missouri State Penitentiary Warden’s (Col. Darwin W. Marmaduke) House, 700 Capitol; and East End Drugs, 630 East High.¹³

Although the Missouri State Penitentiary is not listed in the NRHP, it is undoubtedly one of the most historically and architecturally significant properties in the city, if not state. And while it does not have a Lafayette Street address, adjacent Lincoln University is another property listed in the NRHP. Stories of some of these places are recorded in previous publications such as the Historic City of Jefferson newsletters and historian Gary Kremer’s Exploring Jefferson City; yet there is more to document. Besides historic properties, the street is home to other places of interest in our town, which all add to its character and identity. The street is not about just one or two of these places, but rather the collective whole and what they all represent. Listed below are a few noteworthy Lafayette Street places:

Block north of State Street

The federal Christopher S. Bond U.S. Courthouse, built 2008-2011 at a cost of $67.7 million, is located on the northwest corner of Lafayette and State Streets with a masonry wall that bears the address “80 Lafayette Street.” Its site is comprised of eight acres of land once part of the neighboring state prison.¹⁴

Former Missouri State Penitentiary+ (also known as the Jefferson City Correctional Center), 115 Lafayette. In 1831, Missouri Governor John Miller suggested a prison be built in Jefferson City to ensure the city remain the seat of Missouri government. Within two years, the Missouri House of Representatives passed a bill to establish and build the state penitentiary in Jefferson City. Construction on the first prison west of the Mississippi began in 1834, opening in 1836. By 1932, it was the largest prison in the United States with 5,200 inmates. In 1954, prisoner riots over living conditions caused $3-5 million damage, making national headlines; however, no prisoners escaped. By the time it closed in 2004, the penitentiary had served Missouri as the oldest prison west of the Mississippi River for over 168 years. Today, it is one of the largest heritage tourism attractions in the city; in 2012, more than 19,000 people from twenty-three countries visited the former prison.¹⁵

100 Block, State Street to Capitol Avenue

* Dix Apartments+, northwest corner of Lafayette and Capitol Avenue at 623 Capitol

200 Block, Capitol Avenue to E. High Street

** Missouri State Penitentiary Warden’s House+ (Col. Darwin W. Marmaduke House), 700 Capitol, designated one of the city’s first of five Local Landmarks in 1993

*** Lester S. and Missouri “Zue” Gorden Parker House+, 624 East Capitol Avenue

* Henry and Theresa Asel House+, 210 Lafayette Street

300 Block, E. High Street to E. McCarty Street

** East End Drugs+, 630 East High

400 Block, E. McCarty to School Street

Quinn Chapel, 415 Lafayette

500-600 Block, E. Miller to Dunklin

The “Foot,” at the base of the hill leading to Lincoln University, has been the site of an early and important African American community in our city for more than a century. The multiple-block area was once a thriving neighborhood with many buildings; only one remains standing at 500 Lafayette, the former office of Dr. William Ross, a black physician and surgeon. Considered historical in its own right, a black presence allegedly existed in this locale prior to Lincoln’s establishment and may have influenced the development of the university in this vicinity. A victim of urban renewal and highway improvements, this area within the “Foot” no longer bears architectural wit-
nesses, but rather is considered eligible for the NRHP as an archaeological historic district. During the late nineteenth and the mid-twentieth century, the “Foot” was the heart and soul of the black community, primarily because of segregation practices and racism that denied African Americans choices as consumers and citizens. Frankly, as some will admit, blacks were relegated to this part of town because they were not welcomed elsewhere. As a result, this business district and residential neighborhood is where African Americans from all walks of life lived and worked and visited in Jefferson City. It was home to the self-proclaimed “Color Boys,” famous Lincoln professors, Lorenzo Greene and Cecil Blue, and inspired professor Sterling Brown’s poetry. Local Renaissance man, barber, and artist, Ulysses S. Grant Tayes was influenced by the colorful setting and characters of the “Foot.” Their houses and that of businessmen and other community leaders--such as Duke Digs and his wife, Estella--are all gone now, along with the Booker T. Washington Hotel, the “greasy spoon,” and the Green Onion. The “Foot” was the neighborhood of numerous families, men and women--ordinary people--and even an occasional celebrity guest, pursuing their daily lives and dreams on Lafayette Street.

The business establishments in the “Foot” were not only important to the locals, but also assisted numerous travelers. A mid-century guide published to help African American travelers find accommodating businesses includes several listings for Jefferson City, nearly all of them located in the “Foot.” The Negro Motorist Green Book, first published in 1936, explains its purpose to inform the Negro traveler to help “keep him from running into difficulties, embarrassments, and make his trips more enjoyable.” Places that offered lodging, dining, fuel and other conveniences and comforts that travelers needed could be found by state and city listing. The 1946 edition identifies fifteen businesses in Jefferson City that welcomed black patrons, all but two located either on Lafayette Street or within three blocks east or west. The majority of seven had Lafayette Street addresses or were at corners of streets intersecting with Lafayette: two restaurants (De Luxe at 601 Lafayette and University Restaurant at Lafayette and Dunklin Streets); a barber shop (Tayes at Elm and Lafayette Streets); beauty parlor (Poro at 818 Lafayette Street); tavern (Tops at 626 Lafayette); night club (Subway at 600 Lafayette); and a taxi-cab business (Veteran at 515 Lafayette). In 1940, Jefferson City’s population totaled approximately 24,270. In contrast to towns with larger populations such as St. Joseph (population 75,711 with one Green Book listing) or Springfield (population 61,238 with one Green Book listing), Jefferson City had a high number of businesses that received black customers with the majority concentrated in the “Foot” on Lafayette Street. Even similar-sized towns were not comparable. For example, Sedalia (population 20,428) had three Green Book listings, while Hannibal (population 20,865) had one. While their proximity to Lincoln University certainly contributed to businesses’ prosperity, the business owners’ and operators’ descendants recognize it was the established black community that attracted and helped sustain the University. For example, Glover Brown, whose parents had a restaurant on Lafayette for four decades, commented, “I’ve heard it said that Lincoln University is an anchor in this community, but I must point out the black community was here long before Lincoln University existed.”

Despite the number and popularity of these businesses successfully operating during the mid-century, governmental...
policy makers who viewed the area as a slum implemented the Campus View Urban Renewal Project shortly after the construction of the expressway. These projects removed the heart of the “Foot,” dissecting the vibrant community beginning in the late 1950s and continuing through the early 1960s. Those buildings in the 500 block that survived these earlier projects to the present day are now casualties (with one exception) of the current expressway/Lafayette Street interchange project (2014-2016). The historic built environment of the “Foot” neighborhood has mostly perished; the archaeological site that must convey its significance is only a remnant of more than a century of valuable black culture in Jefferson City.

**Second Christian Church, Disciples of Christ**, 631 Lafayette, one of two churches bordering Lafayette Street, located at the northeast corner of Lafayette and Dunklin Streets; the cornerstone of the church is dated 1903-1950.

**700-1000 Block, Dunklin to Franklin**
**Lincoln University+** traces its rich heritage to 1866, the year following the Civil War, when soldiers and officers of the 62nd and 65th United States Colored Infantry donated $6,400 to establish a school for freed African Americans. Established as Lincoln Institute, a private school, it began receiving state aid in 1870. Before the Civil War, educating blacks, free or slave, was prohibited by Missouri state law. To aid this reform, “Jefferson City was chosen as the site for the school because it was thought that the capital city would be more receptive to black education than other areas of the state.” Lafayette Street originated before the school's inception and existed independently of Lincoln University. The University emerged one block east of Lafayette but its buildings did not border Lafayette Street until later years with the western development of the campus. The address for Lincoln University is not Lafayette Street, but rather Chestnut Street. A portion of the campus along Chestnut Street was listed in the NRHP in 1983, with a historic district boundary expansion in 2002. It focused on buildings bordering Chestnut; this historic district does not extend to Lafayette Street.

**Chestnut Street Greenway Trail** between the 800 and 900 blocks of Lafayette Street ties into the city’s recreational greenway system.

**Lafayette Street Residences.** Approximately twenty-three houses on the west side of Lafayette Street face the campus and give this portion of the street its residential quality. They represent a variety of architectural...
styles, types, and periods—American Foursquare, Craftsman, and Tudor Revivals of the early 20th century and Cape Cod, Ranch, and Contemporary houses indicative of the mid-century.

Franklin to Stadium

Jefferson City High School’s address is 609 Union; however, its eastern grounds abut Lafayette Street. It opened January 22, 1964.

Besides the lives associated with the buildings, complexes, and neighborhoods that border blocks of Lafayette, the street as a structure itself has held events such as demonstrations, street fairs, marches, and parades; in addition, civil rights activists and protestors have used it as a free speech corridor. Lafayette has traditionally hosted both the Lincoln University Homecoming and the Jefferson City Jaycees Christmas parades, 2015 marking the 75th anniversary of the latter. The new interchange scheduled for completion in 2016 will force the Lincoln parade to find a different route.

Demonstrably, for the past 178 years, Lafayette Street has expressed prominent social values. From the prison riots to the parades, the places, individuals, and activities associated with Lafayette Street reveal lifestyles, ideas, tastes, and attitudes of the day. Combined with its wide variety and age of resources—historical, judicial, penal, residential, commercial, ecclesiastical, educational, recreational—is there any other street like it in Jefferson City? This place truly matters. It has meaning to the community past and present, and its name should live on. With much of the physical fabric to its tangible past already ravaged (namely the “Foot”), it is even more critical to guard the street’s name so its places and events are clearly linked and known. Striking its name would erode, if not erase, these historical connections, endangering the beloved “sense of place” it evokes among its supporters while hindering discovery among those unaware. As long as our town is known as the City of Jefferson, may it forever remain Lafayette Street.

A MAP OF THE FOOT IS PROVIDED ON PAGE 13
The Foot

DISCLAIMER: This map is incomplete, and is an estimate of what businesses were in the “Foot” and where they were located prior to 1960. Research for the preparation of this map could not be completed prior to publication and is on-going. Two of the below listed eighteen buildings are still standing. *

500 Lafayette  Physician’s office, Dr. William Ross*
504 “ Home of Professors Cecil Blue and Lorenzo Greene (the “Monastery”) in the 1930s.
515 “ Veteran Taxi Service
526 “ Duke & Estella Diggs residence and Moving Co
530 “ Pat’s Shine Shop
535 “ Quinn Chapel
536 “ Tayes Barber Shop
600 “ Subway Night Club
601 “ De Luxe Restaurant/ Leona’s Café (both of these are listed for 601 in different sources)
602 “ Booker T. Hotel
603 “ Jack King Drug Store
610 “ Do It Yourself Laundry
626 “ Tops Tavern and Bar BQ
629 “ Acme Cleaners
631 “ 2nd Christian Church (rebuilt and relocated, now around corner at 703 E. Dunklin?)
636 “ University Restaurant
608 E. Dunklin  Community Center (a Local Landmark)*
628 E. Dunklin  Wingy’s Liquor Store

Left: Wingy’s Liquor Store, Johnson’s Barber Shop, pool hall, restaurant, and upstairs apartments at 628 E. Dunklin, southwest corner of Dunklin and Lafayette. Lincoln University campus can be seen to the right, taken from west.

Right: A photo of Wingy’s taken from the east side.
Why did you join HCJ?

I have always been interested in historic preservation and I like being around people with the same interests. I feel like this organization is good for the community, which I care deeply about. This is my favorite organization because we are doing something good, but we enjoy it at the same time.

What do you like best about being a member of HCJ?

I feel like I am doing something for my community and again it is good to be with people who have the same interests. I enjoy learning and I feel like I have learned a lot from the organization.

Do you have a favorite HCJ program or activity?

The Homes Tour, although it has been several years since our house was a part of it, I still have people come up to me and say they have been in our house and enjoyed it. I also enjoyed helping in other homes.

Do you think we have made progress in Jefferson City on historic preservation?

No doubt—a great deal. Making the general public aware that we have a great deal to be proud of in this community and many structures of historical significance.

If someone asked you the benefits of HCJ membership, what would you say?

I seem to be repeating myself, but meeting good people of like interests and enriching my community. I like being of service to Jefferson City through HCJ.

What one thing might HCJ members be surprised to learn about you?

I am really tall and thin, what you see is a disguise. :-)

Getting to Know You

Bob Herman

Why did you join HCJ?

Being a native of Jefferson City, I have seen too many historic buildings torn down and I want to be a part of an organization that can help stop this. I was on the city's historic commission when our dear friend Mary Ann Caplinger was chairman and then became a member of HCJ.

What do you like best about being a member of HCJ?

Being with people that have the same feelings and interests that I do.

Do you have a favorite HCJ program or activity?

The Golden Hammer Awards because it rewards those who help improve their neighborhood.

Do you think we have made progress in Jefferson City on historic preservation?

Yes, by educating the citizens and especially the City Council on what needs to be done to preserve our history.

If someone asked you the benefits of HCJ membership, what would you say?

It gathers good people of like minds together to accomplish the mission of the organization.

What one thing might HCJ members be surprised to learn about you?

I received my ROTC commission when I was graduated from Missouri University and went on to command an artillery unit in Jefferson City after two years of active duty. Twenty-one years later, I retired with the rank of Major.

Reminder: Dues are Due

Please pay your dues for 2015 by mail or online through our website! Thank you.
Congratulations to Sam Bushman

We are happy to extend congratulations to HCJ member Sam Bushman on his recent election to the position of Presiding Commissioner of Cole County. He now presides on this three-person commission with Kris Scheperle and Jeff Hoelscher. Mr. Bushman has been an HCJ member for seven years and served on the Board of Directors for six years.

"I am very honored to be serving the citizens of Cole County as Presiding Commissioner. I was born and raised here, and I love Jefferson City and Cole County."

We wish him the best as he and the other commissioners tackle the coming challenges of dealing with the vacant Old County Jail, the former St. Mary’s Health Center, and the Carnegie Building.

Wheels In Motion for Review of Historic Preservation Ordinance

The wheels are in motion for consideration of a new historic preservation ordinance for Jefferson City, with research and development of concepts for strengthening preservation efforts put forth by the Historic City of Jefferson.

HCJ engaged the services of local attorney Paul Graham last fall in an effort to stop demolition of the old county jail and sheriff’s residence. As tactics were reviewed for that battle, the organization came to realize that one of the major problems was a lack of tools to halt demolition of a truly historic structure. The City’s Historic Preservation Commission has the power to review demolition applications, but it can only review and comment on them; it cannot deny an application. The HCJ board of directors decided to turn its attention to researching more effective ways for the community to deal with the demolition of historic buildings.

Saving city staff many hours of research and writing on the topic, a draft ordinance has been developed and placed before the City’s Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) for consideration. The HPC held a hearing on it in January and is weighing the pros and cons of a stronger ordinance.

Steve Veile, president of HCJ, plans to convene a “summit meeting” of stakeholders including HCJ, the HP Commission, Old Town Redevelopment Co., and other parties to further consider options that might yield a more effective historic preservation ordinance and be supported by all. Results of that meeting will be forwarded on to the City Council, which would ultimately have to pass any new ordinance on the subject.

TLP members enjoy Holiday Reception at “Veile Villa”

Thomas Lawson Price members were treated to a very special Christmas reception at “Veile Villa,” home of HCJ President Steve Veile and wife Kay. The manger in the above photo was handmade by Kay’s grandfather. Below is the foyer of their Italianate “Villa” on Adams Street built in 1925.

Wheels In Motion for Review of Historic Preservation Ordinance
SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday, March 29, 2015
Historic City of Jefferson Annual Dinner Meeting
4:30 PM
McClung Park Pavilion

Meet the “Madam” of Callaway County!

Looking back Moving forward

Web Master—Laura Ward Social Media—Terri Rademan
Newsletter Editor—Jenny Smith HCJ Foundation—Nicholas M. Monaco
Golden Hammer Awards—Laura Ward Oral History—Janet Maurer

OUR MISSION STATEMENT
To proactively preserve our historic resources and create an environment that makes preservation a central focus for the future development in the City of Jefferson.

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