On February 28, 2019, the Historic City of Jefferson (HCJ) completed purchase of the Tweedie House at 601 E. High Street from Cole County Residential Services. After 36 years as an organization, this marked a new chapter in HCJ’s history. Having rented a historic building at 108 W. Atchison Street from the DeLong family for a number of years, HCJ was ready for a larger home of its own.

HCJ will use the historic house for its headquarters, with office space and a resource library as the first planned uses. In the future, space in the house will be used for climate controlled storage of the Schreiber Collection, the St. Mary’s Time Capsule and other collections acquired by HCJ; general storage; Public Education Sessions, the Oral History Project, and a possible architectural salvage project.

The house is of historical significance, located in a highly visible part of the community, and has a conference room large enough for the entire HCJ Board of Directors to meet each month—three of the primary criteria during the search for a new location. It offers the added benefit of an adjoining rental property with 4,400 square feet of commercial space.

The upper floor of the commercial addition will be rented to businesses. Income from rentals will cover costs of operating the building and assist with HCJ’s staffing expenses. Negotiations with a prospective tenant are currently underway. The lower floor is currently being used for board and committee meetings, as it is easily accessible and already set up for this purpose. There are accessible restrooms and a small kitchen, making the downstairs suitable for possible rental for parties, such as bridal or baby showers, for 25 to 40 people.

The Property Management Committee, led by Holly Stitt, will be managing all of HCJ’s real estate, including changes needed at the Tweedie House to suit our uses, leasing the space in the addition, and routine maintenance. The committee has met several times, with good attendance from members and board members alike. There are several subcommittees on which you can serve if you are interested in helping.

Before purchasing the house, HCJ had a home inspector prepare a report. One item mentioned was needed roof repairs on the addition. We received a bid for this work last winter, and the contractor has been asked to begin making the necessary repairs.

A work day was held April 22nd, to prepare the front room and entryway for use by HCJ. Cleaning, patching and yard work may seem like never ending tasks, but our members got a good start on it this day.

April 28 was move-in day, when all of our files, furniture and equipment was moved from 108 W. Atchison to the Tweedie House. We coordinated with Mission JC and were assisted by several student athletes from Lincoln University as well as a number of HCJ members. The move was completed by noon. We only have a bit of cleanup remaining at Atchison St. before we finish this chapter in our organization’s history.
Wow! It’s only been three months since the installation of new officers and board members at our annual meeting and we have been so busy!

We are making great strides in our rehabs and will be holding an open house and ribbon cutting at the Caretakers Cottage shortly. With the help of local contractors, we will have the Dunklin Street home ready for sale in the next couple months.

We’ve moved our offices into the Tweedie House and obtained a long-term commitment for the commercial annex as well as re-working the entire complex for developing our resource library and architectural salvage projects.

Still to come this year is a member daytrip that will give our members a “behind-the-scenes” glance at local historical research resources, another Taste of History Fundraising Event, our 2019 HCJ Homes Tour this fall and upcoming member educational sessions. These projects and programs would not be possible without your participation! I really want to thank everyone who has already stepped up and participated as well as thank those who will be participating as we progress over the next few months.

We really want this to be a team effort and to keep all of our members informed about upcoming projects. To that end, you will be receiving a monthly update each Friday following our board meeting from our Executive Director, Anne Green. Please let us know your input on any of the information and any ideas that you may have to make HCJ better.

I look forward to the next two years and everything that we can accomplish to “Look Back” at where we’ve come from and “Move Forward” to the future.

- Donna Deetz
The Tweedie Family

By Jane Beetem

Now that the Historic City of Jefferson has purchased the Tweedie House at 601 E. High Street, we wanted to learn more about the family. Who were the Tweedies, and why were they important in Jefferson City history? We’ll reveal the stories of several generations of Tweedie family members in a series of short articles.

The Tweedie family was active in the shoe industry in Jefferson City for four generations. The family’s connection to the city started 145 years ago, when John Tweedie, Sr. arrived to manage a new shoe factory inside the Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP). John Tweedie was born in 1838 in Scotland, where he learned the multi-generational trade of shoemaking from his father. John Tweedie immigrated to the United States in 1856 at age 18 after his father died. He enlisted in the Union army, where he served from February 1864 to February 1867, serving from the Battle of Bull Run through Sherman’s March to the Sea.

After the war ended, he constructed national cemeteries for the federal government, and was also involved in the construction of schools for blacks in Georgia. He was married May 1, 1867, to Anna De Beruff whose father was a French artist.

In 1869, Tweedie moved to St. Louis to become foreman of the Cochran and Linden Shoe Company, then joined the A. Priesmeyer Shoe Company as a foreman in 1872. He moved to Jefferson City in 1874 – with secretary and treasurer of the Priesmeyer Shoe Company, Henry F. Priesmeyer – to manage a new factory inside the prison.

In the 1870s, the state was trying new efforts to make MSP self-supporting. The state constructed factory buildings inside the walls, then negotiated multi-year contracts with manufacturers for the use of prison labor. Shoe manufacturer George Comin testified in 1873 that his operation employed 70 inmates at a cost of $0.40 each per day, from which he generated an annual profit of $5,000. Such testimony may have been what attracted John Tweedie and the A. Priesmeyer Shoe Company to Jefferson City from St. Louis.

Priesmeyer Shoe Company must have experienced similar profits in Jefferson City. In the 1880s, John and Anna Tweedie lived on the south side of the 700 block of E. High Street. John Tweedie hired well-known architect Charles Opel to design his home at 601 East High Street. Opel had designed nearby Ivy Terrace for Governor Lawrence V. Stephens in 1893, and part of MSP as well.

John Tweedie was obviously proud of his Scottish heritage, having thistles carved in the stones above the first floor windows. The stonework around the front entry and the stained glass window, and especially the stone carved lizard by the entry, show the affinity the Scots have for stone masonry. The Queen Anne style of this lavishly decorated house was perfect for a local businessman wanting to exhibit his wealth and position within the community.

By 1908, at age 70, John Tweedie had reached the peak of his career. He was president of the A. Priesmeyer Shoe Company, was one of the wealthiest men in the city and was in excellent health. Mr. Tweedie was a prominent member of the city’s business community and his home was frequently the site of elaborate social functions. His wife and children were at a loss as to why he would take his own life by inhaling gas from a reading lamp. John Tweedie died before the physician who lived across the street could be summoned. At least two of his ten children worked in his business, with John Jr. in charge of the trimming and heeling department and Charles J. as an assistant to his father.

John Tweedie’s wife Anna lived to the age of 84, dying of a heart attack in 1934. She had 14 children, 6 of which survived her. She was active in the Presbyterian Church and socially prominent in her younger years. All but one of her children remained in Jefferson City (one in St. Louis) and at the time of her death she had 3 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.
Jefferson City—the Beginnings
By Jane Beetem

The next several issues of *Yesterday & Today* will feature a series of articles discussing the history of Jefferson City through various periods of time, from its founding to the present. The articles will discuss major developments in the city, and highlight many of the existing buildings from each period. We begin with the establishment and settlement of the city.

When Missouri became a state in 1821, Jefferson City was selected as a site for the new state capital. The State Capitol was completed, the first hotel and other businesses established and the legislature arrived in 1826. The penitentiary opened in 1836. In 1837 the Capitol burned, with a replacement opening in 1842. By 1840 the city had a population of 1,174 people, both black and white.

With the coming of the railroad, business boomed in the 1850s. Then development ceased during the Civil War, as Jefferson City was occupied and managed by Union troops. The Missouri Constitution of 1875 marked a period of expansion, and by 1885 a bridge reached across the Missouri River, further encouraging development. This article focuses on the years from 1825 to 1870.

This map, dated 1849, shows the extent of the original town and gives us an idea of the size of the community at that time. The eastern boundary is near the cemetery on Chestnut Street. The southern boundary is Dunklin and Atchison Streets. (Map courtesy of Toni Prawl, *Yesterday & Today*, February 2015)

Frank Miller, a Jefferson City architect, recalled that development in the late 1860s and early 1870s stopped at the Catholic cemetery to the west. This would place the western boundary where Heisinger Bluffs is located, at 1002 W. Main St.

Another map from this period is the “Bird’s Eye View of Jefferson City, the capitol of Missouri 1869,” available at the Library of Congress website ([www.loc.gov](http://www.loc.gov)). This interactive map allows one to zoom in on specific properties. Through use of this drawing and previously-conducted research surveys, the extensive list below of buildings dating from 1870 or before has been developed.

Researching properties from this period is not simple, as few original documents remain. Construction dates are estimated based on existing records, family histories and architectural details.

There is currently no complete list of Jefferson City historic structures before 1870, and some writers have suggested there are no more than 12. However, this article discusses over 45 structures that remain in Jefferson City from this period.

**Buildings constructed prior to 1870 (arranged for ease of driving from one to another)**

Lohman’s Landing, 100 Jefferson St., 1839. In 1852, Charles Maus and his brother-in-law, Charles Lohman, opened a general store in what
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we know now as Lohman’s Landing. (SHS)(NR)

Union Hotel, was built across Jefferson street in 1855 by Maus. When Maus returned from the Civil War, he renamed it the Union Hotel as a declaration of his loyalties. (SHS)(NR)

Maus House. Charles Maus’ brother, Christopher Maus, built a home a few yards south of the Union Hotel in the 1850s. The house exemplifies the small, red brick residences common during this time period. (SHS)(NR)

225-227 Capitol Avenue, 1870 rowhouses. (S)

423 E. High St., 1870 (possibly earlier). Missouri-German style. (NR)

Parsons House, 105 Jackson St., 1830. Bought by G.A. Parsons of Virginia in 1847. Parsons served as a secretary to former President Thomas Jefferson, who encouraged Parsons to visit the city named for him. (NR)(LL)

Missouri State Penitentiary Housing Unit # 4 or A Hall, 1868. Oldest structure remaining on penitentiary site. (LL)

Sugarbaker House. 503 E. High St. Built around 1860, along with two remaining outbuildings. Significant for both its antebellum architecture and for its use as a cutting edge cancer clinic by Dr. Everett Sugarbaker. (S)

827 E. High St., 1860. Gothic Revival style influenced brick house. (S)

909 E. High St., former C&H Tavern, 1856. Built by E.L. Edwards, brother to Governor John C. Edwards. E.L. Edwards’ home was located at the corner of Cherry and E. High Streets (now Sipi’s). (S)

Dr. Joseph P. and Effie Porth House, 631 W. Main St. Circa 1830. Originally a 1-story stone house with a walkout basement, a second floor under a Second Empire style mansard roof was added in 1885-1888. (NR)(LL)

1302 Moreau Drive, 1870. Built as part of the Leslie Dairy Farm. (NR)

Kelly-Bolton Home, 1916 Green Berry Road. 1835. Local legend holds that Gen. Sterling Price may have spent the night at the home Oct. 6, 1864. Price’s 20,000 troops had burned the Pacific Railroad bridge over the Osage River and several buildings before crossing the Moreau River near the house at the end of that day. (LL)

There are several downtown buildings listed on the National Register with pre-Civil War construction dates. This very early nomination has few footnotes for verification: some buildings have been significantly altered. The Hope Building, 201-203 E. High, is the most notable pre-Civil War downtown building (LL). Also listed are 114 E. High (1857); 129 E. High (1850); 120 E. High (1867); 122 E. High (1868)(LL);

105 E. High (1860); 115-117 Madison (1850s) and 333 Madison (1860s) (NR)(S).

Upschulte House, 1865, originally located in the 300 block of West High Street. In 1980, the Upschulte House was moved to its current location behind the Cole County Historical Society. (NR)

200 Block of Clay St. There are two houses, one with Gothic Revival influences and one tiny Missouri-German style house that may date to before the Civil War.

Designations are shown as:
♦ State Historic Site (SHS)
♦ Listed on National Register (NR)
♦ Local Landmark (LL)
♦ Grant Funded Survey (S)

Editor’s Note: This article has been condensed for publication due to space constraints. Please see the full article, which provides more detail and a complete list of buildings, on the HCJ Website at https://www.historiccitvofjefferson.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Jefferson-City-History-The-Beginnings-Website-Version.pdf or by request to hjexec@gmail.com.
This year’s HCJ Business Meeting and Annual Membership Dinner offered both Looking Back and Moving Forward, as a new direction for HCJ was set for the coming year. The hiring of HCJ’s first Executive Director, the purchase of the historic Tweedie house, donation of the St. Mary’s Time Capsule and the passing of the HCJ gavel from President Tammy Boeschen to Donna Deetz, highlighted the events.

The Annual Business Meeting and Dinner were separate events this year to allow for members to have more time at each event to socialize and to view exhibits such as the contents of the Time Capsule.

At the business meeting on February 10, Donna Deetz was elected President, Jane Beetem, Vice President. Tim Morrow, and Kay Martellaro were re-elected for another term as Treasurer and Secretary, respectively. New members of the Board of Directors were elected: Dan Basel and Nancy Thompson. Retiring director Jeanette Dulle was recognized for her service.

**Historic City of Jefferson welcomes our newest members:**

Christina Allen • Kathy Blank • Stephen & Michelle Brooks • Kim Bryant
Jon & Melissa Burch • Abby Coats • Chris Cowan • Senator Ed Emery
Sharon Gonder • Anne Green • Christopher Heimsoth • Eric Hemeyes • Matt Holland
Gail Jones • Scott & Tina Sellner • Angela Silvey • Charles Stone • Matt & Teresa Tolksdorf
Winton Policy Group
At the March 17 Annual Dinner, departing President Tammy Boeschen was bid farewell with a plaque, a gift certificate and a standing ovation for her years of service. Sue Higgins was recognized as Volunteer of the Year. Darryl and Connie Hubble were honored with the Preservation Pioneer Award.

Incoming Director Nancy Thompson delivered the keynote address, a wonderful recap of the history of Woodland City Cemetery and some of its famous interments.

The dinner meeting hosted 125 attendees under the flawless organization of Verna and Bill Luebbert and Alan and Betty Mudd. Oscar’s Diner catered the meal, Jim Logan provided the music and sound, and HCJ member Dick Preston was the Master of Ceremonies. HCJ’s Executive Director Anne Green and new Administrative Assistant Kay Craig kept events running smoothly.

Many, many thanks to all the volunteers, all of those who donated gifts for the silent auction, Communique for the program design and Jim Kreider who donated the wine.
As the deadline for redevelopment proposals passed with no bids on 105 Jackson, known as the Parsons House, the Jefferson City Housing Authority (JCHA) has reopened bids. “We are very disappointed that there were no bids after the public pushed so hard for it to be the first property saved,” JCHA Executive Director Cynthia Quetsch said.

Some structural problems in the 1830’s house were noted as a deterrent to potential investors. Although remodeled extensively over the years, some possible original features remain such as interior doors, fireplace mantle and wood trim.

The JCHA has expanded its reach to potential investors to include state and national Historic Preservation sites. HCJ is also renewing its appeal to its members to consider investing in this historically significant house, probably the oldest in Jefferson City. The deadline for submitting a bid is May 7th.

While no bids have been received on the Parsons house yet, Quetsch reported that a contract has been awarded on the Standish house at 103 Jackson to Amanda and Levi Burke Williams. Quetsch also announced that bids have been received for 101 Jackson, a fourplex, and the award will be announced in early May.

Acquisition of seven Barbara Buescher properties by JCHA is proceeding and will include: 500 (Ivy Terrace), 501, 507, 511 and 513 E. Capitol, 115 E. Jackson and 504 E. State Street. Appraisals were conducted on April 17th and announcements of RFPs and open houses will follow. Unlike earlier appraisals done on the Jackson and State street properties, JCHA will have an appeal process in place.

Thomas Jefferson Birthday Celebration

On April 23 several local leaders and residents gathered at the State Capitol to celebrate the 276th birthday of Jefferson City’s namesake Thomas Jefferson. The evening centered on a lecture by Dr. Christa Dierksheide, a noted Jefferson scholar and assistant professor of history at the University of Missouri.

Dierksheide stated Jefferson believed that only the present generation—“the living generation”—could be governed by the laws they made. He believed each generation would govern better than his own generation. Despite questioning at times whether the younger generation would guide the nation toward better opportunities, she explained Jefferson continued to educate them in the hopes they would uphold equality and his governance principles.

“Jefferson’s ideas and his hopes are still with us. The notion of one American people, despite all of our challenges, all of our divisions, remains relevant to us as does our commitment to natural rights and equality to this country and to the world.”

Historic City of Jefferson partnered with the City as well as a few other local organizations to host this event. Councilman Rick Mihalevich led the event, as he did last year for Thomas Jefferson’s 200th Birthday celebration.

HCJ member Janet Mauer rounded out the evening by speaking briefly on the Lewis and Clark Exhibit currently on display at the Capitol.
Golden Hammer Awards Are Back!!

Congratulations to our May Recipient!

Dustin and Mandi Long and Jim Long

The Longs took this vacant foreclosure and gave it a new life. HCJ members are familiar with the rehab skills of the Longs as they are also revitalizing a house in the Capitol Avenue neighborhood at 608 State St.

The Longs own Long Last Remodeling Inc.

Many Thanks!

Getting to Know You - Holly Stitt

I am an entrepreneur of extreme sorts, married to a wonderful husband, my child is 24, and I tend to adopt a lot of other people as family...oh and I am now down to two crazy cats. My husband and I have a software development company that works on backend programming for websites and iPhones. We own several buildings in different stages of rehab, the biggest being our building on Capitol Avenue that houses Avenue HQ, our offices and Campus Coworking. My business partner Quinten Rice runs Avenue HQ with me, and is my cohort in many other projects, one being key planners for Porchfest JCMO. And just in case I didn’t have enough to do, I am also the Executive Director for Columbia Art League in Columbia and put on the annual Art in the Park at Stephens Lake the first weekend in June. I create my life and do not let life create me: I believe positive collaborations can take over the world, and strive to work towards that. It is a crazy ride but I love it!

Why did you join HCJ? Well, I am big advocate that old buildings have character and should not be torn down to become a cookie cutter box. In doing so I purchased my own historic building and am working to bring it back to its glory along with the neighborhood it is in. Tammy called me and asked if I wanted to be a part of HCJ: I had been letting them use my building to promote other rehabs and education, so I felt it was a good fit for me. It seemed a place to go to help save some of the historic structures and history of JC.

What do you like best about being a member of HCJ? Working with a bunch of people that are as passionate about old buildings and their architecture as I am. We all have different reasons for being a part of this but the one thing we have in common is looking at the craftsmanship and uniqueness each building has.

If someone asked you the benefits of HCJ membership, what would you say? Helping to teach younger generations why history is important to the future, saving buildings that add much character to our town and just being around a great bunch of people who truly care about Jefferson City and making it a better place.

What do you think is the most effective way for HCJ to achieve its historic preservation mission? Engaging the community, working with the City, and bringing awareness to everyone how important our history is, in that order. For some reason we tend to forget that until we are much older. The more people that are engaged, the more that can be accomplished, so we need our members and community to join in.
MARK YOUR CALENDAR

May 15: Heritage Awards—City Council Chamber, 320 E. McCarty—4pm
June 1: “A Walk Through Time” - CCHS, 100 Block of Madison St, 1pm-4pm
June 7: “Capitols of Missouri”, Missouri State Capitol Museum, 7pm
June 8: June Golden Hammer Award Presentation—TBA
July 13: July Golden Hammer Award Presentation—TBA
August 10: August Golden Hammer Award Presentation—TBA
September 14: September Golden Hammer Award Presentation—TBA
September 22: Annual Homes Tour, Forest Hill neighborhood, 1pm to 5pm

Check our website often: www.historiccityofjefferson.org

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