



SHAKER
HEIGHTS



For Immediate Release

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HistoricShaker.com Wins Two Awards

City of Shaker Heights and Shaker Heights Public Library honored for preserving City's building history

SHAKER HEIGHTS (November 6, 2013) — The Shaker Heights Landmark Commission and the Shaker Heights Public Library have received two statewide historic preservation awards for the creation of HistoricShaker.com, a publicly accessible digital record of building history in Shaker Heights. The project includes a website and a smartphone app.

[The Ohio Historic Preservation Office \(OHPO\)](#) recognized HistoricShaker.com in its Public Education and Awareness category, which honors projects that increase interest in historic preservation. [The Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board \(OHRAB\)](#) recognized the project in its Archives Achievement Award created to recognize accomplishments in preserving and improving access to historical records.

Pari Swift, Chair of the OHRAB Awards Committee, commented, "In addition to the significant accomplishment in preserving and improving access to historical records, the OHRAB was impressed by the programming developed around the project such as the annual historic walking tour and classes on researching building histories. What a great model to serve for other institutions looking at similar projects!"

HistoricShaker.com features a searchable building card database which includes the date the home was built, the names of the home's architect, builder, and original owner, and the estimated cost to build the home. The database was developed through the help of volunteers who scanned over 10,000 original index cards with building information dating back to 1915. Further preserving the City's building history, the Cleveland Historical smartphone app was customized to include information, photos, historic documents and oral histories pertaining to nearly 50 landmark properties, events and people significant to the history of Shaker Heights. A virtual tour is also included. The app was developed by the Center for Public History and Digital Humanities and Cleveland State University.

HistoricShaker.com was funded through a Certified Local Government grant from the Ohio Historic Preservation Office, the Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board, the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, and the National Archives and Records Administration.

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About the Landmark Commission: The Shaker Heights Landmark Commission is a seven-member board established in 1975. Its role is to preserve, protect, and perpetuate buildings, structures, sites, works of art, and other objects having special historical, community or aesthetic interest or value. As such, exterior changes to local landmark properties require review by the Landmark Commission. The Commission and the City are committed to the preservation of the distinctive features for which Shaker architecture is known.

About the Library: The Shaker Heights Public Library is a school district library whose mission is to build community and enrich lives by bringing together people, information, and ideas. The library's Local History Collection, located in the Moreland Room on the first floor of the Main Library, is committed to preserving and making accessible archival material about the history of Shaker Heights and the development of the community.