



MARKTOWN UPDATE

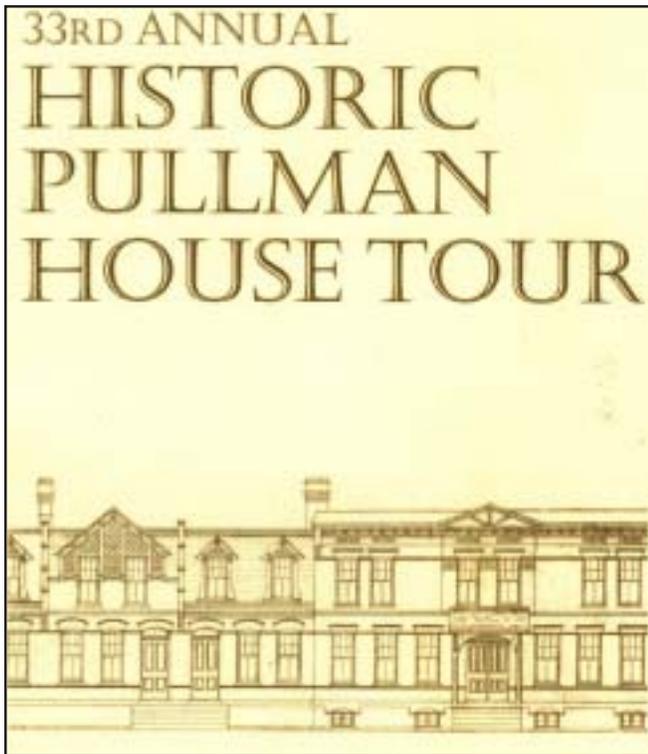
A publication of the Marktown Preservation Society

November 2006

Hal I oween In Marktown - The Tradition Continues



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The Pullman-Marktown Connection

by Javier Madrigal

I kept hearing about the Pullman Neighborhood, but really had no idea what it was all about until I say it with my own eyes. Wow! What a beautiful neighborhood. I was so impressed with the community and how everyone works together to make their neighborhood what it is.

I met homeowner who actually let hundreds of people view their homes. Just to let you know they are all town homes like ours. One big difference is that they only have windows on the front and back,

while most of the homes in Marktown have windows on all three sides.

Who would have thought that a 130 year old town house would be worth fixing? You shouldn't tell that to the Pullman community. They actually made it work with a lot of love and pride for the historic nature of the neighborhood.

Next year I would like to invite all of my neighbors from Marktown to go on the tour to see for yourselves. I'm sure you too will be impressed as I was.

So, let's try to have an open mind in our neighborhood. Being historic can't be a bad thing. After



A home on Supervisor's Row was one of the first stops on the 2006 tour. This outstanding three story home included gardens and a truly wonderful interior. In many cases the homeowners were on hand to greet their guests.



This classic Victorian interior permits the homeowner to showcase the original, beautifully refinished floors in the home. While interiors spaces are not required to be restored, it is nice to see that some of them have been.

Please contact us via the internet at mrmarktown@sbcglobal.net

all, Marktown wouldn't be here at all but for two very important things: 1) our homes were very, very well built, and 2) Marktown is on the National Register of Historic Places. It is a historic neighborhood.

Let's try to bring out the true beauty of our neighborhood one step, one house at a time. Together we can make a positive difference in Marktown and set an example for all of East Chicago and the Calumet Region.

More About Pullman and Historic Preservation

by Paul A. Myers

The concept of turning this neighborhood around and increasing the property values is an important one. Let's face it, our homes should be the largest investment in our lives and what our neighbors do or don't do can have an effect on not only the value of their home, but of the entire neighborhood.

In the Pullman Landmark District, as well as hundreds of other neighborhoods across this great nation, the concepts of historic preservation have not only increased the property values but more importantly have improved the quality of life of those who reside there.

To fully understand what it can do for a neighborhood, one only need visit north Pullman before going to south Pullman. You see, north Pullman never had the same degree of protection as did south Pullman and the difference is night and day.

The concepts and precepts of historic preservation do not make people remove garages, driveways or car ports. It does not make them repaint their houses or open up their porches. What it does do is establish a set of standards that prevents the further degradation of the architectural and land use standards under which the neighborhood was originally designed.

In Pullman, as well as those thousands of other historic districts across the nation, historic preservation increases property values and in doing so makes it possible for a greater degree of reinvestment by the homeowner.

I don't know of anyone who, when the time comes to sell their home wouldn't want to sell it for the same prices they are getting in Pullman.

I am pleased that Precinct Committeeman Madrigal enjoyed his afternoon in Pullman and I hope that all of our friends and neighbors in Marktown take the opportunity to join him either at the Pullman Garden Walk in the early summer of their Annual House Walk in October. It is a trip well worth your time.



ABOVE: A typical street in the Pullman National Historic District. Greeters prepare to welcome one of the hundreds of tour participants into one of the ten properties included this year's hours tour.

BELOW: A most unique kitchen arrangement provides ample cabinet space and a warm and cozy breakfast area. This particular kitchen is in a room addition added to the rear of the property. OUTSTANDING!



BELOW: Gutted by fire a number of years ago, this outstanding home was totally renovated by a pair of brothers who grew up in Pullman. The unique approach to the renovation has brought new life to a 130 year old home.



For information on Pullman please visit them at www.pullman-museum.org

THE MARQUETTE PLAN AND EAST CHICAGO.....

"Make no little plans: They have no magic to stir men's blood and probably themselves will not be realized. Make big plans; aim high in hope and work, remembering that a noble, logical diagram once recorded will never die, but long after we are gone will be a living thing, asserting itself with ever growing insistency. Remember that our sons and grandsons are going to do things that would stagger us. Let your watchword be order and your beacon beauty."

And so Congressman Visclosky's visionary plan for the future of the greater Calumet area was unveiled, and with it the hopes and aspirations of generations to come as we transform the 100 year old industrial complex along the shore of the great Lake Michigan into the playground of the Midwest and the nation.

In 2004 a series of public meetings were held in order to allow the residents of the Calumet Region the opportunity to voice their opinion as to what they wanted and didn't want in this proposed new plan. While

some came with a list of things they wanted to complain about, others came prepared with ideas, concepts and yes written reports and plans as to what they thought would enhance the quality of life for generations to come. As we noted last month, the Marktown Historic District is a part of that plan.

While we have said that our neighborhood is surrounded on three sides by steel mills and an oil refinery on the fourth side, that really isn't all that true. To the north of us is nearly a 1/4 square mile of land that has never been developed. Just to the west of us, adjacent to the softball fields is another stretch of land that has stood vacant for decades. Under the Marquette Greenway, all of this and a great deal more will be converted over a period of years into one of the largest parks in Northwest Indiana.

The proposed name for it is Heritage Park, and as you can see from the map, it will nearly completely encircle tiny little Marktown with park lands. Even the section of land east of Riley Road where the YS&T

Will something as grand as Millennium Park in Chicago be included in the plans for the Marquette Greenway's Heritage Park? Only time will tell! But what we need to do is think big, bigger than big. Think GRAND!



Wetlands such as this can be added to the presently blank landscape. The area slated to be Heritage Park was natural wetlands as late as the 1950s. Wouldn't it be nice to have park lands like this in our neighborhood?



Let the Marquette Greenway unlock our vision for generations to come. The future of Marktown and of all of the greater Calumet Region lies within this plan.

.....A CLOSER LOOK AT THE SHIP CANAL PLANS



East Chicago - Indiana Harbor Ship Canal

Co. No. 1 Tin Mill had stood is included in the plans for the new park.

One of the concepts brought forward by a Marktown resident was a series of museums, one in each of the five host cities; Hammond, Whiting, East Chicago, Gary and Portage. Don't look now but the plans for the Gary museum, the Discovery Center, were unveiled in November 2004. And here, on the map you can see the proposed **Industrial Heritage Museum** in East Chicago, just down Dickey Road and over the Indiana Harbor Ship Canal from Marktown.

While it will take several years to actually begin the construction phase of the museum or the new Heritage Park, the first step is always the planning phase. Just what will go into Heritage Park? It's up to all of us, but we have come up with a basic plan for success. Try this.

A recipe for Heritage Park:
Take 400+ acres of land with access to Lake Michigan on the north and bordering on the Indiana Harbor Ship Canal on the south. The Indiana Harbor Ship Canal which has served heavy industry and manufacturing for more than 100 years will be gradually converted to a recreation waterway - a Water Trail!



the east. Plan well, let your imaginations soar and then add to it the following ingredients...

- walking, jogging & bicycle trails
- our own version of Millennium Park
- natural settings with lakes and ponds
- ample parking
- tennis courts
- baseball fields
- soccer fields
- basketball courts
- large scale public sculpture - lots of it
- a Marktown Interpretive & Nature Center
- lots of trees, bushes and flowers
- picnic groves and shelters

And don't forget, just down the street on the opposite side of the canal will be the **Industrial Heritage Museum** which will also celebrate the history of the Marktown Historic District.

This is what people with vision have planned for the open lands adjacent to our neighborhood. This is a plan that when completed, will enhance the quality of life for generation to come. With this plan our future is guaranteed. A Vision to Create a Liveable Lakefront.



Large scale public sculpture such as those at the Skokie Sculpture Park in Illinois add an element of art to any setting. The sculpture portion of the park should be extended into the present Marktown Parks.

More than 400 acres of land adjacent to the Marktown Historic District are designated as park lands under the Marquette Greenway Plan. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity!

Consolidated Paint Colors: What's Your Preference?



Working together or working alone. Which do you prefer?

Workshop of America - East Chicago, Indiana

East Chicago, the Twin Cities is but a little over thirty years old and yet it has a reputation that precedes it nationally. Immortalized by the recently released South Shore poster titled "The Workshop of America" this new and thriving metropolis is just that: a place where employment opportunities abound both for the worker and for the corporate concerns who seek opportunity to build or expand their enterprise.

East Chicago is also known as the City of Homes. The jewel in this crown is the twenty acre Washington Park designed by none other than Jens Jensen, the famed landscape architect from Chicago. Bordering on two sides of the park is the Washington Park subdivision which includes more than twenty well built spacious homes like none other in the greater Calumet Region.

Add to this the rows of newly erected masonry three flats on Euclid Avenue in the Indiana Harbor sector of the city and the 200 garden city homes in the Mark Town Site located in North Harbor and you can truly understand why this is known as a City of Homes.

But cities are not just homes, they are thriving enterprises and places of commerce.

East Chicago is in the lead on the medical front with St. Catherine Hospital just a block away from Washington Park. This modern 424 bed facility is a not-for-profit general hospital operated by the Ancilla Domini Sisters and is affiliated with the Roman Catholic Church.

If an avenue into retail is what you are looking for, then East Chicago is for you. With a population rapidly approaching 50,000 people, East Chicago boasts non less than three major shopping districts. One on Chicago Avenue on the East Chicago side of the Twin City and two in the Indiana Harbor Sector. Virtually everything from new and used automobiles to virtually any item of hardware, home appliance or grocery is available in East Chicago.

Employment opportunities abound in East Chicago with two of the nation's largest steel manufactures located within walking distance of many of our neighborhoods, and public transportation linking virtually all of East Chicago to the job sites in this city and throughout the Calumet Region.

Education is also a key factor for many and East Chicago has a school system surpassed by none. E.C. is the place to be!



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NOTE: This article/advertisement first appeared in the 100th Anniversary of The Times in 2006. It is the first part of a three part series of articles, each of which represents a decade in East Chicago's past. This particular article represents the 1920s. All three articles were written by Marktownier Paul A. Myers. They were sponsored by the City of East Chicago, George Pabey, Mayor.

MPS Receives Recognition From National Guard

"It was a great surprise to find a framed award from the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve in my mail box" said Paul Myers at the end of September. But that is exactly what happened. Apparently Sgt. Andujar had taken the time to personally drop off the award at the Marktown Community Center.

The award was recognition for the MPS as a patriotic employer **for Contributing to the National Security and Protecting Liberty and Freedom by Supporting Employee Participation in America's National Guard and Reserve Force.** The Committee is sanctioned by the Department of Defense.

The certificate was signed by the Committee Chair of the ESGR for the State of Indiana and the Chairman and Executive Director of the National Committee for ESGR.

So, just what did the Marktown Preservation Society do to merit such at-

ention? We did as they say "the right thing!" We began by working with Judy Hicks and Maria Perez in putting together the names and addresses of all of the service personnel that we knew were overseas.

We saw to it that they received correspondence in the form of Marktown Update each month. When the ladies at the Marktown Community Center needed a special coloring page for the kids to color in and send the servicemen, we designed it.

More importantly than anything else, we encouraged the ladies at the Center and the children of Marktown to do their very best for all of the brave young men and women serving in the Armed Forces of the United States of America.

We are humbled by this award and share it with Judy, Maria and the children of the Marktown Historic District.

Paul A. Myers



Art Institute Of Chicago Students Tour Marktown

For the second consecutive year, graduate students from the Art Institute of Chicago's Masters Degree in Historic Preservation program have used the Marktown Historic District as a laboratory for their studies. The class is being taught by architect Bill Latoza who's architectural firm is working on the Marktown revitalization plan.

Eleven students spent much on one class day touring the Marktown Historic District before getting down to business.

The purpose of the class was to learn how to take materials samples from historic buildings so they can be analyzed in a laboratory.

Students collected paint samples from plas-

tered interior walls and trim, plaster samples and exterior stucco samples. Each student bagged and identified their work before heading back to Chicago for the analysis portion of the days class.

While here they also studied the multiple layers of stucco on two homes in Marktown that had never been painted. Mr. Latoza explained how the stucco

was originally applied and pointed out the different strata or layers of stucco, each containing a different type of aggregate and sand.

It was an outstanding opportunity to share our neighborhood with university students interested in preserving and restoring our nation's and region's most unique architectural heritage.



Marktown Update is published each month by the **Marktown Preservation Society, Inc. (MPS)** from their office at the residence of Paul A. Myers. It distributed free of charge to all of the residents of Marktown. It is also distributed to more than 400 non residents via the U.S. Mail. An index to all of the past issues, as well as PDF electronic copies of each issue are available at the official

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