



Celebrate Historic Preservation May 2009

Welcome One and All

During May, Lexington, along with communities across the nation, celebrates National Historic Preservation Month. Lexington and Fayette County are so fortunate to have a rich, diverse architectural and historic heritage that provides a unique sense of place and many opportunities for enjoyment.

The celebration continues throughout the month with a wide variety of programs, many of which are noted in this calendar. The Division of Historic Preservation of the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government coordinates an array of events, hosted by a number of participating preservation and history organizations. For more information on all the activities, please call the Division of Historic Preservation, 258-3265 or the individual host organization whose number is listed with each event. Enjoy!

Saturday and Sunday, May 9 & 10

Various Times – Mayfest

Art, music, and history abound at this two-day festival in historic Gratz Park, Lexington's first designated local historic district. Focusing on Kentucky arts and culture, the festival includes artist vendors and art demonstrations, strolling performers, a traditional Maypole Dance, children's activities and food vendors. Saturday May 9, 10 am – 6 pm and Sunday May 10, 11 am – 5 pm in Gratz Park. No fee. Info 231-7335.

www.downtownlex.com

Saturday, May 9

11:30 am – Historic Courthouse Square Walking Tour and Farmers' Market Too!

Learn more about the rich history, historic buildings and plans for the future of the area around Fayette County's fifth courthouse and Cheapside Park where Farmers' Market will be in full swing. Bettie Kerr, Historic Preservation Officer and Harold Tate, Director of the Downtown Development Authority, will lead a walking tour beginning at the front (Main Street) steps of the old courthouse, now the History Center. No fee. Info 258-3265.

www.lexingtonky.gov



Monday, May 11



7:00 pm - Preservation IS GREEN and can be GREENER!

Kentucky's State Historic Preservation Officer and Director of the Kentucky Heritage Council, Mark Dennen, will discuss the growing relationship between the renovation of historic structures and the green building movement. The Secretary of Interior Standards has been promoting the green movement well before its current popularity by encouraging the re-use of existing buildings and materials. Appropriate new products and creative methods are providing even more possibilities, while still preserving the integrity of historic structures. Projects are often eligible for preservation tax credits as well. Come learn more! Doodles Restaurant, 262 North Limestone (corner of Third). No Fee. Info 258-3265. www.lexingtonky.gov

Wednesday, May 13

5:00 pm – Board of Architectural Review Meeting

Sit in on a design review board meeting as the Board reviews applications for renovation and/or new construction in some of Lexington's 14 Local Historic Districts, which encompass some 2000 properties. 200 East Main Street, Council Chambers. No fee. Info 258-3265.

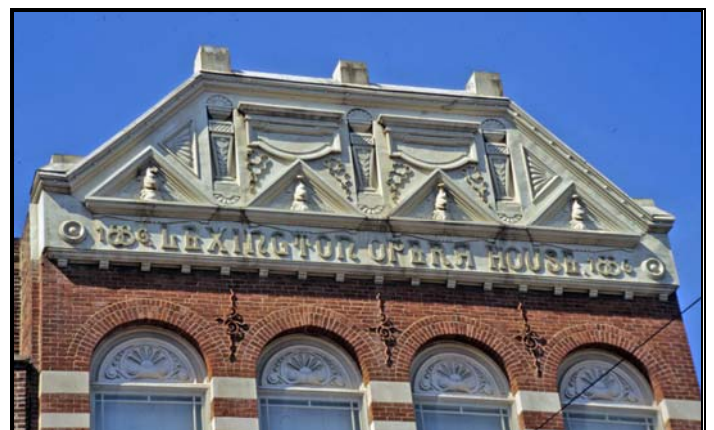
www.lexingtonky.gov

Thursday, May 14

12 Noon - Behind the Scene Tour - Lexington Opera House

Lexington's beautiful historic 1886 Opera House, known in the late 19th century as "the best one night stand in America", has just been renovated. Join Luanne Franklin, director of the theatre, and Steve Brown of Sherman-Carter-Barnhart, project architects, to tour both "front of house" and "behind the scenes", sit in the new seats, stop in the "green" room and see how it all works in the 21st century. Corner of North Broadway and West Short Street. Meet at the West Short Street door. No fee.

Info 258-3265. www.lexingtonky.gov



Thursday, May 14



7:00 pm - Lincoln's Lexington Walking Tour

This guided tour includes highlighting locations in downtown Lexington relevant to the Todd and Lincoln family history, Lexington's history and African American history. Approximately 2.5 miles. Sponsored by the Mary Todd Lincoln House. Meet at the Mary Todd Lincoln House, 578 West Main Street. Reservations recommended, cost is \$7 for the general public, \$5 for members. Free parking available on site. Info 233-9999. www.mtlhouse.org.

Saturday, May 16

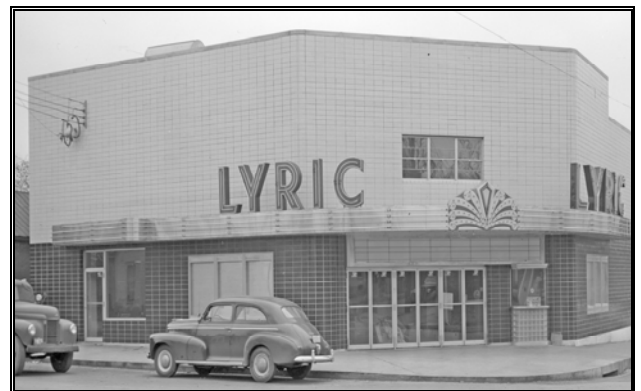
10:00 am to 2:00 pm – Pope Villa Tours

Tour the historic ca. 1811 Pope Villa, designed by Benjamin Henry Latrobe, one of America's earliest and most talented architects. See an in-depth restoration "in progress" as the historic house is returned to its original design, which was altered substantially over the years. Tours begin on the hour. 326 Grosvenor Avenue. No fee. Info 253-0362. www.bluegrasstrust.org



10:00 to 4:00 pm – Founders' Day at McConnell Springs

Join us in the 15th annual celebration commemorating the 1775 founding of Lexington. The event will feature a fun-filled day of activities for the entire family, including historic re-enactments, storytellers, musical entertainment and tours of the historic springs. No fee, food may be purchased on site for a small fee. 416 Rebman Lane, (off Old Frankfort Pike). Info 225-4073. www.mcconnellsprings.org



2:00 pm – Third Street/East End Tour

Join historian Yvonne Giles on this walking tour that highlights the diverse culture and rich history of Third Street and the East End. Some of the highlights, include; the Britton House in Gratz Park; St. Paul AME Church; Old Episcopal Burying Ground; homes of Dr. T. T. Wendall, Lee Cristy, and others; Dr. Zirl Palmer's Pharmacy; Breckinridge Street and the trolley cars; AND the African Cemetery No. 2. Wear your walking shoes and meet at the corner of Third and Mill streets. No fee. Info 361-2813. www.hathawaymuseum.org

Sunday, May 17



2-4 pm - Keene Place Open House at Keeneland

The lovely two story brick house, built ca. 1805 by John Keene and his wife Mary Bowman Keene, has a rich and fascinating history, not least of which is that General Lafayette stayed there in 1825. Now Keeneland, having recently acquired the house and its beautiful surrounding acreage, has completed a full renovation. Don't miss this opportunity to tour this significant historic landmark. Enter at Gate 1 to Keeneland, follow signs to Keene Place. No fee. Info 258-3265 or 254-3412. www.keeneland.com



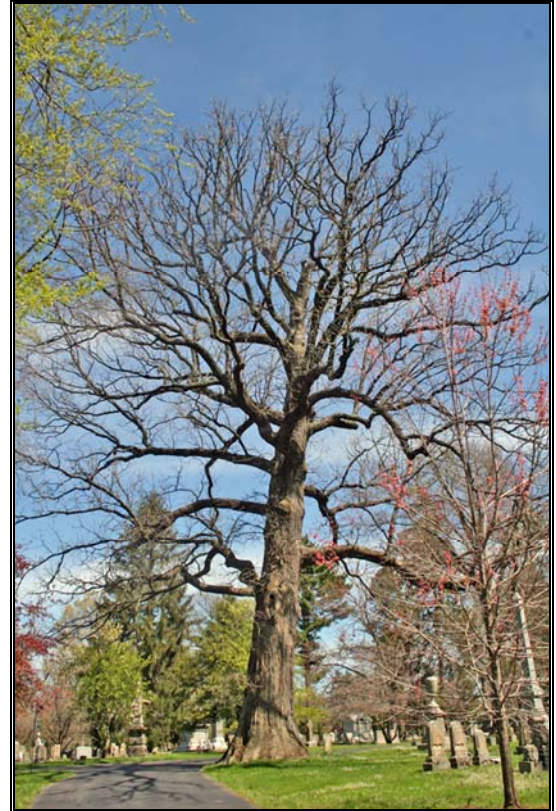
Monday, May 18

7:00 pm - Fayette County's Heritage Trees

Beautiful old historic trees dot our rural landscape and, yes, our urban landscape too. Karen Angelucci,

chair of the Lexington Tree Board, discusses the "Heritage Tree Program", which is creating a registry of trees in Fayette County that are 100 years old or older and/or deemed significant by the Board.

Celebrate the history of some of the most handsome trees of our landscape, as Mrs. Angelucci provides an historical timeline of the "Oldest Trees" in Lexington and Fayette County. Sayre School Edward F. Simms Library, 194 North Limestone. No fee. Info 258-3265. www.lexingtonky.gov



Wednesday, May 20

5:15 pm – Historic Preservation Commission Awards

The LFUCG Historic Preservation Commission will present awards to some of the recent outstanding preservation projects in Lexington/Fayette County. Celebrate with the awards recipients some of Lexington's best residential and commercial renovation and new construction projects at the awards program and reception at the Historic Bell House in the Bell Court Historic District. No fee. 545 Sayre Avenue. Info 258-3265. www.lexingtonky.gov

Thursday, May 21



6:30 pm - Grounds and Garden Tour of Ashland

Join Judy Ogger, long-time Ashland staff and floral designer, and Henry Clay Memorial Foundation Executive Director, Ann Hagan-Michel, for a leisurely walking tour featuring federally protected Buffalo Clover, the illusive Trout Lily, Saunders peonies, the ancient Blue Ash trees and many other points of interest on the grounds. Participants should wear comfortable shoes. No fee. Sign up by calling 266-8581. In case of inclement weather, please call ahead for status of tour. 120 Sycamore Road.

www.henryclay.org



Saturday, May 23

10:00 am-12:00 pm - Hands-On for Children; Create “oyl” floor cloths!

Elementary school age children have the opportunity to make their own “oyl” floor cloth, so popular in the 18th and 19th century. The Blue Grass Trust for Historic Preservation and the Explorium of Lexington are joining forces to teach children the early decorative art technique of floor cloth decoration by stenciling or painting. Children will create their own and learn about their historic use at the Hunt-Morgan House. 201 North Mill Street. No fee however, registration necessary, 253-0362.

www.bluegrasstrust.org



Wednesday, May 6 through Friday, May 8 **Hunt-Morgan House Tours**

Tour one of Central Kentucky's finest Federal style houses, the Hunt-Morgan House, built ca. 1814 by John Wesley Hunt and lived in by members of the Hunt and Morgan family until 1911. A museum since the 1950s, the house is open at no charge for these three days as part of the month's celebration. Hunt-Morgan House, 201 North Mill Street. 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Tours begin on the hour. Info 253-0362. www.bluegrasstrust.org

May and June

Tombstones and Tales and Historic Preservation

This exhibit features photographs of interesting monuments and documents relating to Central Kentucky celebrities, tragedies, duels, vanished cemeteries, neglected cemeteries, and cemetery preservation. Sponsored by Clay Lancaster's Warwick Foundation and the Special Collections Library at the University of Kentucky. The Great Hall (second floor) Margaret I. King, University of Kentucky. On view from May through June. Open Monday through Friday, 8:30am to 5:00pm. Holidays excepted.

Ribbons Highlight History

The William Wells Brown Neighborhood Association is highlighting some of the historic buildings and sites in the East End area by tying yellow ribbons on structures or, if an historic site with no structure, on poles. Attached to the ribbon will be laminated cards with a brief history of each site. Check the Historic Preservation website for a map of the tagged locations and explore the fascinating history in this neighborhood at your own pace. May 9th through May 31st. No fee. Info 258-3265. www.lexingtonky.gov

