

In This Issue:

*Lost Moratz Home
From Our Past
Carnegie Libraries
& Much More!!!*

“Revitalizing Traditional Neighborhoods Since 1979”

Old House Society
P.O. Box 581
Bloomington, IL 61702-0581

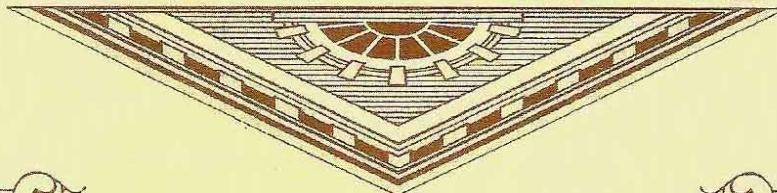
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Issue — February 2010



Old House Society





Paul Moratz seemed to move down Wood St. in small jumps. First at 103 W. Wood St. Then in 1897 he built 108 W. Wood St. and finally in 1903 he moved into his last home at 210 W. Wood St. This would be his last home but not his last house. Paul continued to design great buildings and houses for many years but always returned home to 210 W. Wood St. where he lived with his wife until his death in 1939.

The newest owners Chris & Rose Hotz's moved in this year, to make 210 W. Wood St their own, but also in doing so, are bringing back the feel of the original house that Moratz built. As they cleaned and painted, the shine and warmth started to return to this lovely old home. With a replacement part here and a repair done there, al-

ways in preservation style, the house revealed some of its secrets. In the attic area some papers lay hidden, which the Holtz found to be from the Moratz family. Armed with this, Chris and Rose found more family treasures by looking into some of the past owners and checking to see if they might have items of interest. So far, they have found more items such as pictures, from the house and are assembling a small collection of documents. All this has done is to drive their curiosity to learn more about the world of Paul Moratz at 210 W. Wood.

We wish you good hunting and complete happiness in your new home.



From our President:

I want to thank all our members for the hard work that they put in in making OHS the educational resource for preservation. We achieved all of our goals for 2009 due to the efforts of our dedicated members. Our goals for 2010 are obtainable with your help. Let's make 2010 our best year ever!!!

Awards



On November 10, 2009 the Old House Society was the recipient of The American Institute of Architects Distinguished Citizen Advocate Award. Mike Ryburn attended the award ceremony to receive this prestigious award given on behalf of the members of the Old House Society.





From our Coordinator — Mike Ryburn

We have seen another year close on 2009 and a new one dawn on 2010. The Old House Society had a splendid year, with a good deal of community assistance and out reach. We are very proud of all that was accomplished in the passing year and are looking forward to the plans of the new one. To list a quick summery of accomplishments of the passing year we include the following high lights.

With all the houses that were salvaged, 25 is my count we saved over 87 Tons of land fill last year. A report was sent to our friends at the Ecology Action Center www.ecologyactioncenter.org. Also with that much salvage we had quite a lot of materials flow through the warehouse. If you haven't been in the warehouse in some time you need to stop by and often, the items change, as fast as Illinois weather. There has been a fair amount of donated items also, not only house parts but some nick knack's an brick bracts along with a piece of furniture here and there.

The warehouse also received some new and old books for the library, we want to thank everyone that participated in our Barnes & Noble www.bn.com book fair or donated from there own private collection. You can look forward to a book fair again this year too. As you all know we were able to donate money to the David Davis Foundation www.daviddavismansion.org to help keep our mansion open. A portion of our house tour money also went to the David Jefferson Neighborhood Association for the project they have planed. The more money we can raise, the more we can give, that's the nature of a not for profit origination. We have opportunities for all of the members to participate and I'm looking forward to hearing from you.

Let's not forget we had four, hands on home repair workshops last year and are planning more for this year. The House Tour was one of, if not the best attended tour we have ever had. Had two Open House Fund Raiser, vary fun times. Received an award from, The American Institute of Architects, for our work in preservation. Partnered up with the McLean County Museum, on there History Careers Day Camp. We had tours come through the warehouse and then, we took the class on a walking tour around Historic Franklin Park.

There's so much more I could include but really, all I want to say is, please join in and together we can make a real differences in our community and our lives.

Michael D. Ryburn
Operation Coordinator

Paul O. Moratz House Lost in 1991



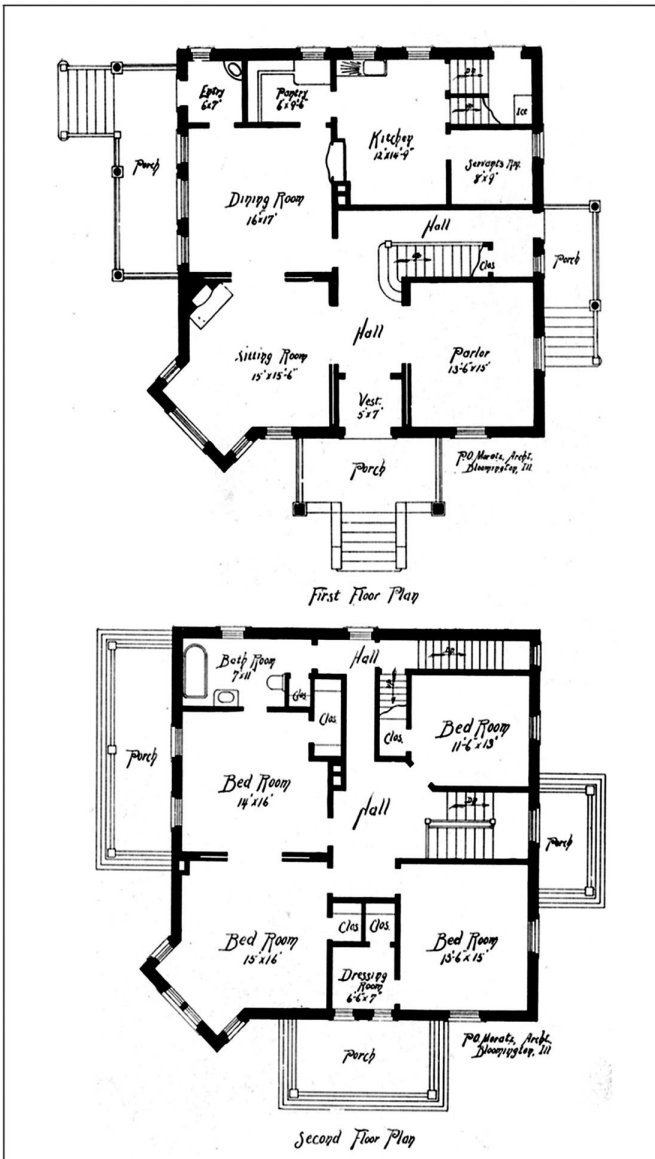
103 West Wood Street

The historic home pictured on the left was designed by Paul O. Moritz. The Richardsonian Chateausque structure was built in 1892 on the northeast corner of Center and Wood streets.

It was designed for John W. Van Schoick, a brickmaker and affiliated with Rankin Brick Co., where his brother William M Van Schoick was vice-president. Wm. M. Van Schoick lived in another Moritz designed home at 302 West Wood.

Both homes were made of brick, most likely from the Rankin brickyard and built by William Van Schoick's building firm.

The Van Schoick family continued to live in the house until the 1974. D. Dan Griffith lived in the house from 1975-77. In 1978, Jeffrey and Elizabeth Rich purchased the house and lived there until 1986. William F. Klingman owned the house until it was sold to Amoco in 1991.



In 1990, Amoco Oil Company proposed a gas station and convenience store for the area occupied by a former Houk gas station and 103 West Wood historic house by Paul O. Moritz, Architect. This issue created considerable opposition from the neighborhood and many historical preservationists. In June of 1990 the Bloomington Planning Commission passed on the recommendation that the property be rezoned from residential to commercial classification.

Several proposals for moving the house were made after the proposed rezoning, costing upward of \$200,000. Due to the high costs of moving and moving utility lines the proposals were not viable.

On May 28, 1991 the City Council rezoned half of the block bounded by Elm, Center, Main and Wood streets for the Amoco development by a vote of six to one. Controversy continued until an agreement was announced by Amoco on September 27, 1991 with preservationist Tom Del Forge to save significant portions of the Victorian structure by dismantling and storing the tower top and other pieces. Those pieces were proposed to be incorporated into a house to be built by Tom Del Forge either in the Franklin Park area or along East Jefferson. The pieces were removed by City crews to a City storage facility. Amoco donated \$12,000 to defray dismantling costs of dismantling significant portions of the house for preservation. Much of the wood trim, flooring and external stone have been incorporated into a variety of local restoration projects.

A Friendly Reminder

It's that time of year! Membership renewals are due! Fill out the form below and either send it in, bring it to the annual meeting or stop by the warehouse! We're always happy to see you!

If you joined or renewed after August of 2009, your membership is still active!

Also, don't forget, we're always looking for new members so if you know a family member, friend or even neighbor who might be interested, pass on the membership information or send them to the warehouse!

Old House Society Membership

* WAREHOUSE * DISCOUNTS * NEWSLETTERS *
NEW FRIENDS * PROMOTING TRADITION *

Your member dues create opportunities to build communities you want!

Contact Info

(Please Print)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Decide your membership level

_____ \$25 Student/Retiree

_____ \$35 Individual

_____ \$50 Family

_____ \$100 Arthur Pillsbury

_____ \$250 Paul Moratz

_____ \$500 George Miller

_____ \$1,000 Rudolph Richter

_____ \$10,000 Lifetime Member

Keep in mind, your contribution is eligible for a tax deduction

*Thank you for your donation to the Old House Society!

Join now or renew your membership! Fill out the form above and mail it with your check to:
Old House Society, PO Box 581, Bloomington, IL 61702-0581

The Carnegie Connection to Central Illinois Architecture

Jessica Peron

Andrew Carnegie was born in Scotland in 1835. His family migrated to the United States in 1848. He worked as a messenger boy for Pittsburgh's telegraph office where he excelled in every task assigned to him. It was during this time he was offered a job as Thomas A. Scott's personal secretary and telegrapher with Pennsylvania Railroad, because Scott was impressed at Carnegie's work ethic. After the Civil War ended, he left Pennsylvania Railroad, accepting a job with the Keystone Bridge Company. It was here he adopted a new steel refining process, putting his own money into the company. He later built Pittsburgh's Carnegie Steel Company, and kept expanding and merging his businesses.

He was known for his politics concerning labor workers. After he retired, Carnegie became a philanthropist, donating more than 350 million to groups that were interested in the education of the public, which included libraries.

There were over 2,500 libraries funded by Carnegie between 1883 and 1929 throughout the world. Over 1,500 were located in the United States. Between 1903 and 1905, more than a half dozen Carnegie libraries were designed by Paul O. Moratz and are located and are still open to the public, in Illinois.



Arguably one of the most interesting libraries designed by Moratz resides in Paxton, Illinois. The Paxton Carnegie Public Library was constructed in 1903 with the help of a ten thousand dollar Carnegie grant. It is still open today and has been completely restored to its original appearance. Furnishings, such as the circulation desk, are still in use.

On Thanksgiving day in 1905, Sycamore, Illinois opened their public library which was modeled from the Paxton library. They also received a Carnegie grant for ten thousand dollars. Since 1997, the library has undergone some major expansions; however, the original architecture for the most part has remained untouched.



Another library includes the Greenville Public Library. It also opened in 1905 and was supported by a ten thousand dollar grant. For over 50 years, the Ladies Library Association raised money to open a library. In the late 1800's, they raised over one thousand dollars from the community and collected over 4,000 books for the possibility of a public library.

Other cities in Illinois which have Paul Moratz designed Carnegie libraries include, but aren't limited to Pekin, Centralia, Arcola, Havana, Peoria, Mount Vernon and Lincoln.

Events

Old House Society's Annual Meeting:

Tuesday, February 16th
6:30-8:00PM

The meeting is to be held at the Vrooman Mansion, 701 E. Taylor Street. Light refreshments will be provided. There will be an election of new officers, along with guest speaker Dana Kawalewski.

Membership Appreciation Sale:

Saturday, Feb 20th

Stop by the warehouse and receive 25% off your purchase. Don't forget to register for the door prize, have a treat in the library while you shop.

Workshop:

Saturday, March 13th

We will be showing ways to take architectural items and turn them into shabby sheik décor.

Open House

Old House Society is always looking for new homes to show for our open houses.

If you would be interested in showing your home and participating in one of our open houses, please contact the Old House Society!



12" Pull Chain

For those of you who have hanging globe light fixtures and are looking for chain for these fixtures, Home Depot has this item in the electrical department.

Ad Space

Would you like to reach more of your customers? Pick your size of add, send us the clip art and wait for the results.

Add spaces are as follows:

Business Card (2" x 3 1/2") IS \$35.00

A 3 1/2" x 4 1/2" will cost just \$45.00

If you choose our 4 1/2" X 7 1/2" add it will give you the space to say all that is needed at a mere \$85.00.

A full page add is the very best. The space is 7 1/2" x 10". This add is good in our newsletter for only \$150.00.

All of your adds can be placed in our newsletter, tour book, or fair. If you would like to place multiple ads, ads just contact us and receive a discount. You can reach out to clients and insure that your advertising dollar goes farther, while helping our organization produce the best, most informative newsletter ever!!!

2010 Gift of the Street Award Nominations

It's nomination time!

The Gift to the Street Award is given by Old House Society to buildings whose owners have maintained or restored its original architectural characteristics.

If you own a house or know of a house that fits this description, here's your chance to nominate it!

Email your nominations at coordinator@oldhousesociety.org



THE TREASURE HUNT



On February 2, 2005, my wife Nancy and I opened "Odd Things Antique Shop", just for something to keep me busy in retirement. It's a small shop loaded with antiques and collectables. We are located at 417 S. Clinton Street, McLean, IL, at the corner of US 136 and Clinton Street, just across the street from the Dixie Truckers Home. We're open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 12:00 - 5:00, Sat. 9:00 - 5:00 and Sun. 12:00 - 5:00. The shop has a few pieces of furniture, lots of glassware, collector plates, crocks (bowls, jugs, jars), Route 66 items, tools, books, and many other collectable items. We enjoy going to auctions, and meeting new customers. We look forward to seeing you in the shop!



Odd Things Antique Shop



"A great place to find little curiosities, a great compliment to supplement my purchases from the Old House Society Salvage Warehouse with accessories, and my favorite place to pick up vintage Fiestaware! Plus, it's a perfect, fun destination for a drive in the country, to be greeted by the friendly proprietor who always has a smile and a great story to share. A cozy and fun store to browse through with can't beat prices." - Tammy J.

If you wish to be a part of our Treasure Hunt feature, please Mike at:
coordinator@oldhousesociety.org

From our past: Libraries among architect's most recognized work

Bill Steinbacher-Kemp Archivist/Librarian McLean County Museum of History

Posted: Sunday, April 29, 2007 12:00 am

Reprinted with permission of The Pantagraph

"He thought his buildings would last forever," Betty Moratz Singh recalled in a 1990 interview concerning her grandfather, the prominent Bloomington architect Paul O. Moratz. Singh said her grandfather looked ahead to a time when a curious onlooker would stumble across one of his libraries, schools or homes and say, "What a beautiful building - I wonder who built it?"

Born in Germany in 1868, Moratz settled with his family in Bloomington when he was about 2 years old. He attended - but likely never graduated from - the University of Illinois, and his architectural background reflects less the theory of the classroom and more the day-to-day practicalities of managing the family business.

Herman Moratz, Paul's father, opened a woodworking shop in the predominately German neighborhood of South Hill, situated south of downtown and east of Miller Park. Paul succeeded his father in the late 1880s, a time when Queen Anne architecture and its "gingerbread" styling placed a high demand on mill work.

As a result of this Queen Anne "rage," Moratz and the craftsmen under his employ were kept busy meeting the demand for locally produced doors, sashes, frames, moldings and veneers. Eventually, he relocated the planing mill to a site near the old Nickel Plate Railroad tracks between McLean, Bell and Evans streets.

For Moratz, the disciplines of architecture and mill work melded into one, and his "up-to-date" (that is, modern) homes were born of "ready-made plans" and "massed-produced materials."

After a fire destroyed the planing mill, Moratz rebuilt at the same location, but shifted his business focus to the production of hardwood flooring.

Moratz served as the primary architect for Samuel R. White's two-block residential boulevard White's Place (today known as White Place without the possessive).

He designed the stone gate at Empire Street, and several of the homes mirror the style and layout of those found in his 1899 plan book "Up-To-Date Homes."

One could argue that Moratz's greatest legacy rests with his prolific body of work relating to public libraries, many of them Carnegies. Moratz-designed libraries include those in Edwardsville, El Paso, Fairbury, Farmington, Greenville, Paxton, Pekin and many other small and medium-size communities.

Unfortunately, several of Moratz's major works have fallen to the wrecking ball.

One of his more well-known public buildings was the old Coliseum, located at the corner of Roosevelt and Front streets. Opened in late December 1892, the concert and convention hall was razed in April 1961 to make way for a used car lot. U.S. Cellular Coliseum, across the street from that site, is named after the original.

In 1991, local preservationists suffered a grievous blow with the razing of the Moratz-designed J.W. Van Schoick home at 103 W. Wood St.

The nearly century-old residence, with its signature Queen Anne-style corner tower, was torn down to make way for a gas station and convenience store.

Sadly, history may repeat itself. Today, the block immediately to the south of the BP station is threatened by commercial development. This historic block features Moratz's own home, 108 W. Wood St. Although this Queen Anne residence has weathered significant modifications, including the loss of the two-story gazebo porch, the original design is still visible. This block also includes the architecturally significant Adolph Wochner home, located at 104 W. Wood St. and designed by George H. Miller, another major Bloomington architect.

Currently on display at the McLean County Museum of History is a recently restored rolltop "secretary" desk designed and built by Moratz when he attended the U of I. Visitors will find this golden oak "confection" in the south hallway just off the main floor rotunda.

**Old House Society is currently involved with three fundraisers!
Pick one, two, or three fundraisers and help support Old House Society!**

Bergner's Community Day

Bergner's Community Day is on Saturday, February 27th, 2010. Old House Society is selling coupon booklets **NOW** for \$5 for Bergner's one day sale. It includes a \$10 off a \$10 or more purchase coupon, as well as more than six other coupons, which can be used at any Bon-Ton stores such as Bergner's & Carson Pirie Scott. And the best part is Old House Society receives **100%** of the coupon booklet sales! You can pick up your coupon booklets at our **warehouse** at **214 E. Douglas Street, Bloomington.**

eScrip

The **eScrip** program allows you to shop at your local grocery store, dine out, and shop online, while contributing money to Old House Society.

Pick up a Schnucks eScrip Customer Card at any Schnucks store or the warehouse and activate it by calling 1-800-931-6258 or by visiting www.escrip.com/schnucks.jsp. Each time you shop at Schnucks, a percentage of your purchase is donated to Old House Society!



Or, you can simply register your credit or debit card at www.escrip.com with our **Group ID #500022925** and dine at places such as Gumby's Pizza or Qdoba Mexican Grill, or even shop online at stores like Barnes & Noble, Best Buy or Home Depot and again, a percentage of your purchase is donated to Old House Society! It's simple and secure, so why not sign up?

Goodsearch.com



Goodsearch.com is a search engine powered by yahoo.com, which donates money to your specified non for profit agency, for each search you generate.

There is nothing to download! Favorite goodsearch.com or set it as your homepage, add Old House Society as your charity and start searching! You could even add the search bar!

2009 Sponsors

Fox & Hounds Hair Studio

Tim & Vicki Tilton Owners

Jon Ropp of Ropps Diversified

(Project and product to numerous to mention)

Parker McLean County Enterprise

Steve Parker - President

David W. Beich Restoration, Inc.

Antique Tile Specialist

If you would like to help by sponsoring the Old House Society just contact us.

Sponsorship starts as low as \$100.00 with a large out reach. Support your community, by supporting us.

Special Thanks

We want to thank all the people that participated in our Barns& Nobel Book Fair. The donations received from the fair were valuable to the continuing growth of the Library. We have also received books from personal library's to add to our own, we thank you also.

With help from Jon Ropp, Ropps Diversified, Bill Anderson and the Community service workers, we have heat in the back room of the Warehouse. Thanks for your work.

OHS salvage team: Reggie Hankins, Sean Roberts, Robert Sims, Mary McGuire and Mike Perschall.

Warehouse volunteers: Ken Toohill, Israel Gonzalez and Robert Sims. A big thanks to Robert Sims for the long hours he puts in at the Warehouse.

Our new web site is all the work of Jack Glascock, great job Jack.

We would like to thank the Pantagraph and Bill Kemp for allowing us to use their article.

We wish to thank the folks at Frontier Title for their generous donation of our new fax/copier. This addition to our office has made all of our lives here at the Old House Society much easier.

There are so many to thank we can't get you all in but we do want to thank our own Board who work for the betterment of the society in hole.

From your Coordinator,
Thanks.

317 E. Chestnut



Who was the architect of this home?

Was it Paul or Arthur Moratz?

E-mail your answers to
coordinator@oldhousesociety.org
with support of your response.

Local Events & Associations

David Davis Mansion—1000 East Monroe, Bloomington, IL
daviddavismansion.org
309 828-1084

Take a tour of the mansion while learning about how Davis and Lincoln became friends.

DeWitt County Museum—219 E. Woodlawn, Clinton, IL
www.chmoorehomestead.org
217 935-6066

Tour restored C.H. Moore Victorian Mansion and Farm Museum from April thru December 2010.
Tuesday-Saturday 10:00-5:00—Sunday 1:00-5:00
\$3 Adults, \$1 12-18

Downtown Bloomington Association

Sign up for the DBA email list at DowntownBloomington.org to learn about events going on in the downtown Bloomington area. With just one click you can find parking, a walking map, business directory and more, making your night on the town memorable and stress free!



Ecology Action Center—202 West College Ave, Normal, IL
www.ecologyactioncenter.org
309 454-3169

The Ecology Action Center sponsors Green Drinks on the first Tuesday of the month at 5:30 at Medici. 120 W. North Street, Normal.

Earth Hour once again is coming up! Join the world by turning off your lights for one hour on March 27th, 2010 at 8:30. Visit www.earthhour.org/home for more information!

McLean County Arts Center—601 North East Street, Bloomington, IL
www.mcaart.org/mcac/html/index.html
309 829-0011

Submissions for the 2010 Amateur Art Competition/Exhibition can be turned in at the MCAC on Tuesday, February 23rd, between 12 noon and 7pm and Wednesday, February 24th, between 12 noon and 5pm.

The Amateur Art Competition/Exhibition will run from March 7th—April 24th, 2010.

Preservation and Conservation Association—44 East Washington Street, Champaign, IL
www.pacacc.org
217 359-7222

PACA has been amazing by sending people our way. What a wonderful organization to be attached with. If you're in Champaign, don't forget to visit Saturdays 9:00-12:00 or Wednesdays 4:00-7:00 or call and schedule an appointment!

Sugar Grove Nature Center
www.sugargrovenaturecenter.org

Join Sugar Grove Nature Center Saturday, March 6th for their Maple Sirup Experience Tour. Registration required. See website for details!