



**CITY OF BIRMINGHAM
MUSEUM BOARD AGENDA
556 W MAPLE
Thursday, January 5, 2023
5:00 PM**

Mission Statement: *The Birmingham Museum will explore meaningful connections with our past, in order to enrich our community and enhance its character and sustainability. Our mission is to promote understanding of Birmingham's historical and cultural legacy through preservation and interpretation of its ongoing story.*

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Roll Call/Introductions, Caroline Ashleigh, Museum Board Alternate Member**
- 3. Approval of the Minutes**
Minutes of December 1, 2022
- 4. Unfinished Business**
 - A. Fundraising for Pond Zone Improvements
- 5. New Business**
 - A. Presentation and discussion, Birmingham Heritage Home Certification Program (Planning Director Nick Dupuis)
 - B. Museum's Long Range Planning Presentation to Commission
- 6. Communication and Reports**
 - A. Director Report
 - B. Member comments
 - C. Public comments
- 7. Next Meeting: February 2, 2023**
- 8. Adjournment**

NOTICE: Individuals with disabilities requiring accommodations for effective participation in this meeting should contact the city clerk's office at (248) 530-1880 (voice), or (248) 644-5115 (TDD) at least one day in advance to request mobility, visual, hearing or other assistance. *APPROVED MINUTES OF THE MUSEUM BOARD MEETINGS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE AND ON THE CITY WEBSITE AT www.bhamgov.org.* City of Birmingham, 151 Martin, Birmingham, MI 48009; 248.530.1800. Persons with disabilities that may require assistance for effective participation in this public meeting should contact the City Clerk's Office at the number (248) 530-1880, or (248) 644-5115 (for the hearing impaired) at least one day before the meeting to request help in mobility, visual, hearing, or other assistance.

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**CITY OF BIRMINGHAM
MUSEUM BOARD MEETING
556 W. Maple
Thursday, December 1, 2022
5:00 PM**

Members Present: Kristy Barrett, Bev Erickson, Alexandra Harris, Pat Hughes, Marty Logue,

Members Absent: Judith Keefer, Jay Shell.

Administration: Museum Director Leslie Pielack

Guests: None.

Chairperson Logue called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

**Approval of the Minutes
Minutes of November 3, 2022**

MOTION: by Erickson, seconded by Logue:

To approve the minutes of November 3, 2022.

VOTE: Yeas, 5
Nays, 0

Unfinished Business

None.

New Business

Members were apprised of the conflict in the approved Museum Board meeting schedule and the Passover holiday in April of 2023.

MOTION: by Harris, seconded by Hughes:

To change the planned Museum Board meeting from April 6 to April 13 due to the Passover holiday occurrence on April 6.

VOTE: Yeas, 5
Nays, 0

Museum Director Pielack shared the final drawings from AEW for the Pond Zone, and discussed the four phases within the plan and the funding and costs associated with them. Phase 1 and 2 would create a sidewalk and seating area along Willits at the pond and an ADA-compliant parking space. They are already funded, primarily with Community Development Block Grant funds (final approval later in December will make them

available). CDBG are federal funds that can be used to remove architectural barriers, and have requirements for contractors that are more involved than standard contracts. Phase 3 in particular has several elements that are desirable, and will be included in the city's anticipated application for a Michigan Spark grant for the overall Rouge Trail Concept Plan to strengthen the application. Sustainable materials and landscape design, historic preservation, and educational opportunities within Phase 3 offer unique features to be incorporated into the overall Trails plan, and total approximately \$63,000 in expected construction costs. Phase 4, a pathway across the lawn to a Rouge overlook, would be considered for future funding in later years. The Museum Board has an opportunity to identify elements in Phases 1, 2, and 3 that lend themselves to fundraising efforts, such as tree planting, a bike rack, and benches. Additional funding can support expanding the museum's tour app to develop content for visitors in that area of the park that would be accessible via WiFi. The board agreed to take the matter up again in January to decide what to focus their fundraising efforts on during 2023.

Communication and Reports

Director Pielack provided an update to the Director Report. The museum is moving forward with plans to develop a podcast to feature Birmingham history in a bi-weekly format to reach a broader audience. The costs are moderate, and there is a chance we can apply for a cable board grant for some funding. Also, the Taylor marker application is in the last stages of approval, and hopefully will be ordered by January 1 when prices increase. Two signs will be installed at the cemetery gates recognizing the Michigan Freedom Trail/National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom designation.

Ms. Barrett asked about video availability of museum lectures and also expressed interest in the process for the recently awarded Michigan Humanities grant, and interest in the format and receiving a copy of the narrative. Chair Logue asked if the city could change the Friends membership on its WuFoo page so that people could indicate their preference of receiving *The Heritage* newsletter.

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 5, at 5:00 PM.

Ms. Logue adjourned the meeting at 5:51 PM.



MEMORANDUM

Planning Division

DATE: December 13, 2022

TO: Birmingham Museum Board

FROM: Nicholas Dupuis, Planning Director

SUBJECT: Heritage Home Program

Introduction

The Heritage Home Program in the City of Birmingham was introduced in 2012 for the purpose of recognizing homes constructed 100 years ago or more with a commemorative plaque and certificate that certified a home as a Heritage Home. Since the inception of the program, the City has ordered and presented several plaques throughout the City. Plaques were generally made available upon request from the homeowner without a formal application process, therefore there is little information available to the City as to the program and its participants.

A complete list of the original heritage homes appears to have been made in 2012, but it is uncertain as to whether or not a list was maintained as time moved forward. Due to this, the City has little records of the status of the original Heritage Homes and any information on new homes that have come into the program. A GIS analysis was performed to help ascertain where the certified Heritage Homes are, or were, located, and to determine how many homes have the potential to become Heritage Homes in the near future. A summary of the findings are presented below:

| | |
|---|-------|
| Certified Heritage Homes | 51 |
| Eligible Heritage Homes | 439 |
| Eligible Heritage Homes in Next 5 yrs. | 973 |
| Eligible Heritage Homes in Next 10 yrs. | 1,756 |
| Total Eligible by 2030: | 3,168 |

In these figures, a number of things can be assumed: (1) some certified Heritage Homes were demolished or significantly altered from 2012-present, and (2) many of the eligible homes for certification may have been destroyed.

On October 25, 2021, the City Commission moved to pass a resolution to permit the Historic District Study Committee to hold meetings through the remainder of 2021 and through 2022 for

the purposes of creating a plan to restart the Heritage Home program and providing a recommendation to the City Commission.

Over several meetings in 2022, the Historic District Study Committee discussed different ways to revamp the Heritage Home program. In general, the consensus was that the City should continue to offer as diverse an array of preservation tactics as possible, and that the Heritage Home program should be of no cost, but also have a limited annual cap on new certified Heritage Homes. The Historic District Study Committee discussed the following items:

- A formal application for the Heritage Home certification program
- If an application is developed, what kind of information should the City pursue?
- Plaques & Certificates
- Survey of existing certified Heritage Homes
- Survey of eligible homes in the near future
- Marketing and information pamphlets for the program

With the feedback gathered from the HDSC and research into similar programs, City Staff sought a quote for new plaques, developed an application, compiled the results of the survey of existing known Heritage Home inventory, and started an information database that can be easily be translated into marketing material and future Heritage Home studies.

As a part of the application, the HDSC also developed a Heritage Home Decertification Agreement that requires Certified Heritage Homes to be decertified, and offers an opportunity for the City to document a home before being decertified and/or demolished.

At this time, as partners in the preservation of Birmingham's history, the Planning Division is requesting some feedback from the Museum Board on the content of the application (including the data being gathered), ideas on how to add a protective feature to this program, and a system in which the City and the Museum have shared access to the Heritage Home Program files for use by either entity.



Heritage Home Application

1. APPLICANT

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

2. PROPERTY OWNER (*Same as Applicant* ☐)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

3. REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

- One (1) digital file of application and all required attachments.
- Photographs of the house and site including all sides of the exterior and close-ups of prominent features.
- Available historic photographs of the house.
- Completed Heritage Home Checklist (below).
- Additional available information related to the history of the house.
- Heritage Home Decertification Agreement.

4. HERITAGE HOME QUALIFICATION

Address of House: _____

Year Built: _____ (*if not available, estimate year of construction*)

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Owner (*Same as Applicant* ☐): _____ Date: _____

Staff Use Only

PZE Process #: _____

Date Received: _____

Received By: _____



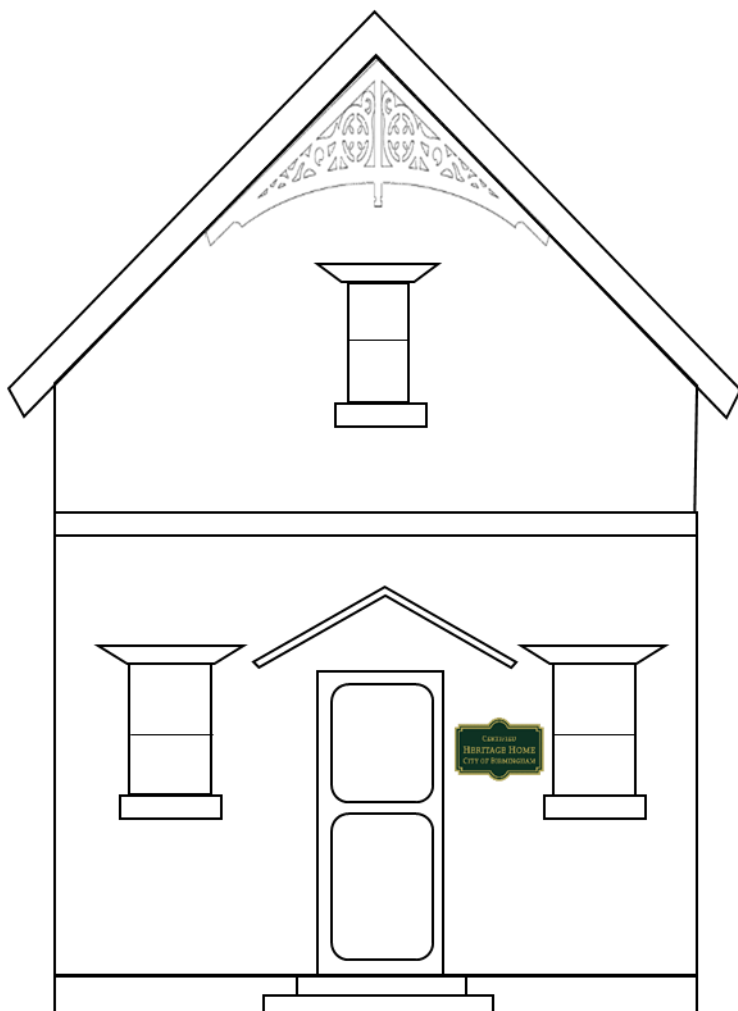
ABOUT THE HERITAGE HOME APPLICATION

The Heritage Home Program is a program designed to celebrate Birmingham's rich history through the recognition of homes that were built **100 years ago or more**. These homes play a special roll in telling Birmingham's story through architecture, stories, relationships and experiences.

As a part of the program, up to 10 certified Heritage Homes per calendar year will receive a plaque at no cost to place on the Heritage Home. Any certifications requested after 10 Heritage Homes have been certified in a year will have the opportunity to participate and may purchase a plaque on an at-cost basis.

In an effort to maintain a sustainable approach to preservation, the application and filing system for this program will be completely digital. Applications may be submitted via email, or by dropping off a digital storage device. Emailed applications should be sent the contact listed at the bottom of this page.

Do you have questions about the Heritage Home program? Need help with the Heritage Home Checklist? The City encourages you to reach out with any questions, comments or concerns!



Staff Use Only

Application #: _____/10

Fee: \$ _____

Nicholas Dupuis, Planning Director

Birmingham City Hall

Planning Division

151 Martin St.

Birmingham, MI 48009

ndupuis@bhamgov.org

(248) 530-1856

HERITAGE HOME CHECKLIST

Address: _____

| ARCHITECTURAL STYLE(S): | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Colonial | <input type="checkbox"/> Cape Cod | <input type="checkbox"/> Dutch Colonial | <input type="checkbox"/> Federal Colonial | <input type="checkbox"/> French Colonial |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Georgian | <input type="checkbox"/> Craftsman | <input type="checkbox"/> Gothic Revival | <input type="checkbox"/> Italianate | <input type="checkbox"/> Queen Anne |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Colonial Revival | <input type="checkbox"/> Tudor Revival | <input type="checkbox"/> Second Empire | <input type="checkbox"/> Victorian | <input type="checkbox"/> Romanesque |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other(s): _____ | | | | |

| DESCRIPTION OF HOUSE: | | | | |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| Foundation | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Limestone | <input type="checkbox"/> Fieldstone | <input type="checkbox"/> Cut Stone | <input type="checkbox"/> Brick | <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete Block |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete Slab | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ | | | |
| Exterior Walls <i>(Select all that apply)</i> | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wood | <input type="checkbox"/> Vinyl | <input type="checkbox"/> Aluminum | <input type="checkbox"/> Stucco | <input type="checkbox"/> Stone |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brick | <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete Block | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ | | |
| Roofing | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt Shingle | <input type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle | <input type="checkbox"/> Metal | <input type="checkbox"/> Slate | <input type="checkbox"/> Tile |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rubber | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ | | | |
| Window Type <i>(Select all that apply)</i> | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Casement | <input type="checkbox"/> Double-Hung | <input type="checkbox"/> Arched | <input type="checkbox"/> Round | <input type="checkbox"/> Square |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Picture | <input type="checkbox"/> Patterned | <input type="checkbox"/> Stained | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ | |

| HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE: |
|---|
| Architect or Builder: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown |
| Notable Features: |
| Significant Alterations? <i>If yes, please explain below</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |



HERITAGE HOME DECERTIFICATION AGREEMENT

The Heritage Home Certification program of the City of Birmingham is a recognition based certification and does not provide any protections against alterations or demolition of these historic buildings. The Heritage Home Program was created to provide property owners with an alternative to formal, legal historic designation, to build pride in owning a historic home, and to retain Birmingham's diverse history.

For this reason, the City of Birmingham requires each certified Heritage Home to complete this Heritage Home Decertification Agreement. **By signing the agreement, you agree and attest to the following:**

1. I am the owner of the real estate owner located at _____;
2. If the certified Heritage Home were to be demolished and redeveloped, the certification will be rendered invalid and the Certified Heritage Home plaque must be removed and returned to the City;
3. I will permit the City of Birmingham to photograph and document the exterior of the building and site at the time of decertification and/or demolition;
4. I have contemplated alternatives to decertification and/or demolition, and in the event of demolition, I have considered salvaging and/or recycling of available building materials for reuse in reconstruction or elsewhere;
5. If the property were to be sold, I will make the new property owner aware of this agreement.

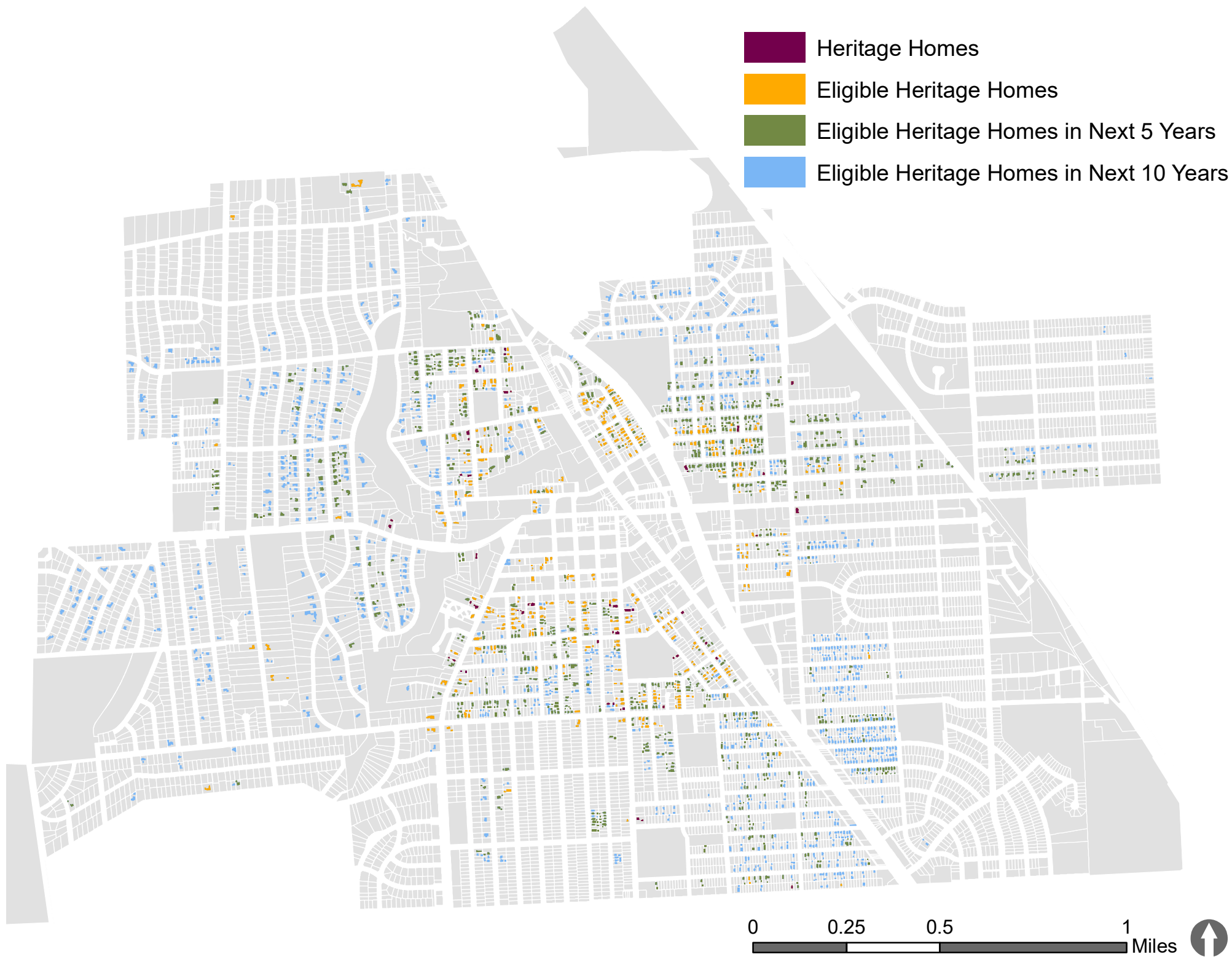
Name of Owner (Print): _____

Signature of Owner: _____

Date: _____

Heritage Home Inventory - 4-26-22

| Address | Status | Year Built | Dominant Architectural Style | Foundation | Exterior Walls | Roofing | Dominant Window Type |
|-----------------|-----------------------|------------|------------------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| 515 Oakland | Demolished | 1915 | | | | | |
| 628 Woodland | Demolished | 1901 | | Concrete Block | Wood | Asphalt Shingle | Double Hung |
| 680 Vinewood | Demolished | 1901 | | Concrete Block | Wood | Asphalt Shingle | Double Hung |
| 707 Harmon | Fairly Original | 1901 | | Cut Stone | Vinyl | Asphalt Shingle | Double Hung |
| 283 E. Lincoln | Demolished | 1901 | | Concrete Block | Wood | Asphalt Shingle | Double Hung |
| 412 E. Frank | Demolished | 1911 | | | | | |
| 612 George | Fairly Original | 1910 | | Concrete Block | Vinyl | Asphalt Shingle | Double Hung |
| 751 Ann | Original | 1901 | | Concrete Block | Wood | Asphalt Shingle | Double Hung |
| 820 Purdy | Fairly Original | 1906 | | Concrete Block | Vinyl | Asphalt Shingle | Double Hung |
| 119 S. Adams | Significantly Altered | 1840 | | Fieldstone | Brick | Metal | Double Hung |
| 211 N. Worth | Fairly Original | 1901 | | Concrete Block | Wood | Asphalt Shingle | Double Hung |
| 546 Ridgedale | Altered | 1901 | | | Brick | Asphalt Shingle | Double Hung |
| 692 N. Adams | Original | 1835 | | Brick | Wood | Asphalt Shingle | Double Hung |
| 887 Oakland | Fairly Original | 1912 | | Concrete Block | Wood | Asphalt Shingle | Double Hung |
| 931 Forest | Fairly Original | 1901 | | Concrete Block | Wood | Asphalt Shingle | Double Hung |
| 1569 Pierce | Fairly Original | 1912 | | Concrete Block | Brick | Asphalt Shingle | Double Hung |
| 1031 E. 14 Mile | Significantly Altered | 1901 | | Concrete Block | Wood | Asphalt Shingle | Double Hung |
| 776 Southfield | Fairly Original | 1901 | | Concrete Block | Wood | Asphalt Shingle | Double Hung |
| 767 Hanna | Fairly Original | 1901 | | Concrete Block | Wood | Asphalt Shingle | Double Hung |
| 536 Stanley | Original | 1901 | | | Wood | Asphalt Shingle | Double Hung |
| 588 Cherry Ct. | Demolished | 1901 | | Concrete Block | Wood | Asphalt Shingle | Double Hung |
| 560 Southfield | Original | 1901 | | Concrete Block | Wood | Asphalt Shingle | Double Hung |
| 711 Maple Lane | Significantly Altered | 1901 | | Concrete Block | Vinyl | Asphalt Shingle | Casement |
| 211 W. Frank | Demolished | 1910 | | | Wood | Asphalt Shingle | Double Hung |
| 560 Pierce | Fairly Original | 1895 | | | Wood | Asphalt Shingle | Double Hung |
| 684 Pierce | Demolished | 1910 | | Concrete Block | Brick | Asphalt Shingle | Casement |
| 1047 Henrietta | Significantly Altered | 1910 | | | Wood | Asphalt Shingle | Double Hung |
| 1076 Pierce | Altered | 1906 | | Concrete Block | Vinyl | Asphalt Shingle | Double Hung |





CERTIFIED

HERITAGE HOME

CITY OF BIRMINGHAM



Birmingham Museum

Long Range Plan 2023



Presented by: Leslie Pielack

Date: January 26, 2023



Public Access

- **Key focus of Strategic Plan**
- **Multiple methodologies**
 1. Expand digitization and virtual access
 2. Reduce physical barriers at museum site
 3. Reach a broader audience with outreach



1. Expanded Digitization

Provide virtual content with high interest and digital value

- Greenwood Cemetery burial data and mapping
- Online access to popular collection items
- Specialized research materials



2. Reduce Physical Barriers

Implement phased park landscape improvements

- Provide ADA-compliant access to lower park lawn and pond
- Integrate improvements with Rouge Trail plan
- Collaborate to develop grant-eligible public access components

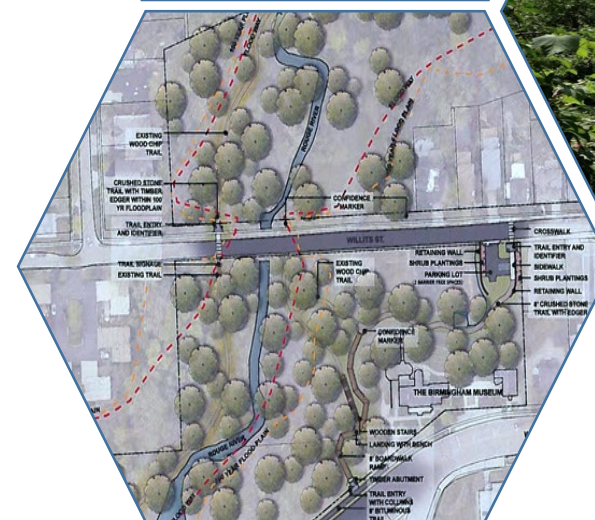
3. Expand Outreach

Reach a broader audience with educational and entertaining approaches

- Off site/traveling exhibits
- Creative use of new social media platforms
- Birmingham-themed virtual and self-guided tours
- Collaborative community programs



Questions?



| Cemetery | | | | |
|----------|--|---|----|----|
| | | | | |
| | Mr. Frederick. Butzloff. | E | | |
| | 3 ft West Side 1 ft 6 in South End to center Grave | | | |
| 21 | Mrs. Henry. Randall. | E | 3 | |
| | 3 ft West Side 2 6 in South End to center Grave | | | |
| 28 | Alice, L. Westlake Child | D | 16 | |
| | East Half of Lot. 17 in East Side to Foot of grave | | | |
| | 3 ft North End to center Grave | | | |
| Feb 22 | Mrs. Estella B. Parks. | E | 18 | 18 |
| | 3 ft West Side. 3 ft North End to center Grave | | | |
| Mar 1 | Mrs. Anna. C. Parks. | E | 18 | 2 |
| | 3 ft West Side 3 ft 3 in from South End to center Grave | | | |
| 15 | Mrs. Mary. J. Park. | E | 2 | |
| | 3 ft 6 in West Side. 8 ft 3 in South End to center Grave | | | |
| | Mrs. Edward. C. Park. | E | | |
| | 3 ft 8 in South End to center Grave 3 ft West Side | | | |



Director Report

DATE: January 5, 2023
TO: Museum Board
FROM: Leslie Pielack, Museum Director
SUBJECT: Director Report

Landscape Design for Phase 3 of Pond Zone—To continue in implementing the Pond Zone improvements, a design for the garden area around the pond will be needed. This final design will work with funds raised through the Michigan Spark grant, if received, or donations, and in combination with other funding. It primarily involves the use of native wetlands plants and a rain garden to facilitate storm water management. These two elements are a strong part of our sustainable goals for the pond area, and can have an impact on our interpretive planning in addition to our historic natural swimming pool area.

Entry in the Congressional Record by Congresswoman Haley Stevens—In recognition of the City of Birmingham and the Birmingham Museum's efforts to list the burial sites of Elijah Fish and George Taylor to the Underground Railroad Network to Freedom, Haley Stevens' office prepared a statement to be formally entered into the Congressional Record, with the summary read before the congress. A copy of the entire statement will be sent for display in our lobby.

Michigan Network to Freedom/UGRR Signs Installed at Cemetery—These grant-funded signs will help identify Greenwood as the location of our newly designated UGRR grave sites for Elijah Fish and George Taylor.

Long-Awaited Taylor Marker on its Way!!—With the final approval to install the marker from the City, a marker has been ordered with funds raised in 2020 and 2021. The marker may not be complete until up to six months since there are excessive delays in supplies and materials still due to the pandemic.

Michigan Humanities Council Grant (Update)—The team of five communities has been actively preparing to begin and/or continue research on the Underground Railroad in Oakland County. Special training is planned for later this month.

Podcast Update—We will be requesting funds from the Birmingham Area Cable Board to help with launching our podcast soon.

Fall/Winter Lecture Series at Baldwin Library Adult Lecture Series—January's presentation will take place on January 12 and will feature Justin Koch presenting Minoru Yamasaki and the Asian American experience in Birmingham. (See more in our displays)

Collection News—From different donation sources, we received more artifacts related to Birmingham's dairy industry from the early 20th century. The message may be, "drink more milk!"

McCallum Dairy Bottle (date not yet known) & Birmingham Dairy Booklet with Recipes (1922)

