



LANDMARKS *Preservationist*

www.uticalandmarks.org

2005 COMMEMORATIVE ORNAMENT FEATURES F.X. MATT BREWING COMPANY

When you think of landmark structures in Utica, it's hard to imagine one better known than the F.X. Matt Brewing Company complex on Varick Street.

The facility was the overwhelming

choice for the Landmarks Society's 2005 commemorative ornament, which will be unveiled at a special reception on Wednesday, October 26 from 5-7 p.m. at the Brewery's 1888 Tavern.

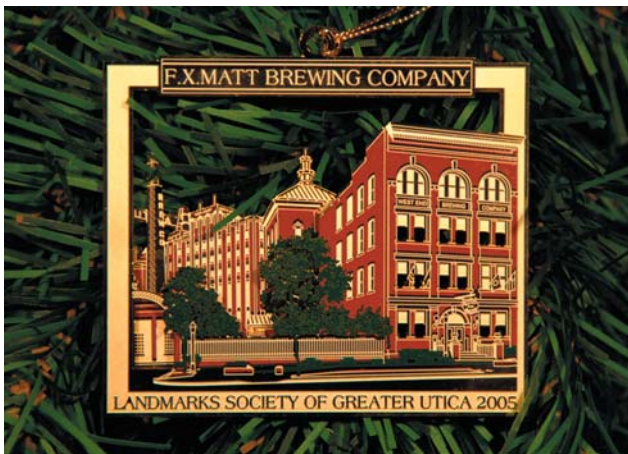
Ornaments can be purchased for \$20 plus tax at the reception.

MATT BREWING COMPANY

As one of the few remaining great American regional breweries, the Matt Brewing Company has prospered at the foothills of the Adirondack Mountains in Central New York for over a century.

In 1885, German-born immigrant F.X. Matt I left a promising career at the famous Duke of

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Previous Years' ORNAMENTS STILL AVAILABLE

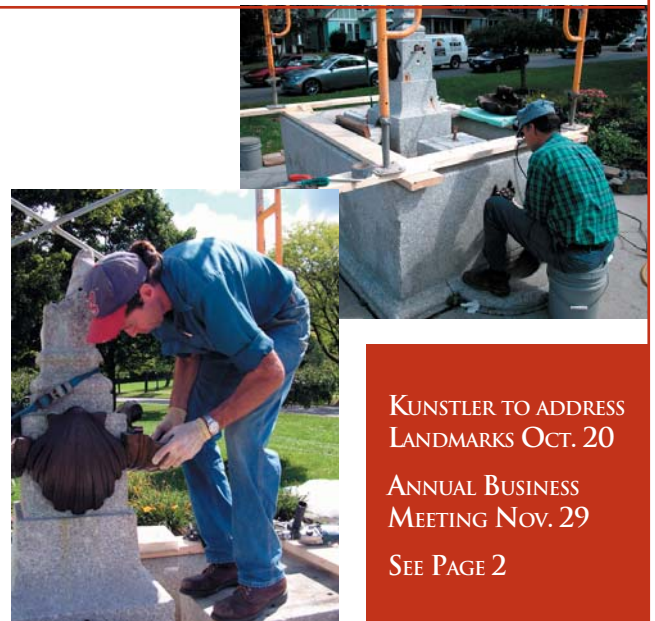
Limited quantities of Landmarks' commemorative ornaments from previous years are still available. Call 315-732-7376 or visit www.uticalandmarks.org for more information.

Ornaments include:

- 2000 — Old Main
- 2001 — Hotel Utica
- 2002 — Savings Bank of Utica (SBU)
- 2003 — Stanley Performing Arts Center
- 2004 — Utica Public Library

Swan Fountain COMES HOME!

Almost a year to the day after its dismantling for a long-awaited restoration, the Swan Memorial Fountain was being reinstalled on Utica's Memorial Parkway as this issue of the *Preservationist* was going to press. The condition of this superb Frederick William MacMonnies work had been long monitored by the Landmarks Society through its Buildings and Sites Worth Saving list. Led by Landmarks and President Michael Rizzo, the restoration effort proved to be a successful public-private partnership with major support coming from the City of Utica, The Community Foundation of Herkimer & Oneida Counties, CONMED and the William F. Locke Family. In mid-September, following repairs to the plumbing works that will enable water to flow through the fountain once again, the restored sculpture was moved from Munson-Williams-Proctor Arts Institute, where it had been on temporary display, back to its pedestal on the Parkway, near the juncture of Elm and Pleasant streets. Robert Marti and Andy Breidenbach of Russell-Marti Conservation Services, the firm that restored the piece, performed the reinstallation. At press time plans were being made for a formal unveiling and rededication ceremony. (PHOTOS BY PAMELA JARDIEU AND STEVE KUKOWSKI)



KUNSTLER TO ADDRESS
LANDMARKS OCT. 20

ANNUAL BUSINESS
MEETING NOV. 29

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ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING Nov. 29

The Landmarks Society's annual business meeting — featuring the election of Officers and Trustees, budget approval, etc. — will take place on Tuesday, November 29 at 6 p.m. at Hotel Utica. There is no cost for this event, which is open to all members.

The following slate will be presented for election:

PRESIDENT

Michael S. Rizzo

VICE PRESIDENT

David Trevisani

RECORDING SECRETARY

Bertha Romanow

TREASURER

Barton Rasmus

MEMBERSHIP AND

CORRESPONDING

SECRETARIES

*Nick Sbarra and
Carol Whitehouse*

TRUSTEES

Term Ending 2008

*Michael Bosak
Phyllis Draper
Ron Draper
Judy Olney
Michael Rizzo
Pamela Jardieu
Bertha Romanow*

TERM ENDING 2007

*John Kalpin Jr.
Michael Kershaw
Virginia Kelly
Steve Olney
Nick Sbarra
Cam Sullivan
Carol Whitehouse*

TERM ENDING 2006

*Janet Blaney
Mary Lyons Bradley
Michelle Klosek
Pamela Matt
Susan McCulley
Kelly Parsons
Barton Rasmus
David Trevisani
Martha Wallace*

FOUR TO RECEIVE AWARDS OF RECOGNITION KUNSTLER TO KEYNOTE OCTOBER 20 MEETING

*A*s noted in the *News Bulletin* recently sent to Landmarks' members, James Kunstler, well-known author and lecturer on the suburbanization of America, will be the keynote speaker at the Landmarks Society's 2005 annual dinner meeting on Thursday, October 20 at the Fort Schuyler Club, 254 Genesee Street, Utica.

The evening, which is open to the public, will begin with cocktails at 6 p.m. A sit-down dinner will be served at 7 p.m., followed by the program, which will also be highlighted by the presentation of Landmarks' annual awards of recognition for historic preservation/restoration. Other agenda items will include remarks by Landmarks President Michael Rizzo and a brief history of the Fort Schuyler Club by Mary Lyons Bradley.

AWARD OF RECOGNITION HONOREES

- **Andy Bevivino** — For renovation of the former Central Electronics building at 809 Court Street, a structure that dates back to the Chenango Canal era and was part of the vast Globe Woolen Mills complex. It now houses Shops at the Finish Line, a multi-tenant facility in the heavy timber and brick mill atmosphere featuring lunches by the Seneca Inn, Jim Ellis Interiors and several other boutique-type specialty stores.

- **Tony Esposito** (The Hurd Building and Space 26) — For the complete and impeccable renovation and reuse of what became Space 26, an anchor of the Bank Place redevelopment effort; and of the former Hurd Shoe Factory Building in historic Bagg's Square. This innovative adaptive reuse project now houses the state-of-the-art JETNET corporate headquarters, tenant office

space and two penthouse loft-style suites.

- **Michelle & Steve Klosek** (The Varick, The Stiefvater Room and Sick-enberger Lane) — For their unwavering vision and commitment to Varick Street. These private entrepreneurs have single-handedly transformed an unsightly auto repair garage into one of the hottest night spots in Utica; created an upscale, historically themed tavern complete with antique photos and maps; and maintained with authenticity one of the most established bars in Utica.

- **Voss** — In recognition of over 60 years of preservation of this popular Utica-area icon. By keeping this well-known façade intact and unchanged, the Voss family is helping to protect our communal history while uniting multiple generations through the common experience of barbecue. It was and still is an "old fashioned" drive-in eatery that has never wavered from its original intent — despite the pressure from the "upstart" chains that sprung up around it. Their hot dogs, hamburgers and shakes are classic.

MAKE YOUR RESERVATION TODAY!

The cost of the annual dinner meeting is \$50 per person for members, \$65 for non-members, including tax and gratuity.

To make your reservation use the form in the *News Bulletin* or mail your payment — along with your name, address, telephone number, e-mail address and number in your party — to: Landmarks Society Annual Dinner, 301 Rutger Street, Utica, NY 13501. *Space is limited, so please reserve early!* More information is available by calling Martha Wallace at 315-797-2784.

RUTGER PARK OFFER A MAJOR STEP FOR LANDMARKS

By MICHAEL RIZZO, PRESIDENT

You have perhaps read in the general media that the Landmarks Society has submitted an offer to purchase two of Utica's most historic properties — 1 and 3 Rutger Park. The preservation and restoration of these structures and the storied Park itself have been among Landmarks' highest priorities since our organization was founded 31 years ago. The news reports have also noted that if successful, Landmarks' purchase of the properties would include the participation of the City of Utica.

Landmarks' decision to submit a purchase offer was made with excitement, cautious optimism and a full understanding of both the challenges and opportunities that await the new owner of these properties. What's more, the move represented a milestone for the Society, marking our transition from being primarily an educator-advocate for local historic preservation, to becoming an active player.

As with most matters like this, the interests of all parties will be best served with negotiations that remain confidential until all details of a final agreement can be announced. We realize, however, that the high profile of this project may result in ongoing media coverage. Rest assured that regardless of the outcome, we will report the results of our offer at the appropriate time.

As that process continues, we are fine-tuning "Rutger Park: Where 19th-Century Politics and Architecture Live" — our plan recapping the Park's extraordinary past and outlining Landmarks' vision for its future. Copies will be distributed at both the October 20 and November 29 events.

We're excited about the plan and hope you will be, too. Thank you for your interest in historical preservation.

LANDMARKS TO GET INTO HALLOWEEN SPIRIT OCTOBER 23!



Members and friends of the Landmarks Society will raise some spirits — ghostly and otherwise! — on Sunday, October 23 as it hosts *Halloween: Haunting, History & Houses* at The Stiefvater Room at 618 Varick Street in Utica.

From 6-10 p.m. the historical character of this contemporary martini bar will be complemented by discussions of ghosts, spirits and apparitions with clairvoyant Cathy Wagner of Boston (formerly of Clinton), who will also offer private readings for a fee. What's more, Park Row Booksellers of Clinton will sell books on area ghosts and hauntings, and the Herkimer Ghost Busters will display and discuss ghost hunting tools and techniques.

Admission is \$10 per person and includes two free drinks, with all proceeds benefiting the Landmarks Society. Costumes, while not required, are encouraged!

A limited number of tickets are available. For more information contact Carol Whitehouse at 315-735-3614.

RIP 22 STEUBEN

This elegant Queen Anne structure, circa 1872, which Landmarks' Endangered Buildings Committee had been monitoring (and designated as priority #3 on our Top 10 list), was recently demolished by the City of Utica. A substantial portion of the building's side masonry wall had collapsed, leaving the home exposed to the elements. Immediate action needed to be taken to prevent further collapse, but that action was not forthcoming.



22 Steuben Park ... before and after.



(Photos by Pamela Jardieu and Steve Kukowski)

DAVID OSTER ARTWORK
STILL AVAILABLE

DISPLAY THE UTICA STREETScape ON YOUR WALL

High-quality prints of the dynamic pen and ink rendering of Utica's streetscape by artist David R.C. Oster — featuring more than 40 of Utica's most recognizable buildings — are still available!

Capturing the magnificence of the city's historic structures, the collage was commissioned by the Landmarks Society this spring. The 25" x 19" prints are offered through the Landmarks Society's Web site, www.uticalandmarks.org, and at area retail outlets including Danella Photographic, Munson-Williams-Proctor Arts Institute Gift Shop, Oneida County Historical Society and Reid-Sheldon & Co.

Unframed prints are \$30.00 each, while a limited number of framed prints are \$130.00 each. A portion of all sales benefits the Landmarks Society.

It's not too early to think about holiday shopping, so order your print today!



LANDMARKS' NEW LINE-UP OF WALKS & TALKS POPULAR PART OF UTICA MONDAY NITE '05



► *Old City Hall was one of the Rome sites featured in Landmarks' "On the Move" sessions held during its 2005 Walks & Talks. Leading the tour was Landmarks Society life member Hanna Rieg (foreground). (PHOTO BY MICHAEL BOSAK)*

On August 29 the Landmarks Society wrapped up another successful season of playing a major role in the Utica Monday Nite program.

Beginning on June 6 and continuing an additional 11 weeks, Landmarks' 2005 Walks & Talks included a new line-up of Utica venues as well as "On the Move" sessions featuring visits to historic and architecturally significant sites in Clinton, Little Falls and Rome.

The allure of these new destinations — along with the beautiful summer weather — attracted enthusiastic crowds and has everyone looking forward to the 2006 edition of Utica Monday Nite!

"DOLGEVILLE OR BUST!" IN '06

As this newsletter was going to press, a full busload of participants was on its way to the Landmarks Society's October 1 fall tour to Skaneateles.

As they did so, plans for the 2006 fall tour — titled "The Dolgeville Experience" — were already in motion. Watch for details on Landmarks' trek to this historic Herkimer County community in the months ahead.

McCULLEY, RASMUS JOIN LANDMARKS BOARD

At its June board meeting the Landmarks Society elected Susan McCulley and Barton Rasmus as Trustees.

"We're extremely pleased that Sue and Bart have joined us as Trustees," President Mike Rizzo said. "Their passion for historic preservation, highlighted by their impressive backgrounds, will be of immeasurable value to Landmarks' work."

SUSAN McCULLEY

Sue has been a resident of the Greater Utica Area for more than 20 years and is known by many as the founder of The Village Toy Shop, which she opened in 1984.

She holds an associate's degree in nursing from North Central Michigan College, a bachelor's degree in interior design from Atlantic Union College in Michigan and a master's degree in teaching English to speakers of other languages from Vermont's School for International Training.

Sue teaches ESL (English as a second language) classes at Mohawk Valley Community College and also works with her husband Clyde to restore period homes in the area.

The McCulleys reside in Barneveld.



BARTON RASMUS

Bart is a familiar face to Landmarks members, having been a President and Trustee, as well as a member for nearly 25 years!

He holds a bachelor's degree in contracting and construction and serves a Director of Physical Plant and Security at the Munson-Williams-Proctor Arts Institute, a post he has held since 1979. He has overseen the exterior restoration and ongoing maintenance of Fountain Elms and the renovation of several Victorian-era homes and apartments.

A member of the Foundation board of the Central Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired, he was a founding board member of the Downtown Utica Development Association (DUDA) and Gro-West. His hobbies include collecting and restoring antique automobiles and antique toys.

Bart and his wife Barbara live in New Hartford.



"I have always enjoyed a deep interest in architecture and design, and have loved living around the rich historical architecture that is Utica. I'm honored to have the opportunity to further serve our community through the Landmarks Society of Greater Utica."

— Susan McCulley

ENDANGERED BUILDINGS COMMITTEE ADDRESSING FULL AGENDA

At a recent special meeting of Landmarks' Endangered Buildings Committee the group discussed a number of concerns regarding properties, projects and proposals being monitored. Since the status of several of these items remained in flux as this newsletter went to press, updates will be provided in the next *Preservationist* and/or in the general media.

WHAT IS THE COMMITTEE MONITORING?

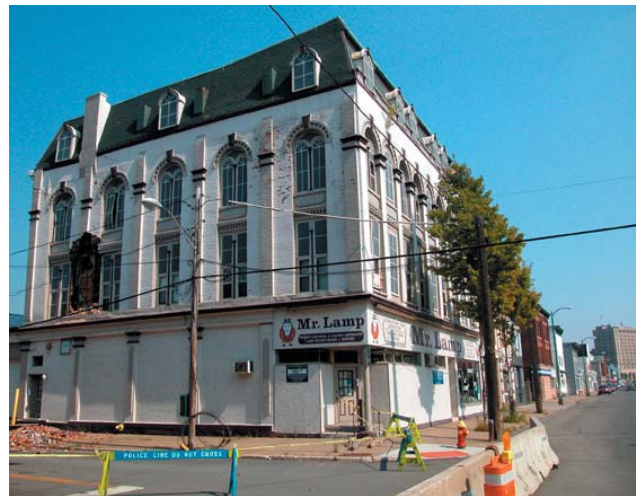
- Potential changes at the Union Station restaurant, including/especially the front-running proposal to dismantle the lunch counter/bar that is original to the building. The proposal would turn the restaurant into an occasional banquet room and possible breakfast/lunch establishment.

Once the marble-topped counter goes, it is not likely to be put back.

- The continued deterioration of the "Mr. Lamp" building on the corner of State and Columbia Streets. The City is considering demolition over stabilization and repair.
- Proposals for a huge parking garage structure downtown.
- Proposals for The Gateway Project.
- The Mohawk Valley Water Authority mandate to drain the East Utica reservoirs and replace them with above-ground water storage tanks that will permanently mar the beautiful "Valley View."
- Apparent roof damage and water leakage in at least two of the vacant auxiliary buildings adjacent Old Main at the Mohawk Valley Psychiatric Center, Utica Campus.

- A possible second 'open house' (in the evening or on a weekend) at Old Main prior to the records repository receiving its first shipment of records.
- The condition of the still-vacant 3 Hopper Street and "The Castle" building on the corner of Oneida and Hobart streets.
- Rutger Park.

▶ *The Mr. Lamp building on Columbia Street has received considerable attention in the media recently. Its deteriorating condition led to the closing off of State Street between Columbia and Lafayette streets. (PHOTO BY PAMELA JARDIEU)*



▶ *The 40'x18' marble countertop in the lunchroom at Union Station shown on this vintage postcard has been a feature of the structure since it opened in 1914. In a recent Observer-Dispatch article, Endangered Buildings Committee Chair and past Landmarks' President Michael Bosak commented, "In my mind that's a defining feature of that space," adding that he believes no other similarly sized marble countertop exists in Oneida County. He noted that he's hopeful an alternative use for the space can be found, enabling the countertop to be saved. "I'm concerned about this 'ripping and tearing' trend," he added. "We're systematically 'trashing' our history ..." (POSTCARD COURTESY OF MICHAEL BOSAK)*

2006 PROGRAMS TO KICK OFF FEBRUARY 7 WITH "THE ARCHITECTURE OF MADNESS" BY RAND CARTER

Landmarks' line-up of programs for 2006 will kick off with a special presentation titled "The Architecture of Madness" by Hamilton College professor and past Landmarks President Rand Carter on Tuesday evening, February 7 at the Utica Public Library.

The presentation will offer a world survey of architectural settings for the treatment of the mentally ill from antiquity to present.

With Utica being the home of "Old Main," one of the most historic and architecturally significant mental health facilities anywhere, this topic is certain to be of interest — so mark your calendar now and watch for further details!

2005 COMMEMORATIVE ORNAMENT

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LANDMARKS
Preservationist

Baden Brewery in the Black Forest region of Germany to travel to the United States with the dream of owning his own brewery someday. After several years of brewing experience at the Bierbaur Brewery, F.X. Matt I re-organized the faltering brewery to create The West End Brewing Company in 1888. It quickly became one of the largest and most successful of the 12 breweries operating in Utica at the time.

Today, under the leadership of the third (Nick) and fourth (Fred) generations of the Matt Family, the Brewery has earned the reputation as one of the most respected specialty brewers in the country, producing a variety of distinctive, flavorful beers.

WHERE TO BUY YOUR ORNAMENT

Following the October 26 reception, the 2005 ornament will be

available through the Landmarks Society's Web site — www.uticalandmarks.org — and at several local retail outlets:

- Danella Photographic
- McHarris Gifts — Clinton
- Munson-Williams-Proctor Arts Institute Gift Shop
- Oneida County Historical Society
- Reid Sheldon & Co.
- Utica Public Library
- F.X. Matt Brewery Gift Shop

Join Us! To join Landmarks, complete and mail this application to: Landmarks Society of Greater Utica; 1124 State Street; Utica, NY 13502

Checks should be made payable to the Landmarks Society of Greater Utica.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY (please choose one)

- Associate-Student/Senior (62 & over) \$10.00
- Active-Individual \$20.00
- Active-Couple \$30.00
- Patron/Business \$75.00
- Life (payable in four \$50.00 installments). \$200.00

Reminder: All Landmarks Society memberships expire in December and must be renewed in January, with the exception of first-time memberships commenced in the fall.

Welcome NEW MEMBERS!

The Landmarks Society is pleased to welcome the following new members:

BUSINESSES

Whitesboro Historical Society

INDIVIDUALS & COUPLES

Bill Ball	Diane Lange
Theodore & Edith Camesano	Jane M. Link
Stacy Cormier	Lawrence Mercurio
Katharine Cummins	Lois Portman
Linda Czerkies	Maureen Ruben
H. Stuart deCamo	Clare Ryan
Lucille Grobin	Sharon Seth
Cecilia M. Gruszka	Elizabeth Snyder
Nancy Horvath	Lois Stamboly
Yvonne Hutchinson	Barbara Turro
Patricia Jue	Ed & Kathleen Walker
Marilyn Kane	Dolores Waszkiewicz
Evelyn Keller	Mary Lou Williams
Arlene Kelly	Marian Giunta Wilson
Cheryl Kopyt	Connie Zogby

The Landmarks Society of Greater Utica was chartered by the State of New York on October 25, 1974, as a nonprofit educational corporation to preserve historic buildings and districts in the Utica area.

Offices: 1124 State Street, Utica, New York 13502

Telephone: 315-732-7376 • Web site: www.uticalandmarks.org



**Landmarks Society
Of Greater Utica**

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Utica, NY 13502

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