

Portage Historic District Commission

PICKET FENCES

Spring 2012

Volume Nine No. One

"DISCOVER
AMERICA'S HIDDEN
GEMS"
NATIONAL TRUST FOR
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
2012 THEME

SPRING TIME IS THE PERFECT SEASON TO FIND HIDDEN HISTORY IN PORTAGE

Join us to celebrate National Preservation Month and historic preservation in Portage on Thursday, May 17th at 6:30 p.m. at the Portage District Library. Progress in the Portage Historic District will be discussed, as well as a feature presentation from local architect Randy Case. Randy will be presenting about "Local Hidden Treasures". All guests who make a donation to the Portage Historic District will receive a copy of the Historic District's book *Where the Trails Crossed*. Light refreshments will be provided. RSVP's are appreciated, but not required. Please call Mark Reile at (269) 327-5699 or email mreile@tmp-architecture.com. We look forward to seeing you there!

2012 Annual Homeowners Gathering

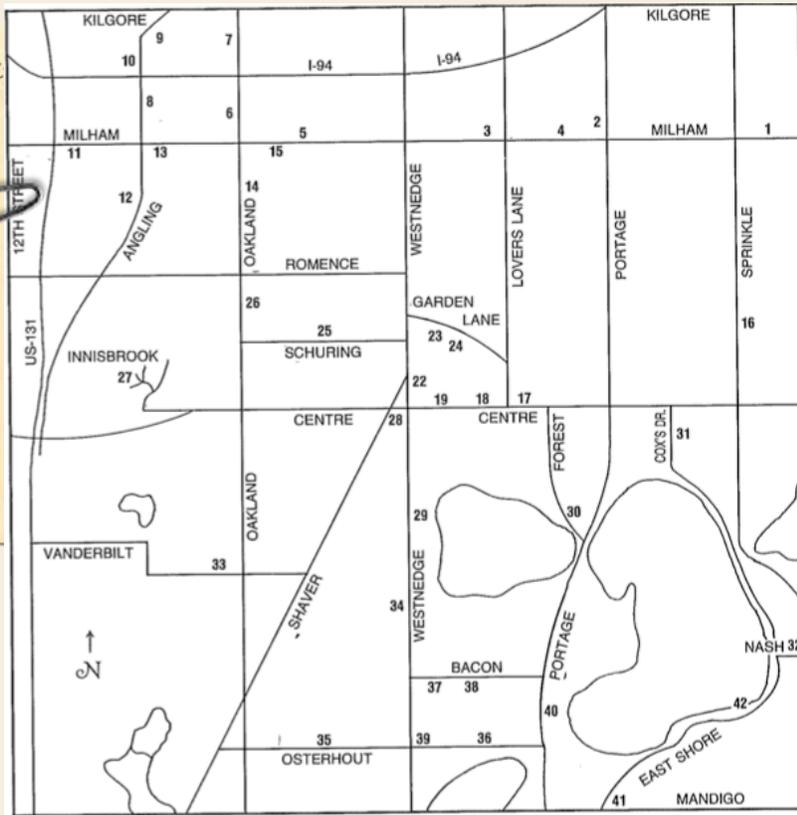
PORTAGE GEM IN FULL BLOOM



*The sights of spring are on display
at 3821 West Milham.*

*We want to thank
Lifestory Funeral
Homes for donating
our refreshments
for our 2012 Event*





PORTAGE HISTORIC DISTRICT PROPERTIES

1. 4415 East Milham (1895 Queen Anne)
2. 5830 Portage (1850's Greek Revival)
3. 1617 East Milham, moved to 6851 Sprinkle (1850's Greek Revival)
4. 2027 East Milham (1832 Indian Fields Cemetery)
5. 1324 West Milham, moved to 7340 Garden Lane in Celery Flats (1846 Greek Revival)
6. 8720 Oakland (1860's-70's Midwest Farmhouse)
7. 5134 Oakland (1852 Greek Revival)
8. 5719 Angling (1852 Greek Revival)
9. 5029 Angling (1870's-80's Italianate)
10. 5260 Angling (1868 Midwest Farmhouse)
11. 3821 West Milham (1859 Greek Revival)
12. 6638 Angling (1870's Italianate)
13. 3221 West Milham (1850's-60's Midwest Farmhouse)
14. 6235 Oakland (1864 Greek Revival District #2 school)
15. 1705 West Milham (1835 Dry Prairie Cemetery)
16. 6869 Sprinkle (1892 Queen Anne)
17. 1521 East Centre (1910 Midwest Farmhouse)
18. 903 East Centre (1915)
19. 515 East Centre (1853 Greek Revival)
20. 214 Brown was removed from the district and demolished in 2001.
21. 309 East Centre was removed from the district and demolished in 2001.
22. 7336 Garden Lane (1930 Grain Elevator)
23. 7736 Garden Lane (1856 Greek Revival District #8 school)
24. 904 Schuring (1910 Queen Anne)
25. 7119 Oakland (1850's Midwest Farmhouse)
26. 7706 Innisbrook (1870's Midwest Farmhouse)
27. 8021 Oak (1926 American Four Square)
28. 8643 Westnedge (1920 Bungalow)
29. 2106 Forest (1870's Midwest Farmhouse)
30. 8009 Cox's Drive (1927 District #6 school)
31. 9844 Sprinkle (1850's Greek Revival)
32. 2112 Vanderbilt (1878 Italianate)
33. 9426 Westnedge (1870 Italianate)
34. 922 West Osterhout (1853 Greek Revival)
35. 703 East Osterhout (1920's Bungalow)
36. 506 Bacon (1860's District #7 school)
37. 704 Bacon (1870 Midwest Farmhouse)
38. 10327 South Westnedge (1858 South Cemetery)
39. 10209 Portage (1870 Italianate)

**Hidden No
More...
Discover All the
Portage
Historic
District Has to
Offer**

EXTERIOR COLORS FOR HISTORIC HOMES

As warm weather approaches, many historic homeowners begin to consider exterior projects. The color palette selected for the exterior of the home and outbuildings is one of the most important decisions to be made. Appropriate color choices can be a reflection of the architectural style and a reference to the period in which a home was constructed.

Many homeowners select very neutral colors because they think they are more historically accurate. Actually, exterior colors from the 19th and early 20th century were much more vivid than many people would believe. Rich neutrals and earth tones, olive and sage greens, deep reds, warm golds, calm grays and blues were popular. Another common misstep is to paint the body of the house the same color as the trim and embellishments. Many historic color schemes were comprised of three to five colors.

When preparing and painting the exterior of a historic building, caution must be taken regarding the abatement of lead paint. Lead paint safety information is

available at paint retailers and online. There is also a National Park Service (NPS) Preservation Brief (*Number 37: "Appropriate methods for reducing lead-paint hazards in historic housing"*) that is informative on most aspects of lead safety in historic homes.

If you have ideas for Picket Fences or feedback for the commission, please contact Mark Reile, Chairperson, at (269) 327-5699.

There are excellent resources online for researching appropriate colors for your historic home. Various experts look to historic printed material advertising painting products or new homes from the era. Several popular paint companies have created historic paint collections, although it is important to make ensure the colors are accurate for the style and age of the home. A few recommended websites include:

oldhousejournal.com

historichousecolors.com

valsparpaint.com (*search National Trust Historic Colors*)

For additional help finding resources for exterior colors or any project, please contact the Historic District Commission.

Please call the Portage City Hall at (269) 329-4400 to apply for a Certificate of Appropriateness before starting any projects on your historic home.

