



Council to Discuss Sternberg Building Feb. 19

The Littleton City Council will discuss options for preserving and using the iconic, but out-dated, Sternberg building at their annual workshop Feb. 19 at the Littleton Museum.

The modernist structure at 2009 W. Littleton Blvd. fea-



tures a folded plate roof and walls of gray glass and gray and white brick. It is considered a “handsome little gem” of the modernist style by architects and preservationists and is currently on the List of Merit.

Architect Eugene Sternberg designed the building for his personal office in 1961.

On Mar. 17, 1961, Houston Waring wrote in the Littleton Independent, “In choosing Littleton for their headquarters, Eugene Sternberg & Associates have cast their lot permanently with our community...we suspect the dynamism of these men will help transform Littleton into the state’s most attractive suburb.”

A few months after Sternberg moved into the top floor, Arapahoe County bought the building from Sternberg for office space.

The building was later acquired by the City of Littleton as part of the purchase of the former Arapahoe County jail property. It has been vacant for many years, and the city has grappled with its use.

Sternberg was the architect for the Bemis Public Library, Arapahoe Community College, Heritage High School, the Littleton Law Center, and the former Littleton Clinic (now demolished). He also did site design work on Arapahoe Acres in Englewood and Geneva Village in Littleton.

Sternberg believed in achieving rational and responsible architecture. His buildings are modernist, a no-frills style that some people view as “ugly” and not worth preserving.

In May 2004, Historic Lit-

tleton Inc. joined with the Englewood Historical Society in honoring architect Eugene Sternberg, who is now deceased.

As Michael Paglia, architectural writer for Westword newspaper, wrote in 2004, “I think it’s great that preservationists in Littleton are starting to recognize the accomplishments of Sternberg, the city’s most important architect—ever.”



Mayor Doug Clark, Councilmember Peggy Cole and City Manager Jim Woods toured the Sternberg building in 2008.

Historic Littleton Inc. is dedicated to preserving the historical and architectural heritage of the greater Littleton area through advocacy and education.

Preservation Leaders Honored September 10

The Historic Preservation Board and HLI joined forces September 10 to present awards to several individuals and organizations who have made special contributions to preservation.

Rick Cronenberger was honored for Preservation Advocacy. Rick was one of the original members of the HP Board and helped write the city's preservation ordinance. He

helped Main Street gain National Trust status. He also helped to found the Second Century Fund, now HLI.

Mitch Cowley and Patricia Sommers received the Outstanding Achievement Award for the restoration of their 1967 home on Chimayo Road in Arapahoe Hills.

Lola Salazar received an Award of Merit for renovating the Crawford Saloon building at

2490 W. Main into a vintage candy shop, Lola's Sugar Rush.

The City of Littleton and the Town Hall Arts Center Board of Directors were recognized for their ongoing stewardship of the Town Hall building. Town Hall was built in 1920 and is a National Historic Landmark and a local landmark.

Preservation News and Updates

After many delays, work has finally started on the Ed Bemis House.

In 2008 the City of Littleton accepted a \$198,483 grant from the State Historical Fund and agreed to a \$93,904 cash match to restore the home, which is the headquarters of Western Welcome Week. Historic Littleton Inc. also has an office there.

The grant will go towards replacing the roof with wood shingles, stabilizing the basement support system, redoing the lap siding, and rehabilitating the exterior doors and windows. Visit www.westernwelcomeweek.org for on-going photos of the restoration. Work should be complete next spring.

Colorado Preservation Inc. will host its 13th annual conference, Saving Places 2010, Preservation—the Foundation of Sustainability, on Feb. 3-5. Register at www.coloradopreservation.org.

Congratulations to HLI members Peggy Cole, Bruce Stahlman, and Jim Taylor for their recent election to the Littleton City Council!

Two openings are available on the City of Littleton's Historic Preservation Board. The board meets monthly on the third Monday at 7 p.m. Applications must be received in the

city clerk's office by 5 p.m. Jan. 29. Online applications are preferred. For more information call 303-795-3753.

A new 15-minute film on historic preservation has been produced by the City of Littleton for Channel 8. Go to www.littletongov.org and click on the Historic Preservation video icon on the right, or view it on www.youtube.com.

The Hunter residence, owned by HLI members Art and Anita Garfein, was designated a historic landmark by the city council on Aug. 4. The Colonial Revival style home at 3986 W. Bowles was built in 1889 for a pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Littleton.

The Historic Littleton Inc. newsletter is published quarterly for members of HLI as part of their membership contribution. Send comments to P.O. Box 1004, Littleton, 80160 or email: rebeccakast@earthlink.net.

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