

PRESS RELEASE

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www.ErieCDP.org

Lost, Saved & Endangered

ErieCDP honors Preservation Month

7PM, May 20th, Ridge Center

The board of the *Erie Center for Design & Preservation* will honor Preservation Month by reviewing buildings in Erie County that have been recently demolished, successfully preserved and those that face threats today. The evening will include the most recent (good) news about the Villa Chapel and a short animation by the local company, MoreFrames. Hosted by the ErieCDP, this 90-minute event is free and open to the public. The Ridge Center at 301 Peninsula Drive Erie, PA 16505-2042 will open at 6:30; parking is available adjacent to the entrance.

Dr. Chris Magoc, Board President of the ErieCDP, notes that Preservation Month is good time to “*celebrate the rich and varied built landscape we still have...*” Preservation and adaptive reuse promotes livability, historic tourism and “*sense of place.*” Preservation projects offer the “*greenest*” construction option. Preservation projects can provide more support to local economies than can new construction because new construction projects budgets are largely used to purchase and transport pre-fabricated, higher carbon-footprint materials such as plastic and aluminum. In contrast, preservation projects use fewer pre-fabricated materials and hire local, skilled workers. Magoc says Erie should “*advance policies that incentivize the preservation and adaptive reuse*” to preserve Erie County’s “*irreplaceable, economic assets.*”

Previous ErieCDP speakers have included: Duncan Stroik, professor of architecture at *Notre Dame*, Arthur Ziegler, founder of the *Pittsburgh History and Landmark Foundation*, Donovan Rypkema, founder of *Place Economics*, Ken Prendergast, Executive Director of *All Aboard Ohio*, Dr. Daniel B. Hess of the *University of Buffalo School of Architecture and Planning*, Tom Leary of the *Society of Industrial Archeology* and Adrian Fine of the *National Trust*. At the invitation of the ECDP, Thomas Hylton, the Pulitzer-prize winning author of *Save our Lands, Save our Towns*, visited Erie and wrote two essays for the *Erie Times News* on the advantages of adaptively reusing public school buildings. The ECDP also worked with *Preservation PA*, to organize a Design Charrette to consider options for renovating Roosevelt Middle School. www.eriecdp.org