2026 Historic Preservation Awards

Good evening:

I am Cindy Toppin and I'm here with my fellow commissioner, William Beck, to present the 2026 Preservation Awards. Preservation awards date back to 2001, when we began recognizing homeowners and business owners who had done an admirable job of preserving older buildings in Hastings. Older residences as well as the downtown Historic District are a big part of tourism in Hastings and something that we want to preserve as part of our history.

2026 Preservation Awards:

1010 Tyler Street

Owners: Alyssa Stadtler and Leander De Villiers

This house was built in 1925. It is a two story stucco home with red brick. There is a full front porch and a back porch on the first floor. It is located in what was known as the Bailey addition, and today it is across from Kennedy Elementary School. It has 4 bedrooms.

The current owner reports that the house was originally located along the Mississippi River in Cow Town. It has a "twin" that was moved to 1st Street East. The homes were built as lock master housing quarters until they were relocated between 1977 and 1985.

The picture on the screen shows the original location. It also shows the house during the historic high crest of the river in 1965.

314 West 9th Street
Owner: William Stone

This house is turning 100 this year! It is 1 1/2 stories and matches the house next door in its facade.

It was once the home of Carroll Hanson, a jeweler in downtown Hastings, where Berend's jewelry once was.

The current owner and his son did an excellent job of painting the house this past summer, and we wish to present this award to them for their efforts in maintaining a historic property.

William reads next:

Stewardship Awards:
These are previous award winners who have maintained their beautiful homes in the ensuing 20 years or more since they won the original award.

Both of the houses that are receiving the Stewardship Awards this year are located on West 7th Street. 7th Street was once known as "Silk Stocking Street" because the doctors and dentists lived there.

200 7th St W

Owners: John and Therese Fasbender

The home at 200 7th Street West was constructed in 1870 on land originally owned by Henry H. Sibley. The property has changed hands several times over the past two centuries, being owned by prominent Hasting's names including C.P. Adams and most recently, the Fasbender family via Herman A. Fasbender's purchase in 1925. Interestingly, Herman A. Fasbender served three terms as the Mayor of Hastings, winning his initial term in 1940. He also ran the St. Rapheal hospital now known as Thorwood. His son, also

known as Dr. Fasbender, opened a clinic in the Frank Lloyd Wright building on Highway 55, now the home of Edward Jones. The current owner remembers grateful patients coming to the door on Christmas Eve to give their doctor presents and cards.

The two and one-half story house sits on a sloping site, with prominent features such as the built-in porch and distinctive trim finishing. The original garage on the property became a separate residence at 212 W 7th St, around 1930.

The hearth room/parlor showcases an original brick, wood-burning fireplace, gorgeous hardwood floors, and beamed ceilings. A formal dining room with a bay window sets the stage for gatherings, while a main-level den opens to a three-season porch. Upstairs, there are four bedrooms.

This house caught our attention when last summer, when two people, including the owner John Fasbender, painted the 3273 square foot house. Obviously this took quite a while!!

Within the past two weeks, the Fasbenders have put this historic house up for sale after being in their family for 101 years. We are thankful that we can reward them for their efforts throughout the years and hope the new owners will also value the history of this home.

314 7th Street West

Owner: Bruce Darrow

The Feipel House at 314 West 7th Street is an excellent example of Hastings' early residential architecture. Built around 1865, it ranks among the city's oldest dwellings. Stonecutter Moses Hayden, who arrived in Hastings

in 1857, constructed the original house on this site. A plaque on the gable end confirms the 1865 construction date.

The house is a two-story wood-frame building on a stone foundation. It features a gable-hip roof covered with asphalt shingles, a full front porch supported by Doric columns, and a later added sun porch. The front section retains much of its historic character, while the rear has seen four documented modifications over the decades. A major fire in the 1940s gutted the interior but left the sturdy frame intact. Square nails recovered from the attic are reminders of its mid-19th-century craftsmanship.

The home has passed through many owners who each left their mark. After Hayden came the Mathews and Hayes families. Farmer and grocer John Feipel purchased it in 1920, giving the house its common name. The Swansons rebuilt after the fire. Teachers R.J. and Anna Simonitsch owned it starting in 1949. Richard Darsow lived there from 1975 until 2016, when his son Bruce became the owner.

Bruce has done major repairs to the house over the years: The metal siding was ripped off and replaced with new wood lap siding as originally designed. The front foundation was coming apart and he pulled out the stone himself and had new footings put in. The recovered stone was used to build a wall by the alley in back.

Though altered over time, the Feipel House remains in excellent condition and contributes significantly to the local historic context of residential architecture in Hastings. This home represents the spirit of Hastings heritage: endurance through fire and change, continuous private stewardship, and a quiet but enduring presence in the city's historic residential fabric. The Hastings Heritage Preservation Commission is pleased to recognize the Feipel House and its owner for maintaining its architectural and historical value.

Cindy talks:

Facebook contest for homes turning 100 this year:

Thanks to City communications Staff and Justin Fortney for helping to promote our FB contest for homes turning 100 this year. The winner of the contest this year is: Peter and Linda Peine. Their house is located on the corner of Ashland and 9th Street; they received the most votes in the public FB contest.

They will receive a Century Home Plaque to put by their front door. The runners up can all purchase a plaque for half price. Anyone with a century home who wants such a plaque can work with City staff to determine eligibility and can purchase their own plaque as well.

Congratulations to all the winners tonight!