

IDA LEE WILLIS MEMORIAL AWARDS WINNERS

2025 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award

Meme Runyon | Harrods Creek, KY

Preservation Project Awards:

109 Main Street, Cadiz | *Todd and Melissa Wallace*
The Kirby House, Harrodsburg | *Bruce Wade*
The Crawford House, Perryville | *Dr. R. Ted Steinbock*
WigWam Village No. 2., Cave City | *Megan and Keith Stone*
Morris Dry Goods Building, Glasgow | *Zatt Properties LLC, Smith & Darnell Families of Barren County, KY*

Service to Preservation:

D. Scott Clark, Newport, KY
Dixie Hibbs, Bardstown, KY

Grassroots Preservation:

United Way of the Bluegrass for the Marksbury Family WayPoint Center at the historic Palmer Pharmacy | Lexington, KY

2024 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award

Bill Weyland | Louisville, KY

Preservation Project Awards:

Belle Louise Historic Guest House | Cary and Melinda Winchester
Rockdale | Donald Wenzel and Ron Darnell
Sower Building | John and Phyllis Sower
St. Joseph Catholic Church | Bowling Green, KY

Service to Preservation:

Covington Academy of Heritage Trades | City of Covington and Enzweiler Building Institute
Harold Edwards | Perryville, KY
Bell Theater | City of Pineville and Main Street Pineville

Grassroots Preservation:

Friends of Huntertown Community Interpretive Park | Woodford County, KY

2023 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award

Helen Williams Dedman, Harrodsburg

Preservation Project Awards:

First Presbyterian Church of Paducah
Mark and Diane Garrison, Charles Furr House, South Frankfort

Service to Preservation:

Ruth Wade Cox Brunings (posthumously awarded)
Chris Black of Paducah, Kentucky

Grassroots Preservation:

Susan Dyer and The Friends of the Holt Home, Inc

2020 - 2022 | Awards were not given due to Covid-19 Pandemic

2019 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award**Mrs. Milly Ann Stewart, Frankfort**

Preservation Project Awards:

The Shoppes at Blue Gables, Shelbyville
Castle and Key, Woodford County
The Ole Opera House, Guthrie

Service to Preservation:

Gov. Matthew G. Bevin, representing the Commonwealth of Kentucky,
Kentucky Finance and Administration Cabinet, and Kentucky Division of
Historic Properties
Herb Fink, Louisville
Michael and Catherine McElwain, Newport

Grassroots Preservation:

Historic Beaver Dam Deposit Bank
Dinah Bird-Westerfield for Baker-Bird Winery, Augusta

2018 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award**Kentucky Supreme Court Justice Bill Cunningham, Kuttawa**

Preservation Project Awards:

Fayette County Courthouse, Lexington, Historic Courthouse LLLP
Hotel Covington, Salyers Group
George W. Robson Jr. House, Bellevue, Taylor and Sasha Voss

Service to Preservation:

Wayna Adams, Heritage Program Manager for Daniel Boone National
Forest
Mark Gumbert for Paint Lick
Patrick Kennedy of Owenton, for commitment to teaching and
preserving traditional preservation trades

Grassroots Preservation:

Caneyville Purple Flash Community Center
New Castle Grand United Order of Odd Fellows Washington
Lodge No. 1513 Preservation Consortium

2017 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award**Linda Bruckheimer, Bloomfield and Los Angeles, CA**

Preservation Project Awards:

Hellman Creative Center, Center for Great Neighborhoods, Covington
Paducah Coca-Cola Bottling Plant, Ed and Meagan Musselman
Rabbit Hash General Store, Rabbit Hash Historical Society
Robneel Building, Paris, Darrell & Debbie Poynter and Chris Poynter

Service to Preservation:

Eric and Ellen Gregory of Midway
Martin Luther King and William Wells Brown Neighborhood
Associations for "Gathering Our History: An East End Preservation
Project" University of Kentucky Historic Preservation Symposium

Grassroots Preservation:

Dr. Andy Paul Keaton of Red Bush, Lloyd Hamilton Mott House
Mt. Washington Youth Chamber of Preservationists (Youth COPs), "A
Milestone at the Crossroads"

2016 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award**Steve Wilson and Laura Lee Brown, Goshen**

Preservation Project Awards:

The 1857 Boutique Hotel, Paducah, Paul Gourieux and Jorge Martinez
Ouerbacker Mansion, Louisville, Oracle Design
Potter's Castle, Bowling Green, Steve and Patsy Morgenthaler

Service to Preservation:

Jack Jouett Archaeology Project, Versailles
Gudrun Allen and Jennifer Tijou for Pleasanton Goods, Paris
Scot Walters, Frankfort, retired Kentucky Heritage Council
Site Development Program manager
Bernie and Susan Hunstad, Danville, Third Street Methodist Church

Grassroots Preservation:

Shirl Marks, Stamping Ground, for Stonetown Haven
Scott Madon, Mayor of Pineville

2015 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award**K. Norman Berry, Louisville**

Preservation Project Awards:

Fulton Conway Building, Louisville
V.A. Kaltenbrun Building, Frankfort
Shotgun Row, Covington

Service to Preservation:

Friends of Eastern Cemetery, Louisville
Living Archaeology Weekend Steering Committee
James and Maxine Cass, for Camp Wildcat Civil
War Battlefield in Laurel County

Grassroots Preservation:

Meridzo Center Ministries for Lamp House Coffee, Lynch
Snivley Chapel Restoration Project, Pike County

2014 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award**Dr. David Pollack and Dr. Gwynn Henderson**

Preservation Project Awards:

Botherum, Lexington
Clarkson House, Vine Grove
First Presbyterian Church, Georgetown
Wolf Pen Branch Mill Farm Mill Restoration, Jefferson County

Service to Preservation:

Hotel Metropolitan Museum, Paducah
Marian Development Group, Louisville
Liberty Hall – National Society of the Colonial Dames of
America in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, Frankfort

Grassroots Partner Award:

Jenkins School Apartments – Old Jenkins School
Renovation Committee and AU Associates Inc.

2013 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award**Stephen L. Collins, Shelbyville**

Preservation Project Awards:

The Cox Building, Maysville
Rockcastle River Historic Truss Bridge
Sadieville Rosenwald School

Service to Preservation:

Nancy Adams, Pine Mountain Settlement School
Keith Nagle, Discover Downtown Middlesboro

Blue Grass Trust for Historic Preservation, DeTours Committee

Grassroots Preservation:

Obie Fardo, Frank Hussung, Billie Newman and Charlie Pyles, for rehabilitation of Bethel Church and Cemetery in Pendleton County
Friends of Sherman Tavern, Dry Ridge

2012 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award

Richard T. Jett, Louisville

Preservation Project Awards:

120, 225 and 227 South Main Street, Harrodsburg
Thomas Edison School Apartments, Covington
Whiskey Row Lofts: Trademart Building and
Hamilton Brothers Warehouse, Louisville

Service to Preservation:

The Cropper Family, South Portsmouth
Alberta Moynahan, Danville, assistant director of the
McDowell House Museum
“Historic Preservation: Saving Place” video, produced by
historic preservation staff of the cities of Bellevue and
Covington

2011 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award

Robert M. “Bob” Polsgrove, Frankfort

Preservation Project Awards:

Eastside Revitalization Project, Covington
Louisville Water Company Pump Station 1 and owner Louisville
Water Company
West-Metcalf House, Mill Springs Battlefield, Wayne County,
and the Mill Springs Battlefield Association

Service to Preservation:

Landmark Association of Bowling Green and Warren County
Lynda Closson, Stanford
Donna Horn-Taylor, Laurel County; and Julie Nelson Harris,
editor, Tara Kaprowy and Nita Johnson, reporters, London
Sentinel Echo

2010 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award

Clyde Reynolds Carpenter, Lexington

Preservation Project Awards:

Bishop Flaget Log House, Nelson County
The Grand Theatre, Frankfort
Pearce-Wheeler Farm, Hart County

Service to Preservation:

Charles Cash, Louisville
Donald Clare, Rabbit Hash
Susan Dyer, Breckinridge County

2009 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award

Ann Early Sutherland of Louisville

Preservation Project Awards:

Standard Oil Filling Station, Bowling Green
W.E. Pullen Building, Georgetown

Johnson Creek Covered Bridge, Robertson County St.
Cecelia Senior Apartments, Louisville

Service to Preservation:

Rebecca W. (Becky) Shipp of Frankfort
Preserve Lexington and the *Lexington Herald-Leader*, Tom
Eblen and Beverly Fortune
Billy Hertz and Tom Schnepf of Louisville

2008 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award

David H. Hall, Bardstown

Preservation Project Awards:

Old State National Bank, Frankfort
Let's Paint the Town!, Princeton First
Baptist Church, Covington
United States Marine Hospital, Portland

Service to Preservation:

United States Representative Ben Chandler
Division of Historic Preservation, Lexington- Fayette
Urban County Government
Appalshop, Whitesburg

2007 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award

David L. Morgan, Washington, D. C.

Preservation Project Awards:

Henry Clay Hotel, Louisville
Bourbon County Courthouse Dome, Paris
Howard-Hardy House, Louisville

Service to Preservation:

Yvonne Giles, Lexington
Historic Bardstown Commission Representative
Arnold Simpson, Covington

2006 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award

Dr. Doris Y. Wilkinson, Lexington

Preservation Project Awards:

James A. Sullivan Slave Quarters, Georgetown
St. Joseph Catholic Church, Winchester
The Otto M. Budig Theatre at the Carnegie Visual and
Performing Arts Center, Covington
John Dale House, Shelby County

Service to Preservation:

Blue Grass Trust for Historic Preservation, Lexington
BRIDGES Team (Building Renewed Interest in Downtown Greensburg
through Excellence and Service, Green County)

2005 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award

Larry Groves Meadows, Powell County

Preservation Project Awards:

Coal Miner's Memorial Theater, Benham
Cemetery Chapel, Frankfort Odd
Fellows Hall, Covington

Service to Preservation: Miles Clay Miller, Paris
James Harrod Trust, Mercer County
The Courier-Journal, Louisville

2004 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award

Nancy Shropshire Blazer, Ashland & Georgetown

Preservation Project Awards: State & 13th Restoration Project in Bowling Green
Lemon Hill Mansion in Lexington
Old Heywood School in Louisville

Service to Preservation: Winnifred Ann Virtue Meeker, Lexington
Gilbert Haydon, Shelbyville
Emily Clark, Danville

2003 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award

Helen Fisher Frye, Danville

Preservation Project Awards: 118 North Third Street, Danville
Louisville Glassworks Lofts
Pine Mountain Settlement School, Harlan County

Service to Preservation: Mayor Dodd Dixon, Winchester
David H. Hall, Bardstown
Murray Main Street Program

2002 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award

Richard S. DeCamp, Lexington

Preservation Project Awards: The house at Cambus Kenneth Farm, Boyle County
River Heritage Museum, Paducah
St. Stephen Catholic Church, Lyon County

Service to Preservation: Cecil R. Ison, Winchester
Ralph G. Anderson, Mercer County
Judge William Neal Cassity, Jessamine County
Frank Mosko, Paducah

2001 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award

Barbara P. Hulette, Lexington

Preservation Projects Awards: Cadiz City Hall
Combs Center, Centre College, Danville
Springfield Graded School, Washington County

Service to Preservation: Tommy Hines, South Union
Mimi Sweets Runyon, Louisville
Lucille Brooks, Franklin

2000 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award

Sally Willis Meigs, Louisville

Preservation Projects Awards:

Otto E. Eitel House, Louisville
Jack Quinn's Irish Ale House, Covington
White House at Camp Nelson, Jessamine County

Service to Preservation:

Sharon Poat, Paducah
Heart of Danville for Publication: *Danville and Boyle County in the Bluegrass Region of Kentucky: An Architectural History*

Special Award:

Kentucky Transportation Cabinet

1999 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award

Edith S. Bingham, Louisville

Preservation Project Awards:

Stanford Depot
Market House Theatre Stage Two Project Midway School
Bourbon Stockyards Exchange Building, Louisville
Several Bloomfield Buildings: Olde Bloomfield Meeting Hall; Nettie Jarvis Antiques; the Wells Building; the Brown Building

Service to Preservation:

John S. Perkins, Bowling Green
George W. Grider, Danville

1998 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award

James Thomas, President and CEO, Shakertown at Pleasant Hill

Preservation Project Awards:

Marcardin Inn Bed & Breakfast, Shelbyville
Jacobs Hall, Danville
Old C&O Passenger Depot, Morehead Maysville High School

Service to Preservation:

Mary S. Northington, Covington
Carrie Stivers, Bardstown
Larry B. Whitaker, McLean County Judge-Executive
Jean W. Calvert, Maysville

1997 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award

Mrs. Betsy K. Venters, Pikeville

Preservation Project Awards:

Labrot & Graham Distillery / Brown Forman Corporation, Woodford County
Bavarian Brewery, Covington
Wolf Wile Building / Gray Construction Co., Lexington
Munfordville City Hall

Service to Preservation:

Martha Cull, Louisville Presbyterian Church of Danville

1996 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award Mrs. Dorothy H. Crutcher, Lexington

Preservation Project Awards:

The Highlands, Henry County, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Fowler

Maincross Project, Mt. Sterling
Farmers National Bank, Danville

Service to Preservation: Blue Grass Trust for Historic Preservation, Primary Heritage
Education Curriculum
Alan E. Hoeweler, Kentucky Civil War Historic Sites

Special Award: Susan Jackson Keig

1995 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award
Preservation Project Awards:

Mrs. Cecil Dulin Wallace, Boyle County
St. Patrick's School, Louisville, T. Dade Luckett and
Associates, Architects
Cathedral of the Assumption, Louisville, Heritage Cathedral Foundation
Benham School, Benham, School House Inn, Inc.

Service to Preservation: Theodore Harris, Covington
Phil Weissenberger, Midway
Edith S. Bingham, Louisville
Harold, Marilyn and Dwight Koger, Barthell

Special Awards: Secretary Crit Luallen, Tourism Cabinet
Sec. Sherry K. Jelsma, Education, Arts & Humanities Cabinet Secretary
Don Kelly, Transportation Cabinet
Ann Trimble, Department of Local Government

1994 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award

Ann S. Hassett, Louisville

Preservation Project Awards: Trigg County Circuit Court Room, Cadiz
Cullen Thomas Cabin & Southern Academy School, Trigg County
Historical Society, Cadiz
McClure-Barbee House, Danville Crescent
Hill Library, Louisville

Service to Preservation: Christopher J. Black, Paducah
Willa Relford Gentry, Lexington Barbara P. Hulette, Lexington
Lost Lexington Exhibit, Lexington, Bettie Kerr and Patrick Lucas

1993 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award

Mark Searce, Shelbyville

Preservation Project Awards: Ft. Thomas Mess Hall & Military Commons, Ft. Thomas
Farnsley-Mormen House, Jefferson County
Eight historic structures in Lower Town Neighborhood, Paducah (Howard
& Louise Randle)

Service to Preservation: Charles (Chuck) Niquette, Lexington
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Montgomery, Louisville
Mill Springs Battlefield Association, Wayne County

Special award: **Mrs. Emerin Reeves** for Kentucky Heritage Council's office project

1992 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award

Preservation Project Awards:

Susan Hinkle and Sally Hinkle of Paris

Harrison-Hite Building in Russellville
The Harland Sanders Cafe in Corbin
Kentucky Theatre in Lexington

Service to Preservation:

Thomas W. Bullitt and Kay E. Bullitt, Louisville
Franklin Fitzpatrick of Prestonsburg
Thomas J. Wiethorn, Mayor of Bellevue

1991 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award

Preservation Project Awards:

Betty W. Morris

Clark County Fiscal Court, Post Office, Winchester
Versailles-Woodford County Economic Development Authority,
Woodford Hotel, Versailles
David L. Bohannon & Michael A. Eaves, Stouffer Building, Richmond

Service to Preservation:

Leslee Frances Keys, Jefferson County
Charles and Esther Johnson, Covington Clifton Neighborhood
Association, Louisville

1990 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award

Preservation Project Awards:

Mary Louise Duke

2642-50 Frankfort Avenue, Louisville
The Forester Center, Louisville
Manhattan on Main, Lexington

Service to Preservation:

John F. Caldwell, Boone County
Nathalie Taft Andrews, Portland
Micky McElwain, Newport John W. Hall, Henderson

1989 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award

Preservation Project Awards:

Patrick Alexander Snadon

Justice Thomas Todd House, Frankfort
Adsmore Museum, Princeton
Nazareth Village II, Nelson County

Service to Preservation:

Ann Early Sutherland, Bardstown
Frances Dale Cottongim, Shelbyville
Covington's Housing Development Department

1988 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award

Preservation Project Award:

Frank G. Rankin Jr.

Hannaford, Newport Hawkins-Kirby House, Warsaw

Service to Preservation:

Louisville Community Design Center
William M. Noland, Harrodsburg

1987 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award

Helen Edwards Abell

Preservation Project Awards:

Stockdale, Shelby County
City of Hopkinsville

Service to Preservation:

Columbia Gas of KY & Mr. and Mrs. Clarence LeBus
Malcolm Kilduff, Beattyville

1986 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award

Robert B. Vice

Preservation Project Award:

Bodley-Bullock House, Lexington

Service to Preservation:

City Council of Shelbyville

1985 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award

Donald W. Webb

Preservation Project Awards:

The Paramount Theatre, Ashland
The Brown Hotel, Louisville
Bourgard College of Music & Art, Louisville

Service to Preservation:

K. Norman Berry & Associates, Louisville
Frances Keightley, Harrodsburg
Betty Mitchell Gorin, Campbellsville

1984 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award

Senator Walter "Dee" Huddleston

Preservation Projects Awards:

Winchester Downtown Lighting Committee
Parahart Corp. and Potter & Cox Architects, Louisville

Service to Preservation:

Stephen Foster Drama Association, Bardstown
Historic Homes Foundation, Louisville

1983 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award

Louise Combs

Preservation Project Awards:

Phyllis George Brown and Save the Mansion, Inc.
Dept. of Transportation, Whitehaven Welcome Center
Neighborhood Development Corporation, Louisville

Service to Preservation:

Mrs. Sherrill Jeffers, Hopkinsville
Mrs. Elizabeth Duncan, Monticello
Mr. Jack Paxton, Paducah

1982 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award

Mrs. Lawrence Brewer

Preservation Project Awards:

Roger Davis, Seelbach Hotel
William Crumbaugh, Frankfort

Stella Welsh, Greensburg

Service to Preservation:

Mary Spears VanMeter, Paris
Philip Terzian, Lexington
Herald William Black, Paducah

1981 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award

Edna Talbot Whitley

Commercial Award: Third National Bank of Ashland
Organization Award: Mansion Hills Neighborhood Association, Newport
Professional Award: Charles E. Parrish
Youth Award: Taylor County Junior Historical
Society Public Service Award: William Barrow Floyd
Media Award: Richard Zuercher, State Journal

1980 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award

James Lowry Cogar

Commercial Award: Mark J. Searce
Commercial Award for a Historical Publication: Liberty National Bank & Trust, Louisville
Organization Award: Kentucky Mansion Preservation Foundation
Professional Award: Richard S. DeCamp
Youth Award: Arlington School Chapter of the Kentucky Junior Historical
Society Public Service Award: Joseph H. Conley
Media Award: Lowell Hobby, Caldwell County Times

1979 Ida Lee Willis Memorial Award

Earl D. Wallace

Public Service Award: Judge Mitch McConnell
Media Award: Bettye Lee Mastin
Youth Award: Kentucky Junior Historical Society
Organizational Award: Mason County Historical Society
Commercial Award: Cornelius E. Hubbuch