

05/15/2019

Last week, we were honored to receive the Governor's Award for Historic Preservation for activities at the Warner Homestead. This is the first time a historic preservation project in Livingston County has been represented. The Warner Homestead was nominated for the restoration of the 1855 Greek Revival home and 1849 Hicks school, archaeological research, and a variety outreach initiatives. Five other historic restoration projects from around the state were also recipients this year. An awards ceremony was held inside the rotunda of the State Capitol with a number of state dignitaries present. Ann Bollin, former Brighton Township clerk and current state representative, attended and made some comments on the project. I would first like to thank Laura Ashlee, former Outreach Coordinator for SHPO, for the original nomination. We are truly humbled to be considered for such as prestigious award. Many thanks to Randy Klepinger, Chuck Warner, & Donna Warner for attending the ceremony in support of the project. We also would like to thank everyone who has contributed in so many ways to activities at the Warner farm, it couldn't have been done without you!

Below are several links with the press release, poster board, and photos:

https://www.michigan.gov/mshda/0,4641,7-141-54317_19320_76308---,00.html

https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mshda/mshda_shpo_20190507_GovAward_WarnerHomestead_654610_7.pdf

https://www.michigan.gov/mshda/0,4641,7-141-7559_9637-496769--,00.html

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/158017904@N08/sets/72157678164968167/>

The award is dedicated to my dad, Steve Bennett, who passed away on May 2nd. Though he preferred to stay out of the limelight, he was indispensable in many ways including the historic preservation efforts at the Warner Homestead. He worked for 40 years as a Signal Foreman on the railroad and used these skills to perform all kinds of handyman tasks at home as well as at the Warner farm. From assisting with wiring the Hicks school to helping out on the 6th grade student dig to roofing and plumbing, he provided his time, energy, and invaluable advice. He will be greatly missed by family and friends.

