



2020 CERTIFICATE OF MERIT AWARD NOMINATION FORM

The Certificate of Merit is given to individuals involved in historic preservation activities, education, restoration, etc. whose projects may not qualify for the Gunn or Schoenknecht awards but deserve recognition by the Landmarks Commission.

Nominations should be submitted to Charlie Griffith in the City of Waukesha Planning Department, 201 Delafield Street, Waukesha, WI 53188. Nominations may also be submitted by e-mail to cgriffith@waukesha-wi.gov.

All nominations are due no later than Monday, March 30, 2020. The Landmarks Commission will review nominations at the April 1, 2020 meeting.

Nominee Alda and Ryan McFarlin

Address 109 McCall St.

Submitter Mary Emery (Waukesha Preservation Alliance)

Submitter Contact Info (email or phone): emerymary@sbcglobal.net

Please provide a brief explanation of the merits of the project:

On June 27, 2019 the neighborhoods surrounding Carroll University in Waukesha were hit with a microburst. Carroll University has several historic districts adjacent to it. The McCall Street Historic District to the East of the campus was hit particularly hard. The carriage barn at 109 McCall was damaged by the high winds and a tree that fell on it which shifted the structure out of position. The company that the owner's insurance company contracts with for storm damage is not knowledgeable about historic structures and they came back with a quote of \$102,000 to repair the carriage barn, so they were recommending demolition. These homeowners really wanted to save the barn, so they connected with the Waukesha Preservation Alliance (WPA) for advice. WPA told them that it should not cost that much to straighten the structure. WPA gave the homeowners some names of restoration carpenters who were experienced in straightening barns and other structures. Unfortunately, they were too busy to take on this project before winter and we knew it would not be able to stand up to the snow load. The homeowner now had the knowledge about what kind of contractor to look for and found [Bender Builders Inc.](#) in Beaver Dam. They came November 7th and it took them less than a day to straighten the barn and put in bracing that will prevent this from happening again. The cost was less than a quarter of what the quote from the the company that the insurance company contracts with. There are still some minor repairs like gutter and siding damage, but the barn will now be able to stand for another 120 years. This illustrates the importance of finding contractors who are knowledgeable about historic structures and techniques to fix them.