

EARL BORDEN HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARD CITY OF ROCHESTER HILLS – HISTORIC DISTRICTS COMMISSION

The Earl E. Borden Historic Preservation Award was created in 1989 by the Rochester Hills Historic Districts Commission upon recommendation by Patrick McKay, Director of Interpretative Services at the Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farms.

The Award was developed to honor both Mr. Borden and those award recipients who have demonstrated their love of our historic heritage by restoring, preserving and/or maintaining their properties according to the principles outlined in the U.S. Department of the Interior's Standards for preservation and the City of Rochester Hills Historic Preservation Ordinance.

Earl Borden, who passed away in 1985, was instrumental in obtaining the Van Hoosen farmhouse from Michigan State University for use as a City-owned museum. In addition to being an Avon Township Trustee, Township Supervisor, and the first Mayor of Rochester Hills upon becoming a City in 1984, Mr. Borden was a proponent of protecting out local historic heritage through education and preservation.

Previous winners of the Earl Borden Award include buildings that serve as quality examples of preservation/restoration and individuals who have demonstrated activism in the field of historic preservation in Rochester Hills.

Award Selection Criteria

1. Two types of awards may be presented.
 - A. The Historic Preservation Award recognizes buildings/structures that serve as outstanding examples of historic preservation, architectural integrity, and adaptive reuse.
 - B. The Historic Preservation Leadership Award recognizes individuals who have made outstanding efforts to support historic preservation in our Community.
2. The Historic Preservation Award will be presented *only* to local, state or nationally registered facilities within the City of Rochester Hills.
 - A. Both commercial and residential facilities can qualify for the Award.
 - B. The Award should acknowledge substantial renovation, repair or improvement to a historic facility.
 - C. The Award recipient shall have been responsible for such renovation, repair or improvement.
3. The Preservation Leadership Award may be presented both to individuals and organizations for outstanding historic preservation efforts in the greater Rochester Hills Community. (Preservation efforts outside the Rochester Hills City limits may be considered).
4. Nominations for the Award(s) will be made at the January or February meeting of the Historic Districts Commission.
5. Selection of Award recipients will be decided at the February or March Historic Districts Commission meeting.
6. Presentation of the Award(s) will be made at a May City Council meeting.
7. It is *not required* to present an Award each year.
8. More than one Award may be presented in any one year.

Award Procedure / Schedule

1. Copy of Selection Criteria; list of past recipients, and a copy of the previous year's Commission Minutes distributed to all Commissioners at the January HDC Meeting.
2. The Commission should make nominations at either the January or February HDC Meeting.
 - A. This will allow time for any necessary research.
3. The Commission should select the recipient(s) at either the February or March HDC Meeting.
4. After recipient(s) are selected:
 - A. Letter(s) to be sent to the recipient(s):
 - (1) informing them they were selected to receive the Award and why
 - (2) indicating they will be contacted to confirm if they are willing to accept the Award, and are willing to allow a brief walk-through and/or interview
 - (3) obtain permission for photographs to be taken
5. Invitation prepared and plaque(s) ordered.
 - A. To be approved by HDC Chairperson if no regular HDC Meeting held in March.
 - B. Upon approval, invitations and plaque(s) ordered in early April.
6. Invitations mailed at least three (3) weeks prior to presentation date.
 - A. Several copies of invitation sent to recipients for their use in extending Invitations to family/friends
 - B. Invitations mailed to property owners in all designated Districts
 - C. Invitations mailed to local historical commissions and societies
 - D. Invitation sent to local newspapers
 - (1) Article sent to local newspapers
 - If a Commissioner prepares something