“The Finishing Touch
Evanston Accessorized
an exhibit of clothing accessories for men, women, & children, 1860-2000

On view at the Evanston History Center, May–December 2017

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Hello Evanston History Center Members

I hope you had a chance to see Through Darkness to Light: Photographs Along the Underground Railroad, which was an exhibit at the Evanston History Center and the Evanston Art Center January 28th – March 16th.

We had the wonderful opportunity to be the first venue of this national traveling exhibit of inspiring photographs by Jeanine Michna-Bales. This opportunity afforded us the chance to form new partnerships and strengthen relationships with some of our previous partners. We were thrilled to partner with the Evanston Art Center, where several unique photographs from the exhibit were installed. With our partner, Shorefront Legacy Center, we explored the history of the Black community in Evanston and the surrounding communities by presenting their exhibit, Legacies, on the second floor of the Dawes House, in the Pershing bedroom suite. The Evanston Arts Council was a generous funder for the exhibit and Whole Foods Market continues to support EHC by generously donating the treats for our exhibit opening and lectures. We are very excited about a new partnership with the Lombard Historical Society, who own and operate the historic Sheldon Peck Homestead, an Underground Railroad site, listed on the National Park Service’s Road to Freedom. We also formed a new partnership with Margarita European Inn, where Jeanine Michna-Bales was generously hosted on her visit to Evanston. And, of course, this exhibit has given us the opportunity to partner with the Mid America Arts Alliance, the organizers of this terrific exhibit.

In May we will open our new exhibit “The Finishing Touch: Evanston Accessorized.” The exhibit will feature men’s, women’s and children’s accessories from the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries. Please be sure to see the exhibit. (See article on page 3)

It is Spring, so we are busier than ever here at the Evanston History Center. The 42nd annual Mother’s Day House Walk will be held on Sunday, May 14th from 12 – 5. and will feature historically and architecturally significant houses in the Dawes House neighborhood. Through the House Walk we will begin to tell the story of Evanston and Evanstonians in World War I. You may purchase House Walk tickets on our website at evanstonhistorycenter.org and also renew your membership and make donations. This year’s incredible House Walk is possible through the support of our very generous sponsors: Platinum Level — Stone Heritage Properties and the Pritzker Military Museum & Library; Gold Level — Three Crowns Park; and Silver Level — American Vintage Home. Don’t miss this wonderful, annual event!

Save the date, Saturday July 22nd, 1:00 – 4:00 for our annual Ice Cream Social.

I hope you enjoy this edition of TimeLines. As always thank you so very much for your continued support, we couldn’t do what we do without you.

Best,

Eden Juron Pearlman, Executive Director

Board of Trustees 2016 – 2017

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Our Mission

The mission of the Evanston History Center is to collect, preserve and interpret the rich history of the City of Evanston and all its people through exhibits, educational programs and research facilities.
The Finishing Touch
Evanston Accessorized!
Janet C. Messmer, Costume Curator

Everything with which we choose to adorn ourselves says something to the world about us. Whether consciously or unconsciously our raiment will give others cues, which they will use to decide who they think we are. It will convey how we see ourselves. Conformist or nonconformist? Fashion conscious or uncaring? What socio-economic status? What religion? What politics? Possibly what job? Embracing our calendar age or rebelling against it? The list could go on and on. This is true of both the major garments covering our bodies and the accessory pieces we add.

Accessories enrich the message we send and make it much more personal. They may be practical and utilitarian (like a belt to hold up our pants). Or they may be purely decorative (like a necktie). But either way, they will speak to the world on our behalf.

The exhibit, opening May 4 in the second floor galleries of Dawes House, will attempt to show some of the accessory choices made by Evanstonians from the mid-19th century through the 20th century. In those 150 years, there has been huge variation in styles as well
as types of accessories which have been considered essential to life. One example is the top hat. While the top hat evolved from a kind of safety helmet for horseback riding in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, it was the mark of a professional man by middle of the 19th century and remained so well into the 20th century. Many prominent Evanston men, who served as ushers in their churches, continued through the 1930s to wear a top hat with their morning coats to church on Sundays. But no Evanston doctor, lawyer, banker or university professor has been spotted wearing one to work in the recent past. At most, they appear on the heads of wedding party members, at the request of the bride, and are rented for the occasion, rather than owned by the wearer.

Indeed, hats were considered essential for every man, woman and child for most of the outdoor occasions of life from the mid-19th century until the end of the 1950s. And everyone was conscious of the type of hat proper for the age, sex, class and activity of the wearer. They were also conscious of a whole range of hat etiquette rules about when to wear them, when to take them off, when to tip them to someone and how to hold or place them when not actually on the head. Men and boys usually acquired their hats and caps from haberdashers, hatters or department stores in Evanston or Chicago. Women and girls could patronize the many milliners, the department stores and some dress shops, which would make hats to go with the clothes they sold. Women with less money to spend could make or restyle their own hats and bonnets from parts purchased from numerous millinery supply houses in Chicago.

In the earliest days of Evanston, citizens had to acquire their accessories from other more developed communities, like Chicago, purchase them from peddlers or make them themselves. Like all pioneer societies, it takes a while for shops and stores to be established. Philo Judson opened the first store in Evanston in 1853 on the north east corner of Orrington and Davis streets. But like most
stores of its time and place, it offered limited selection with relatively high prices. A major boost, not only to population growth but retailing, came with the great Chicago fire of 1871. That year Lord’s Department Store opened in Evanston. The idea of a department store, stocking everything a householder might need to run her/his home was an innovation of the 19th century and an outgrowth of manufacturing and the increasing disposable incomes for the wealthy and middle classes. Lord’s was followed by Rosenberg’s in 1883. Marshall Field’s was a late comer, arriving in 1928, so Evanstonians wanting to purchase from Field’s prior to this, had to make the journey to the State Street store in Chicago. Lytton’s arrived even later, in the 1930s.

In addition to the department stores, by the 1870s Evanston boasted independent jewelers, tailors, milliners, hatters, shoe makers, shoe stores, dry goods stores (H. Kauffmann), and haberdashers. Jewelry both practical and ornamental has a long tradition and wide appeal in American culture. It serves mundane purposes such as holding shirt cuffs together and telling the time, accents clothing and displays wealth. It is not surprising that by 1880, the city directory listed three jewelry shops (J.R. Schneider on Davis St., George F. Kylling at Oak and Church and Fritz Lion at Davis and Orrington). There was a watch maker (D.R. Rosche at Chicago and Dempster). It is worth noting that jewelers also often employed opticians to fill prescriptions for their customer’s eyewear needs, through the mid-20th century. The opticians provided the lenses and fittings and the jewelers provided the metal frames. Two local examples of this practice are Olsen and Ebann Jewelers and Opticians at 614 Davis Street and Manlie Jewelers, originally also on Davis Street and later on Main Street.

Traditionally, jewelry companies have been run by families with male designers and craftsmen. But Evanston experienced a particular flowering of female jewelry designers in the 1970s and 80s. Peggy Robinson opened her store in October of 1975 selling “primitive” jewelry crafted of brass, ceramics, wood and African trade beads and contemporary minimalist designs in silver, gold and semi-precious stones. The business
SIX

Jewelry designs by Sibby Hunter Gillmor for Calf and Dragon catalog.

Eve Alfille designs for faces of the moon series brochure.

needlepoint slippers made for Orington Lunt by his wife Cornelia, heelless women’s shoes c1850 made in London, high laced women’s shoes from the 1890s.

continued until she retired in June of 2005. In 1969, Sibby Gillmor opened Calf and Dragon on Davis St. She had trained in Boston at the Museum of Fine Arts and worked for John Lewis Jewelry there. Ms. Gillmor produced works in silver and gold with precious and semi-precious stones. She described her designs as evolving from shapes found in nature simplified and stylized. The Smithery, featuring the designs of Gayle Smith, opened on Custer Street in 1973. Her contemporary pieces were wrought in silver and gold with semi-precious stones. Trained as a journalist, but allergic to newsprint, she began making jewelry because she wore so much of it herself and she liked working with her hands. Eve Alfille opened her shop on Grove in 1987, but like all the other female designers, had started working at her home. Born in France and a traveler of the world who speaks five languages, Ms. Alfille was both an archeologist and stockbroker before becoming a jewelry designer. Her designs reflect many influences from ancient cultures, to nature, to European art history. Many pieces reflect the passage of time. She has a famous affinity for pearls of all types, particularly those of irregular shape or unusual color.

Shoes, boots and slippers have been a universally used accessory throughout the history of the city. In the 1880s there were 24 shoemakers listed in the Evanston city directories. They would have made some shoes on spec, in popular styles and sizes. But they would also custom make shoes to measure. A shoemaker could specialize in men’s or women’s shoes. More commonly they served all comers.

Continued on page 8.
LAST CALL for the Legacy Walk

Please join us in the creation of The Legacy Walk... Honoring the legacy of the Guild of the Evanston Historical Society

Please place your order for a brick by May 31, 2017 for pre-installation pricing. The brick path will be installed summer 2017 in the newly-designed walk leading from the front of the house to the east side yard and terrace. Please call Jill Kirk at 847-475-3410 for more information.

Pre-installation prices for bricks:
- Dawes 150th Birthday Brick — $150
  6x6 inch brick; two lines of inscription with 25 characters per line
- 225 Greenwood Brick — $225
  6x9 inch brick; three lines of inscription with 30 characters per line
By the 1910s there were only nine businesses listing themselves as shoemakers. But there were many stores listing themselves as shoe stores. These shops were now selling ready-made shoes by national brand manufacturers such as Alden Shoe Co., Endicott-Johnson Shoe Co., Florsheim Shoes and the Brown Shoe Company (selling Buster Brown and Mary Jane shoes). After WWI, almost everyone was purchasing ready-made shoes from shoe stores and department stores. The era of custom made footwear for any but the very wealthy or those with orthopedic needs was fading into memory.

These are but three categories of accessories which will form part our exhibit. We hope that visitors will be interested in viewing and learning about canes, walking sticks, umbrellas and parasols, fans, purses and wallets, smoking accessories, calling card cases, vinaigrettes, hair ornaments and a myriad of others. We also hope that the exhibit fosters conversations about the subject of personal clothing accessories and the choices people make in selecting and wearing them.

The exhibit is open from 1-4. Thursday-Sunday from May through December 2017.

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**Melody in A**

**A Gala Celebration**

Please Save the Date
Saturday, August 26, 2017
7 to 10 p.m.
October 26, 2016 marked the end of Evanston History Center’s NAGPRA project, culminating with the repatriation of human remains in the EHC’s collection to the Wisconsin Inter-tribal Repatriation Committee. It was an ideal result for the multi-year grant-funded project that included collection research, tribal consultation, a publication in the Federal Register, and ultimately, repatriation.

The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) was enacted in 1990 to protect Native American remains and sacred objects from theft and mishandling. The Act facilitates dialogue between Native American tribes and institutions, and establishes procedures for the reporting and repatriation of these artifacts.

Evanston has a widely documented history of Native American settlement, and the EHC has more than 900 Native American artifacts in its collection. A handful of objects—human remains, a tomahawk, and two axes—were identified in 2013 as needing provenential research, thus prompting EHC’s federal grant proposal and the beginning of the NAGPRA project.

Over a three year period, these objects were meticulously researched and contact was initiated with Native American tribes based on the findings. The federal government requires organizations to refer to the map of “Indian Land Areas Judicially Established in 1978” when determining which federally-recognized tribes have legal historical claim over land in the United States. This map, when cross-referenced against the objects’ provenance research, provided a list of tribal groups that needed to be consulted.

In addition to consultation with Native American tribes, Evanston History Center updated their entries in the National NAGPRA summaries and culturally unidentifiable inventory (CUI) databases. These searchable databases provide information about the Native American object holdings of institutions across the nation in an effort to identify cultural affiliation with sacred objects and remains. The databases also make the NAGPRA process more transparent by keeping record of which institutions have contacted which tribes, and by indicating when an object is still in their possession or has been repatriated.

The Evanston History Center’s Notice of Inventory Completion (NIC) was published in the Federal Register on June 8, 2016. Publication of an NIC is a required step in the NAGPRA process, offering detailed information about human remains, funerary, and sacred objects in an institution’s collections, and providing a 30-day period for any tribe to request additional information or step forward with cultural affiliation.

Prior to publication, the Wisconsin Inter-Tribal Repatriation Committee (WITRC) notified Evanston History Center that they were interested in repatriating the human remains in EHC’s possession. No additional claimants came forward within the required 30-day period, and on October 26, 2016, William Quackenbush, Ho-Chunk Nation Tribal Historic Preservation Officer and WITRC representative, visited the EHC to sign the official transfer of control paperwork. Days later, he sent word that the remains had been reinterred at an unidentified location.

While the NAGPRA process was more arduous than originally anticipated, the Evanston History Center was grateful for the opportunity to repatriate the remains to their rightful descendants, and is honored to continue acting as guardian of the remaining items in the Native American collection.

### UPDATE:

**NAGPRA at the Evanston History Center**

Alyssa M. Padilla-Drexler, NAGPRA Intern

A beautiful daffodil garden will be making its debut this spring on the east lawn of the Dawes House. Sally and George Bay’s donation is in memory of Sally’s mother, “Bonnie” Leffingwell Coe, president (1972-74) and long-time member of The Guild the Evanston Historical Society.
The mission of the Evanston History Center is to preserve and share Evanston’s history. Since our founding in 1898, we have received a wide variety of donated items that help to tell the history of the community and the people who live here. Often that is a shared history on an international stage. Sometimes it becomes evident that items in our collection can better serve outside the scope of our museum.

Just as the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act called for the return of funerary objects to families of the deceased, a related popular effort has emerged to return souvenirs of World War II to the families of fallen Japanese soldiers.

The Japanese national flag, called hinomaru, or “circle of the sun”, was a well-known symbol of Imperial Japan and disparagingly nicknamed “meat ball” by American soldiers. Nearly every Japanese soldier carried a “good luck” flag with him, inscribed with supportive wishes from family, friends and community. The word “yosegaki” refers to the writing, styled as rays radiating from the central red sun. American soldiers carried these souvenirs from battlefields where Japanese soldiers perished.

Many times the name of the soldier is on the flag, and the written wishes contain clues as to the soldiers’ identity. Today, it takes a great deal of research to confirm identities and locate descendants of the soldier. Japanese consulates receive inquiries globally from people who wish to return flags. In Oregon, the Obon Society (obonsociety.org), named for a Buddhist festival honoring ancestors, was formed to facilitate this repatriation process.

EHC has two framed flags in their collection, donated in 1969 by two Evanston residents who had served in the war. One has the traditional yosegaki inscriptions, the other is blank. Both have ties to the fighting on Luzon Island in the Philippines. Each has its own story. The first was donated by Archer Jackson, Jr. who lived at 1530 Lincoln Street. He had attended Northwestern Military Academy in Lake Geneva and was inducted into the Army in January 1944. He received service stars for New Guinea and the Philippines, and a ribbon for the Philippine Liberation. He had begun in the ordinance department in Maryland and was later transferred to the 320th Quartermaster Bakery Company at San Fernando on Luzon Island. According to our accession records, he obtained the flag from a Philippine native near San Fernando, Luzon, in 1945. The translation says it belonged to Koshiro Miura and has an inscription translated as: Long Live of War Time, and is dated December 31, 1943 (Shosho 16).

The other flag, while blank, has a compelling story. It was donated by Charles Carter Anderson, Sr., Rear Admiral, US Navy. After the war the Andersons lived at 1733 Hinman, moving to Washington, D.C. in 1969. Anderson had commanded the USS Frederick Funston, an attack troop transport ship, during several campaigns in the Pacific theater. In January, 1945, the ship was part of the Invasion of Lingayan Gulf, Philippines. The Gulf is on the island of Luzon, and the main city on the gulf is San Fernando. On January 10, a suicide bomber was sighted by a patrol boat swimming a few yards from the Funston. The bomber was killed by a sniper, saving the lives of the thousands of troops aboard. This flag was carried by the swimmer, recovered after the crew disabled the explosives strapped to his body. The only identification we have is that he was an 18 year-old engineering student with officer qualifications. The Funston went on to pick up wounded marines from the battle of Iwo Jima in March, 1945. One of the wounded was Marine Corps Sgt. Charles Anderson, Jr. The captain’s son died of his wounds aboard ship a few hours later. Time magazine carried an article about the captain whose duty it was to sign his son’s death certificate.

The Staff and Board of Trustees of the Evanston History Center have determined to repatriate these flags to Japan. We are working with the Obon Society in an effort to find the descendants of these Japanese soldiers and return the flags to the families of the soldiers who carried them.
Yoga on the Lawn

EH C is pleased to partner with Heaven Meets Earth Yoga Studio to offer outdoor yoga classes on the third Saturday from June through September. Bring your yoga mat (there will be a limited quantity to borrow) and enjoy deep breathing on the lakefront. Check our website for more details.
2017 Walking and Bus Tour Schedule

847-475-3400, khartzell@evanstonhistorycenter.org, www.evanstonhistorycenter.org. All walking tours begin at 11:00 at the Dawes House UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED. $20 per/$10 members

Prairie School Camelot – NEW! BUS TOUR — September 16
Did you know that Evanston is a treasure trove of Prairie School architecture? Some of the most notable examples are in Evanston, along with some of the best kept secrets. Come along with us and discover Evanston’s Prairie gems. Bus will leave at 1:00 from the Evanston History Center. Cost: $30 per person/$25 members. Reservations required.

NEW THIS YEAR: FOREST FORAY, June 3, August 19
Stroll down the avenue that Daniel Burnham called “the choicest street” in Evanston. From Greenwood to Lee Street we will pass remarkable houses designed by notable architects for such prominent clients as Charles Ringling and Oscar Mayer.

Burnham in Evanston, June 17, October 21
Explore the neighborhood where architect Daniel Burnham chose to live, work and build. We will see his property, houses and schools he designed, and hear about the man and his love of “bucolic Evanston.”

Evanston's Lakefront, July 1, September 2
Take in the rich, varied history of Evanston's lakefront. From lifesaving stations to shipwrecks, from boathouses to warehouses, from parks and private residences to piers, beaches, and landscaping: the stories are as varied as the lakefront itself.

Architectural Evanston, August 5
A walk through the original town of Evanston, with a view to the architectural styles of different eras and how they reflect the growth and change of the city.

Evanston Women’s History, July 15, October 7
This tour meets at WILLARD HOUSE, 1730 CHICAGO AVENUE. Discover the revolutionary history of Evanston’s women by viewing the houses and buildings where they worked to transform our cultural landscape.

EHC Annual Meeting

EHC Annual Meeting will be held at the Dawes House on Wednesday, June 14, 6:30 pm. Join us for a special meeting and the official opening of “The Finishing Touch: Evanston Accessorized!”