

News and Accomplishments

Thank you for your support during 2020! What a year! We are pleased to report that the King House Association was able to carry on with our work during the last year. Here's a brief look back at that work as well as a look ahead at exciting things to come.

Summer Open House Visits

Last summer, the King House welcomed more than 100 visitors during its Sunday Summer hours. Visitors included long-time King House supporters, neighbors, vacationers, and area residents curious to learn more about the house and its history. They had questions about the architecture, construction, and restoration of the house and plans for reconstructing the original kitchen annex. They also wanted to know more about the history of the Odawa and how Middle Village had navigated the dramatic cultural shifts of the last 400 years.

Artifact focus: Iron musket ball mold

One of the more interesting artifacts recovered during the archaeological excavations at the King House during the fall of 2019 was an iron musket ball mold. The mold was cleaned and eventually we were able to open it to see that the spherical lead balls produced were 50-caliber (about 1/2-inch diameter). This tool was heavily used and had one handle broken off. The two halves of the mold did not meet cleanly so the molten lead would have leaked; this is probably why the mold was discarded.

When it was used, a small part of the lead was attached to the ball at the point of the mold where the lead was poured. This was called the sprue and needed to be cut off before use. So far, no sprues have been recovered in our digs. The presence of the mold at the King House indicates the use of a muzzle loading musket used for hunting both small and large game. This type of gun was widely used up to the mid-19th century but was quickly supplanted by breach loading guns. The transition to breach loading guns at the King House probably took place between 1870 and We shared our plans for the Timeline Display and several visitors left donations toward its support. Thanks go to KHA board members who hosted the open hours and got the house ready for visitors. Thanks also to Tim Teuthorn and Simon Kenwabkise from the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians (LTBB) for helping clear out the house by taking the distressed timbers left over from the restoration to store in the LTBB Archives.

This summer, we are again planning open hours 10 am to noon each Sunday beginning July 11 through September 5, 2021. Please come see us!

1900. Several 22-caliber brass bullet casings/shells have been recovered at the site. This smaller caliber gun became very cheap and popular after about 1880 but were not suitable for large game like deer but fine for small game like rabbits and squirrels.



Timeline display creation moves ahead with significant grant support

Now that the core structure of the King House has been restored, we have turned to the task of telling the story of Middle Village/Good Hart as envisioned in our mission statement. The Timeline Display committee has proposed installing a series of museum-quality panels inside the house that tell the story of Middle Village/Good Hart from prehistory to the present day.

Last year, board members Phil Deloria and Bill Klco led the charge to submit grant requests to a variety of local and state funders. Bill's efforts paid off with grant awards from the four funders listed below. With funding secured for the majority of the timeline project, the Timeline Committee moved forward working with John Metcalf of Good Design Group. Metcalf is an experienced exhibit designer and has previously worked with the Harbor Springs Area Historical Society.

As this newsletter goes to press, the committee is working on writing text and organizing content, including maps and photos, for the display panels. The mock-ups at right are a possible look for the panels installed inside the house. Thanks to our committee members Kerri Finlayson, Susan Hannah, Phil Deloria, Eric Hemenway and Mary Cummings. Thanks again to Phil and Bill for their grantwriting work.







The Timeline Display project made possible with support from:

Great Lakes Energy People Fund Michigan Humanities Michigan Council for Arts & Cultural Affairs Walmart Foundation



Thank you to our 2020 donors

Friends of the King House

In 2020, our Friends of the King House annual appeal raised \$4,700. Thank you, thank you, thank you to all of our friends. Your generosity helps us meet our annual expenses and allows us to salt away some funds for future repairs and maintenance. We are beginning to establish a historic site plan for the property, to put in plantings authentic to the mid 1800s era, when the King House was built. Thank you for keeping the King House going strong!

Changing of the Guard on the Board of Directors

Carolyn Sutherland and Susan Hannah, two charter members of the KHA Board of Directors, stepped off the Board when their terms expired in December 2020. Carolyn should rightly be considered the founder of the KHA since she was the one who took the initiative to organize the KHA and begin the purchase of the King House when it was offered for sale in 2014. We thank Carolyn for her vision and action. Susan joined the original Board in 2015 and served as secretary and champion throughout her term. Thanks to them both for their leadership and support.

King House Association Board

Bill Klco, Chair Kerri Finlayson, Vice-Chair Susan Carson, Secretary/Treasurer Mary Cummings Phil Deloria Jim Morris Tom Shehigian



This list reflects donations received between January 1 and December 31, 2020.

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King House Association

Statement of Activities as of December 31, 2020

Cash on Hand Jan. 1, 2020	\$ 6,719.01
Income	
Grants - Timeline Project	\$ 12,610.00
Cash Contributions	<u>\$ 4,738.13</u>
Total Income	\$ 17,348.13
Disbursements	
Administrative & Promotion	830.88
Insurance	<u>2,036.00</u>
Total Disbursements	\$ 2,866.88
Cash on Hand Dec. 31, 2020	\$ 21,200.26



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kinghouseassociation.org

Summer Sundays at the King House 2021 Hours

Sundays 10 am-12 noon July 11, 2021 through September 5, 2021

Stop by!



The mission of the King House Association is to purchase, restore, and maintain the mid-1800s King home in Middle Village/Good Hart in tribute to the rich cultural history of this beautiful place.