



Galesburg Landmark Commission

Erickson Conference Room

September 15, 2026

5:30 p.m.

	Approve	Minutes of the September 1, 2026 meeting
	Receive	General Citizen Comment
LC-26-0901	Consider	Certificate of Appropriateness - 127 E North St, George Washington Gale House.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: PLEASE NOTIFY ME IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND AT 309-345-3619.



**LANDMARK COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

DATE: September 1, 2026, 5:30 p.m.

PLACE: Erickson Conference Room, 55 West Tompkins Street, Galesburg, IL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Suzanne Klohn, Hann Lyon, Mark Martin, Bob Miener, Deb Sugai, Troy Treash, 6.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Greta Woolsey, 1.

OTHERS PRESENT: Lucas Brooks – Associate Planner.

Chairperson declared quorum present.

Approve Minutes of the June 2, 2026 meeting

Member Klohn moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Member Treash.

Minutes were approved by voice vote.

Receive Citizen Comment
None Received.

**LC-26-0901 Consider Certificate of Appropriateness - 127 E North St.,
George Washington Gale House.**

The applicants, Ian and Lucy Nevitt, were present. Staff gave a brief overview of the application. The applicants are concerned about the security of property due to nearby vacancies and recent break-ins in the area.

Member Lyon asked about the material used in the fence at 591 N Chambers St (a synthetic material, but looks somewhat like wood). Member Miener stated the commission's chief concern is for historicalness with certain standards. Lyon said that the north and east fence lines would be out of the public view, and thereby out of the purview of the commission so the fence could be of any material permitted by City ordinance. Member Treash agrees and says a wood or metal product should be used on the street-facing portions.

Miener is not a fan of the vinyl material in general and says it does not secure a property better than other fence products, such as wood or metal. He would be in favor of painted wood for the

street-facing sections. Member Martin agrees with this assessment, and adds that he could be amenable to a faux-wood material similar to 591 N Chambers St.

Member Klohn is most concerned with the public view of the fence, and agrees that a natural material would be best over the driveways. Member Sugai cautioned the applicants about how a solid fence will affect the airflow of the rear yard.

The applicants will look at design and price a few options for the street-facing fence sides. Staff will send a letter to the applicants regarding the approval to proceed with the rear yard portions of the fence, and will schedule a meeting once they hear back from the applicants regarding design of the street-facing portions.

Member Treash moved, seconded by Member Klohn, to table the Certificate of Appropriateness application until more information is received regarding the street-facing design.

Roll Call #1

Ayes: Klohn, Lyon, Martin, Miener, Sugai, Treash, 6.

Nays: None.

Abstentions: None.

Chairperson declared the motion approved

LC-26-0902 Consider National Register of Historic Places nomination - 57 S Kellogg St., Orpheum Theatre.

Staff provided a background on the nomination from the Orpheum Theatre staff as well as the nomination process.

Treash and Sugai both confirmed their support for the nomination and said it would bring further recognition to a community gem. Klohn also noted that being on the National Register can open up grant programs to support further renovations of the theatre.

Member Treash moved, seconded by Member Lyon, to recommend approval of the National Register of Historic Places nomination form.

Roll Call #2

Ayes: Klohn, Lyon, Martin, Miener, Sugai, Treash, 6.

Nays: None.

Abstentions: None.

Chairperson declared the motion approved

LC-26-0903 Discuss Annual Historic Preservation Awards.

Staff asked members to start thinking of properties or people to nominate for the P.A.V.E.R. awards. Klohn argued that the commission should return to giving just one award a year, which other members agreed with.

Treash still wants to improve the commission's overall process with Certificate of Appropriateness applications, so that applicants are better prepared / fully finalized by the time they reach the commission meeting.

There being no further business, Member Treash made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Member Sugai, the meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

Lucas Brooks

Lucas Brooks



Galesburg Landmark Commission

Agenda Item Overview

September 15, 2026

AGENDA ITEM: LC-26-0901 Certificate of Appropriateness - 127 E North St., George Washington Gale House.

BACKGROUND: Attached for the Commission's review is a Certificate of Appropriateness application from the property owner for the proposed installation of a shadowbox wood fence. The fence would be 6 ft tall and enclose the rear yard of the home. The fence would be sourced from Menard's (see application attachment).

The property is designated as a Local Landmark, which requires a Certificate of Appropriateness for exterior work that is visible from the right-of-way.

The property was part of the 1990 historic building survey. The survey sheet indicates the house was originally constructed in 1840 for George Washington Gale, founder of Knox College and Galesburg.

Section 151.069 establishes criteria for landmarks applying for a Certificate of Appropriateness. The Landmark Commission must find that the activity proposed will not adversely affect the significant historical or architectural character and is appropriate and consistent with the established design criteria or will remedy conditions imminently dangerous to life, health or property as determined by the Building Inspector. When considering this request, the Landmark Commission shall utilize the adopted Design Criteria that was adopted by Council in 1979, a copy of which is attached.

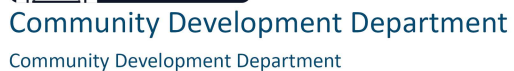
Previous certificate of appropriateness requests at this property include:

- 2015 denial of proposed chimney removal while re-roofing.
- 2000 approval of proposed porch restoration and structural repair.

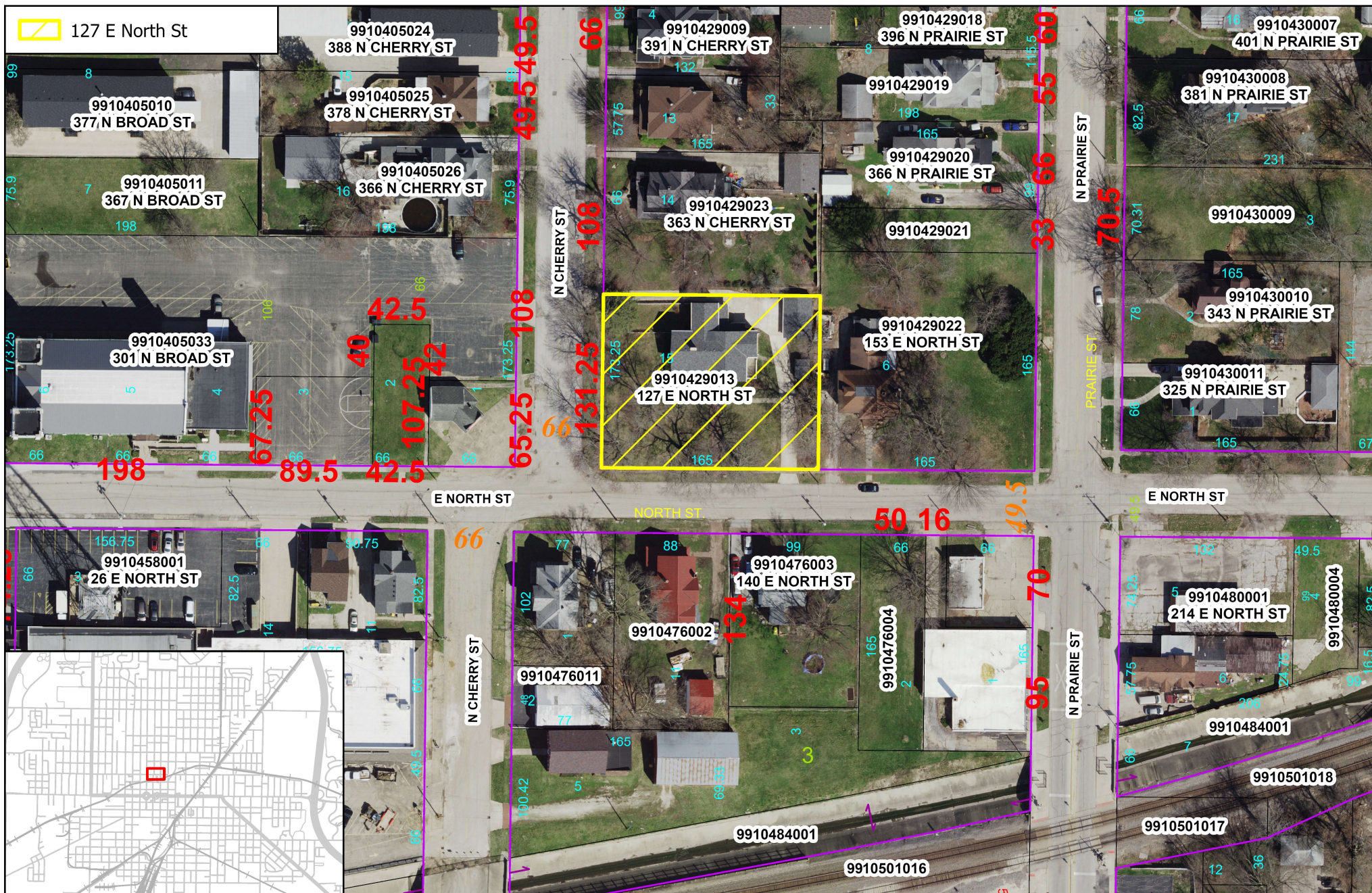
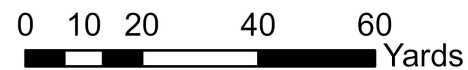
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

1. Aerial - General Location
2. Certificate of Appropriateness application
3. 1990 Historic Survey Sheet
4. Designated Landmarks criteria

cc: File Copy



127 E North St



The information included in this map is intended to be advisory only and is NOT designed or intended to be used as a substitute for an accurate field survey, as performed by a Registered Land Surveyor, to determine precise property location

August 27, 2026

CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS APPLICATION

OWNER INFORMATION:

Primary contact name Ian/Lucy Newitt Mailing address 127 E. North St Galesburg, IL 61401 City, State, Zip
Phone 773 858 8332 Fax _____ Email _____

NAME OF PROPERTY (Common or Historic):

GWH

SITE INFORMATION:

127 E. North St
Acres _____ Site address or location _____ Property Identification Number (PIN) _____

Legal Description (attach separate sheet if necessary)

DESCRIPTION OF EXISTING IMPROVEMENTS:

Vinyl Fence

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF CONSTRUCTION, ALTERATION, DEMOLITION OR USE PROPOSED:

None

OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES:

Relationship	Name	Company	Mailing Address	Phone #
Architect(s)				
Contractor(s)				

*Each application shall be accompanied by architectural drawings, sketches, photographs, narrative project descriptions or other information that will enable the Commission to determine what the final appearance and use of the real estate will be and allow them to make an educated decision.

I Newitt
Signature of owner

08/27/2020
Date

APPROVAL ☐

DISAPPROVAL ☐

Signature of Landmark Commission Chairperson

Date



9910429023
363 N CHERRY ST

991042

9910429013
127 E NORTH ST

99104
153 E N

NORTH ST.

20

40 ft

77

88

99

66



\$73⁸⁶
each

ADD TO CART

Pick Up At Store



CITY OF GALESBURG

ILLINOIS URBAN ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL SURVEY

Address (number/street): 127 E. North

Name

common:

historic: George W. Gale House

Photo Roll Number: 1 Frame Number: 34

Description

shape/plan, # stories, roof type, materials, style/influence/type:
T-shaped; two stories; intersecting gable roof; clapboard; Greek Revival influenced.
Two-story front gabled wing projects to south and intersects rear side-gabled wing to north. Front wing has door to west within low front gabled porch with square wooden posts and balustrade; door inset within vestibule; transom light above; two 1/1 double hung windows to east with three above (all with label molding); one-light fixed attic window. Rear cross gable wing probably a later addition; mostly 1/1 double hung windows without surrounds; French doors on east end. Applied cement foundation. Asphalt shingle roof.

Outbuildings

garage-- non-contributing.

Integrity

☒ unaltered ☐ slightly altered ☐ substantially altered

Apparent Alterations

No modern changes visible.

History

construction date: 1840 architect/builder:
(with several later additions)

events, people, and dates associated with the property:

Reverend George Washington Gale led a colony of Presbyterians and Congregationalists to the area of Knox County that later became known as Galesburg. His plan was to establish a manual labor college (which is now known as Knox College). He led the first forty families to the area in 1836-1837. Gale was responsible for the formation of the college and the original planning of the city of Galesburg.

National Register Status

listed: ☐ individually district: ☒ contributing ☐ non-contributing

potential: ☐ individually ☐ district Criteria: A B C D
explain potential:

Comments

Galesburg Historic Landmark

Surveyor: The URBANA Group, Inc. (Brian Kolde)

Date: 1/9/90





**DESIGN CRITERIA
For
DESIGNATED GALESBURG LANDMARKS**

The distinguishing original qualities or character of a building, structure, or site shall not be destroyed. The removal or alteration of any historic material or distinctive architectural features is to be avoided.

All buildings, structures, and sites shall be recognized as products of their own time. Alterations which have no historical basis and which seek to create an earlier appearance are not appropriate. New additions or other real improvements shall be designs which are compatible with the materials, size, scale, color and texture already prevailing in the structure or site. (This shall not be construed to mean that the design shall duplicate the original structure.) If any real improvements must be constructed which are not compatible with the surroundings, they shall not be visible from the public right-of-way. Visibility from the public right-of-way shall be restricted through one of three ways:

- 1) The real improvement must be located behind an existing structure so as to be hidden from the public right-of-way.
- 2) The real improvement must be screened from view of the public right-of-way by fencing which is compatible with the structures or site;
- 3) The real improvement must be screened from view of the public right-of-way by natural vegetation which would provide year-round screening (e.g. evergreens).

Changes, which may have taken place in the course of time, are evidence of the history and development of a building, structure, or site. These changes may have acquired significance in their own right and this significance will be recognized and respected.

Distinctive stylistic features or examples of skilled craftsmanship which characterize a building, structure, or site shall be preserved.

Deteriorated architectural features shall be repaired rather than replaced, wherever possible. In the event replacement is necessary and possible, the new material should match the material being replaced in composition, design, color, texture, and other visual qualities. Repair or replacement of missing architectural features should be based on accurate duplications of features, substantiated by historical, physical, or pictorial evidence rather than on conjectural designs or the availability of different architectural elements from other buildings or structures.

Exterior paint schemes, storm doors, storm windows, screens, window air conditioners, antennae, landscaping, and similar cosmetic items (not to include siding materials) are not subject to a Certificate of Appropriateness; however, such items as permanently mounted air conditioner units (either central or a wall unit for which a hole is to be cut through the structure) shall not be visible from the public right-of-way.