

# **Save the Nancy Kimball Cobblestone!**



## **Nancy Kimball History**

Built in 1846, the Nancy Kimball house is the oldest cobblestone building in Elgin, and one of the last ones left. It was built for the widow of one of Elgin's founders, Joseph Kimball by her sons, William and Samuel. The Kimball brothers later served as mayors of the city.

## **Museum Vision**

This building is unique and important to Elgin as:

- One of the last old architectural styles left in Elgin, with 16 inch thick cobblestone walls.
- An entryway landmark.
- A source of neighborhood pride and identity.
- A demonstration project promoting architectural preservation and adaptive re-use.

Future uses include:

- A gallery space for exhibition of local history, decorative art and the work of craftsmen.
- A work room for hands-on demonstrations, community projects.
- A venue for educational programs serving the nearby schools, as well as adult learners.
- A small group meeting space.
- A small office space for the Near West Neighbors Association and the Elgin History Museum.

## **Support the Cobblestone! Make a Donation!**

Donations made to Elgin History Museum, 360 Park St. Elgin, IL 60120. 501(c)3 deductible

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

All funds to be used on construction to first stabilize the building and then to finish the interior.

## **You Can Make a Difference!**



## Architectural Merit

This building is one six remaining cobblestone structures in Elgin. It is the only one in public ownership. Cobblestones buildings are constructed using field stones, rocks and masonry debris and cement. Cobblestones, about the size of baseballs, are arranged in rows or courses, to create a relatively uniform appearance to the façade. The walls of the Nancy Kimball House are more than 16 inches thick. This method of construction was brought to the Midwest by the earliest settlers when they arrived from upstate New York and New England in the 1830s.

## Project Phases

Phase 1: Structural assessment and development of architectural plans.

Phase 2: Complete interior demolition in order to obtain accurate cost estimates for foundation.

Phase 3: Demolish and re-build north wall and foundation. Final stabilization of building.

Phase 4: Complete façade restoration; new roof and windows.

Phase 5: Build out interior.

Phase 6: Furnish the building and develop programming.