



Weiser Architectural Preservation Committee

2025 Year-End Newsletter *Preserving Our Past, Enriching Our Future*

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As 2025 comes to a close, the Weiser Architectural Preservation Committee (WAPC) celebrates a year of meaningful progress, community connection, and renewed commitment to preserving the architectural heritage that makes Weiser unique.



Preservation Milestones



● **Eaton Depot Restoration & Interpretive Sign Installed** With the help of Serve Day volunteers and grant support, the Eaton Depot received a fresh coat of paint and a new interpretive sign, marking the completion of a long-awaited restoration project.



● **Front Door Restoration at the Weiser Depot** ATP Construction, a local Weiser company, completed the refinishing of the depot's iconic front doors, restoring their beauty and integrity.

● **Native Idaho Plant Bed Rejuvenation** With guidance from Peggy Faith of Xeric Gardening and support from the Idaho Native Plant Society, our native plant bed was replanted and labeled after a summer setback. Volunteers from the Garden Club and WAPC helped restore this educational and ecological feature, **fully supported by a \$1,000 INPS grant and generous community donations.**



● **Memorial Bench Dedication** A new steel and wrought iron bench was donated in memory of **Lillis and LaVere Hoffer** and installed at the depot's entrance. The dedication ceremony, attended by family and community members, was a heartfelt tribute and a lasting addition to our grounds.



Digital Expansion & Outreach

- **Website Redesign Launched** In partnership with HM Consulting, we unveiled a redesigned website at weiserhistory.org, offering improved access to our history, events, and membership resources.
- **First-Time Participation in Idaho Gives** WAPC joined the statewide Idaho Gives campaign for the first time, raising awareness and funds for our preservation efforts.



Community Events & Engagement

- **February – 100 Friends of Weiser Presentation** WAPC presented four key projects—depot irrigation, Eaton Depot signage and painting, a Pythian Castle handrail, and America250 brochures—at the annual 100 Friends of Weiser event, sharing our vision for preservation with the broader community.
- **May – Jerry Eichhorst Presentation** As part of the Idaho Humanities Council’s *Inquiring Idaho* series, Jerry Eichhorst gave a fascinating talk at the Weiser Depot on the Oregon and California Trails in Idaho.



- **June – Model Railroad Exhibit During Fiddle Fest** The Model Railroad Club from Caldwell set up their displays at the Weiser Depot for two days during Fiddle Fest, delighting visitors of all ages and bringing new energy to our historic space.



- **Christmas Open House & Ornament Reveal** Our 2025 ornament featuring the historic Metropole building was unveiled at Dude’s Kitchen and sold throughout the season. The depot was decorated with lights and hosted Santa visits, photo ops, and a festive gathering for families and volunteers.

- **Youth & Volunteer Work Parties** From window washing to landscaping, local youth groups and volunteers contributed time and energy to depot upkeep and beautification.



Advocacy & Planning

- **Historic Preservation Plan Approved** The City of Weiser’s Historic Preservation Plan was finalized and approved, with WAPC hosting a public open house featuring SHPO representatives.
- **Grant Progress & New Applications** We advanced several grant projects, including the Jeffrey Community Hall nomination, Eaton Depot signage, and the Weiser Middle School Gymnasium application. We also began planning for the America250 interpretive trail project, which will highlight 25–30 historic sites across Weiser.



Looking Ahead to 2026

We’re excited to reschedule our House Tour for spring, pursue new grants for signage and accessibility improvements, and continue our work on the America250 project. With your continued support, we’ll keep honoring the stories, structures, and spirit that make Weiser extraordinary.

Thank you for being part of this journey. Whether you’ve donated, volunteered, or simply shared our mission with others, your involvement matters. Here’s to another year of preserving the past and building a vibrant future—together.

Warm regards, **The Weiser Architectural Preservation Committee** weiserhistory.org | weiserapc@gmail.com