



*A History Museum*  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Naper Settlement receives national recognition for collections care**

**Naperville, Ill.** — In recognition of its preservation efforts, Naper Settlement recently received an Award of Merit for its “Collections Care and Storage Improvements Project” from the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) Leadership in History Awards. The Leadership in History Awards, now in its 65<sup>th</sup> year, is the most prestigious recognition for achievement in the preservation and interpretation of state and local history. Awards for 2010 represented 49 organizations and individuals from across the United States. Award winners were honored at a special banquet held in September during the 2010 AASLH Annual Meeting in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Realizing the need for improved care and storage of its collections, the Naperville Heritage Society, administrator of Naper Settlement, seized an exclusive opportunity in 2007 to partner with the City of Naperville to construct a purpose-built storage facility to house collections, as part of the city’s Multi-Purpose Public Works Center. The facility was outfitted with high-density mobile storage equipment to efficiently and properly house the museum’s collections and archival holdings. Collections were relocated from multiple storage facilities and consolidated and re-housed into the new state of the art facility. The successful completion of the storage project has allowed for the preservation and sharing of the museum’s important and unique collections of Naperville’s history. The project also has improved collections access, as well as made materials available for study and research, teaching, exhibition and public programming, all critical to the museum’s mission.

The AASLH awards program was initiated in 1945 to establish and encourage standards of excellence in the collection, preservation, and interpretation of state and local history throughout the United States. The AASLH Leadership in History Awards not only honor significant achievement in the field of state and local history, but also bring public recognition of the opportunities for small and large organizations, institutions and programs to make contributions in this arena.

The American Association for State and Local History is a not-for-profit professional organization of individuals and institutions working to preserve and promote history. From its headquarters in Nashville, Tennessee, AASLH provides leadership, service, and support for its members who preserve and interpret state and local history in order to make the past more meaningful in American society. AASLH publishes books, technical publications, a quarterly magazine and monthly newsletter. The association also sponsors regional and national training workshops and an annual meeting.

History comes to life at Naper Settlement, an outdoor museum village, located in downtown Naperville at 523 S. Webster St. Accredited by the American Association of Museums, Naper Settlement has 30 historic structures ranging from a rustic log cabin to an elegant Victorian mansion, listed on the National Register of Historic Places. For more information about hours and admission, visit [www.napersettlement.museum](http://www.napersettlement.museum) or call (630) 420-6010.

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