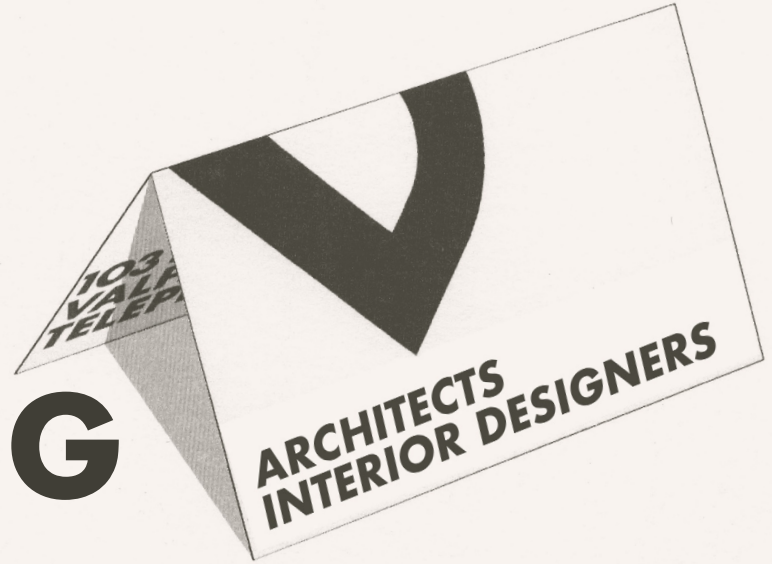


coming soon

DESIGNING 50 YEARS:

ARCHITECTURE + COMMUNITY



MUSE *news* **OCT-DEC 2021**

from the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The closing of *On the Scene* at the Montague/Urschel Gallery (MUG) has officially marked the end of summer at the PoCo Muse. Worry not, as there are still several ways to connect with local history and art before we say goodbye to 2021.

Quinn will be taking a few of our jail-focused artifacts on the road in a *PoCo Muse Pop-Up at the PCPLS* (Porter County Public Library System) in later October. Flip to page 4 to view the full schedule so you can plan a visit to one of the branches.

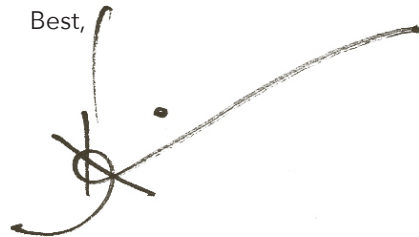
We are eager to celebrate the golden anniversary of architectural firm Design Organization through a collaboration with the local Shive-Hattery office, which kicks off with the opening of *Designing 50 Years: Architecture + Community* at the MUG on November 4 for our members and November 5 for the public.

Ian Baker and other living history enthusiasts will be on our lawn at Indiana Avenue and Franklin Street for a First World War encampment on November 13, and you are all invited to celebrate the season

inside the MUG on December 3 as we stay open late for Holly Days.

As always, thank you for your continued interest in and support of our mission to educate, enrich and inspire.

Best,



Kevin Matthew Pazour

Executive Director • PoCo Muse & Montague/Urschel Gallery

P. S. – Our work continues on assessing the tremendous collection of artifacts in our care, which will be a primary theme we explore in 2022. Learn about a few of our favorite artifacts on pages 10 through 14!

NEW EXHIBIT COMING TO THE MUG

Right • *Christine Probasco, interior designer, and Jill Harper, director of the graphics department, at a workstation in the office of Design Organization (DO). 1980.*

The PoCo Muse, through a partnership with Shive-Hattery, is excited to bring you *Designing 50 Years: Architecture and Community*. This retrospective exhibit traces the journey of local architectural firm Design Organization (DO), now Shive-Hattery, from its modest beginnings in Valparaiso, to its broad regional and national success.

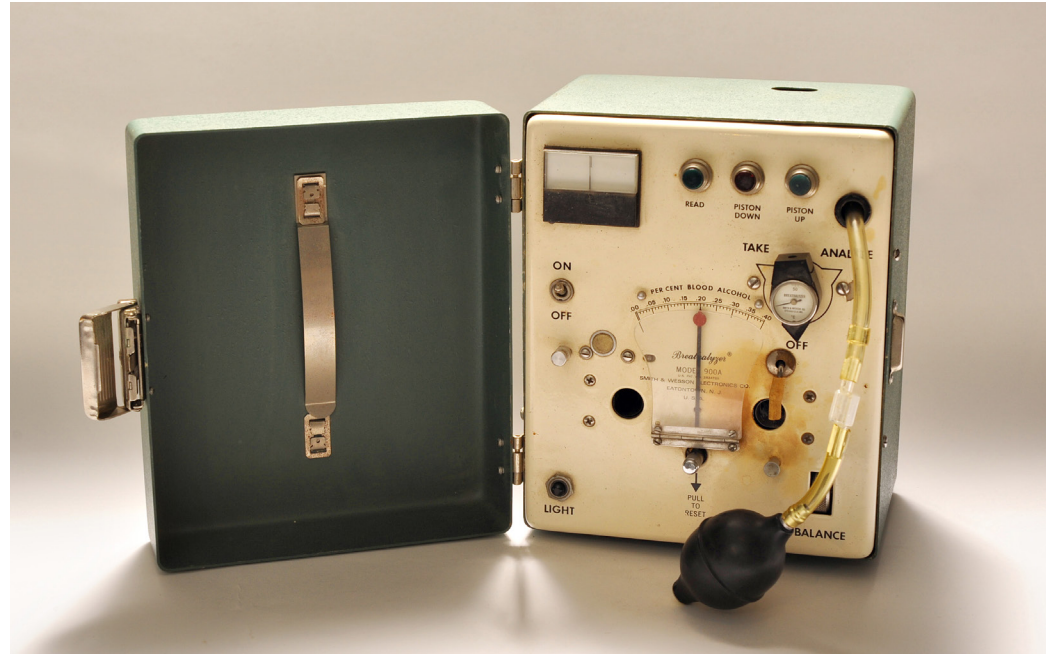
Housed in the Montague/Urschel Gallery at 20 Indiana Avenue, this show will provide you with a snapshot of the firm's culture, while taking you inside the design process of some of its more well-known projects. *Designing 50 Years* showcases how DO, and now Shive-Hattery, has consistently emphasized the significance of a community's sense of place – cherishing the architectural heritage of Porter County both through the renovation of beloved, historic buildings, and construction of entirely new ones.



POP-UP @ THE PCPLS

Quinn is taking several jail-related artifacts on the road to celebrate the sesquicentennial of the 1871 Porter County Jail building. Visit her at the branch of the Porter County Public Library System that's closest to you to learn more about the history of our old jail.

- OCT 20** Kouts, 11a until 2p
- OCT 21** Hebron, 11a until 2p
- OCT 22** South Haven, 11a until 2p
- OCT 23** Portage, 10a until 1p
- OCT 24** Valparaiso, 1:30p until 4:30p
- OCT 27** Kouts, 3p until 6p
- OCT 28** Hebron, 3p until 6p
- OCT 29** South Haven, 2p until 5p
- OCT 30** Portage, 1p until 4p



Above • This Smith and Wesson Breathalyzer was used by the Valparaiso Police Department from the 1960s until March 16, 1991 when it was decommissioned. Albert Photographic.

Right • These four barrel keys are believed to have a connection to the 1871 Porter County Jail prior to the 1949-50 building renovation. Albert Photographic.



OCT 31

GUIDED TOUR OF OLD CITY CEMETERY

Sunday, October 31, 2p
Old City Cemetery, 403 Union Street

Join Kevin Matthew Pazour, PoCo Muse Executive Director, for a guided walking tour of the oldest public cemetery in Porter County. Hear stories about pioneers of the area's past while walking the grounds of this idyllic spot in Valparaiso.

This tour is free and open to the public, but we ask that you become a member or make a \$5 donation to help the PoCo Muse continue facilitating tours like this.

Reservation required at pocomuse.org/events.

NOV 4-5

MEMBER PREVIEW OF DESIGNING 50 YEARS

Thursday, November 4, 4-7p
Montague/Urschel Gallery

PUBLIC OPENING OF DESIGNING 50 YEARS

Friday, November 5, 11a
Montague/Urschel Gallery

PoCo Muse Members are invited to view the brand new exhibit, *Designing 50 Years*, on Thursday evening from 4-7p. This immersive exhibit explores the impact of Design Organization, now Shive-Hattery, on the architecture and communities of Porter County. The exhibit opens to the public on Friday, November 5 at 11a and runs through March 2022. Don't miss it!



Above • The cover of the inaugural edition of Design Organization's (DO) newsletter featuring biographies of partners Doug Pierce and Chuck Bone, 1976.



Image • Photograph of Old City Cemetery (Union Street Cemetery) in Valparaiso taken in the fall of 2019.



Above • Company L marches on West Main Street (now Lincolnway) in Valparaiso, 1916.

NOV 13

LIVING HISTORY: WORLD WAR I ENCAMPMENT

Saturday, November 13, 10a-2p
Front Lawn of 1871 Porter County Jail

Visit the front lawn between 10a and 2p on Saturday, November 13, to see Ian Baker and other living history enthusiasts display and interpret military items from private collections. Everyone at the encampment will be available to answer questions you might have about the First World War.

This event is free and open to the public, but we ask that you become a member or make a \$5 donation to help the PoCo Muse continue facilitating programs like this.

DEC 3

HOLLY DAYS AT THE MUG

Friday, December 3, 4-7p
Montague/Urschel Gallery

Stop by the Montague/Urschel Gallery from 4-7p during Holly Days to view our next exhibit, *Designing 50 Years: Architecture + Community*. While you're there, receive a complimentary historical holiday postcard reprinted from a selection in our archives. Each postcard has a space for you to write a unique greeting, so you can share some Porter County history with your friends and family this holiday season.



Image • A photographic insert of an undated holiday greeting card from the Whitlock Collection. The back of the card reads: "Wish you could hang your stocking here this year. Much love from all the Mathewsons."

STAFF PICKS *from the* COLLECTION

THE POCO MUSE PLAYS FAVORITES WITH THE COLLECTION

In the ongoing work of taking care of the Collection, the staff, interns, and volunteers of the PoCo Muse continually come across remarkable objects that captivate their attention and speak to them in a personal way. Some artifacts tell compelling stories about this region's culture, while others spark joy with their beautiful or peculiar form. Unable to exhibit the entirety of the Collection at one time, we will be sharing some of the staff's favorite objects along with personal reflections and insights.

In upcoming issues of the *Muse News*, we will be extending the invitation to our communities – volunteers, interns, members, board members, partners, and you! – to hear which artifacts have piqued curiosities and captured hearts.

Interested in sharing a story about an artifact? Email info@pocomuse.org.



Above • This filled prescription bottle dated January 16, 1903 from Heineman & Seivers Drug Company is a favorite among the staff. After its patient never called on the prescription, this steadfast bottle waited faithfully behind the counter for 62 years, before it was ultimately donated to the museum. Albert Photographic.



STAFF PICKS *from the* COLLECTION

Asa Kerr, Collections Manager

Page 11 • *Cranberry scoop. Circa 1870.*

Cranberries once grew in relative abundance in the marshy sections of Northern Indiana. Indigenous peoples in this region use the versatile berry in a variety of ways – as food, medicine, and dye.

Once Euro-American settlers arrived and claimed the land, they too harvested, and, in some cases, cultivated the lowbush cranberry. The early Porter County histories often mention the presence of cranberry marshes on local farms. Gradually, most Porter County farmers drained their land in order to grow more profitable crops, destroying the delicate balance of acidic marsh or bog that the cranberry requires. The introduction of non-native cattails and phragmites have also led to the decline of the cranberry.

This cranberry scoop was likely used on a Porter County farm to harvest the tart red berry. Unlike the predominant contemporary method of cranberry harvesting, which involves flooding marshes so the berries float to the top, cranberry scoops like these provided pickers with an early means of “dry harvesting.”

Individuals would comb through cranberry bogs – often on hand and knee to reach the low growing berries – and run these scoopers through each bush. The hand-carved wooden teeth of the scoop pulled through the tangle of the bush's vine-like stems, plucking the berries and depositing them into the deep trough.

Quinn Albert, Visitor Experience

Page 13 • *Decorative vases made from mortar shell casing. Circa 1914. Albert Photographic.*

Every once in a while you see an object that can tell its own story. One such object in the collection is a shell casing from World War I that went on to be a decorative vase. When I look at this piece I can't help but wonder who made it and what thoughts were going through their mind. Where did they find the shell? Who brought it home to Porter County with them? But I also can't help but be struck by the beauty and intricacy of the design, commemorating such a dark event in world history.

Art made by soldiers or civilians using wartime materials is called trench art. This piece was constructed from a spent shell casing, which was polished and engraved with a floral design and banners reading “Verdun, Graonne, Champagne 1914-1917.” The intricacy of the design suggests that this was created by a veteran in the years after the war or a civilian who lived near the battlefield who sold these as a grim souvenir.



STAFF PICKS *from the* COLLECTION

Kevin Matthew Pazour, Executive Director

Right • Wrought-iron sconce. Circa 1940.

This sconce by wrought-iron artist Rodger Guillaumant (1907-1975) is proof that art can take many forms. I first became acquainted with this artifact when I nearly hit my head on it as an intern. It was affixed to the outside of the west cellblock on the first floor of the jail from 1975 until I began my tenure as Executive Director in 2008.

Guillaumant was born on August 12, 1907, in Paris, France, and moved to Porter County in 1934 after meeting and marrying Hazel Tallman, a longtime professor in the Department of Foreign Languages at Valparaiso University.

There's something I find visually appealing about the soft lines of the six-sided candle cup and the vine-like quality of the stem. It is not what I would expect out of a piece crafted from iron.



MEMBERSHIP *benefits*

Number of people receiving benefits at each level:

1	2	4	1	2	4
\$40	\$75	\$125	\$36	\$64	\$110

	PRINT	DIGITAL
Subscription to <i>PoCo Muse Magazine</i>	●	●
Seasonal subscription to the <i>Muse News</i> newsletter	●	●
<i>Musings</i> e-mail updates and members-only digital content	●	●
Discounts on select events, programs, and tours	●	●
Exclusive members-only hours to view exhibits	●	●
Invitation to exhibit preview receptions	●	●
Use of the <i>Slagle Members' Lounge</i> during visits*	●	●
Access to the museum's archives via staff help	●	●
Complimentary membership to the <i>Time Travelers</i> reciprocal membership network	●	●

*This benefit is not currently available due to the pandemic.

STANDARD

DIGITAL

general INFORMATION

POCO MUSE

The award-winning PoCo Muse is this area's oldest institution devoted to the history and culture of Porter County. It exists thanks to a public-private partnership between Porter County Government and the PoCo Muse Foundation.

1871 PORTER COUNTY JAIL

153 S Franklin Street, Valparaiso, IN 46383
(219) 465.3595, pocomuse.org

Porter County's 1871 jail has been home to the PoCo Muse Collection since May 1975.

Hours:

This site is currently closed to the public.

MONTAGUE/URSCHEL GALLERY (MUG)

20 Indiana Avenue, Valparaiso, IN 46383
(219) 510.1836

Accessible by door on the south facade, the Montague/Urschel Gallery (MUG) is the historical art museum of the PoCo Muse.

Hours:

Thursday - Sunday, 11a until 4p.

MISSION

We engage Porter County's rich past with its evolving present to educate, enrich, and inspire our communities.

RECOGNITION OF SUPPORT

The PoCo Muse would not be possible without the ongoing support of our members and generous donors.

POCO MUSE FOUNDATION

20 Indiana Avenue, Valparaiso, IN 46383
(219) 510.1916, mypoco.org/about

The PoCo Muse Foundation is a recognized 501(c)3 organization that supports the PoCo Muse and the MUG.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Joanne Urschel, *Chair*; Ellen Kapitan, *Secretary*; Kathryn McMillan, *Treasurer*; Brandi Anstine; Gretchen Buggeln; Kathleen Evans; Ruth Johnston; Kevin Kerr; and Carlos Rivero

VOLUNTEER

Would you like to volunteer at the PoCo Muse or the MUG? Email your interests and availability to Quinn Albert at quinn@pocomuse.org.

DONATE AN ARTIFACT

Start the process of donating an artifact by visiting pocomuse.org/donate-an-artifact. Email Asa Kerr at asa@pocomuse.org with any questions.

WHY CONTRIBUTE?

Monetary gifts made to the PoCo Muse Foundation enable our employees to create mission-driven programs and exhibits, preserve our vast collection of artifacts, and engage the public in ways that make our museums exceptional.

MAKE A GIFT

Visit pocomuse.org/donate to make a gift online or mail a check to the PoCo Muse Foundation.

