

## **Architectural Feature Story Summer Retreats**



It's hard to find a place that better captures the spirit of a Michigan summer "up north" than Bay View. Methodist in origin and still associated with the United Methodist Church, Bay View serves as an ecumenical, Chautauqua-type summer colony where music, education, and intellectual discussion mix easily with boating, tennis, and other recreational pursuits.

Today, Bay View is comprised of more than 440 cottages, most dating to the late 1800s, and over 30 public buildings. The community's collection of summer cottages ranks among the best in Michigan. To drive or bicycle through on a summer day is to be transported back in time.

While the Grand Hotel is a famous sight on Mackinac Island, it does not stand alone in its architectural splendor!



foundation, many towers, porches, and bays, and elaborately shingled exterior.

The Cudahy Cottage also is recognized in [Great Architecture of Michigan](#) as an architectural treasure. Located on the West Bluff of the island, this cottage was completed in 1888 for a Chicago meatpacker, John Cudahy. A glance at this magnificent home hints at the privileges that great fortunes bestowed. While the designer is unknown, the style is a blend of the Queen Anne and the Shingle, a picturesque composition of stone

If strolling or biking on the West Bluff, don't be shy about taking pictures or simply standing and staring for a while, for the home represents the pinnacle of Michigan cottage architecture.

For more glimpses into Great Architecture of Michigan, [click here!](#)

## Buy Michigan Architectural Foundation (MAF) Silent Auction Items in First Time Online Preview!

The Michigan Architectural Foundation is a financial vehicle to support the art of architecture. The Foundation relies on the support of corporate and individual sponsors, patrons and donors to fund its educational, scholarship and grant programs.

The MAF Silent Auction is a significant source of revenue for the organization. This year, it is expanding to offer certain items prior to the actual auction on Mackinac Island during [the AIA/AGC Midsummer conference, August 2 - 4](#). Fine wines, artwork by architects, unique entertainment and golfing opportunities, sporting events, vacation and travel as well as handcrafted jewelry will be featured online for one week only (July 23-29), where you can click to buy the item instantly for the value of the item. The first individual to offer to buy the item at value will get it.

Don't miss this opportunity to purchase exclusive, one-of-a-kind items, while supporting Michigan Architectural Foundations programs.

[Click here](#) to go to the MAF website page that will feature the items, starting July 23 and ending July 29.

### Feature: Citizen Architect Bonnie Bona, AIA

*This article continues our series on Citizen Architects in Michigan. Because the profession of architecture donates time and expertise in public service roles, our communities benefit from the impact of this expertise in their government and development. Please submit suggestions for other Citizen Architects to [info@michiganarchitecturalfoundation.org](mailto:info@michiganarchitecturalfoundation.org).*



Bonnie Bona, AIA

A licensed architect since the late '80s, Bonnie has been involved in diverse application of her expertise, running her own firm, and working in Chicago-based and Ann Arbor-based firms designing suburban settings and schools. "One of my most fulfilling projects was working on the addition to Community High School, our alternative high school here in Ann Arbor – what an interesting group of professionals and students!"

Bonnie currently is working with the [Clean Energy Coalition](#), a non-profit focused on energy efficiency improvements for existing buildings and vehicles, recycling plans and climate action plans for municipalities across Michigan. Bonnie is heavily involved with a Department of Energy-funded project

called "[Better Buildings for Michigan](#)," working with a statewide team retrofitting 9000 homes in metro-Detroit, Washtenaw County, DeWitt and Bath Townships, St. Joseph County, Marquette, Traverse City and Grand Rapids.

Active in the Ann Arbor Planning Commission for 8 years, Bonnie has contributed to a number of important initiatives, including revision of the Downtown Land Use Plan and Zoning Ordinance, creation of Design Guidelines for this plan, a city-wide Sustainability Plan, a Climate Action Plan, and rewriting the zoning ordinance for the older near-downtown neighborhoods to encourage preservation of neighborhood character while accommodating the demand for urban housing. She is also a strong supporter of [Allen Creek Greenway Conservancy](#) goals to expand non-motorized connectivity.

"The planning commission is fortunate to have diverse professionals as members, including civil engineers, architects and urban planners in addition to thoughtful citizens at large," says Bonnie. "Being an architect provides valuable design insight to the planning process, and helps us to find solutions that accommodate the historic character of the city while integrating contemporary additions to it. The planning commissioners seek our professional opinions to enrich their understanding as they find solutions to the community's concerns. I am personally energized by solving the complicated problems that have lots of nuisances."

Serving in public leadership positions with this depth of understanding of the built environment demonstrates how architects can have a great impact on our communities as they continue to grow and evolve.

## **Who is the Michigan Architectural Foundation?**

*Our mission is to promote how architecture enriches life.*

Michigan Architectural Foundation is dedicated to the promotion, perpetuation and preservation of architecture as a fine art. By serving as a visible resource for funding, information and educational programs, we increase the public's appreciation for architecture, which encourages cohesive, sustainable communities, increasing economic value, enriching experiences and adding beauty.

[Click here](#) to visit our website!

## **AIAMI in partnership with AGC of Michigan Mid Summer Conference**

**Where:** Grand Hotel  
Mackinac Island, MI

**When:** August 2 to 5\*, 2012

[Click here](#) for more information or to register!