

July 26, 2025

MEMO TO: Forest Preserve District of DuPage County
forest@dupageforest.org

FROM: Historic Preservation Commission, City of Naperville
c/o City of Naperville – 400 S. Eagle St – Naperville, IL 60540

SUBJECT: Naperville - Oak Cottage Restoration

The Commissioners on the Historic Preservation Commission of Naperville state their support for the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County's initiative to identify a partner to reuse and restore Oak Cottage in the Greene Valley Forest Preserve. We endorse the Request for Statements of Interest process, and we urge the Forest Preserve to utilize every effort to find the right partner to repurpose this iconic piece of DuPage County's agricultural history.

Although Oak Cottage -- and its partner Greene Barn -- are not within the Naperville city limits, it is very much a part of Naperville's history. Like Joe Naper, the Greene family came to DuPage County from Vermont. These early European settlers created a thriving and prosperous community along the DuPage River, leading to the wonderful City we have today.

The Commissioners thank the Forest Preserve of DuPage County for taking this import step to preserve a significant example of DuPage County history. Oak Cottage is an important element of Naperville's past, and we sincerely want to see it preserved and put to a new use.

If the Commission can be of assistance in any way, please contact us.