

NAPERVILLE HERITAGE SOCIETY

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Developers and Administrators of Naper Settlement September 9, 2025

The Naperville City Council 400 S. Eagle Street Naperville, IL 60540

Dear Members of the City Council,

A recent donation to the Naperville Heritage Society demonstrates how a collaborative relationship between developers and public historians can result in positive preservation outcomes. In June of 2025, Doug Overstreet of Overstreet Builders, Inc. notified Christine McNulty, Chief Curator at Naper Settlement, that a property owned by the company located at 10826 Book Road was slated for demolition, and concerns had been raised about its historic significance. He had contracted Midwest Archaeological Research Services to assess the property and complete a report on its historic significance, which he shared with McNulty. Upon receipt of the report, McNulty determined that NHS would likely be interested in acquiring a selection of fixtures from the historic home. Overstreet worked with McNulty to coordinate a site visit and facilitate communications with the seller of the property.

On August 19, 2025, Overstreet provided access to Naper Settlement staff to retrieve an interior door and two light fixtures from the ca. 1910 home. The addition of these items to the museum's collection will help share the story of the Clow family, whose agricultural legacy is inextricably tied to the city's history. Additionally, Naper Settlement will serve as the repository for the Historic structures report on the property.

Collaborations like this one provide Naperville Heritage Society with the collections and context it relies on to thoroughly document the history of Naperville.

Sincerely,

Macarena (Rena)Tamayo-Calabrese President & CEO- Naper Settlement Strong on the state of the stat