Communities need self esteem and self-knowledge to succeed. Society programs teach people where they have been and what they have valued. Birmingham is a church-going place with fine architectural structures to prove it. Our historic churches and synagogues form the bed rock of our community.

Society members together with noted architectural photographer Richard Payne collaborated to produce ASPIRATION-Birmingham’s Historic Houses of Worship, the 2000 publication and photographic exhibition at Birmingham Public Library. More than 50,000 persons visit the library monthly.

Pictured below left: the publication team including writer and art historian John Schnorrenberg whose richly complex thoughts provide context and detail for Richard Payne’s photographs; Marjorie White, editor; Richard Payne; and Philip Morris, editor.

Pictured below right: volunteer proofreader Joe Strickland showing his son, Whit, their church’s photograph.

Pictured below left: attending the Proofs Party (to begin developing a BHS style guide), left to right, Jim Emison, Marjorie White, Leah Atkins, Cathy Adams, Rhonda Covington, Bob Bowron, Cathy Dodds, Nick Patterson and Lee Brewer.

Pictured below right: Elizabeth Collier, Mary Jane Monroe, Kay Smith, Carol Slaughter, Florence Donaldson and Ronda Chambless offering books for members and for sale at the library reception, pictured to the left.
Preservation Awards and the annual meeting spotlighted people and institutions actively saving our community heritage.

Top of the 2000 list: Sloss Development, led by Pete Sloss, Cathy Sloss Crenshaw, Al Folcher and Wanda Anderson, left, developers of Pepper Place, Martin Biscuit Co., site of the annual awards presentation, and of the Alabama Ballet Center for Dance, a project spearheaded by Wyatt R. Haskell, right.

A distinguished crew from historic sites and collections across the region assist Philip Morris in presenting the Morris Report on preservation at the millennium.

Birmingham’s movie palace extraordinary provided the spectacular setting for the February 21 evening meeting. The small town football short Possums inspired attendees to continue transforming our communities through historic preservation.

Staff and volunteers at Sloss Furnaces National Historic Landmark

Neighborhood officers, whose perseverance led to listing of new National Register of Historic Places districts in Avondale and East Lake.
Tours, treasure hunts and parades provided participatory activities for students and adults.

Cherokee Bend students, pictured below on a Downtown Discovery Tour with Jennie Thomas, left, who still remembers her fourth grade Discovery Tour, gave their tour an enthusiastic rating, right.

John Bradley enjoys the Smith-Moody House gardens during the spring Heritage Society tour of English Village homes.

Participating in the Title That Treasure gallery guide are two visitors to the ASPIRATION exhibit at Birmingham Public Library.

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