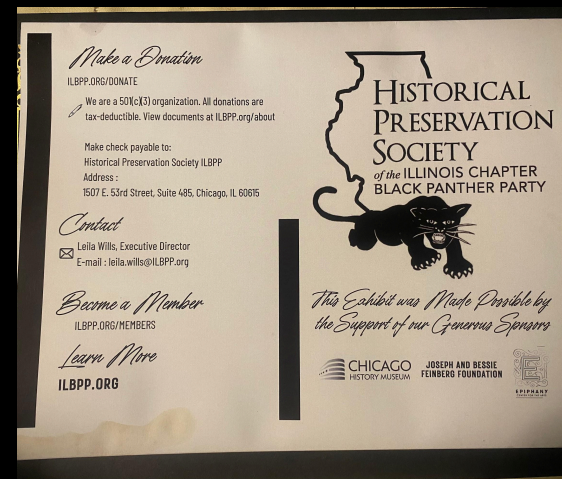


Leila Wills, Curator of new Exhibit “Preserving The Heritage of the Black Panther Party in Illinois”



Leila Wills, co-founder and executive director of the Historical Preservation Society of the Illinois Black Panther Party is championing efforts to honor and preserve Illinois Black Panther Party history.

Wills, the daughter of two Illinois Black Panther Party members, is curator of a new exhibit focused on the history, politics and programs of the Illinois Black Panther Party. The exhibit “Preserving the Heritage of the Black Panther Party in Illinois” opened on August 7th at the Epiphany Center for the Arts in Chicago, and runs through September 28. The exhibit consists of photographs provided by the Chicago History Museum — from the party’s founding and community protests to FBI raids and the Rainbow Coalition.



Exhibit Curator Wills Shares Information On Preservation Efforts Underway



Exhibit curator Leila Wills held a private reception in Chase Hall before the exhibit opened to the public. Wills shared preservation efforts underway to develop the Black Panther Party Heritage Trail in Illinois. These efforts, including the creation of the Mark Clark Memorial Park in Peoria in collaboration with Defense Captain Mark Clark's family.

Among those in attendance were former members of the Illinois Chapter of the Black Panther Party, HPS members, partners, sponsors, and the family of Peoria Defense Captain Mark Clark.

More photos of the family of Peoria Defense Captain Mark Clark in attendance at the opening reception.



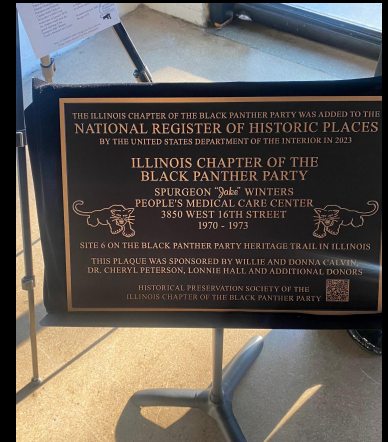
Spurgeon “Jake” Winters People’s Medical Care Center Historical Marker Unveiled



Members of the Illinois Chapter after unveiling the Spurgeon “Jake” Winters People’s Medical Care Center historical marker. Deputy Minister of Health Ronald “Doc” Satchel is featured above the marker.

At the private reception members of the Illinois Chapter unveiled the Spurgeon “Jake” Winters People’s Medical Care Center historical marker which will be placed at 3850 W. 16th Street. The marker is sponsored by former members of the Illinois Chapter of the Black Panther Party who worked at the medical center.

A photograph of Deputy Minister of Health Ronald “Doc” Satchel is featured above the marker.



Ephipany Center for the Arts

Historical Significance To Black Panther History



The Epiphany Center for the Arts is the first location added to the Illinois Chapter's Thematic Listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The location is historically significant to Panther history. Previously known as the Church of the Epiphany, it was referred to by Black Panthers as "The People's Church". It was once a meeting place for the Illinois Black Panther Party.

The Illinois Chapter held a rally at the People's Church on December 3, 1969, hours before Deputy Chairman Fred Hampton and Peoria Defense Captain Mark Clark were assassinated by the FBI in collusion with Chicago police. It is the site of Chairman Fred's last public speech on December 3, 1969.

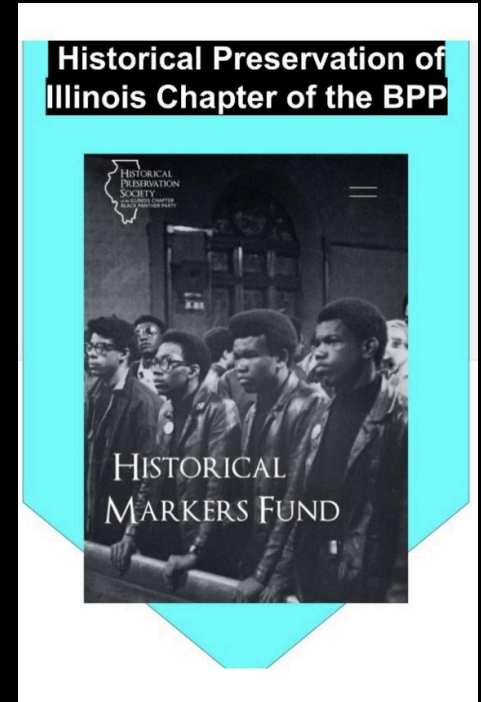


The Historical Preservation and Landmarking Of The ILBPP!



In 2023, The Historical Preservation Society of the ILBPP were successful in obtaining approval of the state and the National Park Service to place the Illinois Chapter of the Black Panther Party on the National Register of Historic Places. The project marks and preserves the history of locations significant to the Illinois Black Panther Party

To learn more about the Historical Preservation and Landmarking of the ILBPP visit their website: ilbpp.org



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Our website: <https://ClarkVirtualMuseum.com>

For more information contact us via email:
clarkvirtualmuseum@yahoo.com

Best Regards, Rose X (Clark) Morris, Founder and Curator

The Clark Virtual Museum.

