



**Category: Preservation Service**  
*John Laping, Past Chairman*  
**City of Buffalo Preservation Board**

A senior principal of K i d e n e y Architects until retiring in 2007, J o h n L a p i n g , AIA, was appointed to the volunteer Buffalo Preservation Board in 1998 and served with exemplary dedication until 2009.

For most of that tenure, he was board chair, articulate spokesperson, and public face. As chair, he was highly regarded for meetings that were fair to petitioners and was respected for his pragmatism that resulted in winning many of the battles the board pursued.

He spent endless hours beyond board meetings, meeting with petition-

ers, inspecting buildings, and interfacing with city officials, often setting aside his “real work” and arranging his schedule and vacations to ensure his service to the Preservation Board and the citizens of Buffalo.

He represented the board at public and private functions, and eagerly met with applicants to improve their submissions according to preservation standards that would pass muster with board members.

When he participated as member of a task force charged by the city with drafting a Preservation Plan, he invested tremendous effort and set a standard for service though the plan was never formally accepted by the city.

A graduate of the University of Cincinnati’s College of Architecture, John has served as an officer and

director in the local, state, and national organizations of the American Institute of Architects (AIA), and was a member of the New York State Licensing Board for Architecture.

His projects as architect include the Amherst Jewish Center, many Williamsville schools, Goldome banks, the United Way expansion, the Veterans Home in Batavia, and countless Millard Fillmore Hospital projects.

His many awards and honors include elevation to the College of Fellows of the AIA, the James William Kideney Award given by the NYS AIA, and, most recently, the Robert and Louise Bethune Award of AIA Buffalo, its highest honor.

PBN is pleased to join this prestigious list by honoring John Laping for his dedication to Preservation Service.