

# PRESERVATION KENTUCKY

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20 December, 2010

National Trust for Historic Preservation  
Leigh Ivey, Communications Assistant  
1785 Massachusetts Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Ms Ivey,

I am writing in support of the nomination of Hogan's Pavilion in Cherokee Park to the 2011 National Trust 11 Most Endangered list. The structure is an important iconic historic feature in Cherokee Park that is used and loved by Louisvillians of all ages and walks of life. Currently, the Pavilion is in grave danger of demolition by neglect.

As you may know, Louisville is celebrated as a city of parks, for its association with the designed landscapes of Frederick Law Olmsted in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Cherokee Park (1892) is one of 18 parks and 6 parkways that retain a high level of integrity of setting, feeling, and association with the important landscape plan envisioned by Olmsted for the city of Louisville.

Hogan's Pavilion was constructed in 1964 by architect E.J. Schickel near Hogan's Foundation, which served as "a dog- and horse-watering fountain located atop a hill on the Scenic Loop," since its establishment in 1905 by the Hogan Family of Anchorage, Kentucky. ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cherokee\\_Park](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cherokee_Park)). The Pavilion was intended to be used as a shelter for events, gatherings, and simply "hanging out" atop the Scenic Loop hill. Schickel consciously evoked the Cherokee Park name when he designed the large tee-pee pavilion. The architect also paid special attention to materials that would be appropriate for the park setting, such as wood beams, wood shake roofing, and stone support columns. Also notable, Schickel's exceptionally tall creation, retained a sense of horizontality, connecting it to the designed landscape surrounding it. As a result, Hogan's Pavilion, or the tee-pee as it is popularly known, is an important historic structure in Cherokee Park. Its scale, massing, materials, and design features are extremely complimentary to the park's setting and in no way detracts from Olmsted's courageous design for Cherokee Park. Just as Olmsted used the natural environment as a key design feature, this piece of modernism responds eloquently to its setting.

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Since its construction in 1964, Louisville Metro Parks has spent little money to maintain Hogan's Pavilion, though the structure brings in a great deal of money in rental fees. According to a local group devoted to preserving the pavilion, no funds were budgeted for maintenance during the last fourteen years. (<http://www.thefirstendangeredonline.com/current-issue/02-features/323-hogans-fountain-pavilion-revisited>). As a result of this case of demolition by neglect, the Pavilion's condition has deteriorated. Metro Parks has estimated, based on one contract bid, that repairs to the structure could cost up to \$150,000, while replacing it with a new shelter would be more affordable. This is a recognizable situation that occurs in many parks systems across the country—money is tight and an understanding of the importance of more modern buildings and structures as an integral part of these systems is missing.

Given this urgent situation and the need to educate Metro Parks on the importance of this structure, I ask that you accept Hogan's Pavilion for the 2011 Endangered List. Preservation Kentucky, as your statewide partner, is poised to assist in this situation and would greatly appreciate your help. If I can answer any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Rachel M. Kennedy

Executive Director



Preservation Kentucky

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