

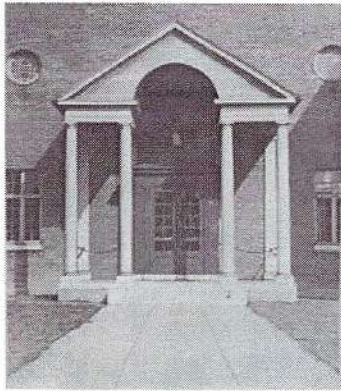
# HISTORIC BRIGHTON NEWS

Volume 13

Winter 2012

Number 1

*Celebrating our town's history and educating our community about Brighton's past.*



Original Hochstein

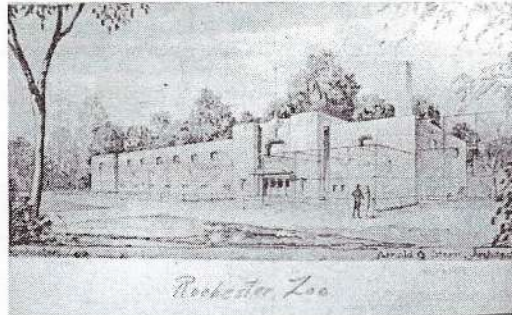
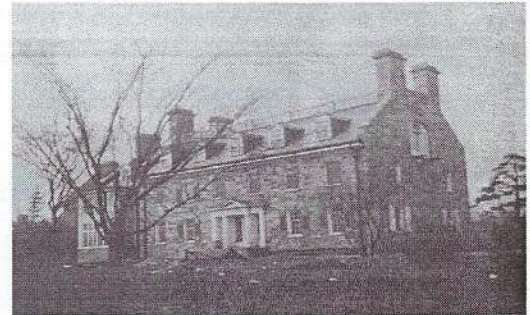


Exhibit Bldg – Seneca Park Zoo



Unknown Residence



Herbert Morland Stern

Historic Brighton's 13th Annual Meeting  
and Presentation of:

Salon III

Notable Brighton Architects:

**JAMES BURNS ARNOLD**

**HERBERT MORLAND STERN**

**LEON STERN**

Presented by Arlene A. Vanderlinde

Sunday, January 29th, 2012 - 2:30 P.M.

Brighton Town Hall

Main Auditorium

2300 Elmwood Avenue



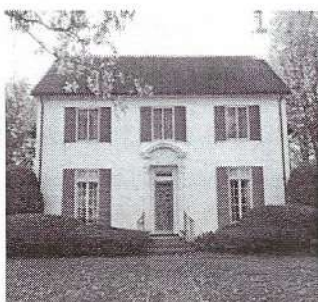
Katz Residence 875 East Avenue



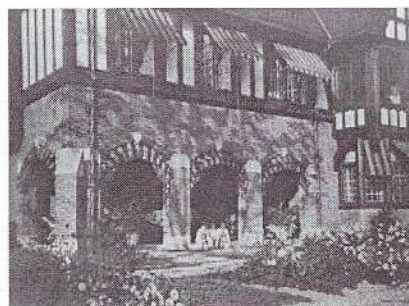
James B. Arnold



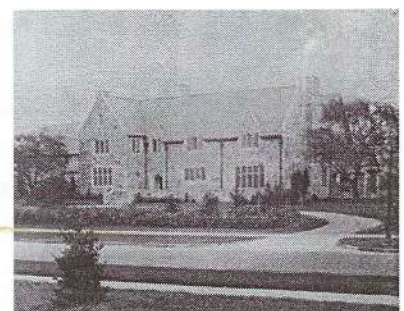
Leon Stern



Arnold Residence —  
Highland Avenue



Vintage Hornbeck-Gannett House



Hornbeck-Gannett House

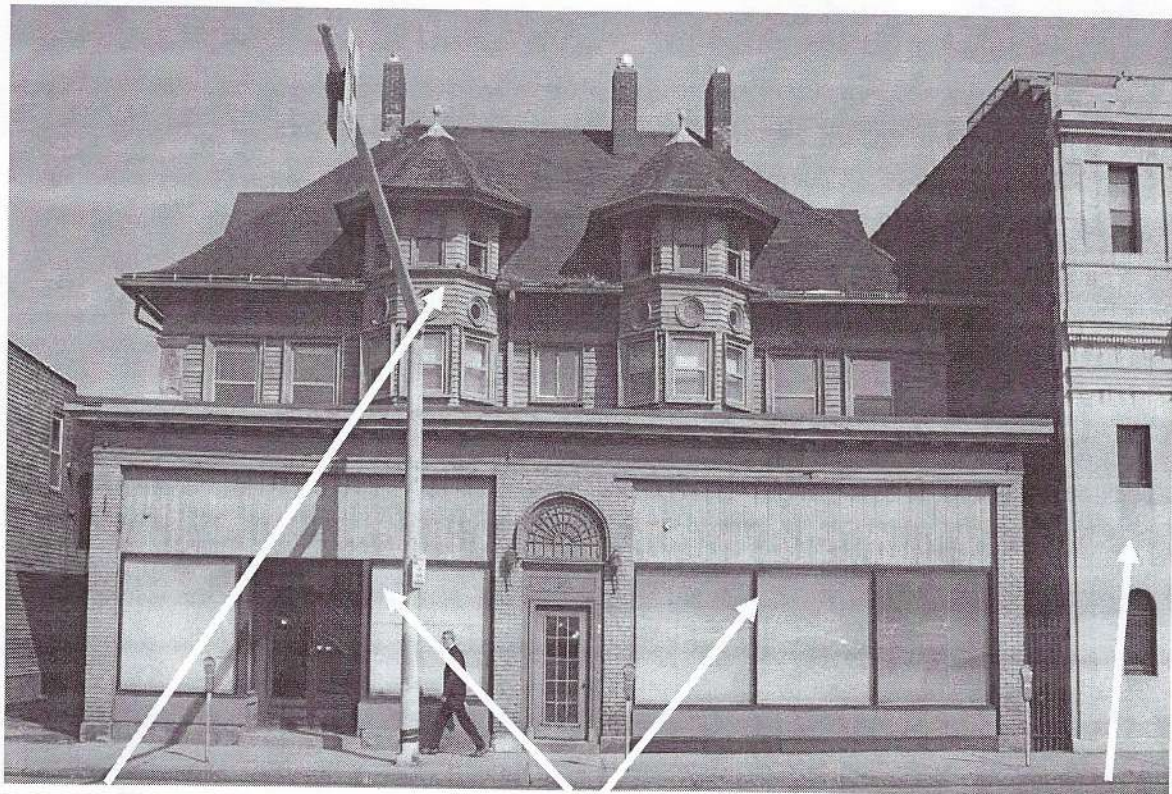


# *Banker & Anchor...side by side*

*By Leo Dodd and Monica Gilligan*

If Security Trust was the Brighton Village banker, then the WCTU qualified as the Brighton Village anchor. The moral anchor.

Where was the WCTU, *Women's Christian Temperance Union Building*, located in the Brighton Village? The annotated photograph taken recently by Ron Richardson shows the building located immediately to the west of the Central Trust building, both located on the north side of East Avenue.



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Women's Christian Temperance Union Building (WCTU)

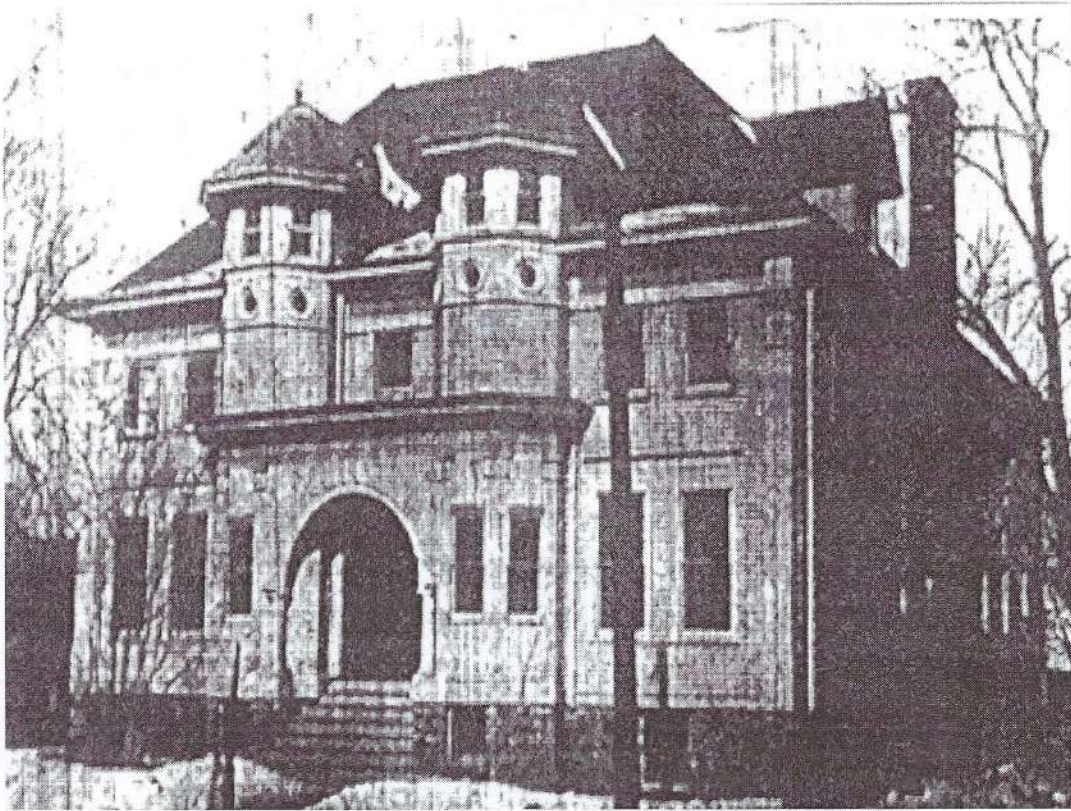
Building redesigned 1920's to accommodate store fronts.

Central Trust

If you were a woman seeking help or support for a family problem, the women at the WCTU could offer you comfort or a home of refuge from abuse. Sure, they were active apostles of the "Please Don't Drink, Daddy" agenda, but they also offered broad support, advice, help, and solutions to a wide range of problems affecting family life in the early 1900 era of Brighton Village.

If you were walking down East Avenue, circa 1905, the WCTU building of Brighton would have had the appearance shown in the photograph on the next page. It disappeared from view in the fall of 2011 to make way for "progress" in the form of a much larger grocery store.

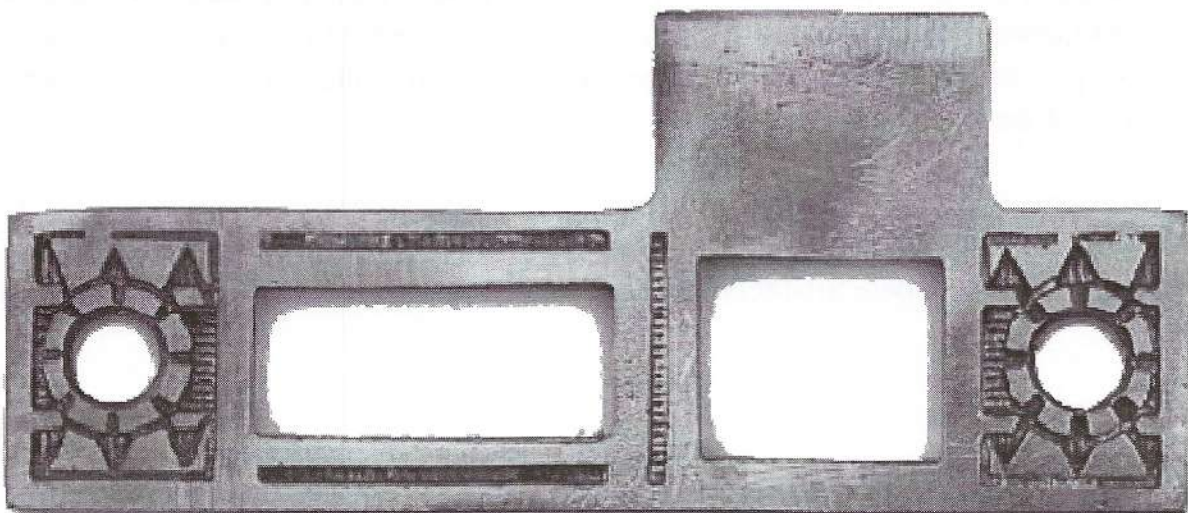




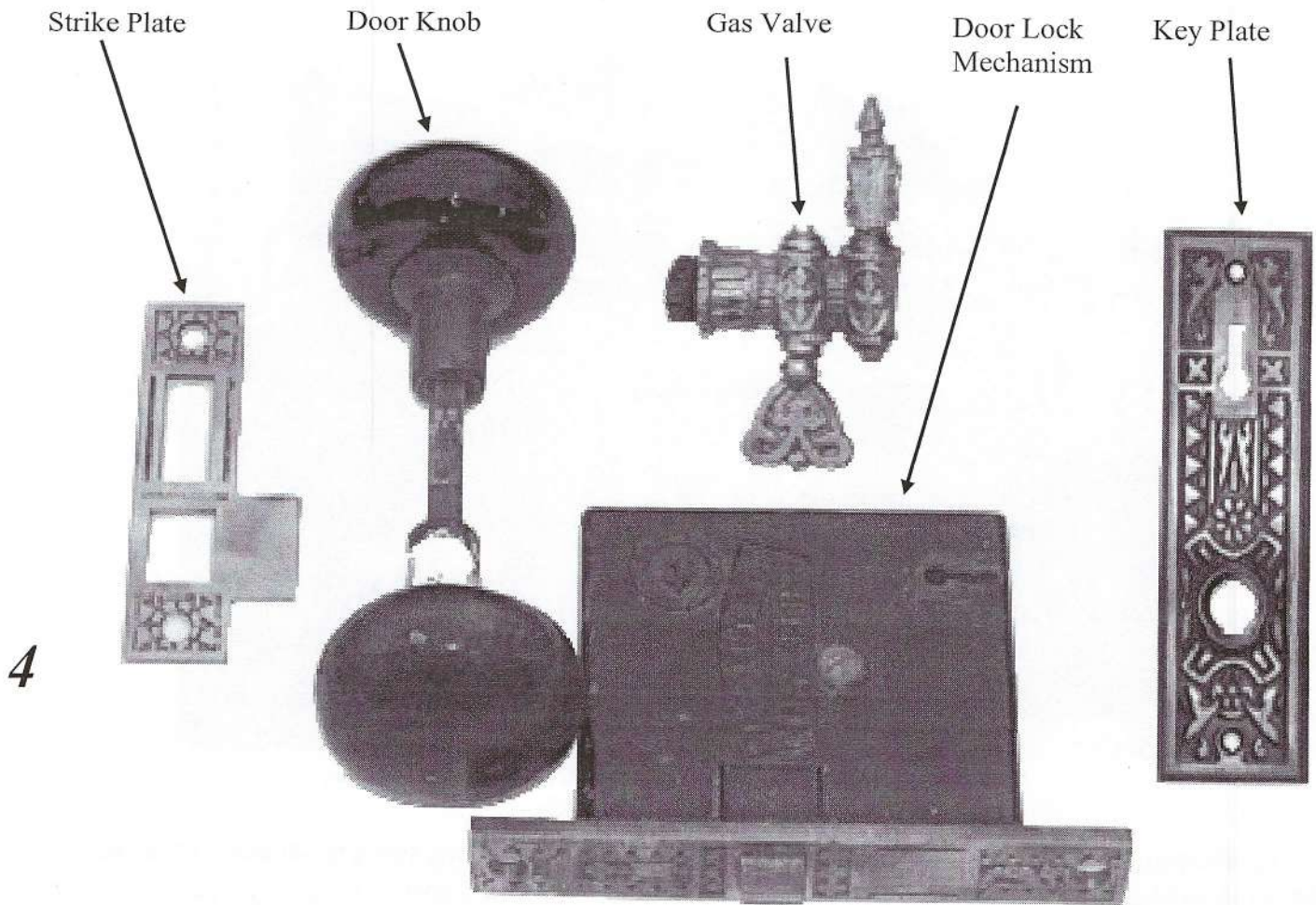
Women's Christian Temperance Union — WCTU, Brighton Building

Ron Richardson and Arlene Vanderlinde, of Historic Brighton, sought access to the building before demolition was initiated but were denied because of security and safety concerns. The Rochester firm of ReHouse, an architectural salvage company, was allowed within the building to gather material. Ron and Arlene visited ReHouse and purchased several artifacts they had found within the building. These items provide a historical remembrance and record of a proud structure that serviced the community of Brighton Village.

One artifact was the brass door lock strike plate pictured below. This item is approximately three and a half inches long and an inch wide. This every day household item, designed and manufactured at the turn of the century, just overwhelms our 21st century-sensitized eyes. Compared to this, today's manufacturing style produces bland, uninteresting hardware.







The same attention to detail is evident in all the items obtained from ReHouse. Items identified as the strike plate, door knob, door lock mechanism, key plate and gas valve in the photo above. A great age of design existed a hundred years ago, as well as a process that allowed the arts to participate and enhance the beauty of ordinary items, a policy seemingly foreign to today's manufacture.

Designs might draw upon sources called Native American, while other hinges and strike plates of the period might sport Greek key borders, ancient Roman lozenges, and possibly Egyptian-influenced motifs. Note the stylized birds and flower in the key plate. Are those leaping deer in the upper corners? Someone took great pride, and dare we say pleasure, in making these objects beautiful.

Historic Brighton members were, unfortunately, unable to preserve any of the surviving 19th Century buildings of Brighton Village on East Avenue, but we are glad to have been able to add to our collection of local artifacts these telling reminders of craftsmanship and services gone by. □





## *Grinnell's Restaurant*

By Mary Jo Lanphear  
Brighton Town Historian

A celebration of fifty years in business at the same location is a rare occurrence! That it's a three-generation family business makes it even more unusual.

Brothers Fred and Al Grinnell rented space at 1696 Monroe Avenue in 1961. Experience at legendary Rochester restaurants such as Eddie's Chop House and The Rochester Club convinced them that there was a need in Brighton for a

5 place that served not only a good cocktail but also a good dinner.

The location on busy Monroe Avenue insured patronage from local residents as well as commuters between Rochester and Pittsford. 1696 Monroe Avenue was a new building in 1961. The Grinnell brothers rented space on the east side of the building. Years later, when the neighboring beauty salon closed, the restaurant took over the entire building. The one-story business with parking in front joined an interesting mix of post-brickyard construction that gave Monroe Avenue its residential and commercial appearance. Situated



on an interurban line that later became a bus route, Monroe Avenue was a convenient place to live if one worked in the city. Consequently, there are several large apartment complexes such as Georgian Court, Westminster Court, and Bel-Air Manor sharing the avenue with single family houses and businesses with second floor apartments.

Into what sort of milieu did the Grinnell brothers establish their restaurant? In 1961 Pittsford Plaza was under construction with Edwards Department store the anchor tenant. Interstate 490 connecting the Thruway with the Inner loop was due for completion in late 1962. Under discussion was a VHF television station supporting educational programs



(the future WXXI). The Rochester City Council vetoed a proposal to allow jet airplanes to land at the Rochester and Monroe County Airport. Temple B'rith Kodesh broke ground for the Pietro Belluschi-designed building on Elmwood Avenue. The cornerstone was placed in February for the Louis Kahn-designed Unitarian Church on Winton Road. Construction of the seven-story East Avenue Tower apartments was under consideration by the Brighton town government. Although ads for fall-out shelters reminded newspaper readers of the Cold War, the prevailing atmosphere was upbeat and positive. It was a good time to open a new business.

Cousins Dave Grinnell and Rick DeMitry took over the restaurant in 1979. In 1989 they enlarged the dining room, taking over the former beauty salon next door. Valet parking provides the solution for a too-small front parking area. Inside, in the recently refurbished dining rooms, visitors will see framed photos and information about some of Brighton's important houses, part of Salon I, a presentation on architecture created by Historic Brighton members Arlene Wright Vanderlinde and Betsy Brayer.

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Photo by Arlene Vanderlinde





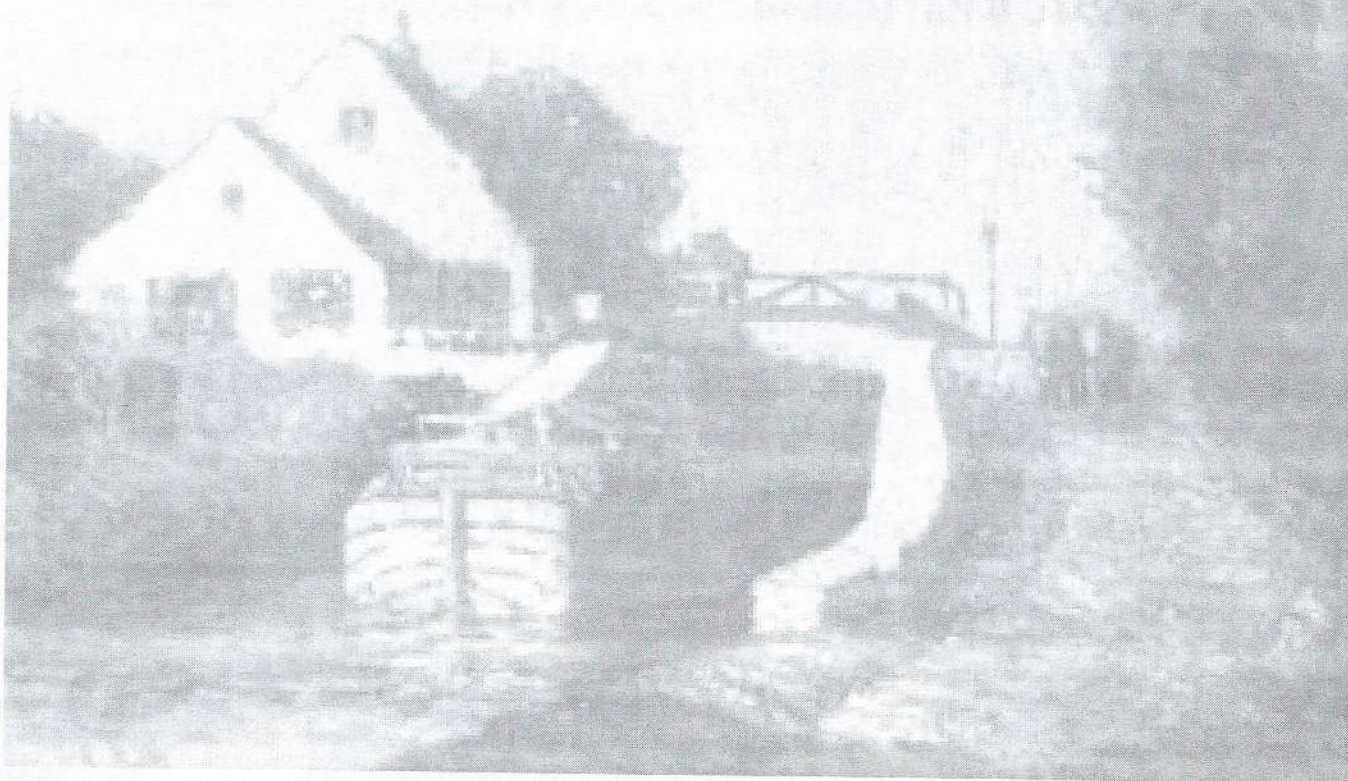
Photo by Derek Vanderlinde

The Historic Brighton Board Members and spouses enjoying Grinnell's at a recent year-end dinner. Around the table starting from the left: Arlene Vanderlinde, Mary Jo Lanphear, Beth Keigher, Leo and Mary Dodd, Hannelore (Honey) Heyer, Britt and Janet Hopkin, Monica Gilligan, Nancy Uffindell, Rome Celli, Ron Richardson, and Betsy Brayer.

Dave Grinnell says that the restaurant's longevity is based on consistency – offering the best quality food and serving the best cocktails. The menu hasn't varied much in fifty years – steak and seafood are still the most popular offerings. And the cocktails? Anything with vodka, Dave says, although an apple martini is a current favorite. So let's raise our glasses in celebration of Grinnell's fifty year anniversary! □



Historic Brighton  
P.O. Box 18525  
Rochester NY 14618



**Historic Brighton acknowledges with gratitude...**

***Grinnell's Restaurant***

***1696 Monroe Avenue, Rochester NY 14618***

for their ongoing support and display of Historic Brighton's Salon I photos  
of the historic properties in our town of Brighton

***The Landmark Society of Western New York***

***133 Fitzhugh Street, Rochester NY 14608***

for the use of their historic property, The Stone-Tolan House at 2370 East Avenue,  
for our October 2011 Historic House Plaque Presentation Ceremony

***ReHouse Architectural Salvage***

***1473 East Main Street Rochester NY 14609***

for their donation of a display case to  
house the Brighton Village artifacts

***Whitehouse Liquors***

***1720 Monroe Avenue, Rochester NY 14618***

for their donation of a case of wine to serve at  
our October 2011 Historic Property Plaque Presentation Ceremony