



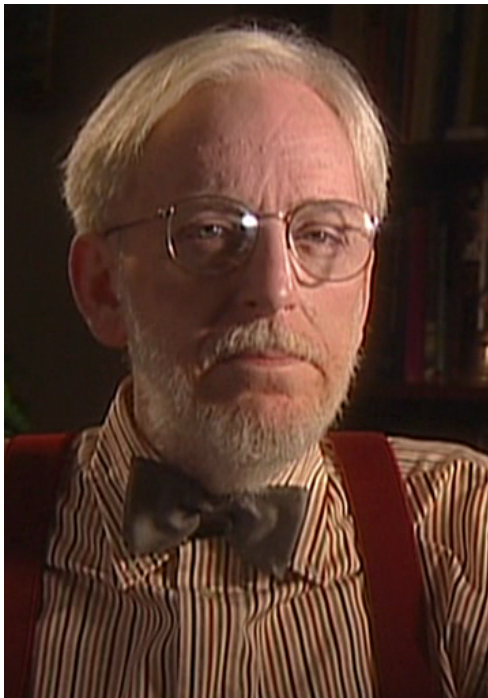
Ferguson Has a History Museum

Ferguson has a Historical Society and a History Museum. We encourage any people reading this article to join in the conversation and become a member.

Last month we began the two-part update of the Ferguson Wall of Fame. We presented five of the Wall of Famers: Enos Slaughter, Mike Shannon, Susan Notorangelo, Joanie Lum and Louis Maull. In this issue we will show you the final five.



The image above shows the Firehouse side. At the bottom of the article is the Police side.

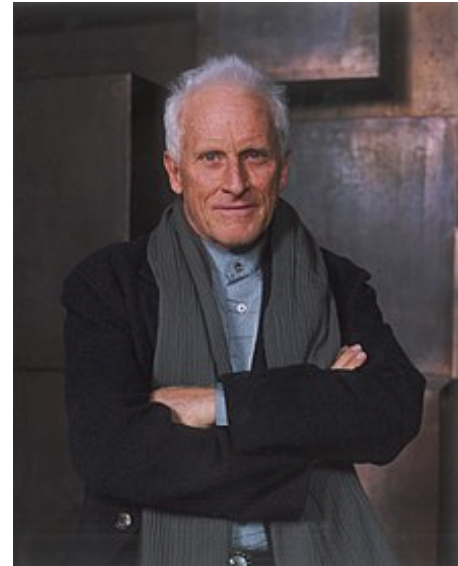


Daniel Thomas O'Bannon (1946-2009)– not a name that trips off most of our tongues. Maybe it should, as he is a well-known film screenwriter, director and visual effects supervisor – especially in the fiction and horror genres. While growing up in Ferguson, O'Bannon lived at 136 N. Marguerite. He graduated from McCluer High School. The photo is appropriate as a class member remembers him with his bow tie. He attended Washington University Art School – where he was also active in the stand-up comedy community. He also attended Florissant Valley Community College where he wrote and directed a short science fiction satire, “The Attack of the 50-foot Chicken”. Finally he went to and graduated from the University of Southern California with a film degree in 1970. His credits in the film industry seem to stretch

forever, having served as a writer, director, editor, production designer, animator and playwright. Among his many films are: *Star Wars*, *Dark Star*, *Alien*, *Heavy Metal*, *Blue Thunder*, *Return of the Living Dead*, *Total Recall*, *Alien*

3, *Screamers and Alien vs. Predator*. He passed away in 2009 from complications of Crohns Disease. Even in his illness, he found inspiration – he says he found inspiration from his Crohns Disease for the chest-bursting scene in *Alien*.

Antoine Predock (1936-2024) was an American architect based in Albuquerque New Mexico. Born in Lebanon, Missouri, the family moved to Ferguson where he graduated from Ferguson High School in 1954. While in Ferguson, he resided at #7 Lakeview Court. He began a study of engineering at University of Missouri in Columbia but finished at the University of New Mexico School of Architecture. He established his studio in Albuquerque in 1967 and went on to establish offices in Los Angeles and Taipei. His most famous designs are: Nelson Fine Arts Center at Arizona State U., Turtle Creek House (Texas), Tang Museum at Skidmore College, Ballpark for San Diego Padres along with international sites including National Palace Museum in Taiwan and the Canadian Museum for Human Rights in Winnipeg, Manitoba. His designs feature an angular and brutalist-type design.



Mary Jo Bang (1946-Present) is an educator and writer (Poetry). She was born in Waynesville, Missouri (Mary Jo Ward), but grew up in Ferguson. A 2008 Post-Dispatch article said, “A local girl, she grew up poor in Ferguson.” Bang went on to earn a BA & MA at Northwestern University, a photography degree at the Polytechnic of Central London, an MFA in creative writing from Columbia University and physician assistant degree from St. Louis University. She is the author of numerous collections of poetry including: *A Doll for Throwing*, *The Last Two Seconds*, *The Bride of E*, *Louise in Love the Downstream Extremity of the Isle of Swans*, *Apology for Want and Elegy*. *Elegy* won high praise for its profound, meditative lyrics on Loss (her adult son’s death). She also published a translation of *Inferno* by Dante Allegheri. Professor Bang

currently teaches creative writing at Washington University in St. Louis.

For our final two Wall of Famers, we move into the world of music. **Jeanne Trevor** (1938-2022) is often called the “St. Louis’ first lady of jazz”. For anyone who has been around the St. Louis jazz scene, the name rings a bell – many

have been to at least one of her performances. Trevor was born in Harlem. After bouncing around some east-coast cities, she settled in St. Louis. In the late 1950's and throughout the 1960's she was a major musical voice in the fabled Gaslight Square, centering on Boyle and Olive. Trevor commented on Gaslight Square, *"Everyone was joyous. I don't know how to explain it in that respect. It was our Disneyland, our Camelot, with a little bit of Broadway."* *"One thing about Gaslight, everybody was on an even keel. It was heaven! It broke a lot of hearts when it ended, because you had to go out into the cold, real world."* After Gaslight, Trevor continued to serenade St. Louis at the Muny, St. Louis Black Rep, Westport Playhouse ,on television and on Film and especially at the Ferguson Concert Series. Her final years were spent living at The Knolls, in Ferguson.



Finally, is a name many of our readers will recognize: **Michael McDonald** (1952-Present).

McDonald grew up in Ferguson and attended McCluer High School. While there he played in local bands including Mike and the Majestics, Jerry Jay and the Sheratons and the Reeb-Toors/Younger Brothers.

McDonald is singer, keyboardist and songwriter known for his distinctive, soulful voice. From 1973-1974 he was a member of

Steely Dan, joining the Doobie Brothers from 1975-1982, 1987, and 2019 to Present. He has also performed as a backup vocalist with Toto, Christopher Cross and Kenny Loggins among others. He has nine solo studio albums. With five Grammy Awards to his credit, he was inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame as a member of the Doobie Brothers in 2020.



Now you have all ten members of the Ferguson Wall of Fame. Now that you know more about them, why not stop by and view the actual wall. It is located between the Firehouse and the Police Station on Florissant Road.

Membership in the Ferguson Historical Society is open to anyone – membership levels range from \$20.00 to \$50.00 a year. If you are interested in joining or have any suggestions, questions, or items to donate to the Ferguson Historical Society, please contact Jerry Benner at fjbenner@mindspring.com. You are also welcome to visit the History Museum at 1064 Smith (behind the Community Center) by e-mailing the above address. Note: we will need to schedule a date for you, so ask well in advance

“The Ferguson Historical Society is dedicated to preserving and promoting the history of Ferguson Missouri. Membership is open to all sharing our interest.”