Donation Information and Form

Anatok History

The house was built by Catholic merchant Charles Hayden in 1847. A nationally known Black Catholic Journalist, Daniel Rudd was born a slave to the Charles Hayden family in 1854. He worshipped at St. Joseph Proto Cathedral, where his parents worked as custodians. "According to his own later words, he absorbed a sense of far greater value from the faith he learned as a child in that historic Catholic City—one that fueled his passion as one of the leading voices for civil rights later in the 19th century."

It was a private residence until 1928 when it was purchased by Sisters of Charity of Nazareth for a convent for teachers and nurses who staffed Bethlehem Academy and later, Flaget Hospital. A private residence from 1971 to 1988, it was used by Flaget Hospital administration until 2005. Now owned by Bethlehem High School, today the building is in danger of demolition. Local and state preservation groups are working to raise funds to renovate and preserve this ante-bellum red-brick mansion.

The Anatok Preservation Committee is launching an eighteen month fund-raising drive to assure the renovation and repair of the National Register Landmark, Anatok. This group, independent of Bethlehem High School, is acting as an ad hoc committee under Bardstown Historic Development Corp. a non-profit, 501-C 3, under the Internal Revenue code. All contributions are tax deductible in the year made.

Thanking you in advance, Committee members: Michael Ballard, David Hall,, Dixie Hibbs, Dr. Harry S. Spalding and John Trager.

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