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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **WOODBURNE MANSION LISTED ON 2019 PENNSYLVANIA AT RISK LIST**

Estate to Become Park: Local Advocates Seek to Preserve Its Gilded-Age Mansion

Darby, Delaware County, PA – The palatial **Woodburne Mansion** is nestled in Delaware County’s proposed Little Flower Park, overlooking Darby Creek. The land was once owned by Thomas A. Scott, president of the Pennsylvania Railroad and Assistant Secretary of War for Transportation for Abraham Lincoln. His son, Edgar Thompson Scott, hired architect Horace Trumbauer to design an elegant 55-room house. Trumbauer was a preferred architect for Gilded-Age magnates and also designed 110-room Lynnewood Hall for streetcar magnate Peter A. B. Widener (Montgomery County, listed on the 1992 Pennsylvania At Risk).

Woodburne remained in the Scott family until the 1930s at which time it transferred into institutional ownership. Delaware County purchased the property in 2016. In 2018, “Friends of Woodburne” was organized to work with county officials toward the goal of preservation and reuse of the building.

“We look forward to collaborating with the Friends of Woodburne and county officials to help plan a future for this place,” said Julia Chain, Program Director at Preservation Pennsylvania. “Challenges like the reuse of Woodburne require a long term view.”

### **2019 Pennsylvania At Risk**

Preservation Pennsylvania has listed the following places to the 2019 Pennsylvania At Risk and will offer free preservation assistance through the year.

#### **Farmhouse at Carlisle Indian School (Cumberland County)**

A coalition of Tribal representatives and local organizations seek to preserve a farmhouse that was part of the Carlisle Indian School. They hope to transform it into a place of healing and education.

#### **Woodburne Mansion (Delaware County)**

This empty mansion designed by architect Horace Trumbauer for a noted family offers vast potential. It’s surrounded by a historic natural landscape that’s poised to become a valuable recreational resource that would benefit the residents of several nearby townships.

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**Colebrook Grist Mill** (Lebanon County)

Local advocates hope to save, restore and find a new use for the long-vacant landmark.

**Morton and Lenore Weiss House** (Montgomery County)

A mid-century residence designed by one of the world's greatest 20th century architects is threatened with demolition by neglect and development.

**Camp Archbald** (Susquehanna County)

Local Girl Scout councils across the country, with approval from national leadership, have put up for sale more than 200 camps in 30 states. Camp Archbald, one of the oldest camps in the country, is under review for potential sale.

**About Pennsylvania At Risk**

Since 1992, Preservation Pennsylvania has published the *Pennsylvania At Risk* list to draw statewide attention to the plight of Pennsylvania's historic resources; promote and support local action to protect historic properties; and encourage funding and legislation that supports preservation activities.

Helping people to protect and preserve Pennsylvania's endangered historic properties is a top priority for Preservation Pennsylvania. The organization is committed to engaging with people interested in working to preserve and rehabilitate these significant historic places.

This year's list was chosen from nominations submitted by groups and individuals. Submissions are evaluated by several criteria, including historic significance, the extent of the threat and the community's commitment to preserving the resource.

**Founded in 1982, Preservation Pennsylvania is the commonwealth's only statewide, private, nonprofit organization dedicated to the protection of historically and architecturally significant resources.** For more information, visit the website at [www.preservationpa.org](http://www.preservationpa.org) or contact Preservation Pennsylvania at 717-234-2310.

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