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FARMHOUSE AT CARLISLE INDIAN SCHOOL LISTED ON THE 2019 PENNSYLVANIA AT RISK LIST

**PA Coalition of Tribal Representatives & Local Organizations Seek to Preserve a
Farmhouse That Was Part of the Carlisle Indian School**

Carlisle, Cumberland County, PA – In 1879, Richard H. Pratt conceived of a school for “civilizing the Indian.” He established the Carlisle Indian School (CIS) on the grounds of an old army barracks and it became a model for similar institutions all across the country.

A farmhouse (original portion built between 1853-1856 with an addition constructed between 1880-1883) was used by the school’s farm and students. When the CIS closed, nearly four decades after its founding, a detachment of African-American soldiers were assigned to work on the farm, and likely used the farmhouse as a segregated living space and social club during the 1920s and early 1930s. It later served as a residence for officers’ families from the U.S. Army War College, which has operated on the post since 1951.

In a 2012 roundtable discussion with the Carlisle Barracks Deputy Garrison Commander, Public Affairs Officer, and Coalition members, an announcement was made that the farmhouse would not be demolished. The Carlisle Indian Industrial School Farmhouse Coalition (currently a small group of descendants and advocates) would like to submit a formal request to secure a lease agreement. The group envisions a positive, productive reuse for the farmhouse focused on healing and creating a safe space where descendants can remember, honor and commemorate their loved ones as well as educate and raise awareness of the history and legacy of the CIS. The need for healing has become more evident with recent efforts to repatriate loved ones buried at the CIS cemetery.

“The Farmhouse Coalition needs financial resources, legal guidance, expertise in fundraising, non-profit management and strategic planning, and expertise in historic building renovation, museum and interpretive planning,” said Julia Chain, Program Director at Preservation Pennsylvania. “Preservation Pennsylvania will help raise awareness of the history and modern relevance of the CIS and support the ongoing efforts of the Coalition to achieve their vision for the farmhouse.”

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.

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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.

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 or contact Preservation Pennsylvania at 717-234-2310.

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