NEW DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION GUIDELINES ENCOURAGE SCHOOL REHABILITATION

After a two year effort by Preservation Pennsylvania and a coalition of local preservation organizations and individuals to change guidelines of the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) that effectively prohibited the rehabilitation of older and often historically significant school buildings, the PDE has issued a Basic Education Circular addressing each of our concerns. Issued in late August, the new criteria for reimbursement for school construction projects will now make rehabilitation a realistic option for many communities.

The release of Preservation Pennsylvania's 1998 Pennsylvania At Risk special report on endangered schools on June 24, followed on June 29 by public hearings on school construction policies, held jointly by the House and Senate Education Committees and the Joint Legislative Air and Water Pollution Control and Conservation Committee under the leadership of Representative David Argall (R-Tamaqua), can be credited with moving the PDE to enact the changes we proposed.

The new Basic Education Circular on School Construction Reimbursement Criteria (full text available on the state website: www.state.pa.us; or by mail from Division of School Facilities, PA Department of Education, 333 Market Street, Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333; phone 717-787-5481) meets our two principal goals. First, rehabilitation projects involving buildings of “ordinary” or wood-frame construction (previously excluded from reimbursement consideration if more than one story) are now eligible for reimbursement when rehabilitated to meet existing building codes. Second, the new guidelines eliminate the stipulation that if rehab costs exceed 60% of the building’s replacement value, the project costs are not reimbursable.

Preservation Pennsylvania applauds the PDE for the new guidelines, and we look forward to continuing a dialog with the department on other preservation and education-related issues.

LOUIS APPELL RECEIVES 1998 OTTO HAAS AWARD

The beautifully restored ballroom of York’s historic Yorktowne Hotel filled with friends, family, colleagues, and dignitaries on the evening of June 10 as Louis J. Appell, Jr. received the 1998 Otto Haas Award for outstanding achievement in historic preservation. A lifelong resident of York, Appell has been a champion of historic preservation and downtown revitalization in his own community, and he is a leader in statewide efforts to stop sprawl and encourage reinvestment in existing communities.

Under his leadership as president of Susquehanna Pafzglauff, the company made a commitment to the City of York by locating its corporate headquarters in the heart of downtown, close to major revitalization efforts also undertaken with Appell’s leadership including the Strand-Capitol Performing Arts Center and the Yorktowne Hotel. Appell also played a major role in establishing the Agricultural and Industrial Museum of York County and the Farm and Natural Lands Trust of York County, and he is a longtime supporter of Historic York, the York County Historical Society and Main Street York.

continued on page 7
**LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

**FEDERAL**

**Homeowner Tax Credit**

With consideration of a tax bill likely in September, preservationists have another opportunity to advocate for legislation to establish the historic homeowner rehab tax credit. Pennsylvanians are encouraged to contact our representatives who are cosponsors of H.R. 1134 (Robert Borski, William Coyne, Philip English, Chaka Fattah, Thomas Foglietta, Jim Greenwood, John Murtha, Curt Weldon) and Senator Arlen Specter who cosponsors S.496 to urge them to advocate for the historic homeowner tax credit in any tax package Congress considers this year.

**Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century**

The Transportation Enhancements Program, which began under the 1991 Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) and which offered funding opportunities to preservation projects, will continue as part of the recently enacted Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA21). In Pennsylvania the program is administered by PennDOT. Any state agency, county or municipal government or non-profit organization is eligible to apply.

Projects must have a direct connection to transportation and must fall into one or more of twelve eligible categories, which include: acquisition of scenic easements and scenic historic sites; scenic or historic highway programs, including the provision of tourist and welcome center facilities; historic preservation; rehabilitation and operation of historic transportation buildings, structures or facilities, including historic railroad facilities and canals; preservation of abandoned railway corridors; archeological planning and research; and establishment of transportation museums.

Generally, only construction costs will be funded through the program. Local sponsors will be required to cover the costs of all pre-construction activities. Eligible costs will be funded on an 80-20 cost split, with federal funds covering 80% of total project costs and local sponsors funding at least 20%.

Deadline for applications is expected to be the end of November 1998.

To receive a complete description of the enhancements programs and an application contact: PA Department of Transportation Center for Program Development and Management 6th Floor, Forum Place 555 Walnut St. Harrisburg, PA 17101-1900 Phone: 717-783-2258

**Takings Bill Defeated**

On July 14, the Senate defeated S.2271, takings legislation passed by the House as H.R.1534. The bill is not expected to be reintroduced again this year.

**STATE**

**Downtown Location Law (H.B. 969)**

The Downtown Location Law, which would encourage state agencies to locate facilities in downtown areas, has passed the House and is now in the Senate Urban Affairs and Housing Committee. To voice your support for this legislation, contact the chair of the committee, Senator Joseph Uliana (R-Northampton Co.), PO Box 203018, Harrisburg 17120, phone: 717-787-4236; fax 717-783-1257.

**Historic Home & Neighborhood Preservation Bill (H.B. 2694)**

At a news conference on June 8, Representative Thomas Tangretti (D-Westmoreland Co.) announced the introduction of legislation to promote rehabilitation and preservation of older, historic homes and neighborhoods in

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MISSION

Preservation Pennsylvania, through creative partnerships, targeted educational and advocacy programs, advisory assistance, and special projects, assists Pennsylvania communities to protect and utilize the historic resources they want to preserve for the future.
Erie Welcomes Preservation PA

Threatening rain clouds could not deter the spirit of a group of hearty preservationists who boarded the Brig Niagara on June 19 for an afternoon sail, followed by a reception at the historic Wright House and dinner at the Erie Club.

Guest of honor was Elsie Hillman, civic leader and philanthropist from Pittsburgh. Mrs. Hillman’s husband Henry, their daughter Lea Hillman Simonds (former Preservation PA board member) and her children also participated in the day’s events. Hosts of the event were Preservation Pennsylvania board members from Erie, Thomas B. Hagen and Denise Illig Robison, and advisory board members J. Craig Pepper of Erie and Harley N. Trice of Pittsburgh.

Arrangements for the sail on the Niagara were coordinated with the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, and the Commission’s executive director Brent Glass and his family were among those who sailed with the group.

The evening events began with a reception at the 1855 Ross Pier Wright House, a fine example of Erie’s Victorian Italianate architecture. Preservation Pennsylvania was involved in efforts to preserve and restore the Wright House in the 1980s.

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Philadelphia Intervention Fund 1997-98 Grants

Now beginning its eleventh year of making grants to groups in Philadelphia County to deal with crisis situations affecting historic properties, Preservation Pennsylvania’s Philadelphia Intervention Fund has, over the past year, awarded funding to eleven projects totaling $69,316. Funded projects for 1997-98 include:

- **Colonial Dames of America.** $12,500 for Lemon Hill Mansion security.
- **Johnson House Historic Site, Inc.** $11,438 for the HVAC system.
- **American Women’s Heritage Society, Inc.** $5,000 for porch stabilization at Belmont Mansion.
- **Historic RittenhouseTown.** $5,000 for roof restoration.
- **Vilna Congregation.** $5,000 for exterior wall and window frame repairs.
- **West Philadelphia Cultural Alliance.** $6,378 for stabilization of the Paul Robeson House.
- **Greater Germantown Housing Development Corporation.** $5,000 for Johnson Building stabilization and engineering study.
- **Pennsylvania Prison Society.** $9,000 for ceiling and roof stabilization and $3,000 for skylight and roof repairs at Eastern State Penitentiary.
- **Fairmount Park Commission.** $7,000 for Historic American Building Survey (HABS) documentation of Ridgelands Sheep Barn.

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Legislative...continued from page 2

Pennsylvania through a system of tax incentives. Developed with the assistance and support of Preservation Pennsylvania, the goals of the legislation are to expand home ownership opportunities for low and middle-income individuals and families; to encourage owner-occupancy of residential properties in older neighborhoods; to stimulate revival of declining, older neighborhoods and communities; to enlarge and stabilize the tax base of cities and towns; to preserve and protect historic homes and districts; and to lessen pressures for development of open space. Incentives would be provided through the state income tax on capital gains, the state sales tax on materials used for rehabilitation, and through waivers of the state’s share of the realty transfer tax.

Joining Preservation Pennsylvania at the press conference in support of the bill were representatives of the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia.

The bill is currently in the House Finance Committee undergoing fiscal impact analysis. Preservation Pennsylvania is working with Representative Tancredi to develop a strategy to move the bill forward.
Preservation Pennsylvania Initiative Awards

Community Involvement

The Stegmaier Brewery rehabilitation in Wilkes-Barre was honored for the partnership of community and government entities that included the U.S. Postal Service, General Services Administration, Keating Development Company, Bohlin Cywinski Jackson, and the City of Wilkes-Barre. The rehabilitation of this significant city landmark has brought renewed vitality to the downtown and is a model to other communities on how successful partnerships can work to revitalize urban areas.

For a detailed description of the rehabilitation of the Stegmaier Brewery see the cover story in Preserving Pennsylvania, volume 11, number 2, 1997.

Education

Produced by Karen Frock and by public television station WYIA, the educational video Follow the North Star to Freedom was recognized for chronicling the history and sites of the underground railroad in northcentral Pennsylvania.

Government

The Historic Architectural Review Board of the Borough of Gettysburg was honored for publishing an excellent addition to the literature of local design guidelines. Gettysburg Design Guidelines: A Guide for Maintaining and Rehabilitating Buildings in the Gettysburg Historic District provides comprehensive, easily understandable information on how to deal with historic buildings and neighborhoods in this historically significant central Pennsylvania community.

Media Coverage

Published monthly by the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors, the Pennsylvania Township News regularly takes a timely issue to explore in depth. The April 1997 issue of the magazine dealt with historic preservation and the role it plays in preserving a sense of place and community. Articles focused on specific tools such as preservation planning and zoning, the creation of historic districts, becoming a certified local government, and listing properties in the National Register of Historic Places.

In addition to the award from Preservation Pennsylvania, several staff of Township News were recognized with awards for this issue by the Harrisburg International Association of Business Communication.

Publication

Take the Scenic Route: Pennsylvania Route 6 is a beautifully designed brochure that leads the traveler across Pennsylvania from Erie to Pike County along a route that National Geographic has described as one of America’s most scenic drives. Nine tourist promotion agencies representing the eleven counties along the route worked together in a model of partnership in the state’s rapidly expanding tourism industry. The brochure highlights many of the heritage attractions along the route including the Flagship Niagara, the 1885 Riverside Inn in Cambridge Springs, the Pennsylvania Lumber Museum, Steamtown National Historic Site, and the Zane Grey Museum. As the brochure says, “Route 6 is more than a journey. It is, in and of itself, a destination.” For a copy of the brochure and other information on planning a visit to the commonwealth’s fascinating northern tier, contact the Pennsylvania Route 6 Tourist Association, Dept. 112, 1006 State Street, Erie, PA 16501; telephone, 814-454-7191; www.paroute6.com

Stewardship

Dale Ferguson, manager of administrative services for the U.S. Postal Service in Harrisburg, exemplifies personal commitment to preservation and a tenacity in working within government to restore and interpret historic post office murals in communities across Pennsylvania.

In 1990, as a postal employee and a graduate student at Penn State Harrisburg, Ferguson decided to write a paper about post office murals following a visit to a local post office. “One day, while in a 1930s era post office, I noticed a mural on the wall and immediately was struck by its beauty,” Ferguson said. “Asking a few questions of the postmaster, I discerned that the mural had long since been forgotten. Nobody could tell me what caused it to be placed on the wall, what the mural depicted or even the artist. Worse yet, it was apparent that the forgotten artwork had not been cleaned or preserved since the day it was placed on the wall.”

From this discovery, Ferguson embarked on what has become both a personal and professional mission to have post office murals throughout Pennsylvania fully documented, repaired, restored, understood, and appreciated. In spite of setbacks, which included, at one point, the elimination not only of funding for mural restorations but his job as well, Ferguson has persevered.

To date his efforts have resulted in the restoration of murals in Muncy, Tunkhannock, Renovo, Catawauqua, Bell Vernon, Wilkes Barre, Freeeland, Canonsburg, Mount Union, Plymouth, Nazareth, and Selinsgrove. For each mural restoration, a comprehensive preservation book documents the condition, treatment, and history. Ferguson hopes his efforts will serve as a model to other states and that the project will continue within Pennsylvania.

Preservation Pennsylvania honored both Dale Ferguson and the U.S. Postal Service for their partnership as stewards of an important aspect of Pennsylvania’s 20th century heritage.
In addition to the Otto Haas Award, which was presented to Louis J. Appell, Jr. at a gala banquet in York on June 10 (see article on page 1), Preservation Pennsylvania presented its annual awards for outstanding preservation initiatives and the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission recognized excellence in preservation construction projects during a luncheon at the annual Historic Preservation & Heritage Partnerships Conference on May 4, 1998 in Williamsport.

Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission Preservation Construction Project Awards

These awards honor the best preservation, restoration, or rehabilitation projects - as defined by the Secretary of the Interior - in categories based on building use.

SINGLE RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS

- 811 and 960 West Third Street, Williamsport, Lycoming County
  Rehabilitation of houses in Millionaires Row Historic District.
  Owner: Allen Brush

HOUSE MUSEUMS

- Addison Tollhouse, Somerset County
  Restoration of 1830 octagonal tollhouse located on the National Road.
  Owner: Great Crossings Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution
  Architects: John Bowie Associates; Frens & Frens

- Tavern at Fort Hunter, Susquehanna Township, Dauphin County
  Preservation of tavern building which dates from the 18th-20th century.
  Owner: Dauphin County
  Architect: Harold Benfor, AIA

COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS

- Flatiron Building, Brownsville, Fayette County
  Rehabilitation of 1825 commercial building.
  Owner: Brownsville Area Revitalization Corporation
  Architect: MacLauchlan Cornelius & Filoni

INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS

- McFarland Press Building, Harrisburg, Dauphin County
  Rehabilitation of late 19th century industrial building to affordable housing and community arts center.
  Owner: McFarland Press Associates
  Architect: Stewart LeFever Architects, Inc.

- Trinity Memorial Church, Philadelphia
  Restoration of church severely damaged by lightening.
  Architect: Atkin, Olshin, Lawson-Bell and Associates Architects

PUBLIC BUILDINGS

- Old Main at Kutztown University, Kutztown, Berks County
  Rehabilitation of oldest building in the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education.
  Owner: Kutztown University of Pennsylvania
  Architect: Susan Maxman Architects

- Ridgway Library (Philadelphia High School for Creative & Performing Arts), Philadelphia
  Rehabilitation of 1878 library into high school classroom and performance spaces.
  Owner: School District of Philadelphia
  Architect: Kise Straw & Kolodner

OTHER HISTORIC PROPERTIES

- Sachs Covered Bridge, Cumberland & Freedom Townships, Adams County
  Restoration of 1852 Town lattice truss bridge severely damaged in 1996 flooding. Bridge is part of the Gettysburg National Battlefield Historic District and the Eisenhower National Historic Site.
  Owner: Adams County
  Engineer: Pennoni & Associates

- Terrace Pavilion at Fonthill, Doylestown, Bucks County
  Preservation of 1913 concrete structure included repairs to stop water leaks, conservation of ceramic tiles and restoration of original paint colors.
  Owner: Fonthill Museum of the Bucks County Historical Society
  Architect: John Milner Architects
  Consultant: Claudia Deschu, Art Conservation Services
PROGRAMS

The National Trust for Historic Preservation announces the creation of an Information Clearinghouse on Sprawl and Smart Growth. The clearinghouse will be a resource center providing information, advice, and referrals on issues related to smart growth initiatives and sprawl to reduce sprawl and help revitalize existing communities nationwide. Allison Daly (202-588-6255) will direct the clearinghouse from Trust headquarters in Washington, D.C. Information will also be available online at www.sprawlwatch.org. The website will be arranged by state with subsections that include information on laws, pending legislation, best practices, media, organizations, and other related topics.

PLACES

The Moland House (Pennsylvania At Risk 1995) will receive $5,000 in financial assistance from the newly established Cynthia Wood Mitchell Fund for Historic Interiors, a program of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The Warwick Township Historical Society will use the funds to do architectural planning for the interior restoration of the property, which is located in Bucks County and was used by George Washington as headquarters in August 1777. The Moland House received one of only ten awards made from the fund this year.

In Philadelphia, Nia Kuumba/Legendary Blue Horizon has received a $5,000 grant from the National Trust's Johanna Favrot Fund for Historic Preservation to prepare preliminary drawings, building measurements, and document the 1865 building in photographs and slides. Legendary Blue Horizon is significant as the last boxing hall in America which has retained the flavor and character of early 1900s fight venues. The Favrot Fund, which was established to help save historic environments that foster appreciation of our nation's diverse cultural heritage and to revitalize the livability of communities, awarded only eight grants nationally in 1998.

PEOPLE

Joanne Denworth, president of the Pennsylvania Environmental Council (PEC) for the past twelve years, has announced that she will step down from this position later in 1998 to concentrate her efforts on 10,000 Friends of Pennsylvania (TTFP). PEC and Preservation Pennsylvania have worked closely together on development of TTFP since it was launched at Preservation Pennsylvania's Challenging Sprawl symposium in 1995. The group is an alliance of organizations and individuals committed to reducing sprawl, revitalizing communities, and conserving natural, heritage, and fiscal resources. TTFP is housed in PEC's Philadelphia office at 1211 Chestnut St., Suite 900, Philadelphia, PA 19107; phone 800-322-9214 or 215-563-0250.

Tom Daniels, former director of the Lancaster County Agricultural Preserve Board, has left Pennsylvania to become professor of Planning in the Department of Geography and Planning at the State University of New York (SUNY) in Albany.

Andrea Ferenc Fitting, Ph.D., and Brian C. Mitchell, Ph.D., have been appointed by Governor Ridge to serve on the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. Fitting, who holds a doctorate in anthropology from the University of Pittsburgh, is a member of the Consumer Advisory Council of the Pennsylvania Utility Commission and a director of the International Association of Business Communicators. Mitchell, who has served for the past eight years as president of the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Pennsylvania, was recently appointed president of Washington and Jefferson College in Washington, PA.

John Herbst, former executive director of the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania, is now executive director of Conner Prairie, a living history museum in Noblesville, Indiana.

Peter Lapham is the new executive director of the Chestnut Hill Historical Society and the Friends of the Wissahickon. Former director Howard Kittell has moved to Virginia to become regional director for the Winchester office of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources.

David Morrison, who served as executive director of Historic Harrisburg Association (HHA) for the past six years, is now executive director of AIA Pennsylvania, the state component of the American Institute of Architects. Morrison succeeds Lela Shultz who retired after twenty years as director of the statewide organization representing the architecture profession in Pennsylvania. Taking Morrison's place at HHA, in an interim capacity, is Theodore Martin. Martin comes to HHA from a position in public relations at Dickinson College. Martin's appointment as interim direc-
Haas Award...continued from page 1

Appell serves on the board of advisors to 10,000 Friends of Pennsylvania and, in that capacity, has met with the Governor's lead policy staff to discuss the need for land use reform in the Commonwealth to combat the devastating effects of sprawl on our communities. He also continues to serve Preservation Pennsylvania as an advisor, and his wisdom and knowledge have been invaluable as the organization has moved into a leadership position on issues of statewide significance.

The Haas award is Preservation Pennsylvania's highest honor and is named for F. Otto Haas (1915-1994). Haas, who was a philanthropist, civic leader and former chairman of Rohm and Haas Company, was a founding board member and past president of Preservation Pennsylvania.

The 1998 award presentation festivities included remarks by last year's Haas Award recipient Henry A. Jordan, M.D. and by Carole Haas, widow of Otto Haas. Richard Roe, president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, delivered a keynote address focusing on sprawl and the role of historic preservation in combating the greatest threat to America's communities since urban renewal.

The success of York in maintaining and strengthening its community character - due in large measure to the commitment and accomplishments of Louis Appell Jr. - will be a focus of next year's historic preservation conference to be held in York, May 2-4, 1999.

• • • CORRECTION • • •

Ridley High School (Pennsylvania at Risk 1998) is located in Ridley Township, not in Ridley Park.

KEYSTONE SOCIETY

Andrew W. Mellon Foundation
Louis J. Appell, Jr./Susquehanna Pfaltzgraff
Claneil Foundation
Dr. and Mrs. Harlan R. Giles
The Glatfelter Insurance Group
Carole F. Haas
Thomas B. Hagen
Juliet Hillman Simonds Foundation
Kinsley Foundation
Drew and Marilyn Lewis
Mellon Bank
National Park Service
Mary V. Pendleton
Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

The Pew Charitable Trusts
Phoebe Haas Charitable Trust
The Richard King Mellon Foundation
The Roy A. Hunt Foundation
Henry L. Rosenberger
Wolf Foundation
William Penn Foundation
Wyoming Foundation
York Federal Savings and Loan Foundation

Keystone Society members contribute a minimum of $2,500 annually to Preservation Pennsylvania

For information on becoming a member of the Pennsylvania Heritage Club or Keystone Society, contact Preservation Pennsylvania

PENNSYLVANIA HERITAGE CLUB

Anonymous
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Center for Rural Pennsylvania
C.S. Davidson, Inc.
Cor-Box, Inc.
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Dr. and Mrs. Henry A. Jordan
Keener Manufacturing
Kieran Timberlake & Harris
McEwen Trust
National Trust for Historic Preservation
Thomas Rippon
W. Dale Brougher Foundation
York Bank and Dauphin Deposit Bank
York Container Company
York Foundation
York International Corporation
York Newspaper Company
York Water Company

Pennsylvania Heritage Club members contribute $1,000 annually to Preservation Pennsylvania
CALENDAR

1998

August 22-October 13 Centennial Exhibition of the Lebanon County Historical Society: Things Lebanon Valley. Admission charge. Contact: Lebanon County Historical Society, 924 Cumberland St., Lebanon 17042; 717-272-1473.


October 2 Historic York, Inc.'s Escape Trip Auction. Contact: HYI, 717-843-0300.


October 10 HAR/B/CLG and National Register Workshop, Community College of Beaver County. Contact: Michel Lefevere, Bureau for Historic Preservation, PA Historical and Museum Commission, 717-787-0771.

October 10 Historic Fallsington Day, Fallsington, Bucks County. 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Admission charge. Contact: 215-295-6567.


November 6 Regional Urban Greening Forum, Pennsylvania Convention Center, Philadelphia. Conference on ways to use greening to enhance the built environment in urban and suburban settings. Contact: Patricia Schrieber, Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, 100 N. 20th St., 5th Fl, Phila. 19103-1495; 215-988-8841.


1999


April 22-24 PA Federation of Museums and Historical Organizations annual conference, Malvern. Contact: PFMHO, 717-787-3253.

May 2-4, 1999 PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC PRESERVATION & HERITAGE PARTNERSHIPS CONFERENCE York