13th ANNUAL CONFERENCE TO OFFER PRESERVATION PRIMERS

The Barclay Hotel in Philadelphia will be the site of the 13th Annual Pennsylvania Conference on Historic Preservation from April 25-27. This year's meeting will explore the basics of historic preservation by offering primers on important aspects of the field.

A political primer will examine how preservation groups can work through and effectively influence the political process. The organizing primer will deal with preservation issues and handling crisis. There will also be an all-inclusive preservation primer for those new to preservation who may be unfamiliar with the philosophy and techniques used by preservationists. The primer track will take place on April 26.

In addition to the primers, three workshops on April 27 will cover separate topics. The Historic Architectural Review Board (HARB) workshop will examine how HARB members and local government officials should interpret the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. This workshop will also present legal aspects concerning preservation issues.

Two workshops, also on the 27th, will benefit those involved in owning and operating a historic house museum. Topics discussed will include fund raising and cyclical maintenance.

For more information concerning the 13th annual conference contact Preservation Pennsylvania at 717-569-2243.

COMPROMISE REACHED ON NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK

Under an agreement settling appeals pending before the Pennsylvania Environmental Hearing Board, blasting is allowed at a strip mine in Fayette County adjacent to a house designated as a National Historic Landmark.

The Isaac Meason House, built in 1802, is a vigorous and unique example of the English Palladian villa in Western Pennsylvania. The Kriss Family, owners of the Meason House, filed appeals with the Board challenging a strip mine permit issued by the Department of Environmental Resources (DER) on various grounds including the potential for damage to the house from ground vibrations resulting from blasting. State law generally limits blasting vibration to one inch per second peak particle velocity.

continued on page 6
THE CURTAIN RISES AGAIN ...

The curtain has once again risen at the State Theater in Easton after a nine year public and private effort to restore the 1926 entertainment palace. On Saturday, December 8, the State celebrated its grand reopening with the headline acts of Gregory Hines and Dionne Warwick.

From the early 1970's, the State had fallen on hard economic times and appeared to be headed for abandonment and demolition. After years of neglect, vandalism and water damage, many felt the task of restoring the State to its former grandeur was impossible. Ken Klabunde, longtime manager of the theater, knew that the owners were about to sell the building and rumors abounded that it would go the way of all the other grand theaters of Easton—demolition. In 1981, Klabunde went to Historic Easton, Inc. for preservation assistance and that group swung into action to save the State. Later, the newly formed citizen's group, Friends of the State Theater, took over. With the help of dozens of volunteers to clean, paint, and repair, benefit events were held to attract interest and money. Community interest steadily grew over the ensuing months and before long Phase I of the renovation was underway.

A $20,000 grant from the city funded a feasibility study which reported that the State could be successfully operated as a theater. Soon, the Friends were able to raise $25,000 in community contributions to purchase the State. In 1984, fundraising began in earnest members of Historic Easton and the Friends. Phase I of the project included the upgrade of performance space, installation of a new electrical system, the restoration of the front lobby and other cosmetic projects. As work progressed, sporadic performances kept public interest alive. In 1989, the city of Easton facilitated a one million dollar loan that initiated Phase II of the restoration. A major capital campaign directed at individual and corporate donations raised an impressive $1,975,000. The project took on an added dimension when the Friends purchased the abandoned Best Market next door to be turned into an arts center.

In May of 1990 the theater closed for a complete makeover. Walls and ceilings were cleaned, missing plaster was replaced, paint removed, and seats refinished. By fall, the State was again in its original glory. The refurbishment of the State and the opening of the arts center has boosted the morale of Easton’s business community. Mayor Salvatore Panto believes the State Theater complex will be an anchor for the economically hard hit downtown business district and will attract much needed pedestrian traffic to that area.

NEW LIFE FOR KING THEATER

The grand entertainment palaces are, and have always been, near and dear to the hearts of their communities as has been shown in the rescue of the State Theater in Easton and the valiant but unsuccessful effort to save the Main Theater in Ephrata.

While the rescue of theaters usually means a return to their former grandeur and use, the King Theater in Lancaster has found new life as apartments for the elderly. The once down-and-out movie palace and attached mansion can now boast being one of the most imaginative adaptive re-use projects in the Lancaster area.

One year and $2.1 million in the making, the King Theater project was the result of a partnership between the Lancaster based Housing Development Corporation and Progressive Investments, Inc., also of Lancaster. Since the project result means affordable housing for the elderly, the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency made additional financing available.

continued on page 3
Clayton, the home of industrialist Henry Clay Frick, was opened to the public on September 25 following a six-year, $6 million restoration. Located in Pittsburgh’s Breezewood neighborhood, Clayton is the last of the great mansions in an area once known as ‘millionaires row’ where the industrial, manufacturing, and banking elite of the city lived. Frick, who along with partner Andrew Carnegie made Pittsburgh one of the leading industrial cities in the world during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, made his fortune in coke and steel production. Frick was also an avid art enthusiast and amassed one of this nation’s most noted art collections.

The main portion of the mansion was constructed in 1872 and bought by Frick in 1882. Between 1882 and 1892 the house underwent several additions and renovations. The twenty-three room Chateauesque-style house was restored to reflect the period 1895-1905 when the most documentation of the house is available. After 1905, Frick’s business interests gravitated to New York, and Clayton was used only sporadically. The late Helen Clay Frick, Henry Frick’s daughter, was very fond of the house, spending her final years there. She bequeathed Clayton and all personal property to the Helen Clay Frick Foundation, directing it to maintain and administer the property in perpetuity “for the purpose of public exhibition and preservation.” Clayton is an outstanding representation of the life of one of America’s great industrialists, as well as a reflection of the late Victorian life of the elite. For more information about tours and operating hours, call the Helen Clay Frick Foundation at 412-371-0614.

On October 27, congress boosted preservation funding to a twenty year high by approving $34.48 million for state and local preservation programs and for the National Trust. The funding, as part of a comprehensive funding bill, was signed into law by President Bush on November 5. An attempt by Sen. Wyche Fowler (D-Ga.) to increase preservation funding even further was defeated by the Senate 44-52. This proposed increase would have reallocated funds recommended for the construction of new roads in National Forests to a number of other purposes, including preservation. Despite the defeat of Fowler’s amendment, National Trust president J. Jackson Walter praised congressional action as “another important step forward in increasing substantially the national commitment to historic preservation.” Walter also praised the tireless efforts of preservation advocates across the nation who expressed their support for preservation funding in messages to congressional representatives.

King (continued from page 2)

The 1950, Art-Deco style theater was closed in 1982. Several re-uses were attempted, including a seafood market and a church. The last project divided the King into 43 apartments with the original marquee, ticket booth, and lobby restored. The final result not only adds to the stock of affordable housing in Lancaster, but also serves as a strong residential anchor in the downtown area.

Curtain (continued from page 2)

While not intended as a solution to Easton’s economic woes, the restoration of the State Theater and its return to viable use certainly represents the idea that government, private corporations, and private citizens can reuse existing resources to not only spark economic redevelopment and enhance quality of life, but also to restore civic pride in hard times.
PROPERTIES ADDED TO NATIONAL REGISTER

The following historic properties were added recently to the National Register of Historic Places, the nation's official listing of buildings, structures, sites, districts, and objects deemed worthy of preservation by the United States Department of the Interior.

Twenty-five grist mills in Berks County have been added to the National Register. Grist mills are industrial buildings used in the processing of grain to produce flour, meal or feed. Those listed in the National Register were built circa 1713 to the 1920s. New listings are:

- Bahr Mill Complex
- Borneman Mill
- Brobst Mill
- Dreibus Mill
- Geiger Mill
- Griesmer-Brown Mill Complex
- Guilden Mill
- Hain Mill
- Nicholas Johnson Mill
- Kaufmann Mill
- Kutz Mill
- Long Hawerter Mill
- Merkel Mill Complex
- Mill at Lobachsville
- Moselem Farm Mill
- Rieser Mill
- Seybert Mill
- Snyder Mill
- Spannuth Mill
- Stein Mill
- Thompson Mill
- Weidner Mill
- Wertz Mill
- Yoder Mill

Another large group of listings are found in and around the City of Lancaster. Eighteen resources associated with the tobacco industry in Lancaster County between 1880 and 1940 are listed. These include warehouses and cigar factories. Those listed are:

- American/Consolidated Tobacco Companies
- Basch and Fisher Tobacco Warehouse
- Jacob Bowman Tobacco Warehouse

John Brimmer Tobacco Warehouse
Eisenlohr/Bayuk Cigar Company
Jacob Frey Tobacco Warehouse
Henry Friedman Tobacco Warehouse
Harrisburg Avenue Tobacco Historic District
B. B. Martin Tobacco Warehouse
Edward McGovern Tobacco Warehouse
David H. Miller Tobacco Warehouse
J. B. Milleysack Cigar Factory
North Shippen Tobacco Historic District
R. K. Schnader & Sons Tobacco Warehouse
Walter Schnader Tobacco Warehouse
L. G. Sherman Tobacco Warehouse
Slater's Cigar Company

Recent Historic District and individual listings include:

**Historic Districts**

- **BUCKS COUNTY**
  - Lumberville Historic District
- **NORTHAMPTON COUNTY**
  - Easton Cemetery
- **CENTRE COUNTY**
  - Linden Hall Historic District

**Individual Properties**

- Chester County
- George Brinton House
- Hunt Downing House
- Fayette County
- Adam Clarke Nuit Mansion
- Lackawanna County
- Delaware, Lackawanna, Western Railroad Yard
- Lancaster County
- John Douglas House
- Reinholds Station Chapel

For more information on the procedure for and advantages of listing in the National Register, contact the Bureau for Historic Preservation at the address/hone below.

For more information on state historic preservation programs contact:
Bureau for Historic Preservation
Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission
P.O. Box 1026
Harrisburg, PA 17108-1026
717-783-8946
COMMUNICATION WORKSHOPS

Recent opinion polls reveal that historic preservation is now at an all time high. Americans will travel to historic sites and support historic preservation projects as never before. Those who work in the history field believe that this public interest can be greatly enhanced and focussed through effective marketing and communication techniques.

Preservation Pennsylvania, in conjunction with the National Trust for Historic Preservation, will sponsor a one-day workshop on March 7, 1991 at Valley Forge State Park on Effective Communication. The goal of the workshop is to provide basic information on how to create, enhance and maintain a public image that reflects the mission of a history-related organization, in particular, a non-profit organization.

The emphasis will be on the creation of a positive visual and written image. Topics addressed will explore the uses of graphic design, the written word, photography, organizational newsletters, television and print media as communication tools which, when used effectively, convey a strong image for non-profit organizations. Eight communications professionals are scheduled to speak. Workshops will be from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm in the west wing of Valley Forge State Park visitor’s center. A box lunch will be included in the $35.00 registration fee.

For more information on schedules and registration, contact the National Trust for Historic Preservation Mid-Atlantic Office at 215-438-2886 or Preservation Pennsylvania at 717-569-2243.

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR 1991 HAAS AWARD

Preservation Pennsylvania is now accepting nominations for the 1991 Haas Award for Outstanding Achievement in Historic Preservation. The award, which was created in 1987, honors F. Otto Haas, past president of the Preservation Fund and a leader in the Pennsylvania preservation community.

Outstanding preservation efforts by organized groups are eligible for the award. Nominations should be in the form of a letter describing the activity or project and the group being nominated. Supporting material may also be submitted.

The deadline for nominations is March 22, 1991. The Haas Award will be presented at the awards banquet at the 13th Annual Conference on Historic Preservation, Friday, April 26, 1991 in Philadelphia.

Preservation Pennsylvania and the National Trust for Historic Preservation have entered into a partnership for the next six month by which members of Preservation Pennsylvania will become honorary members of the National Trust. This will entitle the honorary members to receive the National Trust’s full color magazine Historic Preservation, the monthly newspaper Historic Preservation News, free admission to the Trust’s seventeen historic house museums, and discounts on National Trust publications and merchandise.

By joining forces, these two organizations will further the cause of preservation not only in Pennsylvania, but also throughout the United States as well.

PENNSYLVANIA HERITAGE CLUB

James Biddle
F. Otto Haas
Thomas B. Hagen
Dr. and Mrs. Henry A. Jordan
Joseph McEwen
Mr. and Mrs. Robert McLean
Mrs. Henry S. McNel
Antonia and Philip Mitman
Air Products
Bell of Pennsylvania
Carnegie Foundation, Inc.
Dante Foundation
Erie Insurance Group
General Accident Insurance
Graphic Works, Inc.
Huston Foundation
John Milner Associates
Lord Corporation
Meridian Bancorp, Inc.
MSK Associates, Inc.
Mutual Assurance Company
Penn Advertising, Inc.
Penn Savings Bank
Pennsylvania Manufacturers Association
Phoebe Haas Charitable Trust
Reading Eagle
Rodale Press
Rohm & Haas
Stockton Rush Bartol Foundation
Sun Company, Inc.
Susquehanna-Pacific Foundation
Tichy Industries

For information on becoming a member of The Pennsylvania Heritage Club, contact Preservation Pennsylvania.

Preservation Pennsylvania, Inc.

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America's Downtowns: Growth, Politics, and Preservation by Richard C. Collins, Elizabeth B. Waters, A. Bruce Dotson. New from the National Trust, America's Downtowns provides an in-depth look into ways preservation values can be integrated into the local policies that shape growth and development. Citing examples from ten major cities across the United States, this book identifies the most important lessons learned from each and looks at the goals and strategies each has adopted to increase economic diversity of its downtown through historic preservation. The cities studied are: Atlanta, Boston, Cincinnati, Denver, Jersey City, Philadelphia, Roanoke, St. Paul, San Francisco, and Seattle. Perfect for historic preservation activists, the urban planner, and the interested homeowner. Available through Preservation Press, National Trust for Historic Preservation, 1785 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20036. $14.95.

Walls and Molding: How to Care for Old and Historic Wood and Plaster by Natalie Shivers. Also new from the National Trust, this book describes in detail how to save and revive woodwork, delicate plaster moldings and special painted finishes. It also includes methods of patching plaster, replastering walls and much more. Also available through Preservation Press. $16.95.

Preservation Briefs 22: The Preservation and Repair of Historic Stucco by Anne E. Grimmer describes the evolution of stucco as a popular building material. Beginning with a brief history of stucco application, the Brief addresses how the composition, texture, and surface patterns of stucco have changed. It explains how to carry out repair of historic stucco with sample mixes for 18th-, 19th-, and 20th-century stucco types. $1.00. GPO stock number: 024-005-01066-1. Order from Superintendent of Documents, GPO, Washington, D.C. 20402-9325.

Preservation Briefs 23: Preserving Historical Ornamental Plaster by David Flaherty. Ornamental plaster production is discussed, explaining the processes of run-in-place and cast ornamentation using three common decorative forms as examples: the cornice, ceiling medallion, and coffered ceiling. Guidance will help an owner identify deterioration causes and better understand complex restoration techniques. $1.00. GPO stock number: 024-005-01067-0.

POSITION AVAILABLE

TYRONE MAIN STREET MANAGER

Responsible for coordinating downtown revitalization activities through approved Main Street program. Education and/or professional experience needed in historic preservation, planning, economic development, retailing, marketing, design, volunteer management, nonprofit management and small business development. Must be entrepreneurial, energetic, imaginative, well organized, and capable of functioning effectively in an independent environment. Excellent verbal and written communication skills essential. Competitive salary range based on experience. Submit resume, letter of interest, salary history, and three references to Mrs. Phil Lusardi, Tyrone Chamber of Commerce, 1004 Logan Avenue, Tyrone, PA 16686

Meason House (continued from page 1)

The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission intervened in the appeal and, on the basis of a consultant's evaluation of potential adverse effects from blasting, directed DER to deny blast plan approval for the portion of the mine nearest the house. "Our statutory limitations are the protection of property, not to stop blasting although we would have liked that," said Brenda Barrett, director of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Bureau for Historic Preservation. DER's denial of blasting was appealed by the operator.

The settlement agreement, negotiated primarily between the Commission, the operator and DER, permits blasting, but imposes stringent special conditions. Most importantly, the permissible vibration level was reduced from 1.0 to .3 inches per second peak particle velocity. Strict vibration monitoring conditions were imposed, including installation of seismographs by both DER and the operator, and supervision of blasting by DER. A separate agreement signed by Dr. Brent Glass, Executive Director of the Historical Commission, and DER Secretary Arthur Davis specifies enforcement action to be taken by DER in the event of violations of the permit or damage to the Meason House. Repeated violations could lead to the revocation of the blasting permit.

This agreement may be the first in Pennsylvania imposing a vibration standard significantly lower than the regulatory standard for protection of an historic structure.
MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

☐ Individual $15
☐ Family $25
☐ Associate $50
☐ Patron/Professional $100
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It's Time to Evaluate Our Past
by Grace Gary

Have you seen the new McDonald’s commercials on television? In honor of the fast-food giant’s 35th anniversary, the commercials evoke a 1950s mood and feature an old red-and-white McDonald’s with golden arches rising above each end of the building. There is considerable irony in the timing of the ad, because just last year the last “red and white” that still operated as a full-service McDonald’s was demolished in Scranton, Pa.

Little attention was paid to the pending demolition until area native Martin Toth learned of it. Toth mounted an 11-hour campaign to save this small icon of the strip and Scranton’s Architectural Heritage Association rallied to his side. Pennsylvania’s statewide non-profit preservation group, Preservation Pennsylvania, joined the crusade to save the building. Largely due to Toth’s unrelenting efforts much publicity was obtained for the controversy, but the building was demolished 15 months before the same type of McDonald’s starred in the current commercial.

Preservation Pennsylvania’s decision to support efforts to save this small, funny-looking building was not without controversy. Many of our longtime supporters questioned the decision to devote resources to a battle over a 1966 fast-food hamburger joint when every day 18th- and 19th-century landmarks deteriorate further or are demolished.

It was, and is, a valid question but it raises even more important ones: What is history and how does it get that way?

In the United States, and particularly in historic preservation, history begins 50 years ago. Or, more precisely, properties become eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places when they are 50 years old. It is possible to list a property in the National Register before its 50th birthday, but such listings are rare.

The 50-year guideline was originally established in order to enhance historical perspective and to allow for settled judgments. It is a good guideline and should be continued. It does not, however, address the question of how to evaluate and protect the more recent past.

As architectural fashions, technological expansion and innovation, and the life-styles of the Joneses change with ever-increasing speed, the preservation community can no longer afford to wait 50 years to identify buildings that best typify their time. Today, no original Levittown house for the 1940s remains unchanged, Philadelphia’s International-style Penn Center buildings have gone Postmodern; the National Aeronautic and Space Administration (NASA), the torchbearer of the 1960s, seeks exemption from historic preservation regulations; and I.M. Pei’s 1971 Brutalist-style Christian Science Church in Washington, D.C., is threatened with demolition.

Unfortunately, the International and Brutalist styles often do not engender affection, and it has been argued that the current historic preservation movement is a result of the reaction against such inhuman styles. It is also true that Levittown houses, NASA launch towers, and red-and-white McDonald’s restaurants do not represent the apotheosis of the American aesthetic. But I will gladly argue for their historical, architectural, and social importance. In their own way, each represents a watershed in post-World War II life.

In 1987 the American Association for State and Local History initiated the Common Agenda project in order to assist museums in developing a method for evaluating and documenting 20th-century artifacts. Driven by the recognition that our disposable society is discarding the very items by which the future will define our culture, the Common Agenda is developing continued on page 8
Feb. 20  
Play: *I, Fredrick Douglas*  
7:30 pm First Presbyterian Church, Miner and Darlington Streets, West Chester, PA. Presented by Chester County Historical Society. For more information call 215-692-4800.

March 7  
*Communications Workshop.* Valley Forge State Park, Valley Forge, PA. Co-sponsored by Preservation Pennsylvania and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Workshop will provide information for non-profit, history-oriented organizations on projecting positive images. For more information, contact National Trust Regional Office at 215-438-2886.

March 17  
*Lecture: Women and the Early Historic Preservation Movement.* 2:30 pm Masonic Temple on Barrack St., Trenton, NJ. Sponsored by Old Barracks Museum. $10 registration fee includes wine & cheese reception. For more information contact Sarah Hill 609-396-1776.

March 23  

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**Calendar**

April 25-27  

April 26-May 12  
*Philadelphia Open House.* 13th annual House and Garden Tours of more than 150 private homes and magnificent gardens and historic sites of Philadelphia and its suburbs. 35 different tours are offered-guided and self-guided, on foot, by bus, by car, even by ship. Tours include Society Hill Houses & Gardens, Washington Square, The Main Line, Montgomery County, Southward, Valley Forge, University City; with breakfasts, luncheons, high teas and candlelight dinners. Coordinated by the Friends of Independence National Historical Park. For information: POH, 313 Walnut St., Philadelphia, PA 19106; 215-928-1188.

McDonald's *(continued from page 7)* guidelines and case studies to help ensure that history museums are in fact continuing history museums. It is time that the preservation community developed a similar project. The Common Agenda does not suit our needs well enough to serve as a template, but we can borrow from it the process of asking the questions. We have a critical need to understand, to articulate, and to document the importance of postwar buildings; they should be assessed on the basis of their contribution to an understanding of a community’s continuing history. We must not, however, as we have often done in the past, focus all of our efforts on the funky and the peculiar.

It will not be easy to evaluate the history of our own lifetimes, for while time does not always guarantee significance, its passage is generally required to confirm significance. If, however, we do not act now to begin a disciplined, objective assessment of our immediate past, we will become the lost generation.

*Reprinted by permission of Historic Preservation News*
FROM THE DIRECTOR

As the New Year begins, I am happy to report that the number of communities participating in the Certified Local Government Program and establishing or expanding their historic districts is on the increase across Pennsylvania. There has also been an unprecedented amount of interest in the western part of the state.

However, this good news is tempered by the challenges that historic preservationists, planners and concerned community members face every day. In Pottsville, the HARB is defending a law suit brought by a bank who proposes to demolish a number of buildings for (of course) parking. Gettysburg is trying to protect the entrance to the Battlefield from a billboard company who has challenged the county's new interchange zoning. It goes on...

I do not have a ready solution in my back pocket, but research has shown sharing problems with others may lead to answers. It also makes you feel better! So, I urge you to take advantage of the upcoming Annual Historic Preservation Conference in Philadelphia (April 25-27), and other HARB training. Hope to see you there and swap stories.

BRUCE BARNETT

EDITOR'S SOAPBOX

It's obvious that my intention to publish a quarterly newsletter has not been successful, I did get off to a good start, miraculously avoiding the grinding gears of the state bureaucracy and printing three issues of the HARBulletin. However, my luck ran out and so did my time; consequently I am, at this very late date, preparing the next issue of the HARBulletin, which will wrap up some of the HARB/CLG highlights of the 1990 year and welcome in 1991.

One of the primary objectives of the Bureau for Historic Preservation is to train HARB members, their staffs, and the large family of planners and municipal officials who administer historic district ordinances. We conducted three regional HARB/CLG workshops with this in mind, two of these cosponsored by Preservation Pennsylvania, Inc. and one by the Bucks County Conservancy. Our first HARB/CLG workshop took place in February of 1990 in Harrisburg and was very well attended. Seventy-five participants were registered, representing a broad spectrum of disciplines and HARBs, including planners, architects, in private practice, and municipal staffs. Eugene Alesi, AIA was my coconstructor. Our next regional seminar was cosponsored by the Bucks County Conservancy under the title Common Problems: Common Solutions and took place in September 1990 in Doylestown. During this training workshop the program of instruction was shared with Jeffrey L. Marshall, Director of the Conservancy. Our next regional HARB/CLG training workshop took place a week later in Pittsburgh at the Mellon Bank, Union Trust Building, Sewickley. HARB Chairman, Peter H. Moriarty, AIA, shared the instruction with me. In both the Harrisburg and Pittsburgh workshops panelists contributed their expertise and experience in a forum that greatly enhanced the flow of information between registrants and instructors.

Because the distances in Pennsylvania are great and because of the traditionally strong regional orientation of its citizens, we have found that many HARB members, their staffs, etc., are reluctant to travel any great distance for training workshops. And so I have packed up my slides, lecture notes and preservation elixirs and set up half- or full-day workshops in Shippensburg, Scranton, Sewickley Heights, Hollidaysburg, Ambridge, Williamsport and Bedford. However, while these workshops have proved useful, it is clear that we must share information, HARB members have missed the opportunity to make new contacts and to trade experience with their counterparts from other historic districts.

If there is any indication that the Historic Preservation movement is alive and struggling it is in requests received by our bureau for speakers to advocate the preservation ethos. This welcome duty is shared by a number of our staff as we scurry about the beautiful landscape of our Commonwealth. In the past year alone, I have spoken before both small and large groups of citizens and their elected officials in the following towns: Dalton, near the Scranton area; Easton, near Bethlehem and Allentown; Carlisle, (continued on page 4)
Notes From the Underground: Urban Archaeology in Gettysburg
Dr. Walter L. Powell

Few visitors to Gettysburg think much about events apart from those in 1863, and fewer still think that the community has a history dating back to the mid-18th century. But quite a few did take notice, beginning in September 1989, when volunteers from Gettysburg's Historic Building Survey Committee of the HARB began "digging up" a portion of the municipal parking lot, just off Lincoln Square, seeking evidence of the Samuel Getty's Tavern (built ca. 1762). Samuel Getty's was the father of Gettysburg's founder, James Getty, and his two-story log building was the first built in what would become the Borough of Gettysburg.

While the original building remained standing until 1880, and extant photographs and maps suggested its approximate site along Racehorse Alley, no one knew its exact location — whether all the subsequent grading and development on the site had destroyed all evidence of the 18th-century structure. Gettysburg's HARB and others would have been quite content to leave the site undisturbed, but Borough Council's decision last spring to erect a new parking deck there to support the Hotel Gettysburg redevelopment project created a new problem — how to deal with the issue of the imminent destruction of the earliest historic archaeological site in the Borough. After consulting with Kurt Carr and Susan Zacher of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, the Borough applied for a $20,000 CHG grant to help fund a Phase I archaeological investigation of the site, and contract work began in October.

From the beginning, Chief Field Archaeologist Ben Fischer, Field Assistant Elwood Christ, and several volunteers were beset with numerous problems, not the least of which was bitter cold in December, soggy weather in January, and one wind storm that nearly destroyed the shelter erected on the site. Less than optimal working conditions were matched by widespread local skepticism that anything could be found ("their main gripe — I digging") — with one local historian noting, "I can't see why you are spending so much time and money looking for a building when you already know it was there!" Just as daunting was working with the recognition that the field work had to be completed by March 15th, when the parking deck contractor would begin site preparation. Nevertheless, results of patient work led to the discovery of two corners of the stone foundation of the Gettysburg building, remains of other foundations from later structures, and hundreds of artifacts from the late 18th to the early 20th century. Analysis of the artifacts has been completed and a report has been issued.

Throughout the project, the Borough lent steady support with donations of equipment and highway crews to help with excavating. The project was widely publicized, with several feature stories on local television. Most (continued on page 4)

DESIGN SHORTS

The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation were established a number of years ago to provide a basis upon which rehabilitation work on historic buildings could be evaluated. The Standards provide a uniform, consistent approach to the treatment of historic properties that can be used in any town, city or state. A built-in flexibility within the Standards allows regional differences in cultural resources to be identified and respected in historic preservation activities. Since compliance with the Standards is required for participation in the variety of federal grant, loan and tax incentive programs, users of the Standards should be aware of their recent changes.

After a number of years of testing through use, the Standards have been reevaluated and revised. The revised Standards for Rehabilitation became official with their publication in the February 26, 1990 Federal Register. The revised Standards, listed below, do not look much different from the originals. There are still ten of them, and each addresses the same broad rehabilitation issue as its predecessor. In addition, the basic philosophical principles of the original Standards remain. What is noted is the most significant difference in the revised Standards is the deletion of such phrases as "every reasonable effort," "wherever possible," and "shall be discouraged."

The revised Standards have been criticized as being less flexible than the original ones. The intent of the revisions was, however, to maintain the flexibility while reevaluating the earlier criticisms that the Standards were vague, and not specific or instructional enough. It is important to note the February 26, 1990 publication of the new regulations states that all the Standards shall be applied in a "reasonable manner." In addition, the application of the revised Standards is intended to be the same as that of the original Standards so that a project that was previously acceptable would continue to be acceptable under the revised Standards.

The Standards that follow were originally published in 1977, and revised in 1990 as part of the Department of the Interior regulations (36 CFR Part 67, Historic Preservation Certification). They pertain to historic buildings of all materials, construction types, sizes and occupancy, and encompass the exterior and the interior of historic buildings. The Standards also encompass related landscape features and the building's site and environment, as
DESIGN SHORTS (continued from page 2)

well as attached, adjacent or related new construction.

The Standards are to be applied to specific rehabilitation projects in a reasonable manner, taking into consideration economic and technical feasibility.

A property shall be used for its historic purpose or be placed in a new use that requires minimal change to the defining characteristics of the building and its site and environment.

2. The historic character of a property shall be retained and preserved. The removal of historic materials or alteration of features and spaces that characterize a property shall be avoided.

3. Each property shall be recognized as a physical record of its time, place, and use. Changes that create a false sense of historical development, such as adding conjectural features or architectural elements from other buildings, shall not be undertaken.

4. Most properties change over time; those changes that have acquired historic significance in their own right shall be retained and preserved.

5. Distinctive features, finished, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a property shall be preserved.

6. Deteriorated historic features shall be repaired rather than replaced. Where the severity of deterioration requires replacement of a feature, that new feature shall match the old in design, color, texture, and other visual qualities.

7. Chemical or physical treatments, such as sandblasting, that cause damage to historic materials shall not be used. The surface cleaning of structures, if appropriate, shall be undertaken using the gentlest means possible.

8. Significant archeological resources affected by a project shall be protected and preserved. If such resources must be disturbed, mitigation measures shall be undertaken.

9. New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction shall not destroy historic materials that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and shall be compatible with the massing, size, scale, and architectural features to protect the historic integrity of the property and its environment.

10. New additions and adjacent or related new construction shall be undertaken in such a manner that if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Congratulations to the City of Pittsburgh for becoming the eleventh Certified Local Government, and special praise to Lauren Uhl of the Pittsburgh Planning Department for her persistence in seeing the project through in the face of initial problems. None of them her doing. Except for two minor details, Lower Moreland Township should soon become the Commonwealth's twelfth Certified Local Government; Norman Fesmire, HAR B Chairman of the Huntingdon Valley Historic District, initiated the application for the township and took responsibility to see the application through. Great job, Norman.

Reading, Bellefonte, Mercersburg, York, Bethlehem and Gettysburg, our thanks for providing your 1989 CLG annual report; Birmingham, Philadelphia and Bristol, we are still waiting for yours. For so far, Bristol has only written one annual report since it was designated a CLG in 1985. We must remind you that unless you fulfill your contractual responsibilities, you risk involuntary decertification. The data for annual reports should be relatively accessible if you have maintained records or minutes of your HAR B activities and meetings. If you are wondering what exactly we need to know, check your CLG certification agreement; you will find an attachment marked Exhibit B: Annual Report Contents. We are not looking to overburden you with useless details - your annual report will be of interest to your HAR B members, possibly to some members of your borough or city council, to the Press, and to the historic preservation "family" in both your city and the Commonwealth. All of you received a letter of February 5, 1990, from Dan G. Deibler, Chief, Division of Preservation Services, that went out to all CLG staff and their chief elected officials regarding a belated evaluation of your respective CLG programs. Thus far, five CLG reports have gone through what I hope was a relatively painless, and I hope useful interview evaluation. These included the cities of York and Philadelphia, and the boroughs of Bristol, Bellefonte and Gettysburg. What exactly did these CLGs have to go through in the evaluation process? Nothing much more than a review of the CLG Performance Standards checklist, against which the success of the CLG program was measured. (See Exhibit A of your certification agreement for details.) It was an opportunity to discuss problems that are common to all CLGs - the difficulty in getting HAR B members to workshops, conferences, or seminars; the improvements required in writing HAR B minutes, and other typical details. Well, all of this may strike you as burdensome bureaucratic enough to make a veteran public administrator cringe at the idea of applying for CLG status, but it's not quite so harrowing because the activities associated with the standards become part of the routine - the process of administering and implementing the local preservation program. The objectives of the CLG program should be kept in mind: essentially, it is the obverse of our concern with protecting the natural environment. The built environment is the enduring legacy of our past; it is the brick and mortar of our history which we have been mandated by Congress to survey, protect, use and rehabilitate. One of the instruments we have been given to help us implement these objectives is the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. The CLG program is a modest but not unworthy attempt by the federal government, specifically the National Park Service, to fulfill these preservation objectives discussed in the Act. Preservation originated at the grassroots and its successful implementation will depend, in part, on the continued commitment of the local governments and their citizens. The CLG Performance Standards Checklist is a convenient measure to gauge your community's progress in implementing historic preservation.

Please note, your 1990 CLG annual reports are due. Those of you who haven't managed to get us your 1989 reports in, should attempt to merge both 1989 and 1990 in the same report. If you are not sure how to write this report and you cannot find Exhibit B: Annual Reports Contents, let us know and we will mail you a copy forthwith.

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BHP REGIONAL OFFICE ESTABLISHED

With the assistance of a special grant from the National Park Service, the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission has established a branch office of its Bureau for Historic Preservation in Johnstown (Cambria County), and has acquired the office with the Allegheny Highlands Heritage Center. In cooperation with other agencies (the National Park Service and the PHMC) that maintain offices at the Heritage Center, The BHP provides historic-preservation expertise in identifying, evaluating and highlighting the historic and cultural resources of the Allegheny Highlands region. Nine counties - Bedford, Blair, Fayette, Huntingdon, Indiana, Somerset and Westmoreland - compose the region.

The new office is staffed by Mary J. Grzeskowiak and Gerald M. Kuncio, two well-qualified historic preservationists who joined the BHP bureau staff in the summer of 1990. Grzeskowiak has a B.A. degree from Hiram College and an M.S. in Historic Preservation from Columbia University. Her experience includes work for the National Park Service regional office and the New York Landmarks Conservancy. Kuncio has a B.A. degree from Duquesne University and is completing an M.A. in History from the University of Delaware. He has worked for the Historic American Engineering Record and the B. & O. Railroad Museum. Their combined experience and qualifications are an important addition to the Bureau.

Administratively, the regional office functions under the Bureau's Division of Preservation Services, which oversees the survey, National Register, and historic rehabilitation review programs, as well as providing preservation assistance to local governments.

Regional Office Address:
Bureau for Historic Preservation
Allegheny Highlands Heritage Center
319 Washington Street, Suite 370
Johnstown, Pennsylvania 15901
Telephone Number: (814) 539-2016

NOTES FROM THE UNDERGROUND
(continued from page 2)

Gratifying, however, was the fact that more than a few skeptics revised their opinions of the value of archaeology. In March, Borough Council agreed to assist in funding a roadside exhibit near the site of the excavation when the Hotel project and parking deck are completed.

EDITOR'S SOAPBOX
(continued from page 1)

a stone's throw from Harrisburg; North East, close to Erie; Saltsburg, a charming village near the City of Indiana, home of Jimmie Stewart; Honesdale, in Wayne County, close to the New York state border; Morgantown, near my old stomping grounds, off the Pennsylvania turnpike near Reading; Schuylkill Haven, a well hidden but very lively community, near to Pottsville, the latter, one of the finest small cities in the state; Towanda, where I found no trace of Marie Antoinette, but an eager group of citizens anxious to implement historic-preservation values; Oil City, well worth a visit - there's still oil in them there hills! Coatesville, in the southeastern part of the state; Somerset, what a grand courthouse looms above the horizon; Wilkes Barre, proud, handsome city rediscovering its built heritage; Phoenixville, also in the southeastern corridor, trying to live up to its name; Milford, near the New York state border, a busy tourist center fighting the encroachment of a commercial strip development; Altoona, awakening to the loss of many of its grand architectural landmarks, and amidst it all, still the bustling Straban Township, near Gettysburg, with open arms accepting shopping center development and new residential subdivisions, subsuming its heritage beneath asphalt parking lots; Upper Uwchlan (pronounced Ukelan), stunned by the rapidity of residential development, awakening to the violation of its farmlands; and Tredyffrin, reassessing its preservation plan.

As I approached the final days of December, I managed to squeeze in a mini-workshop with the Williamsport HARB — this group seems to be under attack by a local college proposing to purchase residential properties within the historic district to demolish them sound familiar? Dito, Lehigh University, Lafayette College, Washington and Jefferson, etc... a visit to Somerset to advocate and apprise interested citizens about historic preservation, and to present another mini-workshop in Bradford - definitely a worthwhile town to visit, although the HARB has been somewhat cut off from contact with its counterparts. This is why I keep advocating regional training workshops - whereby you'll get an opportunity to talk to and meet other HARB members and their staffs.

This list should be ample proof that Historic Preservation is very much in the minds and activities of the citizens of our Commonwealth. We are anticipating two more CLG applications, one from Ambridge and the other from Bedford. Preservation may not be a panacea but its certainly proved to be good medicine.

1991 CALENDAR

March 2 (Snow date March 9)

April 25-26-27


June 7-8
The Last Picture Show: A Symposium on Pennsylvania’s Vanishing Movie Theatres. Coordinator: Michel R. Lefevre. Friday, June 7, Evening Reception, special guests and film presentation “Cinema Paradiso”; Saturday, June 8, all-day symposium; Speakers: Richard Wolfe, Theatre Historical Society of America, Donald Fox, President, Fox Theatres; William Uricchio, Ph.D., Penn State University, Mary DeNadai, Architect; and a special panel. Cosponsored by The Friends of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission and the Bureau for Historic Preservation, Harrisburg at the State Museum.

Attendance at one or all of the above events will fulfill HARB/CLG training requirements. For further information call (717) 787-0771.