



NEWSLETTER

NATIONAL COUNCIL on PUBLIC HISTORY

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FREE AT LAST

Archives Independence

by Page Putnam Miller
Director, NCC

On Friday evening, October 19, President Reagan finally signed S. 905, the bill restoring independence to the National Archives by separating it from the General Services Administration. Midnight on October 20 was the deadline for the signing of S. 905.

The key provision in the independence legislation transfers authority for the care of federal records from the GSA Administrator to the Archivist. Instead of being appointed by the GSA Administrator, the Archivist will be appointed by the President with the Senate's consent. The legislation states that the Archivist shall be appointed without regard to political affiliations and solely on the basis of the professional qualifications required to perform the duties and responsibilities of the office. No term of office is specified. During recent years the Archivist's lack of authority over budget, program priorities, and fulfilling personnel management has seriously handicapped the National Archives in its basic mission of acquiring, appraising, preserving, and servicing the records of the federal government.

On Monday, October 1, the Joint Senate/House Conference Committee — composed of Representatives Brooks (D-TX), English (D-OK), Horton (R-NY), and Kindness (R-OH), and Senators Roth (R-DE), Mathias (D-MD), and Eagleton (D-MO) — met to work out differences between the Senate and House versions of S. 905 and H. R. 3987. Of the 24 points of difference, 22 items were resolved prior to the meeting.

The conference thus focused on the House amendment requiring each Federal agency to furnish information to the Archivist and the House amendment to give the Archivist final authority to determine whether a document falls within the definition of a "record" and to grant the Archivist access to agency material in order to make such determinations. On both issues the majority of the conferees supported in principle the clarification and strengthening of the authority of the Archivist, but they decided against including these portions for

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NEH SUMMER INSTITUTE

Teaching Public History

Reflections in the Cool of the Evening

by Anne C. Kaplan
Northern Illinois University

From July 5 to August 3, 30 participants from faculties around the United States gathered in Tempe, Arizona, for a 30-day NCPH Summer Institute on Teaching Public History funded under a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Participant Anne Kaplan's observations on the Institute follow.

Robert Kelly tells us that he and Wes Johnson spent a good portion of the spring of 1975 ruminating in Santa Barbara on how best to move historians "into the public process in a major way." They concluded that they should begin by "training small groups of graduate students in public history skills, imbuing them with the idea of a *public* rather than an *academic* career, and sending them out, one by one, to demonstrate their value by their work." The result was the Graduate Program in Public Historical Studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and, though the enterprise had larger purposes, its objectives included those of "greatly expanding professional employment for historians" and "keeping graduate study alive [by] insuring that departments of history . . . continue to be places of intellectual vitality." Writing about the program a few years later, Kelley suggested that the job crisis historians faced might in fact be only an identity crisis. The program at Santa Barbara was bringing "a fresh atmosphere and an optimistic spirit into a situation which, in recent years, had become one of depression and loss of purpose."¹

As Kelley and Johnson planned, Ronald Berman, then chair of the National Endowment for the Humanities, was submitting to the Congress his agency's estimates of appropriations for fiscal year 1976. The budget briefing material that supported the Endowment's request explained to the Congress the nature of fellowships, their scarcity in the humanities, and the agency's experience from 1967 to 1974 with fellowship programs that responded to individual initiative. That experience showed "that in addition to the many scholars who are interested in undertaking projects of original research and writing and who need an opportunity to explore their subjects independently, using widely scattered resources, there are many other scholars, indeed the large majority (including partic-

ularly teachers in the smaller colleges and two-year colleges), who are primarily interested in refreshing their own learning and improving their ability to convey humanistic understanding to their students. These teachers are better served by the opportunity to meet their peers in a collegial program enhanced by the human and physical resources of one major institution."² The "collegial" program was then moving into its second year, and the Endowment was satisfied that summer seminars were successful from the points of view of the teachers, the director, and the administering universities. They also had secondary benefits. "Done on a large scale," NEH argued, "this program will have a major impact upon the quality of teaching and standards of learning in the small colleges."³

Berman agreed. The humanities, he wrote later, were in more than an economic depression, and "one of the by-products of the academic depression was diffusion of first-rate people to places which might before this not have invested in them." Much might be accomplished, Berman thought, "if institutions had more lively connection to each other; . . . and if it could be suggested that new fields of en-

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NCPH Secretariat

Barbara Howe at West Virginia University is the new NCPH Executive Secretary. By action of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors in their April meetings, a new NCPH secretariat was established (see annual report, p. 3). Inquiries about the Council and its activities may be directed to Howe at the Department of History, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV 26505.

terprise were available at a time when imagination had run low."⁴

That two activities with such similar origins and such mutually supportive goals should finally come together is not surprising. That they should do so in Tempe, Arizona, in a summer of three-digit temperatures, confirms the usual fate of good intentions. As a result, thirty dauntless faculty, edged out of Santa Barbara by the Olympics, spent the month of July in pursuit of public history in an NEH Summer Institute at Arizona State University. All thirty were engaged in curriculum and course development, and all were provided an overview of historians in the business sector, historians in policy-setting environments in the public sector, and historians as managers and interpreters of cultural resources. Divided into three groups, participants worked as teams with Wes Johnson on community history, with Noel Stowe and Anna Nelson on the business sector and public policy, and with Michael Scardaville and Pat Melvin on cultural resource management and historical interpretation. Visiting speakers represented a range of fields for public historians (e.g., editing) and applications of public history (e.g., media) not covered in depth during the formal sessions. Tours of Tucson, Phoenix, and north-central Arizona incorporated visits to a wide range of museums, ruins, and exhibits where cultural resource management was going on for better or for worse under the watchful, or not so watchful, eye of managers who could, but didn't always, think of themselves as public historians.

The three tracks chosen for hands-on treatment in workshops designed to simulate the experiences of working public historians were, like working public historians, variously successful. CRM is a relatively tidy field with an identifiable bibliography and indisputably virtuous goals, but it does require cultural resources to manage, and here Tempe was not entirely accommodating. The business and public policy sectors are nearly all-encompassing and their virtues nothing like so apparent, but participants in that workshop were too dazed by deadlines and the jargon of deregulation to devote much energy to the ethical crises of

Featured Institute Speakers

Robert Pomeroy, Inter-American Development Bank; Gordon L. Olson, City of Grand Rapids; Keith Berwick, Keith Berwick Productions; Richard Kohn, United States Air Force; Lawrence Meriage, Cities Service Oil and Gas Corporation; Stanley M. Hordes, State of New Mexico; Barbara Howe, Executive Secretary, NCPH; Harold Skramstad, Edison Institute; George Smith, Winthrop Group, Inc.; Philip L. Cantelon, History Associates, Inc.; Melvin T. Smith, Utah State Historical Society.

the in-house historian. Community history is closest to fields in which some participants could claim expertise and opinions of their own. They did. Moreover, communities are elusive, particularly in Arizona in the summer, and, unlike cultural resources, their management requires prior consent.

Did participants, as NEH might have hoped, refresh their learning and improve their ability to convey humanistic understanding to their students? Probably, for whatever other purposes they serve, these seminars provide time — time to focus, time to assess a range of resources, time to accumulate an adequate bibliography, time to develop a sense of the whole. Will this program have an impact on the quality of teaching and the standards of learning in small colleges (and in the occasional large university)? Maybe, for in this field in particular, it is useful to play the student's role, to experience the rhythm of the work, the demands of the client, and the interaction of the team. Did participants go home in an optimistic spirit? They should have, for if nothing else, seminars like this convince us that, with first-rate people, imagination rarely runs low.

NOTES

1. Robert Kelley, "Public History: Its Origins, Nature, and Prospects," *The Public Historian* 1, 1 (Fall 1978): 16-28.

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NHPRC Institute and Fellowships

The fourteenth annual Institute for Historical Editing is scheduled for June 16-28, 1985, in Madison, Wisconsin. Funded in part by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and sponsored by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, and the University of Wisconsin, the institute provides detailed theoretical and practical instruction in documentary editing. Applicants should hold a master's degree in history or American Studies. A limited number of study grants are available. For information and application forms contact the NHPRC, National Archives Building, Washington, DC 20408, (202) 724-1616. Application deadline is March 15, 1985.

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Alaska and Public History

by Dale Stirling
Alaska Department of Natural
Resources

Despite its small population — a little more than half a million people — the state of Alaska has a thriving contingent of public historians. Even in an era of declining oil revenues, funding for public history positions continues, and historians work in a variety of cultural resource programs. The roots of public history in Alaska date back to the early and mid-1970s, when concerns for the environment began to include concern for the protection of archaeological and historical sites. Three agencies shared responsibility for public history programs then: the Alaska Division of Parks' Office of History and Archaeology, the National Park Service, and the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, Cooperative Park Studies Unit. Together, these agencies contributed an understanding of Alaska's historic and prehistoric past. Most important, the agencies became an important part of the public domain. By 1979 public history in the north had achieved wide public involvement and acceptance. But it would take the pressing public issue of land ownership to really thrust public history into the forefront of Alaskan affairs.

In 1978 the Alaska Department of Natural Resources and the Bureau of Land Management began a debate over the ownership of submerged lands. To assist in determining ownership, both agencies hired historians to research and write historic use reports of the state's rivers, lakes, and streams. Originally two historians were hired by each agency, and by 1981 six historians were working on the issue. Navigability, overtly an environmental and lands issue, had made public history an important part of the cultural resource field in the 49th state.

Public history has succeeded in Alaska on three levels. First, the various federal and state programs have achieved much in bringing to the public's attention the rich cultural fabric of Alaska's past. Second, public history has encouraged public participation. Third, public historians have become more attuned to communicating with others in their profession, surely a most important element in furthering the cause of public history.

Where does the future of public history lie in Alaska? Research will continue into Alaska's past, especially its aboriginal peoples, and those research findings will be published. I believe that local and community history will become more important in the years to come as well. Environmental issues may continue to involve the public historian. But most crucial will be the con-

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Annual Report, 1983-84

National Council on Public History

by Barbara J. Howe,
Executive Secretary

The 1983-84 year began with our first international meeting in Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, in May 1983, introducing Canadian and U.S. public historians to their respective worlds of public history. The year ended with the first joint conference between the NCPH and the Organization of American Historians, which was held April 5-8, 1984, in Los Angeles, California. Here, we hoped to reach out to all historians to introduce them to public history as a thriving part of the historical profession. The large number of joint registrants (82 of 228 registered) indicates that we may have succeeded in part, and we will try another joint meeting with the OAH in New York City in 1986.

Programs for Educators

Services for those teaching public history, or contemplating that step, were one of the most important items on the NCPH agenda in the past year. The Institute on Teaching Public History was funded through a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, and G. Wesley Johnson (University of California, Santa Barbara), Noel J. Stowe (Arizona State University), Anna K. Nelson (George Washington University), Patricia Mooney Melvin (University of Arkansas, Little Rock), and Michael C. Scardaville (University of South Carolina) started many hours of meetings to plan the institute, select speakers and students, and send out publicity. The institute was scheduled for July 5 through August 3, 1984, at Arizona State University and brought together thirty faculty members from institutions across the country. The institute's content and contacts should enrich the teaching of public history courses at the participants' institutions in the years ahead.

The *Teaching Public History Newsletter* was revived this year under the editorial direction of Barbara Howe, with editorial responsibilities moving from the University of California, Santa Barbara, to West Virginia University. The first issue was published in September 1983 and sent to approximately 400 individuals who had been previous subscribers or had shown interest in public history programs through the syllabus exchange described below. A large mailing to advertise the Institute on Teaching Public History was very important in generating subscriptions. That mailing, plus distribution of leaflets at various professional meetings, produced a subscription list of about 100 people willing to

pay \$5 for three issues per year. Winter and spring issues were also published at WVU. The fall 1984 issue will end the first subscription year, and we will then decide whether we should keep *TPHN* as a separate publication or merge it with the *NCPH Newsletter*. (The revival of *TPHN* was to be on a one-year trial basis.)

In addition to the *TPHN* and the institute, NCPH's syllabus exchange continued for those interested in teaching public history, and this has proved to be a popular and inexpensive project for the Council. The free exchange depends on those teaching courses submitting their syllabi, which are then photocopied and sent to anyone requesting them. Advertisements in various professional journals and flyers at meetings have generated 28 requests for syllabi in the 1983-84 year from individuals and institutions around the country and from Australia. The exchange currently includes approximately 30 syllabi for introductory courses, and classes in areas such as archival management, museum administration, historical editing, and public policy. Contributions of new syllabi are always welcomed.

Finally, NCPH's slide show, "History Goes Public," is available for those interested in teaching public history or planning a program for history students. This 18-minute program is designed as a general introduction to public history. We still need to promote this program more — there were only three rentals and three purchases in 1983-84. However, we have received enough orders to cover the original purchase/production costs and have therefore lowered the rental fee to \$35 and the purchase price to \$100 to promote more use of the program; this can be done and still cover the costs of reproducing the show through West Virginia University's Communications Office.

Thus, providing support to public history educators was one of our most visible and successful efforts in the past year. However, it can by no means be our only effort, since it ignores the many other constituencies of NCPH who are not in the classroom.

Publications

Our publications program provides one of our best member services for all members of NCPH and, through libraries, to unknown numbers of others who use our publications. First and foremost, *The Craft*

of *Public History* was published in December 1983, in time for the American Historical Association's book exhibit December 28-30. Published by Greenwood Press, this title should serve as a standard reference source for all interested in public history. NCPH extends its heartiest thanks and congratulations to David Trask and Robert Pomeroy for their untiring efforts as general editors of the book and equal thanks and congratulations to all the subeditors who worked with them on the project for so long.

The *NCPH Newsletter* appeared twice during the year, as a joint summer-fall issue and a winter issue, under the able direction of Noel Stowe, Beth Luey, and the students in the historical editing program at Arizona State University. The summer-fall issue featured an essay on "History's Future: A British View" by Peter J. Beck, Principal Lecturer in International History at Kingston Polytechnic, and news about our upcoming conference in Los Angeles. Extra copies of this issue were printed for distribution at the American Historical Association meeting. The winter issue, distributed at the Organization of American Historians-NCPH meeting in April, also featured our annual meeting, along with notes on new programs and new publications of interest.

The Public Historian continued to be published as the journal of NCPH under the editorial leadership of G. Wesley Johnson and by the University of California Press. The four issues during the year included sections on research, issues and analysis, and book reviews, along with film and exhibit reviews, roundtable discussions, interviews, "new directions" articles, and review essays. Articles on historians and the American military, history and foreign policy, the promotion and tenure criteria for faculty in applied history, corporate archives, and historical novels filled the pages of the journal. The fall 1983 issue (vol. 5, no. 4) was a special issue focusing on local history, guest-edited by Dr. John A. Williams of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Through the cooperation of the University of California Press, it appears that earlier subscription problems are now under control. As the year ended, NCPH, the University of California at Santa Barbara and the University of California Press began a series of discussions and negotiations leading to a clearer agreement among all parties involved in the publication of this journal.

FREE continued

fear of risking passage of the measure. Resistance to these two points had been particularly strong from the Treasury and Justice Departments.

Senator Roth implied that IRS had friends on the Finance Committee that could conceivably take steps to prevent the final passage of the Conference Report if those sections remained in the bill. Senator Roth further stressed that the Senate had understood this to be a reorganizational and not a reform bill and that they had not held hearings on those sections of the House bill.

English replied that while he was most reluctant to drop these two provisions from the bill, he would agree to do so with the understanding that the Conference Report would include the following words: "The conferees note that under current law the Archivist has substantial records inspection and determination responsibilities. The conferees fully expect all agencies of the Government to cooperate with the Archivist in his discharge of those responsibilities." This language did appear in the Conference Report (*Congressional Record*, October 1, 1984, p. H 10593).

Furthermore, the Conference Committee did agree to retain the House amendment that specifies that in any case in which the head of an agency does not initiate an action at the Archivist's request for recovery of unlawfully removed records, the Archivist of the United States shall request that the Attorney General initiate such an action and shall notify Congress when such a request has been made.

English indicated that he will plan to hold hearings next year on the two measures that were dropped from the legislation and that he hopes that the act can be amended next session to include these items.

On October 3 the Senate passed the Conference Report. The House approved the measure on October 4.

The National Archives and Records Administration Act becomes effective April 1, 1985.

HAGLEY PROGRAM Call for Applicants

The Hagley Museum and Library, in cooperation with the University of Delaware, jointly sponsor The Hagley Program in the History of Industrial America, a two-year or four-year program leading either to an M.A. or a Ph.D. degree for students interested in careers as professionals in museums and historical agencies or as college

NEH continued

2. National Endowment for the Humanities. FY 1976 Budget Briefing Material, vol. 1, Program Data (Submitted to the Congress, February 1975), p. H-38.
3. *Ibid.*, p. H-40.
4. Ronald Berman, *Culture and Politics* (University Press of America, Inc., 1984), pp. 88-90.

The Institute was divided into several activities. Morning plenary sessions gave the five Institute faculty the opportunity to explore their respective areas of interest. Afternoon workshop sessions divided the participants into 3 groups and focused on a project simulation experience. Several

other sessions focused on curriculum and course development. Featured speakers spent at least one full day on campus with participants and gave formal evening presentations. Local speakers participated in workshops, supplemented plenary discussions, or guided participants along on the several tours — in Tempe/Phoenix: an infamous walking tour of Tempe, and extended visits to the Central Arizona Museum, Heard Museum, Heritage Square, Tempe Historical Museum; in Tucson: Arizona Heritage Center, Center for Creative Photography, Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum; in Prescott: Sharlot Hall Museum; in Jerome: town center and Phelps-Dodge open pit mine; along the Arizona road: Tuzigoot and Montezuma's Castle Monuments plus Sedona.

Institute Participants

Alfred J. Andrea, University of Vermont; Bess Beaty, Shorter College; Kathleen Berkeley, University of North Carolina at Wilmington; Joseph L. Brent III, University of the District of Columbia; Jeffrey Paul Brown, New Mexico State University; Allen Carden, Biola University; Gary W. Daily, Indiana State University; Cullom Davis, Sangamon State University; Barbara J. Flint, Howard University; John J. Fox, Salem State College; Calvin W. Gower, St. Cloud State University; Gary Huxford, Western Oregon State College; David T. Javersak, West Liberty State College; Anne C. Kaplan, Northern Illinois University; Phyllis K. Leffler, Tennessee State University; Arthur D. Martinson, Pacific Lutheran University; Martin V. Melosi, University of Houston; Fredric M. Miller, Temple University; Harmon Mothershead, Northwest Missouri State University; Gene Mueller, Lewis-Clark State College; Stephen M. Payne, San Jose State University; Sister Justine Peter, O.S.F., Cardinal Stritch College; Philip B. Scranton, Rutgers University, Camden; John A. Tilley, East Carolina University; Vincent Vinikas, University of Arkansas at Little Rock; Michael Glen Wade, Appalachian State University; Judith Wellman, State University of New York; Dale Yoder, Albright College; Lawrence H. Zimmer, Kean College of New Jersey.

NHPRC continued

The NHPRC will also offer three history fellowships in 1985, with funds provided in part by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. Successful candidates will receive a stipend of \$15,000, plus \$3,000 toward fringe benefits and other expenses, and will spend 10 months in training at a documentary publication project.

Participating projects are *The Papers of Joseph Henry* (The Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC), *The Papers of Robert Morris* (Queens College, Flushing, NY), and *The Correspondence of James K. Polk* (Vanderbilt University, Nashville). Applicants should hold a Ph.D. or have completed all requirements for the doctorate except the dissertation. Further information and application forms are available from NHPRC. Application deadline is March 15, 1985.

teachers. The Hagley Program's academic focus is on the social history of American industrialization. Within a wide-ranging history program, Hagley Fellows study the context and consequences of economic and technological change wrought by industrialization, including its impact on the lives of American workers.

Deadline for application is February 1. For information about the program and financial aid write: Brian Greenberg, Coordinator, The Hagley Program in the

History of Industrial America, The Hagley Museum and Library, P.O. Box 3630, Wilmington, DE 19807.

ALASKA continued

tribution of public history to a broader statewide acceptance of the state's role in the development of western America. I also fervently hope that some day soon a public history program will be included in the curriculum of the statewide university system or in a private university.

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1984-85**

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Also during 1983-84, Robert Pomeroy and the Center for the Study of History produced a chart entitled "Careers for Graduates in History" to show students the variety of careers available to them. Endorsed by the NCPH and 11 other historical associations, more than 6,000 charts have already been distributed.

Annual Conference

As noted above, our 1984 conference was held in Los Angeles. From April 5-8, we explored "The Diversity of Public History," with sessions concentrating on careers, historians in cultural resource management, the media, minorities and public history, and other topics. Several joint sessions were held with the Organization of American Historians, with NCPH "adopting" sessions for the OAH that fit our interests. NCPH also organized joint workshops on promotion and tenure, curriculum development, and ethics that were co-sponsored by the OAH. NCPH-only sessions were held from Friday afternoon, April 6, through Sunday morning, April 8, with a banquet Friday evening that featured Jeb Rosebrook of Warner Brothers and television producer Stan Margulies. Rosebrook was producer and writer for "The Yellow Rose," and Margulies produced "Roots" and "Thom Birds." NCPH registration totaled 146, in addition to the 82 joint OAH-NCPH registrants. Attendance was not as high as expected, possibly owing to the high cost of meeting in Los Angeles and the fact that both the OAH and AHA met on the West Coast.

Representative sessions from the program focused on "Local History and Oral History: Linking the University, The Community and The School" (joint OAH-NCPH), "Minority Issues in Public History," "The Historian as Federal Employee," "History and Public Policy: Toward a New Synthesis," "The City as Laboratory for Public History," "Too Close for Comfort? Academic Historians in Community Projects," "Career Opportunities in Public History," "The Labor Aspect in Public History," and "Cultural Resource Surveys: Black History and Antebellum Architecture in Missouri." Discussion was lively at all the sessions, and the workshops on curriculum development and ethics drew particularly large and interested crowds.

John Porter Bloom and Barbara Howe planned the program for the annual meeting, working with Ira Berlin and Dorothy Ross, co-chairs of the OAH program. Larry de Graaf handled the complex task of local arrangements and coordination with the OAH. Shelly Bookspan, Howard Holter, G. Wesley Johnson, Rita Lynch, Paul Soifer, and Raymond Starr assisted in planning the meeting, as did students, work-study assistants, secretaries and others at West Virginia University, the University of the Pacific, and California State

University-Fullerton. Many thanks go to all those involved in planning the program and, particularly, to Mary Belding, who handles all the conference arrangements for the OAH and patiently helped us coordinate our efforts with them.

The NCPH has decided to meet with the OAH again in New York in 1986, and plans are already well underway. Deborah Gardner and Daniel Walkowitz will be heading the efforts for the NCPH. Although the joint conference went well this year, some felt that we were not visible enough in the larger crowd of the OAH, and we need to consider that in our future planning for joint events.

Meanwhile, Armita Jones and Noel Stowe are working on the 1985 conference to be held April 25-27 in Phoenix, Arizona. This will be a joint meeting with the board of the Public Works Historical Society, the Coordinating Committee for History in Arizona, and the Southwest Oral History Association. To aid these future endeavors, Howe, Bloom, and de Graaf have produced the first NCPH "conference manual," based on their experiences this year.

Organization

At the April 1984 board meeting, the directors of NCPH voted that the organization should become a membership organization. Associates, who previously only received *The Public Historian* and *NCPH Newsletter*, will become full members, still through their subscriptions to *The Public Historian*, and will now be eligible to vote. Most associates probably always thought of themselves as members, but they will now have a more active role in the organization. This changes the NCPH from a council of elected board members to a full professional organization of some 900 members.

At the same time that NCPH gave members a vote for new members of the board of directors, it took away the officers' right to vote at board meetings. The April board meeting decided that the four officers would pay the \$100 annual dues that all directors pay but that they would not be members of the board.

During 1983-84, most of the executive functions of NCPH were carried out through the resources of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, which Larry Tise, chair of NCPH, heads. This organization provided much support for the organization by donating phone, printing, travel, and other expenses, thereby improving the finances of NCPH. Also, Donna Munger, a staff member at PHMC, was encouraged to spend many hours on administrative projects for the council, trying to organize and coordinate the numerous separate and scattered projects of the organization.

To further centralize operations of the NCPH, the board decided to establish an executive secretariat, beginning in June 1984. Noel Stowe, Ted Karamanski, and Donna Munger formed the committee to review proposals for the secretariat during 1983-84 and recommended to the executive committee in April that the proposal from West Virginia University and Barbara Howe be accepted. That action was ratified at the April board meeting. As executive secretary, Howe will be responsible for working with NCPH committees, handling daily financial transactions, providing support services for the conferences, and coordinating major projects of NCPH, particularly a survey of public historians leading to the publication of a directory and a survey of public history programs in the U.S. The latter project will be handled in cooperation with the Curriculum and Training Committee. The secretariat's term is for three years, with annual reviews by the executive committee and board.

Ethics

One of the more controversial issues for NCPH in the past year has been the development of a code of ethics for public historians. As a result of the lively discussions on this issue at the Waterloo meeting, Ted Karamanski, Al Hurtado, and Roy Lopata formed a committee to draft a code of ethics and have it ready for review by the 1984 annual meeting. The code was presented at the joint OAH-NCPH workshop and produced one of the more interesting discussion sessions of the conference. The consensus, however, was that we were not ready to adopt this specific code of ethics — nor were we ready to drop the idea completely. Agreeing to the idea of a code of ethics, the board asked the committee to continue to study the issue.

Credits

NCPH is a volunteer organization. As such, it cannot operate without the time and talents of many of its members. At the risk of excluding someone who has contributed much to the organization, NCPH would like to offer its thanks to Larry Tise as outgoing chairperson, to Noel Stowe and Beth Luey as *Newsletter* editors, to G. Wesley Johnson as editor of *The Public Historian* and to Lindsey Reed as his able assistant, to the five faculty members of the Institute on Teaching Public History, to Phil Cantelon as executive director of NCPH, to Donna Munger for her many contributions during 1983-84, to Larry de Graaf and John Bloom for their work on the annual meeting, to Robert Pomeroy and David Trask for their work on *The Craft of Public History*, and to Jina Secreto, the public

history secretary at West Virginia University, as well as to all the board members and officers for the past year who have contributed so greatly to the organization.

Conclusion

The Craft of Public History is out, the Institute on Teaching Public History ended in August, the careers chart is ready for distribution, the secretariat is functioning, formation of a code of ethics is progressing, we have a newsletter and journal of which we can be proud, and we are a membership organization now. Much has been accomplished that we can view with pride. But we must look to the future and recognize that we are more than a board and an amorphous group of journal/newsletter subscribers. We must provide services to our members, such as the projected directory of public historians and guide to public history programs. We must continue to make our daily operations increasingly professional and must always be reaching out for new constituencies and to other organizations that share at least some of our interests. To do this, we will need the active involvement of many more members and the financial support of interested parties. NCPH has passed its fourth anniversary. We are coming out of the critical time period for all new organizations and need to determine our future programs and prospects based on our past experiences and a clear vision of our future needs.

Reception and Meetings Chicago, AHA Meeting

NCPH invites members and friends to a reception, December 28, 7:30-11:00 p.m. in the Gold Coast Room, West Tower, Hyatt Regency.

The NCPH Board will meet December 29, 4:30-6:30 p.m. in the Stetson Suite, West Tower, Hyatt Regency.

The NCPH Executive Committee will meet December 27 (time to be announced) and 28 (4:45-7:00) in the Holl Suite, Hyatt Regency.

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Recent Publications

by Steven M. Bailey

History for the Public: A Report on the Historians-in-Residence Program, The New York Historical Resources Center, Cornell University, and The Institute for Research in History (Cornell University, 1983).

As its subtitle suggests, *History for the Public* reports on the historians-in-residence program, which had its inception in 1978. But this work also includes essays written by historians attending an NEH 1983 Summer Institute on Historians, Universities, and Communities held at Cornell.

In his opening article ("Divergent Paths: Academic Historians and Public Historical Agencies"), G. David Bromberg describes the intent of the two experimental programs: to effect cooperation and collaboration between academicians and public history practitioners. Accordingly, the report is divided into two sections, each stressing academic or public history.

The first exhibits works of historians involved in the residence program; the focus is on historical case studies and includes several New York state group and community social histories. The articles often include practical information for the working historian as well as descriptions of methodologies.

The second section, consisting of selected essays from the Summer Institute, is intended to benefit, through its emphasis on theory, both universities and public historical agencies. The articles discuss the new social history, the use of documentary materials in college classrooms, and the issue of gender as a parameter in community history.

Historians and Filmmakers: Toward Collaboration, Barbara Abrash and Janet Sternburg (New York: The Institute for Research in History, 1983): 50 pp.

In a roundtable discussion held at New York University's Institute for the Humanities in October 1982, more than 30 historians and filmmakers (writers, directors, producers, and photographers) discussed issues related to the rendering of history on film and videotape. Abrash and Sternburg, in their introduction, stress that the sym-

CALLS FOR PAPERS American Studies Association 1985

Martha Banta, Program Committee Chair for the tenth biennial American Studies Association Convention, to be held October 31-November 3, 1985, in San Diego is accepting proposals for individual papers, complete sessions, workshops, panels, and other professional contributions to the program. The Program Committee will review proposals that address one aspect or another of the convention's main theme — Boundaries in American Culture. Particular attention will be given to proposals falling under any of the following subthemes: The Arts (popular, high, and functional), Public Support and Public Policies, Folklore and Folklife, American Ethnicity and Gender Identities, Cross-Cultural Relations/International Perspectives, Exploding the Canons (e.g., autobiography into fiction; lost and still undiscovered forms; bridging the disciplines; ideology of publication and criticism; opening the curriculum), and Geographies and Ideologies. For format information about submitting proposals contact the American Studies Association, 307 College Hall/CO, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA 19104, (215) 898-

5408, or Professor Martha Banta, Chair, American Studies Association Program Committee, Department of English, 2225 Rolfe Hall, University of California at Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA 90024. Deadline for submitting proposals is January 15, 1985.

NCPH 1986

The National Council on Public History will be meeting jointly with the Organization of American Historians in New York City, April 9-12, 1986. The NCPH Program Committee invites submissions of complete sessions or workshops and individual papers; complete sessions will be given preference. Proposals may be on any aspect of the practice of history, substantive research, or issues of concern to the profession. Proposals should include a two-page synopsis of the issues to be addressed and their development by each participant. Sessions should include no more than five participants. Three copies of proposals and vitas for all panelists should be sent to NCPH Co-Chair Deborah S. Gardner, The Institute for Research in History, 432 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10016. Deadline for submissions is March 1, 1985.

posium "was less about solutions and more about the articulation of problems and possibilities . . ." In the four discussions that follow, the participants examine historical accuracy in film, the use of language and image, the actual production of "The Return of Martin Guerre," and the directions historical film is likely to take in this decade.

Journal for the South African Plan for Research in the Human Sciences, vol. 14, 1 (Pretoria: Human Sciences Research Council, 1984).

In his recent article, "Towards More Meaningful Historical Research," South Af-

rican historian A.G. Oberholster suggests that historians can make their research more relevant by becoming more sensitive to contemporary issues. The author recommends that historians concentrate on neglected but vital areas of research and investigate the antecedent processes and structures of contemporary problems. Oberholster cites how the opposition of South African historians to that country's racial policies has led them to interpret the present in ways that can provide something of use to policymakers, as David F. Trask has suggested. The publication comes from the Institute for Research Development, Private Bag X270, Pretoria 0001.

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