

PUBLIC HISTORY NEWS



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Michael Scardaville, Chair
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Milestone For Historic Preservation

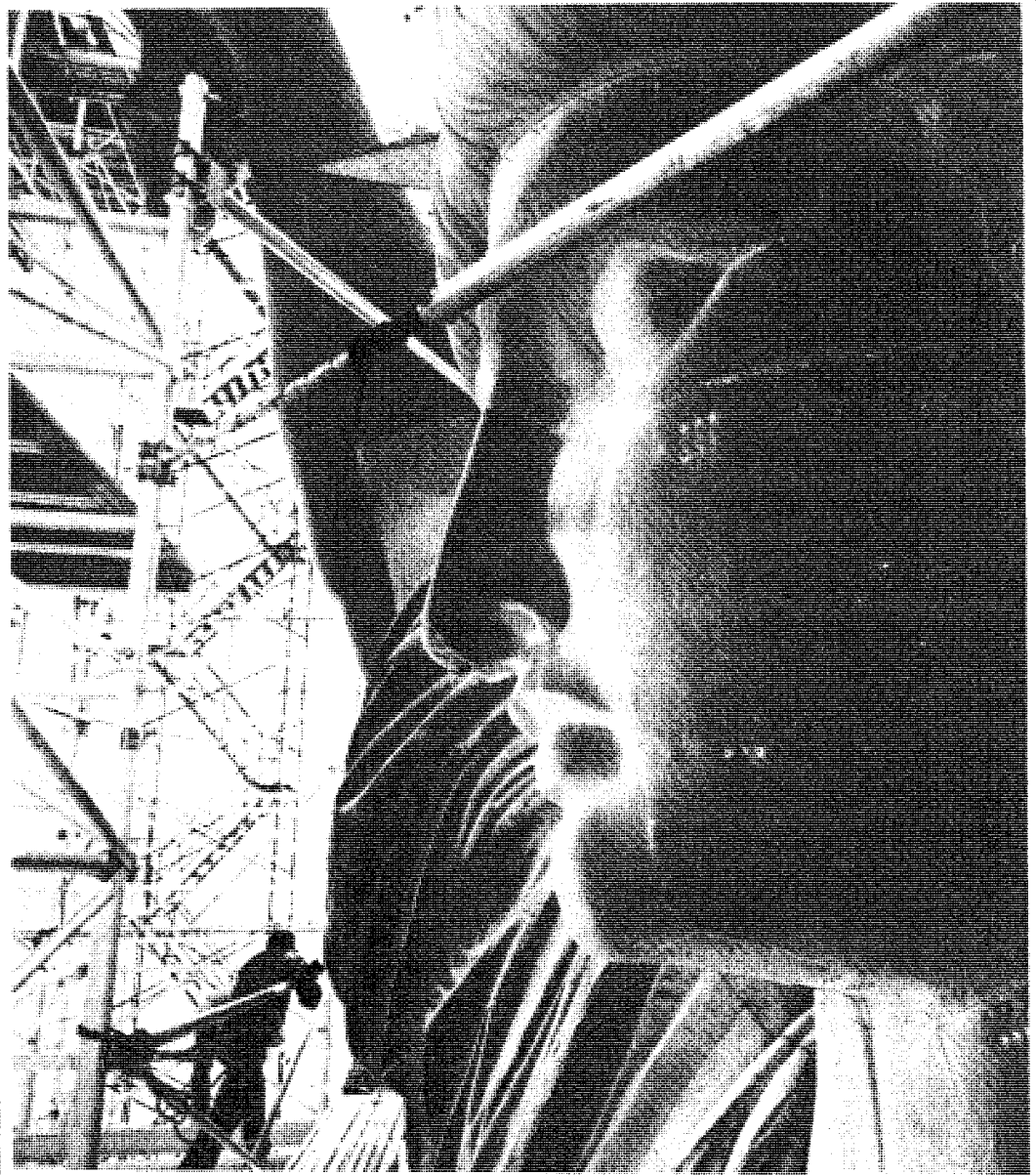


Photo by Jeff Lowe courtesy of the Historic American Buildings Survey.

by Beth M. Grosvenor

National Register of Historic Places

October 15, 1986 marks the 20th anniversary of a milestone in the evolution of historic preservation, the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. Inspired by concern over the unprecedented growth of the 1950s and 1960s that was rapidly changing the appearance of towns and countryside, the act brought both philosophical and practical innovations to the preservation movement.

Today we often take for granted the processes for recognizing and protecting

the historic environment that are incorporated into the daily operations of business and government. Prior to 1966, however, preservation was different. Individual buildings and structures that epitomized patriotic values or accomplishments of national importance received most of the attention. Protection was accomplished chiefly through ownership by government agencies or private, non-profit organizations.

The National Historic Preservation Act called for the expansion of the nation's official list of properties that should be preserved, the National Register of

Historic Places. The act also specified the term "district" as a type of resource that should be identified along with buildings, structures, objects, and sites. The authorization of federal financial assistance for preservation projects, and the establishment of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation were two other important provisions.

Although the National Park Service assumed the lead for the national preservation programs established under the act, such a complex system of preservation activities

See ACT, p. 12



“The U.S. was launching upon a very ambitious program of self-renewal — and doing it without really stopping to think that also meant an enormous amount of self-destruction.”

Jerry Rogers

20 Years Later...

The National Historic Preservation Act

by Daniel Greer

The National Historic Preservation Act is twenty years old this fall. In those two decades historic preservation has come a long way — from an academic goal of a relative handful of professional scholars to a successful movement which has found broad support in mainstream society.

Jerry Rogers, Associate Director of Cultural Resources for the National Park Service and “keeper of the National Register of Historic Places,” credits the success of the act primarily to citizen participation. However, economic incentives in the form of tax breaks have added to that success in the past ten years. There are more than 45,000 historic places listed in the National Register, involving more than half a million buildings. Only about 2,000 listings have national significance, the rest are of regional, state or local importance.

The National Historic Preservation Act was created out of concern for what Rogers refers to as a federally sponsored “development binge,” that took place in the twenty-some years following World War II. According to Rogers, “The big urban renewal programs that were basically slum clearance, the interstate highway development program, [and other federal construction projects]...really meant that old buildings and old places, historic districts that weren’t recognized as historic districts, were going to be destroyed for the purpose of making the cities look new or building the interstate highway system.”

For many parts of the country it was the first time we were tearing down the old to put up the new. Rogers likened it to “the brave new world. It was very clear if you go back and read

newspapers from the late 1950’s, that the U.S. was launching upon a very ambitious program of self-renewal — and doing it without really stopping to think that also meant an enormous amount of self-destruction.” The rundown buildings that were being replaced frequently had higher quality construction and architecture than the newer ones. And archaeological values also, according to Rogers, “were being destroyed at a very rapid rate through things like the highway construction program and the rivers and harbors program.”

The act established the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation to monitor and guide preservation. The review process of the council serves as

a buffer between planning and action of any agency that may have an effect on property listed in the national register. (See *Regulations Improve*, p. 4).

Rogers thinks the act has fared extremely well in the past 20 years, and has been effective in expanding protection for districts, sites, buildings, structures and objects that are significant in our history, architecture, industry and culture. “The thing that was different from what we had before 1966,” he said, “was that prior to then the federal government dealt only with properties that could be significant to the nation at large. The National Register of Historic Places expanded that concern to properties of all degrees of significance, including right down to the local.

“One of the reasons we’ve been so successful with this act is that preservationists have managed to find ways to use market forces to bring about preservation. Since 1976 we have had a program that gives federal income tax benefits to people who rehabilitate historic properties in accordance with our standards,” Rogers said. “That program has caused the approval of rehabilitation for more than 12,000 buildings in this country and the rehab value is somewhere in the neighborhood of 10 billion dollars. . . . The market is such now that people will pay more for a historic building than they will for a new building.”

See ROGERS, p. 8



COUNCIL UPDATE

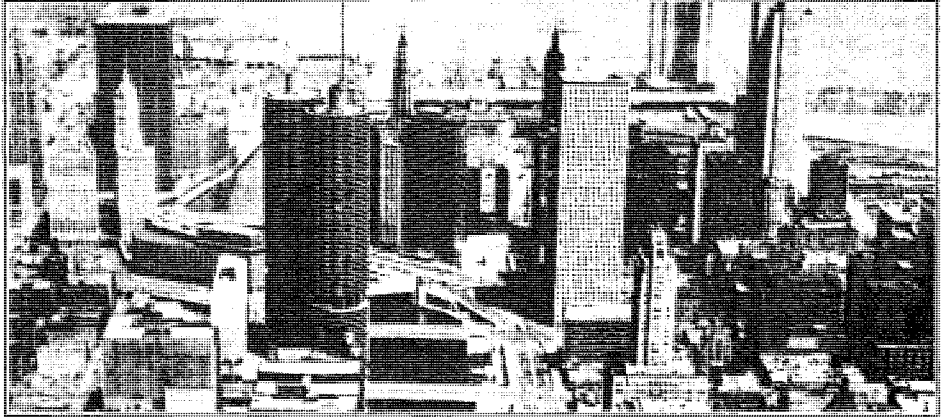
Chicago Luncheon

by Barbara J. Howe, Executive Secretary

All public historians in the Chicago Area and those attending the AHA meeting in Chicago December 28-30 are cordially invited to attend the NCPH luncheon December 29 from 12:15 to 2:00 p.m. at the Hyatt-Regency, the convention headquarters. This will be a new venture for the NCPH at the AHA and will replace our annual cash bar reception. The round-table discussion luncheon that we held at the OAH was so successful, that we have decided to try to implement it at each convention of the AHA and OAH to give public historians a chance to meet each other at these large meetings.

Tickets for the luncheon will cost \$19.50, including tax and gratuity. Please order your ticket for the luncheon by sending your check for \$19.50 to Barbara Howe, NCPH, Dept. of History, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV 26506, so that it reaches me *before December 15*. If you have been to luncheons sponsored by other groups at the AHA, you know you can buy a ticket at the convention. We may have a few tickets available to be sold at the registration counters at the convention, but, because we have no track record at the AHA, we *must* pre-sell tickets or risk ordering food that has to be paid for from the NCPH budget, which we cannot do. The AHA program book will only list that there is a NCPH luncheon on the 29th but will not give details on ticket sales and prices. Therefore, this

See CHICAGO, P. 10



Join us in Chicago for the public history luncheon at the AHA on December 29. Pictured: eastward view of the Chicago River photographed by Kee Chang courtesy of Chicago Association of Commerce and Industry.

Council Kicks Off Membership Drive

by Michael Scardaville, Chair

What does it mean to be a member of the National Council? Now that NCPH has become a membership organization, the answer to this question has assumed great importance. The answer becomes even more critical as the Council begins its first systematic membership drive this fall.

The recent transition from a council form of governance to a membership organization meant that the scope of the Council's activities and programs had to be expanded in order to meet the needs of its diverse constituency. The first order of business was to adopt a mission statement and a set of objectives and goals that would enable the Council to begin to address the challenges confronting the organization. Under the mission of "promoting the utility of history in society through professional practice," the Council has started a series of projects that will serve its membership and strengthen and expand the role of the organization in the process.

In addition to sponsoring its much-praised revised newsletter, the Council has reconstituted the editorial board of *The Public Historian* and is now developing guidelines to assist the editor and staff of the journal. The Council also is sponsoring two NEH grant proposals, one of which seeks funds to plan for a series of workshops focusing on the integration of history in policy formulation at the state and local levels. Other Council projects this year include the preparation and publication of two directories. One will list professional development opportunities available for public historians while the other will publish in-

formation about consulting firms and contract historians. Plans also are underway to investigate the possibility of establishing a Council awards program.

These and other projects in the planning stages represent an invigorated Council, an organization committed to its mission and to its membership. We are now in a position to solicit institutional sponsors. Target groups this year include federal history offices and academic departments, particularly those which are listed in the public history training guide published last year. We have tried to package services we thought might lure sponsors, such as offering the opportunity to purchase *The Craft of Public History* at 60% off the list price.

The Council also is planning to undertake a comprehensive membership drive by the end of October. University of California Press, publishers of *The Public Historian*, has agreed to support this effort by sharing the cost of the membership campaign and coordinating all mailings out of its offices.

An expanded membership will help build a financially strong NCPH, thereby enabling the Council to further strengthen its programs, support its membership, and successfully follow its mission. I welcome your comments, reactions, and willingness to help. Let us know what projects and activities you think the organization should be doing to support you and the profession. We want you to help us determine what it means to be a member of the National Council. □



The National Council on Public History promotes the application of historical scholarship outside the university in government, business, historical societies, preservation organizations, archives, libraries, professional associations, and public interest groups. For details contact NCPH Chair Michael Scardaville, History Department, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208 (803) 777-7611 or Vice Chair Armita Jones, 5313 Hempstead Rd., Louisville, KY 40207 (502) 896-9196. For membership information contact Executive Secretary Barbara Howe, History Department, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV 26506 (204) 293-2421. For change of address write UC Press, 2128 Berkeley Way, Berkeley CA 94720. Copy for *Public History News* should be sent to Todd Shaffer, History Department, Boise State University, 1910 University Dr., Boise, ID 83725 (208) 385-3701. The winter deadline is December 5.

State Humanities Councils...

Connecticut's Scholar in Residence Program

by Bruce Fraser

One of the rejoinders frequently offered by public historians to calls for closer cooperation with state humanities councils is that the programs of the latter are too limited in duration and too independent in direction to offer much methodological assistance to historians trapped, willy nilly, in the real world. Often encased in rigid and sometimes unsympathetic organizational contexts, public historians tend to see the council-funded public forays of university-based historians as idealistic and other-wordly. "Let's see you play that tune in *my* office," they snarl, with good reason.

While it is true that much of the state councils' work in public history is project based and floats free of bureaucratic restraints, the councils have an extensive granting record in "residency" projects situating professional historians in public agencies for extended periods. It is this environment that most closely approximates the conditions under which most public historians work, and it is here that the programmatic insights and conclusions of the councils may be of most relevance to public historians.

Typical of the councils' long-term historical programs is a recently concluded Connecticut project in which a professional historian, William Devlin, spent two years as a resident scholar with the Connecticut Association of Historic District Commissioners. Devlin's assignment was an imposing one — to bring a sharper sense of historical context to the decision-making process in Connecticut's 75 local district commissions. The conditions he encountered are hardly confined to Connecticut. While local commissioners have extensive authority over historic resources in their district, they often have little formal training in history and thus are often unable to apply appropriate historical or architectural standards in a consistent manner.

Devlin's initial months were spent examining the nuts and bolts of the preservation process in Connecticut by reviewing legislation enabling the state to create districts and recent court cases affecting their operation, interviewing local commissioners in seven diverse preservation districts across the state, at-

See HUMANITIES, p. 11

Advisory Council Permits "Flexible" Implementation Regulations Improve, Problems Remain

by Stanley Hordes

On September 2 the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation issued its new "revised" regulations implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, and governing the process of its review and comment upon federally supported undertakings that affect historic properties. The new regulations represent a major victory for public historians and other preservation interests who initiated a vigorous campaign to ensure that the "teeth" of the Preservation Act be retained. But the teeth still are not quite as sharp as they should be.

Last October the Advisory Council had put forward a draft of the regulations that would have substantially weakened the Act, and would have made compliance by federal agencies virtually optional rather than mandatory (see *NCPH News*, Spring 1986). Many of the onerous provisions of the 1985 regulations have been dropped in the new version, such

as the ability of federal agencies to eliminate the Advisory Council from the consultation process, but several problems of great concern to public historians working in the field of CRM still remain. Section 800.3 (b), for example, indicates that the procedures contained in the regulations "may be implemented by the Agency Official in a flexible manner . . . as long as the purposes of Section 106 . . . are met" (italics added). Moreover, in contrast to the existing mandate that all agencies identify all historic properties that might be affected by a federal undertaking, Section 800.4 (b) states that these agencies need only "make a reasonable and good faith effort" to do so.

Anyone desiring to obtain copies of the new regulations, or to offer comments, should contact John M. Fowler, Acting Executive Director, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, Room 809, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20004. For further information, contact Stanley M. Hordes, Chair of the NCPH's CRM Committee, HMS Associates, P.O. Box 4543, Santa Fe, NM 87501. □



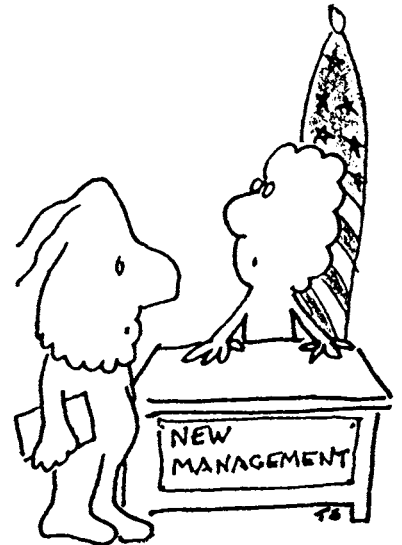
Legislative Report

by Page Putnam Miller

Access to Nixon Materials Remains an Issue — The Senate Governmental Affairs Committee has recommended a Senate vote concerning whether regulations issued by the National Archives governing the preservation, protection of, and public access to the Nixon Administration Presidential Materials meet the statutory requirement of the Presidential Recordings and Materials Preservation Act of 1974. Last February the Justice Department issued an opinion that included language that would greatly diminish the authority of the U.S. Archivist, reducing the position to a "purely executive officer...subject to the President's supervision and control," while significantly expanding the "executive privilege" of Nixon, giving him exclusive control over public access to his presidential materials. There is legitimate concern over the politicization of the National Archives in light of an internal Office of Management and Budget memo published in a recent House report which states that the Attorney General recommends getting an Archivist confirmed before forcing the issue on the Nixon regulations. A suit filed by Public Citizen (a consumer group) and the Reporters Committee for the Freedom of the Press calls for the Court to order the Justice Department and the OMB to rescind their directive to the Archives.

Agresto Faces Strong Opposition — The Senate Governmental Affairs Committee met in August and September to begin hearing testimony on the nomination of John Agresto as

See AGRESTO, p. 11



Watergate? You might try our regional archives in San Clemente.

LONDON STOCK PRICES REFLECT WAR NEWS

LONDON FINANCIAL TIMES INDUSTRIAL AVERAGES

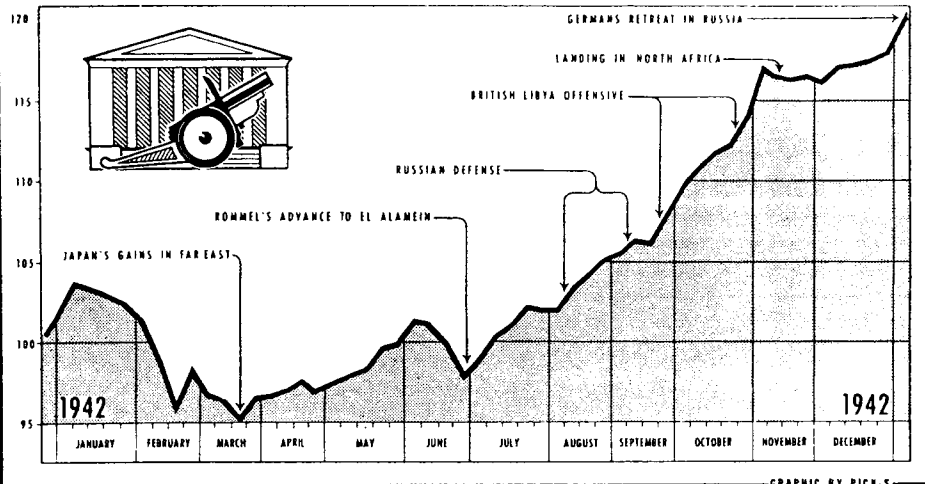


Photo courtesy of the New York Stock Exchange.

Historical Thinking in the Corporate World

by John R. Nelson

Gordon Wood in his mammoth study of the *Creation of the American Republic* closes with a chapter of "The Relevance and Irrelevance of John Adams." Wood concludes that Adams' analysis of American society was correct, hence relevant; but ignored, hence irrelevant. To today's "what-kind-of-job-will-this-course-get-me-in-the-business-world" student, history is often like Wood's Adams; perhaps correct but certainly irrelevant. The desire to be taught a marketable skill is not unprecedented. The Sophists of classic Greece kept themselves in wine and bread teaching *techné* to career-minded youth while Socrates, who taught other things, was given a full cup of hemlock even though the authorities knew that half a cup would do the job.

All this is prologue to the subject of this essay: What, if anything, does the study of history contribute to a business career?

Even in America's business society a company is guaranteed *only* access to markets and capital. How it profits or fails to profit from that access depends upon the skill of its managers and industriousness of its employees. A corporation, like other institutions, has a culture, a history, and various power centers. Its managers need to anticipate and respond to social and political changes. They also need to understand the corporation's structure to see opportunities for innovation and to influence change.

To anticipate and respond requires the ability to abstract from events and relationships, connections and structures. It demands analysis of how human beings behave in organizations, how they respond to and shape events, and how in

change there is constancy and in constancy change. In short, being successful in the business world requires skills very similar to those needed to study history.

When a student studies history, he (or she) looks at apparently unconnected events and seeks to find reasonable, logical connections. He brings order to change and discerns changes in seeming order. He recognizes the significance of the context of events as well as their

The Study of history taught me how to approach problems because it illustrated how other, generally far brighter fellows approached them.

content. He appreciates that reality is complex without surrendering understanding to such complexity. He sees similarities, but admits differences. Presumably, he also learns to write clearly and coherently about these things. Good writing is an indispensable business skill.

Studying history should make the mind's eye more acute — an acuity that is as valuable an asset as the management skills learned at business school — perhaps more so, for it is not often taught in Management 101 and thus gives an edge to the student who has studied both.

The study of history taught me how to approach problems because it illustrated how other, generally far brighter fellows approached them. It pointed up some unchanging attributes of human nature. Alexander Hamilton's assertions to his fellow conventioners that people

are bound in society by interest, affection, habit or force is no less true now than it was in 1787. Advanced management seminars in employee relations offer rather less insight than did Hamilton.

In the area I deal with — political threats to the company's marketplace — my study of history and political economy has been particularly useful. I understand the political decision-making process, how it relates to socioeconomic changes, and why it has evolved as it has. History's usefulness is by no means limited to the public affairs element of a corporation. The skills it provides are useful in a variety of areas. Several top executives in my company graduated from college with history degrees.

History can be relevant to a business career. But it is also irrelevant in that, alone, it is not enough. Corporate personnel departments will generally ignore candidates with history majors and no business training or background. Because the competition is stiff, they can do so. One needs to study economics, management or computer science and develop quantitative skills — skills I think are useful to the study of history in any case. However, the people at the top of companies, at least the ones I have met, exhibit much more than technical acumen. They have an understanding of the past which accords them insight into the future — they possess, in a word, a sense of *history*. The sense of history I acquired at graduate school still serves me well.

John Nelson is Manager of Issues and Planning at Philip Morris in New York City. His comments are reprinted courtesy of the History Department at Northern Illinois University.

Correction Please

The **University of San Diego** offers a masters program that was mistakenly left out of the new NCPH handbook, *Public History Education in America*. San Diego offers a M.A. in public history with an option in teaching and historic preservation. Internships are required. In six years the program has 35 graduates, 15 of whom are fully employed in public history careers. Courses include CORE seminars, media and history, history of film, urban architectural history, history of business, problems in environmental history and historians as detectives. For further information contact the History Dept. at the University, Alcalá Park, San Diego, CA 92110, or call Dr. Ray Brandes at (619) 260-4721. □

BULLETIN

JOBS / FELLOWSHIPS

•The National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) announces three history fellowships. Successful candidates will edit documentary histories and receive \$15,000 plus \$3,000 toward fringe benefits and other expenses. Application deadline is March 15, 1987. Contact NHPRC, Room 300, National Archives Building, Washington, DC 20408 (202) 523-3092.

•The American Military Institute is soliciting a publisher for its journal, *Military Affairs*. For details and qualification requirements, contact Dr. Richard H. Kohn, AMI Special Committee, 1058 Rocky Run Rd., McLean, VA 22102 by October 15.

•A Register of Professional Historians, maintained by the California Committee for the Promotion of History (CCPH), assists potential employers in identifying and contacting qualified historians in the state. If you would like to be listed in the register or learn more about it, contact Dennis Harris, CCPH, 1879 Toyon Drive, Healdsburg, CA 95448.

•The American Association of State and Local History is looking for a historian to administer the National Information Center for Local Government Records (NICLOG). Send resume to Gerald George, AASLH, 172 Second Ave., North, Suite 102, Nashville, TN 37201.

•The Indiana Historical Society wants an executive director for its publication division. Send resume to the society, 315 W. Ohio St., Indianapolis, IN 46202.

•Sangamon State University wants a director for its living history museum, Clayville Rural Life Center. Send resume and three letters of reference to Roy Thomas, Sangamon State, Springfield, IL 62708 (217) 786-6549.

PROGRAMS

•The sixteenth annual Institute for the Editing of Historical Documents is scheduled for June 15-26, 1987, in Madison, Wisconsin. Applicants should hold a master's degree in history or American civilization. Apply through the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), Room 300, National Archives Building, Washington, D.C. 20408 (202) 523-3092.

•The Missouri Valley History Conference, to be held March 12-14, 1987, has announced a call for papers and panel proposals to be submitted by November 1, to Professor Michael L. Tate, Program Coordinator, 1987

MVHC, Dept. of History, University of Nebraska at Omaha, Omaha, NB 68182.

•Post-doctoral scholars requiring research for publication may gain the opportunity by applying through the Rockefeller Foundation Humanities Residency Program of the Francis Clark Wood Institute for the History of Medicine using the College of Physicians of Philadelphia. Holdings of the College may be reviewed by consulting *A Catalogue of the Manuscripts and Archives of the Library of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia*. Other questions should be written and addressed to Thomas Horrocks, Curator of the Historical Collections, Library, The College of Physicians, 19 South 22nd St., Philadelphia, PA 19103. Applications should include: a curriculum vita; project description (up to 2000 words); and 3 letters of recommendation about the project. Deadline, January 15, 1987 — \$25,000 stipend for the 1987 academic year.



•The Walter P. Reuther Library of Labor and Urban Affairs has two full-time resident fellowships available to junior or senior scholars during the 1987 academic year. Applications must be received by December 1, 1986. For information and application materials, contact Philip P. Mason, Director, Walter P. Reuther Library of Labor and Urban Affairs, Wayne State University, 5401 Cass Ave., Detroit, MI 48202 (313) 577-4024.

•A "hands on" experience in the preservation of a landmark 19th century hotel is being offered to students and other interested parties October 24-26. Apply to The Chalfonte Hotel, Work Weekends, 301 Howard St., Cape May, NJ 08204.

AWARDS

•The American Studies Association has established a \$750 John Hope Franklin Publication Prize. Authors or publishers may submit books published during the 1986 calendar year for the first prize to be awarded March 1, 1987. For details, contact the Association at 307 College Hall, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA 19104 (215) 898-5408.

•The Society for History in the Federal Government recently honored two separate contributions to military history. The Henry Adams Prize for 1986 was awarded to Dr. Charles J. Gross for his "superior book-length publication," *Prelude to the Total Force: The Air National Guard, 1943-1969* (Office of Air Force History, 1985). The John Wesley Powell Award for historic preservation went to the U.S. Air Force for their efforts in restoring the Visiting Officer's Quarters at F.E. Warren Air Force Base, a project supervised by Lt. Susan Eagan.

•Claudia Lazzaro has received the 1985 Founders' Award from the Society of Architectural Historians for her article "Rustic Country House to Refined Farmhouse: The Evolution and the Migration of an Architectural Form," published in the society's *Journal*.

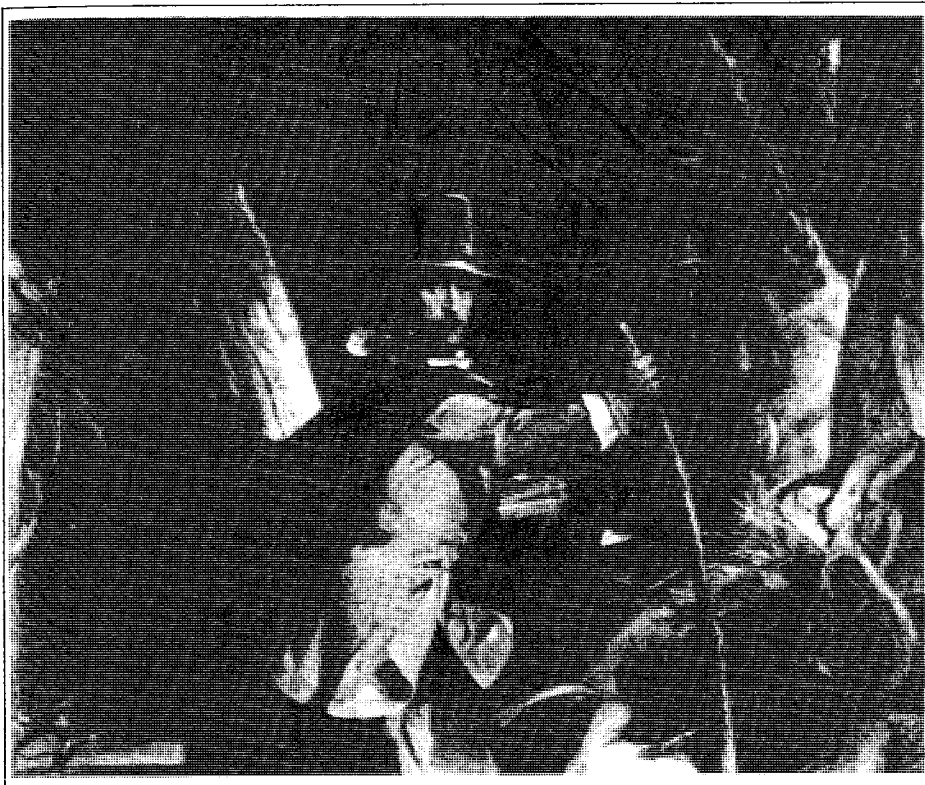
•Emory L. Kemp, professor of history at West Virginia University, received the U.S. Dept. of Transportation award for Outstanding Public Service to Transportation and Historic Preservation last spring. Kemp is a specialist in the preservation of historic engineering structures and a member of the Historic American Engineering Record Advisory Board (HAER).

•Fulbright Scholar Awards for 1987-88 include more than 300 research grants and 700 lecturing grants in over 100 countries. For more information and applications, contact the Council for International Exchange of Scholars, Eleven Dupont Circle N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036-1257 (202) 939-5401.

MEETINGS

•NCPH invites you to a luncheon at the annual meeting of the AHA at Chicago's Hyatt-Regency Hotel on December 29 at 12:15 p.m. (see Chicago Lunch, p. 3).

•NCPH and the Society For History in The Federal Government will hold a joint meeting in Washington, D.C., April 24-26, 1987. Watch for registration information in future issues of *Public History News*, or write Pat Harahan, SHFG, Box 14139, Benjamin Franklin Station, Washington, D.C. 20044.



"The Banishment of Roger Williams," by Peter Frederick Roethermel (1817-1895), is among the paintings and artifacts commemorating the 350th anniversary of Rhode Island at the state historical society. The exhibit has been extended through January 25, 1987. Contact the Rhode Island Historical Society, 110 Benevolent St., Providence, RI 02906 (401) 331-8575.

- The Oral History Association will be holding its annual meeting on the historic Queen Mary, 50 years after its maiden voyage, in Long Beach Harbor on October 23-26. An examination of the West's ethnic and cultural diversity will be highlighted by panel discussions in five separate locations in metropolitan Los Angeles. Workshops, papers and films will also be presented. Featured speakers will include Carlos Castenada, Elena Poniatowska, Gerald D. Nash and Larry Burgess. There will also be an exhibit of audio-visual equipment, personal computers and word processors to update oral historians and publishers on the latest high-tech tools. Early reservations are recommended! Shirley Stephenson is in charge of local arrangements. She may be contacted through the Oral History Program, California State University, Fullerton, CA 92634.

- The American Association of Colleges will hold its annual meeting January 15-17, at the J.W. Marriott Hotel in Washington, D.C. "New Knowledge, New Teaching" is its theme, featuring addresses by Stephen E. Toulmin and Sir Asa Briggs. Further information can be obtained by contacting the Association at 1818 R St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009 (202) 387-3760.

- The Society of Architectural Historians will hold its annual meeting April 22-26, 1987 at the Sheraton-Palace Hotel in San Francisco. Program information can be obtained by contacting the SAH office at 1700 Walnut St., suite 716, Philadelphia, PA 19103.

- "Creating Cultures: Peoples, Objects, Ideas," is the theme for an international convention of the American Studies Association and the Canadian Association for American Studies to be held next fall. In preparation for that event, a call for individual papers, sessions, workshops and panels has been issued. Deadline for receipt is January 15, 1987. For information contact the American Studies Association, 309 College Hall, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6303 (215) 898-5408.

- Proposals for a fall 1987 symposium sponsored by the Strong Museum are due October 17, 1986. The symposium will explore recreation and leisure in the U.S. between 1820 and the first World War, excluding competitive team sports. Accepted proposals will receive a \$200 honorarium, transportation costs and a per diem. For more information, contact Katherine C. Grier, The Strong Museum, One Manhattan Square, Rochester, NY 14607 (716) 263-2700.

- "Built Form and Culture Research: Purposes in Understanding Socio-culture

Aspects of Built Environment" is the title of a conference to be held November 5-8 at the University of Kansas, Lawrence. Information concerning abstracts of papers and workshop presentations is available from Marilyn Long, Division of Continuing Education, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS 66045.

- The Polish National Catholic Church will hold its 1986 conference on October 24-26, at Orchard Lake, Michigan. For further information contact Dr. Frank Renkiewicz, Director of the Center for Polish Studies and Culture, Orchard Lake Schools, Orchard Lake, MI 48033 (313) 682-1885.

- The California Committee for the Promotion of History has scheduled its sixth annual meeting October 17-19, at the Kern County Museum in Bakersfield. Teena Stern is the Program Chair and may be contacted at El Pueblo State Historical Park, 845 N. Alameda St., Los Angeles, CA 90012 (213) 680-2525.

- The American Folklore Society will meet October 22-26 in Baltimore, Maryland.

- The American Historical Association will meet December 27-30 in Chicago, Illinois.

- The Western History Association will hold its 26th annual conference October 15-18 at the Sheraton Hotel, Billings, MT.

Robert T. Smith, Eastern Montana College, is in charge of local arrangements.

- "Pooling Our Resources" is the theme of the regional conference of the San Diego Independent Scholars, October 25, 1986. Write Jean M. Mayer, SDIS, 2259 Via Tabara, La Jolla, CA 92037.

TRANSITION

- Ronald H. Spector has been appointed as the first civilian Director of Naval History at the Naval Historical Center in Washington, D.C. Spector was formerly with the U.S. Army Center of Military History, and most recently with the University of Alabama.

- Wayne D. Rasmussen, a pioneer of public history as chief of agricultural history for the USDA and past president of the Society for History in the Federal Government, is retiring after 50 years of federal service.

CANADA

- The University of Waterloo graduate program announces its two-year public history option. For scholarship and program information contact Professor Health MacDougall, Director, Public History Option, Department of History, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada. NZL 3G1 (519-885-1211, ext. 2903).

•The Canadian Historical Association and the Ontario Historical Society have both formed committees to study public history in Canada and bring practitioners together. Watch for results of these studies in future issues of *Public History News*.

NOTES

•The National Inventory of Documentary Sources in the United States (NIDS) is a project underway by Chadwyck-Healey, Inc. to produce "finding aids" on microfiche of many and varied research institutions from across the country. The aids have been recognized for their completeness and technical excellence. For brochures, newsletters or sample microfiche, contact W. Mark Hamilton, Chadwyck-Healey, Inc., Suite 101, 1021 Prince St., Alexandria, VA 22314.

•The Archivists Round Table of Metropolitan New York and the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference have compiled a brochure entitled "Selecting an Archivist," which outlines minimum qualifications for archivists.

•The Baltimore Public Works Museum photographic exhibit, *Images of Liberty, 100 years of the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island*, will run through the end of the year. Also, a new exhibit, *Tunneling Beneath Baltimore* is now open, showing the contrast of 19th century techniques (9 ft. per week) vs. those of the 20th century (1500 ft. per week). The museum is located in the Inner Harbor area, 701 Eastern Avenue (301) 396-5565.

•Machine Readable Records and Archives is a new course at Toronto's George Brown College, and the first of its kind in Canada. The course explains how data of archival value could be acquired, processed, described, conserved and made available to the research community.

•"New ways to examine the past" is the focus of a quarterly publication from MIT Press, *The Journal of Interdisciplinary History*. For subscription information contact MIT Press Journals, 28 Carleton St., Cambridge, MA 02142 (617) 253-2889.

•*Business Archives Newsletter*, published twice a year for the Business Archives Section of the Society of American Archivists, invites news items, personnel announcements, exhibit notices, inquiries and/or suggestions from Business archivists. Address the editor: Anne Millbrooke, United Technologies, Archive, 400 Main St., MS 124-22, East Hartford, CT 06108 (203) 565-5401.

•A century of mining history in 47 states and 10 foreign countries is documented

in the Anaconda collection recently acquired by the University of Wyoming. The collection, valued at \$10 million, will be available to researchers at the university's Heritage Center.

•David Lipscomb College has broken fresh ground in the Nashville area by offering undergraduate courses in Public History. Douglas Foster teaches history at the college, and he is excited about the opportunities presented to students by the training and experience they receive as interns.

•The National Registry for Bibliography in History, published annually in *American History: A Bibliographic Review*, solicits works in progress. For registration forms write Thomas T. Helde, Department of History, Georgetown University, Washington, DC, 20057. □

•Rogers

(continued from p. 2)

Historians, for the most part, are not as involved in historic preservation as Rogers would like them to be. He acknowledges that the law requires participation by professionally trained historians and archaeologists, and historical associations have maintained a working liaison with the program, notably the National Coordinating Committee for the Promotion of History, directed by Page Putnam Miller, (see *Public History News*, Summer, 1986). But he also believes that the history profession at large has not been very deeply involved in preservation programs. "I think that historians are by their nature interested in documents and ideas, movements and events, more than they are in places. Maybe it has something to do with our training," Rogers says, "but the vast majority of historians are a good deal less interested in places and tangible things than they are in information they derive from documents.

"The whole thing is very much a citizens' movement in that ultimately the people have to volunteer their time," says Rogers, adding that "historians are normally very busy people, working on their own research and writing projects well into the night — so they're not the kind of people who are always looking for volunteer projects."

Asked about goals for the future of historic preservation, Rogers said he would like state historic preservation officers to be delegated full authority for functions they can now only recommend, such as listing properties in the *National Register* instead of only

SHA Goes Public

For the first time, the Southern Historical Association will feature a number of public history-related panels at its annual meeting (November 12-15, 1986, Charlotte, NC). Panels include "Finding the History in Historical Archaeology," "Corporate History: The Role of Litigation Research," "The Historical Profession and Government Records." The SHA is making an effort to broaden its focus and to encourage the participation of public historians. Anyone interested in membership information should contact Patricia Mooney Melvin, Department of History, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Little Rock, AR 72204.

nominating them. He would like the federal government to simply maintain an overview or quality control of state programs. And, says Rogers, "we'll be pushing very, very hard to develop more certified local governments. We see them working under the umbrella of the state historic preservation offices." Another major task is to create better coordination among federal agencies, particularly in regard to archaeology. "Federal agencies are now very uneven in their treatment of archaeological resources," according to Rogers. While some agencies have done very well, others have caused great harm to important archaeological resources. It is a very complex problem that needs improvement.

The current challenge, says Rogers, is to keep the field exciting and dynamic. Over-bureaucratization must be avoided in order to maintain the creative edge. Rogers measures the success of the National Historic Preservation Act by how many times he sees the program referred to in the popular literature and media.

"In the past five years I have grown accustomed to seeing historic preservation not just written about in a handful of journals," Rogers said, "but in newspapers all the time, in real estate papers and news pages. I have seen it on network television news. I have seen it on television situation comedies, including *Barney Miller*. I have seen it in the comic strips in *The Washington Post*. It's when I see it in places like that that I know we really have captured the public's imagination." □

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Teaching Public History

NCPH Publishes Curriculum Guide

by Michael G. Wade

By now, many NCPH members have copies of *Public History Education in America: A Guide*. This 53 page publication, the work of last year's Committee on Curriculum and Training, lists those colleges and universities which have, or plan to have, courses and/or programs in public history. To make the guide more useful, it has been indexed by field.

In response to a significant number of requests for a comprehensive publication on professional development opportunities for historians, the Committee on Curriculum and Training this year will devote its efforts to compiling a directory of advanced education possibilities for public historians. While the Committee has yet to define the exact scope and format of the guide, it might well be divided by the different sectors of our profession, e.g., preservation and cultural resources management, historical administration, museums, etc. Forms of education to be listed might include workshops, seminars and special courses offered by both academic and

non-academic institutions and organizations. Individual entries will contain the usual vital information, i.e., description, time, place, duration, cost, eligibility, deadlines, etc. To develop this information, we will be querying historical and related organizations about their educational programs in the coming months. The Committee has been asked to compile this information by the time of our annual meeting next April.

In order to produce the best possible guide in the time allotted, the Committee earnestly solicits your input. Please send us your suggestions as to persons and organizations to consult, programs and courses that you are aware of, types of information you might like to see included and, in general, any knowledge that you feel might be of use to this project — old brochures, flyers, newspaper clippings — whatever. Your help will be sincerely appreciated. Send contributions to NCPH Curriculum and Training Committee, c/o Michael G. Wade, Department of History, Appalachian State University, Boone, NC 28608. □

•Chicago

(continued from p. 3)

will be your only reminder. If you have questions, please call me at (304) 292-2421. See you in Chicago!

Renewals for institutional sponsorships are in the mail, as are invitations to all departments listed in *Public History Education in America: A Guide* to join us as institutional sponsors. The "premiums" for renewal this year are the wall chart showing careers for graduates in history and a discount price of \$19.95 for *The Craft of Public History*. New institutional sponsors get all the above, plus two copies of *Public History*

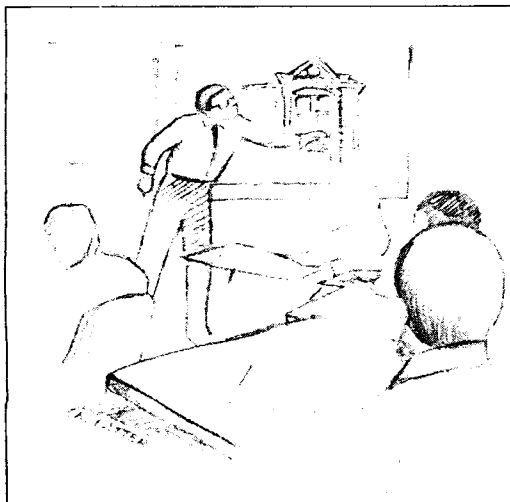
Education. Now that we sound like public broadcasting stations, let's work to keep those renewals and new subscriptions coming! We are also targeting federal history offices for institutional sponsorships this year in preparation for the annual meeting next April that will be held in conjunction with the Society for History in the Federal Government. If you work for a federal agency that does not soon get a membership solicitation, please contact me and we'll send out the paperwork to sign you up. □

Malpractice Are Historians Liable?

by Shelley Bookspan

Promulgating standards of practice for consulting historians promises the numerous benefits of professionalization: the basis for establishing quality assurance mechanisms; legitimacy in the eyes of clients; and public claim to the title, "historian." Here in Santa Barbara County, a grateful Resource Management Department has mandated that only historians qualified for professional registration with the California Committee for the Promotion of History write the appropriate sections of local environmental impact reports. This helps to insure that the county receives a professional assessment of historic resource significance and, of course, provides work for trained consulting historians. While such professionalization benefits both the public and the historians, the flip side of standards codification is accountability and the accompanying possibility of malpractice suits.

Malpractice, or the violation of standards of practice, can only be proved in a court of law if there exists some agreement or code among identifiable professionals as to what is appropriate practice. An attorney has suggested that historians are unlikely to be sued because, for the most part, we offer opinions. To the extent, however, that we offer "facts," and those facts may be inaccurate, we may have some malpractice liability. Our firm investigated obtaining "errors and omissions" insurance, only to find that, to date, insurance companies seem to have no suitable category in which to place the history business. Without the "deep pocket" of malpractice insurance, we are gambling that we are safe from this side effect of professionalization. □



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•Humanities

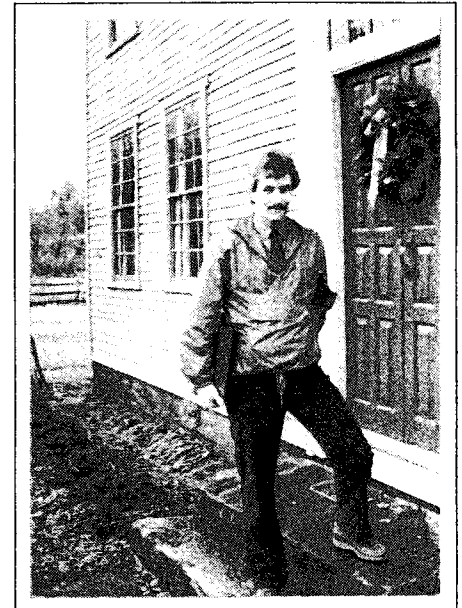
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tending their meetings to get a clearer sense of process and problems and touring the districts themselves. Based on his extensive field work, Devlin drafted a comprehensive guide to the preservation process for local commissioners, elected officials, land-use planners and district residents.

Devlin's *Handbook for Connecticut District and Historical Properties Commissioners* is a significant state council contribution to the literature of historic preservation. As Peter Hall of the Yale School of Organization and Management noted in reviewing the Devlin residency, "[Here is] a broadly-informed intelligence brought to bear directly on the definition, formulation and implementation of public policy . . . Connecticut's Historic District Commissioners are to be envied. There can be no doubting the enduring impact that this study will have on their work."

The Devlin handbook provides one illustration of a place where the needs of public historians and the products of the state councils nicely intersect. Other examples abound. For additional information on the many other state council-supported historical residencies, contact Douglas Foard, Division of State Pro-

grams, National Endowment for the Humanities, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20506 (202) 786-0254. For further information on the Devlin handbook itself (scheduled for publication in late fall), contact Dawn Maddox, Connecticut Historical Commission, 59 South Prospect Street, Hartford, CT 06106 (203) 566-3005. □



William Devlin at Glebe House in Woodbury, Connecticut.

•Agresto

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U.S. Archivist. Sixteen organizations, including the American Historical Association, the Organization of American Historians, the Society of American Archivists, and the American Library Association have opposed the nomination. Of particular concern is Agresto's limited administrative experience, his lack of national distinction in his field of political science, the fact that he is steeped in neither archives, records management, information technology, nor historical research, and finally that his nomination appears to be based primarily on his relationship with the Administration.

Senator Durenberger (R-MN) noted that he had received a large stack of mail opposing the nomination and not one letter in support, and that all of the professional associations of all of the major user groups of the National Archives have opposed Agresto while no organization has supported him. Senator Levin (D-MI) quoted Agresto as saying, after special legislation was passed to require NEH to comply with the EEOC, "We will abide by the law if we must." Levin expressed grave concern over

Agresto's efforts to avoid compliance and his attitude toward abiding by the law.

In what could only be described as a controversial hearing, Gerald George, of the American Association of State and Local History, stated that "Agresto was less well qualified for the archivist job than any current state archivist." Professor Mary Berry, a former vice-president of the AHA, said Agresto "has demonstrated a disregard for the law in order to accommodate his personally held views." She concluded that he "is the antithesis of the type of non-partisan professional leader of national stature whom Congress intended to head this independent agency and lead it into the twenty-first century."

FY '87 Appropriations —

National Archives & NHPRC: After an across-the-board 9.7% cut for the National Archives and a number of other programs, the House voted approximately \$95 million for the National Archives. This includes \$4 million in grant funds for the National Historic Publications and Records Commission but means a \$2 million reduction in operating expenses since the current

budget is \$97 million. The Senate voted \$100.3 million, also allowing \$4 million for the NHPRC. The final operating budget will probably be determined by either a Conference Committee or a continuing resolution. Unfortunately for the National Archives, past continuing resolutions have frequently adopted the lower amount of the House and Senate figures.

NEH: The House of Representatives has voted \$138 million for the National Endowment for the Humanities, the same amount as last year. Although the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings cuts reduced the budget to \$132 million. The Senate voted \$136.7 million. The amounts will be reconciled by a Conference Committee or a continuing resolution.

Historic Preservation: The State Historic Preservation Fund, targeted for zero funding by the Administration, has received support in Congress. The House voted \$20 million for the states and \$4.2 million for the National Trust, and \$1.5 million for the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. The pending amounts in the Senate are close to House figures. □

HISTORIANS MARCH

Join us in Washington D.C. for the joint meeting of the National Council on Public History and the Society For History in the Federal Government, April 24-26, 1987. For registration information contact the NCPH Secretariat, History Department, West Virginia University, WV 26506 (304) 293-2421.



•Act

(continued from p. 1)

could only succeed through the interest, cooperation, and dedication of many partners. All federal agencies have responsibility for considering cultural resources. The Advisory Council comments on federal actions that may affect historic properties and negotiates agreements to protect or document these properties. State historic preservation officers in 57 territories, states, and the District of Columbia, staffed by professionals in appropriate disciplines, administer the preservation programs in their jurisdictions. Over 200 certified local governments are now authorized to conduct certain preservation activities on behalf of their state offices. The National Trust for Historic Preservation receives federal grants to inform and assist the preservation community. Preservation Action, a lobbying organization founded in 1974, keeps the movement alive in Congress. Many professional organizations such as the National Council on Public History and the Organization of American Historians have committees on preservation.

In 20 years the National Register has grown from the initial 868 landmarks and historic units in the national parks to approximately 45,500 listings that include over 700,000 resources. About 56% of these properties are locally significant, and 32% possess significance to their states; approximately 70% are privately owned. State inventories include another four million resources, compiled largely through the use of National Register criteria for significance and integrity.

Preservation has come a long way in two decades, but challenges remain. The size of state inventories indicates the potential number of historic properties not yet listed in the National Register. Moreover, listing alone does not guarantee that a property will be preserved. Despite their best efforts to identify and provide for significant resources in a timely manner, preservationists still find themselves too often reacting to threats to historic resources. Most of all, there is still an enormous need to increase coordination among preservation professionals, to enlist more support and participation of professionals in related fields such as history, and to provide information to the general public. □

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