

# Boston: Its History

By Rosanne Currarino, Susan Keats,  
Joanne Madden, Kevin McCarthy,  
J. Charles Swift, Perry Tapper,  
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As Boston bids farewell to the Executive Secretariat of the National Council on Public History, it is clear to us that NCPH is the ideal networking organization to restore history's position as an educator of the public at large. After three years of receiving and answering correspondence, attending conferences and observing the field from our close proximity however, it is also apparent that more work must be done to bridge the gaps within the historical community itself, and between the community and the general public.

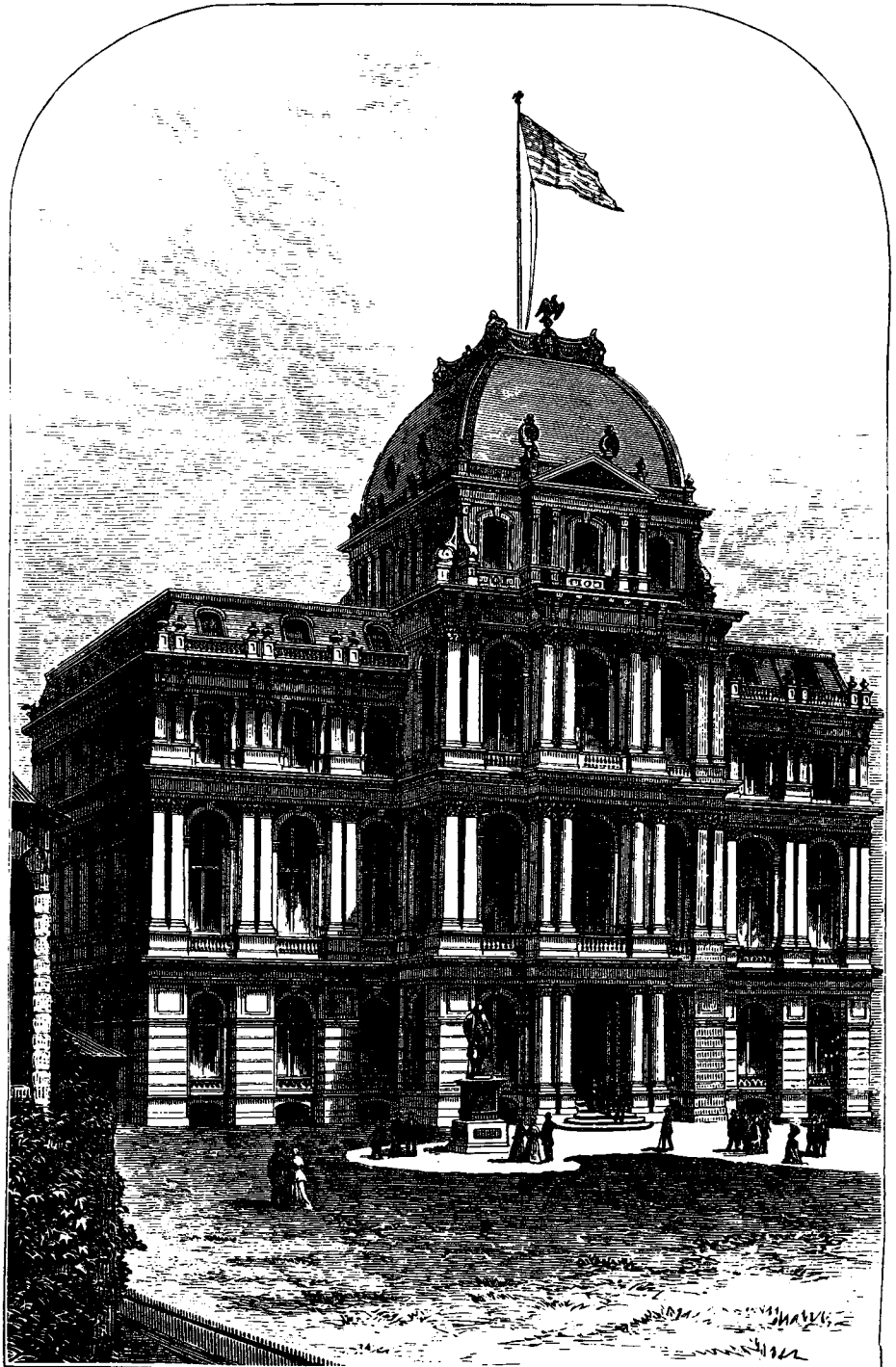
The field of public history has encouraged the closing of such gaps. In it, historians comfortably move in and out of the fields of history and banking, history and art, history and politics, history and law, and history and historical administration. Archivists working on public projects and in construction are delving into historical documents which may hold a clue about the structure of a building.

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David Kyvig, Chair  
Brit Allan Storey, Vice-chair  
Ted Karamanski, Past-chair  
Diane Britton, Secretary-treasurer  
Susan Keats, Acting Exec. Secretary



*The Old Boston City Hall, dedicated 1865.*

## Professional Conditions for Academic Public/Applied Historians

By Jeffrey P. Brown  
New Mexico State University

During the summer of 1987, I conducted a survey of professional working conditions for individuals in academic public/applied history programs. Forty-one individuals responded, and offered their comments for publication. I asked some additional questions in a follow-up survey during the fall and winter. The results offer a good picture of working conditions for academic public historians in 1988, and allow some projections for the future.

Of my 41 responders, 35 were involved in graduate level programs, seven of which offered minor Ph.D. fields in public history. Of these individuals, 33 noted that their programs included an introductory public history seminar, and 26 of them stated that the seminar was held annually. Responders cited many additional courses offered through their departments, including Archives (27), Historical Preservation (18), Historical Museums (16), Oral History (15), Historical Editing (10), Local History (9), Material Culture (6), and such additional courses as Quantitative Methods and Historical Architecture. Only two history departments offered Policy Analysis, and two more offered Business Policy Analysis courses. Thirteen responders stated that their courses were offered each year; another fourteen said that the courses were offered every two or three years.

In many cases, other departments offered courses used by public history majors, including Architecture (11), Preservation (9), Government Planning (8), Museum Administration (6), Historic Archeology (5), Records Management (4), Cultural Resource Management (2), and Folklife (2).

More than 90% of the responders included internships within their programs. Of the 38 who offered internships, 14 noted that supervision of internships was counted as part of their teaching load, and 22 stated that internship oversight came as an extra duty.

Most responders reported that they also taught freshman history survey courses and upper level courses. These individuals averaged 1.15 survey courses per semester, and 1.25 upper division history courses. The course loads varied, with 11% of responders typically carrying a 12-unit load, 33% a 9-unit load, 39% a 6-unit load, and the remainder various smaller loads. Only one person noted that a reduced spring load was for public history administrative purposes, while another received a 10% summer salary increment to cover summer administrative time. However, 24 stated that they received release time of some sort.

I asked whether history departments had more than one faculty member participating in the public history program. The individuals who answered reported a wide range of participation. While 11 reported that they were the only faculty members in their program, 12 worked with one additional faculty participant, 8 had two colleagues in their programs, and 10 had three to six additional participants. While 19 stated that their departments would be adding an additional faculty member in the near future, 20 stated that their departments had no such plans. Several indicated that they would have to win departmental battles to gain additional faculty support.

Almost all of my faculty responders noted that they served on traditional committees at their institutions, and half said that they served as advisors to student groups. Thirty-seven received secretarial help, although three noted that the help was "minimal." Typically, this assistance involved 20 hours per week. A little more than half of the responders also had a graduate assistant, although only seven noted that they received more graduate assistance than their traditional colleagues. While 39 of the public historians received travel money for conferences, and 32 received in-state travel money, only 30% said that they received more help than traditional colleagues, and several noted that travel funds were "barebones" or "more but never enough." Responders usually supervised traditional M.A. students, served on M.A.

or Ph.D. committees, and played an important role in student recruitment.

I received a wide range of responses when I asked about departmental and/or non-departmental oversight committees for public history programs. The majority of responders had no such committees, while those that did reported that the committees served curricular, advisory, internship, or ceremonial roles.

Perhaps the most important question involved pay, tenure and promotion. Some 24 responders stated that their public history activities would count towards these matters, while eight said that public history did not count. Many added such comments as "I guess it counts," "we count but not in a major way," "counts if printed, but not media work," and "no clear guidelines."

I also asked about raises and administrative rotation. Twenty responders received average raises, and 16 got above average raises. Several of the latter stated that they had received low entry salaries, so that their raises were catch-up pay. While nine said that their public history directorship would rotate, 30 said that it would not.

My responders included 18 full professors, 10 associate professors (three untenured), and seven assistant professors, as well as several with other ranks or duties. About half said that their public history duties would have no impact upon tenure or promotions, but eight said that the time and energy spent upon public history would hurt their tenure efforts, and 13 said that public history activities would help them get tenure. Almost all of responders said that traditional research was a very important part of their careers, and 32 noted that they could combine public history projects with their other research goals, through such routes as contract histories leading to publications (4), public issue research (3), business history (2), and case research sabbaticals (3). Two said that they combined public history and traditional research through "hard work."

Most responders were active members of the National Council on Public History, worked within organizations as public historians, and did various forms of consulting work within their communities.

While each program was different, some broad patterns emerged from this survey. Most academic public historians worked with at least one faculty colleague in an M.A.-level program and offered both an introductory public history seminar and

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# What is a Public Historian?

By Susan E. Keats

Recently, *Public History News* surveyed public historians for information about their fields of interest, professional memberships, levels of education, and future interest in our quarterly journal, *The Public Historian*. With a 2% response, we offer the following for your review.

The geographic distribution is scattered throughout the United States, with the exception of four responses from Canada. Thirteen responders hold doctoral degrees; eight hold masters level degrees; one has an MLS; and one holds a bachelor's level degree. Two have also done ABD level work.

In response to describing a field of work, six are involved in the government sector, eight are employed by educational institutions, and eight responders are self-employed. Three of the self-employed work in the corporate area as well. One responder did not give employment affiliation.

Of the responders with Ph.D.'s, seven are employed by educational institutions, four are self-employed, and three work for a government agency. Of the responders with master's degrees, four are self-employed, three work for a government agency.

Most responders belong to more than one organization. The average number of memberships appears to be three. The number of memberships for each organization is: OAH (12), AHA (9), AASLH

(9), SAA (5), SHA (4), SHFG (4), WHA (4), National Trust (5), OHA (2), AAM (2), SOHA (1), MARHO (0). Responders added other organizations to our list: Canadian Historical Society (3), CCPH (1), ARMA (1), SHEAR (1), Hist. of Science Society (1), Historians Film Committee (1), Business History Conference (1), Society of Ohio Archivists (1), Midwest Archivist Conference (1), Manitoba Historical Society (1), Ontario Historical Society (1), Peace Research (1).

Membership breakdown according to employment shows that those responders who are self-employed belong to the most organizations, averaging about 4 each. Those employed by educational institutions average about 3 memberships each, while those employed in government work average about 2 memberships each.

It appears that those responders who are self-employed are not restricted to one area of expertise, that is; the majority of self-employed responders work in many areas of the history field. When asked which areas of public history most directly relate to their work, self-employed responders listed several areas, such as archives, oral history, editing, and corporate history. The two areas *not* listed by self-employed responders are media and curriculum and education. The common disciplines appear to be archives and oral history. An addition to this area was records management.

Responders listing educational institutions as their employment have listed all areas as directly relating to their work. It

appears that most responders from educational institutions are involved in public history programs.

Most responders from the government sector are involved with historical administration, followed closely by archives interests, and next by curriculum and education. The areas *not* listed by responders from government agencies are archeology and corporate history. Additions to this list included litigation, land claims and nature history and methodology.

Responders work in the following areas of public history: archives (11), curriculum and education (9), oral history (7), editing (7), historical administration (6), historic preservation (6), media (5), military history (4), museums (4), corporate history (3), site interpretation (3), litigation (2), archeology (1), CRM consulting (1), records management (1), methodology (1), public policy (1), research and writing (1), and land claims (1).

Overall, it appears that most responders are satisfied with the articles in both *The Public Historian* and *Public History News*, but would like more articles on oral history methods, historical consulting, Canadian history, industrial and engineering site preservation, litigation research and testimony, CRM and historic preservation, and theory and practice of public history.

We are pleased that we represent all aspects of the history profession and that our survey reinforced our suspicions that public historians are busy and involved in many different types of disciplines and projects. Given this information, we can plan more relevant subjects for future issues of our publications and encourage more feedback from our membership. ■



## The Fourteen-Month Year Ahead

By David Kyvig, Chair

At the conclusion of the NCPH annual meeting in San Diego, the responsibilities of chairing the Council passed from a smiling Ted Karamanski to a slightly anxious David Kyvig. Ted's smiles were no doubt a function of his awareness that he no longer had to conduct the meetings, answer the calls, issue the statements, and carry out the many other tasks of the chair, but I hope the smile also reflected satisfaction in a job well done. Ted worked long and hard to increase membership, improve our organization, and represent us; we are all his beneficiaries. My anxieties as Ted turned over the chairmanship to me were simply a function of my awareness that he has set high standards for his successors.

Because our meeting was scheduled for early March this year and will be held in 1991 in Toledo, Ohio, on May 3-5, my term as chair will last fourteen months. I'm not sure who is chuckling most about this: Ted Karamanski or Brit Storey, our newly elected vice-chair who won't have to take over as chair until the end of the Toledo meeting. But my fourteen-month year will give me an expanded opportunity to discharge the chair's responsibility to further the Council's goals. I do have some ideas in this regard based on my own experience in the public history movement.

Like many other NCPH historians, I am eclectic. I am an academic teaching twentieth-century U.S. history in a traditional Ph.D.-granting history department and working in the very traditional field of constitutional history (though I hope with a non-traditional methodology and public policy focus). Previously, I worked as an archivist in the presidential libraries system of the National Archives and as director of a regional archives in Akron. I have also been active in the field of local history as coauthor or coeditor of a series of books on the methodology of nearby history. And I serve on a state humanities council which is very committed to reaching the adult out-of-school audience for the humanities. What has struck me repeatedly is the *mutually nourishing* nature of these various activities and the value to all historians of interaction among our too frequently

segregated and narrowly focused professional commitments.

I hope during the coming year to explore ways in which NCPH can build stronger, closer, more mutually beneficial relationships with groups that should be our firm allies, groups such as the Society for History in the Federal Government, the American Association for State and Local History, the Federation of State Humanities Councils, the American Historical Association, and the Organization of American Historians. Talks are already underway to explore the possibility of NCPH membership in the American Council of Learned Societies as a means of raising public history's visibility and credibility with the academic community.

The San Diego meeting gave ample evidence of the robust health of NCPH. Our membership has grown significantly and is receiving improved service from our secretariat, our newsletter, and our annual meetings. Several of our committees have worthwhile projects underway. "Public History Today," the video being made by Phil Scarpino, Daniel Walkowitz, and Gerald Herman, will soon be finished and will offer exciting possibilities for introducing public history to students and a wider audience. Our journal, *The Public Historian* is thriving in the capable hands of Otis Gra-

ham and Lindsey Reed and will be filled with interesting and useful material in the issues ahead.

There is, of course, more to be done, as Stan Hordes and the outreach committee effectively remind us. NCPH needs to give careful thought to new initiatives as well as to expanding our resources for doing what we now do, and what we might choose to do in the future. Therefore, I intend to establish committees on long-range planning and financial development to begin to grapple with these difficult questions. I would be pleased to hear from any members with ideas or energies to commit to these undertakings.

By the time NCPH meets in Toledo in May 1991, I trust I will be smiling as much as Ted Karamanski did in San Diego. Diane Britton and her colleagues can be counted on to host an excellent annual meeting. I will have had the experience of working with one of the most lively, creative, and dedicated groups in the historical profession. I hope that our ties with allied groups will be stronger, and our sense of our own direction and resources will be sharper. I am looking forward to the next fourteen months. ■

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## Nomination Committee Seeks Suggestions

Richard Baker, Chairman

The 1990-1991 Nomination Committee will begin preparing the 1991 ballot in August. The committee is anxious to hear from any members wishing to suggest possible officer, board of director and nominating committee candidates. Suggestions should include name, address and telephone number, brief background on the proposal candidate, and the name, address, and telephone number of the person making the suggestion. ■



## Broadening the Base for Public History

By Ted Karamanski,  
Past Chair

One year ago NCPH began its first membership campaign. Membership development had been ignored in the past because of a number of more pressing organizational issues. Fortunately the NCPH enjoyed a slow but steady increase in its membership throughout the 1980's. But as the Council prepared to start a new decade it found itself engaged in increasing amounts of advocacy and outreach activities. Attempts to build the market for historical services in cultural resource management, the legal profession, and environmental consulting were frustrated by a lack of seed money and an even more discouraging shortage of human capital. It is the latter category that is the real goal of our current membership drive.

The NCPH has been fortunate that public historians tend to be more activist and entrepreneurial than their classroom bound colleagues. With a small individual membership base, NCPH has been able to spearhead the remarkably rapid growth of the public history movement. Many of the same people who were experimenting with public history curricula were also leading the fight to make the history profession more responsive to local communities' historical needs, or helping to pioneer historical consulting firms. NCPH has been an organization built by a relatively small number of historians. To move the public history movement forward NCPH needs to broaden its base.

As NCPH grows, we should strive to maintain that part of our institutional culture which has served us so well, namely our openness to individual initiative. During our short history NCPH has attracted a large number of young historians and allowed them to become more active in a national organization long before such an opportunity would come with the older historical associations. We also have had a rather large percentage of our membership involved in committee work or other organizational functions. This has made us institutionally strong and it has promoted the vitality of the public history movement by spurring the professional development

of our membership. Let's work to continue this as we grow. NCPH is a vehicle which can fundamentally change the practice of history in America, but for those historians who wish to give of themselves, it can also be a vehicle of career development.

During the past year the Council has been able to build a membership development network in 39 states. It is anchored by individuals in each of those states who have volunteered to help identify potential members. Their hard work has already begun to payoff for the Council. Between April and December of 1989 alone, our individual membership jumped by a remarkable 19%. In this day and age of declining professional membership, that is a significant achievement and clear-cut evidence that the public history movement continues to broaden. With the assistance of our Executive Secretariat I have also tried to increase the number of institutional members. Solicitations were sent to history departments whose collegiate libraries still did not receive *The Public Historian* as well as to State Offices of Historic Preservation, whose members are not well represented within the ranks of NCPH.

Brit Storey, our new Vice-Chair, will assume the direction of the membership campaign during the coming year. Many of the ideas for this year's program were initiated by him, so I know that the campaign will continue to move forward. In the end, however, it is the individual historian who is the best recruiter for the Council. If each of you recruits a new member during 1990, NCPH's ability to represent the movement will be significantly improved.

This is my final *Public History News* column as Chair of NCPH. I am deeply grateful for the trust that you, the members of the Council, placed in me. It was a wonderful experience working with you during the past year. If I tried to acknowledge all of the assistance I benefited from this year, the credits would run longer than a Hollywood movie. But let me specifically thank Sylvia Rdzak, the Loyola History Department Administrative Assistant; Jo Madden, Susan Keats, and Gerry Herman, in the Northeastern office; Murney Gerlach and Ray Brandes, who ran the annual meeting; and the officers and board members of the NCPH. Your help made this year a success, your friendship made it rewarding. ■

### —Professional Conditions

some additional courses, especially in archives, historic preservation, or museology. They supplemented these offerings with courses offered through other departments. Most had a fairly heavy traditional teaching load, including survey and upper-division courses, in addition to their public history classes, and they supervised both internships and traditional M.A. theses. However, the majority received some form of release time. Most worked within programs that did not plan to rotate directors, and about half anticipated adding a new public history colleague in the near future. Typically, academic public historians received some consideration for their public history work in pay, tenure, and promotion issues, received slightly above average salary increases, and received a little more graduate assistance, secretarial help, and travel money than colleagues. The additional help was almost never adequate for growing programs, and public historians had to fight within departments to get this support. Public historians took on extra consulting work, worked within numerous traditional and public history organizations, and in various ways were more active than many traditional colleagues. One noted "we carry a double burden."

Most of the responders were satisfied with their programs and their personal career developments. Many expressed a strong desire for more public history colleagues, staff, and resources. While a number made such comments as "we've made incredible strides in a short time," some noted that traditional colleagues could not understand the contract responsibilities, deadlines, or client-based research in public history programs. A concluding response stated that "Running a public history program takes a lot of time and energy... I hope, for the sake of the movement, that we don't all burn out at the same time!... We are a 'mixed breed' of academics/public historians and need to recognize that — and celebrate it." ■

—Boston

Records management programs aid corporations in uncovering their history as well as separating out their important or disposable documents. Some art historians purchase works of art for organizations, individuals, and museums.

In Massachusetts this type of activity is particularly noticeable. Throughout the state, there are numerous examples of history reaching out from the university into the public sphere through the media, museums, and public works projects.

The recent discovery, for example, of the Civil War letters of the commander of the 54th Massachusetts Regiment led to the production of the Academy Award winning movie *Glory*. But historians did more than just uncover plot material. Historical consultants were hired to advise on the historical accuracy of the film and provide input that was invaluable to the finished product. Not only did this project provide the nation with a picture of the Civil War, but it also filled Bostonians with pride to see a movie production crew filming around the area and using local documents as sources.

History is found in less glamorous places as well. At the moment, historians are involved in various state construction projects including the Boston "Central Artery Project." While digging the tunnels that will become the city's main roadway, workers found sites of 17th and 18th century settlement. The Massachusetts Historical Commission has provided historians to work on the site as construction continues, interpreting laws, identifying artifacts, taking measures to preserve them and educating the public. Public historians are visible members of this and other construction projects throughout the state.

Massachusetts also offers creative programs in living history that foster ties between the history profession and the general public. Programs at the Boston Museum of Science and at the battleship *U.S.S. Massachusetts*, docked in Fall River, reach out to groups of children and adults. Overnight stays on the battleship allow individuals to experience the flavor of life on the old ship. Similar overnights in the Museum of Science include bunking down in a communication exhibit and waking to the bright lights of the history of telephones display.

The Bostonian Society's projected exhibit on Boston's now demolished West End neighborhood provides one of the

most spectacular examples of work that bridges the gaps between the academic and the public sector and those within the historical community itself. Through a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Bostonian Society has drawn together academic historians, neighborhood groups, the Boston Public Library, an oral historian, a psychologist and a sociologist to create a vibrant picture of this immigrant neighborhood. The West End Historical Association has brought former residents of the area together with the

exhibit planners. This not only allows the planners to visualize life in the neighborhood more clearly but also encourages these former residents to participate in the historical investigation of their old home. Carolyn Hughes of the Bostonian Society has nothing but enthusiastic praise for the exhibit's collaborative planning process. "It's wonderful to watch all of these [elements] interact. It makes the interpretation more complex, but much richer," she explained. "For us, it's been a wonderful process and I couldn't recommend it



*Christ Church, also known as the Old North Church, built 1723*

more."

Massachusetts has its share of colleges and universities producing historians. Coursework is offered in traditional history programs, American Studies, American Culture, Architectural Preservation, Archives, Records Management, and Historical Agencies and Administration. Students work as interns throughout the state in every aspect of history and related fields. It is clear that an interest in history is not limited to those who wish to research and/or teach in the classroom. Public his-

torians and public history programs provide an avenue to train students to use their enthusiasm in a professional and effective way. On many occasions public historians have provided fresh insights into old questions and have provided a service which broadens the historical knowledge of the public.

Traditional historians also act as resources and support groups for many who have ventured into the public field of history. At Northeastern University Professors Ruth-Ann Harris and Donald Jacobs

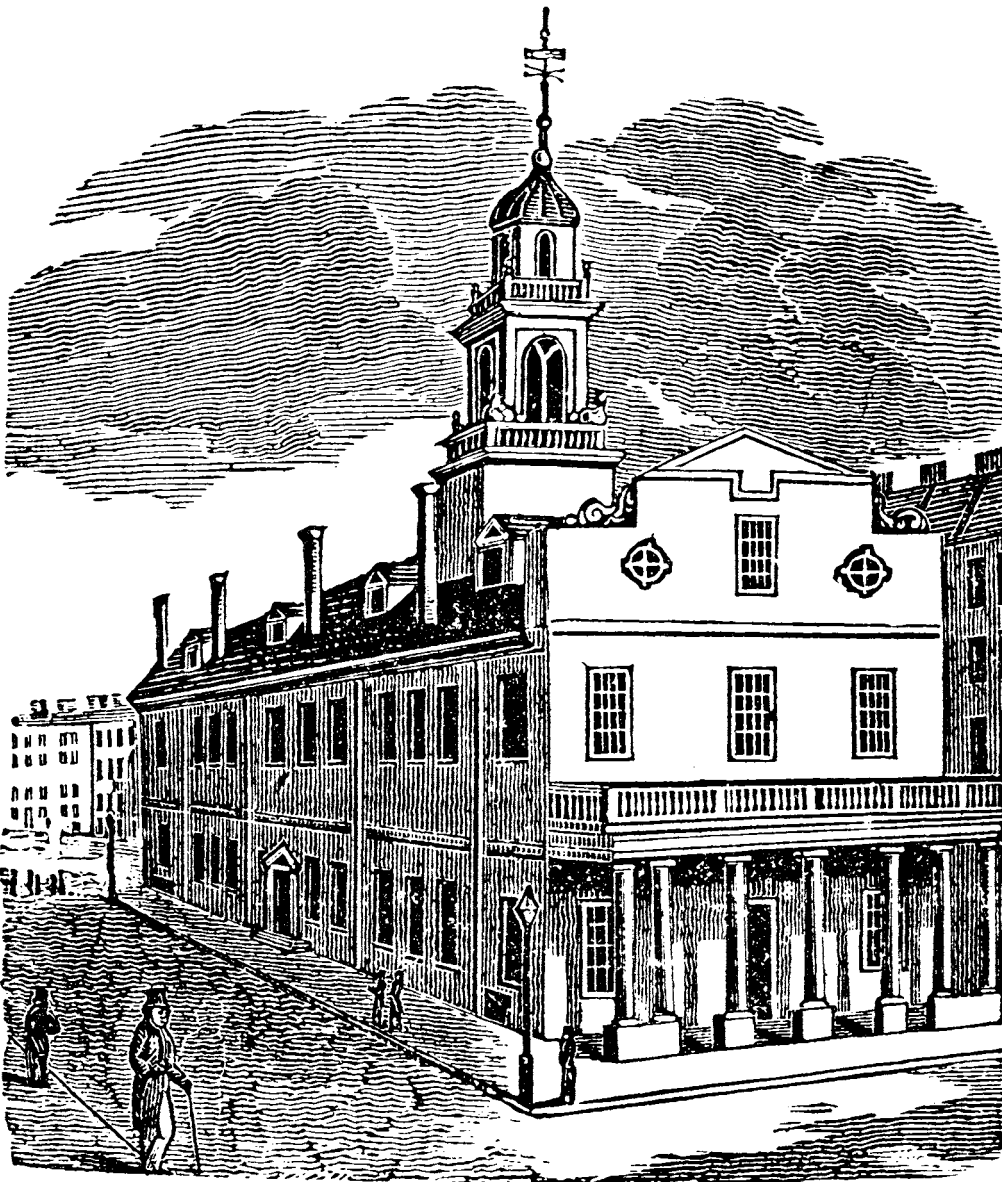
have recently published the first volume of *Missing Friends*, a joint effort of Northeastern's History Department and the New England Historic Genealogical Society. Utilizing the early nineteenth-century editions of the *Boston Pilot*, a Catholic newspaper with national circulation, the department indexed names, dates, and messages found in the paper's personals column, which ran for over fifty years. The compilation of this information will be invaluable for those researching Irish immigration to America.

Despite all the collaborative efforts, the independent historians still remain outside the mainstream of American historical practice for much of the time. There exists little sense of community between themselves and their teaching oriented counterparts. Although independent historians may want to share their scholarship with the historical community, they are hampered by the administrative demands of their jobs and lack time and resources necessary to publish their findings. Some historians still believe that history is the province of those holding doctoral degrees, and therefore, many contributions of independent historians are ignored. There is a need to bridge the gap between the academic tradition of history and the public field of history.

Public historians must accept their responsibility as full-fledged members of the historical community. This means keeping abreast of new research in their academic specialization as well as contributing to this scholarship themselves. It may involve the opening up of traditional historical organizations and the development of new forums for the views of public historians.

For their part, academic historians need to recognize the contributions of their colleagues in the public history field. History is taught through textbooks and lectures as well as mediums that reach a larger audience. By broadening the activities of academic and public historians, both groups will benefit, and the gulf between them will narrow.

Great feats have been accomplished in the public history field in Massachusetts, and there is much to show for the work that has been done. Although Boston has its origins in the seventeenth century, we still find that the history field is alive and well and charging along into the twenty-first century. ■



Old State House, built 1711

# BULLETIN

Edited by Rosanne Currarino,  
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## • MEETINGS & CALLS FOR PAPERS

The National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators (NAGARA) will hold its annual meeting in Boston, *July 25 - July 28, 1990*. The theme for the meeting will be "Records in the Age of Technology." For more information call Jeff Jagnow: (606)231-1878 or Ken Rogers: (606)231-1869.

The Philadelphia Convention and Visitors Bureau announces its yearlong celebration, "Benjamin Franklin 1990." More than 130 organizations will participate in special events, exhibits, and theme weekends. For information contact: Philadelphia Convention and Visitors Bureau, 1515 Market St., Suite 2020, Philadelphia, PA 19102; 1- (800) 321-9563.

The Society For Industrial Archeology will hold a national conference *May 31-June 3, 1990*. For information contact: Jane Mork Gibson, 32 Rex Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19118.

The Department of History at Loyola University is sponsoring a symposium in 1992, "Agents of Change: The Jesuits and Encounters of Two Worlds", to commemorate the Columbian Quincentennial. Contact: Department of History, Loyola University of Chicago, 6525 North Sheridan Road, Chicago, IL 60626.

The Fort Union Fur Trade Symposium will be held *September 13-15, 1990* in Williston, North Dakota. For information contact: Paul L. Hedren, Superintendent, Fort Union Trading Post NHS, Buford Route, Williston, ND 58801.

The Museum of Our National Heritage announces a new permanent exhibit, "Let It Begin Here: Lexington and the Revolution." The exhibit opens *March 25*. For information call: (617) 861-6559.

SEC Inc. seeks prospective seasonal and permanent employees for a variety of natural resource management projects. Contact: Ray Wrobley, SEC Inc., Rojo Vista Building, P.O. Box 1471, 20 Stutz Bearcat Dr., Sedona, AZ, 86336.

The Review of Progress in Quantitative Nondestructive Evaluation will be held at the University of California, San Diego *July 15-20*. The Review will discuss the newest results and trends in NDE and

related topics. For more information, contact: Diane Miller, Center for NDE, Iowa State University, Applied Sciences Complex II, 1915 Scoll Road, Ames Iowa 500011.

The Society of American Archivists announces its 1990 awards competition to recognize archival achievements of 1989. For more information contact: Valerie G. Browne, Loyola University of Chicago Archives, Cudahy Library #219, 6525 N. Sheridan Road, Chicago, IL 60626; (312) 508-2660.

The Strong Museum announces a two-week celebration which explores the place that glass holds in our lives. "Our Strong Heritage, America Under Glass" opens *April 17, 1990*. For information contact: Michelle Micka, Public Info Coordinator; (716) 263-2700 x273.

The New England Association of Oral History will hold its annual meeting *May 12, 1990*. The program, "New England Voices: North and West" will include presentations and workshops. For information contact: Fred Calabretta, Oral History Division, Mystic Seaport Museum, Mystic, CT 06355; (203) 572-0711.

The Fulcrum American Writing Award will focus on Western history and historical biography. Entries must be unpublished and should provide new interpretation of historical events or personalities. Deadline: *September 30, 1990*. For information send SASE to: Fulcrum Publishing, 350 Indiana St., Suite 510, Golden, Colorado 80401.

The University of Virginia will sponsor a three day conference "Restoration of Neoclassical Richmond." Fees should be received by *April 20, 1990*. To register contact: Restoration of Neoclassical Richmond, University of Virginia, Division of Continuing Education, 104 Midmont Lane, P.O. Box 33697, Charlottesville, VA 22903

The New York State Archives and Records Administration issues the "Basic Elements of Historical Records Programs," an eight-page brochure. Contact: SARA, 10A46 Cultural Education Center, Albany, NY 12230.

The Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society will hold its thirteenth annual conference *May 3-5, 1990* in Washington, DC. For more information contact: AAHGS, P.O. Box 73086, Washington, DC 20056-3086.

## • EDUCATION AND TRAINING

The Council for International Exchange of Scholars is offering 12 long-

term and 9 short-term awards for 1991-92 research in India. The application deadline is *June 15, 1990*. For information contact: Council for International Exchange of Scholars, Attn: Indo-American Fellowship Program, 3400 International Drive, Suite M-500, Washington, DC 20008-3097; (202) 686-4013.

The National Endowment for the Humanities Division of Fellowships and Seminars is offering Younger Scholar Awards. Secondary students and those below the level of college senior may apply. Deadline for the 1991 awards is *Nov. 1, 1990*. Contact: Younger Scholars Guidelines, Rm. 316, Division of Fellowships and Seminars, National Endowment for the Humanities, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW; Washington, DC 20506; (202) 786-0463.

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission is offering two fellowships in archival administration. Deadline: *September 1, 1990*. Interested applicants contact: Laurie A. Baty, NHPRC, National Archives Building, Washington, DC 20408; (202) 523-5386.

The Old Sturbridge Village announces its second annual Research Fellowship. The 6 - 8 week award, which carries a \$2,500 stipend, will go to a scholar working in the social history and material culture of rural New England from 1790 to 1850. Deadline: *July 1, 1990*. Contact: Dr. John Worell, Director of Research, Old Sturbridge, MA 01566.

The National Historical Publications and Record Commission recommends 34 grants totalling \$1,217,339. The commission recently issued updated guidelines and application forms. These must be used beginning *June 1, 1990*. Contact: Records Program or Publications Program, NHPRC - NPR, National Archives Building, Washington, DC, 20408; (202) 523-5386.

The National Endowment for the Humanities will offer reference material awards to support projects that organize resources for scholarship. Deadline for application is *September 1, 1990*. For more information contact: Reference Materials, Rm. 318, NEH, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20506.

The National Endowment for the Humanities announces fellowships for collaborative or multi-year projects through the Interpretive Research Program. The deadline is *October 15, 1990* for projects beginning no earlier than June of the next year. For application and information write or call: Interpretive Research Program, Rm. 318; Division of Research Programs; 1100 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington DC 20506; (202) 786-0210.



## • AWARDS, NOTES & TRANSITIONS

The UCLA Department of Special Collections and Oral History Program announces that all interview transcripts in the Oral History Collection are cataloged and are accessible through OCLC, ORION, and MELVYL. For information contact: Jennifer Abramson, UCLA Oral History Program, 136 Powell Library Bldg., Los Angeles, CA 90024-1575.

The Athenaeum of Philadelphia announces the acquisition of the archive of architect Paul Philippe Cret (1876-1945).

The Athenaeum of Philadelphia has received a \$100,000 grant from the Gladys Brooks Foundation to complete a \$500,000 endowment for The Athenaeum's curator of architecture. Bruce Laverty has been appointed the first Brooks Curator of Architecture.

History Associates Incorporated will write an intellectual and technical history of the National Science Foundation. Dian O. Belanger will explore the foundations of its history.

The Virginia Department of Historical Resources announces the publication of its newsletter *Footnotes*. The newsletter will discuss current preservation work.

The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission and the Brandywine Battlefield Commission announce the appointment of Dr. Dennis K. McDaniel as Historic Site Administrator.

The New York State Archives and Records Commission's publication *For the Record* is available free of charge to State Agencies, local governments, and historical records and research programs. Contact:

New York State Archives and Records Administration, State Education Dept., 10D45 Cultural Education Center, Albany, New York 12230; (518) 474-1195.

The Pennsylvania Heritage Magazine will accept advertising. Cost and information are available by contacting: Pennsylvania Heritage Magazine, Advertising, Box 11026, Harrisburg, PA 17108-1026; (717) 787-3362.

The New York State Archives and Records Administration has added the following staff: David W. Palmquist, Barbara Geller, Karen Gibson, Steve Golas, Mark Waldman, Jeff Benson, Nanci Young, and Veronica Cunningham.

Los Angeles County, California has received a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission to prepare a guide to the County's historical records.

The National Endowment for the Humanities announces the availability of Fellowships for 1991-92. Awards include stipends for summer study and travel to collections and support for six to twelve months of full-time study. For further information contact: Division of Fellowships and Seminars, Room 316, National Endowment for the Humanities, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20506.

Major portions of the Edmund S. Muskie Archives at Bates College in Lewiston, Maine are now open for research. For more information contact: The Edmund S. Muskie Archives, Bates College, Lewiston, Maine 04240.

Black Regiment Papers from the Revolutionary War have recently been restored and a microfilm copy given to the Rhode Island Black Heritage Society for their per-

manent collection.

History Associates Incorporated of Rockville, Maryland has received a \$133,000 contract from the National Science Foundation to write a history of the NSF's involvement in engineering research.

National Historical Publications and Records formally endorsed the staff report, "Electronic Record Issues", which explores the issues and problems concerning electronic recordkeeping, at its February 1990 meeting. Copies of the report may be obtained by writing: The Records Program, NHPRC, National Archives and Records Administration-NPR, Washington, DC 20408, (202) 501-5610.

The National Space Club announces Mr. Craig B. Waff co-winner of the 1989 Robert H. Goddard Historical Essay for his work "Planetary Exploration at the Brink: The Administration Debate over the FY 1983 NASA Budget".

The Pennsylvania Humanities Council has designed an educational exhibit that will explore the Bill of Rights—its history, its implementation, and its importance to the way Americans live their lives. The poster exhibit will be offered both mounted and unmounted. For information call: Sandra Choukroun at (215) 925-1005.

History Associates Incorporated announces Mr. Richard G. Hewlett and Mr. Jack M. Holl winners of the OAS 1990 Richard W. Leopold Prize and the Society of History's 1990 Henry Adams Prize for their book, *Atoms for Peace and War, 1953-1961: Eisenhower and the Atomic Energy Commission*.

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission announces the 34th Annual Institute of Pennsylvania Rural Life and Culture at the Landis Valley Museum. This institute for learning about 18th and 19th Century craftsmen's skills takes place June 25 through 29, 1990. For more information write: Landis Valley Museum, Institute of PA Rural Life and Culture, 2451 Kissel Hill Rd., Lancaster, PA 17601, or call Ann E. Vail: (717) 569-0401.

History Associates Inc. announces Dian Olson Belanger winner of the Wildlife Society's 1990 Wildlife Publication Award for her work, *Managing American Wildlife: A History of the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies*. ■



# WASHINGTON UPDATE



By Page Putnam Miller

**National Archives and Records Administration** is planning for Archives II, a new archival facility, and promoting adequate appropriations to enable the National Archives to fulfill its mission of acquiring, appraising, describing, and servicing the records of the federal government. The National Archives is operating under the strain of inadequate resources with fewer fulltime employees now than they had in 1981.

**Funding for the National Historical Publications and Records Commission's Grant Program.** For the past nine years the Administration has requested zero funding for the NHPRC's grants program. This could change; however, supporters of the NHPRC must carefully monitor the situation and be ready to act if needed. In 1990 the NHPRC will be conducting a search for a new Executive Director.

**National Endowment for the Humanities.** In 1990, reauthorization legislation for NEA and NEH expires. In the past, the five-year reauthorization bill has served as a time of major review of the programs. However, there is talk of a temporary one-year extension. As a result of the bitter controversy in 1989 over NEA grants for what some considered obscene art, the FY'90 appropriations legislation called for an independent commission to review the granting process. The delay of the five-year reauthorization would give the commission time to complete its work. To date, however, Congressional and public criticism have been directed at the arts and not the humanities.

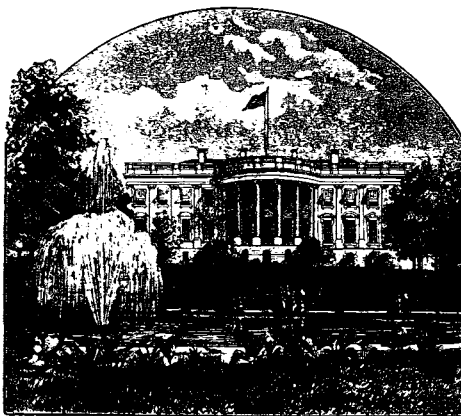
**Freedom of Information Act.** Scholars continue to face severe obstacles in using the FOIA. Of specific concern is the State Department's policy of constructing formidable hurdles for academic scholars requesting a fee waiver under the educational provision. Broad oversight hearings may be expected in 1990.

**Declassification of Thirty-Year-Old Government Documents.** There is a pressing need for a federal policy of systematic declassification of thirty-year-old govern-

ment information based on the principle of openness with restrictions only when there is a demonstration of substantial necessity. The Executive Order 12356 on classification and declassification policies issued in 1982 by President Reagan has no timetable for declassification. The result has been that a large percentage of thirty-year-old documents are still classified due to stringent new classification rules that demand excessive secrecy.

**Reauthorization of the Paperwork Reduction Act.** Passed in 1980, this Act which expired on October 1, 1989, attempted to relieve the paperwork burden that federal agencies impose on the public and to develop a more effective way for the government to collect and disseminate information. Two reauthorization bills, H.R. 3695 and S. 1742, include increased authority for the U.S. Archivist but also include provisions that could be used, as in the past, to reduce public access to government information. The NCC will monitor these bills which include diverse and complex sections on information resources management, some of which are more desirable than others.

**Funding for Historic Preservation.** For the past nine years the Administration has recommended the elimination of funding for the state historic preservation offices which coordinate the work of state and federal historic preservation programs. Because of this, coupled with the lack of leadership from the National Park Service for a broad national historic preservation program, various bills have been introduced to restructure and refocus federal preservation policy. The NCC will particularly be monitoring S. 1578 and S. 1579, introduced by Senator Wyche Fowler (D-GA). ■



## G. Wesley Johnson Award

In March 1990, at the National Council on Public History conference in San Diego, California, Barnes Riznik was awarded the G. Wesley Johnson Award for the best article in *The Public Historian*, 1989. Riznik's article, "Hanalei Bridge: A Catalyst for Rural Preservation," was published in the Summer 1989 issue, Volume 11, Number 3. ■

### Addition to Membership List

Institutional

Port Washington Public Library  
1 Library Drive  
Port Washington, New York 11050



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 David Kyvig, History Dept., Univ. of Akron, Akron, OH 44325 (216) 375-7006; Vice-chair Brit Allan Storey, Bureau of Recl., Attn D5521, PO Box 25-007, Denver, CO 80225 or Executive Secretary Elizabeth Monroe, History Dept., 301 Cavanaugh Hall, IUPUI, Indianapolis, IN 46202; (317) 274-2716.

For change of address, write UC Press, 2120 Berkeley Way, Berkeley, CA 94720.

Submissions to *Public History News* should be sent to Elizabeth Monroe, Editor, at the address above.

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



NOW PRESENTS



## Careers for Students of History

by  
Barbara J. Howe

This comprehensive guide explores the diverse career options open to historians—from education and research to business and litigation—in the academic, public and private sectors.

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Dear Sir,

I am responding to Dr. Kenneth Owens' article "Let's Quit Giving Away The Store" in the Winter issue of *Public History News*. As a U.S. Forest Service historian I agree with Dr. Owens in his assertion that CRM specialists in the federal service are underpaid and that volunteers are exploited by such agencies. As a current public history student at U.C. Santa Barbara, I disagree with Owens' position that the use of volunteers "injures" the profession. I have certainly been exploited as a volunteer with the Forest Service, having served over 1000 hours as a historian. However, I feel that my experience has been quite valuable in obtaining practical CRM skills and employment. Dr. Owens has not had to scramble through the Federal hiring maze to secure an entry level position in the CRM field. Anyone who has done so knows the frustration of having one's job skills undervalued.

Generalist academic programs in Public History often do not provide more than a brief overview of CRM and leave the burden on the CRM candidate to gain knowledge in this field. The hours spent as a volunteer under a competent cultural resource manager help fill this void. Having served as a Forest Historian on the Modoc and Los Padres National Forests, I have worked with historians from a variety of backgrounds. My observation is that the historians with volunteer hours behind them tend to be more effective in dealing with CRM work than those with a strictly academic base.

To be a public historian is to be enterprising. Serving as a volunteer is making oneself more marketable by infusing practical job skills with an academic background. Obviously, a job candidate with volunteer hours will be hired over someone without such a background. Dr. Owens should bear in mind that "Goldilocks" needs to be armed with practical skills to defend herself against the "Three Bears" and that it is very difficult to gain these skills in an academic setting. I must ask Dr. Owens to consider what is more detrimental to the CRM professional image: bungling by a student volunteer attempting to gain CRM field skills or an inexperienced graduate of a public history program passing himself off as a fully trained expert?

All Federal employees are underpaid by an average of thirty percent less than the private sector. This is part of the trade-off of working as a federal service CRM professional—one relinquishes the higher

salary of private enterprise CRM (with its attendant contract uncertainties) for a relatively stable work load. To change this would be taking on the entire federal civil service pay rate in our current deficit-ridden nation—a monumental task. Volunteerism serves as a practical method to aid CRM managers in coping with budget restraints. It can also be a positive step in the training of future CRM professionals and aid them in entering the work force.

Sincerely,  
Kevin A. Palmer  
Forest Historian  
Modoc/Los Padres National Forests

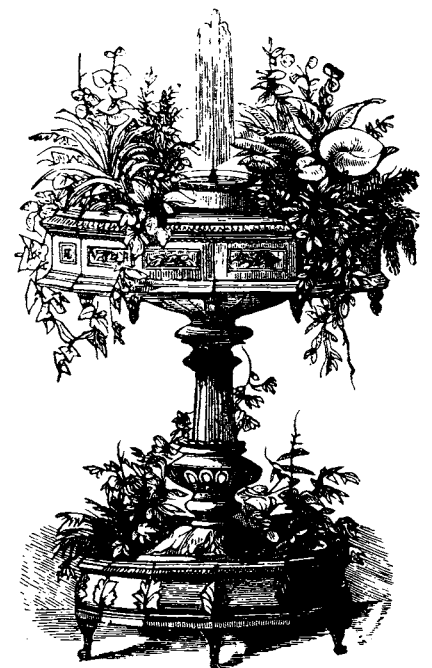
Dear Sir,

I am the author of *Imponderables, Why Do Clocks Run Clockwise? and Other Imponderables, and When Do Fish Sleep? and Other Imponderables*. I am currently at work on the fourth book of the series, to be published by Harper & Row in the fall of 1990.

I am hoping you can help me solve some of the nagging mysteries of everyday life, posed by readers of my first two books.

When and where did the custom come about of eating three meals a day?

David Feldman

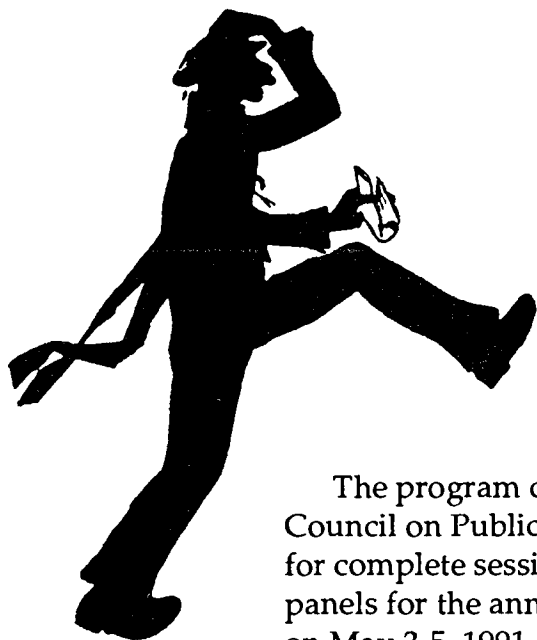


The 13th Annual Conference of the  
National Council on Public History

May 3-5, 1991

Toledo, Ohio

## Call for Papers



The program committee of the National Council on Public History invites submissions for complete sessions, individual papers or panels for the annual meeting in Toledo, Ohio on May 3-5, 1991. Proposals may relate to any aspect of public history, but the committee especially encourages those tied to the theme of the meeting: **The Audiences Of Public History**. This theme includes many issues, such as communication between the users and practitioners of public history; how the public learns history; the problems and needs of public history constituencies, and the role of the public in public history.

*Deadline for proposals is June 1, 1990.* Please provide a one to two-page summary and a resume for each participant. Send two copies to the program chair:

Diane Britton  
Department of History  
The University of Toledo  
Toledo, OH 43606

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