

Schroeder Saddle Tree Factory Provides Unique Link to Indiana's Industrial Past

by John M. Staicer

"Pompeii without the lava" is an accurate description of the Ben Schroeder Saddle Tree Company factory in Madison, Indiana. The business closed its doors in 1972 and still stands frozen in time, since the day Joseph Schroeder died. According to Eric DeLony, Chief of the Historic American Engineering Record, a division of the National Park Service, "The Ben Schroeder Saddle Tree Company is the only manufactory of its kind to be identified by the Historic American Engineering Record in its national survey of historic industrial, engineering and technological sites, structures and objects. Its uniqueness lies not only in the rather esoteric product produced. . . but also in the fact that the factory is a rare survivor; . . . the physical plant, machinery, and equipment remain 100% intact."

From 1878 to 1972, two generations of the Schroeder family manufactured saddletree, the wooden skeletons of saddles to which the exterior "skin" of leathers and stirrups are attached. They were shipped to saddle makers in the United States, Canada, and South America. Other products made by the company during its 94 years of productive life included pack saddle frames,

stirrups, hames, clothespins, lawn furniture, and work gloves. Saddletree were the most important of these products.

After the death of Joseph Schroeder, the last son of company founder Ben Schroeder, the factory/residence complex was deeded to Historic Madison Inc. (HMI), a non-profit historic preservation organization which is studying the site. The goal of HMI's Schroeder Saddle Tree Project is to interpret the history of the factory, its owners and workers to the public.

John Benedict "Ben" Schroeder immigrated to the United States from Germany in 1864 at the age of sixteen. By 1871 he was settled in Madison and employed as a saddletree maker at one of the city's growing number of saddletree shops. Ben built his own factory in 1878 as the indus-

try reached its zenith. On March 5, 1879, the *Madison Courier* newspaper proclaimed: "Madison manufactures more saddletree than all other towns in the United States. Two hundred and fifty dozen is the average per week making 13,000 dozen or 150,000 trees per annum." The Schroeder firm, though not the largest, was the longest lived. It remained a family owned business for 94 years, outlasting all its old competitors, to become America's last 19th century saddletree factory.

Ben Schroeder's children, Leo, Charles, Joseph and Gertrude who worked for the business their entire lives, saved virtually every scrap of paper, every tool, and every machine used in the factory. Comprehensive documentation

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Saddle Tree employees, circa 1880, displaying several different styles of saddletree manufactured at the Schroeder company.

— *Saddle Tree* continued from front page

of the thousands of artifacts and business records found on site is essential to understanding how the business ran. The eventual interpretation of the site will be based on thorough analysis of the site, its artifacts, and historic documents. Documentation takes many forms, including measured drawings (HAER IN-26), photographs, research of company records, recording oral histories, and the study of artifacts. By synthesizing results from each of these areas, the scope of production and the role of the factory in the community can be examined.

A number of currently or recently completed projects illustrate the diversity and complexity of the ongoing documentation of the Schroeder site. Researchers have completed a business history of the company based upon work in the extensive collection of business letters, journals, ledgers and payroll records, insurance policies, sales catalogs, and other related items. This research was made possible following the discovery two years ago of the company archives hidden away in a dark corner of the machine shop under a pile of old belts and pulleys. Cleaning, sorting, and inventorying these invaluable records has taken nearly two years during which time much new information about the company's history was gleaned.

Another project using the Schroeder business records is the nearly completed historic structures report. The rare find of handwritten construction documents for the family's brick house and wood-frame

factory buildings have given architects and historians working on the project a clearer understanding of the construction sequence of structures occupying the site. Physical evidence indicated that the structures were built in three distinct phases. The factory buildings had been enlarged, repaired, partially destroyed by a 1920 fire, rebuilt and added on to frequently between 1878 and the 1940s. The valuable documentary record is helping researchers to pinpoint these changes.

While an understanding of the business history and physical evolution of the site has been established, more remains to be accomplished. Interpretation of the Schroeder manufacturing process is a major goal of this project. To accomplish that, researchers will examine the product flow through the shop, from raw materials to the finished saddletree. This will be the most difficult documentation task since over two hundred styles of saddletree were produced by the Schroeders. Since none of the Schroeders and few factory workers are still alive, this part of the historical puzzle may never be fully answered.

Any interpretation of the factory and its operations that focuses solely on manufacturing processes and business history would be incomplete. Thus, re-

searchers also plan to study the Schroeder family members and factory workers in order to develop an engaging and comprehensive story. "Peopling" any restoration or museum exhibit brings it to life, adding depth and texture. Two recent efforts are aimed at uncovering the "people" side of this unique factory complex. A graduate student from the Public History Program at Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis (IUPUI) recently completed a report on a selected Schroeder employee. This report is the culmination of a summer internship, part of which was spent combing through company payroll records and general journals, census records, city directories, obituaries, cemeteries, and existing family histories to document workers' lives. This is the first step in understanding who the Schroeders employed. The next step includes supplementing the written record with photographs and oral histories where possible.

An Indiana University doctoral candidate is collecting taped interviews from Schroeder descendants, family friends, neighbors, and surviving employees. This vital resource is being tapped to unlock the answers to ques-

— See *Saddle Tree* p. 7

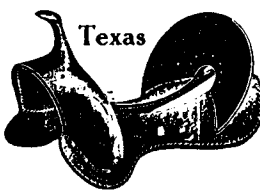


The National Council on Public History promotes the application of historical scholarship outside the university in government, business, historical societies, preservation organizations, archives, libraries, professional associations, and public interest groups.

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

Submissions to *Public History News* should be sent to David G. Vanderstel, Editor, at the address above.



Texas
BEN. SCHROEDER
Manufacturer of
SADDLE TREES
106 Milton St.
MADISON, INDIANA
Steel Forks a Specialty.
Send for Price List.

(left) An advertisement for Schroeder products from the *American Harness and Saddlery Directory, 1911*.

(below) A view of the main woodworking area of the Schroeder Saddle Tree Company. Original intact equipment includes swing cut-off saw (center) and surface planer (rear).



Public History in Canada

by Sharon Babaian

Public history in Canada is done by a great variety of people working for or within many different institutions and groups. The goals, objectives, and products of this work differ as greatly as the people and institutions themselves. Government at the federal, provincial, and local levels is the source of much of the public history activity in Canada. Each level has developed and maintains historic and archaeological sites, services, museums, living history environments, archives and libraries. Responsible for identifying, collecting, preserving, documenting, and interpreting Canada's past, these institutions and their mandates vary by type and subject area as well as by their political, geographical, and chronological boundaries. Most institutions also produce a range of publications including research reports, journals, catalogues, pamphlets, and guides, all aimed at different audiences.

At the local and provincial levels, public history activities depend greatly on the relative size and wealth of the population. Larger centers often have substantial archival and library collections and museums, most with permanent professional staff. Other communities rely upon an administrative staff or volunteers to accomplish their mission. Much of the historical research and exhibit work completed at this level is contracted out to consultants.

Many federal government departments have their own history sections. Notable among these is the National Defence's Directorate of History, which has a sizable professional staff that maintains an archives, responds to public inquiries, and produces popular commemorative and scholarly histories of the Canadian military experience. Recently announced budgetary cuts, however, will almost certainly reduce the output of the Directorate over the next several years. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police have a similar though much smaller history section and operate a museum in Regina, Saskatchewan.

Public history in Canada also includes the activities of numerous private groups, particularly in small communities. They preserve local history at volunteer-operated sites, museums, and historical societies and through the writing and publishing of local histories. Some of these activities are supported by government grants, often awarded based upon the evaluations provided by public historians. There are also independently operated provincial historical societies, most run by an assortment of amateur and

professional historians. There are private history associations such as the Canadian Nautical Research Society that hold regular conferences and publish journals addressing public history-related issues.

Corporations like Bell Canada Enterprises maintain extensive archives and other historical collections as well as a professional staff, in part to support their regulatory cases. Interest groups and lawyers also commission and use public historians in their work. The numerous native land claims cases that are now or will soon be before the courts generally demand extensive historical research. Since the Canadian constitution enshrines certain educational and linguistic rights based on historical agreements, cases arising from those agreements require both historical and legal interpretations. This is one area where, I suspect, public historians will find more work in the future.

Beyond these fairly formal activities, there are countless other specialized groups that constitute the larger community of public historians. Modelers, animators/reenactors, collectors, and genealogists tend to address very specific and often antiquarian questions—what types of weapons did soldiers of a particular regiment use in 1812? what flags did a Cunard liner fly in the port of Halifax in 1850?—but play important roles in preserving and interpreting the historical past for contemporary audiences.

On the teaching side, public history is, it seems, less well-established. Many institutions and individuals teach, promote, and maintain a strong interest in public history, some more formally than others. Universities such as Carleton, Trent, and Waterloo have fairly longstanding courses and co-op programs in public history. Other universities have professors who maintain links with local, regional, and national public history institutions and projects that employ their students and recent graduates of history programs. Within most university history departments, there is at least one Canadian historian interested in local and regional issues and with the public institutions that are the principal custodians of research material. By encouraging their students to use local resources, professors are promoting public history topics and projects.

Canadian public historians have interest groups and journals that serve as forums for debate and vehicles for collective action. Of special note is the Canadian Historical Association's Committee on Public History which meets annually at the CHA conference and

sponsors a special session on public history activities in Canada. Groups of museum professionals, archivists, librarians, and material culture specialists are also concerned with public history issues. In journals like *Material History Review* and *Archivaria* and within organizations like the Canadian Museum Association, there are discussions about such things as how to reconcile preservation/conservation requirements with demands for public access and how to incorporate a more inclusive view of history into museum and historic site interpretation. Popular history publications such as *The Beaver* play a valuable role in bringing current public history issues to a wider audience.

What does the future hold for public history in Canada? The main practical reality facing Canadian public historians is long term financial restraint. This forces us constantly to explain and justify what we do. Creativity and imagination are essential but equally elusive, particularly in dealing with the pressure to make history and heritage pay. This pressure has been intensified by growth in tourism, television, and promotional "histories" which almost invariably distort the past in order to increase dramatic effect, add or highlight controversy, or enhance positive accomplishments. We are often encouraged, both directly and indirectly, to find or create American-style heroes and compelling national events that will serve to maintain and strengthen our fragile national identity.

In Canada, we have the added problem of national unity which reinforces demands for positive history with happy—or at least heroic—endings. A recent example of this is a series of historical vignettes produced by the Canada Post Corporation. Shown on television stations and in movie theaters these short films, not unlike wartime newsreels, highlight the remarkable accomplishments of Canadians and inspire us to be proud, productive, and happy citizens. Each vignette is filled with distortions and factual errors. More importantly, they all promote a kind of "Hollywood" view of history in which the only achievements worth recording and recounting are heroic or dramatic ones.

On a more theoretical level, we public historians are also confronted by some difficult issues, most of which have arisen from the broadening scope of historical studies. Like academic historians, we have "discovered" the silent, dispossessed, discredited, and different groups that inhabit our past. Finding ways of

— See *Canada* pg. 4

NCPH and OAH to Hold Joint Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. in '95

by Barb Howe

The National Council on Public History and the Organization of American Historians will hold a joint meeting in Washington, D.C., from March 30 to April 2, 1995. The meeting theme, "American History as Public Discourse," provides many opportunities for exciting public history sessions.

NCPH and OAH have held three meetings together in the past, but this is the first with a single program committee. Chaired by Michael Frisch of the University of Buffalo, the committee consists of three NCPH members—Barb Howe, Patrick O'Bannon and Dwight Pitcaithley. Almost all those on the joint committee have had previous public history experience.

Under Frisch's leadership, the committee will be trying several different formats for the conference. While there will still be traditional "three papers and two comments" sessions, clusters, a poster session, and off-site sessions will also be included. Clusters will provide opportunities for larger groups (equalling the number of participants in 2-3 sessions) to present the results of their work in an informal format instead of reading

papers. The committee hopes that this approach will spur discussion among those who are presenting information as well as between presenters and audience members. For the first time, there will be a poster session so that participants can present their work visually in a way common to those in the sciences. Public historians have been most receptive to that idea because they are accustomed to presenting information visually and discussing it informally. The committee wants to schedule these different formats for one time period in the conference, probably Saturday afternoon, so that participants can do something other than sit in those hard conference chairs lined up in the hotel rooms and listen to papers. We'll be interested in your reaction to this format! The program committee and Gary Nash, OAH president at that meeting, are also working on major plenaries for Thursday and Saturday evenings.

NCPH will also be sponsoring a variety of workshops and tours during the meeting. Workshops tentatively scheduled will focus on historians working in professional services contracting, mu-

seum interpretation for national and international publics and resident audiences in the capital city's museums, and careers in public history. Three tours have been arranged to appeal to historians with a variety of specialties and interests and will include sites from the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries. One tour, focusing on aerospace technology, will visit the Paul E. Garber Preservation, Restoration and Storage Facility, home to over 50 percent of the collections of the Smithsonian Institution's National Air and Space Museum. Another tour will examine the life of Frederick Douglas and include a visit to the Frederick Douglas House. A third tour is a behind-the-scenes look at the historical and archaeological research being conducted at Mount Vernon. Specific details on these special offerings will be included in the conference program as well as in the winter newsletter.

Note from the editor: It is important that NCPH members designate their NCPH membership on ALL registration materials including forms, workshop registrations, etc., to ensure that NCPH receives its proper share of the conference proceeds.

— *Canada continued from pg.3*

telling their stories is difficult since they have not left much in the way of written records. Material culture studies, motivated as they are by the conviction that the best history of such "ordinary people" is found in the study of the things they used and produced, provides one obvious method of looking at these other worlds. At the same time, we are striving to develop new ways of using existing documents, historic sites, and artifacts to talk about those "invisible" groups.

These two sets of challenges are pulling public historians in opposite directions. The practical realities of reduced funding and the new promotional history limit the stories that we tell and the way that we tell them. In this context, history must have an immediate and obvious purpose—if it isn't making money by promoting tourism, it ought to be bolstering our national identity. On the other hand, the evolution of historical research and scholarship (combined on occasion with government affirmative action policies) encourages us to broaden our scope to include people, events, and themes

hitherto ignored or dismissed as unimportant. This type of history, however, seldom yields the kind of simple, uplifting, and dramatic stories that promotional requirements demand.

To address these conflicting demands, Canadian public historians, working in an atmosphere that makes them increasingly afraid for their jobs, are attempting to find imaginative and compelling ways to convey the complexity of history to the public. Admittedly, demonstrating that history is much more than the lives, leisure, and work of the rich and famous is no easy task, especially given the firm attachment of many people to the "great men/great events" interpretation of the past. Still, it seems obvious that the general public will not mind being told that their lives and their contributions are valued by society, provided the story has drama, heroes and heroines.

We will, I believe, have greater difficulty in dealing with the darker side of the past. I am not sure that many Canadians wish to know, for example, the full story of our immigration policy, including the ethnic stereotypes and

prejudices which have affected it, the harsh but legally sanctioned treatment of certain groups, and the general willingness of our society to blame immigrants for every social problem that has arisen. Should the story be told anyway? Since immigration policy continues to be a major issue in Canada, it seems to me a perfect time to explain some of this history to the public, if for no other reason than to balance the public's steady diet of media hype, misinformation, and hysteria. The challenge, of course, is to do it in such a way that it promotes understanding and calms fears rather than feeding political agendas and racial prejudice.

Canadian public historians are acutely aware of the problems facing them, their institutions, and their discipline. They are a versatile and flexible group, willing and well-equipped to take on the task of reconciling good, honest history with innovative popular formats. Although the future may not look exactly rosy, it certainly promises to be interesting.

Sharon Babaian is a historian at the National Museum of Science and Technology in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.

History Research Training Institute Established

by James R. Alexander

In 1993, the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, in cooperation with the Southwestern Pennsylvania Heritage Commission (SPHPC), established a research training institute to provide a summer-long learning experience for college juniors and seniors. The training program was designed by T. Allan Comp, the Heritage Resources Manager at SPHPC, and myself to provide a small group of undergraduates with first-hand experience doing historical research. We wanted it to be an opportunity for intensive, supervised field research focused on a single, active research site. We likened it to an archaeological dig, but in this instance a digging into the historical record, both written and built.

In June 1994, a group of ten highly-qualified students were brought together to live on the UPJ campus for the summer and registered for six credits of course work in History Field Methods. Many were granted full scholarships to cover their tuition and housing. They were selected for participation in part based on their intention to pursue graduate study in history, public history, historic preservation, archival work, or education. Four students had recently graduated and were headed for graduate study the next fall in either historic preservation or library and information science. The others were undergraduates heading into their final year, with several planning to use the summer experience as either their required senior field work project or as the basis for their senior thesis. Students were also chosen because they represented quite diverse undergraduate approaches to the study of communities. In fact, most were not traditional history majors, but rather came from programs in public history, geography, urban planning, anthropology, and economics. Several had little actual training in history or historical research, but possessed significant experience in other methodological approaches and had a deep interest in community research.

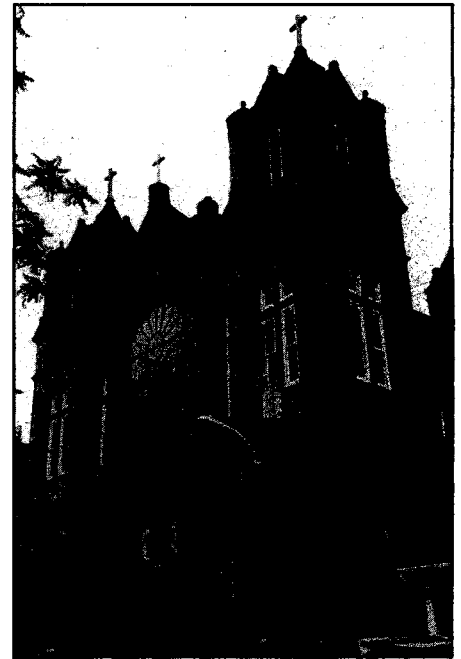
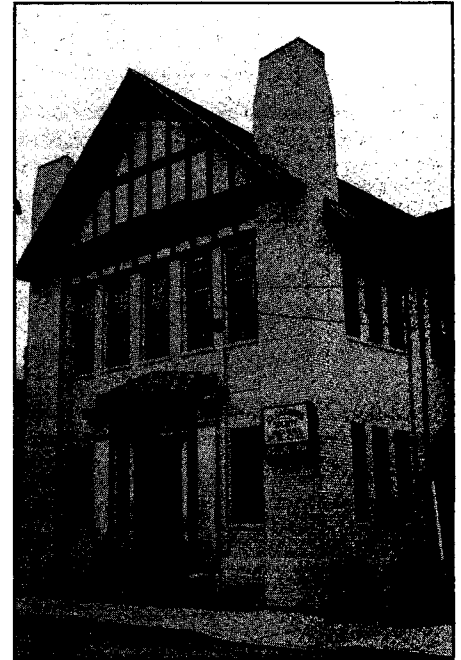
The research site chosen for the summer of 1994 was the Cambria City National Historic District, a compact workers' neighborhood adjacent to the site of the historic Cambria Iron Works in Johnstown, Pennsylvania. The neighborhood was the final destination of successive waves of Irish, German, Slovak, Polish, Hungarian, Croatian, and Slovenian immigrants who came to work in the iron and steel mills, coking ovens, and coal mines of western Pennsylvania

between 1850 and 1920. The Historic District, today measuring ten blocks long and three blocks wide, still contains an unusually large number of buildings, churches, hotels, boarding houses, and private workers' houses dating from the 19th century, making it a marvelous laboratory for students to research the built environment.

The field training was coordinated by Carolyn Goldstein, who organized a series of projects relying on primary documents and archival materials related to the Cambria City site. Students conducted a ten percent sampling survey of manuscript census data to reveal broad patterns of settlement, household compositions, home ownership and renting, and employment over the period 1870-1920. They then selected a two-block area for an intensive study of the built environment, focusing on land use and ownership by scrutinizing historic maps, wills and deeds, probate and tax records and even liquor license petitions. Finally, each student designed and carried out a more extensive individual study using these data. The students' projects ranged across such topics as residential persistence among the earliest immigrants, development of parishes, sale and consumption of liquor, commercialization of leisure, and the impact of urban renewal projects on the neighborhood. One student designed a project to analyze the impact of deindustrialization of the Johnstown region on the Cambria City neighborhood.

Over the summer, students also had an opportunity to work closely with public history and preservation agencies, city and county redevelopment officials, local historical and museum professionals, and community residents, many of whom were actively involved in efforts to preserve and develop the neighborhood. Equally valuable was the ability of students to consult one-on-one with a number of visiting scholars who were brought in to provide students with research perspectives on their group and individual projects. Scholars who joined the institute during the summer of 1994 included Patricia Gordon Michael of the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH), Christine Compston of the National History Education Network (NHEN) at the University of Tulsa, Daniel Bluestone of the School of Architecture at the University of Virginia, Hasia Diner from the American Studies

— See *Community Research* pg. 6



(top) *Dom Polski, Cambria City, Pennsylvania, is a Polish clubhouse designed by Walter Myton and built in 1915.*

(bottom) *St. Casimir's Roman Catholic church, Cambria City, Pennsylvania. Construction of the Romanesque building began in 1902 but completion was delayed until 1906 by a mine accident that claimed the lives of 40 members.*

NCPH/National Park Service Cooperative Venture

by Ted Karamanski

The appointment of historian Roger Kennedy to the head of the National Park Service has created new opportunities to strengthen the historical programs of the agency. A recent report by the National Park System Advisory Board's Humanities Review Committee called for the agency to build professional partnerships to enhance the park service's capabilities. Historian James O. Horton of George Washington University will join the agency for a year to help implement a program of public and professional outreach.

In July NCPH president Patricia Mooney-Melvin created a NCPH committee to explore how to forge closer links between public historians outside

the park service with their colleagues within the agency. Among the initiatives the committee is pursuing is a plan for an "in process peer review." Under this proposal a network of historians outside the agency could be involved as area specialists reviewing RFPs and Task Directives as well as cooperating in a series of privately funded "demonstrative projects" designed to promote professional development within the agency and to share park service research with a broader audience. At the 1995 NCPH annual meeting in Washington the committee will hold an open forum on the subject of national park cooperation. All members interested or experienced with the

Park Service history program are encouraged to attend. This will be a chance to help shape the future direction of the most important history program in the United States. The committee would be grateful for your input.

The National Parks Collaboration Committee includes Theodore J. Karamanski, Chair, Loyola University; Laura Feller, National Park Service; Robert Weible, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission; Marie Tyler McGraw, National Endowment for the Humanities; Albert Hurtado, Arizona State University; David Glassberg, University of Massachusetts; and John Patterson, Pennsylvania State University.

— Community Research continued from pg. 3

program at the University of Maryland, and Candace Flak, editor of the Emma Goldman Papers at the University of California-Berkeley.

The establishment of the research training institute revealed some interesting dynamics and lessons about how universities and federal agencies (like the SPHPC) can work together to advance the interests of public history. For UPJ, the institute affords an opportunity to provide the type of intensive field training not possible during the traditional academic year. It also allows the college to participate more di-

rectly in historic preservation and neighborhood redevelopment initiatives.

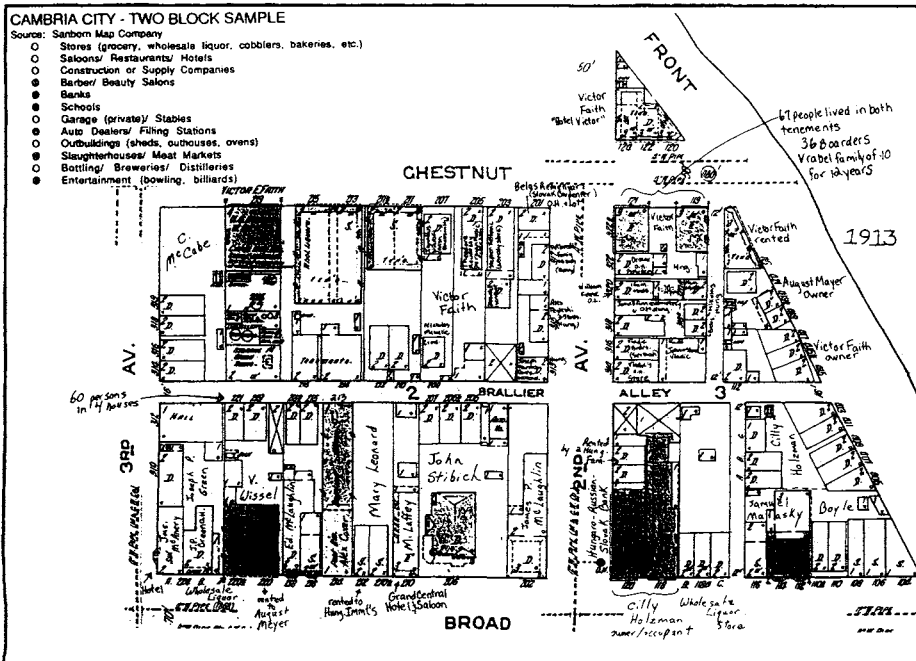
For the SPHPC, the institute provides a portal through which bright young undergraduates can be trained in applied research techniques and at the same time exposed to the valuable work being done in public history. Not incidentally, their research efforts could provide the SPHPC with new questions and better defined research questions for heritage sites in the region.

For the community, active student involvement in the neighborhood

throughout the summer, supplemented by a series of public history lectures by our visiting scholars and student presentations of their research findings, made site interpretation both interesting and accessible to community residents. These programs also helped to dispel suspicions that local research efforts were merely intrusive and exploitive.

The History Research Training Institute will be conducting its second research training program during the summer of 1995. Because of the success of the program last summer, we hope to accommodate a larger number of students, perhaps as many as fifteen. The site for the 1995 summer program has not yet been selected, but it will again be one of the many historically significant communities in the industrial heritage region of southwestern Pennsylvania. For more information, contact James R. Alexander, Division of Social Sciences, University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, Johnstown, PA 15904; call (814)269-2983 or E-mail jalexand@upj.pitt.edu

Dr. James Alexander is the Director of the History Research Training Institute and Chairman of the Social Science Division at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown.



(left) Portion of Cambria City National Historic District examined by UPJ students in summer research institute.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

The summer went by far too quickly and, as is always the case for a new NCPH president, was far too busy! Once the annual meeting has been put to rest, NCPH activity focuses on committee appointments and charges. In addition, this summer involved changes in the NCPH Executive Director's office as Elizabeth Monroe passed the baton to David G. Vanderstel. Our organization has prospered under Liz's able leadership. While we will miss her care and good humor at the office, we will continue to enjoy her participation at our annual meetings. David has settled in and, with the help of secretary and editorial assistant Joyce Haibe, and graduate assistant Kathy Nichols Theilen, has the office running smoothly.

All our committees are in place and have a busy year ahead of them. The Awards Committee continues its work developing a program of awards to honor excellence in various areas of public history. The CRM Committee's long-awaited bibliography should be complete by the annual meeting and the committee is making sure that NCPH has input into such issues as the development of heritage areas, the implementation of the "Professional Standards" section of the National Historical Preservation Act, and the proposed revisions to the National Park Service's thematic framework. Continued monitoring of educational guidelines in areas related to public history and the needs of graduate students are two concerns of this year's Curriculum and Training Committee. The Publications Committee has been designing a new syllabi packet as well as prioritizing the preparation of a number of other publica-

tion projects. Making our money work harder is the primary charge of the Finance Committee and refinement of the Council's long range plan will go forward as past president Phil Scarpino assumes the leadership of the Long Range Planning Committee.

Membership development remains important and the Membership Committee has a number of new initiatives underway. Concern with membership, however, is not just in the hands of this committee. All of us know people who are not yet members of NCPH but who should join. I want to encourage you to see membership development as part of your contribution to the work of the Council as well.

Two ad hoc committees will be developing exciting new initiatives for NCPH. The History and the National Parks Collaboration Committee is examining ways to translate NCPH's long-standing interest in the National Park Service into cooperative ventures in the spirit of the Park Service's recent report, "Humanities and the National Parks." The Pre-Collegiate Education Committee is exploring ways to bring the Council and public history into the world of primary and secondary education.

Advocacy remains important and the Historical Advocacy Committee is considering what structure would best facilitate the Council's role as advocate for a wide variety of professional concerns. I have written on behalf of NCPH letters supporting declassification, the appointment of the archivist of the United States, the history component of the Department of Agriculture, funding for history education, and a variety of issues relating to the

Library of Congress and the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. As with membership development, advocacy is something all of us should find time for and I hope that you will make your voices heard on issues of importance to the professional practice of history.

By the time this issue appears, the work of the Nominating Committee should be over as next year's slate is prepared for distribution. In advance, I want to thank the committee for its efforts and all nominees for their interest in furthering the work of our organization. The Council is only as strong as its members and I thank all of you who have agreed to run for office and to serve on NCPH committees.

You will be hearing soon much more about our upcoming annual meeting. From March 30 through April 2 NCPH will be meeting with the Organization of American Historians in Washington, D.C. The Program Committee and the Tour Committee have put together what should be an exciting meeting. Workshops on museums, consulting, and careers in public history will be available as well. Join us in Washington this spring!

And finally, I am pleased to report that the new contract with the UC Press for *The Public Historian* has been signed. As mentioned in the "Annual Report 1993-1994," this contract is less complicated and more beneficial financially for us than our last contract. In large part this was possible because of the continued excellence of *The Public Historian*. Otis Graham and Lindsey Reed deserve a hearty round of thanks.

— Pat Mooney-Melvin

— *Saddle Tree continued from pg.2*

tions regarding working conditions in the shop, the personalities of the Schroeder family members, and other bits of information that are not reflected in the written record. Plans call for the oral histories to serve as the principal resource for interpreting the people who lived and worked at the site.

The most physically demanding and mentally challenging part of the saddle tree project—the task of painstakingly documenting and recording the locations of thousands of artifacts in the

machine shop—lies ahead. The tedious work of cleaning, labeling, boxing, and moving several tons of machinery, tools, patterns, and saddle tree parts will continue to enlighten and inform the researchers throughout the process.

Through continued research and documentation, the incredibly rich historic resource of the Ben Schroeder Saddle Tree Company can be more fully understood, preserved, and presented to the public. The interpretation of this business, whether it be in the restored factory

structures or in a more formal museum setting, will educate the public about a fading, but not yet forgotten, slice of America's industrial heritage.

For more information about the Schroeder Saddle Tree Project, contact Historic Madison Inc., 500 West Street, Madison, Indiana 47250, or call (812)265-3426.

John M. Staicer is Director of the Saddle Tree Project supported by Historic Madison, Inc.

WASHINGTON UPDATE



by Page Putnam Miller

Delays in Selection of Archivist: Several times during the past year, the White House seemed close to making a decision on the selection of a U.S. Archivist but then no decision was made. It appears that the process is once again stalled. In addition, the reorganization of the White House staff in recent weeks resulted in the departure of Phil Lader who had been the point person in the Administration on the selection of an Archivist. Thus there is little possibility for a selection to be made, necessary background checks conducted, a confirmation hearing held, and a vote by the Senate prior to the adjournment of the 103rd Congress. Trudy Huskamp Peterson, the Deputy Archivist, is now beginning her nineteenth month as Acting Archivist.

Gerald George Resigns as Head of the National Historical Publications and Records Commission: On July 25 Gerald George, the Executive Director of the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), submitted his resignation, effective October 3, to Trudy Peterson, the Acting Archivist and the Acting Chairperson of the NHPRC. George indicated that he is ending his four year tenure with a sense of accomplishment at having successfully worked with the staff and the Commission to develop a long-range plan, to reorganize the staff to carry out the plan, and to have made significant strides in implementing the plan. "It has been wonderful," he wrote, "to work for a Commission that has wanted to plan for the future, and whose members have subordinated individual concerns to achieve consensus and unite in advocacy." George noted that he chose this time to resign to take advantage of the government's offer to "buy out" employees who retire or resign. The Acting Archivist is currently working with Commission members to develop a process for securing new leadership for the NHPRC. Since the National Archives is currently under a hiring freeze and has an Acting Archivist, there is a possibility that an internal person will be selected to serve in a temporary capacity until a national search can be conducted at a later time.

Clinton Administration Tightens Restrictions on Travel of Researchers to Cuba: On August 30 the Department of the Treasury issued new guidelines on Cuba that revoke the general authorizations for persons engaged in travel related to professional research. The new policy states that individuals who wish to

go to Cuba for research must demonstrate a compelling need to travel to Cuba and must apply for a specific research license which will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Many are protesting the new rules which will make it more difficult to do historical research in Cuba. For information about how to apply for a license contact the NCC.

National Park Service (NPS) Forwards Revised Thematic Framework to Congress: On September 15 Director of the NPS Roger G. Kennedy sent the revised historical thematic framework to Congress. In the transmittal letter, Kennedy noted that it reflects current scholarship and "will better serve us" in evaluating historic properties. Kennedy also noted that the NPS will be preparing supplementary guidance and developing a training program for use of the outline.

Honoraria Case to Be Argued before the Supreme Court: On November 8 the Supreme Court will hear the case on the honoraria ban for federal employees. Plaintiffs will argue that the language in the Ethics Reform Act of 1989 regarding the prohibition from receiving any compensation for non-work related presentations and articles is vague and unconstitutional.

Reform of Declassification Policy: Last year the President directed a special internal task force to revise the Executive Order on classification and declassification. The third draft of a new order, circulated last March, drew considerable support from the scholarly and public interest sector, however, it seems to have met intense resistance from several key agencies. The redrafting now appears to be on hold.

Senate Passes Resolution on Smithsonian Enola Gay Exhibit: On September 22, the Senate passed S. Res. 257. Following five "whereas" clauses, the resolution stated, "Resolved, that it is the sense of the Senate that any exhibit displayed by the National Air and Space Museum with respect to the Enola Gay should reflect the United States during World War II and should avoid impugning the memory of those who gave their lives for freedom." Many historians have expressed concerns about the controversial, and often unfounded, rhetoric surrounding this exhibit and about the implications for curatorial freedom. On September 19, the Organization of American Historians' Executive Committee wrote the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution to support the revised August script for the exhibit.

Resolution on Disney Theme Park Introduced in House: On June 16 Rep. Michael Andrew (D-TX), joined by 18 co-sponsors, introduced a concurrent resolution,

H. Con. Res. 255, that expresses the sense of the Congress that locating the Disney theme park in the historic Northern Piedmont area of Virginia would be most inappropriate. The resolution calls upon congressional committees to hold hearings on the environmental, transportation and historic preservation aspects of the proposed park and urges the Walt Disney Company to seek another location. [Note: In late September, the Disney Company announced that it was cancelling its plans for the park in that area and would seek another location in Virginia.]

Copyright "Fair Use" for Computer Networks: The NCC recently participated in a Clinton Administration sponsored conference that brought together the users and producers of copyrighted material to consider how the current use of "fair use" will work in the electronic environment. The "fair use" provision of the Copyright Act allows educators, librarians, and researchers to use protected materials in limited ways (such as photocopying articles in the library) without having to compensate the copyright owners. Applying this concept to the electronic age is proving to be a very thorny and complex problem with no immediate resolution in sight.

National Historical Publications and Records Commission Grants' Funding Victim of Congressional Desire for "Pork": After a number of delays and revisions to the Conference Report, Congress is expected very soon to pass the Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government Appropriations bill which includes the National Archives and National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) budgets. The Conference Committee recommends \$9 million for NHPRC grants in FY'95 with \$2 million dollars of that earmarked for a grant to the Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr. Library at Boston College and \$2 million for the Dirksen Center which will be the repository for retiring Minority Leader Robert Michel's papers. The intended use of these earmarked funds appears to resemble "pork" more than the requirements for competitive grants set forth in the NHPRC legislation. The O'Neill and the Dirksen grants were not a part of either the Senate or the House subcommittee deliberations. Although the O'Neill grant appeared in the final version of the House bill, the Senate bill had no earmarked grants for NHPRC. The grant to the Dirksen Center appeared for the first time in the Conference Report. While many in the historical profession have been waiting for the day NHPRC appropriations would be \$9 million, a

— See Update pg. 9

NARA Evaluates the Electronic Archives of the 21st Century

by Trudy Huskamp Peterson, Acting Archivist of the United States

One of the greatest challenges facing modern archives is the increasing popularity of new technologies and formats. Archivists are pressured by records creators and records users to adopt, or at least sanction, these new technologies. Archivists must continually monitor and evaluate new technologies to see if they will improve the quality of archival practice without compromising the ability of the archivist to preserve and make available information of enduring value.

Technology has brought tremendous changes in archival practices since the National Archives and SAA were established. Archivists have learned to accommodate microfilm, machine-readable records, and other new formats in their holdings. Today, optical media are undergoing intense scrutiny by the archival profession. The National Archives has traditionally been cautious in its acceptance of new technologies for archival storage. But optical media offer unprecedented storage capacity and indexing functions and both records creators and users are eager to make full use of these advantages. I recently asked a group of NARA senior executives to review our past position on optical disks. The answers I received show that continuous reevaluation is occurring as we develop the plan for the electronic National Archives of the 21st century. I would like to highlight three areas in which this reevaluation is taking place.

First, the Center for Electronic Records will soon formally announce that it will accession records in certain CD-ROM formats. With a limited number of such formats, the Center believes it can manage the critical problem of converting the data as formats themselves become obsolete.

Second, the Center has experimented

with file transfers over networks to expand electronic data transfer options and is working to identify and resolve transfer problems. This will have a number of advantages for both the National Archives and federal agencies from which it acquires data. Not the least of these is that file transfers will eliminate any problem of incompatibility between the media used by agencies and the medium or media used for storage at the National Archives. When the National Archives accessions electronic records, it immediately copies the information onto a new storage medium (currently 3480 tape cartridge) and disposes of the reels or cartridges on which the information came from the agency. Electronic transfer will allow the National Archives to write directly onto the storage medium without the physical handling of magnetic tapes or optical disks. It also means that NARA will not limit the storage devices that agencies choose to use, so long as the open transfer standards are observed.

Third, in early 1994, the National Archives plans to release guidelines for the use of digital imaging and optical media storage technologies within the federal government. This report, which is based upon 15 in-depth case studies and a review of industry trends and standards activities, will address the critical records management and archives issues that digital imaging and optical media application should take into account. This report is a companion to the joint report that the National Archives completed in 1991, in conjunction with NAGARA, on similar issues at the state and local level.

It is important to point out that none of this means that optical disks are an approved archival storage medium. In-

stead, the National Archives is saying that the rapid obsolescence of new information technologies makes any designation as "archival" transitory and perhaps even inappropriate. In all likelihood, the media—if properly stored—will remain readable long after the particular devices and software that employed and accessed them have become obsolete.

The National Archives believes that national and international digital information technology standards, which provide upward migration paths to new media, devices and software, offer the most effective long-term solution to technology obsolescence. To this end, the National Archives is actively participating in the work of several American and international standards organizations groups that are addressing digital media and related information technology issues.

Like Janus, the Roman god of gates and doorways, the National Archives must look to both the past and the future. We must ensure that new emerging technologies will continue to exist so that the records of the past may be read by generations of users to come. Optical media may give us new capabilities for both preserving and making that information accessible, but we who are responsible for archival information must ensure that any new doors we open lead to continued preservation and accessibility, not to technological dead ends.

If you would like a copy of the new guidelines on optical media, contact Donn C. Neal, Director of External Affairs (NXE). We will be happy to hear your comments on these guidelines.

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significant increase over the current \$5.25 million, there is uneasiness over the inappropriate earmarked grants and the precedent they may set.

Update on PROFS Case: On August 8, Michael Tankersley and Alan Morrison, both of the Public Citizen Litigation Group, submitted for the plaintiffs a memorandum to the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia which focuses on the defendant's claim that the National Security Council is not a federal agency and is not subject to the requirements of the Federal Records Act. The plaintiffs are urging the Court to declare

that the NSC is an "agency" and should therefore be obligated to preserve records stored on its electronic communications systems in accordance with the Federal Records Act. Meanwhile, in this very complex case which is moving forward on a number of fronts, the National Archives is reviewing over 700 pages of comments received in response to the request in the Federal Register earlier this summer for comments on guidance which had been developed in consultation with the plaintiffs on "Managing Federal Records on Electronic Mail."

Update on Declassification: There has

been no word in recent months from the Task Force designated in April, 1993, by President Bill Clinton to oversee the revision of the 1982 Reagan Executive Order 12356. Indications are that there may be a fourth draft circulating among agency staff but the public has yet to see it. Soon, however, we can expect an announcement of the delayed bulk declassification order dealing with the declassification of 21 million pages of World War II material. President Clinton's intentions for announcing the opening of these documents as part of the D-Day commemorations were thwarted by agency resistance.

NAGARA Renews Call for Prompt Appointment of Archivist of the United States

The National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators' (NAGARA) Board of Directors, at the Association's annual conference in Salt Lake City, Utah, in July, renewed its request to the Clinton Administration to make a prompt appointment to the position of Archivist of the United States.

The Archivist directs the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), which has statutory responsibility to advise Federal agencies on records issues, identify and ensure the preservation of records of continuing value, and operate several regional records centers and Presidential Libraries throughout the country. In concert with many other professional associations, NAGARA has been concerned that there has been no permanent Archivist since February 1993, when Don Wilson resigned. Deputy Archivist Trudy Peterson has been serving as Acting Archivist since that time.

The Board also renewed its endorsement of two key documents adopted last year that define its position regarding the Archivist:

Joint Statement on Selection Criteria for Archivist of the United States, issued jointly with the Society of American Archivists. This statement suggests selection criteria, including extensive experience in administering archival or records programs or similar programs with responsibility for cultural or informational resources; experience in working with

legislators; demonstrated vision; a reputation for excellence, leadership, and effectiveness within the individual's chosen profession; and several other criteria.

The National Archives and Records Administration: Suggestion for Future Directions and Priorities. This NAGARA statement emphasizes the importance of NARA's role as the Federal government's records office, its leadership within the government records community, and the need for it to adopt revised or new policies to deal with current challenges, particularly those posed by modern information technology. The statement also urges the President and Congress to review NARA's statutory basis and develop legislative changes to clarify and strengthen its role.

"NARA is the government's records office," said NAGARA President David Hooper. "Its employees work with federal agencies on complicated records and information issues, including the identification and retention of information of continuing value in modern electronic information systems. NARA's guidance and advice is needed as the federal government shifts toward electronic records systems. NARA should also contribute to the development of the Administration's National Information Infrastructure initiative. In addition, state records programs look to NARA for leadership and as a model for issues and problems that they face. This is another reason why

NAGARA has long advocated a permanent appointment."

During the course of the past year, several individuals have been mentioned in press accounts as possible candidates for the position. However, the White House personnel office has not released a list of candidates under consideration. Because of this, the NAGARA Board has not yet endorsed any particular candidate. "We continue to advocate prompt appointment of a candidate who meets the NAGARA-SAA criteria and who will provide the vision and energy to lead NARA in the future," Hooper said.

Hooper also noted that NAGARA will continue pressing for an appointment and that he and NAGARA's Executive Director, Bruce Dearstyne, will continue to coordinate with other professional associations on this issue.

NAGARA is a professional association of local, state, and federal government archivists, records managers, and information specialists. It is dedicated to improving the management of government records and information in all three levels of government.

For more information on NAGARA, and for copies of the statements referred to above, contact the NAGARA Publications and Membership Services Office, 48 Howard Street, Albany, NY 12230; Phone (518)463-8656.

NCPH SYLLABUS PROJECT

NCPH To Publish New Collection Of Public History Syllabi

The Publications Committee of NCPH is planning a revised edition of the old Syllabus Project, a collection of syllabi on public history courses from programs around the country.

Although the project is still in the planning stage, the Publications Committee is seeking input from all public historians interested in expressing their views on the content and structure of the publication. We urge educators in smaller programs and/or those who are not members of NCPH to participate in the project, since our goal is the enhancement of public history education.

For additional information, or to offer suggestions, please contact the Chair of the Publications Committee at:

D. Lorne McWatters
Department of History • PO Box 23
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BULLETIN



Awards and Fellowships

The Coordinating Committee on Women in the Historical Profession, the Conference Group on Women's History, and the Berkshire Conference of Women Historians announce their annual competition for a \$500 Graduate

Student Award to assist in thesis work. Applicants must be women graduate students in U.S. institutions, but may be in any field of history. For applications, write Professor Peggy Pascoe, Award Committee, Dept. of History, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84112.

The University of Delaware-Hagley Foundation offers two and four year fellowships for a course of study leading to an M.A. or Ph.D. degree for students interested in careers as college teachers or professionals in museums, historical agencies, and archives. The program's focus is the history of industrialization, broadly defined. Applications can be made through the Coordinator, University of Delaware-Hagley Program, Department of History, University of Delaware, Newark, DE 19716; Phone (302)831-8226. The deadline for applications is January 30, 1995.

The New York State Archives and Records Administration, State Education Department, awards grants through The Documentary Heritage Program (DHP). The DHP provides support for archives, libraries, historical societies, and other programs that collect, hold, and provide access to historical records, and for organizations providing advisory services to such programs. Project grants are available to strengthen historical records programs, arrange and describe records, encourage use, develop improved techniques and approaches to the management of historical records, and support related activities. The next deadline for applications for DHP grants is March 1, 1995. For more information contact Kathleen Roe, Principal Archivist, Documentary Heritage Program, State Archives and Records Administration, Room 9B38, Cultural Education Center, Albany, NY 12230; Phone (518)474-4372.

The California Council for the Promotion of History Mini-Grants Program awards grants to California non-profit organizations and units of state or local government for projects involving histori-

ans and promoting quality history experiences for significant audiences. The deadline for 1995 CCPH Mini-Grant applications is January 13, 1995. To receive an application or for more information, contact Jackie Lowe, Director, Community Memorial Museum, P.O. Box 1555, Yuba City, CA 95992.

The Rockefeller Archive Center, a division of the Rockefeller University, invites applications for its program of Grants for Travel and Research at the Rockefeller Archive Center for 1995. The competitive program makes grants of up to \$1,500 to U.S. and Canadian researchers and up to \$2,000 to researchers from abroad in any discipline, usually graduate students or post-doctoral scholars, who are engaged in research that requires use of the collections at the Center. These include the records of the Rockefeller family, the Rockefeller Foundation, Rockefeller University, and other philanthropic organizations and associated individuals. The deadline for applications is December 31, 1994; grant recipients will be announced in March, 1995. Inquiries about the program and requests for applications should be addressed to Darwin H. Stapleton, Director, Rockefeller Archive Center, 15 Dayton Avenue, North Tarrytown, NY 10591-1598.

The Oral History Association announces the inauguration of an awards program to recognize outstanding work in oral history in several categories. In 1995 and subsequent odd-numbered years, three awards will be made: for a book that draws upon oral history in a significant way or significantly advances understanding of important theoretical issues in oral history; for a nonprint format production, including film, video, radio program or series, exhibition, or drama, that makes significant use of oral history to interpret a historical subject; and to a precollegiate teacher who has made exemplary use of oral history in the classroom. In 1996 and subsequent even-numbered years, awards will be made for a published article or essay that either uses oral history to advance an important historical interpretation or addresses significant theoretical or methodological issues; for a completed oral history project that has significant scholarly value and exemplifies sound oral history methodology; and to a college or university professor who has made outstanding use of oral history in the classroom.

Awards are honorific and will be announced at the Association's 1995 annual meeting in Milwaukee, October 19-22; and the 1996 meeting in Philadelphia,

October 10-13. The association welcomes entries and nominations from academic scholars, public history institutions and practitioners, independent professionals, and community-based groups and individuals. For guidelines and submission information, write to Jan Dodson Barnhart, Executive Secretary, Oral History Association, Box 3968, Albuquerque, NM 87190-3968. Deadline for submissions for the three 1995 awards is April 1, 1995.

The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission invites application for its 1995-1996 scholars-in-residence program. This program provides support for full-time research and study at any of the facilities maintained by the Commission for a period of four to twelve consecutive weeks between May 1, 1995 and April 30, 1996, at the rate of \$1,200 per month. The program is open to college and university affiliated scholars, including graduate students; independent researchers; public sector professionals in history-related disciplines; writers; and others. The application deadline is January 20, 1995. The scholars-in-residence program aims to promote the interpretation of Pennsylvania history, to encourage research drawing upon the Commission's archival and artifactual resources, and to develop collegial relationships between scholars and Commission staff. Applicants are encouraged to conceive research topics as broadly as possible, and it is not required that research be limited to materials in PHMC archival or museum collections. Particular consideration will be given to proposals that address topics relevant to interpretive themes addressed by the Commission's programs, including but not limited to Pennsylvania's tradition of religious and political toleration, colonial life, rural and agricultural life, military history, the development of ethnic communities and ethnic relations within the state, the history of communal societies, architectural history, and the history of public policy. Proposals that address the agency's current programmatic initiatives in African-American history and industrial history are especially encouraged, as are proposals for material culture based studies. Projects that are likely to result in widespread dissemination of research through publications, exhibitions, films, and other means will also be given particular consideration. For further information and application materials, contact the Division of History, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Box 1026, Harrisburg, PA 17108; Phone (717)787-3034.

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) will offer two historical editing fellowships in 1995, contingent on funding. Successful candidates will receive a stipend of \$32,000 plus an additional \$6,400 to cover the costs of fringe benefits, and spend eleven months at a documentary publication project beginning in the summer of 1995. Participating projects are *The Documentary History of the Ratification of the Constitution* (University of Wisconsin, Madison) and *The Papers of Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony* (Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey). Applicants should hold a Ph.D. or have completed all requirements for the doctorate except the dissertation. Further information and application forms are available from the NHPRC, Room 607, National Archives (Arch D), Washington, D.C. 20408; Phone (202)501-5610. Application deadline is March 1, 1995.



Conferences and Seminars

The National Archives is sponsoring a major conference, "A Woman's War Too: U.S. Women in the Military in World War II," to be held March 3-4, 1995, at the National Archives at College Park, Maryland. This national forum will explore the vital contributions made by the approximately 400,000 women who volunteered to serve in the armed forces of the United States. The conference is part of the National Archives' ongoing nationwide observance of the 50th anniversary of the United States' participation in World War II. The National Archives has launched a wide range of programs, including film and lecture series, travelling exhibitions, and theater performances throughout the commemorative period. For additional information on these programs, contact the National Archives Public Affairs staff at (202)501-5525.

The American Society for Environmental History will present "Gambling with the Environment" at its next meeting, to be held in Las Vegas, Nevada, March 8-11, 1995. The program committee especially encourages submission of papers on the history of arid environments, environmental justice and equity, and the last twenty-five years of environmentalism in the U.S., but papers on any aspect of environmental

history are welcome. For information, contact Theodore Steinberg, Department of Humanities, New Jersey Institute of Technology, University Heights, Newark, NJ 07102-1982. E-mail: steinberg@admin.njit.edu. No deadline given.

"Jefferson and the Changing West: From Conquest to Conservation," a conference jointly sponsored by the Thomas Jefferson Commemoration Commission and the Missouri Historical Society with the support of the Missouri Botanical Garden, will be held in St. Louis, November 18-20, 1994. This conference will reassess Thomas Jefferson's contributions to the development of the American West in light of current environmental and human concerns. As a multifaceted philosopher-statesman, Jefferson left a rich legacy of writings on the natural environment and its contribution to the advancement of freedom and the happiness of mankind. His conception of the West was an essential element of that legacy. For information or registration, call the Missouri Historical Society, (314)361-9265, or write: Jefferson Conference, Missouri Historical Society, P.O. Box 11940, St. Louis, MO 63112-0040.

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the GSA Interagency Training Center jointly announce the "Introduction to Federal Projects and Historic Preservation Law" courses which are to be held during 1994 throughout the United States. The three-day course will allow participants to understand the responsibilities of federal agencies under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), identify historic resources and determine if they are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, assess the effects of a federal undertaking on historic properties, and anticipate historic preservation responsibilities and incorporate them into agency planning. For registration information, write the GSA Interagency Training Center, P.O. Box 15608, Arlington, VA 22215-0608; Phone (703)557-0986.

The American Association for the History of Medicine (AAHM) will hold its annual conference May 11-14, 1995, on the campus of the University of Pittsburgh. Besides the traditional AAHM meeting, over one dozen other national and international history of medicine/health care societies will be organizing and running their own special programming in conjunction with the AAHM sessions. Special financial arrangements have been made to encourage medical/graduate students to attend. Anyone who is not an AAHM member and wishes more information or to be placed on the

registration mailing list should contact Dr. Jonathon Erlen, LAC Chair, 1234 Northview Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15209; E-mail jon@med.pitt.edu.

The semiannual meeting of the New England Archivists (NEA) will be held November 18-19, 1994, at the Omni Parker Hotel in Boston, Massachusetts. The meeting this year will focus on archival visual materials, with particular emphasis on motion picture films and videotapes. The program has been planned to complement the annual meeting of the Association of Moving Image Archivists, a national organization that will convene at the Omni Parker Hotel, November 14-19. For information on the NEA conference, contact Kara Schneiderman, NEA Fall Meeting Registrar, MIT Museum, 265 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02139; Phone (617)253-4440; Fax (617)258-9107. Information on the Association of Moving Image Archivists may be obtained from AMIA, c/o National Center for Film and Video Preservation, The American Film Institute, P.O. Box 27999, 2021 North Western Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90027; Phone (213)856-7636.

Calls for Papers

Watch Public History News for details regarding the call for papers for NCPH's 1996 meeting in Seattle, Washington.



Exhibitions

The Strong Museum of Rochester, New York has announced its upcoming exhibits. Opening October 8, 1994, "Between 2 Worlds: African-American Identity and American Culture" examines the difficult balancing act African Americans have had to maintain while trying to straddle two worlds. "Small Wonders: A Fantastic Voyage into the Miniature World" (tentative title), an exhibit dealing with the lure and craftsmanship of miniatures, will be shown February 4, 1995 - January 1996.

The Historical Society of Pennsylvania announces its next limited-run exhibition, "Making History." The display of posters, artifacts, photographs, prints, books and documents shows the many ways the Society's collections are used for historical research, preservation of buildings and neighborhoods, historical reenactments,

genealogy and family history. A series of programs will be held in conjunction with "Making History," which runs November 18, 1994 through May 27, 1995. For more information call the Society's Interpretation Division at (215)732-0398.

The Historical Society of Pennsylvania joins the 1994 celebration of William Penn's 350 birth anniversary with a major exhibit showing how Penn's peaceful Quaker vision of Philadelphia has developed and changed since his first arrival in America in 1682. An ongoing exhibition, "Finding Philadelphia's Past: Visions and Revisions," presents several of Penn's personal artifacts and Alexander Milne Calder's 1886 model for his statue of Penn that now stands atop Philadelphia's City Hall. For more information contact Dick Rominiecki, (215)732-6201 ext. 225.

Winterthur Museum announces "Eye for Excellence: Masterworks from Winterthur," the museum's first changing exhibition. "Eye for Excellence" features more than 90 objects selected by curators as outstanding examples from the museum's collection of more than 89,000 objects. The exhibition runs September 24, 1994-January 22, 1995 and is supported by grants from The Fidelity Foundation and The Chubb Group of Insurance Companies. "Eye for Excellence" is in the Thomas A. Graves, Jr., Gallery on the second floor of the Galleries at Winterthur.

The Museum of Our National Heritage announces the opening of "Gathered at the Wall: Americans and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial," an exhibit examining the continuing impact of the Vietnam Memorial on the generation of Americans who lived through the Vietnam conflict. It is on display in Lexington, Massachusetts, October 30, 1994-June 4, 1995.

The Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum announces the opening of "The Crossroads: The End of World War II, the Atomic Bomb, and the Origins of the Cold War," an exhibit on the development of the atomic bomb and its use against the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The "Enola Gay" will be displayed as part of this exhibit. The exhibit runs May 1995-January 1996.

The South Dakota State Historical Society announces "Oyate Tawicoh'an: The Ways of the People," an exhibit opening October 10, 1994, at the Cultural Heritage Center. "Oyate Tawicoh'an" is the second part of "The South Dakota Experience," the Center's permanent exhibition on the cultural heritage and history of South Dakota. For more information contact the South Dakota State Historical Society, 900 Governors Drive, Pierre, SD, 57501; Phone (605)773-3458.



Announcements

The South Carolina State Historical Records Advisory Board (SHRAB) announces publication of a state plan which outlines the challenges of preserving and promoting the Palmetto State's documentary heritage. SHRAB is planning a statewide meeting in February 1995 to discuss and advance the strategies of the state plan. For more information, call Patricia Hustus or Donna Millwood at the South Carolina Department of Archives and History, (803)734-7914.

The New York State Archives and Records Administration (SARA) is now using the Internet to make information about State Archives holdings, exhibits, and grant programs for records in New York instantly and easily accessible. SARA established its presence on the Internet by launching the SARA Gopher on July 29. Anyone with access to the Internet can view lists of all records preserved in the State Archives and find out how to gain access to New York State archival records. The SARA Gopher is also an easy and convenient way to connect to the on-line public access catalog of holdings of the State Archives. The SARA Gopher can be accessed by "gophering" to UNIX6.NYSED.GOV. For further information about the SARA Gopher contact the New York State Archives and Records Administration, State Government Records Programs, Cultural Education Center, Room 9C71, Albany, NY 12230. E-mail: gosys@unix6.nysed.gov

The Historic Pullman Foundation (HPF) announces the opening of the new HPF Visitor Center, located on the original Arcade site at 11141 South Cottage Grove Avenue. For more information contact Deborah Bellamy, 11111 S. Forrestville Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60628-4649 or call (312)785-8181.

PUBLHIST, a public history e-mail conference, welcomes postings on all topics related to public history. It is open for free subscription to anyone with an internet-connected e-mail address. To subscribe, send a message to: publhlist-request@husc3.harvard.edu with the following text: subscribe publhlist. For more information, contact jhurley@husc3.harvard.edu.

The National Park Service is developing a mailing list of colleges and universities in the United States that offer at least one course on historic preservation or cultural resource management. Schools that offer degree programs on these topics will not appear on the list. For more information, contact Emogene Bevirt or Heather Minor, National Park Service, Preservation Assistance Division, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, D.C. 20013-7127; Phone (202)343-9561; Fax (202)343-3803.

The African American Educational Archives announces that over the past two months, Georgia researchers of African American oral history interviews have located over two thousand interviews at one hundred sites across the state. The AAEA intends to conduct a national African American oral history survey from which a national data base and printed reference guides will be developed. The project staff still seeks to identify and describe additional African American oral history interviews in Georgia, including those in private hands as well as in archives and other repositories. For more information contact Dr. Cliff Kuhn or Christine Lutz, African American Oral History Survey, History Department, Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA 30303; Phone (404)651-2250.

The Federation of Genealogical Societies, in cooperation with the Michigan Genealogical Council, is spearheading an initiative to have the National Archives and Records Administration change the retention schedule for the Railroad Retirement Pension files. Currently, the majority of these records are destroyed thirty-five years after payment of the last claim. On July 29, 1994, the Acting Archivist of the United States, Dr. Trudy Peterson, contacted FGS President Curt Witcher and expressed a desire to discuss the retention of these records. It was mutually agreed that the FGS conference in Richmond, Virginia, October 13-16, 1994, would be a good setting in which to open dialog about these important documents. The Michigan Genealogical Council is asking that members of the genealogical and/or historical community write a letter of support for retaining the Railroad Retirement Board's records on a permanent basis. For more information contact Ms. Kim S. Harrison, Past President of Michigan Genealogical Council, 55632 Pontiac Trail Court, New Hudson, MI 48165-9703; Phone (810)437-1004.

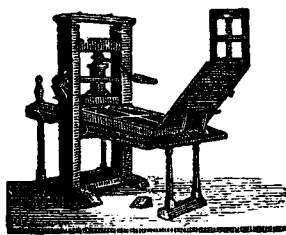
K.M. Productions announces the production of "Women of Courage," a documentary about Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASPs) who performed

many important duties during World War II. This documentary has won numerous awards, including the CINE Golden Eagles, a Telly Award and a Blue Sky Award from the National Aviation/Space Writers Association. For information contact K.M. Productions, Box 280334, Lakewood, CO 80228; Phone (303)969-9646.

The History Research Training Institute invites applications from advanced undergraduates for its 1995 summer program of intensive field research on a single, active site in southwestern Pennsylvania (see accompanying article). For more information, contact James R. Alexander, c/o Division of Social Sciences, University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, Johnstown PA 15904 or call (814)269-2983; Fax (814)269-7255; E-mail jalexnad@upj.pitt.edu.

The South Dakota Historical Society is working to compile information about all human burial sites in South Dakota, including family and lone burial sites and cemeteries. A survey of burial sites was completed by the Works Progress Administration in the 1940s. Although thousands of burial sites were located and identified, thousands more remain unidentified. The Society would like to index all human burial sites in South Dakota. To complete this index, names and dates of birth and death are needed, as well as the locations of burial sites. Individuals with information about burial sites are asked to contact the South Dakota State Archives, 900 Governors Drive, Pierre, SD, 57501; Phone (605)773-3804.

The twenty-fourth Institute for the Editing of Historical Documents is scheduled for June 18-29, 1995, in Madison, Wisconsin. Jointly sponsored by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, and the University of Wisconsin, the institute will provide detailed theoretical and practical instruction in documentary editing and publication. Application to the Institute is competitive, with numerous applicants every year from all over the country. Further information and application forms are available from the NHPRC, Room 607, National Archives (ARCH I), Washington, DC 20408; Phone (202)501-5610. Application deadline is March 15, 1995.



Publications

The Indiana Historical Society has recently published *Otto Ping: Photographer of Brown County, Indiana, 1900-1940*. Written by Douglas Hartley, a retired Illinois State University art professor, the 200-page book offers 77 black and white photographs by Ping with commentary by Hartley and essays by Anne E. Peterson, a freelance historian of photography, and Stephen J. Fletcher, IHS curator of visual collections. The images in the book are some of the hundreds of glass plate and film negatives that Ping, a self-taught, itinerant photographer, made during his life and that are now part of the Society's visual collections. The paperback book is available from the Indiana Historical Society, 315 West Ohio Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202 (317)232-1882, or (800)IHS-1830; and Indiana University Press, 10th & Morton Streets, Bloomington, IN 47405, (800)842-6769.

The National History Education Network, headquartered at the University of Tulsa, has produced a *Membership Directory and Resource Guide*. It is intended to provide current information about the educational activities of organizations within the Network and will be distributed at various conferences and meetings throughout the year. For copies of the directory, call Elaine Bird, (918)631-3796.

The Virginia Department of Historic Resources has released a draft of "Virginia's Heritage," a comprehensive plan for Virginia's historic resources. For a copy of the plan or more information, call Robert A. Carter at DHR (804)225-4254.

The South Dakota State Historical Society announces that photographs of several important artifacts from its collection are included in two recently published books. *South Dakota* by T.D. Griffith and *Indians of North America: The Teton Sioux* by Nancy Bonvillain fea-

ture several of the Society's most treasured artifacts, including the *La Verendrye Plate* and the *Sioux Horse Effigy*. For more information, contact the South Dakota State Historical Society, 900 Governors Drive, Pierre, SD 57501-2217; Phone (605)773-3458.

The New York State Archives and Records Administration announces publication of "Guidelines for the Legal Acceptance of Public Records in an Emerging Electronic Environment," an informative 35-page booklet that advises an agency what to do to enhance the likelihood that its electronic records will be accepted by the court. "Guidelines" points out that safeguards can be built into today's modern information technology systems. An entire section of the booklet describes measures that agency staff can take to increase the chances that a record will be accepted in legal proceedings. For additional information contact SARA's Records Advisory Services at (518)474-6771.

The State Historical Society of Iowa announces a survey of oral history interviews with Iowa women featured in the new issue of *The Annals of Iowa*, the history journal published by the Society. The survey contains an overview of some of the most significant collections and includes a table summarizing the 40 women's oral history collections across Iowa that were identified during a year-long search. Those collections contain more than 1,500 interviews covering many aspects of Iowa's women's experiences in the twentieth century. For information call (319)335-3916.

The Indiana Historical Society announces publication of a comprehensive index covering the five-year run of the IHS popular history magazine *Traces of Indiana and Midwestern History*. The index covers the articles and departments featured in the quarterly magazine since its debut in the winter of 1989 through the fifth volume in 1993. The *Traces* index costs \$5 and is available by writing or calling the Society, 315 West Ohio Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202-3299; (317)232-1882, or (800)IHS-1830. All mail orders should include \$1 for postage and handling for each copy ordered.

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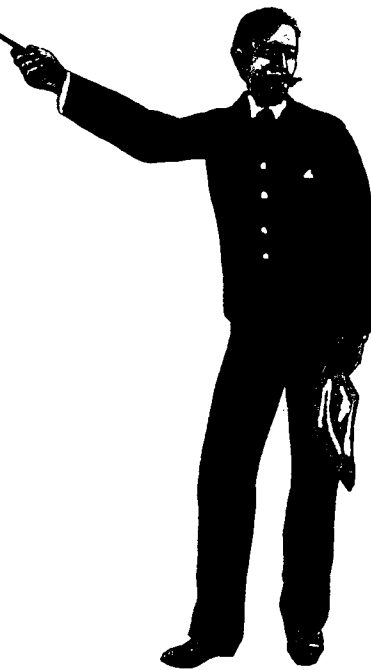
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