



# PUBLIC HISTORY NEWS

> Volume 21, Number 4

> Summer 2001

## ANNUAL REPORT 2000-2001

by David G. Vanderstel  
dvanders@iupui.edu

In 1986, Barbara Howe and Emory Kemp wrote in their volume *Public History: An Introduction* that public history had reached a "level of development in the United States where a detailed discussion of just what is meant by the term 'public history'" was in order. Over fifteen years, more than 50 graduate programs in public history, and another public history reader later, the field of public history is indeed alive and well, has gained a strong foothold in the United States and Canada, and, through the efforts of many NCPH members, is becoming better known in areas around the world. In their writings, Howe and Kemp also described the labor pains associated with the birth of a new academic field. Naturally, as that field matures, there are growing pains, challenges to endure, and tough decisions to make to ensure its future viability. During the course of its twenty-one year existence, the National Council on Public History has weathered the challenges of infancy and become a strong presence within the historical profession. Entering its third decade, the Council now faces those particular challenges that confront a maturing organization—sustaining membership growth, improving members' services, gaining greater visibility, increasing revenue, and ensuring financial stability. But, be assured that NCPH is in very good shape to take on those tasks in the months and years ahead.

**STAFF.** It is not commonly known that a half-time staff has maintained the operations of NCPH for many years. While this presents certain challenges of handling the needs of a growing national professional association, the staff has been successful in surmounting these limitations and accomplishing a great deal. In the spring of 2000, however, the NCPH Board of Directors took an important step to ensure the future stability of the organization by authorizing funds, in addition

to those contributed by the IUPUI School of Liberal Arts and Department of History, to make the administrative assistant a full-time position. This move will provide NCPH with consistent support in its day-to-day operations for the long term.

After a lengthy search during the summer and fall of 2000, we hired Dana Ward as the administrative assistant. An excellent addition to the staff, Dana has, since November, moved quickly into handling the multiple duties and increased responsibilities of the position. She has brought order to the filing system, overseen the redesign of the NCPH web site, and established a closer relationship with the UC Press customer service staff in order to ensure the highest quality of services to our members.

Every year, the IUPUI Department of History provides a new graduate intern for the NCPH Executive Offices. For the 2000-2001 academic year, Beth Herzog, a graduate of Ball State University, was our intern. Her principal task was to produce and edit the quarterly newsletter *Public History News*. Beth also continued the work of her predecessor by completing an update of the *Guide to Graduate Programs in Public History*, which we intend to publish later this fall. In addition, Beth assumed many day-to-day responsibilities during the fall of 2000 when the administrative assistant position was unfilled, thereby providing the director with much needed assistance as well as exposing her to the multifaceted responsibilities of historical administration.

Both staff members contribute a great deal to the success of the organization. When you next contact the office, please be sure to introduce yourself and thank these individuals for their work in maintaining the operations of NCPH.

Finally, I am particularly grateful to the NCPH Board of Directors for authorizing funds to remedy the staffing situation last year. I wish to thank Herman Saatkamp,

## NEW MEMBERS

- Kathy Birtles, Louisville, KY
- Regina Goehring, Burnt Hills, NY
- Katie Harrison, Cypress, TX
- Daniel Hutley, Cincinnati, OH
- John Jurgensmeyer, Waco, TX
- Carol Killebrew, Dobbins, CA
- Longmont Museum, Longmont, CO
- Michele Lyons, Bethesda, MD
- Xena Markine, Charlotte, NC
- Gregory Maynard, Sewanee, TN
- Messiah College, Grantham, PA
- Robert Mitchell, McClellanville, SC
- Philip Napoli, New York, NY
- Amy Pallante, Highland Park, NJ
- Preston Pierce, Canadavilla, NY
- Ramon Powers, Topeka, KS
- David Rotenstein, Silver Spring, MD
- Robert Schertzer, Wilkes Barre, PA
- Susan Shelton, Memphis, TN
- Erica Spinelli, Davis, CA
- T. Underhill, New Bern, NC
- UNICAMP, Birmingham, AL
- Heather Wade, Jasper, NY
- Karla Wheeler, New Berlin, WI

### Volume 21, Number 4 Summer 2001

A Quarterly Publication of the **National Council on Public History** in cooperation with the Department of History, Indiana University at Indianapolis.

- Patrick O'Bannon, President
- Rebecca Conard, Vice-President
- Alan S. Newell, Past President
- Sharon Babaian, Secretary-Treasurer
- David G. Vanderstel, Executive Director

dean of the IUPUI School of Liberal Arts, and Philip V. Scarpino, chair of the IUPUI Department of History and Robert G. Barrows, acting department chair for the past year, for their continued support of the NCPH Executive Offices.

> See Annual Report page 2

**FINANCES.** Although the official books are not yet closed as of this writing, the overall financial picture of NCPH was very good for the 2000-2001 fiscal year. We will provide a more detailed financial report in the fall newsletter, but a few preliminary items should serve to demonstrate the success of our year:

1. Revenue from the University of California Press, based upon membership and sales of *The Public Historian*, was approximately \$29,160.00, or approximately 95 percent of the projected \$30,629.00.
2. Income from sponsors and patrons remained fairly strong—\$8,250 of a budgeted \$9,750 (85%). Unfortunately, the inability to reach the budgeted amount can be attributed to several of NCPH's long-time sponsoring departments which, for various reasons, chose not to renew at the sponsor/patron level.
3. For the second consecutive year, The History Channel provided NCPH with \$10,000. These funds underwrote the development of the forthcoming *Guide to Graduate Programs* and the new *Careers for Students in History* as well as provided operational support of the Executive Offices.
4. We had very good news from the 2001 annual meeting in Ottawa. Although the official books are not yet closed, preliminary results indicate that NCPH cleared nearly \$15,000 on the meeting and the endowment fundraiser also made over \$3,000. This is an excellent reflection on the dedication of NCPH members to the organization as well as the leadership of the program, local arrangements, and endowment committees to provide a high quality annual meeting. Thanks are to be extended to all who made this meeting the success that it was.

**MEMBERSHIP.** The UC Press circulation and marketing report contained very good news for NCPH. A comparison of membership between the end-of-volume issue 1999 and the same for 2000 showed an overall increase from 1,515 to 1,632 (7.2 percent) with increases in all membership categories.

Individual memberships increased 7 percent and institutions increased 2.4 percent; the greatest increase came in the student category with a 22 percent increase—a most remarkable figure.

Renewal rates also were very good—90 percent for individuals; 76 percent for students; 97 percent for institutions. Conversion rates (i.e. members who renew for the first time) were somewhat lower, but is generally expected for those who join an organization on a trial basis to determine whether it meets their particular needs.

Membership news is indeed good and indicates that we are doing many things right. However, we must not rest on the laurels of these accomplishments and must push forward to recruit more members as well as work to increase the conversion rate among individuals and students. I would like to see all NCPH members, especially those in leadership positions, take a more active role in recruiting new people and institutions into the organization. In the meantime, we will continue to work with the UC Press marketing staff and the NCPH membership committee to develop target mailings to recruit new members for NCPH.

**H-PUBLIC.** The NCPH-sponsored listserv H-PUBLIC continues to be an important means of disseminating news and exchanging ideas about the public history field. We regularly distribute job announcements, calls for papers, workshop and internship opportunities, and assorted announcements from H-NET, including Bruce Craig's weekly *NCC Washington Updates*. There have been exchanges pertaining to careers and employment in public history, specific historical questions, and revisions to the NCPH bylaws. As of mid June 2001, subscriptions to the list had grown to 1,050, up from 450 since the appearance of H-PUBLIC in the fall of 1999. As a result, NCPH continues to gain exposure as other lists pick up our announcements and discussions.

**COLLABORATIONS.** NCPH has strengthened its relationship with other organizations during the past year.

1. NCPH worked with the Organization of American Historians to plan a joint meeting for 2002 in Washington D.C.,

which included an NCPH member as program co-chair for the first time.

2. NCPH entered into an agreement with the American Historical Association to develop a new "careers for students in history" booklet. We awarded the project to the public history program of the University of South Carolina, under the direction of Constance Schulz and with the assistance of Page Putnam Miller. The project should be completed by fall 2001.
3. NCPH worked with the National Park Service and Parks Canada to sponsor a fur trade workshop at Grand Portage National Monument in September 2000.
4. Members of NCPH worked with the American Association for State and Local History in a variety of capacities—as consultants for a study on diversity; as members of the 2001 annual meeting program; and as contributors to AASLH publications.
5. Through the work of former president Michael Devine, NCPH took the initial steps towards membership in the American Council of Learned Societies.
6. With the funding of an NEH planning grant, members of NCPH joined with journalists to plan a conference on addressing "contested places" in history.

#### **ENDOWMENT AND FUND RAISING.**

You can read elsewhere in this bulletin of reports about the status of the NCPH Endowment and the success that we have had in hosting special events and receiving donations from the friends and leaders of NCPH. While our total endowment stands at approximately \$118,000 (depending upon the state of the stock market), we must be more aggressive if we expect to reach our goal of \$200,000 by 2005. With that in mind, the NCPH Board supported my attendance last fall at a weeklong class on the principles and techniques of fund raising sponsored by the Indiana University Center on Philanthropy. As a result of my report to the board following this workshop, NCPH plans to embark upon a member-wide campaign later this year and to explore other external funding opportunities to support the operations of the Executive Offices, including a fulltime directorate.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES.** Each year, I include in my report to the Board a description of my professional activities, including those pertaining to the other half of my appointment at IUPUI. I intend that report to demonstrate not only how public history permeates all aspects of my professional and personal life, but also how NCPH gains exposure through my varied activities.

During the past year, I continued halftime as a Senior Research Associate/Historian with The Polis Center at IUPUI (a multidisciplinary research center devoted to the study of Indianapolis), a position that I have held since November 1990. I participated in the Project on Religion and Urban Culture, a study funded by The Lilly Endowment, for which I developed a series of curriculum materials on religion and community, and conducted a study of congregations in downtown Indianapolis.

I remain very active in history at the state and local level, working with diverse publics in different forums. I have given several public talks, served as a consultant on a historic preservation education project for a local Methodist church, and been re-appointed by the Indiana Historical Society and Indiana Historical Bureau to serve as Marion County Historian. This past spring, I was honored to become president-elect of the Indiana Association of Historians—the first public historian to hold that office. In addition, I prepared several articles for assorted publications, including entries on “urban history” and “county historians” for Carol Kammen’s *Encyclopedia of Local History* (AltaMira Press, 2000); an article on public history in Indiana for *The State of Indiana History 2000*, a collection of essays published by the Indiana Historical Society (summer 2001); an article on diversity in public history graduate programs for *History News* (Autumn 2000); and an essay on my personal research for *Vermont History* (Winter 2001).

**VISION FOR THE FUTURE.** As NCPH seeks to expand the practice of public history and to reach larger audiences about the importance of history in daily life, there are certain things, mentioned in Plan 2005, that I believe we should do in order to strengthen our foundation and nurture the organization’s continued growth.

1. NCPH needs to advocate for the inclusion of public history training in all history graduate problems.
2. NCPH needs to promote the teaching of an introduction to public history at the undergraduate level.
3. NCPH should work to develop workshops that introduce secondary school teachers to public history and how to enhance classroom teaching through applied history exercises.
4. NCPH should develop and sponsor regional careers workshops for students and an “introduction to public history” workshops for academics.
5. NCPH should seek broader exposure within the historical profession through joint meetings with other professional organizations and/or by developing “NCPH sponsored sessions” at those meetings.
6. NCPH needs to broaden its base of giving and increase the total amount of annual giving.
7. NCPH needs to continue to work towards organizational stability—in long-term staffing, institutional support, and financial support.

I wholeheartedly embrace Plan 2005, our long-range plan drafted and adopted last year, and look forward to working with the Board and NCPH members in seeking to fulfill the ambitious goals set forth in that document.

**CONCLUSIONS.** Come mid-August 2001, I will have completed seven years as your Executive Director. I have thoroughly enjoyed my work over the years and the many challenges that have accompanied the position.

I wish to reiterate my appreciation to Dean Herman Saatkamp of the School of Liberal Arts at IUPUI who continues to provide strong support for the organization. I also appreciate the support received during the past year from colleagues Phil Scarpino, Elizabeth Brand Monroe, and Robert G. Barrows within the history department.

I have valued my affiliation with NCPH over the past seven years. With your assistance and guidance, I believe that we have been able to accomplish a great deal. I have worked hard to improve the efficiency

of the office’s operations; to ensure good and timely service for our members; to advance the cause of public history; and to fulfill the goals of Plan 2005. As I have worked towards those ends, I have appreciated and valued the assistance and advice of officers, board members, committee members, and regular NCPH members. It has been a particular pleasure to work with now past president Alan Newell to address the particular issues and challenges facing NCPH, and I look forward to do the same with current president Patrick O’Bannon.

In conclusion, I wish to thank you for your trust and continued support for my work in this position. As always, I welcome your advice and constructive criticism to ensure that NCPH works and operates efficiently and achieves the many goals which we have established for the years to come.

Respectfully submitted,  
David G. Vanderstel  
Executive Director  
July 2001



**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 President Patrick O’Bannon, HRA Gray & Pape, 119 Pine Street, Seattle, WA 98101, (206) 343-0226; E-mail pobannon@hrapp.com; or David G. Vanderstel, NCPH, Cavanaugh 327, IUPUI, 425 University Blvd., Indianapolis, IN 46202-5140; (317) 274-2716; E-mail: ncph@iupui.edu.

**For change of address, write** UC Press, 2000 Center St., Suite 303, Berkeley, CA 94704-1223.

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

## PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS



by Patrick O'Bannon  
pobannon@hragp.com

Well, here we go. I don't have any intention of departing from tradition, and plan to use the President's Comments to report on issues of importance to both public historians and the NCPH. But not this time. As many of you know, this first column catches me in the immediate aftermath of a move across country from Cincinnati to Seattle. Public history has taken a back seat to such mundane concerns as re-registering my car and figuring out the location of the closest grocery store. The dust has settled somewhat and I'm writing committee charges and generally trying to play catch up with my presidential duties.

This isn't to say that public history has been totally off my radar screen for the past few weeks. I drove to Seattle and stopped at a few historic sites enroute. I was struck by the power of place to convey a sense of history and to add flesh to the bare bones of

written accounts. In Wyoming the site of Fort Phil Kearney, an important military outpost built shortly after the Civil War to protect wagon trains bound to and from Montana's gold fields, lies within sight of the interstate. The fort has not been reconstructed, only the corners of the stockade, and metal stakes mark building corners within the perimeter. The setting is beautiful, with green hills rising around the site. Beautiful, and oddly claustrophobic. This is where the Lakota and Cheyenne lured a cocky Army officer beyond a ridge he'd been ordered not to cross and wiped out his entire command. Standing at the site one senses just how isolated this place was in the late 1860s; a sensation that can only be a fraction of that experienced by those troops stationed at this remote outpost. The sense of isolation gave way to one of vulnerability when I discovered that the three "cattle" grazing atop a ridge overlooking the post were actually cutouts of mounted Native American warriors. The occupants of the fort must have sensed the watchful eyes of the Lakota and Cheyenne on them every day. If I'd walked to the top of the ridge and looked down onto the fort site I'm certain I would have sensed how intrusive and invasive the stockade and its occupants appeared to the Native Americans.

My experience wasn't mystical. It confirmed many of the insights we heard in Ottawa, where the conference focused on public historians and place. I realized how fortunate we are to be public historians. We get to go outside the libraries and the archives and work with actual artifacts, buildings, and places. Our experience of history is richer as a result.

I also recognized my personal, and our collective, good fortune at a recent college reunion (you'll have to do your own research to find out what number). Friends and classmates working as doctors, lawyers, and software developers looked wistful when I told them what I do for a living and commented on how lucky I was to be working in my chosen field.

We are lucky. I suspect all of us chose to be historians. It's simply not a profession one enters to earn lots of money or because of parental pressure. We're all doing something we love and, in my opinion, as public historians we work within an area of the profession that, because of its emphasis upon material culture, the built environment, and fieldwork enables us to approach the past just a little bit more closely than some of our colleagues.

And next time, I promise to adhere to tradition and report on issues.

Coming in Fall 2001!

### The 2001-2002 edition of the *Guide to Graduate Programs in Public History*

Filled with the latest information on public history programs in the US and Canada. An excellent resource for department libraries, career resource centers, and general reference collections.

Watch for forthcoming information on how to order this new volume.

# NCC WASHINGTON UPDATE



by Bruce Craig, National Coordinating Committee for the Promotion of History  
<rbcraig3@juno.com>

## GENERAL MOTORS/SMITHSONIAN NEGOTIATE \$10 MILLION

**DONATION** — The Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History is in negotiation with General Motors Corporation (GM) for a \$10 million gift toward \$20 million needed to expedite the preparation of an exhibition called "America On the Move." The 20,000 square foot transportation hall, which currently tells the story of the development of travel in the US, has not been refurbished since the museum opened in 1964. In exchange for the donation, the exhibit hall would be named the "General Motors Hall of Transportation" for a period of thirty years, thus guaranteeing GM some lucrative visibility. Assuming negotiations conclude with an agreement and that the Smithsonian Board of Regents formally approves the agreement during their September meeting, this will be the first instance of naming an exhibit hall for a corporation inside the

National Museum of American History. According to informed sources, the naming opportunity was presented to the Regents in a meeting earlier this summer and was approved "in principle." Naming exhibitions in public display and public service areas to recognize a sponsor is not a ground-breaking development for the Smithsonian--the National Zoo's "Fuji Film Giant Panda Conservation Center" and the "Discovery Center" (named for the sponsor, Discovery Communications)—are but two examples. According to sources inside the Smithsonian, GM wants to attach its corporate name on the "America On the Move" exhibit; Smithsonian officials have stated that GM officials are not asking for anything in return for their money. "In order to do these exhibitions, one has to work with the corporate world of donors," said Spencer Crew, the history museum's director. According to GM Director of Public Policy Communications, Bill Noack, "We have no influence in the content." Nevertheless, the project has its critics. A July 20 editorial in the *San Francisco Chronicle* questions the "brand naming" of the Smithsonian and expressed concern about the trend of "creeping commercialism" at the Institution. Also, consumer advocate Ralph Nader has called upon Smithsonian Secretary Lawrence Small to reconsider accepting the donation.

"To let GM be associated with and influential over a transportation exhibit," stated Nader, "is to confess to a complete abdication of any standards of museum integrity and independence." Other contributors to the transportation hall renovation project include \$3 million from the US Department of Transportation and donations of \$1 million each from the United Parcel Service, the National Asphalt Pavement Association, and the American Road and Transportation Builders Association.

## NCPH AWARDS ANNOUNCEMENT

The National Council on Public History will soon be announcing details on the nomination process for its awards program. This includes recognition for new professionals, outstanding student project, and the Robert Kelley Award for contributions to the field of public history.

In the coming weeks, be thinking about possible nominees for the awards. Then, watch for details on H-PUBLIC, the NCPH web site [www.ncph.org](http://www.ncph.org), and in the fall issue of *Public History News*.

## NEW DIRECTOR OF NPS NOMINATED

In early June, President George W. Bush announced the nomination of Fran P. Mainella to be the new director of the National Park Service.

Fran Mainella is the Director of the Division of Recreation and Parks for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. She has over 30 years of experience in the field of park and recreation with a Bachelor of Science and a Master's Degree. Fran is immediate past-president of the National Association of State Park Directors; past-president of the National Recreation and Park Association; and secretary of Florida A & M University's Landscape Design and Management Program's Advisory Council. Fran also serves as the Outdoor Recreational State Liaison Officer for the state

of Florida administering Land and Water Conservation Fund grants. She is a member of the Florida Tourism Commission and the statewide Eco-Tourism/Heritage Tourism Committee. Fran oversees the administration of 153 state parks consisting of more than 500,000 acres. Her supervision of eight bureaus, two offices, and over 1000 employees has led to many accomplishments for the Florida Park Service. Most recently, at the National Recreation and Park Association Annual Congress meeting in Nashville, Tennessee, the National Sporting Goods Association awarded the prestigious 1999 "State Parks Gold Medal" to Florida's state park system, recognizing it as the best state park system in all 50 states.

# ANNUAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

## AWARDS

James B. Gardner, Chair

With competition announcements published and issues related to the Kelley Award resolved by the NCPH Board in fall 2000 based on recommendations from the committee, the Awards Committee turned its attention to the most rewarding part of our assignment—selecting award recipients. Members of the Committee chaired the individual award committees:

Student Project Award—Fritz Hamer (chair), Susan Asbury (2000 recipient), and Kathy Hilliard (2000 recipient)

New Professional Travel Award—Anne Valk (chair) and Michael Kelleher (2000 recipient)

Michael C. Robinson Prize for Historical Analysis—Howard S. Miller (chair), Gordon Olson, and Frank Schubert

I am pleased to report that the following received awards at the Ottawa meeting:

Student Project Public History Award—Debra DeRuyver, Jennifer Evans, James Melzer, and Emma Wilmer for development of the Public History Resource Center and web site.

New Professional Travel Awards—Kathryn Scott Wollan, Historic Resources Group, and James Holton, Polk County (FL) Historical Museum

Michael C. Robinson Prize—Janelle Warren-Findley, Arizona State University, "Human Heritage Management in New Zealand"

Other NCPH award recipients for 2001 were:

G. Wesley Johnson Prize—Peter Liebhold, National Museum of American History, for "Experiences from the Front Line: Presenting a Controversial Exhibition during the Culture Wars," *The Public Historian* (Summer 2000)

Robert Kelley Memorial Award—Debra Bernhardt, Robert Wagner Labor Archives, New York University.

Over the coming year, the committee will continue to work on the possibility of establishing awards for exhibitions and books.

## CONSULTANTS

Jason H. Gart, Chair

The 2000-2001 year marks continued changes for the Consultants' Committee. Charged with promoting the interests of NCPH members who provide historical services as consultants, contractors, or independent historians, the committee is continuing its goal of increasing awareness and interest via new, low-cost initiatives.

The Consultants' Committee is committed to three important initiatives. The first objective is to increase our exposure with historical consultants and professional associations operating outside of the United States. Organizations such as the Professional Historians Association (PHA) in Sydney, Australia have done an extraordinary job of meeting the unique needs of consultants and contract firms.

The Consultants' Committee is also interested in developing a "Contracting Handbook for Consultants" by working closely with the Publications and Electronic Communications Committee. The handbook will provide basic information on the contracting field and be a valuable resource for all public history professionals.

Finally, the Consultants' Committee is dedicated to continuing the "Consultant's Corner" column in *Public History News*. Over the last several years the column has been an important medium for highlighting the accomplishments and activities of contract historians, contract firms, and independent scholars.

I would like to thank the NCPH Board of Directors and the Executive Director for their support and assistance. It has been a pleasure serving as chair for the past several years.

## CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

*No report submitted; committee being reorganized.*

## CURRICULUM AND TRAINING

Patricia Mooney-Melvin, Chair

The Committee had two basic charges: (1) arrange the "Careers in Public History Workshop" for the Ottawa meeting; and (2) prepare a set of public history program

guidelines to make available for departments interested in establishing public history programs and to post elsewhere.

The careers workshop at the annual meeting included three sections: (1) Historic Sites and Parks—Dennis Cremin, National Trust for Historic Preservation; Leslie Maitland and Philip Golding, Parks Canada; Beth Boland, National Park Service; (2) Archives and Historical Agencies: Amy Wilson, Chemung County Historical Society; Yves Marcoux, National Archives of Canada; Murney Gurlach, Rhode Island Historical Society; and (3) Consulting: Lisa Mighetto, Historical Research Associates, Inc.; Fred Hosking, Public History, Inc.; Susan Bugey, Universite de Montreal.

The committee has also begun discussions on how to develop public history program guidelines.

In addition, the committee sponsored the public history program directors' breakfast at the annual meeting in Ottawa. Phil Katz, research director of the AHA graduate education task force, discussed the current AHA study on graduate history education.

## ENDOWMENT

Marianne Babal, Chair

At the annual meeting in Ottawa, nearly one hundred people attended the NCPH Endowment fundraising event, which was held at the Royal Canadian Mounted Police training college outside Ottawa. An appreciative crowd marveled at the equestrian skill and precision of the RCMP riders wearing the famous scarlet serge tunics performing their famous "Musical Ride." Our command performance was the troop's first public appearance of the year, and NCPH members were privileged to witness the spectacle in the company of the officers' families. Afterward, refreshments were served in the college's lounge. RCMP historian Dr. Bill Beahen arranged the event and solicited sponsorship for the catering afterward. Thanks to his efforts and those of the local arrangements committee, our expenses for the evening's event were limited to transportation costs only, yielding an anticipated net profit to the endowment fund in excess of \$3,000.

## FINANCE—REPORT ON NCPH ENDOWMENT

Dwight T. Pitcaithley

The NCPH Endowment had a remarkable year during 2000, thanks to the conservative stance recommended by the Board. The market, for the first time in recent memory, had a dismal year with the Dow Jones down 6.2 percent and the S&P down a stunning 9.1 percent! The NCPH Endowment, however, ended the year up 6.74 percent. The particulars are as follows:

Total Vanguard Portfolio	
12.31.99	12.31.00
\$98,253.00	\$112,876.06

The target allocation determined by the Board of 50 percent in Wellesley, 25 percent in the S&P 500 index fund, and 25 percent in Money Market Prime has been altered slightly because of the unusual market returns during 2000. The current totals, allocations, and returns are as follows.

### YTD Fund Return

Vanguard Wellesley Income Fund  
\$53,598.50 (47.5%) +16.17%

Vanguard 500 Index Fund  
\$24,834.95 (22%) -9.06%

Vanguard Prime Money Market Fund  
\$34,442.610 (30.5%) +6.29%

What 2001 will bring remains a question. So far it appears to be a repeat of 2000. Several market prognosticators, however, are suggesting that the bear's roar is weakening and that the end of the year may bring back the bull although not with such aggressiveness we have seen over the past decade. In any event, I think the endowment is well positioned to provide NCPH a healthy return given the otherwise poor state of the market. If the S&P 500 is able to end the year even slightly in the black, the Endowment will, indeed, be in good shape.

You will recall that Plan 2005 envisions the Endowment growing to \$200,000 by the year 2005. We will need to be attentive to the Endowment if we are to meet this goal. With an annual growth rate of 6.74 percent AND without any increases from the annual conference or endowment fund-raising, the fund will only reach \$146,524. At the same growth level (6.74 percent) and an annual

contribution of \$8,000 (the 2000 increase), the fund will reach \$183,635. However, even a slight increase in the annual contribution and a slight increase in the annual return will put NCPH very close to its projected goal. Decreases in these same areas will, of course, put the Endowment further away from its goal.

## HISTORY AND THE NATIONAL PARKS

Robert Weible, Chair

Through the work of the committee, NCPH received a planning grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to develop a symposium with the working title "Contested Places: From the Civil War to the Cold War." The proposed symposium would bring together historians and journalists to discuss the ways in which the two professions present history and historical issues to the public; and the event would hopefully strengthen relations between the professions and raise public historical awareness. Planners met at Gettysburg College on 16-17 November 2000 and clarified objectives for long-term goals and program formulation, including the identification of speakers, discussion topics, and potential funding sources.

## MEMBERSHIP

Dee Harris and Amy Wilson, Co-Chairs

The charges for the NCPH Membership Committee for the term 2000-2001 were threefold: find ways to encourage recent public history graduates to "transition" to full-time NCPH members; identify and recruit new Canadian members; and increase student membership.

The committee administered 260 surveys to non-renewing graduate students in March 2001. These surveys, approved by the board at the October 2000 meeting, were intended to identify actions that NCPH can undertake to encourage individuals to retain their membership.

The committee continued work to increase Canadian membership by exchanging membership lists with several Canadian organizations, including the National History Society and Heritage Canada Foundation.

The committee is also working to

increase student membership to meet the goal of 400 student members by 2005. We intend to contact public history graduate programs and provide membership materials that would be distributed to each student in the program every fall.

We are continuing efforts to make the process of joining NCPH easier. The University Press of California section of the NCPH web site has been retooled to be more user-friendly. Potential members now get a screen that specifically states that they are joining NCPH, rather than purchasing a journal through the Press. We also recommend that the NCPH Executive Offices maintain the membership database.

## NOMINATING

Martha Norkunas, Chair

After some discussion in the spring of 2000 with David Vanderstel and Alan Newell the committee decided to try to open up the nominating process so that interested parties, who may not be known to Nominating Committee members, could express their interest in running for various NCPH positions. The Executive Offices posted a message on the NCPH web list and in the quarterly newsletter, but surprisingly no one came forward to express his or her interest in either running for a position or serving on a committee. Still the effort to open the process up to the general membership and beyond via the Internet was worthwhile.

The nominating committee was charged with coming up with a slate of possible candidates during the summer of 2000, which it accomplished by the early fall. Given its experiences in recruiting candidates, the committee made some recommendations to the NCPH Board.

The Committee recommended that the process of pairing candidates on the ballot for Board and Nominating Committee positions be discontinued. Some potential candidates in last year's pool declined to run due to the pairing process, which results in two NCPH members running against each other. An open ballot in which members chose three names from among six listed candidates is instead proposed. We believe the benefits of an election from a group of candidates far outweigh

the drawback of paired elections.

The Committee also supported revisions to the NCPH bylaws, which allows for the designation of a single candidate for Vice President/President-Elect, rather than having a paired election. This position is based upon candidates expressing reservations about running against a fellow NCPH colleague and the potential for losing leadership of talented NCPH members who are hesitant about allowing their names to stand again for election. The committee acknowledges that selecting a single nominee for the position of Vice President places a much greater responsibility on the committee and recommends that the Board develop guidelines for the selection of future candidates, such as the nominee should have served on the Board or in an equivalent position, the nominee must be a member of NCPH for a certain number of years, and/or the nominee should be able to articulate a vision for his or her presidency. [Editor's Note: After a public announcement of intent and a subsequent conversation, the NCPH Board voted 28 October 2000 to change the bylaws regarding the selection of Vice President to allow the designation of

a single candidate for that office.]

I have appreciated the opportunity to serve NPCH in the capacity of Chair of the Nominating Committee. Over the course of the last three years I have found the nominating process to be professional, respectful and thoughtful.

## PUBLICATIONS AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

Robert Weyeneth, Chair

Our committee had two charges for the year: (1) to oversee revision of the *Careers for Students in History* booklet and (2) to work with the editorial board of *The Public Historian* and the University of California Press to start an electronic publishing program for the journal. Let me give you a progress report on each charge.

Connie Schulz, Page Miller, and two graduate students in the Public History Program here at the University of South Carolina completed a draft manuscript for the updated *Careers* booklet, which will be published in conjunction with the American Historical Association. We hope that the

booklet will be published later in 2001.

Futures issues of *The Public Historian* will now appear in both hard copy and electronic formats, so the chief issue here has been how to create an electronic "archive" for the first 20 years of the journal. We have two solutions, one for the last 5 years and one for the first 15 years of *TPH*. On the former, Rebecca Simon and UC Press currently have the last 5 years in electronic format, and Rebecca believes that the Catchword Company may be able to get these online at a cost to NCPH of about \$2,000.

With regards to digitalizing and making accessible the first 15 years of *TPH*, the committee reported to the board at its October 2000 meeting on the possibility of undertaking this process. It proposed scanning hard copies of the journal into a fully searchable electronic text that could be mounted on the web, as Betty Koed has been able to do successfully at the US Senate Historical Office with oral history transcripts. The committee hopes that NCPH will be able to secure funds to underwrite this project.

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Patrick O'Bannon - President  
HRA Gray & Pape, LLC  
119 Pine Street, Suite 207  
Seattle, WA 98101  
(206) 343-0226  
(206) 343-0249 (fax)  
e-mail: pobannon@hragp.com

Rebecca Conard - Vice President  
Department of History  
Middle Tennessee State University  
Murfreesboro, TN 37132  
(615) 898-2432  
(615) 898-5882 (fax)  
e-mail: rconard@mtsu.edu

Sharon Babaian - Secretary/Treasurer  
National Museum of Science and  
Technology  
PO Box 9724, Station T  
Ottawa, ONT Canada K1G 5A3  
(613) 996-0769  
(613) 990-3636 (fax)  
e-mail: sbabaian@nmstc.ca

Alan S. Newell - Past-President  
Historical Research Associates, Inc.  
125 Bank Street, 5th floor  
Missoula, MT 59807-7086  
(406) 721-1958  
(406) 721-1964 (fax)  
E-mail: anewell@hrassoc.com

David Neufeld  
Parks Canada  
#205 300 Main Street  
Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2B5 CANADA  
e-mail: dave\_neufeld@pch.gc.ca

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND EDITOR, *PUBLIC HISTORY NEWS*

David G. Vanderstel  
NCPH  
Cavanaugh 327 - IUPUI  
425 University Blvd.  
Indianapolis, IN 46202-5140  
(317) 274-2718  
(317) 274-2347 (fax)  
e-mail: dvanders@iupui.edu

Dana Ward  
Assistant to the Executive Director  
NCPH  
Cavanaugh 327 - IUPUI  
425 University Boulevard  
Indianapolis, IN 46202-5140  
(317) 274-2716  
(317) 274-2347 (fax)  
email: dmward@ncph.org

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Cindy Brandimarte  
808 Westlake Dr.  
Austin, TX 78703  
(512) 245-3043  
e-mail: cindybrand@aol.com

Jessica Elfenbein  
Director, Public History Specialization  
University of Baltimore  
1420 N Charles Street  
Baltimore, MD 21201  
(410) 837-5340  
e-mail: jelfenbein@UBmail.ubalt.edu

Larry Gall  
National Park Service  
215 Highland Ave  
Arlington, MA 02476  
(317) 643-2014  
e-mail: larry\_gall@nps.gov

Andrew Gulliford  
Director, Center of Southwest Studies  
Fort Lewis College  
1000 Rim Drive  
Durango, CO 81301-3999  
(970) 247-7456  
e-mail: agulliford@compuserve.com  
gulliford\_a@fortlewis.edu

Victoria Harden  
4503 Avamere St.  
Bethesda, MD 20814-3930  
e-mail: vharden@helix.nih.gov

David Neufeld  
Parks Canada  
#205 300 Main Street  
Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2B5 CANADA  
e-mail: dave\_neufeld@pch.gc.ca

Linda Shopes  
Division of History  
Pennsylvania Historical  
& Museum Commission  
Keystone Commonwealth Building -  
Plaza Level  
400 North Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0053  
717/772-3257  
717/214-2989 (fax)  
e-mail: lshopes@state.pa.us

Marie Tyler-McGraw  
4383 Embassy Park Drive NW  
Washington, DC 200166  
(202) 362-9273  
e-mail: mtylermc@intrepid.net

Judith Wellman  
2 Harris Hill Rd  
Fulton, NY 13064  
e-mail: wellman@oswego.edu

## *THE PUBLIC HISTORIAN*

Ann Marie Plane - Editor  
Department of History  
University of California  
Santa Barbara, CA 93106  
(805) 893-2713  
(805) 893-8795 (fax)  
e-mail: plane@humanitas.ucsb.edu

Lindsey Reed- Managing Editor  
Department of History  
University of California  
Santa Barbara, CA 93106  
(805) 893-3667  
(805) 893-7522 (fax)  
e-mail: lreed@ltsc.ucsb.edu

## *THE PUBLIC HISTORIAN* EDITORIAL BOARD

### Term 1999-01

Kathi Ann Brown  
Milestones Historical Consultants  
2608 Jefferson Park Circle  
Charlottesville VA 22903  
804-923-8720  
804-923-8721 (fax)  
e-mail: KathiBrown@aol.com

Paul H. Mattingly  
Department of History, #508  
New York University  
50 Washington Square South KJCC  
New York, NY 10012  
212-998-8631  
212-995-4017 (fax)  
e-mail: phm2@is2.nyu.edu

Donald L. Stevens, Jr.  
National Park Service  
1709 Jackson Street  
Omaha, NE 68102-2571  
402-221-3915  
e-mail: don\_stevens@nps.gov

Robert R. Weyeneth  
Department of History  
University of South Carolina  
Columbia SC 29208  
803-777-6398  
e-mail: weyeneth@sc.edu

#### **Term 2000-02**

Marty Blatt  
Cultural Resources  
Boston National Historical Park  
Charlestown Navy Yard  
Boston, MA 02129  
617-242-5648  
e-mail: Marty\_Blatt@nps.gov

Betty Koed  
U.S. Senate Historical Office SH-201  
Washington, DC 20510-7108  
(202) 224-0753  
e-mail: Betty\_Koed@sec.senate.com

Patricia Mooney-Melvin (97-02)  
Department of History  
Loyola University Chicago  
6525 N. Sheridan Road  
Chicago IL 60626  
708-733-8605 (h)  
773-508-2238 (w)  
773-508-2292  
e-mail: pmooney@luc.edu

Antonio Rios-Bustamante  
Department of History  
PO Box 3198 Room 159  
History Building  
University of Wyoming, Laramie  
Laramie WY 82071  
e-mail: Riosbusa@uwoyo.edu

#### **Term 2001-03**

Catherine Christen (2001-03)  
1500 Remount Road  
Front Royal, VA 22630  
(540) 636-8902  
e-mail: Chritwi@aol.com

James Gardner (95-03)  
National Museum of American History  
NMAH Room 4605  
14th Street & Constitution Ave NW  
Washington, DC 20560-0638  
202-363-3420 (h)  
202-357-1963 (w)  
202-633-8192 (fax)  
e-mail: gardnerj@nmah.si.edu

Lisa Mighetto (2001-03)  
Historical Research Associates, Inc.  
207 Doyle Building  
119 Pine Street  
Seattle, WA 98101  
206-343-0226 (w)  
206-343-0249 (fax)  
e-mail: mighetto@hrassoc.com

Marla Miller (2001-03)  
Department of History, Herter Hall  
University of Massachusetts  
161 Presidents Drive  
Amherst, MA 01003-9312  
413-545-4256  
413-545-6137 (fax)  
e-mail: mmiller@history.umass.edu

Eric Sandweiss (1999-2003)  
Missouri Historical Society  
PO Box 11940  
St. Louis, MO 63112-0040  
314-746-4561  
e-mail: sesandw@jinx.umsl.edu

#### **Special Editors**

Gerry Herman (film/media, appt. 1994)  
Department of History  
Northeastern University  
Boston, MA 02115  
617-373-2660 or 373-4441 (w)  
617-373-2661 (fax)  
e-mail: g.berman@neu.edu

Teresa Barnett (oral history, appt. 2000)  
Oral History Program  
A253 Bunche Hall  
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Los Angeles CA 90095-1575  
e-mail: tbarnett@library.ucla.edu

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Old Independence Regional Museum  
380 S. Ninth Street  
PO Box 4506  
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#### **AWARDS COMMITTEE**

James Gardner, Chair  
4000 Massachusetts Ave, NW, #228  
Washington, DC 20016-5108  
(202) 363-3420  
(202) 785-3948 (fax)  
e-mail: gardnerj@nmah.si.edu

Fritz Hamer (appointed 1999)  
South Carolina State Museum  
P.O. Box 100107  
Columbia, SC 29202  
(803) 898-4942

Howard S. (Dick) Miller (appointed 1999)  
205 Kern Ave.  
Morro Bay, CA 93442  
(805) 772-5790  
(805) 772-6088 (fax)  
e-mail: slomiller@aol.com

Marie Tyler-McGraw (appointed 2000)  
(Board Representative)  
4383 Embassy Park Drive NW  
Washington, DC 200166  
(202) 362-9273  
e-mail: mtylermc@intrepid.net

Anne Valk (appointed 1999)  
Box 1454 Historical Studies  
Southern Illinois University  
Edwardsville, IL 62026  
e-mail: avalk@siui.edu

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Judith Wellman, Chair (appointed 2001)  
2 Harris Hill Rd  
Fulton, NY 13064  
e-mail: wellman@oswego.edu

Lee Anderson/Kathy Penningroth  
(appointed 2000)  
A&P Historical Resources  
806 Fifth Street #110  
Coralville, Iowa 52241  
(319) 358-6566  
(319) 358-9992 (fax)  
e-mail: APHistRes@aol.com

Robert Carriker (appointed 2000)  
History and Geography  
University of Southern Louisiana  
P.O. Box 42531  
Lafayette, LA 70504-2287  
e-mail: carriker@louisiana.edu

Christopher Clarke (appointed 1999)  
110 Greystone Lane #9  
Rochester, NY 14618  
(716) 473-4025  
e-mail: clarkeaz@aol.com

Amy Dase (appointed 2001)  
Prewitt & Assocs. Inc.  
7701 N. Lamar Suite 104  
Austin, TX 78752 1012  
(512) 459-3349  
(512) 459-3851 (fax)  
e-mail: adase@paiarch.com

Mathia N. Scherer (appointed 2001)  
Historian, AMEC Earth & Environmental  
690 Commonwealth Center  
11003 Bluegrass Parkway  
Louisville, KY 40299  
(502) 267-0700 x150  
(502) 267-5900 (fax)  
e-mail: mathia.scherer@amec.com

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Michael Kelleher  
Building Conservation Associates  
902 Broadway, Suite 1601  
New York, NY 10010  
(212) 777-1300  
(212) 777-1607 (fax)  
e-mail: mkelleher@bcausa.com

Donna M. Neary  
1435 Willow Avenue  
Louisville, KY 40204  
(502) 456-2239  
e-mail: willow435@earthlink.net

Garneth O. Peterson  
BRW  
700 Third Street South  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415

Mary Beth Reed  
New South Associates, Inc.  
6150 E. Ponce de Leon Ave  
Stone Mountain, GA 30083

Andrew Schmidt  
Jones & Stokes  
2600 V Street  
Sacramento, CA 95818  
(916) 737-3000  
e-mail: andrews@jsanet.com

## CURRICULUM AND TRAINING

Patricia Mooney-Melvin, Chair  
Dept. of History  
Loyola University of Chicago  
6525 North Sheridan Rd  
Chicago, IL 60626  
(773) 508-2238  
(773) 508-2153 (fax)  
e-mail: pmooney@luc.edu

Cindy Brandimarte  
(Board Representative)  
808 Westlake Dr.  
Austin, TX 78703  
(512) 245-3043  
e-mail: cindybrand@aol.com

Thomas Charlton (appointed 2000)  
Baylor University  
2915 Sanger Ave.  
Waco, TX 76707  
(817) 752-4300  
e-mail: thomas\_charlton@baylor.edu

Andrew Gulliford  
(Board Representative)  
Director, Center of Southwest Studies  
Fort Lewis College  
1000 Rim Drive  
Durango, CO 81301  
(970) 247-7494  
(970) 247-7422 (fax)  
e-mail: agulliford@compuserve.com

Jay Price (appointed 2000)  
Department of History  
304 Fiske Hall  
Wichita State University  
Wichita, Kansas 67260-0045  
e-mail: jprice@twsu.edu

Linda Shopes (appointed 2001)  
Division of History  
Pennsylvania Historical  
& Museum Commission  
Keystone Commonwealth Building -  
Plaza Level  
400 North Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17120  
(717) 772-3257  
(717) 214-2989 (fax)  
e-mail: lshopes@state.pa.us

## ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

Martha Norkunas, Chair (appointed 2001)  
12401 Adelphi Ct  
Austin, TX 78727-5301  
e-mail: m.norkunas@mail.utexas.edu

Catherine Christen (appointed 2001)  
3021 4th Street N.  
Arlington, VA 22201  
e-mail: chritwi@aol.com

Larry Gall (Board Representative)  
215 Highland Avenue  
Arlington, MA 02476-7847  
(617) 643-2014  
e-mail: larry\_gall@nps.gov

Virginia Stewart (appointed 1999)  
University of North Carolina - Wilmington  
601 S. College Rd  
Wilmington, NC 28403  
e-mail: stewartv@uncwil.edu

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Sharon Babaian - Secretary/Treasurer  
National Museum of Science  
and Technology  
PO Box 9724, Station T  
Ottawa, ONT Canada K1G 5A3  
(613) 996-0769  
(613) 990-3636 (fax)  
e-mail: sbabaian@nmstc.ca

*Appointments pending*

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David Glassberg  
Department of History  
University of Massachusetts  
Amherst, MA  
(413) 544-4252  
e-mail: glassberg@history.umass.edu

Mary Abroe  
212 Woodbine Ave.  
Wilmette, IL 60091  
(773) 508-2221  
e-mail: drmjmaabroe@compuserve.com

Jeffrey Brown  
Department of History  
New Mexico State University  
Las Cruces, NM 88003  
(505) 646-2003  
e-mail: jbrown@nmsu.edu

Larry Gall (Board Rep)  
National Park Service  
215 Highland Ave  
Arlington, MA 02476  
(317) 643-2014  
e-mail: larry\_gall@nps.gov

Andrew Gulliford  
Director, Center of Southwest Studies  
Fort Lewis College  
1000 Rim Drive  
Durango, CO 81301-3999  
(970) 247-7456  
e-mail: agulliford@compuserve.com  
gulliford\_a@fortlewis.edu

Randall Miller  
Department of History  
St. Joseph's University  
244 Sagamore Road  
Havertown, PA 19083  
(610) 853-1370  
e-mail: miller@sju.edu

Dwight Pitcaithley  
National Park Service  
1849 C Street NW, Suite 400  
Washington, DC 20040  
(202) 343-8167  
e-mail: dwight\_pitcaithley@nps.gov

Donald L. Stevens, Jr.  
National Park Service  
1709 Jackson Street  
Omaha, NE 68102-2571  
402-221-3915  
e-mail: don\_stevens@nps.gov

## **LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Alan S. Newell, Chair (appointed 2001)  
Historical Research Associates, Inc.  
125 Bank Street, 5th floor  
Missoula, MT 59802  
(406) 721-1958  
(406) 721-1964 (fax)  
e-mail: anewell@hrassoc.com

Jeffrey P. Brown (appointed 1999)  
Department of History  
New Mexico State University  
Las Cruces, NM 88003  
(505) 646-2003  
(505) 646-6096 (fax)  
e-mail: jbrown@nmsu.edu

Michael J. Devine  
Harry S. Truman Library  
500 W. US Highway 24  
Independence, MO 64050

Lorne McWatters (appointed 2000)  
Department of History  
Middle Tennessee State University  
P.O. Box 23  
Murfreesboro, TN 37132  
e-mail: dmcwatte@mtsu.edu

Philip Scarpino (appointed 1999)  
Department of History  
530 Cavanaugh Hall IUPUI  
425 University Blvd.  
Indianapolis, IN 46202-5140  
e-mail: pscarpin@iupui.edu

## **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

Dee Harris, co-chair (appointed 2000)  
Smoky Hill Museum  
211 W Iron, PO Box 101  
Salina, KS 67402-0101  
(785) 826-7460  
(785) 826-7141 (fax)  
e-mail: dee.harris@salina.org

Amy Wilson, co-chair  
407 Laurentian Place, Apt #1  
Elmira, NY 14904  
(607) 576-9835  
e-mail: amyhelen@aol.com

Rebecca Conard (appointed 2001)  
(NCPH Vice-President)  
Department of History  
Middle Tennessee State University  
Murfreesboro, TN 37132  
(615) 898-2432  
(615) 898-5882 (fax)  
e-mail: rconard@mtsu.edu

Rose Diaz (appointed 2000)  
Center for Southwest Research  
University of New Mexico  
Albuquerque, NM 87131  
(505) 255-6811  
(505) 277-6019 (fax)  
e-mail: rosediaz@unm.edu

Victoria Harden  
(Board Representative)  
4503 Avamere St.  
Bethesda, MD 20814  
(301) 496-6610  
e-mail: vharden@helix.nih.gov

Connie Schulz (appointed 1999)  
Department of History  
University of South Carolina  
Columbia, SC 29208  
(803) 777-4854  
e-mail: schulz@sc.edu

## **NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Vivien Rose (elected 2000)  
Women's Rights National Historic Park  
National Park Service  
136 Fall Street  
Seneca Falls, NY 13148  
(315) 568-0007  
e-mail: vivien\_rose@nps.gov

James Delgado (elected 2000)  
Vancouver Maritime Museum  
1905 Ogden Ave.  
Vancouver, PQ V6J 1A3 Canada

Daniel Gallacher (elected 2001)  
History Division  
Canadian Museum of Civilization  
100 Laurier Street  
Hull, Quebec J8X 4H2 Canada  
(819) 776-8361  
e-mail: daniel.gallacher@civilization.ca

Anne Millbrooke (elected 1999)  
PO Box 1845  
Nome, AK 99762  
(907) 443-5581  
e-mail: anne27m@yahoo.com

Tara Travis (elected 2001)  
Canyon de Chelly National Monument  
2500 S. Pine Knoll Drive  
Flagstaff, AZ 86001  
(520) 556-2106  
e-mail: tara\_travis@nps.gov

## **PUBLICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS COMMITTEE**

Betty Koed, Chair (appointed 2001)  
US Senate Historical Office  
201 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510-7108  
(202) 224-6900  
(202) 224-5329 (fax)  
e-mail: betty\_koed@sec.senate.gov

Kathy Borkowski (appointed 2000)  
Research & Library Services Manager  
Pleasant Company  
8400 Fairway Place  
Middleton, WI 53562-2554  
(608) 836-4848  
(608) 836-1999 (fax)  
e-mail: Kathy\_borkowski@pleasantco.com

Douglas W. Dodd (appointed 2000)  
6901-B Klamath Way  
Bakersfield, CA 93309-5411  
(661) 837-0868  
e-mail: ddodd@csubak.edu

Kim Hoagland (appointed 2001)  
Michigan Technological University  
211 East Street  
Houghton, MI 49931  
(906) 407-2113  
e-mail: hoagland@mtu.edu

Harry Klinkhamer (appointed 2000)  
American Association for State and Local  
History  
1717 Church Street  
Nashville, TN 37203-2991  
(615) 320-3203  
(615) 327-9013 (fax)

James Lindgren (appointed 2001)  
Department of History  
SUNY — Plattsburgh  
101 Broad Street  
Plattsburgh, NY 12901  
(518) 564-5219  
e-mail: lindgrjm@splava.cc.plattsburgh.edu

## **ROBERT KELLEY MEMORIAL COMMITTEE (2002)**

*Appointments pending*

## **PROGRAM 2002— JOINT MEETING WITH OAH, WASHINGTON, DC**

Dwight Pitcaithley, co-chair  
National Park Service  
1849 C Street NW, Suite NC400  
Washington, DC 20040  
(202) 343-8167  
(202) 343-1244 (fax)  
e-mail: dwight\_pitcaithley@nps.gov

Barbara Franco  
Historical Society of Washington DC  
1307 New Hampshire Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20036  
(202) 785-2068  
(202) 887-5785  
e-mail: bfranco@hswdc.org

Donald A. Ritchie  
US Senate Historical Office  
201 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510-7108  
(202) 224-6900  
(202) 224-5329 (fax)  
e-mail: don\_ritchie@sec.senate.gov

## **PROGRAM 2003**

Robert Weyeneth, chair  
Department of History  
University of South Carolina  
Columbia, SC 29208  
(803) 777-6398  
e-mail: weyeneth@sc.edu

Barry Ancelet  
Modern Languages Department  
University of Louisiana  
Lafayette, LA 70504-3331  
(337) 482-6811  
e-mail: francophone@louisiana.edu

Chris Castaneda  
Department of History  
California State University—Sacramento  
Sacramento, CA 95819  
(916) 278-5631  
e-mail: cjc@saclink.csus.edu

Billie D. Gaines  
Atlanta History Center/National Museum  
Fellows Program  
130 West Paces Ferry Road NW,  
Atlanta, Georgia 30305-1366  
(404) 814-4000  
(404) 814-4186 (fax)

# NCPH ENDOWMENT UPDATE

As of June 30, 2001, the NCPH Endowment totaled over \$118,000 towards its initial goal of \$200,000. NCPH wishes to recognize the generosity of the following contributors to the NCPH Endowment Fund over the past few years.

Marianne Babal	David Glassberg	Gale Peterson
Shelley Bookspan	Victoria Harden	Dwight Pitcaithley
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Laura Feller	Martha Norkunas	Judith Wellman
James B. Gardner	Patrick W. O'Bannon	James C. Williams
Alice George	Gordon L. Olson	Susan Williams

NCPH also wishes to recognize the generosity of the following individuals and institutions who have contributed to the Robinson Fund, established in memory of Dr. Michael Robinson to support a biennial award for the best use of historical analysis in public policy.

John Anfinson	Janet Kemp	Robert and Dian S. Post
William Baldwin	James Martin	Martin and Carolyn Reuss
Rob and Pat Buger	James and Phyllis McMarty	Frank Schubert
Myron and Lenore Calkins	Martin Melosi	Bruce E. Seely
Jonathan Coopersmith	William Moore	Todd and Nancy Shallat
Michael Devine	Douglas and Linda Nelson	Jeffrey Stine
Herbert and Myra Goetsch	Walter Nugent	Joel Tarr
Debroah Hardy	Gordon Olson	Paul Walker
H.S. Hulme	John Opie	Roger Williams
Kato and Warren, Inc.	Glenn E. Patton	
Richard and Sherry Kay	Harold Platt	

The NCPH Endowment was established to provide long-term support for many activities of the organization. It provides funds to promote professional training opportunities for practicing public historians; it funds the NCPH awards program; it supports special projects approved by the Board; and it provides a financial foundation for the long-term well being of the organization.

For more information on contributing to the NCPH Endowment, contact Martha Norkunas, Endowment Committee chair [m.norkunas@mail.utexas.edu] or David G. Vanderstel, NCPH Executive Director.

## CONSULTANT'S CORNER

The NCPH Consultants' Committee is dedicated to promoting the interests of NCPH members who provide historical services as consultants or contractors. The committee wishes to highlight professional accomplishments among contract historians, contract firms, and other independent researchers. Forward news of finished projects, contract awards, contract report publications, ongoing oral history projects, or anything else that might be of interest to practicing historians. E-mail items to NCPH Executive Offices, Consultants' Corner, at [ncph@iupui.edu](mailto:ncph@iupui.edu). Be sure to include your full name and address.

**Prewitt and Associates, Inc.**, has recently prepared five reports for Fort Hood's Archeological Resource Management Series. These reports, collectively, document the history of life in Central Texas before the establishment of Camp Hood by the U.S. Army.

William S. Pugsley authored *Imprint on the Land: Life Before Camp Hood, 1820-1942*. This illustrated narrative volume highlights the rural lifeways of farmers, ranchers, and their families. Pugsley based this work, in part, on *Agriculture and Rural Development on Fort Hood Lands, 1849-1942: National Register Assessments of 710 Historic Archeological Properties*, by Martha Doty Freeman, Amy E. Dase, and Marie E. Blake. Two historic contexts are provided in this report, as well as an outline of associated property types, National Register of Historic Places assessments, and management and programmatic recommendations. One appendix gives a brief history of forty hamlets that once dotted the landscape. Several appendices associated with the report are available on CD-ROM.

The remaining three reports provided support documentation for preparation of the narratives. Marie E. Blake wrote *Archeological Investigation and Integrity Assessments of Historic Sites at Fort Hood, Texas*. This report utilized observations from previous investigations and visits to some sites to determine archeological integrity. Two related reports are *Historical Research of 401 Sites at Fort Hood, Bell and Coryell Counties, Texas* by Russell B. Ward, Marie E. Blake, Amy E. Dase, and Martha Doty

Freeman, and *Historical Research Preliminary to National Register Assessments of 719 Historic Sites at Fort Hood, Bell and Coryell Counties, Texas*, by Jennifer A. Stabler.

History Associates Incorporated (HAI) of Rockville, Maryland, has marked the occasion of its twentieth anniversary by publishing a written history titled *The Best Company in History™*: History Associates Incorporated, 1981-2001, which chronicles the company's evolution as a historical research firm since its founding in 1981. HAI formally commemorated this milestone on April 7 at Rockville's Glenview Mansion with a gathering of more than a hundred guests that included former and current employees and clients. The event, hosted by company President Dr. Philip L. Cantelon, featured a photographic and documentary exhibit depicting the company's achievements.

An article about public history titled "Today's History Lesson: Look to the Past for a Job With a Future," which discussed HAI and quoted Dr. Cantelon at length, was published in the March 31 issue of the *International Herald Tribune*. The Public Welfare Foundation has been named a Gold Award winner in the 2001 Wilmer Shields Rich Awards Program for Excellence in Communications for *Seeking the Greatest Good: The Public Welfare Foundation*, written by HAI Senior Historian Dr. Peggy M. Dillon. The D.C.-based foundation, established in 1947, won the award for both Dr. Dillon's book and a companion biography of the founder, *Anonymous Giver: A Life of Charles E. Marsh*, written by Philip Kopper and to which Dr. Dillon contributed a chapter. The awards program, co-sponsored by the Council on Foundations and the Communications Network, "recognizes and encourages excellence in communications by foundations and corporate giving programs."

HAI Vice President and co-founder Dr. Robert C. Williams wrote an article titled "'We Are Who We Are': Humanity and Divinity in Russian Literature and History," which was published in the May 2001 issue of the journal *History and Theory*.

History Associates archivists, in collaboration with personnel at the National Library

of Medicine (NLM), recently completed a *Profiles in Science* website about Nobel laureate Marshall Nirenberg. The section on Dr. Nirenberg—who shared the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for his work on deciphering the genetic code—marks the sixth and latest addition to the *Profiles* site, which makes available to Internet users the papers of prominent twentieth-century American biomedical scientists, most of whom have won the Nobel prize. The website is at <http://profiles.nlm.nih.gov>, and the link to the Nirenberg papers is <http://profiles.nlm.nih.gov/3J/>.

HAI Historian Linda A. Hahn organized two panel discussions at the 54th Annual Pacific Northwest History Conference, whose theme was "Northwest 2001: Spaces and Landscapes in Our Region," held April 19-21 in Portland, Oregon. One panel was titled "Protesting Progress: Reclamation, Dams, and Endangered Species," the other "Perspectives on Fisheries of the Columbia River Basin," at which she presented a paper titled "Science, Fish Culture, and E.E. Wilson, 1935-49."



Visit the redesigned NCPH web site at its new address:

**[www.ncph.org](http://www.ncph.org)**

View the latest news, job postings, calls for papers, and other announcements.

Join in conversations about public history on H-Public.

Contact the NCPH Executive Offices for more details.



# NCPH AWARD WINNERS

## STUDENT PROJECT AWARD:

The Public History Resource Center  
<[publichistory.org](http://publichistory.org)>  
by Debra DeRuyver

I have a secret to confess. Prior to attending this year's meeting in Ottawa to accept the Student Project Award for our work on the Public History Resource Center ([publichistory.org](http://publichistory.org)), the NCPH and I had never crossed professional paths. In fact, in six years of graduate work, I have taken only one history course—and the term “paper” from that one history course, “The History and Future of Public History,” grew into the project that brought me here.

Building a field is as much about developing the methods, theories, and practices employed as it is about developing the identities and communities of those who employ them. Practicing public history also means performing ourselves as public historians. And, while the role “public historian” is, and should be, flexible and mutable and multiple, it should also be something that we recognize when we come together at meetings or read our journals and newsletters. Note the pronouns. I went to this conference an American Studies Ph.D. student who also wore the hat “public historian”; I left feeling more like a public historian who also wore the hat “American Studies Ph.D. student.”

### THE PROJECT:

The Public History Resource Center ([publichistory.org](http://publichistory.org)) seeks to curate the field of public history, particularly as it exists on the Web, by providing a structure that contextualizes public history's practices and supports public history communities. Among other things, the site contains a working definition of public history; an essay detailing one aspect of its history; annotated select publications; descriptions of programs offering degrees in public history and related fields; links to public history syllabi; an exploration of various career paths in the field including short essays by practitioners about their work; and how-to essays.

Our most prominent contribution to the field has been the section of the site devoted to the presentation of public history on the

Web. This section is divided into three distinct parts: 1) an essay, “Criteria for Evaluating Public History Web Sites,” which has been called “one of the most engaging attempts to categorize the presentation of historical work on the Web;”<sup>1</sup> 2) an easy-to-use rating system and checklist of unique, public history related evaluation criteria for Web sites; and 3) a bank of Web site reviews from outside contributors with subject expertise on the content of various historically-oriented Web sites.

The content of the site challenges users to rethink their conceptions of history, professional opportunities for historians, the presentation of historical documents and interpretation in a Web environment, and the value of the Web as a historical document in and of itself. Its presentation in a public space, free of charge, invites public participation and dialogue as well as collegial, professional collaboration.

I'd like to encourage you to visit the site and learn more about the project and the people involved. Although Jennifer Evans, James Melzer, Emma Wilmer, and I have been responsible for the creation, development, and management of the site (and were formally recognized by NCPH for the Student Project Award), close to fifty people have contributed to its content. Richard Robertson and Anne Rothfeld have been particularly prolific in their role as associate editors. The site has several standing calls for participation, ranging from contributing a view from the field (1-2 hour time commitment), submitting a syllabus for posting, or developing a new section of the site as an associate editor (20-30 hour time commitment).

### THE CONFERENCE:

Anti-globalization activism. Ice-wine. A 20th century castle. Mounties. A school bus ride to a cavernous concrete Cold War bomb shelter. Late night meanderings with Australians, and folks from Canada, Britain and Scotland (you know who you are).

For me, the most significant aspect of the conference was being able to fill in the cold digital blanks of cyberspace. I met, for the first time, Barbara Howe and Shelley Bookspan, two of [publichistory.org](http://publichistory.org)'s

original advisory editors (currently Shelley, Patricia Seed, and Ed Papenfuse—the professor who originally directed the project—serve as advisory editors). I also met—or recognized in the program—many, many people who had sent the site encouraging and helpful emails over the past two years.

If I must be pragmatic and declare one aspect of the conference more useful than any other, I would name the time I spent displaying the project at the poster session. Each person who came up and spoke with me filled my head with new ideas and new possibilities for the site. While time invariably interferes with being able to act on every suggestion, it is important to set aside space to dream.

Attending the conference, presenting the poster, interacting with other public historians within a variety of stimulating conference-inspired environments, these are moments that breed epiphany.... or at the very least, renewal, camaraderie, and laughter.

### FINAL THOUGHTS:

The student project award is meant to encourage the work of graduate students in the field. The problem is this: there is a world of wonderful “public history” graduate work being done, but it is being done outside the confines of formalized public history programs and—perhaps more importantly—by people who have not identified themselves as public historians because they have never before heard the term. I have noted NCPH's recent efforts in crossing this gulf by, for example, co-sponsoring conferences with other historical organizations, but American Studies has thus far been overlooked. While collaborating with history organizations may seem more fitting, I would argue differently. In many ways, Public History, American Studies, Ethnic Studies, Women's Studies, etc. are all offshoots of history. The construction of more bridges between NCPH and the American Studies Association would greatly enrich both fields.

<sup>1</sup> William Chase. “Introductory Note: What are Web Pages.” accessed January 12, 2001, <http://www.wfac.wmdc.edu/HTMLpages/Academics/History/intro.html>.

# HISTORICAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATES NEW PROFESSIONAL TRAVEL AWARD

**James Holton**

I am very grateful to the National Council on Public History and Historical Research Associates, Inc., for the travel grant that made possible my attendance at the Ottawa conference. I am currently a project consultant for the Polk County Historical Museum in Bartow, Florida. I was retained in 2000 to help research and write an exhibit on African American history. My appointment was serendipitous. I knew the subject and the area because of professional and family ties. The curator knew my interest in public history. She wanted an "academic" historian to help bring scholarly depth to the African American exhibit.

Public history was a small but significant part of my graduate studies. My classwork and internships had given me some exposure to public history, thanks to the efforts of Dr. James O. Horton at The George Washington University. While completing my dissertation I planned to teach as an adjunct or part-time instructor. Like many if not most Ph.D. candidates, I found myself limited to the standard role of professor of survey history. The relative paucity of full-time, tenure track jobs encouraged me to branch out and use my historical training apart from the classroom.

Museums are one of many institutions that can reach and engage a mass audience with historical messages. The Polk County Historical Museum was at a juncture in its mission. In 1998, the museum relocated to the county's restored 1908 courthouse. The museum had two staff members: a curator and an administrative assistant. Its collections included numerous artifacts accumulated by volunteers over the past decades.

The museum's core attraction was its local history gallery, which told the county's history in a traditional way.

Grassroots groups worked over the past few years in finding and recording African American history. Local civic groups and amateur historians suggested the museum incorporate an African American exhibit. The curator at the time did not make that suggestion a priority. But in late 1999, a new curator agreed to provide space and funding for a permanent history exhibit on the county's African American history.

The curator asked me to research and write the exhibit text. My opportunity came, thanks to the recommendation of a colleague active in public history. I was to incorporate current trends in African American historiography with local primary sources. The goal was to attract new audiences to the museum through the telling of this vibrant story.

The NCPH has been instrumental in helping me build a base of knowledge for preparing the exhibit text. The NCPH conference helped me better understand the depth and diversity of the public history field. The number of sessions I wanted to attend outnumbered those I could attend. I found engaging presentations and stimulating discussions. Sessions such as "The Public and the Promised Land: African-American Heritage Interpretation," to name just one, gave me insight on how to use the latest and most effective historiography. The NCPH conference taught me a lot about the "big picture" of public history. My goal is for the Polk County Historical Museum's African American exhibit to be qualitatively equal to a big city museum exhibit.

It is my hope that graduate history pro-

grams will introduce the public history field to students. Graduate students should learn about theory and methods. Current graduate education trains students for traditional teaching. Classrooms are only one place where historical concepts and ideas reach the public—highly contrived and limited locations where the teacher is placed in charge. Outside the classroom, history competes with other activities for the public's attention. The conference helped me learn how to frame historical messages in ways to attract and retain the public's attention. Public history is part art and part science.

The conference was also daunting in the respect that the more I learned, the more I realized how little I knew. The conference's collegial atmosphere struck me as well. I found everyone willing to lend advice and the wisdom of experience. There was a true sense of cooperation. Individuals working on disparate projects could find common ground. One person's expertise was another person's learning opportunity.

Most helpful of all were the numerous informal conversations that I had at the conference. I had valuable discussions with people from all over North America and Australia. These talks made me feel a part of the public history field as I learned about public-museum interaction, historiographical debates in Canadian museums, and gold mine tourism in the Yukon and the Australian Outback. I left with a fistful of business cards and a folder full of advice. I feel more fully a part of the vibrant calling of public history. I hope my role in the Polk County Historical Museum's African American history exhibit will reflect that vibrancy.

## MICHAEL ROBINSON AWARD IN HISTORICAL ANALYSIS

**Jannelle Warren-Findley**

I wrote *Human Heritage Management in New Zealand in the Year 2000 and Beyond*<sup>1</sup> in the year 2000 while I held an Ian Axford (New Zealand) Fellowship in Public Policy.<sup>2</sup> The Axford fellowship requires a combination of research and analysis with direct participation in practice in New Zealand. The duration of the fellow's residence in New Zealand is six to nine months (I managed to stay a little longer) and each fellow is attached to a public policy program. I joined the History Group of the Ministry for

Culture and Heritage, which is a government history office, although I also worked closely with the Department of Conservation (an agency somewhat similar to our US National Park Service or Parks Canada) and somewhat less closely with the New Zealand Historic Places Trust. These agencies all are headquartered in Wellington, the capital city.

I knew, from an earlier visit, that a "new" post-colonial New Zealand history had developed in the 1980s and '90s. The new approach resembled a cultural geography of the place, with both its indigenous

people and settler societies represented. Human history unfolded within the unique environmental history of those South Pacific islands. Moreover, this new history was being made accessible to the people of New Zealand through formats and strategies used with great imagination and skill by the community of public historians there.

Thus, I decided to examine the ways in which I could apply some of these interdisciplinary strategies to my own interpretative work in historic preservation and CRM. I found, however, that while the "new" New

Zealand history was taught in university courses and practiced in History Group work; examined in Waitangi Tribunal claims research, and increasing numbers of historical publications of depth and insight, there was relatively little carry-over into New Zealand historic preservation or CRM. The work of interpreting and explaining to the New Zealand public the stories of land-based tangible history, archaeology and Maori heritage conservation took place, where it did, outside of these changes in history-making. It was as if these two ways of reading primary documents—documents in libraries and documents in the built environment: historic photos and historic maps; settler diaries and archaeological sites—negated each other, rather than each fleshing out a whole range of stories layered on the landscape over time.

My strategy included library research, interviews with sector experts, and field trips with practitioners. A major part of the project involved reading the landscape, by visiting historic sites and houses, national parks, and museums located the length and breadth of New Zealand. Sometimes I travelled as a fellowship holder, but often as an anonymous tourist. On the whole, I found little public interpretation of elements of the built environment or heritage places; little attempt to tell layered stories on the landscape; few efforts to tell human history as a part of the natural history which New Zealanders so prize. So my study ended up exploring *why* the management and interpretation of the built environment was so different from the work being created by professional historians.

In the end, there were a number of reasons, among them the lack of financial resources to do historic preservation in a small country and a limited group of professionals who are stretched extremely thin. But two issues in particular stood out. I learned more than I expected about the politics of language in a nation's version of its own cultural history. I had casually understood the major differences between historic preservation and cultural resource(s) management in the United States. One was mostly private, the other public; one was architecturally-driven, the other, archaeologically; one was mostly about rich people and pretty buildings, the other was more concerned with archaeological sites and eclectic material culture.

In New Zealand, the differences are more starkly divided. *Historic* heritage there traditionally has meant primarily European heritage and has been seen mainly by those

whose forebears originated in the British Isles, associated with the New Zealand Historic Places Trust. Although it is a government-funded organization, the HPT has a membership arm. Much of the work of historic preservation in New Zealand is done by local volunteers, only some of whom have professional degrees in the subjects usually represented in historic preservation work internationally. This practice is, for the most part, buildings-driven.

Cultural heritage, in contrast, applies almost entirely to Maori historic sites and material culture. Cultural heritage has been managed more fully by government agencies like the Department of Conservation and the Maori themselves, although the HPT is moving to rebalance this situation at the present time. The work is undertaken primarily by archaeologists trained at least to the M.A.-level. There is, however, surprisingly little use in New Zealand management of holistic concepts like cultural *landscapes* to tell the stories of all the people who might live in and use a particular place over time. There is, instead, considerable turmoil caused by the discussion of whose presence and story takes precedence in a given place. The application of the post-colonial version of New Zealand history has a long way to go in many of these settings and the turmoil arises at both Maori and Pakeha or non-Maori sites. One of the reasons for the title of my report—*Human Heritage Management*—was to attempt to get beyond these linguistic codes in order to ask more inclusive questions.

Second, I found enhanced insight into issues of material culture and the “so what” question. My study of New Zealand's situation showed that often a focus on the description of material culture at the expense of the interpretation of meaning has a political purpose as well as a disciplinary slant. If you don't talk about the meaning of the British earthworks that date from the Maori wars in the 1860s, you don't have to go into the details of why they were built and what happened to defenders or attackers. This is similar to the discussion that US national park interpreters are having with Civil War battlefield buffs who prefer to trace earthworks and battle sites rather than consider the reasons why people built those earthworks and killed each other in that place. The political nuances of focussing on description and avoiding interpretation can be clearly noted in the preservation practices and public expectations found in both countries.

In conclusion, the study showed that the

issues involved in moving from a colonial to a post-colonial society, from a settler-dominated political culture to a bi- or multi-cultural community appear to retain more living resonance in the built environment and on the land than they do in other historical media. English Heritage, Great Britain's version of a government parks department, hosted a complete rethinking of its interpretative strategies last year. In their discussion paper “Understanding,” English Heritage's authors note that “The past was marked by change and disruption as much as by continuity, by conflict as well as co-operation, and all this can be seen in the historic environment. It would be naïve not to expect to encounter tensions and conflict when interpreting the significance of what remains or the virtues of conserving something. We should not shy away from such conflicting views...”<sup>3</sup>

Public historians have a particular role in the historic environment, to create a bridge from theory to artifact or place, from singular narrative to multiple stories, to apply history to stuff and its meaning. In the end, I concluded that changes in both policy and practice to encourage the use of such multidimensional approaches as the cultural landscape model of preservation analysis and interpretation seemed to offer a way beyond the limits of current practice. But it was also clear that the deep feelings of ownership that the sacred sites of all groups call up will make it more difficult to open the possibilities of the application of multicultural historical work to the built environment in both New Zealand and the United States.

<sup>1</sup>*Human Heritage Management in New Zealand in the Year 2000 and Beyond*, was published by the Ian Axford Fellowship in Public Policy in January 2001 and is being distributed by the New Zealand-United States Educational Foundation in Wellington ([www.fulbright.org.nz](http://www.fulbright.org.nz))

<sup>2</sup>Sir Ian Axford is an astrophysicist and space scientist who was born in New Zealand. The Fellowship in Public Policy which was named for him was established in 1995 by the New Zealand government in partnership with the private sector to give mid-career American professionals with at least five years experience in their fields the chance to carry out a public policy project that would inform policy in New Zealand and the United States and contribute something of value to their policy area. Projects in any field of public policy are eligible, and fellowships have been given in the past to studies of environmental policy, health policy, workplace and employment issues, university restructuring and tax policy. Public historians might apply in education and training; local government and urban affairs; environment; community development; policy relating to indigenous peoples; public sector reform and program evaluation in the government sector, among others.

<sup>3</sup>English Heritage, Discussion Paper 1 *Understanding*, p. 7, located at [www.english-heritage.org.uk/discovery/heritage-review/downloads/understanding.pdf](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/discovery/heritage-review/downloads/understanding.pdf)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

The University of South Carolina Public History program invites its graduates and other interested persons to attend a celebration October 26-28, 2001 to mark the program's 25th anniversary. The weekend will include seminars, displays, and receptions both on and off campus. For registration information and more details, contact Connie Schulz, Public History Co-Director, (803) 777-5195, or visit the web site: <http://www.cla.sc.edu/hist/pubhist/alumni/anniversary.html>

## AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND GRANTS

The Coordinating Council for Women in History is pleased to announce that it will accept applications for the fifth CCWH Catherine Prelinger Award Scholarship of \$10,000, which will be awarded to a scholar of excellence by May 15, 2002. This award, named for Catherine Prelinger, a former CCWH president and nontraditional scholar, is intended to enhance the work of a contemporary scholar whose academic path has not followed the traditional path of uninterrupted study, moving from completed secondary, to undergraduate, the graduate degrees, followed by a tenure-track faculty position. These funds were granted to CCWH by an anonymous donor in honor of the many years of work this organization has devoted to exploring women's history, encouraging opportunities for women in the historical profession, and in educating young women to pursue academic careers in the historical profession. This award is intended to enhance the ability of the recipient to carry on these CCWH traditions through contributions to women in history, either through scholarly or professional activity.

Eligible applicants must be members of CCWH and must hold either A.B.D. status or the Ph.D. at the time of application. They shall be actively engaged in scholarship that is historical in nature, although the degree may be in related fields. Applicants will show evidence of a nontraditional professional career and describe a project that will further enhance women's roles in history. For application guidelines and forms, contact: Dr. Marguerite Renner, Department of

History, Glendale College, 1500 North Verdugo Road, Glendale, CA 91208. For membership information contact Rosalind Urbach Moss, PO Box 5401, Saunders Station, Richmond, VA 23220. **Deadline for applications is February 2, 2002.**

**The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission** invites applications for its 2002-2003 Scholars in Residence Program. The program provides support for full-time research and study in the manuscript and artifact collections maintained by any Commission facility, including the Pennsylvania State Archives, The State Museum of Pennsylvania, and 26 historic sites and museums around the state. Collaborative residencies fund research that relates to the interpretive mission and advances the programmatic goals of any PHMC program or facility, including the agency's history sites and museums. A collaborative residency proposal must be filed jointly by the interested scholar and host program/facility. Residency programs are open to all who are conducting research on Pennsylvania history, including academic scholars, public sector history professionals, independent scholars, graduate students, educators, writers, filmmakers, and others. Residencies are available for four to twelve weeks between May 1, 2002 and April 30, 2003, at the rate of \$1,500 per month. **Deadline for application is January 11, 2002.** Complete information and application materials are available at the PHMC web site: [www.phmc.state.pa.us](http://www.phmc.state.pa.us). You may also write: Division of history, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Commonwealth Keystone Building - Plaza Level, 400 North St., Harrisburg, PA 17120-0053; or call: 717/787/3034; or email: [ishopes@state.pa.us](mailto:ishopes@state.pa.us).

**The White House Historical Association** invites scholars who are conducting research at the National Archives and Records Administration and the Presidential Libraries to apply for grants that will defray costs of travel and accommodations. The Association encourages new scholarship on the history of the White House, first families and staff. Grants will not exceed \$2,000. **Applications should be received by March 1 and September 1.** Awards announced in spring and fall. For

details visit the Association Newsletter at <http://www.whitehousehistory.org> Email inquiries to [edu@whha.org](mailto:edu@whha.org).

**The Lemelson Center** at the National Museum of American History announces its Travel to Collections Awards Program. The Center was established at NMAH in 1995 through a generous gift from Jerome and Dorothy Lemelson. Jerome Lemelson held more than 500 patents for a range of inventions relating to robotics and machine vision to the VCR, camcorder, fax machine, and cordless telephone. The Center's mission is to document, interpret, and disseminate information about American invention and innovation. The Lemelson Center's website may be found at: <http://www.si.edu/lemelson>.

The Travel to Collections Awards Program is designed to support research on the history of invention and innovation based on the extensive holdings of the Museum's Archives Center and curatorial divisions. The Archives Center is a manuscripts and special collections repository with more than 10,000 feet of holdings which are particularly strong in personal papers and business records documenting the history of American enterprise and technology. It is open for research on weekdays but researchers must schedule an appointment. More information about the holdings is found at: <http://www.si.edu/nmah/archives/ac-i.htm>

To encourage use of its invention-related collections, the Lemelson Center, in conjunction with the Archives Center, offers travel awards to cover transportation costs and daily expenses up to \$75 a day for a maximum of 21 days. Scholars, graduate students, and independent researchers not residing or attending school within commuting distance of the NMAH may apply for this program. Awards may not be used to extend other Smithsonian appointments. Only one award can be offered to a visitor within a twelve-month period. Decisions are made on the basis of recommendation and review by the Smithsonian staff.

The application **deadline is October 15, 2001.** Awards will be announced within two weeks of the deadlines. Applicants should submit a completed application, a current

curriculum vitae, and a statement of purpose of the visit. To request an application or for more information, contact: Alison L. Oswald, Archivist, Archives Center, NMAH, Room C340, Washington, DC 20560-0601; telephone: 202.357.3780; fax 202.786.2453; email OSWALDA@NMAH.SI.EDU.

**Winterthur Museum**, Garden and Library announces its 2002-2003 Research Fellowship Competition. Approximately twenty-five residential fellowships will be awarded, including NEH and dissertation grants and a broad range of short-term fellowships at stipends from \$1500 to \$3000 per month. Winterthur's library resources are strong in American art, history, and culture from 1650 to 1930, with excellent related British and Continental materials. The museum collection includes 85,000 domestic artifacts and works of art made or used in America to 1860. For more information and application materials, visit [www.winterthur.org](http://www.winterthur.org); call (302)888-4640; email [pelliott@winterthur.org](mailto:pelliott@winterthur.org); or write Office of Advanced Studies, Winterthur Museum, Winterthur, DE 19735. **Deadline is January 15, 2002.** Applications from museum and public history professionals are strongly encouraged!

The **Society for History in the Federal Government (SHFG)** announces the John Wesley Powell Prize (Historic Preservation or Historical Display) for the year 2001. The Powell Prize commemorates the explorer and federal administrator whose work demonstrated early recognition of the importance of historical preservation and historical display. This year's award will recognize achievement in historic preservation, including the preservation of records, artifacts, buildings, historical sites, and other historical materials. Nominated activities should establish or utilize exemplary practices that can serve as models for future federal undertakings or programs in historic preservation.

Individuals or groups of principal collaborators involved in a single preservation activity completed within the past two calendar years (2000 and 2001) are eligible to apply for consideration. Submissions and nominations may be made by any agency of the federal government or by non-govern-

ment organizations and individuals, including federal contractors, for preservation activities or projects that have been carried out on behalf of the federal government. In general, criteria for judgement include excellence and thoroughness of historical research, style and appropriateness of the resulting product(s), appropriateness and innovativeness of the methods employed, and value in furthering the history in the federal government. Entry submissions, including a detailed description of the project, slides and photographs, letters of commendation, and other supportive material, must be submitted by **November 15, 2001**. Detailed entry requirements for the Powell Prize and further information about submissions are described on the Society's website <http://www.shfg.org/wpowell.html>.

The Society recognizes and encourages excellence in the study of the history of the federal government. Awards and prize competition, judged by professional historians, archivists, documentary editors, curators, and preservationists, should help draw attention to outstanding and praiseworthy work. The Society hopes that the result will be increased appreciation of both the federal government's history and the efforts of those who, through a variety of methods and media, explore that history. Each prize consists of a framed certificate to be presented at the Society's annual spring meeting, held in the Washington, D.C.

## CALL FOR PAPERS/ PROPOSALS

The **Council on America's Military Past (CAMP)** announces its call for papers for its 36th Annual Military History Conference, July 10-14, 2002, at the Wyndham Old San Juan Hotel in San Juan, Puerto Rico. The conference will emphasize US military activities in the Caribbean from the earliest history through the American Revolution, Civil War, Spanish American War (including the War in the Philippines), the World Wars, and up to and including the confrontation with Cuba and the Cold War and missile defenses. The conference will include papers on these subjects and visits to the military history sites on Puerto Rico from El Morro and its many forts as far south as

Fort Buchanan and Camp Henry at Cayey. Send proposals to: CAMP '02 Conference Papers, PO Box 1151, Fort Myer, VA 22211-1151 by Feb 5, 2002. Call 703-912-6124; fax 703-912-5666, or email [camphart1@aol.com](mailto:camphart1@aol.com) for more information.

**The European Association of American Studies** invites proposals for a workshop on "Research Methods in American Studies: Oral History Technique and Visual Culture Analysis" to be presented at its annual meeting. "The United States of / in Europe: Nationhood, Citizenship, Culture," to be held March 22-25, 2002, in Bordeaux, France.

The workshop's purpose is both practical and theoretical: to address how teachers and scholars can use the spoken word and/or the visual image most effectively as an "American Studies" method. We are especially interested to solicit papers that conduct cross-cultural comparisons of how oral and pictorial sources are interpreted by American Studies scholars within the United States and elsewhere.

Send proposals (not to exceed 250 words) by October 15, 2001 via e-mail, fax, or postal mail to both: Professor John Dean, Université de Versailles, 13, rue Monge / 75005 / Paris / FRANCE; email: [John.Dean@sudam.uvsq.fr](mailto:John.Dean@sudam.uvsq.fr); fax: 01.43.29.34.09; and Professor Michael William Doyle, Ball State University, Department of History, Burkhardt Building 213, Muncie, IN 47306-0480 / USA; e-mail: [mwdoyle@bsu.edu](mailto:mwdoyle@bsu.edu); fax: 765.285.5612

Participation in this workshop is open to all EAAS members as well as members of the French American Studies Association (Association Française d'Etudes Américaines [AFEA]) and the Great Lakes American Studies Association (GLASA). It continues the collaboration which began with the jointly sponsored AFEA-GLASA conference on "Community, Family, and Youth" held at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana, March 16-18, 2001.

**The Indiana Association of Historians** announces its call for papers for its annual meeting to be held March 1-2, 2002, at the Indiana Historical Society in Indianapolis,

Indiana. The conference theme is "Migration of Peoples and Diffusion of Cultures, Across Time and Place."

The Program Committee is particularly interested in broadly conceived proposals that examine how people in the past have either immigrated or colonized new lands and how cultures have diffused over time. While the committee will consider papers and sessions on all topics, we encourage submissions in the fields of African history, Asian history, Latin American history, gender, and America and the wider world. The committee also welcomes proposals on K-12 history education, public history, and for less traditional presentations, such as poster sessions or roundtables. Graduate students are encouraged to participate as well.

Conference papers (approximately 10 pages/2,500 words) may be based upon original research, synthesis of scholarship, or participant experience. Sessions will consist of two or three papers with comments.

To submit a proposal for a paper and/or session, send a one-page proposal for each presentation and a one-page c.v. Panel proposals should include a one-page proposal, which specifies the topic of discussion by each participant and a one-page c.v. per participant.

Deadline for submitting paper and/or session proposals is October 1, 2001. Email submissions are encouraged and will be accepted until the deadline.

Submit proposals to: IAH Program 2002, c/o David G. Vanderstel, Executive Director, National Council on Public History, Cavanaugh 327- IUPUI, 425 University Boulevard, Indianapolis, IN 46202-5140, Telephone: 317.274.2718; fax: 317.274.2347; e-mail: [dvanders@iupui.edu](mailto:dvanders@iupui.edu)

The Pioneer America Society will hold its 33rd annual conference in Bardstown, Kentucky, October 18-20, 2001. The host for this event will be Distinguished Professor Allen G. Noble of the University of Akron, Akron, Ohio. The conference committee is currently soliciting proposals for papers, special sessions, and panel discussions relating to the conference theme of "19th and 20th

Century Frontiers." Papers relating to Kentucky are especially welcome, but presentations on all material culture topics of interest to the Society will be considered. Deadline for submitting abstracts is September 1, 2001. For guidelines and conference information, contact Allen G. Noble, Department of Geography and Planning, University of Akron, Akron, Ohio 44325; tel. 330/972-8038; fax: 330/972-6080; or email: [Bussey@uakron.edu](mailto:Bussey@uakron.edu).

## CONFERENCES, INSTITUTEs, SEMINARS, & WORKSHOPS

As part of its 21st century learner initiative, **The Institute for Museum and Library Services** will host a conference in Washington, DC, November 7-9, 2001, to examine actual experiments in creating community partnerships for lifelong learning and to explore innovative ideas and resources. As the Federal agency that provides support for both libraries and museums, IMLS has a primary focus on lifelong learning, partnership and technology. In FY 2003 IMLS anticipates awarding over \$2 million (subject to Congressional appropriations) for partnerships that address the needs of 21st century learners. Those who have an interest in, or experience with, creating community partnerships for lifelong learning are welcome to attend—from libraries, museums, colleges and other educational institutions, to representatives of the broadcast, technology, and research fields, and the funding and public policy sectors. Registration is free. For more information, contact: Elizabeth Lyons, Institute of Museum and Library Services, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, DC 20506, (202) 606-4649 or [elyons@imls.gov](mailto:elyons@imls.gov).

## INTERNET RESOURCES

The US Senate Historical Office has posted on its Web site three lengthy oral history transcripts with the staff directors who headed the Senate Foreign Relations Committee from 1947 to 1977. Francis Wilcox, the committee's initial staff director, who organized its first professional staff, recounts the early days of the Cold

War and the building of a bipartisan foreign policy, particularly during the chairmanship of Arthur Vandenberg. His successor, Carl Marcy, who headed the committee staff from 1955 to 1973, recalls the long tenure of Chairman J. William Fulbright, and the deterioration of his relations with President Lyndon Johnson during the Vietnam War. Pat Holt, who joined the committee staff in 1950 and served as staff director from 1973 to 1977, provides the committee's perspective on the Bay of Pigs, Cuban Missile Crisis, Dominican Intervention, and the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution.

The Office also announces the on-line publication of its interview with Dr. Floyd M. Riddick (1908-2000), former Senate Parliamentarian. Since 1976, the Senate Historical Office has conducted oral history interviews with former senators and retired members of the Senate staff. Both biographical and institutional in scope, these interviews include personal recollections of careers within the Senate and discussions of how Congress has changed over the years.

Floyd Riddick spent a year observing the workings of the House of Representatives, while researching his doctoral dissertation on congressional procedure in 1935. Most of the rest of his career he spent on the Senate side of the Capitol, as the first editor of the "Daily Digest" in the Congressional Record and a Parliamentarian of the Senate. As Parliamentarian, he sat immediately below the presiding officer in the Senate chamber, providing information on precedents and advising other senators on parliamentary procedure. In his interviews, he talks about Senate filibusters and the efforts to change the rules of cloture. He discusses the censures of Joseph McCarthy (1954) and Thomas Dodd (1967), the contested election between John Durkin and Louis Wyman (1975), and the preparations for a planned impeachment trial of Richard Nixon (1974). Riddick's comments on the Nixon case were consulted by Senators, Senate officers, and staff during the recent impeachment trial of William Clinton.

For more information on these and other interviews in the collection, visit: [http://www.senate.gov/learning/learn\\_history\\_oral](http://www.senate.gov/learning/learn_history_oral)

hist.html. For more information about this and other publications of the Senate Historical Office, contact: Betty K. Koed, Assistant Historian, U.S. Senate Historical Office, Washington, DC 20510-7108, 202/224-0753, Betty\_Koed@sec.senate.gov.

**The National Institutes of Health History Office** announces the launch of a web site to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the first publication about AIDS, "In Their Own Words: NIH Researchers Recall the Early Days of AIDS," at <http://aidshistory.nih.gov>. The website features some of the oral history interviews NIH historian Victoria A. Harden and her colleagues have done since 1988 with NIH physicians, scientists, nurses, and administrators whose work comprised the NIH's response to AIDS between 1981 and 1988. On the topmost pages of five chapters, voice clips from the interviews can be activated, and a "Transcripts" link leads the viewer to the complete texts of the interviews. A "Timeline" contains a month-by-month chronology of selected items related primarily to NIH's activities and those of other DHHS agencies. A "Document Archives" contains selected published articles, unpublished documents and ephemera, and institute press releases. An "Image Archive" contains selected images related to the epidemic.

Many more interviews, documents, and images will be added as time goes on with the goal of making this site an archival resource on the history of the biomedical response to AIDS.

The website was a joint project of the NIH History Office, the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, the National Cancer Institute, the NIH Clinical Center, and the NIH Center for Information Technology.

**The Library of Virginia's Digital Library Program (DLP)** announces the availability of the Virginia Historical Inventory Project, funded in part by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation in 1997. The Virginia Historical Inventory (VHI) is a collection of detailed reports, photographs, and maps, documenting the architectural, cultural, and family histories of thousands

of 18th- and 19th-century buildings in communities across Virginia. Workers for the Works Progress Administration (WPA) project documented, assessed, and photographed early structures (many of which do not survive today), creating a pictorial and textual prism through which architects, genealogists, economists, social historians, journalists, researchers, and the general public can study a unique record of Virginia's past.

The collection consists of more than 19,300 survey reports (consisting of approximately 70,000 pages), more than 6,200 photographs, and 103 annotated county and city maps. The project was created in the late 1930s by the Virginia Writers' Project, a branch of the federally funded Works Progress Administration (WPA). The URL for the Library of Virginia is <http://www.lva.lib.va.us> and the VHI resource is available on the Digital Library Program Home Page.

## INTERNSHIPS

**The Westport Maritime Museum Washington Service Corps Internship:** The Westport Maritime Museum has an immediate opening for a Washington Service Corps (Americorps) intern. The museum is dedicated to the preservation and interpretation of the Washington coastal region in which it is located. The museum, located in a former Coast Guard Lifeboat Station, offers exhibits on life in a maritime community, local Coast Guard history, and lighthouses. The museum operates a satellite facility at Grays Harbor Lighthouse, which is located two miles from the main museum campus. The intern will serve as an Education Assistant, focusing on upgrading and expanding the museum's educational programs for kindergarten to twelfth grade and adults. More information about the Westport Maritime Museum can be found at [www.westportwa.com/museum](http://www.westportwa.com/museum).

Those wishing information about or interested in applying for the position should send resumes and references (with telephone numbers) to: William S. Hanable, Managing Director; Westport Maritime Museum, 2201 Westhaven Drive, P.O. Box 1074, Westport, WA 98595-1074, [researchnorth@seanet.com](mailto:researchnorth@seanet.com).

**Garfield Farm Museum Historic Site Internship.** M.A. candidate in museum studies or related field for indepth management experience. Historically intact 281-acre 1840s farm, inn, and prairie located 40 miles west of Chicago. Housing and stipend. Send resume to: Garfield Farm Museum, Box 403, LaFox, IL 60147; phone (630) 584-8485.

## POSITIONS AVAILABLE

**Museum Studies/Public/US Colonial/Early Republic:** The Department of Historical Studies at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville invites applicants for a full time tenure-track assistant professorship to begin in Fall 2002. The successful candidate will teach a 3/3 load on a semester system, will provide administrative leadership for implementation of an approved interdisciplinary Master's level museum studies certificate and will teach undergraduate and graduate courses in public history, material culture and colonial/early republican social history. Museum experience and prior teaching preferred. Commitment to diversity and ability to work with a multicultural student body and faculty essential. Ph.D. preferred. ABD considered. Candidates should address cover letter, resume, transcripts [graduate and undergraduate], three letters of recommendation, writing sample and sample syllabi to: Museum Studies Search Committee, Department of Historical Studies, Box 1454, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, Edwardsville, IL 62026-1454. Review of applications will begin on November 1 and continue until the position is filled. SIUE is an AA/EEO institution.

**Cultural Heritage Research Services, Inc.** of North Wales, Pennsylvania is looking for an entry level Project Manager in the Historic Preservation Department. A Master's degree in historic preservation or related field is preferred. An applicant with a Bachelor's degree and a minimum of two years experience may also be considered. For more information please see [www.chrisnc.com](http://www.chrisnc.com) Send resume packets too: Mary Alfson and Laura Black, Cultural Heritage Research Services, Inc., Historic

Preservation Department, 403 E. Walnut Street, North Wales, PA 19454.

**The National Constitution Center** in Philadelphia announces an opening for a Director of Research. The Center is an independent, non-profit, non-partisan organization chartered by Congress in 1987. Located on Independence Mall, the center will be part museum, part monument, and part study center and will be a critical element in the plans for the redevelopment for Independence National Historic Park in Philadelphia.

The selected candidate for Director of Research will serve as the chief content authority for the museum, work with staff, consultants, scholars, and designers to envision and determine the content of all center exhibits and programs, write and edit exhibit scripts, films, video, museum publications, etc.; supervise the hiring of permanent museum staff in content-related areas;

understand copyright and other permissions issues as they relate to the museum's content and programs; and serve as one of the Center's primary liaisons with other institutions such as libraries, universities, and the museum community. To qualify, we are seeking a candidate who has a Ph.D. or other advanced degree in American History. Expertise in public history and museum experience is desired. An important and required qualification is excellent communication skills, especially a demonstrated ability to communicate abstract ideas to a public audience in a compelling fashion. A journalism background is a definite plus, as is a passion for the ideas commemorated by this unique project. For consideration, send resume with salary requirements to: Carlton Whittington, The Diversified Search Companies, One Commerce Square, 33rd Floor, Philadelphia, PA. 19103 e-mail: [cwhittin@divsearch.com](mailto:cwhittin@divsearch.com) fax 215-568-8399

**Upstate History Alliance**, Oneonta, NY seeks a program coordinator for a museum and archive service agency in upstate New York. Responsibilities include development and implementation of professional training programs including conferences, roundtables, and workshops; information referrals; supervision of interns and other work in busy, small agency. The successful candidate will have a Bachelor's degree and experience, or a Master's degree in a relevant field; the ability to learn quickly and work both independently and as part of a team; demonstrated ability to coordinate programs; and experience in working in a museum, archives or other cultural organization. \$25,000 per year plus benefits; position available September 1. For more information, visit [www.upstatehistory.org](http://www.upstatehistory.org) To apply, send letter of interest, writing sample, resume and references to: Upstate History Alliance, 11 Ford Avenue, Oneonta, NY 13820.

## ADVOCACY UPDATE

*Editor's Note: In early June, I learned from Bruce Craig at NCC and Lee Formwalt at the Organization of American Historians about new developments at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History. The issue centered on a \$38 million gift from the Catherine B. Reynolds Foundation to the Smithsonian and the role of this major donor in the development of museum exhibits and programs. The OAH drafted a position statement, which they circulated to Smithsonian Secretary Lawrence Small, the Smithsonian's Board of Regents, and the leadership of the National Museum of American History. Since this issue clearly was in the interest of public historians, the NCPH Board of Directors also drafted and circulated a statement. Special recognition to Vicky Harden and Marie Tyler-McGraw for handling this task. Included below is the original notice from Bruce Craig, which appeared in the 1 June 2001 edition of Washington Update; NCPH's letter to Secretary Small dated 14 June 2001; and*

*Secretary Small's response, dated 20 June 2001. For more information and links to related materials, you can visit the NCPH web site at [www.ncph.org](http://www.ncph.org)*

### **Washington Update, Vol. 7, #22, June 1, 2001**

#### **Smithsonian Secretary Criticized by Staff**

In a blunt letter to the Smithsonian Institution Board of Regents, over 70 curators, historians, and other scholars associated with the Museum of American History have called on the Regents to review a series of recent decisions made by Secretary Lawrence Small and his staff. Small is a former investment and mortgage company executive and the first non-academic to head the Smithsonian in its 160-year history. According to the letter, the scholars believe the Secretary's actions "circumvent established decision-making procedures...breach established standards of museum practice and professional ethics...[and] commit [the] museum to

unethical relationships with private donors." While the letter falls just short of calling for the Secretary's dismissal, it does accuse Small of a series of actions that have caused "irreversible and deserved loss of public confidence in the Smithsonian."

The series of actions undertaken by the Secretary discussed in the letter include: renaming the National Museum of American History; committing the museum to unethical relationships with private donors; creating a "hall of fame" of individual Americans, and reconfiguring exhibit space in absence of "deliberative procedures [that are to be] applied to all proposals." In short, the letter states that the "Secretary's actions create the appearance of impropriety." Of prime concern to the scholars is the apparent loss of intellectual control of exhibitions. The letter asks: "Will the Smithsonian Institution actually allow private funders to rent space in a public museum for the expression of private interests and personal views?"

The letter comes on the heels of a series



of developments—an unsuccessful attempt by Secretary Small to close the Smithsonian's renown wildlife conservation center, the abrupt resignation of Robert Fri, Director of the National Museum of Natural History (Fri is the third Smithsonian Director to announce his intention to quit the Institution; Fri cited disagreements with higher level Smithsonian officials who are reorganizing his museum and the current plans to curtail and consolidate programs at the world's largest museum and research complex as reasons for tendering his resignation) and by the acceptance of a \$38 million gift by the Catherine B. Reynolds Foundation that will finance a 10,000 square-foot "hall of fame" that will honor American achievers.

One historian characterized the Reynolds achievers hall concept as "ahistorical"; a curator noted that the exhibit probably will break with Smithsonian tradition of focusing on the display and interpretation of the Smithsonian's world-class museum collections. Instead, the exhibit (tentatively named "The Spirit of America"), will probably be a series of self-serving stories punctuated by pictures and a smattering of objects donated by the "achievers."

Concerns raised in the letter by the Smithsonian professional staff were recently bolstered by the unauthorized release to the press of donor contracts signed by Smithsonian officials. According to the contract between the Smithsonian and Reynolds, Ms. Reynolds will choose 10 of the 15 members of the advisory committee that will select the achievers to be included in the exhibition. Reportedly, among Ms. Reynolds' candidates for the achiever hall are home/garden guru Martha Stewart, the founder of Federal Express Frederick Smith, newsman Sam Donaldson and movie director Steven Spielberg. The contract also gives Reynolds some supervisory authority over exhibit content and construction: "Before construction of the exhibition commences, the donor and the Smithsonian Institution shall mutually agree on the final location, the design of the exhibition and construction schedule." Reynolds will be acknowledged in the hall of achievers through a display of her name and the logo

of her foundation, and mention of the American Academy of Achievement, a project of the Reynolds Foundation run by her husband. The contract also states that the Secretary alone "shall finally determine the contents of the exhibition."

Reportedly, officials at the Museum of American History were not involved in negotiations relating to the Reynolds' gift, but were simply informed by the Secretary's staff of the plans for the new museum exhibit. Apparently, Reynolds had tried to market her museum concept to at least one other private museum back in the early 1990s but was turned down. Smithsonian spokeswoman Mary Combs said Secretary Small had no comment about the employees' letter. Sheila Burke, Under-secretary for American Museums and National Programs, however, said the complaints were unfounded, that the public trust had not been compromised and that the Secretary was acting within his powers.

In addition to the issues raised in the letter, curators, historians and independent scholars are starting to voice concerns about the leadership and direction of the Smithsonian. Members of the advisory Smithsonian Council, for example, were informed in a recent meeting that support for independent research will be condensed if not curtailed in order to support a number of handpicked projects and opportunities. The hurriedly assembled recent exhibitions ordered by Small, some of which demonstrate "a remarkable lack of intellectual depth" (the recent Presidential exhibit is most frequently cited) also has not gone unnoticed within the scholarly community.

Recent press reports have also zeroed in on Small's reported "anti-intellectualism" which was most recently evident in a May 6, 2001 CBS "Sunday Morning" interview. As a consequence of developments, the nation's press including the New York Times, Chicago Tribune, and Washington Post are now watching developments at the Smithsonian with renewed scrutiny as Small comes under increasing criticism for what is characterized as his attempt to transform the Smithsonian into a "theme park" devoted to "attracting crowds and big private donors." On May 31, for example, the New York Times published an editorial criticizing the

"questionable donation...that can warp an institution's priorities and professionalism." The Times also reports that an "anti-Small sticker campaign" at the Smithsonian museums has been launched by staff. Reportedly, small green and orange stickers reading "dump Small" are finding their way into elevators, have been placed on bulletin boards, are being worn on employee jacket lapels, and can be seen on automobile bumpers.

Igor Sikorski, a member of the Smithsonian Council, has asked for a Congressional probe of Small's conduct as Secretary, warning that "the future and stature of the Smithsonian Institution is at stake." According to a spokesperson for the Senate Rules Committee, a routine hearing on the Smithsonian has been tentatively scheduled for later this summer, but plans to go forward with a special oversight hearing would have to be made by Senator Christopher Dodd (D-Conn) the incoming Chairman of the committee. Dodd's office has yet to decide what action (if any) to take.

### **NCPH Letter to the Board of Regents**

14 June 2001

Dear Member of the Smithsonian Board of Regents:

The National Council on Public History (NCPH) is the nation's largest organization of professional historians, including museum historians and curators, dedicated to bringing history to public audiences. The NCPH Board of Directors is troubled by the recent controversy over the roles of donors, administrators, and scholars in the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History (NMAH). The NCPH urges all parties to reflect on the purpose of history in a democratic society and to develop an exhibit policy that is in the best interests of the American people.

History plays a central role in establishing our identity as Americans and our ability to reach across national boundaries to other human beings. Study after study demonstrates that Americans receive much of their historical understanding in the nation's museums. This is the reason the current controversy

has become so heated. The stakes are high.

The NCPH reaffirms the Museum Exhibit Standards, which it and other historical organizations have adopted as guidelines for the professional and scholarly development of exhibits. We believe that it is necessary for those who fund, oversee, and prepare the intellectual content for exhibits to understand that all exhibits interpret history. Exhibits should encourage informed discussion of both their content and the broader issues of historical significance that they raise. In the current controversy over exhibits at NMAH, this is the sticking point for curators: the apparent willingness of administrators to permit an uncritical point of view to inform exhibits. If our nation is built on respect for rational thought and diversity of experience, it is imperative that no single view of American history be allowed to suppress other voices. There is a place for such focused viewpoints, but the NMAH is not that place. The NCPH Board of Directors believes that all involved in the current controversy are well intentioned, but affirms that donors should not control the content of exhibits. We hope that discussions can focus on the strengths of each player and result in exhibits that are rich with the material culture and varied ideas that make America strong.

Professional historians and curators trained in history and museum studies merit the authority placed in them to conceptualize, organize, and implement historical exhibits. Assuring intellectual integrity is one mission for which curators train. Their education and experience qualify them to evaluate the historical evidence that resides in objects, documents, images, music, and other items, and to meld that evidence into an intellectually rigorous interpretation of a historical subject. This process should be done in keen appreciation of the public trust represented by any museum, and with sensitivity to donors and others in the community with an interest in the subject being addressed. A key challenge in any exhibit is to communicate to viewers that today's historical interpretation may be modified by evidence that comes to light in the future. Especially for strongly held views, this truth may be difficult to appreciate, but for democracy to flourish

the many different voices in the American experience must be heard. Studies have shown that museum audiences are fully capable of understanding historical evidence and value learning from the stories of one another.

The National Council on Public History fully supports the staff of the National Museum of American History—many of them respected members of our organization and the historical profession at large—in their efforts to uphold these exhibit standards. The NCPH Board of Directors implores Secretary Lawrence Small and the Smithsonian Board of Regents to support the professionalism of NMAH scholars and curatorial experts, to embrace the process embodied in the enclosed museum exhibit standards, and to bring the current controversy to a conclusion in a way that will ensure historical exhibits at NMAH comply with the museum's legislative mandate and which reflect the American experience in all its richness.

Sincerely,  
David G. Vanderstel  
Executive Director

**Response from Lawrence M. Small,  
Secretary, Smithsonian Institution**

June 20, 2001

Dear Dr. Vanderstel:

Thank you for your letter of June 14. Let me assure you that the Smithsonian has every intention of adhering to the highest standards in the creation of programs and exhibitions that serve the public, including the guidelines that accompanied your letter. With respect to the proposed exhibition at the National Museum of American History devoted to American achievement, tentatively entitled "Spirit of America," the Institution has created an exhibition team that includes dedicated staff from that Museum, as well as noted outside historians, to ensure that we maintain the public's confidence in the Smithsonian's integrity.

The Smithsonian only accepts gifts that meet our public mission. Nothing is forced on us. Realizing that not every good idea comes from within our walls, we are open

to suggestions from all Americans. The Institution has been extremely careful in its negotiations with all of its generous benefactors to reserve to the Smithsonian the ultimate control over the content of its exhibitions and public programs.

We recognize that, unfortunately, the topic of stakeholder involvement in the process of revitalizing the National Museum of American History has been widely misrepresented in the press. This detracts from our efforts to increase and diversify the financial base of support for the Institution, and diverts attention from our overall desire to transform the Smithsonian into a 21st century showpiece.

We are doing all that we can to set the record straight, and, for your information, I have attached a number of letters and documents that cover this subject in a more specific way.

I deeply appreciate your willingness to take the time to share the views of the NCPH Board with me concerning this important subject.

All the best,  
Lawrence M. Small  
Secretary

**NARA SELECTS NEW DIRECTOR FOR TRUMAN PRESIDENTIAL MUSEUM & LIBRARY—Dr. Michael Devine To Assume New Duties This September**

**INDEPENDENCE, MO, June 28—**

Dr. Michael Devine, a professor of history at the University of Wyoming and a former director of the university's American Heritage Center, has been appointed the new director of the Truman Presidential Museum & Library. The announcement was made earlier today by the National Archives and Records Administration and John W. Carlin, Archivist of the United States.

Devine will assume his new position in September of this year, replacing the museum's former director Larry Hackman, who retired last January, and acting director Scott Roley.

"I am extremely pleased that Michael Devine has agreed to become the new director," said Carlin in making the announcement. "Dr. Devine combines academic qualifications and cultural leadership skills that will make the Truman Museum an important destination in the 21st century. We welcome Dr. Devine into the Presidential library system."

Since 1991, Dr. Devine has taught courses in US history and 18th and 19th century diplomatic history at the University of Wyoming. In the fall of 2000, he was a Senior Fulbright lecturer in Korea and in 1998 served as Houghton Freeman Professor of American History at the Johns Hopkins University-Nanjing University Graduate Center for Chinese and American Studies in Nanjing, China. As the Director of the Wyoming American Heritage Center from 1991-2000, Dr. Devine oversaw the construction of a new \$20 million, 135,000 square foot facility on the campus of the university. He organized a public/private partnership to support the Center, raising nearly \$9 million.

The Truman Presidential Museum & Library currently is in the final stages of a \$22.5 million renovation that includes new interactive exhibits along with an educational program entitled the White House Decision Center, designed for high school and college students to interact with the major decisions made by Harry S. Truman during his U.S. presidency.

"This is an exciting opportunity for me and I am looking forward to working with the great staff at the museum as well as NARA and the Truman Library Institute Board of Directors," said Devine. "This is an ideal position that matches my scholarly interests in U.S. foreign policy and political history along with my experience in museum and archival management."

"I am very pleased that Michael Devine is to be my successor," said Hackman, who was the director of the Truman Presidential Museum & Library since 1995. "Michael brings very impressive experience as a director of important history-related programs in Ohio, Illinois and Wyoming and he is a respected scholar in diplomatic history as well. I'm sure," noted Hackman, "Kansas City will warmly welcome him just as they did me. He will certainly have my support."

"Michael Devine will be an enormous asset to the public-private partnership as the museum completes its major renovation," noted Willard Boyd, Chairman of the Truman Library Institute Board of Directors and President Emeritus of the Chicago Field Museum and Professor at the University of Iowa College of Law.

While heading up the American Heritage Center, Dr. Devine developed a wide range of scholarly and popular programs to integrate the Center into the academic life of the University of Wyoming. Prior to joining

the faculty at the University of Wyoming, Dr. Devine served as the Director of the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency/Illinois State Historical Society and was the Illinois State Historian from 1985-1991. In that position, he supervised a staff of 260 and managed a \$13 million budget, responsible for the Illinois State Historical Library and 50 historical sites throughout the state. He also served as the State Historical Preservation Officer.

Dr. Devine earned a B.A. from Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa, and an M.A. and a Ph.D. from Ohio State University. He has published nationally on subjects ranging from American foreign policy to the history of the West.

The Truman Presidential Museum & Library is one of 10 Presidential libraries operated by NARA. It houses the official records of the Truman Presidency, including more than 15 million pages of materials, 106,000 photographs, and some 26,000 gifts presented to President and Mrs. Truman. The facility serves as both a major research institution and a museum, showcasing the collections and numerous traveling exhibitions.

The Truman Presidential Museum & Library is located at U.S. Highway 24 and Delaware Street in Independence, Missouri. For more information, visit the web site at [www.trumanlibrary.org](http://www.trumanlibrary.org).

## **NOMINATING COMMITTEE SEEKS CANDIDATES FOR BOARD AND COMMITTEE POSITIONS**

As a way of encouraging a greater openness in the selection process of NCPH leaders, the Nominating Committee invites any interested individual to notify us of your interest in serving the organization in a leadership position. Or, you may wish to recommend a colleague who you believe would be an excellent candidate for an NCPH office or committee.

This year, we will be seeking candidates for the Board of Directors (three positions open, each for a three year term); and the Nominating Committee (one position, three year term).

Since the committee must complete its slate of candidates by mid fall, we encourage you to contact the committee as soon as possible with your suggestions. Send your recommendations or note of willingness to serve via email or conventional mail to:

Vivien Rose, Chair, Nominating Committee  
Women's Rights National Historical Park  
Seneca Falls, NY 13148  
e-mail: [vivien\\_rose@nps.gov](mailto:vivien_rose@nps.gov)



## CALL FOR PROPOSALS — POSTER SESSIONS AT 2002 ANNUAL MEETING

The National Council on Public History invites proposals for a Poster Session at its joint meeting with the Organization of American Historians, April 11-14, 2002 in Washington, DC. The Poster Session is an informal format for presentations on research and programming projects that use visual evidence. Presenters may demonstrate and discuss websites or other computer applications for public history projects; mount table-sized exhibits of research and interpretation; or share images, audiovisual materials, and handouts from successful public programs. The Poster Session will be held at a central location and scheduled for one hour between conference sessions. Participants will set up their "posters" before the session and discuss their projects with conference attendees. The NCPH will provide tables, mounting boards, and electrical connections.

Please submit a one-page proposal that summarizes the project and explains why it is appropriate for this format. Briefly describe the method of presentation. Please include a title and a short CV for all participants. Send two copies to Kathy Corbett, 263 N. Gorham Rd., Gorham ME 04038 before December 15, 2001. Send questions by e-mail to [ktcorbett@aol.com](mailto:ktcorbett@aol.com).

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