



NATIONAL COUNCIL
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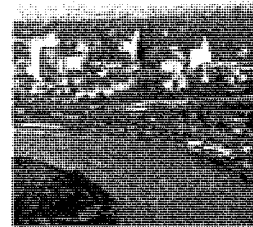
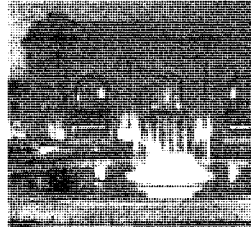
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Photos courtesy of Convention and Visitors Bureau of Greater Kansas City

DEFINING REGION: PUBLIC HISTORIANS AND THE CULTURE AND MEANING OF REGION 2005 NCPH ANNUAL MEETING KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI | APRIL 14 TO 16, 2005

by Ray Geselbracht
Harry S. Truman Library

Kansas City is an ideal place for historians to come together to consider the importance of region in American history, and for the business of commemorating American history. The Kansas City metropolitan area is a place where regions come together and mix their distinctive tastes, attitudes, and ways of life into a complex whole. One can drive to one part of town, not too far from the downtown skyline, and feel one is in small-town Virginia, mixing with people who seem almost southern, or to another part of town and feel one is looking at the north shore of Long Island and speaking to people who are basically western in outlook. The landscape, the houses and shopping areas, the people one meets casually—everything seems different. Most of the country's major regions are arguably well represented in the metropolitan area despite the spread in this city, as everywhere else in the country, of a new paved, automobile scaled, big-box America that makes one wonder whether someday region may cease to matter.

The business of the conference for most attendees will begin on Thursday, April 14, with two workshops and the first four sessions of a total of thirty-two sessions scheduled over the next three days. A plenary session titled "The Missouri River Rediscovered" concludes the first afternoon's business, and then, following some transportation time, the Truman Presidential Museum & Library will host a Kansas City-style

barbecue. Thanks to the generosity of an underwriter, the barbeque, together with a tour of the recently renovated Truman Museum exhibits, are being provided at a significantly reduced cost.

Twenty sessions are scheduled for Friday, April 15, focused on themes ranging from "Bleeding Kansas" to immigration and Native Americans; from heritage tourism to regional history centers; and from presidential sites to material culture and "the physicality of identity." A poster session in the early evening will allow several historians and graduate students to exhibit results of their research. NCPH president Sharon Babaian will deliver her presidential address during the Presidential Luncheon entitled, "A Larger Reading of the Human Past," during the Presidential Luncheon. To end the day, NCPH members and guests will attend the annual endowment fundraiser, which will take place at the central library of the Kansas City Public Library—located in what was formerly a very grand bank, now renovated into a beautiful and fascinating library. In this renovated library building one may, among other pleasures, pass by a massive steel door and through a round portal, and view a film in a theater installed in the bank's big vault.

Eight sessions are scheduled for Saturday morning. In the afternoon the dominant mood of hard work of the prior two days will lift, and everyone is invited to join one of five tours that will sample some of the cultural riches of Kansas City.

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Department of History,
Indiana University at Indianapolis.

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2005 NCPH ANNUAL MEETING > continued from page 2

The tours focus respectively on (1) an old steamboat discovered under the Missouri River with its cargo intact and the country's only fully operational nineteenth century woolen mill; (2) two extraordinary early twentieth century buildings—the Liberty Memorial, the country's only museum dedicated to commemorating World War I, and Union Station, one of the Midwest's grand old railroad stations—both of which have been recently renovated with public funds; (3) the 18th and Vine district, where jazz once flourished in Kansas City, and where a great age of music is now memorialized in the American Jazz Museum; (4) the Harry S. Truman National Historic Site and National Historic Landmark District, which includes the home of Harry and Bess Truman and the neighborhood through which Truman walked nearly every morning when he was not in Washington or somewhere else, becoming connected with a community in a way that is unique among presidents; and (5) the home and studio of one of Missouri's greatest artists, and greatest characters as well, Thomas Hart Benton, together with an exhibition on Missouri's great artists at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, one of the country's premier art institutions.

The conference concludes on Saturday night with the Awards Banquet and keynote address by historian and media personality Michael Beschloss, famous for his appearances on PBS's *The*

News Hour with Jim Lehrer and on ABC News, and for his many books, including the best selling *The Conquerors*. The conference headquarters hotel, the Kansas City Marriott Downtown, incorporates the old Muehlebach Hotel, which served as President Truman's Kansas City White House when he and his staff were in town. Most of the conference's events will occur in a part of the old hotel that has been restored to its original appearance.

Detailed information about the conference can be found in the conference program, which is available on the NCPH website (<http://www.ncph.org/2005annualmeeting.html>).

NCPH officers and staff, and everyone involved in organizing the 2005 conference, hope for a big turnout, because the value and richness of everything that happens during the conference will come from the ideas, commitment, and passions of those of you who join together with your NCPH colleagues in Kansas City on some hopefully beautiful days in mid-April, not too far away.

Ray Geselbracht sits on the Local Arrangements Committee for the 2005 conference. Geselbracht also serves as archivist at the Truman Presidential Library in Independence, Missouri.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Ruth Bagley-Ayres
Columbia, SC

Biblio de la Sorbonne
Runnemedede, NJ

Ernest Blevins
Villa Rica, GA

Devon Brogan
Wichita, KS

Heather Caldwell
Bryan, TX

Robert Covington
Tempe, AZ

Melisa Davis
Eau Claire, WI

Jenny Huffman
New Orleans, LA

Charles Hughes
Draper, UT

Frank Hughes
Sharon Hill, PA

Lucy Jones
Tampa, FL

Tiya Miles
Ann Arbor, MI

Janet Mishkin
Wind Gap, PA

National Endowment
for the Humanities
Washington, D.C.

Jennifer Nickerson
Holliston, MA

Joshua Paddison
Venice, CA

Maria Reynolds
Chicago, IL

Emily Reece
Canton, GA

Joe Roberts
Austin, TX

Adrienne Sadovskiy
Stillwater, OK

Bill Schroh
Union, NJ

Edward Shuster
Highland, NY

Seamus Sullivan
Bethlehem, PA

Katherine Swank
Las Cruces, NM

Nicholas Wallwork
Phoenix, AZ

Catherine Wright
Greensboro, NC

University of Wisconsin
Department of History
Eau Claire, WI

ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

Simon J. Bronner, director of the Center for Pennsylvania Culture Studies and Distinguished Professor of American Studies at the Pennsylvania State University, Harrisburg, has been named Walt Whitman Distinguished Chair of American Culture at the University of Leiden in the Netherlands for fall 2005.

Jon Hunner attended "Bridging Ages," a conference in Vimmerby, Sweden in November on Historic Environment Education. Also known as Time Traveling, this is an innovative method using living history as an educational technique. With Time Traveling, elementary and secondary students visit a historic site and,

led by museum and educational professionals, role play the characters and activities from the time period. All participants don costumes and do first person interpretation which allows students to directly experience history. At the conference, people working in museums and educational programs from nine countries talked about how they use Historic Environment Education in their institutions. At "Bridging Ages," Hunner and Scott Green (a graduate student in New Mexico State University's Public History Program) described how they have Time Traveled to the Spanish Colonial period in southern New Mexico with over 650 elementary and secondary students over the last two years.

MAKING MEANING OF MURDER

by John Russick
Chicago Historical Society

In the spring of 2004, the Chicago Historical Society opened the exhibition, "Leopold and Loeb: The 'Perfect' Crime." It recounted the details of Chicago's "Crime of the Century," which was named for Nathan F. Leopold Jr. and Richard A. Loeb, two well-educated, wealthy, teenage boys who set out to commit the perfect crime. The exhibition opened on the 80th anniversary of their reckless and cruel adventure.

The story of this brutal crime has been featured in American history textbooks for decades, but the "Crime of the Century" was a label that Leopold and Loeb would eventually have to share with other heinous acts throughout the twentieth century—the Lindbergh kidnapping and the trial of O.J. Simpson, for example. So, what made this case live on? How does it still have meaning for us today? In the exhibition, we attempted to answer these questions and hopefully, in the process, helped visitors realize that the past can tell us something about our present.

Leopold and Loeb's plan for the perfect crime was to kidnap a young boy from a wealthy family, request a ransom of \$10,000 for his safe return, and get away with it. To ensure that they would not be caught, they planned from the outset to murder their victim and seek the ransom from the dead boy's family before anyone discovered his fate.

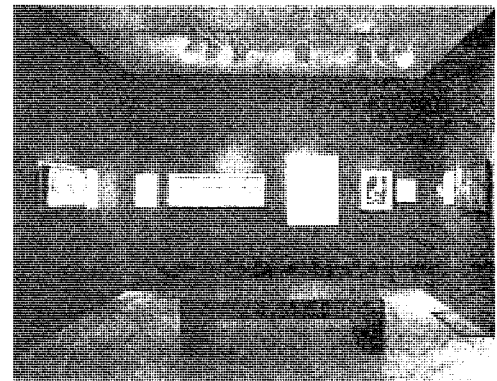
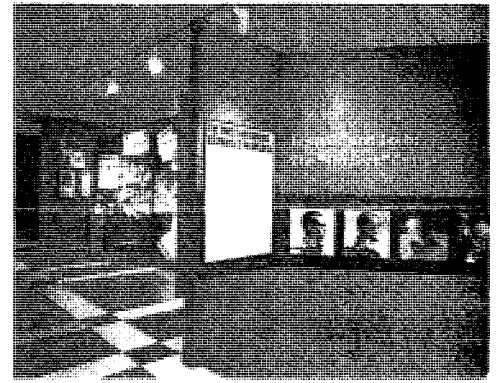
Ultimately, famous attorney Clarence Darrow's decision to defend the murderers and the use of psychoanalytical testimony at the hearing turned this gruesome and senseless murder into one of the most important court cases in American history.

They put their plan into action in the afternoon of May 21, 1924. After combing their own affluent neighborhood for the ideal victim, the two decided to kidnap a 14-year-old acquaintance, Bobby Franks, who was walking alone a few blocks from his home. Richard Loeb lured Franks into the front seat of Nathan Leopold's rented car. Almost immediately, Franks was struck on the head with the shaft of a steel chisel, pulled into the backseat of the car, and silenced by a rag stuffed into his mouth. He died shortly thereafter. Hours later Leopold and Loeb shoved his body into a culvert in a remote area of Southeast Chicago. The killers then initiated the second phase of their plan—ransom.

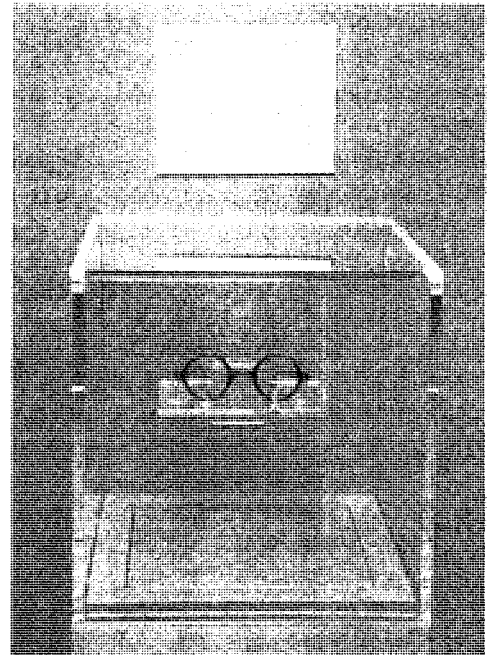
Early the following morning the body of Bobby Franks was discovered and his death was reported in the local papers before Leopold and Loeb could collect the ransom. The two murderers were caught shortly thereafter due in large part to the discovery of Leopold's eyeglasses near the dead boy. The impending court case became the talk of the national press and captivated the city. Rumors about the case spread quickly, including suspicions that the victim was sexually molested and that the killers were homosexuals. Ultimately, famous attorney Clarence Darrow's decision to defend the murderers and the use of psychoanalytical testimony at the hearing turned this gruesome and senseless murder into one of the most important court cases in American history.

For the exhibition, we sought to help visitors relate to this story in numerous ways. For instance, the displays and associated public programming explored issues that connected the crime and courtroom proceedings to contemporary issues, including the on-going debates over the death penalty in Illinois and America, the role of the media in high-profile criminal cases, and issues of juvenile justice in Chicago. The exhibition also drew people in by featuring powerful objects and images from our own permanent collections, as well as artifacts on loan from the Field Museum and Northwestern University Archives and Special Collections Library. The exhibited materials included the original ransom notes sent to the Franks family, the psychological profiles of Leopold and Loeb used at

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Scenes above from the Chicago Historical Society, "Leopold and Loeb: The 'Perfect' Crime."



Nathan Leopold's eyeglasses, left at the scene of the crime

Photographs by John Alderson, Chicago Historical Society



RESEARCH AT RISK?

by Sharon Babaian
sbabaian@technomuses.ca

Research is something public historians take for granted. We all know it and we all know that good history—from scholarly to popular and everything in between—depends on it. We also know the very best research is not only time-consuming but also largely invisible; it provides an essential foundation and framework for the elegant narrative, the compelling exhibition or the innovative tour. The irony is that, because so much public history research takes place behind the scenes, many people in positions of influence within the heritage community do not see it as a core function of their institutions. This lack of empathetic understanding places research in a vulnerable position at budget time, when institutions invariably have to choose among many competing projects and priorities.

The uncertain status of research has become a particular concern for museums. Once bastions of scholarly, collections-based research in history, the natural and physical sciences, anthropology, archaeology and art history, among other things, museums have undergone a transformation in recent years. They are increasingly seen by their boards and the governments and communities that fund them as tools of educational and social policy and/or as part of the leisure, entertainment and tourism industries. They have changed their mandates and missions to reflect this new, multi-faceted role and are placing greater emphasis on such things as visitor services, public programs and communications and marketing. Research has had to compete with these other, more visible priorities for dwindling funds and it has not always fared well.

In 1998, the United Kingdom's Museums and Galleries Commission conducted a comprehensive survey of museum-based research and found some unsettling trends. For example, 44% of the museums in the survey sample "did not include provision for research and scholarship in a mission statement or forward plan" for the institution and only 30% of respondents had "research and publication budgets." The survey also revealed that fully 80% of individual respondents felt they were not doing as much research as they would like due largely to lack of time and resources. Also, when experienced curators left and were not replaced, museums not only lost a wealth of knowledge about the collections but also the opportunity to pass that knowledge along to a new generation of curators.

Similar concerns about the state of research in Canadian museums were expressed by the delegates to the first ever Canadian Museums Research Summit held in Ottawa this past January. The meeting attracted about 200 museum-based researchers from across the country and from all types and sizes of museums. The goal of this two-day, cross-disciplinary summit was not just to identify the challenges facing research in museums but, more importantly, "to develop a comprehensive action plan to ensure the future strength and relevance of museum research in Canada."

"The greatest risk to research in museums is when no one realises that it is being carried out."

Dr. Robert Anderson,
University of Cambridge,
former director, British Museum

Because organizers wanted something concrete and practical to come out of the summit, they adopted a workshop-like structure where participants were divided and sub-divided into groups of about 10. Discussions began with fairly broad topics and then were gradually guided towards specific actions and desired outcomes. On the first day delegates were divided up according to their disciplines—history, science, and art—to identify and discuss the major issues facing museum-based

research in each area. On the second day, they were divided according to three topics: the capacity to do research, generating and integrating meaningful new knowledge and translating research into museum collections and programs. Interspersed with these workshop-like sessions were plenary panels made up of national and international experts whose presentations were intended to stimulate, frame and focus the delegates' discussions.

What emerged from these discussions was very interesting if not entirely surprising. First of all, it has been a long time since museum-based researchers in Canada have had an opportunity to discuss the things that matter most to them: collections and scholarship. We clearly needed to have this discussion. This was evident not only in the attendance, which was well above expectations, but also in the sense of urgency and enthusiasm that most delegates brought to the discussions. For all the differences that divide researchers in natural history museums and art galleries from those of us that work in human history museums, there is enough common ground and enough to be learned from one another's disciplines to make such cross-disciplinary meetings worthwhile.

It also came as no surprise that many delegates believed that research was under-valued in their museums. There were a number of reasons given for this state of affairs including a general lack of understanding of what research is, how it is done and what

its results are. As a consequence, many people within museums fail to see that scholarship provides, among other things, the foundation for all successful popularization. Instead of looking at the work of curators, scientists and historians and using it as a starting point for developing public programs, staffs look elsewhere for ideas and information to fulfill their needs. In many institutions, these needs take priority when it comes to negotiating work plans, allocating budgets and making staffing decisions, leaving research at the bottom of the list or off the list entirely. This was especially true for the many small and medium-sized institutions which have few full-time staff. If these museums have professionally trained curators, they seldom have the resources to do any sustained research beyond that which is required to facilitate acquisitions, develop exhibitions or answer public inquiries.

Rescuing Research

Among the conference participants, there was a clear sense that museum research had been marginalized and impoverished in recent years. Many expressed anger and frustration at this state of affairs and at their apparent inability to change it. At the same time, buoyed by two days of collegial contact with like-minded people, the summit delegates and organizers couldn't help but feel that there might still be some hope for rescuing museum research.

The consensus of the summit seemed to be that researchers have to adopt an active, systematic and constructive approach to promoting their work. They need to demonstrate how crucial research is, how it generates new knowledge and understanding, how it unlocks the stories, secrets and significance of our collections, how it helps us to understand who we are and how we got here. This strategy can provide the basis for an integrated vision of the museum, one that allows for coherent and systematic long-term planning and which includes ongoing support for research.

Selling this vision and seeing that it is actually implemented will not be easy. Lack of funding and funding with strings attached makes planning for the future a challenge at best. Research especially requires long-term investment. Even sympathetic managers often lack the control and flexibility required to make this kind of commitment. More worrying still is the anti-intellectual attitude, _often cloaked in bogus democratic attire, _that seems to be prevalent in some museums. In this atmosphere, collections-based and scholarly research is not just invisible, it's unnecessary.

Changing this mindset might be impossible and working around it will require determined and sympathetic leadership at the highest levels.

In the concluding plenary to the summit, Dr. Robert Bud of the Science Museum, London, called the current situation in which museums find themselves a 'Weimar moment'. Disorder, uncertainty and change surround us but so, too, do opportunities and it is up to us to make the most of these. History itself may be an 'easy sell' but the research that makes it possible is not. We need to become stronger advocates for our complex yet essential craft and for the many creative and dedicated people who practice it in museums and elsewhere in the heritage community.

References

Ann V. Gunn and R.G.W. Prescott, *Lifting the Veil: Research and Scholarship in United Kingdom Museums and Galleries* (London: Museums & Galleries Commission, 1999)

IN OTHER NEWS

A "Thank You" from the President

In my last column I reported on our recent board meeting in Indianapolis, hosted by IUPUI. What I failed to mention, was that this was the first time the NCPH board has met at the university that provides a home for our executive offices as well as substantial financial and other support. We took advantage of the opportunity the meeting afforded to show our gratitude to the School of Liberal Arts and the history department and to meet some of our supporters in person. David invited the Dean of Liberal Arts to the board meeting and, thanks to the efforts of Phil Scarpino, I was able to meet with Dean White before the meeting. Phil and I chatted with Dean White about NCPH's mission and goals and I also outlined some of our plans for the future. He seemed genuinely supportive of our work and of our ongoing relationship with the history department and the university.

Following the meeting, many board members and other NCPH notables joined the IUPUI history department and public history alumni in celebrating the 20th anniversary of the public history program. Melissa Bingmann organized the event (with the stalwart support of Liz Monroe and the graduate students) which consisted of a series of presentations and tours and lots of good food and drink. It was a stimulating and entertaining event.

Thanks to David, Dana, Melissa and friends for making our first official visit to Indianapolis and IUPUI such a resounding success.

From The Director's Desk



by David G. Vanderstel
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my twenty years as a historian, I have been on a continuous journey of discovery” through our field of public history. As a product of a traditional academic program—with nary a mention of museums, government agencies, consultants, or the public—it was determined to return to a small liberal arts college in the Midwest to teach and mentor students. But, upon receiving my degree and encountering a tight job market, I began my career instead as a historian for a living history museum near Indianapolis with little clue as to the opportunities for personal and professional growth that lay ahead for me. Within a short period of time, I found myself contributing to the development of exhibits, working on school curriculum materials, conducting public programs, doing staff training, and even providing historical materials for the public relations staff. I learned firsthand what meant to be a public historian even before I even became aware of the term. But, I quickly realized that what I did for the museum in reaching our 200,000 visitors annually could possibly have a greater impact on the public’s understanding of and appreciation of history than what I did in a lifetime of classroom teaching.

It has been with great interest over my last decade of service as NCPH Executive Director that I have watched the historical profession on its own “journey of discovery” about what constitutes public history. I have been pleased to see in recent years how our larger and larger sister associations have become more aware of public history, clearly an indication that public history is not a “flash in the pan” that many initially thought. Through the creation of task forces, staff liaisons, and even annual meetings on public history themes, these associations have acknowledged that public history must be recognized as a viable part of the historical profession.

Although this progress is indeed laudable, I remain concerned about the profession’s overall understanding of what constitutes public history. In fact, there remains a strong feeling that public history may be a noble cause, but that it still is not “real” history. While attending the American Historical Association’s annual meeting in Seattle this past January (the theme of which was “Archives and Artifacts”), I heard several discussions and comments that continued to indicate a lack of understanding about public history. During one session, some participants continued to define

teaching as that which occurred within the classroom, thus failing to recognize the teaching and learning that occurs in exhibits, at historic sites, and the like. Others argued that serving as a “talking head” in a documentary, consulting on an exhibit, or serving on a historical society board meant that they were “doing public history.” They did not seem to realize that coming out of the ivory tower for special appearances does not a public historian make. Rather, public history requires a philosophy, an orientation, a commitment to make one’s scholarship accessible and meaningful to larger audiences and to demonstrate the applicability of that scholarship to present and future issues.

Thus, if the majority of historians see history as purely academic in focus, that would explain the lack of understanding and appreciation for public history and its contributions to the whole.

I am also concerned by departments seeking to jump on the public history bandwagon by developing public history courses without experienced faculty. I receive occasional calls or emails from faculty members who have been charged with creating public history options for their departments—something I also heard while staffing the NCPH information table at AHA. In most cases, these individuals have had no experience in doing public history and wanted a “crash course” in public history. Since public history has been around since the 1970s as an area of specialization and practice, I am rather amazed that there is not a greater awareness of and appreciation for public history within the historical profession and that public history still remains a mystery among a significant portion of historians.

Why is this so? I believe that past AHA president James McPherson correctly identified the problem. In his presidential column in the March 2003 *Perspectives*, McPherson noted that the historical profession may consist primarily of a “dominant elite” who “try to turn their students into clones of themselves” and that if their students fail to secure positions in research universities or “a good four-year college,” “we tend to consider them – and ourselves – subjects for condolence.” Thus, if the majority of historians see history as purely academic in focus, that would explain the lack of understanding and appreciation for public history and its contributions to the whole.

Similarly, in the May 2004 issue of *Perspectives*, Gerald Prokopowicz of East Carolina University claimed there was a “broken connection” between academic historians and the public. But, in reviewing my own public history experience and the development of the historical profession from the late 19th century, I realized that the connection between consumers of history and the historical profession was never completely broken, thanks to the work of professional public historians whose work has reached – and continues to reach – larger and more diverse audiences over the decades through a variety of

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NCH Washington Update



by Bruce Craig, National Coalition for History
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Weinstein Confirmed as US Archivist

On 10 February 2005, the Senate quietly confirmed Dr. Allen Weinstein as the ninth Archivist of the United States. As Archivist, Weinstein will oversee the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), an independent federal agency created in 1934. In a brief ceremony on 16 February, some fifty or so close friends and family members as well as NARA employees, several members of Congress and representatives of professional organizations watched Weinstein's friend and Congressional sponsor, Senator Richard Lugar (R-IN), administer the oath of office on a Bible that once belonged to a Revolutionary War soldier that was obtained from NARA holdings.

Weinstein spoke briefly and said, "In April, we will celebrate the 20th anniversary of National Archives independence. Under National Archivists during both Republican and Democratic presidencies, the tradition of non-political and highest professional attention to the work involved has been the norm. It will continue to be so during my watch as will an effort to deepen the interaction with Congress and with other governmental agencies." Making a subtle reference to another period of great transition that characterized the early days of John F. Kennedy's administration, Weinstein announced that "in the next 100 days" he intended to try to visit every NARA regional facility and presidential library and planned to "spend much of this period listening, learning, and working to design the next phase of the National Archive's future."

With several members of Congress in the audience as well as several key White House officials, Weinstein also mentioned that in coming weeks he would be talking with members of Congress about restoring funding for the National Historical Publications and Records Administration (NHPRC). Restoration of funding for the NHPRC appears to be among his top concerns.

Weinstein brings extensive experience to NARA. In the past he has served as senior advisor at the International Foundation for Election Systems; founder, president, and CEO of The Center for Democracy. He has been a fellow with the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and the American Council of Learned Societies, a university professor at Boston University and Georgetown University, and has held other academic positions. Weinstein received two Senior Fulbright Lectureships, a United Nations Peace Medal, and the Council of Europe's Silver Medal. He also published several books, contributed to eight edited collections, and has written numerous articles for a range of publications.

NARA Opens Bush Presidential Records

On 18 February 2005, the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) opened approximately 9,700 pages of presidential records that are associated with the presidency of George H.W. Bush that were previously withheld under Presidential Records Act (PRA) restrictions. This is the first release of Bush presidential records that are no longer subject to presidential restrictive categories or applicable Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) exemptions.

The good news for scholars is that neither representatives of President Bush nor the incumbent President Bush have chosen to assert any constitutionally-based privilege on any of these papers that could have been claimed under provisions of PRA implementation Executive Order 13233. This release brings the total number of records now available to scholars and researchers relating to the Executive Office of the President during George H. W. Bush's presidency to 5.4 million pages.

Watergate Papers Now Public

On 4 February 2005, the University of Texas unveiled the Woodward and Bernstein Watergate Papers. The Woodward-Bernstein Collection includes thousands of pages of hand-written notes, typed memos, and transcripts culled from 75 file-drawer size boxes bought by the University for \$5 million. The archive, however, will not reveal the identity of "Deep Throat" and other confidential sources until their deaths. View the description and highlights of the collection at:
<http://www.hrc.utexas.edu/research/fa/woodstein.hp.html> .

History Arguments Advanced in Supreme Court Cases

Over the past few years, the display of the Ten Commandments has become what some consider a focal point of a new culture war. This last week, the Supreme Court heard oral arguments on the two most recent controversial cases that focus on the display of the Ten Commandments on government property. Interestingly, "history" was at the core of both sides' arguments.

The first case, *Van Orden v. Perry* (no. 03-1500) focuses on the issue whether a six-foot high stone monument displaying the Ten Commandments on the Texas state capitol grounds (between the state capitol and the supreme court) violates the First Amendment; the second, *McCree County v. ACLU* (No. 03-1693) considers whether a local courthouse in Kentucky can exhibit the Ten Commandments in a public display along with other historical documents.

In the Supreme Court room itself, there is a frieze dedicated to history's great lawgivers. Justices can look up from their seats and view an image showing Moses and Confucius sitting beside John

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Making Meaning of Murder > continued from page 3

the sentencing hearing, and Nathan Leopold's eyeglasses, which were the key clue in linking Leopold, and therefore, Nathan to the crime. Newspapers of the era, which followed the case with headlines such as, "Kidnap Rich Boy; Kill Him" and "Slayers Spurn Sympathy," were reproduced throughout the gallery. These vehicles for communicating sensational news were familiar to visitors and helped them identify parallels between our own crime-obsessed times and those of the past. We also featured videos with film footage provided by local PBS affiliate WTTW11 to further engage our visitors, diversify the exhibition experience, and provide additional context to the story.

It perhaps the most effective element for creating opportunities to connect visitors with this history was the conclusion to the exhibition. Here, we invited Richard Mahan, a local writer and art dealer, to develop and execute his idea to commission our local contemporary artists to make new work that explored the meaning of this case

for themselves and Chicago today. The works on display and artists' statements that accompanied them helped many of our visitors grapple with their own feelings about the crime and their personal struggle to make sense of the senseless.

In one of the most powerful works—Deborah Maris-Lader's print, *Playground*—visitors viewed the work through the glass and frame of an old Chicago window. The window became a lens through which the visitor could watch children standing and playing. Some figures appear to be Bobby Franks; others are ghosted images, clouded to appear as if they are only partially there. Maris-Lader's comments serve to provide what the curator can only suggest, a clear association between her own life and the experiences of others in the past.

"I'm coming at this in a totally different way—as a parent looking out a window waiting for my children to come home," she wrote. "I wanted to focus on the idea that anyone's child is basically fair game."

In the final weeks of the exhibition we conducted a summative evaluation to discover how we fared in our attempt to make this 80-year-old case relevant for contemporary audiences. Interestingly, but perhaps not surprisingly, we found that the variety of devices we employed helped make those connections for different visitors in different ways. For some, the newspaper headlines reminded them of their recent experiences with the O.J. Simpson or Lee Boyd Malvo cases. For others the often-quoted phrase from Clarence Darrow, "I may hate the sin, but never the sinner" caused them to think about their own feelings regarding the death penalty. For a few, Maris-Lader's words helped them remember that the life of a young boy was lost in the frenzy of this case and that today, villains still prey on the unprotected and the innocent.

John Russick is a curator at the Chicago Historical Society. His next project is an exhibition about history for children; it will open next year.

From The Director's Desk > continued from page 6

sites, venues, and methods. In its final report, the AHA Public History Task Force noted that public history should be "defined broadly, as a practice in which all historians can engage in meaningful and substantive ways, wherever they are employed." This is a good sign, which, I hope, will lead to greater efforts within the historical profession as a whole to learn more about public history and to appreciate its contributions no matter where it is practiced.

NCPH continues to make excellent strides in promoting the study and practice of public history. At the AHA meeting, NCPH sponsored a session on public history curricula, including Elizabeth Fraterrigo, Patrick K. Moore, Patricia Mooney-Melvin, and Noel Stowe; the session drew a respectable audience and produced a lively conversation. In addition, NCPH co-hosted a reception with other public history organizations, which provided a great opportunity to exchange ideas and explore the practice of public history. NCPH members also represent the organization at meetings around the country and abroad.

Admittedly, we won't be able to convince all historians about the value of public history. But, we can, in our own respective areas of work, promote public history within the profession and among our wider publics, making them aware of the usefulness of history to present and future generations. If you have any ideas about future NCPH initiatives, I would certainly welcome your input.

From NCH Washington Update > continued from page 7

Marshall. The frieze served as a catalyst for arguments from lawyers representing both sides. The lawyer representing an opponent of the Texas Monument, for example, told the Court that the Court's frieze is constitutional because it places the Commandments in a secular, historical context. But then, "so does the Texas monument," argued the attorney general of Texas -- it is part of a "parklike" area dotted with monuments to veterans, pioneers, and other "historical influences" that have helped to shape the state of Texas, he stated.

For several hours opponents of the granite Ten Commandment monument in Texas argued that its presence on public property amounts to a governmental imposition of monotheism; proponents of the monument claimed it was nothing more than a public recognition of the role of Judeo-Christian influences on Western civilization and the founding of the United States. In the Kentucky case proponents also argued the "historical nature" of their "exhibit" which includes not just the display of the Commandments, but other documents such as the Magna Carta and the lyrics to the national anthem. Opponents argued that the "secular purpose" of the displays is "a sham." In the end, all agreed that, bottom line, "context mattered."

Come July 2005, the Court will render a decision and the nation will learn to what extent history-based arguments prevailed in swaying the justices. One thing for sure, when it renders judgment, the Court will have no paucity of historical arguments to bolster both the majority and minority position.

Consultant's Corner

The NCPH Consultant's Corner is dedicated to promoting the interests of NCPH members who provide historical services as consultants or contractors. Submissions to the Consultant's Corner should highlight professional accomplishments among contract historians, contract firms, and other independent researchers. Submissions detailing news of finished projects, contract awards, contract report publications, ongoing oral history projects, or anything else that might be of interest to practicing historians can be e-mailed to the NCPH office at: ncph@ncph.org. Be sure to include your full name and address.

Donna M. Neary is a historian and writer. Among her former employers are local, state, and federal governments. In 2000, Neary launched her historical consulting business after serving as head of the county historic preservation and archives agency in Louisville, Kentucky for six years. Historic Preservation has played a major role in her career over the past eighteen years, and she has successfully listed nearly 2000 historic resources in the National Register of Historic Places. Neary has extensive experience with design review in historic districts, serving as staff to two historic preservation commissions. In that capacity, she routinely reviewed applications for new construction within existing historic districts. She is intimately familiar with the Secretary of the Interior's Standard for Rehabilitation. She has recently worked for Yew Dell Gardens, the and Olmsted Conservancy. Clients include Louisville Stoneware, Glassworks, the Kentucky Derby Museum, and the Lexington, KY Convention and Visitors Bureau. She assists clients by preparing National Register of Historic Places nominations, reviewing landmark

status for properties, advising on Section 106 matters, preparing conservation easement documentation and rehabilitation tax credit applications.

Neary also has teaching experience, including several courses at Bellarmine University in Louisville on local history and historic preservation topics. She is called on regularly to speak on historic preservation and history topics, and has made presentations at local, state and national conferences. She has also developed tours and history and archaeology educational programs for audiences ranging from preschool to senior citizens.

A Louisville native, Donna M. Neary earned a B.A. in History and Journalism from Murray State University, and was awarded an M.A. in Public History from Loyola University Chicago. In addition, her experience exceeds the qualifications listed in the Federal Register 36 CFR 800 for historic preservation professionals. She regularly attends conferences and workshops for continuing education opportunities. Courses taken include "Introduction to Federal Projects and Historic Preservation Law" offered by the United States General Services Administration (GSA) Interagency Training Center, and "Guiding Design on Main Street" sponsored by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. In addition, Neary has undertaken a self-directed study of historic landscapes, attending workshops and seminars in order to understand and evaluate these complex resources. Contact Donna Neary at donnaneary@bellsouth.net.

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History's
Mysteries

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR STATE AND LOCAL HISTORY
PENNSYLVANIA FEDERATION OF MUSEUMS AND HISTORICAL ORGANIZATIONS

SCHOLARS CALL ON CONGRESS TO SUSPEND TRANSFER OF NIXON RESIDENTIAL RECORDS

Over a dozen scholars have petitioned Congress to conduct oversight hearings and suspend the proposed transfer of Richard Nixon's presidential records to the Nixon Library and Birthplace in Yorba Linda, California. The exceptionally strongly worded letter questions "that institution's fitness to join the Presidential Library system" and urges Congress to conduct oversight hearings on the arrangements between the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) and the Nixon library.

Furthermore, the scholars call for enactment of legislation mandating "an independent review board at each of the existing and future presidential libraries" modeled on the State Department's Historical Advisory Committee. (for the petition, tap into <http://www.nsarchive.org>)

Addressed to several Congressional committees, the petition was signed by sixteen historians who were scheduled to speak at a conference on President Nixon and Vietnam at the Richard Nixon Library and Birthplace that last week was abruptly cancelled by library officials. Many prominent Nixon era scholars and critics, including Stanley Kutler, Jeffrey Kimball, and Larry Berman had been invited to participate. John Taylor, Executive Director of the library, blamed the cancellation on a lack of public interest and budget concerns though scholars see a more sinister motive.

The cancellation contributes to what has already proven to be an awkward transitional period for Nixon library officials as the library's board and leadership begins to move from being an entirely private entity to one that meets standards expected of a unit of the presidential library system supported by with public funds provided by the National Archives.

In so sponsoring the conference was Whittier College, Nixon's alma mater. College officials had hoped to establish a new relationship with the Nixon library through their sponsorship of the event. According to Dean Susan Gotsch the conference seemed a promising first step in this new relationship" but the withdrawal of the library's considerable funds restricts the option of having the college continue to sponsor the conference. Said Gotsch, "pursuing this conference alone at this time is not an option."

Invited presenters and other interested individuals expressed passionate outrage over what they perceive as the library's political motive for cancelling the event. Jeffrey Kimball scathingly told the

History News Network, "It appears that the directors of the Nixon library were concerned that professional historians, seeking historical truth based on archival evidence, would, in reporting their findings, damage Nixon's reputation by telling the truth as they found it."

"You really don't want scholars around, anyhow. They have this annoying habit of clustering near the truth."

Thomas S. Blanton,
Director for the National Security Archive

Neither do the critics buy the library's argument that poor attendance was the cause of the cancellation. According to Taylor, the library had sent out over 200 invitations and as of last week only seven participants had signed up. Whittier college officials noted though that while some 200 invitations were mailed, they went only to "the Nixon Library constituency" and that with proper publicity the conference "would have drawn good attendance from

the academic community." A similar retrospective conference on the Reagan presidency back in April 2002 held on the campus of U.C. Santa Barbara attracted well over 100 scholars.

The library and college had disagreed over the issue of inviting and featuring certain Nixon era figures, such as Henry Kissinger and Robert McNamara. Nixon library officials maintained that having such headliners would generate greater attention while some academics argued their presence would detract from the academic nature of the conference.

Stanley Kutler, however, placed blame for the cancellation squarely on the shoulders of the executive director of the library. "As long as John Taylor is running the Nixon operation," he said, "the place is off-limits to serious scholarly endeavor." Thomas S. Blanton, director for the National Security Archive, also had harsh words in a letter to Taylor in which he stated, "You really don't want scholars around, anyhow. They have this annoying habit of clustering near the truth."

The recent actions of library officials to cancel the conference and the reactions from the scholarly community together with Nixon library officials' continuing efforts to subvert provisions of the Presidential Libraries Act by seeking federal funding prior to formal integration into the presidential library system, undoubtedly will serve as the catalyst for further controversy as the library continues to press Allen Weinstein, the new Archivist of the United States, and Congress to become a full-fledged NARA-sanctioned presidential library facility.

From the NCH Washington Update.

AWARDS, GRANTS AND INTERNSHIPS

Clement Ellis Conger Museum Internship

The Society of the Cincinnati, a non-profit institution that maintains its historic house museum and research library at Anderson House in Washington, D.C., offers the Clement Ellis Conger Museum Internship to an individual interested in the care and research of museum collections. During the summer of 2005, the intern will have the opportunity to participate in and contribute to the operation of a historic house museum, particularly in the areas of curatorial and collections management work.

The internship is named after Clement Ellis Conger, former curator of the Diplomatic Reception Rooms and member of the Society of the Cincinnati. Through the generosity of the John Jay Hopkins Foundation, the internship carries a \$1,000 stipend. Possible projects include, but are not limited to: Completing an ongoing inventory of the books in the Andersons' original library and preparing a study on the interpretation of this library; Conducting object research on the Wetenhall-de Courcy-May portraits, a collection of 28 works dating from the 17th through the 19th centuries related to an early Maryland family; Registering the portraits in the Society's collections with the Catalog of American Portraits maintained by the National Portrait Gallery; Locating and researching existing Society of the Cincinnati Eagle insignia badges for a survey of those owned by original Society members; Preparing reference notebooks for each of the museum rooms to contain artifact information and locations to assist docents on tours. Applicants should be students who will have completed at least three years of

undergraduate work studying history, art history, material culture studies, museum studies, or related topics.

Please send a letter of interest and resume by April 22, 2005, to: Emily Schulz, Curator of Collections, The Society of the Cincinnati - Anderson House, 2118 Massachusetts Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20008; Fax: (202) 785-0729; E-mail: eschulz@societyofthecincinnati.org

James B. Castles Fellowship

The Center for Columbia River History is pleased to announce the James B. Castles Fellowship to encourage original scholarly research that contributes to public understanding of the history of the Columbia River Basin. The \$3,000 Fellowship is open to graduate students, professional historians and independent scholars. CCRH encourages proposals from diverse historical perspectives, including social, ethnic, political, cultural and environmental approaches. Fellows will be in residence at the Center for Columbia River History in Portland, Oregon/Vancouver, Washington for four weeks during the granting year (June 1, 2005 - August 31, 2006). They will deliver a public talk on their research topic and submit an article for possible publication in a regional journal. In addition, they will submit a written report on their research for the CCRH archives. Further information, contact Mary Wheeler at the Center for Columbia River History at info@ccrh.org; Phone: (360) 258-3289. Applications must be received by May 1, 2005.

Internship Opportunity at the McFaddin-Ward House

The successful candidate will enjoy working with a unique collection in Southeast Texas at an AAM accredited museum. The McFaddin-Ward House is a gem. Mamie McFaddin Ward lived most of her life here in this Beaux-Arts

Colonial mansion and made arrangements to establish her family home as a historic house museum. The museum encompasses three city blocks and includes a state of the art Visitor's Center, the McFaddin-Ward House, an Administrative office building and a Collections and Education building. More than 100,000 artifacts encompass the decorative arts collection and vast archives. This is an internship that will expose the intern to projects and duties in all areas of a historic house museum. The intern will spend a certain amount of time determined at the beginning of the internship in Collections, Education and Archives. The focus of the internship will be a specific project chosen by the intern in either interpretation or collections management. Work is performed under general supervision of the museum curator. Duties may include collections management, interpretation and administration. Must have a strong interest in working with collections or interpretation. Candidates must be capable of precise and detail-oriented work. A background in museum studies, history, art history or education is preferred. Computer literacy is expected. The internships last ten weeks for up to 35 hours per week and is flexible between the dates of May and August. This internship will provide hands-on experience for the qualified candidate and is unpaid. Unpaid internship length and hours are negotiable. Office staff is willing to assist with necessary paperwork for interns to obtain course credit.

To apply, please fax, email or mail your resume with three professional references by March 30, 2005 to: Ware Petznick, Ph.D., Curator of Collections, McFaddin-Ward House, 725 Third St., Beaumont, TX, 77706; E-mail: Wpetznick@mcfaddin-ward.org; Phone: (409) 832-1906; Website: <http://www.mcfaddin-ward.org>

CALLS FOR PAPERS, ARTICLES, PROPOSALS AND PRESENTATIONS

Call for Annual Meeting Site Proposals

The National Council on Public History seeks site proposals for its annual meetings beginning with the year 2007. Proposals should include the following information: A statement of why the site is appropriate for the NCPH annual meeting; Information regarding support from local individuals, institutions, and agencies that could work together to plan a successful conference. Letters of intent would strengthen the proposal; Potential arrangements for meeting facilities, hotels, and transportation, with approximate costs; Proposed dates for the meeting, generally between March 15 and May 1; Any other details that might strengthen the proposal. Since the NCPH Board of Directors considers proposals at its spring and fall meetings, a representative or representatives of the host institution(s) should plan to present and discuss the site proposal. For more information, contact the NCPH Executive Offices at (317) 274-2716; Email: ncph@iupui.edu. Send completed proposals to: NCPH Executive Offices, IUPUI, 425 University Boulevard – Cavanaugh 327, Indianapolis, Indiana 46202-5140.

The editorial staff of *The Public Historian* is creating an electronic index of its contents, and seeks the help of authors. If you published an article in the journal between 1978 and 1995 and would like to write your own abstract and select key terms for the electronic index, please contact Managing Editor Lindsey Reed at lreed@ltsc.ucsb.edu. Articles not abstracted by their authors will be abstracted by graduate students working on the index project. Abstracts for articles published after 1995 have already been written, but authors of these more recent articles are invited to select key terms.

Please submit a one-page abstract and a brief CV with contact information by March 1, 2005 to: Lindsey Reed, Managing Editor, *The Public Historian*, Department of History, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA, 93106, E-mail: lreed@ltsc.ucsb.edu.

Northeast American Society for 18th-Century Studies Conference: "The Eighteenth-Century Everyday: Remembrance and Representation."

Women's diaries, a row of city shop fronts, midwifery practices, a coffee cup, a frock coat and treasured pincushions may seem discordant elements; but they represent different aspects of training, expectation and expression in eighteenth-century life. This era laid the foundation for modern life. Scholars have spent increasing energies discovering and deciphering these phenomena. An interdisciplinary perspective is essential for a full elucidation of quotidian practices, and this conference addresses this need.

To be hosted in Fredericton, New Brunswick, by the University of New Brunswick, the conference will be an exploration of the everyday. The conference organizing committee in collaboration with the Northeast American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (NEASECS) invite papers to address the eighteenth-century everyday from cross-cultural and multi-disciplinary perspectives. The international conference will be held from September 30 to October 2, 2005. The conference welcomes papers in the study of literature, visual arts, music and history, cultural studies, women's studies, critical theory, as well as material culture studies, in any national or cultural context. Particularly welcome are papers exploring the need for, and the uses of, technology in the interpretation of the past. The deadline for submissions is April 15, 2005. For more information, contact: Corey Slumkoski, Department of History, University of New Brunswick,

P O Box 4400, Fredericton, NB, Canada E3B 5A3; E-mail: corey.slumkoski@unb.ca. Or contact: Beverly Lemire, Department of History and Classics, 2-28 Henry Marshall Tory Building, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB, Canada T6G 2H4; E-mail: lemire@ualberta.ca. Visit the website at <http://www.unb.ca/conferences/neasecs/>

"The Library in the Life of the Reader": A Special Issue of *Library Quarterly*

The study of historical and cultural aspects of readers and reading is a new but fast-growing area that overlaps with the history of the book and of print culture, and draws on the theories and methodologies of history, literary criticism, cultural studies, and sociology. But reading researchers have tended to overlook libraries as subject for study, thereby missing an important context in which reading commonly takes place. *Library Quarterly* is interested in research that explores the ways in which contemporary and historically situated groups and individuals encounter public, academic, school, special, private and other types of libraries. *Library Quarterly* anticipates examples of reader groups to be distinguished by their occupancy of a particular time period (including the present) as well as social, cultural and geographic place. They might include, for example, racial and ethnic minorities, immigrants, religious organizations, children, rural residents, interest group members or the GLBT community.

Submissions should conform to style conventions found in the *Library Quarterly* (see <http://www.journals.uchicago.edu/LQ/instruct.html>), not to exceed 6,000 words (excluding endnotes), and be accompanied by a 100-word abstract. E-mailed submissions as an attachment in Word or PDF format are encouraged.

For more information, contact:
Christine Pawley, School of Library
and Information Science, The
University of Iowa, 3074 Main Library,
Iowa City, IA, 52242-1420; Phone:
(319) 335-5711; Fax:(319) 335-5374;
Email: christine-pawley@uiowa.edu.
Visit the website at <http://mingo.info-science.uiowa.edu/~pawley/CFPLQ04.html>

The Midlands Frontier Regional Studies Seminar

The Midlands Frontier Regional Studies Seminar (MFRSS) seeks papers examining the history and interpretation of the Tennessee and Cumberland River Valleys and related areas between 1600 and 1850. Now entering our third year, the MFRSS is multidisciplinary and welcomes contributions from anthropologists, geographers, academic and public historians, and other humanists and social scientists as well as independent scholars. The MFRSS hopes to give researchers studying the region's early history the opportunity to present and discuss their work in an informal setting. Papers will be distributed electronically to participants in advance of our meetings to encourage comment and exchange. The seminar meets one Wednesday afternoon a month during the academic year in the downtown Nashville Public Library's Nashville Room conference area. For more information, including schedules and directions, consult the MFRSS website at: <http://www.mtsu.edu/~lnelson/MFRSS.html>. Paper proposals should include a 200 word abstract and 1-page resume or CV. The deadline for submissions for the 2005-2006 academic year is 1 August 2005. Address submissions to: Lynn A. Nelson, Department of History, Campus Box 23, Middle Tennessee State University Murfreesboro, TN 37132; Fax: (615) 898-5881; Email: lnelson@mtsu.edu

The Journal of Women's History is soliciting articles for a special issue on domestic violence, guest edited by Megan McLaughlin and Elizabeth Pleck. We seek manuscripts from the broadest possible chronological, geographical, and methodological range, and from individuals residing around the world. For the purposes of this issue, domestic violence is very broadly defined to mean emotional, physical, and sexual violence occurring within the household, including (but not limited to) female infanticide, servant abuse, marital rape, etc.

The editors are especially interested in: the relationship of domestic violence to notions of shame and honor the relationship of domestic violence to public and private space changing attributions of the causes of domestic violence changing representations of domestic violence in popular culture, in law and religion, in media of any type changing definitions of the boundary between acceptable and illegitimate domestic violence the relationship of domestic violence to discourses of power and difference community regulation of domestic violence changing understandings of woman as "victim."

The deadline for submissions is December 1, 2005. Please send four one-sided, double-spaced copies of your manuscript (no more than 10,000 words, including endnotes and figures) to Journal of Women's History at the address below. Mark the envelope "Attention: Megan McLaughlin and Elizabeth Pleck." For more details on our submission policy see our website. Journal of Women's History c/o Department of History University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign 309 Gregory Hall, MC-466 810 S. Wright St., Urbana, IL 61801 Email: megmclau@uiuc.edu and epleck@uiuc.edu

Visit the website at http://www.press.jhu.edu/journals/journal_of_womens_history/guidelines.html

CONFERENCES AND LECTURE SERIES

NCHE Conference—"Conflict and Cooperation in History"

Join hundreds of teachers, academics and curriculum specialists at the 2005 National Council for History Education (NCHE) Conference "Conflict and Cooperation in History" as they welcome noted biographer, David McCullough to the Hilton Pittsburgh & Towers. The conference runs April 21 - 23, 2005.

Located at the forks of the Ohio, and at the confluence of the Monongahela and Allegheny Rivers, the "Point" attracted George Washington due to its strategic importance on behalf of the Virginia colony. The "Point" should attract you in 2005 due to the tactical teaching advantage to be gained in the classroom. Attend a myriad of sessions, exhibits and field trips reflecting the conference theme which provide practical pointers on combining content and pedagogy. The conference concurrent sessions also feature four strands: TAH grants, Elementary, French & Indian War, and World History. Conference Highlights include keynote speaker David McCullough who will discuss the rich history of Pittsburgh as a lens through which to view all of US History. Fred Anderson, historian at the University of Colorado and author, will be discussing George Washington and the French & Indian War. Bill Tsutsui, director of the

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CALL FOR ANNUAL MEETING SITE PROPOSALS

The National Council on Public History seeks site proposals for its annual meetings beginning in the year 2007.

Proposals should include the following information:

- A statement of why the site is appropriate for the NCPH annual meeting.
- Information regarding support from local individuals, institutions, and agencies that could work together to plan a successful conference. Letters of intent would strengthen the proposal.
- Potential arrangements for meeting facilities, hotels, and transportation, with approximate costs.
- Proposed dates for the meeting, generally between 15 March and 1 May.
- Any other details that might strengthen the proposal.

Since the NCPH Board of Directors considers proposals at its spring and fall meetings, a representative or representatives of the host institution(s) should plan to present and discuss the site proposal.

For more information, contact the NCPH Executive Offices at 317.274.2716 or by email: ncph@iupui.edu

Send completed proposals to:
NCPH Executive Offices - IUPUI
425 University Boulevard -
Cavanaugh 327
Indianapolis, Indiana 46202-5140

Center for East Asian Studies at the University of Kansas, will speak about the 100th anniversary of the Russo-Japanese War and its impact on World and US History. PBS Filmmakers Ben Loeterman and Eric Stange will talk about a documentary's principles of selection (what to put in, what to leave out, and what's important of a good story) as they relate to their latest documentary, "The War That Made America."

For more information contact: Anastasia Birosh, National Council for History Education, 26915 Westwood Road, Suite B-2, Westlake, Ohio 44145; Phone: (440) 835-1776; Fax: (440) 835-1295; E-mail: ana@nche.net. To register online, visit the website at <http://www.nche.net>.

"Heritage Environment and Tourism"— Meetings of the Society for Applied Anthropology.

The conference "Heritage Environment and Tourism" will take place April 5-10, 2005 at the La Fonda Hotel in Santa Fe, New Mexico. The Santa Fe meetings provide an excellent locale for exploring the closely related themes of Heritage, Environment & Tourism. In its own right, heritage has become a major focal point for national, regional and local development initiatives. As heritage is seen to have both external and internal value, how can we participate in such areas as heritage development and resource management while still defending the rights of communities and other groups to control how their heritages are represented? In a similar manner, the environment is increasingly being viewed as a kind of "natural heritage," implying a strong association between environmental conservation and human associations with the environment. What does this tendency suggest in terms of understanding and negotiating different stakeholder interests related to particular acts

of environmental decision making? How are different ideals associated with natural heritage reflected in environmental and natural resource management policies and practices? How do environmental issues relate to health concerns? Finally, tourism, as one of the world's largest industries, is increasingly being cast in the terms of both cultural and natural heritage. What does the increased popularity of such tourism "niches" as heritage tourism and ecotourism imply for the conservation of local heritage practices and the preservation of popular "natural" places? What are the roles played by museums in the presentation of heritage and the promotion of cultural tourism? In keeping with the Society's interdisciplinary roots, the Program Committee invites the participation of a wide variety of professionals, including anthropologists, archaeologists, geographers, sociologists, folklorists, public historians, tourism researchers and practitioners, natural scientists working on environmental issues, museum professionals, and other professionals in the areas listed below. The active involvement of anthropologists and other professionals who are employed outside of academia is encouraged.

For additional information or to make suggestions regarding the program theme or other matters related to the professional program contact: Erve Chambers, c/o Society for Applied Anthropology, P.O. Box 2436, Oklahoma City, OK 73101-2436; Phone: (405) 843-5113; sfaa2005@sfaa.net.

National Preservation Institute

The 2005 schedule of the National Preservation Institute's Professional Seminars in Historic Preservation and Cultural Resource Management is now available. For further information visit the organization's website: <http://www.npi.org>; direct e-mail queries to: info@npi.org.

Seventh Conference on Women and the Civil War

The Seventh Conference on Women and the Civil War, sponsored by The Society of Women and the Civil War in partnership with The Virginia Center for Civil War Studies will be held June 3-5, 2005 at Virginia Tech University in Blacksburg, Virginia. For information about the conference, including mail-in registration materials, visit <http://www.womenandthecivilwar.org/2005/2005.htm> For on-line registration visit <http://www.conted.vt.edu/cwwomen/>.

Thirteenth Berkshire Conference on the History of Women

Registration is now open for the Thirteenth Berkshire Conference on the History which will be held at Scripps College in Claremont, California from June 2 to June 5. This year's theme is "Sin Fronteras: Women's Histories, Global Conversations." For more information, to see the program, and to register, please visit the Berkshire Conference website at <http://www.berksconference.org>

CCPH Annual Conference

The California Council for the Promotion of History will hold its 2005 annual conference in Visalia, California, October 27-29, 2005. With the theme "Telling the Stories: From History to Myth," the conference will offer a variety of programs sure to please any taste, from conference panels and paper sessions, to guest speakers, our annual awards luncheon and banquet, to tours and other activities. For updated information on the conference, visit our website at <http://www.csus.edu/org/ccph>, or send us an email at ccph@csus.edu to be added to the conference mailing list.

INTERNET

In Motion: The African-American Migration Experience

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is proud to announce its support of "In Motion: The African-American Migration Experience." Created by New York Public Library's Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, the groundbreaking new Web site makes accessible to the general public more than 16,500 pages of essays, books, articles, and manuscripts, 8,300 illustrations, 100 lesson plans, and 60 maps that will help users understand the peoples, places, and the events that have shaped African America's migration traditions of the past four hundred years. The project is made possible in part by a \$2.4 million dollar grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services with the support of the Congressional Black Caucus. Other project components include the book, *In Motion: The African-American Migration Experience*, released by National Geographic in January 2005; a Black History Month education kit comprised of illustrations and photographs, maps, lesson plans and a bibliography; and an exhibition in the Schomburg Center Exhibition Hall. Through images, maps, narratives and music, the exhibition presents, chronicles, and interprets the migratory movements that have formed and transformed the African-American community and the nation in the last century. Visit the Web site at www.inmotionaame.org.

The Institute also encourages partnerships to expand the educational benefit of libraries and museums. To learn more about the Institute, please log onto: <http://www.ims.gov>.

JOB AND POSITIONS AVAILABLE

ExplorePAhistory.com Project Manager

ExplorePAhistory.com is a website project developed by WITF and the PA Historical and Museum Commission. We are seeking an individual to manage this project who will implement action plans, track schedules and deadlines, coordinate grant applications and fulfillment, supervise business plan development and execution, coordinate promotion and publicity, and act as the information hub for ExplorePAhistory.com historians, teachers, media and web professionals, and other interested parties. Our chosen candidate will coordinate the activities of a mixture of team members working on this educational project. Additional responsibilities include: supervising the uploading of new stories, producing monthly progress reports, and monitoring the budget. The Project Manager will also work with our Director of Philanthropic Initiatives to prepare proposals, our Sales Department to secure corporate underwriting, and our Director of Educational Services to develop and execute a revenue-based educational plan for ExplorePAhistory.com. The ideal candidate will have a Bachelor's degree in history or a related field; proven ability to manage a project and build/coordinate a team; and have a familiarity with website architecture and processes. This position will report to WITF's Senior Vice President for Content Development. WITF is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Contact Info: WITF, Inc., Human Resources Department, 1982 Locust Lane, Harrisburg, PA 17109; Phone: 1-800-366-9483; Fax: (717) 236-4628; Email: humanresources@witf.org; Website: <http://www.witf.org>

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Research Professor—Center for Historic Preservation, Middle Tennessee State University.

Position Description: Full-time position, twelve-month annual schedule. Duties and Responsibilities. Serves as lead historian for programs, projects, and publications of the Center for Historic Preservation (CHP), a Center of Excellence at Middle Tennessee State University.

Responsible for the performance of a wide and complex variety of tasks regarding the identification, assessment, enhancement, and preservation planning of cultural resources within the programs and projects of the CHP. Administrative tasks pertain to project development, grant development, management, and coordination responsibilities, and the meeting of related needs of the CHP's projects and programs. Major program involvement in the CHP's Town and Country Preservation Program, the African-American Historic Places project, and the Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area will be required. Preferred research fields are architectural history, southern history, and history of technology. The successful candidate will have demonstrable skills and three years experience in rural preservation planning, National Register of Historic Places nomination, and architectural and/or historical fieldwork. Teaching responsibilities will include the supervision of graduate research assistants, interns, and fellows who are assigned at, or who are undertaking internships or residencies, at the CHP. It is expected that the position's field projects and programs will regularly integrate learning and training opportunities for students from MTSU and other institutions.

Qualifications: A doctoral degree in Historic Preservation, History, Regional Planning, or a related field, with three years of professional experience in Historic Preservation. Applicants must file 1.) MTSU Application for Employment (available on MTSU website) 2.) comprehensive resume 3.) three letters of reference 4.) transcripts of all college work and, 5.) no more than three examples of professional publications, reports, or documents. Mail to Dr. Carroll Van West, Director, MTSU Center for Historic Preservation, Box 80, Murfreesboro, TN 37132. All materials must be received by May 1, 2005. Position begins on date dependent on funding.

Archivist—History Associates Incorporated

History Associates Incorporated is looking for a qualified archivist who enjoys varied, interesting, and challenging work. This position is based in the scenic Hudson River Valley and offers the opportunity to work for a Fortune 500 company. The archivist will arrange and describe corporate records as part of a team located in Kingston, New York. Duties include establishing an archival arrangement for corporate records, while placing them in appropriate archival housing; describing the records by means of an electronic database; and providing some reference services. HAI, an archival, records management, historical services firm located in Rockville, Maryland, operates nationwide. Clients include corporations, associations, non-profit organizations, and state, local, and federal governments. Our archivists and records managers perform a wide range of archival and records management activities with professional support and guidance from senior staff. HAI affords recent graduates with the opportunity to develop professionally and learn new skills.

Starting salary is \$34,500.00. Excellent benefits package. Required Qualifications: Master's degree in library science, history, or related discipline with degree concentration in archival studies or supplemented by archival courses, seminars, or practica; One year experience appraising, arranging, and describing archival records; Ability to collect, organize, research, and interpret records and submit written descriptions of record groups and collections; Demonstrated, practical knowledge of archival policies and procedures; Ability to work harmoniously and effectively with others; Ability to work independently and to exercise discretion, initiative, and judgment; Familiarity with major word processing and database software packages. Send resume, sample finding aid, transcripts, and names and phone numbers of three references to: Doris Miles, History Associates Incorporated, 300 N. Stonestreet Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850 FAX: 301-279-9224.

Included job announcement on correspondence. Incomplete packages will not be considered. Position posted until filled. History Associates is an Equal Opportunity Employer. For more information about History Associates Incorporated, visit the website at <http://www.historyassociates.com>.

Editorial/Research Assistant—Papers of Thomas Jefferson

Full-time position with benefits at the Papers of Thomas Jefferson: Retirement Series to support letterpress and electronic publication of Jefferson's letters. Responsibilities include: tracking down and copying research materials; answering a wide range of research questions; checking stages of editorial output, including galleys and page proofs; checking annotation; participating in textual

verification of handwritten manuscripts; and other projects as assigned.

Requirements include knowledge of early nineteenth-century history; ability to read difficult handwritten historical texts accurately; resourcefulness in tracking down and synthesizing information in a wide range of institutions and historical sources; and basic familiarity with word processing and Internet search tools. Master's degree in a related field or equivalent research experience preferred. Applicants are encouraged to submit a cover letter, résumé, the names of three references, and salary expectations or pay history. Thomas Jefferson Foundation, Attn: Ava Baum, Post Office Box 316, Charlottesville, Virginia, 22902; E-mail: resumes@monticello.org; Fax: (434) 977-7757; Website: <http://www.monticello.org>.

Cooperstown Graduate Program

The College at Oneonta invites applications for a tenure track Assistant/Associate Professor in the Cooperstown Graduate Program. Initial appointment is for two years. Expectations for this position include instruction, research, student advisement, college service and continuing professional development. For additional information, see the College's home page at <http://www.oneonta.edu>. The Cooperstown Graduate Program (CGP), a nationally recognized program for training museum professionals, seeks a versatile scholar to teach American Civilization. CGP is co-sponsored by the State University of New York (SUNY) and the New York State Historical Association (NYSHA). This is a SUNY faculty position. The program is located on the NYSHA campus, which includes the Fenimore Art Museum and the Farmers' Museum, a living history farm.

Duties: Position requires a scholar with the ability to teach the broad sweep of American history, an interest in working in a creative, collaborative environment, and the skills to help students make the link between ideas and objects; and history and the public. Responsibilities include teaching or coordinating courses in American history and historical research and topical seminars in one or more of the preferred sub-areas listed below. A key aspect of the position is the supervision of Master's degree theses. Participation in admissions, seminars, advisement, planning, recruitment, field trips, and other activities is also required. The successful candidate will be actively involved in the life of the SUNY College at Oneonta and the museums in Cooperstown, and will work closely with a teaching team of university faculty and museum staff. Required Qualifications: Ph.D. in American history or American studies. Preferred: Urban history; Race, ethnicity and gender; American folk culture/oral history; or American popular culture. Familiarity with or experience in museums highly desired. To Apply: Send application letter, current curriculum vitae, statement of teaching and research interests/goals, writing sample, original transcripts, and have three professional references send letters of recommendation to: Gretchen Sullivan Sorin, Chair, Search Committee, Office of Human Resources, 208 Netzer Administration Building, Box DL, #1025-C, SUNY College at Oneonta, Oneonta, NY 13820-4015. SUNY Oneonta is an EEO/AA/ADA employer. Website: <http://www.oneonta.edu>

Environmental Consulting Firm

We are a Westchester-based environmental consulting firm seeking a full-time Architectural Historian to work with our NEPA Manager in supporting and further developing NEPA and Section 106 projects for our clients. We are looking to develop a full in-house Cultural Resource Management (Section 106) team and are offering a great opportunity to work with a rapidly growing national consulting firm providing environmental due diligence to telecommunications carriers, realtors, developers, lenders and individuals. Candidates will meet the Secretary of the Interior's qualifications for Archaeology and Historic Preservation, preferably having a Master's Degree in Architectural History or Historic Preservation and possess strong technical, communication and reporting skills. Experience with the Section 106 review process is preferred.

Please contact: Human Resources
Architectural Historian
Fax: (914) 674-4348
Email: hr.historic@Verizon.net

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UNLV has a growing public history minor program with an emphasis on uniting Public History, Cultural History and Western Environmental History.

Funding opportunities include:

The Autry National Center Museum Studies Fellowship 12 month competitive fellowship that culminates with a curatorial residency at the Autry National Center in Los Angeles which houses the Museum of the American West and the Southwest Museum of the American Indian.

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



The Nevada Test Site
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Preserve Nevada America's only student
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NPS History Field schools take
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National Park's spectacular high Sierra
region researching historic trails and camps.

UNLV public history students also have
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organizations.

For information on Graduate studies in
History and Public History at UNLV
contact:
UNLV Department of History
4505 Maryland Parkway
Box 455020
Las Vegas, NV 89154-5020
(702)895-3349
Email: history@ccmail.nevada.edu

Book Notes

The Changing Face of Public History: The Chicago Historical Society and the Transformation of an American Museum.

Over the past half century, the Chicago
Historical Society (CHS) has sponsored
multicultural exhibits and programs,
engaged in community outreach, and
raised questions about who has the
authority to interpret the past. Most
American history museums are currently
struggling to redefine the traditional
concepts of what a museum is and
how it should operate, but few have
been as bold as CHS. Drawing on the
most recent research in the field,
Catherine M. Lewis analyzes CHS's
evolving relationship with its
constituencies over the past century
and a half, with particular emphasis
on the post-war period, and compares
its developments to the changing roles
of other museums and historic sites.

Based on more than 250 interviews with
staff at CHS and museums around the
country, as well as research into formerly
inaccessible public and private papers,
this book gives readers a remarkable
opportunity to see how one of the most
innovate museums in the United States
grappled with issue that continue to
confront museum professionals and all
those concerned about the role history
plays in the lives of American citizens.
The Changing Face of Public History
blends a careful review of the literature
and comparison between other
institutions with a sustained evaluation
of a single institution and is the only
case study of its kind in the field
(184pp. 0-87580-602-3 \$22.00 paper).

The National Park Service History Program
is pleased to announce the following
publications are now available on
the web.

*Historic Places Commemorating
the Signing of the Constitution*
[http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online
_books/constitution/index.htm](http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online_books/constitution/index.htm)

(Lewis and Clark) *Historic Places
Commemorating Their Transcontinental
Exploration (1804-06)*
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*Historic Places Commemorating the
Signing of the Declaration of Independence*
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*Historic Places Commemorating the
Chief Executives of the United States*
[http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online
_books/presidents/index.htm](http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online_books/presidents/index.htm)

In addition, please visit the NPS Classic
Publications web page where you will
find many older publications dating
back to 1912 Classic National Park
Service Publications
([http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online
_books/classics.htm](http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online_books/classics.htm)).

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