

PUBLIC HISTORY NEWS

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Making An Academic Connection

by J.D. Britton

Editor's Note: the following article, which originally appeared in The Local Historian, covers the need for collaboration between amateur and academic historians. The arguments presented are equally persuasive for the collaboration of the broader range of professional public historians and amateurs. This republication is a slightly edited version of the original.— E.B.M.

Twenty years ago, cooperation between local historical organizations and academic historians was practically nonexistent. To a large degree, professors viewed the work of historical organizations as antiquarian, while amateur historians perceived academicians as being insensitive to local history efforts. These views were a carry-over from the 1890s when the rise of scientific professionalism among college and university historians created tensions between academicians and local historians. The latter generally researched and wrote historical studies more as a hobby than as an analytic treatment of the past.

Today, advances in the social history and public history fields have brought academicians and local historians closer together. The work of social historians has shown that history is comprised of all

people regardless of age, race, gender, or occupation. Their interpretations of the lives of ordinary people in community settings has made significant contributions to general historical thought. Public historians have also been concerned with local history studies and have made tremendous strides in the presentation of history to a large popular audience. The inclusion of common people in the interpretation of American history and the appeal of the work for greater circulation has been described as the "democratization of history."

A result of this trend in historical thought and curriculum has been the beginning of a reciprocal relationship between local historical organizations and academic historians, a relationship that enables both groups to see that each has something to offer the other. Historical organizations are realizing that professional historians can assist them in understanding historical methodology and interpretation, essential components of effective educational programs. Academicians have generally begun to view local historical agencies and organizations as material culture repositories and archival research centers that are of direct value to their research interests and the research interests of their students. They also see them as potential places of employment for their students and as forums where they can contact large enthusiastic audiences.

Why Make an Academic Connection

For a local historical organization, making an academic connection can be a significant undertaking. Most local historical groups are small. They are usually organized and operated by a volunteer staff lacking the expertise to do well-researched, interpretative educational programs. Even full time directors of large

historical organizations can be so tied down with administrative tasks or with raising funds that there is no time left to keep up with the latest developments in historical thought.

Because local historical organizations are busy with the day to day affairs of developing and operating their programs, it makes sense for them to call upon the expertise of an academic historian who spends much of his or her time doing professional history. College and university professors have spent years in graduate school and in the teaching profession perfecting their skills in historical methodology and in staying up-to-date in their areas of specialization. In order to remain effective in the class room and to meet their requirements to publish, they stay on top of recent literature. Furthermore, as humanities scholars, they can stimulate members of historical organizations to become involved in professional programs and publications. These can showcase the historical organization as a valuable educational component of the community.

Strengths and Weaknesses of an Academic Connection

Ohio is served by ninety-two colleges and universities. That means that there is a potential academic connection near almost every one of the five hundred or so historical organizations in the state. A number of historical groups and academic institutions already have good working relationships. For instance, the Clark County Historical Society in Springfield is currently located on the campus of Wittenberg University. A Wilmington College history professor and the Clinton County Historical Society teamed up during the summer of 1988 to write a successful American Association for State and Local History grant-in-aid application. History and education professors from The University of Toledo and Defiance College are members of the board of trustees of the Maumee Valley Historical Society.

Despite some successes in establishing connections between academicians and local historical organizations in recent

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David Kyvig, President
Brit Allan Storey, Vice-president
Theodore J. Karamanski, Past-chair
Diane F. Britton, Secretary-treasurer
Elizabeth B. Monroe, Executive Secretary

years, there still exist distrust, misunderstanding, and lack of cooperation. For both sides, the challenge to find meaningful common ground is not easily met. An examination of some of the successful relationships between academicians and local historical organizations can provide ideas on how best to connect with a nearby college or university and to develop a productive, mutually beneficial connection. These relationships can be grouped in two broad categories, direct academic involvement and indirect academic involvement.

Direct Academic Involvement

One of the most common forms of direct academic involvement is that of professional historians who serve on boards of trustees of historical organizations. In this capacity, they are directly involved in helping to plan and implement programs to meet a historical organization's mission to collect, preserve, and present local heritage. Most professors, however, lead busy lives teaching, writing, and serving on a number of academic and nonacademic committees. With teaching loads of several hundred students and "publish or perish" requirements, to ask them to make the necessary strong commitments involved with serving on a board may be too taxing.

Possibly a better way to get a history professor involved in a historical organization is through education-related committee assignments such as exhibit and public program committees. Professors can provide ideas for topics to investigate, direct researchers to places to acquire information, and lend valuable professional assistance in historical methodology and interpretation. As projects proceed, the academician or his or her students can also assist by checking for historical accuracy. This can save the historical organization from embarrassing moments which sometimes occur when a new exhibit, program, or publication is first viewed by the public and a technical flaw is found in the documentation.

Another form of direct academic involvement is through practicum courses which are a part of some college or university public history programs. These courses are designed to provide students with firsthand knowledge in historical methodology and at the same time provide a service to the community. Students in the public history program at the University of Toledo have written *The History of Ludwig Mill* for the Metropolitan Park District of Toledo, researched and

designed an exhibit on the electric interurban railway system of Northwest Ohio for the Maumee Valley Historical Society and Toledo Edison Club, and synthesized oral history transcriptions for a publication for the Birmingham Center in the nearby satellite community of Oregon.

Academic historians and historical organizations can also place students in internship programs with both the students and their professors interacting directly with the historical organizations. History professors are especially interested in finding positions in which their students will gain firsthand experience in developing historical methodology and administrative skills they need to be competitive in the job market. Many public history programs at the college level require their students to complete three to six months internships. The Ohio Historical Society Local History Office internship program connects college and university students with historical organizations in Ohio — the students working with committees doing research, preparing exhibits, creating interpretative programs, organizing collections, and developing promotional packages.

Internships can be either on a paid or volunteer basis. The joint program of the Local History Office and OAHSM, for example, offers paid positions because the students usually have to relocate and devote a substantial amount of time — usually forty hours a week — to their intern positions. There are many historical organizations, however, that use volunteer interns from nearby schools in situations where the students can continue to live at home and work only a few hours a week. When interns are highly motivated, they can help a historical organization with limited time and expertise to develop professional-quality community history. A graduate student from the University of Akron recently helped the Canal Fulton Heritage Society organize and register its collections. Students from other academic institutions working with other organizations have helped design interpretive exhibits, have built and distributed suitcase museums, and have been involved in membership drives.

History professors can also be called upon to conduct or contribute to local history workshops. Some have special interests and skills in oral history and can provide information on how to conduct oral histories and utilize them once the interviews are completed. They could also do workshops on research and interpretation — basic skills they have spent years perfecting. For example, University of

Akron professor David Kyvig discussed "Exploring the Past Around You" at the Nearby History Symposium in South Bend, Indiana, in June, 1990.

Besides workshops, history professors might be asked to speak at a historical organization's monthly or annual meetings. Topics can range from local, regional, or state history to specific areas such as the history of women, Afro-Americans, labor groups, or frontier communities. The lectures can be both informative and entertaining, and they can be a good way to attract new membership. For possible speakers in your area consult the Ohio Academy of History's *Roster of Professional Historians in Ohio* or the Ohio Humanities Council's *Roster of Humanities Scholars in Ohio*.

For their contributions to workshops or speaking engagements, professors should be compensated with traveling expenses and honoraria. A professor's ability to impart skills or relate historical information is his or her stock in trade, the same as with any other professionally skilled person. Unless they are volunteers, one would not expect professional carpenters or electricians to provide services at no charge. Similarly, academic professionals should not be asked to provide services gratis.

Indirect Academic Involvement

Whereas direct academic involvement requires a commitment between history professors and historical organizations to work together in planning policy or on specific projects, indirect involvement places the responsibility for seeking professional assistance on individual members of the historical organizations. One such instance is in developing a knowledge and use of secondary sources. History professors, in most cases, publish material in their fields of specialization either as full-length books or journal articles. These can provide historical organizations with ideas for their own thematic exhibits and public, youth/school, and living history programs. In this case the academicians have completed some of the research, interpretation, and synthesis of the past event or events. The historical organization can borrow the themes and interpretations and adapt them for their own local use. So long as they are properly credited, academic historians are pleased when their work can serve as an inspiration to others.

Indirect involvement can also consist of attending local, regional, state and

PHOENIX FROM THE ASHES:

The Cabildo Exhibit on Early Louisiana History

by Kimberly S. Hanger,
Louisiana State Museum

On 11 May 1988 the flagship building of the Louisiana State Museum, the historic Cabildo on Jackson Square, burned for the second time in two centuries, almost to the day. That afternoon a welder's torch allegedly set fire to the Cabildo roof, and flames quickly engulfed the third floor. Courageous firemen dashed into the building to cover many invaluable artifacts and exhibits with fireproof tarps, thereby saving many collections from destruction. They also transported artifacts to museum employees and volunteers anxiously waiting outside the Cabildo. Everything on the first and second stories survived, but about three-fourths of items on the third floor, where early Louisiana furniture and artifacts were stored, burned.

The "Great Conflagration" of 1788 had consumed Louisiana's first Cabildo, (named after the Spanish Cabildo, or town council that met within it). City leaders delayed construction of another Cabildo until after a second fire razed the city in 1794. The town council moved into its new two-story home in 1799. A third floor was added to the building in the mid-1800s.

Although the fire of 1988 was not as destructive as those of 1788 and 1794, it took its toll on the Cabildo. Flames destroyed the entire third floor, leaving only the original two-story structure. Reconstruction of the third story and refurbishing of the lower floors will begin this fall, with the public opening of the Cabildo projected for late fall, 1992.

The Louisiana State Museum is scripting, collecting, and fabricating an entirely new and innovative exhibit on early Louisiana history for the Cabildo. The Museum and its director, James F. Sefcik, are pursuing recent trends in historiography and museum philosophy that emphasize outreach to wider, more diverse audiences, applicability to modern experiences, and cultural pluralism. Visitors will learn about the origins and development of Louisiana's unique, diverse customs and mannerisms — a mixture of European, North and South American, Caribbean, Amerindian, and African cultures.

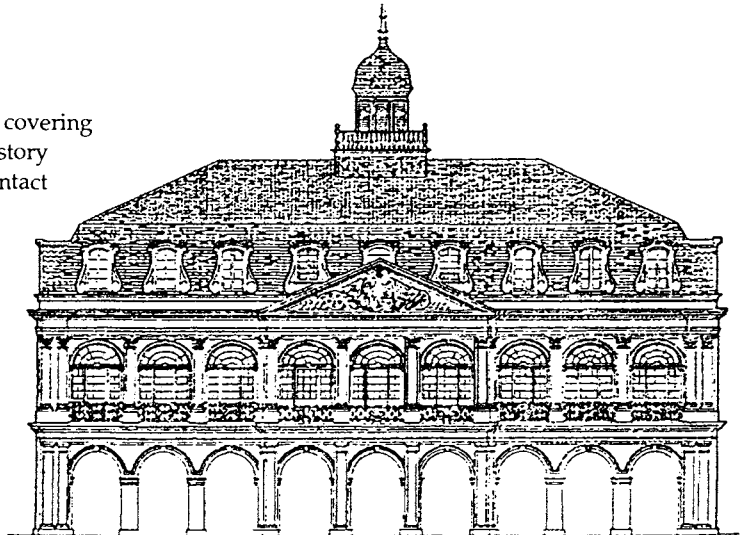
A grant from the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities funded a

preliminary script covering early Louisiana history from European contact to the Battle of New Orleans. We are currently expanding this script and carrying the story forward to the Civil War and Reconstruction. Throughout the exhibit we will stress four main themes: (1) the social history of Louisiana

("history from the bottom up"); (2) the states's tradition of ethnic, racial, and cultural diversity; (3) comparisons and exchanges north to the former British colonies and south to the Caribbean and Latin America; and (4) historical visitors' views of Louisiana and how their perceptions related to "reality."

The Cabildo curator, Vaughn Glasgow, and I have turned to archaeological findings, estate inventories, newspaper advertisements, export/import lists, and censuses to reconstruct the material surroundings of individuals from various socioeconomic groups. Through a combined effort of transcription, translation, categorization, classification, and use of a data management computer program, we are compiling a "wish list" of items found in eighteenth-century Louisiana homes and shops. Over the next few months we will "go shopping" (or as New Orleanians say, "make groceries") first in Louisiana State Museum collections and then in private and public holdings in Louisiana and Europe. Colonial Louisianians imported most manufactured goods such as furniture, stoneware, silverware, and cloth from Europe, so it makes sense to go to the source.

Estate inventories reveal much about living conditions in colonial Louisiana. For example, armoires played a very important role in the colonial household, protecting clothes, books, and linens from a hostile climate and persistent insects. Like the Dutch and British, Louisianians



The Cabildo. Courtesy of the Louisiana State Museum

also used wardrobes in order to avoid taxes levied on rooms, including closets, per household. Even poor persons possessed at least one inexpensive cypress armoire. In wills individuals gave most household effects *en masse* to designated heirs, but they specifically bequeathed their precious armoires to particular loved ones.

What is missing from the inventories often tells us more about colonial practices than what is there. One amusing example is the St. John inventory. A bricklayer from Connecticut, John St. John died intestate in 1800. When authorities arrived at the boardinghouse where he had resided with several other Anglo-Americans in order to conduct an inventory, they found a watch chain but no watch, socks but no shoes, and a powder horn but no gun! Evidently St. John's roommates had pilfered his few valuable possessions when given the opportunity. Sadly, court costs arising from administration of the estate exceeded the value of the St. John's belongings.

Although humidity, insects, fires, floods, hurricanes and neglect have wrecked havoc on the Cabildo and other eighteenth-century Louisiana objects we believe the research, collection and interpretation for the new Cabildo exhibit will provide a fresh, exciting presentation of Louisiana history. The Louisiana State Museum anticipates that visitors will emerge from the exhibit with a better understanding of what life was like in early Louisiana. ■

OFFICERS:

Brit Allan Storey, 1990–1991 Vice-president

Brit Allan Storey became the Senior Historian of the Bureau of Reclamation in 1988. He is in the Denver Office of Reclamation and works in the Cultural Resources Branch. The Branch has several responsibilities. It develops Reclamation's policy in cultural resources management (CRM), archaeology, and history. It also provides contracting services to the five regions and approximately 180 project offices of Reclamation. Storey is most involved in conducting historical and CRM studies for Reclamation's internal programs, and developing the internal history program which will focus on celebration of Reclamation's centennial in 2002.

Prior to moving to Reclamation, Storey had received his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Kentucky and had taught at Auburn University and worked for the State Historical Society of Colorado and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

Storey has been active in several professional and history-associated organizations. Among other things, he was: a founder, secretary, and president of the Colorado-Wyoming Association of Museums; a founder and first sheriff of the Colorado Corral of Westerners; a founder and first president of the Victorian Society in Colorado; member of the board of the Victorian Society in America; chairman of the Historical Affairs Committee of the Western History Association; chairman of the Public History Committee of the Organization of American Historians; a founder and, and now, president of the Federal Preservation Forum; and, secretary, local arrangements chairman, program chairman, and, now, vice-president of the National Council on Public History.

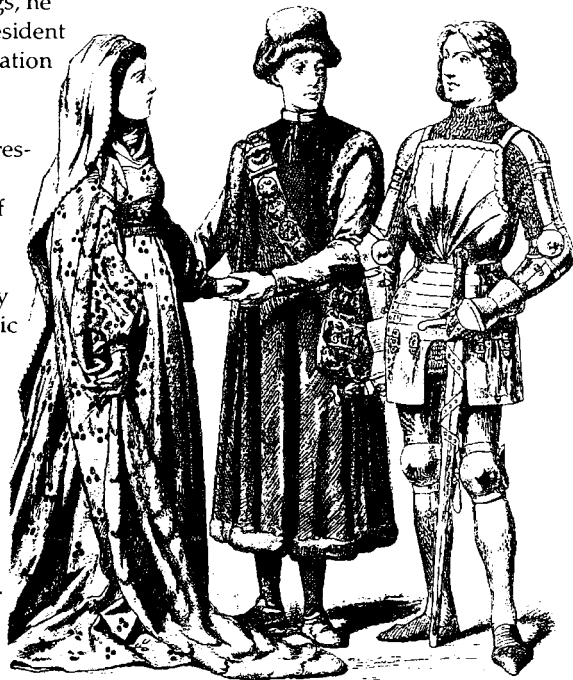
Storey has published numerous articles on Western American history and cultural resources management in the federal government, regularly speaks at professional meetings and training sessions, and is active in the Federal historic preservation program. ■

Diane F. Britton, 1990–1991 Secretary-Treasurer



Diane F. Britton. Courtesy of the University of Toledo

Diane F. Britton is the coordinator of Public History at the University of Toledo. She received her Ph.D. in American and Public History from Washington State University and while there worked for the Washington State Historic Preservation Office. Professor Britton has served NCPH as a member of the Board of Directors since 1987 and is the program chair for the 1991 annual meeting. A major component of Toledo's public history emphasis is community outreach with a focus on cooperative projects. The regional "Mid-America Public History Conference," organized by Britton in 1988, led to a better local understanding of the goals of both the program at Toledo and the NCPH. Recent project publications include *Mill Days on the Maumee: A History of the Isaac Ludwig Mill* (1989) and *Birmingham: Reflections on Community* (forthcoming). Dr. Britton's research interests combine post-frontier West with cultural resources management. Her book, *Irondale, Washington and the Development of an Iron and Steel Industry in the Far West*, is currently under contract through the University Press of Colorado. ■



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 David Kyvig, History Dept., Univ of Akron, Akron, OH 44325 (216) 375-7006; Vice-pres. Brit Allan Storey, Bureau of Recl., Attn D5521, PO Box 25-007, Denver, CO 80225 or Executive Secretary Elizabeth Monroe, 301 Cavanaugh Hall-IUPUI, 425 University Blvd, Indianapolis, IN 46202-5140; (317) 274-2716.

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

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

A Setback/A Challenge

by David E. Kyvig

The American Council of Learned Societies has denied the NCPH application for membership. Receiving the news reminded me of the old adage that I was too grown up to cry, but that it hurt too much to laugh. I am, to say the least, deeply disappointed by the ACLS action. Having gotten magnificent cooperation last spring when I polled the entire membership for information to support the application, I was aware of the broad support among public historians for this initiative. Having consulted with many of you about the application and having spent many hours assembling and polishing it, I was convinced that NCPH had a strong case. The Council could point to a range of accomplishments with legitimate pride. Furthermore, we could lay claim to distinctiveness; we do not duplicate the purpose or membership of any other ACLS organization. I am still persuaded that our case has merit, and I want to thank everyone who helped set it forth.

It is, nevertheless, important to consider how others perceive us and not simply rest content with how we perceive ourselves. Some of the ACLS observations tell us truths about our organization. Other points seem less fair, but do remind us of missionary tasks that remain before us if we are to win converts to the cause of public history. I hope we can learn from this ACLS rejection and use it to strengthen NCPH.

I take at face value the ACLS conclusion that our application was premature. The Council is scarcely more than a decade old, and most organizations recently admitted to ACLS were at least twice that age. We have come a long way

in a short time, and in our exuberance must remember that skeptics still have reason to doubt our staying power. Our membership is larger than some current ACLS organizations, but nevertheless remains small by the standards of the historical profession. One way of demonstrating our staying power is by continuing to build our membership. If our members' annual goal was "Each one enlist one," we could overcome our problems in this area.

Our finances have been tight, but I believe they are more robust than the ACLS thinks. Secretary-Treasurer Diane Britton and Executive Secretary Elizabeth Monroe have been taking steps toward improving our financial management. Continued careful financial management is, of course, essential if we are to thrive. Also important to our well-being is the expansion of our financial resources, which I have asked a committee headed by Nick Muller to explore. Progress in these areas is important to prove to ourselves and demonstrate to outsiders that we are a mature organization.

The expressed doubts of ACLS that public history is a distinctive intellectual interest and not just a haven for the unemployed are certainly not new to any of us and represent our greatest challenge. We must all continually seek new ways to articulate the case for public history and the distinctiveness of its approach, mindful of the fact that as yet we haven't convinced the larger profession. We have, I think, an opportunity to make our case in the 1990s by continuing to attract young historians to public history despite the increased availability of academic jobs and by continuing to make original contribu-

tions to historical methodology and scholarship. As individuals, we can strengthen the argument for public history's vitality, utility, and distinctive approach through contributions to *The Public Historian* and, no less important, to more traditional historical journals. We must also speak more persuasively about our special identity within the ranks of the other historical organizations to which we belong, especially the American Historical Association and the Organization of American Historians, to raise the consciousness of other historians. Our goal should be not only to increase our stature but to elevate their sense of historians' larger responsibilities.

It would be easier to convince the mainline scholarly organizations of the merits of public history from within the ACLS, but unfortunately that is not our current option. It is important, however, that we take up this challenge to demonstrate the strength and maturity of our organization and discipline. It would be gratifying to see the ACLS reverse its position in a few years. But it is far more important that we convince professional and would-be historians that doing history outside the academy for the enrichment of public policy and the enlightenment of public, corporate, and government audiences is a vital undertaking with its own distinctive character. If you have any thoughts as to how we can better accomplish this, I would appreciate your communicating them to me, our next president Brit Storey, or our long-range planning committee chaired by Ted Karamanski. ■

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national history conferences. Every April, Bowling Green State University holds a local history conference featuring discussions of local historical organization issues and local history topics. The public history program at Wright State University sponsored a conference this summer at which attendees from historical organizations learned about collection management issues, museum mission statements, volunteer contributions, and the use of consultants. At The University of Toledo, the theme for the National Council on Public History Conference scheduled the spring of 1991 will focus on local and

community history. Many of these meetings feature input from academic historians. By attending sessions and workshops at these kinds of meetings, local historical organizations stand to gain valuable information and make important contacts. Due to the strong Local History Office and OAHSM interest in history education, *The Local Historian* announces meetings and conferences whenever possible.

Along the same line, membership in national and state historical associations such as the American Association for State and Local History and the National

Council of Public History can serve as an appropriate academic connection. Both these associations have journals and newsletters that can provide useful administrative information directly relating to local historical organizations. Also, the Ohio Academy of History has a quarterly newsletter and holds two meetings each year, some sessions of which address local history issues.

History classes offer another connection. With so many colleges and universities in the state, it should not be difficult for a local historian to arrange to take a

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1991 National Council on Public History Annual Meeting

Mark your calendars for the annual meeting in Toledo to be held May 2-5, 1991. The program committee is in the process of completing work on what promises to be a stimulating and provocative weekend of sessions and activities related to the conference theme "The Audiences of Public History." Two plenary sessions on Friday morning will explore important aspects of that theme. The first, organized by David Thelan, editor of the *Journal of American History*, in cooperation with the Committee on History Making in America, is devoted to the topic of how the public perceives history. Following that session a panel, including Don Wilson, Archivist of the United States, will discuss the issue of corporate sponsorship of public history with a focus on Phillip Morris' support for the Bill of Rights bicentennial observances. Subsequent sessions examine the idea of audience from all of the various compo-

nents of public history including the legal world, museums, the film media, archives, and historic preservation.

Three workshops are planned in conjunction with the annual meeting. The first, Business Archives, is being organized by Barbara Floyd, University Archivist at Toledo. Daniel Walkowitz is planning a workshop on videotaping history sponsored by WGTE Channel 30/FM91 (PBS/NPR) of Toledo. A third workshop will present methods of interpretation for historical societies and museums.

The local arrangements committee, coordinated by the University of Toledo Humanities Institute, is scheduling a number of special events for NCPH. Thursday evening will feature the premiere showing of "Public History Today" and a wine and cheese party. On Friday, the University of Toledo hosts a "Welcome to Toledo" reception followed by the NCPH banquet and chair's address

at the Toledo Club. The following day, a box lunch aboard the *Willis Boyer*, a lake freighter converted to a floating museum, will provide an opportunity for student and professional members of NCPH to meet and talk informally. Saturday afternoon sessions will end early for an 1890s exhibition baseball game featuring the Ohio Historical Society Muffins.

Most conference activities will take place downtown at the University of Toledo/SeaGate Center. A block of rooms has been reserved at the Radisson Hotel which is directly adjacent to the conference center. Early May in Toledo means warm sunny days on the Maumee River. SeaGate Center is flanked by the Historic Warehouse District on one side and a pleasant waterfront walk on the other. For further information about the 1991 annual meeting contact: Diane F. Britton, Department of History, University of Toledo, Toledo, OH 43606, telephone (419)537-4540. ■

1993 Annual Meeting Location Sought

The sites committee of the National Council invites expressions of interest in hosting the annual meeting in the Spring of 1993. Preference will be given to locations where local institutions are interested in hosting the meeting and where public historians in schools and organizations are willing to serve on the local arrangements committee.

Expressions of interest and invitations should be sent to Brit Storey (Vice-President, National Council on Public History), Senior Historian (D-5530), Bureau of Reclamation, P.O. Box 25007, Denver, Colorado 80225-0007. He may be reached at his office at (303) 236-8723 or FTS: 776-8723. ■

A Warm Thank-You

At its meeting on March 8, 1990 the Board of Directors of the National Council on Public History unanimously voted a resolution of thanks to Jo Madden at Northeastern University: The National Council on Public History expresses its warm appreciation to Jo Madden for her outstanding service and dedication to the cause of public history through her conscientious and congenial work over the past three years. ■

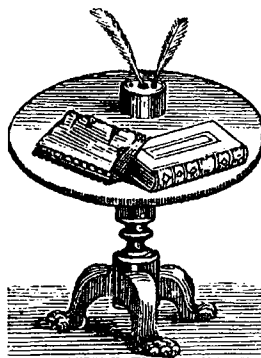
By-Laws Amendments

At its Board meeting on September 9, 1990, the National Council on Public History amended the by-laws as follows:

Amendment 1: In the event of a tie in any NCPH election, the Executive Secretary will poll the Board of Directors. A simple majority of the board responding to a written ballot will resolve the tie.

Amendment 2: The title of the chief executive of the NCPH will be changed from Chair to President. The by-laws will be amended to read President in all places that is currently says Chair. The office of Vice-Chair will be changed to Vice-President.

A third proposed amendment to expand the office of chair (president) to two years failed to carry. ■



Connection — from page 5

content or methodology course every year or so. The age factor is no problem. Many of today's students have entered college or graduate school programs after raising their children or retiring. College professors often say that mature students are among the most interesting and capable in their classes.

Summary

History professors can provide guidance and advice in helping historical organizations understand historical methodology and interpretation. This leads to a greater appreciation of how historians identify significant aspects of a community's past and interpret them thematically for the general public. Academic historians and historical organizations can be affiliated either through direct or indirect involvement. Either way, it takes a strong commitment from both parties. The common ground is the advancement of historical thought and service to the public. ■

J.D. Britton is Community History Specialist in the OHS Local History Office and co-editor of The Local Historian, the OHS Local History Office, 1982 Velma Avenue, Columbus, OH 43211-2497; (614) 297-2340.

Florida's Preservation Boards Sundowned

by Larry S. Paarlberg

Preservation is a thriving tourist industry in Florida. Individual landmarks such as the Castillo de San Marcos in St. Augustine and the Tampa Bay Hotel in Tampa, and historic districts in Pensacola and Key West contribute to the unique heritage for which Florida is famous. Recognizing the historical, architectural, and archaeological significance of these resources and their contribution to Florida's tourist economy, the state legislature in the 1950s began creating historic preservation boards of trustees in key communities.

Over the years, the legislature created eight boards served by local trustees who volunteered their time and expertise for the benefit of the state. In one swoop in the closing hours of the 1990 legislative session, political in-fighting regarding the controversial St. Augustine board, led to the elimination of all of the preservation boards in Florida.

The blow to historic preservation was unexpected. The preservation boards had undergone an intensive legislative review by both the House and Senate. This "sundown" review, conducted every ten years for all state agencies in Florida, determines the agency's effectiveness in meeting its state mandate and the value of its service to the public. Most of the boards

received very favorable reviews, with recommendations for only minor modifications to their enabling legislation. The chief exception was the St. Augustine board. Governor Bob Martinez had appointed new board members there who, among other activities, sued past board members over properties in the hands of a related private foundation. The difficulties surrounding these actions mounted during the legislative session. Some legislators called for renewal of the board with new members, while other legislators wanted the current members to stay. Despite the exhaustive sundown review and the positive recommendations, politics reared its head and, as an editorial in the Tallahassee Democrat stated:

Florida's historic preservation boards didn't fall through the cracks in the final frenzy of the Legislature. They were shoved, crammed, stomped and mashed through cracks made wide by political bickering, favoritism, nepotism and plain ole, out-and-out stubbornness.

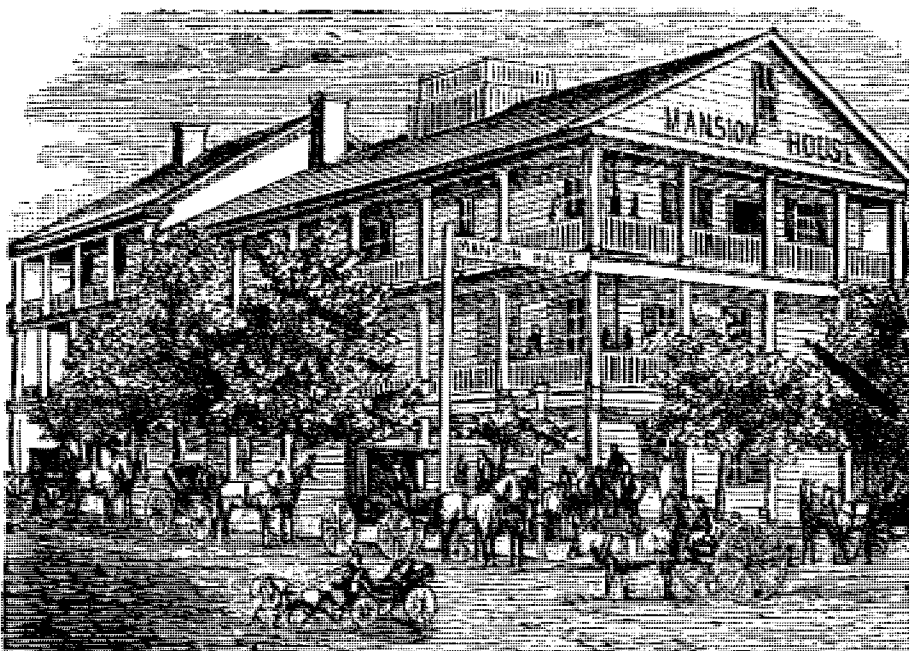
Through last minute actions by the Florida Secretary of State's office, the preservation boards' salaried staff and historic properties have been temporarily protected. However, the voluntary contributions of the boards have been eliminated and much of their programming is in jeopardy.

In Tallahassee, for example, the Historic Tallahassee Preservation Board has made important contributions to the community for twenty years. Local citizens, serving on the Board of Trustees, contributed thousands of hours shaping policies and programs, particularly in areas of restoration and management, public education and research, and preservation planning. As stated in the House sundown report:

Quantity is not a measure of efficiency; nevertheless, the projects and programs enumerated in this Report attest to the [Historic Tallahassee Preservation] Board's task and result orientation. The Board of Trustees provide sound leadership. The Trustees serve as a policymaking arm of the Agency. It is concluded that this method of operation fulfills the intent of the legislature in creating the historic preservation Board.

Among its many accomplishments the board has prepared nominations for three historic districts and forty individual structures listed on the National Register of Historic Places, saved Florida's Old Capitol from demolition, restored the 1840s Union Bank building, restored the 1856 Brokaw-McDougall House and grounds for use as a state conference facility, and protected from development the nationally significant Hernando deSoto 1539 winter encampment site. Indian mounds, archaeological sites, historic buildings, historic "canopy" roads and historic neighborhoods have been protected and preserved because this local citizen board could act in ways and with an initiative not possible for a state agency.

The future of the boards is unclear. Sundown review is supposed to protect effective and efficient agencies from political pressure, but this protection failed the historic preservation boards in the 1990 legislative session. Newspaper editorials and individuals throughout Florida have called for the re-enactment of the boards. While some legislators have admitted the failure of sundown review in this instance, it is not certain that the legislature will respond to public requests and reenact the boards during the 1991 session. At this time the future of the past in Florida is uncertain. ■



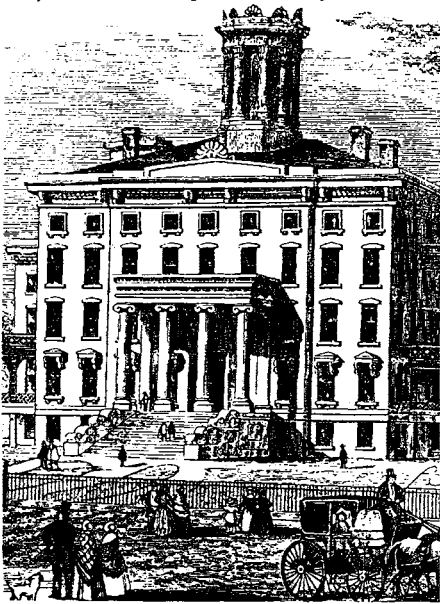
The Adventures of a State Membership Chair

by Linda Weintraut,
Indiana Chair

Recently the National Council on Public History created the position of state membership chair. The chair is charged with recruiting new members, an exercise in salesmanship. Unlike a salesperson, however, the chair does not have the immediate gratification of seeing the satisfied customer walk away with a product; the chair only hopes that the prospective member sends the application form to California.

In soliciting members a personal approach works well; mass mailing of intellectual appeals in the form of lengthy letters probably fall short — often into the trash can. If the state membership chair is blessed with a highly recognizable name, then that name may influence some to join the Council. However, I have found the best method of recruitment is likely to be the soft-sell, talking with a friend or an acquaintance on a professional level about the merits of the National Council.

Recruitment could be enhanced by providing updated state membership lists to the chairs. From these lists chairs could measure their successes and also could identify backsliders and tactfully remind them to renew. However, the rigors of the task are worthwhile; serving the National Council as state membership chair offers challenges that move the historian into the very real world of public history. ■



WASHINGTON UPDATE

by Page Putnam Miller

Reauthorization of NEH

On October 27, 1990 Congress passed reauthorization legislation for the National Endowment of the Humanities, the National Endowment of the Arts and the Institute of Museum Services. The bill "would not impose content restrictions" on NEA grants but would rely on the courts to determine if NEA funded works of art are obscene. Senator Claiborne Pell, the chair of the subcommittee with oversight for the endowments, praised the cooperative spirit that produced the compromise bill and stated that "potentially serious constitutional problems could arise if an administrative agency like the NEA were to make determinations of obscenity." The provisions concerning the courts and obscenity are only in the NEA and not in the NEH portions of the bill. The section dealing with the NEH goes beyond earlier language which mandated NEH to gather data on the humanities and includes a clause requiring NEH to disseminate information about "trends in the study of the humanities and the employment of humanists".

National Policy on Permanent Paper

Legislation to establish a national policy on permanent paper has finally cleared both houses of Congress and is now awaiting the signature of the President. Last spring the Senate passed Senate Joint Resolution 57 which urgently recommended the use of acid free permanent papers for publications of enduring value produced by both government and private publishers and established a process for monitoring the federal government's progress in achieving this goal. The House finally passed the measure, with a few minor amendments, on September 17. The Senate passed it quickly and sent it on to the White House.

National Park Service

Work has progressed well on the cooperative agreement with the National Park Service, the Organization of American Historians, and the NCC on the women's history landmark project. Funds for a third and final year of the project have been included in the House Interior

Appropriations bill. In addition to offering the opportunity to increase the number of women's history landmarks, this project has given us the inside perspective and the experience needed to be more effective advocates for federal historical programs. There is also funding in the House Interior FY '91 bill for a symposium of scholars to work on the revision of the National Park Service's thematic framework, an outline of American history that is used in park planning. The framework is quite outdated and incorporates little scholarship from the last two decades. Through resolutions and Congressional testimony, we have pressed for a revision of the framework. Now we are seeing some results from our efforts.

Amendments to the National Historic Preservation Act

In the 100th Congress and again in the 101st Congress Senator Fowler (D-GA) has introduced legislation that would revise in major ways the National Historic Preservation Act. During the last two years legislation has gone through many drafts. Although most people agree that historic preservation is an interdisciplinary enterprise, much of the language in the Fowler bill was heavily geared to archaeology, with history being left out of many sections. Recent revisions have included more references to historical resources and historical organizations. This legislation will not pass Congress this session, but it will probably be introduced again next year.

Many Legislative Issues Unresolved

I am sorry to have to report that as of press time, there has been no resolution of the FY '91 budgets for federal agencies. The snags that have been holding up the Paperwork Reduction Act and the copyright legislation or "fair use" of unpublished material have not yet been resolved. The legislation on the *Foreign Relations of the United States*, the State Department's documentary series, is in the process of being refined, but there has been no new Congressional action on this issue. ■

Awards and Fellowships

The Sierra Club will observe its centennial from May 1991-December 1992. As a part of the celebration, the Board of Directors has approved the giving of an award for the best published article on any aspect of the history of the Sierra Club, including its chapters.

To be considered, the article must be published after April 1989, and it must be submitted to the Sierra Club History Committee at the national headquarters by January 1, 1992.

The History Committee (whose members are ineligible to compete for the award) will select the winner according to the following criteria: 1. Contribution to Knowledge; 2. Quality of research; 3. Quality of writing; 4. Importance to understanding Sierra club history.

The award is to be announced at an appropriate Sierra Club meeting in conjunction with the Centennial observance. Send inquiries and submissions to: Sierra Club History Committee, 730 Polk Street, San Francisco, CA 95109.

Contingent on funding, the **National Historical Publications and Records Commission** (NHPRC) will offer up to six history fellowships in 1991. Partial funding will be provided by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. Successful candidates will receive a stipend of \$25,000 and spend 10 months at a documentary publication project beginning in the summer of 1991. Participating projects are *The Samuel Gompers Papers* (University of Maryland, College Park), *The Papers of Henry Laurens* (University of South Carolina, Columbia) *The Papers of Martin Luther King, Jr.* (Stanford University and the King Center, Atlanta), *The Journals of Diego de Vargas* (University of New Mexico, Albuquerque), and *The Naval Documents of the American Revolution* (Naval Historical Center, Washington, DC). Applicants should hold a Ph.D. or have completed all requirements for the doctorate except the dissertation. Further information and application forms are available from the NHPRC, Suite 300, National Archives Building, Washington, DC 20408 (202) 501-5605. Application deadline is March 15, 1991.

The **Francis Clark Wood Institute for the History of Medicine** will offer grants to scholars engaged in projects requiring use of the Historical Collections of the

Library of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia. The Historical Collections constitute one of the largest medical history repositories in the United States, documenting the evolution of medicine from the medieval period to the present. Its resources include rare medical books and journals; manuscript case records, papers, and lecture notes of many physicians; and prints, engravings, and photographs of medical subjects.

Grants of up to \$1,000 will be awarded. Recipients will be expected to present a seminar at the Wood Institute, and to submit a report on their research.

Letters of application outlining the proposed project (proposal should not exceed five pages), length of residence, historical materials to be used, and a budget for travel, lodging, and research expenses should be sent, along with a curriculum vitae and two letters of recommendation to: Carla C. Jacobs, Administrative Assistant, Wood Institute, College of Physicians of Philadelphia, 19 South 22nd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103.

These materials must be received before 15 January 1991, for fellowships in the Spring/Summer of 1991. Awards will be announced by mid-February 1991. For further information, call (215) 563-3737.

The **National Historical Publications and Records Commission** recently announced its grant application deadlines for Fiscal Year (FY) 1991. Specific types of proposals are considered against each deadline. The deadlines for FY1991 are October 1, 1990, February 1, 1991, and June 1, 1991.

Through its Records Program, the NHPRC encourages archival repositories, state, local, and tribal governments, historical societies, libraries, academic institutions, and others to act vigorously to locate and preserve documents of national and state historical significance. Commission records projects ensure that these records are saved and made available for public use. The Commission helps assess records conditions and needs, helps develop archival and records management programs, supports the development of advanced archival processes in automation and other technical fields, and provides support for arrangement and description, historical photograph preservation, microfilming, and projects relating to other special materials.

Examples of recent grants include the development of a national database of

public records descriptions by the Research Libraries Group, a project to develop an educational and technical assistance program on micrographics for local governments in Texas, the assessment of historical records needs in Puerto Rico, the preservation of valuable historical photographs in Nebraska, a project in Pennsylvania to make available for research historically important electronic records, and a project in South Dakota to help a Native American tribe develop an archival program.

With an FY1990 grant funding level of \$2.5 million for the Records Program (with the likelihood of an increase in FY1991), the Commission currently funds approximately 55 out of 110 applications received per year for records projects.

For more information, program guidelines, or to discuss possible proposal ideas, write or call the Records Program, NHPRC (NPR), National Archives Building, Washington, DC 20408, (202) 501-5610.

The **Society for History in the Federal Government** invites submissions for four awards that recognize outstanding contributions to understanding of the federal government's history: The Henry Adams Prize for a book-length narrative history, edited collection of essays, or other published historical work of comparable scope; the James Madison Prize for a published article; the John Wesley Powell Prize for a visual historical presentation, such as a museum exhibit, a film, or an audio-visual display, done on behalf of the federal government; and the Thomas Jefferson Prize for an edited collection of documents. Submission deadline is February 1, 1991. Contact: Terrence J. Gough, SHFG Awards Committee, P.O. Box 6222, Arlington, VA 22206; tel. (703) 693-6293.

Notes, Transitions and Announcements

The **Forum for History of Human Science** (FHHS) is a new organization that has been formed to promote scholarship in the history of the social and behavioral sciences. "Human science" is broadly defined and encompasses anthropology, economics, geography, history, linguistics, political science, psychiatry, psychology, sociology, and statistics, as well as aspects of the biological and physical sciences,

BULLETIN

medicine, education, law and philosophy. The primary aim of the organization is to foster research and education in the history of human science and to encourage communication among scholars, scientists, and others working in the area.

FHHS cosponsored two sessions at the 1989 History of Science Society annual meeting in Gainesville, Florida, and held an organizational meeting there at which attendees discussed the possibility of a special issue of *Osiris* devoted to the history of human science and proposals for sessions for the 1990 HSS meeting in Seattle. Those assembled also voted to adopt a charter drafted by James H. Capshaw, FHHS chair, as part of a plan for FHHS to become a Special Interest Group within HSS. FHHS is seeking this status in the belief that historians of human science and historians of science, who have traditionally emphasized the natural sciences, share many scholarly concerns and that such affiliation will be mutually beneficial.

Membership in FHHS is open to interested individuals; dues are \$10 a year. Please make checks payable to FHHS and direct them and any inquiries to Laurel Furumoto, FHHS Corresponding Secretary, Department of Psychology, Wellesley College, Wellesley, MA 02181; (617) 235-0320, ext. 3020.

Medical Archivist Group. "The Patient Experience in the 19th and 20th Centuries: A View from the Archives," September 25 - January 21, 1991, an exhibit sponsored by the Medical Archivists Group for New York Archives Week 1990.

This exhibit portrays the patient experience in the 19th and 20th centuries. The display explores who the patients were, where they received care, and various aspects of what it was like to be a patient during this time.

Over the past two centuries there has been a great change in who becomes a hospital patient. Throughout most of the 19th century, only the dependent poor were treated in hospitals. People with any means found a physician to come to their home to provide care. In the last decades of the 1800s advances in surgery, an increasing awareness of the germ theory, the growing dominance of physicians, and the advent of laboratory medicine began to transform hospitals into specialized scientific institutions. By the 1930's it had become accepted that serious illnesses required a hospital stay regardless of social standing.

In the same two hundred years, the physical space for patient care has evolved, shrinking from large wards to private and semi-private rooms. Today only the sickest of patients are placed in ward-like settings such as intensive care units to allow the patients to share sophisticated equipment and trained specialists.

It is difficult to say how people actually felt about being patients. Certainly, many aspects of this too having changed with time. Hospitals today are required to have a Patient Bill of Rights, and patients may take an active role in their own care. Still, the essential experience of being ill remains much the same in 1990 as it was in 1890: the sick come in fear to the hospital with hope that there among strangers, they will find relief.

The exhibit is displayed at the Main Reading Room Library, The New York Academy of Medicine, 2E. 103d Street, New York, NY.

National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) met on October 16 and 17 and recommended \$857,881 for seventeen projects for documentary editions and \$608,669 for ten projects for historical records programs. Also recommended were \$62,000 in subvention grants to help defray publication costs for five documentary editions. The Commission also endorsed two documentary editions projects.

Also at its meeting, the Commission approved a cooperative agreement with the Council of State Historical Records Coordinators to support a number of national and regional meetings of State Historical Records Advisory Board Coordinators. The agreement provides \$227,290 in support over the next three years. In addition, the Commission awarded three \$42,500 (\$500 for interviews) fellowships in archival administration to the Delaware Bureau of Archives and Records Management, Dover; The University of California-Los Angeles Film and Television Archive, Los Angeles; and the Oregon State Archives, Salem. The grant recommendations were made in response to more than \$2,950,000 in requests. Unless otherwise noted, all grants are contingent upon the availability of funds for fiscal year 1991.

In addition to funding thirty-six Publications and Records Program proposals, the Commission announced the recipient of the second annual NHPRC Distinguished Service Award for exempla-

ry contributions in the fields of documentary editing or historical records preservation. This year's recipient is H.G. Jones of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Dr. Jones received his award on October 16 at a ceremony and reception held at the National Archives.

In addition, the Commission accepted a staff report on consultant grants. Finally, the commission endorsed the activities and recommendations of the Working Group on Standards for Archival Description.

Records Program application materials may be requested by phone or by mail: Records Program, NHPRC - NPR, National Archives Building, Washington, DC 20408 (202)501-5610.

Publications Program application materials also may be requested by phone or by mail: NHPRC - NPP, National Archives Building, Washington, DC 20408 (202) 501-5605.

Calls for Papers, Upcoming Meetings and Symposia

The National Trust for Historic Preservation call for papers. The 25th anniversary of the 1966 National Historic Preservation Act in 1991 provides a timely opportunity for the historic preservation movement to review achievements, explore challenges facing preservationists, and chart a course for the future.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation dedicates the 1991 National Preservation Conference, October 16-20, in San Francisco, to these ends. The National Park Service and Advisory Council on Historic Preservation join with the National Trust as principal sponsors of the conference. Many other preservation, environmental, and heritage organizations will also participate.

With this purpose, the conference sponsors issue this call for papers and invite the submission of abstracts from a broad range of preservation leaders, professionals, and advocates. The sponsors seek visionary ideas, diversity of perspective, and enriching dialogue.

Abstracts must be post-marked no later than December 15, 1990. Authors will be notified about acceptance of their abstracts by February 15, 1991. The selected abstracts will be published in *Historic Preservation News or Forum*, and public comment will be solicited. Full manuscripts will be due on August 15,

1991. For more information contact: Vice President, Programs, Services and Information, National Trust for Historic Preservation, 1785 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20036.

The Society of Architectural Historians will hold their 1991 annual meeting April 24-28 in Cincinnati, Ohio. Headquarters will be the Omni Netherland Plaza Hotel, an Art Deco masterpiece. For more information contact The Society of Architectural Historians, 1232 Pine Street, Philadelphia, PA 19190-5944; (215)735-0224.

The American Studies Association annual meeting will be held in November, 1991 in Baltimore. The meeting will focus on rights in American Culture, examining the larger question of rights in terms of authority and resistance, from the first European claims on the Americas to the present.

The program committee will also welcome papers and sessions that do not fall within the conference theme. And it welcomes proposals that examine Baltimore with regard to material culture and regional development.

Individual papers as well as full panels and workshops may be proposed. For those proposing panels, chairs and commentators should be suggested. There is no guarantee that panels will remain intact as proposed and the Program Committee may modify any session, with changes made in consultation with the individual organizing and submitting the proposal. The Committee will consider sessions constructed in any way, but recommends the following formats: two papers and two commentators, three papers and one commentator, one paper and three commentators, workshops, or roundtable discussions. Proposals should include: (1) a cover sheet; (2) abstracts for individual papers of no more than 250 words each, plus an abstract for the entire session of no more than 100 words; (3) the full name and affiliation of all participants as each individual would wish it to appear in the printed program, plus home and office telephone numbers, with preferred mailing address specified.

Proposals should be submitted along with a proposal cover sheet no later than January 16, 1991, to the : 1991 ASA Program Committee, c/o American Studies Association, 2140 Taliaferro Hall, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742.

The Forest History Society, the U.S.D.A. Forest Service, the National Forest Service Museum and the University

of Montana announce "National Forest History and Interpretation," a symposium/workshop in Missoula, Montana, 20-22 June 1991. This program will focus on the historical origins and significance of the National Forest System and the techniques of interpreting its rich history. Symposium/workshop participants will view from twenty vantage points the grand experiment in land management that began on March 10, 1891; hear how miners reacted to creation of forest reserves; learn how Indians managed the resources before white settlement; examine how the national forests are a source of water for the farmer, forage for the stockman, logs for the mill and game for the sports man; explore how the reservations helped "close" the West and end the frontier; investigate century-old debates over private property, state rights, and federal presence.

For details on the symposium/workshop on the National Forest Centennial, contact the Center for Continuing Education, University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812, telephone (406) 243-4623 or 243-2900.

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission announces the 14th annual Conference on Black History in Pennsylvania which will address the theme "Building African-American Communities in Pennsylvania" when it meets in Pittsburgh in the spring of 1991.

The conference seeks papers and presentations addressing issues related to migration, urban culture, family, work, leisure, intergroup relations, politics, and more.

Proposals should be mailed to Robert Weible, Chief, Division of History, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Box 1026, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17108; (717) 787-3034. Deadline is December 15, 1990.

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the General Services Administration announce a three-day course on "Federal Projects and Historic Preservation Law". The course will be held around the country between January and September, 1991. It opens with the picture: the development and goals of the national historic preservation program, followed by major provisions of NHPA. It then focuses on the requirements of Sections 106 and 110 of NHPA, how Section 106 review is implemented under regulations issued by the Council (36CFR Part 800), how to carry out each step in the

review process and the range of alternatives to meet preservation requirements effectively. For more information contact: GSA Interagency Training Center, P.O. Box 15608, Arlington, VA 22215-0608; tel. (703)557-0986.

New England Museum Association and Old Sturbridge Village Museum Archives Institute - April 19-20, 1991. The fourth New England Museum Association and Old Sturbridge Village Museum Archives Institute will be held at Old Sturbridge Village on April 19-20, 1991. The Institute has been expanded into a two year program so as to allow for a more concentrated and in-depth approach to the topics. Participants may join the program either year. The sessions are geared for the beginner and include such topics as records management, appraisal, arrangement and description, reference and access, legal issues, preservation, management, automation, fundraising, exhibits, photographs, and outreach.

In addition to the basic program, the Institute will offer a concurrent special topic program focused on automation. This subject will deal with the planning process as well as the latest developments and future direction of museum archives automation. The Institute offers a different special topic program each year.

Institute faculty is made up of museum and archive professionals who share a national reputation. Both the basic and special topic programs are two days with a limited registration and fee of \$90.00 each. For information call Theresa Rini Percy, Director of Research Library, Old Sturbridge Village, 1 Old Sturbridge Village Rd., Sturbridge, MA 01566. (508) 347-3362.

The Institute for the Editing of Historical Documents has scheduled its twentieth annual session for June 16-27, 1991, in Madison, Wisconsin. Jointly sponsored by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, and the University of Wisconsin, the institute will provide detailed theoretical and practical instruction in documentary editing. Further information and application forms are available from the NHPRC, Suite 300, National Archives Building, Washington, DC 20408, (202) 501-5605. Application deadline is March 15, 1991.

The American Society for Environmental History will hold its 1991 conference February 28 - March 3, 1991 at the University of Houston, Houston, Texas.

"The Environment and the Mechanized World" is the theme of the conference. Sessions will consider a wide range of issues relevant to the modification of the natural world by agriculture, commerce, industrialization and urbanization. A number of "field trips" to interesting environmental areas in the Gulf Coast will be part of the conference. For information on registration and accommodations write Martin V. Melosi, Chair; ASEH Conference; Department of History; University of Houston; Houston, Texas 77204-3785 or call (713)749-2967.

Publications and Collections

The Society of Architectural Historians announces the Guide to Graduate degree Programs in Architectural History. The newly printed and updated 1990 version of this publication, compiled by Dora Wiebenson, Chairman of the SAH Education Committee, is now available from the SAH office, 1232 Pine Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107-5944, for \$5.00, which includes postage and handling.

The Rochester Public Library through the Office of the City Historian has put hundreds of hours over the last three years into the research, writing and illustration of *A Young People's History of Rochester*. It is written particularly for grades 4-7 with attention given to the local history guidelines of the New York State Education Department. Over a period of two years, under fourth grade teacher Gloria Loiacono, chapters were tested, revised and tested again in the classrooms of the Rochester City School District.

This book contains nearly 150 illustrations including maps, portraits and drawings. Many of them are contemporary to the period they illustrate. The book contains 144 pages and covers the periods from the Senecas through early settlement and growth of Rochester to the present. While Rochester is central, the focus of the book is much broader, extending to the Genesee Country. The book is non-fiction written in story form rather than fact-based fiction. It incorporates primary sources such as letters, diaries and newspaper articles. A glossary in the back of the book defines unfamiliar words underlined in the text.

For more information contact Ruth Rosenberg-Naparsteck, Rochester Public

Library, 115 South Avenue, Rochester, New York 14604-1896. (716) 428-7340.

The New York State Archives and Records Administration (SARA) has issued a new manual, *Strengthening New York's Historical Records Programs: A Self Study Guide* has been issued to help ensure that the Empire State's important documentary heritage is adequately maintained for its citizens. The 157-page self-study guide is a product of SARA's Historical Records Program Development Project. It is designed to be used by governing boards, directors, staff members (paid and unpaid), and supporters of New York's historical records programs.

This manual offers reasonable goals for any repository seeking to improve the management of its documentary holdings. Sections of the manual discuss the basic elements of historical records programs, development of financial resources necessary for building strong historical records programs, cooperative ventures that can strengthen the care of New York's documentary heritage, and additional sources of assistance. *Strengthening New York's Historical Records Programs* can be used as: a basic reference for historical records administration; a workbook to guide a comprehensive institutional self-evaluation; a source of information for improving individual program elements; a tool for preparing a long range plan to enhance a program's basic functions; a tool to inform the public about the breadth of activities required of a historical records program and the need for financial support.

Self-study questions are used throughout the guide to help in the evaluation, planning, and development of historical records programs. These questions are not intended to imply a right or wrong answer but to enable a historical records program to assess its needs and take the appropriate actions to improve the care of its holdings.

Prepared and published with the assistance of a grant from the National Historical Records and Publications Commission, *Strengthening New York's Historical Records Programs* is the first major self-study manual for historical records programs published in New York State or this nation.

For more information about the manual, contact the State Archives and Records Administration, Cultural Education Center, Room 10A63, Albany, NY 12230.

The American Historical Association and the Society for History in the Federal Government have recently published a comprehensive update of the *Directory of Federal Historical Programs and Activities*, a reference for historical activities in the Federal Government. In 87 pages the 1990 edition lists over 250 Federal historical programs and contains an index of over 1500 historians, archivists, and curators. For each program it includes telephone numbers, mailing addresses, and personnel lists. It also includes organizational data on large programs like those of the Department of the Army and the National Park Service. Copies of the 1990 edition of the *Directory* may be obtained for \$8.00 each from the American Historical Association, 400 A Street S.E., Washington D.C. 20003.

The Research Libraries Group Inc. announces a recent publication that focuses on a new resource in the Research Libraries Information Network: descriptions of the records of government agencies. *Government Records in the RLIN Database: An Introduction and Guide (June 1990)* demonstrates the types of public records to be found in RLIN's Archival and Manuscripts Control (AMC) file, how these descriptions can be used for research, and how millions of other descriptions in the RLIN database can be used to complement government records in pursuit of a research topic. Sixteen government archives are currently entering descriptions of their holdings into RLIN as part of RLG's Government Records Project, funded by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. Copies are available for \$2.00 from: Ms. Christina Kasson, Distribution Services Coordinator, The Research Libraries Group, Inc., 1200 Villa Street, Mountain View, CA 94041-1100.

The United States Air Force announces a new book, *The Development of Ballistic Missiles in the United States Air Force 1945-1960*, by Jacob Neufeld. Stock Number 008-070-00641-3. Edition 1990. Price for paperback is \$23.00.

Following World War II, the onset of nuclear weapons, long-range jet bombers, and ballistic missiles radically changed American foreign policy and military strategy. The United States Air Force, led by men of far-sighted vision and uncommon dedication, accepted the challenge of organizing and leading a massive research and development effort to build ballistic missiles.

Send prepayment to Superintendent of Documents, Washington, DC 20402-9325; or to order with Visa or MasterCard phone (202)783-3238.

The United States Navy announces a new book, *Mud, Muscle and Miracles*, by Captain C.A. Bartholomew, USN. Stock number 008-046-00135-9. Edition, 1990. The price of Cloth book is \$32.00.

In the days when wooden sailing ships made up the fleets of the world, a ship that ran ashore could sometimes be freed by the judicious use of ground tackle and muscle. most of the time, however, a ship in serious trouble, whether close to home or far afloat, had to be left to the sea. There was little to do other than rescue the crew and save the cargo. The rules of the sea began to change, however, in the mid-1800s. With the advent of steam power and a growing understanding of how human beings can work underwater, it became increasingly possible to refloat wrecked vessels; clear harbors; and locate and raise sunken ships, their cargoes, and other objects lost at sea.

Send prepayment to Superintendent of Documents, Washington, DC 20402-9325; or to order with Visa or MasterCard phone (202)783-3238.

Opportunities

University of Arkansas at Little Rock. Anticipated appointment as assistant coordinator of established M.A. program in public history. This is a tenure track position with rank and salary commensurate with experience. The position involves administrative responsibilities. The applicant should be able to teach a specialty course in public history: either archival management, museum studies, or historic preservation. The teaching load will include survey courses in World History and upper level course in the individual's area of concentration. A PH.D is required. Publications and experience, especially applied experience, are preferred. The contract period will be nine months. The position will open in August, 1991. The position is subject to administrative funding. A representative of the University will be interviewing at the AHA annual meeting in New York.

Send letter of application, curriculum vitae, letters of recommendation, and transcripts to Carl H. Moneyhon, Search Committee Chair, Department of History, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, 2801

South University, Little Rock, AR 72204. UALR is an Affirmative Action — Equal Opportunity Employer, and actively seeks the candidacy of minorities and women.

Applications are subject to inspection under the Arkansas Freedom of Information Act.

National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) is now accepting applications from individuals for three Fellowships in Archival Administration. Jointly funded by the Commission and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, these fellowships will provide advanced administrative training in archives. For the 1991-92 fellowship year, the stipend has been increased to \$35,000 plus up to \$7,000 in fringe benefits, for a nine- to twelve-month period beginning between August and October 1991.

Fellows are provided with a series of administrative and decision-making experiences. Included in past fellowships have been such diverse areas as appraisal, budget preparation, personnel administration, publications, plant operation, long-range planning, disaster planning, collection policy development, and committee activities. In addition to these diverse areas of administration, the fellow is expected to complete a technical project, which often takes the form of a draft for some institutional policy.

Applicants should have between two and five years' experience in archival work. While not required, it is desirable that applicants have the equivalent of two semesters of full-time graduate training in a program containing an archives education component.

Host institutions for the 1991-92 Fellowship will be: Oregon Office of the Secretary of State, Archives Division, Salem, Oregon; Regents of the University of California, University of California, Los Angeles, Film and Television Archive, Los Angeles, CA.; and Delaware Department

of State, Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs, Bureau of Archives and Records Management, Dover, DE.

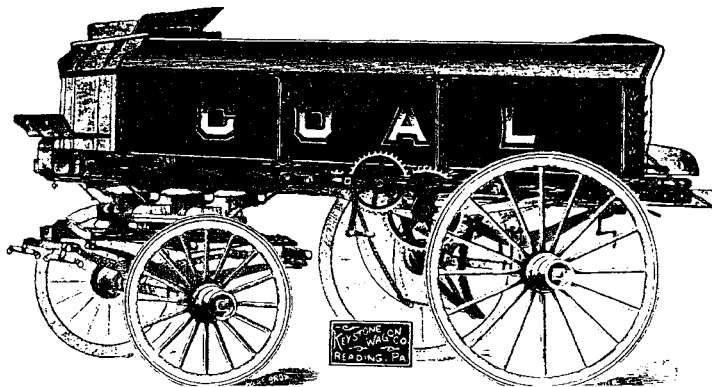
Fellowship application forms and more complete descriptions of the individual host programs should be requested from the NHPRC, National Archives Building, Washington, DC 20408; (202)501-5610. The forms must be completed and received by the Commission by March 1, 1991.

Following the March 1, 1991, deadline, the Commission will provide the completed fellowship application forms to the host institutions, each of which will select a fellow by mid-June 1991.

Individuals associated with the **American Society for Testing Materials** are developing standards for property transfer site investigations. Traditionally, this organization has been responsible for developing a consensus among engineers on various engineering standards. A committee, entitled Environmental Assessment of Commercial Transactions, met a couple of times this year, and the members feel confident that the standards they propose for due diligence site investigations will become the standards for the country.

The committee has members from the legal, lending, real estate, and environmental consulting communities, but apparently no one with training in historical research methods. Since a critical component of site investigation is historical research, it is imperative that historians and those from related disciplines become part of the decision-making process.

For further information, contact either Craig E. Colten, Associate Curator of Geography at the Illinois State Museum, 1920 S. 10 1/2 Street, Springfield, IL 62703, (217) 524-7901, or the American Society for Testing Materials, 1916 Race Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103-1187. ■



The National Council on Public History Announces a new video:

"Public History Today"

Executive Producer: Philip Scarpino

Producers: Gerald Herman and Daniel Walkowitz

"Public History Today" examines the varieties and the excitement of doing history in and for the public.

Suitable for:

- ◆ organizations engaging in public history or employing public historians
- ◆ groups with an interest in public history
- ◆ students at the college or high school levels

Running Time: 33 minutes, 40 seconds

Available for purchase and rental after November 15, 1990.

*one-half inch VHS cassette, \$49.95

*three-quarter inch U-Matic video cassette, \$79.95

*rental, \$35.00

"Public History Today" Order Form

Indicate choice

- One-half inch VHS cassette, \$49.95
- Three-quarter inch U-Matic video cassette, \$79.95
- Rental, \$35.00

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Make checks payable to the National Council on Public History.

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301 Cavanaugh Hall

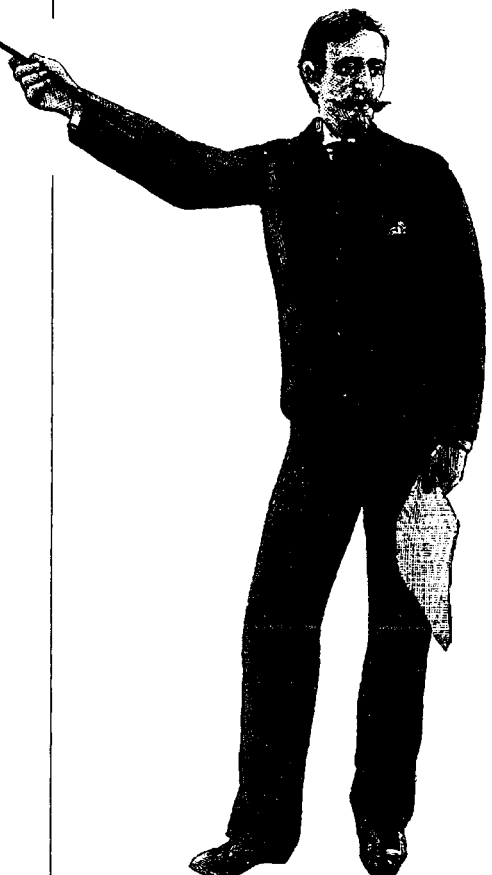
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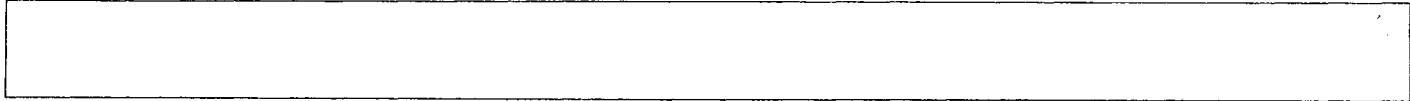
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