

## Public History News

➤ Volume 23, Number 2

➤ Winter 2003

## ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

**Kyle Jansson**, executive director of the Marion County Historical Society in Oregon for the past five years, has recently been appointed coordinator of the Oregon Heritage Commission.

Michael Kelleher, historian and preservation planner, formerly of Building Conservation Associates, New York, and recipient of the 1999 NCPH/HRA New Professional Award, is serving as a Foreign Service Officer with the Department of State. He is presently posted to the U.S. Embassy in Sofia, Bulgaria.

Dwight Pitcaithley, chief historian for the U.S. National Park Service and past president of NCPH, received mention in "Reveling in the Past," a story from the January 6th edition of the Chicago Tribune written by staff reporter Mike Conklin. The story details the AHA annual conference that was held in Chicago January 2-5 and discusses Pitcaithley and his "burden of presiding over the selection of which year the Civil War officially started, to help plan the sesquicentennial festivities. Make it 2111-or 150 years after the Confederacy fired on Union troops in Fort Sumter, S.C., in 1861? 'Not necessarily so,' said Pitcaithley, who was at the AHA event to moderate a panel on 'Civil War and Civil Discourse: Reinterpreting the Tullahoma Campaign of 1863.' He pointed out: 'Some people feel the shooting was inevitable and that the real start was 1857 when the Dred Scott decision was handed down or, for that matter, in 1859 when John Brown attacked Harpers Ferry."

# NCPH RECEIVES NEH CHALLENGE GRANT TO SUPPORT ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN

On 1 December 2002, NCPH received notification from the National Endowment for the Humanities that it was the recipient of an NEH Challenge Grant. This grant will help NCPH build its endowment fund over the next few years and leverage additional funds for fundraising and other programmatic initiatives.

"The award of an NEH Challenge Grant, coming on the heels of admission to the American Council of Learned Societies, underscores the increasing visibility and stature of NCPH." ~ Rebecca Conard

The staff of the NCPH Executive Offices prepared and submitted the grant proposal in the spring of 2002. This is part of a new initiative on the part of NCPH to increase grant funding for the long-term support and operations of the organization.

"The award of an NEH Challenge Grant, coming on the heels of admission to the American Council of Learned Societies, underscores the increasing visibility and stature of NCPH," noted NCPH President Rebecca Conard on learning of the award. "More important, it indicates the increasing acceptance of public history as both an area of scholarship and a field of professional practice."

The challenge grant is in an amount of up to \$30,000. To receive the full award, NCPH must raise at least \$90,000 in new nonfederal contributions by July 2006. NCPH will need to raise \$10,000 in gifts by 31 July 2003; \$30,000 by 31 July 2004; \$30,000 by 31 July

2005; and \$20,000 by 31 July 2006. Monies raised for the NCPH endowment since 1 December 2001 may be applied to the first installment of the campaign.

President Conard announced that she will appoint an honorary chair of the endowment campaign. This person will work with the Endowment

> Committee to plan a membership-wide initiative as well as to assist in identifying major donors.

NEH established the challenge grant program to assist

institutions and organizations in securing long-term support for, and improvements in, their humanities programs and resources. Through such awards, many organizations are able to shift programs to more secure support from endowment. Awards often endow staff positions and help organizations to build new resources for financial support through increased

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#### Volume 23, Number 2 Winter 2003

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Rebecca Conard, President
James Gardner, Vice-President
Patrick O'Bannon, Past President
Sharon Babaian, Secretary-Treasurer
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## CHANGES TO THE INDIANA UNIVERSITY'S ORAL HISTORY RESEARCH CENTER

#### by Barbara Truesdell barbara@indiana.edu

In July 2001, Indiana University approved the transformation of the Oral History Research Center into the Center for the Study of History and Memory. The university also appointed Daniel James, Mendel Professor of History at Indiana University, to serve with John Bodnar as co-director. This metamorphosis happened without fanfare, and the processes involved in the change are ongoing. We are still in the process of creating our new web site; for the present, visitors can still find us at http://www.indiana.edu/~ohrc.

In one sense, the name change and the expansion of our mission might be seen as the next logical step in the evolution of our Center. Founded in 1968 by historian Oscar O. Winther as the Oral History Research Project, the first project of the Center was to play a part in a larger effort to write a history of Indiana University itself. This was a time of rapid growth in the field of oral history. Researchers both inside and out of the academic field began to recognize that oral history could illuminate the lives of ordinary people and give new insights into the past. Oral history projects and centers developed on every continent. This interest was especially encouraged by the rising popularity of social history in the 1970s and 1980s with its concentration on the lives of minorities and workers. Feminist scholarship and post-colonial/postauthoritarian academics also found in oral history a way to recover histories that had been suppressed or ignored. History discovered that it had not one voice, but many, and oral history became recognized, if not universally accepted, as another research tool that could be brought to bear on a wide variety of historical subjects. When John Bodnar took on the position of director in 1981, he changed the name from Oral History Research Project to Oral History Research Center

to indicate the widened mission and permanent status of the Center, and he continued to expand the Center's archival, pedagogical, and research goals. Funded by grant monies, the OHRC's research interests expanded to encompass the history of Indiana and the nation in the 20th century. The archive grew to house the projects the Center conducted. Service to researchers and the training of graduate students became integral parts of the center's mission. These are all strengths that we will continue to build on in our new incarnation.

In the new millennium, the study of personal and collective memory has become a focus of research interest across disciplinary and national boundaries, with oral history serving as one important methodological tool in this research. The task of memory studies is to understand the interconnections between the personal and the collective forms of remembering and the manner in which those forms are constructed and articulated. It encompasses not only oral testimony but also many other forms of popular and mass media expression. It tracks the protean nature of collective identity, focusing through the rhetorical lenses of memory and history. The OHRC has adopted a new name and a new mission in order to broaden the scope of the Center's grant funding possibilities and to convey the full range of memory studies research as well as provide an institutional nexus for researchers on and off campus and to engage this exciting dialogue on new levels.

The mission of the CSHM has four objectives. First, we wish to foster research and dialogue across departmental boundaries, providing venues and opportunities for scholars from different disciplines engaged in memory studies to exchange ideas and collaborate on projects. Second, we wish to internationalize this dialogue and research across national boundaries. Third, we plan to develop an ongoing seminar on memory issues

that will provide a focal point for interdisciplinary and international dialogue on the latest work in memory studies. Finally, our fourth objective is to further develop our archive of oral history interviews and build on our expertise in oral history research.

Several projects are already underway in pursuit of the center's new mission. We presented a workshop in fall 2002 on "Documentary Film, History, and Memory in Latin America." Documentary film is an important medium of collective memory and historical narrative. The twoday workshop included viewings of documentary films and discussion panels with visiting scholars from Latin America. Also currently underway is a collaborative venture with the European University in St. Petersburg, in partnership with its Russian and East European Institute, focusing on issues surrounding war and memory, in particular the history of the Siege of Leningrad. A project on Burmese immigrants in Indiana was constructed this summer, continuing our Center's work on immigrant communities in the state, co-directed by Bodnar and Gail Hickey of the School of Education at Indiana University-Purdue University at Fort Wayne. A National Endowment for the Humanities grant is currently underway as well, creating a searchable online database for the oral history archive using Encoded Archival Description, a markup language designed specifically for archives.

As we continue to develop our new mission and identity as the Center for the Study of History and Memory, we look forward to many exciting projects and collaborations that both will build on our strengths and take us in new directions. We welcome your inquiries, suggestions, and ideas as we grow into our new name.

Barbara Truesdell is the Assistant Director at the Center for the Study of History and Memory at Indiana University, Bloomington.

### CALL FOR PAPERS

### 2004 ASEH/NCPH ANNUAL MEETING

Victoria, British Columbia 31 March - 4 April 2004

The joint conference in 2004 between the American Society for Environmental History and the National Council on Public History will revolve around the theme "Cultural Places and Natural Spaces: Memory, History, and Landscape." The conference theme reflects the interdisciplinary nature of the conference between the ASEH and the NCPH as members of these organizations discover common ground. The program committee seeks proposals for sessions that will explore the wide variety of cultural, environmental, social, and public histories that have transformed the places and spaces of our world. We also are interested in sessions that investigate the interplay of memory, history, and landscape. Since the 2004 conference will be held in Victoria, B.C., sessions that examine border issues, both physical as well as metaphorical, are welcome. Sessions that explore other issues in environmental and public history will also be considered. The 2004 program committee will accept proposals that are focused solely on environmental history, public history, or a combination of the two. In addition to sessions devoted to the presentation of papers, the committee also invites proposals for workshops, roundtables, panels, performances, and off-site tours and activities. Please consult the guidelines about conducting workshops at conferences on the NCPH website before you propose a workshop.

The program committee encourages proposals for entire sessions. We also will accept individual paper submissions. A call for poster session proposals will be released in September 2003.

All proposals must include the following information:

- A cover page, including complete mailing address, e-mail, phone number and affiliation of each participant;
- An abstract of no more than 500 words for the session as a whole;
- A prospectus of no more than 250 words for each paper or presentation;
- A two-page vita for each participant; and
- Any requests for audio-visual equipment for the session.

Individuals interested in acting as chairs or commentators are welcome to submit their names to the committee.

#### All proposals must be received no later than 5 April 2003.

All proposals must be submitted by e-mail to Jon Hunner, co-chair of 2004 Program Committee, at **jhunner@nmsu.edu**. Proposals should be attached as either a Word or Wordperfect file.

#### 2004 Program Committee

Brian Black, Penn State University (ASEH)
Chris Conte, Utah State University (ASEH)
Jon Hunner, co-chair, New Mexico State University (NCPH)
Nancy Langston, co-chair, University of Wisconsin (ASEH)
Marla Miller, University of Massachusetts (NCPH)
David Neufeld, Parks Canada (NCPH)
Lise Sedrez, Stanford University (ASEH)
Dan Vivian, National Park Service (NCPH)

## President's Comments



by Rebecca Conard rconard@mtsu.edu

The AHA annual meeting is not a priority on my conference agenda, but this year I went, in part, because the AHA Task Force on Public History made a special effort to see that public history was on the program; as a result, there were many familiar faces in the corridors, meeting rooms, and local hang-outs. In addition to sessions sponsored by the Task Force and by NCPH, the Task Force also held an open forum on Saturday 4 January. It was well attended, and the assembled group engaged in a spirited and substantive discussion. The continuing predilection for defining public history narrowly as an "alternative career" for graduate students and the use/misuse of professional public historians in adjunct faculty positions generated considerable heat.

That said, I left the room with the feeling that once again we had failed to communicate very effectively. A good bit of the discussion turned on the recently completed study of doctoral degree programs undertaken by the AHA Committee on Graduate Education, which will be published later this year. NCPH followed the progress of this study rather closely. Among other formal and informal discussions, AHA Research Director Philip Katz met with the NCPH board on several occasions, and with public history educators at the 2001 NCPH annual meeting, specifically to provide progress reports and/or receive comments. More than once during these discussions, NCPH board members not only urged the need for a similar study of master's education, but also offered to collaborate with AHA. Thus, I was pleased to learn

at the open forum that the Ford Foundation has awarded AHA \$50,000 to continue the momentum of the past two years by undertaking a second study, this one focused on "Master's Degrees and the Discipline of History." However, I was equally disappointed to learn that the AHA Committee on Graduate Education has made no effort to undertake this study on a collaborative basis.

Master's degree programs play a considerable role in defining public history, both as a scholarly field of endeavor and an umbrella field of practice; thus, by extension, master's degree programs increasingly influence the discipline of history as a whole. NCPH has long recognized the importance of the master's degree; indeed, almost since its inception, NCPH has promoted greater attention to master's education. The NCPH Curriculum and Training Committee has long been the primary meeting ground for public history educators nationwide, and while the committee's annual affinity breakfasts typically are an informal rubbing of elbows, past committee chairs have, on two different occasions, organized retreats in conjunction with the annual meeting. Both of these retreats grew out of a bundle of concerns over the multiple directions in which public history education was, and is, moving, and both retreats were well attended. In part, the curriculum issues discussed and debated at these retreats stand behind the Curriculum and Training Committee's current effort, now in its second year, to survey the entire landscape of public history education at the master's level. Another issue driving this study is a debate over the need for formal certification of public history practitioners as a means of enforcing standards and ethics. This debate waxes and wanes, but certifying individual practitioners necessarily entails an effective means of monitoring and enforcement, and the NCPH board has never seriously considered the prospect of taking on

this role. Instead, working through the Curriculum and Training Committee, NCPH is moving toward crafting and promulgating curriculum guidelines for master's degree programs in public history, recognizing that this avenue is not only more feasible but, in the long term, of greater benefit to the profession as a whole. Hence my concern over the unilateral approach the AHA is taking with its study of master's education.

Collaborate is a verb. Speaking for the organization as a whole, NCPH would have been pleased to receive an invitation to collaborate with AHA in the study of "Master's Degrees and the Discipline of History." No doubt, our sister organizations would have been similarly pleased. Instead, AHA chose an oblique method of including the voice of public history by approaching the chair of the NCPH Curriculum and Training Committee, as an individual, to serve on the new study committee. Without doubt, had NCPH been approached, as an organization, to collaborate, the obvious choice for representative would have been the chair of the C/T Committee, Pat Mooney-Melvin, who has served NCPH in many other capacities, including president. Equally without doubt, she will be an intelligent and thoughtful voice for public history. However, serving on the AHA committee as an individual does not carry the same weight as does serving in the capacity of representing a professional organization, and it does not truly empower her to coordinate the NCPH effort in ways that might benefit both organizations. Thus, the AHA study and the NCPH study now seem destined to proceed along parallel paths, which will continue, if not exacerbate, the very diffusion and professional fragmentation that is at the heart of our common concerns.

The problem is compounded when one considers that a number of professional organizations are genuinely concerned

➤ See President's Comments, page 15

## Meaning and Memory in New Jersey Historical Society's "Changed Lives" Project

by Adele Oltman Adele135@cs.com

residents.

Within weeks of the attacks on the World Trade Center, the New Jersey Historical Society, in partnership with the state's Historical Commission, began a documentation project entitled "Changed Lives: Understanding New Jersey in the Aftermath of September 11th." The Historical Society is located just across the Hudson River from midtown Manhattan. The proximity of northern and even central New Jersey to New York City, for those who are not familiar with the region, meant that it was impossible for the state to emerge from the disaster unscathed: approximately one-fourth of those who lost their lives when the buildings collapsed were New Jersey

In the greater New York-New Jersey area museum professionals responded with an unprecedented immediacy, collecting artifacts and ephemera, and archival material that revealed something about the texture of everyday life in the days, weeks and even months after the attacks. Historians, museum professionals and archivists held numerous discussions and debates on the ethical and practical issues surrounding the problems of historical method and historical interpretation that arise for institutions collecting objects of grief -- and the complicated relationship between memorializing the tragedy and historicizing it. Throughout this period, museums - including our own - organized exhibitions with extraordinary speed, and exhibit spaces themselves became sites where people came together to contemplate the events and try to make sense of the mass killing. It would not be

an overstatement to say that in this period, the museum and public history community was transformed – if temporarily.

Our exhibit reflected a diversity of experiences in New Jersey. We presented a series of "snapshots" that depicted unique ways that the public and private merged in the aftermath of the attacks. Displays included letters written by schoolchildren to rescue workers

"...in the interest of public history I found myself in most unusual circumstances – dangling 300-feet in the air from the top of a World War II era airplane hangar at Lakehurst Naval Airbase, before being lowered to the ground during a training exercise, to take one example."

~ Adele Oltman

thanking them for their efforts, excerpts from personal testimony, paintings, and photos of memorial shrines as well as of the men and women engaged in rescue and recovery efforts. We also displayed a range of objects that depicted the events most viscerally: a uniform worn by a rescue worker on "the pile" (as the site of the World Trade Center was universally referred to by rescue and recovery workers), a Teddy bear that was donated to the Salvation Army by the manufacturer to give to a child of a victim, the sign directing New Jersey commuters to the Path Train from the World Trade Center.

Visitors to the exhibit had an opportunity to listen on tape to voices of individuals who were there: a ferryboat captain who was in the middle of New York Harbor when the first plane hit – and the second – and who after the North tower collapsed continued to shuttle terrified people off the island

and to New Jersey, instead of running for cover himself. There were dramatic stories of escape, sometimes dotted with unexpected moments of humor. If many of this country's most respected writers and thinkers created a gush of solipsisms about "the meaning of 9-11," the stories told by ordinary people about what they did and thought about was a welcome antidote.

The voices in our exhibition came

from our oral history collection, the centerpiece of our "Changed Lives" project. We conceptualized the oral histories to privilege the stories of ordinary people (although it also includes interviews with the governor and several others in positions of power), including a plethora of volunteers from numerous organizations who worked at the Family

Assistance Center at Liberty
State Park (which assisted New Jersey's
families of victims), volunteer recovery
workers, Port Authority employees, air
traffic controllers, and the list goes on.
We also interviewed members of several
ethnic groups (especially Arab and ArabAmerican), immigration attorneys, and
even museum professionals.

It is the interviews with a group of first responders -- New Jersey's Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) team -- that I want to discuss briefly. Contemporary oral history is rooted in principles of progressive politics and from the tradition of "history from the bottom up" - as they used to say in the 60s and 70s. A body of rich interviews with union organizers, civil rights workers, anti-war activists and others whose experiences progressive scholars shared has been amassed. I myself was schooled in this tradition. Now I found myself collecting life stories

➤ See Changed Lives, page 6

#### **NEW MEMBERS**

Andy Ambrose, Atlanta, GA

Salvador Barragan, Mingo Junction, OH Lucy Barber, Sacramento, CA Rebecca Barton, Clifton Park, NY Laura Blandford, New Albany, IN Emily Briggs, Amherst, MA Michael Budd, Cranston, RI Terri Castaneda, Sacramento, CA Laurie Cheatham, Goodman, MS Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada Colorado State University. Fort Collins, CO Heide Colucci, Witchita, KS Dale Ducatte, Atlanta, GA Caroline Dunleavy, West Chester, PA Katie Eichler, Reston, VA Russanne Erickson, Tempe, AZ Florida Atlantic University Library, Boca Raton, FL J. Kevin Graffagnino, Frankfort, KY Barbara Gibson, Denver, CO Marsha Hamilton, Sound Beach, NY Bruce Harvey, Mount Pleasant, SC Amanda Johnson, San Francisco, CA Joseph Kelley, Granby, CO John F. Kennedy University Library, Orinda, CA Cheryl Lemus, Boulder Creek, CA Richard Linburg, Spring City, PA Dianna Litvak, Denver, CO Donella Lucero, Las Cruces, NM Heather McCummins, Spokane, WA Kate Navarra, Sunderland, MA Katherine Pandora, Norman, OK Jeb Stuart Rosebrook, Mayer, AZ Nancy Shockley, Las Cruces, NM Gregory Smoak, Fort Collins, CO Kathleen Stewart, Centreville, VA Christine Tate, Wilmington, DE Texas Historical Commission, Austin, TX Holly Thompson, Scottsdale, AZ Leah Tookey, Ames, IA

- Changed Lives ... continued from page 5. of people, albeit ordinary, but who would never be mistaken for progressive. Many of the men and women who were first on the scene in lower Manhattan had not only served multiple tours in Vietnam, but they opposed the ideals of the anti-war movement. Moreover, the rescue team operated under the direction of the NJ State Police (which some readers may recall had, at the time of the WTC attacks, the dubious distinction of being known for its racial profiling of African-Americans on the interstate highways). Our differences in political sensibilities as well as experiences - may have contributed to a richer oral history experience.

Doing oral history requires a combination of intellectualism and social endeavor – the former in the analytical phase and the latter, to convince potential subjects to participate. Hence, in the interest of public history I found myself in most unusual circumstances - dangling 300-feet in the air from the top of a World War II era airplane hangar at Lakehurst Naval Airbase, before being lowered to the ground during a training exercise, to take one example. The interviews that I have collected for the Historical Society go a long way toward answering some of the questions about what happened on September 11 after the towers collapsed, taking with them New York's emergency management team. But they do more than that, and this is where oral history is far superior to more traditional documentary sources. When it comes to tapping into the complexity of political experiences and beliefs, the oral history document, which emerges from a unique relationship between the interviewer and her subject reveals a depth of experience, beliefs and narratives that do not fit conventional historical interpretations.

Our oral history project continues and as time passes the project itself in some ways deepens. Six months ago individuals told their stories with a sharp sense of urgency: for some, it became a way to talk through the trauma of the event itself. Now the storytelling has changed. With the possibility of a war against Iraq looming larger every day, some subjects, especially with personal ties to the military are more reflective in their descriptions of their relationships to public events, than they were immediately following the attacks. This underscores oral historian Alessandro Portelli's observation that "memory is not a passive depository of facts, but an active creation of meanings." Here lies the uniqueness of this project: because we began collecting life histories so soon after the attacks, and continue to this day, we are able to document memory as a social construction against a background of shifting social, political and personal contexts.

Adele Oltman, Ph.D., is the Curator of History at the New Jersey Historical Society

> NEH Challenge Grant ... continued from page 1.

attendance and membership.

The NEH funds will be invested in the NCPH endowment to produce income to support the organization's humanities activities, including the awards program, professional development opportunities, and other initiatives currently in development.

NCPH will keep you apprised of the ongoing endowment/challenge grant campaign in the months ahead. For more information about the grant or to inquire about how you can contribute, contact the NCPH Executive Offices at 317.274.2716 or by email: ncph@iupui.edu

Villa Julie College Library,

Stevenson, MD

### NCH Washington Update



Bruce Craig, Executive Director National Coalition for History rbcraig@historycoalition.org

National Coalition for History
Established. For over 25 years the
National Coordinating Committee for the
Promotion of History (NCCPH) has served
as a voice for the historical and archival
professions on Capitol Hill. On 1 January
2003, the NCC formally ceased operations
and a successor advocacy organization –
the National Coalition for History (NCH) -began operating, carrying forward the
advocacy flag for history and archival
organizations.

During the recent annual meeting of the American Historical Association, the Policy Board of the new history coalition elected officers, approved an annual budget, and authorized several new initiatives including a long-needed seminar series targeted to members of Congress and their staff -- "Issuing History: Historical Perspectives on Public Policy."

The decision to reorganize the NCCPH under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and change the organization's name to the National Coalition for History (to be popularly known as "the history coalition") was unanimously adopted by the NCCPH Policy Board during the organization's annual meeting a year ago, in January 2002. At that time, the Policy Board approved an ambitious three-year strategic plan (http://www2.h-net.msu.edu/~ncc/) that seeks to better position the history and archival communities to meet the challenges of the 21st Century.

The new Articles of Incorporation provide that the NCH is to serve as "a central educational/advocacy outreach office for history and archives." To that end, the NCH will continue the NCCPH's long time

commitment to history and archives advocacy. Through the weekly electronic posting of the NCH WASHINGTON UPDATE the organization will continue to provide a clearinghouse function by bringing news of interest to the professional communities the NCH serves. In the coming months, the NCH will also begin to expand its outreach and education programs by targeting special educational programs to the news media and professional staff on Capitol Hill. During the meeting of the Policy Board, Lee Formwalt, (Organization of American Historians) was elected chair/president with a vice-presidential slot being filled by Arnita Jones (American Historical Association); a second slot is on hold for the Society of American Archivists (the soon to be appointed incoming Executive Director of the SAA is expected to fill this position). Martha Kumar (American Political Science Association) was elected secretary and Anna Nelson (Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations) was elected treasurer. Policy Board rotating terms were approved for the Association for Documentary Editing, the Society of American Historians, and the Society for History in the Federal Government.

#### New NHPRC Head Announced.

On 7 January 2003, Archivist of the United States (and NHPRC Chairman) John W. Carlin announced the appointment of Max J. Evans as Director of the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) of the National Archives and Records Administration.

Evans was Director of the Utah State Historical Society and editor of the Utah Historical Quarterly. As the Society's director, he also served as the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and was responsible for publications, the history library (including published and manuscript materials, photographs, and maps), a statewide grants program, and the state history museum. He also served for over a year as the Acting State Archivist and was the chair of the State Records Committee

from 1991 through 1998. He was a founding member of the Conference of Intermountain Archivists and was a fellow of the Society of American Archivists, having served on and chaired several SAA committees. Long interested in archives and automation, Evans helped develop the MARC-AMC format and the Research Libraries Group's archives and manuscripts programs.

Evans attended Utah State University and the University of Utah where he earned a bachelor's degree in American history. He later earned a master's in history at Utah State University, where he specialized in the history of the American West. He also studied American history and Information Science at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

National Archives of Canada and National Library to Merge. Canadian Minister of Heritage Sheila Copps recently announced that the National Archives of Canada and the National Library of Canada will merge into one institution. The new organizational framework is designed to strengthen visibility, relevance, and accessibility of the collections and services to both the Archives and Library. According to Minister Copps, "The creation of this modern, dynamic, world-class organization addresses an increased public appetite for knowledge about Canada." The decision seeks to enable both institutions to be better positioned as a leading knowledge and information management center.

## Consultant's Corner

Dale Stirling, historian with Intertox, Inc., in Seattle has recently had two articles published. The first, "Profiles in Toxicology: Harvey W. Wiley," was in the May 2002 (Vol. 67:157-58) issue of Toxicological Sciences. Stirling is the first historian to write for the journal. He will also be completing an article on Arnold Lehman, founder of the Society of Toxicology for the journal. The second article, published in the June 2002 (Vol 10 (3):119-126) issue of Environmental Liability, was "Minimising Environmental Liability Using Historical Research: A US Perspective." This is a law journal out of the United Kingdom and the article presents a thorough review of historical resources used to investigate the presence of hazardous substances and materials on real property. It also provides an in-depth overview of existing environmental assessment standards and their historical research requirements.

Do you want to paddle your own canoe, but you're afraid the boat might leak? Such is the case with many historians who yearn to start their own businesses but fear that their entrepreneurial ship might sink. As a step toward providing services for those of us who are consulting historians, NCPH tried in its recent membership survey to identify what consulting historians do, how they are legally organized, how many employees work in each firm, and what their titles are.

Of the 403 people who responded to this survey, 75 identified their principal employment as either part of a consulting firm or as a self-employed consultant. Many of our members also do contract work in addition to their salaried employment. People gave 289 responses to the question about their main types of work, checking off as many answers as applied. By far the largest number of responses (33%) involved historic preservation (National Register nominations, cultural resource surveys, and administration and planning). Almost as many responses (29%) related to general historical or genealogical research. Museum

consultation (exhibit design, conservation, or planning and administration) accounted for 15% of the responses. Archival work (documentary surveys, arranging and describing, conservation, or planning and administration) brought 12% of the responses. Fewer than 6% of the responses related to grant writing.

Of the eighty-four responses about legal structure, forty-six said they were sole proprietors. Thirty-three were incorporated, three noted they were S-corporations, one was a C-corporation, and one was a partnership.

By far the largest number of businesses involved only one employee. Of the eighty-eight responses to this question, thirty-nine listed themselves as sole employees, fourteen listed two or three employees, nine had four to ten workers, and twenty-six had ten or more workers. If all the historians in the larger firms filled out this survey that would explain the relatively large number of people who said that they worked in firms with ten or more people.

Most respondents (27) called themselves simply historians; 22 called themselves consultants. A few identified themselves as director, principal investigator, or CEO. One or two used terms such as architectural historian, discipline coordinator, procurer/writer/director, project man, public programs coordinator, vicepresident, or writer and public historian.

If you identify yourself as a consulting historian, we invite you to participate in several activities:

- 1. Attend the NCPH conference in Houston in April 2003. Two panels are specially designed for consulting historians. One provides an overview of the field of public history, including the work of consulting historians. Another focuses on consulting historians and African American history in Virginia.
- 2. List your name on the NCPH web site. NCPH is currently redesigning the web site so that it will be more accessible and, hopefully, will make it easier for potential clients to find consulting historians.

- 3. **Join H-PUBLIC** and join us or discussions about consulting historians. If you are just starting out, what are your main questions? What are your first steps?
- 4. Propose a panel for the 2004 conference in Victoria, British Columbia, co-sponsored with the American Society for Environmental History. The theme is "Cultural Places and Natural Spaces: Memory, History, and Landscape." Contact Jon Hunner, the program committee chair, at jhunner@nmsu.edu.

Much success to you all.

Judith Wellman, Chair Consulting Historians' Committee wellman@twcny.rr.com

The NCPH Consultants' Committee is dedicated to promoting the interests of NCPH members who provide historical services as consultants or contractors. The committee wishes to highlight professional accomplishments among contract historians, contract firms, and other independent researchers. Forward news of finished projects, contract awards, contract report publications, ongoing oral history projects, or anything else that might be of interest to practicing historians. E-mail items to Amy Dase, Consultants' Committee, at adase@paiarch.com. Be sure to include your full name and address.

Are you aware of the latest news from the field of public history?

Sign up for **H-PUBLIC** by sending your name, institutional affiliation, and address to ncph@iupui.edu.

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## VETERANS HISTORY PROJECT LAUNCHES NATIONAL REGISTRY OF SERVICE

by Mark F. Hall mhal@loc.gov

On Veterans Day, November 11, 2002, the Library of Congress's Veterans History Project at the American Folklife Center launched its National Registry of Service. This online resource is a new component of the Project's recently redesigned Web site, http://www.loc.gov/vets/. The National Registry of Service honors all those military veterans and civilians whose oral history interviews or other personal wartime accounts have been donated to the Library of Congress, by providing each person's name, date and place of birth, branch of service, war(s), unit and location of service, interviewer or donor of material, and the donor's institutional affiliation, if any. To date, more than 2,400 names appear on the Registry.

Veterans History Project Director Ellen McCulloch-Lovell said, "This is an important milestone for this project. It allows not just the Library of Congress but the entire nation to acknowledge our gratitude to each of those who have sacrificed for our nation in wartime."

In just the short time since its creation, the Veterans History Project is amassing a remarkable collection of interviews and documentary materials spanning much of the twentieth century. Contained in these sources are compelling accounts of wartime service from men and women, civilian and military, representing many ranks, jobs, branches of service, and theaters of war. Their stories--told in their own words through letters, diaries, and oral history interviews--teach us, amuse us, and inspire us. They also sometimes sadden us, with tales of lost lives, lost time, and lost innocence, all in service to our country.

There are 19 million war veterans living in the United States today, but every day we lose 1,600 of them. Motivated by a desire to

honor our nation's war veterans for their service and to collect their stories and experiences while they are still among us, the United States Congress created the Veterans History Project. The authorizing legislation, sponsored by Representatives Ron Kind, Amo Houghton, and Steny Hoyer in the U.S. House of Representatives and Senators Max Cleland and Chuck Hagel in the U.S. Senate, received unanimous support and was signed into law by President Bill Clinton on October 27, 2000. Public Law 106-380 calls upon the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress to collect and preserve audio- and video-taped oral histories, along with documentary materials such as letters, diaries, maps, photographs, and home movies, of America's war veterans and those who served in support of them.

The Veterans History Project covers World War I, World War II, and the Korean, Vietnam, and Persian Gulf wars. It includes all participants in those wars--men and women, civilian and military. It documents the contributions of civilian volunteers, support staff, and war industry workers as well as the experiences of military personnel from all ranks and all branches of service-the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, and Navy, as well as the U.S. Coast Guard and Merchant Marine.

The Library of Congress is the world's largest library and the national library of the United States. The Library was founded in 1800, making it the oldest federal cultural institution in the nation. The mission of the Library of Congress is to make its vast holdings available and useful to Congress and the American people and to sustain and preserve a universal collection of knowledge and human creativity for future generations.

The American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress was created in 1976 to document, preserve and present all aspects of traditional culture and life in America.

With more than two million items, it maintains the largest repository of traditional cultural documentation in the United States. The National Veterans History Collection preserved at the American Folklife Center will richly complement the Library's existing holdings on this subject of enduring importance.

AARP, the nation's leading organization for people 50 and over, is the project's founding private-sector sponsor. Together with more than 450 partner organizations that have agreed to participate in the project, AARP will mobilize its members and vast national network of 40,000 volunteers in the collection of stories to be told by average Americans whose heroic deeds and small wartime efforts preserved freedom.

"The Library of Congress is proud to serve as steward in preserving this national memory," said Librarian of Congress James H. Billington. "More than 1,600 veterans are dying each day, so there is an urgent need to collect their stories and experiences. This project will also allow the next generation to learn about and speak to those who have fought to sustain the freedom that we find challenged throughout the world today, as well as those who kept the home front running during some of America's most difficult times. The Library is honored to add these eyewitness accounts of American history to the vast record we have preserved for more than 200 years."

Mark F. Hall is a Program Officer for the Veterans History Project at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C.

### From the Director's Desk



by David G. Vanderstel dvanders@ncph.org

"So, why should we be so concerned about history in today's society?" asked one student. "After all, it's only stuff that happened before now, and really, what impact does it have on us today?"

"All things have historical meaning and significance," I responded. "Besides, there is relevance of the past for the present. What we do today and in the years to come – crafting public policies, creating new inventions, expanding cultural opportunities, restoring neighborhoods, etc. – have foundations in the events of the past."

"But, I really don't sense any particular connection between the past and the present, except maybe when I'm with my family," the student replied.

"Finding a connection to the past through your family is a good start," I said. "But, history is all around us. It permeates all aspects of our existence. We use our historical understanding of the past to see how we got to where we are today. We use history to obtain a sense of who we are as individuals, as communities, and as a nation. Even businesses and government agencies rely upon history to understand development and change over time."

"Still, I feel so removed from the past," the student concluded.

"Read the recent commentary in the *Star* entitled 'Need to preserve and experience our heritage," I responded. "It provides an

excellent overview of how history and heritage are found throughout our own community. Consider, for example, all of the historic house and special topics museums, the local historical societies, the state museum, libraries and archives all which serve as the repositories of the past. Look around at the monuments that commemorate wars and those individuals who served in them. Consider how historic neighborhoods are attracting people back to the city and encouraging people to restore homes and businesses there. Each neighborhood is a reflection of the city's past and tells an architectural as well as a cultural story of that area."

"And then, there are the schools, churches, parishes, and synagogues," I continued. "Look across the urban landscape and see the cultural remnants of an earlier time and think about the people who established and supported them. And think about all the work that needs to be done to record, preserve, and tell those stories."

"But, that's all well and good," said the student. "It's nice to see the preservation of old things. But, I still don't see the real application of history to contemporary needs."

"Consider a few examples of historians working to address those needs," I replied. "One colleague is a historical consultant who has worked with the state government to identify historic properties and potential archaeological sites along the proposed routes for a new interstate highway. Another group of historians has been analyzing census and other historical data to assist local school districts in planning the construction of new schools. There are others working with teachers to improve

the teaching of history at the elementary and secondary levels. One historian has helped a local living history museum develop a new interpretive site, and another has completed a survey of historical markers and monuments around the state that enhances the preservation of local history and will help with heritage tourism. And, don't forget those individuals involved in gathering oral histories from American veterans and trying to preserve the stories of a rapidly vanishing generation."

"So, history does have multiple uses in contemporary society," concluded the student. "But, are there real jobs out there? My parents don't want to support me for the rest of my life because I got a history degree."

"As you can see, there are numerous opportunities for historical work outside the classroom. In fact, there is a great need for well-trained professional historians to work in these and other areas and to make history accessible to and useable by the larger public. You should think about it as a real career opportunity, not just an alternative. Public history can be a very enriching experience," I concluded.

"Sounds like a good deal. But, you know, none of my professors seem to know anything about this public history field or the career opportunities out there," noted the student. "Don't you think there should be courses at the undergraduate level that introduce students to public history and tell them about those career opportunities? And shouldn't all history majors be exposed to public history in their undergraduate studies?"

"Good point!" I said. "I wish more people and academic programs felt the same way."

#### NCPH Welcomes New Staff Member

**Douglas Fivecoat** has joined NCPH as the graduate intern for the spring 2003 semester. A first-year graduate student, Douglas is currently pursuing a dual Master's degree in History and Library Science. He is a 2000 graduate of Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis where he received a Bachelor of Arts in

History. Over the semester, Douglas will be compiling materials for Public History News and assisting in assorted administrative functions in the Executive Offices, including work on the 2003 annual meeting and redesigning the NCPH web site.

#### AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND INTERNSHIPS

The American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) invites submissions to the 2003 Awards Program. Now in its 58th year, the AASLH annual awards program is the most prestigious national recognition for achievement in the preservation and interpretation of local, state, and regional history. The AASLH awards program recognizes exemplary work completed by state or federal historical societies, institutions, or agencies; regional, county or local historical societies, institutions, or agencies. They also recognize specialized societies in related fields such as oral history, genealogy, folklore, archaeology, business history, railroad history, etc, junior historical societies, privately owned museums or foundations and individuals and organizations outside the field of traditional historical agencies. Awards are given for general excellence, exhibits, public programming, special projects, media/publications, individual achievement, and preservation or restoration projects. Nominees need not be members of AASLH to qualify. Nomination forms may be obtained by visiting the AASLH web site, www.aaslh.org, or by contacting the AASLH office by phone: (615) 320-3203; or e-mail: history@aaslh.org. Nominations are due to state award representatives on March 1, 2003. A national committee will review nominations in the summer of 2003 with formal presentation of the awards made during the AASLH annual meeting, September 17-20, 2003, in Providence, Rhode Island. For more information about the awards program, contact Harry Klinkhamer, AASLH, (615) 320-3203.

The Pioneer America Society
announces the Warren E. Roberts Graduate
Student Paper Competition. In memory
of folklife scholar Warren E. Roberts, a
longtime Pioneer America Society member
and former director, this annual competitive
award recognizes excellence in original
graduate student fieldwork, documentary
research, and writing in the area of
traditional material culture. Students

in any field who are working toward a graduate degree in an accredited program are eligible for the Warren E. Roberts Graduate Student Paper Competition. All research must be original, include fieldwork, and reflect the sentiment expressed in "Folklife and Material Culture: A Credo." Two copies of the paper must be submitted to the chairperson of the Award Review Committee. Papers must be double-spaced and should not exceed 15 pages, or the maximum 20-minute presentation period. The winning paper must be presented at the annual meeting of the Pioneer America Society in the year in which the Award is sought. The Award Review Committee will choose one award winner. However, the Committee does reserve the right to withhold the Award for any given year if no papers are considered to be meritorious. Deadline for submission is June 30 of each year. The winner of the Warren E. Roberts Award will receive a certificate of recognition, a cash prize of \$200.00, one free conference registration, and a banquet ticket. Awards are announced and presented at the Pioneer America Society Annual Conference, which is held October or November of each calendar year. The Committee is comprised of the winner of the previous year's Award and four PAS members appointed by the Executive Director. For information, contact: Dr. Joanne Raetz Stuttgen, Chair, Warren E. Roberts Graduate Student Paper Competition, Pioneer America Society, 759 E. Washington Street, Martinsville, IN 46151, 765-349-1537; email: stuttgen@reliable-net.net

#### BOOKNOTES

A new edition of **The American Indian Graduate Studies**, a
comprehensive, annotated bibliography
of theses and dissertations on Native
American topics -will be created during
the next 24 months. The new edition is
expanding from a two-volume index of
7,446 theses and dissertations at 274
institutions to, at least, 12,000 titles at 492
graduate institutions in the United States,
Canada, and Mexico. The new edition
will be in an electronic form as a searchable
catalog on the World Wide Web and will

allow updates to the database as new theses and dissertations are completed. The project's goal is to provide a comprehensive and accessible database about Native Americans. For more information, contact Charles T. Townley at (505) 646-2139 or (505) 556-1268.

AltaMira Press announces the release of two significant publications. The Oral History Manual, written by Barbara Sommer and Mary Kay Quinlan, is designed to help anyone interested in doing oral history research "think like an oral historian." The manual offers step-by- step instructions, checklists, full-size reproducible forms, sample planning documents, project descriptions and summary sheets, sample materials, and extensive illustrations to help guide readers in taking ideas for an oral history project and turning them into a successful format. The Oral History Manual is available for \$24.95.

Also new is Interpreting Historic House Museums. Fourteen respected museum professionals consider the history of house museums and the need to look at familiar issues from new perspectives and using new methods. Interpreting Historic House Museums captures the big picture and the important details. Its discussion of contemporary issues and successful programs, its practical guidelines and information, up-to-date references, and lively illustrations will make it useful and relevant for both students and practicing professionals. The book is available for \$24.95. Visit the AltaMira Press website at www.altamirapress.com for more information.

Despite a concerted local legal effort to suppress its publication, *Kapi'olani Park: A History* is now available. Written by Robert R. Weyeneth of the University of South Carolina, the book analyzes the origins and historical development of Honolulu's "Central Park" in a richly illustrated format from graphic designer MacKinnon Simpson. Kapi'olani Park is familiar to Hawaii's millions of visitors as the urban green space that spreads from Waikiki Beach to Diamond Head. Less familiar is the park's controversial history

and problematical legacy. The book is available for \$24.95 from Native Books, 1244 North School Street, Honolulu, HI 96734; 800-887-7751; fax: 808-841-1819. nativebk@lava.net

#### CALL FOR PAPERS/ PROPOSALS/ARTICLES

The Society for American City and Regional Planning History (SACRPH) invites papers and session proposals for its 10th biennial meeting, to be held in St. Louis, November 6-9, 2003. SACRPH is an interdisciplinary organization of scholars and practitioners based in such diverse fields as history, architecture, landscape, planning, and the social sciences. Its conference is dedicated to the examination of the past, present, and future of purposeful efforts to shape urban life. Papers are cordially invited on all aspects of urban, regional and community planning. Particularly welcome are papers or complete sessions dealing with the St. Louis metropolitan area or the Midwestern region, comparative studies in planning history, responses to economic restructuring and globalization, and analyses of race, class, gender and sexuality in planning. In celebration of the 10th anniversary of the conference, SACRPH also invites papers dealing with all aspects of the relation between planning practice and planning history scholarship. The program committee welcomes proposals for either individual papers or whole sessions of 2 to 3 papers with comment. Submissions must include 3 copies of the following materials; a I page abstract of each paper, clearly marked with title and participant's name; a 1 page curriculum vitae for each participant, including address, telephone, and e-mail information and (for individual papers) up to 4 key words identifying the thematic emphases of the work. St. Louis, site of the meeting, will be the focus of a number of tours, sessions, and related events. Center of a region of 2.5 million residents, the city offers a wealth of opportunities for studying American Metropolitan and Planning History from the 18th century to the present. Proposals must be sent before February 15, 2003 to: Eric Sandweiss, SACRPH Program Co-Chair, Department

of History, 742 Ballantine Hall, Indiana University Bloomington, IN 47405

\*\*e-mail submissions will not be accepted.

The National Council on Public History invites you to submit articles for its quarterly newsletter, Public History News. We welcome stories concerning innovative public programs, project updates, important issues concerning public history, interesting collaborations, and new approaches being used to bring history to the public. Articles for Public History News should be approximately 750 to 1000 words in length; illustrations accepted as appropriate. Submissions and questions can be sent via email to: ncph@iupui.edu or surface mail to: NCPH, 327 Cavanaugh Hall-IUPUI, 425 University Boulevard Indianapolis, IN 46202.

#### CONFERENCES, INSTITUTES, SEMINARS, & WORKSHOPS

The National Preservation Institute. a nonprofit organization that provides training and guidance concerning historic preservation and cultural resource management to both government and private sector professionals, has released its Seminars in Historic Preservation and Cultural Resource Management booklet for 2003. This booklet provides information about this year's seminars. Some of the available seminars include: Approaches to Historical Archaeology; Decisionmaking for Cultural Resouces in the Legal Environment; Using Federal Law to Protect Ancestral Sites; among many others. More information can be obtained at their web site at http://www.npi.org.

#### INTERNET

**DoHistory** invites you to explore the process of piecing together the lives of ordinary people in the past through their website **http://www.dohistory.org/**. The website is a model of an experimental, interactive case study based on the research that went into the book and film A Midwife's Tale, which were both based

upon the remarkable 200 year old diary of midwife/healer Martha Ballard. Although DoHistory is centered on the life of Martha Ballard, visitors to the site can learn basic skills and techniques for interpreting fragments that survive from any period in history. We hope that many people will be inspired by Martha Ballard's story to do original research on other "ordinary" people from the past. Send email to: feedback@dohistory.org

The American Social History Project/Center for Media and Learning of the City University of New York and the Center for History and New Media at George Mason University invite you to visit their History Matters website: http://historymatters.gmu.edu/. Designed for high school and college teachers of U.S. History survey courses, this site serves as a gateway to web resources, offers unique teaching materials, first-person primary documents, and threaded discussions on teaching U.S. history. We emphasize materials that focus on the lives of ordinary Americans and actively involve students in analyzing and interpreting evidence. Having recently received a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, we are launching a major expansion of the site, including the addition of new annotated websites, primary documents, visual documents, and interactive features. We are also introducing several new features, such as scholarly reviews of websites in collaboration with the Journal of American History and "Learner Guides," in partnership with the Visible Knowledge Project, to analyzing online primary sources, including photos, diaries, oral histories and early films. For contact information, and to find out more about the people behind the site, visit the About Us page.

The Center for Arts and Culture announces its website: http://www.culturalpolicy.org. The center is an independent think tank that aims to broaden and deepen the national conversation on culture and cultural policies. Founded in 1994 in Washington, DC, the center is a nonprofit, non-partisan organization, supported by foundations

and governed by a board of directors. Its mission is to enlarge the public vision of the centrality of the arts and culture in everyday life. At the core of that mission is the "cultural commons," a place for public discussions of cultural issues and policies. The center commissions research, holds public roundtables, and publishes new voices and perspectives on the arts and culture. Through the Art, Culture & the National Agenda project, the center identified seven areas where policies intersect with cultural issues: the Law, Globalization, Access, Preservation, Community, Investment and Education. The latest news from each sector may be found on the web site. Through its public listsery the center provides the latest news on arts and culture as well as a vehicle for the exchange of ideas, research, and information among policy makers and professionals in the cultural community.

The Plymouth Colony Archive Project presents a fully searchable collection of original texts and analysis papers on the Plymouth Colony, 1620-1691. The project includes: fully searchable texts of early laws, court records, wills, and probates; analyses of the colony legal structure, domestic relations, early settlement, criminal records, interactions of the Wampanoag people and the Colonists, individual biographical information derived from court records, indentured servants and masters, and archaeological analysis of house plans and material culture; fully searchable texts such as "Mourt's Relation" (1622), "Goode Newes from New England" (1624), and William Bradford's "Of Plymouth Plantation" (1620-1647).

Recent additions include materials that can be used in educational exercises, including: links to a number of lesson plans; a photographic tour and textual explanation of reconstructions of 17th century house forms at Plimoth Plantation Museum by Jim Deetz, Henry Glassie and others; a detailed photographic tour to illustrate Jim Deetz and Edwin Dethlefsen's study of stylistic changes in grave art, entitled "Death's Head, Cherub, Urn and Willow"; text and photographic illustrations of Deetz's findings of evidence indicating elements

of African-American architectural and mortuary traditions at the Parting Ways site in Plymouth County; and an expanded collection of historic-period maps of Plymouth and the New England region.

The National Endowment for the Humanities has selected the Plymouth Colony Archive web site, available at <a href="http://etext.virginia.edu/users/deetz/">http://etext.virginia.edu/users/deetz/</a>, as one of the best resources for humanities studies on the Internet.

Our Documents is a national initiative on American history, civics, and service. At the heart of this initiative are 100 milestone documents of American history. These documents reflect our diversity and our unity, our past and our future, and mostly our commitment as a nation to continue to strive to "form a more perfect union." The developers of this site want everyone students, teachers, parents, and the general public—to read these documents, consider their meaning, discuss them, and decide which are the most significant and why. This initiative creates a number of ways to do that—through classroom activities and competitions, and votes. Our Documents can be found online at http://www.ourdocuments.gov/

The Society for American Archaeology (SAA) announces the release of a unique electronic publication series: E-tiquity. E-tiquity is a digital, peer-reviewed, irregular serial provided free through SAAweb that offers a new venue for archaeological scholarship that is difficult to disseminate in traditional hardcopy formats. Each issue will contain a single scholarly contribution. The first publication is "Groundpenetrating Radar (GPR) Mapping as a Method for Planning Excavation Strategies, Petra, Jordan" by Larry Conyers, Eileen Ernenwein, and Leigh-Ann Bedal. The first issue of Etiquity can be viewed at E-tiquity.saa.org.

Cosponsored by the Tennessee
Historical Society and the University
of Tennessee Press, **The Tennessee**Encyclopedia of History and Culture Online Edition is the definitive and
comprehensive reference work on the
Volunteer State. Available free to everyone

at http://tennesseeencyclopedia.net, the online version of *The Tennessee Encyclopedia of History and Culture* includes everything found in the 1998 book version plus new and updated information. With more than 1500 entries, plus slide shows, pictures, interactive maps, audio and video, and links to more than 200 external sources, The Tennessee Encyclopedia-Online Edition will prove an indispensable research tool for everyone who wants to explore Tennessee's rich history

Students, educators, scholars, and ethnic community members have a new research tool available to learn more about American immigration from digitized primary sources. The Immigration History Research Center (IHRC), located on the campus of the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, has an online searchable database of digitized items from its photograph, print, and manuscript collections on the IHRC Web site http://www.umn.edu/ihrc

COLLAGE (Collections Online: A Digital Library of American ImmiGration and Ethnic History), launched in June 2002, includes photographs and other archival materials selected from over twenty different ethnic collections, with descriptive information for each image. This digital documentation creates an opportunity to access these unique materials on the Web. Online items include images of homes, sports clubs, and community life in relation to the immigrant experience.

COLLAGE can be found at http://www.umn.edu/ihrc/collage.htm

The Canadian Conservation Institute has launched a new web site entitled "Preserving my Heritage". This site is designed to help individuals care for and preserve their family treasures, heirlooms, and works of art. It also provides an introduction to heritage conservation and information about the work carried out by the Canadian Conservation Institute. The site is located at http://www.preservation.gc.ca.

➤ See Bulletin, page 14

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

On 18 November 2002, the Lincoln Presidential Library opened its doors to the public. This new 99,800-square-foot structure, located in downtown Springfield, Illinois, houses the 12 million-item Illinois State Historical Library and a multipurpose conference space that includes the Governor's Conference Suite, a special section devoted to educational programming. This new facility more than doubles the Historical Library's old storage space now totaling six miles of compact book shelving. Also residing in the same complex and scheduled for a mid-2004 opening will be the Lincoln Presidential Museum, a 100,000-square-foot facility that will feature two interactive journeys that use exhibits and reproductions to depict important aspects of Lincoln's life. Journey One will include reproductions of a slave auction, and many buildings significant to Lincoln's life, while Journey Two will feature a reproduced façade of the 1861 White House as well as a 45-foot mural of Gettysburg. More information is available at http://www.alincoln-library.com.

#### POSITIONS AVAILABLE

The Office of the Historian, U.S. Department of State, Washington, DC, is seeking to identify qualified individuals who are interested in researching and compiling the official documentary series, Foreign Relations of the United States. Requirements include knowledge of U.S. foreign relations and diplomatic history, proven research skills, and a willingness to work on a variety of geographic areas over time. The Office of the Historian is particularly interested in individuals with knowledge of U.S. relations with South Asia and/or East Asia. Historians are encouraged to remain a part of the wider academic community through the pursuit of individual scholarship, including conferences, publications, and adjunct teaching. Professional historians with Ph.D.s earn approximately \$46,000 to \$55,000 (with additional promotion potential), depending on qualifications, plus benefits (including health and life insurance, pension program, and student loan repayment assistance). All

➤ See Positions Available, page 15

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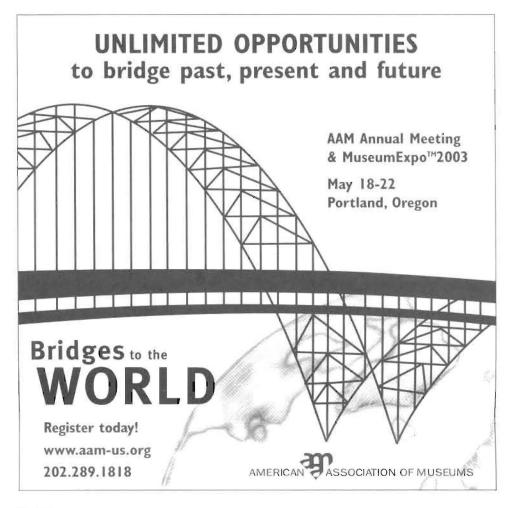
Wells Fargo Bank

\*new in 2002 \*\*new in 2003

> President's Comments ... continued from page 4. about the state of master's-level education and the discipline of history, not just NCPH and AHA. What we—professional historians as a whole—need is a study that is structured, at its inception, in such a way that all the principal stakeholders have a voice, not merely an opportunity to comment on the preliminary findings and recommendations. We all would benefit from a shared effort that unites representatives from various wings of the historical profession in designing the research agenda, gathering and analyzing research data, and disseminating the results for the widest possible effect.

We don't always get what we want. However, at the annual meeting in Houston, the program includes two breakfast roundtable discussions on graduate education. I urge all who are keenly interested in the future of public history to attend.

appointments must conform to the laws and regulations regarding service with the U.S. Government. Candidates must be U.S. citizens, pass background security clearances, and apply through the Office of Personnel Management web site once a job opening is approved. In the meantime, interested candidates should send a c.v. and cover letter describing their qualifications by email to vanhooklw@state.gov or fax to 202-663-1289, to the attention of the Selection Commitee.



NC PH

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 Rebecca Conard, Department of History, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, TN 37132; (615) 898-2423; rconard@mtsu.edu; or David G. Vanderstel, NCPH, Cavanaugh 327, IUPUI, 425 University Blvd., Indianapolis, IN 46202-5140; (317) 274-2716; E-mail: ncph@iupui.edu.

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

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Sponsored by the AHA and NCPH authored faculty and students in the Public History Program at the University of South Carolina, this new edition of Careers is a must read for any student interested in pursuing a career in history.

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\$90.00 members/\$100.00 non-members

Contact the NCPH Executive Offices at 317.274.2716 or visit the NCPH web site: www.ncph.org for ordering information.

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