

Who Built America?

Social History Project Demonstrates Role of "Ordinary" Americans

By Joshua Brown
American Social History Productions, Inc.
City University of New York

Frustrating. That adjective is emblematic of the challenge public historians face when they confront the social history scholarship of the last generation. Its content and method have expanded the horizons of historical research and have contributed to a vast reconsideration of the development of American society — yet this body of knowledge and insight about "ordinary" people's ideas and actions has remained largely trapped inside the preserve of academia.

The American Social History Project was established to help in the larger effort of public historians to create an accessible and sophisticated awareness of the nation's past outside of graduate programs and professional conferences.

Under the aegis of the late Herbert Gutman with funds supplied by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Ford Foundation, and local humanities councils, a group of historians, artists and filmmakers at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York has worked since 1981 to produce a multi-media curriculum on social his-

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Arnita Jones, Chair
Barbara Howe, Vice-chair
Brit Storey, Secretary
Karen Smith, Treasurer



THE GRAND ARMY OF STARVATION

tory for students and a general adult audience.

Drawing on the work of a generation of scholarship, this curriculum — "Who Built America?" — uses the experiences and beliefs of working Americans to reveal the larger economic, political, social, and cultural processes that created modern America.

The "Who Built America?" curriculum is designed to be used in a variety of settings and for many educational purposes. The two-volume text (to be published by Pantheon Books in 1989) covers the period of colonial settlement of America to the present,

NCPH Denver Conference Offers a Wealth of Sessions and Sights

By Brit Storey
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

The Local Arrangements and Program Committees are pleased to report that arrangements for the annual meeting of the NCPH in Denver March 3-6 are developing well.

The program has been completed and will offer informative topics for all interests.

Our headquarters hotel will be the historic Brown Palace, which is centrally located in downtown Denver. It can be reached from the airport by airport limousine at nominal cost.

The hotel has given our conference a special rate of \$75 per room for this meeting regardless of the number of persons in the room. Therefore, with a roommate the hotel rate is a very reasonable \$37.50 per person.

The Brown Palace has been *The Hotel* in Denver since construction was completed in 1894, and we are sure that attendees will find staying there a pleasant experience.

Easily accessible from the hotel are many restaurants in historic buildings, the research collections of the Colorado Historical Society and the Denver Public Library's Western History Collection, the State Capitol Building, the Denver Mint, and the Denver Art Museum.

In addition, Larimer Square is one of the oldest and most successful commercial historic preservation projects in the country, and the nearby Tivoli complex was the first tax certification under the tax credits program.

Social History—

delineating the complex relationship of the nation's structural development to the ideas and actions of "ordinary" Americans in the past.

The text offers a new synthesis of American historical development, suggesting the central role played by work and working people. The narrative is supplemented by archival illustrations and first-person accounts (ranging from diaries and testimony to selections from literature). The text is designed for use in community-college and university classrooms, as well as for a general adult audience.

The accompanying seven-program "Who Built America?" video series presents the details of particular lives and circumstances against the broader canvas provided by the textbook. However, the 25-minute videos also can be used on their own, and in settings other than the traditional classroom. The programs, which have been widely distributed and screened in the last two years in high schools, labor unions, and colleges, portray experiences in revolutionary Boston, in the 1830s Lowell textile mills, in the antebellum slave plantation, and in the streets of New York just before the Civil War.

Other videos depict the experience of emancipation and Reconstruction, and the scope of the national railroad strike of 1877 that marked a new era of debate over the future of America. Each program presents the past as it was lived by "ordinary" people; these lives of working men and women are not seen as minor, if interesting, parts in a larger national drama but as a means for viewers to more fully understand the course and development of the United States.

A set of accompanying study guides and a teacher's manual are now available; they provide viewers with contextual information and allow flexible use of the programs in different educational settings.

In the "Who Built America?" video series, the ASHP has attempted to go beyond questions of content to explore the issue of historical presentation. From the beginning, the staff confronted the problem of creating documentaries on subjects whose participants were long dead and that focused on lives that occurred long before the era of motion picture film footage.

Anxious to use the media contemporary with the subjects portrayed, we were nevertheless aware of their limitations: the archaicism of engravings' pictorial conventions, the limits of nineteenth-century photography's subject matter.

Methods were devised that would help these archival pictures to "tell" the stories of the past even as they also appeared as evidence of differing perceptions and ideas. Images were tinted to increase clarity and to reduce their "quaintness;" others were retouched to enhance viewers' understanding of the values they espoused. Limited animation was used and a dramatic sound track was constructed that include a layering of voices, sounds and music to carry a

narrative as well as convey a sense of past lives. The resulting programs have been used widely and have garnered seven awards in film festivals here and abroad.

These methods of presentation were originally conceived as a means to augment teachers' ability to convey the American past. Nevertheless, the applicability of the ASHP's work to a variety of settings and teaching goals has also led to our participation in media and educational work abroad.

In 1986, three staff members were invited to South Africa by History Workshop, a group of historians dedicated to uncovering the distortions of the South African past through scholarship and popular history. ASHP staff led a series of media workshops attended by educators, community activists, and black trade unionists, while concurrently aiding in the production of a pilot slide/tape program on South African industrialization and working-class history. The focus of both endeavors was the teaching of visual methods that enhance critical thinking and confront the problem of deciphering images.

In 1987, an ASHP staff member was invited to Brazil to look into the possibility of setting up similar production workshops with trade union, community and academic groups.

These efforts suggest some of the ways that the American Social History Project has tried to confront the frustration inherent in teaching about the past. Each of our productions, whether print or video, builds on the lessons of previous work as we try out new methods, attempting to conceive new techniques to convey an immediate yet critical awareness of history.

The ASHP is currently exploring the possibilities and problems involved in conveying history in a broadcast television production. In 1986, the ASHP received a development grant from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting to research and script a four-hour mini series for public television on the experience of emancipation from slavery and the years of Reconstruction. Perhaps no other era better indicates the gap between new scholarship and popular understanding (or misunderstanding) of the past, represented by such films as "Gone With the Wind."

In the coming year, we will work with distinguished television producers and writers to widen public knowledge of the "Second American Revolution," using some of the techniques developed in "Who Built America?" while endeavoring to create new ways of presenting the freed slaves' actions and ideas as central to the Reconstruction drama.

[For information on ordering the "Who Built America" video series, contact: American Social History Film Library, 445 Main Street, Wyckoff, NJ 07481; (201) 891-8240.] □

Denver—

Denver is now the fifth busiest airport in the world, and you will find it easy to fly in and out. Our attendees should be able to return home virtually anywhere in the country after the conference ends at 11:45 in the morning on Sunday, March 6.

The annual meeting will begin the morning of Thursday, March 3, with a workshop of the Society of American Archivists. This all-day workshop will feature documentation strategies — that is, how do we assure that a comprehensive cross section of historical research materials are saved.

There will be a registration fee, and the workshop will be held at the University of Colorado's Denver campus — easily accessible from the Brown Palace.

After lunch on Thursday, the conference's sessions will begin. There will be an opening plenary at which Larry Tise of the American Association of State and Local History, Paul Putz of the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers, Jerry Rogers of the National Park Service, and Don Neal of the Society of American Archivists will offer their perspectives on "The State Of the Public History Profession."

Following the plenary the standard format for the conference will begin, i.e., four concurrent sessions with specialized meetings in the ad hoc meeting room.

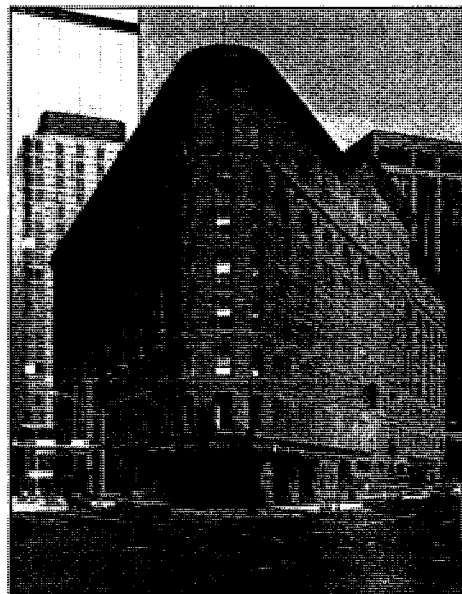
The four fine sessions being offered Thursday afternoon, when combined with the plenary session, should be enough to attract even the most meeting-weary to be present for the beginning of the conference.

Thursday night will be highlighted by an excursion to and dinner at the Fort Restaurant near Morrison, Colorado.

Friday morning will be devoted to six concurrent sessions and a mini-workshop on historic preservation.

Friday afternoon attendees may

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Denver's Brown Palace Hotel, site of NCPH's annual conference, March 3-6.

COUNCIL UPDATE

Wayne Anderson Appointed As New Executive Secretary, PHN Editor

By Barbara J. Howe
Outgoing Executive Secretary

It is with great pleasure that NCPH announces the appointment of Dr. Wayne Anderson, Director of Oral History at Northeastern University, as our new executive secretary and newsletter editor.

Wayne's term officially began November 1, but boxes had been rolling in to Northeastern all fall as Jina and I emptied our file drawers to fill Wayne's.

While several boxes have been sent to the NCPH archives at the University of Colorado at Boulder, most of the organization's corporate memory now resides in Boston.

The executive committee met in September to make a final decision on the secretariat, after sending out a spring "call" to programs housing public history courses.

Arnita Jones and I met with Ray Robinson, chair of the Department of History at Northeastern, in June and were impressed by the department's commitment to NCPH, a commitment undoubtedly helped by the presence of veteran NCPH member Gerry Herman.



Wayne Anderson, new Executive Secretary and Public History News editor.

We were finally able to negotiate a contract with Northeastern during the fall, and we were pleased with the support we will be getting from the university — half of Wayne's time during the period from

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Paying to Serve The Cause of Public History

By Arnita Jones, Chair

Several years ago in Pittsburgh, towards the end of a successful "Second Annual Conference on Public History" hosted by Carnegie-Mellon's Program in Applied History and Social Science and supported by the Rockefeller Foundation, a dozen or so of us sat around a conference table at the William Penn Hotel trying to figure out how to put together an organization that could serve the needs of the growing field of public history.

We all knew that even the most rudimentary organizational structure requires at least a small amount of funding for communications, and clearly we could not expect the original Rockefeller Foundation money that had provided for earlier meetings and other activities to continue indefinitely.

We had few assets and were generally aware that foundations and other sources of support, while seemingly kindly disposed to public history, rarely provided funding for the starting of a new organization.

Late in the meeting someone proposed a brilliantly simple solution: those sitting around the table that day could each write a \$100 check.

After a long moment of silence, and some murmured questions along the lines of "Right now?" "Today?" "All of us?" we decided that such a commitment was within our power, and we made it.

Thus was created the first organizational structure of the National Council — a board of directors representing both individuals and institutions who "paid" to serve the cause of public history.

Eight years — and a few jokes about elaborate ruses to avoid entering the \$100 checks into family budgets — later, we are a very different kind of organization, with a much more stable basis of financial support, and we are providing a healthy array of services to the field.

What are those resources?

Elsewhere in this issue of the newsletter we announce our new organizational offices at Northeastern University. The executive secretary has evolved into what is now a half-time position, with the half-time support of a secretary as well as additional substantial graduate-student assistance.

Expenses of the secretariat — telephone, printing, postage and the like — are paid by the NCPH from membership dues.

With increased staff, along with new

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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 Chair Arnita Jones, 5313 Hempstead Rd., Louisville, KY 40207 (502) 896-8186, or Vice-chair Barbara Howe, History Department, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV 26506 (304) 293-2421. For membership information, contact Executive Secretary Wayne Anderson, History Department, 403 Richards Hall, Northeastern University, Boston, MA 02115 (617) 437-2677. For change of address, write UC Press, 2120 Berkeley Way, Berkeley, CA 94720.

Copy for *Public History News* should be sent to Wayne Anderson, History Department, 403 Richards Hall, Northeastern University, Boston, MA 02115. The deadline for the Winter 1988 issue is February 15.

Farewell — but Briefly

By Barbara J. Howe
Out-going Executive Secretary

It is a pleasure to write my final column as the executive secretary, although never fear, I will be back next issue as vice-chair and then next year as chair.

Much of the time lately has been spent sorting through the files, sending some materials to our archives at the University of Colorado and most of it — 19 boxes to date — to Wayne.

It is amazing how much paper we have accumulated in the past 3 1/2 years — a true reflection of the council's increased activity, I hope, and not a sign of our increased bureaucracy.

I've also been working with Wayne to gradually introduce him to our people and procedures. If you'll all bear with us through this transition, we'd appreciate it.

We have sent renewal notices to our institutional sponsors for 1986-87 and have been pleased with the renewal rate to date.

Letters to institutions listed in our

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BULLETIN

• JOBS/FELLOWSHIPS/INTERNSHIPS

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation is seeking up to three historic preservation professionals to work on six to eight-month details in Washington, DC, as part of the Council's review staff, beginning about February 1. Deadline: *January 7*. For more information: Don L. Klima, (202) 786-0505.

The Wood Institute for the History of Medicine of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia has announced its Rockefeller Foundation Humanities Residency Program. Two grants of \$25,000 each will be awarded to scholars who will spend the academic year 1988-89 in residence conducting research in the College library and participating in the Wood Institute seminar program. Grants will not be made for doctoral research. Deadline for applications: *January 15*. Information: Christine Dacier, Wood Institute, 19 South 22nd St., Philadelphia, PA, 19103.

The New York State Archives has awards to pursue advanced research in New York state history in its holdings. Deadline for Applications: *February 1*. For forms: Terri Sewell, New York State Archives, External Programs Office, Cultural Education Center, Albany, NY 12230; (518) 473-8037.

The Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record of the National Park Service will be hiring graduate students and professionals in architectural history, American history, history of technology, maritime history, and material culture for temporary summer positions on documentation field teams throughout the country. Application deadline: *February 7*. Information: Summer Program Administrator, HABS/HAER Division (429), National Park Service, Department of the Interior, Washington, DC, 20013; (202) 343-962

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission welcomes applications for its fellowship in archival administration for a nine to ten-month period beginning between August and October. Application deadline: *March 1*. Information: Laurie A. Baty, (202) 523-5386.

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission is offering three history fellowships for 10 months at documentary publications projects at Rice University, Yale University, and the National Portrait Gallery. Ph.D. or a.b.d. required. Deadline: *March 15*. Contact NHPRC, Room 300, National Archives Building, Washington, DC 20408; (202) 523-3092.

The Southern Baptist Convention's Historical Commission has announced the availability of study grant awards for researchers in Baptist history whose major

sources are in the Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives. Application deadline: *April 1*. Forms and information: Historical Commission, Southern Baptist Convention, 901 Commerce St., Suite 400, Nashville, TN 37203; (615) 244-0344.

The University of Toledo has announced a new public history internship program. For more information, either as a student or about sponsoring an intern: Prof. Diane Britton, Department of History, University of Toledo, 2801 W. Bancroft St., Toledo, OH 43606; (419) 537-4540.

The John Fitzgerald Kennedy Library and Museum is offering internships as museum teachers to implement a variety of onsite programs with grades 5-8 throughout the school year. For information: Sam Rubin, Class Visits Coordinator, John Fitzgerald Kennedy Library, Columbia Point, Boston, MA 02125; (617) 929-4555.

The Andover Historical Society is seeking a Director/Curator. Masters in museum studies or related field and five years experience required. Salary \$20,000-\$24,000. Contact: Search Committee, Andover Historical Society, 97 Main St., Andover, MA 01810.

The George and Eliza Howard Fellowship, which is offered every five years, is open to historians. Candidates should be in the "middle years of their careers" and free of other professional responsibilities during the fellowship year. Contact: Harold Pfautz, Administrative Director, Box 1867, Charlesfield Road, Brown University, Providence, RI 02912.

• MEETINGS/CALLS FOR PAPERS

The American Studies Association is requesting proposals by *January 15* for possible presentations at their annual meeting October 27-30. The theme will be "Creativity in Differences: The Cultures of Gender, Race, Ethnicity, and Class." Proposals should be submitted to: American Studies Association, 309 College Hall, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA 19104; (215) 898-5408.

The Museum of Rhode Island History in Providence will hold a symposium entitled "Rearing Up the Young: Child Care and Instruction in Historical Perspective," *January 23*. Advance registration is required; admission free. Information: (401) 331-8575.

The University of Delaware is holding a *March 3-5* conference entitled "The New Sweden Colony in America: 17th Century Scandinavian Pioneers and Their Legacy." Information: Carol E. Hoffecker, Department of History, University of Delaware, Newark, DE, 19716.

Oral History in the Mid-Atlantic Region will hold its spring meeting *March 14* at the National Archives. The theme will be "Winds of Change: New Directions in Oral History." Sessions will feature technological innovations, educational trends,

preservation activities, and uses by the federal government; workshops will cover interviewing and videotaping. Pre-registration is advised. For further information: Marie B. Allen, Archival Research and Evaluation Staff, National Archives, Washington, DC 20408; (202) 523-5534.

The Organization of American Historians will hold its annual meeting *March 24-27* at the Bally Hotel in Reno, NV. Information: Mary Belding, Convention Manager, OAH, 112 North Bryan, Bloomington, IN 47401.

The Planning History Group's seventh annual luncheon will be held on Saturday, *March 26*, at noon at Bally's Hotel in Reno, NV, in conjunction with the Organization of American Historians meeting. Information: Blaine A. Brownell, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, AL 35294; (205) 934-5643, or Mark H. Rose, Program in Science, Technology, and Society, Michigan Technological University, Houghton, MI 49931; (906) 487-2115.

The Society for the History of Technology Program Committee seeks paper and session proposals in all areas of the history of technology by *April 1* for its annual meeting to be held at the Hagley Museum and Library in Wilmington, DE, *October 20-23*. For further information: Larry Owens, Department of History, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003; (413) 545-2223 or 549-4773.

The Society of Architectural Historians will hold its 1988 annual meeting *April 13-17* in Chicago at the Palmer House. For additional information: SAH, 1232 Pine St., Philadelphia, PA 19107.

• EDUCATION/TRAINING

The University of Nevada-Reno Cultural Resources Management Program has announced its 1988 schedule of graduate-level continuing-education short courses. To be offered in *January*: Archaeological Recordation, Ceramic Analysis, and Exhibits Design. To be offered in *May*: Archaeological Software, Assessing Archaeological Significance of Historical Sites, Recording Vernacular Architecture, and Developing Public Relations Programs. Information: Dr. Don Fowler, (702) 784-6851.

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation is offering its 3-day course "Introduction to Federal Projects and Historic Preservation Law for federal, state, and local officials *between January and September* in Washington, Dallas, Atlanta, Honolulu, Denver, Chicago, Phoenix, New York City, Orlando, San Francisco, Kansas City, and Seattle. Information: GSA Training Center Property Management Institute, P.O. Box 15608, Arlington, VA 22215, Attn: Peggy Sheelar; or call Shauna Holmes, ACHP, (202) 786-0503.

Continued

Legislative Report



By Page Putnam Miller
Director, National
Coordinating Committee
for the Promotion of History

Don W. Wilson to Be Next U.S. Archivist

After working for three years for the confirmation of a professional, nonpartisan U.S. Archivist, it is a pleasure to report that on November 20 the Senate voted by unanimous consent to confirm the nomination of Don W. Wilson.

Two days earlier the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee unanimously voted to recommend Wilson to the Senate.

A historian and archivist, Wilson received his Ph.D. in History from the University of Cincinnati. He has held positions in the Kansas State Historical Society, the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, and the Eisenhower Presidential Library. Currently he is the Director of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library and Museum.

In October the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee held a brief confirmation hearing on the Wilson nomination.

Senator Jim Sasser (D-TN), who chaired the hearing, stressed that Wilson "brings to this position a solid academic background, a distinguished career in archival administration, a first-hand knowledge of the National Archives, and an understanding of the many issues facing the archival professional today."

Sasser further asserted that the National Archives must be neutral, impartial, balanced, and professional. "Because this is the first appointment of an Archivist to lead the independent National Archives," Sasser said, "the qualifications of this nominee will set a precedent for further appointments."

The ranking minority member of the Governmental Affairs Committee, William Roth (R-DE), noted the nominee's strong qualifications and commented that the committee "had not received any negative correspondence on the nomination."

Because of time constraints there were no outside witnesses, but Sasser noted the receipt of supportive statements from numerous organizations.

In his written statement to the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee, Wilson expressed concern that significant quantities of federal records have not come under National Archives control. Wilson identified as one of the first orders of business, a review of existing legislation and authorities.

In conclusion he stated that at no time in the history of the National Archives has there been both a greater awareness of its needs and more concerted collective support of its mission by users, constituent groups, the White House, and especially Congress. It is a time of opportunity.

The Smithsonian Institution's Office of Museum Programs will be holding a monthly workshop series *through September*. Information: Office of Museum Programs, Arts and Industries Building, Room 2235, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC 20560.

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission's seventeenth annual Institute for the Editing of Historical Documents is scheduled for *June 20-July 1*, in Madison, WI. Masters degree required. Tuition and travel grants available. Information and applications: NHPRC, Room 300, National Archives Building, Washington, DC 20408; (202) 523-3092.

The University of Virginia, Stratford Hall Plantation, and Monticello will conduct a summer seminar on "Leadership in Revolutionary America" for elementary and secondary level teachers *June 26-July 15*. Graduate credits and grants are available. Information: C. Vaughn Stanley, Librarian/Historian, Stratford Hall Plantation, Stratford, VA 22558; (804) 493-8572.

• AWARDS

The Public Works Historical Society and the American Public Works Association have awarded the first \$1,000 Abel Wolman Award, for outstanding publications contributing to the history of public works, to Christine Meisner Rosen for her book, *The Limits of Power; Great Fires and the Process of City Growth in America* (Cambridge University Press, 1986). Submissions for the 1988 award, for books published in 1987, must be made by *February 15*. Information: Public Works Historical Society, 1313 E. 60th St., Chicago, IL 60637; (312) 667-2200.

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation is accepting nominations until *February 19* for both the President's and the National Historic Preservation Awards, honoring excellence in preservation efforts. Programs completed in the last ten years are eligible. Information and entry forms: Office of the Executive Director, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, Old Post Office Building, Suite 809, 1100 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20004.

The American Studies Association has announced the 1987 John Hope Franklin Publication Prize competition for books in American Studies published during the calendar year 1987. Deadline: *March 1*. For guidelines only: American Studies Association, 309 College Hall, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA 19104; (215) 898-5408.

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Senate Bill Introduced To Reauthorize NHPRC Grants Program

On November 5 Senator Jim Sasser (D-TN), joined by Senators Heinz (R-PA), Glenn (D-OH), and Hatfield (R-OR), introduced S. 1856, a bill to reauthorize the grants program of the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.

The legislation is for fiscal years 1989 through 1993 and establishes a funding level of \$10 million for each fiscal year.

The Senate subcommittee with the oversight responsibility for the NHPRC is the Governmental Affairs Committee's Subcommittee on Governmental Efficiency, Federalism, and the District of Columbia.

Senator Sasser, who chairs this subcommittee, is joined by Senator Heinz, the ranking minority member of the subcommittee with responsibility for NHPRC, and Senator Hatfield, the minority member of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

In his statement on the floor of the Senate, Senator Sasser urged the Senate not to eliminate funding for the NHPRC as the Office of Management and Budget has previously recommended, but to increase the appropriation.

"Without question," he concluded, "every penny spent will yield a valuable net return on our investment." A parallel bill has not yet been introduced in the House.

Iran-Contra Report Recommends Review of Presidential Records Act

The Iran Contra Report describes in detail the steps taken by the National Security Council staff to destroy or alter embarrassing or incriminating evidence.

Noting that the Presidential Records Act had been enacted after Watergate for the purpose of ensuring the preservation of official records, the congressional committee concluded that Administration staff "willfully violated" the Act.

In the section on recommendations, the committee called for a review of the Presidential Records Act to determine how it can be made more effective.

"Possible improvements," the report stated, "include the establishment of a system of consultation with the Archivist of the United States to ensure complete compliance with the Act, the creation of a program of education of affected staff as to the Act's provisions, and the attachment of criminal penalties for violation of the Act."

□

Public History Slide Show To Be Revised

By Arnita Jones, Chair

NCPH has a new chair for its Education and Training Committee and a new project.

Philip V. Scarpino, of Indiana University/Purdue University at Indianapolis, is the new chair who is beginning the work of planning a major project for the committee — the revision of NCPH's successful "History Goes Public" slide/tape presentation.

"History Goes Public," which was done several years ago by Glenda Riley at Northern Iowa University with a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, has been enormously successful over the past few years, in both sales and rentals.

Time has brought a number of changes to the field, and an updating for the current version is in order.

Scarpino's committee will be meeting in Washington to begin discussing the nature and scope of the replacement and also to explore sources of funding.

Any members interested in working on this project should contact Philip Scarpino, Department of History, IUPUI, 504M Cavanaugh Hall, Indianapolis, IN 40202; (317) 274-3811. □

Paying— word processing and printing equipment, all now provided by Northeastern, our secretariat for the first time now has the capacity to handle editing and publication of *Public History News*.

Together with the University of California, Santa Barbara, the National Council sponsors *The Public Historian*, a quarterly scholarly journal published by the University of California Press.

This is an enterprise that also consumes substantial financial resources: an editor and managing editor provided by the university, along with a number of student assistants.

In addition to those resources, the University of California Press invests, beyond that portion of administrative time allocated to *TPH* as one of its eighteen journals, additional monies in promoting and marketing the journal. Other funds for the promotion are provided by the National Council, once again from membership dues.

A conservative estimate of the cash outlay for salaries and expenses being made on behalf of public history would be somewhere in the neighborhood of \$75,000-\$100,000, exclusive of costs for space, equipment, and so forth — quite a long way from that meeting in Pittsburgh.

To this figure should, of course, be added a substantial amount of what foundations like to call "cost sharing," the worth

of volunteer professional and staff time, for we are now an active membership organization.

Those of our number who have labored long and hard over an annual meeting, who have worked on a special project, who have served on one or another of our committees or as officers, would probably rather not calculate the cost of their donations in time and expertise, but over the years those have been substantial and they remain so today.

It's impossible to place a price tag on the totality of this activity, but its clear enough that the resources available to the organization and to public history have increased more than many thought possible at that meeting in Pittsburgh not so very many years ago.

Building and maintaining a healthy organization requires continuous effort and imagination as well as dollars, and its easy sometimes to overlook how much we have achieved.

NCPH members are currently receiving notices for membership renewal. Try to respond promptly and also spend a few minutes recruiting a colleague who might benefit from membership.

Despite the resources now available to us, it is the energy and concern of our individual members that are necessary to our organization's survival and growth. □

Bulletin—

• NOTES

The National Trust's Office of Preservation Services has consolidated three newsletters (*Staff Report*, *More on Preservation*, and *Statewide Information Exchange*) into two new publications—*Forum Newsletter*, which will appear six times a year, and *Preservation Forum*, a quarterly journal. Contact: Catharine M. Gilliam, Director, Preservation Services, National Trust for Historic Preservation, 1785 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20036; (202) 673-4037.

Mount Sinai Medical Center has given its archives permanent status and hired Barbra J. Niss as Archivist. The records in the archives relate to the Mount Sinai Hospital, School of Medicine, and Medical Center. For information: Barbra J. Niss, Archives, Box 1013, Mount Sinai Medical Center, One Gustave Levy Place, New York, NY 10029; (212) 650-7239.

The National Endowment for the Humanities' annual report, listing projects funded by NEH last year, is available free of charge from: Public Affairs Office, NEH, 1100 Pennsylvania Ave., Room 409, Washington, DC 20506. □

Anderson—

September to June, secretarial help, and a graduate assistant. Thus, we will have more "staff time" available than we had at West Virginia.

However, Wayne will also have more responsibilities than I did. He has agreed to assume the responsibilities of newsletter editor since Todd Shallatt has had to resign that job.

He has also agreed to handle the finances of our annual conference so that we will no longer have bank accounts spread across the country.

With these additional jobs, we will have our operation even more centralized than before.

Wayne is well qualified to be our executive secretary. He is a past president of the New England Association of Oral History, a member of the *Oral History Review's* editorial board, and a former member of the Oral History Association's membership committee.

He started Northeastern's oral history program in 1978 and established the History Department's Oral History Office in 1980. His current project is an oral history of the Dukakis presidential campaign.

The secretariat's transition is almost complete by now, and we thank you for bearing with us as we make this shift in "headquarters."

Arnita and I will be working closely with Wayne, as will Gerry Herman, so please now direct all your routine inquiries to Department of History, 403 Richards Hall, Northeastern University, Boston, MA 02115, or call Wayne at (617) 437-2677. □

Farewell—

new *Guide to Continuing Education for Public Historians* have also produced some new institutional sponsorships.

We have also been working on plans for our 1989 conference, which will be a joint meeting in St. Louis with the Organization of American Historians.

In addition, I've been working with Diane Britton of the University of Toledo on plans for her conference in April 1988; NCPH will be supporting this endeavor, and further details are available elsewhere in this newsletter.

Finally, thanks to all of you for your support and patience, and thanks especially to Jina Bissett and Mary Fletcher, who have provided much-needed support at WVU. □

University of Toledo Sponsors Mid-America Public History Conference

By Diane F. Britton
The University of Toledo

On April 29-30, 1988, historians, public history practitioners, students, high school social studies teachers, and other interested people will converge at Toledo's downtown SeaGate Centre to discuss the field of public history.

Topics will include: "History in Public and Private Policy Analysis," "Making the Past Accessible to the Public," and Exploring History Where People Live." A major portion of the sessions will be devoted to questions and comments solicited from the audience.

Friday afternoon sessions will explore the value of history both in the corporate world and in the development of public policy, with panel members leading discussions in view of their own experiences.

Louis Galambos, Professor of History at Johns Hopkins University has completed extensive research on various American corporations.

He will be joined by George D. Smith, founder and president of The Winthrop Group, which counts among its clients Proctor and Gamble and Alcoa. These companies see historical research as an asset for policy planning.

William J. Hudson, Director of Market Research for the Andersons of Ohio, will moderate the session. Mr. Hudson has instilled an active appreciation for history within his own organization and has been a moving force behind the creation of the Forum for History and Business in Northwest Ohio.

Panel members for the session "Government and Public Policy" include Professor Lawrence S. Kaplan of Kent State University, who spent many years with the Department of Defense before devoting himself to full time research and teaching American diplomatic history.

Richard A. Baker, Historian for the U.S. Senate, and Page Putnam Miller, lobby-



Downtown Toledo site of the Mid-America Public History Conference, April 30.

ist for the National Coordinating Committee for the Promotion of History, will also speak on history and government.

U.S. Representative Marcy Kaptur, from Ohio's Ninth District, will be on hand to lend her personal insights. Ms. Kaptur has a graduate degree in history and sits on the advisory board for the Forum for Business and History.

This session will be moderated by the president of the Toledo Area Chamber of Commerce, J. Michael Porter.

Friday night's banquet features former Senator George McGovern with an address: "The Historian as Public Policy Analyst." Senator McGovern has a Ph.D. in history.

Day two of the Mid-America Public History Conference focuses on how history is made accessible to the public and the trend toward democratizing historical study, with Roger Mandle, Director of the Toledo Museum of Art, and Gary C. Ness, Executive Director of the Ohio Historical Society, moderating sessions.

Edith Mayo of the Smithsonian Institution, Dwight Pitcaithley of the National Park Service, and Joseph C. Porter of the Joslyn Art Museum, will describe unique methods used to attract and educate the public at their respective institutions.

Finally, Philip P. Mason, Director of the Archives for Labor and Urban Affairs, Cindy Little of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, and Ted Ligibel, Historical Resource Planner for the University of

Toledo's Urban Affairs Center, will explore the topic of writing and preserving grassroots history.

The conference evolved out of the incorporation of public history within the Department of History at The University of Toledo beginning in 1986.

In the course of planning new classes and developing an internship program, I sought to establish a community outreach program. During my first months in Toledo I spent many hours repeatedly explaining "public history" and its value.

Response was uniformly positive, but the need for greater education was also apparent. Therefore, a committee within the Department of History conceived of the upcoming conference.

The National Council on Public History agreed to endorse and help plan the proceedings, with Barbara Howe acting as consultant.

Locally, the Forum for History and Business supports the conference. Based in Northwest Ohio, the Forum is a progressive group of business people and historians who promote the study of history in response to business issues. Over the past eighteen months, the organization has sponsored a series of speakers to examine business issues using history both as a guide and a critical thinking process.

Space for exhibits will be available at the conference center. Individuals and groups interested in displaying public history materials and projects are invited to submit a one-page proposal to the Conference Committee, Department of History, The University of Toledo, Toledo, Ohio 43606-3390.

For more information about the Mid-America Public History Conference, write to the above address or call me at (419) 537-2845.

Besides a quality educational experience, the Mid-America Public History Conference also affords the opportunity to explore Toledo's newly renovated downtown area within a historical setting.

Founded in 1837, Toledo is a progressive city and proud of its heritage as a leading center of industry, manufacturing, and transportation.

There is no registration fee for the conference, however we do ask that interested persons pre-register in order to facilitate our planning. □

Registration Form

Mid-America Public History Conference
April 29-30, 1988, The University of Toledo at Seagate Centre

Name _____

Address _____

Affiliation _____

Please pre-register even if you do not plan to attend the banquet.

A block of rooms has been set aside (\$55 single, \$70 double) at The Radisson Hotel Toledo, which has direct access to the Seagate Centre. For hotel reservations call 1-800-228-9822.

Conference Banquet: Friday, April 29, 1988, 7:00 p.m.

\$17.50

\$10.00 Student Fee (Please enclose a photocopy of current ID)

Please make your Banquet reservation check payable to The Department of History, The University of Toledo.

Please return by March 1, 1988, to: Conference Committee, The Department of History, The University of Toledo, Toledo, Ohio 43606.

**NCPH Meetings At the AHA
December 27-30, 1987
Washington, D.C.**

- **Board of Directors Meeting**
Monday, Dec. 28, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sheraton, Taft Room
- **Executive Committee Meeting**
Tuesday, Dec. 29, 8:30-11:30 a.m.
Shoreham, Directors Room
- **Editorial Board Meeting**
Tuesday, Dec. 29, 2:30-5:00 p.m..
Shoreham, Cabinet Room
- **Luncheon**
**National Council on Public
History/Society for History in the
Federal Government**
Tuesday, Dec. 29, 12:15-2:00 p.m.
Shoreham, Executive Room

An opportunity to join with other public historians for informal conversation to discuss problems and opportunities for historians in government, archives, business, museums, historical societies, cultural resources management, and consulting, and to discuss public history curriculum issues. NCPH and SHFG are sponsoring this luncheon to provide a time for professionals to share ideas on how they can best meet their needs and to identify others within AHA and NCPH/SHFG who share similar interests. Tickets will be available at the AHA registration desk.

Denver— choose among five concurrent sessions on "Public History in the Workplace." These will be away from the conference hotel and will deal with the topics of archives, libraries, historical societies and museums, business, and the National Park Service.

Friday evening will be open for attendees who may enjoy the varied dining of Denver or may choose to participate in Tom Noel's famous Denver Pub Crawl.

Saturday morning will open with another plenary session. This session is titled "The Politics of History" and is intended to address the issues and concerns historians must be aware of in American politics to protect their profession and its tools.

The rest of the day will be devoted to sessions, including a three hour session which will focus quickly on a multitude of Colorado historical resources of interest to public historians. This session, "Mining Colorado History," will deal with such topics as research collections, archives, museums, and historical properties.

Saturday evening will include the annual business meeting, a wine reception at the Western History Collection of the Denver Public Library, and the annual banquet in the Brown Palace Hotel.

Sunday morning is devoted to more sessions which have been scheduled to entice attendees to stay until the conference

closes at noon.

The Program Committee has purposely concentrated its efforts on proposals which came to it and has created only the two plenaries from the bottom up. The intent has been to reflect the interests of our public as expressed in their program proposals.

Several obvious themes such as historic preservation, archives, education, policy, and the Federal preservation program are evident.

Among the sessions are: a panel on the book *Thinking in Time*; "Is the Emperor Wearing Clothes" discussing the viability of public history programs; and "Public History Research Influences Management and Politics."

Some of the more intriguing paper titles include: "Clio in the Cockpit," and "Why Take a Trip to Bountiful: Won't Anaheim Do?"

Those planning to attend the annual meeting March 3-6, 1988, should remember that the weather may be quite wintery.

Those of you who are confirmed skiers should also remember that Denver is within hours of some of the finest ski areas in the country.

We invite you to join us at the meeting. □

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