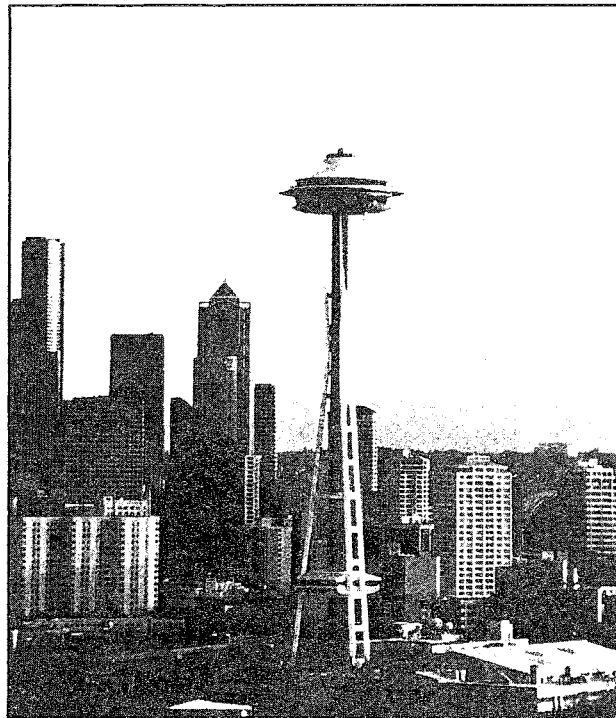


SEATTLE TO HOST THE 1996 NCPH ANNUAL MEETING

by Lisa Mighetto
and Bill Bryans

NCPH members will soon be making their way to Seattle, one of the nation's top tourist destinations, to attend the 1996 annual meeting. Co-sponsored by the Pacific Northwest Historians Guild and the Northwest Oral History Association, the conference will focus on the theme, "History and the Public Interest." The program committee, chaired by Robert Weible of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, has prepared several days of workshops and sessions that will examine many important topics, such as the interpretation of controversial history; regional and community history; oral history; historical commemorations and celebrations; the use of new technologies in museums, archives, and elsewhere; environmental history; public policy; and history in the National Park Service.

Among the many events will be a keynote address delivered by Michael Wallace, affil-



A classic view of the Seattle skyline from Queen Anne, with the Space Needle in the foreground and Mt. Rainier in the distance. (Photograph courtesy of Seattle-King County Convention and Visitors Bureau)

ated with John Jay College of the City University of New York. Professor Wallace will present his address titled, "Culture Wars: History Front," at the waterfront Seattle Aquarium following a Thursday evening reception.

The Local Arrangements Committee, chaired by Lisa Mighetto, has planned a variety of special events that will highlight a variety of the city's scenic and cultural attractions. In addition to the reception at the aquarium, there will be tours to the Snoqualmie Falls Historic District, Lake Union Ship Canal Locks and Gardens, and the Museum of Flight. One special activ-

— See Seattle page 2

ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

• **Daniel R. Bilderback** and **Michael S. Binder** are co-investigators on a project recently funded by the Department of Defense's Legacy Resource Management Program. This project will, within a national historic context, document a little-known and under-appreciated aspect of early U.S. Cold War military strategy—the complete civilian control of the manufacture and custody of U.S. nuclear weapons. The researchers will record—in text, drawings, and photographs—twelve former special weapons manufacturing and storage complexes located on DOD installations in eleven states.

• **David G. Vanderstel**, NCPH Executive Director and Senior Research Associate in the POLIS Center at IUPUI, has been named chair of a statewide conference on the teaching of history in Indiana, scheduled for early 1997. David is currently involved in two Lilly Endowment sponsored projects—one examining the influence of religion in Indianapolis during the years 1905-1925; the other focusing on the development of curriculum and discussion materials regarding the teaching of the role of religion in American history.

• New Members

Edward L. Ayers, *Charlottesville, VA*
Hannah Blake, *Albany, NY*
Peter Booth, *Tucson, AZ*
Pamela J. Colbert, *Collegeville, PA*
Tim Crimmins, *Atlanta, GA*
Alex Krummenacher, *Alameda, CA*
Jim McMillan, *Central College, Pella, IA*
Terence P. McQuown, *Nashville, TN*
Rebecca Prather, *Brownsburg, IN*
Pretoria Serials Division Library,
Birmingham, AL
Tricia Shaw, *Schenectady, NY*
Beverly Schwartzberg, *Santa Barbara, CA*
Karen E. Sutton, *Baltimore, MD*
University of Texas at Dallas,
Richardson, TX

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Jeffrey P. Brown, President
Diane Britton, Vice-president
Patricia Mooney-Melvin, Past-president
Marianne Babal, Secretary-treasurer
David G. Vanderstel, Executive Director

► *Seattle from front page*

ity will be a cruise on the "Lady Washington," a replica of an 18th century tall ship. Those wishing to remain in the area on Sunday, April 14 may obtain information about tours to Mt. Rainier National Park and Whidbey Island.

Registration fees for the meeting are: \$75 for members; \$85 for non-members; and \$45 for students. The Crowne Plaza charges \$90/night for single or double occupancy. Registration packets will be mailed to members in February. If you have questions or require additional information, please call program chair Bob Weible at (717) 783-9867, or Lisa Mighetto, local arrangements chair, at (206) 343-0226.

Special Programs Planned for Students

Students have plenty of good reasons to attend the annual meeting in Seattle—a mentoring program, special poster sessions, a careers workshop, and a reception.

Begun last year, the mentoring program pairs students attending the meeting with members of the organization. This provides the students, many of whom are attending their first professional meeting, with a friendly contact to show them the ropes, introduce them to other members, and discuss their own public history experiences. Both students and mentors at last year's conference agreed it was a rewarding experience, and the service is well on its way to becoming a tradition.



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 Jeffrey P. Brown, Arts and Sciences, Dean's Office, New Mexico State University, Box 30001, Dept. 3335, Las Cruces, NM 88003; Vice-president Diane Britton, Department of History, University of Toledo, Toledo, OH 43606; or David G. Vanderstel, 327 Cavanaugh Hall-IUPUI, 425 University Blvd., Indianapolis, IN 46202-5140; (317) 274-2716; E-mail: ncph@indycms.iupui.edu.

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

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

Students are also invited to share the results of their public history work and research through special poster sessions. Presentations will be scheduled throughout the meeting in a space specifically set aside in the exhibit area. The revolving schedule for the poster sessions will be provided at registration.

On Thursday afternoon, NCPH will offer its traditional "Careers in Public History" workshop. Panelists will discuss the role of historians in government agencies, business and private consulting, and private institutions. The workshop is free to NCPH members.

Following the workshop, there will be a student reception. This gathering affords students an ideal opportunity to meet peers, mingle with practicing public historians, and make contact with their mentors.

Students interested in participating in either the mentoring program or the poster sessions should contact Bill Bryans at (405) 744-8183 or by e-mail at bry4061@okway.okstate.edu. Information on the workshop and reception can be found in the conference program.

Mentors Needed

Last year, NCPH successfully implemented a mentoring program for students at the annual meeting. Mentors are paired with students attending the meeting, and generally serve as a friendly contact and guide for many who will be attending their first professional meeting. Everyone who participated last year agreed that this is a valuable service to our future public historians and ought to continue. If you are willing to be a mentor in Seattle, contact Bill Bryans at (405) 744-8183 or by e-mail at bry4061@okway.okstate.edu.

Computer Demonstrations

Do you have a computer program or other application that you would like to demonstrate to other public historians? Thanks to the Seattle office of Historical Research Associates, Inc., NCPH plans to have a 486 IBM compatible computer with Windows available in the exhibit area for such a purpose. Demonstrations will be arranged throughout the conference, and attendees will receive the schedule of demonstrations in their registration packet. Those wishing to schedule a demonstration should contact Bill Bryans at (405) 744-8183 or by e-mail at bry4061@okway.okstate.edu.

Conference Workshops

"The Public Interpretation of Controversy" highlights this year's offering of six workshops on Thursday, April 11. It has become obvious of late that presenting the past to public audiences can engender controversy, often quite unintentionally.

This workshop will use four case studies related to labor and African-American history to shed light on how public historians have dealt with controversy. These examples will also serve as vehicles to discuss important issues constantly confronted by public historians. How do public historians and the interpretation of history for the public deal with topics that may be controversial? What role does memory and commemoration play in influencing the public's perception of the past when controversy is involved? How does controversy influence the relationship between a community and its history? Is the public interpretation of controversy positive or negative in its effect? This promises to be a timely and lively workshop of interest to a broad spectrum of public historians.

Five other workshops are also planned. Those working in museums will be interested in "Collecting, Documenting, and Interpreting Museum Collections." This workshop will be presented by staff members of the National Museum of American History and the team that created the new Washington State History Museum's permanent exhibit on the state's history.

The Northwest Oral History Association will present a day-long oral history workshop. Designed for both beginning and advanced oral historians, it will include an introduction to oral history methodology, with discussion of audio and video formats. The workshop will also provide a variety of class exercises, and the opportunity to view and critique several finished products.

The consultants' workshop will offer a practical introduction to the mysteries of consulting. Through case studies and work groups, participants will learn the procedures, terminology, and practice of professional services contracting, using the federal system as a model. The emphasis will be on cultural resource management contracts, although other types of contracts and contracting procedures will be discussed.

"Electronic Communication for Public Historians" will afford the opportunity to learn about Internet resources at a University of Washington computer lab. Directed primarily at neophytes on the information superhighway, it will cover the basics of using the World Wide Web, gopher, and FTP, and present specific sites of interest to public historians. Pertinent e-mail discussion lists and USENET newsgroups will also be identified.

"Careers in Public History" is a half-day workshop intended for students and others who are exploring career options in history. Three different panels will discuss the roles of historians working in government agencies, in business and private consulting, and in public institutions. Al-

— See *Seattle* page 4

PRESENTING THE UNTHINKABLE: THE UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MUSEUM

by Mary Morrison

In 1993, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum opened its doors, the result of a unanimous Act of Congress in 1980 to memorialize the millions of Jews and Gypsies, Jehovah's Witnesses, homosexuals, political dissidents, and handicapped who died at the hands of Nazi tyranny in World War II. Its primary mission is to inform Americans about this unprecedented tragedy; to commemorate those who suffered the Holocaust and to inspire visitors to contemplate the moral implications of their individual civic responsibilities. By the fall of 1995, more than 5 1/2 million people had visited the Museum.

The Museum's three-floor permanent exhibition tells the story of the Holocaust from beginning to end through artifacts, text, films, oral histories and photographs. In addition to the permanent exhibition, a special exhibition gallery houses rotating exhibits which highlight specific events or people. Past exhibits have included *Faces of Sorrow*, a pictorial retrospective on the suffering in the former Yugoslavia and *Assignment Rescue*, the story of rescuer Varian Fry. Presently, *Liberation 1945* documents what American troops discovered upon liberating the camps and the survivors' struggle to reestablish their lives. The exhibit, *1936 Olympics*, which opens in July 1996, will examine the international politics, race and sport surrounding the 11th Olympiad held in Berlin.

Of paramount importance to the Museum's mission is education about the unprecedented tragedy of the Holocaust. Within the Museum are the United States Holocaust Research Institute, the Wexner Learning Center, the Gonda Education Center and a museum education staff serving thousands of schools and national educators.

The United States Research Institute is the scholarly division of the Museum. It serves as an international resource center for the development of research on the Holocaust and related issues. It is an institute with eight departments including The Wexner Learning Center, Academic Programs, Library, Archive, Photo Archive, Oral History, The Steven Spielberg Film and Video Archive, and the Benjamin and Vladka Meed Registry of Holocaust Survivors. Academic programs in the past have included a joint conference with American University examining America's encounter with the Holocaust, significant publications adding to the field of Holocaust studies, and weekly lectures featuring Holocaust scholars and their research. Institute staff also supervise the produc-

tion of *Holocaust and Genocide Studies*, a scholarly journal featuring work on the extensive body of literature and documentation on these topics. The Research Institute receives international fellows each year to assist in ongoing research and program development. The Library, featuring over 20,000 titles, is open daily to visitors who wish to pursue further study on the Holocaust and related topics.

The Wexner Learning Center, an interactive media center, provides visitors with an opportunity for self-directed learning about the Holocaust. Through state-of-the-art touch-screen computer systems, visitors access articles from the *Macmillan Encyclopedia of the Holocaust* which are linked to photographs, documentary footage, music, oral testimonies, chronology of the Holocaust, and detailed maps created by Museum research staff. Portions of the database have recently been made available through the publication of *Historical Atlas of the Holocaust*. This resource highlights aspects of the Holocaust with specific geographic detail regarding countries, ghettos, camps, and actions. A CD-ROM version of the atlas is scheduled for release in the spring of 1996.

More than 36,000 requests for educational information are processed each year in the Gonda Education Center. *Teaching about the Holocaust*, a resource book offered by the Center, includes suggested guidelines for teaching about the Holocaust, an annotated bibliography and videography, and three historical handouts.

The Museum's education staff encourages student groups and educators to visit the Museum and witness the history of the Holocaust through the permanent exhibition. An average of 150,000 students pass through the Museum each year in school groups alone. Through proactive educational outreach programs many students find themselves seeking answers to questions about intolerance and genocide. "Bringing the Lessons Home: Holocaust Education in the Community" and "The Baltimore Project" are two successful programs achieving that result.

"Bringing the Lessons Home" is a program reaching District of Columbia public school students, their families, and educators. Sponsored by a generous grant from the Fannie Mae Foundation, the program provides education and resources to thousands of local students and teachers each year. By examining the implications of the Holocaust's history, students develop a knowledge base from which to explore the nature of indifference, racism and other issues connected to tolerance and diversity.

Students volunteer to pursue a ten week course at the Museum and subsequently bring these lessons back into their schools and communities, often times using their knowledge of the Holocaust as a parallel with contemporary situations or other known episodes of struggle throughout history.

"The Baltimore Project" is a similar effort to reach students who, after touring the Museum with education staff members, may take the opportunity to examine basic issues of morality, law, and what it means to be a responsible citizen. This partnership between Baltimore City Schools, the Museum and the Joseph and Claire Flom Foundation has resulted in an educational experience benefiting middle and high school students and teachers throughout Baltimore. The Museum provides schools with teaching resources and the training to use these resources in the classroom. Teacher conferences have provided a forum in which Museum staff can present intriguing programs regarding the resources available and valuable lessons within the Museum.

The Museum hosts several teacher conferences each year to share strategies and rationales on presenting the complex topic of the Holocaust to students.

Conference participants chosen from thousands of national applicants explore the permanent exhibition and education resource centers as well as the special exhibition, "Remember the Children: Daniel's Story." This special exhibition tells the story of the Holocaust through the eyes of a child and provides an example of how young children may be able to understand its lessons.

The Museum's educational mission is not designed exclusively for students and professional educators. Within the public programs division of the Museum, various lecture series, concerts, plays and discussions are presented each month. All programs sponsored by the Museum work to ensure that the lessons of the Holocaust reach diverse and multiple audiences. The development and progression of the public and educational programs within the Museum will ensure that future generations will not be able to ignore the events that led to the Holocaust and the millions who perished as a result.

For more information on visiting hours, tours and passes, please contact the museum at (202) 488-0400.

Mary Morrison is the Director of Communications at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

though the presentation format is structured, the workshop is designed to encourage discussion in an informal atmosphere.

All of the workshops have limited enrollment and most have fees. For more information, check the conference program or call Bill Bryans at (405)744-8183; e-mail at bry4061@okway.okstate.edu

Seattle—The Northwest's Emerald City

Present-day Seattle was first settled by Native American tribes including the Snohomish and the Suquamish. In 1852 a white settlement, established the previous year, moved to the modern site of downtown Seattle; the town was named for Suquamish leader Chief Seattle.

The settlement grew slowly at first, but after the arrival of a transcontinental railroad in nearby Tacoma in 1883, the town experienced a population boom. Seattle served as a gateway to, and a supply center for, the Yukon and Alaska gold rushes of the 1890s, and its population swelled from 37,000 in 1889 to 237,000 in 1910.

Four transcontinental railroads served the city by 1910, and trade was further stimulated by the opening of the Panama Canal in 1914. World War I stimulated the growth of port activities in Seattle. Since World War II, the region's economy has been dominated by the aerospace industry. Boeing Airplane Company has operated in the area for over 50 years.

Seattle is home to many cultural and educational facilities and institutions. The



Seattle's original city center is Pioneer Square, currently a historic district housing galleries, restaurants and retail shops. (Photograph courtesy of Seattle-King County Convention and Visitors Bureau)

University of Washington was established in 1861, and was followed by Seattle University in 1891. The former houses an arboretum containing trees and shrubs from around the world, a Japanese garden, and wetlands. Other cultural centers in

Seattle include the Museum of History and Industry, the Henry Art Gallery, the Nordic Heritage Museum, the Museum of Flight, the Seattle Art Museum and Discovery Park, including the Daybreak Star Indian Educational Center.

TRINITY SITE: WHERE THE SUN ROSE TWICE

by Jim Eckles

While the world recently commemorated the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II, one historic site escaped the public limelight. Trinity Site is where the world's first atomic bomb was tested at 5:29:45 a.m. Mountain War Time on July 16, 1945. The 20-kiloton explosion not only led to a quick end to the war in the Pacific, but also thrust the world into the atomic age.

Manhattan Project scientists, under the leadership of Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer at Los Alamos, N.M., designed two different atomic bombs. One used uranium 235 and was a simple design; scientists were convinced it would work without testing.

The second design, which used man-made plutonium, was more complex.

Project leaders decided a test of this design was essential before it could be used as a weapon of war. From a number of possible sites in California, Texas, Colorado and New Mexico, they selected Trinity Site for the detonation.

In late 1944, soldiers, technicians and scientists moved to the site and began preparations for the test. They erected a 100-foot steel tower to hold the bomb. They also constructed protective bunkers for test personnel 10,000 yards from ground zero on the south, north and west compass points. The south bunker functioned as the control bunker. They built a base camp of temporary buildings and tents for project workers 10 miles from ground zero. Because of the uncertainty of

the test, scientists took the precaution of building "Jumbo," a 25 foot by 10 foot, 214 ton containment vessel designed to control the conventional explosion and prevent plutonium from being blown all over the desert if the atomic chain reaction fizzled. They moved the container by rail to a siding near Trinity Site and then hauled it further on a specially built 64 wheel trailer. As confidence in the plutonium bomb design grew, project directors decided not to use Jumbo, but placed it about 800 yards west of ground zero. In a testimony to its design, "Jumbo" survived the detonation intact.

Trinity Site, part of the 3,200 square-mile White Sands Missile Range, is located in south central New Mexico. This na-

► See Trinity, page 5

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN



by Jeffrey P. Brown

This column will appear in your mailboxes several weeks before the National Council on Public History's annual conference, which will be held in Seattle on April 11-14, 1996. We are going to have a first rate conference, and I hope that you will be able to attend it. Our Program Committee has worked very closely with our conference co-sponsors, the Pacific Northwest Historians Guild, to shape an excellent program. We owe much thanks to Robert Weible, Lisa Mighetto, Bill Bryans, and all of the other people who have worked hard to develop this meeting!

One of NCPH's most important roles is training and mentoring the next generation of public historians. We will offer our second annual student mentoring program in Seattle, and together with poster sessions and the traditional careers in public history workshop, we will provide valuable learning experiences for students. I hope that you will strongly encourage the students that you know to attend the Seattle meeting, and that wherever possible, you provide them some financial assistance for travel. We will have five additional workshops that include the public interpretation of controversy, museums collections activities, an introduction to oral history, a consultants' workshop, and electronic communication for the public historian. Bill Bryans details these workshops in the lead article of this newsletter. I hope that you will be able to attend a workshop and gain this important conference benefit.

We have slated more than thirty sessions at the meeting. There will be a number of sessions that focus upon the National Park Service and public history. This is an important theme at all times, and is particularly crucial during this period of budget cut-backs. The Pacific Northwest Historians Guild and Northwest Oral History Association have slated a series of strong sessions. Our panels and speakers will explore such topics as federal policy

formation, new directions in site planning, public history and secondary education, environmental history, women's history, community history, and space policy, among others. We will offer a great set of historic tours, and you will have many opportunities to learn about Seattle and the Pacific Northwest as you meet people, attend sessions and workshops, and explore book and media exhibits. Please join us in Seattle!

As many of you know, the *publhist* listserve has merged into NCPH as our electronic mail list. I strongly urge all members to join *publhist*. We have had wide ranging discussions about many public history topics, and the list will increasingly serve as a way for our members to raise issues, announce meetings or internships, ask important research questions, and keep in touch with each others' activities. Just e-mail to listserv@indycms.iupui.edu, and as your message state: "subscribe publhist" You can then receive the list, and send your own messages by writing to publhist@indycms.iupui.edu

We are all well aware of many crucial issues affecting the practice of history at the national level. However, many of us would benefit from discussions about important issues at the state, city, and county level. I invite you to write to our newsletter about such issues, and to use *publhist* as a forum for electronic discussion. One excellent example might be efforts by the Virginia Council for the Social Studies to revise Standards of Learning for History and Social Science that were adopted in that state last summer.

National History Day will soon take place, and I encourage NCPH members to contact their state councils, to serve as judges, and to heighten awareness of this important activity.

Finally, I would like to ask our members to write to me, other officers, our Executive Director, or members of our Board of Directors about issues that concern them. We would like to make our Board meeting in Seattle as responsive as possible to our members' needs. You can write to me at College of Arts and Sciences, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces NM 88003, and my e-mail address is jbrown@admin.nmsu.edu I am looking forward to seeing you in Seattle!

► *Trinity continued from page 4*

tional historic landmark, however, is open to the public only twice a year—on the first Saturday in April and October. Visitors arriving at the gate on those days will receive handouts and are allowed to drive unescorted the 17 miles to Trinity Site.

From the parking area, visitors walk one-half mile to ground zero where a small monument marks the exact spot where the bomb was exploded. Historical photographs are mounted on the fence surrounding the area. A small shelter at ground zero allows visitors to view a portion of the original crater floor. Since the bomb was exploded on top of a 100-foot tower, the crater was only a depression about six feet deep and 400 yards across. The intense heat melted the desert sand and turned it into radioactive green glass called "Trinitite," which is still visible under the shelter.

Visitors can also ride a missile range bus two miles to the McDonald Ranch House, a turn of the century adobe house where scientists first assembled the bomb's plutonium core. In 1984, the National Park Service restored the house to its 1945 condition.

The missile range averages about 2,000 visitors during each open house. There are no ceremonies or speakers at the site, however, personnel are present to answer any questions about the role of White Sands in the Manhattan Project.

For more information about White Sands or Trinity Site, contact the White Sands Public Affairs Office at (505) 678-1134 or write Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 122, White Sands Missile Range, NM 88002-5047.

Jim Eckles is a Public Affairs Specialist at White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico. He holds a B.A. from University of Nebraska at Lincoln and an M.A. from the University of Washington.

HISTORY DAY NOTICE

The annual
National History Day
competition will take place
June 9-13, 1996, at the
University of Maryland,
College Park, MD.

If you can judge
or desire more
information, call:
301-314-9739

or e-mail:
cgorn@aol.com

HISTORIANS AND MUSEUMS TASK FORCE

by Patricia Mooney-Melvin

One outgrowth of the varied challenges confronting the interpretation of history in museums has been the Historians and Museums Task Force. At the 1995 meeting of the American Historical Association, a group of historians concerned about the rights and responsibilities of institutions and historians actively involved in interpretative programs relating to history met together. A fruitful discussion ensued about issues relating to the integrity of historical research and interpretation in historical agencies, museums, and historic sites. Those involved in this discussion—representatives of NCPH, the Organization of American Historians, the American Historical Association, the National Park Service, and several leading museums and historical societies—felt it necessary to continue this conversation at the joint annual meeting of OAH and NCPH. The OAH offered to serve as facilitator for this meeting.

On April 1, this group came together again and was joined by representatives from a variety of organizations concerned with the interpretation of history in a museum setting. After a wide-ranging discussion, the group felt that the issues were too important to end the conversation at this point. Those attending the session believed as well that some document should emerge from these discussions. The OAH agreed to facilitate the appointment of a task force to explore further issues relating to historical interpretation in museums and to serve as a kind of secretariat for the effort.

In keeping with the spirit of the discussion in April, the work of the task force was to be the result of a collaborative effort of concerned professional organizations. Each organization would appoint one representative and then this group

would augment its numbers by up to three additional members who could provide special expertise or perspectives. The organizations involved were the American Association for State and Local History, the American Association of Museums, the American Historical Association, the National Council on Public History, the Organization of American Historians, and the Society for History in the Federal Government.

Over the summer, these organizations appointed representatives to serve on the task force. At the request of this group, two more members were added. The group's basic purpose is to address the issue of how to simultaneously preserve the intellectual integrity of history museums while at the same time acknowledging the complexity of the larger environment in which all public historians and history institutions function. The issues to be addressed in the group's charge reflected the concerns raised in the earlier meetings: the role and function of history museums in a democratic society; the appropriate balance between museums' responsibilities to scholarship and their traditional functions of preservation and commemoration; and the appropriate balance between museums' responsibilities to diverse publics as well as to their stakeholders. All that was agreed upon was discussion and dissemination of any reports so that each organization's members can engage in the widest possible discussion of these important issues.

Each sponsoring organization selected a representative on the provision that participation in no way committed it to acceptance of any statement, set of guidelines, or principles which may be developed by the group. All organizations, however, felt the issues at hand important

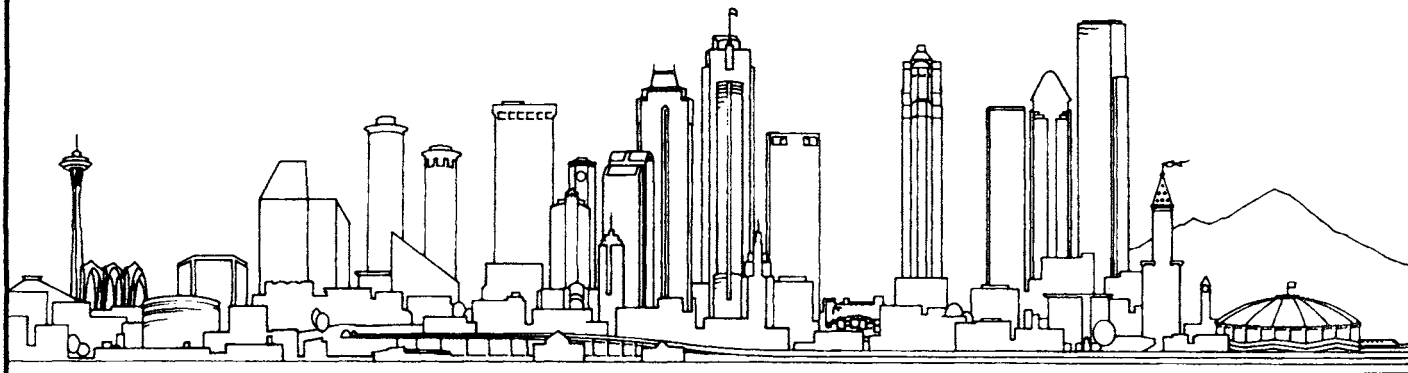
enough to be involved in a continuing dialogue about the issues raised. Task force members include Robert Archibald (American Association for State and Local History), Ellsworth Brown (American Association of Museums), Lonnie Bunch (Smithsonian Institution), Cary Carson (Colonial Williamsburg), Sara Evans (Organization of American Historians), Victoria A. Harden (Society for History in the Federal Government), Edward T. Linenthal (American Historical Association), and Patricia Mooney-Melvin (National Council on Public History).

At the first meeting of the task force in Chicago on December 6, each representative identified issues of concern from the point of view of the constituencies he or she represented. In general, a great deal of overlap existed among the various issues laid out. On behalf of NCPH, I stressed (1) the balance between public expectations about the past and museums and "sound scholarship" presented in an interesting and provocative fashion; (2) concern with the gulf between historians and the public outside of an academic setting; (3) concern with the history historians make and the history the public receives; and (4) the failure of many historians to understand the various audiences they serve (or should be serving).

After a day of fruitful discussion the group identified key components of a preamble, mission statement, and set of recommendations: we all left with a set of tasks. As our initial working document takes shape, you will be hearing more specifics. I encourage you to contact any of us to share your concerns about the challenges facing the interpretation of history in the nation's museums.

Patricia Mooney-Melvin of Loyola University, Chicago is past-president of NCPH.

Attend the NCPH Annual Meeting in Seattle



FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK



by David G.
Vanderstel

The passing of an old year and the arrival of a new one traditionally leads an individual to pause and reflect upon past accomplishments and to make plans for the year ahead. Having recently completed my first full calendar year as executive director of NCPH, I sat down with my staff to look back over the previous twelve months and was very satisfied with all that NCPH accomplished in 1995.

- NCPH adopted "Plan 2000," a long-range plan which establishes goals for membership, programs, finances, and advocacy for the organization over the next five years.
- Last spring, NCPH held a very successful joint annual meeting with the Organization of American Historians in Washington, D.C., a gathering attended by over 2,800 individuals.
- NCPH, with the assistance of Historical Research Associates, Inc., sponsored its first display booth at the spring meeting and subsequently at the annual meeting of AASLH in Saratoga Springs, New York.
- The new Endowment Committee began to develop plans for the long-term investment of NCPH funds.
- The Executive Offices staff compiled and edited a new *Guide to Graduate Programs in Public History* and began work on a new syllabus exchange project and a new membership directory, all scheduled for release in 1996.
- NCPH and IUPUI renewed their agreement which will keep the NCPH Executive Offices in Indianapolis through 1999.
- The Executive Offices introduced a new look to the quarterly newsletter, *Public History News*, including a new color scheme and new features.
- The editors of *The Public Historian* continued to produce a top quality journal which has garnered a faithful following among public historians around the world.
- As part of an effort to increase its exposure within the profession, NCPH secured a full page listing in the AHA's *Directory of History Departments and Organizations 1995-96*.

- The Board of Directors accepted an invitation to become a member of the policy board of the National Coordinating Committee for the Promotion of History (NCC), a move that will place NCPH in a more visible role in public advocacy and decision-making on issues pertaining to history.
- NCPH continued to demonstrate its concern for pre-collegiate education by serving as a member of the policy board of the National History Education Network (NHEN) and the board of National History Day.
- The Executive Offices at IUPUI became the new host of the **publhist** discussion group on the Internet—and we encourage all NCPH members to subscribe.

Historians traditionally spend their time looking at the past. However, as I look ahead to 1996, I expect that NCPH will continue to be extremely busy—working to meet the ambitious objectives laid out in "Plan 2000," expanding our collaborative efforts to promote history to wider audiences nationwide, and responding more effectively to the challenges—and the threats—confronting the discipline and the profession:

- Given recent Congressional attitudes regarding not-for-profit organizations, NCPH will review its incorporation status to ensure that its house is in good order.
- NCPH will hold an exciting and very successful conference in Seattle this April, meeting jointly with the Pacific Northwest Historians Guild and the Northwest Oral History Association.
- The List Serve/World Wide Web Task Force will complete work on the NCPH homepage, thereby allowing

the Executive Offices to improve its services to NCPH members and to promote the organization to an ever-expanding audience.

- Everyone associated with NCPH will work to bring new members into the organization.
- Considering our presence on the boards of several organizations, I would like to see NCPH take a more active and vocal role in advocacy during the coming year. I share the concerns of many who have expressed themselves on the H-LOCAL network that Disney's proposed theme park on a Civil War battlefield in Virginia brought far more responses from historians at the front end than did the Smithsonian's "Enola Gay" controversy.
- Finally, I hope that we do not lose sight of the "public" nature of our organization and profession. It is easy to be caught up in our academic and professional pursuits, but we have pledged, in each of our own unique ways, to dedicate ourselves to bring others to a greater appreciation and understanding of history and to demonstrate how history can indeed assist society in addressing the problems that it faces today.

As we proceed into the new year, I invite you to become more involved in NCPH—by recruiting new members, volunteering for committee service, contributing to the endowment fund, writing articles for *Public History News* or *The Public Historian*, attending the annual meeting, to name just a few. Let us join together to make this the best year yet for NCPH.

From the staff of NCPH, we wish you all a happy and prosperous new year—and we look forward to seeing you in Seattle.

Do you have suggestions for newsletter articles?

Is there an issue you wish to discuss on **publhist**?

Contact the NCPH Executive Offices if you do.

Call 317-274-2716

or e-mail: ncph@indycms.iupui.edu

NCC WASHINGTON UPDATE



by Page Putnam
Miller, Director of the
National Coordinating
Committee for the
Promotion of History
<pagem@CapAccess.org>

[Editor's Note: Given the extensive amount of activity at the Federal level, we provide here edited versions of NCC updates from the past few months.]

•Update on NEH Budget and

Grants — The current continuing resolution funds NEH until January 26 at the level of \$99.5 million, the amount in the House appropriations bill. This is a significant reduction from the \$134 million level in the second continuing resolution that ended on December 15. Despite this budget level, NEH anticipates being able to fund all new grants that were officially awarded by the NEH Council at its summer and November meetings.

•Exhibit Rejected By Library of Congress Opens at Public Library —

On December 18, just two hours after installing the exhibit, "Back of the Big House: The Cultural Landscape of the Plantation," the Library of Congress dismantled the exhibit due to employees' complaints. The exhibit, which used the Library's photographs and documents to depict plantation slave life, had been on exhibit earlier this year at five universities and historic houses with no criticism voiced. Nonetheless, the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library, the main public library of Washington, DC, has agreed to display the exhibit in its entirety. The only change is in the title of the exhibit, which will be called "The Cultural Landscape of the Plantation." Andrew Venable, the deputy librarian of the Martin Luther King Memorial Library has stressed that the exhibit needs to be shown, stating: "It's not until those kind of things are exposed or out in the open that one gets an opportunity to heal. It is part of our history. It's a reality." In a press release the Martin Luther King Library noted that the exhibit "offers an uncommon perspective of plantation life, one from the viewpoint of the slaves."

•Archivist Comments on Access to Nixon Material — Currently the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) has made available to the public only 63 hours of the approximately 4,000 hours of Nixon taped conversations. The law requires NARA to review the tapes and Watergate related material to determine which parts must remain closed because they are private or because they include sensitive national security information and which parts can legally be re-

leased to the public. In 1987, when the National Archives completed its review of the tapes and prepared a 25,000 page finding aid, there were indications that the tapes would be opened in 1991. This did not happen. In a 1992 lawsuit, which is currently in court ordered mediation, historian Stanley Kutler and Public Citizen charged Don Wilson, then Archivist of the United States, with unreasonably delaying access to 4,000 hours of Nixon tapes. Along with many other movie viewers, the current U.S. Archivist, John Carlin, saw Oliver Stone's *Nixon* over the holidays. He recently made the following statement on the status of Nixon tapes and Watergate related material in the custody of NARA: "Dealing with the Nixon tapes and Watergate-material is one of my major challenges as Archivist, but I want you to know I am committed to our mission of ready access to essential evidence. Therefore, I am looking at all steps we can take to expedite the review and opening of all releasable Nixon materials. I am involved in a court ordered mediation to try to resolve conflicting interests and lift the court restriction. I have inherited a situation with little flexibility, but I will do what I can, including continuing to search for a way to free us from the court prohibitions." A number of historians have noted that the many distortions in Stone's movie on Nixon make even more compelling the need to open to the public the tapes and other Watergate-related material.

•Government Decides Not to Appeal American Historical Association v. Carlin — The government defendants in the litigation of American Historical Association v. Carlin decided on December 15 to dismiss their appeal. This case focused on the efforts of the AHA and other plaintiffs, including the Organization of American Historians and the American Library Association, to block the implementation of an agreement made in 1993 between former President George Bush and former U.S. Archivist Don Wilson. That agreement gave former President Bush considerable control over the computer backup tapes that had been at issue in the case of *Armstrong v. the Office of the President*, also known as the PROFS case. On February 27, 1995, Judge Charles Richey ruled in favor of the plaintiffs stating that the Bush-Wilson agreement violated the Presidential Records Act. The government appealed the case in May. The Appeals Court was moving forward on the case and announced in early fall that December 16 was the deadline for the filing of the government's brief. As a re-

sult of the decision to dismiss the appeal, Judge Richey's decision will be the final judgement in this case.

Commenting on the government's decision not to appeal the case, Archivist of the United States John W. Carlin stated: "On behalf of the National Archives, I strongly support the decision of the Solicitor General and I am pleased that this litigation is finally behind us." During his confirmation hearing in May, John Carlin indicated in response to Senators' questions about the Bush-Wilson agreement that he had problems with it. In the week prior to Carlin becoming U.S. Archivist, the government decided to appeal Judge Richey's decision.

•IRS Historian Resigns in Protest of Records Policies —

On December 8, Shelley Davis, the IRS Historian, sent Commissioner Margaret Richardson a letter of resignation noting the unwillingness of the IRS to deal with serious record keeping deficiencies. "Our record keeping policies," she wrote, "do not ensure that information about our policies, actions, procedures and plans will ever be available to the American public." In 1993 Davis prepared a report stressing that there have been virtually no accessions of permanent IRS records into the National Archives in the 20th century. Lack of response to her 1993 report, indications of attempts by IRS records management to destroy significant collections of documents, and the inability to find any internal channels for dealing with records problems led Davis to resign in protest. A front page article in the December 15 *Wall Street Journal* provides an in-depth analysis of Davis' resignation.

•National Archives Reviews IRS Records Policies — On December 20 representatives of the National Archives met with managers at IRS to discuss a 50 page evaluation and report prepared by the National Archives on IRS record keeping practices. Although there is no direct connection between the resignation of the IRS historian and this report, work on which began many months ago, the historian's resignation letter and the report both emphasize serious records management problems. The National Archives' report stressed the importance of identifying, scheduling, and transferring to the National Archives records that document the mission and role in our government of the IRS. The report stated: "Numerous records that document both policy-making and high profile programs of the agency either are not scheduled or have not been located and identified." A recent letter from U.S. Archivist John Carlin to the

head of IRS requests that IRS submit within 90 days an action plan indicating how the recommendations in the report will be implemented.

At the heart of the IRS records management problems is a long standing controversy over the interpretation of federal disclosure laws passed in the 1970s. The IRS interprets very broadly its mandate not to disclose information that relates to tax returns and tax related documents. The National Archives argues that these disclosure restrictions were not intended to bar the National Archives from viewing unscheduled IRS records to determine their permanent and historical value. The IRS is currently the only federal agency that will not allow National Archives' staff to review its records. It appears that the IRS has taken the need to protect the privacy of individual tax payers to an extreme which has engulfed the agency in secrecy and allowed no citizen access to the agency's 20th century administrative and policy files.

•State Department Advisory Committee Meets — On December 12 the State Department's Advisory Committee on Historical Diplomatic Documentation held its quarterly meeting to advise the department on matters related to the Foreign Relations volumes, records management, and declassification. William Slany, the head of the Office of the Historian, reported that there is some slippage in meeting the 30 year targets for the publications of the Foreign Relations volumes. While shortage of staff and declassification hurdles have slowed down the preparation of the Johnson era volumes, these volumes have also taken longer to prepare because

they are including material that has previously not been available for inclusion. The Johnson volumes will be the first to include documents from the President's Foreign Policy Advisory Board, an independent Presidential body administered through the National Security Council. The legislation passed in 1992 dealing with the Foreign Relations series has increased cooperation with the National Security Council and other agencies and has resulted in a wider body of material, including more intelligence material, being part of the volumes which seek to provide comprehensive documentation of American foreign policy activities.

The Advisory Committee also discussed the fact that the State Department central file — which includes the telegrams between Washington and the embassies — for the period from July 1, 1973 to the present has been digitized. In 1998 the State Department expects to transfer the 1973 computerized central file to the National Archives. This will mark the first time the National Archives will have received from an agency such a large collection of textual records in electronic format. The Advisory Council members raised the issue of whether the software that the State Department currently uses for accessing this material will also be transferred along with the data tapes. At the meeting representatives from the National Archives stated that they are currently exploring strategies for handling electronic records but indications were that there had been no agreement on the transfer of the software. An Advisory Board member stressed that systems used to manage

records were part of the records.

The Executive Order 12958, signed by the President last April, requires — following a grace period of five years — that all but the most sensitive agency records over 25 years old should be open and available for research. Since 1973 records will be 25 years old in 1998, the State Department is making plans for opening this material. Yet once the State Department transfers the digitized tapes to the National Archives, the question remains of how researchers will gain access to the central files which have always been an key source of information for scholars.

•Hearings on Problems at Library of Congress — On November 29, Senator Mark Hatfield (R-OR) and Representative Bill Thomas (R-CA) co-chaired a hearing on the Library of Congress that focused on fiscal and management issues as well as the security of the collection. In opening comments Senators and Representatives stressed the importance of the Library of Congress as a national treasure and noted that it was making some progress toward correcting problems. Many witnesses, however, described deficiencies as being quite serious, including the failure to conduct a comprehensive audit and to address both internal and external security threats.

•Trudy Peterson Heads Open Society Archives — Trudy Huskamp Peterson, who served for over two years as acting Archivist of the United States, has been named Executive Director of the Open Society Archives in Budapest, Hungary. The archives of the Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, Inc. are the core of the current holdings.

CORBIS CORPORATION PURCHASES BETTMANN ARCHIVE

by Barbara Schultz

The Corbis Corporation has purchased the Bettmann Archive, one of the world's largest commercial image libraries. The Bettmann Archive includes the contents of several news archives including the entire United Press International collection and images from the fields of dance, jazz, theater, film, vintage photography, and the history of science.

Corbis was founded in 1989 by Bill Gates with the mission of becoming the world's premier provider of high-quality digital content. Corbis' long-term goal is for people to be able to navigate the archive, easily locating and working with images from around the world. Images are scanned using advanced, high-resolution techniques. They are stored in a large multimedia database and catalogued with keywords and extensive text information. This unique database offers sophisticated

search and retrieval technologies that can access images in seconds using text and image-based links, making it possible for content to be combined and used in innovative ways.

Bettmann Archive images will be incorporated into the Corbis archive of digital visual information. The Corbis archive is broad in scope, ranging from biography and portraits, the arts, history, science and technology, to peoples and cultures, and sports. Archived materials come from a variety of sources such as leading professional photographers, cultural institutions, private archives, individual collectors, and museums. The company acquires specific rights to archive content through non-exclusive licensing, commissioning assignment photography and purchase. The Corbis Archive includes images from the collections of the Philadelphia Museum of

Art, the National Gallery of London, the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences, the Library of Congress, the Minnesota Historical Society, the Medford Historical Society, the State Hermitage, the Russian State Museum, the National Archives, and the Museum of History and Industry in Seattle.

Professional image users and the general public can access the Corbis archive from several paths. Corbis Media licenses content from the digital archive to creative professionals. Corbis Publishing produces and publishes CD-ROM and interactive on-line products for consumers, using content from the Corbis archive. For more information about the Corbis archive, the public can visit the Corbis Web Site at <http://www.corbis.com>.

Barbara Schultz is General Editor of Media Development for Corbis.

Announcements

The **University of the West of England** in Bristol, England, is running a field course entitled "Preservation and Change: British Approaches to Conserving and Managing Historic Environments," that will take place **July 6-27, 1996**. The course is designed for students and professionals in Historic Preservation, Architecture, Urban Geography, Urban History, Archaeology, Urban Planning, and Material Culture. It will focus on current philosophies in Britain regarding preservation, methodologies, and legislation, and will identify and consider future trends. The course will also examine the role played by interpretive documentation and evaluate the various approaches that can be used to document individual historic buildings, urban areas and historic landscapes. Throughout the school, emphasis will be placed on site visits and practical exercises. The Bristol region offers many locations well suited as case studies, including the commercial city and historic port of Bristol, the Georgian city of Bath, the medieval city and cathedral of Wells, and the archaeological sites of Stonehenge and Avebury. The course fees are £900 (roughly \$1400), which includes accommodation, tuition and field trips. Meals and travel to Bristol are not included in the fees. For those participants who are currently enrolled on undergraduate or postgraduate programs of study, three hours of credit will be awarded by the University of the West of England, which can then be transferred to their own institution. For more information and a course syllabus, contact: Nancy Carlton, University of the West of England, Bristol, Faculty of the Built Environment, Coldharbour Lane, Bristol BS16 1QY UK; e-mail: n-carlto@uwe.ac.uk; fax: 44 117 976-3895.

The **Organization of American Historians** has announced winners of a special competition to host conferences on history standards. Seed money of \$500 will be used to encourage history departments to meet with history schoolteachers in their region for discussions of the role of national standards in history education reform efforts. Many OAH members were involved in writing and testing the national standards, and the Organization itself was one of 30 organizations officially consulted at various stages of their development. The OAH believes there is a compelling need for those interested in history in the schools—particularly higher education faculty and pre-collegiate teachers—to come together for full and free discussion of the history

standards. Financial support for these grants comes from the OAH Fund for American History and the Rockefeller Foundation. Grant recipients are located in 22 states, with 20 universities, six colleges, two community colleges, five private institutions, and one historical association represented. For more information about conference sites near you, contact the OAH, 112 N. Bryan, Bloomington, Indiana 47408-4199.

The commemorative poster for **National Women's History Month** (March) features a collage of twelve hand-tinted photographs that illustrate the 1996, "See History in a New Way." Women from various cultural groups and time periods in American history demonstrate the many roles women have played to help build our society and culture. The full-color, 20" x 28" 1996 National Women's History Month commemorative poster is \$6.95, plus \$4.00 s/h, from the National Women's History Project, 7738 Bell Road, Dept. P, Windsor, CA 95492-8518; phone (707)838-6000. Discounts are available for bulk orders.

The **Modern Language Association** invites nominations for the thirteenth annual MLA Prize for Independent Scholars, to be awarded for a distinguished or scholarly book published in 1995 in the field of English or another modern language or literature. The award, which consists of a check for \$1,000, a certificate, and a one-year membership in the association, will be presented to the winning author at the association's annual convention in December 1996. To enter a book into competition, send six copies and a completed application form to the MLA Prize for Independent Scholars, Modern Language Association, 10 Astor Place, New York, NY 10003-6981. Nominations for the 1995 award will be accepted until **May 1, 1996**. For more information contact Richard Brod, Director of Special Projects, Modern Language Association, or call (212)614-6406.

The **Urban History Association** is conducting its seventh annual round of prize competitions for scholarly distinctions. The categories are: Best doctoral dissertation in urban history, without geographic restriction, completed during 1995; Best book, North American urban history, published during 1995 (edited volumes ineligible); Best journal article in urban history, without geographic restriction, published during 1995. The deadline for submissions is **June 15, 1996**. For more information contact Professor Ted W. Margadant, Depart-

ment of History, University of California, Davis, CA 95616. Do not send any submissions to this address.

The **Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania**, the **Pennsylvania Historical Association** and the **Pennsylvania Federation of Museums and Historical Organizations** will sponsor a Symposium on the History and Significance of the Pennsylvania Railroad, October 11-13, 1996. The Symposium will commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the company's charter in 1846. The Symposium is also issuing a call for papers to be submitted by **April 1, 1996**. Funding to support travel to the conference may be available. For more information contact Robert L. Emerson, Museum Director, Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania, PO Box 15, Strasburg, PA 17579; phone: (717)687-8628.

The **National Coalition for Heritage Areas** announces its 1995 rally: **Working for America's Real Places** to be held **March 31-April 2, 1996**. For more information call Sarah Polster (202)673-4204 or fax: (202)673-4038.

Awards, Fellowships and Internships

The **Massachusetts Historical Society's Center for the Study of New England History** offers approximately sixteen short-term research fellowships for 1996. Awards are open to independent scholars, advanced graduate students, and holders of the Ph.D. or the equivalent. Preference given to candidates who live more than fifty miles from Boston. Applications must be postmarked by **March 1, 1996**. For more information, contact Leonard Travers, Assistant Director, Center for the Study of New England History, Massachusetts Historical Society, 1154 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02215 USA; phone: (617)536-1608.

The **National Museum of American Art** invites graduate students to participate in its Advanced-Level Internship Program in Washington, D.C. Students benefit from working directly with Smithsonian museum specialists for one or two semesters. University members are encouraged to inquire about the tuition-sharing arrangement that allows inclusion of this program as part of a course curriculum. The deadline for application is **March 1, 1996**. For more information contact Judith Houston, Program Officer, (202)357-2714; e-mail: nmaa.judith@ic.si.edu

The **Athenaeum of Philadelphia** announces its **Charles E. Peterson Re-**

search Fellowships and Summer Internships for 1996-1997. These are for the study of early American architecture and building technology prior to 1860. Applications will be accepted until **March 1, 1996**. For more information contact The Athenaeum of Philadelphia, East Washington Square, Philadelphia, PA 19106-3794.

Calls for Papers

H-Net. Humanities On-Line, will sponsor panels at the 1997 Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association that explore the uses of new technology for research, teaching, and publication. We are particularly interested in international comparisons, interdisciplinary projects, multimedia pedagogy, electronic publishing, and historical texts on the World Wide Web and CD-ROM. Please submit three-paper-panels or individual paper proposals to hnet97@h-net.msu.edu. H-Net will submit sessions to the AHA for joint sponsorship and will also sponsor some sessions itself as an affiliated society. The convention will meet in New York City, January 2-5, 1997.

"Government, Science, and the Environment," the biennial meeting of the **American Society for Environmental History**, will be held in Baltimore, Maryland, from March 5-9, 1997. The call for proposals is due by **August 1, 1996**. For more information, contact Jeffery Stine, National Museum of American History, MRC 629, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. 20560; fax: (202)357-4256.

Proposals for panels, roundtables, workshops, single papers, and performances are invited for an interdisciplinary conference entitled "**Defining Community, Reexamining Society**" to be held September 20-21, 1996 on the University of Michigan-Flint campus in downtown Flint, Michigan. Proposals should include a 1-2 page paper abstract and brief resumes for all participants; deadline for submission is **March 15, 1996**. Partial travel subventions may be available for conference presenters; please submit session and paper proposals to: Dr. Nora Faires, Conference Committee, Department of History, University of Michigan-Flint, Flint, MI 48502-2186; phone: (810)762-3366; fax: 766-6838; e-mail: comconfer@umich.edu

ARNOVA (Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action) invites one-page proposals for scholarly papers on any aspect of nonprofit organizations, voluntary action, philanthropy, or citizen participation. Proposals are welcome from scholars and practitioners in all disciplines and about all parts of

the world. They specifically invite graduate students to submit proposals based on their dissertation research. Panel proposals, containing three papers that concern a common theme, will receive preferential treatment. Deadline for submission is **March 15, 1996**. For information contact David C. Hammack, Department of History, Case Western Reserve University, 10900 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44106-7107; phone: (216)368-2671; E-mail: DCH3@PO.CWRU.EDU

The Eighteenth Annual **North American Labor History Conference** entitled "Memory and Re-Telling of Working Class Lives" will be held at Wayne State University, **October 17-19, 1996**. The Program Committee of the North American Labor History Conference invites proposal for panels and single papers on the theme, "Memory and Re-Telling of Working Class Lives." We are interested in sessions and/or papers which explore public and private memory in working class and labor history. Please submit panel and paper proposals (including a 1-2 page paper abstract and c.v. for each participant) by **March 1, 1996** to Elizabeth Faue, Coordinator, North American Labor History Conference, Department of History, 3094 Faculty/Administration Building, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI 48202; phone: (313)577-2525.

The **University of Nevada Press and the Nevada Humanities Committee** invite submission of manuscripts dealing with the effects of technology on the development and evolution of the American West of the 19th and 20th centuries. Submissions may be scholarly essays, imaginative non-fiction, poetry, short fiction, photography, art or other genres. The deadline for submission is **March 15, 1996**. For more information contact Stephen Tchudi, Department of English/098, University of Nevada, Reno, NE 89557-0031; phone (702)784-6755; e-mail: s_tchudi@scs.unr.edu.

Conferences, Institutes, Seminars and Workshops

The **Social Science History Association** will hold its annual conference **October 10-13, 1996**; we will meet in New Orleans, Louisiana, at the Monteleone Hotel. The SSHA is the leading interdisciplinary association in the social sciences; its annual conference attracts historians, economists, sociologists, anthropologists, political scientists, demographers, and geographers. Session topics are diverse; the full range of quantitative and qualitative

methodologies are represented. Graduate students are encouraged to attend, to appear as panelists, and to present poster exhibits. For more information contact Ann S. Orloff, Department of Sociology, University of Wisconsin, 8128 Social Science Building, 1180 Observatory Drive, Madison, WI 53706; phone (608)262-2783; (608)262-2921 (messages); fax (608)265-5389; e-mail: orloff@ssc.wisc.edu or Colleen A. Dunlavy, Department of History, University of Wisconsin, 4103 Humanities Building, Madison, WI 53706; phone (608)263-1854; (608)263-1800 (messages); fax (608)263-5302; e-mail: cdunlavy@facstaff.wisc.edu

The semiannual meeting of **New England Archivists (NEA)** will be held in conjunction with the New England Chapter of the Museum Computer Network (NEC/MCN) on **April 26-27, 1996** at Babson College in Babson Park, Mass. The theme of the meeting will be automation on archives and museums. Members of NEA should receive registration materials in the mail. For more information on meeting registration, contact Andy Martinez, NEA Registrar, Babson College Archives, Babson Park, Mass 02157; phone (617)239-4570; fax (617)239-5226; e-mail: martineza@vaxvmsx.babson.edu. For more information on the program, contact Kara Schneiderman, Program Committee Chair, The MIT Museum, 265 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02139; phone (617)253-4266; fax (617)258-9107; e-mail kara@mit.edu

The **Mississippi River and Her People** is a multi-theme educational program coordinated by the University of Memphis and the National Archives and Records Administration's Regional Archives System. You will want to attend this special one-time symposium which will be held at the Radisson Hotel in Memphis from **March 14-16, 1996**. Cultural events surround this conference, including a night on Beale Street and an afternoon on Mud Island. So if the history, science, evolution, environmental issues, and general ambience of the Mississippi River appeals to you, please obtain more information by contacting meg.hacker@ftworth.nara.gov; National Archives Southwest Region, P.O. Box 6216, Fort Worth, TX 76115; phone: (817)334-5525; fax (817)334-5621.

The **Herman Dunlap Smith Center** for the History of Cartography at the Newberry Library invites applications from college and university faculty for a summer institute, "Cartography and History: Using Maps in Teaching the Hu-

manities. Twenty Institute participants will be selected on the basis of their records as teachers and the likely impact the institute will have on their courses. Successful applicants will receive a \$1,250 stipend plus \$2,500 to cover travel and lodging expenses. Complete applications are due by **March 1, 1996**. For more information contact Tina Reithmaier, The Newberry Library, 60 West Walton Street, Chicago, IL 60610-3380; phone: (312) 255-3656.

NAGARA will hold its annual meeting on **July 17-20, 1996** in Washington, D.C. The scheduled speakers include U.S. Archivist John Carlin. For more information contact Steve Grandin, 48 Howard Street, Albany, NY 12207; phone: (518)463-8644.

The joint conference of the **Western History Association** and **Western Literature Association**, "Grasslands and Heartlands: Remembering and Representing the Great Plains in History and Literature," will be held in Lincoln, Nebraska on **October 2-5, 1996**. For more information on the history portion, contact Patricia Campbell, Convention Manager, Western History Association, University of New Mexico, 1080 Mesa Vista Hall, Albuquerque, NM 87131-1181; phone: (505)277-5234; fax: (505)277-6023; e-mail: pcamp@unm.edu. For more information on the literature portion of the conference, contact Susanne George, English Department, University of Nebraska at Kearney, Kearney, Nebraska 68849-1320; phone: (308)865-8867; fax: (308)865-8867; e-mail: georges@platte.unk.edu.

The **Eighteenth Annual Family History Conference**, co-sponsored by the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society and Lancaster County Historical Society, will be held **March 28-30, 1996**, in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Registration fees of \$30 for Society members and \$35 for non-members must be postmarked by March 15. Optional costs for the banquet are \$20 and for lunch, \$13.50. Program and registration details are available from Lola M. Lehman, Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society, 2215 Millstream Road, Lancaster, PA 17602-1499; phone: (717) 393-9745.

The Department of History and the graduate planning committee at the University of Mississippi announce the **1996 Graduate Conference on Southern History, March 8-9, 1996**. John Dittmer, author of the book *Local People*, will be the keynote speaker. For more information contact David Libby or Joe Wojak, Graduate Conference on Southern History, Department of History, University of Mississippi, University, MS 38677; fax: (601)232-7033; e-mail:

dlibby@sunset.backbone.olemiss.edu or
jwojak@sunset.backbone.olemiss.edu

The fourth annual conference on **Northern New England in the Nineteenth Century**, focusing on cultures: folk, popular, ethnic, artistic, literary, and political, will be held **June 6-8, 1996** and is sponsored by The Washburn Humanities Center in association with University of Maine and the University of Southern Maine. The annual Washburn Humanities Conference is designed to illuminate the social, cultural, political, and economic history of northern New England, the region's impact on the nation and the nation's on the region. The Conference will be held at the Washburn-Norlands Living History Center, a 445-acre site containing a restored one room school house, farmer's cottage, free standing library (housing the extensive Washburn family collections), a 200-seat 1828 Universalist Church, and the 1867 Washburn mansion. For more information, contact: Billie Gammon, Washburn Humanities Center, Norlands, RFD 2, Box 1740, Livermore Falls, ME 04254; phone: (207)897-4366 or Jerome Nadelhaft, e-mail: Nadelhft@Maine.Maine.edu

The **Organization of American Historians** Annual Meeting will be held in Chicago, at the Palmer House Hilton, **March 28-31, 1996**. The 1996 Annual Meeting Program, which includes a complete list of sessions, is now on the OAH home page: <http://www.indiana.edu/~oah>

The **Historical Archaeology Conference of the Upper Midwest 2** will be **March 29-30, 1996**. HACUM is a continuing regional forum for the presentation, discussion, and timely dissemination of historic archaeological research. The conference will consist of panels of 20-minute papers followed by discussion. A Keynote Lecture and workshops, including George Miller's seminar on historic ceramics, are being planned. Workshops will be held at the Anderson Center for Interdisciplinary Studies and paper sessions will be held at the Goodhue County Historical Society, both in Red Wing, MN. For more information contact: HACUM 2, c/o John P. McCarthy, Institute for Minnesota Archaeology, 3300 University Avenue, SE, Suite 202, Minneapolis, MN 55414.

OnSite/InSight: Humanity, Nature, and Time, a symposium on landscape history will be held on **June 22-24, 1996** at The Penn State Scanticon Conference Center Hotel, State College, Pennsylvania. OnSite/InSight will initiate a dialog between the many disciplines and professions that study, work with, create, and are inspired by landscape history. The goal of the symposium is to provide opportuni-

ties to learn, explore, and share particular insights within a multi-disciplinary community. It will also serve as a base for exploring the potential of that community to continue to meet and/or share information. The symposium is open to anyone in the many disciplines and professions that use landscape history to inform or guide their efforts including, but not limited to: artists, writers, environmental historians, planners, landscape architects, architects, art historians, geographers, garden historians, archaeologists, and environmental groups. For more information contact Roberta Moore, Conference Planner, at (814)863-1738; e-mail: rmh9@cde.psu.edu or visit our WWW home page at <http://www.cde.psu.edu/C&I/LandscapeHist-96.html>.

The annual meeting of the **North American Society For Oceanic History** will be held **March 28-31, 1996** at the historic Charlestown Naval Shipyard, now part of the National Park Service's Boston National Historic Park. The meeting will feature a thematic program focusing on U.S. maritime, naval, and diplomatic events of the 1790s, a decade which witnessed the rebirth of the U.S. Navy and the establishment of the Navy Department. For more information contact: William S. Dudley, 1996 NASOH Program Chair, Naval Historical Center, Navy Yard Bldg. 57, Washington DC 20374-5060.

The **University of Baltimore and Coppin State College** will host a public conference, **November 15-16, 1996**, focusing on new and innovative research on the history of Baltimore. The goal of the conference is to showcase new research on the struggle of the people of Baltimore to come to terms with diversity—racial, ethnic, religious, cultural, gender, and economic—at many points in their history. Co-sponsored by the Baltimore City Life Museums, Maryland Historical Society, B&O Railroad Museum, Baltimore Museum of Industry, Enoch Pratt Free Library, and Johns Hopkins University Press, conference planners are especially interested in proposals that incorporate material culture into Baltimore's history. For more information contact The Planning Committee, Baltimore History Conference, Division of Legal, Ethical, and Historical Studies, University of Baltimore, 1420 N. Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21201; e-mail: jelfenbein@ubmail.ubalt.edu; fax: (410)837-5336. Coordinators: Jessica Elfenbein, U. of Baltimore, (410)837-5340; Bettye Gardner, Coppin State College, (410)383-5565.

The third national conference of the **National Coalition of Independent**

Scholars will be hosted by the Princeton Research Forum in Princeton, N.J. on **May 3-5, 1996**. It will address the problem of pursuing scholarly research in a time of epistemological crisis and theoretical disarray. Sessions will include such topics as the relationship of research to reality, the foundations of scholarly discourse, theories of explanation, and the influence of major theories and theorists, scholarly ethics, conflicts, and tensions, the PC debate, the scholar in society, and the problems of adjunct teachers and gypsy scholars. For more information, contact Princeton Research Forum, NCIS Conference, 301 N. Harrison St., Suite 222, Princeton, NJ 08540.

Reynolda House Museum of American Art will host a multidisciplinary conference, "Cultural Responses to Colonialism," **April 26-27, 1996**. For information, contact Dr. Gloria Fitzgibbon, Coordinator of Academic Affairs, Reynolda House, Museum of American Art, P.O. Box 11765, Winston-Salem, NC 27116; fax: (910) 721-0991; e-mail: reynolda@ols.net

The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission will present a conference on "The Life and Legacy of Conrad Weiser," **November 1-2, 1996**. The symposium, to be held in Reading, Pennsylvania, will commemorate the 300th anniversary of Weiser's birth. For more information, contact Jim Lewars, Administrator, Conrad Weiser Homestead, 28 Weiser Road, Womelsdorf, PA 19567; phone: (610) 589-2934.

The Society of Historians of the Early American Republic (SHEAR) will hold its annual meeting at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee, on **July 18-21, 1996**. Among the scheduled events will be a banquet at Andrew Jackson's Nashville home, the Hermitage. For more information contact Richard R. John, History Department M/C 198, 913 University Hall, University of Illinois at Chicago, 601 South Morgan Street, Chicago, IL 60607-7109; phone: (312)996-3141; fax (312)996-6377; e-mail: RJOHN@UIC.EDU

The Ninth Annual New England Museum Association and Old Sturbridge Village Museum Archives Institute will be held at Old Sturbridge Village, Sturbridge, Massachusetts, on **April 12-13, 1996**. The Institute's introductory program is designed for the beginning archivist who works in a museum or historical society and will offer a variety of comprehensive and in-depth sessions focusing on basic archival theories and practices. For information or to register, contact Theresa Rini Percy, Research Li-

brary, Old Sturbridge Village, 1 Old Sturbridge Village Road, Sturbridge, MA 01566; phone: (508)347-3362; TDD/TTY: (508)347-5383; e-mail: BM.OSC@RLG.STANFORD.EDU or BM.OSC@RLG for RLIN users.

The National Park Service National Maritime Initiative is pleased to announce a workshop specifically designed for national, state and local park personnel who manage historic maritime resources. The workshop is scheduled for **April 1996** and will be held in Salem, Massachusetts. It is intended to be a forum for park managers, historians, archaeologists, interpreters, architects and planners to address issues involved with identifying, evaluating, maintaining, interpreting, conserving, and preserving ships, lighthouses, lifesaving stations, shipwrecks, and other maritime sights and structures. For more information contact Hallie Brooker at (202)343-8170.

Exhibits

In honor of the 75th anniversary of the Nineteenth Amendment, the Daughters of the American Revolution Museum in Washington, D.C. announces an exhibition entitled **Talking Radical in a Greenhouse: Women Writers and Women's Rights**. It is on display until April 30, 1996. The subjects of this exhibition are the women—both African-American and white—who laid the theoretical and philosophical groundwork for the suffrage movement during their fight to abolish slavery. For information contact Pam Hardin (202)879-3241.

The National Building Museum is sponsoring the following exhibits: **The Dome: Symbol of American Democracy** will be featured until April 14, 1996. This exhibition explores the origins of the dome form and its significance to the nation's lawmakers and citizens. **We Will Be Back: Oklahoma City Rebuilds** examines the profound impact the April 19, 1995 bombing has had on Oklahoma City, its citizens and on plans to re-develop the downtown area. It will be on display until March 17, 1996.

Internet News

The U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO) announces free use of its award-winning GPO Access online service. All Internet and dial-in users can now receive, at no charge, the *Congressional Record*, *Federal Register*, congressional bills, and a growing list of important government documents on the same day of publication. The web page address is:

http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/. For more information on accessing the database call (202)512-1530; e-mail: help@eids05.eids.gpo.gov.

NONPROFIT-NET (nonprofit-net@nonprofit.net) is a new list on the Internet, dedicated to the discussion of usage of the Internet by nonprofit organizations. Possible topics of discussion include use of the WWW for research, WWW and FTP as a means of distributing information, hosting of mailing lists by nonprofit organizations and other uses of the Internet by nonprofit organizations. Subscriptions are open but posting is limited to list participants. The list is hosted by the Hubris Communications and is unmoderated. For more information about the list or Hubris Communications please contact hubris@gcnet.com or see <http://www.profit.net/>. Archives of the list can be found at: <http://www.nonprofit.net/listproc/archives/nonprofit-net/>. To subscribe send the following command in the BODY of e-mail to listproc@nonprofit.net: SUB NONPROFIT-NET yourfirstname yourlastname

The **Australian Society of Archivists** has established a Listserv for the discussion of archival issues confronting Australian Archivists. However subscription is open to anyone interested in the discussion of archival theory and practice. To subscribe send the following message to: majordomo@asap.unimelb.edu.au subscribe aus-archivists; remember to leave the subject line blank.

A new global resource for scholars, librarians, writers, students, and book buyers has just been unveiled on the Internet by the **Association of American University Presses (AAUP)**. The AAUP On-line Catalog contains fully searchable bibliographic data and descriptive text from more than fifty scholarly publishers. Currently, 65,000-plus titles are represented, and this number is expected to climb rapidly to more than 100,000 titles from nearly 100 presses. The entire contents of the on-line catalog can be searched over the Internet by author, title, keywords, and Library of Congress subject headings. Searches can also be confined to specific subject areas or individual publishers. Access this resource via the World Wide Web or Gopher at: [//aaup.princeton.edu](http://aaup.princeton.edu) or [//press-gopher.uchicago.edu](http://press-gopher.uchicago.edu)

You're invited to visit electronically the historic city of Burlington, New Jersey, settled in 1677. The "Historic Burlington" WWW site is located at <http://bc.emanon.net/> and features information on dozens of historical top-

ics. Also included are information on city government and schools, community groups, an events calendar, and indices of local businesses, some of which have placed product and service information on-line.

The Civil War Letters of Galutia York are now on the World Wide Web at the address: <http://exlibris.colgate.edu/gyork/gyork1st.html> Galutia York was the 19-year old son of a farm family from Hubbardsville in Madison County, New York. He enlisted in the 114th NYSV in August of 1862 and served until May of 1863 when he died in Louisiana. Forty-eight of his letters are housed in the Special Collections Department of Colgate University. The materials have been inventoried, cataloged, and transcribed, and are now accessible through the World Wide Web.

The History Computerization Project, sponsored by the Regional History Center of the University of Southern California and the Los Angeles City Historical Society, has as its goal the creation of a history information network for the exchange of historical information. The computer project's Internet address is <http://www.history.la.ca.us/history>.

The American Historical Association is pleased to announce the launching of a World Wide Web page. Sponsored by The Center for History and New Media at George Mason University, the AHA web page is designed to make information available to AHA members as well as to other individuals. Along with upcoming programs, pamphlet and publication information, as well as non-copyrighted texts, we will begin placing Announcements from the back of *Perspectives* on the Web as well. As many of our members know, not all announcements make it into *Perspectives*. It is hoped that this forum will provide additional space that will allow us to expand not only the Announcements, but also a whole range of services. The current address for this page is: <http://web.gmu.edu/chnm/aha>

The University of Virginia Library is pleased to announce the availability of its current exhibition "Arise and Build! A Centennial Commemoration of the 1895 Rotunda Fire" on the World Wide Web at the URL: <http://www.lib.virginia.edu/exhibits/rotunda/>

The Chicago Historical Society has a new website. The URL is <http://www.chicagohs.org>.

The Regional History Project at the University Library, **UC Santa Cruz** is proud to announce the construction of

our oral history Web Site. The URL is <http://www.ucsc.edu/library/reg-hist/index.html>

Positions Available

The Cultural Resources Group of Kise, Franks and Straw, an architectural, planning and cultural resources/historic preservation consulting firm in Philadelphia, PA, is seeking applicants for a full-time position. The Cultural Resources Group provides consulting services to public and private sector clients throughout the Mid-Atlantic Region. The majority of the work involves Section 106 compliance including identification of resources, assessment of eligibility and effects, and mitigation of adverse effects. At the moment, virtually all of the work entails above the ground resources, although they anticipate adding a limited archaeological capacity within the next year. They are seeking a mid-level person with a graduate degree in history, historic preservation, architectural history, or related field, preferably with Section 106 experience. Please send a resume to Patrick O'Bannon, Director, Cultural Resources Group, Kise, Franks and Straw, 219 N. Broad Street, 9th floor, Philadelphia, PA 19107.

The University of Washington, Tacoma (established fall 1990) is seeking a public historian who can thrive and build a program in the promising surroundings of Washington state. Duties include teaching upper-division undergraduate public history courses and directing internships, building institutional ties and working with varied community groups (labor, military, business, ethnic, etc.) and teaching in our multicultural interdisciplinary Liberal Studies Program. We seek candidates who will have their PhDs by the time of employment, hands-on experience in public history (preferably with an urban focus ranging from architectural history to urban geography to public policy studies). This is a tenure-track, assistant professorship, pending budgetary approval. We will conduct interviews in April at the National Council on Public History meeting in Seattle. Appointment effective September 16, 1996. We are building a diverse, multicultural faculty and staff strongly encourage women and members of ethnic minorities to apply. Send letter of application, resume, three letters of recommendation, graduate transcripts, and a syllabus for one public history and one liberal studies course to: Public History/Liberal Studies Search Committee, Liberal Studies Program, UW Tacoma, 1103 A Street, Tacoma, WA 98402. Priority will be given to applications received before March 1,

1996. For information on our campus, contact our home page on the World Wide Web at: <http://www-uwt.u.washington.edu/> The University of Washington is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer.

Publications

The Mission Bells that Never Rang, a book detailing the bells of California missions, has been published. These bells are also being replicated by the Channel Island Wood Carvers in Ventura, California. For a copy of this book, please contact Joe Campbell, Borden Publishing, 2623 San Fernando Rd., CA 90065; phone: (213) 223-4267.

The Hagley Museum and Library announces the publication of two new guides to its research collections: **Industrial and Commercial Architecture, and Business and the State**. Both provide overviews of material in Hagley's extensive manuscript, imprints, and photographic collections pertinent to those subjects. For a free copy, contact the Center for the History of Business, Technology, and Society, Hagley Museum and Library, P.O. Box 3630, Wilmington DE 19807, (302)658-2400, or e-mail: crl@strauss.udel.edu.

Tennessee History is a new publication devoted to history work in the Volunteer State. The quarterly newsletter covers news in teaching and education, historic sites and museums, historical societies and organizations, historic preservation, archives and libraries, folklore and folklife, patriotic societies, and genealogy. For more information, write The Association for Tennessee History, P.O. Box 120735, Nashville, TN 37212.

The Proceedings of the First Historical Archaeology Conference of the Upper Midwest is being offered at this time at the special pre-publication price of \$24.00. For more information contact HACUM c/o John P. McCarthy, Institute for Minnesota Archaeology, 3300 University Avenue, S.E., Suite 202, Minneapolis, MN 55414.

Harcourt, Brace and Company has published **My Fellow Americans: A Family Album** by Caldecott medalist Alice Provensen. The 64-page book, designed for children but useful for all ages, presents the American experience through the lives of key personalities that have shaped our development as a people and a nation. Drawing on all levels of U.S. history and culture, the book includes expansive headings such as "The Impassioned Fights for Freedom and Equal Rights" and "The Great National Pastime: Pacesetters and Groundbreakers."

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