LIFE AT THE GREENBRIER FOR A HISTORIAN

by Robert Conte

Holding a relatively rare position as the historian for a five star resort characterized by a lovely mountain setting, fine dining, championship golf and gracious service, I am rather accustomed to being asked not only how did I get this job but just what is it that I do anyway? First of all, it helps to know that The Greenbrier has been in the business of being a resort for over two hundred years, if we start counting from the earliest use of the White Sulphur Springs as a medicinal agent in the 1770s. So this is a historic property, a National Historic Landmark.

By the outbreak of the Civil War, White Sulphur Springs was well established as one of the most famous resorts in the United States. Indeed, it had a reputation as the spot where the Southern gentry gathered each summer to engage in business, politics, and courtship. During the twentieth century it has been transformed into a luxury resort with the building of The Greenbrier Hotel in 1913 and the addition of a golf course that same year. Sam Snead has been the golf...
Another way, the staff at The Greenbrier pretty much has its hands full meeting the day to day demands of guests who arrive with fairly high expectations of service levels. I would like to be able to tell you that I studied the resort’s operations, pinpointed this problem and submitted a skillfully drafted proposal to fill the gap. This is not exactly how it happened.

An effort to collect and inventory a sizeable quantity of historical material—old publicity photographs, volumes of newspaper scrapbooks, outdated promotional literature, hotel registers, miscellaneous office files—had begun in the 1970s but the person in charge retired early due to health problems. Thus, all that “old stuff” was promptly put into large hotel laundry bins and rolled up into the attic. No wonder no one in the public relations department could ever find that article about Robert E. Lee’s visits or that wartime photograph of General Eisenhower! In other words, The Greenbrier needed to create its own manuscript collection—it’s easier to call it an archives—and I, by a stroke of good fortune, met the General Manager and presented him with a resume that showed that I was the right person for the job. (I had, in fact, worked at the Western Reserve Historical Society in Cleveland, Ohio, while in graduate school at Case Western Reserve University and worked on a grant-supported project at the National Archives in Washington, D.C.)

That may explain how this job was created but it also goes a long way to explaining what I do on a day to day basis in this resort setting. The archives remain the central part of the job because it is the information center—the database, I suppose. However, it became clear pretty fast that the job would not last long if I stayed locked away with the archival materials. One must contribute to the ongoing mission of the institution and a central tenet of what The Greenbrier is about is guest service. So I initiated historical tours of the property and slide-based historical presentations to guests which by now are a regular feature of the resort’s activities program. At the same time, the archives allowed me to become a source of internal information and to answer questions that arose within various departments of the resort. Eventually, these presentations became part of the orientation for all new employees. The lesson here is that the value of historical information is not immediately apparent to people busily running a resort. In a business environment, historians need to demonstrate the uses of history in very concrete terms.

I should note that long before my arrival, The Greenbrier was very professional here for the better part of sixty years. In World War II, the US State Department used The Greenbrier to intern hundreds of German, Japanese, and Italian diplomats and their families while they awaited exchange for American diplomats stranded in overseas capitals. After this seven-month episode the US Army took over the resort and for four years used it as a 2,000-bed hospital where 25,000 wounded soldiers recuperated. In recent years The Greenbrier has received widespread publicity as the location of an underground emergency relocation center—that is, a top-secret fallout shelter—for the US Congress throughout the Cold War.

As this quick overview might indicate, the resort has had a highly varied past, one that connects to a number of larger events in the nation’s history. This alone, it seems, should justify the hiring of a full-time historian, but as is usually the case I was hired to solve a problem. And that problem was quite simple: no one could find pertinent pieces of historical information when needed. Or put

Some of the cottages on the resort grounds date back to the 1830s.
MUSEUM COMPLEX TO FOCUS ON NATIVE AMERICAN, AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL HERITAGE

by Nick Clark

A public-private partnership has been established to develop one of the largest cultural attractions in Indiana and the Midwest. The Museums At Prophetstown, being built on a 338-acre campus near Lafayette, Indiana (45 minutes northwest of Indianapolis), will focus on Woodland Great Lakes Native American Culture and family farm agriculture of the 1920s, and include a replication of a 200-acre savanna prairie. The complex will sit at the center of the new 3,000-acre Prophetstown State Park, which will have environmental and cultural preservation as its theme. The State of Indiana provided the land for the museum complex and will spend about $75 million to develop the park over the next 10 years. The $25 million needed for museum development, as well as annual operating costs estimated to be $4 million, will be raised privately by the museum corporation.

Nick Clark, who is Prophetstown’s founding executive director, began his career teaching secondary school history. In recent years, he has developed museums in Kansas, Wisconsin, Oregon, and at Muncie, Indiana. Clark is very interested in this project because he is of Native American descent and also possesses an agricultural background. For the past 13 years, Clark, who is chair of the Prophetstown Council for Preservation of Great Lakes Native American Culture, has been working with twenty Great Lakes Woodland Tribes to lay plans for this project. “It has been a pleasure to work with tribal leaders to establish a vision, choose Native American architects, and develop exhibits and interpretive themes,” says Clark. “We are now in the middle of building a village, which simulates the original 1810 Prophetstown. [Prophetstown was the settlement of Shawnee Leader Tecumseh and his brother Tenskwatawa, “The Prophet.”] Soon, we will begin construction of the 65,000 square foot Woodland Native American Cultural Complex, which will have an exhibit and education wings and will be equipped with a distance learning center. Lastly, we will construct a circa AD 150 Middle Woodland Village.” Clark noted that it is rewarding to know that there will be a major Great Lakes Native American intertribal museum that will exhibit and interpret 10,000 years of Woodland/Great Lakes culture. But even more exciting are the tools that this facility will offer in cultural preservation. "The

Robert Conte is the historian at The Greenbrier, in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia.
synergisms of twenty tribes have been very attractive to funding agencies," claims Clark, and that "will allow us to do some major linguistics, arts and traditional crafts programs. We'll be one of the few museums in the world constructed by the actual descendants of the original village occupants and using traditional methods and tools," Clark said.

Throughout the development process, the museum planners have drawn on the expertise of nearby Purdue University, which has assisted in the planning and development of both the Wabash Valley Living History Farm and the Prophetstown Prairie Environmental Center. "We have more than 40 current and retired Purdue faculty members helping on various committees," said Clark. "They have brought to this project a vast amount of expertise which has allowed us to move forward quickly."

The 88-acre working farm will feature a replica of a 1918 Sears & Roebuck catalogue farmstead, the plan for which came from a contest sponsored by Sears in 1916 to design "The Farm of the Future." The farm will interpret the tremendous technological and social changes, which followed World War I. "We're not going to romanticize anything," Clark says. "We're just going to try and show visitors, who don't live on or know anything about farms, where their food comes from and how much work it takes to produce it."

During 1998 and 1999, the museum planted 220-acres of savanna prairie in what had been soybean fields. "We hired the best consultants to tell us what types of plants were needed and then bought seeds which have Indiana genotypes. It is very important not to include the more aggressive Kansas and Nebraska genotypes," noted Clark. "Native Americans in this area burned prairies in the fall to promote growth of wildflowers, herbs and medicine plants, not grasses. Prairies were burned in the spring in Kansas and Nebraska to promote grasses and hold back other plants. It caused the project cost to rise about 1000%, but we're obligated to educate our visitors and let them know the facts," concluded the museum director.

Sitting atop a high bluff at the campus entrance will be the Kampen Eagle Wing Visitor and Education Center. The 25,000 square foot structure, designed by Tuscarora architect Ken Rhyne, will include a theater, exhibition hall, three education suites, and a full-service restaurant. "The museums are located within 40 percent of the entire American population and have direct access to the major Chicago/Indianapolis interstate route. We are anticipating 1 million visitors to the state park, half of which will visit the museums," noted Clark. "We've got to be prepared to serve 150,000 school children each year. The Kampen Center is essential if we are to meet that objective."

All visitors to the complex will be
shuttled from the Kampen Eagle Wing Center to other museums on the campus. Planners felt that it was a contradiction to have 5,000 cars driving around the campus when a major theme of the museums focused on the natural environment. "Our site architects have even designed a new kind of road surface which is earth colored rather than black asphalt," said Clark. "Our Native American representatives have really helped us focus on making this campus earthy friendly. All sewage treatment will be accomplished in constructed wetland areas without the use of chemicals. We're hoping this museum complex and park will set the example for future projects."

All three of the interpretive themes at the Prophetstown site emphasize endangered themes. "We've got a long way to go, but each journey starts one step at a time. Many of the Great Lakes Tribes are struggling to keep their language and traditions alive," said Clark. "Likewise, in 1828, Tippecanoe County, Indiana, had over 300,000 acres of prairie. Only one acre of native prairie remains today. In 1920, fully 90 percent of the American population lived on the farm. Today, it is less than 5 percent. We really have to go to work right now if we are to collect, preserve and interpret these three important components of our heritage. Prophetstown is just a "postage stamp" of America and its programs will be of great benefit to the public."

"We've based our efforts to develop the new museum on the original Prophetstown of 1808," Clark noted. "Tecumseh, Tenskwatawa, and their tribal partners established a strong confederacy to preserve the Woodland homelands and culture. The new Prophetstown is also a strong union but the players include a very diverse group. Great Lakes Tribes, academics and non-academics, traditional artists and craftspeople, over 2,000 volunteers, and a wide range of funding sources are working together to ensure that the Museum achieves its goal to preserve and interpret three important elements of Great Lakes history. And this time, Prophetstown must be successful in its efforts," Clark concluded enthusiastically.

Construction on the museum complex is well underway. The Museums At Prophetstown will open in phases, beginning in the summer of 2000 and continuing through the summer of 2005. For more information, call 765-423-4617, or visit the Museum website at: www.prophetstown.org

Nick Clark is the founding executive director of The Museums At Prophetstown in Lafayette, IN.
Call for Papers and Presentations

National Council on Public History
2001 Annual Meeting

Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
April 18-22, 2001

The National Council on Public History invites proposals for sessions, papers, panels, roundtables, poster sessions, and workshops for the 2001 Annual Meeting to be held in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. The Program Committee encourages presentations that emphasize the role of public history in shaping national culture, national identity, or cultural identity, and that address the conference theme, Belonging: Public Historians and Place. Broad topic suggestions include:

- cultural tourism and cultural identity
- cultural landscapes: associative, organically evolved, and designed
- indigenous rights movements and the reconsideration of national identity
- place as a palimpsest: cultural diversity, environmental impact, social conflict
- transnational aspects of cultural identity
- heritage education, community history, and national identity
- corporate memory and institutional identity

Complete session and panel proposals are encouraged, although the Program Committee will make reasonable effort to construct sessions from topically related individual presentation proposals.

Session and panel proposals must include a cover page with a one-paragraph descriptive overview of the session or panel and a list of participants: chair or moderator, presenters or panelists, and commentator, if any. The cover page must be followed by one-page summaries of each presentation and brief resumes for all participants. Information submitted for each participant should include all pertinent contact information: complete mailing address, phone number(s), and email address.

Workshop proposals should follow NCPH guidelines, which are available on the NCPH website: www.iupui.edu/~ncph. Guidelines may also be obtained from one of the Program Committee Co-Chairs or from the NCPH Executive Director's Office.

The Program Committee encourages electronic submittals, in which case proposals should be transmitted to all members of the committee simultaneously (email addresses listed below). If using regular mail, please submit FIVE copies of each proposal to: 2001 Program Committee, National Council on Public History, 327 Cavanaugh Hall-IUPUI, 425 University Boulevard, Indianapolis, IN 46202-5140.


For further information, contact any of the following committee members:
David Neufeld, Co-Chair, 867/667-3913 or dave_neufeld@pch.gc.ca
Rebecca Conard, Co-Chair, 615/898-2423 or rconard@mtsu.edu
Robert Carriker, 318/482-5417 or Carriker@usl.edu
Paula Hamilton, 61-02-9514-2309 or Paula.Hamilton@uts.edu.au
Robert Weible, 717/783-9867 or rweible@phmc.state.pa.us
An overseas teaching experience usually provides unanticipated insights into one's profession. This was the case for me as I met with my Chinese students and colleagues in Nanjing, China during the days following the US bombing of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Belgrade last May.

This past academic year, I enjoyed the opportunity to serve as the Houghton Freeman Professor of American History at the Johns Hopkins University Graduate Center for Chinese and American Studies at Nanjing University. The experience was in many ways a career highlight, as I was placed in contact with dozens of bright and enthusiastic Chinese graduate students in a stimulating learning environment.

Immediately following the news of the bombing, Chinese students began angry demonstrations in all of China's major cities. Because it was the most visible symbol of an American presence in Nanjing, our Johns Hopkins compound was encircled by thousands of demonstrators. Television, newspapers and other state-controlled media carried pictures of the ruined embassy and three embassy workers who died in the attack. Meanwhile, numerous academics from China's leading universities were quoted or presented on television as authoritative "talking heads." All expressed precisely the same view: that "US-led NATO" had no right to interfere in Yugoslavia's domestic affairs, that the US was trying "to establish its hegemony" in the region, and that the attack on the embassy was not accidental but a deliberate American effort to intimidate China.

I asked one of my Chinese colleagues if he would be appearing on television or quoted in the newspapers on the embassy bombing issue. This well-known historian replied that he had declined all requests, telling reporters he was too busy. He said the media did not really want his views or those of any "experts" whose opinion did not completely endorse the government line. Indeed, for weeks and weeks absolutely nothing on the bombing incident or the NATO mission in Kosovo appeared in the news media that did not adhere to the government line. Not one public voice of dissent appeared anywhere.

The government's action in China was an effective form of academic censorship. When asked, I told my Chinese colleagues that in the United States academics could speak their mind freely and openly, and that the news media tried to present a variety of viewpoints. However, as a public historian, I had to qualify my statement on American academic freedom. I had to explain the subtle forms of censorship that exist for historians not protected by tenure and ivy-covered walls. Historians working in museums and historical agencies (who probably provide the most historical information the general public receives) do not enjoy lifetime tenure. They know that controversy can lead to a loss of funding or even program elimination at the hands of government bureaucrats or elected public officials.

My experience in China caused me to rethink freedom of speech and how it applies to interpreting history to a wide public audience. Public historians understand that constitutional guarantees of freedom of speech may keep the ax from falling on one's neck, but one's budget appropriation enjoys no such constitutional protection.
The vineyards are great, but the laborers are few. 
Edmund O. Hovey, 1831

This past September, I had plans to attend a conference in Vermont to present a paper on my research of the past decade. Suddenly met with a cancelled flight to the East Coast due to Hurricane Floyd, I embarked upon an exciting, though somewhat harrowing, twelve-hour drive from Cleveland to Montpelier. Needless to say, although I had to contend with some rather serious inclement weather, this drive did give me quite a bit of time to think.

As I passed a vineyard in southern New York, Edmund Hovey’s remark immediately came to mind. A graduate of Dartmouth College in 1828 and an 1831 graduate of Andover Theological Seminary in Massachusetts, Edmund was a Presbyterian minister who went into the “destitute West” (i.e. Indiana). Under the auspices of the American Home Missionary Society, Hovey served a couple small congregations and eventually assisted with the founding of Wabash College in 1832. He recognized that the West was so vast and that its needs were so great, but expressed concern that the “laborers were few.”

What struck me about this early 19th century remark was its applicability to the field of public history today. Indeed, public history has come a long way since its official beginning a couple decades ago. Dozens of public history programs now exist throughout the US and Canada and serve a growing body of students interested in entering the field. There are more practicing public historians, serving the diverse audiences that the discipline seeks, and more “traditional academic” historians who have become supportive of, as well as involved in, the public aspects of the profession. Furthermore, the awareness of the profession and the opportunities that it presents continue to grow. But still, the vineyards do remain great, and our laborers are indeed few. Though just as those few early missionaries ultimately affected the society and culture of 1830s Indiana and laid the foundation for today’s society, so too public historians are working to build a more publicly-oriented history for present and future generations.

While I get rather distressed and frustrated by those historians who can not (or refuse) to connect with the public, I am encouraged by evidence that public historians and their institutions are indeed having the desired positive impact in building bridges between diverse audiences. I can cite two recent examples of this success. The conference that I attended in Montpelier was hosted by the Vermont Historical Society and focused on its newly opened exhibit, “Generations of Change: Vermont, 1820-1850.” This symposium brought together scholars, museum professionals, students, lay historians, and members of the general public to examine the themes of religion, reform, and work in antebellum Vermont. The papers delivered by participants and the discussions that ensued clearly demonstrated that scholars and the public, sharing a similar enthusiasm about state history, could communicate with and learn from each other.

Earlier in the summer, I had participated in a conference marking the grand opening of the new Indiana Historical Society headquarters in Indianapolis. Entitled “The State of Indiana History 2000,” the conference brought together historians from around the state to examine the work done on education, Native Americans, religion, women, urban history, among other topics, including public history. Again, this forum provided the opportunity for the public to attend sessions led by professional historians to explore what has been done in Indiana history and what topics still need to be addressed.

The meetings in Vermont and Indiana proved to be ideal venues for scholars and the public to pursue a common goal of preserving, interpreting, and studying the past. But, most importantly, these gatherings also became, as one speaker labeled the Vermont symposium, a “call to arms” to encourage greater awareness of and involvement in historical work. Through these discussions, participants were able to identify fields and issues that require new or more in-depth analysis by scholars; topics to be explored by graduate students for class projects, theses, or dissertations; and potential exhibits for museums and historical societies. Both meetings also highlighted the need for greater advocacy on historical issues, including historic preservation and access to public records, and encouraged collaborations between colleges and universities, humanities councils, businesses, government, and the general public.

I congratulate both historical societies for sponsoring these conferences and look forward to the new historical work that will emerge from those gatherings. I also commend the many other historical agencies and institutions that are committed to programming that bring scholars and the general public together to explore the past. Still, the tasks of reaching the public remain great. I hope that you, as an NCPH member and supporter of public history, will continue to encourage students, colleagues, and institutions to join the National Council on Public History and to help us with our ambitious work in “the vineyards.” I guarantee that it will be an enlightening and enriching experience, one that will surely bear much fruit.
by Page Putnam Miller, Director of the National Coordinating Committee for the Promotion of History <pagem@capaccess.org>

House Resources Committee Approves Reauthorization of Historic Preservation Fund—On 30 June the House Resources Committee approved H.R.834, a bill to reauthorize the Historic Preservation Fund through 2005. This bill provides for revenues from one non-renewal resource, in this case the royalties generated by the sale of oil leases on the Outer Continental Shelf, to be placed in a fund to preserve another non-renewable resource, historic properties and sites. The authorization of this fund expired in 1997 and no deposits have been made into the Fund since then. In addition to reauthorizing the Historic Preservation Fund, which plays an important role in funding state historic preservation programs, this legislation provides statutory authority for Executive Order 13006 which calls on federal agencies to give high priority to the use of historic buildings when selecting sites for federal facilities.

Slow Progress in Trial to Determine Value of Nixon Tapes and Records—In December 1998 Judge John Garrett Penn of the US District Court opened the trial in the case of William Griffin and John Taylor v. The U.S. of America (Case No. 80-3227), in which the representatives of the Nixon Estate were seeking “just compensation” from the US for the Nixon tapes and materials. Nixon brought this suit in 1980 claiming that he deserved compensation for his presidential materials, which include 17,000 hours of dictaphone, telephone, and tape recordings, and 44 million pieces of paper. Acting in accordance with the Presidential Recordings and Materials Preservation Act, the government took these materials in 1974 and placed them under the custody of the National Archives. In April 1999 the two sides completed the presentation of witnesses and have been preparing their final written conclusions. Closing argument will be presented in the fall. The Judge will probably issue an opinion six months to a year later. The Courts encouraged the Nixon Estate and the US Government to reach a settlement and to avoid a trial; but after years of negotiations, the parties failed to reach such an agreement. The Nixon Estate is seeking compensation of $213 million, which its claims to be the “fair market value” in 1974 dollars with compounded interest for 24 years. The Justice Department contends that the documents had been created by public officials, at public expense, on public equipment for the public’s benefit and that the Nixon Estate should receive no compensation. Prior to the passage of the 1978 Presidential Records Act, which states that the federal government retains complete ownership and control of presidential records, presidents donated their papers to the National Archives to be part of the Presidential Library system.

Another Setback for Declassification—On 5 August the House/Senate Conference Committee issued a Conference Report, H. Rep. 106-501, on S.1059, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2000. This legislation not only includes a 75 percent decrease in Pentagon funding for declassification but also will have the effect of ending the practice of automatic declassification, a provision of the Executive Order 12958 that many in the scholarly community considered one its most important contributions. Executive Order 12958 gives agencies a five year grace period to review on a page-by-page basis the most potentially sensitive documents over 25 years old and calls for the automatic declassification, after the 5 year period, of all the records that had not been reviewed. Because of the prohibitive costs of page-by-page review, the only way to tackle the enormous backlog of older classified material is a combination of page-by-page review of the very sensitive material and automatic declassification of the less sensitive material. But the conference report expresses grave misgivings about automatic declassification, stating: “The conferees do not believe that it would be in the national security interest of the United States to declassify records that would otherwise remain classified, simply because the review of those records has not yet been completed.” The conference committee has developed a procedure by which all records declassified under Executive Order 12958, except those that an agency head certifies as “highly unlikely” to contain sensitive nuclear weapons information, shall be re-reviewed. As a practical matter, under these procedures, only a few groups of Defense and Department of Energy records will be deemed as being “highly unlikely” to contain sensitive nuclear weapons information. Thus the report will require a page-by-page re-review of large numbers of documents that have already been declassified under Executive Order 12958 because of concerns about “inadequate or incorrect declassification decisions.” Despite the fact that only a very few inappropriate declassification decisions...
Lee W. Formwalt became the new Executive Director of the Organization of American Historians on 1 October 1999. He replaced Arnita A. Jones, who had served the organization for 11 years and who now heads the American Historical Association in Washington, D.C. Formwalt received a five-year contract for the professional organization that is headquartered at Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana. Previously, he served as Professor of History and Dean of the Graduate School at Albany State University in Albany, Georgia, and President of the Georgia Association of Historians. OAH President David Montgomery is “honored and delighted that Lee Formwalt will take up the responsibilities of Executive Director.” “His rich experience,” says Montgomery, “and creative activity as a teacher, editor, administrator, academic innovator, and public historian offer exciting promise for the future development of the OAH.”

Born in Springfield, Massachusetts, Formwalt has lived and worked for more than twenty years in Georgia. While rising through the ranks in the Albany State University Department of History, Formwalt founded The Journal of Southwest Georgia History and has served as editor since 1983. Much of his scholarly career has been devoted to recounting the life and work of Benjamin Henry Latrobe, the English-born architect who designed the magnificent Roman Catholic Cathedral in Baltimore and served as architect of the United States Capitol under Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, and James Monroe. In addition to his dissertation on Latrobe’s role in developing and promoting internal improvements in the New Republic, Formwalt helped turn the architect’s prodigious corpus of writings into five volumes of the published Papers of Benjamin Henry Latrobe (Yale, 1977-1986). He also published articles on African-American politics in Georgia after the Civil War, interracial marriage during Reconstruction, cotton production in the Confederacy, and late eighteenth-century U.S.-Creek relations. At Albany State, he taught courses in Russian history, world history, southern and Georgia history, and historical methods, and has directed several advanced high school workshops. Most recently, he was instrumental in securing three grants totaling $1.2 million to realize a special sort of dream: the conversion of Old Mount Zion Church—where Martin Luther King spoke in the early 1960’s—into the Albany Civil Rights Movement Museum. He has been an active OAH member for almost thirty years, and belongs to a dozen other scholarly organizations. “In addition to continuing the OAH’s leadership in American history scholarship, I want to reach out to historians practicing at all levels of the profession by building stronger links with state and regional historical organizations,” says Formwalt. “One thing that all historians have in common is their role as teachers. For many of us that role is played out in a classroom; for others it takes place in a museum, a national or state park, public or private archives, or a research library. Research historians produce works that teachers then use in the classroom.” In the end, notes Formwalt, “we are all engaged in the process of helping others to think about and understand the past.”

NCPH congratulates Lee Formwalt on his appointment to the Executive Directorate of OAH. We look forward to a strong working relationship in the years ahead.

The Consultants Working Group Committee (CWGC) is dedicated to promoting the interests of NCPH members who provide historical services as consultants or contractors. The CWGC wishes to highlight professional accomplishments among contract historians, contract firms, and other independent researchers. Forward news of finished projects, contract awards, contract report publications, ongoing oral history projects, or anything else that might be of interest to practicing historians. E-mail items to Jason Gart, Consultants Working Group Committee at gartjh@asu.edu. Please be sure to include your full name and address.

The Trustees of the new Presidio National Park, part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area in San Francisco, selected filmmaker George Lucas as the preferred developer of the park complex, a former military base. As part of the redevelopment, 900,000 square feet of the park will be developed into a mixed-use office park to house Lucasfilm, Ltd.


The Public Historian is requesting articles by contractors and/or clients that speak to the experiences of preparing contract histories. For further information contact Lindsey Reed, Managing Editor, at lreed@descartes.ucsb.edu.

Valerie Metzler has established archives for Gwin, Dobson & Foreman, Inc., an engineering firm in Altoona, Pennsylvania.
Workshop on Fur Trade is Planned

The story of the North American fur trade is a major part of the shared history of Canada and the United States. On both sides of the border federal and local agencies have preserved or reconstructed posts that were significant in fur trade history. The source material needed to tell the story of the fur trade is scattered in libraries on both sides of the border. Interpreters, conservators, archeologists, and historians both in the US and Canada have much to learn from each other about how to study and explain the meaning of the fur trade through historic sites. The National Council on Public History proposes a joint venture between Parks Canada and the National Park Service to generate new ideas about interpreting this very old chapter in our history.

These three organizations will co-sponsor a two-day workshop entitled, “Interpreting and Preserving Fur Trade History: Old, New Stories,” to be held at Grand Portage National Monument in September 2000. The workshop will include site visits to fur trade related sites both in the United States and in Canada, most notably Old Fort William. The goal will be to identify topics for further exploration in formal sessions at the public history conference scheduled to meet in Ottawa in the spring of 2001 and possibly for publication in a collection of papers. Ideally, an important dividend from collaboration on the topic of the fur trade will be a closer relationship in the future between Parks Canada and the National Park Service, the largest and most important public history agencies of their respective countries.

If you are interested in participating in this workshop and/or have suggestions for themes or individuals to be included, contact: Donald J. Stevens, Midwest Regional Office, National Park Service, 1709 Jackson St., Omaha, Nebraska 68102-2571, (402)221-3915, don_stevens@nps.gov; Theodore J. Karamanski, Department of History, Loyola University, Chicago, IL 60626, (773)508-2684, tkarama@luc.edu; Robert Coutts, Parks Canada, 457 main St. Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B3E3, (204)983-2023, BobCouts@PHC.gc.ca

New Members

Ellen Babb, Largo, FL
Donna Bichard, Takoma Park, MD
Eisenhower National Historic Site, Gettysburg, PA
Martin Firestein, Skokie, IL
Jean Fulton, Las Cruces, NM
James Klotter, Lexington, KY
Lindsey Lambert, Randleman, NC
Maria Quinlan Leiby, Lansing, MI
Barbara Levy, Newton, MA
James Melzer, Rockville, MD
National Archives of India, New Delhi, India
Cynthia Parker, Chandler, AZ
Claire Pillsbury, Connecticut Historical Society, Hartford, CT
Paul Reber, Washington D.C.
Jennifer Stevens, Piedmont, CA
Rachel Tocher, Saint Paul, MN
Susan Zietkiewicz, Lyons, CO

> Members continued from pg. 1

Southern Oregon Historical Society and Southern Oregon Public Television, Certificate of Commendation for the production, “An Air Minded City.”


Constance Schulz has been promoted to the rank of Professor at the University of South Carolina. This promotion was the first that used new criteria that integrated recognition of public history, scholarly, and other professional activities into the general departmental criteria for promotion and tenure.

Linda Flint McClelland, historian with the National Park Service, is the recipient of the Henry Adams Prize from the Society for History in the Federal Government for her book Building the National Parks (Johns Hopkins, 1998).
Please make the following additions and/or corrections to the information contained in the Summer 1999 issue of Public History News.

Patrons and Sponsors, page 14: Website address for Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission is www.phmc.state.pa.us.

Committees, pages 14-19:
Add to the Endowment Committee: Patrick O'Bannon
128 South Broad St., Suite 1270
Philadelphia, PA 19109
Phone: (215) 790-1050; Fax 561-1554
Email: pobannon@ksk1.com

Add to the TPH Editorial Board: Cary Carson (95-00)
The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation
Williamsburg, VA 23185
Phone: (757) 229-1500 x7436; Fax 220-0779
ccarson@widomaker.com

James Gardner (95-00)
4000 Massachusetts Ave NW #228
Washington, DC 20016
Phone: 202-863-3420; Fax 785-3948
jbgardner@compuserve.com

Roger Launius (98-00)
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
NASA History Division
NASA Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546
Phone: (202) 388-0384
roger.launius@hq.nasa.gov

Eric Sandweiss (99-00)
Missouri Historical Society
PO Box 11940
St. Louis, MO 63112-0040
Phone: (314) 746-4561
sesandwe@jinx.umsl.edu

Robert L. Spude (98-00)
National Park Service
PO Box 723
Santa Fe, NM 87504
Phone: (505) 988-6770; Fax 988-6876
Bob_Spude@nps.gov

Kathi Ann Brown
Milestones Historical Consultants
2608 Jefferson Park Circle
Charlottesville, VA 22903
Phone: (804) 923-8720; Fax 923-8721
KathiBrown@aol.com

Paul H. Mattingly
Department of History
New York University
53 Washington Square South, Room 508
New York, NY 10012
Phone: (212) 998-8631; Fax 995-4017
phm2@is2.nyu.edu

Rebecca Conard
Department of History, Box 23
Middle Tennessee State University
Murfreesboro, TN 37132
Phone: (615) 898-2432; Fax 898-5882
rconard@mtsu.edu

Donald L. Stevens, Jr.
National Park Service
1709 Jackson Street
Omaha, NE 68102-2571
Phone: (402) 221-3915
don_stevens@nps.gov

Robert R. Weyeneth
Department of History
University of South Carolina
Columbia, SC 29208
Phone: (803) 777-6398
weyeneth@sc.edu

Add to Historians and the National Park Committee:
Jeff Pappas (1997-2000)
Department of History
Arizona State University
Tempe, AZ 85287
Phone: (602) 965-5778; Fax 965-0310

Add to the Endowment Committee:
Jeff Pappas (1997-2000)
Department of History
Arizona State University
Tempe, AZ 85287
Phone: (602) 965-5778; Fax 965-0310

Department of Humanities
Pennsylvania State University
Harrisburg, PA 17057
Phone: (717) 948-6189

Karen Byrne (1999-2001)
National Park Service
505 N. Roosevelt Blvd, #B204
Falls Church, VA 22044
Phone: (703) 552-8254
Email: karen_byrne@nps.gov

Andrew Gulliford (1999-2001)
Department of History
Middle Tennessee State University
F.O. Box 23
Murfreesboro, TN 37132
Phone: (615) 898-2544; Fax 898-5538
Email: agulliford@compuserve.com
Email: agulliford@mtsu.edu

Jeffrey Brown (1999-2001)
Department of History
New Mexico State University
Las Cruces, NM 88003
Phone: (505) 646-2003
Email: jbrown@nmsu.edu

Randall M. Miller (1998-2001)
St. Joseph's University
244 Sagamore Road
Havertown, PA 19083
Phone: (610) 853-1370

NEW NCPH GRADUATE INTERN

The NCPH Executive Offices welcomes a new graduate intern for the 1999-2000 school year. Mary Taylor is a first year student in the public history program at IUPUI. She graduated from Purdue University in May 1999 with a Bachelors Degree. While at Purdue, she majored in history and was involved in Phi Alpha Theta, the History Honor Society, and the Purdue All-American Marching Band.

Mary’s public history experiences began in November of 1997, when she volunteered at the Tippecanoe County Historical Association, in Lafayette, Indiana, and quickly became involved in exhibit development. Her first exhibit was entitled, “Final Respects: Dealing with Death in the Victorian Era”, where she completed the research and gathered artifacts on the subject. For her second project, “A Child’s World: Toys, Games, and Dolls”, Mary developed the doll portion of the exhibit. In addition, she ran a summer workshop for children on the history of the Magic Lantern. Mary spent the summer of 1999 serving as a docent at the James Whitcomb Riley Museum Home in downtown Indianapolis, the site where the famous Hoosier poet spent his last 23 years.

Mary is excited about being a part of the team at NCPH and looks forward to spending the school year with us. Please extend your greetings to her the next time that you call the Executive Offices.
AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND INTERNSHIPS

The American Historical Association has announced the competition for the 2000-2001 Fellowship in Aerospace History, funded by NASA, to undertake a research project related to aerospace history. It will provide a Fellow with an opportunity to engage in significant and sustained advanced research in all aspects of the history of aerospace from the earliest human interest in flight to the present. Applicants must be US citizens, possess a doctorate degree in history or in a closely related field, or be enrolled as a student (having completed all coursework) in a doctoral degree-granting program. The applicant must complete an application form and offer a specific and detailed research proposal that will be the basis of the Fellow’s research during the term. At the term’s conclusion, the Fellow will be expected to write a report, and to present a paper or a public lecture on the Fellowship experience. Deadline for submitting applications and letters of recommendation is 1 February 2000. Submit to: Fellowship in Aerospace History, American Historical Association, 400 A Street, SE, Washington, DC 20003. The AHA web page has an application form available on-line at: http://www.theaha.org/prizes/NASA.htm.

The Minnesota Historical Society’s Research Department has made available grants in several categories to support original research and writing leading to interpretive works on the history of Minnesota. Preference is given to projects that will produce article- or book-length manuscripts to be considered for publication in Minnesota History or by the Minnesota Historical Society Press. Applications may be made in one of four categories that are worth between $500 and $5,000. Application deadlines during the year are September 1, January 2, and April 1. For a copy of the Research Grants Program Information and Guidelines and an Application Form, write to: Deborah L. Miller, Research Supervisor, Minnesota Historical Society, 345 Kellogg Blvd. West, St. Paul, MN 55102 or e-mail to debbie.miller@mnhs.org.

The Ohio Academy of History is calling for nominations for the Public History Award, which is to be presented at the annual meeting of the Ohio Academy of History April 28-29, 2000 at Otterbein College, Westerville, Ohio. To be nominated a public history project publication or program must have been accomplished within the previous two years and completed by January 3, 2000. The awards program covers all public history fields, including exhibits, publications, audiovisual documentaries, oral history, public programs, symposia, archival projects, and historic preservation. For nomination forms and general rules please contact: Dr. Stuart D. Hobbs, Ohio Historical Society, 1982 Velma Ave., Columbus, OH 43211-2497; (614)297-2608; or shobbs@ohiohistory.org.

The Organization of American Historians is taking applications for the 2000 Mary K. Bonsteel Tachau Pre-Collegiate Teaching Award. Pre-collegiate and classroom teachers engaged at least half time in history teaching, whether in history or social studies are eligible. Deadline is 1 December 1999. For more information about this award, contact Organization of American Historians, Office of the Executive Director, 112 North Bryan Avenue, Bloomington, IN 47406-4199; (812)855-7311; or website oah@oah.org.

The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission invites applications for its 2000-2001 Scholars in Residence Program and Collaborative Residency Program. The Scholars in Residence program provides support for full-time research and study in the manuscript and artifact collections at any Commission Facility. The Collaborative Residency Program will fund original research that relates to the interpretive mission of PHMC sites and museums and advances a specific programmatic goal of the host site or museum. Both programs are open to all who are conducting research on Pennsylvania history. Residencies are available for four to twelve weeks between May 1, 2000 and April 30, 2001. Deadline for application is 17 January 2000. For more information and application contact: Division of History, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Box 1026, Harrisburg, PA 17109; (717)787-3034; lshopes@phmc.state.pa.us; or at the PHMC web site at www.phmc.state.pa.us.

The Vernacular Architecture Forum solicits nominations for the Abbott Lowell Cummings Award for 2000. This is awarded annually for the best book in North American Vernacular Architecture Studies. Books published during 1998 and 1999 are eligible for consideration. The jurors look for a publication that is based on primary research, particularly fieldwork, that breaks new ground in interpretation or methodology, and that contributes to the intellectual vitality of vernacular studies. The winning book will be announced at the 2000 VAF Conference to be held in Duluth, Minnesota. Deadline for submission is 15 January 15 2000. Send nominations or requests for information to: Gabrielle M. Lanier, Department of History, MSC 2001, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA 22807, 540-568-3615, laniergm@jmu.edu.

Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library offers 1-3 month residential
The competitive program provides ten Ph.D. applicants. However, preference is given to candidates and other scholars completing dissertations or books on 20th-century politics and governance in the US. **Applications are due 1 February 2000.** Decisions will be announced by 1 April 2000. Direct inquiries about the Fellowship to:
Professor Brian Balogh at bb9s@virginia.edu Completed applications should be sent to: Miller Center National Fellowship Program, Miller Center of Public Affairs, P.O. Box 5106, Charlottesville, VA 22905

**BOOKNOTES**
South Carolina Department of Archives & History has just released a new book entitled, *The Many Faces of Slavery,* written by Alexia Jones Helsley and Patrick McCawley. They have selected eleven documents from the South Carolina archives pertaining to antebellum slavery. These documents provide a variety of insights into the lives and deaths of South Carolina’s enslaved African American population. They examine religious life, crime and punishment, sexual relationships, and struggle for family survival. Several of the documents in this collection attest to the difficult lives of both free and enslaved African Americans during this period in history. Included in the book is a facsimile of each document, accompanied by a transcript and an essay, which places the document into the context of its day. Also included are images of pertinent people, places and objects to illustrate the documents’ contents. Notes for teachers and a bibliography offer suggestions for further study. For more information or to order the book, contact Carrie Bassett at (803)896-6191 or bassett@scdah.state.sc.us.

**Texas’ Liberty Ships, From World War II Working-class Heroes to Artificial Reefs** is a study written with the thought of what sites in Texas can shed light on the events of World War II. In five artificial reef sites off the Texas coast there are ships that played a key roll in the Allied victory over the Axis Powers. The 12 Liberty Ships that ended up in Texas artificial reefs are a good representative sample of the experience of over 2700 other sister ships. The purpose of this study is to tell the story of those ships and to provide information to enhance the experience of those who visit the sites.

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**For more information on contributing to the endowment, contact**

Endowment Committee Chair Marianne Babal or the NCPH Executive Offices.

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**National Council on Public History**

**Endowment Fund Pledge**

Yes, I will contribute to the NCPH Endowment Fund. You have my pledge of support as follows:

- [ ] **One-time** cash contribution (payable by December 31) $1,000 $500 $250 $100 $50
- [ ] **Annual** contribution for five years (payable by December 31) $500 $250 $100 $50

- [ ] In addition to my cash gift, I would like be willing to give one lecture per year for five years through the Speakers’ Bureau and donate the proceeds to NCPH.
- [ ] In addition to my cash gift, I would be willing to develop an NCPH-sponsored workshop and donate the net proceeds to NCPH for the next five years.

**Name:**

**Affiliation:**

**Address:**

**City/State/ZIP:**

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Contributions to the NCPH Endowment Fund are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Return to: NCPH Endowment Fund, c/o Executive Director, NCPH, 327 Cavanaugh Hall-IUPUI, 425 University Blvd., Indianapolis, IN 46202-5140
and to the general public. This was written by J. Barto Arnold III, Principal Investigator; Jennifer L. Goloboy, Andrew W. hall, Rebecca A. Hall, and Texas Historical Commission and J. Dale Shively, Ed., Texas Parks and Wildlife. For a copy or more information contact: J. Dale Shively, Texas Parks and Wildlife, Coastal Fisheries Division, Artificial Reef Program, 4200 Smith School Road, Austin, Texas 78744.

CALLS FOR PAPERS/PROPOSALS

The Organization of American Historians is accepting proposals for sessions and papers related to the practice of history both in the classroom and in public settings. Sessions at the OAH's first regional meeting will also be devoted to professional development, and the latest historiographic approaches to historical problems as well as the most modern teaching strategies will be interlaced with more conventional presentations of new research. Proposals should include a title page; a single-page c.v. for each participant; and an overall abstract of 500 words for multi-person sessions with 250-word abstracts for each paper. The meeting will be held in Ames, Iowa, 4-6 August 2000. Send five copies of the entire proposal (including cover sheet) postmarked no later than 1 November 1999 to: MRC 2000 Program Committee, Department of History 603 Ross Hall, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50011-1202. For information, contact OAH at 812-855-7511; email: oah@oah.org website: www.oah.org

Roger Launius is pleased to announce the inauguration of a "Centennial of Flight" series to be published by Texas A&M University Press. This series is intended as a cohesive set of volumes, written for a general readership, that will synthesize the development of flight in the twentieth century. Series editor Roger D. Launius invites proposals for a series of relatively small, general interest paperbacks on the history of flight to be published between 2001 and 2003 for the centennial of the first powered flight by the Wright brothers on December 17, 1903. Proposals are especially welcome for syntheses relating to the following aeronautical and astronomical topics: development of aeronautical technology; rise of fighter aircraft; development of airlines and air transportation, both in the U.S. and worldwide; evolution of air regulation, policy, and law; development of the aerospace industry; military aeronautics; general aviation; aerospace reconnaissance; social history of the airplane; strategic bombardment; human spaceflight; the space race; rocketry; space science. These will be some 200 pages in length, published in paperback form, and should not contain scholarly apparatus, but would have a good essay at the end pointing the direction to other studies of the subject. Interested persons should contact the series editor: Dr. Roger D. Launius, NASA Chief Historian, Code ZH, NASA Headquarters, Washington, DC 20546, (202)358-0383, fax (202)358-2866, email roger.launius@hq.nasa.gov.

EXHIBITS

Historic Deerfield announces a major exhibition through the year 2000 entitled, Pursuing Refinement in Rural New England, 1750-1850. This is the museum’s first major exhibition in the new Flynt Center of Early New England Life. The Flynt Center also features The Museum’s Attic: 3000 of Historic Deerfield’s Choicest Antiques, a creative and educational approach to displaying antiques from the museum’s fourteen historic houses without removing them from public view. The Flynt Center is open daily from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and is included in general admission to Historic Deerfield. For further information, contact Donald R. Friary at (413)775-7166 or dfriary@historic-deerfield.org.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

The Ohio Historical Society is seeking to hire a Historical Markers Specialist. Under supervision of the Head of the Local History Office, the Historical Marker Specialist will assist in processing Ohio Historical Marker applications and in coordinating marker installation and dedication activities. The Ohio Historical Markers Program has marked significant Ohio sites, events, and people since 1953. The Historical Marker Specialist will help promote the program to ensure widespread interest, work with marker sponsors to prepare marker nominations, edit and authenticate text supplied by the sponsor organizations, and coordinate marker installations and dedications. This position requires an ability to communicate and deal effectively with a wide variety of people with different levels of sophistication regarding local history. The specialist must have a good understanding of Ohio History; excellent historical research, writing, and methodological skills; and ability to work effectively with others. The specialist must also be willing to travel around the state and sometimes work on weekends. This position requires an advanced degree in history, preferably public history, plus two years paid experience in history-related work. The specialist must have a current driver’s license. Send cover letter, resume, and two work related reference letters to: Personnel Office, Ohio Historical Society, 1982 Velma Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43211.

The History Department of Wright State University seeks to fill a tenure-track position at the Assistant Professor level in Public History to begin September 1, 2000. The candidate will be joining a mature and ongoing program that has enjoyed considerable success for more than twenty-five years. The candidate, in
addition to supervisory duties, should be qualified to teach courses in some of the following areas: archival methods, historic preservation, museum curatorship, the management of historical societies, cultural resources management, and/or material culture. A Ph.D. in History is required. A strong commitment to Public History and the Public History program is essential. Salary is competitive and will depend on qualifications. Teaching duties and committee responsibilities outside of the Public History program will be limited. **Deadline for applications is 1 December 1999.**

Web site address for the History Department: http://philos.wright.edu/Dept/HST/hst.htm. Send letter of application, c.v., transcripts, three letters of reference to Professor Harvey M. Wachtell, Chair, Department of History, Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio, 45435

**RESOURCES**

The New Netherland Project, a privately funded program of the New York State Library dedicated to the study of the nation’s early Dutch colonial history, was honored with a grant from the prestigious Bernhard Fonds of the Netherlands. The grant will help support the transcription and translation from Dutch to English of the Council Minutes, 1656-1658. The 17th century volume records the earliest Dutch governance of New Netherland under Peter Stuyvesant. The Council Minutes are among some 12,000 pages of official records of the Dutch West India Company’s colony of New Netherland from the period of 1621 through 1674. The translation and publication of these records provide researchers with important primary source material vital to the study of the Dutch impact in North America during colonial period. Council Minutes for 1652-54 and 1655-56 are among more than 16 volumes of early Dutch records that have already been translated by New Netherland Project staff.

**The Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center** in Fremont, Ohio released a CD-ROM resource during the October 2-3 celebration of the birth of President Hayes. Entitled, *Rutherford B. Hayes: Citizen, Soldier, President*, this interactive, computer resource will provide an educational tool that complements middle- and high school curriculums. The information on the CD-ROM is divided into five sections and every section includes historic artifacts, documents, manuscripts, photographs, audio segments, and video clips. This would also be a valuable resource for anyone interested in the Civil War, the presidency, 19th Century America or genealogy. List price for the CD-ROM is $29.95. For more information about the CD-ROM or to place an order call Becky at 1-800-998-7737.

**TPH EDITORIAL BOARD SEEKS IDEAS FOR ANTHOLOGY**

At recent meetings of the editorial board of *The Public Historian*, members discussed the potential utility of publishing an anthology of important articles from the journal from its twenty-year history. We would appreciate learning what articles—if any—public historians continue to find insightful or of on-going value. If you are a teacher of public history, do you assign any particular article(s) in your classes? If you are a practitioner of public history, do you regularly make use of any certain article(s)?

The Editorial Board is in the process of discussing what the intellectual rationale and readership might be for the hypothetical anthology. Our thinking has been that a retrospective “greatest hits” approach would have limited appeal and utility. If, on the other hand, we could identify a set of articles that remain central to the enterprise of public history today, we are prepared to go forward with a formal book proposal.

Send your comments in care of: Robert Weyeneth, Applied History Program, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208; email: weyeneth@sc.edu
NCPH AWARDS

NEW PROFESSIONAL TRAVEL AWARD

The National Council on Public History will award a $300 travel grant for a new professional to attend the annual meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, 30 March - 2 April 2000. Applicants must be members of NCPH and must have been practicing public historians for no more than three years and have no institutional travel support. The award recipient will attend the NCPH meeting and write a short article for the newsletter about their conference experience. Letters of application should explain how attendance at the annual meeting will benefit the applicant professionally.

Please send a letter of application and c.v. to:
Rose Diaz
3408-D Indian School Road NE
Albuquerque, NM 87106.

Applications must be received by 15 January 2000. The winner will be notified by the middle of February 2000.

NCPH STUDENT PROJECT PUBLIC HISTORY AWARD

The National Council on Public History invites nominations for the NCPH Student Project Award. The goal of the award is to recognize and reward the contribution of student projects to the field of public history and to encourage student participation in NCPH.

ELIGIBILITY

Eligible projects will meet the following criteria:
1. Projects that are the work of one or more full-time students pursuing Masters or Doctorate degrees and that were completed within the two academic years preceding the submission deadline.
2. Projects undertaken primarily as part of academic course work that also became recognized contributions to public history outside of the classroom. (Examples: a classroom assignment in exhibit design that was accepted by a local museum or business for public display; an oral history project accepted into an established oral history collection; an historic preservation context study accepted by the state historic preservation office as a working document.)
3. The academic institution or faculty member sponsoring the nomination is a member of NCPH.

AWARD

The winning project will receive a $500 travel award to enable one or more students from the project to register for and attend the NCPH annual meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, 30 March - 2 April 2000. Public History News will publish a short article in the summer 2000 issue submitted by the winning student/students about their project and conference experience.

PROCEDURES AND SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Candidates should submit the following:
1. A two-page written description of the project prepared by the student or students, which lists the project participants and describes the methodology employed. Please include no more than three examples of supporting materials (photos, videotapes, audiotapes, booklets, or pamphlets). If the project is a written document, include a copy. Please submit three copies of all written material. Materials will not be returned.

2. A letter from the faculty member who initially directed the project. The letter should be submitted directly to the selection committee and explain the faculty member’s role in the project, the project’s relevance to the student(s) course work, any classroom guidelines for the project, his/her evaluation of the project and its contribution as a piece of public history. The faculty member must also verify the applicant’s status as a full-time student at the time the project was undertaken.

3. A letter from the agency, historical society, archive, or other organization which accepted the project as a useful piece of public history. This letter should identify the relationship between the organization and the student(s) responsible for the project and be sent directly to the committee chair. The letter should include an evaluation of the project’s usefulness and the qualities that make it a work of professional public history.

4. Please send completed application packets to: Professor David Glassberg, History Department, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Massachusetts, 01003-3930.

5. Deadline for submissions is 15 January 2000. Nominees will be notified of the winning project by mid February 2000.
THE ROBERT KELLEY MEMORIAL AWARD

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The National Council on Public History is pleased to announce the call for nominations for the fourth "Robert Kelley Memorial Award." The award seeks to perpetuate the legacy and memory of a founder of the public history movement, Dr. Robert Kelley. It honors distinguished and outstanding achievements by individuals, institutions, non-profit or corporate entities for having made significant inroads in making history relevant to individual lives of ordinary people outside of academia.

ELIGIBILITY:
Individuals or organizational entries may be considered for the award.

a) Individuals may be nominated based on their achievements and specific contributions to the public history movement, usually over a sustained period of time.

Evidence of scholarly excellence must be combined with two or more of the following: sustained service to the NCPH in an appointed and/or elected capacity; demonstrated innovation in teaching and/or development of institutional training programs; creativity as evidenced through the development of teaching and/or educational "outreach" materials; a singular achievement (e.g., a motion picture, major exhibit, or a well-recognized book) that significantly contributes to the general public's understanding and appreciation of history; and/or a distinguished record of creating, administering, or managing an undergraduate or graduate public history program at an institution of learning.

b) Institutions, colleges and university departments of history, non-profit, corporate or other organizational entities may be nominated based on the institution's achievements and specific contributions in advancing the cause of public history, usually over a sustained period of time.

Evidence of program excellence must be combined with two or more of the following in evaluating the contribution of each nominated institution: innovative excellence in the training of public historians (either at an undergraduate or graduate level) as evidenced by a quality public history curriculum and/or success in placement and accomplishments of graduates in public history related jobs; sustained commitment to the development of scholarly or other educational or teaching materials relating to the field of public history; sponsorship and/or delivery of high quality training courses, conferences, or educational outreach to the public or the public history community; an outstanding record of public outreach programs (i.e., mass media, exhibitry, lecture series) that advance the appreciation of public history; demonstrated commitment to the value of expanding the public's knowledge and appreciation of history in the institutional or corporate setting.

Procedures and Submission Requirements

1. Nominations should be submitted in the form of a written narrative not to exceed 1,500 words (typed).

2. Nominations should include pertinent supporting documents, including a copy of the nominee's resume or curriculum vitae, if available.

3. Submit five (5) copies of the nomination and supporting documents.

4. Deadline for submission of nominations is 10 January 2000.

5. Any questions, contact the NCPH Executive Offices by phone 317.274.2716 or email ncph@iupui.edu

6. Send nominations by 10 January 2000 to:
Robert Kelley Award
c/o Professor Otis Graham Jr.
Department of History
University of North Carolina - Wilmington
Wilmington, NC 28403
H-PUBLIC GOES ON-LINE

In mid September, after several months of planning, H-PUBLIC officially went on-line. H-PUBLIC is the new incarnation of PUBLHIST, the official discussion list of the public history community sponsored by the National Council on Public History since 1994. As part of the H-NET community, which is hosted by Michigan State University, H-PUBLIC joins over 100 other specialized lists in the field of history.

Although its name has changed, the purpose of the list remains the same. H-PUBLIC will: keep public historians apprised of the latest news in the field; encourage discussion on current issues and interpretations; alert subscribers to critical issues affecting the historical profession; exchange information; post notices for job opportunities, conferences, awards, and other avenues for professional development; and assist students and others considering a career in public history.

Unlike its predecessor PUBLHIST, H-PUBLIC is a moderated list. Co-moderators are David C. Vanderstel, NCPH Executive Director, and Paige Roberts, Executive Director of the Immigrant City Archives, Lawrence, MA.

To subscribe to H-PUBLIC, send the following line as the only text of an email message (please do not use special styles or fonts or signature files) from the account that you wish subscribed to LISTSERV@h-net.msu.edu:

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SUBSCRIBE H-PUBLIC firstname lastname, institution
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Example: SUBSCRIBE H-PUBLIC John Doe, Plain State Univ.
Follow the instructions that you receive in reply.

We encourage you to participate in the ongoing conversations and exchange of information on H-PUBLIC.
NCPH 2000 Annual Conference

A Joint Meeting of the National Council on Public History and the Organization of American Historians

Adam’s Mark Hotel
St. Louis, Missouri

March 30-April 2, 2000

Theme:
The United States and the Wider World