



PUBLIC HISTORY NEWS

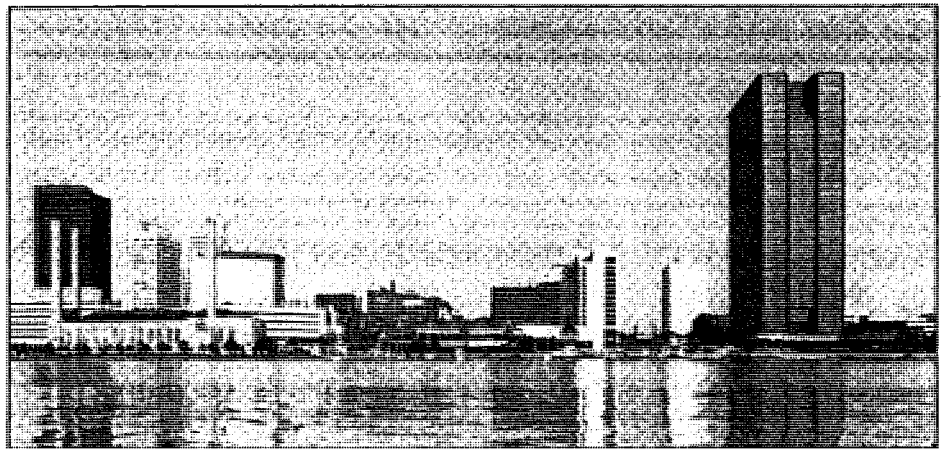
Volume 11, Number 2

Winter 1991

1991 Annual Meeting - Toledo

On May 2-5, 1991, the National Council on Public History will hold its thirteenth annual meeting hosted by the University of Toledo. This year's program, organized around the theme (bold) "**The Audiences of Public History**," offers stimulating sessions combined with special events. This focus provides NCPH's diverse constituency an opportunity to explore characteristics of the profession which distinguish public history from the traditional field. The program strives to bind NCPH as a group with sessions that discuss audiences and the modes of communication used to disperse historical knowledge.

Two plenary sessions emphasize important issues concerning audience. In the first, "How Do People Understand and Use The(ir) Past(s)?" Michael Frisch, Lois Silverman, and David Thelen, all of the Center on History-Making in America, will share the results of a pilot survey of Americans' attitudes and behaviors regarding history. By understanding how people define history and by knowing which types of history activities are meaningful to the public, practitioners might improve their craft. A second plenary session, "Private Funding for the Public's History: Corporate Sponsorship of History Exhibits," provides a forum to discuss the ethical considerations of funding public



"The Glass City." Photograph courtesy of Bill Hartough.

history. Recently, much controversy has surrounded Phillip Morris' support for the Bill of Rights bicentennial observances. Theodore J. Karamanski, editor of *Ethics and Public History*, will chair a panel which includes Don W. Wilson, Archivist of the United States; Jamil S. Zinaildin, President of the Federation of State Humanities Councils, and a representative of a corporate foundation office; all of whom will discuss Phillip Morris and related issues.

Subsequent sessions examine the idea of audience from the various components of public history. How history professionals relate to public audiences is the topic of a variety of sessions which explore the role of historians in the community, how history is interpreted for and presented to local audiences, the academic critique of popular history, heritage tourism, and the use of social history in public history interpretation. Special interest sessions include minority filmmakers, exhibit reviewing by historical journals, environmental issues, legal records and litigation, a contextual approach to historic preservation, and urban encyclopedias. A special walking session will tour Toledo's Historic Warehouse District with speakers to discuss interpretation of the area as well as the use of history as a marketing tool. The NCPH Conference will be visited by the Honor-

able Tom Sawyer, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Census and Population in the U.S. House of Representatives. Representative Sawyer will comment on the session "History Counts: History and the Census of 1990." Questions of training future public historians and the issue of professionalization will be examined in sessions that look at the future of public history in the academy and discuss the idea of specialization.

In addition to the regular sessions, several NCPH committees are scheduled in open forums which invite the participation of all interested persons for an exchange of ideas and information. The long range planning committee, cultural resources management committee, and accreditation committee look forward to

See pg. 2

Volume 11, Number 2 Winter 1991

A Quarterly Publication of the National Council on Public History in cooperation with the Department of History and POLIS, Indiana University at Indianapolis. Funds to aid publication have been provided by the Indiana Humanities Council.

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

Announcing:

A special NCPH get-together at the Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting in Louisville, Kentucky. On Saturday, April 13, join us at the Galt House for a cash bar reception from 5-7 p.m. in the Anchor Room.

your participation. All conference attendees are also invited to visit the Exhibit Room, "Public History in Ohio." A separate area will be available for placement of public history brochures and information.

The local arrangements committee, coordinated by the University of Toledo Humanities Institute, has scheduled a number of special events for NCPH conferees. *Public History Today*, NCPH's new video, produced by Philip Scarpino, Daniel Walkowitz, and Gerald Herman, will be featured in a premiere showing on Thursday evening followed by a wine and cheese reception. On Friday the University of Toledo hosts a "Welcome to Toledo" champagne reception at the Toledo Club, one of the oldest and most outstanding city clubs in the nation. The elegant evening will continue with the NCPH annual banquet and an address by our president, David Kyvig. Saturday lunch is planned aboard the *Willis B. Boyer*, a great lakes freighter converted to a floating museum. Launched in 1911, the *Boyer* once ruled as king of the lake freighters — the biggest, grandest and most modern ship on the Great Lakes — as it carried its loads of iron-ore pellets and other materials across the inland seas.

Sessions will end early Saturday in time for an 1890s exhibition baseball game between the Ohio Historical Society Muffins and the Greenfield Village Detroit Baseball Club. The two teams will compete using authentic turn-of-the-century uniforms, equipment, and rules. An informal evening of food and entertainment will follow for the first lucky fifty to sign up for dinner at Tony Packo's Cafe. Packo's, made famous by Corporal Klinger (Jamie Farr) on the T.V. show *M*A*S*H* serves Hungarian food amid decor of *M*A*S*H* memorabilia and the autographed hot dog buns of the many famous people who have eaten there. Tony Packo, Jr. will discuss the restaurant's history and dinner will be followed by foot-stomping, hard-line, fun-lovin' dixieland jazz with the Cakewalkin' Jass Band. After a fun Saturday night, a continental breakfast will precede Sunday morning sessions for all those who can get an early start.

As one of the largest ports on the Great Lakes, Toledo's riverfront — the boat docks, brick-lined walkways, waterfront restaurants, and warehouse district — provides a pleasant area to meet with

friends and colleagues. For the more adventurous conferees, Toledo offers many other nearby attractions. The Toledo Museum of Art, one of the finest in the country, is a short bus ride from downtown. Here you can walk amidst treasures from the tombs of Egypt, a medieval cloister, great works by such masters as El Greco, Rubens, Rembrandt, Van Gogh, Matisse, Picasso, and Hopper, and one of the finest glass collections in the world. Adjacent to the museum, the largest concentration of Victorian architecture in Ohio is found in Toledo's historic Old West End. Also nearby is the Toledo Zoo, nationally acclaimed for its African Savannah and as the home of the world's only underwater Hippoquarium, a 360,000-gallon glass-enclosed facility that provides a below water view of the often-submerged hippos. Not far from Toledo is Fort Meigs, the largest walled fortification in America, built originally by William Henry Harrison in 1813. The Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center in Fremont, Ohio, is the first presidential library in the United States.

Three workshops are planned in conjunction with the annual meeting. On Thursday, May 2, "Workshop on Business Archives," will be held in cooperation with the Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections and the Forum for History and Business. At the morning sessions, aimed at both business leaders and general workshop attendees, Arnita Jones, editor of *Corporate Archives and History: Making the Past Work*, will discuss the importance of preserving business records. After breakfast full day workshop attendees will adjourn to the University of Toledo's Canaday Center for a full day of session led by experts who will provide information on space and cost considerations, staffing, and the legal concerns of establishing a business archives. Workshop participants will receive instruction and practice with basics of preserving, arranging, describing, and making available the archival records of businesses and corporations. Cost for the morning session only (no limit on attendance) is \$30.00. The all-day workshop (including breakfast), limited to 25, is \$60.00 for NCPH members and \$75.00 for non-members.

"Performance Pathways to Interpretive Excellence," will be held in cooperation with the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center and the Ohio Historical

Society. This workshop, directed toward local history professionals and volunteer staffs affiliated with historical organizations, will explore methods by which museums and historical societies may both broaden their audiences and enrich their interpretive capabilities through the use of the performing arts. Scheduled for Thursday, May 2, this five-hour workshop will combine lecture presentations and hands-on exercises that will develop the skills needed to create, prepare, and present performance-based interpretive programming. A special feature of this workshop will be a historical performance by students from the Fort Hayes Arts and Academic High School of Columbus, Ohio, entitled "Voices on the Square." The workshop cost is \$40.00 for NCPH members and \$50.00 for nonmembers and includes lunch and all necessary materials. Attendance is limited to 20.

A third workshop, "Television Production," will provide an overview of the uses (and abuses) of television in public history as well as hands-on introduction to the production process. Daniel Walkowitz and Gerald Herman, co-producers of "Public History Today," will guide participants through the production process using the facilities of workshop sponsor WGTE TV 30-FM 91. Topics of discussion include extra-institutional dissemination via broadcast or cassette, intra-institutional production, documentation videos, oral history, budget constraints, and technical possibilities. Workshop teams will select their own topics for a one-minute spot production. Cost for the full day workshop, to be held Saturday, May 4, is \$95.00 for NCPH members and \$115.00 for nonmembers. This fee includes lunch and all necessary materials. Attendance is limited to 20. ■

To register for any of the workshops, contact Diane F. Britton at (419) 537-4540 or Anne Burnham at (419) 537-2209. To receive further information about the workshops or conference through the mail, write to Diane F. Britton, Department of History, University of Toledo, Toledo, Ohio 43606.

A Prosopography of Public History by David E. Kyvig

If public historians take seriously the Socratic charge to "Know thyself," considerable good came from the recent unsuccessful National Council on Public History application for membership in the American Council of Learned Societies. In the course of preparing the application, a survey of NCPH members was carried out in late spring 1990. The support of NCPH members for their organization was attested to by the 354 (better than 60 percent) responses to the poll. Thanks to this extraordinary cooperation, some significant insights can be gained as to the sorts of historians who populate the field of public history. The results of the survey describe an academically sophisticated, geographically scattered group pursuing a wide range of professional activities in a variety of employment settings. Their common bond is their identification with historical scholarship and the National Council on Public History.

The membership of NCPH, according to the survey, is 66 percent male and 34 percent female. By age members were distributed in a rough bell curve from 23 to 70 years with the bulk between 33 and 55. Most significantly, this is a highly educated group. Fully 57 percent of the survey respondents hold the Ph.D. Another 33 percent have master's degrees, while an additional 7 percent are holders of the B.A.'s. Many of the B.A. and M.A. holders are among the younger members, and a large number of these individuals are pursuing higher degrees. A final 3 percent of the respondents hold other advanced degrees such as the J.D., M.L.S., or Ed.D. With 93 percent of the membership possessing at least one advanced degree and close to 60 percent holding the Ph.D. or an equivalent degree, the scholarly bent and attainment of the NCPH membership is clear. The membership of the Council is national in scope. Responses to the membership survey came from all but four states. The largest numbers were concentrated in California, Virginia, Illinois, Maryland, Ohio, New York, and Washington, D.C., but only Mississippi, Nebraska, South Dakota, and Wyoming were unrepresented.

Responding to a question about their primary professional activities, the largest number, 31 percent, identified research and analysis. Another 29 percent indicated teaching, while most of the others speci-

fied fields which also involve research activity. One corporate archivist, for instance, reported preparing twelve reports based on substantial original historical research for her employer during the past fifteen months. Of this latter group, 20 percent are involved in historical agency administration, 12 percent in archives, 11 percent in cultural resources management, 9 percent in publications, 7 percent in curatorship, and 4 percent in some other activity. The total adds up to more than 100 percent since some respondents indicated involvement in more than one area.

The setting in which NCPH members pursue their discipline is likewise diverse. The largest number of survey respondents, 36 percent, indicated that their primary employer was an academic institution. Almost as many, 28 percent, worked for a government agency at the national, state, or local level. Business and non-profit organizations employed 12 percent each. Finally, 13 percent of those polled were self-employed.

Most members of the National Council, like most other historians, are involved in more than one scholarly or professional organization. Among the 354 NCPH members responding to the spring 1990 poll, 54 percent indicated that they belonged to the Organization of American Historians and 42 percent were members of the American Historical Association. Other organizations were less well represented: 30 percent to the American Association for State and Local History, 19 percent to the Society for History in the Federal Government, 14 percent to the Society of American Archivists, 8 percent to the American Association of Museums, 3 percent to the History of Science Society, 2 percent to the American Society for Legal History, and 1 percent each to the Economic History Association and Society for the History of Technology.

However, the National Council on Public History plays a role for its members not duplicated by any other professional body. When asked about their most important professional attachment, 46 percent of those surveyed indicated that they considered their primary affiliation to be with NCPH. By comparison, 16 percent regarded the OAH as their primary affiliation, while 7 percent each named the AHA, AASLH and the Society of American Archivists, 4 percent named the Soci-

ety for Historians in the Federal Government, and 1 percent or fewer identified the American Association of Museums, the American Society for Legal History, Economic History Association, History of Science Society or Society for the History of Technology. Interestingly, many respondents indicated that none of the specified organizations was their primary organizational affiliation and wrote in the names of no fewer than nineteen other bodies, testimony to the wide range of specializations of those who belong to NCPH.

In commenting on the reasons for their primary affiliation, respondents who chose the AHA and OAH frequently cited their broad, inclusive character. Those who mentioned one of the other bodies often spoke of the importance to them of its specific topical focus. Meanwhile, the large number who identified the National Council on Public History as their primary affiliation repeatedly wrote of its uniqueness and relevance to their own work and interests as historians. They explained that "NCPH addresses the special intellectual concerns of public historians." "It specifically addresses my research and professional interests." "It is the only one that represents my broad interests and provides through its meetings and professional activities concrete ways of having sustained professional contact with professional historians of like research/scholarly interests." But most respondents simply declared, in these or similar words, "Because I am a public historian."

It is clear that no other organization adequately represents the NCPH membership. Half or more of NCPH members are outside the ranks of the American Historical Association and Organization of American Historians, and those NCPH members who belong are only a small element within these large and necessarily otherwise focused bodies. Only about one quarter of NCPH members who belong to the AHA or OAH regard those organizations as their primary professional affiliations. Clearly, these and other organizations do not play the same role in the scholarly and professional lives of public historians as does the NCPH. The Council fulfills a significant need that is not otherwise being met.

The 1990 membership survey will be a useful tool for the NCPH board of direc-

SPOTLIGHT

Orphan Train Heritage Society of America, Inc.

by Mary Ellen Johnson

The Orphan Train Heritage Society of America, Inc., (OTHSA) was formed in 1987 to provide a central clearinghouse for information about children taken from their native New York City environment between the years 1854 and 1929 and "placed-out" by the Children's Aid Society of New York City.

I was totally unaware of the mass movement of these children by trains during the late 1800s and early 1900s until I began working with my local county history book project. Finding a story about three Orphan Train Riders led me to interviews with the survivors and a newspaper article listing a group brought to Arkansas in 1912.

Today, our organization has over 750 members and hosts annual reunions of the survivors and their families. Each October they gather in Fayetteville, Arkansas, to talk about their lives and how they have searched for their biological families.

We also publish a quarterly newsletter, *Crossroads* and mail educational packets free of charge to classroom teachers. Reference materials are shared with libraries, genealogical societies and historical groups.

In 1990 the National Foster Parents Association invited me to speak about OTHSA at their annual meeting and recently invited me to repeat my presenta-

tion at the 1991 meeting. The Children's Aid Society's relocating of homeless children has become the beginning history for foster care in America.

Books about the unique program of caring for children are sold by OTHSA. *Tears on Paper*, a recent publication, focuses on Nebraska orphan train riders, and *We are a Part of History* deals with the Missouri children. Both non-fiction books contain oral histories of riders.

For more information about the Orphan trains, write to OTHSA, 4912 Trout Farm Rd., Springdale, AR 72764. ■

Lower East Side Tenement Museum

by Ruth J. Abram

Josephine Baldizzi Esposito paused when she passed the two tiny toilet stalls in the center of the hallway at the tenement where she had lived as a child. "I spent my childhood in there," she announced. "Why?" museum staff asked Mrs. Esposito, thinking it was, perhaps, the only private place in the crowded tenement building. We were far off base. "Because," Josephine explained matter-of-factly, "my mother *believed* in enemas."

Josephine Esposito is a member of one of hundreds of families from 27 nations which lived in the six-story tenement building at 97 Orchard Street, New York City from 1863 when it opened to 1935 when it was condemned. Over 1100 "alumni," including residents, shopkeepers and owners have been identified.

The Lower East Side Tenement museum represents the first effort in America to preserve a tenement building and through it to tell the story of the nation's urban, immigrant pioneers. When complete, visitors will "meet" representatives of the immigrant communities which peopled the lower East Side in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Plans developed with the guidance of the American History Workshop call for a variety of interpretive formats including visits to re-created period apartments with "living history" interactions. The museum hopes to tell the



Interior detail of Lower East Side Tenement Museum. Photograph courtesy of Wijnanda Deroo.

stories fully — refusing to overlook the pain while promising to include the joy.

While the museum seeks the \$4 million needed to purchase and restore its tenement, it offers a variety of programs on the history of immigration and immigrant life on the Lower East Side. Programs include walking tours, dramatic performances, and exhibitions. Dramas, based on historical research and written by playwrights for the museum, tour the area's schools. Current programs focus on the histories of Free-African, German,

Chinese, Irish, Italian and Eastern European Jewish immigrants.

The museum publishes a bi-annual newspaper, *Tenement Times*, designed for teachers, students and a general readership. Three children's books are in the works as are an illustrated walking guide tracing the development of various immigrant communities on the Lower East Side and the *Biography of a Tenement*.

For information write Lower East Side Tenement Museum, 97 Orchard Street, NY NY 10002 (212) 431-0233. ■

A Valuable Resource for Public History

by Katherine Hamilton-Smith

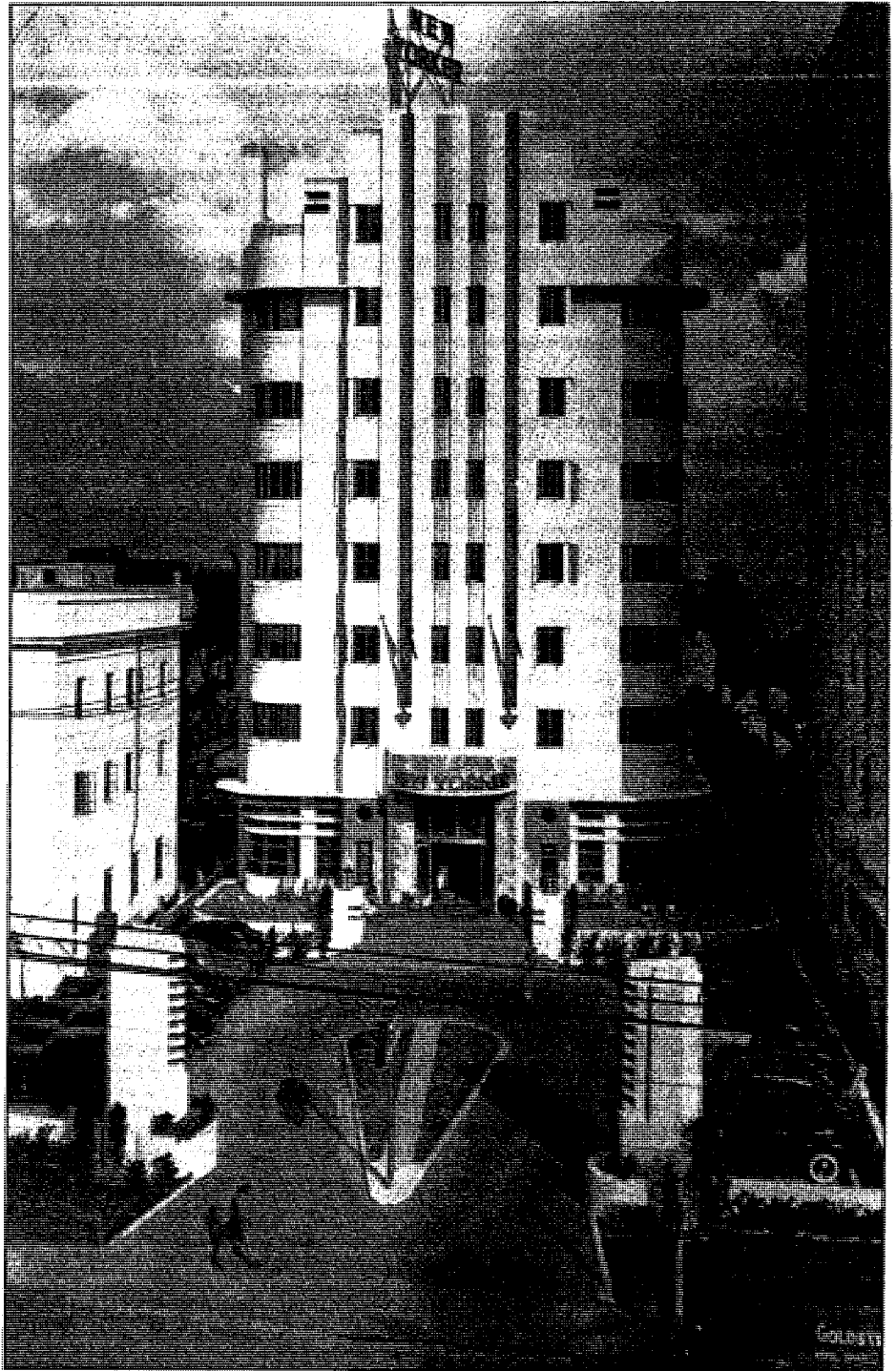
A new source of photographic documentation is available in the Curt Teich Postcard Archives, a department of the Lake County museum in the north suburban Chicago area.

The materials now housed at the museum are composed of the industrial archives of the Curt Teich Company of Chicago, which operated from 1898 through 1974 as the world's largest volume printer of view and advertising postcards. The archives was created through the company's policy of saving examples of every image printed. They also saved the production materials for the images, which include large format negatives, photographic prints, layout drawings, client letters (detailing if and how a view should be altered), and physical artifacts such as carpet, linoleum or wallpaper which had been sent to the company to serve as color samples. All of this material came to the museum in 1982 and has been organized for research use.

The materials in the Teich Archives are computer indexed by date, subject and location. Views may be searched in any of these categories. Combination searches are also possible; for example, all views of courthouses in the state of Nebraska or all views of market squares in the state of Pennsylvania. Approximately 320,000 of the estimated 400,000 image records in the archives have been catalogued. A reproduction service is available through which photographic prints or transparencies (for either projection or publication) may be ordered. Mail and telephone requests are encouraged; it is not necessary to visit the Archives in order to use its holdings. In-person research is by appointment only.

The Teich Company printed views of towns and cities throughout the United States and Canada. A relatively small number of views from other areas, including Mexico, Central and South America, the South Pacific Islands, Southeast Asia, and China, also exist in the Archives, but the collection is primarily North American. The potential of the Teich Archives for twentieth-century historical studies is vast. The postcard was one of the earliest commercial uses of photography and its rise in popularity after 1900 mirrored the concurrent growth and exponential changes in the built environment. The Teich Archives' holdings of original photographic materials is of extraordinary value.

The Archives publishes the quarterly journal *Image File*, which seeks to provide



The New Yorker Hotel, Miami Beach, Florida constructed in 1940 and destroyed in 1981. Example of a print from a large format negative used to produce a postcard image. Photograph courtesy of Lake County Museum, Curt Teich Postcard Archives, Wauconda, Illinois.

a forum for discussions of North American twentieth-century culture. Special interest is given to articles related to popular culture, the built environment, photography, and mass distribution formats of visual information such as postcards.

For information, please contact the Curt Teich Postcard Archives, Lake County Museum, Lakewood Forest Preserve, Wauconda, IL 60084 (708) 526-8638. Mon-Fri, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ■

Announcing...

A new *Guide to Graduate Programs in Public History* is now available. The *Guide*, compiled by the NCPH Publications Committee, contains detailed information on more than fifty graduate programs in the United States and Canada. Page Miller's foreword discusses the rewards of a career in public history, and an index of fields (administration, archives, business, community history, editing, historical archaeology, living history, media, museum studies, oral history, policy studies, and preservation) completes the volume.

Each entry provides a description of the program's curriculum, a list of courses, an explanation of internship procedures, a list of recent interning institutions, information on admissions and financial aid, recent placements of graduates, and a list of faculty. The information was compiled from questionnaires sent to program directors and was reviewed by them for accuracy.

The *Guide* should be extremely helpful to students in deciding where to apply for graduate work. It is also detailed enough to be useful to public history faculty who are interested in comparing their own programs with others for evaluation, revision or expansion.

The *Guide* discloses that public history programs offer an astounding array of specializations. Most programs offer at least two or three tracks or options; some offer half-a-dozen. They range in size from a single faculty member with a handful of students to several full-time faculty admitting nearly twenty students each year.

Also evident is a broad range of administrative and teaching configurations. Some programs have a single director; others spread administrative responsibilities among faculty members. Some programs rely on full-time faculty; others make extensive use of adjunct faculty. In some programs, the internship is optional; in others, it is the focus of the student's work.

The *Guide* is a 120-page paperback. It will be available in February from the NCPH for \$10.00 (\$8.00 for NCPH members). Both prices include postage and handling.

See back page to order this publication. ■

The Impact of the Ethics Reform Act of 1989 on Federal Historians

by Page Putnam Miller

On January 1, when the Ethics Reform Act of 1989 takes effect, all federal employees will be prohibited from receiving any compensation, including honoraria, for giving talks or writing articles. This ban on honoraria would have a detrimental effect on federal historians and government employees whose participation in the wider scholarly and professional communities is an important part of their professional development. It will also seriously hamper the federal government's ability to recruit and retain a quality work force in the professional series. Finally, the law raises Constitutional issues regarding the restrictions of an individual's personal liberties. The federal government currently has standards which prohibit outside work that represents a conflict of interest with one's job. This law, however, would ban receipt of honoraria for all presentations and articles prepared on one's own time, regardless of subject matter.

Although the original intent of this legislation was to ban honoraria for members of Congress and political appointees, the legislation ended up including all federal employees. Soon after this legislation was passed in 1989, many inside and outside government realized that there were problems with this law that needed to be corrected. On October 26, 1990, Senator John Glenn introduced an amendment to the Ethics in Government Act which would apply the honoraria ban only those employees with a grade level of GS-16 or

above, thus exempting over 90% of all federal employees. The amendment was defeated in the House. Representative Jack Brooks, who led the opposition to the amendment, felt that a 100% solution was in order, not just the proposed 90%.

Currently, two strategies are underway to modify the impact of the recent ethics act. The judicial approach involved working with the American Civil Liberties Union, which is challenging the ban in a class action suit filed in behalf of the U.S. Treasury Employees Union. The second strategy is to seek an amendment to the legislation that makes clear distinctions between paid activities that fall under the category of legitimate personal or professional advancement and those that are politically motivated, in which the party offering the honoraria has an interest in affecting the performance of a federal employee's official duties.

Letters explaining the detrimental aspects of the recent Ethics Reform Law can be sent to the Head of the Office of Government Ethics Mr. Stephen Potts, Director, U.S. Office of Government Ethics, Suite 500, 1201 New York Ave., NW Washington, DC 20005 or to the chairs of pertinent Congressional Committees. Senator John Glenn, Chair, Senate Governmental Affairs Committee, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510; Representative John Conyers, Chair, Committee on Government Operations, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515. ■

Clay Tile Products and Preservation in Southeast Ohio

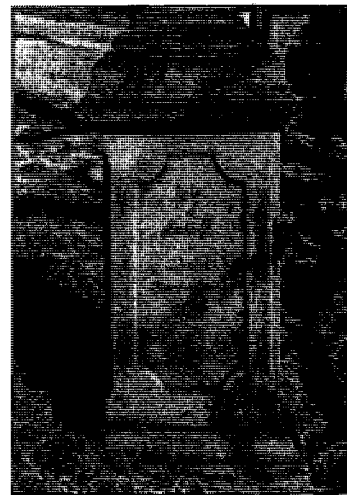
by Mary Anne Peters



Haydenville, Ohio residence. Note the sewer pipe detail on gable. Photograph courtesy of Mary Anne Peters.



Haydenville, Ohio grave marker. Photograph courtesy of Mary Anne Peters.



Haydenville, Ohio chimney top grave marker. Photograph courtesy of Mary Anne Peters.

Extractive industries such as coal, clay and iron not only played a major role in the economic development of areas rich in these natural resources, but also permeated the day-to-day life of the workers. Company towns were one phenomenon of the establishment of mining operations in the more remote areas not well served by sources of labor. Such towns provided a place of residence close to the mines for the workers and their families.

In the rich coal and clay fields of the Hocking Valley in southeastern Ohio many company towns were established to provide the worker and his family the necessities of life: proximity to work, inexpensive housing to rent (from the company), a store (owned by the company), and occasionally a social hall, school or church.

An exceptionally fine example of a company town is Haydenville, Ohio, located about 60 miles southeast of Columbus in Hocking County. The area had long been known as a rich coal field, but it was Peter Hayden who realized that the local clay was of excellent quality. In 1882 Hayden incorporated the Haydenville Mining and Manufacturing Company to continue mining coal and also to begin extracting fire clay from which products could be manufactured in a facility built in the vi-

cinity of the mining operation. By 1894 the company catalog advertised that the Haydenville Mining and Manufacturing Company was making fire bricks, round chimney and stove pipes (of clay), sewer pipes, partitions, building blocks, paving bricks, sidewalk tiles, chimney tops and various other clay architectural elements.

The town of Haydenville was created for the industry. Most of its houses, the company store and the church were constructed of materials manufactured in the factory. Some of the houses were two storied glazed block, others were brick with inset multi-colored tiles. A few of the brick homes even incorporated curved tile sewer pipes on the facade as decorative elements. The town, consisting of buildings constructed of products made in the factory, served as an advertisement for the Haydenville Mining and Manufacturing Company.

It is not surprising, therefore, to discover that the clay products of the town's industry were sometimes used for purposes other than those originally intended. One particularly resourceful use of the clay products can be found in the community cemetery, which overlooks the town. While most of the grave markers are of conventional carved stone, there are some

made of clay products. One unusual grave marker is hand-molded of clay and supports a hand-crafted clay figure of an angel attached to the front of the marker. Although the head is no longer on the figure, the muscular body of the angel with its outstretched wings holds a large leaf in one hand and a scroll in the other. The reverse side of the marker is inscribed to the mother of a family in the area — perhaps the angel was to lead her safely to heaven.

Another clay grave marker is rectangular in shape with incised panels on all four sides. The hand-lettered script on the marker identifies John S. Scholl who died in 1884. This unusual marker is pictured in the 1894 catalog as a chimney top. It was described as an "Oblong Paneled Shaft; 12 x 15 inch Base; 2 ½ feet high...Chimney Top." In 1894 it sold for \$3.00 and was reported to be a popular (although more expensive) product of that line.

In Haydenville, the houses, church and other buildings and even the clay grave markers remain as reminders of the importance of the industry to the lives of the people who lived and worked in that company town.

Mary Anne Peters is Regional Coordinator, Ohio Historic Preservation Office, a part of the Ohio Historical Society. ■

Whither Goes the NCPH: A Query from the West

by James C. Williams

Few people would dispute that the NCPH has become, since its founding in 1980, a guiding organization for the field of public history. A largely volunteer organization, its accomplishments are numerous: sponsorship of a number of books and pamphlets, publication of a solid newsletter and a first rate journal, development of a public history education syllabus exchange and a slide and video introduction to public history, cooperative work with the NCC and various historical associations, and more. In general, the NCPH seems to have shaped as well as represented the field of public history.

In his address to the members of NCPH in San Diego this past Spring, however, out-going Chair Ted Karamanski observed that public history was at a crossroad. With the academic job market for historians looking up for the coming decade and with public history having been relegated to the position of "merely one of a number of special-interest history organizations," the future of the public history field seemed in question. Would public history continue to be regarded by the academy "with skepticism and hostility," or would it be accepted as a legitimate arm of the historical profession? Ted's answer suggested the latter, and he urged that the NCPH's role should be to engage "the history profession in the challenges of public service."

As I listened to Ted's address, read it again more carefully in *The Public Historian* and recalled various discussions which have gone on in the NCPH since its founding, I became more and more persuaded that this perception of public history reflects that of the historian guided yet by the academy. Granted this view contains a mission which extends beyond research, writing monographs and occasionally teaching, but I wonder seriously if it really speaks for historians practicing history for a living in the world beyond academy walls.

When Bob Kelley coined the term "public history" in 1976, it was admittedly a new concept. His notion was to establish a graduate program which would "create a new kind of professional person." They would "be trained to serve as research historians who [would] work within the community at large, rather than in academic institutions" (see Register of the Graduate Program in Historical Studies, U.C. Santa Barbara, 1977). Able to provide

only a general concept of the nascent field, I recall him saying often that we, the graduates of the program, would be the ones to truly define it.

I suppose it should not have been a surprise to us, in light of the dismal job market for professors of history and the overstuffed situations of many college and university history departments, that U.C. Santa Barbara's public history program was quickly imitated. Perhaps, too, the phenomenon of simultaneity in ideas was at work in this birth of public history. Whatever, within a decade almost 50 "programs" in public history were born, and many more history departments started offering a "public history emphasis" in their traditional history M.A. programs. To develop instructors, the NCPH even offered an expedient, short little summer re-training program for academy-based historians who soon would be teaching budding public historians, the requirement for participation being that they already had an academic position in an institution considering a public history program.

At the same time, many historians, academic and otherwise, who had been working in oral history, as consultants, in historical societies and museums, and in government and even business, found the notion of public history a welcome one. The NCPH became a place where they could meet and share their experiences. In due course, however, academic historians with a bent toward public history gained control of the NCPH, perhaps because they had institutional support, perhaps because the NCPH gave them another place to publish an article or present a conference paper, perhaps because they truly were advocates of public history, or perhaps inevitably because the history profession is dominated by the academy. In any event, few practicing, full-time public historians moved to the forefront of the field, either in the role of experienced faculty in new public history programs or in the leadership of the NCPH.

The end result of this, I believe, is that public history has come to be defined by those who don't make their living practicing it. As a consequence, public history is described as merely the "service" arm of the history profession, and the NCPH is called upon to establish as its overriding aim "returning history to the path of service." A strong hesitancy is shared by the

majority of NCPH's leaders over establishing NCPH accreditation of college and university public history programs and horror is expressed at certifying public historians (see Karamanski, *The Public Historian*, Summer, 1990, 91-101). A significant effort in time and energy is expended to gain membership in the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) for the NCPH. And, one of the two principal goals set for *The Public Historian* is "that all history be reviewed" in its pages, even though *TPH* still has not succeeded in reviewing the bulk of literature stemming from the work of public historians (see Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting, September 8, 1990, 91-101). All these concerns have their roots nourished in academic soil.

So, too, is the view that it is a negative for the history profession to be "a house divided." In fact, the profession has been divided profoundly since the American Association for State and Local History became the home to museum, historical society, and many gifted amateur historians; since the National Council for the Social Studies became home for secondary school history teachers; and since the Community College Social Science Association became home for a host of other historians. Members of these groups all abandoned the academy-dominated organizations for good reason, so the "house divided" is hardly new. Indeed, I think it is preferable to the utopia implied in a "house united into a catholic movement with a common agenda."

Therefore, it must not be the NCPH's goal to seek harmony with the AHA or OAH by becoming a unifying force in the swamp of academic history. While we should seek AHA and OAH support of public history, gains in harmony will only be bought by abandoning the field of public history to those who neither practice in nor yet respect it. And, if one believes that the academy-based profession has lost its skepticism of public history as a field heed the words of Stanley Katz, President of the American Council of Learned Societies, in the letter he wrote which recently turned down the NCPH for ACLS membership:

The [Executive] Committee questioned whether public history truly represents an intellectual interest that is not properly represented by the mainstream historical organizations (OAH and AHA). It recognized, in addition, that NCPH emerged

See pg. 10

Growing Up With the L & N: Life and Times in a Railroad Town

by Pat Lane

In the spring of 1937, Mrs. Howard Brown, living in South Louisville, Kentucky, walked to the homes of all her neighbors who had formerly lived in the railroad town of Etowah, Tennessee, and invited them to a covered-dish supper. The "Etowah Club" of Louisville was thus born and for more than fifty years has served as an extension of a community which developed in that now-quiet Tennessee town that was once a booming railroad center. Half a century later, a group of Etowah residents renewed their own sense of community with a locally initiated history project designed to examine what it meant and means to live in a town created by and subject to the Louisville and Nashville Railroad. "Growing Up With the L & N: Life and Times in a Railroad Town," represents the best kind of humanities project — one which serves not only as an end in itself but also as a beginning for local citizens to examine their individual and collective lives.

It is only natural in a town such as Etowah, which sprang up virtually overnight in the early 1900s as the new "Atlanta Division" of the L & N, that the railroad would be a topic of great local interest. The passenger depot, built in 1906, was restored to its original grandeur in the 1970s and now houses offices, a museum, and space for club meetings, wedding receptions, community holiday celebrations, and family reunions. The town is home to numerous retired railroad workers and their descendants, as well as to people who worked in support services such as hotels and shops. The Etowah Arts Commission, which maintains an office and gallery space in the Depot, decided to capitalize on this local interest and develop a project which would examine the far-reaching impact of the L & N on Etowah and surrounding communities.

One of the first things that community volunteers discovered, even before the project actually began, was that bonds which developed in Etowah early in the twentieth century were so strong that they were carried to other geographical locations when economic circumstances forced railroad workers to relocate. "Etowah Clubs" were formed by the wives of relocated railroaders not only in Louisville but also in Nashville and Knoxville as well (though only the Louisville Club has re-



Trackside view of the Etowah L&N depot, 1907, the first structure built in Etowah. Photo courtesy Pat Lane

mained a thriving organization down to the daughters and granddaughters of the founders). Project planners felt that one of the most important aspects of their local history to consider was the development of a sense of community among people first brought together by economic circumstances and how that sense of community continued or changed with events such as the strike of the 1920s and the influx of strikebreakers, the depletion of the town's payroll in the 1930s, the gradual phasing out of the L & N's Etowah shops, and the town's struggle to redefine itself after the loss of its only major industry. The project went beyond that, of course, but it is this aspect which seems to reflect best the importance of such locally initiated public-history projects. Not only did community members come together to learn about and celebrate their shared heritage, they also examined their community as a living community.

Linda Caldwell, director of the Etowah Arts Commission, and a group of volunteers first approached the Tennessee Humanities Council with questions about its Public Research Project category, which requires that local volunteers be trained by humanities scholars in the proper methods of research and interpretation and work closely with scholars through the research and completion of an exhibition or book. In this case, the sponsor wanted both an exhibition and a book; they wanted a professional display in the restored depot but they also wanted something which individuals could take home with them and

which could discuss the local history in greater depth than was possible with an exhibit alone. The sponsor was especially interested in having a product which could be shared not only with local people but also with the many visitors to and friends of the depot, particularly those who have moved away but still feel a bond with the community where they once worked and lived. The relationship between the Etowah Arts Commission and the Tennessee Humanities Council has been a long and fruitful one, so the sponsor was aware of the difficulty of undertaking a project of this scope. For that reason, they first applied for a small grant which enabled them to work closely with a humanities consultant, anthropologist Betty Duggan, in designing the project. One important reason the project was such a success is that it was locally initiated; the volunteers who worked on this project obviously cared deeply about it.

Thousands of volunteer hours were put into the project and over 100 people were involved as either researchers or contributors. The community volunteers not only learned a lot about themselves, they also created an exhibition and book of which they are proud and to which outsiders have pointed as examples of locally produced history at its best. It is doubtful that anyone could visit the Etowah depot and not be impressed by the quality of the educational exhibit created by volunteers working late into the night. James Ward, the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga historian who

See pg. 10

during a period when there was a serious job shortage in the academy and that many scholars turned to public history because more traditional avenues of employment were not open to them. The job situation in the academy is now turning around, and the Committee felt the need to see how this change would affect public history as a field (Katz to David Kyvig, October 2, 1990).

Public history is not academic history with its trinity, however corrupted, of "teaching, research, and service." Its issues are more often than not different. It is a profession of historians who work a world beyond academy walls, who are probably more aligned to business people and the world of non-profits than to the professors with whom they once studied. Yet, public historians need the camaraderie of their own association, its support, and within it, the support of the professors who encouraged them to blaze trails which they themselves hardly understood. They need an organization willing to deal with the issues they face, whether it be keeping charlatans out of the pasture in which they feed through accreditation or certification or providing peer review of their work in a respected journal. They need an organization like the NCPH.

They do not, however, need the NCPH if its professorial leaders cannot sufficiently loosen themselves from the bondage of academic life to unshackle the profession they helped create and serve its practitioners as strong seconds. This is the crossroad which NCPH faces today. Will the NCPH be an organization of public historians and their academic second or an organization of those who guide others toward being public historians but insist on life as prescribed by the academy? The future of the NCPH, as I see it, rests in how its leaders and members resolve this question.

Dr. Williams was a member of the first class in the Graduate Program in Historical Studies at U.C. Santa Barbara. He has worked as a consultant in cultural resources management and historic preservation and is the Executive Director of the California History Center Foundation, located at De Anza College in Cupertino. He is a member of the board of the National Council on Public History as well as that of the California Historical Society. He is also the Executive Secretary and a past-Chair of the California Council for the Promotion of History (CCPH). ■

served as evaluator, captured the essence of the project well when he wrote:

Conspicuously absent are the usual paeans to the town's First families: the project concentrates almost wholly on [the experiences of working people,] both black and white. The museum pays special attention to their working and living conditions to present a sense of what it was like to claw a living from skills and sweat in the early twentieth century industrial South. [The exhibit and book] illustrate the painful transitions that took place as local subsistence farmers hurried to the raw town to enjoy its cash wages and then suffered through the traumas of dealing with a national corporation, going on strike and watching scabs take their jobs, carrying strikers on credit at the local mercantile establishments, and then worrying as the payroll fell in the depression of the 1930s... The whole exhibit and story are the essence of the American Experience as seen through ordinary eyes, the most fundamental definition of human experience.

This is a project that promises to have long-lasting effects in the town of Etowah as well as the entire region. As a humanities project, it was a great success in and of itself. But the project also helped lead the sponsor to an even larger and broader-reaching project, concerned not only with local history but also with tourism and economic development as well. Following this project, the Etowah Arts Commission developed on behalf of several communities in southeast Tennessee a project which will serve as one of four pilot projects in Tennessee and one of sixteen national projects supported by the National Trust for Historic Preservation Tourism Initiative. It was largely their experience with the "Growing Up With the L & N" project, according to Caldwell, which led them to focus their tourism initiative on the rise and decline of industrialization in the area, including the railroad, textile and flour mills, copper and gold mines, canneries, and iron foundries rather than on stately homes or historic sites. "It's true this is a tourist development and preservation project," Caldwell pointed out, "but [that's no reason it can't] also serve as an educational tool. We would not be anxious to tell our story to others if [our involvement with the L & N project] had not gently made us aware of what, in fact, the story is."

It seems, though, that there's more than a desire to "tell their story" involved. It is interesting to note that the conclusion of the sponsor's application to the National Trust refers to the need for tourist devel-

opment, the importance of educating others about the historic character of the region, and the desire to preserve and promote local resources, and perhaps most important, to something of larger, and fully human, value. "We believe," the paragraph begins, "this program would serve as a catalyst to unite the communities...." "Growing Up With the L & N" was a way to explore, and through the process of exploration and discovery contribute to, community cohesiveness. That process has not ended in Etowah with the completion of the final project reports; it has, perhaps, only begun. ■

Prosopography — from page 3

tors as it strives to understand and meet the needs of the membership. The insights provided by the survey suggest the value of routinely collecting such information about members in the future as a part of the annual dues collection and subscription renewal process. A simple set of membership statistics cannot provide all the answers to public historians struggling with the challenge to "Know thyself," but it certainly constitutes a step in the right direction. ■



The National Council on Public History promotes the application of historical

scholarship outside the university in government, business, historical societies, preservation organizations, archives, libraries, professional associations, and public interest groups.

For details, contact NCPH President David Kyvig, History Dept., Univ of Akron, Akron, OH 44325 (216) 972-7006; Vice-pres. Brit Allan Storey, Bureau of Recl., Attn D5521, PO Box 25-007, Denver, CO 80225 or Executive Secretary Elizabeth Monroe, 301 Cavanaugh Hall-IUPUI, 425 University Blvd, Indianapolis, IN 46202-5140; (317) 274-2716.

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

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

Opportunities

Old Cowtown Museum, an AAM-accredited living history outdoor village museum in Wichita, Kansas, seeks a Director. The successful candidate will have museum and leadership experience and proven ability to work with staff, volunteers, Board of Trustees, and the community. Responsibilities include development, management, and administration. Salary commensurate with experience and qualifications. Please send work history and references to: Director Search, Old Cowtown Museum, 1871 Sim Park Dr., Wichita, KS, 67203, by February 15, 1991.

Kentucky Historical Society seeks a Division Manager. Administrative position overseeing two branches and staff of over 20. Coordinates Publications branch, with quarterly journals and limited book publishing, and Library/Micrographics branch, operating a historical and genealogical library with manuscript, map, photograph, rare book, and preservation laboratories programs. Requires either Ph.D. in history with research experience or MLS with strong history background. Should have experience in a supervisory position; knowledge of Kentucky history preferred. Salary range \$27,072 - \$35,220 with state government benefits. Send letter of application, resume, references to Dr. James C. Klotter, Director, Kentucky Historical Society, P.O. Box H, Frankfort, KY 40602. Application deadline - April 8, 1991.

The National Endowment for the Humanities seeks applications for the position of Humanities Administrator, Division of State Programs. The Division of State Programs supports Humanities Councils organized in each state that in turn sponsor humanities projects designed and carried out in the particular state.

The Humanities Administrator is specifically responsible for:

Reviewing plans and proposals from the states through assessing their eligibility, adequacy, completeness, and conformance with Endowment goals and legislative authority; Assisting in the selection of consultants/panelists and the preparation of material for Advisory Panels and the National Council on the Humanities: Travel to states for meetings and conferences related to these activities and to evaluate the progress of existing grants; Representing NEH at scholarly and professional meetings.

Qualification requirements: An M.A. in a humanities discipline is required (a

Ph.D. in history is preferred); One (1) year of specialized experience equivalent to the GS-12 level. Specialized experience is professional experience in the humanities with scholarly, academic or grant-making organizations.

Candidates will be further evaluated on: Humanities teaching experience; administration of humanities programs; experience in foundations, associations, or grant-making institutions; evidence of skill in written and oral communication.

The salary for this GM-13 position is \$42,601 p.a. For further information and to request an application write: Laura W. Tseronis, National Endowment for the Humanities, 1100 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Room 417, Washington, DC 20506. Telephone: (202) 786-0415. All applications must be received no later than close of business on January 26, 1991, and must cite Vacancy Announcement #91-012C.

The Department of American Studies at the University of Hawaii at Manoa is offering a Pacific Preservation Field School, June 3-29, 1991, at the Iole Mission Homestead on the island of Hawaii. The Preservation Field School is an on-site program of the Pacific Preservation Consortium (PPC), a project of the Department of American Studies, which affords the opportunity for hands-on experience in the preservation of historic structures in the Pacific area.

The Iole Mission Homestead is a National Register complex consisting of a group of unrestored buildings built between 1840 and 1920, which contain artifacts original to the buildings. Residences and such outbuildings as a smokehouse, carpentry shop, doctor's office, church and two former school complexes comprise the total site.

The Iole site offers directed study and project work. The areas of concentration will include historical research and documentation, archeology, building analysis, interpretive planning, building conservation, landscape analysis and area preservation practice.

William J. Murtagh, Director of the PPC will head the Field School faculty. Murtagh is a former Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places and Vice President of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Other faculty members are: Barnes Riznik, Director of Grove Farm Homestead, Waioli Mission House, Kauai and a member of the Board of Advisors for the National Trust for Historic Preser-

vation and Peter James, consultant and immediate past Director of the National Trust of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia. Additional faculty from Hawaii and the mainland will also participate.

Limited scholarship assistance is available for qualified applicants. For more information and applications contact:

The Department of American Studies, University of Hawaii at Manoa, 1890 East West Road, Moore 324, Honolulu, HI, 96822 or call (808)956-8570. Applications received after February 22, 1991 will be placed on a waiting list in the event a vacancy develops.

The University of Pennsylvania announces July 14-August 10, 1991 European Conservation/HP650, a Methodological Approach to the Conservation of Stone, the Graduate Program in Historic Preservation, Graduate School of Fine Arts, University of Pennsylvania co-sponsored with ICCROM, Rome.

The course will be divided into four weekly units articulated through a wide range of activities including lectures, demonstrations, laboratory work, field exercises and study trips. The first unit will focus on general principles of conservation and the approach to the object to be conserved. Unit two will consider documentation and survey including specialized techniques of recording, inspection, structural monitoring and humidity analysis. The remaining weeks of the course will focus on details of analysis and technical intervention as they relate to the conservation of stone. Exercises will include the documentation and condition survey of a chosen site in Rome, analysis of subject materials and decay products utilizing relevant laboratory procedures, and testing of treatment options including cleaning, consolidation and grouting techniques. Field trips are planned to Ostia, Pompeii, Tivoli, and Tarquinia. The course will carry one graduate course unit of credit (equivalent to three semester hours) and provide practical conservation experience satisfying most internship requirements. For more information contact:

David G. DeLong, Chairman
Graduate Program in Historic
Preservation
University of Pennsylvania
214 Meyerson Hall
Philadelphia, PA 19104-6311
Telephone (215) 898-3169
Telefax (215) 898-9215

Publications

A History of the Bureau of the Public Debt - 50th Anniversary. A Treasury Department publication, Stock Number 048-011-00023-3. This book was written to record for posterity the story of the public debt in the development of the United States. The story begins in the early years of the new Nation and expands with the growing country, and ultimately evolves into the mission of the Bureau of the Public Debt. Send prepayment of \$9.00 to Superintendent of Documents, Washington, DC 20402-9325; or to order Visa or MasterCard phone (202) 783-3238.

The Society for Commercial Archeology announces *Roadside America: The Automobile in Design and Culture*. Through 18 essays and 173 photographs and drawings, *Roadside America* examines the major changes in American culture and specifically in American architecture brought about by the automobile. It explores buildings, institutions, and behavior influenced by the auto in America over the past nine decades. And it illustrates the need to preserve edifices still in existence but endangered by proposed developments or lack of upkeep. For more information, contact Iowa State University Press, 2121 S. State Avenue, Ames, Iowa, 50010. Phone orders: 515/292-0155.

The National Center for the Study of History announces the publication of the following charts: *Careers for Graduates in History*, *Careers in Information Management*, *Business & History*, *Insurance & History*. Career Charts are available in two sizes: Wall Charts, 20" high by 28" wide, folds to 10" X 7". Notebook Charts, 14" high by 20" wide, folds to 10" x 7". For information write the National Center at RR #1, Box 679, Cornish Maine 04020, telephone - (207) 637-2873.

Announcements

The New York State Archives and Records Administration (SARA) capped its celebration of New York Archives Week by honoring five outstanding efforts in the State in the area of Archives and records management. Assemblyman William B. Hoyt received the award for Most Effective Advocate on behalf of Archives and Records Management Programs. The award for Excellence in Research Using the Holdings of the State Archives was presented to Dr. F. Daniel Larkin, Profes-

sor of History at the State University College at Oneonta. Washington County was recognized as having the Most Improved Local Government Archival Program in the State. The award for Most Improved Historical Records Repository was presented to Hartwick College Archives. The State University Construction Fund received the award for Most Improved State Agency Records Program.

The American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) held its 50th Anniversary Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. Pamela J. Bennett, Director of the Indiana Historical Bureau was installed as the president of the AASLH at this meeting and will serve a two-year term. Bennett succeeds Michael J. Smith, Director of the Putnam Museum in Davenport, Iowa.

Before becoming its director, Bennett served as the editor for the Indiana Historical Bureau. She also edited the Sesquicentennial History Project for Indiana University, 1972-73; the *Fifty Year Index*, *Mississippi Valley Historical Review* for the Organization of American Historians, 1971-73; and the *Indiana Magazine of History* for Indiana University, 1968-72. She is a graduate of Gettysburg College and Indiana University. Prior to her election as president, Ms. Bennett had a long history of service to AASLH. She served as vice president, 1988-1990, and was a member of the Council Class of 1987. She also served on a number of committees.

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) recently announced H. G. Jones, Curator of the North Carolina Collection, University of North Carolina, as the recipient of its Distinguished Service Award for 1990. Dr. Jones received his award at a special ceremony at the National Archives in Washington, D.C.

Calls for Papers

Iowa State University Press invites submissions for the *Great Plains Environmental Design Series*, under the general editorship of Herbert Gottfried, professor of architecture, Iowa State University. The series focuses on the history of environmental design within the broad plains region, with emphasis on the history of architecture as well as studies of place and cultural determinants of building form.

Manuscripts that emphasize interdisciplinary aspects of the region's history are

especially welcome. Letters of inquiry, proposals, and manuscripts may be addressed to: Professor Herbert Gottfried, Dept. of Architecture, College of Design, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50010.

Conferences and Programs

Archives Institute moves to Berkeley.

Planning for the 5th annual Western Archives Institute is well underway. The intensive, two-week program will be held at the University of California-Berkeley June 9-21, 1991. The Institute is designed to offer an introduction to modern archival theory and practice for a variety of participants, including those whose jobs require a fundamental understanding of archival skills, but have little or no previous archives education, those already in the profession who want to update and renew their archival knowledge, and those who wish to explore the possibility of an archival career.

Tuition for the program is \$400 and includes a selection of archival publications. Housing and meal plans are available at Berkeley's Clark Kerr Campus for additional charges. The application deadline is April 1, 1991. For additional information and an application form, contact Laren Metzger, Administrator, Western Archives Institute, 1020 "O" Street, Room 130, Sacramento, CA 95814, telephone: (916)445-4294.

The fourteenth annual **Black History Conference** sponsored by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission will be held on May 10 and 11, 1991 in Pittsburgh. The theme of this year's conference is "Building African American Communities in Pennsylvania." The conference is designed to bring together both academic and lay historians as well as the general public to examine aspects of the African American experience through lectures, panels, and other events.

The Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania, the University of Pittsburgh, and the Ethnic Heritage Studies Center are cosponsors of the conference. For further information contact Robert Weible, Chief, Division of History, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Box 1026, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17102, (717)787-3034.

Announcements

Historical Society of Pennsylvania has opened its library and other research facilities on Saturdays, and will extend its hours for library use and research on Wednesdays, President Susan Stitt announced.

The facilities will be open Saturdays — as well as Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays — from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Stitt said. Wednesday hours will be 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. The new schedule adds a total of seven hours per week to the previous times the resources were open to the public. The facilities are closed Sundays and Mondays.

To show people how to use the Society's resources, Stitt announced a variety of educational activities to be held on Saturdays. The activities include workshops on photograph identification, care and handling; genealogical resources; house and neighborhood research. Another series of Saturday programs, "Discover Who Lived in Your House in 1880," will show people how to find names of residents and other information about Philadelphia houses listed in the 1880 Census.

The Society's library contains 500,000 volumes plus newspapers, genealogical records and other rare documents. The archives and manuscript collection holds 14 million items including photographs, maps and watercolors. The museum preserves more than 6,000 objects and artworks.

The Strong Museum has announced that Bugs Bunny and a host of his cartoon comrades will arrive at the Strong Museum on March 23, 1991, in "That's All Folks! Bugs Bunny and Friends of Warner Bros. Cartoons", a traveling exhibit from the Philharmonic Center for the Arts in Naples, Florida. "That's All Folks" explores the elaborate creative process involved in developing Bugs and the other classic Warner cartoons.

The curators of the exhibit are Jesse G. Wright, Jr., curator of the Philharmonic Center of the Arts, and Steve Schneider, author of the exhibit's catalog. The artworks on display come from the collection of Mr. Schneider. The national tour of the exhibition is managed by Smith Kramer, Inc., of Kansas City, Missouri.

The Strong Museum, located in the heart of downtown Rochester, New York explores American life since 1820 through collections, exhibitions, publications, and programs. For information call (716)263-2700 x208. ■

Center on History-Making in America

By Lois Silverman

The Center on History-Making in America is a national, interdisciplinary research and action initiative that approaches history as a basic human process. Our mission is to understand the varied ways in which Americans interpret and use their pasts, in order to facilitate the critical examination and inclusive practice of history wherever it occurs.

How do people form and communicate personal experiences and memories, as well as the more traditional content of "history"? How is history made in contexts where "professionals" meet "publics" and in our everyday lives? Which accounts of history are accepted and used to what ends by whom? What does history mean to people?

Through collaborative research, critique, and debate on these issues, the Center seeks to propel public humanities discussion regarding the place of the past in American culture beyond laments of historical amnesia towards a deeper understanding of the role of history in our lives and our society. Informed by research, the Center promotes the development of more democratic and relevant ways for our own and future generations to experience history in classrooms, museums, mass media, and other settings.

In this age of technological advancement and international relations, we often think "history" consists of the actions and events of the "famous" and "important." Presidents and generals "make" history, not ordinary citizens. Yet a peek into our newspapers and lives today reveals "historical" activity that involves us all, from giving birth and celebrating anniversaries to brewing war and breaking down walls. Each one of us "makes" history through our actions and participation in events.

Another way in which people "make" history is in telling and re-telling events and experiences. Without such communication, "history" would not exist. At first glance, this too appears to be the exclusive domain of specialists like teachers, newscasters, and museum curators. While such individuals *are* trained in particular methods, interpreting the past is something we *all* do; at the dinner table, with our friends, over the backyard fence and the country's

borders. Even when we encounter a history lesson or museum exhibit, we compare it to our own memories and other accounts we've heard. Some scholars today lament the country's historical illiteracy, yet history-making is part of our lives. What do we really know about these processes?

The Center on History-Making in America pursues three main activities: information collecting and disseminating; research; and designing and evaluating history-making practice. As a clearinghouse, the Center gathers and synthesizes references, studies, and other materials relevant to the exploration of history-making and shares them through newsletters, reports, and publications. The Center will also sponsor public forums and educational programs to foster encounters among history-makers of various backgrounds.

Informed by the concerns of practitioners, the Center undertakes original research on how people understand and use their pasts. In particular, the Center designs and coordinates collaborative projects involving interested individuals and institutions. Major projects underway include a national survey of Americans' attitudes and habits regarding history, and a program of ethnographic study exploring history-making in relationships, communities and institutions.

The Center works with history-makers of all kinds to apply research findings to practice. The Center is especially committed to the design and evaluation of improved methods for communicating history in the many places where "professionals" meet "publics," such as classrooms, historic sites, and programs.

The Center on History-Making in America at Indiana University was established with the support of Indiana University, the Spencer Foundation, the Indiana Humanities Council, the L. J. Skaggs and Mary C. Skaggs Foundation, the New York Council for the Humanities, and the State University of New York at Buffalo. For more information: Lois Silverman, Director, Center on History-Making, Room 203, Wright Education Building, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN 47405. Telephone (812)855-8639. ■

The National Council on Public History Announces a new video:

"Public History Today"

Executive Producer: Philip Scarpino

Producers: Gerald Herman and Daniel Walkowitz

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

Suitable for:

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

Running Time: 33 minutes, 40 seconds

*one-half inch VHS cassette, \$49.95

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

*rental, \$35.00

See order form on opposite page



"Public History Today"

By Dr. Philip V. Scarpino,
Executive Producer, "Public History Today"

It is a pleasure to announce that the National Council on Public History now has a thirty-three minute video, "Public History Today", that offers a visually interesting examination of history practiced in and for the public. "Public History Today" is intended for use by colleges, universities, and high schools, as well as a variety of organizations that are interested in public history, that engage in public history, or that employ public historians. The video's wide-ranging look at the public application of the historians' craft makes it useful for groups as diverse as history survey classes, government agencies, libraries, museums, state humanities councils, and historical societies. "Public History Today" should prove very useful in stimulating discussion on issues and opportunities related to public history.

"Public History Today" is divided into three parts. The first part uses a fast montage of images to introduce the excitement and varieties of doing history in the public arena. The second part takes the viewer to Lowell National Park, the Atlantic Histori-

cal Society, and Santa Barbara, California, where public historians talk about their craft. The three on-camera historians, Robert Weible, Shelley Bookspan, and George McDaniel do an excellent job of explaining different, but related, aspects of public history. The final part pulls together the key threads of the video and introduces some important themes such as the ethical considerations of public history.

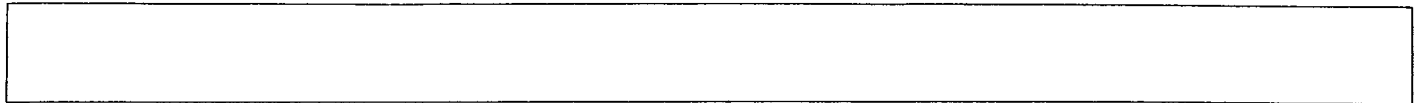
Completion of "Public History Today" depended on generous donations of time, equipment and facilities, and money by many individuals and organizations. Lowell National Park, the Atlantic Historical Society, and PHR Environmental in Santa Barbara, California, allowed us to film at their locations and provided significant assistance while we were there. Robert Weible, Shelley Bookspan, and George McDaniel generously donated their time as on-camera historians. Darlene Roth was very helpful before, during and after our trip to Atlanta.

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Northeastern University provided major in-kind contributions that included over sixty hours of studio time and the time of a graduate assistant. Everette Brewer did a spectacular job as director. Successful completion of this video depended absolutely on the skills, hard work, and dedications of Daniel Walkowitz and Gerald Herman.

"Public History Today" is available for rental and purchase through the Executive Secretariat of the National Council on Public History. (see ad elsewhere in this newsletter.) ■



NCPH Publications on Public History:

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REMINDERS:

MEET US IN TOLEDO!

NCPH Annual Meeting

May 2-5, 1991

Hotel Radisson

Programs arriving in the mail soon!

MEET US IN LOUISVILLE!

NCPH Reception

April 13, 1991 5:00-7:00 pm

OAH Annual Meeting, Galt House

See page 1 for more information.

Public History News

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