National Council on Public History

Annual Report 1990-91

The 1991 annual meeting of the National Council on Public History, held May 2-5 in Toledo, Ohio, was the culmination of a year of achievement and progress for the Council. While not without its disappointments, principally the denial of its application for membership in the American Council of Learned Societies, the 1990-91 year saw NCPH produce polished and useful publications on a steady basis, advance its goals through the energetic work of its committees, provide services to its members through the smooth operation of its executive secretariat and annual meeting, and increase the visibility and influence of public historians through participation in the meetings and work of other historical organizations. A highlight of the year, and perhaps the Council's greatest contribution to date toward improving understanding and appreciation of public history, was the release of the professional-quality, thirty-three minute video, "Public History Today."

"Public History Today"

More than two years of effort by Philip Scarpino, Daniel Walkowitz, and Gerald Herman, three dedicated public historians and pillars of the National Council, came to fruition with the May 2 premier in Toledo of "Public History Today." This video introduces a general audience to public history by taking a brief look at three practitioners in the setting of their work. Robert Weible talks about being a federal historian at the Lowell National Park; Shelley Bookspan discusses her role as a consulting environmental historian in Santa Barbara; and George McDaniel explains local history site interpretation at the Atlanta Historical Society. Together with glimpses of other public history activities, these examples provide a sense of the utility of historical inquiry as well as the wide range of professional opportunity. "Public History Today," which is suitable for secondary and college students as well as adult audiences, can be rented from the NCPH secretariat for $35 or purchased for $49.95 in VHS format or $79.95 in three-quarter inch "U'matic" format. Produced with the support of many individual and institutional friends of NCPH, "Public History Today" has splendid potential for opening the eyes of a wide audience to public history.

Annual meetings

Under the direction of program chair and secretary-treasurer Diane Britton of the University of Toledo, the NCPH annual conference proved to be a lively and stimulating event from start to finish for its nearly two hundred registrants. Organized around the theme of "The Audiences of Public History," the conference treated this important issue in both serious and light-hearted ways. The opening plenary session of the meeting presented the work and initial findings of the Center on History-Making in America based at Indiana University, an imaginative attempt to study how the American people acquire and use historical information. A second plenary session addressed the multiplicity of issues involved in using corporate funding to bring history exhibits to public audiences. A number of the program's eighteen other sessions continued the discussion of the theme of history's audiences. In addition, the program featured two workshops, four panels, and three open forums. The obligations of historians to a public audience also provided the focus of David Kyvig's presidential address, "Public or Perish Thoughts on Historians' Responsibilities," which followed a champagne reception and banquet at the elegant Toledo Club.

Direct encounters with efforts of public historians to present various sorts of history to diverse audiences contributed to the success of the meeting. A picnic lunch on the deck of a 600-foot Great Lakes ore freighter, long an essential but little visible component of the region's economy, was followed by tours of the huge ship. A baseball game between the Ohio Historical Society's Columbus Muffins and a team from the Ohio Baseball Hall of Fame, played with mid-nineteenth century rules, uniforms, equipment, and even costumed spectators, turned NCPHers into an audience of huzzah-shouting "cranks." Dinner at Tony Packo's, for decades a fixture in Toledo's oldest Hungarian neighborhood, provided conference participants yet another view of how audiences acquire a taste of the past. Toledo proved to be an attractive site and the annual meeting an excellent occasion for consideration of the relationship of historians to their audiences.

Next year's NCPH annual conference will be held March 10-14 in Columbia, South Carolina. Plans for that meeting are already being made by local arrangements chair Connie Schulz and program chair Dwight Picaithley. While in Toledo, the NCPH board selected Valley Forge National Park, near Philadelphia, as the site for the 1993 meeting.

Annual meetings of other organizations provided additional opportunities for NCPH members to gather during the year. At the December 1990 annual meeting of the American Historical Association in New York, the National Council hosted a luncheon at which president David Kyvig spoke on "The State of Public History." In addition NCPH co-sponsored a program session on the women's national historic landmarks project. At the Organization of American Historians April 1991 annual meeting in Louisville, Kentucky,

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NCPH hosted a reception. These occasions, together with the National Council's own annual meeting, strengthen the bonds of community that unite public historians.

The Public Historian
Nothing serves more to link together the public history community than the publications of the National Council. The Public Historian, the Council's quarterly journal, continues to provide a mix of well-researched articles, thoughtful essays, and reviews of books, exhibits, films, and other work of interest. The diversity and quality of the journal throughout the year was characterized by the provocative roundtable, "Historians and the Webster Case" in the summer 1990 issue and Bruce Craig's insightful essay in the winter 1990 issue, "Politics in the Pumpkin Patch," winner of the G. Wesley Johnson Prize for the year's best article.

The editorship of The Public Historian remains in the able hands of Otis Graham of the University of California at Santa Barbara, assisted by Associate Editor Lindsey Reed and Review Editor Randolph Bergstrom. An active editorial board, chaired by Jannelle Warren-Findley, met in Washington in September and Toledo in May. At year's end, W. Andrew Achenbaum, James K. Huhta, Roberta Balstad Miller, and George David Smith completed their terms on the board and were replaced by James Banner, Bruce Craig, Donn Neal, and Anna Nelson. Donald Ritchie agreed to serve a second three-year term. Every one of these editors and board members contributed to the ongoing growth of The Public Historian's substance and stature.

Public History News
News of the organization and profession, timely essays, reports of Council activities, and other information of interest to the public history community appeared in the Council's quarterly newsletter, Public History News. Under the editorship of Executive Secretary Elizabeth Monroe, the newsletter served as an effective means of disseminating important information quickly and regularly. The pages of Public History News have been open to differing viewpoints, of which James C. Williams, "Whither Goes the NCPH: A Query from the West," in the Winter 1991 issue was perhaps the year's prime example. A particularly valuable feature of the newsletter continues to be Page Putnam Miller's regular "Washington Update," a column in which the director of the National Coordinating Committee for the Promotion of History (of which NCPH is a sponsor) reports on legislative and executive developments of importance to public historians.

A Guide to Graduate Programs in Public History
In addition to its regular quarterly journal and newsletter, the National Council sponsors other useful publications. This spring saw the appearance of A Guide to Graduate Programs in Public History, a 120-page paperback prepared by the NCPH publications committee chaired by Beth Luey of Arizona State University. The Guide reflects the growth in academic training in public history since its predecessor appeared in 1985. Nearly sixty programs at institutions throughout the United States and Canada, many of them unknown or nonexistent six years ago, are described. A useful tool for those counseling history students, seeking to employ trained public historians, or developing a public history curriculum as well as for prospective public history students, the Guide to Graduate Programs in Public History is available from the NCPH secretariat for $8 to members and $10 for others, postage included.

Secretariat
During its first year of residence at Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis, the NCPH secretariat has effectively served the needs of the Council. Under the leadership of Executive Secretary Elizabeth Monroe and with the assistance of able secretaries and students, the secretariat has produced Public History News, the annual meeting program, A Guide to Graduate Programs in Public History, and a new membership brochure. Elizabeth Monroe supervised an outside professional review of the Council's finances and instituted new records-keeping and financial practices. In addition, the secretariat handled with dispatch NCPH board business, membership services, and outside requests. The Council is being very well served by its executive secretary and its hosts, POLIS Research Center and the IUPUI history department. NCPH is also grateful for the support provided to the secretariat by the Indiana Humanities Council.

Committees
Much of the work of the National Council during 1990-91 usually goes on quietly and out of the limelight in its various committees. This year was no exception. Several committees made significant contributions. The efforts of the special committee, chaired by Phil Scarpino, which produced "Public History Today," and the publications committee, chaired by Beth Luey, which produced A Guide to Graduate Programs in Public History, have already been mentioned.

Also very active during the past year has been the committee on accreditation and standards chaired by James K. Huhta. This committee has been systematically gathering and evaluating a great deal of information about academic programs in public history across North America. It has been considering as well how the National Council can best assist the strengthening of those programs. The thinking of the committee has clearly been evolving as it has conducted survey research, held an open forum at Toledo, and carried on an animated discussion among its own members. The committee recognizes that it is dealing with an important, long-range issue facing NCPH and can be expected to suggest some major initiatives to the Council in years ahead.

An ad hoc committee on development, chaired by Nicholas Muller III, considered means by which the Council could strengthen its financial resources. Additional funding from outside the ranks of its members would allow the Council to augment its programs and services to members. The committee's thoughtful recommendations are currently being digested by the board and its long-range planning committee.

The one elected committee of the National Council, the nominating committee, was chaired this year by Richard Baker. It carried out its vital duties with dispatch. With the Toledo meeting, Gordon Olson and Jeffrey Stine completed their three-year terms on the committee. They were replaced by newly-elected members Patrick O'Bannon and Constance Schulz.

Other committees, notably the cultural resources management committee chaired by Bill Willingham, the curriculum and training committee chaired by Hal Rothman, and the outreach committee chaired by Stan Hordes, are developing new strategies for carrying out their mandates. The finance, long-range planning, and program committees continue to fulfill their designated duties. NCPH depends on the conscientious efforts of all of its committees. Their work contributes immeasurably to the overall success of the organization and reflects the strong sense of professional responsibility held by many public historians.
Outreach

An important element of NCPH's ongoing work has involved its interaction with other historical organizations, both academic and public in orientation. Participation in the activities of allied groups ensures that the voices of public historians will be heard and their perspectives will be considered. Such interactions occur in many ways, both formal and informal, but a few deserve particular notice.

NCPH is affiliated with the National Coordinating Committee for the Promotion of History. The Washington-based NCPH monitors federal legislative, executive, regulatory, and judicial developments of significance to historians. It often speaks on behalf of historians' interests with regard to access to government records, support for the National Archives and Library of Congress, copyright and fair use legislation, and historical programs in the defense, interior, and state departments. A National Council representative attends NCC meetings during each year's AHA and OAH conventions, and NCPH receives regular reports from NCC director Page Putnam Miller.

Discussions are currently underway regarding the creation of an office similar to NCC, but serving as an information exchange and advocate for the improvement of history education in America. The National History Education Network (NHEN) is expected to be housed at the American Association for State and Local History in Nashville, Tennessee, but it will be an independent office. NHEN will derive its support from the National Council for Social Studies (based in secondary schools), AASLH, AHA, OAH, and other organizations. Because of the importance of seeing to it that public history is included in overall history education as well as because of the contributions that public historians can make to the educational process at all levels, NCPH needs to be involved in this initiative.

The American Council of Learned Societies and the National Historical Records and Publications Commission of the National Archives are currently investigating the use of published and unpublished historical records in the United States and Canada. This year, in cooperation with this Historical Documents Study, five organizations, including NCPH, allowed use of their membership lists for information collection. It is a noteworthy reflection of public historians' sense of professional responsibility that seventy-four percent of the NCPH members contacted chose to respond to the survey, a higher percentage than in any other group polled. When the report of the Historical Documents Study becomes available early in 1992, new insight should be gained regarding how public historians do their work in comparison with other groups of professional and avocational historians.

In only one instance during the past year was NCPH rebuffed in an attempt to cooperate with other organizations. The American Council of Learned Societies rejected the NCPH's application for membership. Even this setback had benefits for the Council. Assembling the application required systematic information gathering about the membership, as well as a review of the Council's finances and activities. The application's rejection compelled the board of directors to address some basic questions about the Council's operations and aspirations. The rejection by ACLS was clearly not irrevocable, encouragement was given to reapply at a later date. It is to be hoped that this disappointing rejection may in the long run serve to strengthen NCPH.

Board of Directors

The elected board of directors plays a vital role in the affairs of NCPH, setting policy and budgetary guidelines for the officers and executive secretary to execute. The board, which once consisted of fifteen elected members, is completing a three-year reduction in size to nine. Board members serve rotating three-year terms and sit with the president, vice president, immediate past president, and secretary-treasurer. The board met twice during 1990-91, in Washington for two days in September and during the annual conference in Toledo. One of the more visible, if less consequential, board actions in September was to amend the bylaws so as to designate the Council's elected leader a president rather than a chair. It was clear during the Toledo meeting that this change in terminology has not yet been completely accomplished.

The five members of the board of directors who completed their terms with the Toledo meeting deserve the gratitude of all NCPH members. They are Pat Harahan of the On-Site Inspection Agency, Steven Lubar of the Smithsonian Institution, Beth Luey of Arizona State University, Raymond H. Merritt of St. Cloud State University, and James C. Williams of the California History Center Foundation. Past chair Ted Karamanski of Loyola University also completed his term of service on the board. Each of these board members made important contributions to the National Council during their tenure.

Newly elected to the board of directors are Shelley Bookspan of PHR Environmental Consultants, David Glassberg of the University of Massachusetts, and Dwight Pitcaithley of the National Park Service. Serving with them will be the six continuing members of the board: Rachel Maines, George Mazuzan, Anne Millbrooke, Glenda Riley (appointed to fill the unexpired term of Edith Mayo), Philip Scarpino, and Wendy Wolff. Also sitting on the board of directors are newly elevated president Brit Storey, just-elected vice president Martin Melosi, reelected secretary-treasurer Diane Britton, and past president David Kyvig.

During the coming year the National Council will be led by Brit Allan Storey. A longtime public historian, he chaired the 1988 NCPH Denver conference. He is currently senior historian for the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. Brit Storey promises to make the coming year a lively and productive one for the National Council on Public History.

David Kyvig
Plan Ahead! 1992 NCPH Annual Meeting

When: March 12-15
Where: Columbia, South Carolina

Since 1786, Columbia has served as the capital of South Carolina. The presence of state government and the state university are part of the reason for the growth and prosperity of this mid-sized southern city of 400,000. In March, the city's dogwood and azalea gardens are in full bloom, and the weather is usually comfortably warm. A large and active local arrangements committee looks forward to welcoming members of the NCPH to South Carolina.

Though perhaps not as well known to those outside of South Carolina as the state's earlier capital, Charleston, Columbia is a prosperous urban center, and a city of considerable historical interest in its own right. Here in its historic First Baptist Church was held the meeting that led to the adoption of the Ordinance of Secession. (A smallpox scare led the convention to adjourn to Charleston before it completed its work.) During General William T. Sherman's "visit" to Columbia in February of 1865, large sections of the city burned, but much of historic interest still remains. One of the buildings that survived (although still incomplete at the time of the fire) is the present State House, begun in 1854 and completed in 1907; it is only a few blocks from the NCPH meeting hotel.

Robert Mills, architect of the Washington Monument, is a native of South Carolina, and the Robert Mills House (1827) and the recently refurbished South Carolina State Asylum (1828) bear testimony to his skills. Columbia is home to the University of South Carolina, chartered in 1801, whose central campus, constructed between 1820 and 1850, is a National Historic Landmark. Its South Caroliniana Library was the earliest separate college library structure built in the United States. It now houses a major research library and manuscript collection related to South Carolina. A later library built by the WPA in 1940, now serves as the home of McKissick Museum, a fine small institution that collects southeastern arts and crafts and serves as the university archives. Columbia is a center for the practice of public history in the state. The South Carolina Department of Archives and History, two blocks from the meeting hotel, administers both the state's historic records and the state historic preservation program. The Historic Columbia Foundation is located in an historic house from which it directs educational activities related to the city's history and built environment. The Mann-Simons Cottage and the campuses of Benedict College and Allen University are part of the rich African-American heritage in Columbia.

Meeting Arrangements:
The headquarters hotel for the NCPH meeting will be the Town House, located between the University of South Carolina campus, the State House, and the downtown business district. Room rates for single or double occupancy are $55 per night and include a complimentary breakfast.

NCPH meeting sessions on Friday will all take place in the South Carolina State Museum, with free shuttle service from the hotel. The museum, which opened in October 1988, is a spectacular example of the adaptive use of a cotton textile mill. Its 79,000 square feet of exhibit space includes four floors of galleries devoted to the art, natural history, science and technology, and history of South Carolina. Instead of a "banquet" on Friday evening, meeting attendees will be treated to a Carolina-style barbecue on the grounds of the Riverbanks Zoo, where the newly opened ARC (Aquarium and Reptile Center) will be available after hours for our informal visit. Saturday sessions will be held on the campus of the University of South Carolina, located two blocks from the meeting hotel.

Special Pre- and Post-Meeting Activities:
Guided tour to National Park Service Revolutionary War Battlefield Sites (King's Mountain, Cowpens), or guided tour of ante bellum plantations of lower Richland County (many still in private ownership).

Extra-Special Post-Meeting Opportunity:
A chartered bus will take any interested meeting participants to Charleston (for a small extra fee) on Sunday morning after the conclusion of the regular meeting. Transportation will be provided to Drayton Hall (the National Trust's eighteenth-century Ashley River plantation), forts Sumter and Moultrie (National Park Service sites), and to the many walking tour opportunities in Charleston's incomparable historic district. All airlines that serve Columbia also serve Charleston, and travelers to Columbia can arrange to return from Charleston instead of Columbia on a regular roundtrip fare. The chartered buses will take people who wish to return on Sunday evening directly to the Charleston airport by 4:00 pm. NCPH members and their families who wish to stay in Charleston overnight or longer may do so; a special convention rate will be available for Sunday through Wednesday nights in a hotel in the Charleston historic district, and there are a number of elegant bed and breakfast establishments "South of Broad" or near the Battery.

How to Get There:
Columbia is 500 miles south of Washington, DC, ninety miles south of Charlotte, NC, 200 miles north of Jacksonville, FL, and 200 miles east of Atlanta, GA, and can be reached easily by interstate highways. Amtrak has one passenger train per day into its Columbia station from both the north and south. Columbia and Charleston are served by flights of American, Continental, Delta, United and U.S. Air. Special meeting fares are being negotiated with U.S. Air and American Airlines for 5% less than the lowest posted (supersaver) fares or 40% less than coach fare. Information on these fares will be included in the meeting program, or can be received in advance by calling conference coordinator Constance B. Schulz at the University of South Carolina Applied History Program (803)777-4854.

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 Brit Allan Storey, Bureau of Reclamation, Attn: D5530, P.O. Box 25007, Denver, CO 80225-0007; Vice-President Martin V. Melosi, Institute for Public History, Department of History, University of Houston, Houston, TX 77204-3875; or Elizabeth B. 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.
President's Column

National Public Radio recently ran a segment on the New York Turtle and Tortoise Society. This organization has some 1400 individual members. Comparatively, the National Council on Public History has between 500 and 600 individual members.

This contrast between the membership of the two organizations carries a message that we should heed. There are more far active public historians than people whose livelihood depends upon turtles and tortoises. Yet, our membership is one-third to one-half that of the NYT&TS. During his presidency of NCPH, Theodore Karamanski identified membership as a primary issue and devoted considerable energy to it. David Kyvig identified the issue of membership as quite important to the organization, and I follow in a well-worn path in expressing concern about the membership numbers of the organization.

It is clear that the importance of NCPH is not reflected in our membership numbers. We have as many institutional subscribers as we do individual members. Our publications are widely distributed in the best libraries in the country. Each member receives both The Public Historian, our professional journal, and Public History News, our quarterly newsletter. The new video, "Public History Today," is now available, and it is a fine and important contribution of particular use to those training future public historians. (NCPH owes special thanks to Jerry Herman, Phil Scarpino, and Danny Walkowitz for their work on it.) NCPH has sponsored numerous publications of broad use to public historians and students interested in public history. Our annual meetings serve both as a forum for ideas important to public history and as a networking tool.

In spite of the numerous services NCPH provides for its membership, there is much more that could be done. The newsletter, for instance, would be more timely if published bi-monthly. Increased membership is not the key to the good health of the NCPH — we are already a healthy organization. Increased membership is, however, the key to expanded services and activities for the organization, and increased membership and activities will greatly increase the vitality of the public history profession.

I ask each individual member of NCPH to personally solicit one new individual membership for the organization. You are in the best position to know who should be a member and who would most benefit from membership. You can contribute significantly to NCPH by doing this one task for the organization. Individual memberships are $32, and student memberships are $15. You may even have your targeted new member pay with Visa or MasterCard (include the card number and expiration date). Simply provide the name and address and mail to NCPH, University of California Press, Periodicals Department, 2120 Berkeley Way, Berkeley, California 94720.

Brit Allan Storey

Martin Melosi Elected Vice-President

Martin V. Melosi, Professor of History and Director of the Institute for Public History at the University of Houston, has been elected Vice-President of the NCPH for 1991-1992. He will automatically succeed Brit Storey of the Bureau of Reclamation as President at the conclusion of the 1992 annual meeting in Columbia, South Carolina.

Professor Melosi received his Ph.D. in 1975 at the University of Texas and taught for nine years at Texas A & M University before accepting his current position in Houston. His areas of interest include urban and environmental history and public policy history. He is the author of five books and more than thirty articles and book chapters. He is also the general editor of the Environmental History Series of Texas A & M University Press.

Melosi directs a Public History program that includes approximately twenty-five graduate students each year. The Institute for Public History is the research arm of the program, which conducts contract history projects and organizes a wide range of symposia and conferences. Community outreach is a mainstay of the program, and Melosi is director of the Tenneco Distinguished Lecture Series, founder of the Houston-Galveston Public History Roundtable, and a member of numerous boards. He is currently chair of the Long-range Issues Committee for the Houston Recycling Council and a former member of the Harris County Historical Commission. In 1988-1989, he served as President of the Public Works Historical Society.
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See pg. 10
Approximately two hundred public historians from around the United States, Canada, and South Australia gathered in Toledo during the first weekend in May for the thirteenth annual meeting of the National Council on Public History. The University of Toledo acted as host for a series of sessions and activities which provided a variety of formats from which to explore the vital issue of “The Audiences of Public History,” the meeting’s central theme. A premiere showing of “Public History Today” initiated the conference as participants were reminded once again of why we do public history and for whom.

Friday morning plenary sessions evoked further discussion of the problems inherent in understanding and serving the audiences of history. Michael Frisch, Lois Silverman, and David Thelen discussed the recent work of the Center on History Making in America and its efforts to explore how the public perceives and uses the past. History in the public realm, according to the panel members, is the most controversial work of historians. Audiences are a part of the history making process and the efforts of public historians will not be fully effective until they understand the nature of their audiences.

The conference’s second plenary session concerned the funding of public history exhibits and what influence corporate sponsorship might have on the interpretation of history. Don W. Wilson, Archivist of the United States, provided an eloquent and logical explanation of his acceptance of sponsorship from Philip Morris for programming commemorating the bicentennial of the Bill of Rights, a recent controversial issue in public history. Leo Brennan, Jr., of the Ford Motor Company Fund and Kenneth L. Gladish of the Indiana Humanities Council addressed questions of ethics and procedures in procuring corporate support for public history.

Subsequent sessions expanded on themes introduced in the plenary sessions. The question of how academic historians view history museum exhibits and their involvement in local historical organizations provoked a lively debate in one well-attended session. A local trolley took a group of participants on a tour of Toledo’s Warehouse District while panelists discussed the problems of preservation in the area and how history is used as marketing tool in an effort to revitalize the area. Panelists from the National Museum of American History, The Public Historian, and the Chicago Tribune discussed the problems created when historical journals review exhibits intended for general audiences. Other sessions looked at a variety of methods to reach diverse audiences including the use of the visual media, urban encyclopedias, and incorporation of social history into public programs.

Special activities gave conference attendees the opportunity to become an audience for public history. Volunteers from the Western Lake Erie Historical Society guided visitors through the Willis B. Boyer, a giant lake freighter turned museum, which is permanently docked in Toledo. Built in 1911, the ship was once the largest carrier of bulk freight on the Great Lakes. NCPH members were also delighted with the nineteenth-century baseball game played by the Ohio Historical Society Muffins against their worthy opponents from the Ohio Baseball Hall of Fame. This demonstration of living history shows one aspect of the social and recreational history of small towns in Ohio during the mid-nineteenth century. The interpretation included an explanation of rules, authentic uniforms, and “cranks” along the sidelines. After the game, a large contingent of conference participants ate dinner at Tony Packo’s restaurant, for over fifty years a central business in one of Toledo’s most well-known ethnic neighborhoods.

This year’s annual banquet began with an elegant reception in the Centennial Room of the Toledo Club. Because the success of the city was originally built on industry, the Club played an important role in Toledo’s economic and political history. After dinner NCPH’s outgoing president, David Kyvig, outlined the responsibilities of the history profession to the public in his speech, “Public or Perish.” Altogether the annual meeting provided much food for thought in assessing the most important aspect of our profession, the audiences of history.
WASHINGTON UPDATE

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

FY'92 Budget

The budget process is in the initial stages, but all indications are that it will be a very tight year. Most appropriations subcommittees have not been allocated sufficient amounts to cover all of the recommendations in the President’s budget; thus a gain for one agency may mean a cut for another. On May 23 the House Subcommittee on Treasury, Postal Service and General Government recommended $152 million, the President’s request for the National Archives with $5.4 million earmarked for the grants program of the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC). The President had requested only $4 million for NHPRC. The additional $1.4 million for NHPRC will have to come from the National Archives budget. Historians are continuing to urge the full House Appropriations Committee and the Senate committees to provide additional funds for the increases for NHPRC. The National Archives appropriation for FY’92 does, however, represent an increase from $138.2 million to $152.14 million. But on close examination, money for basic operations will remain fairly constant. Most of the additional money will go for sizable rent increases on records storage facilities, pay increases, and inflationary costs.

On June 6, the House Subcommittee on Interior considered the budget for the National Endowment for the Humanities. As in the case of the National Archives, the committee recommended the President’s request, which did represent an increase over FY’91. The NEH budget for this year is $170 million. And the Administration and the House subcommittee have specified $178.2 million for FY’92. The House Subcommittee on Interior did, however, earmark funds differently from the Administration’s recommendations and allocated approximately $1 million for dissertation fellowships. While this new category of fellowships was discussed at Congressional hearings, Lynne Cheney, the Chairman of the NEH, had opposed them. It is unclear at this time whether the dissertation fellowships, if they become part of the final budget, will be funded by adjustments from other fellowships or from other line items. The House Subcommittee also recommended more for preservation and media and $1.4 million less for the Research Division than the Administration had requested. State funding in FY’92 would remain the same as FY’91.

The House Interior Appropriations Committee also voted on the historic preservation budget and recommended the Administration’s request which is $29.2 million for state programs and $5.7 million for the National Trust, the same amounts as FY’91.

Legislation on Foreign Relations Series and Declassification

Last fall the Senate passed a bill that would give statutory authority to the State Department’s Foreign Relations of the United States historical documentary series. The legislation would provide for another thirty-year timetable, give statutory authority to an advisory committee of outside scholars, and establish a policy of systematic declassification for all but the most sensitive thirty-year-old State Department records. Instead of introducing this legislation in the 102nd Congress as a stand-alone bill, leadership in the House and Senate have incorporated it as a section of the State Department Authorization Act for FY’92 and ’93. On April 30, the House Foreign Affairs Committee marked up this bill, H.R. 1415, which includes a diluted version of the bill passed by the Senate last fall. While this bill would put the series on a thirty-year timetable and would mandate that other agencies cooperate with the State Department’s Historical Office in the preparation of the volumes, it significantly undermines the role of professional associations in the selection of advisory committee members. And, at the prodding of the White House, the House bill gives the President special privilege to withhold information from the series and calls for a study on declassification rather than instituting a new systematic declassification policy for thirty-year-old records.

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee plans next week to consider a State Department Authorization bill (this bill does not yet have a number) which includes strong language on the Foreign Relations series and declassification similar to that passed by the Senate last fall. A joint House/Senate Conference Committee will eventually work out the compromise language.

Copyright Legislation on Fair Use of Unpublished Material Introduced

On May 9, Senator Paul Simon introduced S. 1035, which would direct the courts to apply the full fair use analysis to all copyrighted works, both published and unpublished. As Chair of the Judiciary Committee Subcommittee on the Constitution, Simon has recognized the need for a balanced approach under the fair use clause of the Copyright Act of 1976, section 107. “By enacting that clause,” Simon declared in his floor statement, “Congress in effect ratified a doctrine that the courts have long recognized: that there can be limited fair use of copyrighted material for purposes such as scholarship or news reporting without infringing on the author’s copyright.” Simon was joined by Senators Leahy, Hatch, DeConcini and Kennedy in introducing S. 1035, which is the product of months of negotiations between scholars, authors, publishers, and the computer industry. On May 30, William J. Hughes, the Chair of the House Subcommittee on Intellectual Property and Judicial Administration, introduced H.R. 2372, a similar bill that would clarify the “fair use” of unpublished copyrighted material.

National Historic Landmark Theme Studies Pass the House

On May 7, the House passed H.R. 1143, the Labor History Landmark Theme Study Act, and H.R. 904, the African-American History Landmark Theme Study Act. Both call for the study to be carried out by the National Park Service in a cooperative agreement with one or more scholarly organizations. The Senate held hearings on these two bills on May 21.
CRM Committee Report

The Cultural Resources Management (CRM) Committee of the National Council on Public History held an open forum at the annual meeting on May 3, 1991. After considerable discussion, committee members present decided to undertake the compilation and publication of a select, annotated bibliography of historical studies on historic preservation and cultural resources management topics. All the details have not been worked out, but the meeting consensus pointed toward a list of important historical books, articles and technical manuals that would demonstrate historians' work in and contributions to the field. Such a bibliography would be especially useful to nonhistorians working in CRM and historic preservation.

Potential topics for organizing the bibliography could include the following: historical methodology, urban, rural, industry, agriculture, mining, landscapes, military, architecture, engineering, maritime history, transportation, local history, ethnic history, exploration/settlement, commerce, religion and science. The annotations would be brief—just a sentence or two. In addition, the list would be prefaced with a brief discussion of the role of historical analysis in determining context and significance in preservation and CRM work.

While the details of format and citation style are yet to be worked out, the committee believes that it is important to begin compiling potential citations. To that end, please send me your annotated citations; and we will begin the compilation task. We hope to have a draft of the bibliography ready by the next annual meeting.

We are open to any suggestions or ideas any public historian may have for this project, so do not hesitate to contact me. Feel free to spread the word about this project, as others who are not members of NCPH may have good ideas about citations to include.

Send ideas or annotated citations to William Willingham, Division Historian, US Army Corps of Engineers, North Pacific Division, PO Box 2970, Portland, OR 97208.

William F. Willingham, chair
Cultural Resources Management Committee

Death of "Public History Today" Director Everette Brewer

by Gerald Herman

Everette F. Brewer, teacher, filmmaker, television production studio manager, and director of "Public History Today", died on May 8, 1991, at The Hospice at Mission Hill in Boston, Massachusetts. Having lived for over two years with AIDS, Everette decided to substitute Hospice for hospital care in order to live the rest of his life and to die in humane comfort and dignity. He was forty-two years old.

Everette was born on June 8, 1948. After a childhood during which he was orphaned and placed into long-term foster care where even his name was changed, he left home at eighteen, came to Boston, and enrolled and graduated from the now defunct Graham Junior College as a film, television, and radio major. He then joined the army, serving as a combat cinematographer in Vietnam. He spent much of his tour under fire on the constantly shifting front lines and a good deal of the combat footage by which we have learned about the war was shot by Everette. The war was traumatic for him, not only because of what he witnessed, but also because his camera crew member and best friend was killed next to him. After ending his service tour in Ethiopia, Everette came home, wandered through a series of media-related jobs (including one at Northeastern University) and a failed marriage, and spent the better part of a year setting up and training crews for the Saudi Arabian television system.

He returned to Boston and to Northeastern University where he created, maintained, and managed the interdepartmental Television Training Studio that will henceforth bear his name. He taught television production to undergraduates and to graduate Public History students, as well as general Arts and Sciences courses on visual literacy and cinema history, and served as mentor, booster, and friend to the hundreds of students who used the studio as a base of operations and second home. In addition he worked as an independent television producer and director, creating such programs as "An Evening with Mr. Franklin" for the Museum of Our National Heritage in Lexington, Massachusetts, and "Public History Today" for the NCPH. Everette approached all his activities, personal and professional, with a joyful enthusiasm and unbounded energy and left a profound and indelible imprint of humanity, concern, and humor on the lives of everyone he touched. Everette's advancing illness forced him to retire from Northeastern last September when he decided he was no longer able to perform his job-related duties to his own satisfaction. But even then, long after his doctors urged him to quit, he made certain that the studio would be left in capable hands by coordinating the search for his own successor and orchestrating her orientation and training. He then spent the next month preparing for and overseeing the final assembly of "Public History Today."

Everette is survived by his loving partner and companion of over six years, David Lynn, who served as videographer on the NCPH project. David nursed him through this last arduous period and "will profoundly miss the special joy that was Everette." His loss is also mourned by his foster mother, a "family of choice," and a large circle of friends and acquaintances, many of whom came together on Saturday, June 1st at Boston's Arlington Street Church to celebrate Everette's special charm and grace. At that celebration, the Boston Gay Men's Chorus, with whom Everette sang, and cabaret singer Carol O'Shaughnessy performed. In accordance with Everette's wishes, his body had been cremated on May 22 after a private memorial service and his ashes scattered into the waters of the Atlantic Ocean off Provincetown. In his memory, contributions may be made to the Boston Gay Men's Chorus, PO Box 1348, Back Bay Annex, Boston, MA 02217, to The Hospice at Mission Hill, 20 Parker Hill Ave., Boston, MA 02120 or to the AIDS Action Committee, 131 Clarendon St., Boston, MA 02116.
**BULLETIN**

**Awards and Fellowships**

The Winterthur Library will award a number of fellowships to encourage research in America's artistic, cultural, intellectual and social history. Scholars pursuing advanced research are eligible to apply for NEH fellowships with stipends up to $30,000 for six to twelve months work. Short-term fellowships with stipends ranging from $1,000 to $2,000 per month are available to academic, museum, and independent scholars, and to support dissertation research. Resources include a library of approximately 500,000 imprints, manuscripts, visual materials, and printed ephemera supporting interdisciplinary study of American life into the early twentieth century. Furnished rental housing is available on the grounds. The deadline for application is December 1, 1991. For application materials please write Dr. Katharine Martinez, Winterthur Research Fellowship Program, The Winterthur Library, Winterthur, DE 19735; or (302)888-4649.


The Society for American City and Regional Planning History announces the opening of the nomination period for Round Two of the President's Historic Preservation Awards, honoring excellence in privately funded preservation, and the National Historic Preservation Awards, honoring excellence in federally assisted preservation. Entries for the competition will be accepted through July 31, 1991. Preservation disciplines recognized for this competition include architecture, architectural history, archaeology, community or urban planning and revitalization, history, landscape architecture, maritime preservation, materials conservation, preservation of historic engineering, and rural preservation. For more information contact Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, The Old Post Office Building, 1100 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, #809, Washington, DC 20004; (202)786-0503.

California Heritage Preservation Commission announces the Archivist Award of Excellence. The award recognizes those individuals who have done exceptional work in the archival field. Topics as diverse as the development of a major outreach program, conservation projects, establishing a model program, overcoming obstacles in program development, providing significant financial support, or recruiting community support for an archival program may be considered. The filing period for applications ends September 15, 1991. Applicants must have worked with materials that are primarily related to California, and performed work that is clearly identified as archival-, record- or manuscript-related, which has been completed within the past five years. Application forms are available from the California State Archives, 1020 "O" St., Rm. 130, Sacramento, CA 95814; (916)445-4293.

The Council for International Exchange of Scholars announces the 1992-1993 U.S.-Spanish Joint Committee Research Fellowships. Advanced research grants are available under the auspices of the U.S.-Spanish Committee for Cultural and Educational Cooperation. The research fields are announced each fall, but have generally included most areas in the humanities and social sciences. Applicants must be U.S. citizens at the postdoctoral or equivalent professional level and demonstrate competence in oral and written Spanish necessary to undertake the research project. The deadline is January 1, 1992. Contact the Council at 3007 Tilden St., NW, Suite 5M, Box NEWS, Washington, DC 20008-3009; (202)686-7877.

The Council for International Exchange of Scholars announces the 1992-1993 NATO Advanced Research Fellowships and Institutional Grants, two fellowship programs for research in the social sciences and related disciplines. The fellowships in NATO studies are for research on political, security, and economic issues directly affecting the health of the alliance. A limited number of institutional grants will also be offered to academic departments, centers, or research teams. The NATO fellowships in democratic institutions are for research on the comparative study of democratic institutions and processes, including the role of media and nongovernmental organizations in democratic institutions. Applicants must have a Ph.D. or equivalent professional status and be U.S. citizens. Deadline is January 1, 1992. For more information contact the Council at 3007 Tilden St., NW, Suite 5M, Washington, DC 20008-3009; (202)686-7877.

The Interpretive Research Program of the National Endowment for the Humanities welcomes applications for multi-year research projects that entail the collaboration of two or more scholars investigating topics of wide-ranging significance for broadly defined subject areas within the humanities. Collaborative projects are expected to result in both a synthesis of previous relevant scholarship and substantial interpretive study of the specified topic, and should lead to significant scholarly publication. Awards usually range from $10,000 to about $150,000 for up to three years duration, depending upon the size of the project. The deadline is October 15, 1991, for projects beginning no earlier than June of the next year. For application materials and further informa-
The National Historical Publications and Records Commission solicits applications for host institutions for its NHPRC fellowships in archival administration. For 1992-1993, the NHPRC is offering two fellowships in archival administration. One at a college and university archives or a special collections unit; the other at a state archives. The two positions will focus on active, hands-on experience in college and university archives and special collections units interested in serving as host institutions for the two fellows to be selected. The application deadline is September 1, 1991. The fellowship program is funded jointly by the Commission and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The fellows' stipends are $35,000, with benefits payment of $7,000. Host institutions also are given $500 to interview applicants.

The Commission views the fellowship program as an opportunity for professional archivists with 2 to 5 years work experience to gain new or additional experience with administrative procedures and problems. Institutions interested in applying to serve as one of the two host institutions should be able to expose the fellow to a wide variety of archival administrative experiences during the 9 to 12 months that the fellow will be working with the host's archival staff. For the 1991-1992 fellowship, the host institutions are the Delaware State Archives, the Oregon State Archives, and the University of California, Los Angeles, Film and Television Archive.

The two host institutions will be chosen by December 1, 1991. At that time, application forms for prospective individual fellows will be made available. The two fellows will be selected by the host institutions from the pool of eligible applicants. Fellowships will begin in the late summer or early fall of 1992.

The commission strongly encourages any interested state archives or college and university archives or special collections units to contact the commission to discuss their application. Commission staff will work with prospective applicants to assure that their applications include the range of administrative opportunities desired by the commission. Prospective institutions should request guidelines and application forms from the NHPRC-NPR, National Archives Building, Washington, DC 20408; (202)501-5610. Host applications must be received no later than September 1, 1991.

Helen R. Wheeler asks that compilers, authors, and groups associated with Women's History walks or tours share scripts and related citations for use in a forthcoming book about their preparation and relevance. No work will be reprinted without permission. Write her at 2701 Durant Ave., #14, Berkeley, CA 94704-1723.

The National Archives announces that the textual reference branches of the Office of the National Archives in the Washington, DC area will now accept appointments from researchers to discuss their projects with archivists. Appointments are not required, but they are recommended for first-time researchers and those researchers wanting extensive guidance. The appointments will enable researchers and archivists to save time and effort by preparing research strategies. Researchers should call the pertinent branch to make appointments. Civil Reference Branch (202)501-5395 or 501-5425; Military Reference Branch (202)501-5385 or 501-5390; Suttland Reference Branch (301)763-7410.

The National Archives announces a new fee schedule for reproduction of records. The fees are based on extensive analysis of reproduction expenses incurred by the Archives. The fee for electrostatic copies, made for a researcher by a staff member, has been reduced from 35 cents to 25 cents. Microfilm to paper self-service copies (up to 11"x17") will also be reduced to 25 cents per copy. For fee schedules on other types of duplication, contact the Public Affairs Officer, National Archives at (202)501-5525.

The National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators (NAGARA) announces its 1991 annual meeting July 24-27, in Chicago. For further information contact NAGARA at Rm. 10A46, Cultural Education Center, Albany, NY 12230; (606)231-1887.

The Washington Seminar on American History and Culture, an unaffiliated, self-supporting, post-doctoral seminar, meets monthly from October through May to discuss works-in-progress and completed scholarship. Papers are circulated in advance. Fifteen dollar contributions are required for membership. Washington-area historians and historians who will be visiting in 1991-1992 are encouraged to join and to notify the seminar director of their interest in presenting papers. Contact James M. Banner, Jr., James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation, Suite 303, 2000 K St., NW, Washington, DC 20006; (202)653-8700.

The National Council on Public History invites expressions of interest in hosting the annual meeting in the spring of 1994. Preference will be given to locations where local institutions are interested in hosting the meeting and where public historians in schools and organizations are willing to serve on the local arrangements committee. Expressions of interest should be sent to Professor Martin V. Melosi (Vice-president, NCPhH) Director, Institute for Public History, Department of History, University of Houston, Houston, TX 77204-3875; (713)749-4745 or 749-2967.

The Washington National Archives announces that the forthcoming publication, a forthcoming book about their preparation and relevance. No work will be reprinted without permission. Write her at 2701 Durant Ave., #14, Berkeley, CA 94704-1723.

The National Archives Building, Washington, DC 20408; (202)501-5610. Host applications must be received no later than September 1, 1991.

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation announces that its 1990 Annual Report, recently issued, addresses the unique preservation needs of historic rural America. The report also summarizes Council activities, including casework, Section 106-related litigation, and preservation legislation. Single copies of the report are available free from the Council while supplies last. To obtain a copy, write Office of Communications and Publications, 1100 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Suite 809, Washington, DC 20004.

The National Archives announces that the 1920 federal population census will be opened to the public on March 2, 1992. At that time microfilmed copies will be available for research at the National Archives Building in Washington, DC, the 12 regional archives across the nation, and through the National Archives microfilm rental program. The 1920 census consists of 2,074 rolls (35mm) of population schedules and 8,590 rolls (16 mm) of Soundex indexes for all states, totaling 10,664 rolls. Advance orders are being accepted now for purchase of the complete 1920 census (schedules or Soundex) or for full state listings (both schedules and Soundex); the cost for each paid roll of silver positive film is $23. Orders received by August 15, 1991, will be shipped on, or as close as practicable to the March 2 release date. No other orders will be processed until then. The advance sales program for 1920 census microfilm applies only to orders placed directly with the National Archives. For additional information, Write: Publications Services (W1), National Archives, 7th St. and Pennsylvania Ave.,
NW, Washington, DC 20408; (202)501-5240.

The National Center for History in the Schools announces its catalogue of publications. Teaching units available from the center include: #US3 Women in the American Revolution for grades 5-8. In this unit students explore the role of women in the revolutionary movement. From a variety of contemporary accounts students discover that the struggle for American independence drew upon extensive support of and participation by women (58 pages; cost $6.50). #US7 Keeping Them Apart: Plessy v. Ferguson and the Black Experience in Post-Reconstruction America for grades 9-12. Students will study the affects of Reconstruction-era legislation on race relations in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. In addition to Plessy, students look at protests by African-American legislators and a letter to an Alabama editor by Booker T. Washington. They also examine Boston's School Board rulings, restrictive labor laws, and a description of racial violence in New York in 1900 (66 pages; cost $6.65).

For more information contact the Center at University of California-Los Angeles, Moore Hall 231, 405 Hilgard Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90024-1521.


The National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators (NAGARA) announces A New Age, a booklet that discusses the impact of electronic information systems. Copies of the booklet have been distributed to state archival and records management agencies, to state information resources administrators, and to other state officials. Single copies are available free: the cost for lots of 50 or less is $1.00 per copy plus $3.75 shipping; for lots of more than 50 the cost is $50 each. Copies are available from Council on State Governments, Box 11910, Iron Works Pike, Lexington, KY 40578.

The Office of the Federal Register announces the publication of The United States Government Manual, 1990-1991, the official handbook of the federal government. This manual provides comprehensive information on the agencies of the legislative, judicial, and executive branches. The manual also includes information on quasi-official agencies including international organizations in which the United States participates, boards, committees, and commissions. 912pp. Paperback GPO stock number 069-000-0033-9 at $21.

Middlebury College announces the publication of a major exhibit catalogue to accompany the exhibition marking the 200th anniversary of Vermont statehood. For "Celebrating Vermont: Myths and Realities" curators chose 70 artifacts and works of art that expressed the interplay between Vermont history and myth. Essays included in the catalogue explore changing popular perceptions of Vermont. The catalogue is available through the University Press of New England for $22.95.

The National Archives announces that it will publish a quarterly "Researcher Bulletin" to inform the public of developments relating to the move of records to the new Archives II facility in College Park, MD. The bulletin will also include information about the division of record groups between the downtown Washington building and Archives II, regionalization of records, and other news for researchers planning to work in the records of the National Archives. The first issue was published this spring. For free copies, contact the Textual Reference Division (NRR), National Archives, Washington, DC 20004.

Position Announcement

Arizona State University seeks an Assistant or Associate Professor, tenure track, beginning August, 1992 (pending final budgetary approval) to help direct the Public History Program. The candidate will teach courses in preservation and CRM, supervise student projects and direct masters and doctoral studies. Administrative duties include recruiting and advising students, directing public programs, supervising internships, and cooperating with faculty in anthropology, architecture and fine arts. The candidate is expected to be active in applied research resulting in publication, contract research reports, public programs, and other appropriate outlets. Ph.D. in history or American Studies with evidence of applied research activity and public history experience required. Send a vitae, letter describing expertise and accomplishments that suggest likely success in fulfilling the requirements of this position, samples of public history work, and names of at least three people from whom we may request letters of recommendation to: Public History Search Committee, Department of History, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ 85287-2501; (602)965-4188. Application deadline: 15 September, 1991 or every Tuesday thereafter until filled. AA/EOE.

Library of Congress Reopens Reading Room

In early June the Library of Congress reopened the main reading room of the 1897 Thomas Jefferson Building after three years of renovations. Restoration work included refinishing wood and marble details, reopening closed windows and doors and renewing the original paint scheme. Custom-made carpet and new electric and data outlets were added for more convenient use of the space. The revived reading room is one of the most lavish in Washington, D.C.

Defense of Genealogy

In the May 22, 1991 issue of The Chronicle of Higher Education Patrick M. Quinn, University Archivist at Northwestern University, argued that historians should take genealogy seriously not only as a branch of study, but also as a manifestation of the search for traditions lost "in a sea of instant culture of dubious meaning and marginal value." Quinn identifies four reasons for the ground swell of interest in genealogy which extend beyond self-centered searches for ancestral minutiae. To Quinn American genealogists are trying to recapture cultural heritage lost due to migration, "generational distance", the breakup of the nuclear family, and the vacuity of American life.
CALL FOR PAPERS

14th Annual Conference
of the
National Conference on Public History
March 10-14, 1992
Columbia, South Carolina

The program committee of the National Council on Public History invites submissions for complete sessions, individual papers, or panels for the annual meeting in Columbia, South Carolina on March 10-14, 1992. Proposals may relate to any subject of public history. Papers, sessions, or panels will be particularly welcome that deal with the various practitioners and users of public history, the Columbus Quincentennial and public history, and public history from a southern perspective.

Absolute deadline for proposals is August 31, 1991. Please provide a one- to two-page summary and a resume for each participant. Send two copies to the program chair: Dwight T. Pitcaithley, National Park Service, 1100 Ohio Drive, SW, Washington, DC 20242; (202) 619-7173.