

Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation

NEWS FOR MEMBERS - NUMBER 15
SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 1969

RICHARD KING MELLON FOUNDATION HELPS FUND MUSEUM

The Richard King Mellon Foundation has given our museum campaign a vigorous thrust through a grant of \$250,000. It is the largest contribution that we have received to date. The terms of the grant require that it be matched. For each dollar we raise from private sources, an equal sum will be granted by the Foundation up to a maximum of \$250,000. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has also indicated a willingness to make available matching funds for the cost of restoring the building. The funds therefore available on a matching basis from the Richard King Mellon Foundation and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania mean that for each dollar contributed to the campaign from private sources, two dollars will be elicited from these sources. This grant brings the total contributions to date to more than \$370,000 and will enable us to raise funds at an accelerated rate. In making the grant, the Foundation trustees noted that they were impressed by the thoroughness of the research that was included with the proposal.

ANNUAL MEETING DATE SET 7 DECEMBER 1969

Our annual meeting will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, 7 December 1969. We are holding it at Saint Mary's R.C. Church, a splendid structure now scheduled for demolition by the Pennsylvania Department of Highways. (see LAAC, p. 142). It is located at the corner of Lockhart and Nash Streets in eastern North Side (Dutchtown). At the meeting we will issue a new publication which is a comprehensive report of our work for the past five years. Also to be distributed is a booklet about our Mexican War Streets program. We will also announce publication dates for two more publications, and we hope to have announcements about new grants from Pittsburgh foundations for our work. After the meeting we will tour this large church as well as the school and lyceum. Refreshments will be served.

In our efforts to provide tours for members, we are now considering offering a one to three week tour in Northern Italy in late August 1970. We would have a guide from England join us in New York and accompany us.

EUROPEAN TOUR A highlight would be the opportunity to see La Scala perform in Verona. A reduced group fare and group hotel and bus rates would be in effect. However, before making any arrangements, we would like to hear from our membership. If you are interested, please call Mrs. Pfrimmer at the office and inform her and note whether you would prefer one, two, or three weeks of the group tour. By indicating interest you are under absolutely no obligation to participate in the tour.

DONATIONS TO MUSEUM CAMPAIGN

Through 27 October 1969

Citizenry & Citizen Organizations \$ 38,227.

Corporations: 4,620.

- Dravo Corporation
- Edgewater Corporation
- Equitable Gas Company
- Frame Electric Company
- Gulf Oil Corporation
- Green Engineering Company
- Herbick & Held Printing Company
- Kennametal Foundation
- Metzler Electric Company
- Pittsburgh Forgings Company
- PPG Industries
- Volkwein Bros.
- Westinghouse Air Brake Company Foundation
- Westinghouse Electric Corporation
- Williams/Trebilcock/Whitehead

Unions: \$ 1,000.

United Steelworkers of America

Foundations: \$328,550.

- Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation 25,000.
- H. M. Bitner Trust 500.
- Calhoun Foundation 200.
- T. M. Evans Foundation 100.
- J. B. Finley Charitable Trust 250.
- Fisher Charitable Trust 3,000.
- Hillman Foundation 10,000.
- Edgar J. Kaufmann Charitable
Foundation 10,000.
- Philip LeMaistre Foundation 1,000.
- Richard King Mellon Foundation
(On a matching basis) 250,000.
- Pitcairn-Crabbe Foundation 3,000.
- Pittsburgh Foundation 10,000.
- Robinson Foundation 1,000.
- Rachael Mellon Walton Foundation 1,000.
- Lucy K. Schoonmaker Foundation 500.
- Anonymous Family Trust 12,000.
- Anonymous Family Trust 1,000.

Total \$371,397.

This sum does not include the matching funds from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania which will be requested in the amount of \$315,000.

MEXICAN WAR STREETS PROGRESS

The summer months saw a variety of activities taking place in our North Side restoration district, the Mexican War Streets: Palo Alto, Resaca, Monterey, and Buena Vista.

Warren Schweitzer, our construction supervisor, brought 1233 Resaca Place to completion and it is indeed a showpiece of restoration. Woodwork was a major problem in the project, especially the brackets and roof cornice, due in part to their height and difficulty of access. It is to Mr. Schweitzer's credit that they are now in excellent condition and that he, too, is in good condition after this very hazardous work.

Our house at 1246 Resaca Place has just been painted a handsome shale green with a light green trim. In order to take advantage of remaining good weather, the PHLF office staff donned their work clothes and spent approximately three days scraping and painting the exterior. The result is another restored facade on Resaca Place.



The third floor of the same house has been restored with new flooring, painting, and extensive repairs to the windows and wood trim. At the present time, we are experimenting with the first floor restoration by renting to a family who is doing the restoration themselves with our guidance.

Mrs. Kenneth Boesel, who did such an excellent job of restoring 1213 Resaca Place, has purchased a house at 1214 Monterey Street and it is now undergoing extensive restoration.

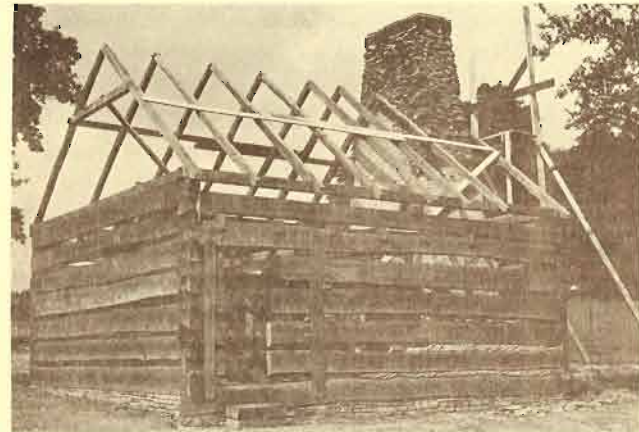
We welcome to the War Streets Mr. & Mrs. Donald Kenagy who have moved into the house they recently purchased at 400 West North Avenue . . . Kevin Vaughn and Joseph Casabona who purchased 1239 Resaca Place . . . George Sloss who purchased and plans to restore 408 Taylor . . . Mr. & Mrs. William M. Eichleay who are now living at 1224 Resaca Place . . . Mr. & Mrs. Steven Puharic, new owners of 1210 Resaca Place.

Unfortunately our house on Monterey restored under the leased housing program with the Pittsburgh Housing Authority suffered \$1500 in fire damages during the summer, but our crew quickly repaired it including three large holes in the roof, charred structural members, and blackened paint.

As this year has progressed, we have been heartened by those members and friends of the Foundation who have given us their vote of confidence in our work by contributing to specific projects or for general operating funds. Contributions have included not only sums of money but shares of stock, historically important and valuable artifacts, and warehouse space in which to store them. Organizations like the Allegheny County Colonial Dames of America and Allegheny Society, foundations, and individuals have been generous to us. We are grateful for their support.

GENERAL
CONTRIBUTIONS

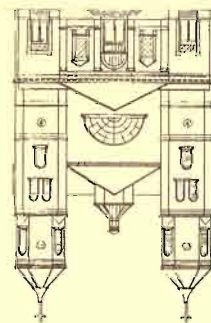
As the photos below show, work is rapidly progressing on the Neill Log House. The Parks Department equipment shed that was attached to the house has been razed and hauled away, the archeological dig has been completed, the walls of the house are now being chinked, and the roof is being installed. The dig, under the direction of Kirke C. Wilson, Assistant Field Archeologist at Carnegie Museum, unearthed many interesting items including coins from the late 1700's, clay pipes, buttons, buckles, and blown glass bottle fragments. These artifacts will be catalogued by Mr. Wilson and we will have a permanent record of the find. Junior League members Mrs. Thomas C. Ryan, Mrs. R. Drew Kistler, and Mrs. Frank H. McKean are directing the League's project of locating and obtaining appropriate furnishings for the house.



Remember your relatives and friends with a gift membership in our organization. You give an unusual present, one that offers continuing pleasure as well as benefiting our endeavors. Our publications and notepaper also make thoughtful gifts and are available at prices from \$1.00 to \$8.50. Consider your friend, your organization, and your heritage by giving a present from PHLF.

FREQUENTLY WE HAVE APARTMENTS FOR RENT IN OUR RESTORED HOUSES IN THE MEXICAN WAR STREETS AREA. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED AS A TENANT, PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE. ALSO WE HAVE SOME FINE HOUSES FOR SALE.

The annual meeting will be held at St. Mary's Church.



PITTSBURGH HISTORY & LANDMARKS FOUNDATION
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