

News For Members of
PITTSBURGH HISTORY &
LANDMARKS FOUNDATION

NUMBER 41--March 1973

MRS. S. HENRY EDMUNDS TO LECTURE HERE



Mrs. Edmunds has been with the Historic Charleston (South Carolina) Foundation since its incorporation in 1947, and has devoted most of her life to the problems and techniques involved in the various aspects of preservation.

In March 1956, the Foundation, under Mrs. Edmunds' direction, spearheaded a fund drive which in ten days matched a challenge grant of \$32,500. so that the Nathaniel Russell House, a splendid mansion built in 1809 could be purchased to be restored as a house museum. The Russell House, under the management of Mrs. Edmunds, serves as headquarters of the Foundation.

Under Mrs. Edmund's direction the Foundation developed the first Historic District in America and has placed it on the National Register. Mrs. Edmunds has received many local and national awards and in 1971 the National Trust awarded her the Louise du Pont Crowninshield Award for superlative achievement in the preservation and interpretation of sites, buildings, and objects significant in American history and culture. In 1972 she received the first honorary degree presented a woman from the College of Charleston of which she is a graduate.

We are indeed honored to have Mrs. Edmunds as one of our lecturers. The lecture will be at 8:30 p.m. on April 30, here at the Old Post Office. You will receive an invitation and response card to make reservations.

CITY COUNCIL TOPPLES APARTMENT

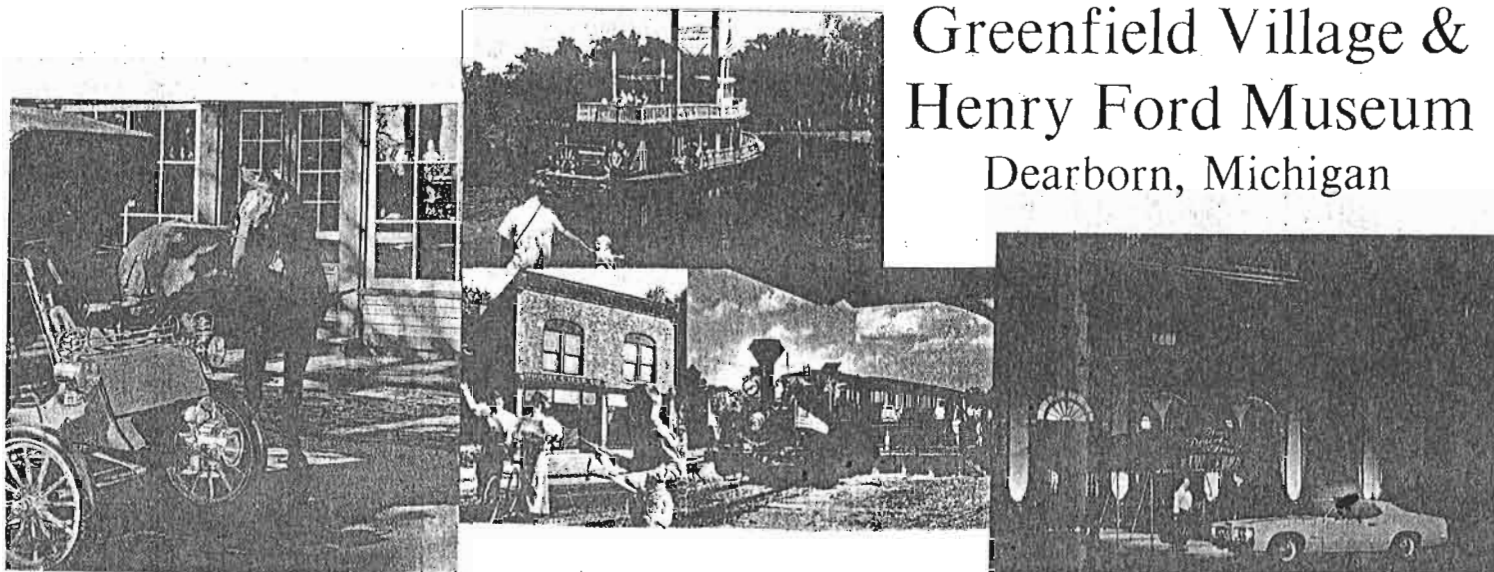
We are delighted to announce that City Council by voting 7-1 (only Councilman Michaels in the affirmative) voted down the proposed 20 story high rise apartment that was to have been erected next to and over the Duquesne Incline. In pointing out that even the Planning Commission could only give the proposed development a conditional approval due to geologic problems in the area, Councilman John Lynch said that Council could not therefore give it a complete approval. This is a triumph for the Society for the Preservation of the Duquesne Incline and PHLF together with the residents of Mt. Washington. It is also a triumph for the people in Pittsburgh and all the future visitors to Pittsburgh because the wonderful ridge of Grandview Avenue and the Duquesne Incline belong to us all. It should not be used for the private gain of a few. This huge building striding directly on the ridge, would have reduced visually the significance of the incline and become the focus of the view of Mt. Washington from downtown. We thank City Council for sustaining the public interest.

DON'T FORGET - Gospel Choir of University and City Ministries will sing at the Old Post Office, Sunday evening, April 15, 1973.

ANNOUNCING

A Visit to Yesterday

Greenfield Village &
Henry Ford Museum
Dearborn, Michigan



JUNE 8, 9 and 10, 1973 should find us enjoying one of our greatest tours yet!

GREENFIELD VILLAGE vividly portrays three centuries of American life. It consists of nearly 100 historic buildings, in a combination of rural and early-urban atmosphere, spread over 260 acres. Among these buildings, all but a few meticulously taken apart and reassembled at the Village, are early American homes, shops, schools, mills and stores. Included are buildings closely associated with the lives of great Americans such as Lincoln, Webster, Frost, Burbank, McGuffey, Carver, Wright, Steinmetz, Edison and Ford. Dotting the Village are many craft shops, still in working order, where trades are practiced as they were a century ago.

THE HENRY FORD MUSEUM has recaptured and preserved the pioneer spirit which built America. This unique structure houses extensive collections of Americana, ranging from silver masterpieces by Paul Revere to Mr. Ford's first automobile - the 1896 Quadricycle. In the Mechanical Arts Hall visitors can trace the entire course of the Industrial Revolution from pre-steam power days to the jet age. The Museum houses full-sized steam locomotives, airplanes, boats, carriages, and bicycles. The Museum also houses the Decorative Arts Galleries, The Street of Early American Shops, and the Henry Ford Personal History Exhibit.

Enroute home we will visit the Historical Museum of Milan, Ohio; Thomas Edison's birthplace; and the Firelands Historical Museum of Norwalk, Ohio.

This tour will leave The Old Post Office at 1:30 p.m., June 8; arrive at the Dearborn Inn for dinner at approximately 7:00 p.m.; attend a special event that evening; visit the Museum and Greenfield Village Saturday, June 9; leave Dearborn at 9:00 a.m. Sunday, June 10; and return to Pittsburgh at approximately 7:00 p.m. that evening.

SUMMER TOURS

Cost of the tour is \$85.00 per person for twin accommodations. (Single room \$90.) This cost includes bus fare, all Museum admissions, two nights' lodging, dinner Friday and Saturday evenings and breakfasts Saturday and Sunday mornings.

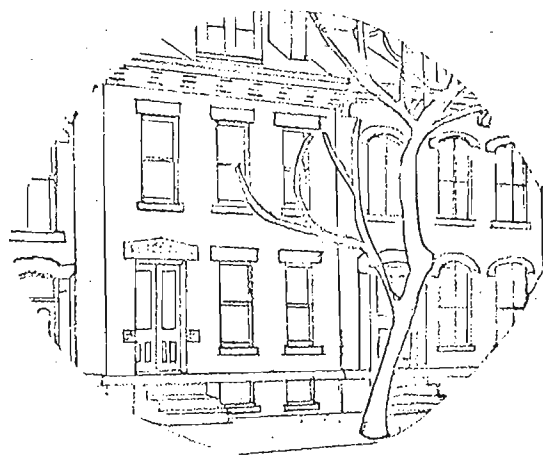
SPACE IS LIMITED for this tour; reservations will be accepted on a First-Come, First-Served basis! NO TELEPHONE RESERVATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED! NO MONEY WILL BE REFUNDED AFTER MAY 11, 1973. Make your reservations now by completing the form on the reverse of this page and sending with your check and self-addressed stamped envelope to Pittsburgh History & Landmarks, Allegheny Square West, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15212.

The Mexican War Streets

TOUR of HOMES & GARDENS

JUNE 24, 1973 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

A TOUR OF PITTSBURGH'S IN-CITY
HISTORIC RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD



Even if you have seen the Mexican War Streets previously you won't want to miss this tour! At least 30 houses will be open for inspection (many more than in previous tours). You will see houses completely restored; ones in the process of being restored; ones available for restoration; the "before and after" of preservation in this unique neighborhood.

The cost of the tour this year will include a tour of the Old Post Office Museum and free transportation from Allegheny Center to the Mexican War Streets houses. Lunches and refreshments will be available for purchase at designated places along the tour.

Special rates for groups of 50 or more can be arranged by calling 322-1204. Make this a "MUST" for your group!

Advanced ticket reservations can be made by using form on opposite page.

Volunteers are needed to help with the tour, if willing contact PHLF office.

MORE TOURS...

WASHINGTON AND GREENE COUNTY HISTORICAL TOUR

This one-day bus tour will include a walking tour of West Middletown during their historic festival in the morning, lunch at an historic inn, and an afternoon tour of the Greene County Historical Museum....July 7, 1973

THORNBURG WALKING TOUR

A fascinating walking tour of one of the most beautiful, but least known sections of Pittsburgh, will include some private gardens.....July 29, 1973

AN OIL COUNTRY VISIT

A tour of "Oil Country" will take us to Titusville, to visit the first oil well, and on to Waterford and Warren to visit historic sites and houses of architectural significance.....September 15 - 16, 1973

HISTORIC ANNAPOLIS

This tour to one of America's most significant Colonial cities, during their annual Festival Days will provide a unique experience. Here an 18th Century port and buildings remain and have been restored along with many Georgian mansions and the Historic State House.....October 1973

MORE ABOUT THESE LATER TOURS WILL APPEAR IN FORTHCOMING NEWSLETTERS!

RESERVATION FORM FOR MEXICAN WAR STREETS HOUSE TOUR JUNE 24, 1973

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ PHONE _____

Please send me _____ tickets for the Mexican War Streets House Tour, June 24, 1973 from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. @ \$3.00 each.....\$ _____

My check is enclosed. My self-addressed stamped envelope is enclosed.

RESERVATION FORM FOR MICHIGAN TOUR - JUNE 8,9,10, 1973

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ HOME PHONE _____ BUSINESS _____

ROOMING WITH _____ PHONE _____

SPECIFY ROOM ACCOMMODATIONS DESIRED:

_____ TWIN @\$85. per person _____ SINGLE @\$90. per person

I understand no money can be refunded after May 11, 1973, and I hereby absolve Pittsburgh History & Landmarks from any liability for loss, damage or injury to my person or property due to any cause whatsoever.

Signed _____

RIVER ROAD HAS BEEN STOPPED

In our last newsletter we described our opposition to development of River Road along the North Shore of the Allegheny River across from downtown Pittsburgh. We are delighted to announce that the Flaherty Administration through its Urban Redevelopment Authority has already removed River Road from the Shore area and intends to preserve and develop this waterfront for the people of Pittsburgh. Earlier we had been told that the Redevelopment Authority was trying to narrow the road from four lanes to two lanes, then that it was considering moving the road farther back against the proposed expressway.

We are pleased to hear that the Administration has indeed been able to carry out the latter proposal and that the shore will be protected. As we have done so many times in the past few years, we find ourselves again congratulating the Department of Planning and the Administration for its sensitivity on an important public issue.

TEN COUNTY BICENTENNIAL ORGANIZATION FORMED PHLF INTRODUCES MOTION TO OPEN MEMBERSHIP

In order to plan regionally for the 1976 Bicentennial celebration, a ten-county organization was formed on December 13 with a meeting in Fayette County. Ten representatives from each county designated by the County Commissioners of each were invited. Our executive director was one from Allegheny County. Subject of the evening was a recommended set of by-laws. Mr. Ziegler expressed concern that they contained a provision that subjected membership to the approval of the board of directors. He pointed out the Bicentennial is a celebration of the founding of our Democracy and that membership should be open to anyone who wishes to pay his dues. His motion was ratified. The organization will begin studying the means and methods that it can apply to the formation of a Bicentennial celebration throughout the region. In future newsletters we will be reporting to our members of the progress of the planning.

(5)

2809 JANE STREET RESTORATION COMPLETED

Our most recent restoration on the South Side has been completed and signed up with the Leased Housing Authority of Pittsburgh. The building at 2809 Jane Street was abandoned when we acquired it; due to its dilapidated state we removed all of the old plaster, woodwork, windows and roof sheathing and rebuilt the interior with all new materials. The Housing Authority wished to have a "Model House" so new hardwood floors were installed instead of the usual vinyl floors. The house contains four bedrooms and one and one-half baths. The complete insulation of all exterior ceilings and walls renders the building cool in summer as well as warm in winter. It is a significant improvement for the neighborhood.



To help implement the costs of the Annual Mexican War Streets Fair in August, several fund-raising benefits are being planned. The first is a BAKE SALE to be held at the Community House Cafeteria on Allegheny Circle on Friday, April 13, 1973 from 9:30 a.m. to ??.

PLEASE HELP items for the sale, please bring your contribution to the Old Post Office or directly to the Community House by 9:30 a.m. that day. Be sure to put all items in a disposable container and mark the price you feel each should bring. Thanks for your cooperation!



If someone told us the Statue of Liberty would be dismantled tomorrow, it wouldn't be much more shocking than what's already happening to other American landmarks. They're disappearing by the thousands, without a thought of preserving them... without even considering a modern, useful purpose for them. Help preserve America's heritage. Support National Historic Preservation Week, May 6-12, 1973.

WITH THANKS TO OUR MANY FRIENDS

Donations of various artifacts for our Museum collection in February:

- Mrs. M. Gross.....2 framed photos of Carnegie Building c. 1892-1893
6 photos of Pittsburgh environs c. 1900
Marriage license from Allegheny 1895
- Robert C. Harper.....Eye glasses, c. 1890
Beaded evening bag 1915
2 ladies Swiss watches c. 1920
2 tintypes c. 1880
night caps c. 1890
black fob c. 1900
Cameo button c. 1890
- Margaret Bepler-Keeler.....Hand-made Princess slip c. 1910
Christening Petticoat c. 1870
- Regis Racke.....2 Medals from Pittsburgh 1896, 1928
- Mrs. Francis Nimick.....Child's dress
Child's blouse
Children's jackets
Child's undergarment
- Miss Frances C. Walker.....Miser's purse
- Mrs. Alexander Spoehr.....3 "Patchwork" quilts c. 1860
Wedding gown c. 1860
Bone-handled Knife c. 1840
2 Silver Ink pens c. 1860
Hand-made pipe c. 1850
Barometer c. 1890
- Mr. & Mrs. G. F. Pitman.....Photo of the Männer Chor of the Allegheny Turnverein

PHLF is setting up a Baseball Exhibit for the summer months. Anyone having baseball memorabilia available for loan please contact our office at 322-1204. All items would be in secured and locked display cases and we will give credit to those who send materials for the exhibit. We are planning this exhibit to honor the Pirates and be dedicated to the memory of Roberto Clemente.

ANNUAL MEETING → APRIL 12 8:30 OLD POST OFFICE

PH PITTSBURGH HISTORY
LF & LANDMARKS FOUNDATION
 THE OLD POST OFFICE
 ALLEGHENY SQUARE WEST
 PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA 15212

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*Outdoor
 Flea Market
 May 19*