

PHLF NEWS

Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation

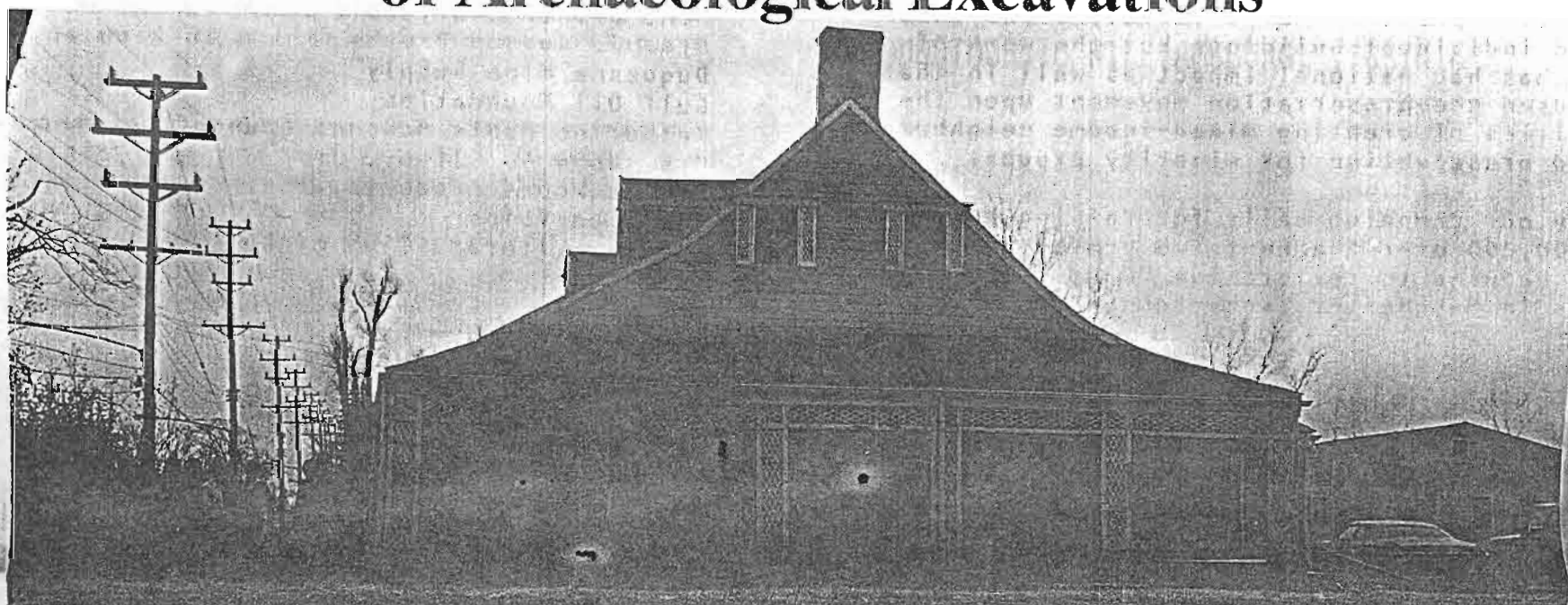
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Neville House is Site of Archaeological Excavations



"Woodville", the late 19th century farmstead of the Neville family was the site of archaeological excavations conducted by the Archaeological Research Program of the University of Pittsburgh. The test excavations held this spring, were requested by the United States Corps of Army Engineers to assess the impact of the construction of a proposed road bypass, bridge and flood control channel for Chartiers Creek on the prehistoric and historic cultural resources of the property.

Of special interest in the dig was a dump area that included many artifacts representative of 18th and 19th century life. A variety of glassware was found including green, handblown bottles. Many ceramic items were also found and according to the study, most of the ceramic items were high quality imports reflective of the economic status of the Neville family.

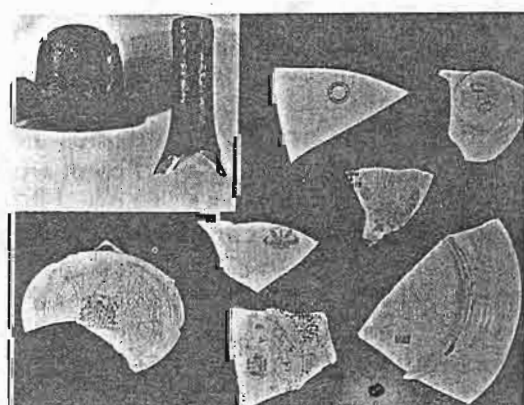
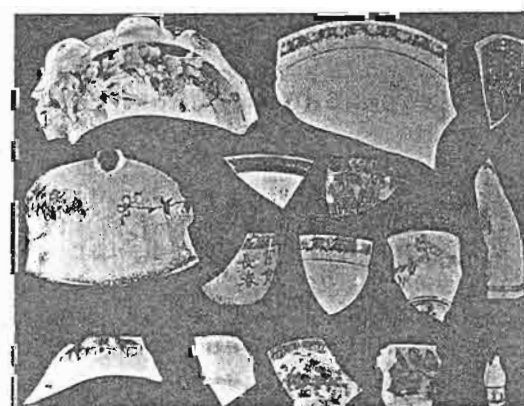
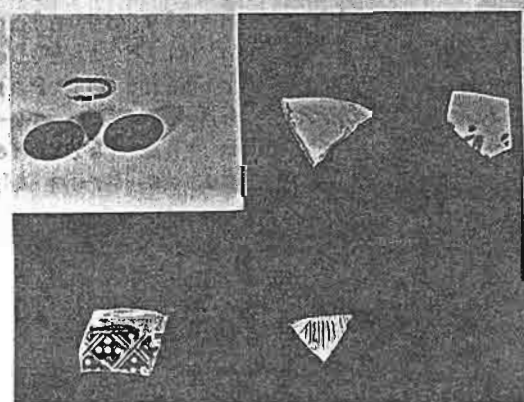


An above ground survey was taken which delineated several areas that may represent the remains of outbuilding foundations of the Neville House. These areas are on the southern side of the house and one area might have been a separate or summer kitchen.

Of special interest also is material recovered by Mr. John Connolly, the caretaker at Neville House from a trench created when a natural gas line was put into the house. According to the report of the Department of Anthropology, ceramic materials recovered by Mr. Connolly included pieces of shell tempered pottery from the Late Woodland Monongahela Culture (A.D. 1050-1630) period of occupation.

According to the report Lithic artifacts recovered by Mr. Connolly include a projectile point that possibly dates to the Paleo-Indian period (c.11,000-8500 B.C.), one possible Robbins point a cribable to the Adena phase/culture of the Early Woodland period (800 B.C. - A.D. 1).

The Neville House, owned by PHLF is being restored with the assistance of the Neville House Auxiliary to reflect the heritage and style of life in 18th century western Pennsylvania.



Benedum Foundation Makes Major Grant to Revolving Restoration Fund

Others Also Support Restoration Fund Campaign

We are pleased to announce that the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation has made a grant of \$50,000 to our Revolving Restoration Fund.

This fund was started in 1966 and is used for the acquisition and restoration of historic buildings throughout Allegheny County that are to be used for purposes other than museums. Grant funds through the past ten years have totalled over \$500,000. The money has been used to launch and support massive restoration programs including Mexican War Streets, Manchester, and Birmingham. Funds have been used to acquire properties, restore them, subsidize rents for low income tenants, and to secure special anchor buildings like the great Gothic Revival "Castle" in Fineview.

The results of our work do not only include the substantial improvement of a variety of neighborhoods and individual buildings but the work of the fund has had national impact as well in that it refocused the preservation movement upon the possibilities of creating mixed-income neighborhoods and preservation for minority groups.

Currently our campaign calls for raising an additional \$500,000 over the next two years, the proceeds to be used to restore the "Castle", a number of houses in Manchester, some commercial properties

in South Side, and to begin to implement our long sought goal of doing a single house in a variety of urban and suburban neighborhoods as restoration models and anchor properties.

The gift from the Benedum Foundation will be used in Manchester and the "Castle" initially and for several other areas later.

Last year the Hillman Foundation granted \$35,000 that has been allocated to the Manchester project and we are now involved in restoring five buildings with a total of seventeen apartment units. All of the houses are graded "A" in the Manchester study for architectural quality.

Other recent contributors to the fund include:

Bessie F. Anathan Foundation
Bergstrom Foundation
H.M. Bitner Charitable Trust
Mrs. J. Judson Brooks
Duquesne Mine Supply
Gulf Oil Foundation
Katherine Mabis McKenna Foundation, Inc.
Mrs. John A. Oliver, Jr.
Penn's Woods Products, Inc.
Veronica Volpe
Women's Literary Club of Bellevue

NEA City Scale Grant for Public Squares

Open Spaces Equal People Places

Six public squares in Pittsburgh are soon to be reclaimed as people places. Plans for the rejuvenation of these public areas, five of which have fallen into disuse and disrepair and one of which will be newly developed are to be designed by PHLF working with the Department of City Planning, the Department of Parks and Recreation, and local neighborhood groups. The project is financed by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts with matching funds from the City and PHLF.

Under its City Scale grant program, the National Endowment for the Arts has approved our request for a \$40,000 grant plus our matching funds for the planning study of these six public squares with the objective of achieving more humane, aesthetically satisfying, and well used small public spaces.

The study will include:

Allegheny Square in the North Side
Doughboy Square in Lawrenceville
Oakland Square in South Oakland
Schenley Plaza Fountain in Oakland
Magee Square, Downtown

and the proposed public square at "Station Square". Attention will be to detail, and the designs deriving from the study will include landscaping, circulation, lighting, seats and benches, signs, paving, activity areas, fences, walls, and location of focal elements.

The planning process will involve City Planning design staff together with PHLF personnel and community residents, so that plans will be mutually satisfying and will adequately serve public needs.

The actual renovation of the squares will be undertaken by the Department of Parks and Recreation acting according to design recommendations evolving from the PHLF study, except for Station Square where PHLF will underwrite the costs. Through involvement in this City Scale project, PHLF hopes that vitality can be restored to the city's open spaces if they are developed as people places.

Museum Fashion Flash

The fashion exhibits at the Old Post Office Museum have all been changed this spring, providing a fresh and fancy look in the Victorian House Gallery. The Museum has been so fortunate in receiving such an elegant assortment of old fashions that we decided to retire the familiar and display some more recent accessions.

Among those on exhibit are a white eyelet and lace graduation dress from 1910 and an exquisite gold brocade and satin evening dress from 1880--both belonging to the Margaret Morrison Carnegie College Collection. Several splendid lace and silk ball gowns were donated by Mrs. George M. Laughlin, while a brown wool "tea gown" and a moss green plush dress from 1870 were gifts from Ms. Harriet Roberts.

You will be dazzled by such finery--come in and see them soon! By the way, if you have any spare sturdy suit or coat boxes, don't throw them away... recycle with us. And the same with those ancient fashions in the attic!

Famous Pittsburghers Bicentennial Lecture Series

Just two lectures remain in our Famous Pittsburgher Lecture Series.

On June 7 Mr. Arthur Lindsley will speak about Charles Martin Hall, the Inventor of Aluminum. This lecture will be held at the Old Post Office at 8:00 p.m.

The final lecture of the series will be held on June 21 at 8:00 p.m. The lecturer is Agnes Lynch Starrett who will speak on Chancellor Bowman. This lecture will be held in the English Room #144 of the Cathedral of Learning, University of Pittsburgh.



Station Square Project Update



Our Groundbreaking for Station Square was held on Wednesday, December 15, a warm and sunny day; Mayor Pete Flaherty, Mrs. Richard M. Scaife, and our president, Mr. Arthur Ziegler, formally initiated construction work of the first phase of development, the Freight House shops and the Express Building offices. The ceremony, attended by more than sixty City Officials, Allegheny Foundation Trustees, and PHLF Trustees, did not take the form of the traditional "Shovel in the ground". "Because this is a restoration project", said Mayor Flaherty, "PHLF is starting with a symbol of positive restoration, cleaning the brick of this great building." At that point Mrs. Scaife activated a steam cleaning machine and men went to work cleaning the facade of the Freight House.

We are also pleased to announce that we are starting construction on the Express Building behind the Terminal Building. This structure stands in the center of phase one of the project and has a good view of the river; the third floor has already been leased for five years to City Communications, publisher of the new PITTSBURGHER magazine. We are now designing the interior finishes for the offices and the work is well along with the move-in date scheduled for April. Also available in this building will be 3,200 additional square feet of office space on the second floor and space for three shops on the first floor.

Leasing will now begin in earnest for the Freight House Shops. We have already received letters of intent for 28,000 square feet and formal lease signing is now underway. Work on the exterior skylight above the great stained glass ceiling of the Grand Concourse in the Terminal Building has already been completed and several side rooms in the Terminal Building near the Grand Concourse have also been leased to commercial tenants. Said Mr. Ziegler, "We haven't much office space available yet, but what there is was quickly and totally leased, a good sign for the future."

A delay has occurred in the hotel development because so much more interest has been evidenced lately. Four different firms have now requested an opportunity to discuss building this 250-room luxury hotel along the riverside.

Pat Navarro, president of our contracting firm, the Navarro Corporation, has worked out a construction schedule calling for completion of the Freight House Shops by fall. This first stage of phase one will cost approximately \$4,000,000.

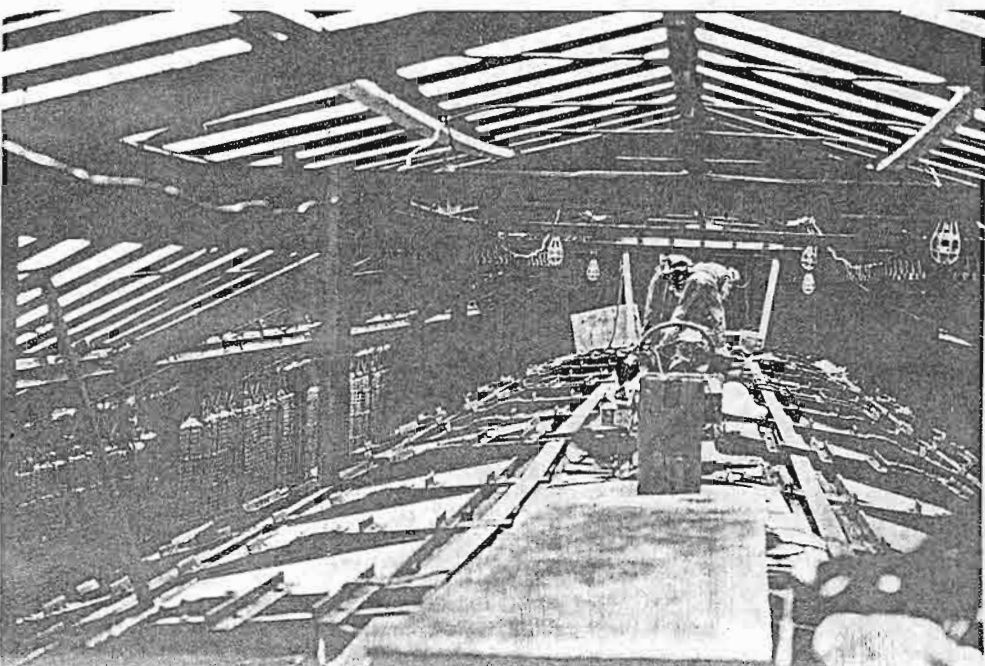
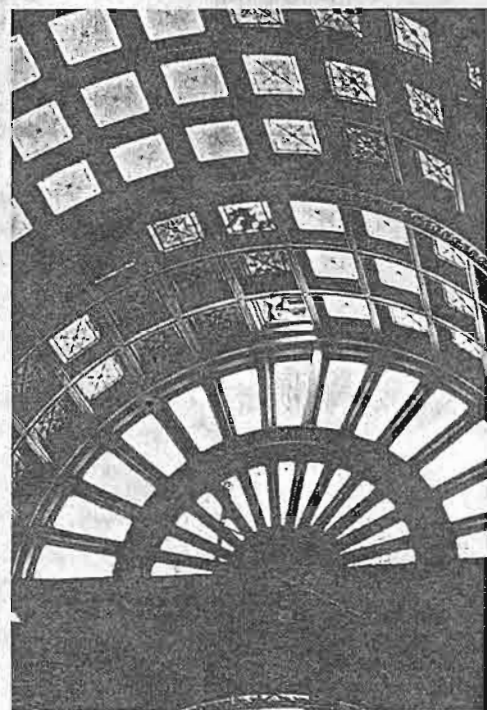
Recently an attorney named Allen Brunwasser became the first negative voice about Station Square, charging that we will be taking all of the P&LE land off the tax roles. Not true, of course. We are paying full real estate taxes on the land and expect the value of the land to increase.

Sun Shines into Station Square

One of the first construction projects undertaken at Station Square was restoration of the stained glass vaulted ceiling of the Grand Concourse in the P&LE Terminal Building. The outer protective clear glass skylight was sealed with tar in 1927 by the railroad in what was apparently an attempt to stop problems of water leakage.

The first step in restoration was replacing all of the clear glass of the outer skylight with new glass set in the original copper framework with a newly developed neoprene sealing system. Then untold man hours and cases of oven cleaner (yes, oven cleaner) were used to remove the smudge and soot from the stained glass itself which allegedly had not been cleaned since the building was constructed in 1901. The work was carried out by Navarro Corporation with glazing and sealing subcontracted to A.J. Vater & Co.

The restoration was completed in time to let the sun shine down into the Grand Concourse for the City of Pittsburgh Fall Flower Show.





Famous Pittsburghers Bicentennial Lecture Series Part Two

presented by
Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation
Pittsburgh Bicentennial Commission

February 8, 1977 Tuesday	"John Kane, Painter"	Leon A. Arkus
February 23, 1977 Wednesday	"John Brashear-Astronomer"	James E. O'Brien
March 8, 1977 Tuesday	"Jane Grey Swisshelm - newspaper woman"	Mary Ellen Leigh McBride
March 22, 1977 Tuesday	"Dr. T. Lyle Hazlett - Pioneer in industrial medicine"	Theodore L. Hazlett, Jr.
April 12, 1977 Tuesday	"Mary Cassatt, Painter"	Herdis B. Tielman
April 26, 1977 Tuesday	"Chancellor Bowman, Educator"	Agnes Lynch Starrett
May 10, 1977 Tuesday	"Willa Cather - Author"	Kathleen Byrne
May 24, 1977 Tuesday	"Samuel Pierpont Langley"	Wallace R. Beardsley
June 7, 1977 Tuesday	"Charles Martin Hall - Inventor of Aluminum"	speaker to be announced

Lectures will be held at 8:00 p.m. at the Old Post Office Museum of the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation

This Bicentennial Lecture Series is funded by donations from individuals and private foundations. Tickets may be purchased at the door or by writing to the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation, Old Post Office Museum, One Landmarks Square, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15212. Please include a self addressed stamped envelope, indicate choice of lectures and number of tickets desired, and enclose a check for the appropriate amount.

\$1.50 per lecture for PHLF members
\$2.50 per lecture for non-members
\$1.00 per lecture for students
\$1.00 per lecture for senior citizens

Group rates for students and senior citizens
are available in advance only.

Sponsors

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The Freda T. and Oliver M. Kaufmann Fund
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Mr. David Owsley
Mr. & Mrs. Nathan W. Pearson
Mrs. Cleveland D. Rea



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TOURS

PITTSBURGH ETHNIC CHURCHES

FEBRUARY 2

Pittsburgh Ethnic Churches in affiliation with PHLF, will sponsor a Candlemas Church Tour on Wednesday, February 2. The tour will assemble at the Old Post Office and begin at 1:00 p.m. By chartered coach, four churches will be visited: St. Wenceslaus (Bohemian), St. Boniface, Immaculate Heart of Mary (Polish), and St. George (Syrian-Antiochian). Messrs. Van Trump and Sopko will provide the commentary. The price is \$7.50 and reservations and information can be obtained by phoning 741-5400.

ANNUAL MEETING AND WALKING TOUR

MARCH 6

1977's Annual Meeting of PHLF will be held in the Grand Concourse of the P&LE Terminal Building. Members are welcome to attend a brunch to be held at 12:30 in the waiting room at a cost of \$6.50 per person (Reservations must be made no later than February 28). The annual meeting will follow at 2:00 p.m. after which a walking tour of the P&LE property will be conducted and narrated. Please use the form below to make reservations.

_____ I Will Attend the Annual Meeting

_____ I Will Not Attend the Annual Meeting and hereby tender my proxy to the chairman of the nominating committee to cast my ballot in favor of the officers and directors presented by the nominating committee.

Please send me _____ tickets for the 12:30 Brunch @ \$6.50 each. Total enclosed \$ _____.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

MY CHECK IS ENCLOSED. MY SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE IS ENCLOSED.

WALKING TOUR OF BEN AVON

APRIL 17

Our Walking Tour of Ben Avon will gather at 2:00 p.m. at the corner of Lincoln Avenue and Church Street in front of the Municipal Building. Cost is \$1.00 for members and \$2.00 for non-members. Tickets will be sold the day of the tour at the gathering point, no advance reservation necessary.

COMING TOURS FOR 1977

APRIL 22-24 - WINCHESTER, LEESBURG, HARPERS FERRY

JULY 22-24 - CONNEAUT LAKE AND RETURN VIA ALLEGHENY RIVER TOWNS

SEPTEMBER 8-11 - WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA

OCTOBER 15-16 - WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS (FALL FOLIAGE TOUR)



Additions to National Register

Recently added to the National Register of Historic Places, our nation's catalogue of historically and architecturally significant sites and structures were:

Highland Towers Apartments
South Side Market Building
Rachel Carson House
Phipps Conservancy

Entry upon the National Register gives recognition to the historical and/or architectural merits of the structure.

MORE RESTORATION

Neville Tombstone to be Renewed

On May 12, 1976, we received a letter from Mr. Theodore Craig Diller, a descendant of General John Neville and resident of Chicago, Illinois.

Mr. Diller commended us on our work at Neville House and suggested an additional project. It seems that the gravestones of General Neville, his wife Amelia, and son-in-law Major Isaac Craig are in poor condition in Allegheny Cemetery and badly in need of restoration.

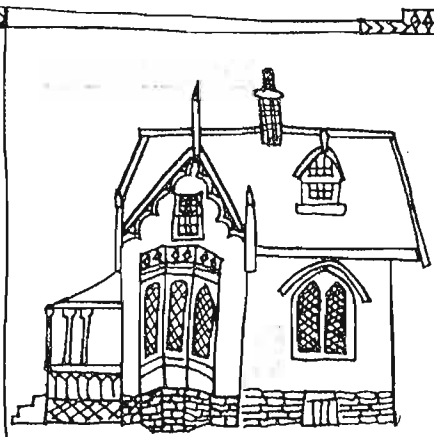
Through the generosity of Mr. Diller and an additional gift from the F.B. Doane Foundation, we have received over \$5,000 to replace the stones. The new gravestones, which have been ordered, have a simple ledger edge and a letter style which closely resembles the original.

We are thankful to Mr. Diller and the F.B. Doane Foundation and look forward to the dedication of the gravestones and a walking tour of the cemetery next spring.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| February 8 | Famous Pittsburgher Lecture
Old Post Office 8:00 p.m. |
| February 23 | Famous Pittsburgher Lecture
Old Post Office 8:00 p.m. |
| March 6 | PHLF Annual Meeting and
Walking Tour of P&LE Property
12:30 p.m. Brunch by reservation
2:00 p.m. Meeting followed by
walking tour see
details on page 5. |
| March 8 | Famous Pittsburgher Lecture
Old Post Office 8:00 p.m. |
| March 22 | Famous Pittsburgher Lecture
Old Post Office 8:00 p.m. |
| April 12 | Famous Pittsburgher Lecture
Old Post Office 8:00 p.m. |
| April 17 | Walking Tour of Ben Avon
2:00 p.m. corner of Church & Lincoln |
| April 22-24 | Bus tour to Winchester, Leesburg,
and Harpers Ferry - more details
in March issue |
| April 26 | Famous Pittsburgher Lecture
Old Post Office 8:00 p.m. |

And every Friday evening between 6:00 and 7:00 Mr. Van Trump does a spot on Western Pennsylvania architecture on the KDKA-TV evening news.



Our new publication, *Pittsburgh Treasure Hunt* is a fun tool to learn building styles painlessly!

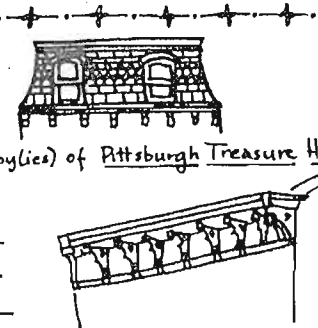
Purchase a copy in our gift shop here at the Old Post Office Museum, or by mail by using the handy coupon below.


It's twenty pages long and fully illustrated with buildings of interest. Order some today!

Pittsburgh Treasure Hunt
Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation
One Landmarks Square
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15212

Enclosed is my check for \$_____ for _____ copy(ies) of *Pittsburgh Treasure Hunt* \$1.00 each. My check is payable to PHLF.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____





Pittsburghers
Series *Part Two*

& Landmarks Foundation
Centennial Commission

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