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Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation

Old Post Office • Allegheny Square West • Pittsburgh, Pa. 15212

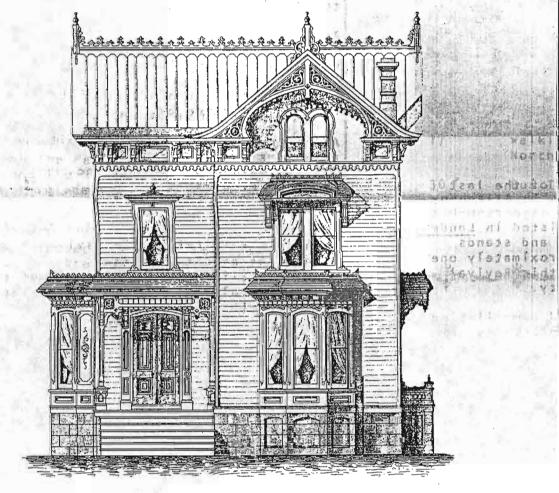
PHONE 412/322-1204

NUMBER 73

FEBRUARY 1979

Old House Fair

Event I An Evening of Professional Advice



The Old Post Office Museum March 1, 1979 7~9 pm

Architects, contractors and PHLF restoration staff will be available to answer your questions on how to restore an old house

sponsored by

Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation

no charge

open to the public

OLD HOUSE FAIR I

The Old House
Fair I: an evening of professional restoration
advice is the
first in a series
of restoration
programs planned
for the public
by PHLF.

This first event will, focus on how to restore an old house and we've assembled a group of experts to answer questions, and provide valuable information on what to look for when restoring an old house. A special feature of the evening is a movie entitled "Neighbors, Conservation in a Changing Community."

PHLF hopes to offer other restoration programs such as interior design in an old house, and how to finance the restoration of an old house. If you have suggestions of other topics we could address, please let us know!

Inaugural Features Preservation

For the first time, to our knowledge, in Pennsylvania's history, historic preservation was included as one of the events of the inaugural of a governor. Through the auspices of the Inaugural Arts Committee, chaired by Diana Rose of Pittsburgh, Governor and Mrs. Thornburgh asked PHLF to organize an historic buildings tour to take place immediately after the Governor took his oath of office on January 16.

We enlisted the assistance of Historic Harrisburg Association which provided twelve residential and commercial buildings in the vicinity of the Capitol, maps, tour guides, and boundless enthusiasm. The day of the ceremony was chilly but sparkling and provided a good setting for the tour for the several thousand people visiting Harrisburg.

Congratulations go to Diana Rose and all those who assisted her to develop such a fine Inaugural event with the "Arts in Pennsylvania" theme.

Work Begins on "The Castle"





Several years ago we acquired one of the last large extant Gothic Revival Houses in Allegheny County known as "The Castle:, the Henderson-Metz House in Fineview. The house is listed in Landmark Architecture of Allegheny County and stands prominently on a hilltop with approximately one half acre of land. There is a Gothic Revival carriage house also on the property.

The interior of the house suffered a mutilating renovation in the 1940's but all of the exterior Gothic woodwork still remains, albeit in deteriorated condition.

Recently we received a grant from the Vira A. Heinz Fund of the Pittsburgh Foundation of \$10,000 to begin the restoration of this elegant and extraordinary woodwork. Our work crew has been very busy taking care of other properties but now has tackled this large project. Utilizing scaffolding donated by Navarro Corporation, the crew has erected three stories of scaffold at one end of the house to begin the work.

Considerable further fund raising must occur before the remainder of the exterior and interior of the house can be finished; the goal is to make it available for moderate income apartment units.

American Institute of Architects Applauds PHLF

We are very gratified to report that the American Institute of Architects has published an extensive article in the National AIA Journal called "Pittsburgh's Innovative Renovation Record". The article deals primarily with our neighborhood programs and outlines the Manchester, Birmingham, and Mexican War Streets programs and has some excellent colored illustrations including the one of Station Square. The author, Nora Richter, says "the prime example of rehabilitation without dislocation is in Pittsburgh, where PHLF has led the preservation movement since 1964. She goes on to say that our work "is one of the few success stories in rehabilitation without dislocation". Two years ago the National AIA awarded a medal to us at their convention in San Diego for our restoration program.

Downtown Conference A Success

Over two hundred people including developers, architects, city officials, and representatives of the business community attended The Conference on the Re-Use of Downtown Buildings sponsored by the Department of City Planning, the Allegheny Conference on Community Development and PHLF.

Those attending the conference heard presentations on the re-use of the Conestoga Building, The Bank, West Penn Building, Cast Iron Building and the Ewart Building. In addition panel discussions were held on Architectural Design and Economics and Government.

James W. Rouse, Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of the Rouse Company gave the keynote address. Rouse noted that cities are "in the early stages of a new era in the recycling of old buildings, and that the transformation of the center city over the next twenty years will be more massive and more dramatic than the flight to the suburbs of the fifties and sixties."

He went on to describe the success of retail specialty centers in the center city, projects like Faneuil Hall in Boston and the gallery at Market East as an example of renewed interest in old buildings and the city and as projects that bring new life to the city. He said, "The center of the city is there ready to be vital, ready to be alive. . . you have in Pittsburgh this wonderful project in Station Square that you should nurse and nourish and encourage and give heart to . . "

An exhibit and publication is being developed from the conference. It will be on display in downtown building lobbies.

Support for the Conference, Exhibit and publication was provided by:

Allegheny Conference on Community Development Arnheim & Neely, Inc. William Beynon & Company, Inc. The Buncher Company Century Federal Savings & Loan Assocattion Century Real Estate, Inc. Concord-Liberty Savings & Loan Association Cushman & Wakefield of Pennsylvania, Inc. Department of City Planning Equitable Life Insurance Society of the U.S. First Federal Savings & Loan Association John W. Galbreath & Company K. Goldsmith & Company, inc. Edward M. Goldston Company Bill Green and Company, Inc. Gumberg Management Company Housing Mortgage Corporation Keystone Bank Lincoln Savings Bank

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Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation
The Pittsburgh Foundation
Pittsburgh National Bank
Realty Growth Corporation
Sauer, Inc.
Second Federal Savings & Loan Association
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Leon Thorpe Charitable Trust Union National Bank of Pittsburgh Urban Design Associates

National Development Corporation

National Endowment for the Arts

Bicentennial Update

Mellon Bank, N.A.

North Side Deposit Bank

Those who enjoyed our Bicentennial Lecture Series in 1976-1977 will recall that one of the lectures concerned Samuel Pierpont Langley, pioneer astrophysist at the Allegheny Observatory and researcher of the sun. We are pleased to inform everyone that the lecturer, Dr. Wallace R. Beardsley, as a follow up to that lecture, recently completed his doctoral dissertation entitled "Samuel Pierpont Langley—His early academic years at the Western University of Pennsylvania." Now engaged in the writing of a full biography of Langley, he would very much like to contact descendents of Langley's brother or sister or anyone possessing information or records relating to Samuel Pierpont Langley. Please call Mr. Beardsley at 321-2400.

Preservation News

Profile

Ed Weintraub State Historic Preservation Officer



Ed Weintraub, a key figure in Pennsylvania preservation activities, is the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and Director of the Office of Historic Preservation of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (P.HMC). Born and raised in the Philadelphia area, Weintraub, 35, has spent his entire career working in the eastern end of the state. With a history degree from the University of Illinois and a law degrée from Temple University, he began with a commercial law firm in Philadelphia. Later work on Environmental Protection cases as Deputy Attorney General in the early 1970's introduced him to the problem of how society recognizes and preserves historic resources. Self educated by reading about historic preservation, architectural history, and urban planning, Weintraub in 1975 became legal assistant to the PHMC to write Pennsylvania's historic preservation law. After a year as Executive Director of Historic Gettysburg, he returned to Harrisburg in 1977 as Director of the Office of Historic Preservation of the PHMC and was designated SHPO by the Governor in April 1978.

As State Historic Preservation Officer, Weintraub has been responsible for passage of the Pennsylvania Historic Preservation Law which he wrote, establishing The Pennsylvania Inventory of Historic Places and The State Historic Preservation Board. He also administers federal programs at the state level. These programs include matching grants for restoration projects, survey, and educational efforts; review of federally financed projects, to protect historic resources; and nominations of sites and districts to the National Register of Historic Places.

Weintraub is determined to see government at all levels consistently and seriously concerned with the quality of our built resources as they are with our natural resources. In addition, as revitalization and restoration activities were an \$11 billion national industry in 1978, he hopes to bring sound business judgment to preservation and help developers and other business interests to see that preservation pays.

Weintraub lives with his wife, Sue Yenchko, and daughter Jessica on a farm near Gettysburg.

A Report on Jamie Van Trump

On November 7, Election Day, Jamie Van Trump, our Director of Research, was crossing Forbes Avenue on his way to the Carnegie Library when he was struck by a car. Carried by the impact from Bellefield Avenue to Dithridge Street, he sustained a broken pelvis and fractured right leg. At Presbyterian University Hospital he's recuperated swiftly and the breaks have all healed satisfactorily. However, during the seven weeks of lying in bed in braces, he lost temporarily much of the strength of his muscles and he now has to slowly regain his ability to walk. He is doing fine at Wightman Manor and appreciates the many cards that our members and Pittsburghers who watched his television programs or listened to his radio programs have sent him.

We are also pleased that Jamie was given a "Citizen of the Year" award by the Post Gazette on January 1. Last year a "Citizen of the Year" award was given to Mary Wohleber, one of our volunteers.

Landmarks Certified

The following buildings have been added to the National Register of Historic Places:
Allegheny West Historic District, North Side Frick Building, Downtown, Grant St., 1901
Burke Building, Downtown, 4th Ave., 1836
Isaac Lightner House, Shaler Twp., 1833
Nicholas-Way-Jones-Hall House, Edgeworth, 1838

The following buildings have been added to the Pennsylvania Inventory and will be considered for nomination to the National Register:

Calvary Methodist Church, North Side, 1892-93

Calvary Church Rectory, Shadyside, 1858

Carnegie Institute-Library, Oakland 1895-1904

Coraopolis Railroad Station, Coraopolis, 1895

Henderson-Metz House, Fineview, c.1860

Mann's Hotel, McKees Rocks, early 19th century

P&LE Central Warehouse, South Side, 1917
P&LE Freight House, South Side, 1897
St. Nicholas R.C. Church, North Side, 1900
Sixteenth Street Bridge, Allegheny River, 1923
The following buildings have been awarded Historic

Landmark Plaques by PHLF:

Kuykendall-Forsythe Reed Farms, Clairton, 1768,

1852

St. Nicholas Croation Church, Millvale, 1900,

Murals 1937, 1970
Carnegie Library, Oakmont, 1901
Convent of Mercy, Oakland, 1909
Ebenezer Baptist Church, Hill District, 1930-31.
Graff Building, Wilkinsburg, 1910-12
Jones House, Forest Hills, 1915
Lark Inn, Sewickley, 1800
Presbyterian Church, Sewickley, 1859
Round Hill United Presby. Church, Elizabeth, 1884
Shaw House, Glenshaw, 1868

With thanks

We thank the following for their 1978 Year-end contributions to PHLF:

Hrs. Rose A. Alpern
Hrs. Henry Armstrong
Or...J. V. H. Gallartyre
Hrs. George Barmore
Dr. & Hrs. C. F. Beall
Hr. G Hrs. C. F. Beall
Hr. G Hrs. Davitt S. Bell
Hr. G Hrs. Robert Beeker, Jr.
Hr. James Gibro
Dr. Willlam LeRoy Black
Hr. Harry Blum
H. J. Blumenshine
Hrs. Kenneth S. Boesel
Borland Printing
Hr. G Hrs. Fayette Brown
Hrs. A. H. Burchfield, Jr.
Hr. G Hrs. Dovid Burstin
Hr. G Hrs. David Burstin
Hr. G Hrs. David Burstin
Hr. S Hrs. David Burstin
Hrs. Ernest N. Calhoun
Betty Chorba
Montague R. Cooke
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Hr. G Hrs. Samuel Davis
Jomes O'Hara Denny, Ill
Hr. G Hrs. Robert Dietrich
Thomas J. Donnelly
James C. Dunn
Mrs. Robert Ege
Margaret H. Ely
Flora Belle Faddis
Ferry Electric Company
Robert Flerst
Hrs. James A. Fisher
Richard Flinn
Sue Flood
Hrs. William Galbraith
Floyd R. Ganassi
Hrs. Geraldine Geltner
William P. Getty
Hr. Thomas J. Gillespie
G. W. McClaughlin
Hrs. John J. Golden
Hrs. Allan T. C. Gordon
Barbara Griffith
GW.S.M., Inc.
Eloise and Estella Haase
Hr. & Mrs. Warner V. Hartz, Jr.
Joseph G. Hoechner

David W. Hunter
Hr. & Mrs. George Illig, Jr.
Jone Ford Johnson
Hrs. Kenneth Kearney
Robert E. Kennedy
Robert E. Kennedy
Robert E. Kunsak
Robert E. Kunsak
Robert L. Linden
Hr. & Hrs. Joses A. Knight, Jr.
Anna E. Kunsak
Richard L. Linden
Hrs. Alan Lehman
Hr. & Hrs. William Llewellyn
Hrs. Frances A. Lyon
Hrs. Frances A. Lyon
Hrs. Frances A. Lyon
Hrs. Hrs. David Mahrer
Hr. & Hrs. David Mahrer
Hr. & Hrs. W. H. Mawhinney
Hr. & Hrs. John L. McCain
Dr. William E. McCain
Hrs. Hary K. HcCain
Hrs. Hary K. HcCain
Hrs. Hrs. W. H. McKee, Jr.
Hr. & Hrs. Carroll Miller, Jr.
Hr. & Hrs. H. M. McKee, Jr.
Hr. & Hrs. K. HcAnn
Hrs. Feward A. Montgomery, Jr.
Charles H. Hoore
Hrs. Robert A. Moore
Hrs. T. S. Murrin
Hrs. Hugh G. Nevin
Hr. & Hrs. Edward O'Neil
Hr. & Hrs. Edward O'Neil
Hr. & Hrs. J. Paul Scheetz
A. Reed Schroder
Hr. Herbert Smyers
Hr. William J. Staley
Elizabeth B. Steele
Nicholas Stone
Hr. Frank R. Stoner, Ill
Elizabeth R. Studt
Tambellili Foods, Inc.
Jane A. Tlegel
Hiss Katherine Walker
Mollie Weinert
Elizabeth W. Whitaker
Robecca B. White
Hrs. George J. Willock, Jr.
Hr. James Winokur
Hr. James Julicker
James Julicker
Hr. James Winokur
Hr. James Julicker

First Statewide-Preservation Conference Held

Over nine hundred Pennsylvanians gathered in Harrisburg this January to attend the first Statewide Conference on Historic Preservation. Sponsored by The Office of Historic Preservation, The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, the conference provided the volunteer and new preservationist with an introduction to preservationist techniques and resources. For the advanced preservationist, seminars on the Tax Reform Act of 1976 and the adaptive reuse of old buildings provided valuable information.

PHLF was well represented at the Conference. Charles C. Arensberg, Chairman, PHLF spoke on "The Well-established Non-profit Organization in Urban Areas: A Summary of the Large-scale Preservation Effort in Pittsburgh."

Arthur P. Ziegler, Jr., President of PHLF gave the Keynote address at a luncheon attended by an estimated 1,000 people!

A Fashion Retrospective to be held at **Grand Concourse** April 28

Bustles, bows, luxurlous silks and satins will be on parade at PHLF's glamorous Fashion Retrospective to be held Saturday, April 28, 1979 at the Grand Concourse.

Approximately forty PHLF Board of Trustee members, volunteers and friends will descend the steps of the Grand Concourse modeling elegant costumes representing more than a century of fashion chosen by Pittsburghers from designers around the world.

The afternoon promises to be an exciting event with cocktails and lunch at the Grand Concourse beginning at noon, followed by the Fashion Show.

Many of the fashions will come from PHLF's extensive collection of antique clothing. Of special note are a grand variety of bridalgowns, delicate garden dresses, and elaborate hats.

The Joseph Horne Company is assisting in coordinating the show and will provide current designer fashions and commentary.

Tickets are \$25 per person, \$19 of which is tax deductible. The proceeds will benefit PHLF. The tickets will be sold on a first come, first served basis, as seating is limited. To assure your place at this grand event, we urge you to return the coupon below together with your check, to PHLF, I Landmarks Square, Pgh., Pa. 15212.

PHLF Fashion Retrospective Saturday, April 28, 1979 Cash bar noon, Luncheon 12:30

Enclosed please find ____check(s) payable to PHLF for ____reservation(s) @\$25, each (\$19 tax deductible).

I am unable to attend, but please accept the enclosed contribution, made payable to PHLF.

ADDRESS

MEMBERSHIP.

NAME.

ADDRESS

ENCLOSED IS \$_

DA /

All seating is on a first come, first served basis, and is arranged for tables of 2,4,6 (Tables will be reserved when all seats are paid for). Please seat the following with me

Please have the reservations chairman seat me.

Mann's Hotel Saved

Mann's Hotel in McKees Rocks has been saved! The 19th century inn threatened with demolition by the construction of the new Windgap bridge will instead be moved 120 feet from its present site and the Mann family will proceed with plans to renovate the hotel.

Joseph I Lewis, a Public Utility Commission Utilit Law Judge in handing down the ruling on January 18, 1979 ended the three year battle to preserve the hotel which has been owned and operated by the Mann family since the early 1800's,

Listed on the Pennsylvania Inventory of Historic Places and awaiting designation on the National Register of Historic Places, Mann's Hotel was directly in the path of the proposed replacement of the bridge which connects McKees Rocks with the Sheraden neighborhood. The PUC which has juris diction over all bridges that cross a railroad line had approved the construction of a four-lane bridge which would have destroyed the hotel. Allegheny County, last year, spurred by the McKees Rocks Citizens Community Action Commission and PHL proposed a two-lane bridge, but again the hotel would have been demolished for the approach to the bridge. The compromise of moving the hotel, devel oped by PHLF and the County will allow room for a two-lane approach.

Mann's Hotel has been in continuous operation since early in the 19th century. It has been a stage coach stop, an inn, a jail, a barber shop, a saloon, a restaurant and a trading post! Today it still has a potbelly stove and a trap door in the barroom floor which opens to the former jail cell block.

WHAT A GREAT PLACE FOR A PARTY



The exhibition galleries and garden court of the Old Post Office Museum are available for business and social occasions, receptions and waddings. Enjoy the setting of Victorian rooms, stained glass and historic Pittsburgh exhibits.

Telephone Mrs. Emerick at 322-1204

THE OLD POST OFFICE MUSEUM

PHLF to Co-Sponsor Conference

The Manchester Citizens Corporation with the assistance of the office of Historic Preservation of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and PHLF are sponsoring a National Conference April 5-April 7. The conference "Historic Preservation and the Minority Community" will be held in Manchester and will deal directly with the issue of displacement in restoration neighborhoods. Seminar participants from around the country will deal with the issues of neighborhood values, the economics of preservation, design, preservation organizations and packaging housing developments.

Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

_FOR A

This Membership is a Gift from

☐ New

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES:

Individualfrom \$10.00 Husband & Wife......from \$12.00 Family from \$15.00 Contributing from \$50.00 Sustaining from \$100.00 Patron from \$500.00 Organizations: Contributing from \$50.00 Patron from \$500.00

MEMBERSHIP PRIVILEGES

- Free admission to the Old Post Office, the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Museum.
- 2. 5% discount on purchases at the Old Post Office Museum Gift Shop.
- Subscription to "News for Members" and special publications on architecture and history.
- Free admission or discount tickets for walking and bus tours.
- Free admission to winter lecture series. 6. Notification of new exhibits at the Old Post Office.
- Participation in an organization given national awards "for the vigor of its programs."

Preservation News

Profile

Ed Weintraub State Historic Preservation Officer



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0	ld Ho	use	Fair	

March	1	Old House Fair Old Post Office, 7-9 p.m. Details page 1
March	13	Daytime Lecture Series Old Post Office, 1:00 p.m. "Report from Moscow and Rome Latest Historic Preservation Trends"Prof. A. Nebolsine
March	19	PHLF Annual Meeting Old Post Office,7:30 p.m.
March ,	27	Daytime Lecture Series Old Post office, 1:00 p.m. "Victorian Fashions"
April	3	Daytime Lecture Series Old Post Office, 1:00 p.m. "Victorian Furniture" lecturer - Jack Squires
April	5-7	Conference "Historic Preser- vation and the Minority Community" Manchester
April	7	Ethnic Church "Passiontide Tour" Leaves Old Post Office 1:00 p.m.
April	10	Daytime Lecture Series "Victorian Architecture" lecturer - Liza Smith
April	22	Walking Tour - Murdock Farms 2:00 p.m.
May	12	Bus Tour to National Pike Festival
June	9	Ethnic Church "Whitsuntide Tour" Leaves Old Post Office 1:00 p.m.
June	17	Walking Tour
June	30	Bus Tour to Meadowcroft Village



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PHLF ANNUAL MEETI SET

MONDAY, MARCH 19, 1979

PHLF Annual Meeting 1979 will be held at the Old Post Office Museum on March 19, at 7:30 p.m. Features of the evening will be:

- Annual election of PHLF officers and Board of Trustees
- A Vocal Concert by Beverly Kasdorf which will feature songs of Pittsburgh Composers
- An Overview of PHLF's work and accomplishments in 1978; and outline of things to come by Arthur P. Ziegler, Jr., President of PHLF.
- A social hour will follow

Nominations can be made by petition in writing to the nominating committee if signed by twenty or more members of PHLF.

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Please return to PHLF, One Landmarks Square, Pgh., Pa. 15212

CHAIRMAN'S RAMBLE

Buried in the vaults and basements in every courthouse in the country are priceless historical documents. Handwritten deeds, wills and agreements of Miles Standish, Roger Will-iams, Benjamin Franklin, Washington, Jefferson, Monroe, Adams, Pinckney, Hawthorne, Poe, Sandburg, Frost, Lincoln, Jackson, any one of our great men. Depositions concerning old land disputes, Indian raids, fur trapping, time and again reveal insights into our past. The daily lives, passion and skirmishes of countless litigants lie buried in the records of our law courts in every county of the land. The documents are yellowing, being destroyed and being discarded, their feeble counterparts in some, but not all cases stored in some mindless computer tape. The examination and appraisal of these papers before their eventual destruction should be at the most an anthropolygist's paradise and at the least an autograph hunter's nirvana.

So it was with enthusiasm that your Foundation applied to the Orphans' Court of Allegheny County this past summer to be allowed to keep indefinitely the handwritten wills of the following Pittsburghers which they had had under temporary order for an Allegheny County Bar Association Centenniel Exhibition since 1970:

Hugh Henry Brackenridge (early lawyer and Justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania)

Tarleton Bates (Prothonotary killed in duel)

Dr. Nathaniel Bedford (First physician at Ft. Pitt)

Neville B. Craig (early founder and leading citizen)

Alexander Addison (early jurist)

Ebenezer Denny (First Mayor of Pittsburgh)

William Wilkins (Judge and Ambassador to Russia)

Walter Forward

David T. Watson

General James O'Hara (Quarter Master General during Revolutionary War)

Abraham Hays

Felix Brunot

David McKee

Judge Thomas Mellon

Conrad Winebiddle

and many others of lesser local fame but with interesting documents. The enlightened court (presided over by Judge Hugh Boyle) has allowed these documents to be kept by our Foundation subject to any future need by order of the court.

The Foundation will display them at various times on appropriate occasions to remind our citizens of their illustrious and interesting forebears. From the will of the great Neville B. Craig born in the Blockhouse that still stands at the Point, to the will of Andy Mahesky who bequeathed \$5.00 to his wife for a rope to hang herself with, these documents will testify to life in the past and the passions that actuated those lives.

One of the wills is that of Ebenezer Denny, First Mayor of the newly formed city of Pittsburgh in 1816. The Foundation pursuant to further order of court presented it to the Mayor for his office in the courthouse. Here is the acknowledgement from Mayor Caliguiri with reference to the will:

"Mr. Charles C. Arensberg Tucker, Arensberg & Ferguson 1200 Pittsburgh National Building Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222

Dear Charley:

Thank you for your letter of recent date.

The will of Ebenezer Denny is proudly displayed in $\ensuremath{\mathsf{my}}$ office along with his portrait.

Your efforts are very much appreciated by me, and I am sure future Mayors will agree that it is far better to have these works on display in the appropriate setting rather than in the deep vaults of the Recorder of Deeds. However, we will keep handy the Court Order you so graciously forwarded to us in the event others may disagree.

Thanks agsin for your interest and for the tenacious way you followed through in this endeavor.

Yours very truly,

/x/ Richard S. Caliguiri"

ann's Hotel Saved

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from \$10.00 from \$12.00 from \$15.00 from \$50.00 from \$100.00 from \$500.00 from \$1,000.00

.....from \$25.00

...... from \$100.00

......from \$500.00

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