

PHLF NEWS

Number 97 Spring 1986

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Looking Ahead:

1986 Work Plan and Priorities

We are well into the new year and have many exciting projects underway and in the planning stages. The following article highlights what we hope to accomplish in seven major program areas.

THE PRESERVATION FUND

Our priority this year is to augment the Preservation Fund and inform Allegheny County neighborhood groups, preservation organizations and individuals of the Fund's purpose and potential. Through the Preservation Fund, Landmarks is able to provide loans and technical assistance to groups or individuals in Allegheny County so that endangered historic buildings can be restored. The Fund, managed by Stanley Lowe, is our most effective and flexible preservation resource.

This year, through previous or current loans from the Fund, work on the Hollander Building (North Side), Rachel Carson Homestead (Springdale), and Dickson Log House (Ben Avon) is continuing.

More recently, loans were approved to aid in the restoration and re-use of St. Mary's Priory (North Side), and to ensure the replacement of the roof and steeple of the New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church (Lawrenceville). Each of these projects is described further on page 5 of this issue.

In February, we sent a special mailing to members requesting their support of the Preservation Fund. We have already received many contributions and plan to acknowledge these gifts in the next issue of *PHLF News*. Thank you!

SCHENLEY PARK

What began as an idea of staff member Christina Schmidlapp after her completion of the Schenley Park National Register nomination is now a major staff effort, involving the City of Pittsburgh, the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, the Sculptural Heritage Society, and park consultants from other cities. The goal of the Schenley Park Restoration Project is to raise funds so the significant landscape features, buildings, and monuments of Pittsburgh's great urban park can be restored and an effective maintenance program implemented. We are using the Park's centennial in 1989 as a focal point for the restoration project. Phase I is now fully funded (see page 8) and we are making excellent progress and receiving strong public support for this project.

ADVOCACY AND ANALYSIS

It is impossible to predict what building issues we will become involved with this year, but we know that we will continue to promote our position

papers on the Strip District and land use in the Golden Triangle and on the opposite riverfront areas (see *Winter 1985-86* issue).

As a result of the publication of *Landmark Architecture: Pittsburgh and Allegheny County*, we are keeping a close eye on the life — and fate — of the more than 460 significant sites described in the guide section.

HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Landmarks is either directly responsible for, or closely associated with, six historic properties in Allegheny County: the Neville House and Walker-Ewing property, both in Collier Township; the Rachel Carson Homestead in Springdale; the Neill Log House in Schenley Park; Old St. Luke's in Scott Township; and the Burtner House in Harrison Township.

This year we are beginning a long-range planning effort in cooperation with the Neville House Auxiliary, Colonial Dames of America, and an advisory committee (see page 4) which will lead to a thorough understanding of the Neville House's 200-year history and a plan for its interior restoration and continuing use.

The Neill Log House is to be more attractively landscaped this year, thanks to the interest and involvement of the Seeders and Weeders Garden Club, and the historic log house will be open again for guided tours this summer, thanks to the continuing volunteer involvement of the Junior League of Pittsburgh.

Funds are being raised for a new educational facility for the Rachel Carson Homestead (see page 5), and we continue to offer assistance and restoration guidance to the auxiliaries of the Burtner House and Old St. Luke's who are making excellent progress. Providing we can secure funding, we very much want to restore the Victorian farmhouse on the Walker-Ewing property. The log house is already handsomely restored and maintained as a residence.

EDUCATION

After one year of operation, the concept of a revolving fund for education is proving a success. Established through a generous grant from the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation, and annually supported by several private foundations, the Education Revolving Fund includes our tour, lecture, publications, and student/teacher workshops for members and the general public. (See page 3 — *Events*; see pages 6 and 7 — *Education*). Our primary goal this year is to inform public and private schools throughout Allegheny County, as well as community groups, of Landmarks' educational resources. We will soon be



Susan Donley, director of education, describes the Landmark Survivors exhibit to Pittsburgh Public School teachers.

printing an education brochure announcing our program opportunities; please call education director Susan Donley if you would like us to send one to you.

This year, approximately one dozen schools will work with our two traveling exhibits, *Architecture: The Building Art* and *Landmark Survivors*; 60 teachers will be trained in techniques for exploring and researching the history of Pittsburgh and local communities; 25 students and teachers will participate in our summer workshop *Pittsburgh Heritage*, and many hundreds of members and friends will benefit from our tour, lecture, and special event programs.

We are particularly pleased to announce that the Pennsylvania Humanities Council and the Allegheny Conference on Community Development are funding the creation of a summer institute for teachers (see page 7) titled "Hands-On History: An Introduction to Classroom Methods for Local History Research." Seventy-five teachers and members will be invited to attend a five-day institute in August where professionals in the fields of oral history, folklore, archival resources, and architecture will be presenting lectures and workshop activities.

In our publications department — as elsewhere — our many ideas are only limited by our funding resources. However, we do hope to publish an oral history based on the life of Sarah Evosevich, owner of the Yugoslavian restaurant on the South Side. Sarah, dedicated in memory of Bosanka (Sarah's daughter and a former Trustee of Landmarks), is an incredible account of an immigrant's life in Pittsburgh from the 1930s to the present.

We also will be continuing our fund-raising effort in support of the publication by James D. Van Trump titled *Two Centuries of Legal Architecture in Allegheny County* which we hope to release on the occasion of the centenni-

al celebration of the Allegheny County Courthouse in 1988.

MUSEUMS

We are back in the museum business with the recent opening of the Station Square Transportation Museum (see page 3), and we continue to discuss ideas on a staff level for a major educational/cultural facility at Station Square relating to the history of Pittsburgh.

SPECIAL PROPOSALS

Providing we receive the necessary funding support and project approval from various state and local organizations, we will follow-through with:

- A thematic survey of the architecture of Frederick G. Scheibler, Jr. to establish the full scope of Scheibler's significance and to promote preservation of the unique resources he created, a number of which are endangered. The survey would be conducted in Allegheny, Greene, Westmoreland, and Montgomery Counties.
- A thematic survey of industrial sites and resources associated with the steel industry as it developed and flourished in the Pittsburgh region between c. 1845 and c. 1945.
- The publication of *Pittsburgh in Your Pocket: A Pocket Guide to Pittsburgh Area Architecture*, which would include architectural/historical information on approximately 50 sites, 40 photographs, and a guide map.
- The nomination of the Penn-Liberty Historic District to the National Register of Historic Places and completion of required marketing and economic feasibility studies and detailed financial pro-formas.
- The implementation of Phase II of the Neill Log House tour program to focus public attention and use on the historic resource in Schenley Park.

This year is a busy one, and we hope to accomplish these projects and others which occur to us as a result of a member's phone call or local preservation need.

PHLF NEWS

Welcome New Members

Paul D. Adomites
Robert D. Anthony, Jr.
Jan Barson
Martha L. Berg
Kathy Berger
The Berger Family
Deborah Jeanne Bickel
Mrs. C.J. Bohlo
Paula Brodsky
Helen Beedle Campbell
Karen Stewart Davis
Mr. & Mrs. Theodore C. Diller
Al Frioni, Jr.
Helen Gudalis
Susan D. Heide
Lois M. Hoffman
Alma Johnson
Moody Johnson
Pamela Jubera
Donna L. Killmer
Frances Stein Kotler
James M. Lavine
David A. Levy
Thomas E. Lippard
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony J. LoMonte

Janet K. Lubon
Carole Maistros
David J. Malone
Mr. & Mrs. R.A. McConnell
Sally McGinnis
Richard C. Michels
Catherine L. Murphy
Mr. & Mrs. James W. Myers
Pat Nysewander
Carole Olup
Mr. & Mrs. Norman E. Perssoh
Marian Peterman
Ellen Poesse
William Polachek, Jr.
Margaret T. Robison
Julia B. Rots
Louis Schorsch
Carol Slagle
Rosemary Tanney
Nancy Trice
John Trubic
Washington & Jefferson College
History Department
Jacqueline White
Jean R. White



Volunteer Profile: Genie Ferrell

Genie Ferrell is one of ten specially trained volunteers for Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation who present lectures and tours of the city to more than 1,500 people each year. Genie grew up in the East End, studied home economics at Margaret Morrison College (now Carnegie-Mellon University), and presently lives in Upper St. Clair. She has accumulated a lifetime of local experiences and knowledge to pass

on to visitors. "What I enjoy most about leading tours," she comments, "is meeting different people and sharing the history, architecture, and present-day life of our city with them."

Genie has been actively involved as a tour guide since the summer of 1983 when she responded to a notice in *PHLF News* requesting participants for the second tour-guide training class. Since that time, she has led approximately 30 tours and presented 10 lectures, assisted our tour director in organizing our 1985 fall neighborhood walking tour series and leading the tour of Highland Park, and volunteered at the 1984 and 1985 Antiques Show.

When her husband retires in a few years, the Ferrells plan to move south because after living in Pittsburgh her whole life, Genie says "It's time to go someplace else!" But for the immediate future, Landmarks can count on Genie to do her best to show Pittsburgh at its best. *If any members are interested in being tour guides or volunteering for Landmarks, please call 471-5808.*

Who Is A Member Of Landmarks?

Perhaps you were contacted when our membership secretary Mary Lu Denny recently made a number of phone calls to find out why a member had joined, how he or she had learned about Landmarks, and what activities the member was most interested in. We learned that most new members heard about Landmarks through the bi-monthly Station Square publication titled "ALL ABOARD." Most new members join because they want to get to know the city through our tour, lecture, and membership activities, and have an interest in history and architecture.

Those telephoned who have been members for more than ten years said they had stayed with Landmarks because of our reputation and ability to keep abreast of developments in the city. Most said they love Pittsburgh and feel Landmarks has been a contributing factor in making Pittsburgh so noticed within the country. (Forty-seven percent of our members have supported Landmarks for 10 to 19 years; ten percent have supported us for 20 to 22 years!)

If you have similar or different opinions to share with us, please call Mary Lu Denny (471-5433).

Options For Giving

Memorial Gifts: By giving to Landmarks in memory of others, you further a cause in which you believe while creating a thoughtful remembrance. A gift to the Memorial Endowment Fund lives on in many ways at Landmarks, providing new opportunities for the restoration of historic structures and the creation of educational programs.

Wills: You can also perpetuate the work of Landmarks through your will. Recently, we received a bequest of \$2,000 pursuant to the will of Mary Eleanor McPherson, for which we are most grateful. If you would like further information on either of these options for giving, please call Mary Lu Denny (471-5433).

PHLF NEWS is a quarterly publication of the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation.

Arthur P. Ziegler, Jr. *President*
Louise King Ferguson *Executive Director*
Martin Aurand
Susan K. Donley
Walter C. Kidney
Stanley A. Lowe
Christina Mann Schmidlapp *Contributing Writers*
Greg Pytlik/Jean Hodak *Artists*

Panning for Gold

Architectural References to Pittsburgh: 1905-1935

Walter C. Kidney



As temporary archivist for Landmarks, I recently had the task and the privilege of combing through the 560 architectural magazines recently donated to us by Roger and Norman Williams. My mission was to record references to architecture in and architects of the Pittsburgh area. This was a little like panning for gold; the occasional rewarding glimmer was occasional indeed, and I got the sensation that Pittsburgh, between 1905 and 1935, was in some sort of journalistic vacuum. Pittsburgh and its outlying towns supplied the building industry — the advertisements are full of the name Pittsburgh — but seemed not to use its products to any particular artistic effect.

Still, a few familiar names and buildings turned up: The E.P. Mellon remodeling of the Hillman house was featured; Alden & Harlow houses of the 1920s were fairly well represented; Charles Connick and William Willett, glaziers who were once Pittsburghers, figured a couple of times. Aymar Embury II, a New York architect well known in the 1920s, took a fastidious but not totally hostile look at the city as a

The Mellon Institute in a rendering of c. 1935, with sculptural groups never executed. (This is a detail from a full-page ad for National Radiator Corporation, which "warmed" the Mellon Institute.)

whole. And Pittsburgh buildings turned up fairly often in the ads, as the illustration above indicates. But the haul was meager: not a word about Frederick G. Scheibler, Jr., though Embury illustrated Highland Towers without naming it or its architects, and very little on Henry Hornbostel in Pittsburgh, barring a couple of renderings of Webster Hall and the Grant Building, and a feature article on the Schenley Apartments.

The results are now written cards classified by architect, by building name if in Pittsburgh, and by town name if elsewhere. Please call me at 471-5808 if you would like to visit our library to thoroughly review the findings. The library is open weekdays, or often on the evenings or weekends if a staff member is working. ■

Gifts to our Library



The James D. Van Trump Library, located in the offices of the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation, received three excellent gifts in November, 1985. Edward B. Lee, Jr. presented the library with 441 pencil sketches, 16 prints of a drawing of the Union Station area (illustrated above), and four water colors, all by his father. Edward B. Lee was one of the best-known Pittsburgh architects of the teens and twenties of this century, a collaborator with Henry Hornbostel on the City-County Building and with James Piper on the Chamber of Commerce Building, and architect of the Harvard, Yale, Princeton Club, the Edgeworth Club, and many other structures large and small. He traveled greatly, and his practice was to take a stack of cards and a set of colored pencils with him. His eye was good and his technique was sure, and he captured not only the facts of a scene but its mood: farms, mountains,

city roofs, rivers, industrial plants, all illuminated by the sun and seen under the sky for one fleeting moment. The collection is admirable, and we are glad to have it.

Roger and Norman Williams gave us the greater portion of the long-stored library of W. Ward Williams, a Pittsburgh architect active early in this century. Thus, we have hundreds of issues of *Brickbuilder*, *Architectural Record*, *Architectural Forum*, *American Architect*, *Pencil Points*, and other journals from the 1900s through the mid-1930s, as well as some excellent architectural books. Many of the latter came from the library of an even older architect, J.W. Drum, who practiced in Pittsburgh in the Mid-Victorian period. We also have many of Williams' own plans and working drawings. Together, this collection forms a portrait of American architecture, as a whole, in the years when the Pittsburgh architecture with which we are mostly concerned was new or under construction.

Helen King Boyer of Kansas City gave Landmarks 244 photographs and 28 office diaries of her father, Ernest Wilson Boyer. Boyer was an architect and draftsman early in this century, sometimes in practice on his own, sometimes associated with others such as Henry Hornbostel and Carlton Strong. Boyer's career is outlined in the diaries, and the photographs and reproductions of his renderings show both his own work and other work in the Pittsburgh area. Helen Boyer also donated biographical notes and photostats of the drawings for what would have been his masterpiece, a chapel for what was then Mount Mercy and is now Carlow College.

Donations and Contributions Welcome

If you would like to donate any architectural materials — or if you would like to make a tax-deductible contribution to support our library effort — call Walter Kidney (471-5808) for further information. ■

Award of Merit Nominations

Call Martin Aurand (471-5808) if you would like to recommend an individual or organization to be considered as one of our 1986 Award of Merit recipients. Awards are presented at our Distinguished Lecture in the fall to deserving individuals or organizations who have furthered the cause of historic preservation and/or increased public knowledge about our heritage.

EVENTS

Preview & Registration



Looking Forward to Buffalo

Walter C. Kidney

Two years ago, a group of Buffalo architecture-lovers, led by Jason Aronoff and William Huff, came to Pittsburgh on a tour and seemed very pleased by what they saw. Now, as the accompanying announcement shows, we are going to see what *they* have to offer.

The great lake port of Buffalo has rather diffuse cultural associations to those unfamiliar with it: the Guaranty or Prudential Building of Louis Sullivan; the now-gone Larkin Building and several houses, including the Darwin Martin House, by Frank Lloyd Wright; mansions by McKim, Mead & White; a park and parkway system created over a 30-year period by Frederick Law Olmsted; houses by H.H. Richardson as well as the Buffalo State Hospital (illustrated above); Kleinhans Music Hall by the Saarinsens, father and son; the anonymous but formidable grain elevators that so impressed Le Corbusier and Erich Mendelson; the Blocher tomb, famous among cemetery enthusiasts; the Old County Hall, studied as a model when the specifications for our Courthouse were prepared; St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral, partly by Richard Upjohn; and the Ellicott Square Building by D.H. Burnham & Co.

It will be seen that, like Pittsburgh, Buffalo has had a way of importing many of its most distinguished architectural designs, since every one of the architects above named is an out-of-towner. Yet in Green & Wicks it had its own strong, tasteful office, a little like our own Longfellow, Alden & Harlow; these were, among other things, the designers of the modestly named Albright-Knox Art Gallery, which we shall visit.

The above account is derived from mere book-knowledge of the city and its architectural celebrities. What other fine works of architecture, engineering, and town-scape — books never reveal much of this last — exist in Buffalo, we can know only by going there. Up there, they know we are coming, and anticipate showing us around. ■

Events at the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania

4338 Bigelow Boulevard
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Call 681-5533 for further information
April 2: 2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Ellen Rosenthal, the curator of the Frick Family mansion in Point Breeze, lectures on "Clayton: Its Family and Collections"

April 8-June 3:

An exhibition of a selection of historical political cartoons from the DeWitt collection

April 12:

Blacksmith's Demonstration by David Vincenty, part of the Family Programs Series

April 25 & 26:

National Glass Club Seminar in conjunction with the Pittsburgh Chapter of the Early American Glass Club

Our events calendar began on March 18, with an ethnic dinner and lecture at Sarah's Restaurant. This was the appetizer to a full course of special events planned for this year, that we anticipate will satisfy our members' interests.

The following events are still in the planning stages, so please complete and return the Information Form at the bottom of the page if you would like up-to-date, complete details.

Weekend Travel to Buffalo

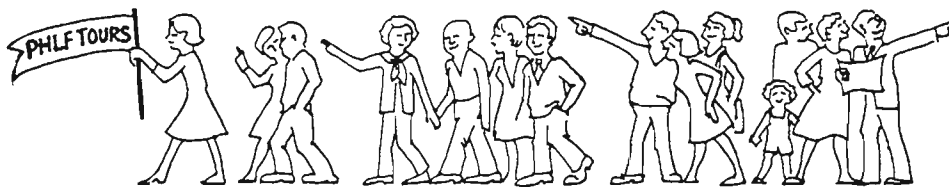
Reservation deadline April 3

\$210 members; \$245 non-members

Accompany Landmarks' staff and noted Buffalo architecture expert Jason Aronoff on a two-day tour to Buffalo, including a downtown walking tour, a private tour and reception at Frank Lloyd Wright's Darwin Martin house, an evening performance by the Buffalo Philharmonic, an early morning riverboat excursion, a bus tour of ethnic communities, and tours of the Albright-Knox Art Gallery and the Buffalo State Hospital. *All in Buffalo* — a specially arranged weekend for our members. Reservations limited to 40 people.

Sat. & Sun.

April 19 & 20



Schenley Park Walking Tour

Meeting location: Phipps Conservatory entrance

2:30-3:30 p.m.; \$2 members; \$5 non-members

Explore Schenley Park as you never have before, with staff members from Landmarks and the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy who are involved in the Schenley Park Centennial Restoration Project. Significant landscape features, buildings, and monuments will be seen on the tour and the guides will highlight the objectives and need for the Centennial Restoration Project (see page 8 of this issue).

Sun.

May 4

Visit the Neill Log House

Before or After the Schenley Park Walking Tour

1:00-4:00 p.m.; Donation appreciated

Thanks to the continuing financial support and volunteer assistance of the Junior League of Pittsburgh, the Neill Log House will be open to the public every weekend throughout the summer. On May 4, noted log house restorer Bradford Mooney will present a lecture, beginning at 1:30, describing the log house's significance. Bring your picnic lunch, attend the lecture and tour the Neill Log House and then join the 2:30 walking tour of Schenley Park. What could be better on a summer Sunday afternoon!

Sun.

May 4

Preservation Week Walking Tours

Sun. through Sat.

Sat. & Sun. tours: 2:00 p.m. Weekdays: 12 Noon

May 11 through 17

Landmarks, the City Historic Review Commission, and the South Side Main Street Program are planning seven walking tours during the national celebration of Preservation week. Areas to be featured include the South Side's East Carson Street and Main Street district, Grant Street, the Penn-Liberty District, Fourth Avenue, the Market Street area, Firstside, and the Strip District. This is the second consecutive year we are offering the Preservation Week Walking Tours and we hope this program meets with the same public success as the first year.

"The Golden Triangle Then and Now"

Mon.

June 23



Downtown Walking Tour and Slide Lecture presented by noted Pittsburgh photographer Herb Ferguson

Walking tour: 6:30 p.m. departing from Station Square

Lecture: 8:00 p.m. in the Station Square Sheraton
\$3 Members; \$6 non-members

Old St. Luke's

Sun.

Tenth Annual Ecumenical Easter Sunrise Service 6:00 a.m.

March 30

This year's Easter service, celebrated at Old St. Luke's on Washington Pike in Scott Township, will be a particularly meaningful one for the historic stone church of 1852 since the auxiliary expects to have a heating system fully operational in time for the holiday. Heating installation has long been a restoration priority at the church and a generous recent gift for that purpose has enabled work to progress. Call 835-7935 for details.

The Burtner House, located on Route 28 in Natrona Heights, will be the site of the Burtner House Restoration Society's Strawberry Festival in June. Call 224-7537 for details and attend this annual fund-raising event for the restoration and furnishing of the historic stone house of 1818-21.



Visit

Transportation Museum

The Station Square Transportation Museum, open free to members of Landmarks and conveniently located in Bessemer Court, offers a trip back in local transportation history. An elegant 1891 D'Orsay Carriage from the Mellon family, H.J. Heinz's ketchup-red 1898 Panhard — reputedly the first car in Pittsburgh — and the world-record-setting 1901 Foster Steam Car are just a few of the notable vehicles on display in the ingeniously designed museum.

Each month brings a special featured exhibit on loan from area auto enthusiasts so there is always a new reason for frequent return visits. Archival photos of Pittsburgh's past provide a nostalgic setting, as do children's toys and models.

The Station Square Transportation Museum is the result of the efforts of G. Whitney Snyder, a Trustee of Landmarks, who raised funds from individuals and foundations for the museum's creation, envisioned the museum design, and now oversees its operation. Mr. Snyder is joined by Bill Artzberger, Don Burnham, and Bill Roberts who volunteer many hours of time in activities that range from constructing museum signs to serving as an informal Board of Directors.

The Station Square Transportation Museum is open to the public Tuesday through Saturday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday 12 Noon to 4 p.m. Stop in for a free visit when you are next at Station Square! ■

PH Information LF FORM

Yes, please send me more information on:

- ☐ **Buffalo Tour: April 19 & 20**
- ☐ **Schenley Park Walking Tour: May 4**
- ☐ **Neill Log House Opening: May 4 and Summer Tour Schedule**
- ☐ **Preservation Week Walking Tours: May 11-17**
- ☐ **Downtown Walking Tour and Slide Lecture by Herb Ferguson: June 23**

And other events planned for this year to be highlighted in forthcoming issues:

- ☐ **The Mississippi Queen Excursion: August 15-18**
- ☐ **Neighborhood Walking Tours: Four Sundays in September**
- ☐ **1986 Distinguished Lecture: October 28**
- ☐ **Annual Antiques Show: November 13-16**
- ☐ **Ethnic Holiday Tour: December 7**

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Please return this form to:

**Mary Lu Denny/Events:
Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation
450 The Landmarks Building
One Station Square
Pittsburgh, PA 15219**

We will send complete details as soon as the events are more fully planned. Thanks for your interest and support of our events.

Notes of Interest

Preservation Scene



• Voegtly Church: Not All Was Lost

The Voegtly Church on East Ohio Street suffered the same fate as many North Side landmarks: it was demolished to make way for Interstate 279. In the past several months, the handsome Greek Revival Church of 1849 was reduced to rubble. But not all was lost, thanks to the initiative of Marc Anselmi, landscape designer for Allegheny Center, and the cooperation of many others.

Allegheny Center purchased the steeped belfry from Bill Anderson Demolition for approximately \$800 and several thousand dollars in employee time and project supplies. Groves Construction volunteered the use of a crane and staff so the belfry could be lifted off the roof. As of February, Duquesne Light, Bell Telephone, and the City of Pittsburgh had volunteered to move electric lines out of the way, and PennDot offered to help grade the demolition site so the belfry could be hauled to Allegheny Center. Allegheny Center Associates is seeking the approval of Citiparks director Louise Brown and the Art Commission so the belfry can be located close to the intersecting walkways of Buhl Science Center and the Allegheny Regional Library. Marc Anselmi also purchased interior church columns and step stones which will be sensitively worked into the park landscape.

• Allegheny West Apartment Controversy Continues

Because of the dispute over the erection of a nine-story apartment building in Allegheny West at Brighton Road and Western Avenue, the City of Pittsburgh requested comments from the National Advisory Council on Historic Preservation regarding the project's effect on the Allegheny West Historic District, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Basically, the Advisory Council approved the project, provided that: materials and detailing be not inconsistent with those of the district; there be a "base" of two to four stories and a total height of no more than nine stories; the tenants' entrance be on Brighton Road; the parking area be on Rope Way, an alley; the design be available for comment by citizens' organizations; and agreements for modification of such plans be reflected in what is built. Landmarks and some Allegheny West citizens continue to disagree with the proposal to build something so tall at the entrance to Allegheny West. We will continue to seek alternatives to the present project as long as it is conceived in this nine-story form.

• Plans and Hopes for Calbright Place

The new Calbright Place Citizens' Council, to which Stanley Lowe of Landmarks is a technical advisor, recently held a community meeting to discuss future development plans that will enhance the North Side neighborhood specifically around the intersection of California Avenue and Brighton Road opposite the Postal Center.

Landmarks hopes to be able to interest greater citizen participation in the proposed housing and commercial development projects. We will report any progress that happens in the Calbright Place Neighborhood in subsequent issues of *PHLF News*.

• The Lawrence Paint Building

On September 3, 1985, Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation reached an agreement whereby Landmarks would acquire the majority interest in and serve as the managing partner for the development of the Lawrence Paint Building. The Lawrence Paint Building, a long-neglected brick and timber landmark of 1897, is located at the west end of Station Square near the base of the Duquesne Incline.

Landmarks has authorized the following work to proceed in the next six months. The architectural firm of Landmarks Design Associates and Chester Engineers will complete a structural analysis of the building and the sewer system, and develop preliminary plans to explore the feasibility of renovating the building for use as a museum/educational/entertainment center, or for commercial and/or residential uses. In addition, some of the funds will be expended for the engineering of a road connecting the Lawrence Paint Building to Carson Street.

We are excited about this project because the Lawrence Paint Building is a prominent historic structure worthy of new life and having great potential, due to its strategic location at the mouth of the Ohio River just opposite Point State Park and the Stadium.



• Progress on the Duquesne Heights Incline

The Society for the Preservation of the Duquesne Heights Incline reports good progress on its \$150,000 *Operation Overlook* project. Some of the concrete foundation for the new observation deck has been poured and steelwork for the platform has been fabricated. Completion of the observation deck is expected by May, with the remainder of the project, including the enlargement of the upper station, building repairs and landscaping, to follow.

Additional contributions, however, are needed to complete this major improvement to an authentic piece of Pittsburgh history, one of the most interesting sights of the city. Contributions may be mailed to the:

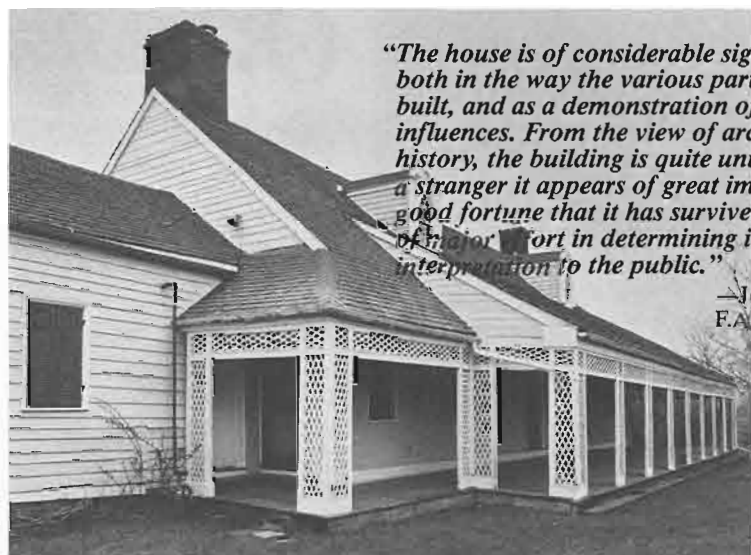
Society for the Preservation of the
Duquesne Heights Incline
1220 Grandview Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15211

• East Carson Street Main Street Update

Last year, the East Carson Street Historic District was selected as a Main Street Urban Demonstration Project site by the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Caroline Boyce, project director, reported this February that preliminary work was well under way, with all significant local groups and outside experts collaborating. Special design guidelines for buildings and public spaces were being developed, and a revolving loan fund — with Landmarks' Stanley Lowe as advisor — was being established. A *South Side Summer Street Spectacular*, scheduled for July 14-20, was being planned to publicize the area and its rehabilitation. Fifteen facade rehabilitations were in the planning stages as of February, and several retail businesses, regarded as fully appropriate to the new character of East Carson Street, were expected to move in.

One major rehabilitation currently underway is that of the United Presbyterian Church, a Greek Revival building of 1854 at South Fourteenth and Bingham Streets. Thomas R. Tripoli, the building's new owner, will conduct his restoration business on the ground floor and rent the second-floor church space to any tenant who will respect its architectural character.



"The house is of considerable significance both in the way the various parts of it were built, and as a demonstration of regional influences. From the view of architectural history, the building is quite unusual and a stranger it appears of great importance; good fortune that it has survived and worth of major effort in determining its proper interpretation to the public."

— John M. Dickey, F.A.I.A., Architect

Long-Range Planning in Motion for the Neville House

Since 1975, Pittsburgh History & Landmarks has been working with the Neville House Auxiliary to aid in the restoration of what is perhaps the most significant historic residence in Allegheny County. Built in 1785 for General John Neville, the Virginian vernacular wood frame house on Washington Pike in Collier Township has survived two centuries of use — and threats. Now the structure is recognized as a National Historic Landmark, sharing this distinction with only three other sites in Allegheny County.

This year, Landmarks is proceeding with a long-range planning effort that will bring a variety of people and resources together so a thorough construction history, architectural analysis, and interior restoration plan can be developed and funded. In past several months:

- John M. Dickey, F.A.I.A., a noted restoration architect from Philadelphia, has been named historic consultant for the purpose of providing technical information on the construction history and significance of the house.
- An advisory committee for the Neville House has been formed for the purpose of preparing an interior design plan for the first floor. The committee is chaired by M. Anne Genter, a Trustee of Landmarks and president of the local chapter of the Colonial Dames. The following people are serving on the advisory committee: Mrs. Betsy Martin, chairwoman of the Neville House Auxiliary; Ellis L. Schmidlapp of Landmarks Design Associates; Ronald Carlisle who will lend archaeological expertise; Phillip M. Johnston, curator of decorative arts at Carnegie Institute; Mrs. Betty Dickey and Mrs. Diana Joss of the Colonial Dames; Mrs. Nancy Trice, who will lend expertise in the field of Western Pennsylvania furnishings; Raymond Shepherd, director of Old Economy Village; and Richard Smith, an interior designer.
- The Western Pennsylvania Chapter of the Colonial Dames of America in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has committed funds to furnish the dining room.
- And, Landmarks is preparing a paper to establish the current state of knowledge about the Neville House and its history. The paper will identify the primary persons, events, and influences which have created the Neville House, attempt a speculative analysis of the house's physical development history, and, identify areas where more information is needed.



• No Progress on Pennsylvania Railroad Station

The magnificent but sadly neglected Pennsylvania Railroad Station at Grant Street and Liberty Avenue in downtown Pittsburgh is planned for conversion into the Pennsylvania apartment house. However, the historic structure, completed in 1903 by D. H. Burnham & Co., will remain dark and still until early summer at least. Historic Landmarks for Living, the Philadelphia developer, together with the Buncher Company, are waiting to see what will happen to the Investment Tax Credit under federal tax reform and are conducting further engineering studies.

Call us with Preservation News
Our staff wants to hear from you if you see or know of any historic buildings that are threatened with demolition or that have recently been demolished. We need your help in covering the County. Please call Martin Arnold (412-5808) and report what you know.



• Restoration Progressing on Former Union Trust Building

Number Two Mellon Bank Center, better remembered as the Union Trust Building in downtown Pittsburgh, is undergoing a restoration that will return it, in part, to its old character as the Union Arcade. The four-story arcade spaces themselves will be reopened, and indeed the four light courts built into the great structure in 1903 have been filled with new mechanical spaces. Yet features long disappeared are returning; lamp standards on every level, the rotunda balustrades, stencil ornamentation on the ceilings — notably, on the ceiling of the tenth-floor auditorium — lighting fixtures everywhere compatible with the original design and oaken woodwork matching that originally installed. The interior has always been proudly maintained; yet, restoration of things that, one by one, have been taken away will surprise the public. The Mellon style has long been one of lavishness in construction — witness the Mellon Institute and the East Liberty Presbyterian Church — and it is so as well in this facility for a bank founded by the family. Outside, decayed terra cotta is being replaced, where necessary, by cement castings that match the old work perfectly. Architects for the remodeling and restoration are Burt Hill Kosar Rittelmann Associates, with Landmarks Design Associates as National Register certification consultant.

• Allegheny Cemetery Restoration Progress

The Allegheny Cemetery Historical Association, founded in March 1980, has reached its goal of raising one million dollars in the course of its six-year history. This amount, plus continuing support, is required for restoration of the basic Cemetery structures.

In the spring of 1980, Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation and the architectural firm of Landmarks Design Associates examined the structures belonging to the Cemetery itself: the gate buildings on Butler Street and Penn Avenue, the outer walls and fences, the service buildings, the ruined fountain near Penn Avenue, the receiving vaults, and the Veterans' Monument. We came up with a figure of \$1.2 million for their restoration, and then helped the Cemetery prepare a fund-raising plan, entailing the creation of the Historical Association.

As the money was raised, it was spent. The fountain was reconstructed in 1982 and re-dedicated in September of that year. In 1983, the granite, tile-roofed Penn Avenue Gateway group, the most expensive part of the restoration, was begun, and 1984 saw further work on this and on the quietly Modernistic Veterans' Monument of 1937, and the beginning of work on the Butler Street Gateway group. By the end of 1985, the greenhouse and adjacent service buildings were completed, and work at Butler Street was continuing.

The Historical Association, corporately separate from Allegheny Cemetery but dedicated to its continued welfare, publishes maps and leaflets on the Cemetery, and answers research questions. Its primary purpose, however, is to help maintain the grounds and structures in all their beauty and integrity despite mounting costs. Though the goal of one million has been reached, more money is needed. Members of Landmarks may send tax-deductible contributions to the Allegheny Cemetery Historical Association at 4734 Butler Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15201.

Landmarks has always considered Allegheny Cemetery, founded in 1844 and the fourth of the Romantically landscaped "rural" cemeteries in the United States, one of the most beautiful sights in Pittsburgh. Its well-being is of great interest to us, and we are happy to see a long and cordial relationship result in the securing of its dignified, charming architecture from decay.

• Public Sculpture Restoration



Restoration work on the Colonel James Anderson Memorial, Summer 1985

The Sculptural Heritage Society, which is devoted to the preservation of public sculpture in Pittsburgh, recently informed us that:

- The George Westinghouse Memorial, with sculpture by Daniel Chester French, has been restored in Schenley Park through a joint enterprise of the Westinghouse Electric Corporation, the City of Pittsburgh, and the Seeders and Weeders Garden Club.
- The city's other important sculptures by French, the "Reading Workman" and the bust of Colonel James Anderson (both remnants of the Anderson Memorial on the North Side), have also been cleaned and restored through the dedicated efforts and perseverance of Mrs. Robert Wardrop, a Trustee of Landmarks. This is a notable first step in what is to be a major renovation of the entire Anderson Memorial, provided funds can be raised.

(Continued)

- The sculpture of Robert Burns in Schenley Park has also been restored after being toppled from its pedestal by an automobile.

For further information write to the SHS, P.O. Box 19369, Pittsburgh, PA 15237.

• Trinity Lutheran Church

A new auxiliary section was recently added to the rear of Trinity Lutheran Church, a simple 1868 Italian Romanesque brick vernacular structure, located in Franklin Park. The addition, designed by Landmarks Design Associates, repeats the original details in a subordinate building mass with a lower cornice line.

We hope that the decision of the Trinity Church congregation to build an addition in keeping with the original character of the church will serve as a precedent that other churches will follow.



• Historic Fox Chapel House Endangered

Frances Hardie, a member of Landmarks, informed us that a two-story brick house c. 1840-60, now located on the property of the Fox Chapel Golf Club, is endangered. The Club is exploring the possibility of expanding its parking facilities, which could result in the demolition of the now-vacant structure.

The house is apparently the oldest existing brick building in Fox Chapel. It is not unique in the County in exterior form, but there are not many extant houses of this period. The interior is most notable as it has suffered little from alteration and features interesting wood trim. The significance of the house lies in its being an essentially intact mid-nineteenth century vernacular house, demonstrating the I-house form, symmetrical plan, and transitional Classical/Victorian detailing. We have informed Board members of the Fox Chapel Golf Club of the significance of this structure, and hope that they — and all residents of Fox Chapel — will work for the preservation and reuse of the brick house.

• Pittsburgh Neighborhood Fund

In January, the Pittsburgh Neighborhood Fund Board reviewed a 43-page report, the result of a six-month study commissioned from the National Economic Development and Law Center of San Francisco. The report recommended actions that the Board should take in giving technical assistance to neighborhood organizations. The advice will be useful in providing current assistance to the St. Clair Village Tenant's Council, the Beltzhoover Neighborhood Council, the West Side-Fairywood Civic Organization, and the Homewood-Brushton Citizens' Improvement Association.

Stanley Lowe of Landmarks is a member of the Board of the Neighborhood Fund. He has been instrumental in providing advice and technical assistance on a variety of projects so that neighborhoods can improve their understanding of their true needs, their readiness to use funding and other assistance, and their ability to communicate with the PNF Board.

• Landmarks Involved in Total Resources Program

Stanley Lowe, director of Landmarks' Preservation Fund, is serving as a mentor for the Total Resources Program of the Community Technical Assistance Center. The program, created by CTAC and Mellon Bank, is intended to develop neighborhood self-sufficiency, especially financial self-sufficiency, through the development of fund-raising techniques.

A Restoration Opportunity:

The Preservation Fund of Landmarks

The Preservation Fund is an outgrowth of Landmarks' Revolving Fund which was established in the 1960s to aid in the acquisition, restoration, and subsequent sale or rental of endangered historic properties.

The Preservation Fund is a flexible, effective preservation resource, providing eligible applicants such as individuals or neighborhood organizations in Allegheny County with the opportunity to apply to Landmarks for technical or financial assistance (in the form of a loan) so a historic preservation project can be carried forward.

Any member who is interested in receiving our brochure describing the application procedure for the Preservation Fund should call Stanley Lowe (471- 5808).



• St. Mary's Priory — A City Inn

It is because of a \$50,000 loan from Landmarks' Preservation Fund and a recoverable grant of \$50,000 from the Pittsburgh Foundation, and the tireless efforts of the North Side Civic Development Council, that an approximately \$1,011,000 renovation project will go forward on the North Side. The project, involving a private developer, the North Side Civic Development Council, and East Allegheny Community Council, calls for the conversion and renovation of the historic St. Mary's Church Priory into a "City Inn" bed and breakfast facility. Renovation of the Priory will include the rehabilitation of 25 rentable rooms with private baths, new plumbing, heating, air conditioning and electrical systems. Landmarks Design Associates is the project architect, and construction is scheduled to begin this spring with a completion date and opening by the end of this year.

The Priory, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is located between Pressley and Lockhart Streets on the North Side, adjacent to the East Street Valley expressway construction project. The parish of St. Mary's was founded in 1848 by German immigrants; the present Church was completed in 1854 and the Priory in 1888. Both buildings are landmarks in the community and worthy of preservation and reuse.

• Hollander Building Project Complete

We are proud to announce that a project made possible in part through a loan from the Preservation Fund has been successfully completed, amidst great public ceremony. After 15 months, the Hollander Building at 415 East Ohio Street on the North Side is restored and open for business. Trustees from Landmarks, city and neighborhood officials and the press were invited to attend the ribbon-cutting ceremony on March 6. The handsomely restored Victorian structure, built in 1888, now houses the North Side's first Chinese restaurant — Mr. Lee's North Garden — and the business, Families in Transition. As of February, the second floor was still available for rent.

Special credit is due Tom Cox and Mark Schneider of the North Side Civic Development Council, Barbara Burns of East Allegheny Community Council, and the Horn Brothers, who initiated the project, arranged financing, and served as project developers. Landmarks Design Associates also deserves recognition for its sensitive architectural restoration of the commercial structure. Pittsburgh History & Landmarks provided a \$100,000 loan which enabled the project developers to purchase the Hollander Building before it became endangered. We hope that the Hollander Building serves as a model for the neighborhood, encouraging similar restoration projects in the historic district.

• Lawrenceville Church Receives Loan

The New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, located at 221 Forty-third Street in Lawrenceville, is receiving a \$10,000 loan from the Preservation Fund so that a new roof and steeple can be installed. Recorded in our Historic Sites Survey of Allegheny County, New Bethel Church is a brick church with a gable roof and three-story corner entrance tower. It was built in 1883 and originally named the Lawrenceville Presbyterian Church.

• Eberhardt & Ober Brewery

At the request of the North Side Civic Development Council, the architectural firm of Landmarks Design Associates is preparing a feasibility study for an adaptation of the old Eberhardt & Ober Brewery for office space. The brewery buildings, located at the foot of Troy Hill on the North Side, will be more conspicuous and accessible when the East Street Valley highway interchange is completed in the next few years.

Long deserted, the remaining brewery buildings of c. 1880 and after are well-known local landmarks. LDA is examining the buildings, determining the requirements for repairing and adapting them, and preparing a schematic plan for executing the development project. Pittsburgh History & Landmarks is considering extending a loan from its Preservation Fund to help make the development project possible, if a feasible plan is proposed.

• The Rachel Carson Homestead Association



The birthplace of biologist, ecologist, and writer Rachel Carson is located in Springdale, PA. The wood frame house (1870) on Marion Avenue is maintained by the Rachel Carson Homestead Association.

On November 20, 1985, Landmarks extended a \$5,700 loan from its Preservation Fund to the Rachel Carson Homestead Association in Springdale so that:

- schematic designs and cost estimates could be prepared for the design and construction of a new educational building on the property;
- a fund-raising brochure could be written and designed. The brochure would be used by the Rachel Carson Homestead Association to raise the anticipated \$150,000 needed for the construction and operation of the new education center.

Without this loan from Landmarks, the Rachel Carson Homestead Association would not have been able to proceed with this conceptual stage that is vital to the successful growth and continuing use of the Homestead.



• Ben Avon Log House

We are happy to report that restoration work on the Dickson Log House on Western Avenue in Ben Avon is continuing. A new chimney and stair were under construction early this winter. A \$9,300 grant from the Pittsburgh Foundation, \$1,300 raised by the Ben Avon Area Historical Association, and several hundred dollars from an auction last October have contributed to the Ben Avon Area Historical Association's programs centering on the house, including the creation of a brochure and other educational materials.

Restoration work began in the fall of 1984 when the log house (c. 1797) was purchased by the BAAHA with the help of a \$10,000 loan from Landmarks' Preservation Fund.

Education Column

Appreciating a Work of Architecture

Commodity, Firmness, and Delight

... These words were used 350 years ago by English statesman and author Sir Henry Wotton to describe the qualities of a work of architecture. In Sir Henry's opinion, a work of architecture should do what its owner intended it to do, be long-lasting, and be good-looking. Since Wotton's day, the methods and materials of building have changed and "Form and Function" have replaced "Commodity, Firmness, and Delight" as terms favored by architects to discuss their work. But Wotton's ideas remain excellent tools for better understanding and appreciating architecture from any era.

Architecture: The Building Art, a traveling exhibit created by Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation in 1985 through a grant from PPG Industries Foundation, adapts the concepts of commodity, firmness, and delight into the more familiar terms of building use, structure, and appearance. By elaborating on these concepts through architectural games and photographs, the exhibit challenges students, teachers, and other viewers to think consciously and to talk knowledgeably about architecture — the art that is so commonplace, so necessary to our lives, and so much a part of our environment, that it is seldom given a conscious thought. Why are certain buildings so ideally suited to their purposes while others are a constant inconvenience? What makes a building stand up? What makes one building "beautiful" to some people and "ugly" to others? By making ourselves more aware of building use, structure, and appearance, we can all become active, rather than passive, users of architecture.

For an eye-opening and thought-provoking experience, consider the following questions while looking at a building on your next walk around town!

Building Use

- What is the present function of the building? Is it still serving its original function? If not, how has its function changed over time? Why has it changed?

- What architectural features are the main clues to the function of this building?
- What are the clues to its original use? What changes have been made to accommodate its new use?
- What is the physical context of the building, now and in the past? What other kinds of buildings surround it? How is the building located with respect to transportation systems? How has the building's context affected its usefulness over time?

Building Structure

A building's structure is very much like the structure of our own bodies — our skeletons give us our upright shapes in spite of gravity's efforts to pull us down and our skin protects our vital organs from environmental factors such as changes in temperature.

- What parts of the building's structure could be considered its skeleton — the parts of the building that withstand the stress produced by gravity?
- What parts of the building could be considered its skin?
- What materials were used in the construction of this building? What factors might have influenced the architect's choice of these materials?

Building Appearance

An architect, like any visual artist, uses the visual elements line, shape, color, and texture to create the look of a building.

- Which of the visual elements does the architect of this building emphasize?
- How does the architect use various building materials and structural methods to create this look?
- What aspects of the building's appearance exist primarily because of its function?
- What aspects of the building's appearance have little functional value, existing primarily for decorative effect?

If you know of a school or other organization that would like to learn more about *Architecture: The Building Art* by renting this exciting exhibit, please call Susan Donley (471-5808). ■



McAdow-McAdams Loghouse Restoration

Thanks to the combined efforts of dedicated individuals, a school of enthusiastic elementary students and teachers, and several local foundations and individuals, the McAdow-McAdams Loghouse in Imperial is now being restored by loghouse preservationist Bradford Mooney. The restored loghouse, which was built between 1790 and 1810 on the present site of Wilson Elementary School, will eventually be used as an educational center for students learning about Western Pennsylvania's pioneer history.

In the meantime, Wilson Elementary students are having the unique opportunity of witnessing first-hand the excitement of restoring a community landmark as they visit Brad and his crew at work. For those who are not so lucky as these youngsters, photographs of the loghouse restoration will be produced into a slide show that will be available to other schools to vividly illustrate the value of preservation.

The McAdow-McAdams loghouse



The McAdow-McAdams loghouse, on the property of Wilson Elementary School, in Imperial.

restoration project was the inspiration of Ann McAdow Jenkins, who spearheaded efforts to raise the necessary restoration funds from the Pittsburgh Foundation, West Allegheny School Board, and the students of Wilson Elementary School. The loghouse slide show and documentation of the restoration work has been made possible through a grant from the Alcoa Foundation and a loan from Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation's Revolving Fund for Education, established through a generous grant from the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation in 1984. ■

Architectural Exhibits Continue Their Travels

Landmark Survivors

Description: Photographic exhibit highlighting the lives of seven Pittsburgh landmarks: a miniature fort, commercial buildings, courthouse and jail, bridge, mansion, railroad station, and amusement park. Created in 1985 through a grant from the Henry C. Frick Educational Commission.

After traveling to Northgate Junior/Senior High School, the Allegheny Intermediate Unit headquarters, Plum Senior High School, and Schiller Classical Academy, *Landmark Survivors* is beginning a month stay at Prospect Middle School.

Architecture: The Building Art

Description: A hands-on exhibit with nine photographic panels and three activity tables sets the stage for students — and teachers — to learn about architecture. Created in 1985 in cooperation with the Pittsburgh Children's Museum through a grant from the PPG Industries Foundation.

After traveling to East Hills Elementary School, Northern Pike Elementary School, and St. James School in Sewickley, *Architecture: The Building Art* is beginning a month stay at Sunnyside Elementary School.

Both exhibits, as well as curriculum guides, are available to schools and community groups for a modest rental fee. Call Susan Donley for details (471-5808) and take advantage of these excellent educational resources. They can enrich the teaching of history, art, language arts, math and science, as over 1500 students and teachers have already discovered.

**Historic Plaque Program**

Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation awards Historic Landmark plaques to architecturally significant properties in Allegheny County. More than 200 plaques have been awarded since the program's inception in 1967. A plaque recognizes and identifies a property as a significant element of our local architectural heritage, but it does not carry the legal authority to guarantee protection of a property.

The owner must nominate his/her property and bear the cost of the plaque. If you would like to nominate a property for a 1986 Historic Landmark plaque, please call Martin Aurand (471-5808).

Pennsylvania Humanities Council Supports "Hands-On History"

"Hands-On History: An Introduction to Classroom Methods for Local History Research" is the title of a summer institute for teachers that is now being developed by Landmarks through the generous funding support of the Pennsylvania Humanities Council and the Allegheny Conference on Community Development. Seventy-five elementary and secondary school teachers will be selected to participate in the five-day session from August 11 through 15. We are particularly excited about the teacher institute because professionals in the fields of oral history, folklore, archival resources, architecture, and historical geography will be joining our staff to present the lectures and workshops.

If you would like to be considered as a participant in the teacher institute, please call Susan Donley (471-5808). ■

Sign Up Now for Pittsburgh Heritage!

For the fourth consecutive summer, we are offering a two-week workshop July 7 through 18 for fourth through eighth grade students and teachers. Daily activities are scheduled from 9:00 to 3:30.

For good reason, *Pittsburgh Heritage* has been described as a "vacation in Pittsburgh." Participants learn about the history and architecture of the city through walking tours, treasure hunts, slide programs, art activities, and field trips to the Mexican War Streets, Station Square, Golden Triangle, and McKees Rocks. The 1983 pilot program was originally funded by the Henry C. Frick Educational Commission. Call Susan Donley for registration details (471-5808). Teachers receive in-service credit, and there is a modest registration fee for all participants. ■

Spring Teacher Inservices Filled

For the third consecutive time, two inservice workshops offered by Landmarks to elementary and secondary school teachers are filled. Susan Donley, director of education for Landmarks, will be teaching *Exploring Your City: Pittsburgh's Past and Present* on Tuesday evenings, April 22 through May 13, and *Exploring Your Neighborhood* on April 12 and May 3. The workshops are offered through the Allegheny Intermediate Unit. ■

Apprenticeship

The 1985-86 Apprenticeship in Architecture program, offered for the third consecutive year by Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation in cooperation with the Allegheny Intermediate Unit, is introducing 20 interested high school students to the many dimensions of architectural practice. ■

Oral Histories in Progress

Landmarks is sponsoring a series of Pittsburgh corporate histories based on taped interviews with the companies' founders and employees. The first in the series is an oral history of the Papercraft Corporation, compiled by project director Frances Hardie.

The Papercraft Corporation was founded by the Katz family who arrived in Pittsburgh in 1911 after fleeing from Russia. Through "hungry ingenuity," the Katzes became involved in a series of ventures, mostly connected with printing and paper, that led them from poverty to wealth. Yet Papercraft remains a family-managed company with an entrepreneurial style, one where individuals still make decisions and where personal relationships matter. The manuscript, eventually to be duplicated and bound by Papercraft, really is a biography of a business organization and the spirit in which one has operated.

Mrs. Hardie is also in the process of compiling a collection of personal accounts describing life in Fox Chapel. Many of those interviewed are not the present-day occupants of suburban homes, but the farmers of the old O'Hara Township that once occupied most of the land. Through a dozen narratives, the transition from farm area to fashionable suburb (not always a smooth one) is concretely presented. ■

The Evolution of Pittsburgh Public School Design

The "thematic" nomination is a new and effective method of nominating groups of historic resources to the National Register of Historic Places. A thematic nomination includes all of the properties in a specific category of resources which are eligible for National Register listing. Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation, with 1985 funding from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, initiated two thematic nominations which are among the first to be undertaken in Pennsylvania. We completed work on an Allegheny County River Bridges thematic group nomination (includes seven bridges), and completed phase one of a Pittsburgh Public Schools thematic group nomination (includes 19 schools). This year we received a grant from the PHMC to complete phase two of the Pittsburgh Public Schools thematic nomination (includes 30 additional schools). The results of phase two will be announced in the December issue of *PHLF News*. The following article summarizes the findings of phase one.

Phase One: Report of Findings

Allegheny High School, North Side
Bedford School, South Side
Beltzhoover School, Beltzhoover
Dilworth School, Highland Park
Fifth Avenue High School, Uptown
Friendship School, Friendship
Greenfield School, Greenfield
Latimer School, East End
Lemington School, North Side
Mifflin School, Lincoln Place
Morse School, South Side
Park Place School, East End
Schenley High School, Oakland
Schiller School, North Side
South Side High School, South Side
Sterrett School, Point Breeze
Taylor Allderdice High School, Squirrel Hill
Westinghouse High School, Homewood

As a thematic group, these schools illustrate the evolution of public school design in Pittsburgh and areas annexed by Pittsburgh from the early Victorian period through the mid-twentieth century. They clearly reflect evolving national trends in both architectural design and educational philosophy. But they also reflect local conditions.

Bedford School (1850) is the oldest extant public school building in Pittsburgh, but it was originally built to serve the Borough of Birmingham (annexed by Pittsburgh in 1872). The simple Greek Revival building has separate entrances for boys and girls at the ends of the building. Morse School (1874) is an excellent example of an early Victorian schoolhouse in the Italianate style.

The Victorian Gothic Fifth Avenue High School (1894) and South Side High School (1897), both designed by architect Edward Stotz, were Pittsburgh's second and third high schools, built during an important period of secondary school construction nationwide.

Latimer School (1898), recently rehabilitated into apartments, and the Allegheny High School (1904, 1936) were both originally built to serve the city of Allegheny (annexed by Pittsburgh in 1907). The older part of Allegheny High School was designed by architect Frederick J. Osterling as an annex to a now demolished main building also of his design.



A detail from the terra cotta ornamentation on the facade of Lemington School.

Prior to 1911, each ward of both Pittsburgh and Allegheny had its own separate School Board charged with the construction and operation of primary schools. Larimer School (1896), Sterrett School (1898), Friendship School (1899), Park Place School (1903), and Beltzhoover School (1905), are all products of this system. Although these are all substantial school buildings, it is clear that the wards of the affluent East End could support the construction of more lavish school buildings (e.g. Sterrett, Friendship) than could working class wards (e.g. Beltzhoover).

A growing awareness of the inefficiency of the ward-based system and the inequities in school facilities and educational opportunities which it fostered led to a city-wide School Board consolidation in 1911. From 1911 to 1934 the School Board employed a Superintendent of Buildings to oversee school construction. Dilworth School (1915) and Oakland's Schenley High School (1916) were early products of the new system. Schenley culminated years of experimentation and signified a new era in school design by incorporating a wide range of progressive educational facilities into its nationally published plans.

This same era produced two additional new high schools: Westinghouse (1921) and Allderdice (1927) which combine fashionable Neo-Classical

styling with elaborate facilities. And two of the city's most stylistically progressive and unusual schools also date from this period: Greenfield School (1922), by architects Kiehnel and Elliott, with horizontal massing and geometric ornament influenced by "Prairie School" design; and the Art Moderne Mifflin School (1932), by architects Link, Weber, and Bowers.

From 1935 to 1954 the School Board employed an in-house architectural staff. This period was dominated by a single man: staff architect Marion M. Steen. Steen was able to consistently meet new educational requirements while producing a succession of imaginative architectural designs. Lemington School (1937), with its Mayan-motif ornamentation of multi-colored terra cotta, and Schiller School (1939), a striking Art Deco design, are foremost among the vivid creations of the Steen era.

Pittsburgh's public schools are rich mixtures of educational intent and architectural reality, and are landmarks in their communities. Listing of a Pittsburgh Public Schools thematic group on the National Register of Historic Places will be an appropriate acknowledgment of these important historic resources in this, the seventy-fifth anniversary year of the consolidation of the Pittsburgh Board of Public Education. ■



Schiller School has geometric Art Deco brickwork and clearly articulated gymnasium and auditorium wings.



Friendship School displays ornate turn-of-the-century Classical detailing in terra cotta on the facade of a simple block of classrooms.



Panther Hollow, the Park's most peaceful and natural landscape, is also its most neglected, as the overgrowth in this creek bed shows.

Project Update:

Plans for Schenley Park Restoration Move Ahead

The Schenley Park Centennial Restoration Project, co-sponsored by Landmarks and the Pittsburgh Park and Playground Fund of the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, in cooperation with the City of Pittsburgh, has received full funding for Phase I, allowing the project to proceed as planned. The initial \$10,000 grant from the Park and Playground Fund, used to fund the Schenley Park study by Environmental Planning & Design which is now nearing completion, has recently been matched by a \$10,000 gift from Mr. and Mrs. Henry Phipps Hoffstot. The Hoffstots' generous gift will fund Landmarks' staff time for researching the Park's history, assembling a bibliography and cartography, and visiting other parks in the eastern United States where similar restoration projects are underway.

Schenley Park is a well-loved and much-used part of Pittsburgh's urban fabric. Created in 1889 as a product of the City's industrial wealth and philanthropy, it continues to reflect attitudes about landscape design and public recreation of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. After nearly a century of public use, however, and a reduction in City park maintenance in the 1970s, the landscape and physical structures of Schenley Park are in need of major attention. Parts of the Park are now severely deteriorated, particularly Panther Hollow with its steep slopes and network of trails. Landmarks and the Conservancy plan to use the Park's 1989 centennial as a focal point for a major public campaign to restore the Park's landscape, buildings, and monuments, and to implement an effective maintenance program.

Environmental Planning & Design has prepared a preliminary map of Schenley Park, illustrating the Park's various landscape features and problems. The Park's infrastructure — its water level, soil condition, and drainage patterns which critically affect the overall landscape quality — is still to

be investigated in greater detail before the study is complete. Citiparks director Louise Brown organized a February meeting with representatives of the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Landmarks, EPD, and a soils conservation professional to determine what additional information would be needed in this area before a realistic restoration plan could be formulated.

In April, staff members from Landmarks and the Conservancy plan to meet in New York with the Central Park Conservancy and Friends of the Parks organizations, and with the administrator of Brooklyn's Prospect Park in order to discuss methods of restoration funding, maintenance, and public involvement in park restoration projects. In a visit to Baltimore's Druid Hill Park in January, Christina Schmidlapp, the Schenley Park project director for Landmarks, learned that Schenley Park compares favorably with other large urban parks which have begun their own rehabilitation efforts. Schenley Park has high visibility, heavy use by a broad spectrum of Pittsburghers, and maintains an enviable safety record. On this foundation of popularity and safety, the Schenley Park Centennial Restoration Project hopes to build an enduring structure of City support for Pittsburgh's great urban park, ensuring that its landscape — which is at the heart of its function as a park — will sustain a second century of use as rich as its first.

We encourage our members to attend the walking tour of Schenley Park (see *Events*: page 3) on May 4 to learn more about the Park's history and proposed restoration. The tour, to be led jointly by staff members from Landmarks and the Conservancy, is the first in a series of public events designed to focus attention on the significance and current physical condition of the Park. Schenley Park will also be featured in the Spring issue of *Pennsylvania Heritage*, published by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. ■

Just as Flagstaff Hill is the site of film festivals today, the Park's bandshell once hosted musical events of all kinds. Now demolished, it was originally located near the present site of the Alexander Leroy Hawkins Memorial.



Are These on Your Bookshelf?

Help support our publications program by purchasing a copy of one of our major publications when next browsing at your local bookstore. These include:

- **Landmark Architecture: Pittsburgh and Allegheny County.** (\$34.95)* Over seventy percent of the acclaimed first edition by Walter C. Kidney has been sold since September 26, 1985.
- **Life and Architecture in Pittsburgh.** (\$12.95)* The collection of memorable essays by James D. Van Trump is now available in an attractive soft-bound format.
- **Famous Men and Women of Pittsburgh.** (\$7.95)* The collection of biographies by noted Pittsburgh authors describes the achievements of 17 "Pittsburgh" men and women. The soft-bound publication was edited by

Leonore R. Elkus, a trustee of Landmarks.

- **The Three Rivers.** (\$7.95)* Walter C. Kidney's concise description of the historical significance and development of the three rivers is illustrated by over 130 quality black and white and color photographs.

Each of these publications, as well as a number of informative historical/architectural booklets and education curriculums, can also be ordered by calling Shirley Kemmler (471-5808). We would be happy to send you our publications catalogue! Our publications program can only grow with the loyal support of our members.

*Members receive a 10% discount if these publications are ordered from Landmarks or purchased at the Cornerstone Store in Station Square. ■

Steel Mill Artifacts Worth Preserving

The following list, prepared by G. Whitney Snyder of our Board of Trustees, is one of large and increasingly rare objects whose preservation would allow a truly dramatic presentation of this region's industrial past. We need the artifacts themselves and the money to move and install them when the time comes. Any gifts and any leads in finding these objects will be most welcome. Please call Walter Kidney (471-5808) if you have any information regarding a:

- Single-stand three-high over-and-under bar mill.
- Single-stand two-high or four-high hot-strip mill.
- Single-stand four-high reversing cold mill. Min. width 36".
- "Z" mill, any size, possibly with coiling equipment.
- Large open-die steam-operated forging press.
- Large steam-operated board drop hammer.
- Large chilled-iron back-up roll (e.g., O.D. 72" x 60" face).
- Large Brinell hardness-testing machine with large weights and chains.
- Charging machine and charging box for electric or open-hearth furnace operation.
- Early gas producer for use with bituminous coal (e.g., Wellman Engineering).
- 72" goggle valve from blast furnace, with short sections of pipe attached.
- Large steam engine which powered a blooming mill or large bar mill.
- Early Cooper-Bessemer or Ingersoll-Rand horizontal reciprocating air compressor. ■

The National Register: An Opportunity for You

Call Martin Aurand (471-5808) if you would like to have us determine if your property is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, the nation's official list of cultural resources. National Register properties have local, state, or national significance in history or architecture. Listing on the National Register:

- provides you with thorough documentation of the historical and architectural significance of your property;
- is public nationwide recognition that a property has special significance;
- assures that state and federal government actions will, if at all possible, benefit and not harm listed properties;
- makes the owner of an income-producing property eligible for a 25% Investment Tax Credit for expenses incurred on an appropriate rehabilitation;
- involves no constraint of private action.

National Register listed properties in Allegheny County range from public buildings such as the Allegheny County Courthouse and Jail, to commercial properties such as the McKeesport National Bank, to churches such as St. Stanislaus Kostka Roman Catholic Church in the Strip District, to private residences such as Wilkinsburg's Singer House.

An owner inquiring from Ross Township has recently led to a National Register nomination of extensions to the Evergreen Hamlet Historic District, and other inquiries have been received for properties in the North Side, Shadyside, Edgewood, Greentree, and other areas. Call us -- and your property might be able to join the list! ■