

PHLF NEWS

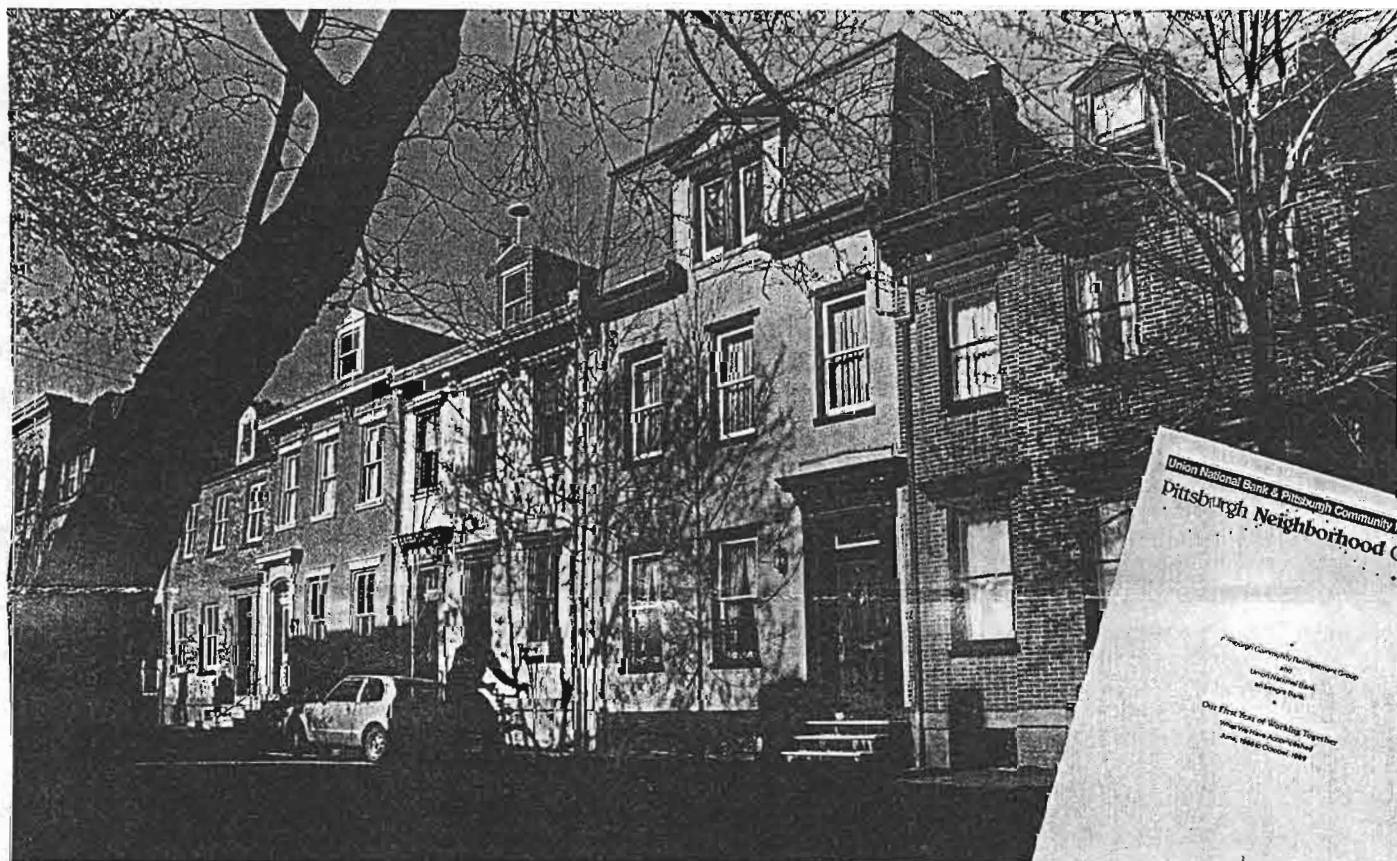
Published for the members of the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation

No. 114

Summer 1990

- Preservation Fund at Work
- Summer Family Fun
- The History and Architecture of Allegheny Cemetery

Union National Augments Preservation Fund



Right: "A Sampler": Union National reports on its first year of work with the PCRG. The neighborhood scene above is of Resaca Place in the Mexican War Streets.

On March 30, Union National Bank and the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation announced joint efforts to provide low-interest loans for housing and commercial development in inner-city neighborhoods. The program will make available \$500,000 as a loan from Union National to Landmarks' Preservation Fund.

This money will be made available specifically to provide short-term gap and bridge financing for house purchases, restoration, and neighborhood development projects. Union National Bank is to be repaid at the end of two years, with a six-month extension for any outstanding money. In that time, the loan is expected to revolve enough to have an effective lending capacity of two million dollars. In addition, Landmarks received separate grants so it can: lower the interest costs on the loans awarded while paying the prevailing rate on the funds it borrowed from Union; establish a loan-loss reserve fund; and make small grants to neighborhood projects.

Stanley Lowe, director of the Preservation Fund, worked with Union National Bank to establish the program. Landmarks' Preservation Fund makes loans available on a short-term basis without elaborate paperwork and investment of long periods of time. Stanley said: "We can make the loans quickly, and, through Landmarks' familiarity and long association with inner-city neighborhood grass-roots efforts, we believe that the loan program will greatly assist the continuing effort that residents, neighborhood organizations, and Landmarks have underway to create good living environments in architecturally valuable areas."

"It's an honor to work with Landmarks to further the efforts of Union National Bank to assist people in Pittsburgh's low- and moderate-income neighborhoods," said Gayland B. Cook, chairman of Union National Bank. The loan fund is further evidence of Union National Bank's long-time commitment to Pittsburgh's neighborhoods.

The \$500,000 loan is an adjunct to the \$109 million loan fund Union National Bank committed to inner-city neighborhoods last year. In June 1988, Union National Bank and the 24-member Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group (PCRG), chaired by Stanley Lowe, negotiated a five-year \$109 million loan fund for inner-city low- to moderate-income residents. Details were provided in the Fall 1988 issue of *PHLF News*. Last fall, the participants celebrated the first year of cooperation in a booklet that offers specimen accomplishments in this short time: financing of apartment-house renovations in Homewood-Brushton; a course in small-business operation; a loan to a painting contractor; the restoration of 901-05 Western Avenue; charitable contributions marked for community development; training of UNB staff to process these rather unfamiliar loans; financing for Allequippa Place; a loan to a data-processing firm; financing for Birmingham Towers; a loan to start a catering business; a Community Mortgage Resource Program; seminars on applying for a UNB loan; and many others. Landmarks' Stanley Lowe was engaged in the negotiations that made the \$109 million loan fund possible, and Landmarks has been involved both as loan-fund supervisor and through its Preservation Fund in many of the individual projects.

Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group

Allegheny West Civic Council
Bloomfield/Garfield Corporation
Breachmenders, Inc.
Calbride Place Citizens Council
Central Northside Neighborhood Council
Charles Street Area Council
East Allegheny Community Council
East Liberty Development, Inc.
Eastside Alliance
Fineview Citizens Council
Garfield Jubilee Association
Hill Community Development Corp.
Homewood Brushton Revitalization and Development Corporation
Lawrenceville Citizens Council
Manchester Citizens Corporation
Northside Civic Development Council
Northside Leadership Conference
Northside Tenants Reorganization Observatory Hill
Oakland Planning & Development Corporation
Perry Hilltop Citizens Council
South Side Local Development Co.
Spring Garden Neighborhood Council
Troy Hill Citizens Council

Neighborhood Initiatives:

PNB and Mellon Bank

Stanley Lowe can be vehement on the federal Community Reinvestment Act (CRA), which mandates loans for inner-city neighborhoods. He feels that too many lending institutions have been ignoring their obligations and continuing old-fashioned financial segregation. He cites a North Side bank, for instance, that last made a house loan to a black in 1984. He argues that nothing forces the institutions to make bad loans — borrowers must be good risks — but that lenders must be forced to deal with clients they would otherwise ignore and to think in amounts — \$15,000 to \$25,000, say — that they might not otherwise see as worthwhile.

Two leading Pittsburgh banks are also committed to CRA-type programs, along with Union National Bank:

- The Housing Recovery Program is a combined low-interest mortgage and home-repair program, a collaboration of the Pittsburgh National Bank and Pittsburgh's Urban Redevelopment Authority. Through this, low- to moderate-income residents qualify for both with the same application, and receive a permanent mortgage. The program began a year ago, with PNB putting \$1,200,000 into a pilot project and the URA contributing \$600,000. PNB expects to allocate more money once the initial sum is spent. For information: 762-3114.
- Mellon Bank has made a variety of neighborhood and economic development

grants, some for Allegheny County, some for Philadelphia and other areas where the bank operates. More relevantly, there is Mellon's Community Loan Mortgage Program, offering long-term conventional mortgages, up to \$40,000 at a fixed rate less than the current rate, for certain neighborhoods; there is no maximum income limit. Used in conjunction with this is the General Electric Capital Mortgage Insurance Program, on the same conditions except that maximum incomes are set. For information: Mortgage Products Division, 234-6030. Mellon has had a Community Development Corporation since 1986, capitalized with \$500,000 and at present with a \$6,000,000 line of credit. Once again, this serves areas in Philadelphia as well as Pittsburgh, and "promotes small business development through loans and loan participation through the public sector. It also makes loans to [low- and moderate-income] community groups for housing renovation and construction and commercial projects." Two local examples are a subordinated loan of \$35,000 to the East Liberty Development, Inc. Penn Highlands project (added to a \$1.9 million regular loan) and assistance and buying and renovation of eight homes by the Braddock Housing Task Force. The Corporation also offers technical assistance.

PHLF NEWS

Welcome New Members

We are pleased to welcome the following new members who have joined Landmarks since March; we look forward to their involvement in our special events and projects . . . and to their assistance in helping us encourage more people to join Landmarks! We ask each current member to add at least one new member to our ranks in 1990.

Mr. & Mrs. F.W. Belchlake & Family	Ms. Suzanne McDevitt
Ms. Veronica Berchok	Dr. & Mrs. D.H. McKibben & Family
Mrs. Mary Ann Bigham	Mrs. Helen H. Murphy & Family
Ms. Mary Kathleen Connell	Mr. & Mrs. Thomas J. Nega
Donald D. Davis	Marc Olin
Mr. & Mrs. Irwin J. Dean, Jr. & Family	Vincent E. Ornato
DiCesare-Engler Productions	Ms. Fran Ostroski
Ms. Linda A. Dickerson	Ms. Tanya A. Oswald
Dorseyville Junior High School	Ms. Carol Peterson
Brean Drury	Ms. Julie Plavan-Anthony
Richard Engler	Edward Magee Reno
Ms. Suzanne Galindo	Mr. & Mrs. Norman Samways
Ms. Jane Lea Gibb	& Family
Ms. Meredith A. Gray	John A. Sandor
Thomas O. Gray	Ms. Nancy Saracco
A. Greller	Ms. Helen C. Schlenke
Gerald S. Gudukas	Ms. Marguerite Socher
Ms. Jeannine F. Hackney	Dr. & Mrs. Paul B. Steele, Jr.
Dr. John M. Kingsmore	& Family
Mr. & Mrs. Lloyd Kline & Family	Ms. Maria A. Thomas
Paul S. Korol	Tucker Arensberg, P.C.
Ms. Sarah Kotzuk	Ms. Janice H. Wade
Jae Brown Levandos	Harry Walter Weaver
Ms. Judith Linscott & Family	Wilson & McCracken
Ms. Melva B. Mancuso	Ezra Zask & Family
Paul E. Matthews	



ENSURE THE LIFE OF OUR HISTORIC BUILDINGS.

We would like to work with you to establish a gift from you to our Preservation Endowment Fund through a beneficial life insurance policy. You make only limited term payments, and help guarantee the restoration of the historic buildings and neighborhoods of Allegheny County.

We would like to work with you. Call or write us at:

Permanent Gifts for Preservation
Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation
450 The Landmarks Building
One Station Square
Pittsburgh, PA 15219-1170
412/471-5808

Gifts Received

The Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation wishes to thank the following for their generous gifts:

- Ron Chrislip, of Fairmont, West Virginia, for a framed lithograph of the Central Tube Company, Pittsburgh, c. 1910.
- William J. Dixon, of Sarasota, Florida, for six booklets, one photograph, and one greeting card with Pittsburgh-area subjects.
- Tour-Ed Mine & Museum, for two miner's caps, to be used in the *Portable Pittsburgh* program.

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

Arthur P. Ziegler, Jr.	President
Louise King Ferguson	Editor/Executive Director
Mary Lu Denny	Director of Membership Services
Diane DeNardo	Director of Education & Marketing
Earl D. James	Director of Preservation Programs & Services
Walter C. Kidney	Architectural Historian
Stanley A. Lowe	Director of the Preservation Fund
Susan K. Donley	Education Consultant
Greg Pytlik	Designer

1990 Award of Merit Recipients

On Thursday evening, May 10, trustees Ann Wardrop and Don Riggs presented 13 award of merit certificates to individuals and organizations who have made outstanding contributions to the preservation of Pittsburgh's historic architecture and increased public knowledge of our heritage. We are pleased to recognize the following:

- **Volunteers for the *Portable Pittsburgh* program**
For their energy and enthusiasm in presenting more than 300 hour-long sessions of *Portable Pittsburgh*, an educational program created by Landmarks in 1989 and offered to area schools.
- **Horizon Homes, Inc.**
For the scrupulous interior and exterior restoration of the Niemann house at 1212 N. Negley Avenue, designed by Alden & Harlow in 1906.
- **Michael Eversmeyer and Lauren Poese**
For effectively mediating between City government and the citizen on issues of historic preservation through their work as staff members of the Department of City Planning.
- **Susan Donley**
For her educational work in making the historical resources of the Pittsburgh region accessible to teachers and the general public.
- **Mark Perrott**
For his sensitive photography of the steel plants of the Pittsburgh region.
- **Allegheny Cemetery Historical Association**
For its initiative in creating a non-profit organization for the purpose of raising funds for the restoration of all buildings owned by Allegheny Cemetery and for its success in carrying out the fund-raising and restoration program.
- **Edward K. Muller**
For his contribution to the *Atlas of Pennsylvania*, published by Temple Univer-

sity Press, and for his involvement and leadership in several significant historic preservation projects such as the Steel Industry Heritage Task Force and the Committee on Pittsburgh Archaeology and History.

- **Old Sewickley Post Office Corporation**
For raising funds for the purchase, renovation, and conversion of the old post office in Sewickley into a home for the Sewickley Valley Historical Society and the Sweetwater Art Center.
- **Design Committee of the South Side Local Development Corporation**
For its volunteer work (since 1985) in providing professional design assistance to property owners, commercial tenants, and developers who are concerned with the revitalization of the South Side area according to historic-preservation standards.
- **Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation**
For the successful renovation of Laurentian Hall at 5321 Penn Avenue. Built as a schoolhouse in the 1920s, Laurentian Hall now contains 36 housing units for elderly residents.
- **Highland Park Community Club**
For organizing the 1989 Park Centennial celebration and volunteer clean-up and planting projects on a regular basis.
- **Union National Bank**
For establishing two exceptional financial and technical assistance programs aiding low- to moderate-income families in their purchase of homes in historic inner-city Pittsburgh neighborhoods.
- **Stanley Lowe**
For his tireless efforts to improve the quality of life in inner-city neighborhoods, for long-time residents and new families, through the restoration, renovation, and adaptive use of historic properties and through the preservation of a neighborhood's unique physical character.

The Chairman's Ramble:

Eminent Pittsburghers on Paper

Charles Covert Arensberg

Buried in the vaults and basements of every courthouse in the country are priceless historical documents. Handwritten deeds, wills, and agreements of all our great men, as well as records of the daily lives, passions, and skirmishes of countless litigants, lie buried in the records of our law courts. But they are yellowing and fading, and some are being microfilmed and then discarded.



Felix Brunot

I sought in 1979 a court order to release certain early wills of prominent Pittsburghers from this bondage, and thus it is that Landmarks has in its library the handwritten wills of the following men:

- Hugh Henry Brackenridge (early lawyer and justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania)
- Tarleton Bates (Prothonotary killed in a duel)
- Dr. Nathaniel Bedford (first physician at Fort Pitt)
 - Neville B. Craig (early founder and leading citizen)
 - Alexander Addison (early jurist)
 - William Wilkins (judge and ambassador to Russia) — lived at "Homestead" on Dallas Avenue — see Charley Stotz's book *Early Architecture of Western Pennsylvania*
 - Walter Forward
 - General James O'Hara (Quartermaster General during Revolutionary War)
 - Abraham Hays
 - Felix Brunot (had home and race-track on Brunot's Island)
 - David McKee
 - Conrad Winebiddle (early settler in East Liberty — original name "Weinbuetler")
 - Judge Thomas Mellon
 - David T. Watson

We also obtained the will of Ebenezer Denny, first mayor of the City (1816). Pursuant also to court order we presented it to Mayor Caligiuri for his office and received the following letter from him in reply:

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

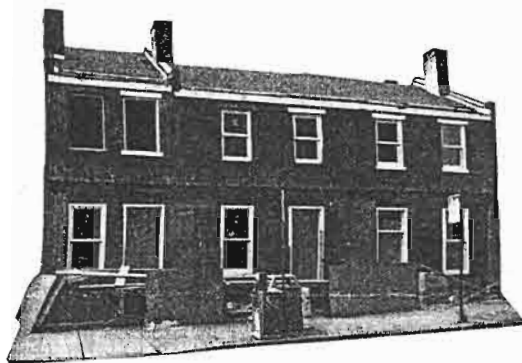
Yours very truly,
 Richard S. Caligiuri

This is only a small collection of the many fascinating documents which lie moldering in the cellar of the City-County Building, or worse yet inhabit the dark confines of the sixth floor of the Courthouse. Committees are working on the problem of better storage for the records. Let's hope the Committees working can save some of the more historical documents and turn them over to the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania or to us for safe keeping.

PRESERVATION FUND AT WORK

A year ago, PHLF News toured the city to see the visible marks of Landmarks' Preservation Fund activity. Late this April, with the thermometer in the 80s and light good for photography, we made another tour. Birds and builders were both out in the good weather, as well as people simply relaxing. Even Brighton Place, where there is much to do, had its quiet step-sitters who recalled the better days of the street with us and knew that better days were coming again.

In our summer issue of last year, we announced that \$1,073,000 had been lent to 10 organizations from the Preservation Fund, with 100 percent prompt repayment, since the establishment of the Fund in 1985. Since then, the grand total has risen to about \$1,263,000 to 12 organizations. Readers of a year ago will recognize some of these places:



901-05 Western Avenue, shown in 1989 (top) and now (above).

901-05 Western Avenue

Shop-front extensions had been removed at ground-floor level, and original front walls partly reconstructed, with door and window frames awaiting surrounding masonry and doors. New sash, one-over-one with no attempt at reproducing original glazing, had been installed. There were no cornices yet. The rough old brick had been partly cleaned. Completion was due in June. Around the corner, on Galveston Avenue, four two-story office units of cinder block were rising. The Western Avenue restoration part of the development had begun with an \$80,000 loan from the Preservation Fund to the Allegheny West Civic Council and others.

852 Beech Avenue

The exterior is now finished, gray paint with deep blue detailing. The owner received a \$45,000 bridge loan.

940 Beech Avenue

This is a new project, a sizeable three-story brick house, which is being started with a \$15,000 loan to be paid by May 1991.

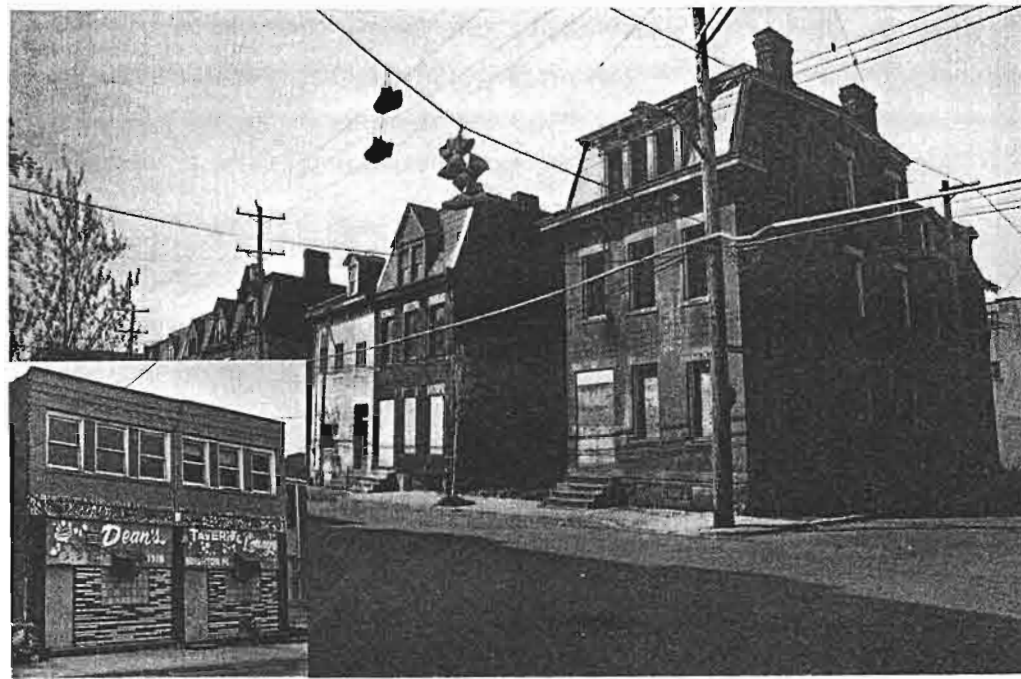
852 Beech Avenue, shown here in 1989 under restoration, and later this spring completed.



940 Beech Avenue: awaiting renovation.

Brighton Place

The Northside Tenants Reorganization (NTR) expects to see work under way in September. Landmarks Design Associates is preparing working drawings for bids. Dean's Tavern, a former nuisance bar, is to become a day-care center, and the Brighton Tavern, at the corner with Brighton Road, is to become a laundromat with NTR offices above. Thirty-three vacant buildings, interspersed with those still occupied, will be rehabilitated for \$3,800,000.



Brighton Place: empty houses to be filled with life once more. Inset: Dean's Tavern: from nocturnal abandon to day care.



Left: the fine carving on the Darlington house. Below: The Harry Darlington house, from Brighton Road.



Darlington House

Work has begun at the Harry Darlington house at Brighton Road and Lincoln Avenue, but on our late April visit it was all behind the scenes: investigating the accumulations of years, partitions, piping, etc., as a preliminary to reconvert this 21-unit dwelling into a single-family house again. The Darlington house is in a curious position, which makes its assured good condition especially desirable. It terminates a row of large and well-kept houses, but its surroundings, aside from West Commons, consist otherwise of a city block of rubble, a ruin, a decently-kept smallish Mid-Victorian house, and two big, miserably-remodeled Mid-Victorian houses. Its good condition, then, would help arrest decay and encourage new development. A \$165,000 loan to the Allegheny West Civic Council provided stopgap financing and money for initial work.

Infill Houses, Pennsylvania Avenue and Sedgwick Street

The Preservation Fund provided technical assistance to the Manchester Citizens Corporation's Affordable Housing program, which both rehabilitates existing housing and builds new "infill" units such as these.

Allequippa Place

Work has nearly finished on rehabilitation of these eight four-unit buildings of the 1930 period. The Oakland Planning and Development Corporation has borrowed \$96,000 for this purpose.

Pub & 10

This Bloomfield bar has been purchased by the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation with the aid of a \$60,000 loan from the Preservation Fund. The bar will be reopened as a restaurant.

Accomplishments of the Preservation Fund

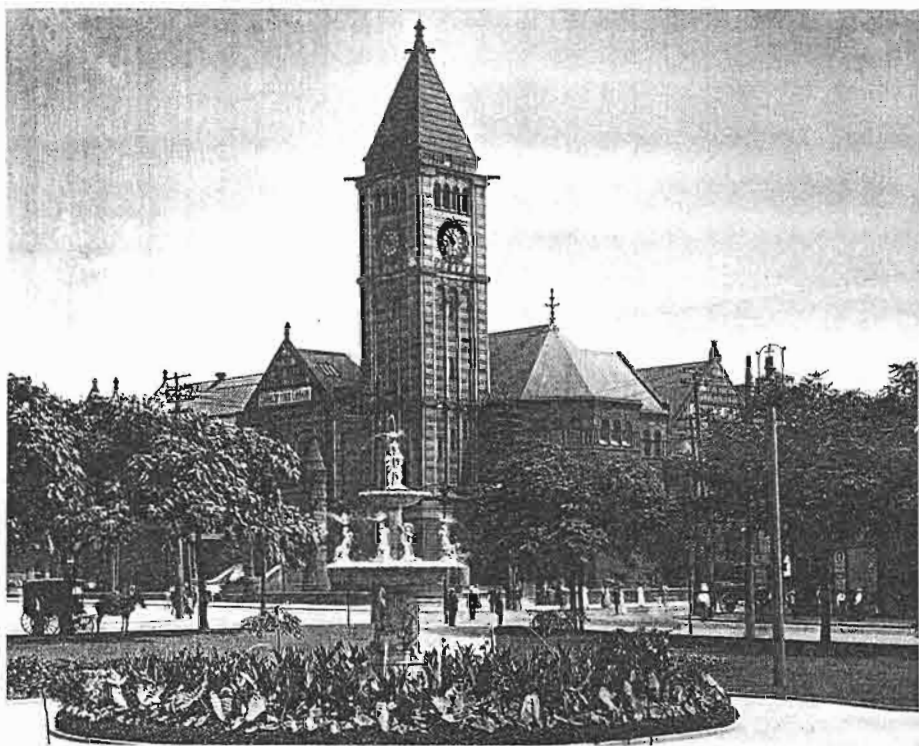
Stanley Lowe, Director

Through its Preservation Fund, Landmarks provides loans and technical assistance to Allegheny County neighborhoods and preservation groups, and to individuals who propose feasible restoration projects for historic properties in their communities. In addition to the projects featured on this page, Landmarks has supported the following projects since the fund's inception in 1985:

- The endangered Dickson log house (c. 1797) on Western Avenue in Ben Avon was purchased and renovated by a local historical association. Loan amount: \$10,000
- St. Mary's Church Priory (1888), located on the North Side between Pressley and Lockhart Streets, was renovated as a "bed-and-breakfast" city inn. Loan amount: \$50,000
- The Hollander Building at 415 East Ohio Street on the North Side was acquired by a neighborhood consortium and renovated for commercial purposes. Loan amount: \$100,000
- Neville Row in Allegheny West was restored. Loan amount: \$38,600
- Through the Home Ownership for Working People program, five vacant buildings in the Central North Side were rehabilitated for low- and middle-income families. Loan amount: \$167,000. In phase two, five vacant houses in Manchester at 1100-09 Pennsylvania Avenue were acquired; four have been renovated and sold. Loan guarantee: \$15,000. In phase three, the Manchester Citizens Corporation bought five houses beginning at 1009 Manhattan Street and remodeled them for single-family occupancy. Loan amount: \$145,000
- The Eberhardt & Ober Brewery (1883), at the foot of Troy Hill on the North Side, was acquired and renovated to house a brew pub and incubator space for businesses. Loan amount: \$50,000
- The Rachel Carson Homestead Association in Springdale obtained professional architectural services for the preparation of a schematic design and rendering for the construction of an educational wing on the site of the Homestead. Loan amount: \$5,700
- Major repairs were made to the New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church roof and steeple in Lawrenceville. Loan amount: \$9,400
- The Braddock's Field Historical Society commissioned a building re-use study for the Carnegie Library in Braddock. Loan amount: \$10,000
- Masonic Hall at 16 W. North Avenue in the Central North Side has been purchased by the Central North Side Civic Council and awaits renovation as part of the Federal-North improvement program. Loan amount: \$100,000
- Charles Street Area Council has assisted a private developer to acquire and restore a neighborhood warehouse to be used for office and storage space. Loan amount: \$87,000
- 1417 East Carson Street was purchased by the South Side Local Development Council and the structure was renovated for office and storefront use. Loan amount: \$34,000
- The North Side Civic Development Council has purchased vacant land in the Dutchtown Square area for infill housing units. Loan amount: \$52,000
- The Steel Industry Heritage Task Force moved a 48-inch rolling mill to a Homestead site where it will be preserved. Loan amount: \$25,000
- Anderson Manor (c.1830), at 1423 Liverpool Street in Manchester, was renovated. Loan amount: \$100,000
- Bethel Park Historical Society received a loan of \$1,500 to appeal a possible sale and demolition of the Bethel Park School House.
- Landmarks provides on-going technical and economic development assistance to numerous organizations, including the: Buena Vista Street Senior Citizen's Program, Calbride Place Citizens Council, North Side Leadership Conference, Hill District Development Corporation, Pittsburgh Board of Code Review, North Side Civic Development Council, Negro Educational Emergency Drive, Pittsburgh Community Services, Neighborhood Centers Association, North Side Tenants Reorganization, Manchester Citizens Corporation, Allegheny West Civic Council, Mexican War Streets Society, South Side Local Development Corporation, and the Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group.



Preservation Scene



Allegheny Library Centennial

With the exception of a library in Andrew Carnegie's home town of Dunfermline, the present Allegheny Regional Branch is in a sense the first Carnegie Library: "in a sense" because that at Braddock actually opened first but that at Allegheny was the first to be donated. A May Day program, "A Look Back at Old Allegheny," celebrated the library and the much-changed city around it. Arthur Ziegler made opening remarks and introduced the speakers, including Attorney Freyvogel who outlined the legal controversy of the annexation of Allegheny by Pittsburgh, and Mary Wohleber of Troy Hill, who showed wonderful slides of the Old Allegheny area.

Allegheny Sesquicentennial

On April 17 a Gateway Clipper cruise celebrated the incorporation of Allegheny as a city in 1840. A number of speeches followed dinner, and neighborhood awards for outstanding service followed these. East Allegheny awarded a certificate to Arthur Ziegler, a resident of the area, for his services to the entire North Side.

Stolen Gate

A gate remaining from the old Heinz estate, in the 7000 block of Penn Avenue on the North Side, has been stolen. The wrought-iron pattern complements that of the adjoining fence panels. Please call Mrs. Sladik (241-2461) if you have seen this gate.

NCNE Visit

On February 26, the Washington-based National Center for Neighborhood Enterprise brought HUD Secretary Jack Kemp and 27 corporate executives to look at Pittsburgh's use of public/private partnerships to solve low- and moderate-income housing problems. The group first visited Housing Opportunities Inc. in McKeesport, which is working to make home ownership affordable despite the economic decline of the last decade. In Pittsburgh, the Northside Tenants Reorganization, and especially the Brighton Place Tenant Cooperative Restoration Program, came under study. Secretary Kemp was impressed enough to promise to help secure a necessary \$750,000 in financing. At a luncheon at the Station Square Sheraton, Secretary Kemp spoke of HUD's Homeownership and Opportunity for People Everywhere initiative, in whose spirit the McKeesport and North Side programs are.

As a sequel, the City's Urban Redevelopment Authority, local lenders, and the Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group met with local realtors to discuss Pittsburgh housing resources and financing programs. Mayor Sophie Masloff opened the March 27 meeting, attended by some 200.



The Hartzell Fountain in its original location.

For Man, Beast & Bird

The Hartzell Memorial Fountain, equipped with basins according to its announced purpose, stood on the North Commons of the North Side from 1910 until urban renewal hit the area. After some years in storage, it was re-erected in Market Square in 1977. Now it is time, it appears, for the Hartzell Fountain to move on again; at least the City seems to be proposing that. What better place to go than back to its original location, on the east side of Federal Street?

A Shining Ziggurat Once More

In 1973, during the Nixonian energy crisis, the stepped pyramid atop the Gulf Building ceased to shine blue or orange, according to the weather; only the small lantern at the very top, a mere fraction of the whole illuminated area, continued the practice. On March 24, on the occasion of the Community Design Center's Palladian Ball, the whole top of what is now the Gulf Tower was floodlit — not in Gulf orange and blue, but henceforth in a steady, golden light that is less vivid.

GO FOURTH!

GO FOURTH! Committee to Preserve Pittsburgh's Wall Street is conducting weekly 11 a.m. Saturday tours throughout the summer. The committee is also working with property owners in the Fourth Avenue National Register District to develop a package of incentives and assistance programs to help preserve Pittsburgh's historic financial district. Caroline Boyce and Rob Pfaffman are co-chairs of the Committee.

Sauer Buildings

The locally-famous Sauer Buildings, a fanciful residential group of the 1920s and '30s at 607-717 Center Avenue in Aspinwall, were troubled with a flow of water for three years. The owner, Mario Noro, recently ended a dispute with the Borough of Aspinwall, that had led nowhere, as to whose responsibility it was. The water was at first polluted, and in running over the property weakened hillside soil and roads and created hazardous ice in winter. Noro claimed that a municipal water line had burst, while the Borough denied the pipe's very existence. Media coverage supplemented the stubborn exchange of letters, and on March 2 the source — indeed a broken water line — was found.



Board-and-batten in Beechview

A rarity in Pittsburgh is the board-and-batten Josephine Shaffer farmhouse at 311 Lowenhill Road, a sturdy and simple house of around 1860 whose principal ornamentation is delicately-cusped verge and eaves boards. At the end of April the house was up for auction, and by this time may be no more than a memory.

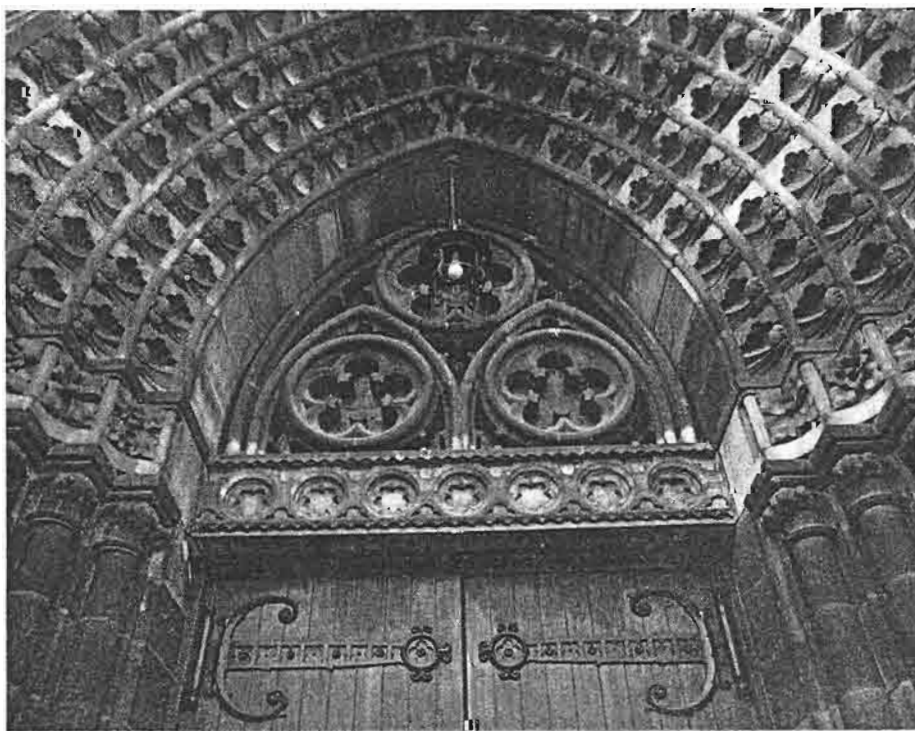
Willow Cottage to Stay

The City's Historic Review Commission has ruled that Willow Cottage, the 1860-period Howe-Childs gatehouse on Woodland Road at Fifth Avenue, may not be torn down. The tall, gray wooden house is in fact City-designated, but its present owner has claimed that foundation damage, especially, has gone beyond certainty of repair. The situation was attended with more of the anguish that has been haunting HRC proceedings. On the one hand, the purchaser of the house, three years ago, knew that it was designated and presumably could have had competent advice on its condition before buying. (In addition, the uncertainty and cost of essential repairs may be exaggerated, as Ellis Schmidlapp of Landmarks Design Associates suggested at the hearing.) On the other hand, if things are as bad as the owner has stated, he is being forced to spend double the money he had budgeted, and for an uncertain result.

It is hard to criticize the HRC, for it is serving its purpose while the owner should have been more open-eyed at the time of buying.

Experience Talking

Late this winter, the question of City historic designation of the Allegheny West area was to come before City Council. In this connection, David Pahnos of the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation wrote Mark Fatla of the Allegheny West Civic Corporation, telling of what happened to the Friendship area when its fine old houses were made over into apartments in the 1970s. A rise in natural-gas prices had stimulated the conversions, which were cheap and opportunistic, and restoration, now contemplated in some cases it seems, is correspondingly costly. Maintaining a standard to begin with, Bloomfield-Garfield believes, can among other things "encourage re-investment by property owners as a collective group in saving a neighborhood from abject decline or gradual dismemberment by commercial interests." Friendship's experience, after the apartment conversions, was one of declining property values.



Saving Tiffanys

A fund-raiser on June 2, "Breakfast with Tiffanys," was held at the Calvary U.M. Church in Allegheny West. The brunch was specifically intended to benefit the maintenance and repair of the church's three large Tiffany windows, on the themes of the Resurrection, Ascension, and Apocalypse. The windows were installed in 1895, after having been shown in the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893.

Steel Industry Heritage Task Force

The Steel Industry Heritage Task Force has adopted a long range plan and is currently preparing a Report to the Secretary of the Interior, which will serve as a basis for continued federal funding requests. In addition, the Task Force received a grant of \$30,000 from the new Pennsylvania State Heritage Parks Program, for planning purposes.

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"Designation"

There has been such controversy over the mandated preservation of buildings and districts, should the City of Pittsburgh designate them as historic, that we had intended a series of essays that would treat the matter in a thorough way. Things have moved too swiftly, though. The advocates of designation for western Shadyside withdrew their petition on May 1, finding the occasion unpropitious. This was true especially since the City Ordinance itself is being considered for revision, with the aid of a consultant and an advisory committee. We may hope for a more clearly thought-out law, both in its stated purposes and in its provisions, and such would be worth waiting for.

The Walton Project

Liggett and Associates of Monroeville has devised an adaptive-use project for the old Walton M.E. Church at Twenty-fourth and Sarah Streets on the South Side. The church is a very handsome structure of 1882, with exceptionally delicate brick corbel-tables rippling along the cornices, and its position at a slight bend in Sarah Street is a piece of effective if accidental siting. The project calls for the conversion of ground-floor Sunday-school rooms (with 14-foot ceilings) into offices, and for meetings, concerts, services, and other public hall-type activities in the even higher church space above. The tentative name is Walton Chapel Center. The Waltons were a North Side family, whose house served Marcia Davenport as the Scott mansion in *The Valley of Decision*.

Name That Bridge

In March, Arthur Ziegler and State Senator Eugene F. Scanlon agreed to differ on what the present Birmingham Bridge should be called. Our position is that Birmingham has associations with the three constituent boroughs of the present South Side, the name itself appearing in two of the cases. Scanlon would like it to be the memorial of another State Senator, the South Sider James Romanelli. It was Senator Romanelli who responded to our request to name the bridge when it was built in the early 1970s, after Birmingham. Ironical that the bridge should be stripped of its name to be renamed after the Senator who gave it its name! This would not be an appropriate memorial.

Consulting at Vandergrift

Landmarks gave several hours of consulting time, this winter and spring, to the Westmoreland County town of Vandergrift. This little steel town on the Kiskiminetas River was laid out by Frederick Law Olmsted's office, and while not a town of much fine architecture it has a certain distinction in its street scenes. Landmarks advised on ways of reestablishing its old role as a regional center, an objective for shoppers.

Burtner House

Restoration at the Burtner House in Natrona Heights continues with a new tongue-and-groove wooden floor for the second floor rooms and wooden window frames and baseboards replaced. New paint will brighten the rooms once the wood work is complete.

It's Strawberry Festival time at the Burtner House on Saturday, June 16 from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. This year's festival will be more active than past events with special native American heritage dance and folklore presentations by the Council of Three Rivers Allegheny Indian Council. Mr. B and his homing pigeons will perform at 12 Noon. The Samples Border Rangers, dressed in Early American attire and carrying authentic muskets and rifles, will demonstrate mountain man Indian-style tent construction, and the Burtner House weaving loom will be in use all day! Food available will include a variety of sandwiches, the ever-popular funnel cakes, and all the strawberries in cream and strawberry shortcake you can eat! Call 224-7999 for more information.

Neville House

The Neville House Auxiliary invites Landmarks' members and friends to their Sunday, July 15 Whiskey Rebellion commemoration. The house will be open from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for guided tours by the Neville House docents. Directions from Pittsburgh: Route 79 South to the Kirwan Heights-Bridgeville Exit 12; turn left on to Route 50 and you will find the house on the left side of the road within a mile. Free parking is available across the street from the house.

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, September 19 to join the Neville House Auxiliary for an all-day bus tour to West Overton in the Mt. Pleasant area. Call Hazel Peters at 921-4728 for more information.

Old St. Luke's

Members of the Old St. Luke's Church Historical Society will open the historic church in Scott Township each Sunday afternoon from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in June, July, and August. A special reception will follow a commemorative program of dramatic readings on Sunday, July 15 in honor of the 196th anniversary of the Whiskey Rebellion. Call 481-1155 for more information.

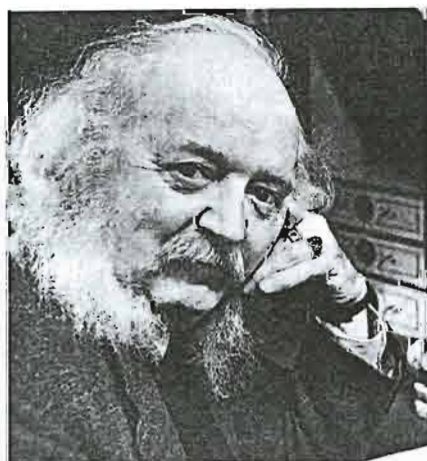
Rachel Carson Homestead

The Rachel Carson Homestead Association held its first annual benefit dinner on March 17 at Andrew Mellon Hall, Chatham College, with guest speaker Vasili Peskov, an environmental journalist from the Soviet Union. The Homestead will be announcing its long-range plans, including restoration of the Rachel Carson Homestead in Springdale, in late 1990.

George Westinghouse Museum

The George Westinghouse Museum in Wilmerding has completed phase one of its long-range planning under the direction of Landmarks staff member Earl James, and will be revising its permanent exhibitions in the fall of 1990. Development of educational programs for area schools will follow.

In mid-May, we heard of a serious threat to this museum because of a tax dispute between the Borough of Wilmerding and the actual owner of the "Castle" where the museum is. In consequence, the museum might be without a home.



Jamie Honored

James D. Van Trump, one of Landmarks' founders and its historian for many years, has received a certificate from the City of Pittsburgh's Historic Review Commission in recognition of his work for historic preservation and his almost innumerable articles and other works on the history and architecture of the Pittsburgh region.

Palm Beach Award

Barbara D. Hoffstot, founding member and trustee of Landmarks, is also one of the most active preservationists of Palm Beach. She is one of the third generation of her family to live there. Her *Landmark Architecture of Palm Beach*, first published in 1973 and about to go into a third edition, is the architectural guide to the community. In recognition of this book and her vigorous preservation efforts in Palm Beach, the Palm Beach County Historical Society presented Mrs. Hoffstot with the Judge James R. Knott Award in a ceremony this April.

On Porches



The roofs and porches of Beechwood Boulevard

Much of the dispute over districting in the western part of Shadyside has centered at least symbolically around porches. Now, our population's attitude towards porches, as reflected in our treatment of them, differs greatly from place to place. In Mount Washington, Squirrel Hill, the South Hills, and Homestead, people retain their porches, casually repairing rather than restoring them admittedly when wooden posts or floors start to give. In the East End and especially in Shadyside, one feels, people are often indifferent when not contemptuous about porches, have been so since home air conditioning came in, and are inclined to get rid of them. A porch is not a place for sitting any longer (it had fashion against it for several decades), it darkens rooms, and restoration is very expensive. Dilemma: Who can rightly demand that you spend large sums keeping up a useless appendage of your house? On the other hand, the house was designed to have a porch; its fenestration is apt to look peculiar and drifting without the disciplining rhythm of the porch posts and the deep horizontal of the porch entablature and roof, and the walls bear the scars of removal. If designation demands a porch restoration that is burdensomely expensive, should we see the householder as having to make pathetic

After the remodeling: vestigial porch in Shadyside



Shortened hem-line on Denniston Street



Nostalgic scene in Manchester with an old-fashioned shady porch



Porch-loving Homestead

sacrifices, a victim of a whimsical, tyrannical legal provision? Or should we see him as one who got in over his head on a house beyond his means: one who, instead of having a budget in keeping with the house he bought, is chopping up the house to conform to his budget?

What if it is? Is that his neighbors' business? If his front lawn presented a spectacle of a derelict car surrounded by weeds, no one would seriously deny the neighbors the right to complain and use pressure. But this is different: his lawn is junkless and mown, only henceforth it will go right up to the front door. The house will look like what it is, a house missing a feature, but the property will be neat and that is perhaps all the neighbors can reasonably demand.

And yet, why do some people genuinely love places such as the old western parts of Shadyside, or indeed just about all of Squirrel Hill north of Forbes? Surely because of street scenes in which houses of harmonizing design and massing, old as it happens and retained as built, are set in a unifying landscape of trees and lawns. Whatever diminishes the beauty of what one sees along one's street, from one's window or indeed porch, diminishes the value of one's home as well: its value, that is, as a place to inhabit rather than sell. Perhaps the neighbors do rightly have something to say when the remodeling of an existing house, not to mention construction of a new one, comes into question. ■

Education Column

Hands-On History Institute

Wednesday-Thursday, July 11-19

Through guest lectures, field trips, and hands-on workshops teachers gain the skills to research local history and enrich their classroom curricula. Call the Allegheny Intermediate Unit at 394-5761 to register for this three-credit teacher in-service course.

Portable Pittsburgh

Another school year is over, and our *Portable Pittsburgh* docents, like the students whom they serve, will take a vacation during the summer. During the 1989-90 school year, Landmarks' volunteer docents presented 186 sessions in over one hundred different schools and community centers. This is the second year that *Portable Pittsburgh* has been available to schools, and the program continues to grow in popularity. Through *Portable Pittsburgh*, Landmarks is spreading the word to area school children about the impressive and dramatic past, present, and future of the Pittsburgh region. Teachers, PTA representatives, and program coordinators may call now to reserve a date for the 1990-91 school year, ensuring that their students have this lively addition to the traditional social studies curriculum. Call the education department at 471-5808 to receive an informative brochure or to schedule a date.

Architecture: The Building Art

Architecture: The Building Art, one of Landmarks' two traveling exhibits, has traveled to three schools this spring: O'Hara Elementary in Fox Chapel, Gateway Upper Elementary in Monroeville, and Regency Park Elementary in Plum Boro.

Building use, structure, and appearance are described in the exhibit, and hands-on activities give students the opportunity to build a bridge, design buildings, and handle construction materials such as marble, terra cotta, glass, brick, and steel. *Architecture: The Building Art* remains in each school for one month, and after exploring the exhibit and its accompanying activities, teachers and students are prepared to investigate their own community: their neighborhoods, business districts, and city.

As part of the exhibit, teachers receive an introductory workshop by a Landmarks' staff member who explains the most effective use of the exhibit and its accompanying materials. Because the study of architecture is ideal for use with all academic disciplines, suggested activities are presented for use in all classroom subjects.

Teachers and program coordinators may call Landmarks' education department at 471-5808 to reserve the exhibit during the 1990-91 school year. The rental fee for each one-month session is \$200. This fee includes the teacher workshop, printed exhibit guides and accompanying materials, and transportation of the exhibit to and from the school.



Landmark Survivors

In April, Landmarks' traveling exhibit titled *Landmark Survivors* made a special visit to the Pioneer School, introducing physically-challenged students to the field of architecture. Through historic and present-day photos, the exhibit illustrates the life of seven Pittsburgh landmarks: the Blockhouse, "Clayton," Station Square, some Fort Pitt Boulevard buildings, Smithfield Street Bridge, the Courthouse and Jail, and Kennywood Park.

Having *Landmark Survivors* at Pioneer School was just one part of a year-long initiative by the school to introduce the physically-challenged students to a study of their built environment, one that many of the students only experience from a distance.

Landmark Survivors, designed for middle and secondary schools, is also ideal for higher-education institutions, libraries, or community centers. For more information on the exhibit or to reserve *Landmark Survivors*, call the education department at 471-5808.

Slide Show Rentals

Landmarks' lending library of slide shows featuring the history and architecture of Pittsburgh and Western Pennsylvania continues to be a widely-used resource. More than 20 presentations were scheduled this spring. *A Tourist's View of Pittsburgh*, *Architecture: The Building Art*, and *The Builders of Pittsburgh* are just a few examples of the slide shows available. The presentations, popular with community centers, rotary clubs, women's clubs, senior citizen centers, and of course schools, are often coupled with a lecture by one of Landmarks' volunteer docents. For a complete description of our slide shows, call the education department at 471-5808.

Architects-in-the-Schools

A special addition to *Architecture: The Building Art* is Architects-in-the-Schools. In conjunction with the traveling exhibit, architects and other professionals associated with the built environment are volunteering their time to visit elementary school classes and discuss the field of architecture. Before, during, or after the exhibit's month-long stay at a school, Landmarks will arrange a school visit by an architect. In return for volunteering their time, architects are rewarded with the smiles, thoughtful questions, and thank you's that come from an attentive audience of young and curious learners. Interested architects, builders, contractors, and designers may call Landmarks' education department at 471-5808 to receive more information on this rewarding volunteer opportunity.

Private Group Tours

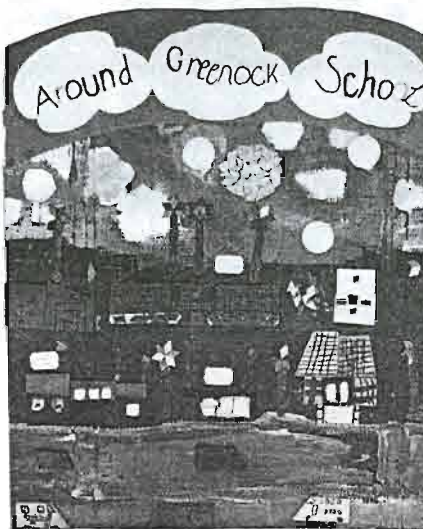
Landmarks' popular tour program, open to both members and the public, receives lots of publicity and its tours are well attended. This year, we are hosting public tours of ethnic churches, breweries, and historic Sewickley homes. But these public tours are, however, only half the story.

The Mexican War Streets, ethnic churches of the South Side, Station Square, the Golden Triangle, and the Strip District were recent destinations for *private tours*. These tours are created especially by Landmarks to meet the interests and objectives of private groups whose members are eager to learn about the history, architecture, and present-day significance of Pittsburgh.

Mary Lu Denny, Landmarks' director of membership services, works with each private group to design a tour that meets its needs. Landmarks' docents serve as guides, and Mary Lu arranges access to churches, temples, private homes, office towers, and historic sites. Ethnic lunches, dinners, or mid-afternoon snacks are often provided and motor coaches are chartered. Landmarks charges a fee to cover these costs.

This spring, the Upper St. Clair Women's Club toured several ethnic churches and Pittsburgh neighborhoods. The fifth-grade classes from the Gateway School District learned about transportation and history as they toured Station Square, visited the Transportation Museum, and rode the Monongahela Incline and the subway. French students on a student exchange with Shady Side Academy toured Grant Street. The College Club in Pittsburgh has planned a tour in September to study the Tiffany windows of Pittsburgh churches. From January through June alone, Landmarks arranged 26 private group tours, all uniquely designed. For further information on Landmarks' tour services, call Mary Lu Denny at 471-5808.

Elsewhere



Greenock Elementary School's first grade students collaborated on this scenic panorama.

Marie Momeyer, co-ordinator of the geography fair, plans to invite other schools to participate in future geography fairs. Interested teachers may call Marie at Greenock Elementary (751-6769) for further information.

• "Always A River"

Sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities, six states bordering the Ohio River are collaborating to present "Always A River." A river barge, complete with exhibits relating to the history of the Ohio River, will begin its 980-mile journey with a debut at the Three Rivers Arts Festival in May 1991. After leaving Pittsburgh, the barge will continue down the Ohio River, stopping along the way at 19 major cities and towns. The program, co-sponsored by cooperating local organizations, will include educational and artistic performances and activities. The Carnegie and The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust will be local co-sponsors of "Always A River" while the program is in Pittsburgh.

• "The Artifact Box Exchange Network"

The *Artifact Box Exchange* promotes history and geography education among elementary school children. After deciding what makes their community unique, students gather objects and pieces of information relevant to their hometown. The Network receives the boxes from all over the country and coordinates an exchange of boxes between two schools in different areas. The classes receive their mysterious boxes and spend about a week researching the clues and information in the boxes to discover where they came from. For further information write to Scott Johnson, Director, The Artifact Box Exchange Network, The University of Connecticut, Storrs Hall, Storrs, CT 06268. ■

• Elizabeth Forward Geography Fair

In March, teachers and students in the Elizabeth Forward School District participated in the *First Annual Elizabeth Forward Geography Fair*. One-hundred twenty-five geography projects were submitted by classes and students in first through twelfth grades. The theme of this year's fair was the geography of the Elizabeth Forward School District, and projects ranged from geography trivia games played on computers (submitted by middle-school students) to designs of historic scenes painted on T-shirts by second-grade students. On hand to help with the judging was Diane DeNardo, Landmarks' director of education, and no easy task it was. All of the projects were imaginative, well-researched, and carefully made.



Summer Fun for Families

Landmarks' education department is preparing for a summer full of fun and discovery. Three programs, designed especially for families, are available for those interested in exploring Pittsburgh's history and architecture. If you don't have a child, then adopt a grandchild, niece, nephew, or neighbor. Mark your calendar now, call us to register, and gather the family to "vacation" with Landmarks this summer in Pittsburgh.

The Highs and Lows of Pittsburgh

Saturday, June 30, 1990
10 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
Spend a day with Landmarks discovering the "highs and lows" of Pittsburgh. We will begin our adventure by riding the incline up Mt. Washington which rises 367 feet above the Monongahela River. Then we will travel down into the Golden Triangle via the subway, and explore an underground passage linking two downtown office buildings. Emerging onto street level for just a moment, we will travel to the top of a Pittsburgh skyscraper to get a bird's-eye view of the city skyline and building tops. Which rooftop tower was rumored to contain a chapel to preserve the church that was demolished at that site? Which rooftop has a weather signal that blinks blue and orange codes? After lunch we will explore Trinity Cathedral and its adjoining graveyard, once an Indian burial mound, and we will search for lions and gargoyles along city streets in a scavenger hunt.

Participants: Families whose children are entering grades three through eight.
Member cost: \$12 for adults and \$10 for children.
Non-member cost: \$15 for adults and \$12 for children.
To register: Call Landmarks at (412) 471-5808.
Reg. deadline: June 25, 1990

The Carnegie: Inside and Out

Saturday, July 14, 1990
9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Corinthian columns, a carved balustrade, stonework, brass hinges, 21 types of marble . . . these and lots more you'll discover in "The Carnegie, Inside and Out."
Teachers from Landmarks and The Carnegie will lead a discovery of the Carnegie buildings, built by Longfellow, Alden & Harlow in 1892 with later additions in 1903 and 1974. Learn about the history, structure, composition, and architecture of these buildings that house Pittsburgh's most famous museum collections. Activities will include a classroom exploration of natural building materials, a visit to the Hillman Hall of Geology, and a walking tour of The Carnegie. Hands-on projects will include architectural sketching and a scavenger hunt.

Participants: Families: Parents and children 10 years and older.
Member cost: \$10 for adults and \$8 for children.
Non-member cost: \$12 for adults and \$10 for children.
To register: Call the School of The Carnegie at (412) 622-3288.

Pittsburgh Heritage

August 3, 4 and 5, 1990
Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m., and Sunday, 1 p.m.-4:30 p.m.
Pittsburgh Heritage for Families is for the truly adventurous. It's three days of fun, learning, discovery, and doing. Day one will be spent at Station Square touring the renovated railroad buildings and Transportation Museum, riding on the Monongahela Incline, strolling on the limber Smithfield Street Bridge (the city's oldest), and constructing a cardboard bridge.
On Saturday, discover the North Side. A scavenger hunt in the Children's Museum, a tour of the Mexican War Streets, instruction in architectural sketching, and designing a T-shirt will be part of the day's agenda.
Sunday is downtown Pittsburgh. The day's activities will center around 150 years of Pittsburgh architecture. We will tour city streets and parks, follow a scavenger hunt, ride the subway, and discover some of Pittsburgh's best kept secrets. *Pittsburgh Heritage for Families* is a unique vacation in our own backyard. Wear walking shoes and bring a bag lunch!

Participants: Families whose children are entering grades three through eight.
Member cost: \$25 for adults and \$20 for children.
Non-member cost: \$30 for adults and \$22 for children.
To register: Call Landmarks at (412) 471-5808.
Reg. deadline: July 30, 1990.



Summer Family Fun

YES, MY FAMILY WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FOLLOWING PROGRAMS:

The Highs and Lows of Pittsburgh

	Total
Members: \$12 adults; \$10 children	
Non-members: \$15 adults; \$12 children	
Names of those attending:	

The Carnegie: Inside and Out

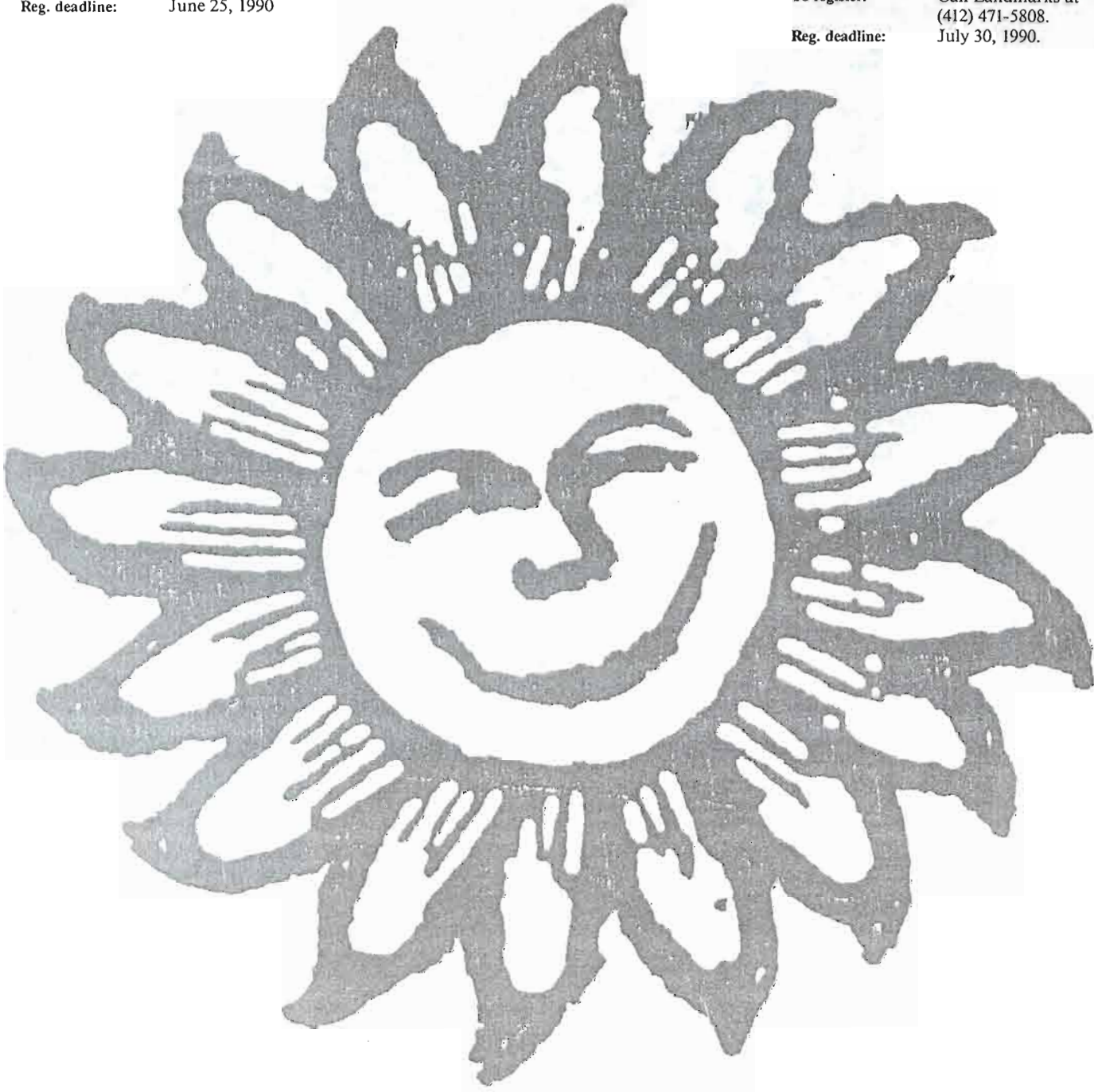
	Total
Members: \$10 adults; \$8 children	
Non-members: \$12 adults; \$10 children	
Names of those attending:	

Pittsburgh Heritage for Families

	Total
Members: \$25 adults; \$20 children	
Non-members: \$30 adults; \$22 children	
Names of those attending:	

The registration deadlines are about two weeks prior to the course dates. Please complete this form, enclose payment (reference your check "Summer Fun"), and mail to:

Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation
450 The Landmarks Building
One Station Square
Pittsburgh, PA 15219-1170
Call (412) 471-5808 for further information.



In 1904, William H. Walker commissioned Alden & Harlow to build "Muottas," on Little Creek Road in Edgeworth.

Tour Sewickley Homes Designed by Longfellow, Alden & Harlow

Call Landmarks for details (412) 471-5808 but **SAVE the DATE** of Sunday, September 16 from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. for a bus and walking tour of a selection of Sewickley homes designed by Pittsburgh's leading architectural firm at the turn of the century.
Tour with Landmarks

This fall Landmarks will release a 150-page hardbound book that is a tribute and guide to one of the most picturesque places in Pittsburgh: Allegheny Cemetery. Incorporated in 1844, the Cemetery is the sixth "rural," or Romantically landscaped cemetery in the United States. The story of the Cemetery is placed in the context of Pittsburgh's history and touches upon the lives of many prominent Pittsburgh families.

Author Walter Kidney describes the history, architecture, and life of the Cemetery in a main text that is followed by an illustrated guide of about 100 buildings and tombs. The publication is illustrated by more than 200 color and black-and-white photos, many by Clyde Hare. It is funded in part by the Hunt Foundation and Landmarks' Revolving Fund for Education.

The beginning of chapter one is printed here.



Fleming and Henry mausoleums, section 28

ADVANCE BOOK ORDER

Yes, I would like to purchase _____ copies of
The History & Architecture of Allegheny Cemetery

Special price for advance book purchases: \$24.00
per copy

Price for book(s)	\$ _____
Plus 6% sales tax	\$ _____
Plus \$2.00 per book for shipping and handling	\$ _____
Total due	\$ _____

Please enclose a check payable to the:
Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation
450 The Landmarks Building
One Station Square
Pittsburgh, PA 15219-1170

Please reference the check "Allegheny Cemetery."

When the publication is printed in October 1990,
we will mail the appropriate number of autographed
copies to you. Please give us your mailing address:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Thank you for your advance book order.



The Penn Avenue
entrance

THE HISTORY AND ARCHITECTURE OF ALLEGHENY CEMETERY

CHAPTER I A Look Around

Allegheny Cemetery looks northward across the Allegheny River to wooded hills from its own north-facing slope. Lawrenceville, Bloomfield, and Stanton Heights are its neighbors, and here and there the houses of these places are visible beyond its borders, but when the trees are in leaf the opposite side of the river valley is more of a presence. The Cemetery itself, in the warm part of the year, is a green place, some broad lawns, many trees, punctuated with the pale gray of granite, the white of marble, and the hues of bronze, sandstone, and flowers. To these, on occasion, is added a colorful blaze from stained glass, seen through the iron gates of a mausoleum. Green prevails, limiting views upward and into the distance. In winter, of course, the green departs entirely or dulls, or is covered with snow, while boles, limbs, and twigs show up in their greys and blackish-browns. By way of compensation, vistas open up through the Cemetery, over its internal valleys and along its descending slopes.

The Cemetery is nearly as large as Schenley Park, Pittsburgh's largest, and owes much of its modern character to the first landscape architect for the Park. But almost everywhere, a moment's glance is enough to reveal the nature of the place. A tomb is hard to mistake. And here is all the variety, the ingenuity, the pathos, and occasionally the beauty of the first century in which the middle class really exerted itself in the matter of entombment. Before the nineteenth century, a well-carved and lettered headstone sufficed for anyone less than a nobleman, a prelate, or a high official. During the last century, though, things changed, and while there are indeed simple headstones in Allegheny Cemetery, there is also an abundant luxury of effect. A family that lived within clapboarding lies beneath granite; pleasing their open eyes with lithographs, they now own a sculpture, and cannot see it. There are tombs like granite daybeds, like jewel chests, like planter boxes, there are allegorical figures, there are temples, columns, and obelisks. Once, too, there were low boundary walls for the various plots, now mostly gone, and iron fences, now wholly gone, so that the fanciful display along the straightest line between the upper and lower gates, diverse as it now is, was once a positively complicated scene.

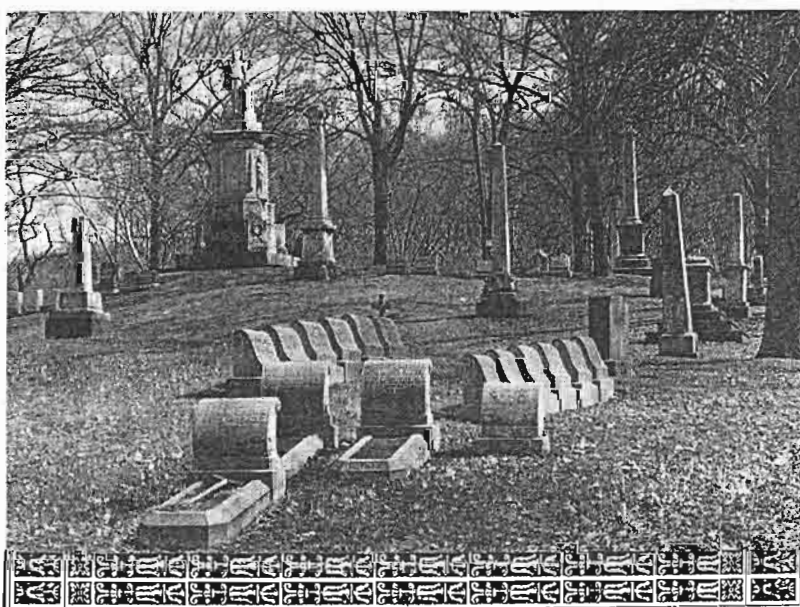
In our own century, only the very rich have kept up this boldness of entombment. Others are content with the conventional granite monument, mostly glossy with some matte or incised lettering and ornament in stock designs; or are buried in lawn-plan areas under tablets flush with the ground that do not hinder the mowers; or have a place in the Temple of Memories by the Penn Avenue Entrance, and are immured rather than buried.

The approach to the Cemetery from the Triangle, the Pittsburgh downtown, is through Lawrenceville, the boyhood home of Stephen Collins Foster. The old borough of 1814 along Butler Street reveals handsome architecture, much in need of restoration, and a look uphill offers a glimpse of the good qualities of Lawrenceville. The big limestone high school on the old Arsenal property is a gracious, theatrical interruption to the scene, and shortly after this Butler Street makes a slight bend that reveals a cluster of pale-buff shapes against a mass of treetops. The shapes soon define themselves as an architectural composition in the Tudor style, executed in sandstone, and here you are, at the Butler Street Entrance.

This is the serene entrance to a detached but not exclusive world. Partly the design of an Englishman, it suggests the entrance to the estate of an English gentleman, one proud enough to erect a gateway of such pomp but one, you sense, who receives visitors graciously. . . .



Bronze bas-reliefs on the
Winter mausoleum, sec-
tion 40



Looking toward the
Avery monument,
section 3