Revitalizing Pittsburgh's Neighborhoods

Brighton Place Phase 1 Completed

As preservationists we have no more right to "take over" a neighborhood than a redevelopment authority has. . . . It is our mission to see to it that architecturally significant structures are restored, protected, renamed. . . . That we must do so in the fairest and most useful way.

—Arthur P. Ziegler, Jr., Historic Preservation in Inner City Areas, 1974

It is so nice to be able to have a nice place that is affordable.
—Lorraine Brown, Brighton Place resident

On September 16, the Northside Tenants Reorganization is to host a tour of the Brighton Place neighborhood on Pittsburgh's North Side. Invited guests will visit model apartments in a restored Victorian townhouse and view restored single-family houses along Brighton Place. This event, sponsored by the Scaife Family Foundation, celebrates the completion of the first phase of an historic achievement—the first housing program in the U.S. developed by tenants formerly residing in Section 8 units as a model development to prepare for the management and ownership of 333 Section 8 units. This effort is providing decent housing at affordable rates to low- and moderate-income residents by providing reduced-cost housing to qualified renters.

The Brighton Place development began in 1988. Behind the achievements of Phase I lie many factors, most particularly:

• Landmarks' preservation philosophy, in force for almost 30 years, which seeks not only to preserve distinguished buildings in depressed neighborhoods but to do so by assisting, supporting, and funding neighborhood-led rejuvenation;

• a growing recognition by government officials and financial institutions that supporting this development makes sound civic and economic sense;

• extraordinarily energetic and determined leaders within the neighborhood who sought available resources and made those resources work to their advantage; their success has created new and stronger tools to revitalize, first houses, then blocks, and eventually an entire city neighborhood.

In 1974, Landmarks' president Arthur Ziegler summarized the organization's approach to urban preservation, implemented since its founding 10 years before, in Historic Preservation in Inner City Areas—historic preservation as both the revitalization of significant structures and a means for community renewal. As applied in Pittsburgh's low- and moderate-income neighborhoods, this approach resulted in what urban critic Roberta Gratz has called "the country's first historic preservation program for poor people."

In 1984, the buildings that constitute Brighton Place were surveyed and designated an historic district on the National Register of Historic Places (Old Allegheny Rows Historic District). The critical point came when a group of North Side residents, led by Harriet Henson, set to work revitalizing the area. Harriet Henson, executive director of the Northside Tenants Reorganization (NTR), is a life-long North Side resident. In 1987, she enrolled in a 12-month community training program at the Development Training Institute in Baltimore; the idea for a revitalized Brighton Place neighborhood began as a homework assignment to develop a plan for a tenant-managed housing development for the working poor.

Returning to Pittsburgh, Harriet Henson and the NTR sharpened their strategy by inviting Bertha Gilkey of St. Louis, nationally known for her organization of public housing tenants, to advise them in their work. They approached Stanley Lowe, director of Landmarks' Preservation Fund, for technical assistance, and applied to Landmarks for an initial loan of $224,000 which was used to purchase two nuisance bars and six vacant historic structures.

Harriet Henson and friends sit on the front porch of her new house on Brighton Place.

The Crowninshield Award Comes to Pittsburgh

At the end of July, the National Trust for Historic Preservation announced that Landmarks' president, Arthur P. Ziegler, Jr., is to receive the Louise duPont Crowninshield Award, the Trust's highest award for historic preservation. Factors which weighed heavily in consideration for the award include: lifetime achievement, volunteer commitment, significant national level involvement in historic preservation, and recognition of achievement from other organizations. Crowninshield winners are selected by the Preservation Committee of the National Trust's Board of Trustees.

Landmarks' quarter-century of work in neighborhood preservation was specially cited. In his letter to Arthur Ziegler of July 27, National Trust President Richard Moe wrote: "Your involvement with the Mexican War Streets, Manchester, and finally at Station Square clearly illustrates the positive role preservation can play in inner cities. Your efforts serve as a model for preservationists around the country, and your contributions at the national, state and local level have truly inspired all of us."

Mr. Ziegler will share the award with Carl B. Westmoreland, the African-American preservation leader from Cincinnati who has restored extensive 19th-century housing for low- to moderate-income people in Cincinnati. Many years ago, Mr. Ziegler was asked to chair the first seminar on "Minorities and Historic Preservation" at a National Trust conference. Mr. Ziegler invited Carl Westmoreland to speak, and for the first time conference attendees were addressed by an African-American, an Eskimo, an American Indian, and a Hispanic. Carl Westmoreland and Arthur Ziegler have both served as trustees of the National Trust.

The 1993 Crowninshield Award will be presented at the Trust's annual conference in St. Louis, September 29 to October 2.
**Buying a Historic House**

For some time Carol Peterson, a community activist and historic house researcher, had wanted to buy a home of her own—an older house full of character but still affordable. Visiting the city's historic neighborhoods, Carol decided to focus on Lawrenceville; she had friends living there and was attracted by the older housing stock and the Butler Street shopping. In 1991, Carol found her house, an 1899 dwelling, once single-family, now converted into three apartments. As a single female with a moderate income, Carol faced challenges as a prospective home buyer.

She was able to complete the purchase by qualifying for a program operated by Pittsburgh’s Urban Redevelopment Authority and by arranging her financing with Integra Bank, a major lender for historic properties. Carol was thus able to afford major repairs—as well as restore the period details still intact.

The process was not a small challenge. It was routine if time-consuming to take out dropped ceilings, cover textured paint, and replaster walls, less so to re-expose sliding parlor doors and restore a rotten tin ceiling in the former kitchen. There was more, though: not only to strip the millwork but to have missing pieces duplicated. The stairs was a special task with a special reward: a continuous cherry railing 62 feet long, supported on three newel posts and 90 spindles, rising to the third floor.

Because Integra Bank understands the importance of historic property renovation, and through its experience with borrowers such as Carol, the bank has developed a formal lending program—the Historic Rehabilitation Mortgage—to serve the needs of prospective historic home owners. Prospective home owners may borrow up to 95% of the combined rehabilitation value of the home, based on current appraisal value plus the value of all proposed repairs. There are none of the income restrictions or borrowing limits often associated with other reduced-rate mortgages, and Integra Bank will help finance closing costs.

Since the inception of the program in 1988, Integra Bank has granted 81 loans totaling over $4 million in Allegheny West, Central North Side, Lawrenceville, South Side, Shadyside, and North Oakland. For information on the requirements and features of a Historic Rehabilitation Mortgage, call Integra Bank at (412) 664-6234.

**Welcome New Members**

The Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation welcomes the following new members who recently joined Landmarks. We look forward to their participation in our work and special events.

Andrew J. Bailey
Margaret Berry
Ronald A. Britsky
Alfred Christopher, Jr.
Jack J. Doyle
Foxfire, Inc.
Clair E. Gallagher
Bruce E. Halls
Roberta Hanna
Leon Haynes
Betty Kent
Carol and Alan Kester and family

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Entree Magazine
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**General Counsel Position Created**

Because of the growing complexity and daily demands of legal work involving historic preservation issues, Landmarks created the office of general counsel—a full-time staff position. Elisa J. Cavalier was appointed General Counsel in June. Her duties include handling legal work for Landmarks and Station Square, working with outside counsel, reporting to the board of trustees on legal matters, and providing legal services, as part of our technical services program, for Preservation Fund recipients and neighborhood organizations involved in historic preservation.

Elisa was born in Swickley, Pennsylvania and educated at Tufts University and Northeastern University School of Law.

**Gift to Landmarks**

The Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation wishes to thank Ketchum Communications for a copy of its new corporate history *The Spirit of Ketchum*.

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**Landmarks Trustee Honored**

On Wednesday, July 7, the Urban League of Pittsburgh hosted a program and reception honoring Arthur J. Edmunds, a trustee of Landmarks and the executive director of the Urban League from 1960 to 1985.

Many people gathered on the July afternoon to hear about the life of Arthur Edmunds, to listen to the words of those who know him well, and to witness the dedication of the Arthur J. Edmunds Center in Northview Heights on Pittsburgh's North Side. Dianna L. Green, chair of the board of the Urban League, described Arthur Edmunds as an “outstanding Pittsburgher” and noted that through his leadership the Urban League became a strong and respected advocate for minorities.

Wendell G. Freeland recalled that Arthur Edmunds always presented a “calm, wise, and measured view . . . in times of turmoil.” He also said that “one of the greatest gifts you can give anyone is to give them the opportunity to develop his or her capacities and talents,” and believes that the Arthur J. Edmunds Center is a necessary “outpost” of the Urban League. Leon L. Haley, president and CEO of the Urban League, added that the Center would give the people of Northview Heights the hope and opportunity for a better life. The formal program ended with a performance by the Urban League Ballet, followed by a reception for all.

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**Landmarks Welcomes**

- **ENTREE MAGAZINE MYLAN LABORATORIES, INC. AND THE PITTSBURGH STEELERS**
  - as Corporate Member Benefactors of the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation

Landmarks appreciates the commitment of Entree Magazine, Mylan Laboratories, Inc., and the Pittsburgh Steelers in helping us create a future for Pittsburgh by preserving its past.
Revisiting “Woodville”:
The Fourth in a Series About the Historic Properties Affiliated with Landmarks

Albert Tatsler

To be sure, Pittsburgh’s most impressive architectural legacy is its large number of high-quality mid-through late 19th-century vernacular buildings. Occasionally one detects elements of the Colonial or Federalist past, architecturally speaking, however, “historic” Pittsburgh is emphatically a 19th-century town.

This may be one reason that “Woodville,” the house General John Neville and his son Presley erected c. 1785, is such a special place. One of five National Historic Landmarks in Allegheny County (the second oldest structure and the only residence therein), “Woodville” is the Pittsburgh area’s principal link with 18th-century American life and architecture. The house has its origins in a log building erected one year before the Declaration of Independence. Both Nevilles fought in the war—the General commanded the 4th Virginia Regiment and Presley served as aide-de-camp to the Marquis de Lafayette—and both were captured by the British in 1780. Freed in 1785, they returned to the land located some six miles southwest of what is now the Point and extended the log building into a gracious manor house. “Woodville” grew in subsequent years; the most extensive additions being first-floor bedrooms and the porch, but the essential character of the 1780s and 1790s remains.

In 1793 the last occupant of the house died, and the property—reduced from 400 acres to about two—was threatened by highway expansion and a flood-control project. In 1969 the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation purchased the property, and the Neville House Auxiliary was established to care for the house. Since that time the Allegheny County Committee of the National Society of Colonial Dames of America and the Garden Club of Allegheny County have been involved in the interior restoration of the house and landscaping of the property. Since the Neville house and property were occupied continuously for over 200 years prior to 1973, they have attracted the attention of regional archaeologists. Between 1976 and 1989, four archaeological excavations took place on the site. Thousands of artifacts and fragments of ceramic, glass, metal, and other materials have been retrieved and studied by archaeologists from the Carnegie Museum of Natural History and the University of Pittsburgh.

The boundaries of a prehistoric site also have been identified. Future explorations will be undertaken as funding permits.

“Woodville” is located in Collier Township on Route 30 south of Hesletberg, PA, and just north of Exit 12 or Route 79. In summer, once off the highway, one can almost forget the nearby traffic congestion, shielded from view by dense vegetation.

As to the future, the Neville house looks to the implementation of a master landscape plan, now being created by GWSM, Inc., and to the expansion of its educational and tour programs. In the immediate future, the Neville house will be celebrating the bicentennial of the Whiskey Rebellion in 1994, a Rebellion “trail” has been plotted linking “Woodville” with other important sites, such as Old St. Luke’s and the Oliver Miller Homestead. Long-term goals include opening the house on a regular, more frequent basis, and serving as the focal point for the study of 18th- and early 19th-century regional history; this effort has already begun with 8th- and 9th-grade students at Chartiers Valley High School. Membership in the Neville House Auxiliary is so affordable that virtually everyone can support our area’s historic link with the formative years of American democracy. Individual membership, $7.50; Family, $15.00; and Patron, $20.00 or more. To join, or for information about the Woodville-pattern wallpaper, contact Mary Lu Denny at Landmarks, One Station Square, Suite 450, Pittsburgh, PA 15219, (412) 471-5808.

Members of Landmarks receive a 10% discount on all items. The Landmarks Store Balcony Level. The Shops at Station Square Pittsburgh, PA 15219-1770 412-765-1042

For a membership please phone 381-1865
Advocacy

The Burtner House

At the request of The Burtner House Society, Elisa Carrao, Chair of Landmarks, attended a public hearing in Natrona Heights on July 1 at which Mr. Charapp (of Charapp Ford) requested approval to build a car dealership on property adjacent to the land on which the Burtner House is located.

The Burtner House of 1823 is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Between 1973 and 1983, federal funds were utilized to restore the building and surrounding property. The property was deeded to Harrison Township with restrictive covenants and is leased to The Burtner House Society, a non-profit membership organization.

The current design of the proposed dealership presumes that .7665 acres of Burtner House property will be available for grading and filling purposes, thereby enabling the development to meet its drainage requirements. Landmarks voiced its concern that the new development could adversely impact the property on which the Burtner House is located. Although Mr. Charapp's conditional use request was approved at the township meeting, the township's commissioners and Mr. Charapp's architect have agreed to work with Landmarks to minimize the impact of the car dealership on the Burtner House property.

Call Us with Preservation News

Our staff wants to hear from you if you see or know of any historic buildings that are threatened or in danger of being demolished. We need your help in covering the County. Please contact Wayne Gray (412)471-5808 and report what you know.

Bessemer Court Meeting Room Opens

Schedule your next meeting, conference, lecture, or reception in the conveniently located Bessemer Court Meeting Room at Station Square.

The main room can comfortably seat 80 people or up to 100 people at a stand-up reception. Catering from Station Square restaurants is available, as are the standard meeting room amenities. The space can be expanded, weather permitting, into Bessemer Court for a beautiful riverside reception.

For further details and reservation information, call Dan or Cathy at (412)471-5808.

Reasonable Rental Fees

Fall SAH Tour Encourages Local Participation

"Pittsburgh: The Shaping of an American Vernacular Landscape" is the subject and the destination of the Society of Architectural Historians (SAH) 1993 Study Tour, to be held October 27-October 31. Franklin Toker, author of Pittsburgh: An Urban Portrai, professor of art history at the University of Pittsburgh and new SAH president, will lead the tour, assisted by the eminent cultural geographer Peirce Lewis. Following an optional one-day visit to Frank Lloyd Wright's "Fallingwater" and Hagen house, the tour will spend a day exploring Pittsburgh's industrial, corporate, neighborhood, and suburban history. Cost of the four-day tour is $375; $100 for students, with the optional Wright day an additional $75. Membership is SAH ($60; $25 for students) is required. Tour organizers hope many Pittsburghers will attend. Complete information and registration forms are available from David Bahlman, Executive Director, SAH, 1232 Pine St., Philadelphia, PA 19107.

Community Design Center of Pittsburgh

This useful organization, in existence since the mid-1960's, is the successor of the Landmarks Building at Station Square. Its purpose, very broadly, is to encourage improvement in neighborhood design through technical assistance, education, and funding for architectural designs, particularly for community-based organizations. It originated when Landmarks asked the Pittsburgh Planning Commission for some free design services to Carson Street building owners as part of our Pittsburgh Restoration Project. The Pittsburgh Chapter did so, and then made this service permanent as the Architects' Workshop, offering direct design services. Since 1987, however, the Community Design Center has helped broker relations with existing architectural firms.

Design-fund money has been broadly applied: more than 300 projects shown on 100 posters from February 1988 through July 1993. In these cases, a Community Design Center "mentor," along with CDC staff, serves as a resource for both architect and client. The same function, applied more generally, is served by CDC's educational work. Architects and clients are brought together in such a way that the former understands what is needed or affordable, and the latter knows what is architecturally possible. A 1992 New Urban Housing design competition has been a useful educational tool in this respect, especially through the publication and workshops that are resulting from the effort.

CDC's office is 215 The Landmarks Building. There is a 15-member board of directors, drawn from architecture, planning, real estate, and neighborhood groups. For information call Richard St. John, executive director, (412)391-4144.

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The Suite Life ... at an Affordable Rate
The 1908 master plan for the Western University of Pennsylvania became the University of Pittsburgh, which chose very different architecture thereafter.

Less Hornbostel at Pitt

In 1908, Palmer & Hornbostel of New York won the competition to design a whole new 43-acre campus for the Western University of Pennsylvania. The hillside pasture in northern Oakland, under this scheme, was to have a stunning array of Classical buildings deployed over its surface, but in fact only a few detached elements of the great scheme were built by the newly-renamed University of Pittsburgh. Two such fragments, close to the top of the rise, are to be demolished within two years. One is the third of the School of Medicine that got built, now known as Pennsylvania Hall and signaled to the world below by a huge sunken relief of Aesculapius, the medical god. The other building, a little downhill, is the School of Dentistry that is now the Mineral Industries Building.

In each case, Pitt claims that the annual maintenance cost is higher than the cost of demolition. To be spared, on the other hand, is Benno Janssen's Alumni Hall of 1920, halfway up the hill.

It may not be important to campaign for the saving of these two buildings. The cornices of the School of Dentistry suggest that it was to be extended, at least at one end, some day; while the real beauty of the three-part ensemble at the School of Medicine was never realized. A terra-cotta cheneau on the School of Medicine, as enlivening to its roofline as is that still on Thaw Hill, is now gone. Will the best solution be recording by camera and the saving and eventual re-use of Aesculapius and other terra-cottas? So it goes with the vision and grandeur of master plans.

Looking Back

A Photo from Landmarks' Archives

On January 23, 1911, the South cantilever of the Sewickley Bridge was reaching toward its northern partner. Of this bridge nothing remains in 1993 save one finial from a stanchion, standing at Station Square.

Join LANDMARK:

Support the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation in its work to:
- Preserve architectural landmarks, historic neighborhoods, and industrial sites and artifacts in Allegheny County
- Create tours, lectures, publications, and educational programs featuring the history, architecture, and culture of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County
- Continue the development of Station Square, the 52-acre riverfront site where Landmarks' principles of historic preservation, adaptive use, and urban planning are creating a lively atmosphere for Pittsburgh.

Membership Benefits
- Free subscription to PHLF News, our membership newsletter published five times each year.
- Free subscription to All Aboard!, the Station Square newsletter published four times a year.
- Many rewarding volunteer opportunities.
- A 10% discount at The Landmarks Store in The Shops at Station Square.
- Free initial consultation on landmark designation and preservation advice for your historic property.
- Free access to our historical and architectural reference library in The Landmarks Building at Station Square.
- Discounts on or free use of all educational resources.
- Reduced rates on tours, and invitation to lectures, seminars and special events.

Membership Categories
Please enroll me as a member of the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation. I have enclosed a tax-deductible contribution in the amount of (check appropriate category):
- Individual $20 or more
- Family $25 or more
- School and Non-Profit $25
- Senior Citizen $10
- Corporate Supporter $50 or more
- Corporate Member $250 or more
- Life Benefactor $5,000 (one-time gift)

A copy of the official registration & financial information of the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement (as required by PA Act 202).

Please enroll me as a member of the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation.
I enclose my check for $
Name
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Street
City
State Zip

Send check or money order to:
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One Station Square, Suite 450
Pittsburgh, PA 15219-1170

Creating a Future for Pittsburgh by Preserving its Past
Revitalizing Pittsburgh's Neighborhoods

Brighton Place
Phase I Completed
Continued from page 1

Historic houses on Brighton Place and Brighton Road. A $4.5 million rehabilitation plan was prepared by NTR's development team and funding for the project and associated activities was provided by: Dollar Bank; Enterprise Social Investment Corporation; Equitable Gas Foundation; Fannie Mae Foundation; Federal Home Loan Bank; Hillman Foundation; Hunt Family Foundation; Integra Bank of Pittsburgh; McCune Foundation; R. K. Mellon Foundation; Pennsylvania Housing Finance Association; Pittsburgh Equity Fund; Pittsburgh Foundation; Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation; PNC Foundation; Neighborhood Development; PNC Foundation; Pennsylvania Housing Development Corporation; Pittsburgh Foundation; Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation; Integra Bank of Pittsburgh; Foundation; and the Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh. With the assistance of Pittsburgh's Urban Redevelopment Authority, architecturally distinctive but dilapidated Victorian townhouses were acquired, and Landmarks' Design Associates, Architects prepared restoration and renovation plans. Work on Phase I began in August 1992.

Brighton Place, now managed by the newly-formed Brighton Place Associates, is comprised, in its Phase I form, of some 34 housing units located on Brighton Place and the adjacent Brighton Road, McCullough Street, Marquis Way, and California Avenue. Two bars have been purchased; one will become a laundromat and also house the newly-formed Brighton Place Associates, providing the neighborhood with ready access to goods and services. There is new hope in Calbridge Place on Pittsburgh's North Side. The former Horner Middle School in Wilkinsburg.

Clean-up in Wilkinsburg, at the former Horner Middle School.

Landmarks' Preservation Fund: Work in Progress

Through the leadership of Stanley Lowe, Landmarks is at work in Pittsburgh's neighborhoods, offering technical and financial assistance to preservation groups and community-based organizations for projects benefiting historic buildings and neighborhoods in Allegheny County. Landmarks' Preservation Fund was established in 1985. To date, accomplishments include participation in the renovation on the South Side of the Eberhardt & Ober Brewery, the Hollander Building, and St. Mary's Priory; renovation of Anderson Manor in Manchester; renovation of the Dickson log house in Ben Avon; and renovation of 1417 E. Carson Street on the South Side, among many others. At present, the Fund amounts to nearly $2 million, including a half-million dollar loan from Integra Bank. Some of this money is in the form of loans already made.

This year, Landmarks has been at work in Wilkinsburg, on the South Side, and on the North Side in Fineview, Allegheny West, Manchester, Calbridge Place, Brighton Place, and Deutschtown. A tour of Preservation Fund projects in July showed much work in progress. There is new hope in Wilkinsburg. Stanley Lowe has been working closely with the west end of Wilkinsburg.

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In Manchester, there is new hope for a neighborhood that has already greatly benefited through historic preservation. At 1217-23 Juniata Street, Landmarks’ Preservation Fund gave technical assistance to the Manchester Citizens Corporation in buying five buildings, with 10 residential units, from Dollar Bank. Purchase financing of $143,000 was from local lenders, with restoration financing of $285,000 from the URA. Restoration will be done in consultation with Pittsburgh’s Historic Review Commission. The Preservation Fund also lent the Manchester Citizens Corporation $50,000 to acquire and resell these two houses and others for single-family home ownership.

There is now hope in Allegheny West. Landmarks’ Preservation Fund has lent $17,000 to the Allegheny West Civic Council for rehabilitation of 930 West North Avenue as the single-family home it originally was. The eight-unit house, now at 940-42 West North Avenue, is being acquired by the Allegheny West Civic Council with the help of a Fund loan to provide roll-over funds.

There is new hope in Deutschtown. The North Side Leadership Conference received a $5,000 technical-assistance grant from Landmarks’ Preservation Fund to assist the East Allegheny Community Council in its development of Avery Street Homes, four two- and-a-half story units at 520-26 Avery Street in Deutschtown. The site had been vacant since August 1990, when four larger residences were destroyed by fire. The new brick-veneer homes have been handsomely designed to fit in with the neighboring 19th-century rowhouses. Each home cost about $122,000 to build, but grants from government and private sources are resulting in sale prices between $75,000 and $82,000. The houses were all under sales agreement at the end of July.

There is new hope in Finnewood. Landmarks’ Preservation Fund provided technical assistance to the Finnewood Citizens’ Council and Finnewood residents in connection with development of the 12-unit Finnewood Crest. One purchaser received a closing-cost assistance grant of $1,500 from the Fund.

And, there is new hope on the South Side. The South Side Local Development Company (SSLDC) received a $100,000 bridge loan from Landmarks’ Preservation Fund to close on the Eichleay property at South 17th and Wharton Streets for eventual housing restoration and construction as Fox Way Commons. In another project, a $30,000 loan from the Fund is to be used to allow the SSLDC to obtain a sales agreement to purchase nearby land for riverfront housing. The SSLDC, in the future, will seek land eastward to Wharton Square. Finally, a Fund grant of $1,000 helped the SSLDC prepare the nomination of the Carson Street commercial area, between South 6th and South 24th Streets, as a City Historic District.

This is just a brief tour of current Preservation Fund projects, but each project demonstrates the belief many people have in the value of their neighborhoods—in the value of the historic architecture as a key to providing new life and hope for residents. The signs of restoration and new construction are encouraging for all to see.
Private Group Tours

Landmarks’ tour docents are busy organizing and leading bus and walking tours of our historic city and delighting groups with our illustrated lectures. We have recently hosted tours for or soon to host tours for Butler Motor Tours, Inc., Lincoln School, Adlai Stevenson School, Pittsburgh St. Vincent School, Fox Chapel High School, South Fayette High School, Franklin Elementary School, Manchester High School, Franklin High School, Century Schools, Convent, St. Elizabeth Elementary School, B’Nai Israel Singles Club, Vintage at the YWCA, The Allegheny General Hospital Center for Children, Miriam Breslow, Janet Eck, Israel Malkin, the TFG Sunday School Class of Youngstown, Ohio, the PAA Women’s Social Committee, the North Hills Welcome Wagon Club, Manchester School of Business, Chestertown, New York, the Chicago Architecture Foundation, and the Women’s Club of Alleghopa.

Our docents visited the Women’s Club of Bryn Mawr Farms, the AARP

#487 St. Barnabas Village, the Alliance of the Dental Society of the Western Pennsylvania, and Vintage at the YWCA with our illustrated lectures. During our fall interest tour, our tour docents, with interest in our tour, Butter Motor Tours is called the Goodies Galore Brown Bag Strip District Tour. Participants follow Landmarks’ tour guides along Penn Avenue, listening to historic and architectural information as they visit eight different shops where the merchants present each person with a sample item from the shop to collect in their Butter Motor Tours shopping bags. The tour takes about an hour, which leaves the tourers another hour to shop in the Strip District before going on to lunch in a local restaurant. To book a Goodies Galore Tour call Tracy Chipman at (412) 471-5802, or call to reserve seats for the tour. You may also call our office at (412) 471-5802 for further information on the events listed below or to make reservations.

On June 8, 1993, the Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group (PCRG), a group of community development and neighborhood organizations co-founded by Landmarks, held its third annual Preservation Fund, with Sarah with PCRG to establish equal lending

Reapitalization & Development Committee, the North Hills Welcome Wagon Club, the Landmarks Society of Rochester, the AARPClub of Bryn Mawr Farms, the AARP Club of Aliquippa, the Oxford Civic Center, Pittsburgh Churches, the South Side, North Side Historic Districts; the Cultural District; Chatham Village; Downtown; Landmarks’ members are invited to join the tours, space permitting. For information on tour destinations, times, and costs, please call Mary Lu Denny at (412) 471-5808.

Saturday, November 13 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

Sixteenth Annual Antiques Show

It’s a fall tradition: the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation annual antiques show at Station Square. This year, the Preview Party for members will be Friday, November 12, from 5:00 to 8:30 p.m. (not on Thursday evening as in the past), and the show will be open to the public on Saturday and Sunday. Thirty-one dealers will exhibit fine furniture, silver, china, and artwork.

Suggested admission: $4.00. Proceeds benefit the continuing restoration of the Neville house in Collier Township.

Saturday, December 5 2-5 p.m.

Holiday Visit to Calvary Church in Shadyside

Join us at Calvary Episcopal Church at the corner of Shady Avenue and West Street, for an afternoon lecture by Walter Kidney and the architecture, followed by an organ recital, tour, and reception. Further details will be mailed to members closer to the tour date.

CALL LANDMARKS, MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY BETWEEN 9 A.M. AND 5 P.M., AT (412) 471-5808, FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE EVENTS LISTED BELOW OR TO MAKE RESERVATIONS.

Volunteer

We’re Packing Up Pittsburgh and Taking It on the Road!

The 10-session training course for the Portable Pittsburgh school outreach program begins on October 5 at the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation. Call Mary Ann Eubanks for details at (412) 471-5808.

Will Power

Preserve our region’s history and landmarks for future generations. Add the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation as a beneficiary under your Will. If you would like to discuss this giving option, please call Eric Dickerson at (412) 471-5808.
PITTSBURGH ARCHITECTURE: What Boston Has Done for Us
Walter C. Kidney

The imminent publication of Margaret Henderson Floyd's book Architecture After Richardson reminds us of all the building designs—and architects—that the Pittsburgh area has received from the Boston area. It is odd that Philadelphia, with the sensational exception of the Cathedral of Learning, has never had the same impact here. Architecture After Richardson does not account for Philadelphia but does give an idea of how many Bostonians were drawn, some to remain, to a place so different from their own.

Henry Hobson Richardson (1838-1886) was probably the first Bostonian to design for Pittsburgh, though some early Pittsburgh houses, with recessed outer doors or convex brick bays, seem to show Boston influence. His robust adaptation of Romanesque in the Allegheny County Courthouse and Jail, and in Emmanuel Episcopal Church, introduced here an unprecedented compositional approach that subordinated ornamentation to the whole design and brought a new sense of the aesthetic possibilities of materials. When Richardson died in 1886, George Foster Shepley, Charles Hercules Rutan, and Charles Alberton Coolidge formed a Boston office to complete Richardson's commissions. For a while they designed in a very tasteful Romanesque without much creative fire, here as elsewhere, then continued in other styles. The firm, which has changed names several times, survives in Boston. Margaret Henderson Floyd's book will cover three other followers of the Richardson tradition, Alexander Wadsworth Longfellow, Frank Ellis Alden, and Alfred Branch Harlow, who set up a Boston-Pittsburgh practice in 1886.

More Classically inclined, Robert Swain Peabody and John Goddard Stearns formed their Boston partnership in 1870; both men died in 1917. Their architecture lacked elegant simplicity of design, but was very popular in turn-of-the-century New England and here as well. Peabody & Stearns had no permanent Pittsburgh office, but Frank E. Rutan and Frederick A. Russell, both Richardson employees, joined in a Pittsburgh practice in 1896 and remained in association until Rutan's death in 1911. Their architecture tended to be grave and a little awkward. Colbert T.A. MacClure and Albert H. Spahr formed their Pittsburgh office in 1901, not long after MacClure had moved to Pittsburgh for Peabody & Stearns. The partnership's work was a little more spirited than usual in the 1900s, more willing to try out new forms and effects. Continued on page 10
Ralph Adams Cram, his one-time partner Bertram Grosvenor Goodhue, and his long-time partner Frank W. Ferguson, collectively or individually designed four grand churches for Pittsburgh. These represented an approach to Gothic that the architects had introduced in this country: alluding to European national idiom but in no literal way, ornate in places but dominated by strong massing.

After the East Liberty Presbyterian Church, Boston faded from the local scene for over four decades. Fifth Avenue Place by Hugh Stubbins & Associates returned the Boston presence here, but Boston at its modern best is becoming visible in additions to the old Hornbostel campus at Carnegie-Mellon University by two Boston offices. A University master-plan competition of 1987, won by the firm that is now Michael Dennis & Associates, has already proven itself on the East Campus with buildings that relate in their brickwork and a certain sturdiness of proportion to Hornbostel’s more elaborate work. Further development is on the way. In the March PHLF News, on page 5, “New at CMU” discussed briefly the addition to the Graduate School of Industrial Administration by Kallmann, McKinnell & Wood.

Payette Associates of Boston is designing the Electronic Materials Technology Building, to be built below and in front of Hammerschlag Hall in Junction Hollow. This is still under design and renderings are not yet available, but we hope for something good.

In general, Boston has done very well by us. Richardson’s friend John H. Ricketson, Bostonian turned Pittsburgher, spoke of the two cities as “Rosy fingered Aurora, daughter of the morning,” and “the Queen of Night, wrapped in her sable mantle with her eyes flashing fire”; surely Aurora has given the Queen an improved dress sense and a more benign expression.

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Left: Wallace Rowe House, Shadyside, 1902 (demolished); rather dry Tudor in red terra cotta and brick.

Below: Ross Pumping Station, Allegheny shore near Aspinwall, 1908; proud municipal architecture.

MacClure & Spahr (left and below) Jonasson, Meyer & Co., downtown, 1909-10; a quasi-art Nouveau treatment in terra cotta, very smart for a ladies’ fashion store.

5131 Pembroke Place, Shadyside, 1903: a crisp Tudor work with terra-cotta trim and hard, bright red brick with raked mortar joints.
Conventional architectural history has placed Modernism in direct opposition to more traditional and regional design, to the latter's discredit. Architecture After Richardson suggests that the Arts and Crafts inclinations of firms such as Longfellow, Alden & Harlow, and the regionalism of their work, contributed to the evolution of American Modernism and had its own tradition and artistry, worthy of study.

The Pittsburgh office of Longfellow, Alden & Harlow—Alden & Harlow after 1896—designed the Carnegie Institute, major and branch Carnegie Libraries, the Duquesne Club, Pittsburgh skyscrapers, a variety of Sewickley and East End houses including large mansions, and numerous other buildings. This firm was comparable in Pittsburgh to McKim, Mead & White in New York. Architecture After Richardson offers the most extensive treatment thus far given local architects.

One element of the book is a works list of more than 350 buildings, the whole known output of both the Pittsburgh and Boston offices.

Announcing a New Publication

Architecture After Richardson: Regionalism Before Modernism—Longfellow, Alden, and Harlow in Boston and Pittsburgh

Margaret Henderson Floyd

Co-published by The University of Chicago Press and the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation

9" x 12", approx. 559 pp., 350 halftones, 110 line drawings. $60, cloth. Members of Landmarks receive a 10% discount.

Yes, I am interested in purchasing copies of Architecture After Richardson by Margaret Henderson Floyd. Please send me complete book order information.

Name
Address

Please complete this form and mail it to Shirley Kempler, Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation, One Station Square, Suite 450, Pittsburgh, PA 15219-1170.
Why Preserve/Rehabilitate Historic Properties?

Throughout the greater Pittsburgh area, you will find a variety of homes from past eras. These homes are more than bricks and mortar or wood structures, they are a sampling of the past. These homes are at least 50 years old, and they represent the hard work and quality that are a part of our history and need to be preserved as a part of our future.

Restoring and subsequently preserving a historic home both improves the property value and the community. It is also a good financial investment. When you purchase a historic home, you contribute to the revitalization of Greater Pittsburgh's historic communities. In addition, the local economy improves with increased jobs, housing, and higher property values. And, if you purchase a historic rental property, there can be some tax advantages.

We want you to purchase the historic home you've always wanted and provide you the funds to restore it to its original splendor. Integra Bank/Pittsburgh is pleased to announce the introduction of the Historic Rehabilitation Mortgage. This combination loan enables you to receive a mortgage and a home improvement loan all in one. This means greater borrowing potential with a single loan. Here are some of the advantages:

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The property must be in low to moderate income census tracts in Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Washington, or Westmoreland Counties, in designated distressed communities, or an area served by Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group (PCRG). Many National Register, National Register-Eligible, or City Designated Historic Districts fall within these geographic areas. An Integra Bank/Pittsburgh Mortgage Lending Representative can give you a map showing qualifying neighborhoods, towns, and townships in your area.

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Preservation tax incentives are administered by the National Park Service and are available for any qualified project that is certified "historic" as determined by Federal, State or local authorities. For more information contact the National Park Service's Regional Office in Philadelphia at (215) 597-1577 or your State or Local Historic Preservation Office.

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