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NEWS

Published for the members of the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation

No. 135 July 1994

- Historic Properties in Schenley Park Take a New Direction
- Clyde Hare's Pittsburgh
- Pittsburgh Architecture: Horne's

Preservation Fund Lends \$500,000; Receives \$10,000 from The Pittsburgh Foundation

"There are whole neighborhoods of old houses, houses that were once pleasant to see and inhabit, that have been neglected and knocked about, but are not too far gone for redemption. They are still lived in, though in these latter years often by people who themselves have been neglected and knocked about.... It is in such neighborhoods that the preservationist, aided by good will, clarity of purpose, and money — always money — can work to create and maintain a good environment that continues, rather than freezes, history.... This is where the revolving fund comes in; properly applied, a revolving fund, even a small one, calls into play economic and psychological forces that effect changes far exceeding normal real estate investments."

Arthur P. Ziegler, Jr.
Revolving Funds for Historic Preservation, 1975

Landmarks' Preservation Fund has evolved during the past 30 years from a number of smaller revolving funds (monies lent, repaid, and lent again) dedicated to purchasing, restoring, and selling historic properties to individual homeowners (normally, community residents and often in low- and moderate-income neighborhoods) to its present incarnation as a major funding source, providing loans and technical services to over 30 Pittsburgh neighborhood and preservation organizations as well as to community organizations in 22 cities in the United States. Today the Preservation Fund:

- supports programs that educate neighborhood residents about the architectural and cultural value of their historic buildings;
- provides funds to enable community groups to purchase derelict buildings, endangered historic structures, or notorious operations that impede neighborhood safety or growth;
- assists organizations to gain the skills needed to manage their own preservation and development programs;
- provides capital in the form of market-rate loans, often as interim financing until long-term financing can be arranged, so that significant community development can take place; and
- provides grants to enable neighborhood groups to visit other communities with similar problems or hire consultants to advise and train residents in using historic preservation as a means of urban and human renewal.

Here are highlights of some recent Fund achievements and activities.

Mellon Bank/Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation Comprehensive Neighborhood Development Initiative

Mellon Bank has joined with Landmarks to create a lending initiative that advances neighborhood preservation and economic development to another and more ambitious level. The Comprehensive Neighborhood Development Initiative (CNDI) was officially announced in a press conference on May 17. Mayor Murphy and other city officials, Mellon bankers, and officials from the National Trust for Historic Preservation and Landmarks met with representatives from neighborhood organizations and the media to unveil the program. Matthew Giles of Mellon Bank introduced the participants and characterized CNDI as "one of the most ambitious technical assistance programs ever established in Allegheny County." Kelly Sinclair of the National Trust applauded the program as yet another example of Landmarks' innovative role in the American preservation movement, and noted that Landmarks' work in Pittsburgh demonstrates that "historic preservation does not work unless linked to economic development." Mayor Murphy lauded the endeavor and declared that the CNDI embodies three key elements: (1) it is a means to protect Pittsburgh's heritage and architecture; (2) it illustrates the possibility and effectiveness of partnerships between private and public, profit and non-profit segments of the city; and (3) it demonstrates the importance of strategic planning in any effort to effect substantial change. Mr. Giles, Scott Brown, and Rick Savido of Mellon Bank, and Landmarks' director of preservation services, Howard B. Slaughter, Jr., presented an overview of the CNDI program and answered questions from the some 70 attendees.

CNDI provides loans and pre-development financing to community-based, non-profit Allegheny County organizations to assist with economic develop-

ment projects. Unlike other lending programs that assist the individual homeowner or the single-project developer, CNDI offers assistance to comprehensive development programs. It encourages neighborhood organizations to prepare long-range plans and look at the long-term needs of entire neighborhoods.

Landmarks has provided \$250,000 to assist in funding the earliest phases of any CNDI project; the monies from this fund will be used to support the first phase of any project, consisting of those initial predevelopment and acquisitions steps that banks have traditionally not funded but that are nonetheless essential ingredients in a successful project. Mellon Bank, working with the Landmarks Preservation Fund and agencies such as the Urban Redevelopment Authority and the Allegheny County Department of Development, will direct its resources to the later and completing phases of the project.

With the CNDI program, community-based organizations will have an opportunity to meet in the development stages of a project with a core team comprised of Mellon Bank, Landmarks, and development professionals and comprehensively plan their project, thus avoiding potentially wasteful expenditures of funds and time.



1205 Liverpool Street, Manchester

Manchester Citizens Corporation

Landmarks continues to contribute to the Manchester Citizens Corporation's \$8 million strategic community renewal plan. Our most recent Preservation Fund loan of \$250,000 enabled MCC to purchase two historic properties in the community. One of the buildings, a townhouse at 1205 Liverpool Street, will become the organization's headquarters. MCC president Rhonda Brandon expects to move to the site in the fall. The second structure, the Rippl Building at 1319 Allegheny Avenue, previously housed MCC's headquarters; the simple yet handsome white glazed-brick commercial building built during the 1930s will provide long-awaited community retail services including a convenience store, laundromat, barber shop, and beauty parlor. The facility is scheduled to open in July.

(Continued on page 12)

Pittsburgh Banks Support Neighborhood Revitalization

The Mellon/Landmarks CNDI program, described on this page, is a recent example of the cooperative effort between the lending community and the preservation community, and of the substantial financial commitment that many Pittsburgh banks are making.

Integra Bank and PNC Bank are continuing their neighborhood commitments through the following programs:

Integra Bank Signs Memorandum of Understanding with PCRG

For the seventh year in a row, Integra Bank has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group (PCRG). According to PCRG executive director Nancy Schaeffer, the agreement, dated March 17, is a \$1.4 billion commitment on the part of Integra Bank to invest in Pittsburgh's neighborhoods and to do so in partnership with community organizations. The Memorandum of Understanding addresses lending goals such as allocating funds for loans to low- and moderate-income neighborhoods, maintaining and locating branch offices for the benefit of bank customers, establishing convenient branch office service hours, and offering employment opportunities to minority group members.

PNC Initiative

PNC Bank funded the initial study that called for the creation of the Community/Lender Credit Program (CLCP). Marva Harris, senior vice-president of PNC Bank, has served as the president of the board of directors of the CLCP since its inception. This non-profit consortium of 21 banks works with local community-based organizations to provide credit-counseling services and homebuyer education to low- and moderate-income residents throughout the city and county.

On June 7, the CLCP celebrated its first anniversary. Executive director Louise R. Craighead said: "Last year when we began the Community/Lender Credit Program, we were embarking on a grand experiment. Poor credit history, unfamiliarity with special programs available, and the homebuying process were obstacles to families that could benefit from homeownership and to neighborhoods that desperately need the stability that homeownership brings to a community."

(Continued on page 12)



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.

- Keith J. Beer and John F. Ferraro

Robert J. Bennett and family

Neal F. Binstock

Mary Lou Clark

Deborah L. DeFazio and family

J. Paul Farmer

Mrs. William A. Fluty

Jeanette Greco

Dr. & Mrs. Arthur Grossman

Scott W. Horne

Hosack Elementary School

Ron Ilgenfritz

Paulette Kelly and family

Susan M. Kircher

April L. Kost

Bill Kurtek

Mr. & Mrs. J.P. Levis, III

B. McCabe

James T. McFarlane

Michael Milan
- Margaret L. Mills

Edwin E. Neill

Darlene Phillips

Myrna D. Prince

Quaker Valley High School

Brian J. Ratner

David Robb

Edna Rushnik

Sally M. Schnorr

James F. Shaughnessy

Harry Snyder

Norma J. Stefanik

Joy Madeleine Swan

Lisa A. Ubbelohde

Edward and Frances Walsh

Christine and Ian Welsh and family

Lisa Marie Zana

Kathy Ziegler

Corporate Members

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McGann & Chester

PNC Bank Foundation
- Partners**

Allegheny Valley Bank of Pittsburgh

California University of Pennsylvania

Dynamet Foundation

Elkem Metals Company

The First City Company, Inc.

Horty Springer & Mattern

West Penn Hospital Foundation
- Patrons**

L.B. Foster Company

Integra Financial Corporation

Montgomery Watson, Inc.
- Associates**

Delta International Machinery Corporation

Landmark Security Transport

Neville House Receives Bequest

As a beneficiary of the Estate of Joseph B. Neville, the Neville House Auxiliary of the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation recently received just over \$25,000 for use in “the repair, upkeep, preservation, improvement, and operation of the Neville House.” The National Historic Landmark in Collier Township dates back to c. 1785, and belonged to the Nevilles and related family members for two centuries.

Since 1976, Landmarks has owned the house and its 2½ -acre property. The Neville House Auxiliary — a volunteer group of about 200 dues-paying members — cares for the Neville House, opens it to the public, and hosts special events and educational programs.

As a result of this gift, the Neville House Auxiliary plans to make needed repairs and repaint the house this summer. Landmarks and the Auxiliary are most appreciative of this gift.

Alternative Address Notice

Recently the Post Office informed us that some of our members spend a few months of each year away from their primary addresses, on a regular basis, and that our newsletter and notices cannot be forwarded. If you maintain two different addresses and are finding that the Post Office does not forward your *PHLF News* to you, please let us know. We would be happy to mail the newsletter and our notices to you by first-class mail for the few months you are away from Pittsburgh. Please send a note with your alternative address information to:

Mary Lu Denny
Director of Membership Services
Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation
1 Station Square, Suite 450
Pittsburgh, PA 15219-1170

PHLF News is published five times each year for the members of the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation, a non-profit historic preservation organization serving Allegheny County. Landmarks is committed to neighborhood restoration and historic-property preservation; public advocacy; education and membership programs; and the continuing development of Station Square, a riverfront property opposite downtown Pittsburgh. PHLF News is supported through membership dollars, proceeds from Station Square, and advertising revenue.

- Arthur P. Ziegler, Jr.

Louise Sturgess

Cathy Broucek

Elisa J. Cavalier

Tom Croyle

Mary Lu Denny

Eric F. Dickerson

Mary Ann Eubanks

Walter C. Kidney

Howard B. Slaughter, Jr.

Albert M. Tannler

Greg Pytlík
- President

Editor/Executive Director

Director of Marketing, Station Square

General Counsel

Comptroller

Director of Membership Services

Advertising Sales Manager

Education Coordinator

Architectural Historian

Director of Preservation Services

Archivist

Designer



Harriet Henson stands with (from left to right) Councilman Christopher Smith, Councilman Alan Hertzberg, Arthur P. Ziegler, Jr., Stanley Lowe, and Howard B. Slaughter, Jr.

A Tribute to Harriet Henson

On April 25, Landmarks hosted a luncheon at the Grand Concourse in honor of Harriet Henson, executive director of the Northside Tenants Reorganization. Harriet is the newly-appointed Pennsylvania Advisor to the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Through her experience in creating the Brighton Place housing program on the North Side for single female heads of households, Harriet will bring much practical experience to the National Trust. Members and friends of Landmarks gathered to congratulate Harriet.



From left to right: Rhonda Brandon, Arthur J. Ralph, and Betty Jane Ralph (all of the Manchester Citizens Corporation); Stanley Lowe; and Ethel Hagler, a trustee of Landmarks.

Landmarks Co-Sponsors Preservation Law Conference

On April 8, over 50 lawyers and preservationists gathered in the Allegheny County Bar Association Conference Center for a half-day Pittsburgh Preservation Law Conference sponsored jointly by Landmarks, the Allegheny County Bar Association, the National Center for Preservation Law, and the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission.

Landmarks president Arthur P. Ziegler, Jr. opened the conference by welcoming the participants and the guest speakers: Frank Thomas, Jr., attorney and a director of the Preservation Coalition of Greater Philadelphia; Bradford J. White, attorney with Clarion Associates, Inc. of Chicago; Stephen Neal Dennis, attorney and executive director of the Center for Preservation Law; and Susan Henshaw Jones, president and director of the National Building Museum, the latter two headquartered in Washington, D.C.

The first two presentations were moderated by Michael Eversmeyer, historic preservation planner in the Pittsburgh Department of City Planning.

The program began with “The United Artists’ Case and its Importance to Pittsburgh.” Frank Thomas reviewed the *United Artists’ Theater v. City of Philadelphia* case, commonly called the Boyd Theater case, in which he represented the City and argued to uphold the constitutionality of its historic preservation ordinance. (For more information, see “You’ve Heard the Good News?,” *PHLF News*, February 1994.)

In “Recommendations for the New Pittsburgh Preservation Ordinance,” Pittsburgh’s current historic preservation ordinance and proposed recommendations to the ordinance were reviewed by Bradford White of Clarion Associates, a consulting firm hired by the City of Pittsburgh in 1990. (For comments, see page 8 of this issue, “Clarion’s Recommendations: First Comments.”)

The final two sessions moderated by attorney Harley Trice, the chairman of Preservation Pennsylvania, turned to national issues.

Stephen Neal Dennis entitled his talk “National Perspective on Pennsylvania and Pittsburgh Preservation Developments.” He presented an overview of historic preservation ordinances in this country, and looked ahead to issues likely to dominate preservation law in the next decades. He noted that there are 1,864 local preservation ordinances currently on the books in the United States; however, municipalities without home rule powers, unlike Philadelphia or Pittsburgh, may be strictly bound by the provisions of their state preservation law, regardless of adequacy or appropriateness. Indeed, many states have no statewide preservation statute.

Mr. Dennis anticipated that future historic preservation and landmark designation ordinance cases will be tied to (1) the saving of religious properties; (2) economic issues, such as owner hardship; (3) interior landmark-designation cases; and (4) the impact of building codes on historic-preservation ordinances. Preservation law, Mr. Dennis said, is one of the classic “fault lines” of constitutional law.

The last speaker, Susan Henshaw Jones, moved the discussion from legal to economic issues in “Proposed Tax Incentives to Promote Preservation.”

How can we preserve irreplaceable structures and restore urban vitality? Ms. Jones proposed an economic approach — change the tax code “to enable the use of tax credits by a wider range of investors for rehabilitations of historic properties providing low-income housing.”

After the conference the speakers and their Pittsburgh hosts lunched at The Carnegie Museum of Art and toured the Heinz Architectural Center.

1994 EVENTS

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.

July 6 through 8 and July 11 through 15
9 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.
Louise Child Care Conference Room,
Station Square

Pittsburgh Heritage I

This eight-day, three-credit teacher in-service offered through the Allegheny Intermediate Unit will combine field trips with classroom lectures to introduce teachers to Pittsburgh's ethnic neighborhoods and heritage. For more information, contact the AIU at (412) 394-5700.

Sun., July 10 1:45 to 5 p.m.

African-American Historic Sites Tour

Eliza Smith Brown of Landmarks Design Associates (LDA) and Dan Holland of the Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group will lead us on a Sunday afternoon bus and walking tour based upon the African-American Historic Sites Survey of Allegheny County, completed by LDA and Landmarks. The bus tour will depart from Station Square, and participants will tour the Hill District and Homewood.

Tour fare: \$10 members; \$22 non-members

July 18 through 22 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Louise Child Care Conference Room,
Station Square

Pittsburgh Heritage II

New for 1994 this two-credit, five-day, teacher in-service will continue to explore and expand upon the themes offered in the original course. For more information, contact the AIU at (412) 394-5700.

Sat., July 23 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Bessemer Court Meeting Hall,
Station Square

Sat., July 30 1 to 3 p.m.
Allegheny West

Victorian Gardens

Dr. Barry Hannegan will discuss the origins and evolution of American Victorian gardens with special reference to the application of late 19th- and early 20th-century landscape design to small-scale city and suburban gardens. Participants are invited to bring photographs of their own garden efforts for discussion.

On July 30, the group will attend the annual Allegheny West Victorian Garden Tour with Dr. Hannegan. For more information or to register, contact PIP Extended Studies and Travel at (412) 648-2560.

July 25 through 29 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Louise Child Care Conference Room,
Station Square

African-American Historic Sites In-service Course

This five-day, two-credit course is based on the African-American Historic Sites Survey of Allegheny County. Through field trips, films, lectures, and workshops, class participants will explore the African-American experience in the Pittsburgh region and develop methods for integrating this information into existing curricula. Eliza Smith Brown of Landmarks Design Associates and Dan Holland of the Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group will be the class instructors. For more information, contact the AIU at (412) 394-5700.

Sat., August 6 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Downtown Dragons

Landmarks' education coordinator, Mary Ann Eubanks, will lead families and friends on a downtown walking tour searching for gargoyles, medallions, and other ornamental designs which adorn Pittsburgh's buildings. The tour will begin outside The Shops at Station Square near the Smithfield Street Bridge. Wear walking shoes, pack some snacks, and bring a canteen of water. We will return to Station Square via the subway.

Tour fare (including subway fare):
\$3 members; \$8 non-members

Fri., September 23-Sun., September 25

Bus Tour to Historic Stratford Hall and Fredericksburg

In celebration of the Whiskey Rebellion Bicentennial, we will travel to Stratford Hall Plantation in Virginia, the birthplace of Robert E. Lee, for an in-depth seminar on the Whiskey Rebellion from Virginia's perspective. Built in the late 1730s, Stratford is furnished with original American and English 18th-century pieces. The Robert E. Lee Memorial Association operates one of the oldest continuing agricultural endeavors in America on its 1600 acres of forest and field.

We will arrive mid-afternoon on Friday, September 23 to check into the private Cheek and Astor Guest Houses on the Stratford grounds. Before dinner we will tour the main house and enjoy a wel-

come orientation with cocktails. After a country buffet breakfast Saturday morning we will attend an in-depth seminar on the Whiskey Rebellion, and then travel to two private plantations not open to the public.

Following Sunday breakfast we will travel to Fredericksburg to tour the home of Mary Ball Washington (purchased for her by her son George in 1772); the home of George's sister, Betty Washington Field; James Monroe's law offices; and other historic shops and museums.

Reservations are limited to 42 people.

Sun., Oct. 9 2 to 5 p.m.

Swan Acres and Evergreen Hamlet Tour

Landmarks' archivist, Al Tannler, will escort us through these suburban neighborhoods in Ross Township. William Shinn founded Evergreen Hamlet around 1851, originally with five homes on 85 acres, to give middle-class families some of the advantages of country living while allowing reasonable access to places of business. Four of the original houses survive. In contrast, Swan Acres, dating from 1936, began as a dozen houses offering several interpretations in one place of the concept of Modern architecture as understood here in the late 1930s. To use innovative styles at all was a bold decision at the time.

Tour fare: \$10 members; \$22 non-members

Mon., October 17 8 p.m.

Station Square Sheraton

1994 Distinguished Lecture and Award of Merit Presentation

William J. Murtagh, the first Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places, will present our 1994 "Distinguished Lecture on Historic Preservation" on the occasion of Landmarks' thirtieth anniversary. Dr. Murtagh is visiting professor and director of development for the graduate preservation training programs at the University of Maryland and also at the University of Hawaii. He has been a leader in the field of historic preservation for 30 years, and will speak to our members about his experiences.

Thurs., Nov. 10 through Sun., Nov. 13

Station Square Sheraton

Antiques Show

Mark your calendar now, and plan on attending Landmarks' prestigious Antiques Show featuring 31 dealers from many different states. This year, the Preview Party for members and friends of Landmarks will be on Thursday evening, November 10 from 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

On Friday, November 11, Emyl Jenkins will be the guest speaker at a special luncheon.

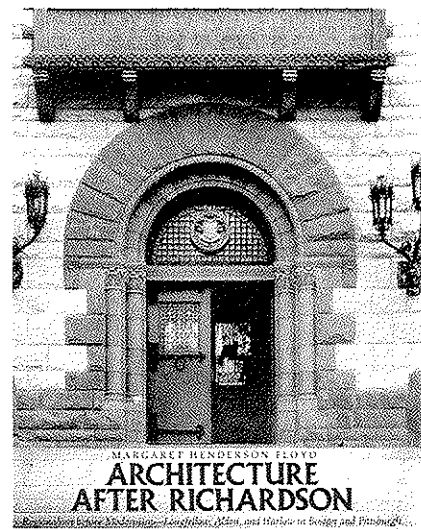
Sun., December 11 1:30 to 7 p.m.

Holiday Tour to Historic Harmony and Zelienople

Our holiday tour will be held in cooperation with the Zelienople Historical Society and the Harmony Museum. In Zelienople we will visit Buhl House c. 1805; Passavant House c. 1808-10; and enjoy a special holiday dinner in the Kaufman House, the well-known Zelienople hotel. In Harmony, a National Historic District located only a mile from Zelienople and the original home of the Harmony Society, we will enjoy a candlelight tour of three houses.

Tour fare: to be announced

NOW AVAILABLE



ARCHITECTURE AFTER RICHARDSON

*Regionalism before Modernism—
Longfellow, Alden, and Harlow in
Boston and Pittsburgh*

By Margaret Henderson Floyd

Published by The University of Chicago Press in association with the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation
Size 9" x 12"; 568 pages; 455 photographs
Cloth ISBN 0-226-25410-0

____ Yes, I would like to purchase
_____ copies of *Architecture
after Richardson* at \$75.00 per copy

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Less 10% for members of Landmarks

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Any questions? Call Louise Sturgess
at (412) 471-5808.

THE OLD ALLEGHENY VICTORIAN GARDEN TOUR

Sponsored by the
Allegheny West
Civic Council

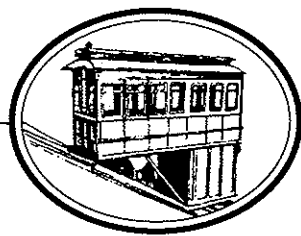


Saturday and Sunday,
July 30 and 31 1:00-5:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$5.00 per person
(may be purchased on the
days of the tour)

Over a dozen gardens in the century-old Allegheny West community on Pittsburgh's North Side will be on display. Neighbors in Victorian dress will stroll the brick sidewalks and music will fill the air.

Call (412) 323-8884 for details.

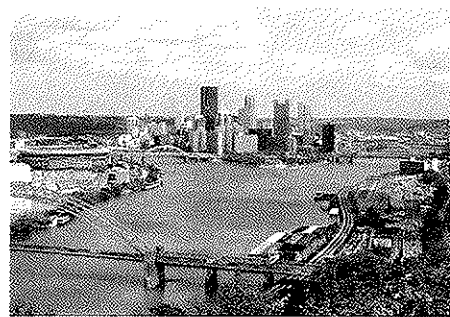


THE SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE DUQUESNE INCLINE

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please phone 381-1665

Education News



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 or are soon to host tours for Butler Motor Tours, Inc., Rankin Intermediate School, Quaker Valley High School, Lincoln School, Avalon Elementary School, Ft. Cherry High School, Pleasantview School, Rotary District 7300, Schenley High School, Markham Elementary School, the American Theological Library Association, the Allegheny Intermediate Unit, the Tri-state Occupational Medicine Association, Northmont Presbyterian Church Women's Association, the Royal Ontario Museum, VINTAGE at the YW, Metro Pittsburgh AARP #145, School Voyagers, Ltd. of Canada, North Hills Welcome Wagon, and the University of Charleston, West Virginia.

Our docents recently presented illustrated lectures to the following: Independence Court of Mt. Lebanon, Penn Hills Women's Club, AARP #1485, the Allegheny Intermediate Unit, North Hills High School, Mt. Washington Public Library, the American Society of Heating & Air Conditioning Employees, Ingomar Garden Club, Zerubabel Duquesne Royal Arch Chapter #162, and VINTAGE at the YWCA. Many members also borrow our slide shows for teaching and entertainment. Among them

have been Christine Welsh, Marshall Middle School, and Fairless Intermediate School.

If you are interested in organizing a private group tour or an illustrated lecture for your club or school, contact Mary Lu Denny at (412) 471-5808. Remember: members of Landmarks may borrow any one of our 14 slide shows to present with just a \$35 refundable deposit — no rental fee. Call Mary Lu Denny for a complete listing of our slide shows featuring Pittsburgh's history, architecture, ethnic neighborhoods, and parks and sculpture.

Landmarks thanks all of our volunteer docents for their loyal and energetic efforts: Bob Bennett, Charlotte Cohen, Harriet Cooper, Mary Eror, Annie Futrell, Colleen Gavaghan, Pat Gibbons, Barbara Grossman, Frances Hardie, Kathy Jones, Sam Levine, Carol Lewis, Judy McIntyre, Audrey Menke, Rachel Meyers, Marilyn Morrow, Myrna Prince, Marion Schorr, Helen Simpson, Ted Soens, Nancy Stewart, Peg Volkman, and Jack Zierden.

Portable Pittsburgh: Another Successful Year

During the 1993-94 school year, Landmarks' six-year-old program, *Portable Pittsburgh*, was presented 165 times. With an average of 30 students in each session, we were able to reach nearly 5,000 Pittsburghers. Teacher response has been excellent. One teacher commented that: "I will be using the presentation as a basis for whole language writing activities; the booklet sent ahead led to increased classroom discussion." Another teacher said the docent was a "portable treasure of knowledge, a walking, talking history book who made history exciting and real for the students."

While primarily aimed at elementary schools, *Portable Pittsburgh* is easily adapted to appeal to adult groups. This

year nine adult organizations requested the program.

Portable Pittsburgh uses over 30 artifacts and oversized pictures to present the history of Pittsburgh from 1700 through the present. Each session lasts about one hour. To schedule *Portable Pittsburgh* for your group or class, please call Mary Ann Eubanks at (412) 471-5808.

Community Activities

Howard B. Slaughter, Jr., director of preservation services for Landmarks, was a guest on the radio program *The Black Entrepreneur*, broadcast on WCXI, 1550 AM, on Friday, April 29. The goal of the show, hosted by The Minority Enterprise Corporation, is to encourage business ownership by minority and women entrepreneurs. Howard was invited because of his dedication to the creation and growth of these kinds of businesses. *The Black Entrepreneur* is sponsored by PNC Bank and the Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh.

Howard also has become a member of the Porch Light Alliance, a coalition of individuals and organizations who share an interest in maintaining a strong housing financing market. The Porch Light Alliance was formed in 1993 by the Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh. Its goals are threefold; to inform all those involved with housing finance issues about legislation that may have an impact on them; to encourage communication and cooperation among those involved with all aspects of the housing market; and to educate and motivate law makers to create the right policies and programs for our region.

Adult Education

Eighteen adults enrolled in the PIP Extended Studies and Travel Program, "Exploring the Interior Architecture of Pittsburgh's Downtown Landmarks,"

offered by Landmarks on April 14 and 16. Instructor Sue Neff presented an illustrated lecture on Thursday evening, April 14, followed by a Saturday morning walking tour. According to one participant: "this was very informative — especially for native Pittsburghers!"

Al Tannler, archivist for Landmarks, and Walter Kidney, architectural historian, introduced another 20 adults to the beauties of Oakland and Schenley Farms, on June 9 and 11.



Twenty-seven teachers "graduated" from Landmarks' in-service course, "Exploring Your City," on April 25.

Exploring Architecture

From June 20 to June 24, 20 teachers from Allegheny County participated in the Landmarks sponsored in-service class "Exploring Architecture." Instructor Tom Demko introduced the teachers to a practical appreciation of architecture as a creative discipline with classroom applications in history, art, and science.

Thank You Heinz Architectural Center

The Heinz Architectural Center created a poster listing local tours of interest to architecture-lovers, including many offered by the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation. We greatly appreciate this publicity at The Carnegie; as a result, we have received many phone calls in regard to our tours.

Library News

Plat Books Donated, and In English Homes

Early in May, Landmarks was offered 33 old plat books owned by the Commonwealth Land Title Insurance Company. We thrive on material like this, and we accepted at once and turned up at the Frick Building the very next day to carry them off.

They have received hard, hard use, thumbled, penciled, infiltrated with pre-Renaissance dust, but they are living memory, every street, every building, every owner at a certain time. The infor-

mation is complete enough to show that certain buildings are of wood (yellow), brick (pink), or iron (gray).

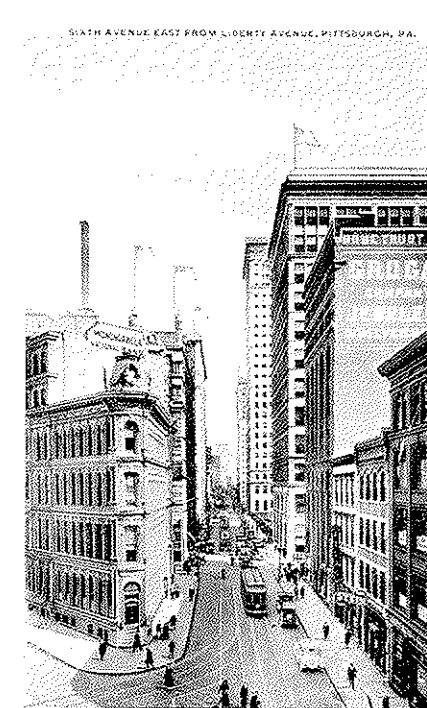
The earliest volumes record the Triangle and much of the East End in 1889, but most are concentrated around 1900. The east-west range is from Sewickley (1897) to Duquesne (1900), and from the South Hills (some time before 1907) to opposite Oakmont on the Allegheny (1897).

It will take time to merge the sheer bulk of this grand new gift with the many plat books we already own (typically from the mid-1920s) and get the whole mass into a seemly and usable order, but the struggle will be a happy one.

Our gratitude goes to Commonwealth for thinking of us; this is our sort of gift.

In early May, our volunteer Bob Bruno rescued a volume of Latham and Tipping's *In English Homes* that someone was about to throw out, and presented it to us. *In English Homes* is a classic Edwardian work on the English country house, and the perception and generosity that put it in our hands are much appreciated.

We also thank Walter Kidney of Landmarks for donating *The Headwaters District: A History of the Pittsburgh District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers*, by Leland R. Johnson, and *The Castle: An Illustrated History of the Smithsonian Building*, by Cynthia R. Field et al. Kelly K. Sinclair donated two copies of *Old House Dictionary: An Illustrated Guide to American Domestic Architecture 1600-1940*.



what is usually worthless junk, offered to sell me the attached postcards for a quarter. He wouldn't tell me where he got them but they were in the attached envelope. As a third generation Pittsburgher whose parents grew up during the early 1900s on the North Side, I found these postcards very interesting.

Notice that on two of the postcards, the *h* is missing [on Pittsburgh]. I have driven down Wood, Liberty, and Sixth Avenue thousands of times and even though many of the buildings have been replaced by more modern skyscrapers, the intersection of those three streets still appears much the same today. (Less the street car tracks)!

Library Volunteer

Bob Bruno has been teaching for a quarter of a century at the Community College of Allegheny County: first French at Boyce Campus and currently English composition at the main campus. In addition to his teaching duties, Bob is one of the advisors for the campus travel club. His main interests are the old cities of the northeastern United States and the Upper Midwest and also the large cities of Eastern Canada. On his trips he likes to show his students what these cities are doing in the area of preservation as well as what they're doing in urban renewal and growth. As a volunteer in the Landmarks library, Bob is cataloguing Pittsburgh-area pamphlets and brochures.

Post Cards Donated

In April, we received the following letter with five historic postcards enclosed from James T. McFarlane. We appreciate Mr. McFarlane's donation to Landmarks, and with his permission are reprinting his letter which describes how he came upon the postcards:

Gentlemen:

I am a cab driver here in Pittsburgh. One night a homeless person downtown, who carries around a box full of

IN ENGLISH HOMES

THE INTERNAL CHARACTER FURNITURE AND ADORNMENTS OF SOME OF THE MOST NOTABLE HOUSES OF ENGLAND HISTORICALLY DEPICTED FROM PHOTOGRAPHS SPECIALLY TAKEN BY CHARLES LATHAM

VOL. II. 1907.



THE LETTERPRESS EDITED AND AN INTRODUCTION WRITTEN BY H. AVRAY TIPPING, M.A., 1907.

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Historic Properties in Schenley Park Take a New Direction

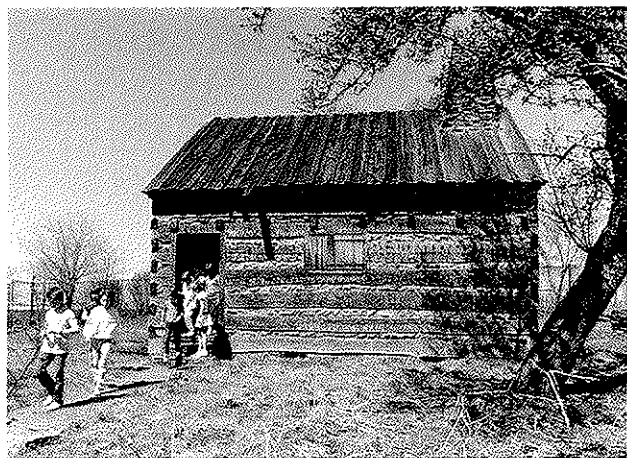
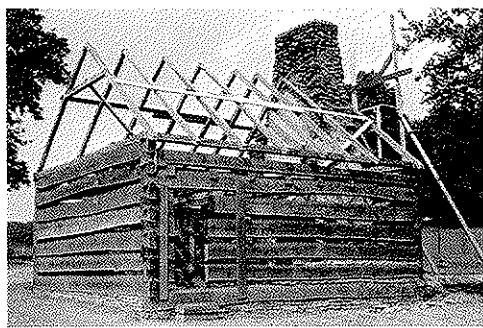
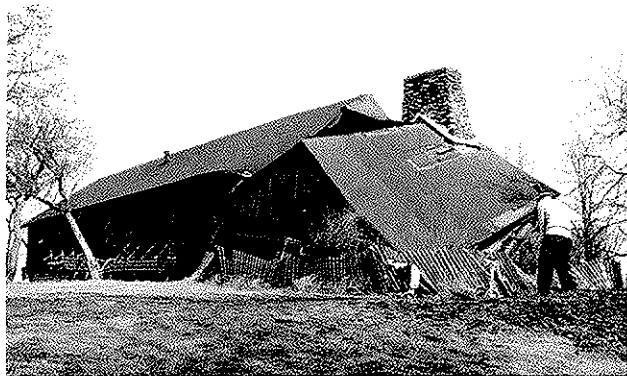
Albert Tannler

Historic preservation is not necessarily, or for that matter usually, a one-time event. The preservation and restoration of an historic site requires the stewardship of subsequent generations after the initial "saving" has taken place. Landmarks has held to a consistent viewpoint with regard to acquisition and subsequent care of historic properties: provide financial and technical support for the acquisition of an historic site, support and nurture a logical constituency to oversee and manage the site, and help that constituency become self-sufficient.

Two historic properties in Schenley Park, the Neill Log House and Phipps Conservatory, both with long-term relationships to Landmarks, have faced some problems recently; we'll examine what is happening at these historic sites and what plans are being made for the future.

Neill Log House

The Neill Log House, built by Robert Neill c. 1787, is owned by the City of Pittsburgh and maintained by the Department of Parks and Recreation. In the mid 1960s, shortly after its founding, Landmarks sought to restore the building and make it available to the public. In 1969, thanks to a grant of \$50,000 from the Richard King Mellon Foundation, and through the efforts of architects Stotz, Hess & MacLachlan and landscape architects Griswold, Winters & Swain, restoration was completed. The Junior League of Pittsburgh furnished the house and later provided funds so that Landmarks could create educational materials for the Neill Log House. Over the years, Landmarks conducted tours of the site upon request.



The Neill Log House in Schenley Park before, during, and after restoration. The photos, spanning a 20-year period, are from the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation's collection.

Although the terms of the restoration stipulated that the City would maintain the property, a small log house however old, sitting in the midst of 420 acres, could easily fall between the cracks. For many years, a Landmarks volunteer, Max Armbruster, cared for the grounds as a labor of love. Since his death several years ago, the property has been neglected.

In 1992, Landmarks volunteer and Preservation Pittsburgh member Dwight Fong, concerned about the deteriorating state of the property, wrote to the director of Pittsburgh's Department of Parks and Recreation proposing that a volunteer organization be established to assist with the care and use of the log house, and requesting the City's cooperation. Preservation Pittsburgh established a committee on the building. In May of 1993, during Preservation Week, about a dozen volunteers devoted a day to cleaning the house, both inside and out. The next day an "Open House" was held and some 40 visitors came to view the property. Since that cleanup and open house, Mr. Fong and his committee have been working to interest others in the future of the log house, and are preparing specific proposals to present to the Department of Parks and Recreation to ensure proper care and use of this historic structure.

Small steps, but signs of progress and a potentially creative partnership between the City and concerned citizens.

Phipps Conservatory

Phipps Conservatory was a gift to the City of Pittsburgh from industrialist Henry Phipps. In 1893 the Conservatory, designed by Lord & Burnham, was erected; a year later, it acquired most of the exotic plants on display at the Chicago World's Columbian Exposition, and its horticultural collection was considered perhaps the finest in the country. James D. Van Trump has characterized the building as follows:

The new Phipps Conservatory was at that time the largest in the United States. It had nine display houses of glass and metal and an entrance building of stone in the Richardsonian Romanesque style, with offices and rest rooms. The glittering, silvery, domed and sloping glass flanks of the main buildings, particularly the large central Palm House, had a rather oriental appearance and yet they were even more triumphantly symbols of the nineteenth century conquest of space and climate through these vaults of metal and glass.

During its hundred years the Conservatory has both flourished and languished. The Conservatory was enlarged in 1896 and 1900. In the mid-1930s the Conservatory was refurbished and, following major storm damage in 1937, eleven of the display areas were rebuilt (with some loss of character). After heated debate, the entrance building was demolished and replaced in 1967 by a more functional but architecturally inappropriate design.

In 1975, Landmarks helped to form an ad hoc citizens committee to work together with the City to raise funds to support the facility. Within six months, public and private sources raised \$250,000. It became clear, however, that much more money was needed and the cost of restoring, improving, and expanding the Conservatory was estimated at some \$5.5 million dollars. By 1985 some \$3 million had been raised from private individuals, foundations, corporations, the City of Pittsburgh, and the federal government. A renewed effort was made and the "Friends of Phipps" organization came into being to assist the City in funding the Conservatory.

In May of 1993, it was announced that the City was turning over operation and funding of the facility to a private enterprise, Phipps Conservatory, Inc. The management of the Conservatory has been leased to the organization for a 29-year period at a cost of \$1.00 per year.

Today, Phipps Conservatory is one of the few grand glass nineteenth-century horticultural palaces remaining in the United States. The disfiguring entrance building remains but it has been somewhat masked by a trellis that evokes the shape of the original entrance building, picked out in electric lights. The "glittering, silvery, domed and sloping glass flanks of the main buildings" retain an appearance close to the original. Beneath the surface, however, the new managers must correct numerous structural problems that beset a complex of buildings some 80 to 100 years old. An extensive repair



Phipps Conservatory in Schenley Park.

of greenhouse roofs done by the City as recently as 1986 must be completely redone due to the inferior and rapidly deteriorating cypress wood used at that time. Replacing the heating system is a priority.

Inside the Conservatory, 17 staff members and 70 volunteers maintain the greenhouses and guide visitors through the horticultural collection and special seasonal flower shows. Groups with an interest in particular flora, such as the Orchid Society of Western Pennsylvania, are affiliated with the Conservatory and assist with conserving the collection. The entrance building houses the Conservatory store which sells plants, plant-related gifts, and books on horticulture.

Phipps Conservatory, Inc. plans to deepen and expand its educational programs, and has prepared a "statement of mission" that declares in part:

Phipps Conservatory collects, maintains, and displays living plants ... fosters learning about plants through educational and recreational programs, and promotes research on their cultivation and natural history while conserving the architectural heritage of its historic building.

The displays of seasonal flowers mounted four times a year and the annual plant sale held each May are the most visible components of the Conservatory's program. The 1994 Summer Display can be viewed from June 4 through September 4. "Discovery Days" — half-day classes devoted to various nature topics and designed for children under the age of 10 — are held in July and August. Bonsai Week, held in late June and early July, celebrates the Conservatory's extensive bonsai collection. A Children's Garden, where children will be able to discover the natural world in hands-on ways, is in the planning stages.

Phipps Conservatory is open to the public Tuesday through Sunday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Hours are extended during flower shows and special events. For further information about Phipps Conservatory, its programs, and admission fees, call (412) 622-6914.

Clyde Hare's Pittsburgh

Four Decades of Pittsburgh, Frozen in Light



"This is a book of moments worth capturing ..." writes Alan Van Dine in his introduction to *Clyde Hare's Pittsburgh*. "Quite aside from artistic powers, talents, and skills, one of the extraordinary things about Clyde Hare is the sheer persistence of his vision over time. With or without sponsorship, he has never stopped noticing, never stopped discovering and bringing back his discoveries on film. Always on the move, always with camera, he has quietly captured virtually every kind of experience that typifies Pittsburgh and its people since the time he first arrived.

"Four decades of Pittsburgh, frozen in light. There aren't many records like this anywhere ... of anything."

This fall, the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation plans to release *Clyde Hare's Pittsburgh*, a photographic album documenting Pittsburgh from the 1950s to the present.

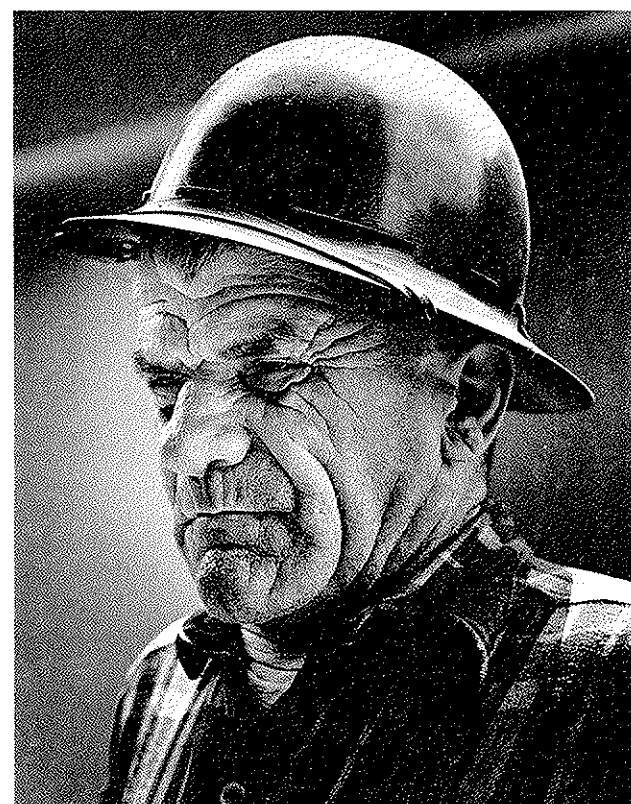
Born in Bloomington, Indiana, Clyde Hare came to Pittsburgh in 1950 at the age of 23. He was part of the Pittsburgh Photographic Library project (known around the country as the Pittsburgh Project), headed by Roy Stryker.

His job was to capture on film the transformation of an American city. "I made up my mind to take one great photograph each day," Clyde remembers, "that would live, would be simple, would have something to say." When the Pittsburgh Project was completed, Clyde spent seven years photographing steelmaking. He took on assignments for a number of national magazines, including *Life*, *National Geographic*, and *Fortune*; taught photography at Carnegie Mellon University for 14 years, and became well known as a freelance photographer. *Clyde Hare's Pittsburgh* contains some of the best photos from Clyde's 44 years in Pittsburgh.

The 165 photos are arranged in three sections: "A City Rebuilding"; "A City at Work"; and "What Is It About Pittsburgh?". The photos reveal the dramatic physical changes of Pittsburgh's rebuilding during Renaissance I (while daily life goes on); the heroics of steelmaking; and the variety of life — sports, culture, neighborhoods, people, and products — and the natural beauty of the landscape: the things that make Pittsburgh the city that it is. Each section begins with a brief essay by Alan Van Dine that vividly introduces a series of photos. Occasional quotes by Clyde Hare throughout the sections involve the reader in a conversational manner. Photographic notes by Walter C. Kidney give historical substance to the book. Jeff Piatt of BD&E is the designer of the 168-page book.

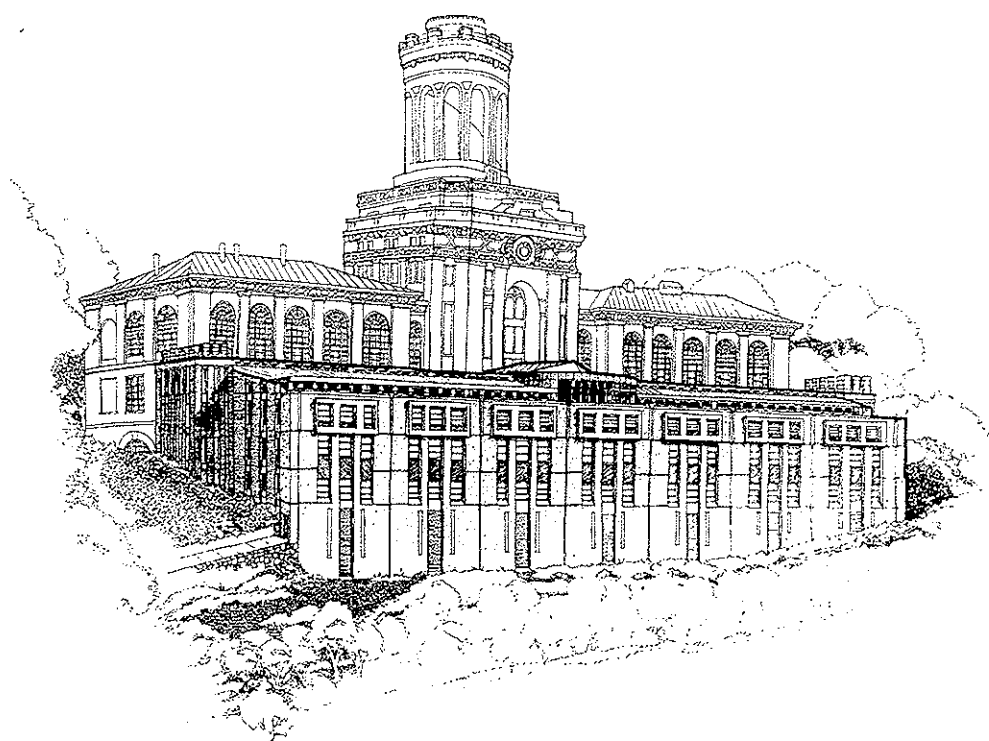
The Howard Heinz Endowment, Duquesne Light Company, Miles Inc., National Intergroup, Westinghouse Electric Corporation, and Landmarks' Revolving Fund for Education have contributed funds in support of the publication.



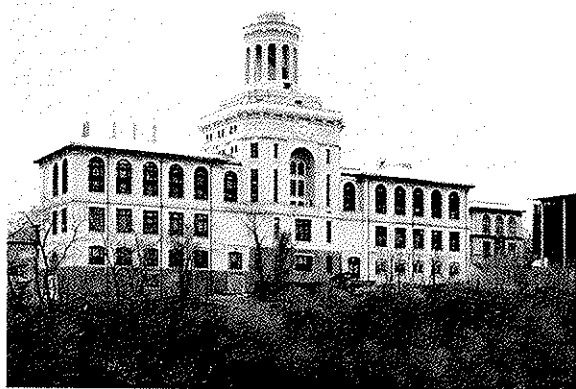


Photos by Clyde Hare

Preservation Scene



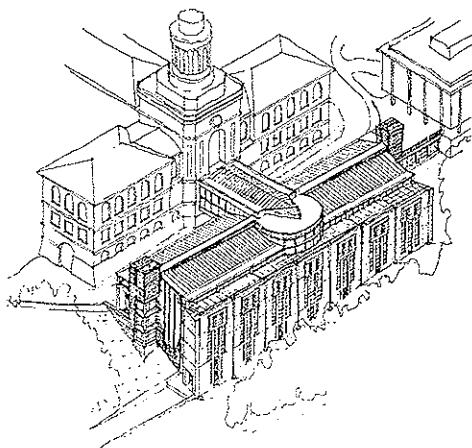
The Payette design from across Junction Hollow.



Hammerschlag Hall today, from approximately the same point.

Goodbye to a Grand Sight?

Landmarks has often felt that one of the grandest sights in Pittsburgh is the way in which Carnegie Mellon University's Hammerschlag Hall rises from the wooded east slope of Junction Hollow. Hammerschlag, including its tower, rises 160 feet above the edge of a valley 75 feet deep and 600 feet across; the dimensions are not gigantic, but the space and the building at its edge compose beautifully together. Those who see symbolism in things will note how grand and gleaming institutional architecture rises out of wild nature and casual industry.



The Payette design from above.

A Hornbostelian afterthought gives the campus not only a terminal feature but also an element that advances into this wild space: the bronze bow ornament of the armored cruiser *Pennsylvania*, removed in 1909 when the Great White Fleet went gray, and now on a concrete imitation of a naval ram prow at the foot of the tower.

The designs shown here are those for George A. Roberts Hall, the new Electronics Materials Technology Building, whose architects are Payette Associates, Inc. of Boston. They are not

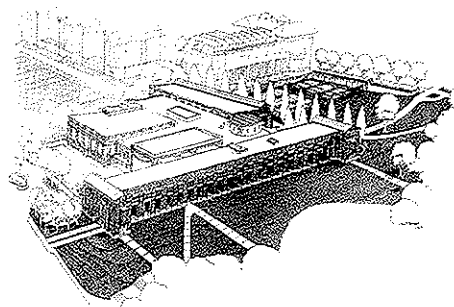
final in every detail, but are close to those that CMU has apparently approved for construction. The new building will stand 22 feet west of Hammerschlag and is itself to be about 75 feet deep. Its breadth will be approximately the 242 feet of Hammerschlag's western front. Rather than carrying on Hammerschlag's cream-colored brick and white terra cotta, it will be of concrete probably in two textures, with a "warm" limestone shade predominant. A glazed bridge will connect the

two buildings, with a glazed roof meeting Hammerschlag just under the belt course at its third-story level.

We intend a more thorough look at this new building in our next issue. It seems expedient to build it where it is, and in these dimensions, but one of the beauties of Pittsburgh will be lost when it goes up, and the question is, what positive good may come in its place.

University Center at CMU

Landmarks is more cheerful to contemplate another architectural event on the Carnegie Mellon University campus. The unloved Skibo Hall has come down, and Michael Dennis Associates (Boston) and UDA Architects are the designers of its replacement University Center, adjacent to Margaret Morrison College. A line rendering gives only a vague idea of the realized structure, but if the standards of the nearby Michael Dennis dormitories and grandstand are maintained, it should be a handsome introduction to the campus from Forbes Avenue. A more or less corresponding Center for the Arts is to face it across the lawn. No architect has been chosen for this, but whatever gets built should partially mask the again-unloved Warner Hall.



The University Center, to be built.

Clarion's Recommendations: First Comments

On April 8, at the Pittsburgh Preservation Law Conference, Bradford J. White, Esquire, of the Chicago consultants Clarion Associates, Inc., presented his company's "Recommendations for the New Pittsburgh Preservation Ordinance." At long last: for the study of the City's existing ordinance and other preservation measures was commissioned in 1990 and submitted in 1991 in time to spend two years in limbo on account of the Boyd Theater Case.

Clarion's recommendations begin with a history of the project, with emphasis on the local public opinion that was expressed during their review process. According to Clarion, those who spoke out seemed generally to favor historic preservation, but felt that current historic-designation criteria were ill-defined and that economic-hardship provisions were necessary. Of course the public had much more to say, even as condensed here, but these were the most consistent points. Landmarks was mentioned as having passed from advocacy to education, and was urged to do still more in the latter activity.

Then on to recommendations for the new Ordinance. It has to be said that these suffer from awkward wording and vaguenesses, but they are only recommendations, not a draft of the ordinance itself, whose release may come at the beginning of summer. Clarion proposes that the new Ordinance begin with a statement of purpose,

including, among others, identifying, preserving, protecting, enhancing, and encouraging continued utilization and rehabilitation of significant areas and structures; safeguarding the city's historic and cultural heritage; fostering civic pride; protecting and enhancing the attractiveness of the city; encouraging preservation, restoration, and rehabilitation; and fostering education about the cultural and architectural history of the city.

Perhaps this could be simplified, and two main reasons for preservation — the "at home" feeling of spending one's life among familiar places and the positive enjoyment of seeing and living with architecture — are on the other hand not specifically mentioned.

The name "Historic Review Commission" is proposed changed to "Historic Preservation Commission": more accurate, but more of a mouthful.

Among the definitions, "alteration" is vague:

"Alteration" was defined to include any act or process that requires a building permit or does not require a building permit except for such things as walks and driveways, door hardware, paint colors and painting, landscaping (unless it is specifically designated under the designating ordinance), and light fixtures on structures. Actions not requiring a building permit are included because the building permitting process does not include many of the actions that endanger significant historic features.

"Demolition" is defined as affecting structural integrity: so where do acts like the removal of vergeboards and trim, the slipcovering of old facades and siding, go? Presumably under "alterations," and this needs to be specified. It looks as if "door hardware" and "painting" are exempt from the need for a Certificate. But what if the door hardware is the work of a master like Samuel Yellin, or if the paint is applied to heretofore-unpainted masonry?

The reference to landscaping presumably is limited to a man-made contouring, planting, etc. Yet now and then we are made to realize how the natural landscape of Pittsburgh, so familiar but so perpetually dramatic, can be menaced, despite its size, by an egg-crate apartment house on a slope, a hotel squatting where a ridge used to be, or a ravine filled in with parking or offices. No one — neither the present HRC nor the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy nor anyone else — has made preservation of the natural form of Pittsburgh land a matter of particular concern. This is a lack in the protective apparatus, and we could feel it painfully some day.

For both Historic Districts and the less stringently-administered Conservation Districts, a 70-year history is proposed for a very large percentage of the buildings. Since the present Oakland Civic Center Historic District must be redesignated under the new Ordinance, this would mean that the Cathedral of Learning, Foster Memorial, Heinz Chapel, Mellon Institute, and Board of Education would be non-contributing since all were built after 1924. In our opinion, 50 years is much more realistic: long enough to include places which have survived fads and cliques, yet short enough for us to know more or less what we like.

On the question of economic hardship, a sentence reads, "Under the proposed definition, the Commission would be able to consider the applicant's ability to pay for the appropriate alteration and the cost of alternative methods of completing the alteration." This seems to mean that the owner might be allowed to remodel a little bit on the cheap, but it is not quite clear what the HRC's stand is to be on porch removal, aluminum siding, and so on, and whether there should be standards varying according to owners' means. "Economic hardship" is defined as "a denial of all reasonable use and return from the property." This may define it too narrowly. One's own house is usually a source of expense rather than profit, and restoration of a porch, for instance, can be very expensive. If one buys an already-designated house, making a poor mouth before the Commission when a porch needs repairs is not likely to be well received. The natural retort is, "Why did you buy a property you can't keep up?" But when designation comes to a house already owned by a certain person, economic hardship may have to be taken seriously.

The criteria of the National Register of Historic Places are to be adopted, restricting designation in general to places

- that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

There are sensible exceptions to this rather narrow set of admissibles.

Clarion's proposed Ordinance would limit those who could nominate a property or district to a few officials and to the property owners. This would perhaps create a more orderly situation and save potential trouble from frivolous nominations. However, since private citizens and groups would have to act through City Council or a Commission member, there

would be an element of delay and publicity that might allow an owner to do damage before temporary restraint was automatically imposed.

The Certificate of Appropriateness may not be required in the case of work "necessary for public health or safety" — that sounds like partial or total demolition. It is to be hoped that the proper-maintenance requirement also recommended be a strong one, so that demolition by neglect cannot happen. In Philadelphia, the Department of Licenses and Inspections has 15 Philadelphia Register buildings in Center City on a "blight list," with demolition a possibility because designation is overridden in such cases. Neglect and damage must be caught early by someone or other.

It is pointed out that "Conservation District" can mean a number of things. Here, it seems to imply a flawed neighborhood or one where most of the architecture is a little too recent (i.e., under 70 years of age) to qualify for Historic District status.

Finally, Clarion proposes bringing the Ordinance and the developing Urban Zoning Code into harmony so that the latter's usefulness is maximized.

When the draft Ordinance is released, there will be time for public comment before it goes in its final form to City Council. We will get back to you then.

New for the Riverwalk

PPG has donated a ball mill, long used at one of its German plants and more recently stored at its plant at Springdale, to Landmarks for display along the Riverwalk of Industrial Artifacts at Station Square. The mill consists of a large metal drum, rotated by a belt around its exterior that was driven by a motor. Inside, small steel balls tumbled to pulverize chunks of pigment. This is the first artifact Landmarks has received memorializing the paint industry. Appropriately, it will be erected close to the Lawrence Paint building once renovation is completed.

Landmarks also would like to thank McGann & Chester towing, for donating its services to relocate the ball mill artifact.

Two Granules on the Mountain of Knowledge

When the quasi-Modern Adolf Loos was designing the Goldman & Salatsch store (the Looshaus) around 1909 for a site in Vienna, he claimed to have specified the first use of Cipollino marble on a major building since antiquity; the quarries had been reopened around 1905. Yet the Integra banking room downtown at Fourth and Wood, opened in 1906, has columns faced in what is surely Cipollino, so that MacClure & Spahr led the avant-garde, once, in a modest way. The Looshaus, a large building, has two whole stories faced in Cipollino, but Integra's columns are not small.



Integra Bank interior, Fourth Avenue and Wood Street, downtown.

Charette, the Pittsburgh Architectural Club magazine, was contemptuous in its September 1920 issue of the new architecture in Squirrel Hill: "If there is any other section of the city where Vulgarly is more firmly throned we have not seen it. There the Gods of the Parvenue do tread with mirthless feet the unremembered ashes of the pyre of Art.... It is beyond imagination why these ingenious malaprops with their seemingly inexhaustible reserve of depraved conception should now and again take the work of some reputable architect and burlesque it when their own happy crazyquilt decorative vice would be able, unassisted, to achieve supreme chaos" and so on. In April 1921 four anonymous authors took

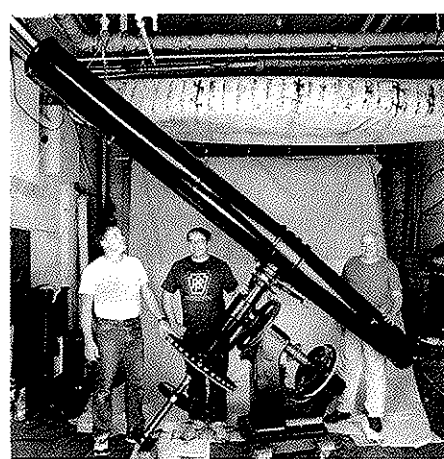


Photo by Karen Berchin

Myler house, 1331 Bennington Street, Squirrel Hill.

more space to gnash at leisure on one example of new Squirrel Hill architecture, the Myler house at 1331 Bennington Street that was, in fact, a work of the distinguished New York architect Bertram Goodhue. Goodhue's task was to build two houses under one roof, and the footprint of the building is rather symmetrical on the street front, though what remains of the house — a piece was cut out not long after its completion — is contrivedly picturesque, with steep roofs, jutting clapboarded second floors, and very random fenestration. The four critics more or less agreed that the unfinished interior might or might not be good, that the plan was convenient, that the exterior was a mishmash of forms and styles, and that the whole thing was a not-very-good work by a great architect.

So far as we know, we are the first of our contemporaries to be aware of this Goodhue house, and only wish that we could have rediscovered a somewhat better one: for even apart from changes, it is a rather restless design.

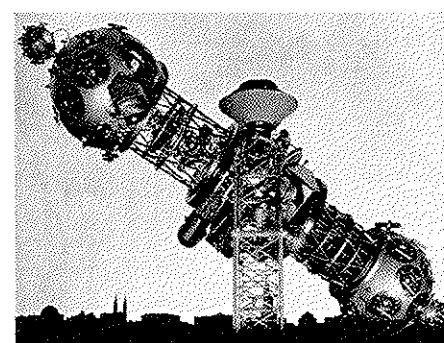


Three AAAP members and the 1908 refractor telescope.

Historic Astronomical Equipment

The Amateur Astronomers Association of Pittsburgh (AAAP) is in the process of restoring a John Brashear refractor telescope of 1908. The telescope, which has an 11-inch objective lens, was commissioned by Andrew Carnegie and William Thaw in anticipation of the arrival of Halley's Comet in 1910. It came equipped with a five-inch astrograph camera, and was installed at Carnegie Tech until around 1914, when it went into storage. It passed through various hands, ending up with the AAAP. Three employees of the Contraves Company, a successor firm of the John Brashear Company, are among those at work on the restoration. The AAAP, with 300 members, uses the Wagman Observatory in Deer Lakes Park, Russellton, as its base of operation, and is looking for donations to build an annex for the Carnegie-Thaw telescope. For information:

Alison J. Conte (412) 741-3216; or Amateur Astronomers Association of Pittsburgh
Nicholas E. Wagman Observatory
P.O. Box 314
Glenshaw, Pa. 15116.



The Zeiss projector from the Buhl Planetarium.

Three major instruments from the 1930s, original installations at the Buhl Planetarium, have gone or will go to The Carnegie Science Center. The 10-inch Gaertner siderostat and the Foucault pendulum are to be reinstalled as displays. The most interesting instrument, the antlike Zeiss planetarium projector that many of us remember, will not be put on display, and the Center is seeking ideas for doing so; it is said to be the last in existence. Those with ideas for the Zeiss projector's future should call Ron Bailey at (412) 237-3355.

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AT THE LANDMARKS STORE



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HENRY HOBSON RICHARDSON REVISITED

The recent publication of Margaret Henderson Floyd's *Architecture after Richardson: Regionalism before Modernism—Longfellow, Alden, and Harlow in Boston and Pittsburgh* (Chicago/Landmarks, 1994; \$75), provides an opportunity to consider books about the "Master" and his buildings.

All of Richardson's buildings (including those that have been demolished), arranged chronologically and illustrated with photographs and some drawings, will be found in Jeffrey Karl Ochsner's essential *H. H. Richardson: Complete Architectural Works* (MIT, 1982); paperback, \$29.95.

On his deathbed, Richardson expressed the hope that he would live long enough to see the completion of the buildings he believed to be his finest: the Marshall Field Wholesale Store (1885-87) in Chicago and Pittsburgh's Allegheny County Courthouse and Jail (1884-88). The Field building is gone, but Chicago's one remaining Richardson building, the J. J. Glessner House (1885-87), one of his finest houses, is the subject of Elaine Harrington's beautiful monograph *Henry Hobson Richardson: J. J. Glessner House*, Chicago (Wasmuth, 1993). The perceptive text is partnered by period photographs, plan and elevation drawing, and superb color photographs of the restored house; hardcover, \$40.

Pittsburgh, of course, is home to three important Richardson buildings. The chapter on Emmanuel Episcopal Church (1883-86) in James D. Van Trump's *Life and Architecture in Pittsburgh* is the most detailed discussion available (Landmarks, 1983), paperback \$12.95; while Van Trump's *Majesty of the Law: The Court Houses of Allegheny County* (Landmarks, 1988), examines not only Richardson's courthouse and jail but the two preceding courthouses as well. The author documents the planning, design, and construction of Richardson's buildings, subsequent alterations (and proposed changes), and preservation achievements such as restoration of the courtyard and one of the courtrooms. The text is supported by 112 photographs; hardcover, \$19.95.

Despite its brevity (which is also its virtue), one shouldn't miss *H. H. Richardson's Allegheny County Courthouse and Jail* (Allegheny County, 1981): an elegant, informative monograph combining Clyde Hare's photographic skill and Walter Kidney's erudition; paperback, \$7.95.

For books about architects and their buildings, visit The Landmarks Store.

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Religious Properties Preservation Study Progresses

The last two issues of *PHLF News* informed our members about the scope and activities-in-progress of the religious properties preservation study now underway at Landmarks. Our May issue presented a preliminary list of significant religious structures in Allegheny County — an attempt to identify the historically and architecturally important ecclesiastical sites regardless of condition or need. Since the publication of the preliminary church list, much has happened.

Representatives of various religious organizations were invited to an informational meeting in the Landmarks offices in late March. Some 15 clergy attended; Howard B. Slaughter, Jr., director of the religious properties project at Landmarks, presented the scope and intent of the preservation study and solicited opinions and views. Shortly thereafter Howard met with Roman Catholic Bishop Donald Wuerl and members of his staff.

In April, Howard traveled to Philadelphia and Camden, New Jersey, on the first of several field trips he is planning. In Philadelphia he met with representatives of Partners for Sacred Places, the national organization established in 1989 to assist with the preservation of religious buildings, and discussed in detail Partners' programs and approaches. He also visited several congregations in

Philadelphia and Camden who have received financial and technical assistance from the Partners program.

The next step will be choosing religious buildings within Allegheny County to serve as study models. (The number is yet to be determined; six to eight has been mentioned.) Twelve religious leaders and preservationists have been asked to sit on an Advisory Committee to choose the study models. The committee held its first meeting in early May. Members include the Rev. Christopher Glover of the Hill District Ministries; the Rev. Ronald P. Lengwin, director of public affairs of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh; Dean George Werner of the Episcopal Church Diocese; Lu Donnelly of the Committee on Pittsburgh Archaeology and History and chairperson of Preservation Pittsburgh's religious properties sub-committee; Janet Taber, a Landmarks trustee; Mark Peterson, Community Loan Fund of Southwestern Pennsylvania; and Michael Eversmeyer, Senior Historic Preservation Planner, City of Pittsburgh, Department of City Planning. Walter Kidney and Al Tannler will assist Howard as representatives of Landmarks, while Robert Jaeger and Diane Cohen of Partners for Sacred Places will represent the national organization.

Center for Historic Houses Holds Pittsburgh Meeting

The Center for Historic Houses, part of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, is expanding its program this year and looking at ways to better assist owners of historic homes. As a first step, Center director Kelly Sinclair organized a series of meetings throughout the country.

On April 9, Mr. Sinclair met with some 16 individuals from Allegheny and Washington Counties in Landmarks' offices. He reviewed the Center's current program. Primary components include offering a home insurance program for historic home owners; a video series providing practical information for the buyer/owner of older homes; holding a "Great American Home Awards" contest to acknowledge the preservation and rehabilitation efforts of owners of single-family houses 50 years or older; sponsorship, with local organizations, of "Old House Fairs" where home owners meet kindred spirits and organizations and find practical advice and services for their

restoration requirements; and publication of the *Old House Starter Kit*, a loose-leaf compendium of essential information for the owner of a historic home, with subjects from determining the style and researching the history of a house to planning, financing, and other practical tasks of rehabilitation.

After hearing about the Center's program, the attendees at the April 9 meeting — some owners of historic properties, some professionally involved in the care and maintenance of historic sites, and some wearing both hats — shared points of view and offered suggestions.

Currently membership in the National Trust provides access to the Center's programs. The Center for Historic Houses welcomes inquiries about its program as well as suggestions for ways in which the Center can improve its services and assistance. Write Kelly K. Sinclair, The Center for Historic Houses, 1785 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036, or call (202) 673-4021.



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PITTSBURGH ARCHITECTURE: *Horne's*

Walter C. Kidney

The last couple of months has brought the possibility that the massive and palatial looking store at Penn Avenue and Stanwix Street may cease to exist. The very 145-year-old name of Joseph Horne is to yield to that of Lazarus, and whether Lazarus' parent company Federated Department Stores will want the famous old headquarters building — or indeed any downtown representation — is in doubt. Horne's has been an institution of the city, seemingly as calm and permanent as the plain stone walls of the lower floors. Where it stands, it acts as a cornerstone for the old commercial downtown, a terminal feature opposite the new urbanism of Gateway Center.

But now what? Will the serene commercial palace continue to exist? Will the architecture continue whatever happens within? We hope so; if some of the old associations fall away, the building is of the sort that, once gone, would be missed, missed more than one may now understand.



A busy day in the 1910s.

JOSEPH HORNE CO. DRY GOODS
PITTSBURGH, PA. EIGHTY DEPARTMENTS IN ALL

Now dear friends, we are sure that any life so exciting & time is limited. Mother, please go right away. Tell the Company. Callers are busy as the day from home.

A postcard from Horne's, 1906.

JOSEPH HORNE CO.
Penn-Fifth and Stanwix

Pittsburgh's
Best
Place
to
Shop

The Joseph Horne & Company as it liked to see itself, around 1920. At the Penn-Stanwix corner is the West Building of 1900 by the Boston architects Peabody & Stearns. To the left, the same firm was to add the North Building, extending to Ft. Duquesne Boulevard, in 1922-23. To the right is W.S. Fraser's East Building of 1900, with two stories added to its top.



W.S. Fraser's original West Building of 1893, Horne's first store in this block. This burned out in 1897 and in 1900. The style is typical of the time, a little Romanesque, a little Classical.



Horne's copes with the Flood of 1907. Water was three feet deep in the street, but Horne's employees kept it out of the store.

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 50-acre riverfront site where Landmarks' principles of historic preservation, adaptive use, and urban planning are creating a lively attraction 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 invitations 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)

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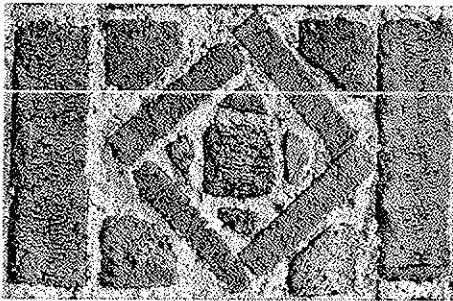
Pittsburgh Banks Support Neighborhood Revitalization

(Continued from page 1)

In its first year, more than 1,700 residents called to inquire about the CLCP program; 635 went through intake sessions; 310 participated in training programs; and 54 have either been approved for mortgages or have mortgage applications in process. "We're looking forward to doubling the number of successful graduates next year," Craighead said.

Sponsoring financial institutions are: Allegheny Valley Bank; Carnegie Savings Bank; Community Savings Bank; Dollar Bank; Eureka Federal Savings; Fidelity Savings Bank; Fayette Bank and Trust Company; Great American Federal; Integra Bank; Iron and Glass Bank; Laurel Savings Association; Lincoln Savings Bank; Mellon Bank; North Side Bank; Parkvale Savings Bank; Pittsburgh Home Savings; PNC Bank; Reliable Savings Bank; Stanton Federal Savings; Troy Hill Federal Savings; and Workingmen's Savings Bank.

For further information, call (412) 232-0708 or (800) 773-9009, or stop by the offices of the CLCP downtown in the Park Building at 355 Fifth Avenue.



Preservation Fund Director's Approach

Under the direction of Howard B. Slaughter, Jr., Landmarks' Preservation Fund plans to increase the number of loans made to a greater number of communities in Allegheny County.

According to Howard, the Preservation Fund is administered in a way that is flexible about terms, rate, and collateral. Since its goal is the success of worthy projects, the Fund makes every effort to provide favorable terms, provide loans with market interest rates, and extend terms when necessary.

As a former banker, Howard is fond of invoking the "Three C's of lending" when reviewing loan requests:

Character (the initial component), **Credit** (how the organization has handled previous obligations), and **Collateral** (considered in all cases). To these he adds two more C's: **Capacity** and **Commitment**, which many of the community-based organizations currently have.

Often a Preservation Fund loan permits an organization to complete a larger financial project and provides the gap financing needed that makes an undertaking viable and allows neighborhood organizations to fund projects that otherwise may not be started or, equally important, completed.

Call Howard at (412) 471-5808 if you have a neighborhood revitalization project in mind and might require either technical or financial assistance.

Preservation Fund Lends \$500,000; Receives \$10,000 from The Pittsburgh Foundation

(Continued from page 1)



Brighton Place, central North Side

Preservation Fund Expansion

"There really is more going on in those neighborhoods in Pittsburgh than anywhere else in the nation. This is the direct result of the decades of work that you've put into practical preservation.... This is preservation as it *should* be practiced."

Richard Moe, President,
National Trust for
Historic Preservation, 1993

The Preservation Fund began in the 1960s with less than \$100,000; added to this sum was nearly \$400,000 in grants. The Fund grew through the years. It has leveraged almost \$700 million including government grants and assistance from the private sector, plus over \$800 million in bank loans. Additionally, each Preservation Fund dollar has the propensity to roll over repeatedly. Whether a loan of \$250,000 to aid a major project, as illustrated by the projects described on page 1, or \$5,000 to provide specific technical services, Preservation Fund monies have demonstrated their effectiveness as a positive, long-lasting means of individual, neighborhood, and municipal renewal.

At present Landmarks' Preservation Fund has assets of \$1 million and the capacity to lend a total of \$500,000 to the various projects it assists at one time. Fund director Howard B. Slaughter, Jr., a former banker, intends to increase the number of loans and further diversify lending locations, particularly within Allegheny County. An effort is under way to increase the assets of the Preservation Fund by an additional \$1.2 million.

This past March, the Alfred M. Oppenheimer Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation made a grant of \$10,000 to Landmarks for the restoration of low-income housing; the grant allocation will be administered through the Preservation Fund.

The Preservation Fund is central to the approach and mission of the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation. While Landmarks has worked to preserve and sustain numerous individual historic

sites, its emphasis is, and always has been, on the renewal of neighborhoods and, indeed, of the urban fabric as a whole; we are "practical" preservationists, not antiquarians.

PCRG and Brighton Place

With the assistance of the Preservation Fund, the historic integrity and resident control of irreplaceable Pittsburgh neighborhoods such as Manchester and the Mexican War Streets were saved in the face of once-hostile government policies. Supported by the Fund, community organizations (now numbering 33) formed the Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group (PCRG), which achieved, as a strong coalition of economically and racially diverse neighborhoods, what individual organizations had not: persuading much of the local banking community that investing in neighborhoods, particularly those inhabited by minority families, was sound fiscal and civic policy; because of PCRG's efforts, funds committed to neighborhood projects will exceed \$780 million by the end of 1994. Currently, Victorian townhouses are being restored, sold, and rented in Brighton Place and on the central North Side by the first African-American all-female single-heads-of-households co-op. The Northside Tenants Reorganization (NTR) was able to launch this extraordinary project (which has attracted national attention) because Landmarks, and then many others, supported their project: Landmarks' Preservation Fund provided the initial grant that engendered the first stages of renewal and gave credibility to the project, thus encouraging local foundations and lending institutions to offer their support.

The formation of the PCRG and the success of the Brighton Place project are outstanding examples; there are, however, hundreds of others, more modest, but no less significant; all are key ingredients in Pittsburgh's preservation story.

Today the resources of the Preservation Fund are administered with the same elements of "good will" and "clarity of purpose" that Arthur Ziegler wrote about almost 20 years ago. It is practical preservation funding working "to create and maintain a good environment that continues, rather than freezes, history."

Northside Tenants Reorganization Opens Headquarters and Laundry

The compact yet handsome commercial building at 1821 Brighton Place on the North Side was built in 1929 and originally housed shops on the first floor and apartments on the second. In recent decades the deteriorating structure became a tavern. Purchased by Brighton Place Associates, the building has been restored and renovated by Landmarks Design Associates Architects and now provides a new neighborhood laundry and headquarter accommodations for the Northside Tenants Reorganization (NTR).

Opening on March 23, the first-floor laundry boasts 16 washers and 10 dryers; the remaining first floor space provides a community meeting room. NTR's administrative offices occupy the second floor. As a result, Brighton Place has a much-needed facility and a useful building is functional once more.

