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# PHLF News

PUBLISHED FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE PITTSBURGH HISTORY & LANDMARKS FOUNDATION

No. 168 January 2005

## Civil War Farmhouse Saved

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

—PHLF News, Summer 1990

With that brief yet significant announcement from about 15 years ago, Landmarks alerted its members to the endangered status of the Lowen house, “Lowenhill,” built in Beechview in 1864 by John Lowen. The property, which included six acres with a spectacular view of Pittsburgh, had passed through various hands and had then entered the marketplace.

In the December 1991 issue of *PHLF News*, the photo of the house was twice as big, and the story, twice as long, described the house caught in controversy: some wanted to tear the vacant and vandalized house down; others wanted it designated a City Historic Structure. The house survived, but was not designated.

It was next mentioned in the March 1995 *PHLF News*. The Jehovah’s Witnesses, who had acquired the entire tract of land in 1992, planned to build a church on a portion of land adjacent to the house but had agreed not to interfere with the house itself. Landmarks’ president Arthur Ziegler had been instrumental in facilitating that agreement. The 1995 article called for “someone committed to restoring a substantially deteriorated, but remarkable house on a fine piece of property.” Two years later, in 1997, the couple came forward.

Tom and Chris Simmons purchased the derelict house and one and a half

**Chris Simmons painted a mural of the farm, as it might have looked in the 19th-century, on one of the dining room walls.**



**In 1997 Landmarks purchased a preservation easement on the Lowen house in Beechview from Tom and Chris Simmons, who then used the proceeds to help them restore the endangered house of 1864. The need to save “Lowenhill” triggered Landmarks’ interest in the relationship between scenic open land and urban and rural buildings—an interest that evolved into the successful first phase of our Historic Farm Preservation Program (*PHLF News*, September 2004). Below: “Lowenhill” in 1997.**



acres from the Jehovah’s Witnesses, knowing that Landmarks was willing to partner with them to preserve “Lowenhill.” Landmarks purchased a preservation easement on the façade, thus giving Landmarks control over the façade in perpetuity and the Simmons some needed funds to apply toward the restoration. A painter by profession, Tom spent “five years of Saturday work” restoring the house, and Chris was in charge of progress during the week. The house had no foundation and the floor had sunk 20 inches.

The Simmons had a contractor install a foundation. They added a stylistically appropriate two-story rear entryway.

They were able to save the metal roof, much of the exterior woodwork, and some of the original window glass. Inside, they reclaimed and replaced interior woodwork and wood flooring, and restored the handsome central staircase. The front porch still needs to be replaced, and when that is done the major restoration work will be complete.

Thanks to the partnership between the Simmons and Landmarks, and the owners’ unwavering commitment to the restoration of their historic property, the reality of “Lowenhill,” not the memory, endures.



Chris and Tom Simmons

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## 2005 Old House Fair in the David L. Lawrence Convention Center

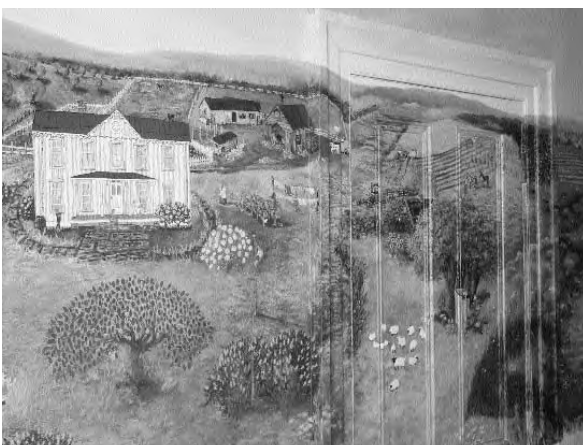
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**www.oldhousefair.com**  
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**cathy@phlf.org**



# OUR WORK: *Recent Progress*



Attendees of the September 2 historical marker dedication (from left to right): Senator Jack Wagner; Bob McGurk, Forest City Management; Cathy McCollom, Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation; Jane Crawford, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission; Ken Kobus, United States Steel Corporation; Jerry Peckich, Major General Anthony Wayne Foundation; First Lady Marjorie O. Rendell; Representative Michael Diven; Marilyn Ross-Peckich, Clinton Furnace Historical Marker Committee; Stephan K. Todd, United States Steel Corporation; and Representative Thomas Petrone. Photo by William Rydberg, PHOTON

## Clinton Furnace Remembered

Station Square, developed by the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation between 1976 and 1994 and now owned by Forest City Enterprises, was formerly the headquarters of the Pittsburgh & Lake Erie Railroad and the site of Pittsburgh’s first successful blast furnace. From 1859 to 1927 the Clinton Iron & Steel Company was located near where the Gateway Clipper parking lot is. The Clinton furnace, a metal encased vessel, led to more advanced furnaces capable of producing huge amounts of iron and resulting in modern blast furnaces. A historical marker, placed in Bessemer Court near the converter, was dedicated on September 2, 2004 to commemorate the furnace.

During the ceremony, Landmarks’ chief programs officer Cathy McCollom thanked Jerry Peckich of the Major General Anthony Wayne Foundation for his leadership in raising the money that was needed to match the grant from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission to fund the Clinton Furnace marker, and for organizing the marker dedication ceremony and preparing a commemorative booklet. Marilyn Ross-Peckich and Marlene Silverman served as co-chairs of the Clinton Furnace Historical Marker Committee.

By coincidence, about two weeks later Landmarks was given a superb oil painting by Thornton Oakley, dated 1905. The painting shows the Monongahela Wharf in the foreground with the Wabash Bridge (1904–48), the Clinton Furnace, and Mt. Washington beyond. Oakley was born in Pittsburgh but spent most of his adult years in the Philadelphia-Wilmington area. His works include six murals for the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia, 48 paintings for the National Geographic Society, and illustrations in numerous travel books written by his wife.



Thornton Oakley, untitled, 1905. Oil on canvas, 28½" x 52½"

## 15 Historic Landmark Plaques Awarded in 2004

On November 17, 2004, Landmarks’ Historic Plaque Designation Committee, chaired by Richard M. Scaife, reviewed the 2004 nominations and awarded 15 plaques, described as follows in chronological order:

**Grand Hall of the Priory**, formerly St. Mary’s Roman Catholic Church, Pressley and Nash Streets, Deutschtown, was designed in 1854 by Father John Stibiel; architect Sidney Heckert added the vestibule in 1906. The award recognizes the building’s physical prominence, historic character as one of the oldest churches in Pittsburgh, and revitalized function as the Grand Hall, preserved and adapted by the owners of the neighboring Priory (a 1988 Historic Landmark Plaque recipient).

**Willow Cottage**, Squirrel Hill, c. 1860, is a City of Pittsburgh Historic Structure, now owned by Chatham College. Its exterior was restored and its interior recreated by Landmarks Design Associates Architects. The Victorian Gothic/Swiss cottage, originally one and one-half stories with truncated arched windows, gables, and decorated barge-boards, is a prime example of the “picturesque” architecture championed in the 1840s and 50s by Andrew Jackson Downing.

**Jane Holmes Residence**, 441 Swissvale Avenue, Wilkinsburg, was designed by Barr & Moser and constructed c. 1869 and after. It is a conspicuous and gravely handsome architectural presence in Wilkinsburg, erected originally as The Sheltering Arms, a home for wayward girls, that now provides housing for seniors.

**Teutonia Maennerchor**, 857 Phineas Street, East Deutschtown, was designed by George Ott and erected in 1888 for a German choral society. Part of the half-timbering on the façade is genuine “brick nogged” timberwork with panels filled in with brick. The National Register building contains a handsome theatre and a rathskeller.

**Murray Hill Avenue Historic District**, 1010–1201 Murray Hill Avenue, Squirrel Hill, consists of some 40 houses constructed after 1890, sited on a particularly dramatic hillside street. Most of the houses are Queen Anne or Colonial Revival, augmented by an occasional Shingle Style dwelling. Willa Cather lived for a time at 1180 Murray Hill Avenue. The designated area is a City of Pittsburgh Historic District.

**Husler Building**, 1 West Main Street, Carnegie, was designed and erected in 1896 by Samuel T. McClarren. Today the building is the History Center of the Historical Society of Carnegie. Its blend of Richardsonian Romanesque and Renaissance Classicism is shared with the architect’s Morrow and Woolslair Schools (on the National Register) and is found in the work of leading Pittsburgh architects of the 1890s, such as Longfellow, Alden & Harlow and Rutan & Russell. The Husler Building is McClarren’s sole documented surviving commercial building; he is best known for houses in the Thornburg National Register Historic District.



The Pittsburgh Golf Club, Squirrel Hill

**The Pittsburgh Golf Club**, designed by Alden & Harlow in 1899 and enlarged by them in 1904, is the oldest surviving designed golf clubhouse in Allegheny County. Margaret Henderson Floyd has written: “With elegant white woodwork and broad porches, the golf club design related closely to the classical interiors that [Alden & Harlow] were designing at this time in the East End and to country houses in Sewickley Heights that stood on spectacular sites.”

**St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church**, 600 Pitt Street, Wilkinsburg, was designed and erected in 1903. The architect was English ecclesiastical architect and water-colorist George Nattress, who worked in Philadelphia from 1891 to 1904 (after 1899, with his son in the firm of George Nattress & Son). The Allegheny County Historic Site Survey called the church “one of the finer examples of Gothic Revival architecture in Wilkinsburg.”

**Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, Homewood Branch**, 7101 Hamilton Avenue, Homewood, was designed by Howard K. Jones for Alden & Harlow and erected in 1910. This library reveals a new attitude toward design: instead of the grave Classicism of the older buildings, there is a rather light English Gothic treatment. The library recently underwent a major rehabilitation by Pfaffman & Associates.

**Schenley Park Visitors Center**, Schenley Drive, Schenley Park, designed by Rutan & Russell and constructed in 1910 as the Schenley Park Pavilion, is one of the earliest surviving buildings in the park. The exterior of the building has been restored by Landmarks Design Associates Architects, who also adapted interior spaces for its use as a Visitors Center.

The partly Venetian Gothic, partly French Gothic façade of the **Osterling Studio and Office**, 228 Isabella Street, North Side, was applied by Frederick J. Osterling to an older building in 1917. The renovation of the architect’s office took place during construction of Osterling’s Union Arcade, downtown on Grant Street, where similar Flamboyant tracery was used.



Osterling Studio and Office, North Side

Continued on page 16

### Jane Holmes Residence, Wilkinsburg







Three of the eleven historic religious property grant recipients in 2004 (from left to right): The Pittsburgh New Church in Homewood, designed in 1929 by Harold Thorp Carswell; Mulberry Presbyterian Church in Wilkinsburg, designed in 1905 by Hoffman & Company; and First Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church in Shadyside, designed in 1926 by Corbusier, Lenski & Foster.

## Landmarks Awards \$70,000 to 11 Historic Religious Properties

Trustee George Dorman chairs Landmarks' Historic Religious Properties Committee that oversees a program of financial and technical assistance to churches and synagogues in Allegheny County that have viable congregations and provide social services in their communities. By the end of 2004, chief programs officer Cathy McCollom had announced grants totaling \$70,000 to eleven historic churches:

- Bellefield Presbyterian Church (Oakland)
- Episcopal Church of the Redeemer (Squirrel Hill)
- First Baptist Church of Pittsburgh (Oakland)
- First Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church (Shadyside)
- Hawthorne Avenue Presbyterian Church (Crafton)
- Mulberry Presbyterian Church (Wilkinsburg)
- The Pittsburgh New Church (Homewood)
- Presbyterian Church of Mount Washington
- St. Andrew Lutheran Church (Shadyside)
- St. Thomas Memorial Episcopal Church (Oakmont)
- Zion Christian Church (Carrick)

Grant funds support architectural restoration projects and are matched by each congregation. In addition, the following churches will receive technical assistance from Landmarks:

- Clark Memorial Baptist Church (Homestead)
- First United Presbyterian Church (Crafton Heights)
- Emsworth United Presbyterian Church
- Holy Virgin Russian Orthodox Church (Carnegie)
- Risen Lord Church (North Side)

Chairman Philip B. Hallen presented the grant and technical assistance awards during the annual Historic Religious Properties seminar on October 19, 2004 at the Urban Mountain Gathering Place on Mt. Washington.

Landmarks' Historic Religious Properties Program is funded through year-end gifts from its members; through grants from private foundations, including in 2004 the Anne L. and George H. Clapp Charitable and Educational Trust, the Forbes Funds, the Milton G. Hulme Charitable Foundation, and the Katherine Mabis McKenna Foundation; and through general funds budgeted by Landmarks. Please contribute to the 2005 Historic



Pastor Douglas H. Spittel from First Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church (left) and Chairman Phil Hallen

Religious Properties program if you have not yet done so. See the sidebar at right for details.

In an e-mail to Cathy of December 7, 2004, Pastor Dan Cramer of Zion Christian Church summed up the importance of Landmarks' outreach effort: "Thank you so much for the great news about the grant for the windows. That is wonderful, and we deeply appreciate it. You at PHLF continually surprise us with all the ways you help all of us who are not used to being helped—churches!"

## First Offering of New Dollars/ New Partners in Pittsburgh Is a Success

October 1, 2004

Dear Ms. McCollom:

I am writing to inquire whether PHLF is considering offering the "New Dollars/ New Partners" Program again? Our church is interested in participating since it seems like a program that would benefit us in our attempt to find funding to restore and maintain our church property....

—Paulette J. Balogh  
The Church of the Holy Cross, Homewood

Good news travels quickly. Just as parishioners from nine local congregations were graduating from the first Pittsburgh offering of the nationally recognized training program created by Partners for Sacred Places, members from four more churches were writing to Cathy McCollom, chief programs officer at Landmarks, to ask if a second training session would be held. "Landmarks hopes to raise \$15,000 so we can bring the program to Pittsburgh again," said Cathy. *New Dollars/New Partners for Your Sacred Place* gives participants the

skills and resources they need to establish a maintenance plan for their historic religious property, determine its "public" value, and broaden their base of support.

In 2004, parishioners from more than 80 historic religious properties in Vermont, Atlanta, Boston, Cincinnati, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and the Mid-Atlantic region and San Francisco Bay area participated in *New Dollars/*

*New Partners*. A member from St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Oakland, California said: "This is the single most important opportunity for breaking out of standardized thinking we have." Pastor Dan Cramer from Zion Christian Church in Carrick said, "There are manageable pieces that when put together make a big difference."

Pittsburgh participants in 2004 were: Allegheny Unitarian Universalist Church (North Side); Bethel Presbyterian Church; Calvary United Methodist Church (Allegheny West); Calvary Memorial Presbyterian Church (Etna); Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church (Castle Shannon); First Baptist Church of Pittsburgh (Oakland); Mulberry Presbyterian Church (Wilkinsburg); St. Andrew Lutheran Church (Shadyside); and Zion Christian Church (Carrick).



Representatives from St. Andrew Lutheran Church (far left and center), with staff members from Partners for Sacred Places, and Cathy McCollom of Landmarks (far right)

Based on program evaluation forms, the majority of participants were motivated to plan and carry out a capital campaign; better able to work together as a team; more knowledgeable about the value of their resources and programs; better able to assess building repair and maintenance needs; and better able to identify potential funding partners. By the end of 2004, the majority of participants had completed a grant application, prepared a case statement, made a presentation to their congregation, and planned internal and external funding campaigns, among other accomplishments.

If you are interested in contributing to a second offering of *New Dollars/ New Partners*, or participating in the training program, contact Cathy: 412-471-5808, ext. 516; [cathy@phlf.org](mailto:cathy@phlf.org).



**Reach out  
with a gift  
to Landmarks  
to support its  
Historic Religious  
Properties program  
of grants and  
technical assistance.**

**100% of your gift will help caretakers of churches and synagogues** restore stained glass, repair leaking roofs, paint exterior woodwork, create handicap-accessible entrances, renovate interior spaces, fund feasibility studies, and repair significant artwork, among many other restoration improvements.

**Help us reach our annual fund-raising goal of \$20,000 from members and friends.**

**Mail your tax-deductible gift to:**

Mary Lu Denny  
Director of Membership Services  
Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation  
100 West Station Square Drive, Suite 450  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219-1134

**Please reference your gift:  
Historic Religious Properties**

If you would rather make a contribution to support either Landmarks' endowment, or its neighborhood preservation services or education programs, then simply indicate this in a note with your gift. Such donations are also welcome and indeed are very much needed.

*A copy of the official registration and 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.*

# OUR WORK: Recent Progress (continued)

## Landmarks Awards Preservation Loans to South Side & Wilkinsburg

In December 2004 Landmarks awarded a \$250,000 Preservation Fund loan to the **South Side Local Development Company (SSLDC)** so it could purchase the long-derelict Foto Hut building at 1505–07 East Carson Street. The three-story



1027 Wood Street

commercial building was constructed in 1881. SSLDC has formed a joint venture with TREK Development Group to create nine apartments and three commercial spaces in the historic building. SSLDC intends to move into one of the spaces. Construction on the \$3 million project will begin in the summer of 2005.

As reported in the September 2004 issue of *PHLF News*, Landmarks is working with Wilbur Young, mayor of Wilkinsburg Borough, and local businesses and residents to develop a comprehensive neighborhood plan to revitalize the Wilkinsburg area. Thanks to a \$68,000 Preservation Fund loan from Landmarks, **Black Vietnam Era Veterans, Inc.** will be able to purchase a heating system for its headquarters building at 1027 Wood Street in Wilkinsburg.



1505–07 East Carson Street

## Homestead 8th Avenue Improvements Continue



449–451 West 8th Avenue

Work has been completed on three more of the nine 8th Avenue properties in Homestead to which Landmarks gave façade grants and loans in 2003.

The **Bulgarian-Macedonian Educational & Cultural Center** at 449–451 West 8th Avenue was renovated to replicate the style of Bulgarian architecture. In a letter to Landmarks of August 20, 2004, Patricia French, president of the Center, wrote: “I am so happy to report that our façade is completed, thanks to your confidence and financial support. We are so proud of the result!”

**Advantar** has restored the façade balconies and brickwork on its building at 218 West 8th Avenue, and installed new windows and doors. Joe Small, president of Advantar, said: “We genuinely appreciate the help, guidance, and assistance that PH&LF has provided throughout the restoration process.”

The façade of 218 1/2 East 8th Avenue has been restored, and owner Judith Tener has opened **Annex Cookery** in the inviting nine-foot-wide space. Stop in and support Homestead’s newest main street business.

Annex Cookery, 218 1/2 East 8th Avenue



Advantar, 218 West 8th Avenue

## Landmarks Helps Flood-Damaged Building in Carnegie Secure Grant



Husler Building, Carnegie

In September 2004 Hurricane Ivan inundated the main street of Carnegie, as well as many other historic communities in the Pittsburgh region. So much of the restoration progress that had been undertaken in the past few years was washed away.

A key building, the **Husler Building** (see page 2), stands at the edge of Chartiers Creek and houses the all-volunteer Carnegie Historical Society. To avoid the flood waters, members carried exhibit materials from the first floor to the second but the heating system was destroyed.

Landmarks’ president Arthur Ziegler and superintendent of property maintenance Tom Keffer toured the building on October 29 with Historical Society President Marcella McGroghan. Former County Executive James Roddey toured the building later, as well. As a result of the tour and a funding request submitted by Landmarks on behalf of the Carnegie Historical Society, the Allegheny Foundation, a

Scaife family charitable trust, agreed to provide funds to replace the heating system and cover the costs of miscellaneous building and roof repairs so that the volunteers can work through the winter to restore the building and exhibits. A considerable amount of money has to be raised to restore the 1896 landmark designed by Samuel T. McClarren; a budget is being formulated for that purpose.

## Technical Assistance Highlights in 2004



1401 Columbus Avenue, Manchester

What is technical assistance? It’s advice to an owner of a historic property, from a member of our staff, that helps the owner move forward with a restoration project. In some cases, Landmarks agrees to fund a study of a building’s condition. In any given year, we talk with numerous people, visit dozens of sites, and fund several studies. Here we highlight technical-assistance activity in 2004:

When masonry collapsed at **1401 Columbus Avenue** in Manchester, Tom Keffer, superintendent of property maintenance at Landmarks, encouraged Manchester Citizens Corporation (MCC) to ask the City, who owned the property, to stabilize the rear ell. Because of the significance of the 1887 building, Tom recommended that MCC try to obtain funding to acquire the handsome red-brick structure.

We assessed the physical condition of the historic **Lynch Mansion** in Friendship (now the home of the Waldorf School) and prepared a preliminary restoration budget.

Landmarks helped the Hazelwood Initiative secure a \$90,000 Keystone Grant from the Pennsylvania Historical and

Museum Commission to support restoration of the **Woods house** (c. 1790) at 4604 Monongahela Street.

Sylvia Easler of Allegheny County’s Parks and Recreation Department asked Tom Keffer of Landmarks to meet at **Hartwood Acres** in Indiana Township to review the condition of the casement windows and stained and leaded glass windows, and comment on restoration suggestions presented by The Friends of Hartwood Acres (FOHA). As a result of the meeting, the FOHA agreed to prepare a complete restoration package with associated costs and plans to raise funds to restore the 1920s house designed by Alfred W. Hopkins of New York.

Tom Keffer gave advice to **Baldwin Borough** and the Baldwin Historical Society so they could carefully uncover a two-story **log house** from the 1820s, disassemble it, and rebuild it next to the Borough building on Churchview Avenue. The log cabin had been covered in Sheetrock and rows of rusted metal shingles.

Landmarks objected to the demolition of **421 West 8th Avenue** in Homestead (which once housed Buffington’s restaurant). The building serves as an entrance to the Historic District. We recommended that the County of Allegheny sell the building for one dollar to any person, group, or developer for the sole purpose of complete exterior restoration. As of mid-December the building was still standing.

We encouraged the “Concerned Citizens of the Ambridge Area School District” in their battle to save the three-story **Ambridge High School** of 1926. The school board is proposing to replace the historic structure with a new school. Preservation Pennsylvania listed Ambridge High School on its 2004 Pennsylvania-At-Risk list because it represents a wave of neighborhood school closings and demolitions.

## Staff Assists Area Boards & Organizations

We briefly note a few of the conferences and organizations we supported in 2004.

### In Pittsburgh, Landmarks:

- Co-chaired the lighting committee of **Riverlife Task Force**;
- Assisted the **Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership** with its Wine and Dine Tour of Downtown Pittsburgh;
- Served on the **South Side Local Development Company’s** Newcomers Night Committee;
- Helped sponsor the **Pennsylvania Downtown Center** conference, and hosted walking tours and moderated sessions;
- Participated in the **Green Building Alliance** “Building Solutions Summit”;
- Participated on the **Steering Committee of A+ Schools**, Pittsburgh’s Community Alliance for Public Education;
- Led a tour of the Fifth-Forbes area for **Leadership Pittsburgh**;
- Served as a marketing advisor for **The Pittsburgh Foundation** and the **Pittsburgh Cultural Trust**;
- Served as a co-chair for the **Friends of the Riverfront Trail Mixer**, which launches each new riverfront rails-to-trail segment;
- Co-hosted **Sustainable Pittsburgh’s** Regionalism and Equity Forum; and

- Co-sponsored the opening of *Work Song*, a play about Frank Lloyd Wright produced by **City Theater**.

### In Allegheny County, Landmarks:

- Chaired the **Committee on Allegheny County Historic Properties**;
- Worked with **Communities First** to fight Wal-Mart’s proposal to develop the former Dixmont State Hospital site, and to advance an alternative plan for the Dixmont site promoting sustainable development practices and conserving open space;
- Worked with the **Allegheny County Agricultural Land Preservation Program** to enhance our ability to preserve farm properties; and
- Served on the **Mt. Lebanon Historic Preservation Board**; helped guide the first year of the Cultural Resource Survey; and completed the grant application, on the Municipality’s behalf, for the third and final year of the comprehensive survey.

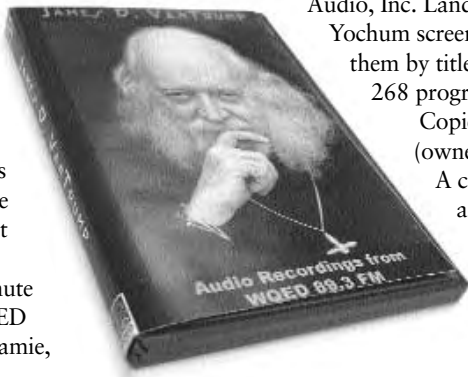
### In Washington, D.C., Landmarks:

- Supported the third decade reunion and honors program of **Partners for Livable Communities**. Secretary of the Treasury John Snow was among the honored guests.

# PHMC Grant Funds Van Trump Tape-Recording Conversion to Compact Disc

The James D. Van Trump Library received a 2004 grant of \$5,000 from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) to convert deteriorating tape recordings by Jamie Van Trump into a compact disc format, thus preserving Jamie's voice and unique historical knowledge for future generations. Landmarks provided additional funds needed to complete the project, and members Marirose and John Radelet contributed as well.

Most of the recordings were ten-to-fifteen minute vignettes prepared for regular broadcast on WQED FM between 1975 and 1983. As was typical of Jamie,



topics were wide-ranging: secular and sacred landmarks; special places, both intimate and grand; prominent historical figures, etc. Although most of the pieces were about southwestern Pennsylvania, Jamie touched on other communities in the Commonwealth, and beyond. Several programs, which were carefully scripted, were published in *Life and Architecture in Pittsburgh* (Landmarks 1983).

52 studio tape reels were baked, then transferred, using digital remastering technology, to 53 compact discs by Digital Dynamics Audio, Inc. Landmarks' chief information officer Ronald Yochum screened the programs for quality, organized them by title, prepared a program list, and transferred 268 programs to a single DVD.

Copies of the DVD were given to WQED FM (owner of the copyright) and to the PHMC.

A copy is available in the Van Trump library and may be heard by appointment. Several recordings, in which Jamie describes the work of Benno Janssen, were played at Longue Vue Club during our membership event there on July 26, 2004.

## James D. Van Trump Library: Support and New Resources

### Allegheny Foundation Grant Funds Library Assistant

Landmarks was notified in November 2004 that the Allegheny Foundation will fund a third year of staff support, through December 2006, for which we are most grateful. Since September 13, 2004 Laureen Schulte, a Duquesne University history graduate student, has been capably filling the part-time position. Prior to that, Helen Donnelley (in July and August) and Kelley Stroup (January through June) worked with us. Much has been accomplished as a result of their work: the historic sites survey, oversize book collection, and oversize journal collection have been reorganized; plat books and insurance maps have been reinventoried and labeled; and an index has been prepared for an eight-volume *Architectural Record* scrapbook, among other tasks.

### New Reference Materials

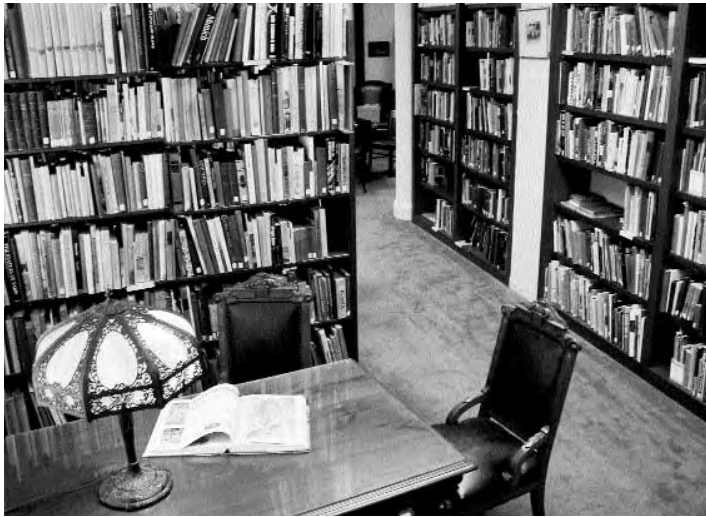
One range of shelving in the library is devoted to reference works. New to this section are *African American Architects: A Biographical Dictionary 1865-1945* (Routledge 2004), *Sculpture from Antiquity to the Present*, four volumes (Taschen 1996; a gift from Walter C. Kidney), and *Pencil Points Reader: A Journal for the Drafting Room 1920-1943* (Princeton 2004; purchased by the Richard D. Edwards Named Fund).

Our collection of practical historic preservation reference documents has been enhanced by a three-binder set, "Historic Preservation Resources Handbook," compiled by Landmarks' chief programs

officer Cathy McCollom, and consisting of concise information on virtually all aspects of historic preservation: researching house histories, community preservation issues, historic designation, tax credits and abatements, funding sources, property development, conservation, and more. Other recent items in this section include "Planning Beyond Boundaries: A Multi-Municipal Planning and Implementation Manual for Pennsylvania Municipalities," prepared by 10,000 Friends of Pennsylvania in 2002, and a file of documents pertaining to "Historic Preservation Rehabilitation Tax Credit Information," both acquired by Landmarks' former general counsel, Elisa Cavalier.

### Lists and Databases

Library Assistant Laureen Schulte edited a selected index to *The Pittsburgh Bulletin* 1887 to 1920 prepared over many years by Landmarks' co-founder Jamie Van Trump. Volunteer Judith Harvey, several members of the secretary staff, and Laureen have all labored to convert information typed on notecards into a word-processed list that allows researchers to quickly scan highlights of articles on Pittsburgh architecture



and design that appeared in a magazine written for Pittsburgh's prominent citizenry.

Certainly the most useful recently developed tool is the database index prepared by Judith Harvey indexing all our copies of *PHLF News* (only issue No. 16 is missing from our holdings). Judith's index is compatible with the index prepared since the late 1980s by the National Trust library at the University of Maryland. It is also searchable, unlike *The Bulletin* list; researchers can search 1,680 articles published in *PHLF News* by author, title, or subject.

### Hours of Operation/Procedure

The library is open by appointment Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Call Al Tannler, Frank Stroker, or Walter Kidney at 412-471-5808 if you wish to schedule a visit. There is a fee for non-members.

often mentioned 100 years ago, are totally or almost vacant today. Toboggan and Howard Streets came alive in the records, and today the opposite is true. I was able to read of dates and specifications for sewer and water lines and paving of most streets in Fineview, along with the planning and approval ordinances for the Fineview Trolley line.

It truly is an interesting trip back in history to the everyday financial records of Allegheny City. One thing was evident: the city expected the bills to be paid down to the last penny, and meticulous records were kept as to when each resident paid a bill. As I perused the archives, I sensed that life was much the same then as it is today, filled with work, development costs, and taxes.

## A First-Person Report: A Visit to the Pennsylvania State Archives in Harrisburg

Judith Harvey, Library Volunteer

Along with many of you, I read the article in the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* (August 11, 2004) detailing a two-year task, led by State archivist Jerry Ellis, to catalogue a collection of materials (covering the 1800s until 1939) from Allegheny City, even though Allegheny City was not in existence officially after 1907. In that year Allegheny was annexed (against its will) to Pittsburgh and became the North Side.

Since I, personally, am researching a specific area of the North Side, Fineview, once known as Nunnery Hill, I visited the Pennsylvania State Archives in August 2004. For my purposes, the records did not offer any new information; however, in research, one must check all sources available or key information might not be discovered. The records are mostly financial government records: a resident's taxes (property, water, and sewage) paid or not paid; assessments; road and other public construction approvals; and city bills approved and paid. There are also police records, and records of complaints to the Mayor. Minutes of Council meetings are there to read, some in the most beautiful of handwriting. The rag content of the ledger paper keeps the words as fresh, bright, and clear as the day they were written.

It was thrilling when I did find names and addresses of residents long ago at street addresses I know so well in Fineview. Some streets, so heavily populated and

## Landmarks Gives to Others

From time to time, Landmarks is able to make contributions from the Named Funds that our members have established, and from our organization generally. Our contributions support preservation/educational efforts that are being advanced by other organizations. Gifts we made to others in 2004 included:

### Contributions from Our Named Funds

- **Barensfeld Family Fund**  
Allegheny Unitarian Church, for ADA-accessible design work
- **Brashear Family Fund**  
Contributions to underwrite eight student scholarships
- **Carl Wood Brown Fund**  
Northside Leadership Conference's Allegheny Commons Restoration (see page 15)
- **Mary DeWinter Named Fund**  
The American Chestnut Foundation  
Beginning with Books  
Bidwell Cultural & Training Center  
Cranberry Township Historical Society  
Mars History & Landmarks Society  
Railroad Station Project  
McCook House Preservation Project  
Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy  
Rachel Carson Homestead Association  
St. Luke's Church  
Union Project (see page 12)
- **Audrey and Kenneth Menke Named Fund for Education**  
Andrew Carnegie Free Library Restoration Fund
- **The Shadybrook Fund**  
Northside Leadership Conference's Allegheny Commons Restoration (see page 15)
- **Patricia Thauer Fund**  
Hosanna House  
The Mattress Factory  
National Trust for Historic Preservation's Hurricane Relief Fund for Historic Properties
- **Walton Family Fund**  
Contribution to NEED, to fund one student scholarship
- **Emma Ziegler Named Fund**  
Asbury Heights Foundation  
Dormont Historical Society  
Horticultural Society of Western Pennsylvania  
Lincoln Highway Heritage Corridor Restoration  
Little Beaver Creek Foundation  
Nature Conservancy  
Save the Redwoods League  
Society for the Preservation of the Duquesne Incline  
WDUQ  
WQED  
Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf

### Contributions Generally

- Center for Preservation Initiatives
- Gettysburg National Battlefield Museum Foundation
- James W. Knox Scholarship Fund at the Irish Room at the University of Pittsburgh International Classrooms
- National Trust for Historic Preservation
- Preservation Pennsylvania



## OUR WORK: *Recent Progress (continued)*

# The Grable Foundation Gives Three-Year Grant to Education

On December 1, 2004 The Grable Foundation informed Landmarks that it would be awarding a \$60,000 grant to its education department, payable over three years, to support programs for students and teachers that develop an understanding of and appreciation for the urban environment. "This is excellent news," said Dr. Herman Reid, chair of Landmarks' Education Advisory Committee. "Support from The Grable Foundation for the next three years will enable Landmarks to continue offering a full schedule of tours, architectural design challenges, in-school resources, and teacher in-services (among many other activities) to more than 10,000 people each year."



The letter "M" in the roof-line of a Mt. Lebanon house

In addition, Landmarks will be able to create several new programs, including a Web site to help build literacy skills that shows photographs of building details that resemble alphabet letters; an architectural scavenger hunt for Children's Museum visitors; neighborhood explorations for several Pittsburgh public schools; and a database of digital images featuring significant

Pittsburgh art and architecture that teachers will be able to access.

"As a result of this grant," said executive director Louise Sturgess, "we will be able to continue our existing programs and create new resources that engage students in their community and help them develop a passion for discovery while strengthening academic, teamwork, and problem-solving skills." In the process, Landmarks is able to encourage a "preservation ethic" among young people and nurture good citizenship values.

The Grable Foundation grant will help relieve the annual deficit incurred by Landmarks' education department, and will enable Landmarks to continue its commitment to education—a commitment that so many schools and neighborhood groups count on. There is no group in Pittsburgh that uses the community as a resource for learning in such a comprehensive, creative, and engaging way as Landmarks.

"We are grateful to have the support of The Grable Foundation," said Chairman Phil Hallen, "as we involve more people in exploring the rich architectural heritage of this region." Photographs and artwork from recent programs show the impact of our work.



Landmarks' docents include (front to back, left to right): Linda Liechty, Marian Cook, Bob Loos, Julie Mangus, Kathy Testoni, Peggy Dimperio, Eliza Nevin, Bill Garrett, and Mary Eror.

## Our Docents

Trained volunteers assist Landmarks' education staff. Without them, we could not accomplish all that we do. These photographs were taken at the Drew Mathieson Center on the North Side during one of our monthly educational excursions.

If you are interested in becoming a docent, contact Mary Lu Denny: 412-471-5808, ext. 527; [marylu@phlf.org](mailto:marylu@phlf.org). We always welcome new recruits!



## Landmarks' Scholarship Programs Have an Impact

Through two scholarship programs supported by our trustees, Landmarks is able to connect with local students who have a genuine interest in historic preservation.

In a letter to us of July 12, 2004, Columbia University freshman Alison Spatz Levine (a Brashers Family Scholar) eloquently described how she toured Harlem to talk with long-time residents to determine how Columbia University could expand into that neighborhood without negatively impacting its economic, social, and architectural character. She also researched New York's Lower East Side for a Pittsburgh-based cartographer, and led students on a tour of the neighborhood so they would understand the importance of preservation. To read her full letter, visit "Scholarships" at: [www.phlf.org/education/](http://www.phlf.org/education/).

In a letter of July 3, 2004 to Louise Sturgess, retired teacher Margaret Burley thanked Landmarks for its Walton Family Scholarship program: "You have made such a positive impact on the Pittsburgh Hill District Community by coordinating Landmarks' Walton Family Scholarship.... Due to your and Ellen Walton's ongoing support, a total of 12 students have received \$1,000 scholarships since I established the grassroots Miller School Scholarship Program in 1999...." Margaret's full letter and Miller School scholar Kenya Freeman's letter are also on our Web site.

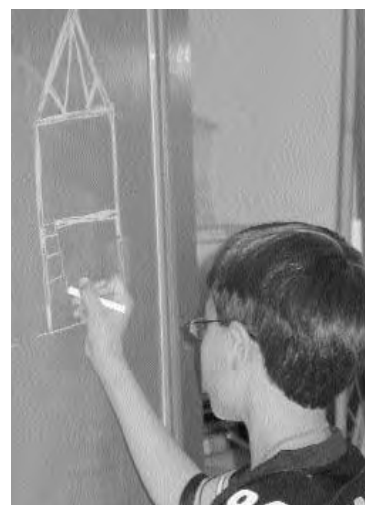
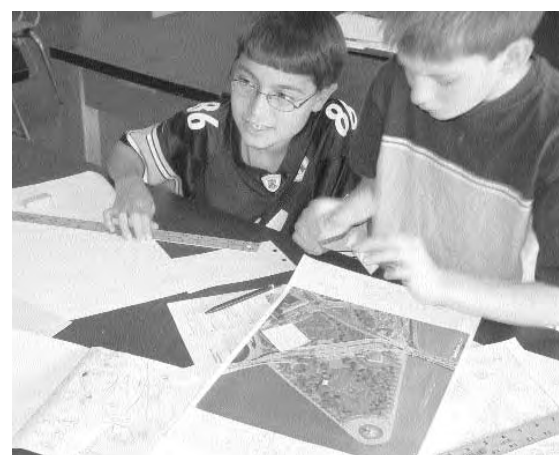
For further information about both these scholarship programs, contact Mary Ann Eubanks: 412-471-5808, ext. 537; [maryann@phlf.org](mailto:maryann@phlf.org).

## Architectural Design Challenge 2004 – 05



More than 150 middle and high school students from various Westmoreland County Schools, and 28 elementary students from the Pittsburgh Gifted Center are analyzing and critiquing the Pressley Associates plan for Point State Park and building models of a Visitors Center they envision for the Park. The Pressley Associates plan was recently developed under the leadership of the Riverlife Task Force.

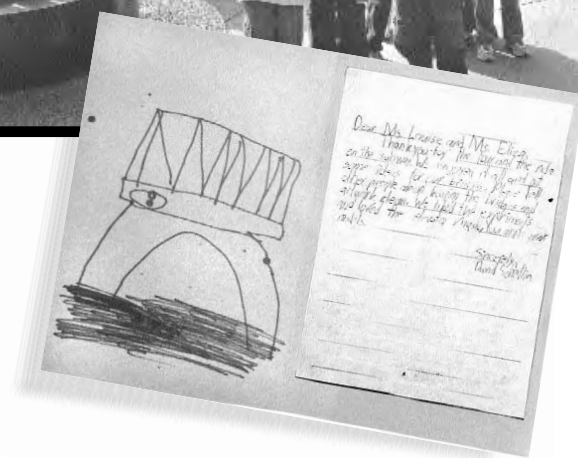
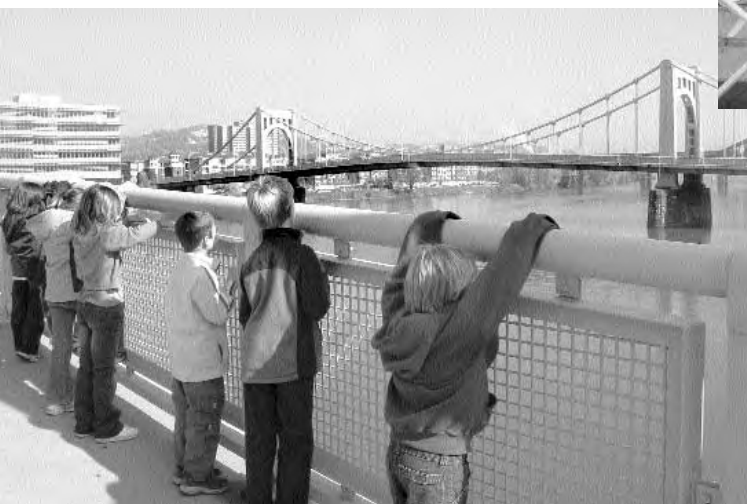
During orientation sessions with Landmarks in the fall of 2004, students learned how to express their ideas by drawing "bubble diagrams," floor plans, elevations, and sections. In the next issue of *PHLF News*, we will show some of the students' models and describe their ideas.



Pittsburgh Gifted Center students in Helen Norfleet's class draw a floor plan (top), elevation (above left), and section (above right).

## Bridges & More

To kick-off a classroom unit on bridge-building, a group of Central Elementary School students visited Landmarks' offices on October 26, 2004 to see several bridge models, constructed out of K'nex by Landmarks' Scholar and CMU student Todd Wilson. Then, students went on a Bridge Tour with Landmarks and explored the North Shore park as well.



## Speaking of Preservation

Many municipalities are making poor economic decisions. Instead of fixing older and more historic, attractive downtown areas they are letting these city centers decay and moving development out into the suburbs and building strip malls. This "spreading out" adds to the overall burden on taxpayers by adding more infrastructure, that is, more roads, sewers, lights and areas for police and fireman to patrol. As a result, taxpayers now have to pay for the older decaying area *and* the new development. Furthermore, strip malls have about a third of the life expectancy of a traditional "downtown" area...

The correct path is to rebuild our urban centers through economic stimulus packages that encourage new business and housing in urban areas. The money for such initiatives is out there, it's just being spent in the wrong places.

—TJ Morton  
Executive Director  
Aliquippa Alliance  
August 4, 2004

## South Side Area Schools Benefit from Neighborhood Assistance Program

For the seventh consecutive year, students from Arlington, Bishop Leonard, Philip Murray, and Phillips Elementary Schools are participating in free field trips and in-school programs created by Landmarks, thanks to the South Side Local Development Company's Neighborhood Assistance Program/Comprehensive Service Program, sponsored by the Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development and PNC Bank.

These photos show students creating collages at the Silver Eye Center for Photography after an "Eye Spy on the South Side" walking tour and art activity, and participating in a career awareness program with Jonathan Newell of PNC Bank and James Sheehan and Greg Newman from Renaissance 3 Architects.



Architects James Sheehan and Greg Newman and PNC's Jonathan Newell meet with Arlington students to discuss community development careers.

## Architecture Apprentices Graduate



Thirty-two students from high schools throughout the city and county participated in a five-session course introducing them to career paths in architecture and historic preservation. They were also asked to develop a design showing a new use for the vacant bank building at the corner of Eighth and Amity Avenues in Homestead. Architects Jonathan Greene and Kelly Docter helped Landmarks teach the class.

In Pittsburgh, "hills and canyons support neighborhood character and identity. There are cul-de-sacs like Boston where generations of families live and prosper. It's not the same in Los Angeles. People are less permanent. Urban geography along with climate shapes the local culture—the substance for differing urban designs.... L.A. is a city of sticks and stones, and Pittsburgh is a city of bricks and mortar. Pittsburgh's presence is embodied in this. Materials and methods do reflect the city's culture."

—William Fain  
Jury Chair for the  
AIA Design Awards  
(as quoted by Patricia Lowry,  
*Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*,  
October 30, 2004)



Arlington students participate in "Eye Spy" at the Silver Eye Center for Photography.



Plans for a day-care center in a former bank building in Homestead



## How Landmarks Has Helped the Children’s Museum

**1968:** Landmarks and North Side citizens save the Allegheny Post Office from demolition.

**Autumn 1971:** Landmarks restores the building at a cost of nearly \$800,000; moves its offices to the Allegheny Post Office; and formally opens the Old Post Office Museum in January 1972.

**June 1983:** When a group of people express interest in starting a Children’s Museum, Landmarks invites them to use the lower galleries of the Old Post Office to test out the idea.

**1983:** Landmarks begins moving its offices to The Landmarks Building at Station Square; the Children’s Museum expands into the Old Post Office.

**1991:** Landmarks gives the entire Old Post Office building to the Children’s Museum.

**2000:** When the Pittsburgh Children’s Museum announces that it is going to build a new wing to the west of the Old Post Office, Landmarks commissions a feasibility study to see if the vacant Buhl Planetarium can be adapted for their purposes and linked, with a new building, to the Old Post Office. The study is positive.



**2001:** Landmarks works with the Children’s Museum on the design of the new “connecting” building and on the adaptation of the Buhl Planetarium.

**2004:** Many historic artifacts from Landmarks’ collection continue to be displayed at the Children’s Museum, including the “Ladies of Stone” and keystones from the demolished Fourth Avenue Post Office, as well as stained glass.

**Longtime members of Landmarks will remember the annual Holiday party at the Old Post Office Museum, shown here in 1973.**



**The expanded Children’s Museum of Pittsburgh on the North Side connects 19th and 20th century landmarks with a three-story 21st-century structure whose façade of hinged, polycarbonate squares ripples in patterned waves like water when it’s windy. The rotunda space (right) has been beautifully restored and adapted as an art center and exhibit area.**



## Children’s Museum Grows Up

*Charles L. Rosenblum*

*This is the seventh in a series of articles by Charles L. Rosenblum, a member of Landmarks, an architectural historian and critic, and adjunct assistant professor at Carnegie Mellon University.*

The renovated and expanded Children’s Museum of Pittsburgh opened just before the holiday season, making it seem like an early present. It serves the purpose very well, with new toys inside to appeal to pleasingly diverse age groups. Also, true to the nature of the institution, it’s highly educational. The exhibits have plenty to teach young minds, and so does the architecture, which offers numerous important lessons.

Really, the educational process began before groundbreaking, through an ethos of openness and responsiveness that Director Jane Werner pursued from the outset. Community charettes allowed the museum to learn from its neighbors and vice versa as the building program developed. Then, a National Endowment for the Arts-funded design competition with nationally ranked talent raised the bar for both the process and the final product. People could expect the best possible designs and make real comparisons in the process. If anyone questioned that architects could reconcile respect for context and community with artistically progressive design, Koning Eizenberg Architects of Santa Monica (assisted locally by Perkins Eastman Architects and Mascaro Construction Company) have put doubts to rest.

Their addition is a crisply modern multi-story box placed between the Renaissance style old Children’s Museum (the former post office and headquarters/ museum of the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation) and the Moderne style former Buhl Planetarium. The new construction connects to both older buildings, both of which feature domes. The new piece is centralized and iconic enough to form an effective ensemble with its predecessors, but it nonetheless is clearly of its own time. The lesson here is that modern architecture can be stylistically progressive while still maintaining a healthy relationship with its historic surroundings. It can even improve them.

Of course, most people will pay most attention to the mesmerizing windscreens, a collaborative work between the architects and artist Ned Kahn, who has created this sort of work elsewhere. Consisting of thousands of polycarbonate squares hinged at the top and mounted on the building’s outward-tilting façade trusses, the screens ripple in patterned waves like water when it’s windy. The effect is absolutely hypnotic and delightful. Significantly, this represents a major change from the competition-winning scheme, which featured a folding, Noguchi lamp-like curtain wall. The revised design, though necessarily cheaper, is better. It’s more fun, it’s a better formal analogy to (though not an imitation of) the domes and it connects to the other buildings more

clearly. The two old buildings are about the heavens, viewed either through the telescope or the bible (post office or not, the Renaissance dome typology was originally designed as a church). But the new building is about the wind.

Actually, at the entry level, it’s also about the sky. The entry pavilion that seemed a bit unresolved on the model is very effective in person largely because of its airy openness, the right quality for a lobby space. Although it’s an austere exercise in steel and glass, the lower height of the porch seems appropriately sheltering, complete with its functioning porch swing, while the high-ceiling interior space is more dynamic and exciting in scale. Throughout, details are sharp, knowing and confident, a distinct contrast to the visual slop of some surrounding modern architecture. Also, visitors realize eventually how dark and enclosed the Buhl is in its historical construction. This modern entry is a good foil.

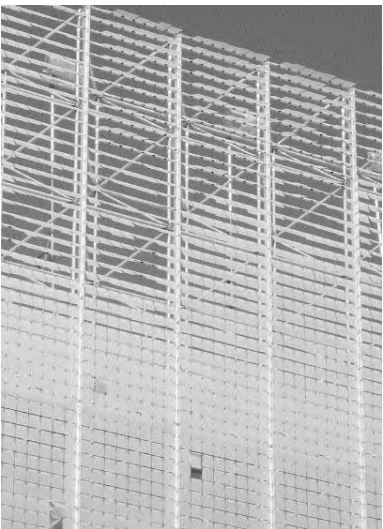
One major change from the entry is that the architects opened a very large window in the east end of what used to be the planetarium lobby. Former Historic Review Commissioner John DeSantis once expressed steadfast opposition to this proposal, but it actually improves the whole complex. The natural light is cheerful, the view of the adjacent Carnegie Library is grand, and the axis through the three buildings aggrandizes, organizes, and unifies them to great effect. The architects were right, and they delivered even more than they promised with this feature.

The old structure is now filled with high-tech and low-tech exhibits, stimulating works of art and selected architectural artifacts, all of which perpetuate the multi-generational appeal. The interactive video pieces, including works such as “Gathering,” by Camille Utterback and Adam Chapman of Creative Nerve, Inc., are personal favorites. The general strategy, though, that art and architecture can appeal to adults while gently cultivating

interests in children who may or may not be ready for them is thoughtfully and pervasively executed. Adults can admire prints from the Warhol Museum or stained glass saved by the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks, while kids play with toy trains or watch Mister Rogers.

Many older visitors, though, will not escape a sense of melancholy over the old Buhl. Not only is the Zeiss projector gone, but some spaces in the lower levels feel oddly unfinished, even though the architects’ hip and cheerful decorative sense is frequently apparent. These sorts of rough edges seem more like shortages of budget than imagination, and they pale in comparison to the overall level of success of the project.

It seems exactly appropriate that a Children’s Museum that encourages nurturing interaction among people does the same with architecture. Perhaps the biggest lesson is that such an approach should apply to the entire built environment as well.



**A detail of the windscreen**





The Terminal Buildings in the 1960s (left) and now (above). The restored storefronts along the East Carson Street façade are evidence of the care Pittsburgh Terminal Properties is taking in the building renovation process.

## Landmarks Trustee Leads Terminal Buildings Renovation

Mark Bibro, a Landmarks' trustee since 1985, and the son of Jim Bibro, one of Landmarks' founding trustees, is overseeing the restoration and adaptive use of the Pittsburgh Terminal Buildings, 333–400 East Carson Street, along the Monongahela River on the South Side. Mr. Bibro's principal renovation partners are Dan and Joe Lackner, Pittsburgh Terminal Properties board members, Landmarks Design Associates Architects (the building's newest tenant), Jendoco Construction Corporation, and Ferry Electric Company.



**Mark Bibro**

The Terminal Properties include a power plant along the river's edge, two six-story buildings extending from the river along a private street, Terminal Way, to Carson Street, and an office/storefront building that runs along Carson Street. The latter three buildings share two stories below grade; the viewer sees only the upper floors of what is in fact a single one-million-square-foot structure connected by tunnels and a bridge.

The Terminal Buildings were designed in 1898 by Charles Bickel, a prolific Pittsburgh architect, and construction was completed in 1906. Walter C. Kidney wrote of the Terminal Buildings in *Pittsburgh's Landmark Architecture*: "The architect and the bricklayer worked out a scheme of ornamenta-

tion—enough to demonstrate that they cared—but it is obvious that efficiency is the real object."

In a *Business Times* article (December 12–18, 2003) announcing the renovation project, Suzanne Elliott reported: "The Terminal Buildings' original investors included George Westinghouse. Its development a century ago cost \$1.5 million and it took two brickyards one year to provide enough bricks to build the structure.... At the time, the Terminal Buildings complex was considered state-of-the-art because it had a sprinkler system, which was unheard of at the time." The solid steel and concrete-frame building also had 41 freight elevators—and all are in operating condition today.

The Pittsburgh Terminal Properties renovation initially involves transforming 250,000 square feet of the property into office space at a cost of \$18 million. The handsome brickwork has been cleaned, many of the 1,200 windows have been replaced with modern facsimiles, and historically appropriate lighting is being installed. There is adjacent parking; there are handicapped accessible sidewalks; and a roof garden is being designed. The buildings are conveniently located, accessible from the "T," the Monongahela Incline, bus transportation, and the riverfront trail. Space rents for between \$3 and \$14 a square foot,



A view down Terminal Way, toward the Monongahela River. The riverfront trail is minutes away, affording tenants a refreshing break during their business day.

and 70% of the space has been leased. For a listing of tenants and further information call Mark Bibro (412-390-4736) or visit: [www.pittsburghterminalproperties.com](http://www.pittsburghterminalproperties.com).

The Terminal Buildings have been recognized as National Register-eligible and qualify for historic preservation tax credits; the process to full designation is under way. Although work continues, the building received a 2004 Pittsburgh Historic Review Commission Preservation Award as a result of the care that is being shown as this immense historic structure is revitalized.



The Coro Center for Civic Leadership, one of 65 tenants in the Terminal Buildings, received LEED's "gold" status for energy-efficient features. The office space was designed by Renaissance 3 Architects with Jendoco Construction.

## Investing in Landmarks Brings Great Value

Landmarks can put your assets to work while bringing you:

- Lifetime income from your gift;
- Federal and estate tax savings;
- Avoidance of probate costs;
- Disposition of real estate and elimination of ownership costs and liability (minimum value required);
- Honorary life membership in Landmarks (minimum contribution required); and
- The satisfaction of making a significant gift to preserve our Western Pennsylvania heritage.

For additional information, visit our Web site: [www.phlf.org](http://www.phlf.org) or contact Jack Miller (412-471-5808, ext. 538; [jack@phlf.org](mailto:jack@phlf.org)).

*Please continue giving. The need is great.*

Charles Bickel (1852–1921), born in Ohio and trained in Germany, established his Pittsburgh firm in 1885. His extant building designs include:

- many of the city's early police stations;
- the 1889–90 German National Bank, Wood Street and Sixth Avenue (with J. P. Brennan);
- the 1891 Ewart Building, 925 Liberty Avenue;
- the 1898 Kaufmann's Department Store building;
- Spear & Company, 1906, 915 Penn Avenue, now condominiums;
- the 1906–07 Hartje Building, Wood Street at First Avenue; and
- the c. 1912 Reymer Brothers' Candy Factory, 1421 Forbes Avenue.

All are included in *Pittsburgh's Landmark Architecture*, and the Reymer building is on the National Register of Historic Places.

## Construction of the Homestead and Its Connection to the Whiskey Rebellion

The Millers, of North Irish origin, were among the earliest settlers in what is now South Park Township. In 1772 Oliver Miller built a two-story log house with a shingle roof.

Twenty-two years later, the first shot of the “Whiskey Rebellion” was fired near the Homestead on July 15, 1794 when U.S. Marshal David Lenox



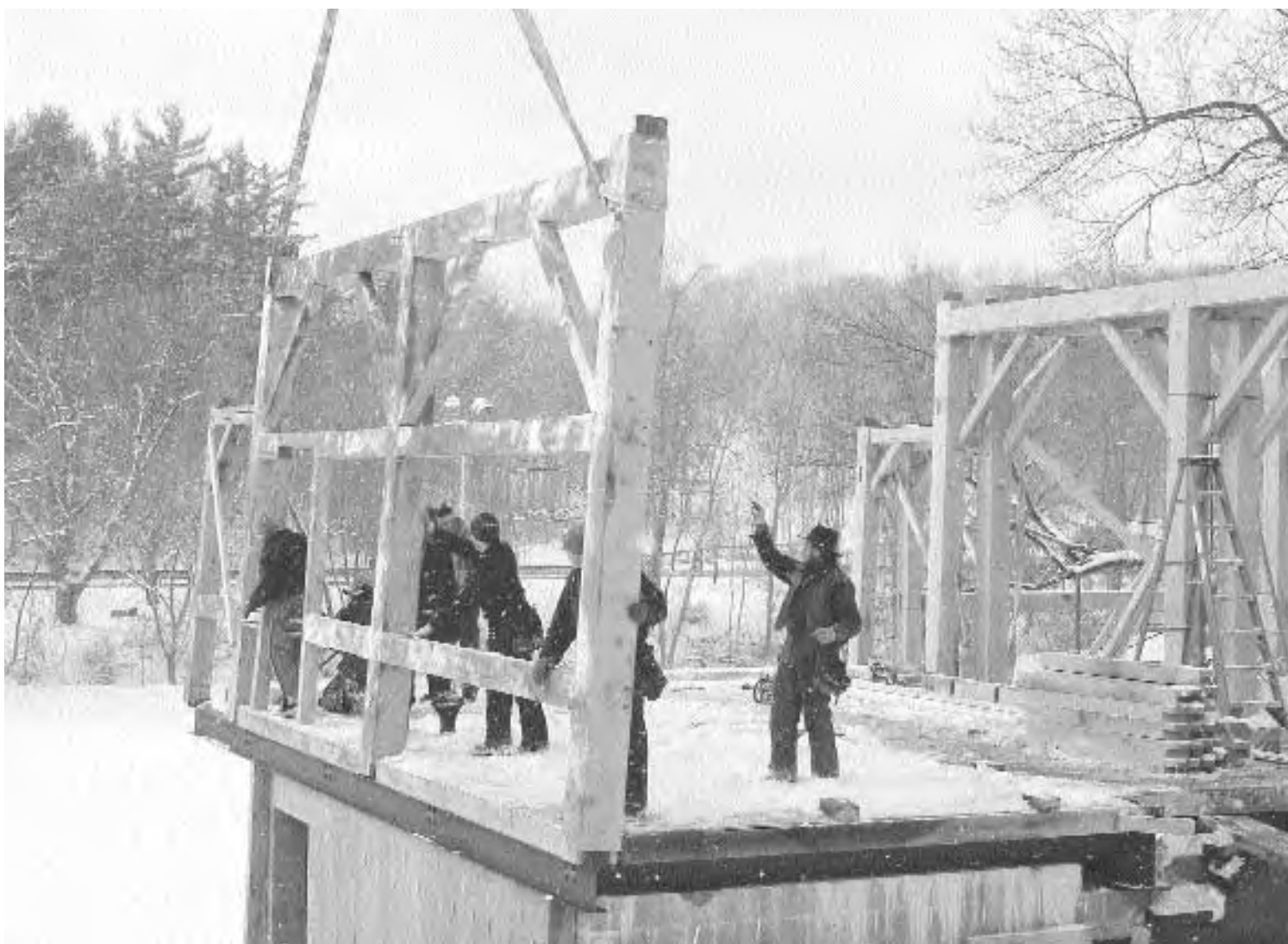
The Oliver Miller Homestead in South Park is on the National Register of Historic Places and has a Historic Landmark plaque.

and General John Neville, appointed by President George Washington as Inspector of Revenue for the Fourth Survey District of Pennsylvania, went there to serve a warrant on William Miller, Oliver’s son, who had failed to register his still.

The next day, a disgruntled band of men, including William’s nephew, also named Oliver Miller, marched on John Neville’s “Bower Hill” mansion. Neville hurriedly prepared to defend his home, and may have fired the first shot which mortally wounded Oliver Miller. The “Bower Hill” conflict ended on July 17, 1794 when a second insurgent, James McFarlane, was killed and the angry mob burned “Bower Hill” to the ground.

In 1808 son James Miller added a stone section to Oliver Miller’s original log house, and in 1830 James’ son Oliver replaced the original log house with the large stone section, creating the house that visitors can tour. The Homestead includes the original stone manse and spring-house; a reconstructed log house, beehive bake oven, and blacksmith shop; and various gardens. For information call 412-835-1554 or OMHA94@hotmail.com or visit: [www.15122.com/OliverMiller](http://www.15122.com/OliverMiller).

This information is from the Oliver Miller Homestead Web site and Ronald C. Carlisle’s book, *The Story of “Woodville”: The History, Architecture, and Archaeology of a Western Pennsylvania Farm*, reprinted in December 2004 by Landmarks and the Neville House Associates.



# Oliver Miller Homestead

As the snow came down on December 14 and 15, 2004, the timber frame of an 18th-century-style barn at the Oliver Miller Homestead in South Park went up. The barn-raising—and other improvements to the Homestead—are being funded through a \$500,000 grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development, and are the result of a partnership with Allegheny County, the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation, and the Oliver Miller Homestead Associates (OMHA).

The grant process began in 2001 when Tim Murphy, then a State Senator and now a Congressman, visited the Oliver Miller Homestead and decided that more could be done to evoke 18th-century life, around the time when Oliver Miller settled the land in 1772.

In July 2002, at the request of Tom Donatelli, director of public works for Allegheny County, and the OMHA, Landmarks underwrote the cost of a preliminary restoration plan for the

stone manse and property so the County could secure a state grant to fund restoration improvements and construction of a new barn. (The original barn had been demolished in 1927 when the County purchased the Homestead during acquisition of land for South Park.)

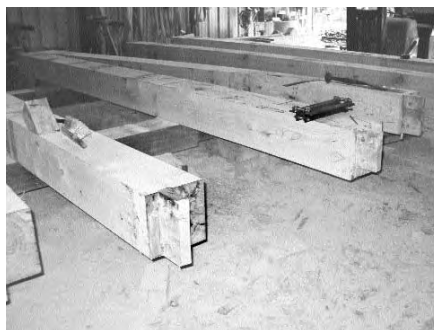
In the October 2003 issue of *PHLF News*, Landmarks announced that Allegheny County had in fact secured the \$500,000 state grant, and that the County was transferring project responsibility and funding to Landmarks. Tom Keffer, superintendent of property maintenance for Landmarks, worked with Landmarks Design Associates Architects, general contractor Lee Bruder, and Amish Timber Framers of Doylestown, Ohio, to design and build a barn according to 18th-century traditions, without using any metal screws or fasteners in the timber frame. Rather, the frame of the barn is held together with mortise and tenon connectors using wooden pegs.

On the occasion of the barn-raising on December 14, Allegheny County Chief Executive Dan Onorato said, “This important addition will serve the region for years to come and will improve our ability to attract visitors and engage the public in the historic events that occurred at the Homestead.” Arthur Ziegler, president of Landmarks, thanked Tom Donatelli for helping to secure the state grant, for working closely with the Oliver Miller Homestead Associates, and for asking Landmarks to implement the project grant.

“Thanks to the grant,” said Kathleen Marsh, president of the 70-member OMHA, “Congressman Murphy’s vision for the Homestead has been realized: we will have the space we need to display many farm tools and furniture; modern intrusions are being removed; and our new educational materials are giving visitors a better understanding of farm life 200 years ago.”



August 17, 2004: Excavation begins on the barn’s foundation.



Amish Timber Framers cut and milled the white oak trees and made the old-style mortise and tenon connectors. No metal fasteners were used to construct the timber frame.



The timber frame was set on a concrete block foundation that will be faced in stone.





December 14, 2004: Amish Timber Framers of Doylestown, Ohio, at work amidst snow squalls. The timber frame will be covered by boards and battens, and the roof will be covered with recycled material of simulated shakes. The barn will be completed by the summer of 2005.

# Barn Raising



The design of the barn is based on descriptive information from Oliver Miller's will, 18th-century building traditions, and the needs of the Oliver Miller Homestead Associates, the non-profit organization that cares for the property. The barn will include a meeting room on the lower level.



Inappropriate aluminum gutters were removed from the Oliver Miller stone manse, and wooden "V-shaped" gutters were installed as part of the grant project.



Julianna Haag (far left), president of Neville House Associates, and Dorothy Plank (right) talk with students from Chartiers Valley High School about 18th-century life during their November 15, 2004 visit to "Woodville," the John and Pressley Neville House in Collier Township. Students shake a jar of cream to turn it into butter, while biscuits cook in an iron pot buried under hot coals in the fire.

## Real Places Bring History to Life

Since 1992, Chartiers Valley High School students have been participating in a field study immersion unit exploring 18th-century life, the theme of change over time, and conflict resolution techniques. Students visit four historic sites: "Woodville," (the Neville House) in Collier Township, owned by the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation and operated on a daily basis by Neville House Associates; Old St. Luke's in Scott Township; the Oliver Miller Homestead in South Park; and the David Bradford House in Washington, Pennsylvania. Once back at school, students create individual projects centered on 18th-century life, perform a play about the "Whiskey Rebellion," and prepare and serve an 18th-century breakfast for fellow students, school officials, community leaders, and docents.

At "Woodville" students learn about the life of John Neville (1731–1803) and his family. In the Great Room, Docent Nancy Bishop (above right) tells them about Fan Tan, a popular 18th-century card game. Students photograph objects of interest as they explore the bedrooms, dining room (where names, dates, and messages have been inscribed on window panes), and kitchen. The experience comes to a dramatic conclusion when Todd Johnson, a Native American re-enactor, enters the house, selects a student as his wife, and describes the rising tensions between his people's way of life and that of the frontier settlers.



To schedule an educational program or private group tour of "Woodville," one of eight National Historic Landmarks in Allegheny County, call 412-221-0348 or visit: [www.WoodvillePlantation.org](http://www.WoodvillePlantation.org).

# PRESERVATION SCENE

## Good News



### Federal Courthouse and Post Office

The first phase of the \$68 million renovation of the Federal Courthouse and Post Office at 700 Grant Street was completed in the fall of 2004. Six new courtrooms were added in the original light wells, and an atrium was constructed to allow natural light to illuminate the new third-floor lobby space and historic fourth-floor courtrooms. The new courtrooms are elegantly detailed and include new murals of Pittsburgh by artist Brian Shure. The third-floor lobby



A new courtroom (above), and a restored courtroom (below)



and entrance include re-discovered murals from 1932 by Kindred McLeary. Renovations to the Grant Street lobby will be finished in April of 2005, and renovations to floors five, six, and seven will begin at that time. The exterior stonework has been cleaned of years of soot. Shalom, Baranes Associates (Washington, D.C.) are the architects; Dick Corporation is the contractor. The Federal Courthouse and Post Office was designed in 1932 by Trowbridge & Livingston (New York), with James A. Wetmore (Washington, D.C.).

### History Center Expands in Strip District

The Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania celebrated its 125th anniversary by opening a new, five-story Smithsonian wing on November 13, 2004. The new wing is attached to the old Chautauqua Lake Ice Company building at 12th and Smallman Streets in the Strip District, home to the Historical Society since 1996—and to the Senator John Heinz Pittsburgh Regional History Center that the Historical Society operates. The History Center now includes the Western Pennsylvania Sports Museum, a library and archives, a special collections gallery, an education center, and a gallery for changing exhibits from the Smithsonian Institution. The addition was designed by Astorino, with Jendoco Construction as contractor. For information: 412-454-6000; [www.pghhistory.org](http://www.pghhistory.org).

### Downtown Bank to Become Condos

By the end of this year you could be living downtown in the former Union National Bank, designed in 1906 by MacClure & Spahr. Seven years ago the E. V. Bishoff Company of Columbus purchased the bank building at the corner of Fourth Avenue and Wood Street, along with the former Commonwealth and Keystone Banks. Bishoff plans to convert the 21-story building into 61 condominiums, ranging from 1,200 square feet to the Penthouse with 6,500 square feet. All city permits have been granted and designs by George Berardi have been approved. The impressive lobby with green Cipollino marble columns and silver-dollar ceiling motifs will be preserved for commercial space. Construction is scheduled for the summer of 2005 with occupancy planned for the end of the year. We will be visiting the building during our membership tour of Historic Loft Apartments on April 2. See page 20 for details, and join us for the tour.



414 Tripoli



416 Suismon

### East Allegheny Homes Being Renovated

The Pittsburgh Housing Development Corporation and East Allegheny Community Council are renovating three historic homes, dating from the 1850s to early 1930s, at 414 Tripoli, 416 Suismon, and 907 James Streets. Work is being funded by the Urban Redevelopment Authority and Mellon Bank Community Development Corporation, with Tai + Lee architects and Steve Catranel Construction Co., Inc. The houses will be painted in appropriate historic colors, once construction work is done.



### New Lofts & Office Studios in East Liberty and North Oakland

New retail space and eight office studios fill the **Werner Building** (above) of c. 1900, originally the headquarters of the Werner Dry Cleaning Company which began operations in Pittsburgh in 1864. The Classical Revival building at 124 South Highland Avenue in East Liberty was renovated by no wall productions. It is an important addition to the streetscape because of its corner location and enriched façade.

Renovation of the **Liberty Bank Building**



Liberty Bank Building

at 6101 Penn Avenue in East Liberty was completed in September 2004 at a cost of \$3 million. The building contains 11 office lofts and two retail spaces on the ground floor. The developer was no wall productions, with EDGE studio and Tedco Construction. The Liberty Bank Building was originally designed by Frederick J. Osterling in 1890.



The same development team also transformed the former car dealership at 410 North Craig Street in North Oakland into **LUNA Lofts**. Open since December 2004, the building now offers 14 resident lofts of one to four bedrooms, beginning at \$820 per month. Indoor parking is provided on site, as well as laundry facilities and broadband access. For information: 412-434-7080; [info@wedoproperty.com](mailto:info@wedoproperty.com).



### The Union Project, Highland Park

In 2001, members of the Mennonite Urban Corps fell in love with their neighborhood and decided to stay and “restore neighborhood space to connect, create and celebrate.” Thus, the Union Project was born. The group purchased the abandoned Union Baptist Church at 801 Negley Avenue and began renovating it as a community center. With an initial grant from the Community Design Center of Pittsburgh, they began the architectural design phase and started to restore the stained-glass windows. Finding the restoration costs prohibitive, they invited a stained glass specialist to offer classes and to then offer the students, as

part of their learning process, the opportunity to restore the church windows. Since 2003, over 800 volunteers, giving over 10,000 hours of work, are making great progress on the restoration. Impressed with the dedication of the group, Landmarks recently gave a small grant to support the Union Project and helped the group secure a grant from the Allegheny Foundation.



### Edgewood Club Celebrates

On November 13, 2004, The Edgewood Club, Edgewood Historical Society, and Landmarks hosted a luncheon and tour in celebration of the centennial of the Club’s founding and its 88th year in the Mission-style clubhouse at One Pennwood Avenue. Landmarks trustee and architect David Vater spoke about the career of Edward B. Lee, the clubhouse architect. Members and friends toured the recently renovated clubhouse with Susan Lami and Robert Grubb of Lami Grubb, architects for the renovation. A new and larger space has been created in the clubhouse for the Edgewood Public Library, and a newly remodeled snack bar, dining area, and locker rooms have been added. Colleen Derda and other club members have published a handsomely illustrated clubhouse history. To purchase *The Edgewood Club: 100 Years of Memories* call 412-731-3443. The Club welcomes all East Enders as members.



### Munhall Cathedral to Become National Cultural Center

In April 2004 the Carpatho-Rusyn Society purchased St. John’s Cathedral at 427 Tenth Avenue in Munhall. The Art Nouveau landmark, vacant since 1993, will become the National Carpatho-Rusyn Cultural Center. Architect Joseph Parimucha of Alexandria, Virginia estimates that only about \$300,000 will be needed to complete all necessary repairs. The church was designed by Hungarian architect Titus de Bobula in 1903, who used as his model for the church a Rusyn Cathedral in Ukraine. Immigrants from Slovakia, Ukraine, Poland, and Hungary helped build the church. Many of the Society’s current members are descendants of those immigrants.



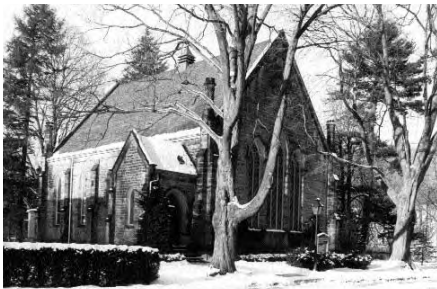


### Art Deco Landmark Restored in Mt. Lebanon

Mt. Lebanon’s Municipal Building, designed in 1929 by William H. King, Jr., officially re-opened on December 9, with the successful completion of a 14-month, \$4.5 million renovation/restoration. Rothschild Doyno Associates served as architects, with Landmarks Design Associates Architects as historic preservation consultant. Tedco Construction managed overall construction, and Nello Construction served as the general contractor. The Municipal Building, located at 710 Washington Road, includes staff offices and public meeting rooms. (The fire and police departments now occupy a new Public Safety Center at 555 Washington Road.) The original fire bays were redesigned into commissioner chambers with giant windows so people



can literally see their government in action. The building exterior was cleaned and lighted, and the interior foyer space, with its aluminum chandelier and stair railings, is especially worth seeing. Join us on a membership tour to the Mt. Lebanon Municipal Building on September 21.



### Historic Edgeworth Church Restored and Renamed

The old Shields Presbyterian Church in Edgeworth is now Grace Episcopal Church at Shields Chapel. Built in 1869, possibly to the designs of Joseph W. Kerr who was the architect for the Sewickley Presbyterian Church, this is one of the oldest buildings in the area, simple and handsome with a triplet of pointed lancet windows facing the street. For some years it was a subsidiary of the Shields estate. The estate’s trustees called on Landmarks Design Associates Architects to restore the masonry and roof, and make improvements called for by the building code. The trustees have leased the church to Grace Episcopal Church, a Mount Washington congregation.

## Worth Knowing

### New Granada Theater, Hill District

The New Granada at 2009–13 Centre Avenue was designated a City Historic Structure on October 8, 2004. Designed in 1927 as the Pythian temple by African-American architect Louis Bellinger, the Granada was long a focal point of cultural and social life on the Hill. Restoration plans are pending.

### St. Nicholas Croatian Church, North Side

Citing excessive costs and maintenance problems, the Diocese of Pittsburgh permanently closed St. Nicholas Church at 1326 East Ohio Street on December 7, 2004. However, the Diocese has formed a committee to study whether the church can be turned into a national cultural center or shrine to St. Nicholas for the Croatian community. The Diocese also has agreed to spend \$50,000 to replace a faulty boiler. St. Nicholas was dedicated in 1901 and is the first Croatian Roman Catholic Church in the United States. The Church has been a subject of controversy over the past few years in relation to PennDOT’s plan to widen Route 28. Thanks to the efforts of Landmarks and other preservationists, PennDOT revised its initial plans so St. Nicholas could be saved. The closing of the church now threatens the life of the landmark yet again.

### St. Mary’s Church, Lawrenceville

St Mary’s Church, built in 1874 to the designs of civil engineer James Sylvester Devlin, has closed. The Victorian Gothic building has been sold to Catholic Cemeteries as a site to hold burial services for the nearby St. Mary’s Cemetery. The 1906 stained glass windows are by Mayer of Munich, Germany. The church includes a small chapel dedicated to St. Anne, designed by the well-known church architect John T. Comes.

### Braddock, PA

The Pennsylvania Bureau of Historic Preservation has revoked National Register-eligible status for Braddock, Pennsylvania, in response to substantial deterioration and demolition that has taken place there. Although 14 years have passed since Register-eligible status was granted in 1991, borough officials failed to pursue full designation, and did little to prevent many older buildings from becoming unsafe and uninhabitable. In a *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* article of December 2, 2004, architectural critic Patricia Lowry noted that since 1995, 230 buildings in Braddock have been demolished. Buildings listed on the National Register would have been eligible for a 20% federal income tax credit for their rehabilitation and restoration.

Additional older building stock will be removed as part of the forthcoming Mon-Fayette Expressway construction.

### Braddock Carnegie Library (1888), the first of the American Carnegie libraries to be dedicated.



On a more hopeful note, this drastic loss of historic real estate has prompted a new preservation effort: Tina Doose has been appointed program director of the newly formed Economic Community Development Group for Braddock. Thanks to public funding, a number of projects are being carried out, including the renovation of several historic properties, construction of new housing, and streetscape improvements.

### South Side Local Development Company Honored

The South Side Local Development Company received the Urban Redevelopment Authority’s Overall Excellence Award on October 21, 2004 at the Citywide Mainstreet Ceremony. This award recognizes the tremendous success of the Main Street on East Carson program in reducing vacancy rates, generating millions of dollars in public and private investment, and promoting preservation. Since the 1960s, Landmarks has been working with South Side residents and organizations, and is a partner in the on-going Neighborhood Assistance Program/Comprehensive Service Program.

## Demolished



### H. Samson Funeral Home, Shadyside

Samson Funeral Home at 537 North Neville Street was demolished in October 2004. The Samson name had been associated with the Pittsburgh funeral business since 1859. The 1.7 acre site was purchased by Walnut Capital Partners which plans to build a nine-story high-rise containing about 40 condominiums. Astorino has been retained as the architect. Walnut Capital continues to work closely with neighborhood groups and the nearby churches as plans develop for the site. Completion is expected late in 2006.



### Penn Manor, East Liberty

A vacant and vandalized building at Penn Avenue and North St. Clair Street was demolished in the fall of 2004. Community Builders, owners of the property, plan to re-build residential townhouses on the site. Construction is scheduled to begin in the spring of 2005.

## Kill the Buildings?

In the United Kingdom a new “reality” show asks viewers to name their most hated piece of architecture. According to ICOMOS, the international preservation organization, at the end of the season the most hated building will be demolished. [Opinionjournal.com](http://Opinionjournal.com) reported on October 29 that “The show’s announcement has triggered a paroxysm of designating. All over Britain architects and civic associations have singled out for elimination buildings—generally works dating from the 1950s and 1960s—deemed “unworthy” of keeping company with the icons of modern architecture (such as Lord Foster’s recent “Gherkin building”).

## LANDMARKS thanks

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Lake Elizabeth in Allegheny Commons on Pittsburgh's North Side was given a modern design in 1966 by Simonds & Simonds, a nationally prominent Pittsburgh firm. Recently, much debate has occurred as to whether the 1960s design should be maintained or whether Mitchell & Grant's original design of 1868 for Lake Elizabeth should be restored. Pressley Associates of Cambridge, MA, who completed a master plan for the Commons in 2002, recommends the practical course of action: retain the 1960s lake, save money, and honor mid-20th-century design.

# Our Historic Parks: Restore and Adapt

Arthur P. Ziegler, Jr.

Those who engage in planning, managing, restoring, and protecting significant parks of our major cities here and abroad are debating how to use those parks. Many were designed by landscape designers who have achieved significant distinction as time has passed, such as Frederick Law Olmsted and Jens Jensen in the US.

Too many of these parks have suffered from a severe lack of maintenance through the years, losing their historic features including structures, landscapes, and plants.

As attention now becomes focused on these losses and the lack of maintenance, fresh planning for restoration begins and major fund raising must be undertaken. However, new constituencies, new ideas, and new designers enter the scene, and their ideas, plus lessons learned from our inability to maintain the great parks that we have, whether here or in other countries, become ingredients that must be taken into account along with the original park designs.

### Restore or Change?

For historic parks the question can be defined as whether to restore fully or partially the parks, depending on funding and practicality of future maintenance, and, whether to introduce new uses for new constituencies.

During the July 2004 "Great Parks, Great Cities" international conference in London, which we attended, one speaker strongly argued that parks should be adapted in any and all ways that people want to use them. In fact, he suggested that such adaptation furthers the democratization of democratic nations and helps make people more equal, and is therefore important to do for social and ethical reasons.

We in the historic preservation movement who have been trying to save and reuse buildings have long subscribed to permitting adaptive uses rather than insisting on pure restoration, except in the case of great monuments such as Drayton Hall in South Carolina or Notre Dame in Paris. Even in Pittsburgh, our own internationally important building—H. H. Richardson's Allegheny County Courthouse and Jail—has been adapted to changed uses, usually without objection (although Landmarks has strongly objected to some of the adaptations). We ourselves have changed things there: one of the most salient being the installation of the courtyard park in 1976, in place of the original horse courtyard and eventual parking lot.

Walk the streets of any old city and you find endless adaptations that enliven historic buildings and extend their useful lives.

Given this history of adapting architecture to new uses, we have many precedents that can be applied to adapting our parks to new uses: change from original designs, no matter how good, cannot in and of itself be looked upon as the wrong thing to do. In fact some of the former ways of using our parks have disappeared, and no amount of park restoration will restore people dressing in elaborate finery to promenade through the park at a certain time of day enjoying splendid gardens and fountains. In fact, we are glad to attend concerts in New York's Central Park or in London's Hyde Park in our blue jeans or shorts, while listening to contemporary popular music or enjoying a Shakespearean play.

It would also be pointless to install an elaborately picturesque lake such as we might have once had at Lake Elizabeth in the Allegheny Commons on Pittsburgh's North Side; much as we might like to see that, it might simply cost too much, not meet today's standards of safety, or be assured of future maintenance shortfall.

### Safety

Another issue in park restoration is that of safety. We learned at the conference that the budget item that had become the most ascendant in the London Royal Parks was not planting or plant maintenance; it was "health and safety," which means meeting the disparate demands of people for a park world that is perfect for them, in which no branch will fall upon them, no walk will be too slippery, and no animals will spread infection if coaxed up for prohibited feedings.

Safety has long scored its results in some of our parks, most notably the Allegheny Commons, where all the shrubbery was removed some years ago because of the potential of someone's lurking behind a bush and leaping out and accosting someone for robbery or assault. There is little evidence in the London Parks or in our own parks that shrubbery has ever been so used, but again fear of crime and fear of lawsuits have resulted in preemptive action which has disfigured the original fine designs.

I recall a historic feature at the Oliver Miller Homestead in South Park (see page 10) that might today be looked upon as a potential for lawsuits for anyone who risked walking out on the outcrop of slippery stones that a stream once passed over.



In historic St. James' Park, London, a cottage and cottage garden have been fully and meticulously restored.



An elegant restoration of a gazebo in St. James' Park.



In historic Battersea Park in London, a new fountain and pool have been created in a fully modern design.



The problem of designing modern bathroom facilities in a historic park is addressed head-on at Battersea Park with this fully contemporary design of concrete, glass block, and steel set off by new terraces of roses.



We also now have the requirements of our Americans with Disabilities Act, and many of the historic fixtures of our parks might not meet the standards of this law.

The question of maintaining or restoring major areas should simply be assigned to practicality. While we might be able to raise money to reestablish a herbaceous border, is there any possibility of continuing the fundraising each year to maintain such a beautiful garden that requires so much special attention?

Therefore, a number of questions of restoration resolve themselves based on practical modern situations and budgets. Just as the need to adapt buildings to new and different uses and constituencies has become a practical principle of the preservation movement, so should it become a guiding principle for parks.

### Everything for Everyone?

But there is a danger, I believe, in the point of view expressed by the young speaker at the Conference that parks should be adapted to any and all needs that anyone expresses. I think that we must add to that sentence the words “provided those people are sensitive to the needs of others, and to the park fabric itself.” I thought about that as I heard the supervisor for St. James’ Park in London, a beautifully designed historic park which has been treated with great sensitivity, talk about small but vocal groups who would like to establish various kinds of playing fields in the park. The Royal Parks conducted a survey and found that the top priority out of all possible uses of all the parks is “for peace, quiet, and tranquility.” But one might well expect that those people seeking peace would not be as vocal about advocating their desire as the group might be that wants to take over a large greensward, cut down big trees, and establish a playing field to use every so often for its few members or players. Their desires should not override the basic design of that park or of any historic park.

The superintendent said that the second priority of people was exercise as opposed to game playing. However, those who like to run in St. James’ Park do not want to run on the asphalt paths; rather they want to run through an allée of great London plane trees on a greensward that would compact the roots and kill the grass. That falls into the category of not respecting the park and its major plantings.

After the conference, Greg Yochum, our horticulturist, and I went walking in Edinburgh along a trail along the river Water of Leith from Dean’s Village to

where the river meets the Firth of Forth. Many people were using the trail. Some were walking as we were, some were sitting, but many were running their dogs that were fouling the park. Some people seemed to be using the park for drugs and alcoholic intake (perhaps a growing constituency for our parks?), and people who lived above the wall that defined one edge of the park or who walked along the street above this wall were throwing their trash down into the park as if it were a dumping ground.

These seem to me to be illegitimate constituencies, but we cannot solve that kind of problem by simply decreeing that it is immoral or unethical or illegal. In the effort to “democratize,” as the speaker hoped to do by allowing any and all uses, we need to educate. We cannot simply open these landscape treasures to any and all uses by any and all persons without educating people about the design aesthetics of parks, their history, their plantings, their historic structures, the desires of major constituencies of people, and the costs of maintenance and future use.

### These Goals

Therefore, as I thought about the Parks Restoration Program here at home and in many other countries, I had to add a third goal to the two that we already share with our excellent Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy. Two guiding principles have been:

- Restore our parks through the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy, and other organizations that are addressing smaller parks like the Allegheny Commons (see Christina Schmidlapp’s article).
- At the same time that capital funds are being raised, raise endowment funds to assure future private maintenance.

And to those goals I would add a third, to be carried out in conjunction with the first two:

- Educate people to understand and respect the significance of the designs of these landscapes, their plants, their wildlife, their structures, and their current users.

Adaptive use and restoration should be combined in good new plans that derive from an informed constituency of people who love and use our parks with respect for the history of, and the life within the parks, and the needs of people today.

**In Schenley Park in Pittsburgh, a building much changed over the years (that originally was constructed in 1910 as a nature center), was restored as a new Visitors Center and restaurant by the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy (Landmarks Design Associates Architects). Although the use has changed, the building restoration helps evoke the feeling of the time when Schenley Park was new.**

## What Do We Have In Common(s)?

*Christina Schmidlapp, Project Director, Allegheny Commons Restoration*

When a group of Allegheny City residents agreed to create a park out of a squalid dumpsite nearly 150 years ago, they envisioned “breathing places...for the elevation of the masses.” It would be difficult, today, to say to what heights those 19th-century masses were elevated, but we do know that the breathing places Allegheny Commons provided them were durable as well as popular. Allegheny Commons remains a prominent, heavily used park that is one of the first public parks west of the Allegheny Mountains and the oldest in the City of Pittsburgh. It was recently declared eligible to the National Register of Historic Places and has been a City Historic District since 1988.

In addition to being surrounded by the historic East Allegheny, Central North Side, and Allegheny West neighborhoods, the park is a mere quarter mile from the developing North Shore, making it a doubly strategic location for urban improvement. Plans for its extensive rehabilitation should breathe new life into both a historic landscape and Pittsburgh’s North Side.

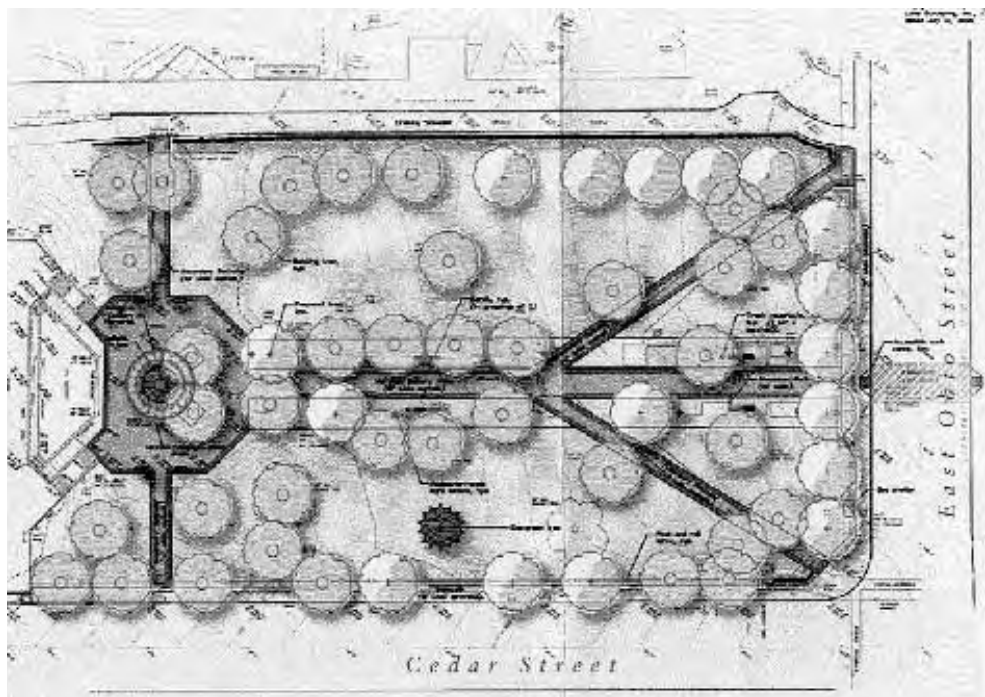
As a result of a comprehensive community master planning effort completed by Pressley Associates of Cambridge, Massachusetts in 2002, fundraising to implement the park plan began in 2004.

Total revenue for the restoration for 2004 (including such donations of services) exceeded \$250,000. The Northside Leadership Conference organized two major volunteer projects in the fall of 2004 that resulted in a new playground along Cedar Avenue and landscaping improvements in West Common. Goals for 2005 include:

- Completion of funding for the East Common Pilot Project (see the illustration below) and project management;
- Tree planting in West Common and along North Avenue;
- Initiation of a membership program;
- A kick-off fundraising event; and
- Development of a graphic design and signage program for the park.

The Pressley plan describes a park with a distinguished design legacy, both from the 1860s and from the 1960s, that deserves protection and rehabilitation. Neighbors know it as an oasis of shade in summer, lacy branches in winter, new greenery in spring, and warm color in fall. It offers natural beauty year-round, as well as (relative) peace and quiet. It has proved to be the breathing place its founders envisioned.

The Allegheny Commons Steering Committee welcomes comments or questions about the park master plan and future activities. Phone 412-231-4714, ext. 21, or e-mail [Christina@pittsburghnorthside.com](mailto:Christina@pittsburghnorthside.com). Contributions are gratefully accepted and may be made to the Northside Leadership Conference, earmarked for the “Allegheny Commons Fund.”



The East Common Pilot Project, to begin this year, will likely include a reconstruction of the central path along Cedar Avenue, the introduction of historic-style light fixtures, and the planting of shade trees. Additional funds are being sought to complete the project with appropriate benches, park signage, perimeter fencing, and additional tree and turf improvements.

### How Landmarks Helped the Allegheny Commons Restoration Project in 2004:

- Contributed \$7,000 to the restoration effort, including Christina Schmidlapp’s registration fee for the “Great Cities, Great Parks” conference in London in July;
- Led school tours of the Commons and Mexican War Streets on October 6 and 8;
- Hosted a membership tour of the park on October 17.



# Worth Reading

## Fallingwater Rising

Franklin Toker

Here, in a 482-page hardcover book, Franklin Toker, University of Pittsburgh history of art and architecture professor and a member of Landmarks’ Historic Plaque Designation Committee, tells the full story of the “most famous house of the 20th century.” Based on 18-years of research and personal insight, Toker documents the unlikely collaboration between Jewish merchant Edgar J. Kaufmann and architect Frank Lloyd Wright, who was nearing 70 when he received the commission in 1937 to design “Fallingwater” in Fayette County. 16 pages of color photographs; plus 97 illustrations; \$35.00



## Routes to Roots

Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area

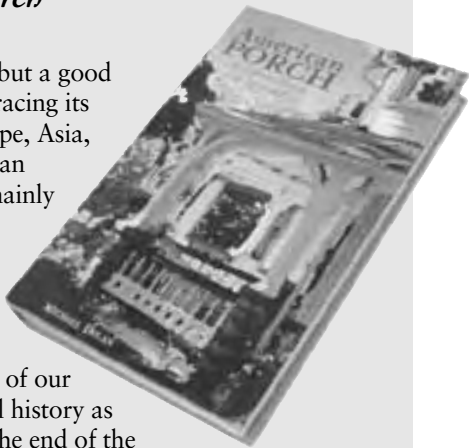
This is a very rich little book, a guide to the Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area: Armstrong, Beaver, Allegheny, Washington, Westmoreland, Greene, and Fayette Counties. Naturally, it looks at them partly from the viewpoint of industrial history but also examines subjects in labor, ethnic, and cultural history, and calls attention to museums, commercial establishments, and restaurants where the tourist may want to stop. Five tour routes are given, each with symbols to indicate why it is of interest. There is hardly a square inch without information of some sort. Alas, architectural history as such has no place, but this is a specialist’s quibble. The 228 page, handsomely illustrated book will lead to multiple discoveries, even for native Pittsburghers. \$20.00



## The American Porch

Michael Dolan

A rather wordy book, but a good history of its subject, tracing its origins in ancient Europe, Asia, Africa, and the American tropics, but dwelling mainly on its popularity and vicissitudes in the United States, with much to say, among other things, on such porch-friendly features of our architectural and social history as the bungalow and, at the end of the story, the New Urbanism; and such porch-hostile features as Wollmanized lumber (allowing rot-proof backyard decks), the ranch house, television, and air conditioning. This is a social, rather more than an architectural history, but it is some of each. \$24.95



## Pittsburgh: Views in the 21st Century

J. B. Jeffers Ltd.

This is a successor to two other books, *Pittsburgh: Views Between the Rivers* (1991) and *Pittsburgh: Views into the 21st Century* (1996). You will not want it for the prose, but the pictures—all color except for a few archival shots—do give a nice introduction to the city for those who have never been here. 104 pages; about 250 photographs; softcover; \$19.95



Jerome Street (Lyle Boulevard) Bridge, McKeesport

## Historic Landmark Plaques *(continued from page 2)*

Fortieth Street (Washington Crossing) Bridge, was constructed across the Allegheny River in 1923 by architect Benno Janssen and an engineering team led by Charles S. Davis. The bridge consists of three deck spans with three-hinged closed-web arches and massive concrete piers and abutments. Decoration is limited to escutcheons with the County arms covering the middle hinges of the arches, like keystones, and metal railing panels cast with the arms of the 13 original states.



“Robin Hill,” Moon Township

“Robin Hill,” 949 Thorn Run Road, Moon Township, is a Neo-Georgian house designed by Henry Gilchrist and erected in 1926 by Francis and Mary Nimick. The 24-room house is set on 52 acres; together they comprise Robin Hill Park, a gift from the Nimick family to the township.

The graceful silhouette of the two-hinged crescent-arched **Jerome Street Bridge** in McKeesport, 1937, is the work of engineer George S. Richardson. Known now as the Lyle Boulevard Bridge, the 315-foot structure crosses the Youghiogheny River close to its entry from the Monongahela.

**Alcoa Building**, 1950–51 [now Pittsburgh Regional Enterprise Tower], Sixth Avenue and William Penn Way, Harrison & Abramovitz, New York, was the first multistory building to employ curtain walls of aluminum. “The building shows off aluminum in every possible application,” writes Landmarks’ architectural historian Walter C. Kidney, “from electrical work to cladding.”

*Historic Landmark Plaques do not protect a building from demolition or alteration; they simply identify the site as a significant part of our local heritage.*

*Landmarks orders the plaque but the owner must pay for its cost and installation. More than 450 sites in Allegheny County are identified with a Historic Landmark Plaque.*

*If you would like to nominate a remarkable piece of architecture, engineering, construction, landscape design, or urban planning that is 50 years old or more and within Allegheny County, contact Cathy McCollom (412-471-5808, ext. 516; cathy@phlf.org) to request an application form or download a copy from our Web site: www.phlf.org.*



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# Seeking Pittsburgh at the Longfellow House and Finding Japan

Albert M. Tannler



**The Longfellow house (1759). For visiting hours and online access to the bookshop log on to [www.nps.gov/long](http://www.nps.gov/long).** Courtesy National Park Service, Longfellow National Historic Site.

On October 19, 2004, I revisited the Longfellow Historic Site, otherwise known as the Vassall-Craigie-Longfellow House, at 105 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts, built in 1759 and purchased for Henry Wadsworth Longfellow in 1837 as a wedding gift. (Longfellow lived there when it was Mrs. Craigie's boarding house, and his father-in-law bought his room—and all the others!) I briefly visited the house in 2002; now I had an appointment with archivist Anita Israel to examine letters from architect Alexander Wadsworth Longfellow, Jr., to his mother in Cambridge while Longfellow was working in Pittsburgh, in partnership with Alfred B. Harlow and Frank E. Alden (1886–1896).

## Leake & Greene

My earlier research on Theodore H. Leake and George Greene, published in “A Visit to Boston,” *PHLF News* 163 (February 2003): pages 14–15, established that Leake and Greene formed their decorating firm in Boston c. 1889; they were joined by English glass artist Henry Hunt and moved to Pittsburgh in September 1889. In 1891 the firm returned to Boston where it remained through 1892; it relocated to Pittsburgh again in 1893 and the partners built a house in Edgeworth, Pennsylvania. In 1906 Henry Hunt established Henry Hunt Studios and the firm of Leake & Greene disappears. Leake lived in Edgeworth for another five years; Greene became a stained glass artist and he and his wife Leonora remained in Edgeworth for at least 10 years.

However, Margaret Henderson Floyd had written in *Architecture after Richardson: Regionalism before Modernism—Longfellow, Alden, and Harlow in Boston and Pittsburgh* (University of Chicago Press/Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation, 1994): “Leake & Greene was already working with Longfellow and Alden on the richly decorated interior of the fourth East Liberty Presbyterian Church in 1886 according to Longfellow's letter [of March 14, 1887].” I had come to the Longfellow Archives to read this letter for myself.

The March 14, 1887 letter does not mention East Liberty Church or Leake or Greene by name. We read that drawings for “the church” were being prepared by an “Englishman.” I looked through other letters but found nothing relevant.

The March 14, 1887 citation appears to be an error; if not, it is certainly obscure. Perhaps Leake, who was a draftsman in Boston 1886–88, did prepare drawings for Longfellow prior to establishing his decorating firm in 1889, but he was not English. According to census records Leake (b. 1859) and Greene (b. 1864) were both born in New York State.

Margaret's students had read many of the A. W. Longfellow letters and provided summaries. I was reminded of the years of research that underlay her book and that her death in 1997 deprived Boston of a gifted teacher and Pittsburgh of a friend.

## Charley's Room

I then took a guided tour of the house, walking up the celebrated staircase I had briefly seen in 2002, whose interest for architectural historians lies not in the many famous people who trod upon it, such as George Washington in the 1770s, but because its balusters were replicated by H. H. Richardson at Glessner House in Chicago (1885–87) and by A. W. Longfellow at “Sunnyledge” (1886) in Pittsburgh.

**The [Charles Appleton] Longfellow suite [is] the earliest known example of a “Japan Room” in the United States, but whether or not it exerted any influence on later domestic interiors is unclear.**

—Christine M. E. Guth

Throughout the Longfellow house one sees Japanese furnishings and art-work. These, we were told, had been acquired by Henry's eldest son, Charles (1844–93), who lived in Japan in 1871 and 1872. I saw a special exhibition in the house of decorative art, books, textiles, furniture, and some of the hundreds of photographs “Charley” sent home; the exhibit celebrated the publication of Christine M. E. Guth's *Longfellow's Tattoos: Tourism, Collecting, and Japan* (University of Washington Press, 2004).

Margaret Floyd had written in *Architecture after Richardson* that A. W. Longfellow helped his cousin Charley—whose “interest in Japan was avant-garde in the 1870s”—decorate Japanese rooms at the Longfellow house in 1874. Charley's journals and letters from Japan were first transcribed in the 1990s and published as *Charles Appleton Longfellow: Twenty Months in Japan, 1871–1872*, edited by Christine W. Laidlaw (Friends of the Longfellow House, 1998).

The influence of Japanese art and architecture in the West is usually dated from the International Exposition in London, 1862; the display of Japanese goods influenced architects and designers such as E. W. Goodwin, Thomas Jeckyll, and Christopher Dresser. Americans saw Japanese design



**Charley Longfellow's house in Tokyo, 1872.** Courtesy National Park Service, Longfellow National Historic Site.

at the 1876 Centennial Exhibition in Philadelphia. Dresser attended this Exhibition on his way to Japan for a three-month visit; in 1882 his *Japan: Its Architecture, Art, and Art Manufactures* was published in England.

In 1885 Edwin S. Morse, director of the Peabody Museum in Salem, Massachusetts, published *Japanese Homes and Their Surroundings*, based on his 1877 visit to Japan. Upon his return and prior to publication of his book, Morse gave public “magic lantern” lectures on Japanese architecture and design throughout the Boston area.

In 1872 Charley Longfellow built a Japanese house in an area of Tokyo where few foreigners lived and at a time when most visitors preferred Western-style accommodations. (He also had himself tattooed with traditional Japanese designs; hence the title of Ms. Guth's book.) A. W. Longfellow displayed photographs of Charley's house and decorative items sent from Japan in his Harvard College room. After Charley's return to Cambridge in 1874, the cousins decorated his rooms at 105 Brattle Street. Charley's Japanese photographs and his “souvenirs” were often shown to visitors to his distinguished father's home, and a description of the Japanese “suite” was published in 1877 by Richard Henry Stoddard in

*Poets' Homes*. (After his death in 1893, the contents of Charley's rooms were placed elsewhere in the house or given to relatives, who subsequently donated some items to museums.)

By 1881 Japanese forms appear in H. H. Richardson's work. Did Richardson see Morse's magic lantern slides? Did he visit the Longfellow house? (A. W. Longfellow worked in Richardson's office 1881–86.) A tantalizing clue to the latter query appears in John J. Glessner's *The Story of a House*:

*Mr. Richardson insisted on one or two small extravagances....He was particular about the stair rail and balusters. Of the latter there are four different patterns, one of each on each step, all slender, graceful, fine, reproductions from some distinguished old Colonial house—the Longfellow house at Cambridge, if my memory is not at fault—but I distinctly remember that they cost one dollar each.*

**The Longfellow house staircase balusters will reappear in Glessner House in Chicago and in “Sunnyledge” in Pittsburgh.** Courtesy National Park Service, Longfellow National Historic Site.



**Section of the “Sunnyledge” staircase.**

Photograph by William Rydberg.



# Letters from Our Members

September 7, 2004

Dear Mr. Ziegler,

I’ve been a Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation member for a few years now and an admirer of its work for many years. What a blessing to our area it is to have such people who are dedicated to saving and honoring the marvelous heritage of the Pittsburgh region....

A few weeks ago I attended a family reunion at Round Hill Park on a beautiful Saturday afternoon. I was heading home towards Rt. 51 around 7 pm....It was that brilliantly-lit time of day that photographers call the “golden hour.” I stopped on Round Hill Road at Rt. 48, just below the old Round Hill Church. As I looked straight ahead I noticed a wonderful old anti-bellum farmhouse with multiple chimneys. The fields across from it were lit with a golden glow as a young woman slowly rode a horse across them. I was transfixed by the scene and for a wonderful moment I felt like I was carried back to the 19th century. Like all such moments, it was quickly past but made a lasting impression. I drove homeward with a melancholy feeling that on another trip in the future I would find a subdivision at that spot.

As you can imagine I was thrilled to open the recent issue of *PHLF News* [September 2004] to see that very farm (the Van Kirk farm) pictured as part of the Historic Farm Preservation Program. I feel so pleased to know that another gem will be saved for the future! Thank you all for the marvelous work that you do....

*Jenni Wilson*

October 1, 2004

Dear Mr. Ziegler:

Thank you for the recent mailing for membership in your Foundation. I am enclosing a check in the amount of \$150.00.

As a point of information for you, when I opened up the brochure I recognized the street on which I lived as a young child! Our family lived at 1304 Liverpool Street in the 1940s. What a pleasure to learn that it was saved from demolition in the 1960s due to the efforts of your Foundation.

My sister and I returned to the area in September 2003 and visited the site. We took pictures of the house where we lived. We have a similar picture from when we lived there as children. (We left the area and came to California in 1950)....We were happy to see the area in good condition after all these years. If it were not for your Foundation’s efforts and restoration of that area, it would have long since been gone....

*Donna M. McClintock*



# Welcome New Members (July 1 through December 1, 2004)


Members are vital to the work and growth of Landmarks. Many members volunteer their time to help with education programs, office work, and preservation projects. By joining, each person demonstrates his/her belief in our mission—and contributes to a strong, collective voice for historic preservation in the Pittsburgh region.

- Kevin and Alida Ashley
- Jeffrey and Michele Bees
- Dr. James Borchoert
- William Boyd, Jr.
- Barbara Burstin
- Carlisle Area School District
- Hattie Chatfield
- Barbara Clark and Richard Shannon
- Ken and Tammy Clifton
- Rachel Colker
- Dr. Maria Crespo
- Sylvia Dallas and John Oliver
- Emily Davis and family
- Sandra L. Demas
- Cotty and Joe DiMenno
- Anne and Steven Docimo
- Helen Donnelly
- Mary Jane Edwards
- Steven and Beverlynn Elliott
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- Emanuel United Methodist Church
- Renee Exler
- Julie Farr
- First United Presbyterian Church of Crafton Heights
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- Joann M. Fullen, ASID
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- Barry Rudel
- Sally Stevenson Ruffin and family
- St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church
- St. Raphael After-school Enrichment Program
- Jackie and John Sammarco
- Jim Scott
- Charles and Loretta Shane
- Sylvia Shaner
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- Louisa Smyth
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## Contributions & Gifts—Thank You (July 1 through December 1, 2004)

### Named Fund Donations

- Jamini Davies, for a contribution to the **Jamini and Greg Davies Named Fund**;
- Marion V. Green, for a contribution to the **DeWinter Named Fund**;
- Janice M. and Kim T. Abraham, for contributions to the **Audrey and Kenneth Menke Named Fund for Education**. The following people also contributed to the Audrey and Kenneth Menke Named Fund for Education: Audrey and Ken Menke gave a gift in memory of Elizabeth Zierden; Michael J. and Karen Menke Paciorek gave a gift in honor of Audrey and Ken's anniversary; and Jack Zierden made a contribution in honor of Ken's birthday.
- Jack and Donna Miller, for creating a Named Fund to support North Side preservation efforts; and
- The Estate of Delores M. Smith, for a contribution to the fund of that name.

### Program Support

- Allegheny Foundation, for a grant to support the James D. Van Trump Library (see page 5);
- An anonymous donor, for a contribution to support preservation services;
- Carol Ann Britt, for a contribution to support tours;
- The Anne L. and George H. Clapp Charitable and Educational Trust, for a grant in support of our Historic Religious Properties Initiative, educational programs, and a new neighborhood restoration initiative;
- Dickie, McCamey & Chilcote Law Office, for a contribution to underwrite a bench at the Allegheny County Courthouse (see below);
- The Estate of Virginia Elliott, for a gift in memory of her parents, Margaret Martin Elliott and Byron K. Elliott;

- Frank B. Fairbanks, for a gift to maintain the Frank B. Fairbanks Rail Transportation Archives;
- Carolyn M. Flinn, for a gift to support farm preservation;
- The Forbes Funds, for a grant to the Historic Religious Properties Initiative;
- Forest City Management, for a gift to support education programs;
- The Grable Foundation, for a three-year grant (from December 2004 through December 2007) to support educational programming for students and teachers to develop an understanding of and appreciation for the urban environment (see page 6);
- Walter C. Kidney, for a gift to our endowment;
- Ruth Kunst and Charles P. Lavallee, for a contribution to our preservation programs;
- Grant McCargo, for an endowment gift in support of preservation programs;
- Katherine Mabis McKenna Foundation, for a grant in support of our Historic Religious Properties Initiative;
- William A. Meyer, Jr., for a contribution to underwrite preparation of the Longue Vue National Register nomination;
- Eliza Nevin, for a gift to support our scholarship program;
- Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development, for a grant via Allegheny County in support of the Oliver Miller Homestead barn reconstruction (see page 10), and for a grant for our bridge-lighting program;
- Stella R. Reed, for an endowment gift to support preservation programs;
- F. C. Schroeder, Jr., for a gift to our endowment;
- Steel Industry Heritage Park Program, for a grant to the Homestead Borough Building Restoration Fund;

- Dr. & Mrs. Albert C. Van Dusen, for a gift in honor of Louise Sturgess and Greg Yochum, who assisted them with their plans for designing a garden in memory of a friend;
- Donna Lee and Stephen H. Walker, for a contribution to underwrite preparation of the Longue Vue National Register nomination;
- Members of the Walker Family, for donating 264 copies of *Keep Tryst: The Walkers of Pittsburgh & The Sewickley Valley*, by Stephen Neal Dennis;
- Frederick M. Winkler, for a contribution to our education department; and
- Michael J. Zito, for a contribution to a Landmarks Heritage Society event.

### Corporate Matching Gift

- ChevronTexaco, for matching a gift from Jack D. Burgess;
- Mayer, Brown, Rowe & Maw, LLP, for matching a gift from Teresa A. Beaudet;
- Norfolk Southern, for matching a gift from Allen T. Bankson; and
- PPG Industries Foundation, for matching gifts from Bruce C. Brennan and from Donna L. Walker.

### Gift Memberships

- Joe DiMenno, for a gift membership to Joe and Cotty DiMenno;
- Doris Ju, for a gift membership to Barbara Berger; and
- Shirley and Tom Phillis, for a gift membership to Mark Phillis.

## Ten Courthouse Benches Sponsored: 10 More Needed

Visit the Allegheny County Courthouse—Pittsburgh's most significant architectural landmark—and you'll see that hand-somely carved benches, each inscribed with a donor's name, are replacing the motley collection of inappropriate chairs that once cheapened the historic corridors. Each oak bench is constructed by Jerry Wilson of Wilson & McCracken, to the design of County Architect Sam Taylor.

Cathy McCollom, chief programs officer at Landmarks, accepts orders for the benches.

If you would like to sponsor a bench for \$2,700, please contact Cathy (412-471-5808, ext. 516; [cathy@phlf.org](mailto:cathy@phlf.org)). Our goal is to install 20 benches in the Courthouse. Your gift will add to the beauty of H. H. Richardson's masterpiece.

To date, we thank the following people and organizations for sponsoring a total of ten Courthouse benches:



Courthouse bench, in memory of Chief Justice James B. Drew

1. Carl Wood Brown
2. Robert G. DelGreco, of Dickie, McCamey & Chilcote
3. The Hillman Family, who donated a bench "to the citizens of Allegheny County in appreciation of the Court of Common Pleas"
4. Henry Hoffstot, for sponsoring a bench "in memory of Chief Justice James B. Drew"
5. Raymond Novak
6. Patton Family Partnership
7. Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation, "in gratitude to Richard M. Scaife, who has donated to the restoration of the Courthouse for three decades, beginning with the transformation of the courtyard from a parking lot to a public park"
8. Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation
9. Reed Smith LLP
10. James C. Roddey



## Membership Has Its Privileges

- Free subscription to *PHLF News* and a 10% discount on all of Landmarks' publications
- Invitations to preservation seminars, lectures, and special educational events and tours
- Free walking tours
- Free materials upon request, including Pittsburgh postcards, colorful posters of various architectural landmarks, and a timeline of key events in Pittsburgh and/or African-American history
- Free access to the James D. Van Trump Library of architectural and historical books, magazines, photographs, and slides
- Free use of more than a dozen slide shows from our slide-lending collection about Pittsburgh's history, architecture, and parks and sculpture
- Savings on school tours and traveling exhibits
- Regular e-mail updates about preservation issues and events
- A 10% discount at certain Pittsburgh-area historic hotels, bed & breakfasts, and city inns
- Acknowledgement of your support in *PHLF News*
- Many rewarding volunteer opportunities
- The satisfaction of knowing that you are supporting one of the nation's leading historic preservation groups as it works to protect the places that make Pittsburgh home

### To become a member contact:

Mary Lu Denny  
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Or visit our Web site at [www.phlf.org](http://www.phlf.org)

Annual membership fees are affordable, beginning at \$25 for an individual and \$30 for a family. A senior membership is \$15.

# JOIN

PITTSBURGH HISTORY & LANDMARKS FOUNDATION



Let Sydney’s Success Inspire Pittsburgh

Australian architect Tasman Storey spoke to 200 members and friends at the Carnegie Museum of Art Theater on September 23, 2004. The Heinz Architectural Center and Carnegie Mellon’s Center for Building Performance and Diagnostics joined Landmarks in sponsoring the lecture, the second in its popular “Architecture & Historic Preservation Abroad ” series.

Tasman described the award-winning, multi-use Walsh Bay Sydney Harbor Redevelopment Project being developed by the Mirvac Group. The Walsh

Bay project was the fifth attempt to transform a brownfields (a former dockland of wharfs and warehouses) in a way that attracted the wealthy back to the city and created many public amenities. Forty stakeholders were involved, and, according to Tasman, “they were vocal people who had to approve everything.” Walsh Bay’s success, however, “is an example of what can be done when developers, city officials, professionals, and citizens all work together.” A few other comments from Tasman worth remembering are:

“New construction should be identifiable of its time and compatible with its surroundings. We designed a wharf-like residential building that is absolutely modern. It’s 600-foot-long, with private moorings for yachts. There’s an on-the-water lifestyle that people love. Walsh Bay also mixes modern buildings with Georgian proportions with some quite dramatic buildings that roll around the corner. There are curves in every direction.

“Everything in Walsh Bay is grand. There are cafes, shops, and a drama theater with perfect acoustics.

“The industrial heritage of the place is of great value. *The history is as interesting as the present.* Hoists, jacks, and cranes have been restored and preserved. Two houses from long ago were discovered during excavation, and the archaeological site is now revealed for people to see. Mirvac has done all sorts of things to get people to stop and ask: What’s that? Where did that come from?

“There is only one Walsh Bay. People have been working for a long time; solving many problems. It glimmers in the sunlight...but doesn’t glimmer any more than it’s allowed to glimmer. It sits very happily with its neighbors.”

To learn more, come see the book and CD that Tasman donated to our library.



EVENT PREVIEW: February – June

Sunday afternoon, February 27  
Open House Church Tours and Lecture on Architect Ralph Adams Cram

Celebrate the 150th anniversary of Calvary Episcopal Church by attending a free special event that the Church is hosting in cooperation with Landmarks.

- On your own, between 1:00 and 3:45 p.m., visit three churches designed by Ralph Adams Cram: Calvary Episcopal Church in Shadyside, East Liberty Presbyterian Church, and Holy Rosary Church in Homewood. Docents at each church will give you a self-guided tour booklet.
- 4:00 p.m. lecture on Ralph Adams Cram, by author and architect Ethan Anthony: The lecture will be held at Calvary Episcopal Church, followed by a reception.

For reservations: 412-471-5808, ext. 527; marylu@phlf.org

March 12 & 13      Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.  
Sunday: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

**Tenth Annual Old House Fair**

Meet with historic preservation specialists and discuss your home improvement plans. Get advice from a professional designer. Sign up to meet with an architect, landscape architect, or interior designer for a brief consultation on your home renovation plans.

Location: David L. Lawrence Convention Center  
Fee: \$9 general admission; \$4 children (6–12). Purchase tickets in advance online, beginning in February: [www.pghhome.com](http://www.pghhome.com) and receive a free one-year subscription to *This Old House*.  
For details: [www.oldhousefair.org](http://www.oldhousefair.org)

Wednesday, March 16      6:00 p.m.  
Architecture & Historic Preservation Abroad: Valparaiso, Chile

Todd Temkin, a North American poet who has lived in Chile since 1994, has created the Valparaiso Foundation to promote the rebirth of the historic Pacific port as a UNESCO world heritage site and bastion of cultural tourism. During an illustrated lecture he will discuss some of the architectural landmarks, historic monuments, and engineering marvels (including 15 still-operating inclines) that the Foundation is working to restore. This lecture series is co-sponsored by Landmarks and The Heinz Architectural Center, Carnegie Museum of Art.

Location: Carnegie Museum of Art Theater  
Fee: \$5.00 members; \$10.00 non-members  
For reservations: 412-471-5808, ext. 527; marylu@phlf.org

Saturday, April 2      9:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m.  
**Bus Tour of Historic Loft Apartments**

What would it be like to live in a loft? Join us for a tour of the Heinz Lofts on Pittsburgh’s North Shore, the Liberty Bank Building in East Liberty, and the former Union National Bank, downtown.

Fee (including refreshments): \$35 members; \$45 non-members

Saturday, April 16      9:30 a.m.–2:00 p.m.  
**Bus Tour of Historic “Green” Buildings**

Tour the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, downtown; the Children’s Museum of Pittsburgh on the North Side; and the Terminal Buildings and E-House on the South Side. Plus, we’ll give you a list of other historic “green” buildings in the Pittsburgh area that you can visit on your own. This tour will be offered in cooperation with the Green Building Alliance.

Meeting location: CCI Building, 64 South 14th Street  
Fee (including lunch): \$45 members; \$55 non-members

Wednesdays, May 4, 11, 18, 25      12 Noon–1:00 p.m.  
Saturday, May 21      10:00–11:30 a.m.; or 1:30–3:00 p.m.  
**Bridges & More Walking Tours**

In honor of National Preservation Month and in cooperation with the “Working Hearts” special events program, Landmarks will lead free bridge walks across the “Three Sisters” Allegheny River Bridges, and along the North Shore and Ft. Duquesne Boulevard, past “CAPA” and the Convention Center.


Meeting location: Renaissance Pittsburgh Hotel, 107 Sixth Street, downtown  
For reservations: 412-471-5808, ext. 527; marylu@phlf.org

**Summer Architecture Camp for Kids**  
**June 20 through August 19 (one and two-week sessions available; full or half days)**  
**For kids (ages 6–High School)**

Hosted by the Carnegie Museum of Art and the Carnegie Mellon School of Architecture, in cooperation with Landmarks and the Riverlife Task Force.

For details: 412-622-3288

For complete details AND to confirm this information, check our Web site at [www.phlf.org](http://www.phlf.org), or contact Mary Lu (412-471-5808, ext. 527; marylu@phlf.org).



## WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA CRAFTSMEN’S GUILD

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Or, if you prefer, you can leave a message at 412-784-8015 and a member will return your call.

PHLF News usually is published three times each year for the members of the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation.  
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