Landmarks Acquires Perpetual Easement for Bedford Springs Hotel

With the deepest gratitude to Bedford Resort Partners, Ltd., Landmarks is pleased to announce its acceptance of an easement to the elaborate Classical and Victorian exterior of the Bedford Springs Hotel, located on Highway 220, just outside Bedford, Pennsylvania, three miles north of Pennsylvania Turnpike Exit 146.

The hotel, which had been a summer resort for many Pittsburghers, regrettably closed in 1987. For years, developers came and went; the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania offered funds; and the town of Bedford considered floating an easement to the elaborate Classical and a restored Donald Ross golf course (c. 1923). Many guest rooms will have access to breeze-filled porches with views of the hotel gardens and mountains beyond.

Little Short of a Miracle

The restoration of the building is little short of a miracle. The deterioration of these structures over three decades, combined with the decay of the elaborate Victorian detailing, created a restoration effort that seemed beyond economic practicality. However, by combining public and private financing with the use of tax credits and equity from the easement contribution—and by combining the historic preservation experience of The Fenchel Group with strong local community support—what seemed impossible has become possible. Work is already underway, and 400

The elaborate Victorian porch detailing.

A Personal Note

I have a long association with the Bedford Springs Hotel. Jamie Van Trump and I liked to visit the hotel for weekends during the 1960s. We not only enjoyed the life of the hotel and the historic town of Bedford, but utilized the quiet and serenity of these ancient mountains that surround the hotel to write. Jamie worked on his notebooks and on a number of articles while staying at Bedford Springs.

At one point, I was trying to write Historic Preservation in Inner City Areas and could never find uninterrupted time in Pittsburgh to complete it, so I rented a room in the Barclay, the most remote building of the Bedford Springs campus and stayed in it until I had finished my draft. Thus the first book dealing with inner-city preservation, frequently involving minorities and intensively-developed areas, was written in the serenity that the Bedford Springs Hotel provided.

—Arthur Ziegler

Editor's Note: James D. Van Trump (1906–1995) and Arthur Ziegler, president of Landmarks, co-founded the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation in 1964. Historic Preservation in Inner City Areas was published in 1971.
OUR WORK: Recent Progress

Making a Difference!

Lawrence Hall Restored:
These before (9-7-04) and after (12-14-05) photos show how historic buildings, when restored, add beauty and value to a place. Point Park University restored the exterior and several interior public spaces of Lawrence Hall (originally the Keystone Athletic Club, Janssen & Cocken, 1929) and located its bookstore in the building corner at Wood Street and Third Avenue. Landmarks was instrumental in the restoration process, underwriting $16,000 of the $24,000 restoration study by Landmarks Design Associates Architects and helping the University secure a lead grant of $100,000 from the Allegheny Foundation.

Cork Factory Lofts to Open this Fall:
A preservation easement from Landmarks helped save the Armstrong Cork buildings at 2349 Railroad Street in the Strip. The multi-building brick complex was constructed beginning in 1901 to designs by Frederick J. Osterling (see www.mccafferyinterests.com). McCaffery Interests of Chicago is developing the Cork Factory Lofts to Open this Fall: 20 craftsmen have been working fives days a week. New windows have also been installed. Work began in January to help with the Wilkinsburg project.

Phase Two Funding for Historic Farm Preservation Program Received
December 2005 brought welcome news: after much effort to secure funding to launch Phase Two of our Historic Farm Preservation Program, Landmarks received a $50,000 grant from the Laurel Foundation and a $100,000 gift from Richard M. Scate. Landmarks had launched Phase One of its Historic Farm Preservation program with a $500,000 grant from the Richard King Mellon Foundation (PHLF News, March 2002), with the purpose of slowing sprawl and saving historic farms in Allegheny and neighboring counties. In the September 2004 PHLF News, Landmarks reported having saved 1,300 acres of historic farms and 10 structures. The total value of the property saved was estimated at $5,869,000.

Correction of note: We thank Jim Wilson, a member of Landmarks, for pointing out an error in the September 2005 issue of PHLF News. A graduate of Geneva College, Mr. Brown informed Jack Miller, director of gift planning, that he would contribute $10,000 through his Named Fund at Landmarks to underwrite his alma-mater’s match. The first draft of a conservation plan for Allegheny College in the September 2003 issue of PHLF News. A graduate of Geneva College, Mr. Brown informed Jack Miller, director of gift planning, that he would contribute $10,000 through his Named Fund at Landmarks to underwrite his alma-mater’s match.

The first draft of a conservation plan for Allegheny College was completed in February by Landmarks, in cooperation with Landmarks Design Associates Architects and Liberto Landscape Design. Plans for all four campuses will be completed by the end of this year.

Corrections of note:

Geneva College’s McKee Hall of 1921 (left) and Johnston Gym of 1911 (above) were both designed by New Castle architect William George Eckles. The College recently acquired the non-vacant Pittsburgh & Lake Erie Railroad station (below); the conservation plan will recommend new uses for the structure.

524 Jeannette Street, Wilkinsburg

$1,000,000 for Wilkinsburg Neighborhood Revitalization
Landmarks is making a sizable commitment to revitalize ten vacant historic houses in the 2.1-square-mile Borough of Wilkinsburg, adjoining the City of Pittsburgh, in order to jumpstart a major neighborhood revitalization effort. The Sarah Scate Foundation—the initial supporter of every one of Landmarks’ pioneering neighborhood projects—as contributing $300,000 to establish a revolving fund that will result, initially, in the renovation of four historic properties: $16, $22, and 324 Jeannette Street and 811 Holland Avenue. Allegheny County is also contributing $500,000 to Phase One. Some funds will be reclaimed through the sale of the renovated properties, and Landmarks will continue to raise funds to support further work.

“After several years of grassroots planning efforts that brought Wilkinsburg residents together around the concept of using historic preservation strategies to revitalize the community,” said Cathy McCollom, chief programs officer at Landmarks, “we were thrilled to receive in December 2005 a $500,000 grant from the Sarah Scate Foundation for Phase One of the Wilkinsburg Revolving Fund project. The Wilkinsburg Neighborhood Transformation Initiative that Landmarks helped fund and publish in 2004 mapped a course of action that we are now beginning to implement.” Keith Herriot joined Landmarks’ staff in January to help with the Wilkinsburg project.

Spotlights illuminate the native American heads on the Maull building (above), and the facade of The Bridge building (left).

Campus Grants Program Underway
Landmarks is preparing conservation plans for four historic campuses—Allegheny College, Geneva College, Grove City College, and Slippery Rock University—thanks to a $183,000 grant from the Getty Foundation. In order to obtain the grant, though, the Getty Foundation required that the four institutions each contribute $10,000 toward the project.
“Allegheny and Grove City colleges were able to do that,” said Landmarks president Arthur Ziegler, “but Geneva College and Slippery Rock University asked for our help in raising the funds, and we were successful in our efforts. The Allegheny Foundation has approved a $300,000 grant to underwrite Slippery Rock University’s match, while funding for Geneva College came from a less traditional, but most welcome, source.” Carl Wood Brown, a member of Landmarks and resident of Florida, read about the Campus Grants Program in the September 2005 issue of PHLF News. A graduate of Geneva College, Mr. Brown informed Jack Miller, director of gift planning, that he would contribute $10,000 through his Named Fund at Landmarks to underwrite his alma-mater’s match.

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Get Involved in “Making Preservation Work!”
National Preservation Conference 2006

Tuesday, October 31, the 2006 National Preservation Conference will open in Pittsburgh. Two nationally renowned Pittsburgh natives—David McCallugh, distinguished author and historian, and William Strickland, president and CEO of Manchester Bidwell Corporation—will give keynote speeches during the Opening Plenary, beginning at 5:30 p.m. on November 1 at the Benedum Center for the Performing Arts. Approximately 2,500 people from around the country are expected to attend the five-day event filled with educational sessions, field sessions, awards, speeches, a “Preservation Auction,” candlelight tour, and much more. Members of Landmarks can register for the conference or get involved as volunteers by contacting the National Trust for Historic Preservation: see the notice on page 13 for details.

$294,900 of Local Match Raised
The Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation is serving as the local host, and PNC Bank is the lead local sponsor, because it gives people the knowledge they need to revitalize communities and save historic places. The conference’s emphasis on affordable housing, community development, and green-building design matches the interests of PNC Bank. “Thanks to PNC Bank’s generous support—and thanks to the commitments of other benefactors and sponsors (please see the side bar)—Landmarks has raised nearly all of its required $350,000 match. “Our fund-raising effort will continue up to the opening day of the conference,” said Esther Bash, co-chair with David Barendorf of Landmarks’ Conference Planning Committee. This is an excellent opportunity for local sponsors to reach a national audience of influential professionals. A “Green Historic Preservation National Summit,” hosted by the Green Building Alliance and Landmarks, is being held on Monday, October 30. “Green” buildings seek solutions that maximize overall human, economic, and environmental health and productivity. “Since Pittsburgh has more LEED-certified commercial buildings than nearly any other U.S. city,” said Landmarks’ chief programs officer Cathy McCollum, “we wanted to host a day-long working meeting in conjunction with the National Preservation Conference so leaders in green-building design can meet with historic preservation experts to identify technical and process issues associated with ‘greening’ historic buildings, and develop practical solutions or approaches to solve these issues.” National Preservation Conference attendees will have the chance to comment on the recommendations when they are showcased at a booth in the Exhibit Hall. Following the conference, a practical guidebook to applying green-building principles, technologies, and strategies to historic structures will be prepared. The Heinz Endowments is a local sponsor of the Summit, and Massaro Corporation is a sponsor.

Conference Planning in Full Gear
Preconference groups and leaders in the Pittsburgh region submitted a total of 82 field-session proposals by the January 13 deadline set by the National Trust. “We were not surprised by the overwhelming response,” said Landmarks president Arthur Ziegler, “because preservation efforts are at the heart of so much of what is working in the Pittsburgh region.” All the proposals were first-rate, and Landmarks’ staff will consider offering some of those that are not selected for the Trust conference as membership tours in 2007 and beyond. “Planning for all aspects of the conference is in full swing,” said Cathy. “There is still much to be done, but many members, trustees, and neighborhood representatives are working with us to plan the best conference possible.” Scholarships will be available to 100 people in Pennsylvania, to help offset registration costs, so a diverse crowd of preservationists, urban planners, developers, and architects is expected here in Pittsburgh. For scholarship information, contact Cathy (412-471-3303, ext. 516; cathy@phlf.org) or download an application from Landmarks’ Web site: www.phlf.org and click on the National Trust conference link.

Five Events Free to Members
As a special benefit, the National Trust welcomes Landmarks’ members to five events at no charge. Simply go to the conference registration desk at the Hilton Hotel, show your PHLF membership card, and ask for a Free Event Pass. This pass will admit you to:

- An Opening Lecture by Landmarks Trustee Arthur S. Haggard, Tuesday, October 31, from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m., at the Byham Theatre;
- The National Preservation Awards Ceremony on Thursday, November 2, from 5:30 to 6:45 p.m., at the Carnegie Music Hall;
- A lecture by Sarah Susanka, architect and best-selling author of The Not So Big House, on Friday, November 3, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., at the Omni William Penn Hotel;
- The Exhibit Hall at the Hilton Hotel, open Wednesday, November 1 through Friday, November 3, with more than 50 vendors and purveyors of materials and services relating to restoration and historic preservation—and a bookstore. Landmarks’ 11th annual Old House Fair will be part of the conference exhibition.
- The premiere of “Saving Fallingwater,” a documentary by Kenneth Love, will be held at the Omni William Penn Hotel on Saturday, November 4, at 8:30 a.m., as a special presentation open to the public. In order to attend any of the 50 educational sessions or 30-plus field sessions, members must register for the conference (see the notice on page 13 for details).

In order to create interest in the 2006 conference in Pittsburgh during the Portland Conference in 2005, Landmarks gave “a piece of Pittsburgh” to the first 250 or so conference attendees who correctly answered Pittsburgh trivia cards. The “pieces of Pittsburgh” were donated to Landmarks by 42 Pittsburgh businesses and organizations. They included an actual piece of “Fallingwater,” T-shirts from the Children’s Museum, CMU, and Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood; Penn Pilferer and Iron City Beer; and a Pittsburgh Penguins #7 jersey. The booth created quite a sensation—and many attendees said they’ll use it in 2006! Cathy McCollum (left) of Landmarks and Kate Trimble of the Lawrenceville Corporation are shown here.

State and Local Contributors
(as of March 3)
National Preservation Conference
Lead Donor
PNC Bank
Beneficiaries
Ellwood Group, Inc.
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Green/Historic Preservation National Summit
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Heinz Endowments
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Massaro Corporation

Pittsburgh Jazz at Lincoln Center
The Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis celebrated Pittsburgh’s jazz heritage in three special evening concerts, February 16 through 18. “Steeltown Jazz” honored Mary Lou Williams, Earl Hines, Billy Strayhorn, Art Blakey, and many more. The New York program described Pittsburgh as a “somewhat remote mill town,” so those who hosted pre-conference receptions from Pittsburgh—including representatives from Landmarks, the Greater Pittsburgh Convention and Visitors Bureau, Andrew Wilson Center for African American Culture, Manchester Craftsman Guild, and Etna Park—made a point of publishing the city’s image. We featured our tours and the National Preservation Conference and invited concert attendees from New York, Connecticut, Long Island, Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, and New Jersey to visit Pittsburgh in 2006.
Thank You!
Gifts from the following people and organizations will enable our Historic Religious Properties program to continue. Year-end gift contributors, through December 31, 2005, are:
Willa W. Aiken
Anonymous
William J. Baumgarten
Mr. & Mrs. Rolland W. Beatty
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H. M. Bitter Charitable Trust
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George and Roseann Erny
Lois Scott Emler
Mr. & Mrs. Paul C. Emery
James M. Edwards
Seymour and Ruth Drescher
Daniel and Kathleen Deis
Frank and Janet Coyle
Richard A. Gaydos
George Dorman, chair of Landmarks’ Historic Religious Properties Committee, announced 16 grants and six offers of technical assistance to the following churches who were among the 28 who applied to Landmarks’ 2005 Historic Religious Properties program:

**Grants:**
- Bellefield Presbyterian Church, Oakland
- Bethel Presbyterian Church, Bethel Park
- Calvary United Methodist Church, Allegheny West
- Episcopalian Church of the Nativity, Crafton
- First United Methodist Church of Pittsburgh, Shadyside/Bloomfield
- Greenstone United Methodist Church, Avalon
- Hawthorne Avenue Presbyterian Church, Crafton

**Technical Assistance:**
- Clark Memorial Baptist Church, Homestead
- Congregation Psalms Zodeck, Squirrel Hill
- Missionary Temple Church of God in Christ, East Liberty
- Mullberry Presbyterian Church, Wilkinsburg
- New Hope Church, Marshall-Shadeland
- Old St. Luke’s, Scott Township
- Pittsburgh New Church, Point Breeze
- South Avenue United Methodist Church, Wilkinsburg
- St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church, Highland Park
- St. Anthony’s Chapel, Troy Hill
- Union Project, Highland Park

Landmarks Gives $80,300 to 16 Historic Religious Properties Plus Technical Assistance to Six Others

Good News from Grant Recipients
The following comments from historic religious property recipients attest to the value of Landmarks’ program:

**Contributions from member Russell W. Coe and from the Miller and Kim Family Named Fund at Landmarks helped fund the installation of a new roof on the Incarnation of the Lord Catholic Parish worship site at 4071 Franklin Road on the North Side. The church, built in 1925 to designs by Archibald Strong, was formerly Nazareth Church.**

A donor in Carlisle, PA who learned about our project via your newsletter... "Now that the roof work is completed, I hope you will consider stopping by when weather and time permits to see the historically appropriate way the job was done. I believe that the original architect, Carlton Strong, would be proud of what we have accomplished...."

— Reverend John Backley, Pastor

**Incarnation of the Lord Catholic Parish December 9, 2005**

**“As a member of the Epiphany R.C. Church I am grateful for the financial assistance, encouragement, and support PHLF has given us over the years. A 100-year-old church has continued to exist and in our case limited means. That is why the PHLF grants are so important.”**

— W. J. Baumgarten, December 20, 2005

**The Pittsburgh New Church in Point Breeze was awarded $8,000 in 2005 to clean and repoint masonry and repair its steeple. The church was designed in 1929 by Philadelphia architect Harold Thorp Carwell.**

- First Baptist Church of Glassport, Glassport
- Lamb of God Christian Ministries, Homestead
- St. Peter & St. Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Carnegie
- Zion Baptist Church, McKeesport

As a result, stained glass will be repaired and restored, brickwork repointed, woodwork repaired, and roofs, steeples, and windows repaired. Technical assistance from Landmarks’ staff will help congregations prioritize restoration projects and establish preventive maintenance programs.

We’re seeing progress and sensing a cooperative, ‘can do’ spirit among the 100-plus churches and synagogues that have benefited from our Historic Religious Properties Program since its inception in 1997,” said Cathy McCollom, chief programs officer at Landmarks. Year-end gifts from our members and friends, private foundations, and Landmarks’ endowment support the continuing program of grants and technical assistance.

On the side bar this page is a list of people and foundations who answered our year-end appeal and contributed to Landmarks’ Historic Religious Properties Program. Churches and synagogues interested in applying for grant funds and technical assistance may contact Cathy (412-471-5808, ext. 316, cathy@phlf.org) or visit our Web site: www.phlf.org.
Landmarks and Roman Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh Forge Agreement

Preserving historic houses of worship has been a long-term goal of the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation. Some 90 current and former houses of worship have received Historic Landmark Plaques. The Historic Religious Properties Initiative of 1994 established a formal program to work for the preservation of historic buildings still in active use (see page 4). Preserving religious properties is a complex issue. Saving architecturally significant structures and venerable neighborhood landmarks, and maintaining community and parish allegiances, may conflict with population decline and movement, and limited congregational or denominational financial resources. Philanthropic organizations have been reluctant to fund non-sectarian causes. Religious organizations (like universities) tend to focus on “higher verities” and slight bricks and mortar.

In Pittsburgh, as elsewhere, the Roman Catholic church has opposed any secular restrictions on its use and disposition of church property. The announcement that an important structure was scheduled to close, pitted church officials against preservationists (and not infrequently parishioners). The struggle was not only acrimonious, but pecunial in its approach to determining the future of architecturally significant buildings whose religious usefulness was in question.

The agreement reached in August 2005 by Landmarks and the Roman Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh is of major significance. According to the agreement:

• The Diocese will send Landmarks the names of churches and ecclesiastical buildings it plans to sell;
• Roman Catholic churches may be nominated for Historic Landmark Plaques if the Diocese agrees;
• The Diocese may apply for various religious properties services offered by Landmarks, e.g. technical services or grants offered through its historic religious properties program;
• The Diocese may work with Landmarks to assist buyers of buildings deemed superfluous in applying for historic designation which will benefit the new use of the building; and
• The Diocese’s right to remove religious art and artifacts from a closing structure will not be contested.

Landmarks will review the buildings the Diocese plans to close and will consider (a) purchase, (b) exploring adaptive uses, and/or (c) assisting in marketing the sale.

Landmarks will not nominate any buildings to the National Register or as City of Pittsburgh Historic Structures without the consent of the Diocese.

Reverend Ronald Lengwin, director of the Diocese Office for Public and Community Affairs, sees the agreement as a way “to identify constructive ways to benefit our community… We should not simply wait for opportunities to come our way to work together but create them.”

After being informed about the agreement between Landmarks and the Catholic Diocese, Peter Brink, senior vice president of programs at the National Trust, wrote the following to Landmarks president Arthur Ziegler on August 19, 2005: “You have clearly worked out a model relationship which has tremendous value to other preservation groups in other parts of the country…I am sharing this material with…our Northeast Office since they are working with state and local preservation groups and the Archdiocese of Boston regarding the transfer of a large number of historic church and related properties.”

Visiting St. John Vianney

On November 15, 2005, Landmarks’ education staff planned a field trip to St. John Vianney for second- and third-grade students from Bishop Leonard Catholic School, to help them appreciate the architectural significance of their “new” church, designed in 1910 by architect Herman Lang. St. John Vianney Parish was created in 2005 when the Diocese had to close and consolidate four parishes: St. Henry’s Church in Arlington; St. Joseph’s in Mt. Oliver; St. Canice in Knoxville; and St. George’s in Allentown. St. George’s is now home to St. John Vianney, and St. Joseph Church and rectory have been sold to an African-American congregation from Braddock. St. Canice and St. Henry’s are still for sale.

Much of the religious art from all four churches is now part of a thoughtfully designed museum in St. John Vianney, while artwork by renowned Pittsburgh artist Virgil Cantini from St. Henry’s was donated to the Pope John Paul II Cultural Center in Arlington. D.C.

Father Tom Wilson met Landmarks’ tour group and escorted everyone through all parts of St. John Vianney. The stained glass windows, designed by German artist George Boos, are especially magnificent. During a tour of St. John Vianney, Bishop Leonard students jumped nine times (one jump equals ten years) to feel about how old the church is.

Bishop Leonard students, teachers, and parents were impressed with their new worship home.

Pittsburgh Can’t Live Without You

Did you hear the following messages broadcast on KQV, WQED, or KDKA in December 2005? You can still hear them on Landmarks’ Web site: www.phlf.org, and there’s still time to reply to Jack Miller, director of gift planning: 412-471-5808, ext. 538.

• Preserve the landmarks you love. Create an endowed fund at the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation. Call 412-471-5808 to find out how… because Pittsburgh can’t live without you.

• A landmark lost is a landmark that can’t be replaced. Let’s think before we demolish. This message is brought to you by the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation.
Landmarks Offers City Funds to Save Market Street Buildings

When Landmarks learned that the City might propose demolishing 439 Market Street due to its deteriorated condition, fallen roof, and collapsed floors, president Arthur Ziegler wrote to the Mayor’s office and to the Urban Redevelopment Authority in August 2003. He suggested two proposals for the City’s consideration:

- The City could transfer ownership of 439 Market Street and two adjoining buildings (443 Market Street and 130-132 10th Avenue) to Landmarks or an entity that Landmarks would create for this purpose. Landmarks would then immediately put the new roof on the 439 Market Street building and clean it.
- Or, if the City preferred to retain ownership of the three buildings, then Landmarks would offer the alternative of lending the City up to $33,000 (an amount later amended to a maximum of $75,000) for a new roof and clean up, to be repaid upon the City’s transferring the building to a new owner or developing the building itself. The loan, with an outside date of 24 months, would be interest free, but would carry the stipulation that all three buildings would be preserved. In addition, Landmarks would have the right to approve the exterior design of any redevelopment.

Either of these proposals would save the City the expenditures of demolition and would provide the needed money for the roof. Meanwhile, on December 7, 2005, Pittsburgh’s Historic Review Commission agreed that the City could proceed in partially demolishing the Geometric Street façade of 439 Market Street, and, as reported on December 8 by Mark Belko of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, in “getting the interior, stabilizing some walls, and erecting a temporary enclosure to protect what remains from the elements. The plan, estimated to cost $100,000, would save the Market Street façade...Still to be determined is who will pay for the work.”

A New Plan
The new year brought a new City administration—and a revised proposal: Landmarks and the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership announced in February that they might team together to redevelop the three buildings. Mayor Bob O’Connor is considering the idea. Landmarks would serve as developer and the Downtown Pittsburgh Partnership would be an anchor tenant.

Spring Ground-Breaking for August Wilson Center for African American Culture

A triangular block of historic buildings at Liberty Avenue and Tenth Street, downtown, was demolished in the fall of 2003 to make way for what architect Allison Williams hopes will be regarded, in time, as a historic landmark for Pittsburgh’s African-American community and citizens, and for people nationwide.

A principal at the international design firm Perkins + Will, Williams has designed a three-story, 80,000-square-foot building intended to express both a prow moving forward and a chest puffed out with pride. Named in honor of Pittsburgh-born playwrite August Wilson, the Center is engaged in a capital campaign to raise $18.5 million for the construction of the state-of-the-art facility, scheduled to open late next year.

The August Wilson Center will include a 500-seat theater; a permanent exhibition gallery devoted to Western Pennsylvania’s African-American cultural history; a changing exhibition gallery; a music café featuring live Pittsburgh-based and national performers as well as food from the African Diaspora; a large gift store with cyber café, classrooms and educational activity spaces, and a multi-purpose room for community-based meetings and events.

Landmarks’ Involvement
On August 28, 1996, at the request of Mayor Murphy, Landmarks loaned $115,000 to the Urban Redevelopment Authority so it could acquire an earlier building of 1876 in the middle of the 900 block and thereby prevent demolition of the entire block for a parking lot and save the block for a more useful future purpose. Landmarks conducted studies of the buildings and concluded that they should be restored, meet codes, and provide space for residuals uses. A few years ago, Landmarks entered into negotiations with Neal A. Barclay, president and CEO of the African American Cultural Center (AACC), and with architect Allison Williams. Our staff provided research on the history of the area, and on the variety of significant buildings that had been located within a three-block area, including the Nixon Theatre, Fort Pitt Hotel, and Second Presbyterian Church, among others.

Knowing that the AACC intended to demolish the historic buildings in the 900 Liberty Avenue block, Landmarks requested that a permanent exhibition be included on the first floor of the new Center documenting the architectural and social history of the area, and that Landmarks be included in the design review process. On August 10, 2005, Ms. Barclay gave Landmarks written confirmation of that agreement. On August 23, 2005, the URA repaid Landmarks’ loan, and work began in earnest on clearing the site.

The 900 block was not part of the Penn-Liberty Historic District. The August Wilson Center will add vitality to the Cultural District and is within walking distance of the David L. Lawrence Convention Center and the Senator John Heinz Pittsburgh Regional History Center.
A Suggestion for Downtown Housing

Arthur Ziegler

If more people live downtown, the retail environment will improve, and at Landmarks we believe that if City subsidy funds are to be expended, they should be expended rather than rent. The huge subsidies and public costs involved in the failed downtown Lazarus and Lord & Taylor department stores, totaling almost $100 million, could have instead subsidized the creation of hundreds of housing units placed along the waterfront. Office buildings do not need to command our precious riverfronts; views of the rivers, though, will help attract residents.

We suggest to the Hertz Investment Group, owners of Gateway Center One, Gateway One, Two, and Three, that they undertake studies to determine the feasibility of converting these cruciform-shaped office buildings to housing. The Renaissance I structure, completed in 1993 to designs by Egers & Higgins (New York), might not provide optimum office space for today’s needs, but they might provide an excellent floor plate for housing.

Three excellent results could occur if the studies were positive and the owners amenable. First: at a time when there is a glut of vacant office space downtown, a supply of office space would be removed from the office market.

Second: high-quality housing would be made available without having to dislocate any businesses or create new parking garages. Third: the gardens and grassland surrounding these buildings would be better used.

We continue to recommend that the long-demolished market house on Market Square be replaced with the stunning contemporary glass building proposed by Ehrenkrantz Eckstut & Kohn Architects in our 1999 plan that was submitted to the City to revitalize Fifth/Forbes. The new building, “a true Pittsburgh Pavilion for all the City,” would be “Pittsburgh’s reply to Richardson’s Court House.” It would only be a short distance from the potential apartment dwellers in Gateway One, Two, and Three, and could house a traditional food market and various public activities. It would also serve as a vibrant symbol for new life downtown.

Fifth Forbes: Go Ye to Fort Worth

Arthur Ziegler

About 20 years ago, I was invited to Fort Worth, Texas to look at the languishing downtown, where a handsome new apartment building had been erected amidst a collection of historic, small-scale buildings dating from the turn-of-the-century through the 1930s. The developer of the nascent area called it Sundance Square.

Fort Worth was struggling to bring people back to town. To do so, they outlined all of the high-rise buildings with light bulbs. It made a beguiling sight as you approached the city from the highways or saw it from a plane as you landed at the airport.

While meeting with my hosts, I reinforced the idea of saving as many of the historic downtown buildings as possible, no matter how improbable a viable future use for some of them might seem. I advocated utilizing the concentrated collection of historic buildings for entertainment and restaurants, which were already taking root in Sundance Square and in the historic Stockyards area.

Last September, I had an opportunity to stop again in Fort Worth. The high-rises had been replaced by higher ones, and all were still outlined top to bottom in light bulbs. I headed for Sundance Square. As I drove through the streets, I saw only new buildings, an arena, a new convention center, and empty sidewalks around all these new structures. The huge fountain square had been erected amidst a collection of historic, small-scale buildings by Eggers & Higgins (New York), might not provide optimum office space for today’s needs, but they might provide an excellent floor plate for housing.

Two, and Three, that they undertake studies to determine the feasibility of converting these cruciform-shaped office buildings to housing. The Renaissance I structure, completed in 1993 to designs by Eggers & Higgins (New York), might not provide optimum office space for today’s needs, but they might provide an excellent floor plate for housing.

The developer of the nascent area called it Sundance Square.

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Brandon Smith Lecture Inspires Crowd of 200

The Fox Chapel Golf Club and Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation combined efforts to stage a memorable evening for members and friends of both organizations on October 2, 2005. Close to 200 people attended an illustrated lecture by David J. Vater, architect and Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation trustee, that was followed by guided tours of the clubhouse and a buffet supper. Historic photographs were displayed in various rooms and places, so guests could see how the clubhouse had evolved from the original Alden & Harlow design of 1925 to Brandon Smith’s design of 1931.

The event celebrated the life and work of Eclectic architect Brandon Smith (1889–1962), who practiced in Pittsburgh from 1912 until his retirement to Florida in 1955. He designed the Fox Chapel and Edgeworth Clubs, the B. E. Jones Library at Aliquippa, and many fine residences in the region.

In a tribute to the architect published in the February 1962 issue of The Charette, William Chalfant described Smith as having “an instinct for elegance” and “a passion for ancient Beauty….Inevitably his professional ambitions centered around the fine residence, the club, any building serving superior social living….Brandon was without doubt the ablest great house planner this City has known.”

The evening helped everyone more fully appreciate the enduring elegance of the Fox Chapel Golf Club, from its innovative design concept and hillside site to the grand interior spaces that are enlivened by intricate, ornamental detailing.

A copy of David Vater’s lecture and the clubhouse tour notes are on file in Landmarks’ James D. Van Trump Library. Members and friends are welcome by appointment: contact Al Tannler (412-471-5808, ext. 515; al@phlf.org).

Grable Foundation Grant and South Side “Neighborhood Assistance Program” Boost School Participation

Landmarks—and more than 3,600 school students and teachers from throughout the Pittsburgh region—are enjoying the second year of a three-year grant from The Grable Foundation that is helping students and teachers “develop an understanding and appreciation for the urban environment.” In addition, funding from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania’s Department of Community and Economic Development (PA DCED) and local sponsor PNC Bank, is enabling Landmarks to offer educational programs to four South Side schools for the eighth consecutive year, thanks to the South Side Local Development Company’s “Neighborhood Assistance Program/Comprehensive Service Program.”

We are grateful to The Grable Foundation and DCED for their continuing support, and are pleased to match those major program grants with endowment income.

By participating in walking tours, in-school programs, architectural design challenges, after-school enrichment programs and in-services designed by Landmarks, teachers, students, and adult chaperones are learning to see the beauty in, and value of, their neighborhood and city. In the process, teachers are able to connect classroom lessons to real-world situations (which makes learning more relevant for students), and students are able to strengthen academic and citizenship skills and develop a sense of belonging that builds self-esteem and encourages community involvement.

Landmarks, in the process, is able to teach the most basic principle of historic preservation: that something old has value and can add life and character to an existing community—and can even be the catalyst for community revitalization.

To learn more about our educational programs, contact Mary Ann (412-471-5808, ext. 537; maryann@phlf.org), or visit www.phlf.org (click on “For Kids and Teachers”) or www.spotlightonmainstreet.com (click on “Field Trips & Programs”).

The photos here and on pages 9 and 12 highlight some of the programs we have offered to city and county schools between October 2005 and February 2006. Our programs often involve an art or writing component. When students have the chance to draw or write, they see the landmark, in all its detail, and develop a personal connection with the landmark through a story or drawing they create. As a result, they will be more likely to work to save that landmark as an adult.

Fourth-grade students from Woolslair School explored Bloomfield, sketched historic houses that matched photos they were given, and created paper-bag buildings based on their sketches. Pittsburgh Public School art teacher Carole Malakoff, pictured above with her students, asked Landmarks to organize this educational program.
And I say "Bye."

He says "Hi"

I have four gold crosses that shine in the sky,

I'm a perogie-making church full of people,

And I were the State seal.

My three eagles are black and gold,

My checkerboard pattern represents the city,

My castle represents the city,

Which sometimes can be dirty and gritty.

I am over 100 years old.

I once was told I was beautiful and I am still am.

People are very nice to put a glass piece to protect me.

If I were the State seal.

Even though people don't look much more at me, I know I am important.

Please keep me for many more years.

—Robert Duttine

7th grade, Arlington School

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7th grade, Arlington School

In December 2005 and January 2006, 121 students from Arlington, Bishop Leonard, Philip Murray (shown at left), and Phillips Elementary schools participated in the “Poetry and Art of South Side Landmarks.” Students saw Douglas Cooper’s mural of Pittsburgh in CMU’s University Center, and then sketched and wrote a poem about a South Side landmark. To read all the student poems and see all the artwork, visit: www.phlfnews.org. Click on “Main Street Memories” and then click on “Written History PDFs.” Three poems and sketches are reprinted below.

Legendary Ladies
Contact Marie (412-471-5808, ext. 526; marie@phlf.org) for a free copy of “Legendary Ladies: A Guide to Where Women Made History in Pennsylvania.” The Greater Pittsburgh brochure (there’s one for Philadelphia as well) features 55 women and 80 places. Landmarks worked with the Senator John Henn Pittsburgh Regional History Center and others to produce the text and obtain photographs for the brochure, published by the Pennsylvania Commission for Women.

Laurel Foundation Funds
A. W. Schmidt Biography
Clarke M. Thomas, senior editor (retired) of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, has written a biography of the Honorable Adolph W. Schmidt (1904-2000) that Landmarks is publishing this spring, thanks to a $40,000 grant received in 2003 from the Laurel Foundation. A notable American who lived during a time of great American world influence, Schmidt was a U.S. ambassador to Canada and a vital part of Pittsburgh’s urban renewal history. He offered helpful advice to Landmarks trustee Barbara Hoffstot when we were launching our organization in 1964, and helped conceive and fund Landmarks’ first architectural survey of Allegheny County, which became the first county-wide survey in the nation.

Contact Frank Stroker (412-471-5808, ext. 525; frank@phlf.org) for more information about A Patriot of Ideas: A Biography of A. W. Schmidt.

PHMC and Buhl Foundation Fund
Allegheny City Book
Thanks to a $15,000 matching grant from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission and a $7,000 grant from The Buhl Foundation, along with in-kind assistance from various local groups, author Lisa A. Miles is researching and writing a book on Allegheny City (now Pittsburgh’s North Side), based, in part, on a collection of recently catalogued materials at the Pennsylvania State Archives. The book is to be published in 2007, marking the centennial of Allegheny City’s annexation to Pittsburgh. Landmarks is overseeing the grant and publication process.

Oliver Miller Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony
Visit the Oliver Miller Homestead in South Park on Friday, April 28 at 10:00 a.m. and celebrate the completion of a major restoration project involving Allegheny County, the Oliver Miller Homestead, and the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation. You’ll see a new barn that is a replica of the original built in the 1770s and a permanent educational exhibit, including a collection of images depicting the Whiskey Rebellion of 1794 and historic maps of the area. Landmarks supervised the construction of the barn, at the request of Allegheny County, and created a PowerPoint presentation documenting the barn-raising. Schools or community groups can borrow the presentation by contacting Mary Ann (412-471-5808, ext. 537; maryann@phlf.org). The barn-raising and other improvements were funded through a $500,000 grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development.
Kidney Bequest Endows Library and Publications

On his 71st birthday, Walter made Landmarks the beneficiary of his retirement plan. The following year, in 2004, he established Landmarks’ first flexible deferred gift annuity, providing him with lifetime income and, as he said to Landmarks’ director of gift planning Jack Miller, “a gift to Landmarks when I expire.”

His gifts, when added together, have resulted in a sizeable bequest to Landmarks, amounting to about $300,000. During the December 20, 2005 Board of Trustees meeting, chair Mark Bibro proposed that a special fund be created with Walter’s bequest honoring his professional interests. The trustees unanimously agreed to use Walter’s bequest to endow the “Walter C. Kidney Library and Publications Fund,” that will support, primarily:

- the James D. Van Trump Library (that includes about 4,000 of Walter’s books);
- publication of Beyond the Surface: Architecture and Being Alive, a memoir by Walter C. Kidney; and
- Landmarks’ publications program, in general, including publication of books and booklets on the architectural heritage of the Pittsburgh region.

“Walter will live on through his philanthropy because of the sensible plan he put together during his lifetime,” remarked Jack at the Board meeting. Several members have contributed to Landmarks in memory of Walter, and their contributions have been added to the Walter C. Kidney Library and Publications Fund (see page 19).

Practical Preservation and Architecture

When I joined Landmarks in 1991, my diverse jobs included writer, historian, librarian, curator, and archivist. Thus my not-quite-fifteen-year association with Walter Kidney was not only collegial, it was also archival. I was also fortunate to know Jamie Van Trump; we were in regular contact until his death in 1995.

My archival responsibilities came to the fore in 1994, when I wrote Landmarks Celebrates Thirty Years. Therein I remembered my first visit to Landmarks and my (temporary) return to Chicago armed with books by Jamie and Walter.

I recalled:

Jamie told me a great deal about Pittsburgh buildings and Pittsburgh architects and did so with such breadth and affection and involvement that Pittsburgh, through his writings, became a vital and appealing place.

Walter elucidated architectural shapes, textures, and patterns and revealed the subtleties and quirkiness of the designs and the designers working in the Pittsburgh area.

An unbeatable combination it seemed to me then—and still does today.

Jamie and Walter wrote architectural history from the standpoint of historic preservation. They wrote from within an organization committed to saving and maintaining historically significant buildings, neighborhoods, and landscapes.

As I noted in Landmarks Celebrates Thirty Years:

Landmarks is an activist organization committed to practical preservation, and to educational programs and publications that may be scholarly, informational, interactive, or a combination thereof. Innovation and flexibility have characterized Landmarks’ approach and methodology.

Memoir to Be Published in October

Donors to the Walter C. Kidney Library and Publications Fund also will be acknowledged in Walter’s memoir, Beyond the Surface: Architecture and Being Alive, to be published by Landmarks in October. If you are interested in making a donation to support the publication of his memoir, please mail your contribution by August 10 to Louise Sturgess, Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation, 100 W. Station Square Drive, Suite 450, Pittsburgh, PA 15219. Please make your check payable to “PHLF” and reference it “WCK Book.”

In a notice which Walter wrote for the 2003 Haverford College 50th Reunion magazine, he referred to his memoir in the following passage: “As regards belief: I am still trying to make sense of existence….This ‘personal’ book I am working on will, I hope, bring an architectural approach to the existential question in some way, looking for some harmony regardless of whatever comes….”

It is this realism that distinguishes [William] Morris from [John] Ruskin, this sense of urgency of effective action.

In reading and rereading Morris’s lectures, one nearly always finds answers to the question:
What can be done?
—Sir Nikolaus Pevsner

Publications by Jamie and Walter

In Memoriam

Walter C. Kidney (1932-2005)

Walter C. Kidney, who served as Landmarks’ architectural historian and author since the early 1980s (first on a free-lance basis and beginning in 1988 as a salaried employee), died on December 1, 2005. He became ill at the end of August 2005 and his health gradually declined.

On January 24, 2006, on what would have been Walter’s 74th birthday, Landmarks invited members and friends to “A Celebration of the Works of Walter C. Kidney” at the Soldiers and Sailors National Military Museum and Memorial in Oakland. About 150 people attended to hear readings from ten of Walter’s works. The event was recorded by SLB Radio Productions, and a booklet of the selected passages will be published later this year by Landmarks.

As the author and editor of more than 20 significant publications on local history and architecture, Walter’s words shaped the public’s understanding of the city. He saw preservation as a way to maintain “continuity in the midst of change” so a community could continue to be home to its inhabitants. Through his insightful, graceful prose, Walter helped people see inanimate objects in an “animate” way.

A Biographical Profile

Walter Curtis Kidney was born January 24, 1932, in Johnstown, Pa., to Mona and Walter C. Kidney. The family moved to Philadelphia in 1942 when Walter’s father accepted a position as a teacher of Greek and Latin. Summers, however, were spent in Pittsburgh’s Oakland neighborhood where Walter’s grandparents lived.

Between 1942 and 1961, Walter lived in Germantown and its Main Line suburbs, Havertford, Bryn Mawr, and Radnor. He attended Haverford College and was graduated with a Bachelor’s degree in Philosophy in 1954. Subsequently, he worked for a time as a library assistant at The Athenaeum of Philadelphia, known for its architectural collections.

In 1961 he joined the staff of Random House, Inc, in New York City where he was employed for the next six years as a dictionary editor. In 1967-68 he worked as a researcher and writer for Progressive Architecture magazine. He moved to Cleveland in 1968 to accept an editorial position at The Press of Case Western Reserve University, which he held until 1973. (In 1971, Walter’s father retired and his parents moved to Pittsburgh.) Walter lived in Pittsburgh from 1973 to 1976 working as a free-lance writer/editor, then as an editor for Lawrence, Urdang, Inc., Essex, Connecticut; he lived in Essex from 1976 to 1978, and then returned to Pittsburgh where he lived until his death.

Publications and Work at Landmarks


Throughout his career Walter wrote articles and edited books and manuscripts. As Landmarks’ architectural historian he wrote frequently for PHLF News, prepared historic survey documents, represented Landmarks at City Historic Review Commission hearings, participated in architectural tours, and provided research and reference assistance to patrons of Landmarks’ James D. Van Trump Library. “His knowledge was encyclopedic,” noted Landmarks president Arthur Ziegler, “and his views on architecture were always exactly stated.” His death is a deep loss to us all.
OUR WORK: Recent Progress

(Continued from page 9)

A Chance Meeting: A Westmoreland County Student, Years Later

Every so often, a Landmarks staff member or docent reconnects with someone who participated in our educational programs in their younger days. It’s always heartening to discover that the professional path the person is pursuing reflects an appreciation for historic landmarks, main streets, and central business districts. Our programs can be life changing!

Such is the case with Kate Johnson Maize, now the production manager of the Palace Theatre in Greensburg, and formerly a participant in two of Landmarks’ Architectural Design Challenges while a student at Franklin Regional High School.

After attending Point Park University, Kate chose to stay in Greensburg, live in the central city, and use her love of theater and design to produce plays at the restored Palace Theatre, a glorious 1926 performance hall.

Louise Sturgess, executive director of Landmarks, reconnected with Kate, by chance, when she went to check out the Palace Theatre, in preparation for Landmarks’ Tenth Annual Westmoreland County Architectural Design Challenge. Louise recognized Kate and invited her to welcome the middle and high school students during the orientation program at the Palace Theatre. Kate told the students how the Architectural Design Challenge had helped her develop her design skills and take an interest in community revitalization.

We encourage members of Landmarks to visit the Palace Theatre at 21 West Otterman Street in Greensburg to see Kate’s work: for a schedule of performances and events, contact: 724-836-8000; www.thepalacetheatre.org.

135 Westmoreland County Students Show How a Vacant Main Street Building in Greensburg Can Be Reused

After attending orientation sessions in Greensburg in October 2005, twenty-eight teams of middle and high school students from 12 Westmoreland County schools spent nearly four months addressing a design challenge posed by the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation. The students’ task: to build a model showing a new use for the historic brick building at 18 West Pittsburgh Street in Greensburg. Students were given the option of incorporating the adjacent vacant lot into their model and showing how that space would be used. The new use for the historic building was also to trigger development of the vacant upper stories of the adjoining (and former) Cope Hotel.

Landmarks offered this Tenth Annual Architectural Design Challenge in cooperation with the Smart Growth Partnership of Westmoreland County, the Greensburg Planning Department, the Palace Theatre, Westmoreland County Historical Society, and Westmoreland Cultural Trust. On February 23 and 24, students presented their models and ideas to a jury of architects and urban planners, including representatives from the sponsoring organizations, as well as from MacLachlan Cornelius & Filton (architects of the new Seton Hill University Center for Performing Arts) and Oxford Development. In addition, architect Debbie Przekop and model maker Dick Flock helped judge.

As always, the models were expertly crafted; the oral presentations were well delivered; and the written reports were full of supporting arguments for the model concepts. These photos show a few of the creative solutions proposed.

“Theater in the Park,” proposed by the Burrell High School team, included a first-floor deli, second-floor music store, and third-floor practice rooms for musicians. Dancers, therapists, and musicians could use the outdoor stage for impromptu practice sessions. This proposal was designed to attract students from Seton Hill who will be coming downtown to the University’s new Center for Performing Arts, opening just a few blocks away.

During an orientation tour with Landmarks in October 2005, Westmoreland County students toured their project site in Greensburg (left). Their task was to build a model showing a new use for the vacant three-story building at 18 West Pittsburgh Street.
is prominently sited at Liberty Avenue and Seventh Street and is used for senior housing. Tasso Kattelas Associates, Inc. was the architect, and NDC Real Estate Management deserves credit for maintaining the landmark.

**Rt. 28 Plans Incorporate Preservation Goals**

PennDOT presented its latest plans for rebuilding the hazardous two-mile stretch of Rt. 28 between North Side and Millvale on February 13, during the first of several public meetings. Thanks to the leadership of trustee George Stone, Landmarks has been working with PennDOT and other concerned citizens since 2003 to develop a “building plan that will not endanger St. Nicholas Church (1901) and will not mar the hillside.” Our preservation goals have largely been met in this most recent proposal which parallels the plan we submitted,” said George. St. Nicholas, the first Croatian Church in the U.S. and a City Historic Structure, is now owned by the Preserve Croatian Heritage Foundation and is being restored as a national shrine.

**Former Buhl Optical Building Renovated**

NS Properties, the Northside Community Development Fund, and Luna Grubb Associates (architects) completed renovat-

**Allegheny County Purchases Carrie Furnace Site**

Remediation is now underway at the 137-

**Church Reopens as Café**

You can lunch and dine in a main street building that has had three lives: it was constructed in 1913 as a Presbyterian Church for Ukrainian immigrants, then modified for a Greek Catholic congrega-

**1952 Gym Converted into Art & Design Center**

Chatham College’s Georgian-style gym is now home to a new Art and Design Center housing classes in landscape architecture, interior architecture, interior design, sculpt-

**Midtown Towers Renovated**

One downtown skyscraper now sports a bold, deep-red “cap” that is worth looking up to see. The terra cotta and brick exterior of Midtown Towers, originally the Keenan

**Silver Eye Catches Your Eye**

Just a few buildings away from Halo Café is the Silver Eye Center for Photography, at 1015 East Carson Street, comfortably housed in a Victorian building that was refaced in 1922. The main street entrance was renovated in 2005, to designs by Walter Boykowycz, to provide better visibility and accessibility to the gallery space, offices, and education center.

**1920s Façade Visible Again**

The Classical building at the meeting of Craig Street and Baum Boulevard, erected in 1921 to the designs of Edward B. Lee for the Oakland Motor Car Company, has been revealed again. A modern skycraper was removed in 2005, and, although the plaster cornice and cornice were damaged beyond repair, the two centralIonic columns and decorative brick façade have been revealed once again. The building, owned by the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, was built on the site of Luna Park, a short-lived amusement park that existed from 1905 to 1909.

**PRESERVATION SCENE**

**Good News**

**Hartwood Ceiling Restored**

This spring, the Great Hall of Hartwood man-

**Allegheny Commons Completes Pilot Project**

Allegheny Commons Restoration (ACR), led by project director Christina Schumpp, is planning a spring ribbon- cutting to celebrate the restoration of a portion of the East Commons, part of the 80-acre North Side park designed in 1868. The central pathway along Cedar Avenue was reconstructed in 2005, shade trees were planted, and historic-style light fixtures were added. Phase Two, beginning this spring, will include the addition of benches, trash receptacles, the casting of the historic drinking fountain, and landscaping.

Since 2004, ACR has raised nearly one million dollars, including grants from the Richard King Mellon Foundation, Allegheny Foundation, Buhl Foundation, and the Shady Brook and Carl Wood Brown Named Funds at Landmarks.

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A postcard from 1916.

cast-in-place reinforced concrete and Graham, Sr., the plant was constructed of February 1915. Designed by architect John Bloomfield cost $575,000 to complete in Boulevard and Morewood Avenue in Ford Motor Company retail, service, and assembly plant at the corner of Baum

The Ford Motor Company assembly plant, on a postcard from 1916. Courtesy of Donald Doherty, Ph.D.

masonry. Three hundred workers used a vertical feed hand-assembly method to build about 40 Model T automobiles a day at the Pittsburgh plant. Assembly operations continued until 1932. The building remained a Ford sales-and-parts branch until at least the early 1940s and is now occupied by the Paper Mart.

Eighteen buildings designed by Graham (1873-1955), a prominent Seattle architect who served as Ford’s supervising architect, were constructed across the country between 1913 and 1915. All are being protected and restored. As of February 2006, the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center had an option to purchase the Pittsburgh Ford Motor Company building.

The façade of 318-24 Third Avenue is shown above in a photo of 1980 from Landmarks’ Allegheny County Historic Sites Survey.

Parkvale
Awnings
Covers
Sculptures
At the corner of Fourth Avenue and Wood Street downtown, John Massey Rhind’s symposium sculptures are hidden from view, covered by bright orange Parkvale Savings Bank awnings. Light shines down from the awnings at night, providing needed security at the money access machine. The bank is displaying large photographs of the two sculptures inside the building and the addition of the awning has not damaged the sculpture, but passers-by are robbed of seeing works of art, nonetheless.

Recognizing the Ford Motor Company Building
The Ford Motor Company retail, service, and assembly plant at the corner of Baum Boulevard and Morewood Avenue in Bloomfield cost $575,000 to complete in February 1915. Designed by architect John Graham, Sr., the plant was constructed of cast-in-place reinforced concrete and

Demolished
Banksville Road House
A simple but handsome wood-frame Italianate house, c. 1870, in the 1370 block of Banksville Road was demolished in January 2006.

Smokesetack
and More
Gone
Vacant buildings at the former Dixmont State Hospital (1862-1984) in Kilbuck, including the 187-foot-tall smokestack of the former boiler plant, were demolished in the last two months of 2005. A $28 million Wal-Mart Supercenter is being constructed on the site.

More Alwater Murals Destroyed
Dave’s Bar at 1733 Penn Avenue in the Strip District, notable for its Alwater mural (PHLF News, September 2004) of 1938, was demolished in July 2005. Photos by Landmarks’ member Chris Zarawsky are reproduced here. The mural included scenes of the Parkway, Fort Pitt Bridge, and Point State Park—all under construction; the pre-renovated Pittsburgh Post-Gazette building; and downtown signs advertising the “Sherwyn Hotel” (now Lawrence Hall, see page 2) and “Rosenbaum’s.”

The Ford Motor Company building in Pittsburgh, January 2006 to make way for a new building for Point Park University’s Dance Department, to be completed by the fall of 2007 to designs by The Design Alliance. The façade of 318-24 Third Avenue is shown above in a photo of 1980 from Landmarks’ Allegheny County Historic Sites Survey.

We Need You!
Say “Yes” and become a tour guide.

If you are fascinated by Pittsburgh history and architecture, have some free time during the week, and enjoy working with people, please contact Mary Lu (412-471-5808, ext. 527; marylu@phlf.org) to learn how to become a PHLF tour guide.

With your help, we can involve more people in our award-winning education programs (see pages 8, 9, and 12).

2005 Our Major Accomplishments
• Accepted two façade easements that will protect, in perpetuity, the Armstrong Cork Buildings in Pittsburgh’s Strip District and the Bedford Springs Hotel in Bedford, Pa.
• Awarded a $170,000 loan to the Union Project in Highland Park and a $92,000 loan to help renovate the former Penn-Lincoln Hotel in Wilkinsburg.
• Awarded a $2,000 grant to the South Side Local Development Company so it could leverage an additional $15,000 in public and private funding to light the façades of two buildings on East Carson Street, and awarded restoration grants to East Liberty Development, Inc. and to the West Pittsburgh Partnership, among others.
• Awarded $80,300 to 16 historic religious properties in Allegheny County to fund restoration improvements, and offered technical assistance to many others.
• Completed a major restoration project at the Oliver Miller Homestead in South Park, at the request of Allegheny County, including the construction of an 18th-century-style barn.
• Continued our work to help restore the Allegheny County Courthouse.
• Assisted in the restoration and renovation of Point Park University’s Lawrence Hall.
• Awarded more than $12,000 in local scholarships to help local preservationists attend the 2005 National Preservation Conference in Portland, Oregon.
• Continued the “Architecture & Historic Preservation Abroad” lecture series, in cooperation with The Heinz Architectural Center, Carnegie Museum of Art.
• Involved South Side area school students and citizens in a prestigious “Save Our History” grant awarded to Landmarks by The History Channel: visit www.spotlightonmainstreet.com.
• Involved more than 12,000 people in innovative educational programs featuring local history and architecture, and celebrated the release of Images of America: Oakland, by Landmarks’ Walter C. Kidney.
• Hosted our Tenth Annual Old House Fair during the Pittsburgh Home & Garden Show.

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Preserving School Buildings in Pittsburgh and Beyond

Schools are among the most notable buildings in a community. Historically sited in prominent places and often designed by distinguished architects, they become centers of meaningful educational—and community—activity. For years, Landmarks has offered assistance to citizens who have promoted school renovation versus new construction in their communities. As a result of staff member Ron Yochum’s work with the Brentwood School District (which renovated Moore and Elroy Elementary Schools in 1997), Landmarks and Preservation Pennsylvania influenced the Pennsylvania Department of Education to change its anti-renovation guidelines pertaining to school renovation. See PHLF News, February 1999. As a result of progressive and sweeping changes in the DOE’s construction policy, school districts are now given incentives for renovating older buildings.

Here we summarize the stories of four schools and districts in the Pittsburgh region that have recently renovated historic school buildings, or are fighting to do so.

Mifflin School Enlarged
Mifflin School, Edward Weber’s Art Moderne masterpiece in Lincoln Place, has been handsomely expanded by the Pittsburgh architectural firm Strada. The 1932 building, designed by Weber for Link, Bowers & Weber and on the National Register of Historic Places, is dramatically sited on a hilltop. A one-story functional but drab addition was appended at the rear of the school in 1956. Strada’s buff brick, original building, the 1956 wing, and cafeteria, and music facility, created an enlarged campus.

Shadyside Academy’s Rowe Hall Goes Green
Rowe Hall, a 1922 building designed by E. P. Mellon at Shadyside Academy, is undergoing a $6.8 million renovation. The exterior of the Georgian Revival building will be largely unchanged, although a new courtyard entrance is being added as well as new dormer windows on the third floor. The interior renovation applies “green” principles to the mechanical and electrical systems, increases natural light, and provides for an intake of fresh air. Funding for the project includes a $900,000 grant from the Richard King Mellon Foundation and $1 million from alumnus Paul G. Benedum. Jr. Bowie Gridley Architects, P.L.L.C., of Washington, D.C., is overseeing the project. Pittsburgh based “evolveEA” is overseeing the LEED-NC certification process. Graziano Construction Development Company, Inc. is the general contractor.

Mt. Lebanon School District Renovates Seven Schools
The Mt. Lebanon School Board and School District are to be commended for completing a roughly $52 million three-year project that has resulted in the renovation of all seven elementary schools—and thus preserved the neighborhood school system that is at the heart of the school district and, in many ways, of the community. Six of the seven recently renovated schools were completed to designs by the prominent Pittsburgh firm of Ingham & Boyd (or its successor) between 1923 and 1950. Architects for the renovation were Burt Hill Kosar Rittelmann, with Turner Construction as project manager.

Renovating all seven elementary schools in three years resulted in a grueling construction schedule and required the flexibility and cooperation of staff, parents, and students. On Saturday, February 11, the School District invited the Mt. Lebanon community to the grand opening celebration of the newly renovated Washington Elementary School: the 1923 Classical building is now handicapped accessible; classrooms are wired for state-of-the-art technology systems; and the new windows recall the historic ones much more authentically than did those installed about a decade ago.

Turtle Creek Valley Citizens Protest School Board’s Plans to Demolish Former High School
Hundreds of Turtle Creek Valley citizens are opposing the Woodland Hills School Board’s plan to demolish what is now Turtle Creek East Junior High so a new middle school can be constructed. Originally the Turtle Creek High School, the building was constructed in 1917 according to the competition-winning designs of Pittsburgh architect George H. Schwartz. The Classical Revival buff brick building is distinguished by a prominent central entrance pavilion with double-story Ionic columns. Already determined to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, Landmarks is preparing a National Register nomination for the structure, at the request of the “Committee to Save Turtle Creek High School.” The citizens group has been successful in convincing City Council to pass a resolution opposing the proposed demolition and in bringing Pultizer-prize-winning journalist and author Thomas Hylton to speak about the value of saving the historic school. (Read Hylton’s book: Save Our Land, Save our Towns: A Plan for Pennsylvania.)

Due to public opposition, the School District is comparing the costs of renovating the existing school versus demolishing and building anew.

Council of Educational Facility Planners Supports School Renovation
A Primer for the Renovation/Rehabilitation of Older and Historic Schools was recently published by The Council of Educational Facility Planners (CEFP) and is receiving acclaim from the National Trust for Historic Preservation. An article in the May/June 2006 issue of Preservation calls the book “a big breakthrough,” noting that A Primer “represents a huge turnaround for CEFP, whose prior guidelines were heavily biased against” preserving historic school buildings. The book is available at http://shop.cefp.org.

Additional Resources
The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission has selected historic schools as its preservation theme in 2006 and is planning a series of events and publications. For more information, contact Kenneth Wolensky (717-772-0921; kwolensky@state.pa.us) or visit: www.phmc.state.pa.us. The following organizations also have information on renovating historic schools:
• www.edfacilities.org
• www.nationaltrust.org
• www.preservationpa.org
• www.preservationnation.org
• www.achp.gov

School districts interested in renovating historic buildings according to “green building” design principles can contact Pittsburgh’s internationally recognized Green Building Alliance for advice: 412-431-8709; www.gbgapgh.org.

Setting the Stage for the Reuse of Some Pittsburgh Public Schools
The Pittsburgh Public School District has drawn up a plan, based on much public input, that requires the closing of a number of historic schools due to the declining school district population and the need to focus limited financial resources on academic achievement rather than on maintaining a relatively large physical complex.

Landmarks understands the need for the closings and is allocating $25,000 this year to complete National Register nominations for some of the buildings that will be closed. Getting the closed school buildings listed on the National Register will help the School District sell those buildings to developers. If a building is listed on the National Register, then a developer is able to take advantage of federal tax credits and easements in renovating the historic structure for a new use. For details about benefits of National Register designation, visit: www.cr.nps.gov/NR/.
William Willet in Pittsburgh 1897–1913

Albert M. Tanler

The thirteenth century artist drew quaintly, often grotesquely, but it was his own natural drawing, full of life and vigor. The conceptions portrayed in his glass were often naïve and childlike, but they were his own genuine conceptions. The work he produced was a full expression of the best that was in him. The work of the artist, who expressed himself in exactly his own way and thought, gives full expression to his own best. He could do nothing else, because he was an artist. All good work is modern in feeling, and these differences found full expression in the work of these artists.

fourteenth and fifteenth century artists worked in the same spirit, they differed widely in technique and feeling, and these differences found full expression in their work. Neither thought of copying his predecessors. He gave his own best. The work he produced was a full expression of the best that was in him. The work of the artist, who expressed himself in exactly his own way and thought, gives full expression to his own best.

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Welcome New Members
(July 1, 2005 through December 31, 2005)

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A. J. Vater & Company
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Thanks from a member...

December 8, 2005

Mr. Tanner,
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The leads you gave were quite valuable and I will follow up, particularly with the architectural guides you suggested....Our goal is to add a set of architecturally-representative pictures to our historical archives, which we hope to have on-line shortly.

We are pleased to be able to join the PH&LF and to support your valuable work.

Regards,

Louis Chandler
Archivist, Monroeville Historical Society

Editor’s Note: The Monroeville Historical Society Web site went live in January 2006. It showcases more than 450 photos of the Monroeville/Patton Township area from the mid-1800s to the present.

Visit: www.monroevillehistorical.org

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Thank You for Contributing
(July 1, 2005 through December 31, 2005, unless otherwise noted)

Continuing support from members, foundations, and businesses enables us to quickly respond to community needs. New requests from groups throughout the region come in daily, asking for our help to reverse the decline of a historic main street, to save a specific building, to prepare a National Register nomination, to underwrite a feasibility study that would identify a new use for a vacant building, to help school students explore their communities, etc. Your gifts support historic preservation programs and services throughout the Pittsburgh region.

2006 National Trust Conference
(See page 3 for a list of donors as of March 3, 2006)

2005 Historic Religious Properties Initiative (for contributors to the 2006-07 Historic Religious Properties Program, see page 4 side bar)
• The Anne L. and George H. Clapp Charitable and Educational Trust
• Russell W. Cox, for a gift to support the roof repairs at Incarnation of the Lord Catholic Parish on Pittsburgh’s North Side
• Mr. & Mrs. Jack E. Savex, for energy audits at Mulberry Presbyterian Church in Wilkinsburg and at New Hope Church in Marshall-Shadeland.

Corporate Matching Gifts
• H. J. Heinz Company Foundation, for matching a gift from Carolyn M. Flinn
• Mayer, Brown, Rowe & Maw LLP, for matching a gift from Teresa A. Brauder
• SBC Foundation, for matching a gift from Colleen M. Joyce-Sauvain

Educational Programs
A & E Television Networks (The History Channel)
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Amy R. Camp
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Gift Memberships
• Doris Ju, for a gift membership for Barbara Berger
• Lynn Larson, for a gift membership for Wendy Boll
• Mary McDonough, for a gift membership for Mr. & Mrs. Carroll R. Quinn
• Shirley and Tom Phillis, for a gift membership for Mark Phillis

Historic Farm Preservation Fund
Laurel Foundation
Richard M. Scaife

Images of America: Oakland Book
Anonymous
Hale and Nancy Holden

James D. Van Trump Library
Gene Chandler, in memory of William Walker II
Grace Merta
Samuel L. Varnedoe, Jr.

Walter C. Kidney Library and Publications Fund (through January 31, 2006)
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Dr. & Mrs. Holt Murray
Eliza Scott Nevin
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas V. Pastotus
Carol Robinson and Jeffrey Markel
Louise and Martin Sturgess
Arthur Ziegler

Memorial Gifts
• Mrs. William Stouffer, for a gift to Landmarks’ Endowment Fund to support our mission, in loving memory of her parents, Mr. & Mrs. George V. Moore, her grandparents, Mr. & Mrs. John P. Moore and Dr. & Mrs. W. A. Jones, her aunts, Miss Joan A. Moore and Ms. Alice M. Davies; her cousin, Ms. Jean D. Struckmeyer; and her aunt and uncle, Mr. & Mrs. William A. Jones, Jr.

Named Fund Donors
• Anonymous, for a gift to the Shady Brook Fund
• Janice M. and Kim E. Abraham, for a gift to The Audrey and Kenneth Menke Named Fund for Education
• Richard D. Edwards, for a gift to the Richard D. Edwards Library Fund
• The Fairbanks-Horix Foundation and The Estate of Frank Fairbanks, for gifts to the Frank B. Fairbanks Rail Transportation Archive
• Marion V. Green, for a gift to the Mary DeWinter Named Fund
• Roy A. Hunt Foundation, for a grant to the Torrence M. Hunt Library Fund for Special Projects
• Audrey M. and Kenneth L. Menke, for gifts to The Audrey and Kenneth Menke Named Fund for Education
• Michael and Karen Menke Pacionek, for a gift to The Audrey and Kenneth Menke Named Fund for Education in honor of Audrey’s and Ken’s birthdays
• Jack Zieder, for a gift to The Audrey and Kenneth Menke Named Fund for Education in honor of Audrey’s and Ken’s birthdays

Neville House (“Woodville”)
Wal-Mart Foundation

Oliver Miller Homestead Project
County of Allegheny

Preservation Services (including neighborhoods)
Anonymous
The H. M. Biter Charitable Trust
Denise C. Capuro
The Anne L. and George H. Clapp Charitable and Educational Trust
Anne Geiger
H. P. Hoffstot III
The Gordon and Kate MacVean Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation
Pittsburgh Steelers Sports, Inc.
Dan and Patricia Rooney
Sarah Scaife Foundation
Steel Industry Heritage Corporation

Membership Has Its Privileges
• Free admission to five events at the 2006 National Preservation Conference in Pittsburgh (see page 3 for details)
• 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
• 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
412-471-5808, ext. 527
marylu@phlf.org
Or visit our Web site at www.phlf.org

Annual membership fees are affordable, beginning at $25 for an individual and $30 for a family. A senior membership is $15.
MEMBERSHIP EVENTS: 2006

All free to members! Non-members are welcome on all tours, for a fee of $5.00 per person. For details or reservations: call 412-471-5808, ext. 527; marylu@phlf.org, or visit www.phlf.org.

We DO NOT mail separate invitations to members for these events, due to the high costs of printing and mailing. Call for details and join us as we explore Pittsburgh’s historic neighborhoods and architectural landmarks.

Special Tours: Offered Only Once This Year

Chicago Architects in Pittsburgh Downtown Walking Tour

Wednesday, April 19 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Meet outside Dollar Bank, Fourth Avenue and Smithfield Street

New York Architects in Pittsburgh Downtown Walking Tour

Wednesday, April 26 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Meet under Kaufman’s Clock, Fifth Avenue and Smithfield Street

Grand Opening of Schenley Plaza, including a walking tour of Oaklands’ Civic Center, and the presentation of Walter C. Kidney’s Image of America: Oakland.

June (date and time to be announced)

Lawrenceville Walking Tour Saturday, June 24 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.
Meet at Doubleday Square at Butler Street and Penn Avenue

Stained Glass Walking Tour Sunday, September 3 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.
Meet at the Church of the Ascension, 4729 Ellsworth Avenue

New Members’ Reception Monday, September 25 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.
PHLF Officers, 4th floor, The Landmarks Building, Station Square

Tours Offered Throughout the Year

Old Allegheny County Jail Museum Tours Mondays, February through October
Open between 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. (except on government holidays)
This is a free self-guided tour, but a docent from Landmarks is on hand to provide information.

Downtown Walking Tours Fridays, May through September Noon to 1:00 p.m.
Tours feature five different areas:

• May: Grant Street and Mellon Square Meet in the Mellon Green parklet, Grant Street and Sixth Avenue

• June: Bridges & More Meet at the Renaissance Pittsburgh Hotel, 107 Sixth Street

• July: Pens Liberty Cultural District Meet in Katz Plaza, Penn Avenue and Seventh Street

• August: Fourth Avenue and PPG Place Meet at Dollar Bank, Fourth Avenue and Smithfield Street

• September: Fifth & Forbes Meet at the clock in Market Square

South Side Strolls Saturdays, June through September 10:30 to 11:45 a.m.
Meet at the Birmingham Mural, East Carson and 12th Streets
Free to everyone, thanks to the Neighborhood Assistance Program

Special Tour Opportunities

National Preservation Conference October 31–November 5, Pittsburgh
Members interested in signing up for any of 30 exceptional half-day and full-day tours of the Pittsburgh region, must first register for the National Preservation Conference. All tours (or “field sessions”) are described in the conference booklet, and there is a fee for each (in addition to the registration fee). See the ad on page 15 for registration details. The field sessions are well worth attending.

NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

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