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*Renewing Communities; Building Pride*

# PHLF News

PUBLISHED FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE PITTSBURGH HISTORY & LANDMARKS FOUNDATION

No. 180 January 2015



Built in 1904 as the Star Apartments, the Falconhurst at 724 Kelly Avenue will be resurrected from a state of near-collapse to house eighteen affordable apartments, as part of The Landmarks Development Corporation's \$10.5 million restoration and development program in Wilkinsburg.

## LDC Awarded Tax Credits for Falconhurst Neighborhood Restoration Development Program in Wilkinsburg

The Landmarks Development Corporation (LDC), a for-profit subsidiary of the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation (PHLF), is undertaking a new development initiative in Wilkinsburg, after successfully completing the renovation of the Crescent Apartments and Wilson House in December 2011. The Crescent and



The Crescent, from Kelly Avenue

Wilson, with their twenty-seven apartments fully occupied—and seven renovated single-family houses, new community gardens and greenspaces, and the Landmarks Preservation

Resource Center—have transformed Wilkinsburg's National-Register-listed Hamnett Place neighborhood into a lively, desirable place to live.

"This new development program in Wilkinsburg will create a total of thirty-three more affordable housing units in restored and newly constructed buildings," said LDC President Michael Sriprasert. The Falconhurst apartment building at 724 Kelly Avenue, adjacent to the Crescent Apartments and vacant for more than fifteen years, will be renovated, along with 520 Jeanette Street, 855 Rebecca Avenue, and 608 Mulberry Street. Two new townhouses will be constructed at 604 and 606 Mulberry Street.



An interior view (left) and rear view (above) of the Falconhurst in the fall of 2014

major development by PHLF/LDC in Wilkinsburg."

Funding for this development is complex. LDC is grateful to the many agencies that support its work in a variety of ways, and in particular to Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald and Economic Development Director Dennis Davin and his team.

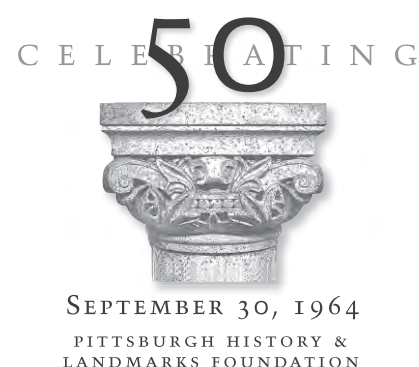
"This award recognizes the significance of our historic architecture as an anchor for community revitalization," said Wilkinsburg Mayor John Thompson.

"PHLF and LDC are committed to achieving economic development by combining restoration and new construction to strengthen historic neighborhoods," said Jason Cohn, a Wilkinsburg resident. "Their investment is a big billboard to the outside world

(Continued on page 2)

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- 24 Events in 2015



### *Editor's Note*

So much was accomplished in 2014 through the work of PHLF and its subsidiaries as a result of the involvement and dedication of our trustees, staff, volunteers, and members. Highlights of 2014 include securing tax credits from the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency in support of The Landmarks Development Corporation's \$10.5 million Falconhurst Neighborhood Restoration Development Program in Wilkinsburg (*cover story*); obtaining a grant of \$700,000 from the U.S. Treasury Department to augment Landmarks Community Capital Corporation's loan fund (*page 3*); assisting with key renovation projects in Manchester and Bloomfield-Garfield (*pages 3 and 4*) and with Neighborhood Partnership Programs in Manchester, Wilkinsburg (*page 3*) and the City of Butler (*page 5*); continuing our work in Downtown Pittsburgh to restore façades and to adapt the former Thompson's Building to house an urban market (*pages 6 and 7*); bringing the leaders of five nationally recognized preservation groups to Pittsburgh to meet with our trustees (*page 9*); awarding \$95,710 in matching grants to twelve historic religious properties (*pages 14 and 15*); awarding Historic Landmark plaques to seventeen architecturally significant sites (*pages 16 and 17*); hosting a memorable Scholarship Celebration and raising nearly \$84,000 (*pages 18 and 19*); and involving more than 12,800 people in educational programs, including the Landmarks Preservation Resource Center attendance (*pages 20 and 24*).

We begin the new year with energy, enthusiasm, and a firm belief in our ability to improve the lives of people by renewing communities and building pride throughout the Pittsburgh region.



Through the place, we renew  
the spirit of the people.  
Historic preservation  
can be the underlying basis  
of community renewal,  
human renewal,  
and economic renewal.  
Preservation is not some isolated  
cultural benefit.

—Arthur Ziegler, PHLF President

### PHLF’s Mission

The Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation (PHLF) works within a 250-mile radius of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, to **identify and save** historically significant places; **renew** historic neighborhoods, towns, and urban areas; **preserve** historic farms and historic designed landscapes; and **educate** people about the Pittsburgh region’s rich architectural heritage.



Visit PHLF’s offices and two libraries on the fourth floor of The Landmarks Building at Station Square.

### PHLF...

- is governed by a board of 25 community leaders;
- has had a balanced budget in each year of operation since its founding in 1964;
- provides leadership and assistance to local, state, national, and international organizations;
- provides financing and technical assistance through a nonprofit subsidiary, Landmarks Community Capital Corporation (LCCC); and
- provides consulting services and develops real estate through a for-profit subsidiary, The Landmarks Development Corporation (LDC), and through various limited partnerships.

### Continue Giving

Your money is put to good use and the need is great. Contributions in 2015 will help PHLF:

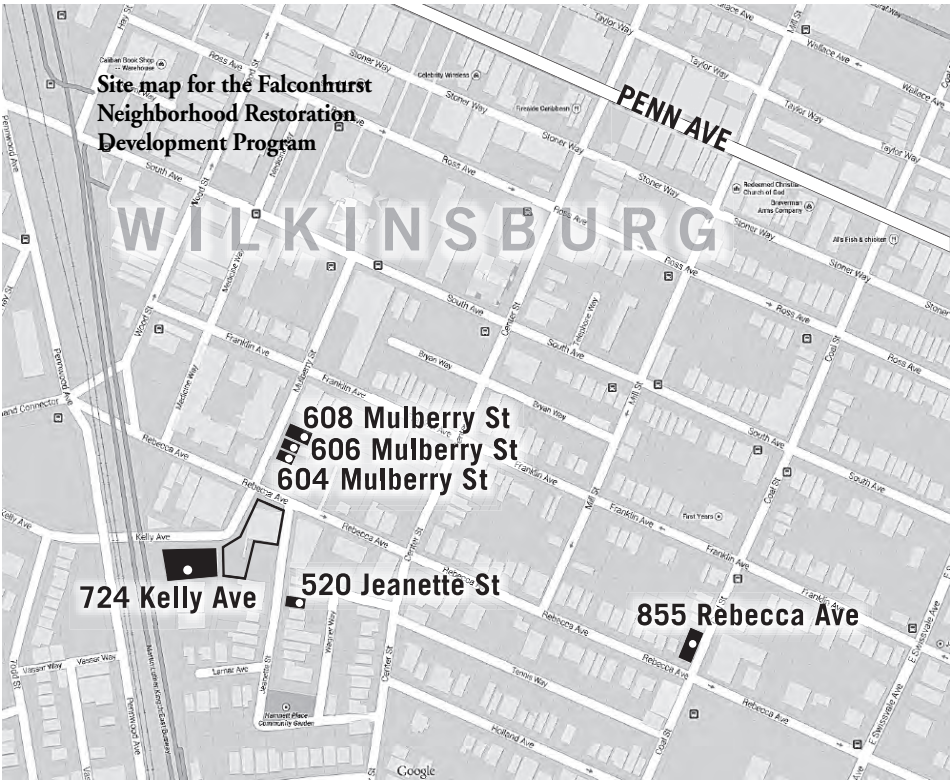
- continue neighborhood and downtown revitalization efforts;
- continue our Historic Religious Properties program;
- offer educational programs to more than 10,000 people;
- offer programs at the Landmarks Preservation Resource Center in Wilkinsburg;
- underwrite *PHLF News* and monthly E-newsletters.

## LDC Awarded Tax Credits for Falconhurst Neighborhood Restoration Development Program in Wilkinsburg

(Continued from page 1)

that this neighborhood is safe and a place to be. This next phase of work will solidify the great investment that has already been made by PHLF, LDC, PHFA, Allegheny County, TriState Capital Bank, and many others, and will push revitalization efforts further into the Borough,” he added.

With this new development program, PHLF’s total investment in Wilkinsburg will exceed \$23 million. The Falconhurst Neighborhood Restoration Development Program will take at least fifteen months to complete. “Work in 2015 will proceed on all sites but may need to be phased according to labor and material deliveries,” said Tom Keffer, Property and Construction Manager at PHLF/LDC. LDA Architects is the project architect and Sota Construction Services will be the general contractor.



608 Mulberry Street (left) will be renovated to house three family apartments. Two new townhouses will be constructed in the vacant lots at 604–06 Mulberry Street, across from St. James Roman Catholic Church.



520 Jeanette Street (center) will be renovated to house two family apartments. PHLF renovated 516, 522, and 524 Jeanette in 2008 and 517 Jeanette in 2011.



A grand brick building with wrought-iron balconies, 855 Rebecca Avenue will be renovated to house eight apartments.

*PHLF continues to have a major impact on Wilkinsburg.  
We appreciate your input and investment in all areas,  
from bricks and mortar to education.*

—Ralph Yearick, Board President,  
Wilkinsburg Community Development Corporation  
(October 26, 2014)



PHLF President Arthur Ziegler lead a tour of Jeanette Street in Wilkinsburg during the Preservation Forum (see page 9).



# U.S. Treasury Awards LCCC Economic Development Grant

The preservation loan fund administered by Landmarks Community Capital Corporation (LCCC), a nonprofit lending subsidiary of PHLF, received a big boost in September 2014 when the U.S. Treasury Department awarded it a \$700,000 grant. “This is a great vote of confidence in our work,” said LCCC President Michael Sriprasert. “Only 38.2% of the funds requested were awarded in this national competition and our application was funded in full.”

Designated a Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) by the U.S. Treasury Department in 2012, LCCC

is able to provide credit and technical assistance to borrowers in underserved and distressed target markets. LCCC focuses primarily on providing real estate funding to historic preservation-related projects throughout the Pittsburgh region.

Established in 2007, LCCC builds upon the experience and strength of PHLF, which has lent over \$18 million to real estate development projects in the Pittsburgh region since 1985. “We have the entire process in place for preservation,” said Michael, “from working with residents and community



Marilyn Whitelock, Administrative Assistant for Real Estate Services, and LCCC President Michael Sriprasert were instrumental in compiling the 2014 CDFI application.

leaders to define the vision, to securing the funding, to managing the bricks-and-mortar work, to creating the educational programs.”

## PNC Foundation Funds Landmarks Fellows Program

For the fourth consecutive year, PNC Foundation is funding the Landmarks Fellows Program. “This allows several graduate students from Carnegie Mellon University’s Heinz School of Public Policy & Management to intern with PHLF during the academic year or summer,” said Project Manager Karamagi Rujumba.

YanJun Dong, Vita Ismael, Julianna Zhuxin Jia, Tulsi Lakhwani, Jiajing Mo, and Tyler Poliquin, who interned at various times between September 2013 and May 2015, helped PHLF create programming for the Landmarks Preservation Resource Center (see page 24) and helped LCCC develop the next steps in a restoration plan for Manchester by mapping tax delinquent and vacant properties and analyzing market strengths.

“Since the program’s inception in 2011–12, sixteen graduate students have interned here,” said Karamagi, “and our organization has been enriched by their intelligence, technical and analytical skills, and diverse, youthful points of view.”

# LCCC Loans Aid Regional Restoration Work

## Manchester

The cover story of the December 2013 issue of *PHLF News* announced the launch of “Manchester Renaissance II,” a neighborhood renewal program initiated by Manchester Citizens Corporation (MCC) that included the renovation of 1401 Columbus Avenue and 1109 Liverpool Street as mixed-use properties offering office and residential space.

Landmarks Community Capital Corporation (LCCC), a nonprofit lending subsidiary of PHLF, provided a \$292,000 loan and an \$80,000 grant to assist in Renaissance II. “The \$80,000 grant was made possible by TriState Capital Bank,” said LCCC President Michael Sriprasert, “who is partnering with us in both Manchester and Wilkinsburg through the Neighborhood Partnership Program (NPP) of the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development.” PNC Bank, The Heinz Endowments, Northside Leadership Conference, and Rivers Casino are also providing essential funding support to the Renaissance II initiative.

1109 Liverpool Street and 1401 Columbus Avenue now include live/work spaces on the first floor and quality residential units on the upper floors. Both will be occupied by February 2015.

At the end of December 2014, MCC Executive Director LaShawn Burton-Falk announced that 1109 Liverpool Street was to be sold to two engineers who are moving from Albany, New York, to Pittsburgh. They will have an office on the first floor of the building, live on the second floor, and rent the third floor.

Courtney Centner and Nathan Davidson, who live in the Mexican War Streets, purchased 1401 Columbus Avenue from MCC on December 5, 2014. Their design firm, Little Kelpie, will occupy the first floor and they will be renting the upper-story apartments. “The building is a natural fit for us and we are able to walk to work,” Courtney said. “With its commanding position on the corner and so many of its original architectural details, we loved it immediately. The renovation has modernized the interior spaces but left the historic character intact.”



“The Renaissance II program is showing that young professionals are eager to purchase renovated properties in Manchester at market rates for office and residential use,” said LaShawn. “This program is strengthening our neighborhood and bringing businesses back.”



1401 Columbus Avenue (all) in Pittsburgh’s Manchester neighborhood.



## Downtown Pittsburgh

The Centennial Building at 241 Fourth Avenue in Downtown Pittsburgh has a new owner and is being renovated, thanks to two loans from LCCC.

As a result of LCCC’s \$295,000 loan made in December 2013, Tesla Real Estate Holdings refinanced an existing mortgage and renovated the interior of the three-story building for its tenant, University Bound, Inc., a rapidly growing on-line marketing firm. The tin ceilings were restored, new glass and doors were installed, the mechanical and electrical systems were upgraded, and a new bathroom was added. LCCC partnered with the Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh, who provided second-mortgage financing for \$250,000, in addition to LCCC’s first mortgage.

LCCC’s \$50,000 loan, to be funded in the first quarter of 2015, will be used to clean and restore the façade.

The Centennial Building is included in the Fourth Avenue National Register Historic District. In *Pittsburgh’s Landmark Architecture* (PHLF 1997), Walter Kidney writes: “The upper stories have a delicacy unusual in Mid-Victorian architecture. Flat surfaces advance from the wall plane but are themselves incised, so that though the whole composition is of sandstone there is a cameo-like effect of layer upon layer of materials, cut away to produce the design.”

(Continued on page 4)



The Centennial Building on Fourth Avenue in Downtown Pittsburgh was constructed in 1876.



1109 Liverpool Street, Manchester



Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation's community center at 113 North Pacific Avenue in Pittsburgh's Garfield neighborhood occupies the former Pacific Avenue United Methodist Church of 1898.

## LCCC Loans Aid Regional Restoration Work

(Continued from page 3)

### Bloomfield-Garfield

LCCC closed on a \$99,000 construction loan to the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation (BGC) in September 2014. The loan is providing rehabilitation funds for BGC's community center, located in a former Methodist church of 1898 on North Pacific Avenue in Garfield. The first phase of work includes developing a long-term master plan, upgrading the HVAC system, installing new flooring in the main hall, replacing windows and entry doors, painting, and improving the lighting.

"This loan is a vote of confidence in our work and in the role we play in strengthening our community," said Executive Director Rick Swartz. Serving the Bloomfield, Garfield, and Friendship neighborhoods since 1975, BGC's

programs include home construction and renovation, public safety, youth after-school programs, and business district revitalization.

### Washington, PA

Market House Holdings, LLC, acquired and is renovating the former Washington Reporter building at 143 South Main Street in Washington, Pennsylvania, thanks to a \$142,000 loan from LCCC in November 2014. Restoration work includes removing an inappropriate metal facing from the c. 1860 building; improving lighting; painting and carpentry work; and improving the entrance. Interior improvements include HVAC and electrical.

"The opportunity to tap into the expertise of LCCC and PHLF will allow

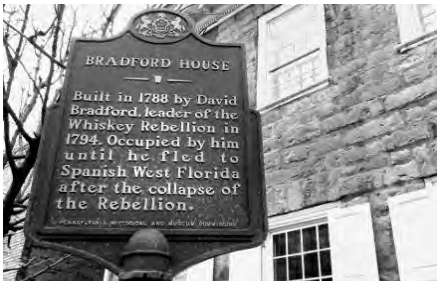
us to economically restore a significant landmark in the heart of Washington's historic downtown business district," said Tripp Kline, a partner in Market House Holdings, "and set an example here that others will follow."

### LCCC's Mission

Through its loan program, LCCC initiates and expands community revitalization by providing creative financing and technical assistance in historic low- to moderate-income neighborhoods and urban centers throughout western Pennsylvania, eastern Ohio, and West Virginia. For more information, contact Senior Loan Officer Rob Wagner ([rob@phlf.org](mailto:rob@phlf.org); 412-471-5808, ext. 538).



143 South Main Street in Washington, Pa. (right) anchors the block with the historic Bradford House (below). In 2011–12, The Landmarks Development Corporation was hired to manage the repointing of the stone work, replacement of the wooden shake roof, and painting of the trim.



## Advocacy

### Saving Federal Tax Credits

The National Trust for Historic Preservation, National Trust Community Investment Corporation, and PHLF are working together to educate the United States Congress about the critical importance of the Federal Rehabilitation Historic Tax Credit in making the restoration and adaptive use of historic buildings financially feasible for developers.

The Historic Tax Credit is a 20% credit for the rehabilitation of certified historic income-producing structures. The National Park Service administers the program in partnership with the Internal Revenue Service and the State Historic Preservation Offices.

A number of innovative historic restoration projects in Pittsburgh have utilized the tax credit, including PHLF's Market at Fifth, a LEED-Gold mixed-use development with men's retail and seven apartments in Market Square; Market Square Place, also in the Fifth-Forbes Downtown area; the Heinz Lofts on the North Side; and The Cork Factory Lofts in the Strip District.



Market at Fifth



More than 350 Mt. Lebanon students participate each year in an award-winning educational program based on their community, offered by PHLF and The Historical Society of Mount Lebanon.

and increases the tax base," said Bill Callahan, Western Pennsylvania Community Preservation Coordinator for the PHMC.

Laura Ricketts of Skelly & Loy worked with the Mt. Lebanon Historic Preservation Board to complete the National Register nomination. Mt. Lebanon's historic district encompasses two square miles and includes more than 4,000 properties constructed before 1945 that define one of the best-preserved early-automobile suburbs in the nation. "Of those properties," reported Laurie Bailey of the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, "96% are residential, displaying a variety of architectural styles ... The district also contains Mt. Lebanon Cemetery, which was established in 1874. ... two commercial areas ... 38 subdivisions; nine churches; six public schools; and two parks ..."

The National Register of Historic Places is the nation's official list of properties recognized for their significance in American history, architecture,

### Mt. Lebanon Is Listed on the National Register

"After fourteen years of work by a lot of committed people, the Mt. Lebanon Historic District is listed on the National Register of Historic Places," said Susan Fleming Morgans, Public Information Officer for the Municipality. The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC), which administers the federal program at the state level, notified the municipality of this honorary designation on October 14, 2014.

"The designation does not place any restrictions on private property owners, but it does promote economic development by making federal tax credits available to developers for the rehabilitation of certified historic income-producing properties and it creates a positive community impact by promoting an authenticity of place that attracts people

archeology, engineering, and culture. The program was established by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect our historic and archeological resources. The National Register includes 231 listings in Allegheny County as of January 2015.

### Strip District Is Listed Too

PHLF's nomination of a portion of the Strip District to the National Register of Historic Places was approved on May 2, 2014. The district encompasses thirteen blocks between 15th and 22nd streets and Railroad Street and Liberty Avenue and includes sixty-six contributing sites. Two have been demolished since designation: the Fort Pitt Candy Company and Banana Company buildings.

More than 500 students from throughout Allegheny County participate each year in PHLF's Strip District Stroll.





## Progress and Opportunity in Natrona



34 Federal Street, Natrona

PHLF has been working with the Natrona Comes Together Association (NCTA) on two building restoration projects to reinvigorate historic sections of Natrona. This community, once home to the Pennsylvania Salt Manufacturing Company and now the site of an ATI Allegheny Ludlum plant, has a history that is manifest in its buildings. Brick row houses and Gothic-Revival-style cottages, originally built for Pennsylvania Salt Company workers in the 1850s, still line several streets and provide homes for community members. NCTA purchased the cottage located at 34 Federal Street from the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County in August of 2012. NCTA and PHLF have been working together to restore this one-and-a-half-story board-and-batten cottage, which is within the Pennsalt Historic District,

an area listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Federal Street originally had sixteen such cottages and a more spacious foreman’s house.

Funding acquired through State Senator Jim Ferlo and PHLF allowed PHLF and NCTA to create a more accessible front entrance at 34 Federal Street with a ramp, railings, and new door. Other completed work includes a handicap-accessible restroom and new windows. Bill Godfrey, President of NCTA’s board, says the cottage will be used to “invest in the future of our history.” As work continues on the cottage’s interior and exterior restoration, NCTA will consult with preservation and museum professionals to seek ideas for creating a museum or working classroom in the former residential space. NCTA, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, will also continue to seek funding for future work.

PHLF also has been the project manager for the stabilization of the former Natrona Bank building located at 46–48 Chestnut Street. PHLF helped NCTA obtain this historic structure in April of 2008. A \$100,000 grant from the Allegheny County Economic Development Community Infrastructure and Tourism Fund, obtained with help from Senator Jim Ferlo, allowed PHLF to complete the first phase of building restoration. This includes a new roof, repairs to exterior woodwork, and

repointing of brickwork. At the suggestion of Senator Jim Ferlo, NCTA has formed a team to find a business for the building. If interested in this space, contact Mr. Godfrey: 724-226-9353 or [bill@billbanner.com](mailto:bill@billbanner.com).

Natrona’s revitalization has stretched beyond these buildings. A crime watch with an anonymous reporting system, developed with support from Harrison Township Police Chief Michael Klein, has helped increase neighborhood safety. An abandoned field along River Road has become a park and playground with help from Senator Jim Ferlo, The Grable Foundation, and the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts. Park mosaics in the form of a Colonnade of History remind Natrona residents of their community’s past; other mosaic work features native birds and butterflies. What was once the Pennsalt company store along Greenwich Street has become a community garden. Each project has stimulated more work, promising continued revival in this historic community. Sign up for PHLF’s tour to Tarentum and Natrona on April 25 (*see page 24*) and you’ll be able to see all this and more.



Former Natrona Bank, originally the Sweeney Hotel and Saloon (1900)

## Butler NPP Work Brings More People to Main Street

Main Street buildings and surrounding streetscapes continue to be the focus of PHLF’s work in the City of Butler in Butler County, Pennsylvania. “We are grateful to Armstrong and Huntington Bank,” said PHLF President Arthur Ziegler, “whose five-year funding commitment through the state’s Neighborhood Partnership Program (NPP) is allowing us to energize the downtown business district. Our work in Butler began in 2011 and will continue through June 2016.”

PHLF completed a range of physical improvements in 2014 aimed at increasing pedestrian activity to Main Street—and, as a result, more people are coming to Main Street and are patronizing the local businesses. New landscaping (trees and native plants) and new curbs and sidewalks have made the primary parking lot servicing Downtown Butler a safer, more welcoming place.

Our work also includes developing plans to restore and reuse the Art Deco Penn Theater of 1938 on Main Street. After years of neglect and vacancy, this key building is receiving its first capital



investments in decades. PHLF is working with the City of Butler Redevelopment Authority, which purchased the theater with a loan from Landmarks Community Capital Corporation, to restore the marquee and procure a buyer/tenant.

Updates on the theater and on our work in the City of Butler will be reported in PHLF’s monthly E-news; or for further information, contact David Farkas, Associate Director of Real Estate Programs ([david@phlf.org](mailto:david@phlf.org); 412-471-5808, ext. 516).

## Good News from Woodville Plantation: Restoration Work Completed; Keystone Grant Awarded



The Neville House Associates (NHA), Allegheny County Committee of the National Society of Colonial Dames of America, and PHLF continue to partner in the ongoing restoration and operation of Woodville Plantation as a historic house museum. “For decades the Colonial Dames, under the leadership of PHLF Trustee Emeritus Anne Genter, has raised funds to ensure that critical restoration work could be completed and that appropriate furniture and artwork could be acquired for Woodville,” said PHLF President Arthur Ziegler.

“Woodville is a successful house museum largely because of their commitment.”

The wood-frame National Historic Landmark is southwestern Pennsylvania’s principal link to the late eighteenth century, interpreting the time period of 1780 to 1825 and documenting the lives of the three families that resided there from 1775 through 1975: the Nevilles, Cowans, and Wrenshalls. PHLF acquired the house in 1976 to save it from demolition.

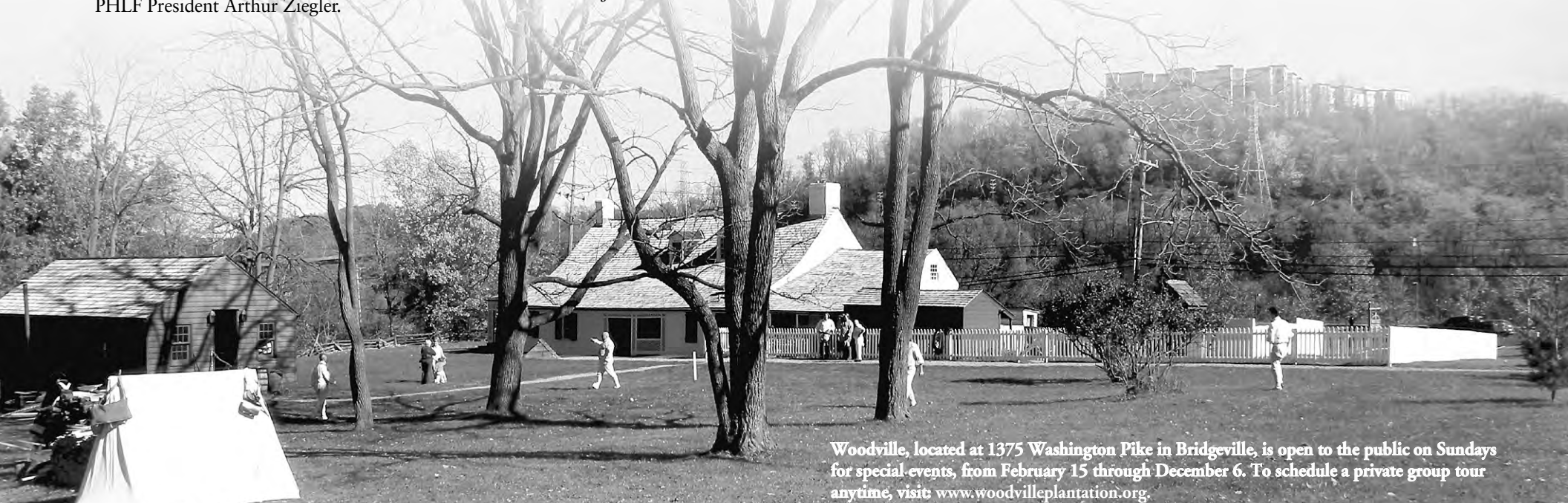
In 2007, PHLF transferred ownership of the house to NHA, but retained a perpetual conservation easement on the house, grounds, and the ancillary building and agreed to provide funds for the basic operation of the house (reasonable utilities and maintenance costs) until at least 2017.

Major restoration work was completed at Woodville in 2014, thanks in large part to funding provided by the Dames and to the leadership of its President Gez Ebbert, and to NHA President Rob Windhorst and Vice-President Jim Galbraith.

Allegheny Restoration (Morgantown, West Virginia) and Sunshine Painting Company (Collier Township) restored and painted the porches in accordance with the original color scheme: sky blue for the porch ceiling and dark brown for the porch deck. The contractors discovered some artifacts and remnants of the original stoop to the front door that preceded the building of the porches in the early 1800s. The exterior wood façade was repaired and repainted and a local boy scout troop reinstalled and repainted the garden fence.

The windows in the main house will be restored and stabilized in 2015-16, thanks to a Keystone Grant from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission.

Visit Woodville in the new year. The house is beautifully furnished inside and there is always an engaging outdoor reenactment or activity. PHLF members are *admitted free* to Woodville: it is one of the benefits.



Woodville, located at 1375 Washington Pike in Bridgeville, is open to the public on Sundays for special events, from February 15 through December 6. To schedule a private group tour anytime, visit [www.woodvilleplantation.org](http://www.woodvilleplantation.org).



Historic façades: the Smithfield Street façade of the Henry W. Oliver building (1907–10) is reflected in the William Penn Place façade of the Union Trust Building (1915–17). Both buildings are being renovated.

# Creating a Vital, Distinctive Downtown



Eat’n Park Hospitality Group opened a Hello Bistro in the first floor of the Italian Sons and Daughters of America (ISDA) Building at 419 Wood Street (above and below). PHLF restored the façade of the ISDA building in 2013 through its partnership with the URA.

the façade of the Verizon Building at Seventh Avenue and William Penn Place is being carefully repointed and is looking spectacular. Mellon Square has been restored and the historic buildings



“It’s remarkable to see all the preservation work being accomplished in Downtown Pittsburgh,” said PHLF Chairman Jack Norris. “Private developers, the City of Pittsburgh, the Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh (URA), Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, nonprofit organizations, and small-business owners are all contributing to a burst of renovation activity that is creating a stimulating and economically vital downtown with national architectural distinction.”

For example,



Members of PHLF’s Landmarks Heritage Society (donors of \$1,000 or more in any one year) and Community Advisory Board toured the Market Square area on July 9, 2014.

surrounding it—the Union Trust and former Alcoa, James H. Reed, and Henry W. Oliver buildings—are all being renovated. PNC has opened a service center in the former Mellon Bank building, whose interior was destroyed by the short-lived Lord & Taylor department store. In the Market Square area, Market Square Place and Market at Fifth have resulted in the LEED-Gold renovation of ten historic buildings, and Point Park University has acquired or is leasing numerous historic properties for educational purposes. Activity has extended into downtown’s newest National Register Historic District—the Renaissance Historic District—with the renovation of the former Bell Telephone Company Building and State Office Building for residential use. The Penn-Liberty Cultural District, comprised of many blocks of historic buildings, draws more than two million people each year to about 3,000 performances, exhibits, and events; the economic impact of all that activity is estimated to be \$250 million.

“This is tremendous progress and a major shift in attitude from the days of the Murphy administration,” said PHLF President Arthur Ziegler. “I believe our relationships with others and the way we are working together is unique in the

nation. Mayor Peduto’s administration understands that historic preservation is a critical economic-development tool.”

## PHLF’s Work Continues in the Market Square Area

“In the beginning of the new year, we will complete work on a major façade restoration program in Downtown Pittsburgh,” said Tom Keffer, Property and Construction Manager at PHLF. “Once we remove the scaffolding from the Skinny Building and former Roberts Building, we will have restored the façades of ten buildings, through a unique partnership with the Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh and a \$4,000,000 grant to the City of Pittsburgh from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania’s Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program.” (For details on the façade restoration of the other eight buildings on Wood Street and Fifth Avenue, see the December 2013 issue of *PHLF News*, pages 10 and 11.)

The Skinny Building was designed in 1926 on a long narrow strip of land that was created after Forbes Avenue was widened in 1903. The adjacent building, now occupied by 7-Eleven, was constructed in 1925 by George M. Rowland for John M. Roberts & Son Company, a family-operated jewelry store that was in business for more than a century.

“Restoring these two building façades has been especially challenging,” said Tom, “because we had to design the scaffolding to make sure that people had access to the stores, since they stayed open during the whole process. We also had to orchestrate road closings so as not to interfere with the flow of pedestrians or with the activity occurring across both streets due to the construction of The Tower at PNC and The Gardens at Market Square.” The Skinny Building is being repainted, new upper-floor windows are being installed, and the architectural details are being restored.

## Only in Pittsburgh

Only in Pittsburgh, can you:  
(1) visit the newly restored Mellon Square and end up as a movie extra in a scene with Michael Caine;  
(2) wander the Hill District with your PHLF August Wilson guide-book and get invited to the ribbon cutting for a new community center;  
(3) unannounced, knock on the door of a rectory in Wilkinsburg and get a private tour by Father Metzler of Saint James Roman Catholic Church and its magnificent stained glass windows;  
(4) talk with a security guard at the Carnegie Museum and find out that she lived within one-half mile of your childhood home; and  
(5) share advice on local books at the Pitt bookstore with a fellow customer who is yet another person who lived within one-half mile of your childhood home.

In other cities, people may think these are strange coincidences. In Pittsburgh, they’re just the way things are. And they all happened to me during a one-week visit in October 2014 to my beloved hometown.

—Ray Pendro

*A PHLF member since 1986, Ray is an urban planner, living in Alameda, California, the hometown of Willie Stargell.*



The stone facing and cornice on the 7-Eleven Building are being cleaned and restored and the large 7-Eleven signage on the marquee will be removed and replaced with more appropriate signage. LDA Architects and Waller Corporation (Washington, Pennsylvania) are carrying out the work.

Catercorner to the Skinny Building are three handsome buildings on Wood Street with cast-iron façades. PHLF restored those three façades in 2013. The Landmarks Development Corporation (LDC), a for-profit subsidiary of PHLF, acquired two of the three buildings—420 and 422 Wood Street—from the URA in 2014. Architect Milton Ogot and Repal Construction (North Huntingdon, Pennsylvania) renovated the first-floor space in 2014 and Katie’s





The Skinny Building at Forbes Avenue and Wood Street is 5 feet 2 inches wide and 80 feet long. Adjacent to it is the former Roberts Building at 429 Wood Street, now occupied by 7-Eleven.



The 1907 building at 435 Market Street was remodeled for Thompson's Restaurant in 1926. PHLF cleaned and restored the distinctive white-glazed terra cotta façade in 2013, in partnership with the URA. PHLF members toured the first floor and upper stories on July 9, 2014.

Kandy opened on November 17. The upper floors are being redesigned for office space. According to Milton:  
*The space had served a number of different tenants over the years, most recently, a convenience store and an optometrist's office. Our first task was to strip away all the existing interior flooring, wall coverings, and ceilings to expose the structural elements. We repaired and replaced damaged and missing wood beams, and created openings in the masonry dividing walls to combine the two first-floor spaces. All the existing mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems were replaced with*



*new systems that meet current energy codes. New fire alarm and sprinkler systems were also installed. We created a bright, open, and flexible space to meet the tenant's requirements. They can now easily display their merchandise and rearrange the fixtures as the season dictates.*  
On Market Street near Fifth Avenue, LDA Architects and Repal Construction are working with LDC to renovate the Thompson's Building. "Work will be completed on the first floor by early spring," said LDC President Michael Sriprasert. "We are excited that Ralph Falbo, a local real estate developer, and

the proprietors of Vallozzi's Pittsburgh, will be opening an upscale urban market on the first floor," he added. The basement floor of the Thompson's Building was lowered about one foot in 2014 to accommodate the full kitchen needed to support the urban market. The upper floors will house either offices or residences. Once work is completed on the Thompson's Building, PHLF/LDC will have saved four historic buildings on Market Street that anchor the northern entrance to Market Square. The other three comprise Market at Fifth, a mixed-use development with two men's stores and seven market-rate apartments.

*Looking at photographs of the Katie's Kandy space, before the renovation, helps me appreciate the opportunity to restore these historic structures.*  
*I've watched with dismay as too many similar buildings are torn down, when they could just as easily have been restored and adapted for new uses.*

Milton Ogot, RA  
(December 19, 2014)



Katie's Kandy is open for business at 422 Wood Street, on the first floor of one of two cast-iron buildings owned by The Landmarks Development Corporation, PHLF's for-profit subsidiary. The store interior is shown during renovation (right) and after.

*Just writing to commend PHLF on providing such wonderfully informative tours. ... I know PHLF is instrumental in providing the base for PNC, Point Park University, and other developers when considering renovation and restoration. How lucky am I to live in this area and watch the beauty grow and develop. ... Thank you for all your hard work and dedication in bringing beauty, dignity, and preservation back to our city.*

—John and Angela Johnston  
(June 20, 2014)

*I lived in Pittsburgh my whole life and never noticed any of these buildings or knew these facts.*

—Jabari Anderson,  
The Heinz Endowments Intern  
(June 25, 2014)

*It's amazing how we have visited downtown all our lives and have missed seeing many interesting places because we just don't pay attention. This was our third walking tour and we look forward to attending more in the summer of 2015.*

—Donna and Terry Tressler  
(September 12, 2014)



**Free Downtown Walking Tours**  
Every Friday, Noon to 1:00 P.M.  
May through October  
*Offered in cooperation with VisitPittsburgh*  
Reservations are appreciated (see below)

**Each month features a different section of Downtown Pittsburgh**  
• May: Grant Street & Mellon Square  
• June: Market Square Area  
• July: Penn-Liberty Cultural District  
• Aug.: Bridges & River Shores  
• Sept.: Fourth Avenue & PPG Place  
• Oct.: Renaissance Historic District

**Downtown's Best**  
Every Thursday, 10:00 a.m. to Noon  
June through August  
\$20 per person, including PHLF's *Whirlwind Walk* guidebook  
Advance paid reservations are required

Explore more than 25 architectural landmarks and significant urban spaces. Learn the story of Pittsburgh, develop an "eye" for architecture, and discuss key concepts in making a city livable.

**Special Membership Tour: Mellon Square to Market Square**  
Saturday afternoon, Oct. 24  
Advance paid reservations are required.

You'll hear about—and see inside when possible—some of the new spaces being created in the historic places surrounding Mellon and Market squares.

For reservations for all tours:  
[marylu@phlf.org](mailto:marylu@phlf.org)  
412-471-5808, ext. 527

## What is a Preservation Easement?

A preservation easement is a legal agreement between a property owner and PHLF that places permanent, mutually agreed to restrictions on a historic property to protect it from inappropriate alteration, development, and destruction.

Generally, the legal agreement states that no changes will be made to the historic property that are contrary to the U.S. Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation, without the prior written consent of PHLF.

The legal agreement is recorded in the local recorder of deeds office and binds both the current owners and all future owners. PHLF inspects its preservation easements on at least an annual basis by visiting each property. It also has a responsibility to defend and enforce the preservation easement as may be necessary.

PHLF is a "qualified organization" as defined by Section 170 of the Internal Revenue Code to accept donations of preservation easements. Since 1979, PHLF has accepted thirty-nine easements on properties in Allegheny, Bedford, Butler, Greene, Washington, and Westmoreland counties. Properties protected by PHLF easements are shown in the April 2012 issue of *PHLF News* (pages 18–21); it is accessible at [www.phlf.org](http://www.phlf.org).

For further information on PHLF's easement program and process, please contact General Counsel Donald Kortlandt ([don@phlf.org](mailto:don@phlf.org); 412-471-5808, ext. 545).



## Easement Donated on 900 Penn Avenue

On December 31, 2014, 900 Penn Avenue, L.P., donated a façade easement to PHLF for 900 Penn Avenue, a mixed-use building in Pittsburgh's Cultural District. "This easement helps us protect in perpetuity another key historic corner in Downtown Pittsburgh," said PHLF President Arthur Ziegler.

The six-story red-brick building, built in 1885 for Wm. G. Johnston & Company, now houses the restaurant, Nine on Nine, and upper-floor apartments. 900 Penn Avenue is included in the Penn-Liberty National Register Historic District and in the City-designated Penn-Liberty Historic District.



The west elevation of Wilpen Hall, as shown in a photo of 1901. By 1903, a balcony had been added to the second floor.

Photo courtesy of the Snyder family

## Wilpen Hall Protected Through Easement Donation

*Here is a big, informal stone-and-shingle house, built as the country residence of William Penn Snyder... Here a measured relaxation is the theme. ... The big roof and the chimneys speak of shelter and comfort, the necessities of life well accommodated.*

Walter C. Kidney, *Pittsburgh's Landmark Architecture* (PHLF 1997)

Wilpen Hall, Sewickley Heights Borough, was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on April 20, 2011. The National Register nomination form states: "the estate easily retains the integrity—especially the aspects of setting, design, workmanship and feeling—necessary to reflect its significance." PHLF completed the acquisition of a preservation easement in 2014, thus protecting the façade of the historic house and more than thirty acres of surrounding gardens and grounds.

Wilpen Hall is an outstanding example of the Shingle Style, which historian Vincent Scully called in *The Architecture of the American Summer: The Flowering of the Shingle Style* (1989) "the liveliest manifestation" of the Colonial Revival in the post-Civil-War era. Scully, who coined the name "Shingle Style" in 1949, notes some characteristics of the exterior of these buildings, beginning

with "the shingled surface, from which the name was derived. This was a true skin ... subordinating the inner structure of the building to ... a varied range of surface effects [and] a varied repertoire of decorative details"—such as "plaster panels, mullioned windows, sunflowers, scrolls, screens." The interior of a typical Shingle-Style house exhibits "a flexible and varied set of schemes for living spaces ... It all added up to an eloquent architectural language, free and easy but with its depths, at once rational enough and endlessly resourceful in fancy."

Wilpen Hall was commissioned by William Penn Snyder (1862–1921), a prominent Pittsburgh steel industry executive and a descendant of Pennsylvania's third governor, German-born Simon Snyder, who served from 1808 to 1817. Pittsburgh architect George S. Orth (1851–1918), who practiced with his brothers Henry and

Alexander in the architectural firm of George S. Orth & Brothers, designed Wilpen Hall. The house was erected in 1899–1900; an addition was made to the west end of the house in 1925. As noted in the National Register nomination form: "Wilpen Hall is the only remaining estate in Sewickley Heights ... continuously owned by the family who commissioned it."

Wilpen Hall was the first in a series of designs by George Orth for the Snyder family. In 1900 the family moved into one of the houses that Orth designed in 1898 on Colonial Place in Shadyside; it became their winter home until 1911, when Orth designed their new house at 852 Ridge Avenue on the North Side. A prominent architect of his era, Orth was the first president of the Pittsburgh Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. His other extant buildings include the Western Pennsylvania School for Blind Children (1893–94) in Oakland and Westinghouse High School in Homewood, completed after his death.



The east elevation of Wilpen Hall in 1996. According to the National Register nomination form, this elevation "is the most interesting architecturally as it clearly shows Orth's original intention" and remains very much as it was in 1900 when the house was completed. (Two original second-floor windows on either side of the balcony have become French doors.) The shingled gambrel roof—a roof with two flat surfaces on each side of a central ridge—and the first-floor stone work are characteristic of Shingle-Style houses.



# Celebrating Fifty with a Preservation Forum

PHLF was incorporated fifty years ago on September 30, 1964. On September 23, 2014, we sponsored a Preservation Forum featuring speakers from five preservation organizations from Indiana, Louisiana, New York, North Carolina, and Ohio. “The purpose of the forum,” said PHLF President Arthur Ziegler, “was to begin evaluating the state of preservation in the United States and the role of each of our organizations in our communities. We learn so much from each other and, as a result, are able to benchmark our own organization against our peers and think creatively about the path that we will take in the next fifty years.”

Our guests were Peg Breen, President of The New York Landmarks Conservancy (founded in 1973); Kathleen Crowther, President, and Bracy Lewis, Honorary Life Trustee, of the Cleveland Restoration Society (founded 1972); Marsh Davis, President of Indiana Landmarks (founded 1960); Patricia Gay, Executive Director of the Preservation Resource Center of New Orleans (founded 1974); and Myrick Howard, President of Preservation North Carolina (founded 1939). All have been steady leaders of their organizations for years.

Following a morning tour of Wilkinsburg and a brief meeting of the PHLF Board, each preservationist shared his/her experiences, concerns, and hopes with PHLF trustees and staff. They discussed their major programs, how they finance their work, the size of their staffs and Boards, and their relationships with members, volunteers, and the community, among other topics. The final hour was a question-and-answer session with PHLF trustees.

While each organization has distinct areas of excellence and is committed to certain programs, everyone agreed that it is imperative to retain a high level of flexibility since the work of preservation can be unpredictable. As Arthur noted, “Preservationists are constant adapters because it is the only way to survive and advance your mission in a constantly changing environment.”

We were inspired and energized by the support and encouragement of our guests, and believe the following comments are important to keep in mind as we move forward.

Peg Breen reminded us that: “Once you get involved in the world of preservation, you just can’t get away from it.” She emphasized that a vast number of people support preservation and that we need to show that voters care about preservation. We need to be relevant politically.



**From left: Patricia Gay, Myrick Howard, Marsh Davis, Peg Breen, Kathleen Crowther, and Arthur Ziegler**



**Bracy Lewis (third from left), Honorary Life Trustee of the Cleveland Restoration Society, and PHLF staff members (from left) Sarah Walker, Marie Miller, and Marilyn Whitelock**

“Through our work, we are not only preserving houses and buildings,” Kathleen Crowther added, “but neighborhoods and people. We preserve neighborhoods for the people who live there.” The three founders of the Cleveland Restoration Society were Jewish, Irish, and African-American and their goals were focused on improving the lives of people in inner-city neighborhoods. Kathleen noted that Ohio is fortunate to have both a state and federal tax credit to aid developers in renovating historic landmarks. In advocacy, she said, “our goal is to build bridges, not burn bridges.” She recommended using the Geographic Information System (GIS) of mapping and data to help identify preservation opportunities. She suggested that we develop visual representations of preservation accomplishments (rather than written reports) since that method of communication has a greater public impact, and she advocated for more flexible standards with the federal tax-credit program to help stall the widespread demolition of vacant housing in historic neighborhoods.

Marsh Davis, who manages a statewide organization that serves vast rural areas as well as major urban centers, noted that: “We as organizations are always strongest when we take on

challenges. We are best when we stretch and take on projects that most other people would not touch.”

Myrick Howard also manages a statewide organization, Preservation North Carolina, which mainly uses options and donations to save endangered properties. “Gifts of property are a great preservation opportunity,” he said. A new program will focus on preserving small homes. “Our goal is to see how we can turn the small house into the great asset.”

Patricia Gay emphasized that her Preservation Resource Center is all about making New Orleans livable. She said:

*Preservationists are one of the main reasons why cities are coming back—and there is much more to be done. Fortunately, and remarkably, preservation programs have been successful in reversing the massive urban exodus of the second half of the twentieth century and the resulting inner-city decline. Downtowns and urban neighborhoods have come alive as a result of preservation tax incentives, the Main Street program, and local historic district designations. We planted the seeds in reversing the negative images of our cities—yet urban pioneers are still needed. Incentives are still needed. Education and outreach about how to finance and restore are still needed. Marketing efforts through tours, events, and publications are still needed!*

*Time ran out and not all of us got to answer the last question about what it would take for the preservation movement to make a quantum leap. I would have answered that if every major city and every state had an equivalent of PHLF, our movement would be dynamic, relevant, and taken seriously as a force for progress. Something to aspire toward!*

—Marsh Davis, President,  
Indiana Landmarks  
(October 2, 2014)

If more money was available for preservation, Peg Breen and Kathleen Crowther would increase assistance to sacred sites. Patty Gay would expand educational programs in order to increase civic awareness about the benefits of preservation. Myrick Howard would expand programs in working-class neighborhoods and fund more and better real estate work. Marsh Davis would “ramp up” real estate programs, using PHLF’s subsidiaries as a model.

We will continue the conversation that we have begun,” said Arthur. “The Preservation Forum was inspiring and encouraging. We are all dedicated to expanding our work throughout our regions, with broad public support.”

## IN MEMORIAM

### Albert C. Van Dusen (1915–2014)

Known simply as “Van” to many, Dr. Albert C. Van Dusen died on December 18, 2014, after living a long life of service to his nation, to his adopted hometown, Pittsburgh, and to PHLF.

A native of Tampa, Florida, and naval officer in World War II, Van came to Pittsburgh in 1957 to work for the University of Pittsburgh as assistant chancellor of planning and development. During his twenty-four-year career with Pitt, he traveled the world, creating international partnerships for Pitt’s programs. Following his retirement in 1981, he helped develop the African, Armenian, and Israel Nationality Rooms in the Cathedral of Learning.

“In spite of his great intelligence and experience, Van was one of the most humble, kind, and thoughtful people I have ever known,” said PHLF President Arthur Ziegler. “He was also witty, artistic, charismatic, and a great supporter of our work in preservation and education.”

A PHLF member for forty-six years and a board member for decades, Van succeeded Charles Covert Arensberg to become PHLF’s second Board Chair in 1994. During his four years as Chairman, Van guided PHLF through the sale of Station Square. He worked with trustees and staff to increase the assets of the Preservation Loan Fund, establish the Historic Religious Properties program, complete a county-wide survey of historic parks and gardens, expand the Named Fund program, implement the popular “Downtown Dragons” walking tour for school children, and publish four major books, including *Pittsburgh’s Landmark Architecture*, by Walter C. Kidney.

In 2004, Van was elected Chairman Emeritus of PHLF. He and his wife, Margaret, generously supported our work for another decade. At age ninety, Van wrote that PHLF “wisely and caringly” fills “a critical role in our city—and our world.”

We extend our deepest sympathy to Margaret and her family at this time. We benefited greatly from Van’s sound advice and effective leadership and were honored to have him as part of the PHLF family.



**Pittsburgh from Mt. Washington on the evening of September 23, 2014, almost fifty years to the day from the founding of PHLF. The Landmarks Building at Station Square, pictured in the bottom right of the photo, houses PHLF’s offices and two libraries on the fourth floor.**



# I N M E M O R I A M

*Agnes Kinard and Mary Wohleber were leaders in Pittsburgh's preservation movement through their involvement with PHLF. Both were among PHLF's earliest members and were honored as trustee emeriti in 2010.*

## Agnes Dodds Kinard (1914–2014)



Rachel Carson's birthplace in Springdale stands today largely as a result of Agnes Kinard's persistence and leadership. After successfully battling various legal and political issues, she co-

founded the Rachel Carson Homestead Association in 1975, in cooperation with PHLF and others. She envisioned adapting Rachel Carson's childhood home for use as a nature and education center—and that mission is being fulfilled today by the Association.

During her nearly 100-year-life, Agnes was a real estate broker, an attorney—the first female lawyer hired

by Reed Smith—the author of five books, and an active supporter of the arts and preservation. A woman of great intelligence, conviction,

and grace, Agnes was precise in manner and speech, and adroit at building a convincing case to encourage support for any cause in which she believed.

"Agnes realized that the relationship between people and the buildings they create, utilize, and inhabit is what preservation is all about," said PHLF President Arthur Ziegler. "She regularly urged PHLF to do preservation work on behalf of our western Pennsylvania community; she devoted her energies to assimilating and articulating the history and the events that influenced her family and the people she knew."

One of her goals in life was to publish her autobiography, and she succeeded in releasing a limited edition in February 2014. She donated copies of her book, *At Home with History: What Did I Do with My Life*, to major area institutions and libraries, including PHLF's James D. Van Trump Library. The nearly 500-page book is an incredible production, full of information and illustrations

documenting her career, community involvement, and world travels. In her concluding paragraph she writes: "When I was born, the atom had yet to be split, outer space was inviolate, and the Man in the Moon was poetic imagery. One can only stand in awe at what will be the mysteries, discoveries, and inventions of the next millennium."

Agnes set a standard of excellence in all that she did, and she inspired the organizations with which she was associated to do the same.

## Mary M. Wohleber (1916–2014)

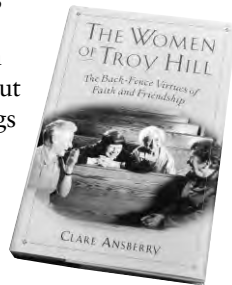
Mary lived life to the fullest. Her various professions and avocations during her ninety-eight years included being a kindergarten teacher, tour guide and admissions person at PHLF's Old Post Office Museum, salesperson at PHLF's former gift shop at Station Square, author, historian, lecturer, preservationist, community activist, and world traveler.

Yet the place she loved most was her Troy Hill neighborhood on Pittsburgh's North Side. She lived next door to Voegtly Cemetery and had a wonderful view from the hilltop to the Allegheny River and Downtown Pittsburgh below. Featured in *The Women of Troy Hill: The Back-Fence Virtues of Faith and Friendship*, by Clare Ansberry, and in Rick Sebak's WQED documentary, *North Side Story*, Mary achieved celebrity status in her hometown, but always took things in stride with humor, humility, and a twinkle in her eye.

Whether it was raising funds in the 1970s to restore St. Anthony's Chapel on Troy Hill, or gathering support to keep the Troy Hill fire station open, or entertaining children at the Old Post Office Museum, Mary shared her love of history, of tradition, and especially of Troy Hill and Pittsburgh with others.

We will always admire Mary for her commitment to our mission and for her energy, enthusiasm, and indomitable spirit in converting others to the cause of preservation. "Loyal and devoted to our preservation principles, Mary was an anchor for decades," said PHLF President Arthur Ziegler.

**Mary Wohleber (dressed as a Pilgrim) and PHLF Co-founder James D. Van Trump (dressed as Santa, seated at right) entertained visitors at the Old Post Office Museum on Pittsburgh's North Side on December 8, 1974.**



**Liverpool Street in Manchester on August 24, 1964: the proposed demolition of these North Side buildings inspired the formation of PHLF.**

## Richard M. Scaife: Three Experiences Sampled from Forty-Eight Years

Arthur Ziegler

*Richard Mellon Scaife (1932–2014) shared PHLF's belief in the ability of historic preservation to improve the quality of life for our citizens. Through his generosity and engagement in our work as a trustee, he provided essential funding support for our most innovative (and risky) programs in historic neighborhoods and downtown redevelopment. As I look back over our many experiences together, three stand out as illustrations of Mr. Scaife's foresight, extraordinary commitment, and willingness to take risks on behalf of our community.*

### Manchester

One of these occurred at our first meeting. PHLF, just launched in 1964, submitted an application to one of his foundations for a grant of \$50,000 to restore an historic log house. Mr. Scaife asked me to come to his office to discuss the grant. He told me that he did not feel it was a major priority, "but," he added, "I hear you might want to do some good things in Manchester and I would like to tour the neighborhood with you."



**PHLF worked with the residents in Manchester to restore the homes for them.**

The following week, we drove and walked the streets of Manchester, looking at block after block of historic houses, largely occupied by African-Americans, many owned by absentee landlords, and the majority in deteriorating condition. Mr. Scaife considered the area to be an architectural treasure, and asked me to submit a proposal to the Sarah Scaife Foundation for funds to begin work there. We submitted a request to establish a real estate revolving fund that would enable us to work with the residents to restore the houses for *them*, rather than trying to gentrify the neighborhood. The neighborhood renewal work we began in Manchester turned out to be the first historic preservation project in the United States to be carried out with and for a minority community.

Following our initial work in Manchester, the Sarah Scaife Foundation granted similar revolving funds for the Mexican War Streets area and for South Side, all then high-risk, innovative undertakings. The grants that resulted from Mr. Scaife's insight and concern triggered grants from other foundations and governmental entities and empowered the work of many residents and neighborhood development corporations, resulting in millions and millions of dollars of investment in our historic neighborhoods. Without his initial commitments, the City's plans to demolish all of the North Side and South Side might well have been carried out.







April 16, 2008: Richard Scaife (third from left) meets with Wilkesburg Mayor John Thompson, new homeowners, and others to celebrate the restoration of four single-family homes in the Hamnett Place neighborhood. PHLF, in partnership with Allegheny County, restored the vacant houses, thanks to a lead grant from the Sarah Scaife Foundation.

### Station Square

The second experience related to the birth of Station Square. After returning from a trip to California, Mr. Scaife asked, “Why is PHLF not working to create a Ghirardelli Square for Pittsburgh?” I responded that indeed we were studying the feasibility of developing a major mixed-use urban project. We initially considered and then chose not to pursue a possible project that came to be known as The Bank Center, shifting our focus instead to the Pittsburgh & Lake Erie Railroad (P&LERR) terminus on the south shore of the Monongahela River, opposite Downtown Pittsburgh.

Mr. Scaife’s Allegheny Foundation provided funds for studies necessary to formulate the program, but we could not get the attention of the railroad officials. I asked Mr. Scaife if he would be willing to reveal his interest in the project. He agreed to meet with the president of the P&LERR. From that

**The Grand Concourse Restaurant in Station Square is one of Pittsburgh’s most spectacular settings for dining and celebrations.**  
*Photo by Pytlík Design Associates, Inc.*



point on, the lines of communication were open and we were able to reach a deal to acquire and develop what became known as Station Square.

As remarkable as all of Mr. Scaife’s initial help was, I will remember always his advice to me when I told him that I could not find any sources of traditional financing from lenders in the local community for the Station Square project and I did not see how it could go forward. He said: “Do what you did in the neighborhoods; start work and all the rest will follow. We will make an initial capital risk grant available.” With Allegheny Foundation’s grant, we started working. Without an advance commitment from a single tenant, we began building a road, installing utilities, restoring the Express House, and launching the Grand Concourse Restaurant (now thirty-seven years in continuous service), and The Freight House Shops.

The rest did indeed follow with \$103 million (1970-80 dollars) of investment by PHLF and sub-developers, the location of 134 businesses, the creation of 3,000 jobs, the generation of \$4 million of annual parking and real estate tax

revenue for our governments (in addition to sales, income, and business taxes), and the creation of the first riverfront trail and display of industrial artifacts. We opened a downtown riverfront for people to enjoy, and created a place for shopping, working, dining, and entertainment, within and around a complex of handsomely renovated, historically significant buildings. In a city that once lacked any significant tourism, 3,000,000 people a year visited Station Square, which for a number of years was the most sought-after attraction in western Pennsylvania.

### Braddock Library

I could cite many other instances of Mr. Scaife’s unique commitment, but will add only one other. On a winter day in 1987, I asked Mr. Scaife to come with me to look at the Braddock Carnegie Library, the first Carnegie Library completed in the nation. Braddock was facing hard times, having lost its industry, most of its businesses, and many of its residents. Through the years, PHLF had tried unsuccessfully



**The Braddock Carnegie Library at 419 Library Street in the 1970s, before the sandstone façade was cleaned in the late 1990s**

to restore the library building utilizing government programs. Mr. Scaife and I drove the streets of decaying architecture on a cold, bleak day and arrived at the magnificent but decaying building that had once been the civic center for the area with a concert hall, swimming pool, shower rooms, bowling alley, basketball court, and library. On that cold day only one room was open, attended to by volunteers who were heating it with kerosene heaters. In spite of the tough conditions, the residents of Braddock, adults and children alike, came to that historical place to enjoy books and periodicals.

Once again, Mr. Scaife took a daring lead and the Allegheny Foundation awarded a grant to begin the restoration of the building, not only because



**A group of PHLF members visited the Braddock Carnegie Library on April 5, 2014. Major portions of the National Historic Landmark have been restored, providing places for reading and computer browsing, T-shirt designing, and clay-pot manufacturing.**

of its architectural magnificence, but also because of its meaning to Braddock. Other foundations followed and, today, the Braddock Carnegie Library has made significant progress and is functioning well on behalf of the many people who use it.

Seeing a future for that building on that grim day epitomizes the unique ability that Mr. Scaife had in understanding how people, no matter their situation, and even entire communities, could achieve renewal and a sense of hope if a familiar, cherished landmark could be restored as a new center of life and activity.

### In Gratitude

With his willingness to personally address the difficult problems of our society, to provide lead grants that could be leveraged again and again, and to make commitments without waiting for the studies of consultants, Richard Scaife created enormous benefits for our people and our region that otherwise would not have occurred. He believed in the importance of cultural values for all people and expected success where others expected only failure.

From our experience, Mr. Scaife stands out for his intellectual leadership and willingness to be the “first in” for innovative and risky projects. His involvement was not filtered through others; it was personal. He walked our streets, met our neighbors, observed their communities, and personally made the decision to support initiatives (some of which he was the first to suggest) to restore those communities. He did not request consulting reports and third-party reassurance. He relied on his own ability to gather the necessary information and commit to what he thought should and could be done. Through his thoughtful and targeted support of PHLF, Mr. Scaife imparted great momentum to our organization and to the preservation movement in the United States.

*I have given to universities and playgrounds; museums and wildflower meadows; ... . But if I had to pick a single tangible achievement, it would be Station Square in Pittsburgh’s South Side. Think of a big railroad property in decay, such as the 19th century left in the hearts of many cities. Tear it down, build it over is what most “redevelopers” would say. Instead, a big patch of blight was recycled better than before. And without timely private funding, nothing good would have happened.*

—Richard M. Scaife,  
*A Richly Conservative Life, Personal Memoirs of Richard M. Scaife*



# Moments in a Fifty-Year Story

Louise Sturgess

Pittsburgh in 1964, the year that PHLF, Pittsburgh's first nonprofit historic preservation organization, was established. In the midst of urban renewal policies that called for massive demolition and the displacement of thousands of people and small businesses, PHLF introduced a new vision for rebuilding and renewing the region based on restoration and reuse.

*How do you distill fifty years in the life of an organization in a two-page spread, in a meaningful way, especially knowing the background of all that has been accomplished and written? PHLF published a major book by Walter C. Kidney in 1989, A Past Still Alive, to celebrate its twenty-fifth anniversary. In three beautifully illustrated chapters, Walter succinctly describes the purpose and value of historic preservation and concludes with an extensive chronology of our work that we continued to update through 1994. For our thirtieth anniversary in 1994, PHLF published a sixteen-page issue of PHLF News by Albert Tannler focusing on the unique character of our organization. In the October 2006 issue of PHLF News, an illustrated article focused on "What's Worked in 42 Years" and described the "Early Years and Successes," "Station Square," "Current Work and Priorities" and "What's Ahead."*

*The answer for this issue is to share with you the personal accounts from four people. Their stories will remind many of our readers of their own memories and experiences with PHLF. In that case, please e-mail your story to me ([louise@phlf.org](mailto:louise@phlf.org)) so I can include it in our fiftieth-anniversary collection of "moments."*

*We begin our personal accounts with a "ramble" from Charles Covert Arensberg (1913-2001), who devotedly served as PHLF's chairman from 1964 to 1994.*

## The Next Ten Years 1974-1984

*By Charles Covert Arensberg  
From the January-February 1974 issue of PHLF News (No. 48), page 2*

Our first grant from Miss Helen Clay Frick and another from the A. W. Mellon Educational & Charitable Trust allowed us to begin our work. Our first major study of a Pittsburgh area to be preserved coincided with the establishment of our Foundation in 1964. It was the second number of a series, "The Stones of Pittsburgh," and James Van Trump wrote it. It dealt with that extraordinary block of Victorian houses on Liverpool Street in "Manchester Old Allegheny" and was entitled, "A Study with a View Toward Preservation."

The block still stands, an embattled area that refuses to acknowledge defeat. Funds to begin restorations and achieve façade easements wound up in the endless red tape of HUD in Washington, D.C. Perhaps soon that dream will begin to take final shape. We have bought and still own three of the key structures there. We will continue to try to achieve that dream.

In the meantime like most aspiring American institutions we have prospered in a material sense. Our friends have been good to us. We own the Old Post Office lock stock and barrel (except for the mortgage) and we are about to complete the Sculpture Court. We own houses in the Mexican War Streets and the South Side, including an old market with apartments above on Carson Street. We think we have turned the corner in the "Mexican War Streets." Their future as a pleasant and integrated human-scaled area is irreversible.

We have 2200 members who are staunch in their devotion to the feeling that for a city to survive as a good place to live, its architecture must be protected, its landmarks must be safeguarded, and its past must lead us to a good future.

What is that future? We have problems now we never dreamed of when we started. Benefits have flowed to us from sources we never knew existed. In order to save the Post Office from destruction we bought it ourselves and learned the rudiments of museum keeping. ...

But our Museum, although important now for us and we hope to the City, remains in a small sense an avocation. ... We have many things to do: The Rotunda of the Pennsylvania Railroad Station, The Pittsburgh & Lake Erie Station interior, the South Side Market Square, Lawrenceville, the Neill Log House, the Walker Log House in Collier Township, yes, and always Liverpool Street and Manchester.

We need to spark the restoration of Pittsburgh's remarkable slope housing, those incredible "clingers" which lend such a picturesque air to the City, and with the disappearance of the dirty steam engine in the valley below, become agreeable and viable dwelling places. We need to worry perhaps about the Union Trust Building, Motor Square Garden, the Presley Neville house and St. Luke's in Woodville, St. Anthony's Shrine on Mt. Troy, even the Court House and Jail.

We applaud mightily Heinz Hall and Alcoa for saving a theatre and a grand palace hotel. We point to the phenomenal success of both as hard-headed practicalities. City Council has given us a preservation ordinance allowing precious breathing time from the bulldozer. ...



**The Allegheny Post Office (1897) served as PHLF's headquarters from the fall of 1971 to 1985. PHLF then relocated to the Landmarks Building at Station Square and the Pittsburgh Children's Museum fully occupied the North Side landmark.**

A hundred other emergencies will arise in the next ten years. We cannot be too narrow and we cannot spread ourselves too thin. Buildings can be refurbished and remodeled downtown to enhance Pittsburgh's in-city excitement, warehouses on the rivers can be fashioned into apartments overlooking the water with access to shops and boat travel. Arcades of smaller scale than shopping malls can be formed to impart an intimacy to urban life which is so often lacking in downtown areas such as Detroit, Los Angeles, Dallas, and Cleveland. Pittsburgh, with its stunning triangle of rivers and close-knit land and hills, can remain one of the most intriguing cities in North America. All it needs is the will and the vision of the friends we have now and those we hope to gain in the next ten years.



**Liverpool Street, Manchester: December 2014**



*Let us continue our personal accounts by reprinting recent letters from PHLF Trustee Emeritus Anne S. Genter and from PHLF Trustee David Kleer.*

Louise Sturgess suggested that I reflect on my long and very gratifying involvement with PHLF.

It was probably 1969 when I first encountered Arthur Ziegler and it was indeed a seminal moment. He spoke eloquently and passionately about the need for revitalization of The Mexican War Streets. I would have followed him to the moon but only had to go as far as 1219 Monterey Street to find an irresistible project—the renovation of a derelict row house with its wreck of a carriage house. Two friends—PHLF board members Louise Boesel and Connie Oliver—had pioneered in the neighborhood a year before. I had commented to my husband, David, that this would be an adventure, and it was. The restoration went well, and we rented the apartments until 1975, when we sold 1219 Monterey to Louise Boesel.

My next project was with the Old Post Office, a handsome landmark that lent itself to displaying a collection of artifacts, as well as offering interesting office space. It soon became a repository for wonderful architectural material,

nineteenth-century antiques, and an outstanding collection of period clothing from Pittsburgh's most well-known families. Eventually, we were knee-deep in running a museum and started to question if our mission was being muddled.

**1219 Monterey Street: December 2014**

This conundrum was resolved when the Station Square property became an irresistible temptation. The Old Post Office was deeded over, eventually, to the Children's Museum and the last hurrah for the costume collection was a celebratory fashion show and luncheon at the Grand Concourse. I was chairman and reveled in it!

It took a few years for the East Warehouse to be built out and rented, so we took advantage of the space with

several successful fund-raising antique shows. They, too, were my responsibility.

In 1973, Woodville, the General John Neville house in Collier Township, was in danger of being torn down to become the site of a gas station. With a hue and cry heard all over Allegheny County, PHLF stepped in and saved it. The importance of this historic property, dating to 1775, cannot be overstated. General Neville had been commandant at the British Fort Pitt and was also a target in the Whiskey Rebellion of 1794.

The Allegheny County Committee of the National Society of Colonial Dames of America had furnished a room at the Old Post Office and were an obvious choice for involvement in a house of this period. I was beyond enthusiastic and became the chairman for both the Dames and PHLF for the interpretation and for acquiring the collection. The house is now owned by the Neville House Associates and is open to the public on Sundays and special-event days.

This recitation covers forty-five unforgettable years with what is, in my estimation, the most prestigious preservation group in America because of the leadership of Arthur Ziegler, a man of vision and character. I began by saying I would follow Arthur to the moon, and it's true!

*Anne Genter*

My first awareness of PHLF occurred in the winter of 1977 or 1978. I was home from college and, while coming into town from the South Hills via the trolley, I noticed that there was fencing and other signs of construction near the old train buildings on the south end of the Smithfield Street Bridge. A large sign announced a development named Station Square. I realized immediately that this was not a demolition and replacement project—the wording or the project rendering gave the impression that these old buildings were to be saved, renovated, and brought back to life, rather than to be destroyed.

My passion for PHLF started at that moment. I had an immediate sense that this was an important project, even though I had never been inside any of the P&LERR buildings. I became a dues-paying member upon graduation from college in 1979 and have remained a member since then.

My work path took me away from the city for long stretches—to Washington, D.C., Chicago, Kansas City, and now New York City. This gave me the opportunity to compare historic preservation efforts in these other cities to those of PHLF—and time after time I realized that PHLF stood alone. The breadth of its operations continues to astound me: not only the advocacy and awarding of plaques, but the involvement in actual demonstration projects, the easement work in rural western Pennsylvania, the educational efforts in the schools as well as the tours geared toward the adult public, the Getty-funded campus surveys, and so much more.

What continues to impress me about PHLF is this constant evolution. It reacts to the real work, does what is necessary, and does it smartly: loudly activist when that is required, but much more often at the table and naturally part of the discussion. I have seen in my own family a growing realization that preservation—whether of a building or a neighborhood—is now automatically on the table when discussing what should be done. For a long time that was not the case.

In summary, I am passionate about PHLF because it does good and necessary work in a great way. This organization has opened (and continues to open) the eyes of skeptical and doubting western Pennsylvanians to the possibilities of saving and renovating their history. It is an amazing organization.

*David Kleer*

*We will end with a story and photo that Rick Berardi sent to Arthur Ziegler on October 14, 2014.*

*Rick knows of Arthur from reading Pittsburgh newspapers over the past twenty years. "Since*

*I appreciate the architecture of the area and its history, I usually end up reading those stories first," he said. The photo shows a plaque that Rick noticed hanging in the office complex of revered Sri Lankan Architect Geoffrey Bawa. Rick wrote the following in his e-mail to Arthur:*

**"You cannot hang a building on a wall like a painting; you have to find a use for it."  
- Arthur P. Ziegler, Jr.**

My family and I just returned from a trip to Sri Lanka. During our travels we enjoyed a day visiting Geoffrey Bawa's offices and home. ... I thought it was important to share with you your influence on the other side of the world (in addition to Pittsburgh).

**Pittsburgh in 2014. As we look back over fifty years, we know that PHLF has improved the quality of life for people in this region and succeeded in showing that historic preservation can be the key to achieving economic, social, and cultural renewal. Our work remains relevant and the need for our programs and services continues to grow as more historic religious properties, buildings, bridges, parks, main streets, and communities age—and as new generations of people are born.**

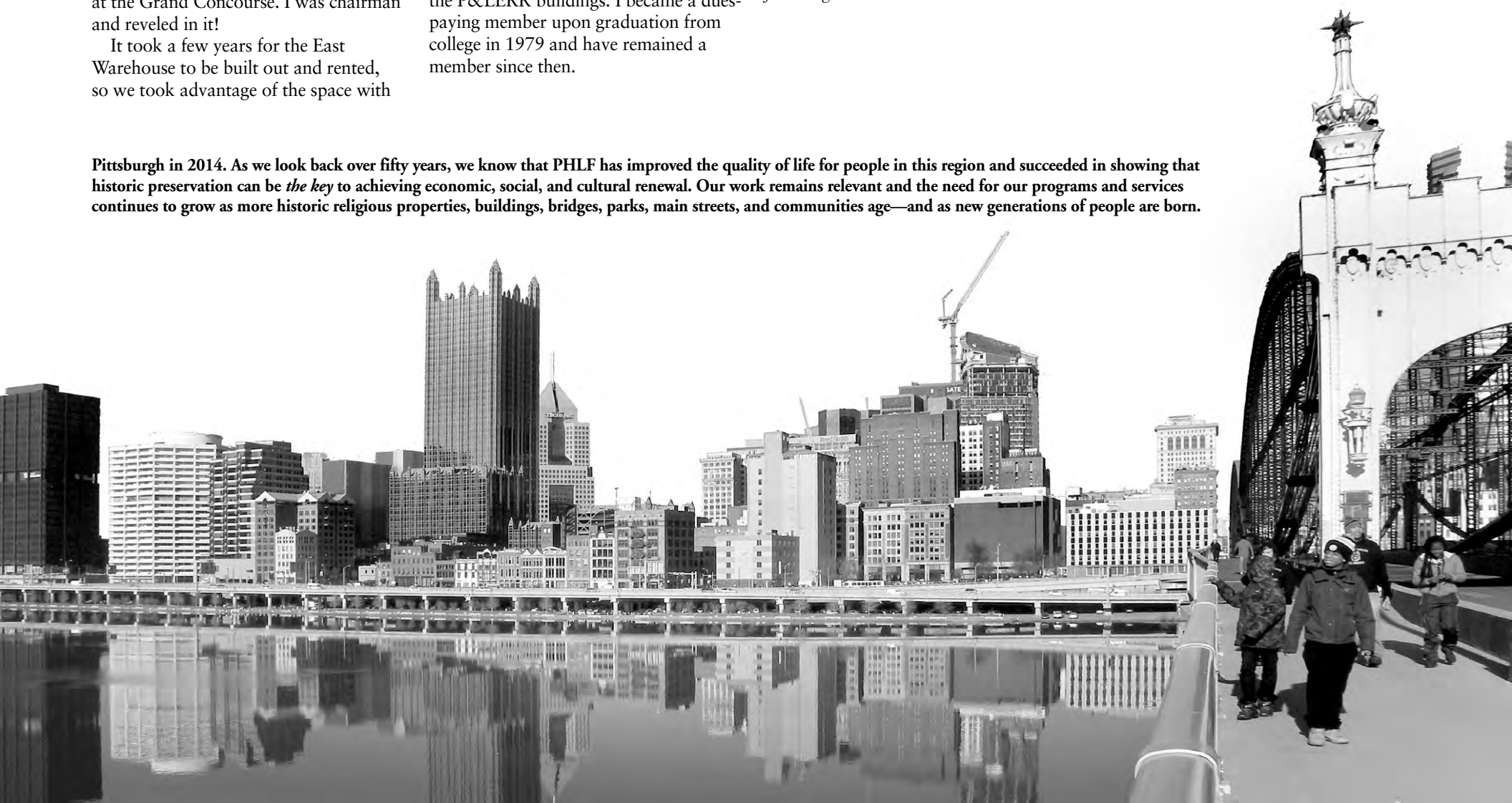
## Become Part of PHLF's Story— How You Can Help

- **Contribute to our Fiftieth Anniversary Fund** to build a base of support for our preservation services and educational programs in the next fifty years.

- **Create a Named Fund** at PHLF, include PHLF in your will or estate plan, or benefit from a charitable gift annuity or retained life estate.

- **Renew your annual membership dues and participate** in our tours and programs (*see page 24*)

Visit [www.phlf.org](http://www.phlf.org) or contact Mary Lu Denny for details ([marylu@phlf.org](mailto:marylu@phlf.org); 412-471-5808, ext. 527). Thank you!





# PHLF’s Historic Religious Properties Program: Restoring Beauty and Value to Our Neighborhoods



St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church at 109 South 7th Street, South Side, was constructed in 1895 and enlarged in 1917. Masonry repairs to the dome bases will be completed in 2015. A place of worship and center of Ukrainian culture, the church is also a place where many Pittsburghers go to buy homemade pyrohi.

Religious buildings are familiar, cherished sights in our lives. They are places where artistry and personal and collective memories and cultural traditions have survived. In recent years, however, the survival of these historic structures has become a great public concern. To help address this need, PHLF created a Historic Religious Properties (HRP) program in 1997 that continues to operate today, thanks to the generosity of our members and friends.

## \$95,710 in Matching Grants Awarded in 2014

Thanks to contributions received in 2013 from many people and private foundations, PHLF was able to award a total of \$95,710 in 2014 to twelve historic religious properties in Allegheny County. “Our matching grants of between \$2,000 and \$10,000 give a needed boost to these congregations that are critical in the lives of their communities,” said HRP Committee Chair David Vater. “We try to give as big a grant as possible so we push forward needed exterior restoration projects and get as much work accomplished as possible.”

As a result of the 2014 grant awards, endangered stained glass windows were repaired, worn-out roofs and front doors were replaced, masonry was repointed, and trim was repainted. By addressing these critical building needs, each historic religious property is better able to serve as a place of worship and center for community services—and as a familiar, cherished architectural landmark. Award recipients in 2014 were:

1. All Saints Polish National Catholic Church, Carnegie
2. Central Presbyterian Church, Tarentum
3. Congregation Poale Zedeck, Squirrel Hill
4. Fairhaven Methodist Church, Overbrook
5. Islamic Center of Pittsburgh, Oakland
6. Jerusalem Baptist Church, West End
7. Lamb of God Christian Ministries, Homestead
8. Pittsburgh Mennonite Church, Swissvale
9. Pittsburgh Northside Church of God, Manchester
10. Sacred Heart Parish, Shadyside
11. St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church, South Side
12. St. Paul of the Cross Monastery, South Side Slopes



Pastor Reverend Pugh (left) and Verzell Owens (right) hold up photos showing how the inappropriate modern metal doors of Jerusalem Baptist Church (left) have been replaced with more historically accurate wooden doors, with leaded glass and a handsome red finish. Thanks to PHLF’s matching grant, the West End landmark at 123 Steuben Street has a more welcoming appearance.

## Thank You Donors 2013

Donations from the following PHLF members and friends in 2013 helped make the 2014 Historic Religious Properties program possible.

**Leadership Gift (\$10,000)**  
Katherine Mabis McKenna Foundation

**Keystone Gifts (\$1,000 or more)**  
George and Eileen Dorman  
Richard D. Flinn  
David A. Kleer  
Gordon and Kate MacVean Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation  
Kathy and Lou Testoni

**Cornerstone Gifts (up to \$500)**  
Sandy Aitken  
Anonymous  
Esther Barazzone  
Newt Blair  
Susan Brandt  
Carrie Butler  
Thomas C. Camarda  
Jae and Bob Cannon  
Mr. & Mrs. Randall W. Casciola  
Francis J. Coyle  
Joan P. Dailey  
Mary and John Davis  
Loretta Denny, in memory of Dominick Magasano  
James K. Donnell

Dormont Historical Society  
Judith and Jonathon Erlen  
Roseann and George Erny  
James Ferlo  
Phyllis Hamilton  
Mr. & Mrs. John Campbell Harmon  
Catherine A. Hebert  
Joyce Hochard  
Maureen Hogel, in honor of Michael Hogel  
Michael Hogel  
Ed and Helen Horan  
Dolores and Jay Jarrell  
Virginia and William Keck  
Tom and Pam Keffer  
Kathleen and Lawrence Konsin  
Janice and John Kreutzman  
Robert M. Lavelle  
Martha Lazarevic  
Miguel Llinas

Alfred Mancini  
Angela and Doug Marvin  
David and Cecelia McKibben  
Melissa M. McSwigan  
Dr. & Mrs. William J. McVay  
Mary Anne and William Mistick  
Muriel Moreland  
Jack Norris  
John S. Oehrle  
Pauline and James Parker  
Ray Pendro  
Mark T. Phillis  
Marirose and John Radelet  
Matthew J. Ragan  
Ronald W. Ragan  
Dr. & Mrs. Wilfred T. Rouleau  
Ann Fay Ruben  
Colleen and Timothy Sauvain  
Virginia W. Schatz  
Pat and Bill Schultz

Florence Schwartz  
Eugene Seder  
Harton Semple  
Laurie Graham Shearer  
Sally Smiley  
Louise and Martin Sturgess  
Mary Ann Stuart Templeton  
Eileen and Bruce Tenenbaum  
David J. Vater  
Mollie Weinert  
Elaine E. Wertheim  
Roger C. Westman  
Dr. Marilyn Whitmore  
Wilksburg Historical Society  
Frances H. Wilson  
Helen A. Wilson  
Arthur Ziegler





Congregation Poale Zedeck will complete roof repairs in 2015.



The Islamic Center of Pittsburgh replaced its roof in 2014, with help from PHLF's HRP matching grant.



Fairhaven Methodist Church (above, both), St. Paul of the Cross Monastery (below), and Central Presbyterian Church (bottom) used HRP matching funds in 2014 to restore stained glass windows.



PHLF hosted a technical assistance workshop on September 30, 2014 at Calvary United Methodist Church in Pittsburgh's Allegheny West for owners of historic religious properties.

## 2015 Awards Will Be Announced in February

Nineteen historic religious properties in Allegheny County submitted grant applications by the December 1, 2014 deadline, requesting a total of \$153,659 in funding assistance from PHLF in 2015. "We are very grateful to George and Eileen Dorman and to the Katherine Mabis McKenna Foundation for their generous gifts that, when combined with those from others, will help provide the financial resources that PHLF needs to fund the 2015 HRP program," said HRP Committee Vice-Chair Kathy Testoni.

"Our HRP committee makes the awards based upon the architectural merit of the religious building *and* the services provided to the neighborhood in which it is located," said PHLF President Arthur Ziegler. "Not only do these historic religious properties represent significant cultural and architectural values, but they anchor neighborhoods with the free facilities they provide for service agencies, regardless of religious affiliation. By opening their doors to the community, historic religious properties actually save the nonprofit sector a great deal of money that would otherwise have to be raised to house these services." Arthur added.

After the January committee meeting, PHLF will announce the grant and technical assistance awards for 2015 in February. New PHLF members will be invited to attend an afternoon reception honoring the award recipients. "The reception is always a marvelous

occasion," said HRP Committee Chair David Vater, "because we are able to meet the people who are dedicated to caring for and using these historic places of worship. Last year, recipients thanked us for our generosity, emphasized the importance of their work to the community, and, in one case, said our grant was the 'beginning of a dream.'"

Since the program's inception in 1997, PHLF has awarded 247 matching grants totaling more than \$1 million and sixty technical assistance consultations.

For the past seven years, Carole Malakoff efficiently managed PHLF's HRP program. "Carole helped develop a strong network of communication among the historic religious property owners and made sure that everyone had the knowledge they needed to work successfully with contractors on building projects," said Kathy. "We thank her for her commitment to the HRP program and sound advice on preservation matters."

David Farkas, Associate Director of PHLF's Real Estate Programs, now oversees the HRP program with the goal of increasing funding support. "Every dollar that people give," said David, "goes out in the form of matching grants to fund restoration work. Each gift is an investment in *the future* of significant historic structures that add beauty and value to our neighborhoods."

For further information about the HRP program, please contact David Farkas ([david@phlf.org](mailto:david@phlf.org); 412-471-5808, ext. 516). To contribute, visit [www.phlf.org](http://www.phlf.org).

## HISTORIC RELIGIOUS PROPERTY TOURS

### For Private Groups

- Contact Mary Lu Denny ([marylu@phlf.org](mailto:marylu@phlf.org); 412-471-5808, ext. 527) if you have a group of ten or more people who want to explore some of the region's most significant historic religious properties. We offer both bus and walking tours—you hire the bus and we do the rest—and tours can be a half day or full day.

### For PHLF Members

- On April 25, PHLF members are invited to tour Central Presbyterian Church, during a tour of Tarentum and Natrona (*see page 24*). David Rankin and Cindy Homburg of Tarentum (right) will be our guides.
- Also in 2015, PHLF is planning a bus tour to several churches designed by John T. Comes (1873-1922). A prolific architect, writer, and activist, Comes founded the Pittsburgh Architectural Club in 1896 and designed more than fifty religious buildings for the Catholic Diocese. For details, contact Mary Lu Denny, or visit [www.phlf.org](http://www.phlf.org).



## Thank You Donors 2014

(through December 31)

Donations from the following PHLF members and friends in 2014 will help make the 2015 Historic Religious Properties program possible.

**Leadership Gift (\$15,000)**  
George and Eileen Dorman

**Major Gift (\$10,000)**  
Katherine Mabis McKenna Foundation

**Keystone Gifts (\$1,000 or more)**  
Anonymous  
David M. Brashear, in honor of Louise Sturgess  
George and Eileen Dorman  
Named Fund  
Richard D. Flinn  
David A. Kleer  
Gordon and Kate MacVean Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation  
Suella Pipal

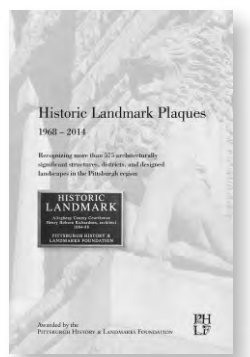
Marguerite O. Standish  
Kathy and Lou Testoni

**Cornerstone Gifts (up to \$500)**  
Esther Barazzone  
Newt Blair  
M. Mildred Bosilevac  
Susan Brandt  
Helen M. Braun  
Suzanne Broughton and Richard Margerum  
Arlene Carbone-Wiley  
Mr. & Mrs. Randall W. Casciola  
Janet S. Clever  
Marcia and Robert Coleman  
Francis J. Coyle  
Joan P. Dailey  
Mary and John Davis  
Loretta Denny, in memory of Dominick Magasano  
Keith Dorman  
Roseann and George Erny  
James Ferlo

Joanna and Paul Fitting  
Patrick Gallagher  
Michael F. Golde  
Mr. & Mrs. John Campbell Harmon  
Ed and Helen Horan  
Kate Hornstein  
Dolores and Jay Jarrell  
Virginia and William Keck  
Tom and Pam Keffer  
Kathleen and Lawrence Konsin  
Janice and John Kreutzman  
Charlotte Lang  
Robert M. Lavelle  
Martha Lazarevic  
Angela and Doug Marvin  
Robert E. McCue, M.D.  
Melissa M. McSwigan  
Jack Miller  
Mary Anne and William Mistick  
Suzan Mohny  
Rona Moody and Derek Stuart  
Muriel Moreland  
John S. Oehrle  
Pauline R. Parker  
Ray Pendro

James W. Perrin, Jr.  
Mark T. Phillis  
Marirose and John Radelet  
Dr. Herman L. Reid, Jr.  
Anne Robb  
Dr. & Mrs. Wilfred T. Rouleau  
Ann Fay Ruben  
Saint Nicholas Roman Catholic Parish  
Pat and Bill Schultz  
Sally Smiley  
Emily Swan  
Mary Ann Stuart Templeton  
Eileen and Bruce Tenenbaum  
Vilma Tury  
David J. Vater  
Sue and Ell Vines  
The Walden Trust  
Kimberly and Robert Walsh  
Mollie Weinert  
Roger C. Westman  
Frances H. Wilson  
Helen, Jesse, and Todd Wilson  
Emma Ziegler Named Fund





This book lists the 579 plaques that PHLF has awarded since 1968.

## Plaque Process and Criteria

PHLF created the Historic Landmark Plaque program in 1968 to identify architecturally significant structures and designed landscapes throughout the Pittsburgh region that maintain their integrity and are fifty years old or more. A Historic Landmark plaque *does not protect* a building from alteration or demolition. To date, 579 plaques have been awarded to significant buildings, districts, landscapes, and structures throughout the Pittsburgh region. PHLF reserves the right to remove the plaque if an owner alters a structure in a way that harms the architectural integrity.

Candidates for PHLF Historic Landmark Plaque designation come primarily from two sources: applications from building owners and staff recommendations. Plaque Program Administrator Frank Stroker and Historical Collections Director Al Tannler present an illustrated PowerPoint to Historic Landmark Plaque committee members who discuss and vote on each applicant. Building owners who have not personally applied for a plaque are informed that the committee has nominated their building and are asked if they wish to accept or decline a plaque. If a building has historical merit but does not meet PHLF's criteria, the owner may be directed to another agency, such as the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission or the City of Pittsburgh Historic Review Commission.

For further information, or to download a plaque application, please visit [www.phlf.org](http://www.phlf.org) or contact Frank Stroker: [frank@phlf.org](mailto:frank@phlf.org); 412-471-5808, ext. 525.

# Historic Landmark Plaques Awarded to Seventeen Buildings

The seventeen buildings awarded plaques in 2014 cover a span of 157 years, from the National Historic Landmark Bedford Springs Hotel and Golf Course to the Squirrel Hill house that Pittsburgh native A. James Speyer designed for his mother, Tillie, in 1963. Speyer was Ludwig Mies van der Rohe's first American graduate student; he became an architect, a professor of architecture, and the curator of architecture at the Art Institute of Chicago. Three other residences were awarded Historic Landmark plaques in 2014: a Victorian Italianate house of 1872; an early-twentieth-century Austro-Germanic house of 1914; and a c. 1949–50 Usonian house designed by Peter Berndtson and Cornelia Brierly, apprentices of Frank Lloyd Wright.

*All the sites are remarkable works of architecture. Whether fulfilling their original use, a new use, or awaiting a new use, these historic places are worthy of public attention and care.*

*Our Historic Landmark Plaque program brings recognition to each.*

—Selene Davis, PHLF Trustee and Chair of the Historic Plaque Designation Committee

Frank Rutan and Frederick Russell, two architects trained in H. H. Richardson's office, designed a 1907–08 commercial clothing and dry goods store that is now an apartment building. The Pennsylvania Railroad Station in Greensburg (now PNC Train Station) of 1911 maintains its original function; however, the future of the Pennsylvania Railroad Fruit Auction & Sales Building (1929/1930) in the Strip and the Captain Alfred E. Hunt Armory (1909–11, 1916, 1919) in Shadyside have yet to be determined.

Two former school buildings have been adapted to new uses: St. James School (1916) in the West End is now Pittsburgh Musical Theater and South Hills High School (1916–24) is now South Hills Retirement Residence.

Two government buildings are recognized: the East Pittsburgh U.S. Post Office (1916) remains a post office,

while the Carnegie U.S. Post Office (1916) is now the Carnegie Coffee Company.

Two of Pittsburgh's finest Art Moderne/Art Deco buildings are listed: the former New Brighton Theatre (1927–28), North Side, is now the Letter Carriers' Local 84 Union Hall, and the former G. C. Murphy Store No. 12 (1930), Downtown, is now a portion of Market Square Place.

Twentieth-century masterpieces include Four Gateway Center (1958–60) and The Plaza at Gateway Center (originally Equitable Plaza, 1961–62) and the former IBM Building at Five Gateway Center, now the United Steelworkers Building (1961–63).

"All the sites are remarkable works of architecture. Whether fulfilling their original use, a new use, or awaiting a new use, these historic places are worthy of public attention and care. Our Historic Landmark Plaque program brings recognition to each," said Selene Davis, Chair of the Historic Plaque Designation Committee.

The seventeen "Historic Landmark" sites designated in 2014 are (*in chronological order*):

1. **Bedford Springs Hotel and Golf Course.** 2138 Business 220, Bedford. C. 1806 and after. Solomon Filler, architect of Colonial Building, 1829. Golf course redesign by Donald Ross, 1923. Restored by The Ferchill Group, developer; Corgan Associates, Inc., architects, 2006–09.
2. **The Four Sisters' House.** 310 Peebles Street, Sewickley. 1872. Zehu P. Smith, builder.
3. **The Brix at 26 (Pittsburgh Mercantile Company).** 2600–10 East Carson Street, South Side. 1907–08. Rutan & Russell, architects.
4. **Captain Alfred E. Hunt Armory.** 324 Emerson Street, Shadyside. 1909–11, 1916, 1919. Joseph F. Kuntz, architect for W. G. Wilkins Company.
5. **PNC Train Station at Greensburg (Greensburg Railroad Station, Pennsylvania Railroad).** 101 Ehalt Street, Greensburg. 1911. William H. Cookman, engineer.
6. **Lydia A. Riesmeyer house.** 5818 Aylesboro Avenue, Squirrel Hill. 1914. Richard Kiehnel, Kiehnel & Elliott, architects.
7. **Pittsburgh Musical Theater (St. James School).** 327 South Main Street, West End. 1916.
8. **Carnegie Coffee Company (Carnegie U.S. Post Office).** 132 East Main Street, Carnegie. 1916. Oscar Winderoth, architect. Closed 2008; renovated 2013.
9. **East Pittsburgh U.S. Post Office.** 701 Linden Avenue, East Pittsburgh. 1916. James A. Wetmore, architect.
10. **South Hills Retirement Residence (South Hills High School).** 125 Ruth Street, Mt. Washington. 1916–24. Howard K. Jones, designer for Alden & Harlow, architects. Closed 1986. Renovations by a.m. Rodriguez Associates, Inc., 2008–11.
11. **Letter Carriers' Local 84 Union Hall (New Brighton Theatre).** 841 California Avenue, California-Kirkbride. 1927–28. Rubin & VeShancey, architects. Renovations by Brenenborg Brown Group Architects, 1997.
12. **Pennsylvania Railroad Fruit Auction & Sales Building.** 2018–2100 16th Street, Strip District. 1929. Office of Division Engineer (Pittsburgh), Pennsylvania Railroad Company. Addition in 1930.
13. **portion of Market Square Place (G. C. Murphy Store No. 12).** 219 Forbes Avenue, Downtown. 1930, Harold E. Crosby, architect. Renovations by Millcraft Investments, developer; Strada Architecture, LLC, 2006–09.
14. **Fay Bear house.** 125 Lutz Lane, West Mifflin. c. 1949–50. Peter Berndtson and Cornelia Brierly, architects.
15. **Four Gateway Center and The Plaza at Gateway Center (Equitable Plaza).** 444 Liberty Avenue, Downtown. 1958–60. Harrison & Abramovitz, architects. 1961–62. Schell & Deeter, architects, and Simonds & Simonds, landscape architects for Plaza.
16. **United Steelworkers Building (Five Gateway Center, IBM Building).** 60 Boulevard of the Allies, Downtown. 1961–63. Curtis & Davis, architects.
17. **Tillie S. Speyer house.** 1500 Wightman Street, Squirrel Hill. 1963. A. James Speyer, architect.







Photo courtesy of Westmoreland Cultural Trust

### Colcom Grant Underwrites Assessment and Refurbishment of PHLF Plaques

Thanks to a \$19,750 grant from the Colcom Foundation, awarded in May 2014, PHLF is assessing the condition of more than 500 Historic Landmark plaques located on buildings throughout Allegheny County and refurbishing up to fifty weathered and deteriorated plaques so they are in good condition once again.

“As we tour Allegheny County to assess the condition of our plaques installed by property owners since 1968,” said Frank Stroker, Plaque Program Administrator at PHLF, “we are noting the problems that we see and we are working with Matthews International, manufacturers of our plaques, to develop a list of recommendations for property owners.” For example, it is important to regularly clean a plaque that is placed on the exterior of a building since the salt spray from street plowing can cause the aluminum plaque to oxidize and can corrode the paint over time. If steel screws are improperly used to mount a plaque, then rust begins to tarnish the base finish.

Once PHLF’s Historic Plaque Designation Committee awards a plaque, the property owner pays for the cost of the 18" x 12" plaque *and* is responsible for properly installing it. Typically, bronze plaques cost \$425; aluminum plaques cost \$250.

“Our program of assessment and refurbishment will be completed by May 2015,” said Frank. “We are grateful to the Colcom Foundation for providing us with this grant that is enabling us to assess, refurbish, and document the location of all our Historic Landmark plaques and create recommendations that will help property owners maintain these plaques for years to come. Since so many people come to know about the mission and work of PHLF by first seeing one of our Historic Landmark plaques, it is important to have them in excellent condition.”



Before-and-after photos show the refurbished plaque for the Stevenson Building at South Highland and Centre avenues in East Liberty. The plaque, awarded in 1977, looks new again, thanks to the Colcom Foundation grant and the skill of Matthews International.



## 2014 Landmarks Scholarship Fund

**Leadership Gift (\$15,000)**  
David and Janet Brashear

**Platinum (\$10,000)**  
Gailliot Family Foundation  
Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield  
Howard & Nell E. Miller Foundation

**Gold (\$5,000)**  
Anonymous  
Cohen & Grigsby, P.C.  
McSwigan Family Foundation  
Merging Media, Inc. (*in-kind contribution*)

**Silver (\$2,500)**  
Dollar Bank Foundation

**Bronze (\$1,000 or more)**  
Nadine E. Bognar  
James and Judith Brashear  
Sylvia Dallas  
Lu and E. J. Donnelly  
Mary McDonough  
Alfred M. Oppenheimer Memorial Fund  
of The Pittsburgh Foundation  
St. Brendan's Crossing, Eileen Manning  
Snow Capital Management, L.P.  
Louise and Martin Sturgess  
Albert M. Tannler  
Kathy and Lou Testoni

**Crystal (up to \$999)**  
Robert and Ann Albert  
\*Steven and Rachel Albert  
Anonymous  
Robert and Judith Bernardini  
Michael and Carol Bleier  
Daniel and Elizabeth Boyarski  
\*Matthew Boyas  
\*Gregory and Meghan Bykowski  
Marco Cardamone (Merging Media, Inc.)  
Kasey Connors  
Marian W. Cook  
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Mary DeWinter Named Fund  
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Michael and Jane Louik  
Sara McGuire  
\*Anna Murnane  
Mary Beth Pastorius  
Ray Pendro  
\*Emily Sullivan Petrina  
Matthew J. Ragan  
David Rankin  
Dorothy and Nicholas Rescher  
Louis and Laurie Rosenberg  
Betti Rottschaefer  
Matthew and Melissa Sanfilippo  
\*Breanna Smith  
Cindy and Al Stanish  
Norrine Taylor  
Cynthia Pearson Turich  
\*James P. Washabaugh  
Elaine Wertheim  
\*Terri L. White  
\*Eric C. Wise

\* *Scholarship Recipient*



Twenty-three of PHLF's fifty-six scholarship winners and several committee members were among the 138 guests who attended the Landmarks Scholarship Celebration on June 2, 2014 at Fairmont Pittsburgh. Photos on pages 18 and 19 by Jim Judkis

## Fifty-Six Winners Since 1999: Scholarship Award Increases to \$6,000

"Thanks to contributions received as a result of the Landmarks Scholarship Celebration and fund-raising effort in 2014, we are increasing our scholarship award from \$4,000 to \$6,000 in 2015, payable over a four-year period," said David Brashear, PHLF Trustee and Chair of the Scholarship Committee. A recipient will receive \$1,500 for his/her first year of undergraduate study to help pay tuition and book expenses. The scholarship award will be renewed each year if the student maintains good academic standing and demonstrates involvement in campus activities.

Initiated in 1999 by David Brashear and his family, the Landmarks Scholarship Program has connected PHLF with fifty-six high-achieving young people who care deeply about the Pittsburgh region. "Our staff stays in touch with each recipient during his/her college years; often provides letters of recommendation for internships, jobs, or graduate school; and reconnects through annual luncheons and special events," said Louise Sturgess, Executive Director.

Two scholarship alumni are now trustees of PHLF—Todd Wilson and Kezia Ellison—and nearly half of the alumni are living and working in Pittsburgh. Steven Albert, William Knapp, Paul Steidl, and James

Washabaugh, who work with architectural/engineering firms in the Pittsburgh area, often assist with our educational programs. Twenty-three of the fifty-six winners since 1999 were able to attend the Landmarks Scholarship Celebration in 2014, and three more were featured in video clips produced by Marco Cardamone of Merging Media, Inc.

Marie Mrvos, a teacher from Pittsburgh Beechwood who attended the event, said: "After hearing the scholarship recipients speak, it is evident that a lot of thought goes into the scholarship selection process and that each recipient was well-deserving of the scholarship and put it to great use. The PHLF financial support given to past recipients helped to put each and every recipient on the road to success."

The Landmarks Scholarship Program is the *culmination* of PHLF's award-winning educational programs for students (pre-K through high school) and the *beginning* of its educational programs for adults. Sylvia Dallas, a member of the Scholarship Committee, noted that the June 2 celebration showed "the wide range of ages touched by PHLF's educational programs."

"We thank all those who recently donated to the Landmarks Scholarship Fund," said David, "and encourage others to contribute at any time."



David Brashear, Scholarship Committee Chair, and Mary Anne Papale of Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield applauded PHLF's 2014 scholarship recipients during the June 2 celebration. From left: Natalie Morrissey, who is studying chemical engineering at Penn State University; Marissa C. Marks, who is studying engineering at Purdue University; Jordan Maben, who is studying Biology and Health Sciences at Dickinson College; and Andrew Hyatt, who is studying Architectural History/Historic Preservation at Savannah College of Art & Design.

With \$83,700 in hand, we are close to achieving our goal of raising \$100,000 for this worthy program." If you would like to contribute to the Scholarship Fund in 2015, please contact Executive Director Louise Sturgess ([louise@phlf.org](mailto:louise@phlf.org)) or visit [www.phlf.org](http://www.phlf.org). Thank you!







Third-grade students from Pittsburgh Dilworth opened the Scholarship Celebration on June 2, 2014 by singing PHLF's "trolley tour" song. Alexis Williams from Pittsburgh Obama and Steve Perekiszka from Pittsburgh Phillips read poems they wrote while participating in PHLF's summer camp and "Building Pride Building Character" program. Third-grade students from Pittsburgh Beechwood displayed models they crafted after touring the Strip District with PHLF.



Above: Scholarship recipients Anna Murnane (left) and Marissa Getty (right) are majoring in architecture at Syracuse University and Penn State, respectively. Below: Marilyn Whitelock welcomes Karamagi Rujumba, both PHLF staff members, to the Scholarship Celebration on June 2, 2014 at Fairmont Pittsburgh.



## My Home, Pittsburgh

Pittsburgh, you're old and reliable,  
strong and dependable.  
You are called home by 310,000 Americans.  
You are shelter and comfort,  
friend and my own.

But the place that stands out the most  
in you for me  
Is the North Side,  
the place where I attend CampDEC.

We explore your history and surroundings.  
We design, inspired by your bridges  
and buildings,  
And create the new tomorrow for Pittsburgh.

You leave your legacy in our hands,  
the children of the future,  
To continue the strong bond  
of generations and generations.

—Alexis Williams,  
Pittsburgh Obama, Grade 8  
(July 2012)



Using personification, Steve imagined he was the City shield above the entrance to the South Side Ormsby Recreation Center.

## Pittsburgh Is Awesome

I am small but I am strong,  
not very tall,  
been here for 75 years,  
through pride and tears.

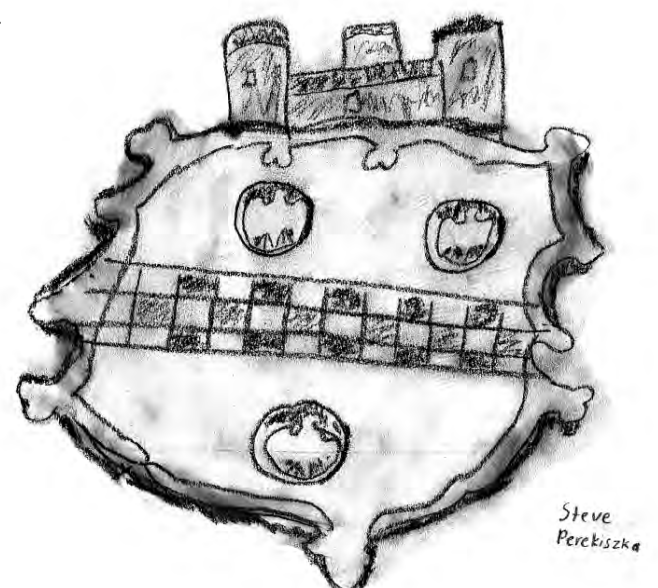
I saw the mills and city change.

I used to see horses,  
but now I see cars.

I'm very small,  
but have a huge heart.

I love Pittsburgh and many others do.  
Pittsburghers respect me  
and I respect them, too.

—Steve Perekiszka,  
Pittsburgh Phillips, Grade 5  
(March 2014)



# 2015 Scholarship Deadline

College-bound high school students who live in Allegheny County, have a 3.25 grade point average or above, care deeply about the Pittsburgh region, and are interested in building a relationship with PHLF, are invited to apply to the Landmarks Scholarship program. The application deadline is Wednesday, April 22.

Visit [www.phlf.org](http://www.phlf.org) to download an application or call Marie Miller (412-471-5808, ext. 526) and she will mail one to you.



## Affecting Lives

“As a Pittsburgh Public School teacher, I have participated with my students in PHLF’s *Building Pride Building Character* educational program since 2008. The field trips, Poetry and Art books, and career awareness programs have benefited my students greatly—and have influenced me personally, in ways I did not anticipate at first.

“After seeing how engaged my students became in architecture-based programs, my husband and I enrolled our daughter in a summer architecture course offered by the Carnegie Museum. Recently we purchased and renovated a Victorian home in Brookline, a historic city neighborhood. Since 1996, my family has owned and operated Christos Mediterranean Grille, Downtown in the Penn-Liberty Cultural District. We are strongly rooted in Pittsburgh’s life and appreciate the impact that historic places have in creating a distinctive, meaningful, livable city.”

—Alea Melacrinos,  
Pittsburgh Banksville  
(December 11, 2014)

## 2014 Stats: Education

More than 12,000 people were involved in PHLF’s educational programs in 2014. Trustees, Community Advisory board members, staff, and docents presented **90 school tours** (for grades 2–12), **77 walking tours** and **special events** for our members and general public, **50 private group tours**, **30 lectures**, **6 career awareness sessions**, and **4 professional development classes or tours for teachers**. In addition, **13 schools** borrowed PHLF’s **Portable Pittsburgh Artifact Kits** to use in their classrooms.

Plus, PHLF produced a video, “**Thank You, Dunfermline,**” connecting Pittsburgh Public School students with their peers in Scotland; published **8 Poetry and Art books** featuring student and teacher work and created **2 Poetry and Art E-books**; hosted **architectural design challenges**, **after-school enrichment programs**, and an **Architectural Apprenticeship**; awarded **\$4,000 scholarships** to **4 more college-bound students**; participated in **6 major conference and community events**, including the City of Pittsburgh Wellness Fairs, the Pro Walk/Pro Bike/Pro Place Conference, and the 16th Annual Conference of the Modernist Studies Association.

PHLF has distributed 1,355 copies of Al Tannler’s guidebook, *Pittsburgh Architecture in the Twentieth Century*, since its release in December 2013. *August Wilson: Pittsburgh Places in His Life and Plays*, by Laurence Glasco and Christopher Rawson (PHLF 2011), was sold out in 2014, but a second edition will be released in the fall of 2015, thanks to funding support from BNY Mellon Foundation of Southwestern Pennsylvania.

## Meaningful, Relevant, Educational Programs

Year-round, PHLF offers a variety of educational programs that bring the city’s rich history and architecture to life to people of all ages and abilities. Through guidebooks, illustrated lectures, artifact kits, tours, poetry and art workshops, architectural design challenges, career awareness programs, after-school enrichment, an Architecture Apprenticeship, and special events, PHLF involves more than 12,000 people in learning about the Pittsburgh region’s significant architectural heritage so they can partner with us to protect architecturally significant places.

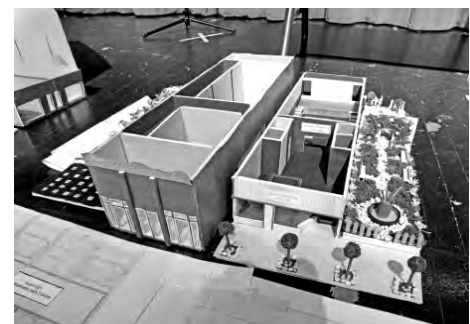


In the process, participants develop a sense of hometown pride, learn to value diversity (because it’s the different styles and ages of buildings that make a city distinctive), and have the chance to imagine, inquire, investigate, explore, create, and share.

“We are able to offer a full-range of meaningful, relevant educational programs because of the generous contributions we receive from many foundations and donors (*please see page 23*),” said Executive Director

Louise Sturgess, “and because we have a terrific group of docents who aid our staff by volunteering more than 2,000 hours each year to lead tours and present lectures.”

A Pittsburgh Public School teacher summed up the satisfaction that many thousands of people feel after participating in one of PHLF’s educational programs: “A million thank-yous. The knowledge that my students and I acquired today will last a lifetime.”





## Memory and Reality: Images from the Frank B. Fairbanks Rail Transportation Archive

There are over 3,000 slides, plus many photographs, among the thousands of items in the original donation from Frank B. Fairbanks, Jr. (1930–2005) that form the Fairbanks Rail Transportation Archive on the fourth floor of The Landmarks Building at Station Square. Mr. Fairbanks took most of these slides in the 1950s and 1960s, with lesser numbers in the 1970s through 1990s. As he traveled throughout western Pennsylvania and the world, he documented rail transportation methods and everyday scenes. His collection of images shows trains, trolleys, trams, inclines, funiculars, and cog and cable cars. He also saved all his tickets, stubs, schedules, and literature relating to the images. All of this material is cataloged and preserved for the patron to access in a hands-on experience.

Western Pennsylvania rail transportation enthusiasts can come to the archive to view 378 slides taken in this region between 1948 and 1993, and read the printed memorabilia associated with many of them. The images include slides of the Knoxville, Castle Shannon, and Mt. Washington inclines; both slides and photographs of the West Penn Railways; and slides of large and small business railroads, such as the Duquesne Slag and Gulf Mobile & Ohio. (These 378 images also can be viewed on the Historic Pittsburgh web site [<http://historicpittsburgh.org>] and high-resolution images can be purchased.)

For the researcher, these images illustrate and document transportation history. For natives of the region, they are a wonderful memory trip, recording a time that seemed so ordinary and a way of life that people never imagined would change. Western Pennsylvania was rail oriented. Wonderful train



Frank Fairbanks’ 1959 slide shows the private right of way between Chislett and Jancey streets in Pittsburgh’s Morningside neighborhood. This was “just the way it was,” and probably no one was overly concerned.

depots, large and small, were built everywhere. So many of these are gone now, or are in disrepair. For example, the Coudersport depot in Potter County, Pennsylvania, began to deteriorate when rail transportation declined in the 1960s and was abandoned in 1970. Today, it is thrilling to see how the 1899 structure,



Mr. Fairbanks photographed the Coudersport and Port Allegany Train Depot in 1963.

now listed on the National Register of Historic Places, has been transformed to house the town offices of the City of Coudersport.

The Fairbanks Archive is open by appointment on Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Use of the archive is free to PHLF members; non-members are assessed a \$10.00 per person use fee. To make an appointment, e-mail Librarian Judith Harvey at [fairbanksarchive@phlf.org](mailto:fairbanksarchive@phlf.org) or contact Al Tannler at PHLF (412-471-5808).



LOST: The former shed of the B&O station, shown here in 1957 at the corner of Smithfield and Water Street in Downtown Pittsburgh, was demolished for the construction of the Penn-Lincoln Parkway.



SAVED: The P&LE depot, shown here in 1963. This 1901 landmark, the crown jewel in PHLF’s development of Station Square, now houses the Grand Concourse and Gandy Dancer (opened in 1978) and a variety of office tenants, including PHLF’s fourth-floor offices and Fairbanks Archive.

## James D. Van Trump Library: Database of Regional Architects Is Being Created

For more than two decades, Al Tannler, Historical Collections Director at PHLF, has been researching the lives and work of architects who practiced in the Pittsburgh area and designed the region’s most significant architectural landmarks. The 115 architect profiles that Al has written are now being entered into a digital database that will be available for use in the James D. Van Trump Library in the fall of 2015.

Julianna Zhuxin Jia, a Landmarks Fellow from the Heinz School of Public Policy & Management at Carnegie Mellon University, created the database format in 2014. She modeled it on the American Architects and Buildings database (originally Philadelphia Architects and Buildings), established by the Athenaeum of Philadelphia. Julianna created several main categories—Biography, Selected Works, Bibliography, Associate Architects—and prepared introductory text outlining the character of the site and its contents.

James Halttunen, a graduate of Duquesne University’s master’s program in Public History and the acting curator of the Fort Pitt Block House, began entering the architect profiles in the



By the fall of 2015, visitors to the James D. Van Trump Library will be able to access information on many of the architects shown in this 1910 photograph.

database in the summer of 2014. He continues to volunteer a portion of his time to this project. When completed, this searchable database will document and consolidate fifty years of research by PHLF, including the work of Co-founder James D. Van Trump, Walter C. Kidney, and Al.

The James D. Van Trump (JVT) Library is open by appointment, Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Use of the library is free

to members; non-members are assessed a \$10.00 per person use fee, although researchers, including students, may use the library at no charge. Members who wish to visit or support the JVT Library through volunteer or financial help are encouraged to contact Al Tannler: [al@phlf.org](mailto:al@phlf.org); 412-471-5808.

### Thank You Corporate Benefactors

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Renaissance Pittsburgh Hotel

TriState Capital Bank



Feedback from Members

*Pittsburgh is so blessed to have such a wonderful Foundation as the PHLF. It certainly makes Pittsburghers proud, and the programs you offer are outstanding.*

—Phyllis Franks, December 1, 2014

*What a great resource PHLF is, for young and old alike! Thanks so much for all you do.*

—Christina Lee Sarson, October 2, 2014

*One of the groups that has my highest recommendation is PHLF. We’ve belonged since 1996, and have taken dozens of tours. What I really recommend is joining the organization. Membership is extremely reasonable. You’ll receive a monthly e-newsletter, a yearly (terrific!) 24-page newsletter, and discounts on tours, books, etc. An added incentive: at the bottom of every month’s e-newsletter, there’s a “mystery photo.” If you can identify it, you get a free year’s membership. My husband and I have been on many tours, so we have recognized many of the mystery photos. We’ve extended our membership until 2035!*

—Angela Marvin, July 18, 2014

*Twenty years ago I joined PHLF because I care about preserving buildings, and the people I’ve gotten to know have been every bit as important and pleasurable as the buildings I’ve come to know and love.*

—Philip Maye, May 30, 2014

*It is an honor and a joy to be associated with PHLF. This membership has paid dividends that far exceed the cost.*

—Nancy Schaefer, December 12, 2013

Welcome New Members

(September 13, 2013 – November 30, 2014)

Members are vital to the work and growth of PHLF. Many members volunteer their time to help with programs and office work. By joining, each person demonstrates his/her belief in our mission. We thank you.

1861 Minersville Cemetery  
Gary Ablauf  
Georgia Abraham  
Diane Aiken  
Ann and Robert Albert  
Dona and David Albert  
Judith and John Arch  
The Art Institute of Pittsburgh  
James Dillion Asher, Jr. and Lisa Ann Brignoni  
Nina Babiarz  
Brendan Bagin  
Emily Ballinger  
Caitlin Beer  
Chris Bendel  
Judy and Bob Bernardini  
Dennis Berry  
Clarence Betzler  
Ginny and Byron Bowman  
Judith and James Brashear  
Lizabeth and John Buckwalter  
Herb Burger  
Keith Burleigh  
Candace Cain and Fred R. Nene  
Debra A. Callahan  
Carnegie Mellon University American Institute of Architecture Students  
Alexander Cashman  
Judy Casturo  
Kathy and Mark Chirdon  
Stephanie and Dan Cipriani  
City Connections—Pittsburgh  
Katherine A. Clausen  
Pam and Jason Cohn  
Sally and H. Scott Cunningham  
Debra and William Demchak  
Patricia Diamond  
Jean L. Domico  
Douglas Duerr  
Joann and Wally Edsall  
Deborah Edwards  
Renee and Kevin Ellwood  
The Episcopal Church of the Redeemer  
Falk Laboratory School  
Carla Falkenstein  
Family Instructors of the South Hills (FISH)  
Lori Feely  
Jean T. Ferrante and family  
Nora Fischer  
Diane and Jim Flanigan  
Lorraine Forster  
Jerome Frank  
Jay Gamze  
Lynne Glover and family  
Jack Goldsmith  
Sheila Goodworth  
Eoin Gormley  
Greater Allen AME Church  
Jeremy S. Guttman  
Hamnett Place Community Garden  
Joseph A. Hardy III  
Bill and Linda Hart  
Virginia Hart  
Nozomi Hatakeyama  
Eleanor and Marshall Hershberg  
Dale Hershey  
Hillfield Strathallan College  
Holy Trinity School

Cindy Homburg  
Islamic Center of Pittsburgh  
Jerusalem Baptist Church  
Bonnie Katz  
Karen and Michael Kleer  
Diane Koch and Adam Bean  
Yuet Komisars  
Azusa Kondo-Suggs  
Lisa Kotchey  
Maria Kyriacopoulos  
Lamb of God Christian Ministries  
Sarah and Blaine Lamperski  
Eric Lidji  
Jane and Michael Louik  
Chris Makrinos  
Michael William Marino  
David Maxwell  
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McKnight Elementary School  
Margaret L. Moore  
James H. Morris  
Khrys Myrddin  
Jean Marie Nemeth  
Linda Newberg  
Brandon Nicholson  
Cyndi and Steve Obenreder  
Angela and Sam Onuska  
Bob Pascarella  
Bonnie L. Pierce  
Pittsburgh-Tarentum Campmeeting Association  
Renee Pollice  
Janet Potter  
Presentation of Christ Greek Orthodox Church  
David M. Rankin  
Redeemer Lutheran Church and School  
Shawn Reed  
Riverview Children’s Center  
Laurie and Lou Rosenberg  
Dale K. Ross  
Chris Rudzki  
Millie and Gary Ryan  
Ryerson University School of Urban Planning  
Elaine K. Sack  
Saint Philip Church  
Michele Sandoe and family  
Timothy Seidel  
Catherine Serventi and Eugene Wilson  
Dawnelle K. Shrawder  
Peter Smerd  
Marie Smith  
Snow Capital Management, L.P.  
South Park Historical Society  
Janet and Jerry Stephenson  
Barbara and Roy Sterner  
David Stiffler  
Temple Sinai  
Cynthia Pearson Turich and Tom Turich  
Susan Tusick  
James Weddell and Sandra Faulk  
Virginia M. Wellman Consultant Services  
Mark Wells  
Smith M. Wilson  
Peggy and Jim Wojcik

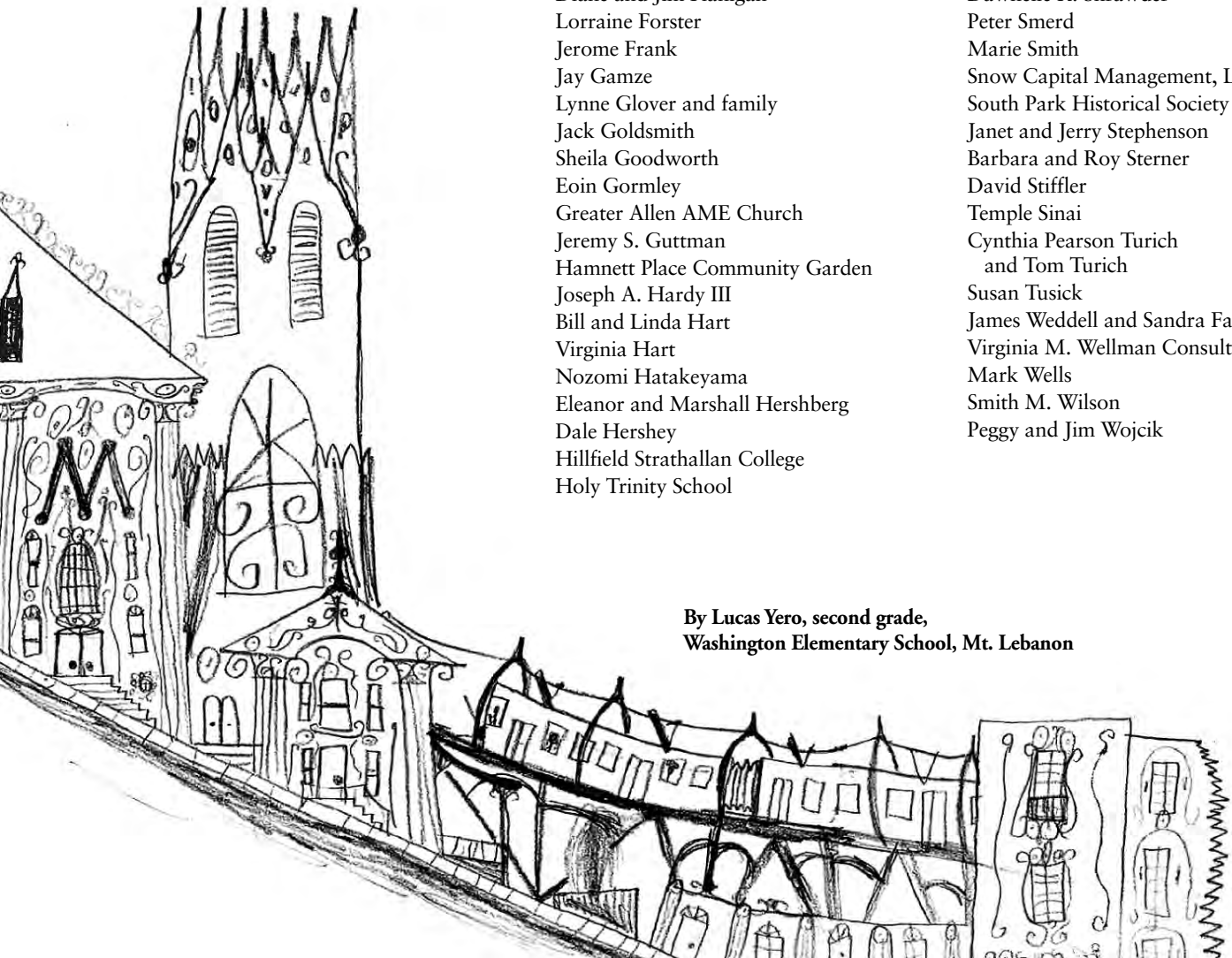
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PNC Bank  
Real Estate Enterprises.com Inc.  
South Side Chamber of Commerce  
Sterling Contracting, LLC  
Urban Design Associates

**Associates**  
For Wood Group  
Green Building Alliance



Dear Walking tour volunteers,  
Thank you for showing us  
around Washington Rd.  
I had a lot of fun.  
We saw many cool  
things!  
from  
Washington  
Elementary  
Mrs. Spitznagel's  
class.



# Thank You for Contributing

Your gifts support historic preservation programs and services throughout the Pittsburgh region and make possible so much of the work featured in this newsletter. PHLF and its subsidiary LCCC received the following gifts and grants between September 13, 2013 and December 31, 2014, unless otherwise noted. Donors to PHLF’s 50th Anniversary Fund will be listed in the next newsletter.

## Corporate Matching Gifts

- BNY Mellon Community Partnership, for matching gifts from Barrie H. Athol, Mary Ann Celio, Clifford Mull, C. Stewart Agreen, and Eileen Tenenbaum
- The Buhl Foundation, for matching a gift from Lara Washington
- IBM International Foundation, for matching a gift from P. J. Martin
- Norfolk Southern Foundation, for matching gifts from Allen T. Bankson

## Easements

- 900 Penn Avenue
- Amore Limited Partnership

## Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program (2013–14)

- BNY Mellon
- Eat’n Park Hospitality Group, Inc.
- ESB Bank
- First National Bank of Pennsylvania
- Hefren-Tillotson, Inc.
- Huntington Bank
- Maher Duessel CPA (8-15-2013)
- PNC Bank (9-5-2013)

## Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program (2014–15)

- Allegheny Technologies Incorporated
- American Eagle Outfitters
- BNY Mellon
- Eat’n Park Hospitality Group, Inc.
- ESB Bank
- First National Bank of Pennsylvania
- Frank B. Fuhrer Wholesale Company
- Hefren-Tillotson, Inc.
- Huntington Bank
- Maher Duessel CPA
- Pickands Mather Lake Services, Inc., on behalf of Susan and Scott F. Brown
- PNC Bank
- UPMC

## Educational Programs

- Barbara and Marcus Aaron Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation
- BNY Mellon Foundation of Southwestern Pennsylvania
- The Anne L. & George H. Clapp Charitable and Educational Trust
- Laurie Cohen
- Barbara P. Cooper
- The Fine Foundation
- Anne and David Genter
- Grambrindi Davies Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation
- International Seminar Design, Inc.
- Barbara and Robin Levine-Ritterman, for a Father’s Day gift in honor of Larry Levine
- Gordon and Kate MacVean Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation
- Matthews Educational & Charitable Trust
- McSwigan Family Foundation
- Audrey and Kenneth Menke Named Fund for Education
- Muriel Moreland
- Alfred M. Oppenheimer Memorial Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation
- Mary Beth Pastorius
- Else Schiller

## Educational Programs (cont.)

- Judy A. Sigal
- Darcy Smith
- Squirrel Hill Historical Society
- Ed Stockton
- Peg Stouffer, in memory of her husband S. William Stouffer, her parents Mr. & Mrs. George V. Moore, and her grandparents Mr. & Mrs. John P. Moore and The Rev. & Mrs. William A. Jones
- Cynthia Pearson Turich
- Tawnya Zemka

## Frank B. Fairbanks Rail Transportation Archive

(for financial gifts and library donations)

- |                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| • Joseph D. Dury, Jr. | • Greg Pytlik      |
| • Joan Fairbanks      | • Mary Iris Ragan  |
| • Don Harper          | • Matthew J. Ragan |
| • Judith Harvey       | • Jean Woods       |
| • Jeffrey Mora        |                    |

## Gift Memberships

- Thomas Betzler, for a gift membership for Clarence Betzler
- Kristy Carnahan, for a gift membership for Dawnelle K. Shrawder
- Kasey Connors, for gift memberships for Suzie and Mike Ament, Brad Ayers, Carla Braham, Ada and Rob Brandege, Emma Davison, Jim Denova, Elizabeth Quinn, Nancy Reese, and Jon and Debbie West
- Sandra Danko, for a gift membership for John Danzak
- Janice and Richard Kaufman, for a gift membership for Justin B. Kaufman and Paige Cornman
- David A. Kleer, for a gift membership for Michael and Karen Kleer
- Jack and Donna Miller, for gift memberships for Melody Miller and Mr. & Mrs. John C. Miller III
- Pamela Nakajima, for a gift membership for Mark Bier
- Shirley Phillis, for gift memberships for Mark Phillis
- Brittany and Debbie Platts, for a gift membership for Jo-Ann Travis
- Dr. & Mrs. Bernard L. Rottschaefer, for a gift membership for Joann and Wally Edsall
- Kate Sansing, for a gift membership for Brendan Bagin
- Pat and Bill Schultz, for gift memberships for Lori and Eric Schultz
- Dana Spriggs, for gift memberships for Dorothy Stenzel and Mary Weise
- Peg Stouffer, for gift memberships for Mr. & Mrs. Jack Kleman, Elaine and Ben Wertheim, and Concordia of the South Hills
- Helen Wilson, for a gift membership for the Mary S. Brown Memorial-Ames United Methodist Church
- Scott Wise, for gift memberships for Robert Moore

## Historic Religious Properties

(see pages 14 and 15)

## James D. Van Trump Library

- Anonymous

## Landmarks Fellows

- PNC Foundation

## Landmarks Preservation Resource Center

- Barbara and Lee Hicks
- Vartan Tchekmeian
- TriState Capital Bank

## Landmarks Scholarship

(see page 18)

## Memorial Gifts

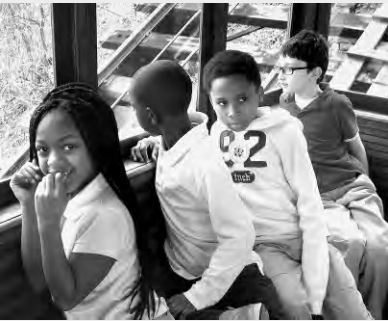
- Marylou Mele and Daniele Gilbert Pod, for a gift in memory of Furman South III
- Ann Fay Ruben, for a gift in memory of Mary Bordt

## Named Funds

- Jamini Vincent Davies and the Grambrindi Davies Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation, for gifts to the Jamini and Greg Davies Fund
- George and Eileen Dorman, for a gift to the George and Eileen Dorman Fund
- Thomas O. Hornstein Charitable Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation, for a gift to the Thomas O. Hornstein Fund
- Audrey and Ken Menke, for a gift to the Audrey and Kenneth Menke Fund for Education

## Neighborhood Revitalization and Preservation Services

- Allegheny County Economic Development Community Infrastructure and Tourism Fund
- Anonymous
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- David Bevilacqua
- H. M. Bitner Charitable Trust
- BNY Mellon
- David M. Brashear
- Michael Cardinale
- Mr. & Mrs. Randall W. Casciola
- Mary Ann Celio
- Sally Hillman Childs
- Clark Hunter Foundation
- Colcom Foundation
- Barbara Mary Deriso
- Fair Oaks Foundation
- Matthew Falcone
- Mark S. Gleeson
- Ellen Handel
- Hardy Family Trust
- Huntington Bank
- Jewish Community Foundation of the Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh
- David A. Kleer
- Muriel Moreland
- Gary and Sharran Novak
- Ray Novak
- Kevin O’Donnell
- Mary Beth Pastorius
- Pittsburgh Steelers, LLC
- PPG Foundation, for gifts in honor of Mark S. Gleeson
- Matthew Ragan
- Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County Gaming Economic Development Fund
- Daniel M. and Patricia R. Rooney
- J.T. Thomas
- Tippins Foundation
- TriState Capital Bank
- U.S. Treasury Department



## Gifts to Others

Twenty-two Named Funds have been established by members and staff to support PHLF’s work. On occasion, contributions are made to support preservation projects throughout the region. Robert Z. Fierst, Chairman of The Duquesne Heights Incline, sent the following letter of thanks to PHLF President Arthur Ziegler on November 25, 2014, as a result of PHLF’s recent contribution to the incline through the Emma Ziegler Named Fund.

*Your continued support helps us to fund ongoing expenses and operation of the Duquesne Incline. This year, in addition to routine maintenance, we concentrated on several mid-sized projects. We replaced the deteriorated front siding on the upper station, installed a new security system ... and installed a back-up electrical generator at the lower station. We are in the process of getting bids to replace the wheels on the cars ...*

*When I think of PHLF I remember pictures of the early days on Liverpool Street, where my grandfather lived, and the time you spent in the Old Post Office on the North Side. My family’s business was originally located next door to that magnificent building prior to the redevelopment of the area. I also restored several buildings in Allegheny West and used the resources of PHLF during this period. Although PHLF was not always successful in saving meaningful structures from demolition, in my opinion, the organization has done a remarkable job and the character of the Pittsburgh area has benefited greatly.*

**Students from Pittsburgh Fulton (top) and Pittsburgh Beechwood (bottom) rode the Duquesne Incline during PHLF’s “Building Pride Building Character” tour, underwritten by businesses that contribute to PHLF through Pennsylvania’s Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program.**







Jack Norris, *Chairman*

## Our Staff

Arthur P. Ziegler, Jr., *President*

Michael Sriprasert, *President, Landmarks Community Capital Corporation; President, Landmarks Development Corporation*

Louise Sturgess, *Executive Director; Editor, PHLF News*

Matthew J. Ragan, *Preservation Director; Finance Director*

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David A. Farkas, *Associate Director, Real Estate Programs*

Umer Humayun, *Project Manager*

Thomas Keffer, *Property & Construction Manager*

Karamagi Rujumba, *Project Manager*

Robert E. Wagner, *Senior Loan Officer*

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Ronald C. Yochum, Jr., *Chief Information Officer*

## Educational Programs & Research

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Mary Lu Denny, *Director of Membership Services*

\*Judith Harvey, *Fairbanks Archive Librarian*

Marie Miller, *Education & Administrative Assistant*

Frank Stroker, *Assistant Archivist; Sales Manager*

Albert M. Tannler, *Historical Collections Director*

## Legal

Donald Kortlandt, Esq., *General Counsel*

## Finance

Nancy Krulac Faust, CPA, *Controller*

A. J. Marks, *Staff Accountant*

Linda Mitry, *Senior Accountant*

*\*Part-time*

## Plus Volunteers!

More than 100 people volunteer to lead tours and help with educational programs, special events, and office work.

## Become Involved:

### Contact Us

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# EVENTS IN 2015

Please remember that space is limited; reservations are accepted by phone or e-mail. For reservations or further details, contact: [marylu@phlf.org](mailto:marylu@phlf.org); 412-471-5808, ext. 527. Event details listed below are subject to change. Visit [www.phlf.org](http://www.phlf.org) for up-to-date information or read our monthly E-news. If you are not receiving those, please send your e-mail to [marylu@phlf.org](mailto:marylu@phlf.org). If you do not have e-mail and would like to receive the E-news, please call Mary Lu and she can mail them to you.

## Bus and Walking Tours

Tours in 2015 include PHLF's free **Friday Downtown Walking Tours**, always at Noon, May through October; the free **Jail Museum Tours on Mondays**, anytime between 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m., February through October; **Downtown's Best** (\$20 per person, including a guidebook), on any Thursday, from 10:00 a.m. to Noon, in June, July, and August; a variety of **private group tours**; and a series of **bus and walking tours specially designed for PHLF members**, including the following:

- April 25: Tarentum (including lunch at the train station) and Natrona;
- July 25: Oakland Landmarks, including a tour of Mellon Institute
- September 12: Andrew Carnegie Free Library, Main Street, and Food Tasting
- September 26: Chatham Village, Mt. Washington
- October 10: Behind-the-Scenes at the Mattress Factory
- October 24: Mellon Square to Market Square (with visits to new interiors in historic landmarks)
- November 7: John Comes Churches—Lawrenceville, Etna, and Oakland



More than 4,800 people attended PHLF's free Downtown walking tours, membership events, private group tours, and presentations in 2014. Membership tours included visits to Chatham University's Eden Hall campus, Millvale, Shadyside, the Isaac Lightner House in Glenshaw, Modernist Landmarks on Pittsburgh's North Side, and urban gardens in Wilkinsburg, Braddock, and Homewood.

## LPRC Workshops & Special Programs

The following programs are free to PHLF members. PHLF thanks TriState Capital Bank for underwriting these programs as part of Wilkinsburg's Neighborhood Partnership Program.

### Panel Discussion: National Register & Local Historic District Designations

Thursday, January 15  
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Presenters: Bill Callahan, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission; Sarah Quinn, City of Pittsburgh; Jesse Belfast, Michael Baker, Jr., Inc.; and Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation staff

### DIY Workshop: Basics of Carpentry

Saturday, January 17  
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Instructor: Regis Will

### Workshop: Painting Your Old House

Saturday, January 24  
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Presenter: Markantone Painting

### Film Screening: Frederick Law Olmsted—Designing America

Tuesday, February 10  
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

### Lecture: A New Deal for Old Key West—A Case Study of Preservation and Populism

Tuesday, February 17  
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Presenter: Matthew Hyland, Department of History, Duquesne University

### Lecture: The History of Masonry

Tuesday, March 3  
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Presenter: Stephen Shelton, Shelton Masonry + Contracting

### Seminar: Public Art 101 Commissioning Works of Art for Community Settings

Saturday, March 7  
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Presenter: Pittsburgh Office of Public Art

### DIY Workshop: Introduction to Home Improvement

Thursday, March 12  
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Presenter: Michael Wetmiller, DIY Pittsburgh

### DIY Workshop: Wall Framing

Tuesday, March 17  
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Presenter: Michael Wetmiller, DIY Pittsburgh

### DIY Workshop: Finishing Carpentry Moldings and Trim

Saturday, March 21  
10:00 a.m. – Noon

Presenter: Michael Wetmiller, DIY Pittsburgh

### DIY Workshop: Drywall 101

Tuesday, March 24  
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Presenter: Michael Wetmiller, DIY Pittsburgh

### DIY Workshop: Basics of Carpentry—Interior Trim

Thursday, March 26  
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Presenter: Michael Wetmiller, DIY Pittsburgh

The Landmarks Preservation Resource Center (LPRC) is located at 744 Rebecca Avenue in Wilkinsburg. PHLF offered 65 workshops, seminars, and presentations at the LPRC in 2014. Total attendance topped 800 people from throughout the Pittsburgh region.

