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 Wilson, with their twenty-seven apartments fully occupied—and seven renovated single-family houses, new community gardens and greenspaces, and the Landmarks Preservation 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 Siprasi. 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 Jeannette Street, 853 Rebecca Avenue, and 608 Mulberry Street. Two new townhouses will be constructed at 604 and 606 Mulberry Street.

“The $10.5 million development will utilize low-income housing tax credits, awarded to LDC in June 2014 by the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (PHFA), and federal historic rehabilitation tax credits,” said Michael. “We were pleased to win this competitive tax-credit project for the continued restoration of this Wilkinsburg neighborhood,” he added.

“These low-income housing tax credits are the best investment tool available to us to support the construction of affordable rental housing across Pennsylvania,” said PHFA Executive Director Brian A. Hudson, Sr. “We are pleased that PHFA is funding a second 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)
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.

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 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.
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 Sriraparut. “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, “with working residents and community leaders to define the vision, to securing the funding, to managing the bricks-and-mortar work, to creating the educational programs.”

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 Sriraparut, “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.”

Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, Capital 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 of the building, live on the second floor, and rent the third floor. Courtney Center and Nathan Davidson, who live in the Mexican War Streets, purchased 1401 Columbus Avenue from MCC on December 3, 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.”

1401 Columbus Avenue (all) in Pittsburgh’s Manchester neighborhood. (Continued on page 4)

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 first mortgage and renovated the interior of the three-story building for its tenant, University Bound, Inc., a rapidly growing online 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)

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 Rukamba.

Yanjun Dong, Vita Ismael, Juliana Zhuolin Jia, Tuli Lakhwani, Jiaqing 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

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 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; 412-471-5808, ext. 538).

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.

Mt. Lebanon Is Listed on the National Register

“Africa of years of work by a lot of committed people, 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 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.”

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More than 350 Mt. Lebanon students participate each year in PHLF’s award-winning educational program based on educational program based on the 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 Rickert of Skelly & Loy worked with the Mt. Lebanon Historical 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 . . . .”

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

PHLF’s Strip District Stroll...
Progress and Opportunity in Natrona

PHLF has been working with the Natrona Comes Together Association (NCTA) on two building restoration projects to revitalize historic sections of Natrona. PHLF and 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.

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

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

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 Neville House Associates, under the leadership of PHLF Trustee Emeritus Anne Genter, has raised funds to ensure that critical restoration work is completed and that appropriate furniture and artwork could be acquired for Woodville,” said PHLF President Arthur Ziegler.

Butler NPP Work Brings More People to Main Street

Main Street buildings and surrounding streetscape 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 patronizing the local businesses. New landscaping (trees and native plants) and new curbs and sidewalks have made the primary parking for 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; 412-471-5808, ext. 516).

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Creating a Vital, Distinctive Downtown

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

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 Huntington, Pennsylvania) renovated the first-floor space in 2014 and Katie’s Market Square and end up as a movie extra in a scene with Michael Caine.

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.

“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.”

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

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
Katie’s Kandy opened on November 17. 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 open-use development with two men’s stores and seven market-rate apartments.

Kathy’s Kandy is open for business at 422 Wood Street, on the first floor of one of the 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.

—Johnston 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 Tredler
(September 12, 2014)
What is a Preservation Easement?

A preservation easement is a legal agreement between a property owner and PHLF that places restrictions on the 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 18–23); it is accessible at www.phlf.org.

For further information on PHLF’s easement program and process, please contact General Counsel Donald Kortlandt (dons@phlf.org; 412-471-5808, ext. 545).

Wilpen Hall Protected Through Easement Donation

Here is a big, imposing 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. Kennedy, Pittsburgh Landscape Architect (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 Summers: 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 repertory 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 (1851-1938), 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 1923. 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.

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 center in Downtown Pittsburgh,” said PHLF President Arthur Ziegler.

The six-story red-brick building, built in 1895 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 Historic District and in the City-designated Penn-Liberty Historic District.

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 gable 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 Breem, President of The New York Landmarks Conservancy (founded in 1973); Kathleen Crowther, President, and Becky Lewis, Honorary Life Trustee, of the Cleveland Restoration Society (founded 1972); Marsh Davis, President, 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 Breem 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 challenges 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—youth urban pioneers are still needed. Incentives are still needed. Education and outreach about how to finance and restore are still needed. Marketing efforts that work, events, and publications are still needed!”

Time run 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 Breem 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.”

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.

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 a veteran of World War II, Van came to Pittsburgh in 1957 to work for the University of Pittsburgh as assistant chairman of the English department. 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 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 “warily and carefully fill a grieving gap in our city—and our world.”

We extend our deepest sympathy to Margaret and her family at this time, and thank Van for his sound advice and effective leadership and were honored to have him as part of the PHLF family.
IN MEMORIAM

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 Voightly 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 Anshberry, 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.

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, then all 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 Wilkinsburg Mayor John Thompson, new homeowners, and others to celebrate the restoration of four single-family homes in the Hammett 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 point on, the lines of communication were open and we were able to reach a deal to acquire and develop Ghirardelli Square and 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 tourists, 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 of its architectural magnificence, but also because of its meaning to Braddock. Other foundations followed in the form of which Mr. Scaife’s Allegheny Foundation to make 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 against 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, 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 Robbi Conservation Life, Personal Memoirs of Richard M. Scaife
Moments in a Fifty-Year Story
Louise Sturgess

PHLF 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 continue 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 in a Moment," "Station Square," "Current Work and Priorities" and "What's Next." The answer for this issue is to share with us our personal accounts from four people. Their stories will remind many of our readers of their own memories and experiences with PHLF. In that sense, please e-mail your story to me (louise@phlf.org) so I can include it in our fifteenth-anniversary collection of "Moments." We begin our personal accounts with a "ramble" from Charles Coevert Arenburg (1933-2001), who devoutly served as PHLF's chairman from 1964 to 1994.

The Next Ten Years
1974-1984
By Charles Coevert Arenburg

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 Stone 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 black still stands, an embattled area that refuses to acknowledge defeat. Funds to begin restorations and achieve 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. …

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.

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 in downtown areas such as Detroit, Los Angeles, Dallas, and Cleveland. 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.

We applauded mightily Heinz Hall and Akesa for saving a theatre and a grand palace hotel. We point to the phenom-
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 temptation—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 antiques, 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 loose-lipped in running a museum and started to question if our mission was still being muddled.

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 Warhol office 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 was 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.

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&LE RR 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 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 activists who 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.

PHLF News January 2015

1219 Monterey Street: December 2014

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PHLF’s Historic Religious Properties Program:

Restoring Beauty and Value to Our Neighborhoods

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 Puale Zedek, 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, 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

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

Leadership Gifts ($10,000)

Katherine M. McKenna Foundation

Keystones Gifts ($1,000 or more)

George and Ethan Doman
Richard D. Flinn
David A. Kleer
Gordon and Kate MacVean Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation
Kathy and Lou Testoni

Cornerstones Gifts (up to $500)

Sandy Aitken
Anonymous
Eather Baranzone
Nenn 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
Loreta Deny, in memory of Dominick Magnano
James K. Domell

Dormont Historical Society
Judith and Jonathan Erlen
Rosemary and George Erzy
James Faro
Phyllis Hamilton
Mr. & Mrs. John Campbell Harmon
Catherine A. Helbert
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 Keller
Kathleen and Lawrence Konin
Janice and John Kreutzman
Robert M. Lavalle
Marla Lazarovic
Miguel Llanos

Allred Manzini
Angela and Doug Marvin
David and Cecilia McKibben
Melissa M. McIntosh
Dr. & Mrs. William J. McVay
Mary Anne and William Menke
Muriel Moreland
Jack Norris
John S. Ondrle
Pauline and James Parker
Ray Pendrak
Mark T. Phillips
Mantese and John Ruthke
Matthew J. Ryan
Ronald W. Ragan
Dr. & Mrs. Wilbur T. Rouleau
Ann Fay Ruben
Collins and Timothy Saurain
Virginia W. Scherr
Pat and Bill Schibra

Florance Schwartz
Eugene Seidt
Harriett Semple
Laurie Graham Shere
Sally Smiley
Lounge and Martin Sliwoski
Mary Ann Stuart Templeton
Eileen and Bruce Tenenbaum
David J. Vane
Mollie Wennig
Elyse E. Wertheim
Roger C. Wesman
Dr. Marilyn Whitmore
Roger C. Whitmore
Wilkinsburg Historical Society
Frances H. Wilson
Helen A. Wilson
Arthur Ziegler

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.
Central Presbyterian Church (bottom) used St. Paul of the Cross Monastery (below), and Fairhaven Methodist Church (above, both) HRP matching grant.

The Islamic Center of Pittsburgh replaced its roof in 2014, with help from PHLF's Tech assistance. Its roof repairs in 2015.

Congregation Poale Zedeck will complete its roof in 2015, with help from PHLF's matching grant.

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 $133,659 in funding assistance from PHLF in 2015. "We are very grateful to George and Eileen Dorman and to the Katherine Mabbs 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 neighborhood the dollar that people give," said David, "goes out in the form of 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; 412-471-5808, ext. 516). To contribute, visit www.phlf.org.

Thank You Donors 2014

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

Leads ($15,000)

George and Eileen Dorman

Major ($10,000)

Katherine Mabbs McKenna Foundation

Keystone Gifts ($1,000 or more)

Anonymous

David M. Brasher, in honor of Louise Strugis

George and Eileen Dorman Named Fund

Richard D. Flinn

David A. Klee

Gordon and Kate MacVicar Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation

Suella Psyl

Marguerite O. Standsish

Kathy and Lou Testoni

Cornerstone Gifts (up to $500)

Esther Baranratz

Niem Blais

M. Mildred Boudlevar

Susan Brantlet

Helen M. Braun

Suzanne Broughton and Richard Mangrum

Arleene Carbone-Wiley

Mr. and Mrs. Randall W. Casadila

Janet S. Clever

Marcia and Robert Coleman

Francis J. Coyce

Jean F. Dailey

Mary and John Davis

Loretta Deeny, in memory of Dominick Magazzino

Keith Dorman

Ronann and George Evry

James Ferlo

Joanna and Paul Fitting

Patrick Gallagher

Michael F. Gole

Mr. and Mrs. John Campbell

Harmon

Ed and Helen Horan

Kate Horrobin

Dolores and Jay Jarrell

Virginia and William Keck

Tom and Pam Keffe

Kathleen and Lawrence Koonin

Janice and John Kretzmann

Chadred Lang

Robert M. Lavalle

Martha Lazarevic

Angela and Doug Martin

Robert E. McCue, M.D.

Rona Moody and Derek Stuart

Muriel Moreland

Suzan Mohney

Mary Anne and William Mistick

Jack Miller

Mary Anne and William Mistick

Suzan Mohney

Rona Moody and Derek Stuart

Muriel Moreland

John S. Odrick

Pauline R. Parker

Ray Pendes

James W. Perrin, Jr.

Mark T. Pallis

Marlow and John Radelet

Dr. Herman L. Reid, Jr.

Anne Robb

De & Mrs. Wilfred T. Rouleau

Amy Raynab

Saint Nicholas Roman Catholic Parish

Pat and Bill Schulz

Sally Smiley

Emily Schwan

Mary Ann Stuart Templeton

Eileen and Bruce Tonerbnum

Vilma Turoy

David J. Vance

Sue and El Vines

The Wilden Trust

Kimberly and Robert Webb

Melel Wintert

Roger C. Westman

Frances H. Wilson

Helen, Jesse, and Todd Wilson

Emma Zagler Named Fund

Historic Religious Property TOURS

For Private Groups

• Contact Mary Lu Denny (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. Comer (1873-1922). A prolific architect, writer, and activist, Comer 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.
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 Unionion house designed by Peter Berndtson and Corinella Briefly, 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 Armony (1899–11, 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 C. G. 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):


5. PNC Train Station at Greensburg (Pennsylvania Railroad Station, Pennsylvania Railroad), 101 Emlen Street, Greensburg. 1911. William H. Cookman, engineer.


7. Pittsburgh Musical Theater (St. James School). 327 South Main Street, West End. 1916.


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)
Guillot Family Foundation
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Howard & Nell E. Miller Foundation

Gold ($5,000)

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*Teri L. White
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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 efforts 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.

Instituted 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 Sested, 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 Mirov, 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.

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) or visit www.phlf.org. Thank you!”

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
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.

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)

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 to download an application or call Marie Miller (412-471-5000, ext. 526) and she will mail one to you.

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.
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.”
Entering the architect profiles in the base (originally Philadelphia Architects and Buildings database) in 2014. She modeled it on the Mellon University, created the database Policy & Management at Carnegie from the Heinz School of Public Trump Library in the fall of 2015. Al has written are now being landmarks. The 115 architect profiles region’s most significant architectural Pittsburgh area and designed the of architects who practiced in the has been researching the lives and work Historical Collections Director at PHLF, For more than two decades, 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 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; 412-471-5808.

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 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, 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 or contact Al Tannler at PHLF (412-471-5808).

My 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.

Frank Fairbanks photographed the Coudersport and Port Allegheny Train Depot in 1963.

Mr. Fairbanks photographed the Coudersport depot in 1963.

Lost: The former shed of the R&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 PHLF 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.

Thank You

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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.

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Green Building Alliance

Dear Walking Tour Volunteers

Thank you for showing us

I had a lot of fun.

We saw many cool things!

By Lucas Vero, second grade,

Washington Elementary School, Mt. Lebanon

22

PHLF News January 2015

ADVOCA CY

COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION

EASEMENTS

EDUCATION & RESEARCH

RURAL PRESERVATION

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 Samson, 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, 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

1861 Moneyness Cemetery
Gary Albau
Georgia Abraham
Diane Aiken
Ann and Robert Albert
Dona and David Albert
Judith and John Arch

The Art Institute of Pittsburgh
James Dillon Aubry, Jr. and
Lisa Ann Bingon
Nina Babarz
Brendan Bagin
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Greater Allen AME Church
Jeremy S. Guttman
Hamnett Place Community Garden
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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 A. Athol, Mary Ann Celso, Clifford Mell, C. Stewart Agreen, and Eileen Tienenbaum
- The Buhl Foundation, for matching a gift from Laura 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
- Helfen-Tilloon, Inc.
- Huntington Bank
- Maher Duesel CPA (8-15-2013)
- PNC Bank (9-5-2013)

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- Eat’n Park Hospitality Group, Inc.
- ESB Bank
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- Frank R. Furher Wholesale Company
- Helfen-Tilloon, Inc.
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- Maher Duesel CPA
- Pickands Mather Lake Services, Inc., on behalf of Susan and Scott F. Brown
- PNC Bank
- UPMC

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- 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
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- Mary Beth Pastoria
- Elle Schuler

Educational Programs (cont.)
- Judy A. Segal
- 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 F. Moore and The Rev. & Mrs. William A. Jones
- Cynthia Pearson Tursch
- Tawnya Zemka

Frank B. Fairbanks Rail Transportation Archive
(available for gift donation)
- Joseph D. Duris, Jr.
- Greg Petlik
- Joan Fairbanks
- Don Harper
- Judith Harvey
- Jeffry Mora

Gift Memberships
- Thomas Betsler, for a gift membership for Clarence Betsler
- Kristy Carnahan, for a gift membership for Dawesville K. Shaver
- Kasey Connors, for gift memberships for Suzie and Mike Amet, Brad Ayers, Carla Braham, Ada and Rob Brandegis, Emma Davison, Jim Denova, Elizabeth Quinn, Nancy Reese, and Jon and Debbie West
- Sandra Dausko, for a gift membership for John Danzak
- Janice and Richard Kaufman, for a gift membership for Justine B. Kaufman and Paige Cormann
- 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 Phillips, for gift memberships for Mark Phillips
- Brittany and Debbie Pitta, for a gift membership for Jo-Anne Travis
- Dr. & Mrs. Bernard L. Rottschafer, for a gift membership for JoAnn and Wally Edsall
- Kate Santsing, for a gift membership for Brendan Bagin
- Pat and Bill Schultz, for gift memberships for Lori and Eric Schultz
- Dana Spiggs, for gift memberships for Dorothy Stenuel and Mary Weise
- Peg Stouffer, for gift memberships for Mr. & Mrs. Jack Klem, 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
- Anonymous

Landmarks Fellows
- PNC Foundation

Landmarks Preservation Resource Center
- Barbara and Lee Hicks
- Varian Tchekelman
- TriState Capital Bank

Landmarks Scholarship (see page 18)
- MaryLou Mele and Daniel Gilbert Pod, for a gift in memory of Furman South III
- Ann Fay Ruben, for a gift in memory of Mary Bortd

Named Funds
- Jamin Vincent Davies and the Grumbandi Davies Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation, for gifts to the Janney and Greg Davies Fund
- George and Eileen Doerman, 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
- The Armstrong Group of Companies
- David Bevilacqua
- H. M. Bitter 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 Sharron Novak
- Ray Novak
- Kevin O’Donnell
- Mary Beth Pastoria
- 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. & Patricia R. Rooney
- F.T. Thomas
- Tippmann 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 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-size projects. We replaced the deteriorated front siding on the upper station, installed a new security system and … 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 Bermwood (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.
BUS AND WALKING TOURS

Tours in 2015 include PHLF’s free 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, and Oakland Churches––Lawrenceville, Etna, Shadyside, the Isaac Lightner 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 Quan, 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: Mark Kantone 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 + Contractors

Seminars: Public Art 101 Commissioning Works of Art for Community Settings
Saturday, March 7
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

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
Tuesday, March 24
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Presenter: Michael Wetmiller, DIY Pittsburgh

DIY Workshop: Drywall 101
Tuesday, March 31
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 offers 61 workshops, seminars, and presentations at the LPRC in 2014. Total attendance topped 800 people from throughout the Pittsburgh region.