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Renewing Communities; Building Pride

PHLF News

PUBLISHED FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE PITTSBURGH HISTORY & LANDMARKS FOUNDATION

No. 181 April 2016

“Through the Place” Tells PHLF’s Story and the Impact of Historic Preservation

Members of the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation (PHLF) are invited to The Frick Art Museum Auditorium at the Frick Art & Historical Center on Tuesday evening, May 10 to see “Through the Place,” a one-hour documentary about the role historic preservation has played in improving the quality of life in the nation and throughout the Pittsburgh region, and about lessons learned through PHLF’s experiences that will be of use to people everywhere. The event, from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m., includes a reception in The Frick Art Museum Rotunda. Reservations are required since seating is limited: contact Mary Lu Denny, PHLF’s director of membership services (marylu@phlf.org; 412-471-5808, ext. 527).

“The Frick is a fitting place for us to release this documentary to our membership,” said PHLF President Arthur Ziegler, “because Miss Helen Clay Frick was the first to donate to PHLF. In fact, when Miss Frick’s secretary called to ask to whom the check should be written, I came up with the name, ‘Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation.’ We are grateful to be partnering with The Frick for this event that will provide useful history and insights to both their members and to ours.”

How the Documentary Came About

Late in 2014 during PHLF’s fiftieth anniversary year, Cathy Tuttle, who is the executive director of Seattle Neighborhood Greenways and a PHLF member, returned to her hometown of Pittsburgh for a visit. No matter where she went, she noticed that PHLF had either been at work in that community or was at work there now.

She suggested to Arthur that PHLF tell its story in a comprehensive way so people can see how “historic preservation can be the key to unlocking valuable places, community pride, and cultural identity.”

“When Cathy followed her suggestion with a \$1,000 donation,” said Arthur, “I asked Karamagi Rujumba, our director of public communications and

I very much enjoyed doing the interview about Pittsburgh . . . There’s no architectural treasure house like Pittsburgh and lucky we all are that you and those who work with you have done so much to awaken so many to that reality. Keep up the good work. I’m all for you.

—David McCullough,
November 9, 2015, in a letter to
PHLF President Arthur Ziegler

advocacy, to get to work.” Karamagi enlisted the services of videographer Dan Lovering, formerly with the Associated Press, to produce a documentary that profiles nationally recognized thinkers and critics who know our work and understand the significance of Pittsburgh, including David McCullough, a Pittsburgh native and nationally distinguished historian, author, and lecturer; Stanley Lowe, a Manchester native and preservationist formerly with the National Trust for Historic Preservation; Roberta Brandes Gratz, urban critic, author, and lecturer; Stan Eckstut, Perkins Eastman’s senior principal; and Peg Breen, president of The New York Landmarks Conservancy. “Through the Place” includes drone photography of Pittsburgh at dawn and dusk and awesome views of our neighborhoods and individual landmarks,”

said Karamagi. “In addition, historical footage from the 1960s has been incorporated to provide a context for the decade in which PHLF was founded, and we commissioned Clifford Anderson to compose original music,” he said. The video trailer on PHLF’s website (www.phlf.org) was viewed more than 37,000 times shortly after it was posted.

“Our fiftieth anniversary provided us with the logical opportunity to reflect on the impact of our work on the North Side—especially in Manchester and the Mexican War Streets, and in regard to the Pittsburgh Children’s Museum; on the South Side along East Carson Street and in regard to our development of Station Square; in downtown Pittsburgh where we are extensively involved; in many city neighborhoods and outlying communities, including Wilkinsburg; and through our extensive series of educational programs for people of all ages,” said Arthur.

“‘Through the Place’ is an educational and advocacy tool,” said Karamagi, “for people who are intrigued by our work and want to know more. You’ll have a deeper understanding of why we do what we do. In creating this documentary, I have come to realize that what has happened in Pittsburgh is incomparable to what has happened in preservation anywhere else in the nation.”

The documentary also will be shown on May 20 during a joint meeting of the PHLF Board and its subsidiaries. Karamagi is working with the National Trust for Historic Preservation to screen “Through the Place” at PastForward, the National Preservation Conference that will be held in Houston, Texas, November 15–18.

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Editor’s Note

We have much to announce and report in this annual issue of *PHLF News*, but first want to share an e-mail that we received in regard to our January 2015 *PHLF News*. After reading the centerspread story about our first fifty years, Charlie Arensberg, the son of PHLF Chairman Charles Covert Arensberg, wrote:

Thank you so much for pointing out the article on page 12 that Dad wrote earlier in PHLF’s history. I remember distinctly the very early “organizing” meetings of 1964 (sometimes in the living room at our house on Castleman Street). . . . What an accomplished organization came out of those early endeavors.

We set our minds to telling the story of our “accomplished organization” and are pleased to announce the premiere of “Through the Place” (see cover story). In addition, articles on the following pages describe our restoration work in downtown Pittsburgh, Butler, and Wilkinsburg, and summarize recent loans and grants throughout the region. Al Tannler’s article about the English Nationality Room reveals a surprising find, and several stories about recent educational programs are inspiring.

Please register for our tours and events (see page 24) and use our libraries (see page 21). Stay in touch by visiting www.phlf.org, by reading our E-newsletters that are sent in the beginning of each month, and by following us on Facebook and Twitter. Thank you for all you do for PHLF!

—Louise Sturgess



Liverpool Street in Manchester, on Pittsburgh’s North Side. The proposed demolition of these Victorian homes in the 1960s motivated Arthur Ziegler and James Van Trump to establish a preservation organization. The Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation (PHLF) was incorporated on September 30, 1964, although its work had begun earlier in the year, thanks to the support of Miss Helen Clay Frick.

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

—Arthur Ziegler, PHLF President

PHLF's Mission

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



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

PHLF...

- is governed by a board of 25 community leaders;
- has had a balanced budget in each year of operation since its founding in 1964;
- provides leadership and assistance to local, state, national, and international organizations;
- provides financing and technical assistance through a nonprofit subsidiary, Landmarks Community Capital Corporation (LCCC), a certified Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI); and
- develops real estate and provides consulting services 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 2016 will help PHLF:

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

Applying Our Principles Over the Years to Revitalize the Fifth/Forbes Area, Downtown

In August 1999 we published a *Special Issue of PHLF News*, which is well worth recalling now, after seventeen years have passed in the life of our downtown. The cover story by Roberta Brandes Gratz, a nationally recognized urban critic and author who figures prominently in “Through the Place,” was titled **Downtown is “Hot.”** We issued the *Special Issue No. 155* in the midst of the Fifth/Forbes controversy, when the Murphy administration was proposing the demolition of more than sixty historic buildings. You can read that issue (although a few photos are missing for some reason)—and almost all *PHLF News* issues published since 1966—at phlf.org/news_issue/.

Thanks to the steadfast support of our members and in cooperation with Preservation Pittsburgh, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and downtown business owners, we defeated the Murphy administration plan in 2001. The principles that we advocated in that *Special Issue*—encourage local businesses; give Market Square a traditional role; restore significant architecture; redirect the public investment by providing façade restoration grants; develop housing; develop a downtown *Pittsburgh* retail center; etc.—*have in fact been applied* to revitalize the Fifth/Forbes area. Although work continues and there is still much to be done, significant progress has been made and the results are exciting to see.



Tom Keffer, PHLF/LDC's property and construction manager, views Wood Street from the top floor of the cast-iron building housing Katie's Kandy.

PHLF and its subsidiaries, The Landmarks Development Corporation (LDC; for-profit real estate development) and Landmarks Community Capital Corporation (LCCC; nonprofit lending), have played a major role in the renewal of the Fifth/Forbes area, thanks to funding support from many sources. (See page 5 for more news about LCCC.) The following timeline of activity highlights how PHLF has used various tools—real estate development, historic religious properties grants, education, plaques, advocacy, technical assistance, lending, easements, and planned giving—to revitalize the Fifth/Forbes area.

2001: The Murphy plan was defeated and local developers took the lead to combine historic preservation and green-building principles to promote downtown living and local business development within an architecturally distinctive environment.

Only those downtowns that reflect the character of their cities are growing in prestige and appeal. ... it is the people with vested interests and long-term connections to a locality who come, stay, live, work, spend money, and thus enliven a vital center.

—Roberta Brandes Gratz, *Special Issue PHLF News*, No. 155, August 1999

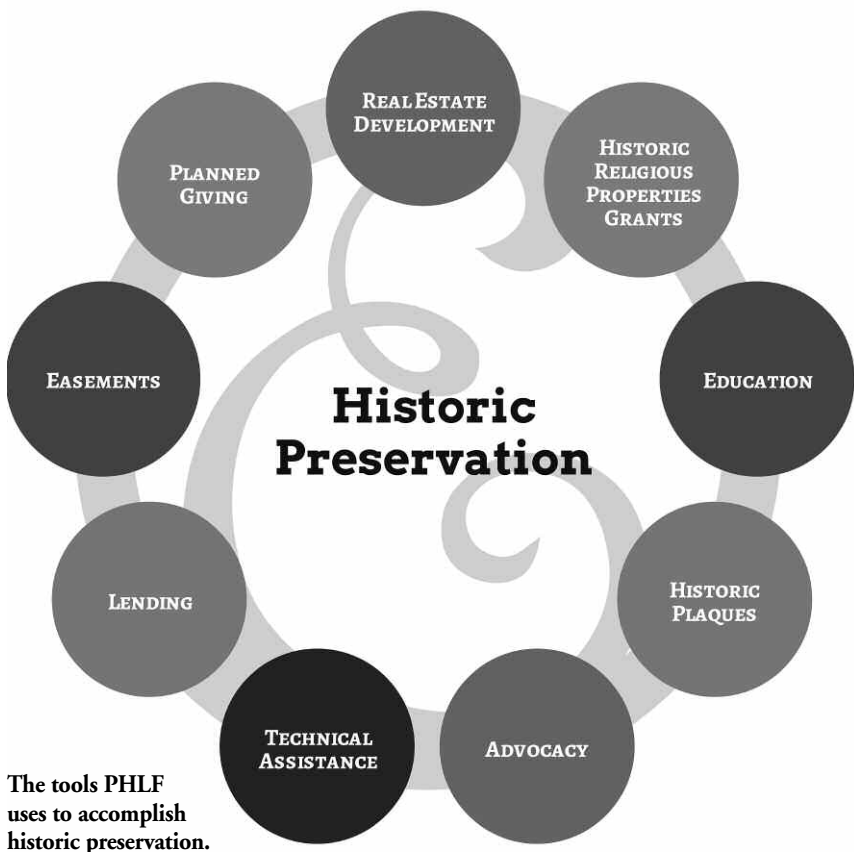
2007: PHLF acquired three badly deteriorated historic buildings from the Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA) of Pittsburgh and City of Pittsburgh on Market Street and Fifth Avenue. Work began on “Market at Fifth.”

2008: PHLF purchased a fourth building, the Thompson's Building, adjacent to “Market at Fifth.”

2008: PHLF awarded a Historic Religious Properties (HRP) grant to Trinity Cathedral on Sixth Avenue for critical exterior improvements.

2009 (and also in 2011, 2013, and 2016): PHLF awarded HRP grants to First Presbyterian Church on Sixth Avenue for critical exterior improvements.

2009: PHLF acquired a preservation easement on the exterior of the Carlyle (formerly, the Union National Bank Building), at the corner of Wood Street and Fourth Avenue.



The tools PHLF uses to accomplish historic preservation.

2009: After nearly three years of work and an investment of \$4.5 million, PHLF opened Market at Fifth, a LEED-Gold renovation containing seven market-rate apartments and two locally owned businesses (Heinz Healey's and Nettleton Shop).

2010: PHLF acquired a preservation easement on the Burke's Building, at 209 Fourth Avenue.

PHLF understands real-estate economics. ... We create value by restoring buildings.

—Jack Norris, PHLF Chairman, Excerpt from “Through the Place”

2011: PHLF acquired 413–417 Wood Street, thanks to the J. R. Weldin Company and a contribution from former PHLF Trustee George White. Boutique La Passerelle, a women's clothing store specializing in European fashions, had opened the previous year at 417 Wood Street. Downtown resident Adele Morelli acquired the store in 2013.



Members of PHLF's Landmarks Heritage Society will tour The Tower at PNC Plaza (far left) on May 12 (see page 24). They will also have the option of touring the upper-floors of the cast-iron buildings, the former Weldin's Building (above), and the Market Street Grocery with real estate developer Ralph Falbo and the proprietors of Vallozzi's Pittsburgh. The upscale urban market is thriving, and the Wine Shop and Wine Bar, also located on the main floor, is listed among the best wine bars in Pittsburgh.

2011: Mayor Luke Ravenstahl announced a major façade renovation program in the Fifth/Forbes area, thanks to a \$4 million state grant through the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP). PHLF carried out the renovation program under contract with the URA.

2013: The National Park Service approved a boundary increase nomination proposed by PHLF for the Fourth Avenue National Register Historic District, extending further along Wood Street and up Forbes Avenue, as well as boundary increases to three other downtown districts and the new Pittsburgh Renaissance Historic District.

2013: LCCC's \$295,000 loan in December enabled Tesla Real Estate Holdings to refinance an existing mortgage and to renovate the interior of the Centennial Building at 241 Fourth Avenue.

2013: LDC acquired 420–422 Wood Street from the URA. The façades of the cast-iron buildings had been restored by PHLF through the RACP.

April 2015: After two years of work and an investment of \$2 million in renovating the Thompson's Building, PHLF celebrated the opening of the Market Street Grocery with real estate developer Ralph Falbo and the proprietors of Vallozzi's Pittsburgh. The upscale urban market is thriving, and the Wine Shop and Wine Bar, also located on the main floor, is listed among the best wine bars in Pittsburgh.

May 18, 2015: Mayor Bill Peduto announced the successful completion of the \$4 million RACP grant, resulting in the restoration of eleven historic façades along Wood Street, Forbes and Fifth avenues, and Market Street, two more than originally projected due to our efficient construction management.

July 2015: The URA approved a grant of \$274,231 to be awarded to PHLF to restore the façades of the former Weldin's properties at 413–417 Wood Street.

September 2015: PHLF completed work on refurbishing eleven Historic Landmark Plaques on downtown buildings (see page 6).

April 2016: Architect Milton Ogot completed plans for the Weldin's Building façade restoration. Once the scaffolding is set in place later this year, Millennium Constructors, LLC, will finish the job in three months.

“As this region grows and changes, our goal is to have a harmonious relationship between restoring the historic buildings and erecting new ones downtown and elsewhere in the city,” said PHLF President Arthur Ziegler. “We have been able to protect blocks of historic buildings downtown by acquiring significant buildings or easements, and we have been able to work with major property owners to save historic structures whenever possible and to influence the location and design of new buildings. All of us are trying to create a stimulating and economically vital downtown with national architectural distinction.”

In addition to the bricks-and-mortar work, PHLF's education staff uses the Fifth/Forbes area—and all of downtown—as a classroom for learning throughout the year. Join us on a free Friday walking tour May through October, or for our popular “Downtown's Best” walking tour every Thursday, June through August (see page 24).

“We especially encourage our members to attend the first-ever Doors Open Pittsburgh event this October 1 and 2,” said Education Coordinator Karen Cahall. “More than forty buildings will be open, and participants will be able to see some spectacular interior spaces during this free weekend event.”

Downtown Pittsburgh is truly on a trajectory of growth, and having PHLF as a partner is a wonderful advantage. I look forward to continuing to work together to our shared goal of a vibrant downtown for everyone.

—Mayor Bill Peduto, in a letter of January 27, 2016, to PHLF President Arthur Ziegler



Bill Bates, vice-president of real estate for Eat'n Park Hospitality Group and chairman of LDC, stopped in Hello Bistro after the Mayor's press conference on May 18, 2015. The restaurant, located at 292 Forbes Avenue, opened in 2014 in the first floor of the Italian Sons and Daughters of America building. PHLF restored the façade in 2013.



Announcing Doors Open Pittsburgh

October 1 & 2, 2016
Saturday & Sunday
A free event Downtown

Bring your family and friends and visit a host of buildings that are opening their doors and providing behind-the-scenes access and unique experiences.

Simply go to the Doors Open Pittsburgh website, select the sites you want to visit, create your own itinerary and go! At each site, you will be greeted and then be allowed to explore (some sites will provide guided experiences).

See and experience Pittsburgh like never before!

Your adventure starts here: doorsopenpgh.org; 412-583-1424.

No reservations/No tickets required.

Save the date as Pittsburgh joins the ranks of more than 30 cities around the world that are hosting the Doors Open/Open House movement! This event is part of #PGH200, a celebration of Pittsburgh's 200-year history as a city.

We thank Dollar Bank for being an Event Sponsor. We are anticipating other local businesses to offer their sponsorship support.

Volunteers Needed

We need your help for this inaugural event! At each site, Doors Open Pittsburgh will need volunteer Greeters, and in some cases, volunteer Docents. As a Volunteer, you will receive a Doors Open Pittsburgh t-shirt and a fast-pass for you and a guest—so you will be able to explore many of the sites when you are not volunteering.

Please sign up at: doorsopenpgh.org/volunteer/

Questions?: Call Mary Lu Denny (412-471-5808, ext. 527) since PHLF is coordinating the volunteer effort. More than 600 volunteers are needed!

Doors Open Pittsburgh is being presented in partnership with ALA Pittsburgh, a chapter of the American Institute of Architects; Design Center; and Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation. The Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership and the Pittsburgh Downtown Community Development Corporation are supporting the event in its inaugural year.

Neighborhood Partnership Programs Improve Historic Communities



The spire of the Butler County Courthouse (1886) is visible from a distance as you approach the City of Butler. PHLF has restored the façade of the former Penn Theater on Main Street. The Art Deco theater opened in 1938 and closed in 2001. Just after this photo was taken on February 7, 2016, the historic buildings to the left of the theater were damaged in a fire on March 11. PHLF is working with the community to see if the buildings can be saved.



Wilkinsburg, PA

TriState Capital Bank is the corporate sponsor of the Neighborhood Partnership Program (NPP) in Wilkinsburg, where PHLF works in partnership with the Wilkinsburg Community Development Corporation (WCDC).

The NPP is helping fund PHLF's work in the historic National Register-listed Hamnett Place neighborhood, where our Landmarks Preservation Resource Center (LPRC) is located, as well as in several community gardens. "Thanks to the NPP, we are able to offer more than fifty hands-on workshops and educational programs each year at the LPRC," said Karamagi Rujumba, PHLF's director of public communications and advocacy, "and we are able to maintain several landscaped gardens and be involved in community development planning efforts."

Upcoming events at the Landmarks Preservation Resource Center include the following:

Tuesday, May 3, 2016
6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Garden Lecture: Easy Herbs You Can Grow
Martha Swiss, Garden Writer & Designer

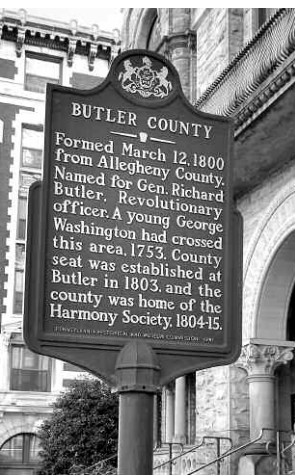
Monday, May 16, 2016
6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Home Buyer Workshop: Credit Counseling for First-time Buyers
Ray Garofalo, Vice President for Community Development, Dollar Bank

Saturday, May 21, 2016
10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

DIY Workshop: Using Saws and Sawing Wood
Regis Will, Vesta Home Services

The Landmarks Preservation Resource Center is located at 744 Rebecca Avenue in Wilkinsburg (see page 24). PHLF members receive free admission to all workshops and programs. For a full schedule of events, visit www.phlf.org and click on "Tours & Events" (at the top of the home page). The LPRC has become a popular center for anyone interested in learning more about home improvements, gardening, home ownership and financing, architectural history, and urban planning. PHLF's fiftieth anniversary documentary, "Through the Place," will be shown at the LPRC later this year.



City of Butler, PA

PHLF members will have a chance to see the progress that has been made in the City of Butler, as a result of the Neighborhood Partnership Program (NPP), during a tour on Saturday, September 17 (see page 24).

Participants will travel by bus from Station Square thirty-five miles north through the countryside to the City of Butler, incorporated in 1917. Mayor Thomas Donaldson will welcome our group, and we'll walk along Main Street past the historic Penn Theater and tour St. Paul R.C. Church by John T. Comès, among other places. Comès expert David McMunn will be with us, and organist Dennis Bell will perform at St. Paul.

The NPP is a state tax-credit initiative that offers incentives for businesses to invest in communities. David Farkas, PHLF's associate director of real estate programs, manages the Butler NPP, now in its sixth year. With financial support from the program's sponsors, Armstrong and Huntington Bank, many physical improvements are being made to the National Register-listed Main



Street and surrounding area. New sidewalks, benches, trees, and landscaping have been installed on a number of downtown streets, and the façade of the historic Penn Theater has been meticulously repaired and restored. The entryway and doors have been restored, the façade has been painted, new windows have been installed on the upper façade, and the roof has been repaired.

Thanks to a contribution from an anonymous donor, PHLF will restore the neon sign of the Penn Theater later this year, and will continue the streetscaping and greening work along Main Street. The Butler NPP will be completed in 2017.



The Landmarks Preservation Resource Center is the one-story brick building with the chamfered corner and glass-block windows.



Market Street Grocery at 435 Market Street in downtown Pittsburgh occupies the first floor of the Thompson's Building. LDC, a PHLF subsidiary, owns the Thompson's Building. The three adjacent buildings leading to Fifth Avenue comprise PHLF's "Market at Fifth," a LEED-Gold renovation including seven apartments and men's retail: Heinz Healey's and Nettleton Shop.

Landmarks Community Capital Corporation: Loans Totaled \$612,500 in 2015

A commercial building in downtown Pittsburgh, a former manufacturing building in the Strip District, two row houses on a modest street in Lawrenceville, and a Romanesque church in Garfield are in better shape today because of loans from Landmarks Community Capital Corporation (LCCC), PHLF's nonprofit lending subsidiary. Certified as a Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) by the U. S. Treasury, LCCC combines technical assistance with flexible financing to spark revitalization in historic areas throughout the region. "Our loans in 2015 helped create a much-needed grocery store, a renovated office space and residences, and a more financially secure and functional church," said Michael Sriprasert, president of LCCC.

Market Street Grocery

Thanks to a \$150,000 loan from LCCC's Downtown Retail fund, Falbo-Vallozzi LLC was able to finance

first-floor interior improvements for a specialty grocery store and wine bar. Market Street Grocery, located on the first floor of the 1926 Thompson's Building, opened in April 2015. It has enjoyed brisk business since then and has become a favorite place to stop for prepared breakfasts, lunches, or dinners; to get a cup of coffee; to savor a pastry from Gaby et Jules; or sip a glass of wine with

friends or buy wine by the bottle or case. The retail store features wines from the Collefrisio winery in Italy. With high ceilings, lots of natural light, the original tile floor, and an easy circulation path, the Market Street Grocery is a well-designed, attractive space—and downtown's first grocery in five years. "Market Street Grocery is an outstanding example of a successful Pittsburgh partnership," said developer Ralph Falbo; "we could not have done it without PHLF."



A wine bar is located in the portion of the building closest to Graeme Street.

4824–4822 Blackberry Way

LCCC closed on a \$337,500 construction loan to Wylie Holdings, a private developer known for its restoration of historic residential properties. This loan

funded the interior renovation of two side-by-side row houses in Central Lawrenceville on Blackberry Way. The two-bedroom properties, formerly vacant, were transformed into attractive



4824 (left) and 4822 (right) Blackberry Way, Lawrenceville

urban spaces with beautiful hardwood floors, modern design features, and new kitchens and bathrooms.

Joe Edelstein, partner of Wylie Holdings, remarked: "LCCC stepped up in a big way to provide construction funding to assist Wylie Holdings in renovating two formerly dilapidated row houses. Small projects like this make a big impact and are often tough to finance. We applaud LCCC and its mission to fill this gap in the commercial lending landscape."

Brass Building Lofts

LCCC used its new Strip District Restoration Loan Fund to provide a \$75,000 loan to Brass Building LLC, owned by local architect Rob Indovina. Originally the Pittsburgh Brass Manufacturing Company, the historic building of 1902 is located at 3185 Penn Avenue, one block from the Thirty-first Street Bridge. The loan funded new windows that were part of a complete conversion of the building into fourteen high-end loft apartments on the upper stories and first-floor office space. Mr. Indovina will relocate his architectural firm there. The Pennsylvania Brass Manufacturing Company Building was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in February 2016, based on a successful nomination by Mr. Indovina.



Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Brass Building Lofts is located at 3185 Penn Avenue in the Strip District.

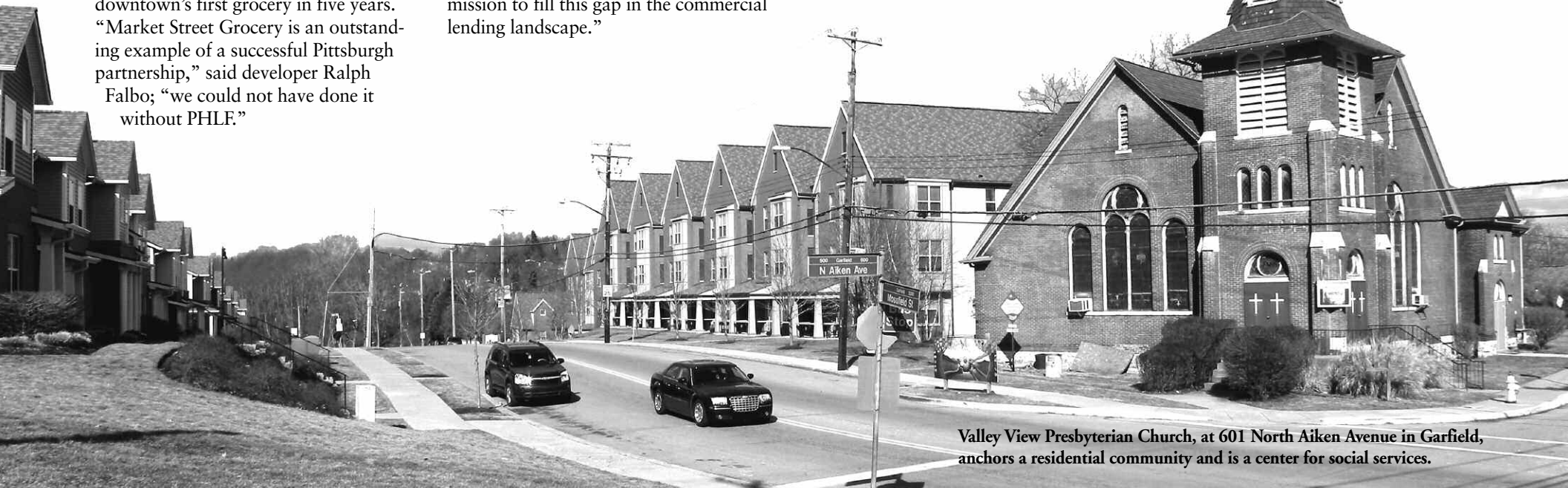
Valley View Presbyterian Church

As a complement to PHLF's annual program of matching grants and technical assistance (see pages 8 and 9), LCCC has created a loan program especially for the restoration and reuse of historic religious properties. Valley View Presbyterian Church in Garfield is the first to receive a loan through this new program. A \$50,000 loan was made to refinance higher-rate mortgage debt and to provide funds for the water-proofing of the church basement. The 1903 church is a social-services hub in the community, providing a food pantry, after-school youth programs, and a summer youth camp.

To Apply for a Loan

Contact Rob Wagner (rob@phlf.org; 412-471-5808, ext. 538), LCCC's senior loan officer, to discuss your project. Then, complete and submit a loan application form, including all requested materials. Rob will contact you to schedule a meeting, after which you may need to submit supplemental information. LCCC's Loan Committee will then meet to review your completed application, and will inform you of its decision.

Our goal is to augment our loan fund so we are able to provide more capital. We thank the H. M. Bitner Charitable Trust for a lead grant to launch our fundraising effort.



Valley View Presbyterian Church, at 601 North Aiken Avenue in Garfield, anchors a residential community and is a center for social services.

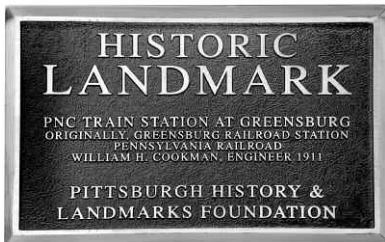
Nominations Welcome for Historic Landmark Plaques

Later this year the Historic Plaque Designation Committee, chaired by PHLF Trustee Lu Donnelly, will be meeting to consider nominations for Historic Landmark plaques. Architecturally significant structures and designed landscapes throughout the Pittsburgh region that have maintained their integrity and are fifty years old or more may be nominated. You may download a plaque application from PHLF's website (phlf.org/downloads/plaque_Application.pdf). Or contact Frank Stroker, plaque program administrator, and he will send one to you: frank@phlf.org; 412-471-5808, ext. 525.

A Historic Landmark plaque gives public recognition to a property by identifying the name of the place, the designer, and date(s). It *does not protect* a property from alteration or demolition. PHLF only has the legal power to remove the plaque if the owner unsuitably alters the property. Since the program's inception in 1968, PHLF has awarded 579 plaques to significant buildings, districts, landscapes, and structures.

Colcom Foundation

Thanks to a grant from the Colcom Foundation in 2014, PHLF was able to have Matthews International refurbish sixty-six weathered or deteriorated plaques and replace one. After decades of being displayed outdoors, many Historic Landmark plaques needed care and attention. The project was completed in September 2015. We thank Colcom Foundation for suggesting this project to us in our fiftieth-anniversary year and for providing funding support.



Trustee Support

We thank David Bevilacqua and Kevin O'Donnell, trustees of The Landmarks Financial Corporation, a PHLF subsidiary, for their generous donations that helped underwrite the cost of the Historic Landmark plaque for the PNC Train Station at Greensburg, installed on June 5, 2015.

In some cases, contributions from others are needed to help owners purchase and install their plaques. Once PHLF awards the designation, it is normally the owners' responsibility to pay for the costs of having the plaque manufactured and installed. Bronze plaques cost around \$425 and aluminum plaques cost around \$250. Please contact Frank Stroker (see above) to contribute to the plaque program.

Preservation Advocacy Highlights in 2015

Each day, new preservation concerns are brought to the attention of staff members from people throughout the Pittsburgh region. As a result, PHLF staff provides information on the architectural significance of a particular structure or community, undertakes further research when necessary, and offers advice and guidance to help address the concerns—and save the place. In addition, staff members raise funds to initiate and carry out preservation projects, testify on preservation matters, provide continuing education for realtors, offer advice on Section 106 reviews, write letters of support for grant applications being submitted by others for various historic preservation projects, and meet regularly with public officials and organizations that are working to improve this region for the people who live here.

In all that we do, we believe that historic preservation is the underlying basis for community renewal, human renewal, and economic renewal. “Through the place, we renew the spirit of the people,” says Arthur Ziegler, PHLF co-founder and president.

“Looking back on 2015,” said Karamagi Rujumba, PHLF's director of public communications and advocacy, “the following issues are especially significant and are worth highlighting”:

Point Park University's Pittsburgh Playhouse

For several years we worked with Point Park University to assist the university in opening a new and remarkable playhouse downtown on Forbes Avenue. Between May and July 2015, PHLF worked with the university, City of Pittsburgh Department of City Planning, Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission officials, and other stakeholders to create a mitigation agreement and plan so the new Pittsburgh Playhouse could be successfully integrated into the historic fabric of Downtown. On Fourth Avenue, the former Industrial Bank of 1903 is being renovated and incorporated into the new playhouse. On Forbes Avenue, major portions of several historic façades will be used as sculptural elements, and the new playhouse will connect with the Point Park University Center, located in the former Colonial Trust Company building of 1902/1926. Construction is underway and the new playhouse will open in 2017.

Pittsburgh Athletic Association

Concord Hospitality is proposing to build a hotel in the parking lot of the Pittsburgh Athletic Association (PAA) in Oakland, between Bigelow Boulevard and Lytton Avenue near Fifth Avenue, that would provide lease revenue to the PAA.

We worked with the Mayor's Office, Department of City Planning, neighborhood residents, and PAA officials to achieve better setbacks to the hotel, a less-noticeable parking entrance, and streetfront retail. In the process, we learned that the PAA still would be unprotected since the hotel is an entirely independent enterprise. Therefore, in cooperation with Councilman Dan Gilman, we arrived at an agreement that the PAA would donate a preservation easement to PHLF, thus protecting the



A Hyatt Centric hotel is to be constructed in the parking-lot area owned by and behind the Pittsburgh Athletic Association, shown here facing Fifth Avenue and Bigelow Boulevard in Oakland.



Renderings of Point Park University's new Pittsburgh Playhouse, downtown: looking west on Fourth Avenue (above) and east on Forbes Avenue (below).



historic façade in perpetuity. On July 15, 2015, we testified at a special hearing of the Pittsburgh Historic Review Commission in support of the revised plans of the hotel developer, contingent upon our receiving the easement.

Historic Tax Credit Summit

Karamagi attended and participated in the Historic Tax Credit Summit in Washington, D.C., on July 28–29, 2015, organized by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the National Trust Community Investment Corporation, and the Historic Tax Credit Coalition. The purpose of the summit was to raise awareness and build support for the federal historic tax credit, an important tool in financing historic preservation efforts around the country.

West North Avenue Development, North Side

After extensive, productive design discussions with the TREK Development Group, Inc. and others that resulted in a reduction of the number of stories in the proposed mixed-use building and alterations to the proposed corner configuration, Karamagi appeared

at a hearing of the Zoning Board of Pittsburgh on August 6, 2015 to support TREK Development's restoration of the historic Garden Theater on West North Avenue and

construction of an eight-story, mixed-use building. However, when the city's Zoning Board of Adjustment approved the redevelopment plan, several neighbors appealed that decision. On March 25, 2016, the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* reported that “The order from Allegheny County Common Pleas Senior Judge Joseph M. James reverses a decision by the city's Zoning Board of Adjustment to permit a bigger development than zoning allows and denies TREK's application.”

City of Pittsburgh's Preservation Summit

As a panelist at the City of Pittsburgh's Preservation Summit on November 16, 2015, Karamagi participated in discussions about the City's Historic Guidelines, considered Conservation Districts as a planning tool, and assessed the results of the City's recently completed study on the economic impact of historic preservation. *Historic Preservation: Part of the DNA of Pittsburgh* was written by Donovan Rypkema and Briana Paxton of PlaceEconomics, a Washington, D.C.-based real estate and economic development firm (also see page 7). The study noted: “There may be no other city of its size in America where historic preservation is so naturally integral to the life of the city across all sectors and across the interests of its citizens than Pittsburgh.” The report is available at: pittsburghpa.gov/dcp/boards/historic-review-commission. Click on “Pittsburgh HP Economic Study.”

Pittsburgh Is Singled Out for Preservation Work and Impact



The salvation, the rejuvenation of Pittsburgh in my lifetime, has to my mind been one of the stunning accomplishments in our country and deserves more attention and credit.

—David McCullough, Excerpt from “Through the Place”

acquired deteriorated historic houses, restored them, and is subsidizing sales to low-income individuals or families.”

PHLF's Market at Fifth in downtown Pittsburgh, combining quality retail and market-rate apartments in a LEED-Gold development, was featured in a captioned photo, and the preservation community's work was cited in preventing “the demolition of 64 historic buildings in the core downtown business area.”

While well aware of how Pittsburgh has progressed, I was astonished by Metropolis' ranking. The Smoky City of my youth—one of the eleven best in the World! Even more, one of only three in North America.

I am proud to have participated ... in PHLF's accomplishments. You and all your associates should be very proud of what you have wrought, but I suspect your minds are concentrating on what to do next, and how to do it. Congratulations and thanks!

—Frank L. Stanley, September 1, 2015

Historic Preservation: Part of the DNA of Pittsburgh, by Donovan Rypkema and Briana Paxton of PlaceEconomics, was commissioned by the City of Pittsburgh's Department of City Planning, and was presented in November 2015 during a Preservation Summit. The 41-page document is based on detailed economic analyses and is illustrated with many maps and graphs. The Executive Summary concludes with the following statement: “The active use of historic resources is helping to solidify Pittsburgh's place as one of the great American cities of the 21st Century.”

The following statements from the

Introduction describe how the broader community naturally embraces the preservation ethic:

Some cities keep their historic buildings set off as a museum. Some cities save historic resources exclusively for tourists. Some cities don't care at all about their built heritage and tear it down with enthusiasm for the prospect of a mediocre new building or even a surface parking lot.

Pittsburgh is none of those cities. Across a wide spectrum—foundations, private developers, bankers, community organizations, development authorities, local government—the citizens of Pittsburgh simply use the city's historic buildings as part of everyday life.

Perhaps the most interesting and unexpected result of this analysis was how commonly individuals, organizations, and institutions are using the historic built environment not for “historic preservation” but as a means to advance their broader goals. Whether it was a community development corporation concerned with affordable housing, a cultural organization focused on the arts, a neighborhood group working for commercial revitalization, or a charter school educating tomorrow's scientists, using historic buildings was just the natural thing to do. ...

Read the full report. The specific findings are worth knowing. For example, “While Pittsburgh lost population between 2000 and 2010, City Historic Districts actually grew in population.”

When you think of your fondest memories in Pittsburgh, they are related to preservation.

You cannot walk down a street in the City of Pittsburgh ... without touching and being ... enveloped in preservation.

—Stanley Lowe,
Excerpt from “Through the Place”



Courthouse Tower Carvings Worth Noticing

Have you ever noticed the carvings on the tower of the Allegheny County Courthouse in downtown Pittsburgh? These photographs show five different designs carved on alternating stones that form the horizontal bands below the elongated Courthouse tower arches.

“Once you see the photograph and know the carvings exist, you can look up at the Courthouse tower from Grant Street and see them,” said Louise Sturgess, executive director of PHLF, “but they are difficult to notice without seeing the



photo first.” Her husband, Martin, recently noticed the carvings while photographing the Courthouse for the new edition of *Pittsburgh Then and Now* (see page 20).

Designed by H. H. Richardson and completed in 1888, the Allegheny County Courthouse is



Stephanie Cipriani, Karamagi Rujumba, Sumiya Tarannum (center), and Arthur Ziegler

PNC Foundation Funds Landmarks Fellows

Stephanie Cipriani of PNC Bank presented PHLF President Arthur Ziegler with a \$25,000 check from PNC Foundation on March 16, in support of our Landmarks Fellows Program. “PNC has funded our Fellows program since its inception in 2011, when LCCC President Michael Sriprasert proposed the idea to Carnegie Mellon University,” said Arthur. “The program has given us the opportunity to involve seventeen graduate students from CMU's Heinz School of Public Policy & Management as interns during the academic year or summer,” he added.

Since October of 2015, Liang Li, Haley Roberts, and Sumiya Tarannum have helped create and facilitate programming for the Landmarks Preservation Resource Center; assess the impact and breadth of blighted and vacant properties in Wilksburg in relation to the Hamnett Place neighborhood; attend community meetings and hearings; streamline the Historic Religious Properties grant application; assist with production details for “Through the Place,” our fiftieth-anniversary documentary; and improve our system of collecting and analyzing data documenting the economic impact of PHLF in Pittsburgh and Western Pennsylvania.

“PNC's support of this program has connected us to an amazing group of young people from around the world,” said Karamagi Rujumba, director of public communications and advocacy at PHLF. “The Landmarks Fellows are able to share their diverse, youthful points of view as we involve them in community development work and deepen their knowledge of and appreciation for the Pittsburgh region.”

Michael and Karamagi will be interviewing and selecting a new group of Landmarks Fellows this month, thanks to PNC's continued funding support.

Photos by Martin Sturgess

IN MEMORIAM

Here, we fondly remember the following people for their commitment to PHLF and to the cause of historic preservation.

A docent for nearly twenty years and a lifetime member, **Marian Weaver Cook** (1935–2015) was dedicated to PHLF's educational programs. Whether creating neighborhood murals with kindergarten students, or involving elementary-school students in Downtown Dragons, Career Awareness, or Poetry and Art programs, or leading adults on downtown walking tours, Marian eagerly shared her creative talents and knowledge about Pittsburgh with others. She was an optimistic, energetic, enthusiastic woman who encouraged people of all ages to learn about their hometown *and* to travel the world.

Gracious, supportive, and knowledgeable about Pittsburgh history and architecture, **Lowrie Childs Wurts Ebbert** (1921–2015) was a trustee of PHLF from 1987 until 2013. She was a member of the 2006 National Trust Conference Committee and was especially supportive of PHLF's work at "Woodville Plantation," in cooperation with the Allegheny County Committee of the National Society of Colonial Dames of America and the Neville House Associates. Her daughter, Gez, continues the family's commitment to the historic house of c. 1780 in Collier Township.

A devoted, fifty-year member, **Elsie Hilliard Hillman** (1925–2015) was a member of our Landmarks Heritage Society, a contributor to many of our publications, and a steadfast supporter of our work in revitalizing inner-city neighborhoods without displacing the people who live there. PHLF was one of many organizations energized by Elsie, who will always be admired for her brilliance, exuberance, and thoughtfulness—and for her deep love for and commitment to Pittsburgh.

Henry Phipps Hoffstot, Jr. (1917–2015), a fifty-year member and Trustee Emeritus, donated a preservation easement to PHLF in 2011 to protect the façade of the Moreland-Hoffstot House at 5057 Fifth Avenue in Shadyside. On many occasions, Henry provided the magnificent reception room and living and dining rooms to our organization for special events and dinners. Henry also owned a historic farm in Ohio, which he protected through an easement. He rescued endangered log houses in the vicinity of his farm, brought them to his farm, and made them habitable. Henry's wife, Barbara, who died in 1994, was a devoted trustee of PHLF and a strong advocate of our work on the North Side and at Station Square.

Ruth Furman Miller (1920–2015), a fifty-year member of PHLF, was devoted to her Mt. Washington neighborhood and to the Duquesne Incline. She and her husband, David, formed the nonprofit Society for the Preservation of the Duquesne Heights Incline in 1964. They worked daily to make sure the incline continued in operation, and she served as manager and treasurer, volunteering five or six days a week. We will remember Ruth for her humble dedication to this incredible transportation system that gives riders the spectacular view of two rivers forming a third at Pittsburgh's Point.

Master glass artist **Nicholas Parrendo** (1928–2016) was a member of PHLF for seventeen years. He welcomed our tour groups to his studio and participated in many of our Old House Fairs. In 1950 Nick was hired by Henry Hunt (1867–1951) of Hunt Studio, established in Pittsburgh in 1906. Nick purchased Hunt Stained Glass Studio in 1987, and his son, David, and daughter, Celeste, continue to work there. Artist, craftsman, exhibitor, and teacher, Nick received Lifetime Achievement awards from the Stained Glass Association of America and the American Glass Guild.

Intelligent, generous, thoughtful, and always available for good discussions about major preservation issues, **Barbara Weinberg Rackoff** (1925–2015) was a trustee of PHLF for twenty years and member for forty-two years. Barbara and her husband Raymond funded the creation and installation of a plaque on Fifth Avenue in front of Rodef Shalom, honoring architect Henry Hornbostel, in celebration of their fiftieth anniversary.

William Penn Snyder III (1918–2015) was an industrial leader in Western Pennsylvania, philanthropist, member of PHLF for forty-three years, and trustee for twenty-nine. Bill lived in "Wilpen Hall" in Sewickley Heights Borough, a great Shingle-style house completed in 1900. He donated a preservation easement to PHLF in 2014, thus protecting in perpetuity the façade of the historic house and more than thirty acres of surrounding gardens and grounds. A remarkable man of many talents, Bill played a leading role in Pittsburgh's Renaissance and understood the need to protect the historic places that bring the story of this region to life.



Thanks to Your Support PHLF's Historic Religious Properties Program Continues

Our thanks to members and to all who donate generously to make PHLF's Historic Religious Properties program possible every year. Our program of financial and technical assistance is the only one of its kind in Allegheny County that helps congregations make critical exterior improvements to their historic houses of worship, while also providing needed social services to their communities.

When we published our last issue of *PHLF News* in January 2015, our Historic Religious Properties Committee was just preparing to meet. Therefore, we are pleased to include in this issue our award recipients from 2015, as well as our 2016 award recipients who were welcomed during a reception on March 16.

2015 Award Recipients

Thanks to a leadership gift from PHLF members George and Eileen Dorman, a major gift from the Katherine Mabis McKenna Foundation, and gifts from many other generous donors in 2014, PHLF awarded matching grants totaling \$59,301 in 2015 to the following congregations. In turn, our gifts leveraged more than \$500,000 in exterior restoration improvements at nine historic religious properties.

1. **All Saints Polish National Catholic Church** (Carnegie), for stained glass restoration;
2. **Byzantine Catholic Seminary** (Observatory Hill), a grant from the Barenfeld Named Fund at PHLF for interior masonry repair of the bell tower;
3. **Central Presbyterian Church** (Tarentum), for stained glass restoration;
4. **Epiphany Catholic Church** (Hill District), including a grant from the Miller & Kim Family Named Fund at PHLF for slate roof replacement;
5. **Fairhaven Methodist Church** (Overbrook), for stained glass restoration;
6. **Pittsburgh Mennonite Church** (Swissvale), for roof and gutter replacement;
7. **St. Philip Church** (Crafton), for repairing the ventilators in the stained glass windows;
8. **St. Thomas Episcopal Church** (Oakmont), for repointing the bell tower and restoring the clock face;
9. **Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church** (Wexford), for stained glass restoration.

Five more historic religious properties benefited from technical assistance consultations with Tom Keffer, PHLF's property and construction manager:

1. **Church of The Redeemer** (Squirrel Hill), to assist in developing a maintenance priority list;
2. **Greater Allen A.M.E. Church** (Brighton Heights), to assist in prioritizing maintenance projects and to help select qualified contractors;
3. **Just Right Ministries** (Wilmerding), to advise on whether the steeple roof should be repaired or demolished;
4. **Presentation of Christ Greek Orthodox Church** (East Pittsburgh), to assist in determining the best approach to repairing windows; and
5. **St. Paul of the Cross Monastery** (South Side Slopes), to assist in determining how best to restore the exterior walls.

2016 Award Recipients

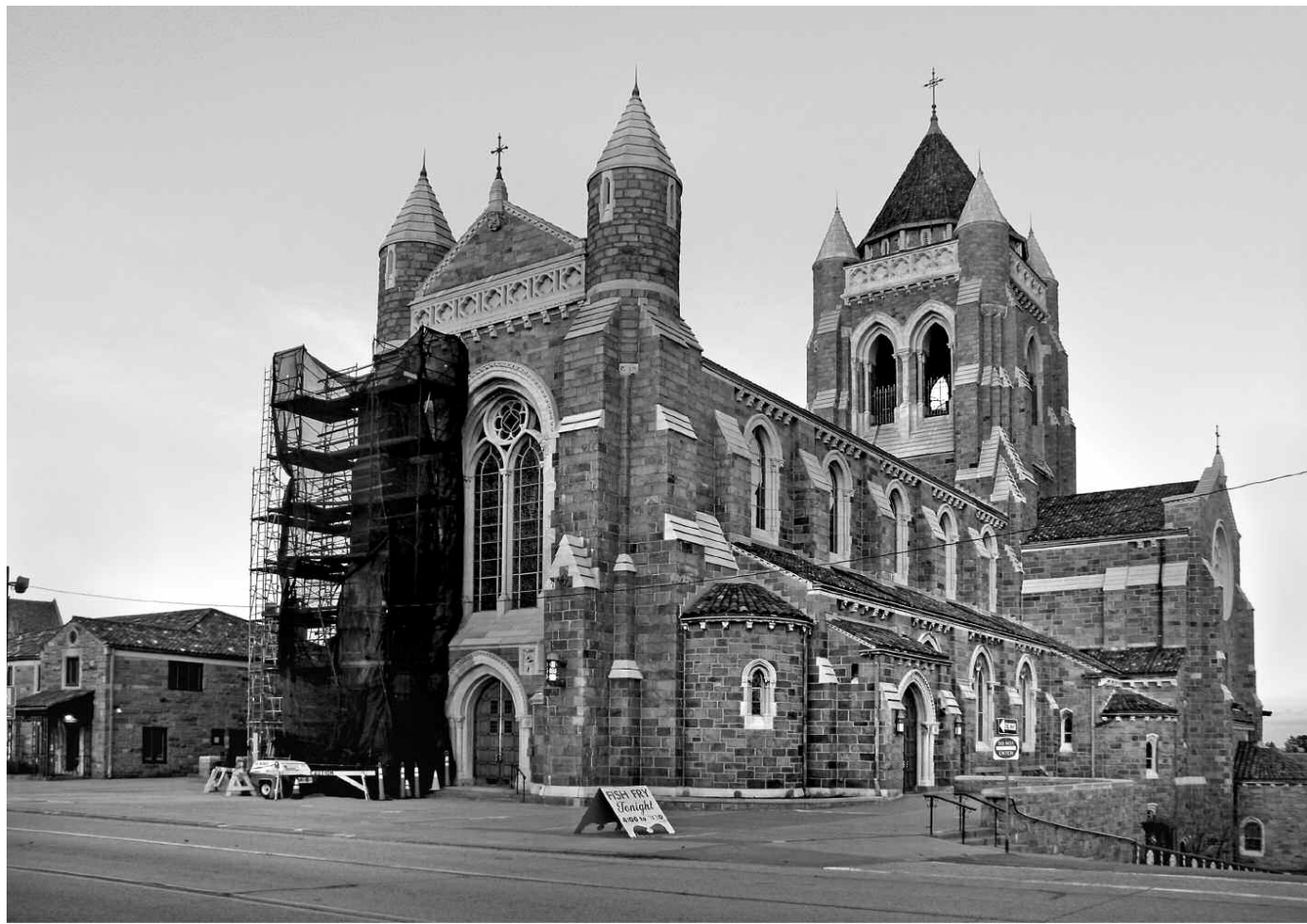
Thanks to contributions from the following donors in 2015 (*see page 9*), PHLF awarded a total of \$75,450 on March 16, 2016 to fifteen historic religious properties. "It's important to know," said PHLF President Arthur Ziegler, "that 100 percent of every donor's contribution goes to a matching grant. In turn, our grants this year will leverage more than \$360,000 in exterior restoration improvements."

Robert M. Lavelle, Chair of PHLF's Historic Religious Properties Committee, noted that "it is all of us working together that is creating so much good in our communities." Grant recipients are:

1. **All Saints Episcopal Church** (Brighton Heights), for roof repairs;
2. **All Saints Polish National Catholic Church** (Carnegie), for stained glass restoration;
3. **Central Presbyterian Church** (Tarentum), for stained glass restoration;
4. **Church of The Redeemer** (Squirrel Hill), for stained glass restoration;
5. **First Presbyterian Church** (Downtown), for roof replacement;
6. **First United Methodist Church** (Bloomfield), for stained glass restoration;
7. **Glenshaw Presbyterian Church** (Glenshaw), for roof replacement and masonry repair;
8. **McKeesport Presbyterian Church** (McKeesport), for repairing and repainting the wood trim;
9. **Pittsburgh Mennonite Church** (Swissvale), for repointing the main-entry façade;
10. **Pittsburgh New Church** (Point Breeze), for repairing and repointing the stone façade;
11. **Riverview United Presbyterian Church** (Observatory Hill), for repairing the bell tower roof and repointing the parapet walls;
12. **St. Bernard Church** (Mt. Lebanon), for refinishing the main doors and transom windows;
13. **St. Peter & St. Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church** (Carnegie), for repairing the stone entry steps;
14. **Waverly Presbyterian Church** (Regent Square), for stained glass restoration;
15. **Wesley Center A.M.E. Church** (Hill District), for roof replacement.

Two more historic religious properties will benefit from technical assistance consultations:

1. **Pilgrim Baptist Church** (Manchester), to review a priority list of projects and discuss the selection of qualified contractors; and
2. **Zion Baptist Church** (McKeesport), to discuss a plan to replace the sanctuary windows in a way that matches the original fenestration.



One of this year's Historic Religious Property grant recipients, St. Bernard Church at 311 Washington Road in Mt. Lebanon will use grant funds to refinish the main doors and transom windows. St. Bernard Church was awarded a Historic Landmark plaque in 1988.

Designed by Gifted Architects

Al Tannler, historical collections director at PHLF, noted that the 2016 award recipients were caretakers of especially significant historic landmarks. The fifteen church buildings were erected between 1891 and 1947. Several are the work of gifted architects and craftsmen, and the best of them reflect imported Gothic Revival and early twentieth-century European Secessionism, and indigenous Richardsonian Romanesque, Shingle Style, American Renaissance, and Modern American Gothic. Among the architects who designed the buildings are:

- Theophilus Parsons Chandler of Philadelphia, who established the Department of Architecture at the University of Pennsylvania. [*First Presbyterian Church*]
- Titus de Bobula, who was trained in Austria-Hungary and who practiced in Pittsburgh from 1903 until around 1910. [*St. Peter & St. Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church*]
- James Allison and his brother David: James practiced in Pittsburgh from 1893 to 1904; in 1905 he and David, who had studied architecture in Paris and at the University of Pennsylvania, established the firm of Allison & Allison in Pittsburgh. In 1910 Allison & Allison moved to Los Angeles and became the master architects of the University of California, Los Angeles. [*Riverview United Presbyterian Church*]
- Lawrence Wolfe worked with his father, Thomas B. Wolfe, and later had his own firm in Pittsburgh. Both of Lawrence's sons became architects. [*Glenshaw Presbyterian Church*]
- Harold T. Carswell of Philadelphia apprenticed with Ralph Adams Cram, one of the most distinguished American church architects. [*Pittsburgh New Church*]
- E. Donald Robb apprenticed with Cram and with Bertram Goodhue. From 1920 to 1934 he was a partner in the firm of Frohman, Robb & Little, the third architects of the Washington National Cathedral. [*Church of The Redeemer*]
- Pittsburghers Charles Ingham and William Boyd attended the architecture school at the University of Pennsylvania, and Boyd later studied at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris. They also were the architects of Chatham Village, of many of the public schools in Mt. Lebanon, and of several churches and residences. [*Waverly Presbyterian Church*]
- Finally, William R. Perry specialized in Roman Catholic ecclesiastical architecture and worked in the firm of Comès, Perry & McMullen, with John Comès and Leo McMullen, from 1921-29, before setting up his own practice. [*St. Bernard Church*]

To Apply for Assistance in 2017

Applications will be due in the fall of 2016. Contact David Farkas, associate director of real estate programs at PHLF, for further information (david@phlf.org; 412-471-5808, ext. 516) and for a link to the on-line application.

When evaluating the applications submitted by historic religious property owners, the Historic Religious Properties Committee focuses on three questions in particular: Is the architecture significant? Does the congregation provide social services to the neighborhood? Does the congregation have the means to get the work done?

Our goal is to assist architecturally significant places of worship that are also centers of community action and activity undertake critical *exterior* building repairs.



Through the Historic Religious Properties program we can participate with you in making your communities better places.

—Robert M. Lavelle, Chair, PHLF Historic Religious Properties Committee

Please Contribute

Your contribution in 2016 will provide matching grants for a new group of historic religious property applicants in 2017. Please give generously and spread the news about this significant preservation program to others.

Since 1997, PHLF has awarded more than 270 matching grants, totaling more than \$1 million, and has provided more than 65 technical assistance consultations, resulting in significant restoration work on more than 130 historic religious properties.

Your Gifts Help Restore Historic Religious Properties

Donations from the following PHLF members and friends in 2015 are helping underwrite PHLF's program of financial and technical assistance to seventeen Historic Religious Properties in 2016. Thank you for your generous donations!

Leadership Gifts (\$10,000 +)
Harry C. Goldby Named Fund, PHLF
Katherine Mabis McKenna Foundation

Keystone Gifts (\$1,000 or more)
Barbourtown Foundation
Barenfeld Named Fund, PHLF
George and Eileen Dorman
George and Eileen Dorman Named Fund, PHLF
David A. Kleer
Miller & Kim Family Named Fund, PHLF
Marguerite O. Standish
Kathy and Lou Testoni
The Estate of Marian J. and John L. Wise, at the request of Linda A. Hannon

It is important to preserve historic religious properties, not only because of religious reasons, but also for the historical interest. Neighbors use these buildings frequently as gathering spaces.

Thank you for your efforts in this particular field.

—Peggy Standish, October 30, 2015

Cornerstone Gifts (up to \$999)
Sandra Aitken
Martha Berg
Susan Brandt
Denise Capurso
Loretta Denny, in memory of Dominick Magasano
John Doughty
David Duessel
Patrick Gallagher, in honor of Kathy Gallagher and the Gallagher family of Pittsburgh stone masons
Annabelle Javier and Jason Wilburn
Tom and Pam Keffer
Janice and John Kreutzman
Robert M. Lavelle
Al Mancini
Charles Miller
Rona Moody and Derek Stuart
Suella Pipal
Dorothy and Nicholas Rescher
Anne Robb
Pat and Bill Schultz
Henry John Simonds Foundation
Frank Stroker
Eileen and Bruce Tenenbaum
Sue and Ell Vines
The Walden Trust
Helen Wilson, in honor of Al Tannler
Emma Ziegler Named Fund, PHLF

2015-16 “Building Pride/Building Character” Donors

PHLF is involving thirteen Pittsburgh Public Schools in its “Building Pride/Building Character” program of field trips, art activities, and in-school programs, January through early June 2016, thanks to donations from the following corporations, through the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania’s Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) program, and from the following foundations:

Lead

- First National Bank of Pennsylvania
- Huntington Bank
- PNC Bank

Major

- Eat’n Park Hospitality Group, Inc.
- Frank B. Fuhrer Wholesale Company

Patrons

- First Commonwealth Bank
- Hefren-Tillotson, Inc.
- Maher Duessel, CPA
- UPMC

Foundation Support

- The Fine Foundation
- Gailliot Family Foundation
- McSwigan Family Foundation
- Alfred M. Oppenheimer Memorial Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation

Affecting Lives

Jenna Hixson, who teaches at Southmoreland High School, introduced herself to Louise Sturgess, PHLF’s executive director, on October 14, 2015, during the orientation session for the 20th Annual Architecture Design Challenge for Westmoreland County gifted students. (The competition was also called “Budding Builders” for many years.) Jenna shared the following story with Louise:

As a Westmoreland County high school student in 1999, I was first recognized for public speaking while participating in “Budding Builders.” This love of public speaking and research led me into the field of teaching. Sixteen years later I am a Language Arts teacher and gifted coordinator, and for the first time I have a team entering PHLF’s Architecture Design Challenge! I hope it impacts them in the same way. Thank you for providing this experience.

Thirty-four teams of middle and high school students, including the team that Jenna mentored, presented their scale models on March 30 and 31, 2016, to a jury of architects at Monessen High School. Their challenge was to change the culture of the school through architecture. Each team briefly described to the jury the strengths and weaknesses of their existing school building, and then presented a scale model showing a new or renovated space that addressed a need within the school and helped create a sense of unity among diverse groups of students, or between the students and community.

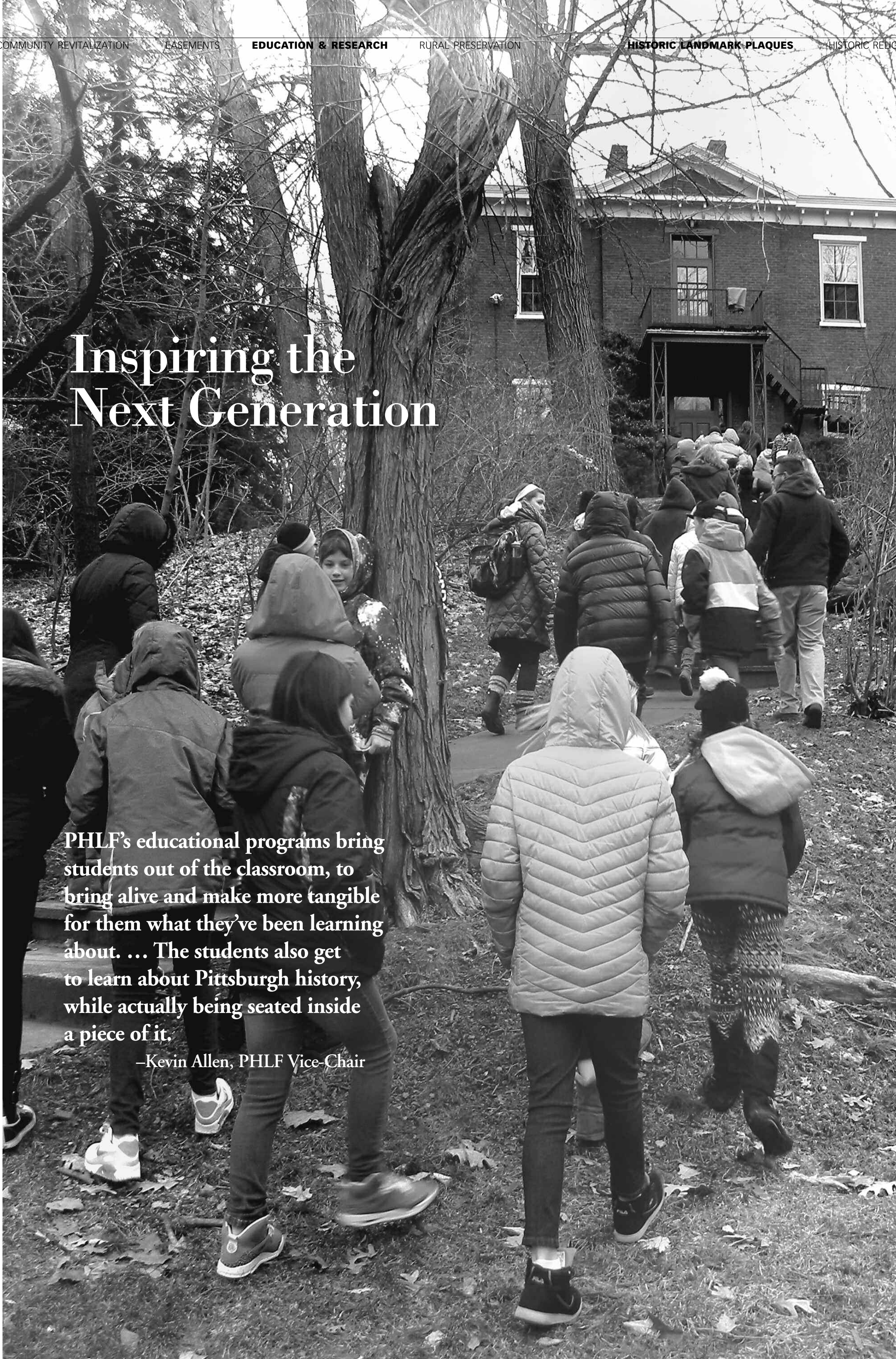
“Our many years of work with Westmoreland Schools has been gratifying,” said Louise. “We are always inspired by what the students propose, as they tackle the new design challenge we assign each year. We are grateful to the teachers, who spend many extra hours guiding and encouraging their students. Our 20th Annual Architecture Design Challenge was especially meaningful because, for the first time, it included a former student who has become a teacher mentor.”



Inspiring the Next Generation

PHLF’s educational programs bring students out of the classroom, to bring alive and make more tangible for them what they’ve been learning about. ... The students also get to learn about Pittsburgh history, while actually being seated inside a piece of it.

—Kevin Allen, PHLF Vice-Chair



Fifth-grade students from Pittsburgh Whittier toured the Thomas J. Bigham house of 1849 on Mt. Washington on January 28, 2016. Architect David Vater, a resident of Chatham Village and a member of PHLF’s community advisory board, was their host. The Bigham house was awarded a Historic Landmark plaque by PHLF in 1990 and is part of Chatham Village, a National Historic Landmark. After learning about the history of the house and life of the owner, Thomas Bigham, who was an influential abolitionist, lawyer, and newspaper publisher, students were given a hypothetical writing prompt to develop their preservation advocacy skills:

What if someone was going to tear down the Thomas J. Bigham house. What would you say to change that person’s mind? What would you say to convince that person to save the house?

Each student wrote a convincing argument. We share a few, as space allows:

- I would say that his house has history in it. I toured it. If that doesn’t work, then I’d say future children could explore this and make memories.
- I would tell them that they are destroying history. They are betraying a family that did so much for our community. The Bighams helped many slaves to freedom, therefore contributing to stopping (at the time) slavery. The man who owned this was important. And, to put a cherry on top, this is a Historic Landmark!
- I would say “Think of the history and this is a part of our freedom today. Also, you can’t change history no matter what you do, and we need a part of history that still stands to this day. This is Bigham’s house. Think how he feels!”
- I would say, “This is a part of Thomas J. Bigham’s heritage and what if someone was going to tear down your house? You wouldn’t like that, would you?” I also would have a fundraiser to help save the Bigham house. Don’t tear down the house!
- I would chain myself to the building to change their minds, and I would say, “I want this house for years.”
- I would say, “Sir/madam: what is the reason you are tearing the house down? Please don’t. Slaves were being helped here and this is history. I will lend you money or anything so you do not tear down this house.”
- I would say “It’s a part of history. It is very important to the world because it helped slaves be free. Bigham died in this house. Don’t bother his resting place. How would you feel if your house fell down?”
- I would say that it is a piece of history and if you tear it down, people might forget it. I would also offer him all the money in my wallet (which is \$2.00 and a couple of pennies)!
- I would say, “If you’re going to tear down the house, you have to go through me, because the house is history: the house has lived for 167 years!”
- I would say, “You can’t because it is an important house because an important person used to live in there. Also, it has so much valuable stuff and it is in our community. And Mr. Bigham is part of our community, even if he is dead.”
- If someone was going to try to tear down the Bigham house, I’d say, “Don’t you do that. Thomas J. Bigham was a very important person. This house helped lots of African Americans to freedom. You know that, right?” Hopefully that would change the person’s mind.

Docent Emeriti

“We are pleased to recognize Bill Garrett, Audrey Menke, and Kathy Testoni as Docent Emeriti,” said Karen Cahall, PHLF’s education coordinator. “For many years, they have volunteered to lead tours, give lectures, and research historical topics. They are passionate about PHLF’s mission and work. By staying connected with PHLF as Docent Emeriti, they will continue to be an inspiration for our newer docents and they will be able to offer valuable advice and guidance to PHLF’s education staff.”

“Bill, Audrey, and Kathy are among our first and longest-serving docents,” said Mary Lu Denny, director of membership services. “Whether leading Free Friday Walking Tours for adults, or our Downtown Dragons tour for school students, or presenting slide shows to seniors, they were energetic, enthusiastic, and eager to share their knowledge of Pittsburgh history and architecture. We are fortunate to be able to call on them for advice, based on their years of experience.”

Thirty-eight people volunteer as docents for PHLF. Without their support, PHLF would not be able to involve more than 10,000 people each year in educational programs. Our staff is grateful to each docent.

2015 Education Stats

After reviewing PHLF’s education report for 2015, Chair Jack Norris wrote: “Outstanding! Your work is a real difference maker.”

Thanks to donors (*please see pages 10 and 23*) and to the leadership, expertise, and energy of trustees, community advisory board members, staff, and docents, PHLF involved more than 12,500 people of all ages in more than 300 programs in 2015.

PHLF presented:

- 92 school tours (for grades 2–12)
 - 81 walking tours and special events for members and the general public
 - 58 private group tours
 - 58 programs at the Landmarks Preservation Resource Center in Wilkinsburg
 - 27 lectures
 - 18 Portable Pittsburgh presentations
 - 3 career awareness programs
 - 3 professional development programs
 - 2 Architecture Design Challenges
 - 1 Architecture Apprenticeship program
- published:
- *August Wilson: Pittsburgh Places in His Life and Plays* (second edition)
 - 9 Poetry & Art books featuring student work
 - Notecards with artwork by second graders
 - “Explore Pittsburgh,” a colorful poster by Pittsburgh Brookline middle school students

awarded:

- 4 college scholarships (\$6,000 each) to Meghan J. Kokoski, Brennan S. McCann, Deborah Monti, and Jilliam F. Root

participated in:

- 6 major community events and conferences, including the 17th Annual Arts & Crafts Conference

and received:

- a Proclamation from City Council on June 23, 2015 commending our “Building Pride/Building Character” educational program for Pittsburgh Public Schools.

FACTS Falconhurst Multi-Site Development

Developer:

The Landmarks Development Corporation (LDC), a for-profit real-estate development subsidiary of the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation

Financing:

- Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency
- PNC National Bank
- Allegheny County
- Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development

PHLF/LDC Project Team:

- Arthur Ziegler, President, PHLF
- Michael Sriprasert, President, LDC
- Umer Humayun, Project Manager
- Tom Keffer, Property and Construction Manager

Architect:

Ellis Schmidlapp, LDA Architects

Contractor:

Sota Construction Services

For rental information:

NDC Real Estate Management, Inc.
412-647-7434
falconhurst@ndcrealestate.com

What's Available?

33 units of affordable housing in Wilkinsburg

- 724 Kelly Avenue (Falconhurst renovation): 18 units
- 608 Mulberry Street (renovation): 3 family apartments
- 606 Mulberry Street (new construction): 1 townhouse
- 604 Mulberry Street (new construction): 1 townhouse
- 520 Jeanette Street (renovation): 2 family apartments
- 855 Rebecca Avenue (renovation): 8 units (2 and 3 bedrooms)



Abandoned since 2004, the Falconhurst is the most structurally and environmentally challenging of the sites. Built in 1904, the Falconhurst is located at 724 Kelly Avenue, and is next to the Crescent Apartments, recently renovated by PHLF/LDC. Since the east and south walls of the Falconhurst were near collapse in 2015, they had to be deconstructed. New walls of wood have been built and a new elevator and interior is being constructed. Eventually, the original bricks from the deconstructed east and south walls will cover the new wood exterior. The three-story front porches facing Kelly Avenue are being restored. Six units are being created in each of the three towers, with two units per floor. The units in one of the towers will be ADA-accessible.

Left: A tenant enters The Crescent Apartments, while a construction worker walks near the Falconhurst.



520 Jeanette Street will include two family apartments, one unit on the first floor and one unit on the second and third floors. The original staircase (below) has been restored and the interior has been renovated.



608 Mulberry Street is a wonderful brick building with character, offering three family apartments—one per floor. 608 Mulberry and two adjacent townhouses (606–604 Mulberry Street) are across the street from St. James R.C. Church of 1928–30, with eighty sensational stained glass windows by Wright Goodhue. The newly constructed townhouses, with three bedrooms each, have parking in the rear. Everything is energy-efficient.



Left: Construction views of the townhouses at 606–604 Mulberry Street from the rear and from within the top floor.

Overcoming All Challenges: Falconhurst Multi-Site Development in Wilkinsburg Makes Tremendous Progress



The groundbreaking on September 28, 2015 was a time of celebration. For months, PHLF/LDC staff had been working through countless details with local, state, and federal agencies and lenders. Our Falconhurst partners (from left): Phil Ford, Sota Construction; Macy Kisilinsky, PNC; Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald; Bill Schenck, TriState Capital Bank; Michael Sriprasert, LDC; Johnna Pro, PA Department of Community & Economic Development; Jane Miller, HUD; and PHLF President Arthur Ziegler.



“We do these programs because there is no other way to save these historic buildings and we create good housing for low- to moderate-income people,” said PHLF President Arthur Ziegler. “We attract all ages of people and we protect the low- to moderate-income people who are in the neighborhood. These projects are endlessly complicated. Low-income housing tax credits are usually for new construction. We use them for existing historic buildings and we use federal tax credits, too, so we are having to comply with state and federal agencies and with county requirements. Ultimately, we are raising property values in historically significant neighborhoods and making it possible for the people who live there to continue living there.”

Sota Construction is to be commended for its excellent craftsmanship, attention to detail, and ability to maintain an intense work schedule. “Sota has done a remarkable job given the deterioration of the Falconhurst and is working week-ends in order to meet the completion date,” said Tom Keffer, PHLF’s property and construction manager. Sota is also very respectful of the neighborhood and keeps their work areas and the streets



clean. “We have not received one complaint during all these months of work,” said Tom. “Rather, people are fascinated to see our progress and often ask to be put on the waiting list for the apartments. Our work is generating lots of excitement in the neighborhood.”

During the ground-breaking ceremony on September 28, 2015, County Executive Rich Fitzgerald said: “This is a home run today. This corridor along the busway will continue to add to the vitality of this area and to the lives of the people who live here.”

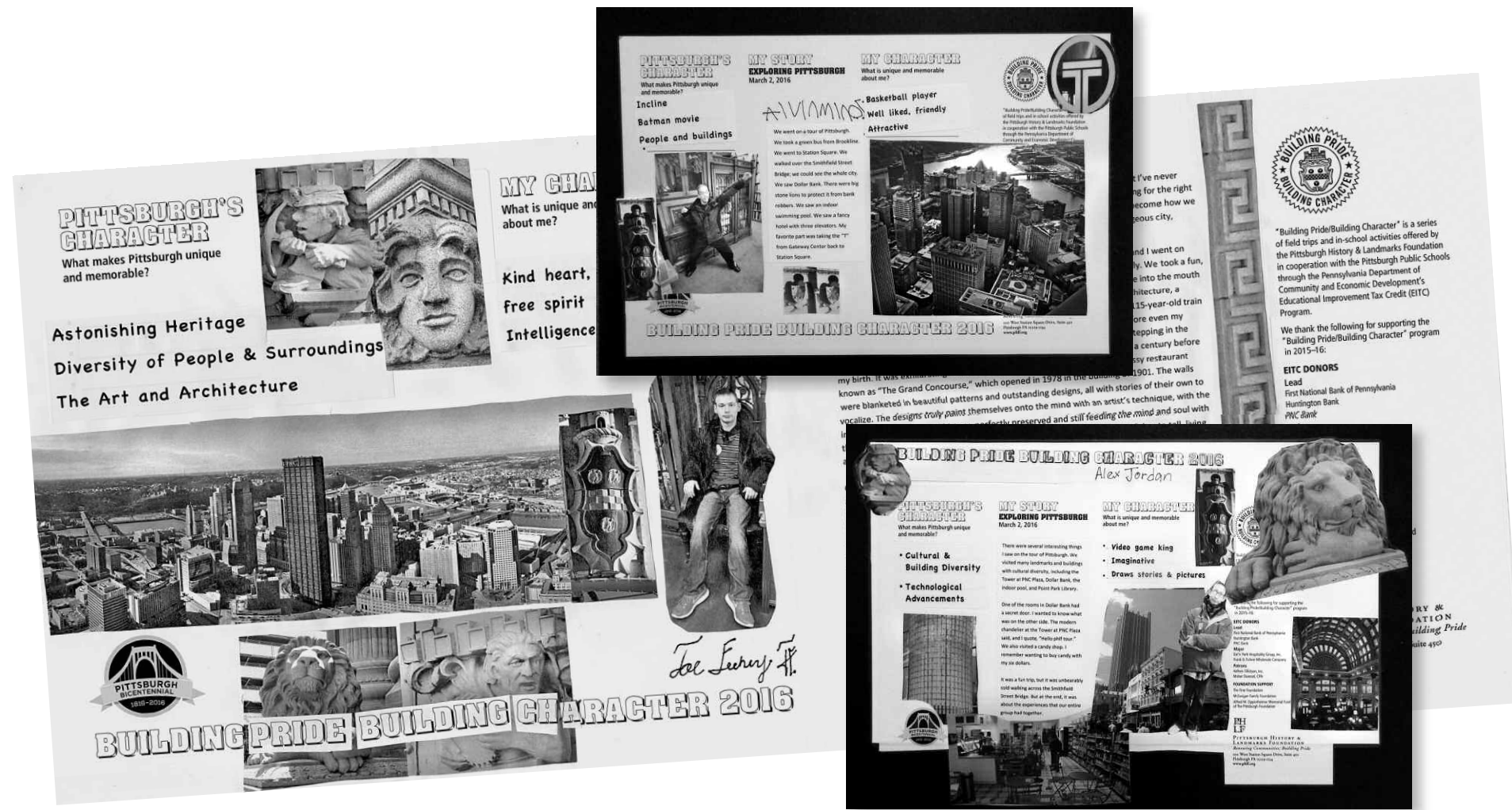
The Falconhurst Multi-Site Development builds on the success that PHLF/LDC and PHFA had in renovating the historic Crescent and Wilson buildings in 2011, resulting in twenty-seven affordable housing units that are fully occupied, and that

PHLF/LDC had in renovating seven single-family homes in partnership with Allegheny County. In addition, PHLF has renovated and opened the Landmarks Preservation Resource Center, landscaped two vacant lots, successfully nominated the Hamnett Place Historic District to the National Register, and partnered in the state’s Neighborhood Partnership Program, thanks to funding support from TriState Capital Bank (see page 4).

The Falconhurst development brings PHLF/LDC’s total investment in Wilkinsburg to nearly \$25 million, and further advances renovation work in the Borough, creating safer and healthier places to live. “We are creating dramatic, positive change, in spite of very challenging circumstances, thanks to the support of the Wilkinsburg community and our partners,” said Michael.



855 Rebecca Avenue includes eight apartments, two on each floor, and is a mix of two and three bedrooms. Nearly every room has a window and the living room in each apartment opens out onto a porch. The original wrought-iron balustrades (shown above) are being restored and will be reinstalled. In order to meet code, an additional railing has to be added on top of the existing balustrades to increase their height.



My Story Exploring PGH. with P.H.L.F. By Joe R. Feeney

Editor's Note: The following story was written by Joe R. Feeney, an eighth-grade student from Pittsburgh Brookline who toured downtown Pittsburgh with PHLF and his classmates on March 2, 2016, as part of PHLF's "Building Pride/Building Character" program, funded through the state's Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program and by foundations (see page 10, sidebar). With permission, we are pleased to share his remarkable story with you.

I have lived in the City of Pittsburgh from birth to this waking moment, and yet I've never known how much rich history waited in silence within this beautiful city. Waiting for the right person to speak, to tell stories of the past and how the present evolved to become how we know it today. All hiding in plain sight, standing proud in the heart of this gorgeous city, downtown Pittsburgh.

To meet up with the friendly and intellectual staff of P.H.L.F., my classmates and I went on an adventure into the unknown, within what we thought we knew so distinctly. We took a fun, not too long, but just long enough, bus ride straight from Pittsburgh Brookline to the entrance of the city, Station Square. We were able to see one large work of artistic architecture, a beautiful masterpiece of classic architectural design, almost immediately: a 115-year-old train station filled with a beautiful stained glass ceiling and artifacts from long before even my grandfather was born. I could feel the energy of the history and of my feet stepping in the footsteps of people over 100 years old, who once enjoyed good times, over a century before my birth. It was exhilarating! The train station's

interior now serves as a classy restaurant known as "The Grand Concourse," which opened in 1978 in the building of 1901. The walls were blanketed in beautiful patterns and outstanding designs, all with stories of their own to vocalize. The designs truly paint themselves onto the mind with an artist's technique, with the images of the culture and history, perfectly preserved and still feeding the mind and soul with their beauty. Their detailed designs and shapes, and every tale that the craft has to tell, living as the beating heart of the craft. It was an absolutely stunning sight that I'll never forget.

Our tour guide, Mrs. Sturgess, and her colleagues spoke to us about proper



After completing their collages, students read their stories out loud and shared their "character-building" words. Their pride was evident.

safety in the city, and how to maintain a steady line of following, to never get lost. Briefly after, my peers and I ventured across the Smithfield Street Bridge, a bridge older than the Grand Concourse building. A 133-year-old structure, bearing the proud symbol of Pittsburgh in its grasp, atop the outside of one of the bridge portals.

We crossed the bridge, and I peeked down over the bridge's side to see the gracefully flowing water of the Monongahela gazing up upon my smiling face. We took this tongue into the belly of the city, where our journey would truly begin. I got to see all of the beautiful sights that all of the gorgeous buildings had to offer, and learned about their origins. Everything that we'd seen had a deep, fascinating meaning, embedded within the fabric of the culture and people of Pittsburgh, PA.

After seeing multiple historic landmarks, we took a subway back to the Grand Concourse and then ate lunch back at Station Square. Although the weather was particularly cold, I learned many valuable things about my city, and enjoyed absorbing the information that was provided to me. **Happy 200th Birthday Pittsburgh! THANK YOU P.H.L.F.**



Pittsburgh Brookline students created collages of their walking tour experience with PHLF during a workshop on March 10. They illustrated the stories they wrote with photographs and selected words to describe Pittsburgh's character and their character.

PHLF and Pittsburgh Public Schools Create Birthday Cards for the City of Pittsburgh's Incorporation Day Celebration



Mayor Bill Peduto and Riley Joyce, with Pittsburgh West Liberty's birthday card for the City of Pittsburgh.

March 18, 2016 marked the bicentennial of the day when the legislature of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania voted to approve Pittsburgh's incorporation. Therefore, the Bicentennial Commission, composed of representatives of more than 300 organizations, hosted an Incorporation Day Celebration in the corridor of the City-County Building in downtown Pittsburgh. Pittsburgh's charter was on display for the first time in 200 years—and Pittsburgh Public School students, teachers, and parents presented huge birthday cards to Mayor Bill Peduto and Bicentennial Commission Chair Andy Masich. The birthday cards showed the unique architecture and character of

each school and included the signatures of many students, "the idea being that the names of future mayors are among the student signatures," said Louise Sturgess, executive director of PHLF.

Esther Bush, chair of the Bicentennial Education Committee, thanked Louise and PHLF for initiating and organizing the birthday card project and introduced Meghan Barnard, a fifth-grade student from Pittsburgh Whittier, who gave remarks on behalf of all 25,000 Pittsburgh Public School students. Then the parade of birthday cards began, winding through the crowd to admiring comments and applause. PHLF thanks PPS administrators and art teachers for their advice and support in making the birthday card project such a terrific experience for the students. The Senator John Heinz History Center has offered to archive the birthday cards as part of the Bicentennial Commission Celebration.



One final fact worth noting: James Hill, special assistant to the Mayor, was one of the key organizers of the Incorporation Day Celebration. He participated in PHLF's after-school enrichment programs with Mercy mentors during his elementary-school years at Miller. His love of history and architecture grew from there.

For more information on the year-long Bicentennial Celebration, visit www.pgh200.com or contact Holly Bulvony at 412-471-4160.



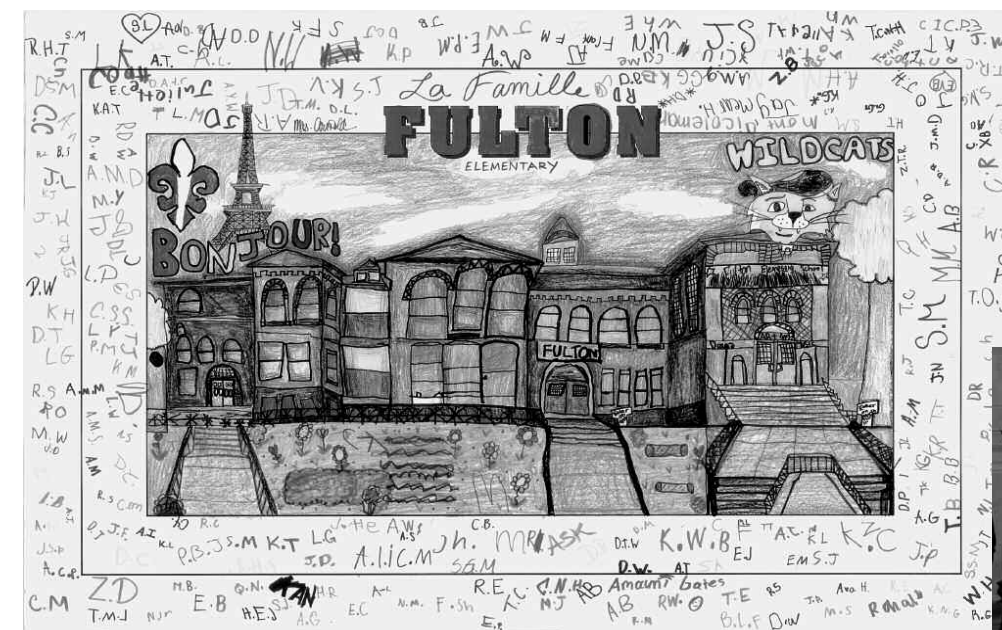
Photo by Martin Sturgess

Our students had so much fun today and couldn't stop talking about the Incorporation Day Celebration the entire walk back to school! They loved it and I have to say I did as well. It was an amazing event.

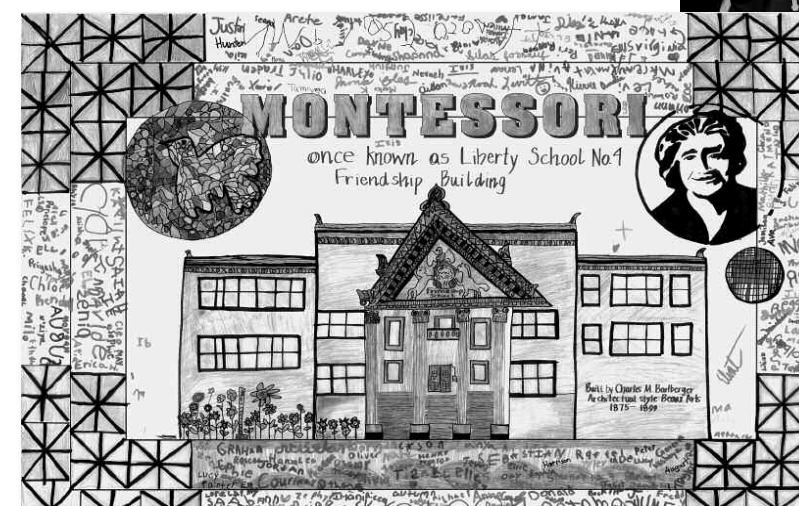
—Laura Dicey, CAPA art teacher, March 18, 2016

Thank you for undertaking the herculean task of organizing the schools and students around the birthday card project. Their participation in yesterday's celebration was a poignant and powerful reminder of why we're celebrating.

—Gloria Forouzan, Office of Mayor William Peduto, March 19, 2016



Many of the Pittsburgh Public Schools are listed on the National Register of Historic Places or have been designated as City Historic Structures. In many cases, the birthday card artwork focused on the architectural details and unique characteristics that make each school distinctive. We will point out Pittsburgh Fulton (above) on our urban hike in Highland Park on May 21 (see page 24).



Art teacher Brian Volchko (far right) with Pittsburgh Whittier students. To see all forty-six birthday cards, visit: phlf.org/2016/04/01/pittsburgh-bicentennial-highlights-student-art/

Treasure in the Cathedral: A. W. N. Pugin in Pittsburgh

Albert M. Tannler

Some stories do get more interesting, and some places are discovered to be more important than first assumed. Take, for example, one of the Nationality classrooms at the University of Pittsburgh.



It was John G. Bowman, the university's visionary chancellor of the 1920s, who proposed decorating classrooms in the Collegiate Gothic/Art Moderne Cathedral of Learning (designed by Charles Z. Klauder, 1926–37)

in the manner of the countries of origin of Pittsburgh's multi-ethnic residents. Each room was to be decorated in a national style prior to 1787, corresponding with the founding of the university. The Nationality Rooms program began in 1926, and the first rooms opened in 1938.



The bombed Commons Chamber, The Houses of Parliament. From *The Houses of Parliament*, 1946 (PHLF library collection)

The designer of the architectural elements was Augustus Welby Northmore Pugin—one of England's most important and influential architects and designers.³ Pugin had collaborated with chief architect Charles Barry (1795–1860) to design The Houses of Parliament, including the House of Commons.

The Designer

Augustus W. N. Pugin was born in London in 1812, the only child of French émigré Augustus C. Pugin and his English wife, Catharine nee Welby. The elder Pugin was a noted illustrator, architectural draftsman, and drafting teacher. He began his pioneering measured drawings of medieval buildings, *Specimens of Gothic Architecture*, in 1818. His son became his most accomplished pupil, so proficient that by the age of thirteen he was preparing plates for his father's books (and would complete the third and final volume of *Specimens* in 1833).

Pugin's education was more activist and practical than formal and academic. He was tutored at home, studied buildings in Britain and France on family trips, and was an avid user of the Print Room at the British Museum. Convinced of the superiority of the "pointed style"—so called after the pointed shape of the late medieval Gothic arch—he began to design furniture and metalwork at an early age. At the age of fifteen, he was asked to design tables and chairs for Windsor Castle and goblets and candlesticks for the royal silversmiths. Later he worked as a stage carpenter and set designer. Designs for wallpaper, textiles, stained glass, and ceramic tiles based on medieval forms followed, and he collaborated with several architects as an interior designer. He became a collector—and seller—of medieval antiquities.

He published his first book, *Gothic Furniture of the 15th Century Designed and Etched by A. W. N. Pugin* (1835), at the age of twenty-three. Later that year he became a Roman Catholic, and thereafter he wrote books and pamphlets to demonstrate that Gothic was the definitive English architectural style and that the Roman Catholic Church was the legitimate Church of England. The most influential of his many books are *Contrasts: or a Parallel Between the Noble Edifices of the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Centuries*, and *Similar Buildings of the Present Day: Shewing the Present Decay of Taste* (1836), *The True Principles of Pointed or Christian Architecture* (1841), *An Apology for the Revival of Christian Architecture* (1843), and *Foliated Ornament* (1849).



A. W. N. Pugin (1812–52)
From *Recollections of A. N. [sic] Welby Pugin, and His Father, Augustus Pugin, with Notices of Their Works*, by Benjamin Ferrey, London: Edward Stanford, 1861.

England, Ireland, and Australia.

He was married three times—his first two wives died young (the third outlived him by fifty-seven years)—and he fathered eight children.

Contemporaries described him as sociable, erudite, energetic, and supremely self-confident in his opinions. He loved the sea and owned and sailed boats. He presented a somewhat bohemian appearance, often mixing nautical garb with other garments he designed or modified, such as a greatcoat whose large inner pockets held all his travel needs, making luggage superfluous.

From 1836 to 1852, Pugin worked on the most important commission of his age: rebuilding the Palace of Westminster (The Houses of Parliament), partially destroyed in a fire in 1834. The work was essentially finished with the opening of the House of Commons in February 1852. On September 14, 1852, Pugin died. He was forty years old.

Pugin, the New Palace of Westminster, and the Conflict Regarding the English Nationality Room

When architect Charles Barry received the commission to design a new Palace of Westminster—one preserving historical elements dating from the eleventh century as well as providing the latest in Victorian efficiency and comfort, all within an architecturally harmonious and regal façade—he turned to Pugin for assistance. Pugin was responsible for all aspects of the interior design, and Barry also drew upon his ideas for various exterior details—the famous clock tower, for example, is similar to a Pugin design of 1835.

Pugin designed his first home in 1835. Although he designed several houses, his principal works as an architect were more than forty churches and numerous chapels, convents, abbeys, schools, hospitals, parish houses, church interiors, and ecclesiastical restorations in

To unify (and simplify) the extensive program of decoration, Pugin used a number of recurring motifs, treated lavishly in the House of Lords and the Royal apartments, and more simply in the House of Commons. Among them are the Tudor rose, a five-petal marriage of the white rose of York and the red rose of Lancaster; Tudor flowers, cross-shaped patterns with foliage extremities; Queen Victoria's monogram, "VR" (Victoria Regina); and the portcullis, i.e., a medieval entrance grille raised and lowered vertically. All these motifs were used on furniture, upholstery, wallpapers, tiles, etc.

The possibility of incorporating elements from the House of Commons into the English Room at the University of Pittsburgh changed the character of the Nationality Room as it had previously been conceived. As Ruth Crawford Mitchell, founding director of the Nationality Rooms program, wrote to Alfred Bossom in early 1948:

*May I say that I have far greater enthusiasm for this new concept of the English Room than for the Tudor Period Room about which we spoke in 1946.*⁴

With the approval of the Speaker of the House, the architectural elements from the House of Commons were sent to Pittsburgh; they arrived on March 13, 1950. Later that year the earlier proposal for the English Nationality Room was revised as *The English Room in the Cathedral of Learning: Revised Memorandum on Design proposal on the basis of conference and correspondence with Alfred C. Bossom, M.P., Architect A. A. Klimcheck, University Architect, and John Weber, Secretary of the Board of Trustees* (November 2, 1950).⁵

On February 20, 1951, Mrs. Mitchell wrote to Alfred Bossom, noting that the House of Commons elements had arrived and that:

*Mr. Klimcheck has completed elevation drawings of a proposed design for the English Room incorporating the House of Commons materials in a Tudor Gothic Design.*⁶

Three days later she wrote:

*Mr. Klimcheck was guided in part by the revised Memorandum on Design dated November 2, 1950, but chiefly, of course, by his knowledge of Tudor Gothic. ...*⁷

Despite Mrs. Mitchell's "far greater enthusiasm for this new concept of the English Room than for the Tudor Period Room," that enthusiasm was not shared by the university architect who apparently objected to the tile facing in the fireplace, which was denigrated as "Victorian pseudo-Gothic." Thus Mrs. Mitchell wrote to Chancellor R. H. Fitzgerald in early July 1951:

*Shall emphasis in design be pure Tudor Gothic (No use of tile facing in fireplace) or Victorian pseudo-Gothic? (use of tile facing, coal basket, House of Commons brass hardware, etc.)*⁸

It would seem that architect Klimcheck preferred his own twentieth-century Pseudo-Tudor Gothic design to

a genuine architectural element from the House of Commons. Indeed, Bossom would write to British Consul General James Robinson in Philadelphia in May 1952:

*The tiles are the ones arranged by the famous architect, Welby-Pugin, when he fitted up the interior decoration and designing after the fire of 1834.⁹ They were probably installed about 1850 and they are entirely authentic and to be relied upon in every way.*¹⁰

Furthermore, the fireplace (and its tiles) was an important survivor, as Bossom wrote to Mrs. Mitchell later that month:

*you have the fireplace from the Aye Lobby which most happily I had the good fortune to be able to retrieve practically intact.*¹¹

Hans Wild describes the Aye Lobby of the House of Commons in *Westminster Palace* (1946):

On the left and right of the Chamber, doorways gave on to the narrow "Aye" and "No" or "Division" Lobbies, by entering which M.P.'s record their vote on any bill or motion.

Nonetheless, the university architects (note the plural) had no interest in this important architectural element. On May 21, 1952, Mrs. Mitchell wrote again to Bossom:

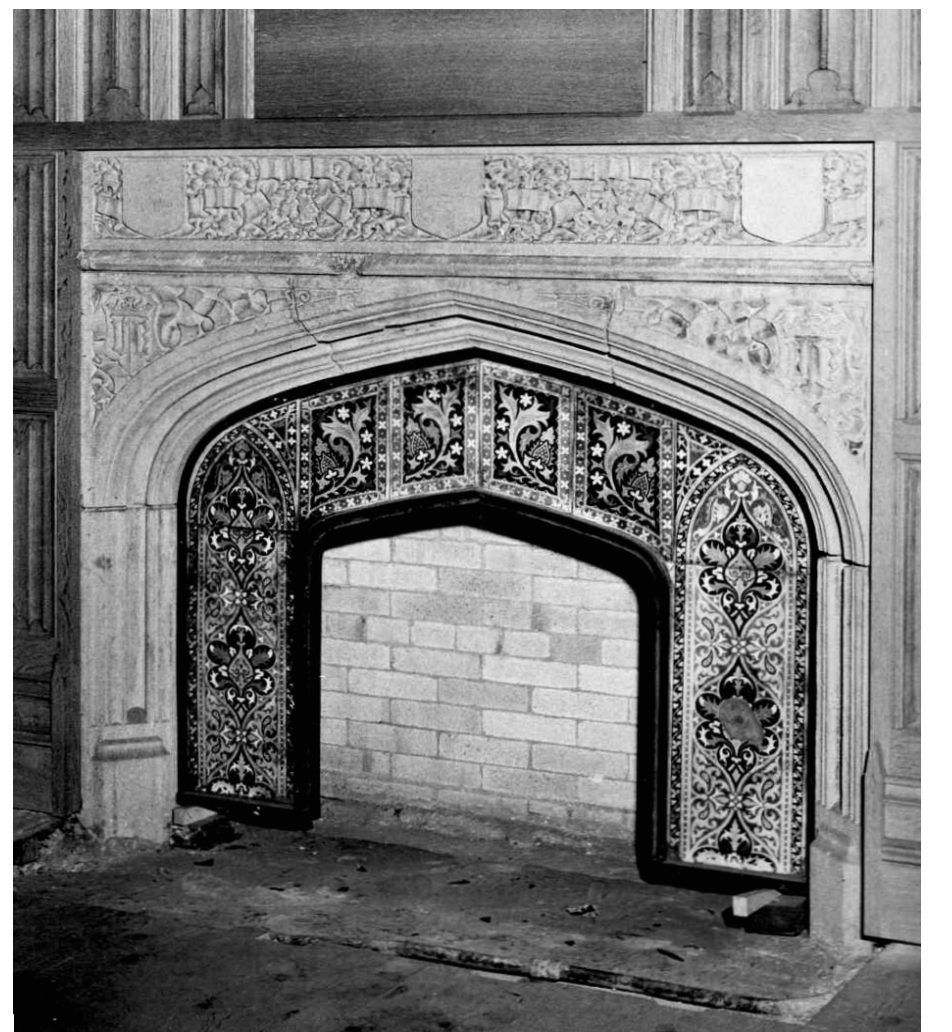
*Please tell us about the use of the tile surround. The architects here insist that such a facing does not belong in an authentic Tudor Room. I have held to the possibility that the Room is Victorian Tudor-Gothic and that the tile surround was conceived in order to use a coal basket and a fireback for the fireplace rather than firedogs. What is your advice?*¹²

Bossom wrote back:

*As to the tile in the fireplace, I am afraid anybody who questioned these did not quite understand that this fireplace was actually taken from the Aye Lobby, and the tiles, some of which were I understand designed by Welby Pugin, the architect who did all the interior designing in the House, are the ones originally installed.*¹³

An early photograph of the English Nationality Room under construction before its dedication on November 21, 1952 shows the original fireplace surround with a wide border of Minton tile: exuberant foliate patterns within a Gothic framework. The Minton firm was established by Thomas Minton in 1793 and subsequently led by his son Herbert Minton (1793–1858). The tile surround was quintessential Pugin, who "brought together ... the revival of medieval practice and the celebration of nature," as Stuart Durant observed in *Ornament* (1986). Such designs profoundly influenced William Morris and his successors.

(continued on page 18)



This photo was taken during construction of the English Nationality Room *before* it was dedicated on November 21, 1952—about one hundred years after A. W. N. Pugin's death. Notice that the Minton tile surround had been installed. By the time the English Room was dedicated, the tile surround had been removed. Photo courtesy of English Nationality Room Collection, 1929–1981, UA.40.07, University Archives, Archives Service Center, University of Pittsburgh



Here is the fireplace as it looks today. Scars from the 1941 bombing are still visible on the carved limestone face of the fireplace. The opening is a composite Tudor arch (concentric arches meeting at a shallow point). The upper section is decorated with three shields. Between the shields, ribbon-like banners nestle among oak leaves and acorns. Below on either side is Queen Victoria's monogram, set within a tangle of ribbons. The fireplace floor or hearth is composed of seven rows of ceramic russet tiles (9 inches by 1-1/2 inches), laid in a herringbone pattern, which extend out into the room. In the center of the outer hearth, four 6-inch red, gold, and black tiles are set in a 12-inch by 12-inch diamond pattern—oak leaves at the edges and Tudor flowers in the middle radiate from the central Tudor rose. The tile, called encaustic or inlaid tile, was made by Minton. Photo by Greg Pytlík, Pytlík Design Associates, 2016

The Houses of Parliament, along the Thames River, in London, England. From *The Album of Photographic Views of London, The London Stereoscopic and Photographic Company*, 1900 (PHLF library collection)





Glass fragments from The Houses of Parliament are incorporated in the first (from left) and fourth roundels shown here.



On December 22, 1953, Chancellor Fitzgerald acknowledged Alfred Bossom's acquisition of a fireback dated 1858.

Photo courtesy of English Nationality Room Collection, 1929-1981, UA.40.07, University Archives, Archives Service Center, University of Pittsburgh.

Bossom had been asked to look for a suitable fireback for the fireplace and he wrote to Mrs. Mitchell on December 7, 1953:

[Is] the tile facing still on the fireplace in the English Room? I have pictures both with it and without it and, of course, this does make a tremendous difference to the type of fireback I get.¹⁴

The fireback Bossom found was “dated 1858, cast in commemoration of the defeat of the Spanish Armada.”¹⁵

Details to Notice

Within the room are additional elements designed by Pugin. Two of the six roundels (round panels) of stained glass in the windows facing Fifth Avenue contain shards from Pugin's stained glass windows, shattered

in 1941.¹⁶ He designed the four limestone corbels or brackets ornamented with giant Tudor roses that appear to support the ceiling. Among the furnishings are two of the simple, sturdy oak side chairs upholstered in green leather that Pugin designed for use throughout the House of Commons. (His similar version for the House of Lords has more ornate legs.) The green leather backs are

embossed with a gold portcullis topped by a coronet and framed by links of chain. Alfred Bossom noted that these chairs had been rebuilt from chairs damaged in the bombing, although the upholstery was new (and has been replaced twice since 1952, the leather acquired from the official upholsterer to Parliament.)

On June 4, 1956, Bossom wrote to Mrs. Mitchell:

You have today actually in Pittsburgh more of the original material from the old House of Commons than exists anywhere else in the world. That fireplace is quite unique and the paneling too is remarkable. As to the various pieces of material that have been added, like the fireback and the cartouche over the doorway [below] and in fact all of the things sent over, these are absolutely unique.¹⁷



Royal Coat of Arms of the United Kingdom, as adopted in the early nineteenth century



Pugin's Legacy

In 1841, A. W. N. Pugin wrote in *The True Principles of Pointed or Christian Architecture*:

The two great rules for design are these: 1st, that there should be no features about a building which are not necessary for convenience, construction or propriety; 2nd, that all ornament should consist of the essential construction of the building. The neglect of these two rules is the cause of all the bad architecture of the present time.

Pugin placed Gothic architecture and craftsmanship squarely in the forefront of nineteenth-century design, informing the sensibilities and the work of countless later architects and artists. In 1888, Arts & Crafts architect John D. Sedding stated: “We should have no Morris, no Street, no Burges, no Shaw, no Webb, no Bodley, no Rossetti, no Burne-Jones, no Crane, but for Pugin.” In 1904, Hermann Muthesius wrote in his monumental book, *The English House*:

Looking back today at the achievement of the Gothicists in the field of artistic handicrafts, one can have no doubt that Pugin's work stands supreme.

For the next sixty-seven years, architects and architectural historians in Europe, Britain, and the United States turned their attention to the contemporary functionalism of the International Style and much nineteenth-century architecture and design was ignored. In 1971, however, the Victoria & Albert Museum in London devoted a significant section of an exhibition on “Victorian Church Art” to Pugin, and in the United States, Professor Phoebe Stanton of Johns Hopkins University published the first substantial study of Pugin's life and work in the twentieth century since Muthesius' 1904 study.

Pugin's stature was emphatically reaffirmed in 1994 when the Victoria & Albert Museum held an exhibition, “Pugin: A Gothic Passion” (June 15–September 11). As the catalogue,

You have today actually in Pittsburgh more of the original material from the old House of Commons than exists anywhere else in the world.

Alfred C. Bossom, Member of Parliament, June 4, 1956

published by Yale University Press, stated:

This book is the first to offer a complete appraisal of Pugin's life and achievements; it is published to accompany the first major Pugin exhibition ever mounted. ... It contains twenty-one essays by international scholars and specialists, who discuss in detail the many aspects of Pugin's life and career. The superb photography has been specially commissioned, and includes numerous objects and buildings never before reproduced.

Co-editor Clive Wainwright wrote in his essay, “‘Not a Style but a Principle': Pugin & His Influence,” that:

both in architecture and the applied arts Pugin's principles were to underpin the whole of the Arts and Crafts Movement in Britain and America.

“Pugin: A Gothic Passion” inspired another major exhibition (and catalogue also published by Yale University Press), “A. W. N. Pugin: Master of Gothic Revival,” held at the Bard Graduate Center for Studies in the Decorative Arts, New York City (November 9, 1995–February 25, 1996). A five-volume critical edition of Pugin's letters edited by Margaret Belcher (2001–15), a new critical biography by Rosemary Hill (2007), and a major study of Pugin's stained glass designs by Stanley Shepherd (2009) have appeared.

In 2002 I ended my article, “Treasure in the Cathedral,” which appeared in the October 6 *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review Focus* magazine, as follows:

In Pittsburgh, architecture and decorative arts rooted in medieval design and craftsmanship flourished in the 1840s—John Chislett, Joseph Kerr, John Notman—through the 1880s and 1890s—H. H. Richardson, John Evans, William Halsey Wood, Frank Furness—to the 20th century: Franz Aretz, John T. Comès, Charles J. Connick, Ralph Adams Cram, Bertram G. Goodhue, Harry E. Goodhue, Wright Goodhue, William P. Hutchins, Henry Hunt, Albert F. Link, John Kirchmayer, Charles Z. Klauder, Leo A. McMullen, William R. Perry, E. Donald Robb, Laurence Saint, George and Alice Sotter, Carlton Strong, Samuel Yellin, Edward J. Weber, Howard G. Wilbert, William and Anne Lee Willet—to name the best known.

It is therefore appropriate—indeed, rather humbling—to discover Pugin in Pittsburgh, and to know that fragments of the work of this brilliant designer and ardent theorist are preserved in the English Nationality Room in the Cathedral of Learning.



As one enters the English Nationality Room, one faces the north or Fifth Avenue side of the Cathedral of Learning (above). The Pugin wall, if I may so designate it, is the south end of the room (below), and is composed of fragments from the destroyed House of Commons. The distinctive oak paneling, interrupted by the stone fireplace, continues across the wall to meet the elaborate wooden doorframe on the west side of the room. The oak paneling is called “linenfold,” because of its resemblance to folded fabric; the ornamental cresting above the doorframe lintel is a garland of Tudor flowers topped by a rope molding that stretches between tall foliated finials (decorative knobs). The paneling, the fireplace, and the doorframe were designed by Pugin. If the Minton-tile fireplace surround can be installed once again, the Pugin design will be complete. *Photos by Greg Pytlík, Pytlík Design Associates, 2016*



Unexpected Discovery

On June 29, 2015 I was invited to the English Nationality Room to look at an odd object that had been found at the rear of a closet. It was Pugin's Aye Lobby fireplace Minton tile surround, where it had been stashed away for the past sixty-two years, intact, but a casualty of a misguided and ignorant hubris. The rich colors of the tile—orange, maroon, greens, and deep blue—had survived. We now know that the most important elements in the English Nationality Room are the elements designed by A. W. N. Pugin for the House of Commons and the most important of these is the Minton tile fireplace surround. It is our hope that this article documenting the story of the



English Nationality Room and the importance of Pugin will help build a case of support so the University of Pittsburgh is able to install the fireplace surround, thus restoring Pugin's design completely.

Acknowledgements

I wish to express my gratitude to E. Maxine Bruhns, Nationality Rooms Director; Maryann Sivak, Assistant to the Director; Michael Walter, Nationality Rooms Tour Coordinator; and Max Adzema, Research Assistant. Zachary L. Brodt, University Archivist, University of Pittsburgh, facilitated my research in the English Nationality Room Committee Collection, 1929–1981.

¹ Prior to entering politics, Alfred C. Bossom (1881–1965) was an architect; indeed he practiced in the United States for twenty-three years. See Dennis Sharp, ed., *Alfred Bossom's American Architecture 1903–1926* (London: Book Art, 1986).

² Two other rooms in the Cathedral of Learning with genuine historical elements are the Syria-Lebanon Nationality Room (1782) and the Croghan-Schenley “Picnic House” anteroom and ballroom (1835).

³ This essay is a revision and expansion of “Treasure in the Cathedral,” *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review Focus* 27:48 (October 6, 2002): 8–10. A slightly different revised version with some color illustrations is on the PHLF website: www.phlf.org (search: Pugin)

⁴ Ruth Crawford Mitchell to Alfred Bossom, February 6, 1948, English Nationality Room Committee Collection, 1929–1981, UA.40.07, University Archives, Archives Service Center, University of Pittsburgh [Vol. II].

⁵ *The English Room in the Cathedral of Learning: Revised Memorandum on Design proposal on the basis of conference and correspondence with Alfred C. Bossom, M.P., Architect A. A. Klimcheck, University Architect, and John Weber, Secretary of the Board of Trustees* (November 2, 1950). [English Nationality Room Committee Collection, Vol. III].

⁶ R. C. Mitchell to A. Bossom, February 20, 1951 [Vol. II]

⁷ R. C. Mitchell to A. Bossom, February 23, 1951 [Vol. II]

⁸ Memo from R. C. Mitchell to Chancellor R. H. Fitzgerald, July 6, 1951 [Vol. II]

⁹ Original has 1934, which is clearly a typo.

¹⁰ A. Bossom to James Robinson, British Consulate General, Philadelphia, Pa., May 1952 [Vol. II]

¹¹ A. Bossom to R. C. Mitchell, May 9, 1952 [Vol. II]

¹² R. C. Mitchell to A. Bossom, May 21, 1952 [Vol. II]

¹³ A. Bossom to R. C. Mitchell, July 7, 1952 [Vol. II]

¹⁴ A. Bossom to R. C. Mitchell, December 7, 1953 [Vol. II]

¹⁵ Chancellor Fitzgerald to A. Bossom, December 22, 1953 [Vol. II]

¹⁶ These shards of glass were re-figured as medallions by James Powell & Sons, London. Other medallions were made by Hunt Stained Glass Studio, Pittsburgh.

¹⁷ A. Bossom to R. C. Mitchell, June 4, 1956 [Vol. II]

PHLF Store: Books, Merchandise, Gift Memberships & Benches

PHLF members receive free shipping and a 10% discount on all merchandise in the PHLF Store (phlf.org/landmarks-store/). You may order on-line or contact Frank Stroker, PHLF's sales manager: frank@phlf.org; 412-471-5808, ext. 525.



Books & Booklets

This July, Pavilion Books (United Kingdom) will release the second edition of *Pittsburgh Then and Now*, by the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation. The first edition was written in 2004 by Walter C. Kidney. For the past six months, Louise Sturgess and Frank Stroker of PHLF have been working with the publisher to update that edition. While many of the “now” photographs are new, the voice of Walter

Mr. Kidney has a fantastic eye for detail, and it is an absolute pleasure to hear a critic of such a caliber describe familiar sites so freshly.

—Graham Moyer, June 2015

still shines through. Pairing vintage photographs with the same viewpoint today, *Pittsburgh Then and Now* presents a vivid portrait of a significant American city that has retained its unique architectural character and natural beauty in the midst of change.

With more than thirty titles in print, PHLF's publications include major books on notable architects and historic places, a popular series of beautifully illustrated guidebooks, and nostalgic booklets in its *Stones of Pittsburgh* series.

“Our organization has been fortunate to have gifted writers on staff since its founding in 1964,” said Louise Sturgess, PHLF's editor since 1981. Co-founders Arthur Ziegler and Jamie Van Trump launched PHLF's publications program, and it was eagerly continued by architectural historians Walter Kidney and Al Tannler.

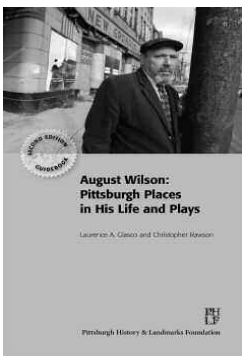
“We have also been fortunate to publish books by trustees—*Chronicle of a Pittsburgh Family*, by Evelyn Bitner Pearson, for example,” added Louise. “PHLF trustee Larry Glasco and *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* theater critic



Your book on modern Pittsburgh architecture greatly enriched my American Architecture class. The students

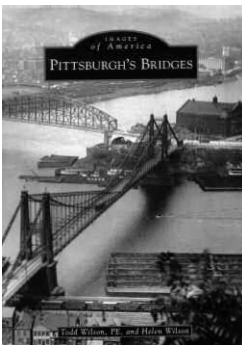
frequently cited it in their field reports and I enjoyed reading it (twice). I encouraged the students to model their work on your clear writing style, crisp descriptions, and use of historical sources.

—Dr. Matthew G. Hyland, History Department, Duquesne University, to Albert M. Tannler, author of *Pittsburgh Architecture in the Twentieth Century*



The book on August Wilson is fabulous—a model, I think, for this type of research. It is visually interesting, a good read, and very informative.

—Rolf Achilles, Art Historian, Historic Preservation Program, School of the Art Institute of Chicago



Christopher Rawson worked with us recently to publish the second edition of *August Wilson: Pittsburgh Places in His Life and Plays*, released in December 2015.” PHLF trustee Todd Wilson, PE, and Helen Wilson recently published *Pittsburgh's Bridges*,

through Arcadia Publishing's *Images of America* series. Some 140 bridges, past and present, are featured and are concisely explained. Todd inscribed a book for Louise and wrote: “Thank you for your work in teaching kids to love history, especially Pittsburgh history! Who knows, one day one might write a book!”

In fact, Todd is that one. He participated in PHLF's bridge-building contests in elementary school and was awarded a Landmarks Scholarship in 2002. He has given two presentations based on *Pittsburgh's Bridges* at the Landmarks Preservation Resource Center. A traffic engineer and life-long bridge enthusiast, Todd is respected nationwide for his extensive knowledge on bridges and for his commitment to preserving historic bridges.

Merchandise

PHLF merchandise includes colorful notecards featuring student artwork of the Pittsburgh Point and historic homes; a red baseball cap with PHLF's name and motto; and handsomely designed posters featuring six “Landmark Survivors”: the Fort Pitt Block House, Smithfield Street Bridge, Fort Pitt Boulevard, Allegheny County Courthouse and Jail, “Clayton,” and Station Square.

Gift Memberships

Please give the gift of membership to family members and friends today—and strengthen the voice for historic preservation in this region. Thank you! Contact Mary Lu Denny: marylu@phlf.org; 412-471-5808, ext. 527.

Courthouse Benches

Through your tax-deductible contribution, you can help furnish the Allegheny County Courthouse with a limited edition of heirloom benches, exclusively designed by the former County Architect Samuel Taylor and hand built here in Pittsburgh by Wilson & McCracken. Your name, or the name of someone you would like to honor, will be carved in the front of the bench and will become a permanent tribute to your generosity and vision. Donations from many people have funded the construction of twenty-two Courthouse benches honoring nineteen people and organizations. For details, visit www.phlf.org and click on Store.



Inclines, the Skybus, and Cable Cars: From the Frank B. Fairbanks Rail Transportation Archive

James Halttunen

Railroads were a passion for Frank Fairbanks (1930–2005), a mechanical engineer and PHLF trustee. Throughout his life Mr. Fairbanks documented trains, stations, engines, and equipment. He also photographed alternative forms of transportation, such as trolleys, inclines, and ferries. All of these photographs can be found in the Frank B. Fairbanks Rail Transportation Archive, located within PHLF's offices



Pittsburgh Incline Plane (Knoxville Incline) closing notice at the top station, November, 1960.

on the fourth floor of The Landmarks Building at Station Square.

During Mr. Fairbanks' lifetime, several of Pittsburgh's famous inclines closed. This includes the Pittsburgh Incline Plane, more commonly called the Knoxville Incline, as well as the Castle

Shannon Incline. Both connected the South Side to the hilltop communities of Knoxville, Mount Oliver, and Allentown.

Mr. Fairbanks also documented some equally innovative, if somewhat more modern, Pittsburgh transportation systems. The Skybus demonstration in South Park in 1965 was supposed to be the beginning of an automated public transportation system in Pittsburgh. While the full scope of the vision was never realized, the technological advances behind the Skybus would contribute to automated systems around the country.

Mr. Fairbanks was drawn to most forms of mechanical transportation. This is most evident in his interest in cable cars. Locally, he photographed the car operated by the Renner's Ferry Company along the Youghiogheny River. A single motor drove a direct pulley system to move a single passenger car across the Youghiogheny River. When Mr. Fairbanks visited in 1959, he noted that passes were sold at a rate of twenty trips for \$1.50.

The Fairbanks Archive is open by appointment on Mondays, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. For more information contact fairbanksarchive@phlf.org, or call Al Tannler at PHLF (412-471-5808, ext. 515). There is much to see.



The Castle Shannon Incline, photographed in 1963, looking toward downtown Pittsburgh and the Lower Hill. The incline was closed to passenger operations in 1964.



A Port Authority Transit demonstration at South Park, by Westinghouse Electric, was photographed in 1966. The Skybus was fully operated by computer. Some of the technology behind Skybus can still be seen in action in the tram that operates at the Pittsburgh International Airport.



The Renner's Ferry Co. Aerial cableway, as photographed in 1959. This was one of several cable cars that once crossed the Youghiogheny River and provided transportation between Smithdale and Sutersville, Pennsylvania.

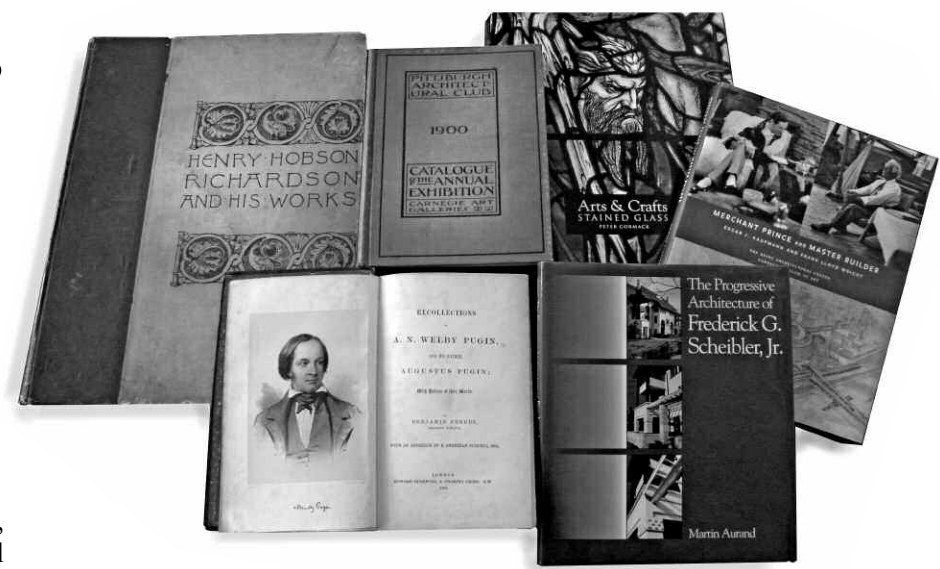
A Sampling: Books in the James D. Van Trump Library

Albert M. Tannler

The James D. Van Trump (JVT) Library is named after PHLF's co-founder and first architectural historian. This is appropriate because Jamie's private library of some 5,000 books on regional, national, and international architectural history forms the core of the library which includes material pertaining to PHLF, historic preservation, urban planning, engineering and technical development, interior design, and landscape design. Walter C. Kidney, who succeeded Jamie as architectural historian, donated another 4,000 books.

To suggest the range of the library, I've chosen six books published between 1861 and 2015, a period of 154 years. Two books are biographies and studies of architects of genius: A. W. N. Pugin and H. H. Richardson. Pugin's importance is presented on pages 16-19 of this issue. Mrs. Van Rensselaer's study of Richardson is considered the first study of a major American architect. One of our two copies of her book was owned by Jamie, who wrote the introduction to the first reprint of the book published in 1967.

Next, I have selected three books to demonstrate the quality of regional design and documentation. Regular architectural exhibitions were held in Pittsburgh between 1897 and 1917, initially generated by the Pittsburgh Chapter, AIA, then by the Pittsburgh Architectural Club. The exhibition catalogues are our primary, in some cases



our only record of local architectural design during these years. Among the many fine books that have been written on Pittsburgh architects, Martin Aurand's account of Frederick G. Scheibler, Jr. is one of the most interesting. Perhaps of equal importance are studies of the clients of architects, such as Richard Cleary's exploration of the relationship between Edgar Kaufmann, Sr. and Frank Lloyd Wright.

Finally, I've selected Peter Cormack's excellent new book on an important but often overlooked subject—nineteenth- and twentieth-century architectural glass and the master craftsmen who designed and made it in Britain and the United States.

I invite you to peruse these books and others in the James D. Van Trump Library, open Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Please contact me (al@phlf.org; 412-471-5808, ext. 515) to schedule a visit.

The six books (above), in chronological order:

- Benjamin Ferrey, *Recollections of A. N. [sic] Welby Pugin, and His Father, Augustus Pugin; with Notices of their Works* (London: Edward Stanford, 1861).
- Marianna Griswold Van Rensselaer, *Henry Hobson Richardson and His Works* (Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin & Company, 1888).
- Pittsburgh Architectural Club, *Catalogue of the First Annual Exhibition 1900* (Erie, Pennsylvania: Herald P. & P. Company, 1900).
- Martin Aurand, *The Progressive Architecture of Frederick G. Scheibler, Jr.* (Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 1994).
- Richard L. Cleary, *Merchant Prince and Master Builder: Edgar J. Kaufmann and Frank Lloyd Wright* (Pittsburgh: The Heinz Architectural Center, Carnegie Museum of Art, 1999).
- Peter Cormack, *Arts & Crafts Stained Glass* (London: Yale University Press, 2015).

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Benefits include:

- free admission to workshops and programs at the Landmarks Preservation Resource Center;
- a 10% discount on books and merchandise in the PHLF Store;
- savings on school tours and presentations;
- free access to our two libraries;
- free admission to “Woodville Plantation”;
- invitations to special events, and more!

Renew your membership and join on-line: www.phlf.org
Or contact: marylu@phlf.org; 412-471-5808, ext. 527
for information on donating to PHLF or volunteering.

Welcome New Members (December 1, 2014 – December 31, 2015)

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 and contributes to a strong, collective voice in support of historic preservation throughout the region.

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all your help with my
investigation of Dunmoyle
Street. ... I’m so excited
about my new PHLF
membership that I’m heading
to “Woodville Plantation”
this afternoon to take
advantage of the free
admission and to see a place
I’ve never even heard
of before!*

—Sandy Levis, November 8, 2015

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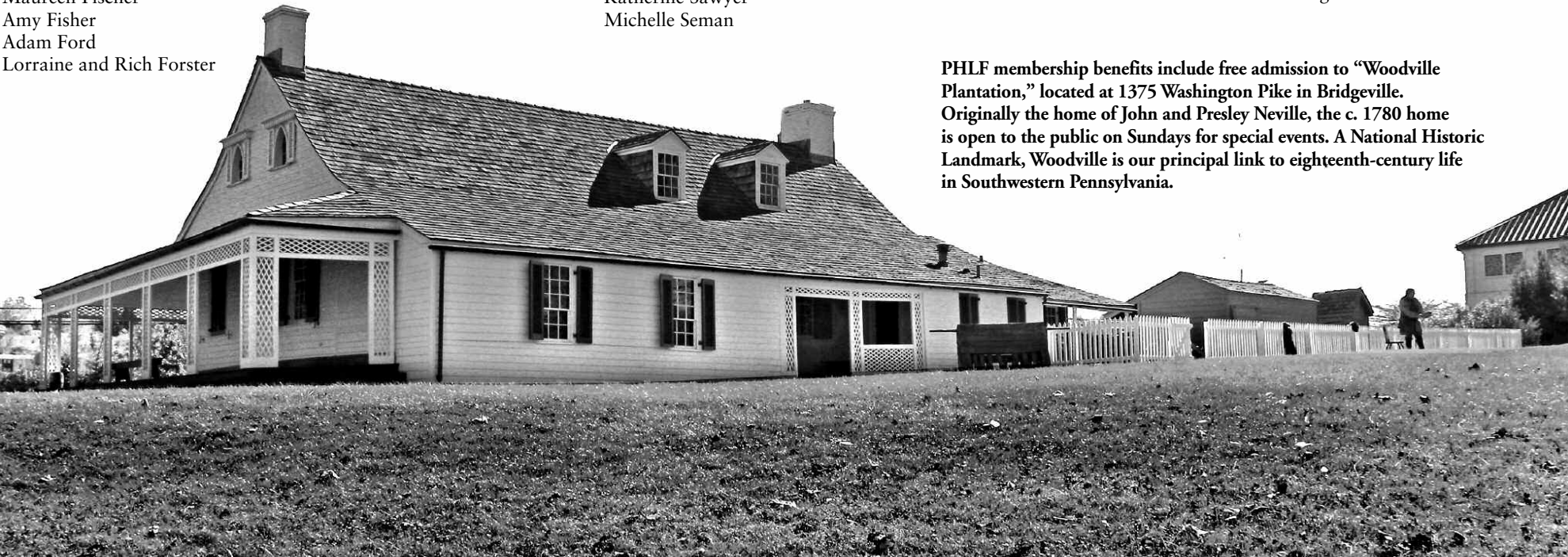
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PHLF membership benefits include free admission to “Woodville Plantation,” located at 1375 Washington Pike in Bridgeville. Originally the home of John and Presley Neville, the c. 1780 home is open to the public on Sundays for special events. A National Historic Landmark, Woodville is our principal link to eighteenth-century life in Southwestern Pennsylvania.



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(Donations received between December 1, 2014 and December 31, 2015)

Your gifts support historic preservation programs and services throughout the Pittsburgh region and make possible so much of the work featured in this newsletter. Thank you!

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(see page 9)

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- Claire and Bill Emery, for a gift in memory of Bob Cunningham
- Peg Stouffer, for gifts in memory of her husband S. William Stouffer, her parents Mr. & Mrs. George V. Moore, and her grandparents Mr. & Mrs. John P. Moore and The Rev. & Mrs. William A. Jones
- David J. Vater, RA, for a gift in memory of Albert C. Van Dusen

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- Janice Menke Abraham, and Michael and Karen Menke Paciorek, for gifts to the Audrey and Ken Menke Named Fund for Education

Detail, Brass Building Lofts, Strip District





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Plus Volunteers!

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

Become Involved:

Contact Us

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TOURS & EVENTS IN 2016

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

Weekly Tours

- **Free Jail Museum Tours in Downtown Pittsburgh, every Monday** (except on government holidays), **February through October.** Visit between 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. and stay for five minutes or longer, as your schedule allows. A PHLF docent will be there to share stories about the Old Jail that was designed by H. H. Richardson in 1884, opened in 1886, closed in 1995, and renovated between 1999 and 2001 to house the Family Division of the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas. *Reservations appreciated.*

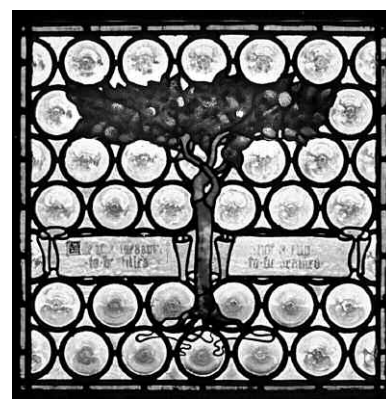


- **“Downtown’s Best,” every Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to Noon, June through August.** During a walking tour through the heart of downtown Pittsburgh, you’ll see more than twenty-five architectural landmarks, spectacular interiors, and significant urban spaces. The per-person fee (\$18 members; \$20 non-members) includes PHLF’s *Whirlwind Walk* guidebook. *Reservations required.*
- **Free Friday Walking Tours in Downtown Pittsburgh, Noon to 1:00 p.m., May through October.** Each month features a different section of downtown: Gateway Center (May); Market Square Area (June); Grant Street & Mellon Square (July); Bridges & River Shores (August); Penn-Liberty Cultural District (September); and Fourth Avenue & PPG Place (October). We thank VisitPittsburgh for providing funding support that helps keep this walking tour service free. *Reservations appreciated.*

Special Events

Plus we are offering many special events for members in cooperation with others, beginning with the “Cram Jam” on April 16, so named by Phil Hallen, PHLF Chairman Emeritus. In May we will debut “Through the Place” (see page 1) and host our Landmarks Heritage Society recognition event. We are grateful to the Dickson’s, members of PHLF, who will be opening their Highland Park home (see May 21) that showcases the work of stained glass artist Horace Rudy, who lived there originally. Due to a member’s request, we are incorporating sketching and art instruction in a walking tour (see June 25). We will visit the City of Butler to see a church designed by John Comès (see September 17), building on the success of our first bus tour in 2015 with David McMunn, a PHLF member and Comès expert.

- **Tuesday, May 10, 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. Premiere of “Through the Place,” PHLF’s 50th-Anniversary Documentary** The Frick Art Museum Auditorium Frick Art & Historical Center 7227 Reynolds Street Pittsburgh, PA 15208 *Free to PHLF and Frick members. Reservations required. Limited seating.*
- **Thursday, May 12, 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. Landmarks Heritage Society (LHS) Recognition Event** Tour The Tower at PNC Plaza, enjoy light refreshments, and tour several PHLF/LDC properties on Wood and Market streets, including the former Weldin’s. PNC Wealth Management is hosting this event for PHLF members who have made a special commitment to our organization. For details on becoming an LHS member, contact louise@phlf.org; 412-471-5808, ext. 536. *By invitation; reservations required.*
- **Saturday, May 14, Noon to 4:30 p.m. Pioneers: A Bus Tour to the Walker-Ewing Log House (c. 1790) and Pittsburgh Botanic Garden (1988)** \$45 members; \$70 non-members (includes one-year membership in PHLF)



“Tree of Life,” Horace Rudy House

- **Saturday, May 21, 1:00 to 4:30 p.m. Highland Park Urban Hike: From the Horace Rudy House to the Reservoir** (with detours to St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church and Bryant Street) \$20 members of PHLF, Highland Park & East Liberty community groups; \$45 non-members (includes one-year membership in PHLF)
- **Saturday, June 25, 1:00 to 4:30 p.m. Making Art in Polish Hill: Plein-air Sketching with Victor Beltran and a Neighborhood Walk**, including Immaculate Heart of Mary \$20 members; \$45 non-members (includes one-year membership in PHLF)
- **Saturday, July 30, 1:00 to 4:30 p.m. Aspinwall Urban Hike: From Commercial and Residential Districts to a Riverfront Park** \$20 members; \$45 non-members (includes one-year membership in PHLF)
- **Saturday, August 20, 1:00 to 4:30 p.m. Uptown Urban Hike: Trendy Lofts & Offices** \$15 members; \$40 non-members (includes one-year membership in PHLF)
- **Saturday, Sept. 17, 1:00 to 6:00 p.m. City of Butler, PA: A Bus Tour to See John T. Comès’ St. Paul R.C. Church and Other Landmarks** \$50 members; \$75 non-members (includes one-year membership in PHLF)
- **Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 1 & 2 Doors Open Pittsburgh** (see page 3) *Free to the public. No reservations needed.*
- **Saturday, Oct. 22, 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. East End Urban Hike: From Schenley Park through CMU to Rodef Shalom** \$15 members; \$40 non-members (includes one-year membership in PHLF)

Free Admission for PHLF Members at Our Landmarks Preservation Resource Center (LPRC)

Click on **Tours & Events** at the top of PHLF’s homepage (www.phlf.org) for a full listing of the programs offered throughout the year at the LPRC in Wilkinsburg at 744 Rebecca Avenue. Thanks to a planned gift in 2006 and donations from others, PHLF transformed a former Packard building into an educational center, and the LPRC opened in October 2010. Programs include home restoration and gardening workshops, home ownership seminars, and film documentaries on architects, architecture, and urban planning.



Decorative cast-iron elements from the demolished Manchester Bridge that once spanned the Allegheny River between Pittsburgh’s Point and North Side are displayed on the Jeanette Street side of the LPRC. Artist James Shipman has a studio in the right portion of the building. PHLF’s educational programs take place in two major spaces in the left portion. There is a parking lot across from the building entrance at 744 Rebecca Avenue.