



*The Newsletter Dedicated to Preserving Pennsylvania's Historic Places*

# Pennsylvania At Risk 2005

*The Annual Listing of the Commonwealth's Most Endangered Historic Properties*



**Coplay Cement Company  
Kilns (Saylor Cement Kilns),  
Coplay, Lehigh County**

### Significance

Significant in the early development of the American cement industry, the Coplay Cement Company manufactured the first Portland cement in America in 1871. In 1892, to meet the growing demand for cement, the company constructed eleven 93-ft. tall Schoefer kilns, a Danish modification of a kiln originally developed in Germany. From 1893 to 1904 these kilns were in use, until replaced by the rotary kiln - a technology with cheaper operating costs. The kilns were listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1980. Not only are these structures significant in the evolution of kiln technology, but they stand as a monument to the pioneering role of the Coplay Cement Company and the Lehigh Valley in the development of the American Portland cement industry. The Coplay kilns are reputed to be the only kilns of this type left in the nation.

## Threat

Originally protected from the weather by an outer building which was demolished in the 1920s, the kilns have deteriorated from exposure to the elements. Four of the nine remaining kilns were restored and capped by Lehigh County in 2000. The County has proposed to tear down the five unrestored kilns and turn over the entire property to the Borough of Coplay. This proposal galvanized local citizens and officials resulting in the formation of the Saylor Cement Kilns Preservation Society. While the County retains ownership of the kilns, the Society is charged with obtaining funding to restore and repair the kilns that still need work. The long-range goal of the Society is to enclose the nine kilns in a building that will serve as shelter and as an interpretive, educational museum celebrating the importance of the kilns and the cement industry in the Lehigh Valley. By raising awareness about the kilns, the Society hopes that current and past industry leaders, former workers, architectural and industrial historians and others will step forward to assist with the restoration and preservation of the Coplay kilns. 🍷

**Coplay Cement Company  
Kilns (Saylor Cement Kilns),  
Coplay, Lehigh County**

## Adams County Fruitbelt

**Turtle Creek High School,  
Turtle Creek, Allegheny County**

## Conneaut Lake Park, Sadsbury Township, Crawford County

**Mortonville Bridge, East  
Fallowfield Township,  
Chester County**

**29-59 East Lancaster Avenue,  
Ardmore Historic District, Lower  
Merion Township, Montgomery  
County**

**2901, 2909 & 2917 N. Front  
Street, Academy Manor Historic  
District, Harrisburg,  
Dauphin County**

**Roxbury Band Shell, Roxbury  
Park, Johnstown, Cambria County**

## Dolington Village, Upper and Lower Makefield Township, Bucks County

## Log Plank House, Marcus Hook, Delaware County

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## Adams County Fruitbelt

### Significance

Adams County is among the ten largest apple-producing regions in the nation and supports a diverse local economic infrastructure that includes orchard growing, fruit processing, pallet making and fruit stand operation. The Fruitbelt covers 20,000 acres of rolling hills stretching from southwest to northeast Adams County in rural southcentral Pennsylvania. Determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, the landscape of the Fruitbelt possesses an extraordinary beauty that has remained virtually unchanged since the turn of the 20th century when commercial apple production began. Historic farmsteads built of log and stone, dating from the early 19th century, dot the hillsides. The villages of the region, including Biglerville, Gardners, Aspers and York Springs, contain numerous historic residences, churches, as well as commercial structures and industrial

buildings connected to fruit processing. The fresh produce, apple festivals and scenic drives are a major draw for tourists from within Pennsylvania and from neighboring states.

### Threat

Development pressures from Harrisburg to the east and Maryland to the south threaten to erode the

orchards, the rural character, and the delicately balanced economic system of the region. The most imminent threat is a proposed 275-unit trailer park on 130 acres of prime agricultural land in Huntington Township, outside of York Springs. Township supervisors have waged a six-year legal battle with the developer, but were recently ordered by Commonwealth Court to approve the development plans because no zoning was in place when the plan was submitted. Groups working for the preservation of the Fruitbelt include the Citizens Alliance of Adams County, a countywide umbrella group that helps small community groups seeking to preserve the rural character of the county, and Save Our Rural Heritage, a group formed specifically to stop the trailer park project. Joint municipal planning, the creation of local historic districts, enacting zoning ordinances or strengthening existing ordinances, as well as farmland and open space preservation programs could all help in averting incompatible development. 🍏

## Contributors to this Issue

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**Mission Statement** Preservation Pennsylvania through creative partnerships, targeted educational programs and advocacy programs, advisory assistance, and special projects assists Pennsylvania communities to protect and utilize the historic resources they want to preserve for the future.

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## Turtle Creek High School, Turtle Creek, Allegheny County

### *Significance*

Built in 1917 as the Turtle Creek High School, the building became the junior high school when the Woodland Hills School District

was created in 1981. Located on 3.5 acres in the borough of Turtle Creek (pop. 6500), the Neo-Classical-inspired school is now known as East Junior High School. It is considered by many residents to be the last and finest example of the architectural heritage of this small community.



### *Threat*

The school district voted in January 2005 to build a new junior high school on the site and then demolish the historic structure, claiming that it will be more expensive to renovate the existing building than build new. A citizens committee has formed to oppose demolition and save this local landmark. The Turtle Creek school joins the ever-growing list of historic neighborhood schools at risk in Pennsylvania. Tom Hylton - Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, author of *Save Our Land Save Our Towns: A Plan for Pennsylvania*, and Preservation Pennsylvania board member - is working with citizens of Turtle Creek and numerous other Pennsylvania communities trying to save their historic neighborhood schools. 📌

## Conneaut Lake Park, Sadsbury Township, Crawford County

### *Significance*

Opened in 1892, the venerable Conneaut Lake Park boasts a historic hotel, a tree-lined midway, an antique carousel and other historic rides with names like Blue Streak and Tumble Bug. The Dreamland Ballroom is described as the largest without pillars in the eastern U.S. and once hosted music legends like Jimmy Dorsey and Guy Lombardo. Drawing generations of summer visitors from throughout western Pennsylvania, Ohio and New York State, Conneaut Lake is the 12th oldest amusement park in the U.S. It was determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places in 1995.

### *Threat*

In its 113 years, the historic park has survived the Great Depression, two fires, and three bankruptcies - the latest in 1995. Now development pressures, combined with financial and legal problems since the latest bankruptcy, threaten the future



of the park, which is operated by a court appointed custodian and two volunteer trustees. Local businesses, volunteers, and deep customer loyalty have kept the park in operation despite the weight of inherited

debt, law suits over ownership of the rides, negative press and lack of operating capital. Local advocates are frustrated in their fight to preserve this historic summer resort and their tourism economy. 📌



### **Mortonville Bridge, East Fallowfield Township, Chester County**

#### *Significance*

Built in 1826 by Wilson Buffington, this four span, closed spandrel stone arch bridge carries Strasburg Road over the West Branch of the Brandywine Creek in rural Chester County. The bridge is listed in the National Register of Historic Places as part

of the Strasburg Road Thematic Group. It retains high integrity of design, materials and workmanship as an early example of the masonry arch bridge technology in the county. It is also one the county's oldest stone arch bridges in continuous use. Like many historic bridges throughout

the Commonwealth, the Mortonville Bridge is a community landmark that helps establish the rural character of the existing roadway and acts as a traffic calming element, making drivers slow down, drive courteously and obey the posted speed limits. This historic bridge and other similar structures throughout the state help define and protect the character of Pennsylvania's historic rural areas and communities.

#### *Threat*

PennDOT first developed plans in the 1980s and again in the 1990s to replace this historic bridge with a new, wider concrete bridge on a new alignment downstream from the existing bridge. In addition to not meeting current industry (AASHTO) standards for width and geometry of approach, the bridge had suffered from long-term deferred maintenance, posing potential safety hazards and tort liability issues. Local citizens, led by S.A.V.E. (Safety, Agriculture, Villages and Environment, Inc.), advocated for preservation and rehabilitation of the historic bridge and its importance in maintaining the rural character of the area. As of this writing, PennDOT has agreed to rehabilitate the bridge, signaling what preservationists see as a change in approach to "right-sizing" and "context sensitive solutions". However, the Mortonville Bridge is an example of only one type of historic bridge at risk in Pennsylvania. Covered bridges, metal trusses, wooden deck trusses, early concrete, and suspension bridges face similar preservation challenges and vigilance from the preservation community. ▼

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### **29-59 East Lancaster Avenue, Ardmore Historic District, Lower Merion Township, Montgomery County**

#### *Significance*

The eastern-most section of contributing buildings in the Ardmore Historic District are an intact continuum of early 20th century residential and commercial architecture along this significant east-

west Main Line corridor. The district was designated locally and determined eligible for the National Register in 1993. As described by the Lower Merion Conservancy: The impacted buildings are not Ardmore's most astonishing architecture. Nonetheless, they are fully rented, long-used store-fronts integral to the historic streetscape.

#### *Threat*

A redevelopment plan for the area threatens these ten buildings with being taken by eminent domain and demolished for a four to six story mixed-use building adjacent to a new six-story parking garage. Despite workshops, public presentations, public hearings, public opposition by local residents and a study by the Urban Land Institute that recommended no demolition, the overall redevelopment plan was approved by the township and the Montgomery County Planning Commission in early 2005. The recently created Save Ardmore Coalition (SAC) has filed suit against the township to stop the plan. Apart from the local impact of this proposal, the broader issue of the use of eminent domain as part of urban development projects is under review by state lawmakers across the county in the wake of the Kelo case in New London, Connecticut, in which the U.S. Supreme Court held that a municipality may take property for private economic development projects. ▼





### **2901, 2909 & 2917 N. Front Street, Academy Manor Historic District, Harrisburg, Dauphin County**

#### *Significance*

Highlighted in a report on Harrisburg's signature historic assets, the National Trust for Historic Preservation identified the collection of historic homes along

North Front Street's Riverfront Park as a significant gateway and historic corridor for the city. The Academy Manor Historic District, developed in the 1920s, anchors the northern end of Riverfront Park. Many of the residences in the district were designed by leading architectural firms in Harrisburg and represent a wide array of 20th century Colonial, French Norman, Spanish and Tudor revival styles. The original development

incorporated detached garages and rear alleys to minimize the impact of the automobile and design principles of setback, massing and materials to maintain architectural character. The district continues to serve as a strong residential neighborhood with a number of the grand homes along the river used as offices.

#### *Threat*

In March of 2005, a local Harrisburg interior designer announced plans to demolish three of the most prominent riverfront buildings in the Academy Manor Historic District to construct a \$30 million, 32-unit condominium building. The plans drew an outcry from neighborhood residents and city preservationists, not only as an encroachment into a stable historic residential neighborhood and in violation of the City's zoning codes but as a threat to the historic character of the entire North Front Street historic corridor. After a series of public meetings conducted by Harrisburg City Council, the demolition permit was denied, but the developer is heading to the courts to pursue the demolition permit and her development plans. ♥

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### **Roxbury Band Shell, Roxbury Park, Johnstown, Cambria County**

#### *Significance*

Roxbury Band Shell was one of twenty-seven public band shells built throughout the U.S. by the Work Progress Administration in the 1930's and was dedicated, in person, by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Representative of the extensive park and recreational contributions of the WPA program, the semi-circular limestone and brick amphitheater is one of the last remaining of the original twenty-seven. Once known for its man-made lake and horse racing track, Roxbury Park continues to serve as a center of entertainment, social, and sporting events for the citizens of Johnstown.

#### *Threat*

To provide more parking for Roxbury park visitors, the City of Johnstown entered into a contract to demolish the historic band shell and clear the site for construction of a parking facility. The parking garage plans took many neighborhood residents by surprise and city officials were reluctant to enter into public discussion and referendum about the project. Faced with a court injunction sought by the citizens to delay the demolition, the city demanded the band shell



preservationists raise \$20,000 to cover the costs of the demolition contract. Just prior to the expiration of the temporary injunction, a retired Johnstown steel worker who grew up in the neighborhood and fondly recalls attending concerts and events at the band shell came forward with a \$20,000 cashiers check to halt the demolition. The demolition of the band shell may be temporarily derailed but the city is still not committed to its preservation in spite of vast public support for saving this city landmark. ♥



### **Dolington Village, Upper and Lower Makefield Township, Bucks County**

#### *Significance*

The National Register Historic District of Dolington Village is a traditional rural crossroads village in central Bucks County. The village has a well-preserved core

of mid-nineteenth century Federal style vernacular houses with numerous barns and workshops that served residential, commercial and small-scale industrial purposes. Throughout the 19th century, the village was a commercial center for artisans and shopkeepers that supported the surrounding farms. The district retains the strong relationship between a crossroads

village and the broad expanse of open farmland that was once common throughout Bucks County and the rest of southeastern Pennsylvania.

#### *Threat*

One of the nation's largest builders of luxury homes plans to construct 300 homes on 300 acres of farmland in and around the village of Dolington. Local residents, concerned that development of this magnitude would destroy the rural and agricultural character of Dolington and transform it into yet another suburban subdivision, formed the Upper Makefield Open Space Alliance/Save Historic Dolington to oppose the project through fundraising, community awareness, and participation at meetings of township officials. Adding to the complexity of the situation, the Dolington tract is on the Department of Veteran Affairs short list of sites for a new veterans' cemetery in Southeastern Pennsylvania. A final ruling from township supervisors on the proposed housing development is expected at a December 31, 2005 meeting. ▼

### **Log Plank House, Marcus Hook, Delaware County**

#### *Significance*

Situated in the small borough of Marcus Hook, an original Swedish settlement in the Delaware Bay, appears to be a modest one and a half story stucco clad Cape Cod house with vinyl shed additions. Within the 20th century additions, the core of the building is the only known example of 17th century Finnish plank log house construction in Pennsylvania. The house is constructed of perfectly

hewn 7" x 11" rectangular log members set flush upon one another and joined by full dovetail corner joinery. The building is clad with hand beaded, ship-lapped siding and eaves supported by hand-carved brackets. The interior retains original stairwells and a firebox and mantle with raised panel cabinetry. Architectural investigation and archaeological excavations have corroborated the construction date and typology of the house as a rare example of Finnish plank log house construction. Local legend persists that the house served as the home of Blackbeard's mistress.

#### *Threat*

The Borough of Marcus Hook has plans for an affordable housing development surrounding the Plank House. Concerned about the future of this house, the owner, Mike Manerchia, began to research the history of his property. Mr. Manerchia worked with the local archaeology and historic architecture communities, Delaware County Planning Department and the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission to help preserve a rare example of Finnish plank log house construction from the original period of Swedish settlement in Pennsylvania. Mr. Manerchia founded the Marcus Hook Log Cabin Association to raise awareness and funding to complete the investigation of the house for future restoration and interpretation. ▼





## Pennsylvania At Risk

is published annually by Preservation Pennsylvania. The list is a representative sampling of the variety and richness of our commonwealth's historic properties and the types and severity of threats they face.

The listing is compiled from nominations and suggestions made by our members, local heritage organizations, the board and staff of Preservation Pennsylvania, and the Bureau for Historic Preservation, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission.

In addition to the annual listing, Preservation Pennsylvania will occasionally add to the endangered list at other times during the year in response to timely threats to significant historic properties.

In evaluating properties for inclusion on the list, Preservation Pennsylvania looks for the following:

- ❖ the property is listed or determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, or
- ❖ the property is considered a contributing structure in a National Register Historic District, or
- ❖ the property is designated historic by local government, and
- ❖ the property is faced with imminent, recognized endangerment either from overt action, neglect, incompatible use, or loss of context.

**Preservation Pennsylvania welcomes your comments on this year's list, your updates on the status of past entries, and your suggestions for future listings.**

## Pennsylvania At Risk 1992-2004

The following properties have been included in past listings of **Pennsylvania At Risk**. Those with \* have had a positive preservation outcome; those with \*\* have been lost. The other properties remain at risk.

### *Adams County*

Camp Letterman, Gettysburg (1997)  
Cyclorama Building, Gettysburg (1999)

### *Allegheny County*

African American Sites (2002)  
Allegheny River Boulevard (1995)  
Armstrong Cork Company Complex, Pittsburgh (1994)  
B'Nai Israel Synagogue, Pittsburgh (2003)  
Carrie Furnaces, Swissvale (1992)  
Church of St. Michael the Archangel, Pittsburgh (1993)  
"Fifth and Forbes" downtown area, Pittsburgh (1999)  
Homestead Historic District (2001)  
Howe-Childs Gateway House, Pittsburgh\* (1996)  
Pittsburgh Civic Arena (2002)  
Reed Hall, Dixmont State Hospital, Kilbuck Township (2004)  
Saint Nicholas Croatian Roman Catholic Church, Pittsburgh (2002)  
Scanlon Observatory, Pittsburgh\* (1997)  
Sterrett, McCleary, and Letsche Schools, Pittsburgh (1998)  
Westinghouse Atom Smasher, Forest Hills (2004)

### *Beaver County*

Ambridge High School, Ambridge (2004)  
Legionville Campground, Harmony Township (1992)

### *Bedford County*

Bedford Springs Hotel, Bedford (1992)  
Koontz Koffee Pot, Bedford\* (2001)  
S.S. Grand View Point Hotel, Schellsburg\*\* (1993)

### *Berks County*

Astor Theater, Reading (1992)\*\*  
Franklin Street Railroad Station, Reading (1999)  
Oley Township Historic District (1995)  
Penn Square, Callowhill Historic District, Reading (1995)

### *Blair County*

Eagles Building, Altoona (2003)  
First National Bank of Tyrone, Tyrone (2000)  
Leap the Dips, Lakemont Park, Altoona\* (1995)  
Roosevelt School, Claysburg (1998)

### *Bucks County*

Chalfont Historic District, Chalfont Borough\* (2003)  
Delaware Canal, Bucks & Northampton Counties (1993)  
Levittown Public Recreation Association Building, Tullytown\*\* (2002)  
Moland House, Warwick Township, Bucks County\* (1995)  
Pearl S. Buck House, Green Hills Farm, Hilltown (2004)  
Twin Silo Road Historic District, Plumstead Township\* (2001)  
Wycombe Bridge\* (1999)

### *Butler County*

Elliott Mine Archeological Complex, Butler & Lawrence Counties (1999)

### *Cambria County*

Cambria Ironworks, Johnstown (1997)  
Glosser Brothers Department Store, Johnstown\* (1994)

### *Carbon County*

Schwab School, Weatherly (2004)

### *Centre County*

Bellefonte Academy Building, Bellefonte\*\* (2002)

### *Chester County*

Brandywine Battlefield, Chester & Delaware Counties (1994)  
Coatesville Train Station, City of Coatesville (2003)  
Downingtown Junior High School, Downingtown (1998)  
Phoenix Iron & Steel Company Foundry Building, Phoenixville\* (1996)  
Roger Hunt Mill & Miller's House, Downingtown (1997)  
Saalbach Barn, West Caln Township\*\* (2000)  
Valley Forge National Historic Park, Chester & Montgomery Counties (2002)  
West Chester Downtown Historic District\* (2001)

### *Clarion County*

Clarion County Jail, Clarion\* (2000)

### *Clearfield County*

St. Severin Church, Drifting (1993)

### *Clinton County*

Memorial Park, Lock Haven (1993)

### *Crawford County*

Meadville High School, Meadville (1998)

### *Cumberland County*

John McCullough House, West Pennsboro Township (1995)  
Walnut Street Bridge, Dauphin & Cumberland Counties (1996)

### *Dauphin County*

Auto & Aeroplane Mechanical School, Harrisburg\*\* (1996)  
Baker House, Harrisburg\* (2000)  
Capital Area Greenbelt, Harrisburg (1997)  
Harrisburg Historic District (1999)  
Harrisburg Trainsheds, Harrisburg (2003)  
Hershey Consolidated School, Derry Township (1998)  
Star Barn, Lower Swatara Township\* (1992)  
Walnut Street Bridge, Dauphin & Cumberland Counties (1996)

### *Delaware County*

Brandywine Battlefield, Chester & Delaware Counties (1994)  
Deshong Estate, Chester (1992)  
Lazaretto, Tinicum Township (2001)  
Mount Moriah Cemetery, Yeadon Borough (and Philadelphia) (2004)  
Ridley High School, Ridley Township (1998)

### *Erie County*

Dickson Tavern, Erie (2001)  
Erie City and County Library\* (1993)  
George Carroll House, Erie\* (1995)  
Jackson Koehler Eagle Brewery, Erie (1997)  
Motor Vessel/Steamship Niagara, Erie\*\* (1994)  
Native American Ossuary, North East\* (1992)

**Fayette County**

Broad Ford Overholt Distillery, Upper Tyrone Township (2004)  
 Brownsville Commercial Historic District, Brownsville Borough (2004)  
 Lock and Dam 7, Monongahela River, Greene & Fayette Counties (1995)  
 Meason House, Dunbar Township (1992)  
 New Geneva (1993)  
 Searights Tollhouse (1993)

**Franklin County**

Chambersburg Historic District, Chambersburg (2000)  
 Path Valley Pennsylvania Turnpike Rest Stop\*\* (1993)

**Greene County**

Glassworks and Greensboro (1993)  
 Lock and Dam 7, Monongahela River, Greene & Fayette Counties (1995)  
 Thomas Kent, Jr. Farm (1999)

**Huntingdon County**

East Broadtop Railroad, Rockhill Furnace (1992)

**Jefferson County**

Big Run Elementary School, Big Run Borough (2003)

**Lackawanna County**

Lackawanna Avenue Historic District, Scranton \*\* (1992)  
 Morss Mansion, Simpson\*\* (1996)

**Lancaster County**

Elizabethtown Train Station, Elizabethtown (2003)  
 Enola Low Grade Railroad Line (1996)  
 Highway Routes 23 & 30 expansion projects (1992)  
 Keller's Covered Bridge, Ephrata Township (1994)  
 Lancaster County (entire county) (1994)  
 Mountain Springs Hotel, Ephrata\*\* (1993)  
 Thaddeus Stevens & Lydia Hamilton Smith Houses, Lancaster City (2001)

**Lawrence County**

Elliott Mine Archeological Complex, Butler & Lawrence Counties (1999)  
 Knox Building (Cascade Theater), New Castle (1996)  
 North Hill Historic District & New Castle High School, New Castle\*\* (2000)

**Lebanon County**

Bomberger's Distillery, Heidelberg Township (1994)  
 Colonial Theater, Lebanon\*\* (1993)

**Lehigh County**

Allentown National Bank, Allentown (1995)  
 Vera Cruz Jasper Quarry, Upper Milford Township (1994)

**Luzerne County**

Hazleton High School, Hazleton\* (1998)  
 Hotel Sterling, Wilkes-Barre (2001)  
 Huber Breaker, Ashley (1994)  
 Markle Banking & Trust Company, Hazleton (1997)  
 Plymouth Flats Archeological Site, Plymouth Township (1995)  
 Stegmaier Brewery, Wilkes-Barre\* (1992)

**Lycoming County**

Broad Street School, Jersey Shore (1998)  
 Park Home, Williamsport\* (1992)

**McKean County**

Kinzua Viaduct, Mt. Jewett Township\*\* (2002)

**Monroe County**

Buck Hill Inn, Barrett Township (2001)

**Montgomery County**

Cold Point Village Historic District, Plymouth & Whitemarsh Townships (2000)  
 Heidelberg (Kerlin Farm), Cheltenham Township (2004)  
 King of Prussia Inn\* (1993)  
 Lynnewood Hall, Cheltenham Township (1992)  
 Selma, Norristown (1992)  
 Valley Forge National Historic Park, Chester & Montgomery Counties (2002)

**Montour County**

Danville West Market Street Historic District (1992)

**Northampton County**

Bangor Swimming Pool, Bangor\*\* (1996)  
 Bethlehem Steel Plant, Bethlehem (2003)  
 Brith Shalom Synagogue, Easton\*\* (1992)  
 Delaware Canal, Bucks & Northampton Counties (1993)

**Northumberland County**

Victoria Theatre, Shamokin\*\* (1999)

**Philadelphia County**

Boyd Theater (2002)  
 Church Street Station, Market-Frankford Elevated (1997)  
 Dream Garden Mosaic\* (1999)  
 Eastern State Penitentiary (1992)  
 Philadelphia Historic Districts (2003)  
 Knowlton\* (1993)  
 Logan House (1997)  
 Mount Moriah Cemetery, Philadelphia & Yeadon Borough, Delaware Co. (2004)  
 Naval Hospital\*\* (1996)  
 PSFS Building\* (1994)  
 Richmond Power Station (2002)  
 Siegmund Lubin Studio\*\* (1995)  
 United States Naval Home (1992)  
 Victory Building\* (1993)

**Pike County**

Pond Eddy Bridge, Shohola Township (2002)

**Schuylkill County**

J. W. Cooper High School, Shenandoah

**Somerset County**

Palace Hotel, Windber\*\* (1993)

**Venango County**

Coal Oil Johnny House\* (1997)

**Wayne County**

Farview State Hospital Agricultural Complex, Waymart (2000)

**York County**

Borg Warner Complex, York\* (1993)  
 Byrd Liebhart Site (36Y00170), Lower Windsor Township (2003)  
 Camp Security, Springettsbury Township (2000)  
 Lincoln Highway Garage, York City\*\* (2004)  
 Shoe House, Hellam\* (1994)

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## Pennsylvania At Risk 1992-2004 *Updates on Previously Listed Properties*

### **Cyclorama Building, Gettysburg, Adams County (PA At Risk 1999)**

Richard Neutra's architectural gem has been selected for the 2006 World Monuments Fund (WMF) Watch List of 100 Most Endangered Historic Sites. This listing brings international attention to the threat of demolition to one of the first visitor centers built in the national park system as part of the Mission 66 program to improve visitor experience at national parks. Since its founding in 1965, WMF has helped save more than 430 irreplaceable sites in 83 countries. The WMF Watch list, begun in 1995, calls attention to imperiled cultural heritage sites around the world. The Cyclorama Building is one of eight designated sites in North America this year. A total of nine modern sites are included, reflecting an increased understanding of the importance to our cultural heritage of 20th century architecture.



### **Camp Security, Springettsbury Township, York County (PA At Risk 2000)**

Revolutionary War prisoner of war camp has been listed on the National Trust's endangered list for 2005, bringing national recognition to the importance of the site and its threat from development plans.

### **Koontz Koffee Pot (aka Bedford Coffee Pot), Bedford County (PA At Risk 2001)**

The Lincoln Highway icon received a 2005 PA Historic Preservation Award for its rehabilitation as an interpretive center on the grounds of the Bedford County Fairgrounds. Threatened with demolition by its previous owners, the building was moved from its original location to its new home, just across the highway. The Koffee Pot received formal listing in the National Register in 2005.

**The Park Home, Williamsport (PA At Risk 1992)** and the archeological dig at the **Thaddeus Steven and Lydia Hamilton Smith Houses, Lancaster (PA At Risk 2001)** also received 2005 PA Historic Preservation Awards.

### **Oley Township, Berks County (PA At Risk 1995)**

The whole township, significant for its rural heritage, has been designated a local historic district, affording greater protections to its rural character.

### **Lazaretto, Tinicum Township, Delaware County (PA At Risk 2001)**

The township has agreed to purchase the entire parcel and prepare a feasibility study and restoration plans for this 1799 quarantine station.

### **Mountain Springs Hotel, Ephrata, Lancaster County (PA At Risk 1993)**

Significant portions of this popular 19th century mineral springs resort were demolished in 2005 for construction of a Hampton Inn.

### **Twin Silo Road Historic District, Plumstead Township, Bucks County (PA At Risk 2001)**

A settlement was reached with developers to preserve this rural area of eastern Pennsylvania. Residential development will take place on 25 acres of the 128 acre site, with fewer houses than originally proposed and with barns and silos to be left intact.

### **Coal Oil Johnny House, Venango County (PA At Risk 1997)**

Moved from its original site to avert demolition, the home of the Oil Region's legendary 19th century prodigal prince has been rehabilitated as an interpretive site and visitor center in Oil Creek State Park.

### **Dixmont State Hospital (PA At Risk 2004)**

Demolition has begun on the hospital complex to make way for a big box retail development.





## Welcomes New Members 2005

Mary Alfson  
Edwin R. Baker  
Bryan D. Bechler  
Laura Black  
Joan Burgasser  
Jason C. Byrne  
Dan Campbell  
Alan J. Cuteri  
James Delle  
Frank E. Dittenhafer  
Maryann Dobbins  
Carl Doebley  
Anne R. Druck  
Leigh-Anne Drumm  
Dee Durham  
Shaun Evans, AIA  
Noel Falk  
Anthony Ferrante  
F. David Foulk  
Dale W. Freudenberg  
Louise Gabehart  
Susan Glassman  
Danna Gosney  
Robert C. Grubic  
Aaron Grumbacher  
Jeffrey Helm  
Henry Henninger  
Olga Herbert  
Paul Hogan  
John Holbert  
Mary Homsher  
Lori Howard  
Jim Jeffrey  
Robert John  
Audrey Johnson-Thornton  
Marilee Kessler  
David Kimmerly  
Igor Kiselev

Suzanne P. Lamborn  
Mary Ann Levine  
Brian Lightner  
Robert Linn  
Roy Livergood  
Abigail Low  
Jeffrey Ludwig, AIA  
Leonard Manbeck  
Robert McKinley  
John P. Mikowychok  
Stephen S. Miller  
Cos Pelligrini  
Linda & Nick Penniman  
Anthony Pitassi  
David Redshaw  
Laura Ricketts  
Allan S. Rink  
Elizabeth L. Roman  
Bronwen A. Sanders  
Becky Sassi  
Steve Saxon  
Richard E. Schmitz  
William J. Scott Jr.  
Kevin Silson  
Tim Smedick  
James W. Smekal  
Jeffrey A. Smith  
Bradley A. Smith  
Claire F. Storm  
Frank Stroik  
Marianna Thomas  
Wendy H. Tippetts  
Kenneth Tuckey  
Tony & Fran Visco  
Patricia Robinson Washington  
Gary E. Weaver  
Mike Wells  
Susan D. Yatsky



# Cornerstone

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

*As 2005 comes to an end, we bring you our annual list of Pennsylvania's endangered historic places.*

*Since 1992, when we first produced Pennsylvania At Risk, I have been amazed and inspired by the rich and diverse heritage of our great Commonwealth and the fascinating stories these endangered places have to tell us.*

*The list this year includes a broad spectrum of our heritage – from grand and humble dwellings to industrial and engineering marvels to a broad agricultural landscape to public spaces and places. The future of each of these historic places is clearly at risk. Each has its champions, many of whom are working against daunting challenges. We invite you to join them in their efforts to keep, renew, and enhance these important places, each of which has great potential as part of Pennsylvania's future.*

*The challenge for all of us who care about these places is, frankly, to do a better job of making the case that historic preservation, heritage conservation, or whatever we choose to call it, makes good economic sense. In each of these cases, it is clearly the bottom line that matters most to the forces working against preservation.*

*What are some of the major hurdles? In spite of the fact that statistics confirm that historic designation and strong historic districts raise property values, local communities in Pennsylvania are still largely skeptical of historic district designation. In spite of data that shows that heritage tourism brings visitors who stay longer and spend more money, Pennsylvania could do more to promote our heritage and especially our heritage areas as key components of a statewide tourism and economic development strategy.*

*We need to do a better job of making our case. Each year, in some small way, I believe this list has helped to do that.*

*As we welcome 2006, I hope you will join me in being more vocal with friends, colleagues, and, most importantly, with our elected officials about the value of Pennsylvania's heritage and its place in a strategy that will help secure a prosperous future for us all. ♥*

*Best wishes,*



Susan Shearer, Executive Director





A Statewide Voice for Pennsylvania's Heritage

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