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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESERVATION PENNSYLVANIA ANNOUNCES 2021 PENNSYLVANIA AT RISK

Harrisburg, Dauphin County, PA – Three places were announced as the 2021 Pennsylvania At Risk by statewide preservation nonprofit Preservation Pennsylvania: **Fort Halifax** (Dauphin County), **Satterthwaite House and Patterson Farm** (Bucks County) and the former **St. Agnes Church** (Allegheny County).

“Historic preservation is many things, including a tool for managing change and promoting economic revitalization,” said Mindy Crawford, Executive Director of Preservation Pennsylvania, a private, nonprofit organization dedicated to the protection of historically and architecturally significant resources. “Demolition of these buildings should not be the first alternative. Preservation Pennsylvania will work with local organizations to advocate for these distinctive properties.”

The recording of the live Zoom announcement will be posted to our website preservationpa.org

2021 Pennsylvania At Risk

Preservation Pennsylvania will collaborate with local partners and work with owners to seek a preservation outcome for each site listed.

ALLEGHENY COUNTY

St. Agnes Church (aka St. Agnes Center)

3217 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh

Threat: Demolition

The former St. Agnes Church is considered one of the most beautiful churches in Pittsburgh, designed by architect John Theodore Comès (1873-1922). Its owner, Carlow University, proposes a public/private development partnership that would result in the church's demolition.

BUCKS COUNTY

Satterthwaite House & Patterson Farm

909 Mirror Lake Road, Yardley

Lower Makefield Township

Threat: Deterioration, Demolition by Neglect

As open land in Bucks County is gobbled up by new housing developments, the fertile soils of Patterson Farm remain in cultivation, continuing a centuries-long agricultural tradition. Much of this land is already protected. However, a 40-acre parcel owned by Lower Makefield Township and containing a number of historic buildings, including the Quaker Satterthwaite House is at risk. The buildings have fallen into disrepair since the Township obtained the farm in 1998. A local advocacy group seeks approval to begin restoration work before it's too late.

DAUPHIN COUNTY

Fort Halifax Park

570 N. River Rd., Halifax, Halifax Township

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Threat: Deterioration, Demolition

The 172-acre Fort Halifax Park fronts the Susquehanna River and includes rolling meadows, pristine woodlands, the meandering Armstrong Creek, and a historic 19th century farmstead. It was likely the location of Fort Halifax during the French and Indian War. Today the site offers recreational, archaeological and educational opportunities, such as nature, science, history and other programs. In the past year, Halifax Township's Board of Supervisors initiated plans to demolish the iconic barn and farmhouse.

About Pennsylvania At Risk

Since 1992, Preservation Pennsylvania has published the *Pennsylvania At Risk* list to draw statewide attention to the plight of Pennsylvania's historic resources; promote and support local action to protect historic properties; and encourage funding and legislation that supports preservation activities.

Helping people to protect and preserve Pennsylvania's endangered historic properties is a top priority for Preservation Pennsylvania. The organization is committed to engaging with people interested in working to preserve and rehabilitate these significant historic places.

This year's list was chosen from nominations submitted by groups and individuals. Submissions are evaluated by several criteria, including historic significance, the extent of the threat and the community's commitment to preserving the resource. This year's submissions were reviewed by a panel that included representatives from the following organizations, who shared their expertise to evaluate each of the nominations and offered their professional insights on potential solutions.

10,000 Friends of Pennsylvania
Heritage PA
PA Museums
Pennsylvania Archaeological Council
Pennsylvania Downtown Center
Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office
Preservation Pennsylvania Board of Directors

Founded in 1982, Preservation Pennsylvania is the commonwealth's only statewide, private, nonprofit organization dedicated to the protection of historically and architecturally significant resources. For more information, visit the website at www.preservationpa.org or contact Preservation Pennsylvania at 717-234-2310.

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