

Preserving

The Newsletter Dedicated to Preserving Pennsylvania's Historic Places

P E N N S Y L V A N I A

VOLUME 26 ■ ISSUE 3 ■ FALL 2013



2013 — Pennsylvania Historic Preservation AWARDS

preservation
PENNSYLVANIA

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MISSION STATEMENT Preservation Pennsylvania, through creative partnerships, targeted educational 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.

ABOUT US Preservation Pennsylvania is the Commonwealth's only statewide, private nonprofit membership organization dedicated to the protection of historically and architecturally significant properties. The organization was created in 1982 as the Preservation Fund of Pennsylvania to operate a revolving fund that would assist in the acquisition and rehabilitation of historic properties. Since its incorporation, the organization has evolved and now hosts the Statewide Conference on Heritage, hosts the Pennsylvania Historic Preservation Awards, and publishes an annual list of endangered historic properties in Pennsylvania At Risk in addition to managing the revolving loan fund. Preservation Pennsylvania also participates in educational programs and advocacy initiatives, as well as conducts special projects and offers on-site technical assistance to people across the Commonwealth.

Friday, September 27, 2013

Sunnybrook Ballroom
50 Sunnybrook Road
Pottstown, Pennsylvania



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LETTER FROM
THE DIRECTOR



As I bid a sad farewell to summer and all the fun things associated with it, I can’t help but be excited about September. September is when Preservation Pennsylvania honors the Pennsylvania Historic Preservation Award recipients. This issue of Preserving Pennsylvania gives a brief overview of the 2013 Historic Preservation Award winners presented on September 27, 2013.

Since 1979, the Pennsylvania Historic Preservation Awards have honored individuals and organizations that exhibit excellence in the field of historic preservation. Preservation Pennsylvania, along with the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission and our other partners, use this opportunity to recognize impressive projects and inspiring commitment to preserving and protecting Pennsylvania’s rich historic resources.

Each year as the Awards Review Committee deliberates the merits of the nominated projects, I am impressed by their careful consideration and the unique perspectives they bring to the process. When the final selections are made, I am so pleased by the process of peer review. This is not just a time to recognize the best in historic preservation, but I believe it is especially important to be recognized by peers who truly understand the challenge it is to undertake these projects and bring them to a successful completion.

One thing I did notice this year is that many of our awardees are being recognized for projects that came to us many years ago as *Pennsylvania At Risk* properties. This is where I feel most like a proud mother. It is nice to think that because Preservation Pennsylvania highlighted some of these endangered resources in the past, our gentle prodding has allowed these projects to move from being at risk to being successfully completed. With our encouragement along the way, they have “grown” and taken on new uses and are contributing to the overall sense of place we so love about Pennsylvania.

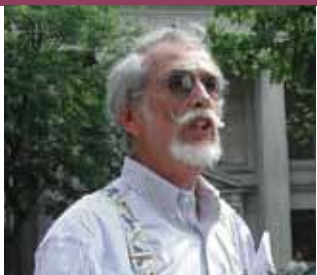
Congratulations to all of the recipients. Thank you for the good work!

Mindy

Mindy G. Crawford

F. Otto Haas Award

for outstanding individual achievements
in historic preservation



A. Roy Smith,
Chester County

A. Roy Smith began working in preservation in the 1970s in Wilmington, Del. He served on the New Castle County Historic Review Board and worked with others to rejuvenate Preservation Delaware, the statewide preservation organization. In 1988 he moved to West Chester, Chester County, Pa. and began serving on their Board of Historical and Architectural Review. Roy has stayed involved during his 25 years in West Chester, playing an instrumental role in preventing the demolition of some key downtown buildings, and participating in the community's preservation planning efforts. Roy also serves on the Board of Directors of the West Chester Business Improvement District and the West Chester Downtown Foundation, where he has helped to preserve the community's unique historic character while bringing vibrancy to the downtown. In 2011, the West Chester Downtown Foundation recognized Roy as the community's first Preservationist of the Year because of the strength of his commitment to historic preservation.

While Roy has devoted a great deal of time working to preserve the character of his own community, his commitment to preservation doesn't stop there. He has served on the Board of Directors of Preservation Pennsylvania since 2002, holding the office of treasurer or president for his entire 10+ year tenure. With Roy's direction and support, Preservation Pennsylvania's staff has doubled in size, allowing the organization to have a more significant impact throughout the Commonwealth.

Roy is an active member of the National Trust for Historic Preservation and serves on their Board of Advisors. He also serves on the Board of Directors for Preservation Action, a national lobbying organization that works to protect and improve legislation and funding for historic preservation. In this role, he continues to lead by example, working actively to advocate for preservation programs in Pennsylvania, and relaying information and concerns about issues in the Commonwealth to Washington, D.C. He also is a member of the Board of the Preservation Action Foundation (Preservation Action's sister 501(c)3 organization), serving as treasurer since its inception in 1998.

Roy believes that preserving existing buildings rather than demolishing them and building new ones is simply the right thing to do. With a professional background in business finance and years of preservation experience, he can say without a doubt that historic preservation is good business, benefitting both the economy and the environment. Roy Smith has devoted a significant portion of his life to historic preservation, supporting the movement through all of his actions.

Henry A. Jordan Award

for outstanding historic preservation efforts
at the local level



Historic Harrisburg Association,
Dauphin County

At a time when the City of Harrisburg is in dire straits, Historic Harrisburg is working hard to build relationships with residents and business owners in the city to advance historic preservation at the local level. Through projects such as City Beautiful 2.0, Lighten Up Harrisburg and 3rd in the Burg, in addition to bi-monthly education and outreach programs, the organization is inspiring and leading community members to act where the government cannot.

Just over three years ago, Historic Harrisburg was an all-volunteer organization with a four-member board and debts looming large. They realized that what they had been doing wasn't working in the new economy, so they took a risk and opted to hire professional staff who would move the organization out of survival mode, turn their liabilities into assets, and grow the organization to be a leader in Harrisburg. Historic Harrisburg's membership doubled last year, as did their operating budget and thus their ability to have a profound impact on the City of Harrisburg.

Their success depends largely on three key factors. They are taking a big-picture approach to historic preservation, focusing not just on saving buildings, but on educating neighbors about what doing so means and how it contributes to the sustainability of the community. They empower citizens to take ownership of where they live, including public spaces and resources. They are managing the non profit as a business, investing what would be profits in a typical corporation right back into programming that advances their mission. Additionally, they have come to accept that compromise is not necessarily a bad thing, and is sometimes necessary to achieve a net benefit for the community. They have also worked hard to expand and diversify their board and membership, and are working to change the way "preservation" is perceived in the city. By educating and engaging local residents, they are making preservation meaningful to a broad population base.

Despite limited resources, Historic Harrisburg is pioneering change in the State Capitol to preserve their legacy and secure a brighter tomorrow.

Chairman's Award

for demonstrated leadership
in historic preservation



Young Preservationists Association of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County

The Young Preservationists Association of Pittsburgh (YPA) is a group of committed individuals working to encourage the participation of young people in preserving historic resources. YPA sees historic preservation as an effective tool for economic development and regional revitalization, and one that is important for all generations to embrace.

YPA was established in 2002 by former CEO Dan Holland, who worked hard for ten years to develop the organization. As they transition from a CEO-run to a board-run group, they hope to continue to strengthen the organization in line with Dan's vision.

YPA works with high school and college students and young professionals on several education and advocacy programs, including a "Youth Voices" blog and charettes on preservation issues. They are also working to build awareness in the city's diverse communities by maintaining a Facebook page and blog, and participating in neighborhood clean-up days, preparing historic nominations and publications, and other collaborative ventures.

While all of their programs demonstrate their commitment to engaging youth in historic preservation, their annual Top 10 Event is probably their most well-known. Putting a positive spin on traditional endangered property lists, their Preservation Opportunities list highlights some of southwestern Pennsylvania's historic properties, and serves as both a fund- and awareness-raiser for the organization. Their hope is to see these diverse properties preserved for future generations.

Preservation Pennsylvania's Chairman John Martine recognizes that there are several valuable preservation groups in Pittsburgh. But many of them don't have many young people involved. He wants to recognize YPA for specifically aiming to engage young people, and doing so successfully for ten years. YPA is helping to energize the preservation movement in Pittsburgh, and by providing leadership to the city's youth, they are helping to protect and preserve the neighborhoods that make the city the unique place that it is today.

Modjeski Award

for Excellence in Transportation,
Design, Preservation or Archaeology



Franklin Street Station, Berks County

HONORING: Berks Area Regional Transportation Authority; Sowinski Sullivan Architects, PC; Designworks Architects; Gannett Fleming, Inc.; Michael Baker Corporation; Perrotto Builders, Ltd.

The Franklin Street Station in Reading was dedicated on January 25, 1930. This was the Reading Railroad Company's main station in the center of the city. The train station survives as a reminder of a more formal time, when the public transportation experience required an air of professional formality. The building housed a ticket office, baggage facilities, a men's toilet, a luncheonette, a ladies' lounge and toilet room, and a drivers' lounge.

In 1981, the station closed, and in 1999, the vacant and deteriorating building was listed in *Pennsylvania At Risk*. The Berks Area Regional Transportation Authority (BARTA) needed to expand their operations and acquired the Franklin Street Station to adapt it for bus passenger operations. When BARTA acquired the station, they immediately installed a temporary roof structure to protect what was left of the wall and interior structures. Years of neglect left the building without plaster ceilings and parts of the plaster walls. Thankfully, the granite and glazed terra cotta trim of the exterior walls, as well as the 12-foot-tall terra cotta glazed dado in the waiting room remained. The original marble toilet room partitions were repurposed throughout the building as wall base, luncheonette countertops and foot rest, as well as for the ADA-compatible countertop at the ticket window.

One of the key factors that made the project possible is the fact that the 1930 Franklin Street Station already had parking accommodations for travelers, which made it attractive for their plan to use the station for the public transportation bus line. Now in use as a bus terminal, BARTA hopes to eventually accommodate an extension of SEPTA's R6 rail line, a commuter train that currently only utilizes Reading's tracks as far as Norristown.

This rehabilitation demonstrates that it is possible to both improve and preserve our transportation infrastructure.

Construction Project Awards

for outstanding preservation, restoration or rehabilitation projects



Commercial Properties

Bucks County Playhouse, Bucks County

HONORING: BCP Property, LLC; Mills + Schnoering Architects, LLC

A 19th century grist mill was transformed into the Bucks County Playhouse in 1939 by Broadway Playwright and Bucks County resident Moss Hart. The playhouse quickly became the most famous summer playhouse in the region; it attracted a loyal following of performers and audience members to the summer shows. The Bucks County Playhouse was an important destination in New Hope Village for most of the 20th and part of the 21st century. Sadly, the playhouse closed in 2010 after facing foreclosure. The foreclosure caused members of the New Hope community to worry about the future of the building. After sustaining extensive flood damage, the closed Bucks County Playhouse was listed in *Pennsylvania At Risk* in 2011.

The building changed hands in 2011, and its new owner has successfully rehabilitated the Playhouse and returned it to use. Changes to the exterior included planting Sycamore trees to enhance the property and appropriate exterior renovations to improve the look of the structure. On the interior, patron accommodations were modernized, and building code and accessibility improvements were made to the converted grist mill's unique and challenging spaces. Interior finishes including the original wood flooring were upgraded to provide the high-quality appearance expected of a playhouse. The fire curtain, which is an original feature of the playhouse, was cleaned and restored. Painted by local folk artist Charles Child, the curtain depicts a fantastical version of life in New Hope Village.

The revitalization of this playhouse has shown a commitment to continuing the legacy of the arts in Bucks County. This playhouse will now be able to serve its community for decades to come.



Industrial Properties

The Stock House/ Bethlehem Steel Complex, Lehigh and Northampton Counties

HONORING: Redevelopment Authority of the City of Bethlehem; USA Architects; Legacy Architecture; Boyle Construction Management

Over the past nine years, the largest brownfield in the nation has been transformed into a thriving cultural event space. The reclamation of this 1,800-acre historic industrial site was partially funded through a Preserve America grant and is an environmental and historic preservation success.

After almost a century of making steel in the city, the Bethlehem Steel Corporation filed for bankruptcy and closed its Bethlehem plant in 1995, marking the end of an era for the Pennsylvania community. This industrial space got a second chance at life after the National Trust for Historic Preservation placed the former plant on its Eleven Most Endangered Historic Sites in America list in 2004.

The same year, a development group purchased one of the significant portions of the industrial facility and worked with the Redevelopment Authority of the City of Bethlehem to plan mixed-use development that includes a casino, cultural arts campus, residences, and commercial development in a way that allowed the 20-story blast furnace and stacks to remain intact.

This adaptive reuse did not diminish the industrial and historic character of the site. The Stock House, which is the only remaining building from the original 1863 construction left standing, was used to store crucible steel and has now been repurposed into a regional visitor center. The blast furnace and stacks, which now form a pavilion for outdoor concerts, provide an incredible, contrasting setting for outdoor music performances. This rehabilitation has transformed the end of an era for Bethlehem into a celebration of art and music, enriching the quality of life in the region.



Public & Institutional Properties

Park Place School, Allegheny County

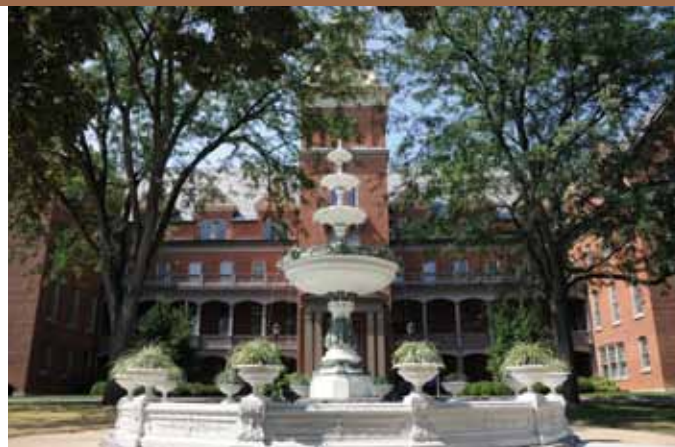
HONORING: PPPD, LLC; Tusk Development; Lami Grubb Architects

In 1903, the Park Place School was built as a grand monument to education. The terra cotta column façade, marble corridors, and entry stairway combined with unusually large double-hung windows created a beautiful and impressive atmosphere for learning.

After the midcentury, the school fell out of use, and in the mid 1970s it was closed and left vacant. In 1987, it was converted to residential housing; the building that once stood as a hall of learning had become an apartment complex with 17 units. In 2010, the city's Environmental Charter School (ECS) needed to expand beyond its building on the edge of Pittsburgh's Frick Park and thought the Park Place School was the logical choice. Their developer acquired and renovated the school for children in kindergarten through third grade.

The school was rehabilitated from the inside out, with the new walls and ceilings removed in order to restore the original interior design. As part of the building's renovation, the appliances and HVAC units for the apartments were removed and donated. The wainscoting in the building featured bull nose tile that is no longer available for purchase. About three dozen of these tiles were damaged so a ceramicist was hired to create a mold from the existing tiles and manufacture new replacement tiles. These handmade tiles are indistinguishable from the original and represent the significant level of care and detail that went into the project.

As the first environmentally themed public school in Allegheny County, ECS is setting the city's precedent for historically preserved green structures. The rehabilitation and reuse of the Park Place School demonstrates that ECS's environmental mission extends not only to their teaching, but to all that they do.



Public & Institutional Properties

Old Main Fountain, Shippensburg University, Cumberland County

HONORING: Shippensburg University; Howard and Associates, Inc.; Kreilick Conservation, LLC

Shippensburg University's "Old Main" fountain was dedicated on June, 30, 1896. The graduating class of 1896 celebrated this gift with Class Day Exercises where "speeches were given, poems were read and class songs were sung." Members of this graduating class gave about a month's wages in order to secure a future for their university's landmark. The fountain is part of the university's designated Historical District and has been the central meeting place on campus since then.

After a hundred years of sporadic maintenance, the fountain needed significant repairs. A century of paint lay over subsequent years of rusting and cracks, which only slightly obscured the need for repair and restoration. The base of the fountain as well as the decorative elements needed to be repaired in order to maintain the fountain's stability.

Restoration of the Old Main fountain involved replacement of the cracked and leaking masonry pool, dismantling, off-site cleaning and coating and reinstallation of more than 100 cast iron components, and installation of upgraded plumbing and electric service to light the pool and make it operate with fewer harmful chemicals and more efficiently. The project also included preparation of a maintenance plan to preserve the fountain, which calls for cyclical washing and paint touch up.

A paint analysis conducted by placing pieces of the fountain under the microscope determined that the fountain was originally white with dark green trim. These historic colors were used in the restoration.

After peeling away years of built-up paint, rust and patches so that it could be properly repaired, this fountain has been restored to its original beauty and will now continue to be a landmark meeting place on campus for generations of Shippensburg students to come.

Construction Project Awards

for outstanding preservation, restoration or rehabilitation projects



Special Historic Properties

Frazier Covered Bridge, Lycoming County

HONORING: Lycoming County; Larson Design Group;
PennDOT Engineering District 3-0

The Frazier Covered Bridge crosses the Little Muncy Creek in Lycoming County and was constructed in 1888. In 1940, the bridge was reconditioned, and in 1980, the bridge was placed on the National Register of Historic Places. The bridge was showing signs of age and wear so Lycoming County officials and Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) Engineering District 3-0 had the bridge inspected and determined it was in need of a major renovation.

The goals of the project were to extend the lifetime of the bridge and preserve its historic elements. The daily traffic on the road was determined light enough that an increase in the load carrying capacity was unnecessary. Since the capacity of the bridge did not need to be increased, the preservation of the historic structure was the highest priority for the project. The local property owners coordinated with the local township, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC), PennDOT, and Lycoming County officials in order to review the project design.

The bridge was disassembled and replacement parts were married to the originals to strengthen the overall structure. The bridge was painted and stained so that the replacement timbers closely resemble the historic pieces. A monument was placed at the corner of the bridge recognizing the historic significance of covered bridges in Pennsylvania, which reminds travelers of a bygone era of automotive transportation. The completion of the Frazier Bridge renovation ensures that the three covered bridges owned by Lycoming County will be preserved for future generations of travelers.



Special Historic Properties

Serro's Diner, Lincoln Highway Heritage Corridor, Westmoreland County

HONORING: Lincoln Highway Heritage Corridor; Michael Friedhofer,
Architect; Building Conservation Associates; Smeltzer Construction

The first leg of the Pennsylvania Turnpike extended from Carlisle to Irwin, Pa. The Serro brothers of Irwin anticipated, the travelers headed west on the turnpike would need a place to eat and rest when exiting the highway. This assumption led them to order a 1938 Jerry O'Mahony diner from Elizabeth, N.J. In 1958, their business had expanded to the point that the Serro's needed a larger restaurant than their diner car could provide, so they sold the dining car and built a larger diner.

More than 30 years later in 1992, the Heinz History Center purchased the diner hoping to include it in their first-floor transportation exhibit. After 11 years, they found that the diner would not fit and offered it to the Lincoln Highway Heritage Corridor for interpretative education of the Lincoln Highway in Westmoreland County.

The interior of the diner had been changed over time to resemble a train car. During the restoration process, the asbestos tile on the floor was removed to reveal rotted floor boards sold by "Bruce Floors." After contacting Bruce Floors, they were able to find replacement floors for the original. Most of the diner's interior had been gutted and needed to be replaced by the restoration team.

The Lincoln Highway Heritage Corridor showed an extreme commitment to preserving the diner by hiring a research team to learn the diner's history and develop a preservation plan. The first waitress of the diner was 96 years old at the time of the renovation and was interviewed as part of the interpretative effort. This "Monarch-style diner was considered the Cadillac of diners" and is one of the few remaining examples of early diner-style restaurants. The restored historic dining car will now be used by the Lincoln Highway Heritage Corridor to show a short video about the history of the highway and its associated features.

Sustainability in Historic Preservation

for the continual use and sustainable rehabilitation of an existing building



Special Historic Properties

South Capitol Park, Dauphin County

HONORING: The Capitol Preservation Committee; Hord Coplan Macht, Inc.

The Pennsylvania State Capitol building is a Beaux-Arts style building built from 1902 to 1906. The six-acre park that surrounds it was renovated from 2009 to 2012 to address issues such as an aged drainage system, erosion of the park's soils, cracked pavement, overgrown landscaping, and a lack of accessible sidewalks. The main goal of this project was to rehabilitate the park, correcting deteriorated features such as an antiquated storm drainage system, aging sidewalks, overgrown plantings, mismatched furnishings and lack of safe sidewalks and stairs. Another project goal was to improve visitor access both physically and visually by making handicap improvements and installing better seating and gathering areas.

According to the South Capitol Park Master Plan that was prepared as part of the project, historic elements were preserved while other areas of the park were improved for contemporary use with new features designed to fit within the historic setting.

Features of the park that are historically significant and were preserved include the site configuration itself, the character of the specimen "trees and lawn" landscape, major monuments including Hartranft, and Mexican and Penrose, the sloping topography, the alignment of many of the pedestrian walkways, and the spatial relationships established by the City of Harrisburg street grid. The implementation of the 1916 Brunner Plan was significant, and although the plan's features were not original, many were considered historic and retained.

One missing historic feature, the east-west walkway leading to the old Rose House door location, was reconstructed as part of this rehabilitation project. New features include more sustainable paving materials, LED lighting, granite retaining walls to improve accessibility, and a comprehensive storm water management system. All new features are compatible with the historic character of the park.



Northampton County Historic Courthouse, Northampton County

HONORING: Northampton County; Artefact, Inc.; Alfero Company

The County Courthouse is the local seat of judicial power, a landmark of justice and civility. In an effort to lead by example and make the building more energy efficient, a window replacement project was planned. However, after close examination of the interior and exterior of the building, it was determined that the windows did not need to be replaced, and could be rehabilitated. This choice to rehabilitate rather than replace the windows achieved the project goal of reducing the carbon footprint of the building while returning it to its 1860's appearance. But because the window rehabilitation and installation of interior storm windows cost far less than replacing the windows would have, the project budget was able to incorporate additional energy improvements as well.

Not only did the Courthouse utilize funds from the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) following strict Department of Environmental Protection guidelines, the project was also closely monitored by the Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission, and adhered to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.

The changes made to the windows and exterior features both contributed to returning the building to its historic appearance. A team of individuals decided on the color scheme for the exterior of the building and chose one that was the best approximation of the colors present at the end of the period of construction around 1910. These rehabilitative changes transformed the Northampton County Courthouse back into a structure worthy of the county's seat of justice.

Preservation Planning for projects that demonstrate the best planning and development practices to promote historic preservation



Reading Terminal Market, Philadelphia

HONORING: Pennsylvania Convention Center Authority;
Friday Architects/ Planners Inc.

Built in 1892, the Reading Terminal Market is one of the oldest public markets in the nation. Last year, the market drew over six million visitors, even more than the Liberty Bell.

The market was originally organized as a grid with four north/south aisles nicknamed “Avenues” lined with uniform, numbered stalls that included a front counter and back display area. Merchants rented individual stalls, often expanding into multiple adjacent stalls as they became more successful. This gradually altered the appearance and flow of the market, especially when they expanded into the stall behind them and removed the back wall and display area. The market was further disrupted in 1992, when massive fire stairs needed for the Convention Center ballroom above were cut down into the middle of the market floor. This intrusion and the installation of much-needed cold storage eroded Avenue D, which began to serve as a service aisle rather than public space.

The primary goals of this planning project were to create added merchant space and improve the customer experience by adding new toilet rooms and other public amenities such as seating and a rental room. To achieve this, cold and dry storage were moved to the basement, and five merchants were moved out onto the market floor. Restrooms were enlarged in a more visible and accessible location. Thanks to careful planning, all of this work was done in a manner that minimized disruptions to the active Market. Construction materials were consistent with those historically used in the Market, retaining the Market’s historic character and aesthetic appeal.

By developing and implementing a master plan for renovations, Reading Terminal Market has resolved several spatial issues and made changes that will preserve and enhance the popularity of the market as a shopping and tourist destination.

Initiative Awards for special initiatives, services or commitment to preservation values



Community Involvement

Heritage Mural Education Project, Bangor, Northampton County

HONORING: Bangor Business Revitalization Program;
Totts Gap Arts Institute; Todd Miller

Successful preservation projects revitalize more than just buildings and bridges—they bring new life to historic communities. The Borough of Bangor in Northampton County is located in the heart of the Slate Belt and has a vibrant industrial past. Residents of the town wanted to beautify their downtown while generating economic growth with heritage tourism. In the summer of 2012, the Borough of Bangor and the owner of the Bangor Trust Building partnered with local funding organizations to produce the first Heritage Mural.

The mural design was a collaborative effort among the local design committee, the lead artist, and a curator from the Slate Belt Heritage Center. Local art students were invited to participate in the creation of the mural, which included two weeks of education courses in June and then two months of working daily on the mural.

The mural is located on the Bangor Trust Building in the heart of the downtown business district and attracted considerable interest during its creation. The goal of this project was to bring the community of Bangor together, generating an interest in the town’s shared heritage and industrial legacy while encouraging the arts. The student artists who participated in the creation of the mural have learned the process of large-scale artistic production as well as the history of their hometown. In designing and creating the mural, both the design committee and the students studied historic architecture, clothing, and painting techniques in order to provide their work with the sense of authenticity they desired.

The dedication ceremony for the mural was attended by 200 guests, many in period dress, who celebrated the beautiful design and economic innovation of this project. No public funds were used, and the sales from mural prints will be used to fund other murals throughout the Borough as part of a Heritage Education project.



Education

Shofuso Japanese House and Garden, Philadelphia

HONORING: Friends of the Japanese House and Garden; Asher Browne; Garden Pond Service

Philadelphia is well known for its 18th and 19th century colonial European heritage. This impressive historical legacy often overshadows the diverse modern history of this city. The 20th century saw more recent cultural expansion and presence in the city.

The first Japanese Garden in North America was constructed for the Centennial Exposition Philadelphia in 1876 but was destroyed by fire in 1955. The Shofuso House and Garden are located near the site of this first garden. The house was built in style of a 17th century Japanese estate home. The garden was designed in 1957 by Japanese landscape designer Tansai Sano. The use of the traditional building techniques and materials combined with educational programming immerse guests in the Japanese cultural experience.

This garden has been returned to its original beauty, and improvements have been made in the spirit of the 1957 garden plan. Overgrowth has been cleared, and the koi pond has been cleaned and modernized in order to improve the quality of life for this living collection. Necessary safety improvements were made while preserving the integrity of the garden and pond. The original granite boat landing was rediscovered and reset with granite steps to serve as a koi feeding platform for guests.

Shofuso Japanese House and Garden provides guests, students, and researchers with the opportunity to develop a greater understanding of Japanese culture, as well as the tangible experience of a Japanese presence in Philadelphia.



Local Government

Covered Bridges Rehabilitation Project, Columbia County

HONORING: Columbia County Commissioners; Larson Design Group; Perry's General Contracting, Inc.

The covered bridge is a Pennsylvania icon, an image that recalls memories of driving down quiet rural roads through our beautiful countryside. The Columbia County Commissioners, who own 14 bridges that are listed in the National Register of Historic Places, appreciate how important these bridges are to the appearance and history of the county.

The county has taken care to maintain and refurbish the historic bridges to prevent deterioration and demonstrate a commitment to stewardship of their covered bridges.

Between June of 2011 and the end of 2012, Columbia County Commissioners rehabilitated four historic covered bridges, which were in need of maintenance. The goal of these rehabilitation projects was to address the structural needs of these bridges while maintaining the historic character, integrity and appearance of these local landmarks.

The projects included the rehabilitation of the 1882 Johnson's Covered Bridge, which had critical structural deficiencies noted during a routine bridge safety inspection, and was repaired with Act 44 funds, and the 1866 Parr's Mill Covered Bridge, which was rehabilitated using County Liquid Fuels Funds. The Esther Furnace Covered Bridge which was built in 1881, and the 1871 Davis Covered Bridge, suffered from damage by Tropical Storm Lee and were both repaired using FEMA funds, in part. All of these bridges are now open to traffic, and should be able to serve vehicular traffic for years to come.

The Columbia County Commissioners Office is being recognized for their continued preservation and maintenance of their historic covered bridges as well as their emergency response efforts after the flooding damage from Tropical Storm Lee.

Initiative Awards

for special initiatives, services or commitment to preservation values



Stewardship

Frick's Lock Village Building, Chester County

HONORING: Exelon Generation; Frens and Frens, LLC;
East Coventry Historical Commission

Frick's Lock is known as a modern day "ghost town" and it was until 2012 when an innovative partnership resulted in the rehabilitation of a majority of the properties in the village. Four of the buildings were mothballed, and the rest were rehabilitated for interpretation in tours given by the East Coventry Historical Commission.

In 1821, the Schuylkill Navigation Company purchased the rights to build a canal and locks on the Schuylkill River. The canal opened in 1824, and a village community grew near the locks shortly after. The canal closed in 1930, and the village returned to its agricultural roots until 1960 when the Philadelphia Electric Company (now Exelon) acquired the area as part of the Limerick nuclear generation plant. The proximity to this plant made the village uninhabitable because it fell within the exclusionary area boundary. All residents of the village were required to leave, and the buildings were left vacant. And with this, a modern American ghost town was born.

In 2008, Exelon agreed to rehabilitate the property and allow for interpretative tours. When this agreement was made, the buildings on site were in a severely deteriorated state. Many of the 11 buildings needed repairs or replacements to the walls and roof. The window sashes of all the properties had been destroyed by vandals between 2001 and 2008 and required replacement. These sashes along with repaired or replaced window frames and doors provided the homes in Frick's Lock Village with the facelift they deserved.

The land will be leased to the township for 10 years, and after that time gifted by Exelon to the township. The rehabilitation of this village was an act of dedicated stewardship.



Emergency Response

Erwinna Covered Bridge, Bucks County

HONORING: PennDOT Engineering District 6-0; TranSystems

On September 11, 2012, an oversized truck drove past the posted 11-foot clearance sign and through the Erwinna Covered Bridge in Bucks County. This caused significant damage as the truck drove the entire length of the bridge. The portals and top chord lateral bracing elements were demolished and pulled away from the town timber lattice trusses, which could have collapsed the bridge.

Most bridge rehabilitation and repair projects are planned years in advance, with input and surveys from numerous sources. Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) District 6-0 Cultural Resources personnel reacted to the seriousness and emergent nature of this incident by immediately mobilizing to stabilize the bridge. The structural framework of the bridge was in such disrepair that a storm or severe weather could have resulted in the loss of the bridge.

Temporary stability measures were taken while the plans for design and replacement were completed. The repairs required included new top lateral bracing, and roof joists and struts that were matched in detail to the original oak elements.

The bridge was reopened to public traffic on December 7, 2012, less than three months after the damage occurred. This project could not have been completed so efficiently without the cooperation of PennDOT, the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC), Delaware Riverkeeper Network, the Bucks County Covered Bridge Society, and Tinicum Township. In the three months from September 11, 2012 to December 7, 2012, the Erwinna Covered Bridge in Bucks County experienced both a tragic accident and a new rebirth.

2013 *Pennsylvania* **At Risk**



Emergency Response

Hillsgrove Covered Bridge, Sullivan County

HONORING: Sullivan County Commissioners; Larson Design Group; PennDOT Engineering District 3-0; Perry's General Contracting, Inc.

In 2010, the Hillsgrove Covered Bridge was reconditioned and given a new roof and support structure, and exterior paint. Before this, the bridge had not been rehabilitated since 1963. These physical improvements should have ensured that the bridge would last another 50 years.

But in September of 2012, Tropical Storm Lee's record-breaking weather conditions flooded the Loyalsock Creek and brought down trees along its banks. The flood waters and floating debris damaged the structure, and two trees lodged between the timber low chord and timber deck. Unfortunately, this storm proved that even the best planned historic preservation attempts cannot protect our resources from the natural elements.

In addition to its sentimental and historic value, the Hillsgrove Covered Bridge is a necessary part of the transportation network in Sullivan County. The structure needed to be reopened to traffic quickly as the road was the main route to a local restaurant from SR 87.

Loyalsock Creek is an Exceptional Value stream, therefore, water quality and stream life were a determining factor of the construction plans. The Department of Environmental Protection agreed that the proposed plan of temporary supports on the stream bottom would provide the least amount of disturbance to the ecosystem. With the work approved by all of the necessary agencies, rehabilitation work was completed as quickly as possible, and the bridge was reopened.

The rehabilitation of this bridge has continued the legacy of covered bridges in the Commonwealth and will continue to benefit the community as the finished structure will draw the attention of local residents and covered bridge enthusiasts alike.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Pennsylvania's endangered historic properties are a priority for Preservation Pennsylvania's efforts. The purpose of this annual program is to help people protect and preserve the places that matter to them by drawing attention to the issues that threaten them, and focusing our efforts on helping to address the challenges that they face.

Nominations for this year's *Pennsylvania At Risk* list will be accepted until 5pm on **Friday, October 18, 2013.**

To be considered for inclusion in *Pennsylvania At Risk*, properties must have been designated as historic, and be faced with an imminent, recognized threat either from overt action, neglect, incompatible use or loss of context.

If you are aware of a historic property that is endangered, please contact Erin Hammerstedt at (814) 571-2444 or ehammerstedt@preservationpa.org. Please download the forms at <http://www.preservationpa.org/page.asp?id=8>

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Visionary in Historic Preservation



Jean H. Cutler, Dauphin County

The Visionary in Historic Preservation Award is given at the discretion of the Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) to an individual or organization that has proven leadership in helping Pennsylvania communities develop a vision that promotes sound community development and strong preservation values.

The 2013 Visionary in Historic Preservation Award is being presented to Jean H. Cutler, former director of the Bureau for Historic Preservation at the PHMC. Jean laid a solid foundation of policies in the Commonwealth that positions Pennsylvania to be a leader in historic preservation. Her vision and efforts to connect the historic preservation and environmental movements have given the field a new momentum.

Jean's vision for historic preservation included the creation of Pennsylvania's annual historic preservation theme to highlight and promote the Commonwealth's vast historic resources. Beginning in 2005, the annual theme brings to the public eye the importance of appreciating and preserving Pennsylvania's diverse historic resources including: religious properties, schools, places where significant feats in energy innovation occurred, New Deal icons, and the distinctive communities where we all live, work and play.

In the short months she has been retired from the PHMC, Jean has dedicated her time to helping Harrisburg become the model for successful revitalization strategies. She has aligned with numerous neighborhood initiatives and has infused historic preservation into the heart of each effort. Her current projects range from assisting the Camp Curtin Community Neighborhood United Project capitalize on the area's railroad and Civil War history to promote civic pride and reinvestment, to being actively engaged with Harrisburg's City Beautiful Conservancy to encourage citizens to become involved in maintaining the city's public parks. Jean remains faithful to the benefits of historic preservation. She is a conservation champion in Harrisburg, and is actively rallying support to creatively tie the city's future to the preservation of its past.

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Annual Theme Award: *The Land of Penn and Plenty*



The Moose Exchange, Bloomsburg, Columbia County

HONORING: 203 West Main Street, Inc.

The Loyal Order of Moose opened the Moose Lodge in Bloomsburg, Pa. in 1949. It is a 33,000 square-foot building that served 3,750 members. The building is in the Art Deco style and features a semicircular bar and bowling alley. The building's original features including its Art Deco facade and interior spaces are all intact.

Drue Magee purchased the building in 2009 and began working with a group of volunteers to rehabilitate it. The building was intact but needed modern upgrades in order to improve the quality and appearance of functions held in the building. Volunteers helped to clean the event space in the Grille Room that now holds weddings and other formal sponsored events. In addition to cleaning and repairing the event space, volunteers helped to transform the upstairs space into a commercial kitchen, installing appliances and cleaning the room.

They renamed it the Moose Exchange because the building is now used as a community kitchen and space for the exchange of ideas. Multiple organizations rent out and use the community kitchen space to both create and sell their craft food goods and to hold public education workshops about alternative food preparation methods. In addition to supporting community education and craft food production, the Exchange houses a community market that sells local produce, meat, and dairy as well as a variety of artisan goods.

This Exchange has helped to transform the Bloomsburg community and enriched both the artisanal and food culture of a small town by bringing local quality goods to the people who helped grow that community.

Thank You

Preservation Pennsylvania Appreciates our Generous Individual Sponsors of the 2013 Pennsylvania Historic Preservation Awards!

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Preservation Pennsylvania, through creative partnerships, targeted educational 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.