



Preservation
PENNSYLVANIA

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2026

PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARDS





WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 16 THE YORKTOWNE HOTEL York, Pennsylvania

2026 Awards Review Committee

Each year, the Pennsylvania Historic Preservation Awards nominations that are submitted by the public are evaluated and discussed by an independent panel of preservation professionals (all members of Preservation PA), who then make award recommendations to the Board of Directors for final approval.

We'd like to thank this year's reviewers for graciously offering to share their time and expertise:

- ★ **Gina Douty**, Historic Preservation Consulting, LLC
- ★ **Nan Gutterman**, FAIA, FAPT, Vitetta, a DRG Architects Company
- ★ **Carol Hickey, RA**, Hickey Architects
- ★ **Rebecca Shiffer**, Member, Preservation PA
- ★ **Josh Stull**, Member, Preservation PA
- ★ **Lawrence Weintraub, AIA**, Wolstenholme Architects

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Preservation PENNSYLVANIA

Protecting the past. Enriching the future.

MISSION STATEMENT

Preservation Pennsylvania assists communities, organizations, government entities, and individuals statewide in protecting and utilizing our irreplaceable historic and cultural resources.

Through legislative advocacy, education, technical expertise, and strategic partnerships, we ensure these treasures continue to shape Pennsylvania's identity and fuel its sustainable growth for future generations.



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ABOUT US

Founded in 1982, Preservation Pennsylvania is the Commonwealth's only independent, statewide, nonprofit membership organization dedicated to safeguarding historically and architecturally significant places.

Distinct from any government agency, we rely on member support, private donations, and grants to advance preservation through grassroots and legislative advocacy, technical assistance, and educational programs.

By partnering with communities, government entities, and local heritage organizations, we strengthen efforts to preserve our shared cultural assets, spur economic development, strengthen community identity, and enrich quality of life.

Preservation Pennsylvania hosts the annual Statewide Conference on Heritage and the Pennsylvania Historic Preservation Awards, and publishes *Pennsylvania At Risk*, an annual list of endangered properties.

With a solid reputation of securing historic tax credits and championing preservation initiatives, we remain a vital force in protecting the Commonwealth's cultural and architectural legacy for future generations.

Thank you to our sponsors, members, donors and all the passionate preservationists who support our work!

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We congratulate the 2026 recipients of the Pennsylvania Historic Preservation Awards!

HONOR AWARDS

F. Otto Haas Award

For outstanding individual achievements in historic preservation

- **Randolph J. Harris** (LANCASTER COUNTY)

Henry A. Jordan Award

For outstanding historic preservation efforts at the local level

- **East Broad Top Railroad & the EBT Foundation** (HUNTINGDON COUNTY)

Chairman's Award

For demonstrated leadership in historic preservation

- **Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission** (PA/NJ RIVER CORRIDOR)

SPECIAL FOCUS AWARD

Modjeski Award for Excellence in Transportation Design, Preservation and Archaeology

For an exceptional effort within the transportation field that results in an improvement in transportation systems while respecting and preserving the best practices of compatible design and historic preservation principles

- **The Mustin Seaplane Hangar Mitigation Project** (PHILADELPHIA COUNTY)

LEADERSHIP AWARDS

Community Involvement

For organizing and training 150 community volunteers who safely cleaned 1,381 veterans' gravestones at Erie's Pennsylvania Soldiers' & Sailors' Home Veterans Memorial Cemetery

- **MaryJane Koenig and the Presque Isle Chapter of the DAR** (ERIE COUNTY)

Education

For sustaining and expanding the Pennsylvania Military Museum's public mission during its extended closure

- **Mark Frederick** (BLAIR COUNTY)

Public Impact

For transforming six interconnected industrial buildings into the Alan Horwitz "Sixth Man" Center supporting youth development, education, athletics, and civic engagement

- **The Alan Horwitz "Sixth Man" Center** (PHILADELPHIA COUNTY)

Stewardship

For nearly five decades of thoughtful care and restoration of the Abraham Bomberger Farmhouse, an exceptionally intact 1840s Pennsylvania farmstead

- **Red Gables Farm owners Vladimir & Ruth Karabcievschy** (DAUPHIN COUNTY)

CONSTRUCTION PROJECT AWARDS

Restoration

- **Founder's Hall Ceiling Conservation, Girard College** (PHILADELPHIA COUNTY)

For the technically rigorous conservation of Founder's Hall's rare 1890 stenciled aluminum-leaf ceiling, preserving the building's oldest surviving painted finish while returning an important historic room to active use

- **Grumblethorpe** (PHILADELPHIA COUNTY)

For the comprehensive exterior restoration of the 1744 Main House and 1742 Tenant House, safeguarding an important Germantown landmark

- **Laurel Hill Gatehouse Exterior Restoration** (PHILADELPHIA COUNTY)

For restoring its landmark 1836 Gatehouse through exceptional woodworking, masonry conservation, and the return of its monumental cast-iron entrance gates

- **Wyck Exterior Conservation** (PHILADELPHIA COUNTY)

For the meticulous exterior conservation of its National Historic Landmark property, preserving rare 18th-century glass, historic stucco, woodwork, and other defining architectural features

Rehabilitation

- **The Carversville Inn** (BUCKS COUNTY)

For transforming a long-vacant, flood-damaged 1813 landmark into an accessible and resilient inn and restaurant

- **College Hall West Wing, University of Pennsylvania** (PHILADELPHIA COUNTY)

For the comprehensive restoration and modernization of College Hall's West Wing, preserving the landmark building's Gothic Revival character while creating accessible, sustainable, and technologically advanced academic spaces

- **Cresson Hall, Lincoln University** (CHESTER COUNTY)

For transforming the long-vacant and severely deteriorated Cresson Hall into an accessible, energy-efficient living-learning center while preserving a landmark associated with generations of students at the nation's oldest degree-granting Historically Black College and University



From the Executive Director

- **Valley Refuge Shelter, Riverview Park; Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy; City of Pittsburgh** (ALLEGHENY COUNTY)

For renewing the late-1930s Valley Refuge Shelter through historically appropriate masonry, roof and flagstone repairs, accessibility improvements, and the restoration of essential public amenities

Infill/New Construction

- **Nazareth Meeting Room Annex, Nazareth Borough Municipal Authority** (NORTHAMPTON COUNTY)

For the Nazareth Meeting Room Annex, a sensitively designed public building that complements the neighboring historic Borough Chambers

Documentation and Reconstruction

- **Cascade Garden, Longwood Gardens** (CHESTER COUNTY)

For the unprecedented, technology-driven relocation of Roberto Burle Marx's Cascade Garden, meticulously reconstructed stone by stone and plant by plant within a new, purpose-built glasshouse

Preservation Recovery

- **Foxfire Barn Rehabilitation, Camp Furnace Hills; Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania** (LANCASTER COUNTY)

For reconstructing the Foxfire Barn after catastrophic storm damage, combining salvaged historic sandstone with traditional materials and modern structural systems to restore an important place of learning, memory and community

- **Horn Farmhouse; Horn Farm Center for Agricultural Education** (YORK COUNTY)

For saving and rebuilding its fire-damaged 1830s farmhouse, preserving the building's historic exterior while creating an accessible and sustainable center for agricultural education and community programs

- **Strode's Barn and Springhouse; East Bradford Township** (CHESTER COUNTY)

For rescuing and restoring the long-vacant Strode's Barn and Springhouse and transforming the deteriorated 19th-century agricultural complex into the centerpiece of a publicly accessible heritage and recreation site

Historic places do not survive by accident. They endure because someone recognizes their value, speaks on their behalf, and brings others together around a vision for their future.



The Pennsylvania Historic Preservation Awards celebrate those moments when determination becomes action. This year's recipients demonstrate that preservation can take many forms: restoring a landmark, adapting a historic building for a new purpose, recovering stories that have too often been overlooked, protecting a threatened place, or providing the leadership that inspires others to act.

Behind every award is a much larger story. There are years of planning, difficult decisions, creative problem-solving, unexpected obstacles, and partnerships built one conversation at a time. The finished project may be what we see, but the commitment of the people behind it is what makes preservation possible.

As Pennsylvania commemorates the 250th anniversary of our nation, we have an extraordinary opportunity to consider not only the history we have inherited but the legacy we are creating. The places we choose to preserve reveal what we value, whose stories we tell, and what we believe should remain for future generations.

This year's award recipients offer powerful examples of what can be accomplished when communities, property owners, professionals, organizations, public agencies, and dedicated individuals work toward a shared purpose. Their achievements strengthen neighborhoods, support local economies, deepen our understanding of the past, and demonstrate that historic places can continue to serve Pennsylvania in meaningful and innovative ways.

At Preservation Pennsylvania, we are proud to recognize this exceptional work and to help preservation advocates across the Commonwealth turn concern into action. Through advocacy, technical assistance, education, and statewide recognition, we work to ensure that communities have the support they need to protect the places that matter to them.

As you read the stories of this year's honorees, I hope you will be inspired by what they have achieved – and reminded that each of us has a role in carrying Pennsylvania's history forward.

Together, we are preserving more than buildings. We are sustaining the stories, character, and sense of place that make Pennsylvania distinctive.

Mindy Gulden Crawford
Executive Director





HONOR AWARD • Sponsored by A. Roy Smith

F. Otto Haas Award

For outstanding individual achievements in historic preservation



RANDOLPH J. HARRIS (LANCASTER COUNTY)

The F. Otto Haas Award recognizes outstanding achievement in historic preservation over an extended period. Few careers reflect that breadth more fully than Randolph J. “Randy” Harris, whose work has united preservation advocacy, community revitalization, historical research, landmark designation, heritage tourism, and public education.

A native of western Pennsylvania’s Monongahela Valley, Harris began his career as a journalist, editor, photographer, graphic artist, and communications specialist. His work with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development helped shape a preservation philosophy grounded in community development: historic places are not isolated artifacts but anchors for neighborhood identity, economic renewal, education, and productive reuse. After moving to Lancaster, he served from 1995 through 2002 as Executive Director of the Historic Preservation Trust of Lancaster County and later continued his work as a consulting historian. Today, he serves in education and outreach at LancasterHistory.

Across Pennsylvania, Harris has contributed to historic-district and individual-resource nominations, adaptive-reuse initiatives, transportation mitigation, community design, trails, interpretive planning, and advocacy for threatened places. A map of his projects illustrates work extending from Pittsburgh and Homestead through Lancaster, Manheim, Mount Joy, and communities across Adams, Franklin, York, Chester and Susquehanna counties. It also demonstrates the range of roles he has assumed – as advocate, researcher, planner, interpreter and partner in efforts to make historic resources useful to contemporary communities. His most sustained contribution, however, has been recovering and interpreting the Commonwealth’s Underground Railroad and African American heritage. Since 2003, his research has helped at least 20 resources gain recognition through the National Park Service’s National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom. These include houses, cemeteries, public buildings, archaeological sites, educational programs, historic landscapes, and transportation corridors.

One of his most ambitious efforts documented the railroad corridor between Lancaster and Philadelphia. Harris demonstrated how Black abolitionists William Whipper and Stephen Smith used the Philadelphia and Columbia Railroad to assist freedom seekers, including through secret compartments in freight cars. By documenting the railroad itself as part of the Underground Railroad, he expanded public understanding beyond hidden rooms and individual safe houses to a broader network of transportation, commerce, communication, and coordinated resistance.



In Lancaster, Harris has connected the stories of Congressman Thaddeus Stevens and Lydia Hamilton Smith with Shreiner-Concord Cemetery, the former Lancaster County Jail site, Penn Square, and the historic railroad corridor. His research has restored visibility to African American business owners, abolitionists, religious leaders, freedom seekers, and members of Lancaster’s historic Black community. Through walking and driving tours, lectures, exhibitions, curriculum materials, and public programs, he translates research into direct encounters with the places where history occurred. His

programs address slavery, racial violence, abolition, civil disobedience, and contested memory with clarity and seriousness, helping students and adults understand how national struggles unfolded in recognizable local streets, buildings, cemeteries and landscapes.

The national importance of this work was recognized in 2023, when Harris received both the Robert G. Stanton Award for promoting the Network to Freedom and the Wilbur H. Siebert Award for research and scholarship – reportedly the first person in the program’s history to receive both honors.

The F. Otto Haas Award recognizes the cumulative impact of a career. Randy Harris has preserved buildings, landscapes and documentary evidence, but he has also preserved connections: between place and community, transportation and freedom, scholarship and public memory, and stories once pushed to the margins and the Pennsylvania places where they unfolded.

Next page: Top: Randy at the Shreiner Cemetery marker, Lancaster; Protestors stand up to save the Mifflin House, Hellam, York County **Middle:** Ralph Applebaum & Associates and Lancaster History team at the Stevens & Smith site, 2021, Lancaster **Bottom:** With Tony Kushner at Stevens & Smith site, 2023, Lancaster; Exploring Stevens & Smith site, 2000, Lancaster (Photos provided by Randy Harris)





HONOR AWARD • Sponsored by Mrs. Henry A. Jordan

Henry A. Jordan Award

For outstanding historic preservation efforts at the local level



EAST BROAD TOP RAILROAD AND THE EBT FOUNDATION (HUNTINGDON COUNTY)

The East Broad Top Railroad is more than a preserved railroad. It is an extraordinarily complete industrial landscape retaining the tracks, buildings, machinery, locomotives, rolling stock, archives and working relationships needed to understand how a locally based railroad once operated.

Construction began in 1872, and the line was completed in 1874 to connect the iron furnaces and coal mines of the Broad Top region with the Pennsylvania Railroad at Mount Union. Its approximately 33-mile main line carried coal, iron, freight, mail and passengers between mountain communities and national markets. Today, the East Broad Top remains the only surviving three-foot-gauge common-carrier railroad east of the Rocky Mountains.

The Rockhill Furnace complex includes an intact roundhouse, turntable, depot, machine shop, blacksmith shop, foundry, and associated buildings. Together, they preserve the remarkable self-sufficiency required to maintain a railroad in an isolated industrial region, from repairing locomotives to casting replacement parts. The machine shop retains its overhead belt system, while six narrow-gauge steam locomotives built specifically for the railroad between 1911 and 1920 remain housed where they historically operated. Original rolling stock, tools, machinery, maps, photographs, and corporate records create an unusually comprehensive record of American short-line railroading. The property was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1964.

Its survival was never assured. Common-carrier operations ended in 1956 as coal traffic declined, and the railroad was sold to the Kovalchick family. Rather than dismantle it for salvage, the family preserved the complex and reopened part of the line for tourist excursions in 1960. Those operations introduced generations of visitors to steam railroading and the industrial history of southern Huntingdon County. When regular excursions ceased in 2011, however, the railroad again faced an uncertain future. Volunteers with Friends of the East Broad Top continued stabilization and limited interpretation, but the scale of the property required substantial investment and professional capacity.



A decisive change came in February 2020, when the newly established nonprofit EBT Foundation purchased approximately 27 miles of railroad, the Rockhill Furnace shops, locomotives, rolling stock, and associated property. The Foundation united rail-industry expertise, preservation leadership, private investment, professional staff, and longtime supporters around a mission of preservation, education, operation, tourism and regional economic development.

Passenger excursions resumed in 2021. In February 2023, locomotive No. 16 returned to steam after 67 years, following a two-and-a-half-year rehabilitation. Visitors can now ride trains, tour the shop complex, attend special events, and see original machinery in its historic setting. Archival work, building stabilization, locomotive rehabilitation, track repair, and interpretation continue throughout the system.

The partnership with the Friends of the East Broad Top has been central to the revival. More than 2,200 supporters contribute labor, specialized skills, research, fundraising and advocacy. The organization has restored or stabilized more than two dozen structures, and its 2025 campaign raised more than \$522,000. The “March to Saltillo” is also restoring approximately nine miles of track south from Rockhill Furnace, reconnecting communities that have not seen trains since 1956. The exterior of the Saltillo station was reconstructed in 2025 in anticipation of the railroad’s eventual return.

The Henry A. Jordan Award honors significant preservation achievement at the local level. The East Broad Top’s national importance has always depended upon local commitment – a family that refused to scrap it, volunteers who protected it, communities that valued it, and new owners willing to invest in its future. Their work has transformed a threatened landmark into an operating railroad, educational institution, volunteer endeavor, tourism destination, and renewed source of employment and optimism.



(Photo credits: Bradley Esposito and Matthew Malkiewicz, East Broad Top Railroad)



HONOR AWARD

Chairman's Award

For demonstrated leadership in historic preservation



DELAWARE RIVER JOINT TOLL BRIDGE COMMISSION

(PENNSYLVANIA–NEW JERSEY DELAWARE RIVER CORRIDOR)

The bridges crossing the Delaware River between Pennsylvania and New Jersey are more than transportation infrastructure. They are feats of engineering, historic gateways, community landmarks, and living connections between river towns. For more than 90 years, the Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission has accepted the demanding responsibility of keeping those crossings safe, useful, and historically meaningful.

Formally organized in 1934, the Commission is one of the nation's oldest bi-state transportation agencies. Its jurisdiction extends roughly 140 miles along the river and includes 20 crossings, along with approach structures and related facilities. Its historic collection includes the 1884 wrought-iron Calhoun Street Bridge; the architecturally distinctive Northampton Street Bridge of 1895-96; the Riegelsville and New Hope-Lambertville bridges of 1904; and additional early truss crossings at Riverton-Belvidere, Washington Crossing, Centre Bridge-Stockton, and Uhlerstown-Frenchtown.

Preservation was not always the assumed course. By the 1960s and 1970s, aging materials, limited clearances, lower weight capacities, and increasing traffic led to replacement studies for several older bridges. Strong community opposition to a proposed six-lane replacement for the Calhoun Street Bridge helped shape a broader Commission policy of preserving historic spans where feasible. That institutional shift – from viewing older bridges primarily as traffic obstacles to recognizing them as assets worthy of continued investment – is central to the Commission's legacy.

Its distinctive funding model has made that commitment sustainable. In 1987, Pennsylvania and New Jersey transferred 13 older non-tolled bridges to the Commission. Revenue from its toll bridges now supports inspection, maintenance, security and rehabilitation of those crossings. This self-supporting structure allows historic bridges to receive continuing investment without relying upon annual state or federal operating subsidies.

The 1884 Calhoun Street Bridge between Morrisville and Trenton is the Commission's oldest crossing, its only wrought-iron bridge, and its longest through truss. Listed in the National Register of Historic Places, it also carried the original Lincoln Highway. By returning blue-and-yellow Lincoln Highway markers to the bridge, the Commission connected an everyday river crossing to the story of America's first transcontinental roadway.



At the Northampton Street Bridge between Easton and Phillipsburg, a comprehensive rehabilitation completed in 2023 repaired and painted the steel superstructure, repointed masonry, reconstructed pylons, renewed walkways, restored ornamental lighting, and added architectural illumination. Major projects at New Hope-Lambertville have balanced structural preservation with the needs of two historic commercial districts. During earlier work, weekend openings and weekday shuttle service helped reduce disruption to local businesses; more recent rehabilitation addressed steel, masonry, the walkway, approaches and lighting. The 2025-26 rehabilitation of Uhlerstown-Frenchtown likewise retained a working connection between rural Bucks County and New Jersey.

Large projects are only the most visible evidence of stewardship. Historic bridges survive through routine inspections, painting, joint and masonry repair, drainage improvements, winter operations, emergency response, and enforcement of weight and clearance restrictions. Specialized inspections protect submerged piers and abutments, while architectural lighting helps communities appreciate the engineering forms that define the river corridor after dark.

The Chairman's Award recognizes a sustained organizational ethic rather than one isolated project. Commissioners, engineers, preservation professionals, maintenance employees, bridge officers, and community-relations staff have demonstrated that transportation safety and historic preservation need not be competing objectives. Selected by Preservation Pennsylvania Board Chair Michael Cuddy, the award honors the Commission for keeping an exceptional collection of historic bridges in active service – as living connections between places, people, commerce and memory.

Above: Calhoun Street Bridge, Morrisville, PA (Photo credit: DRJTBC)



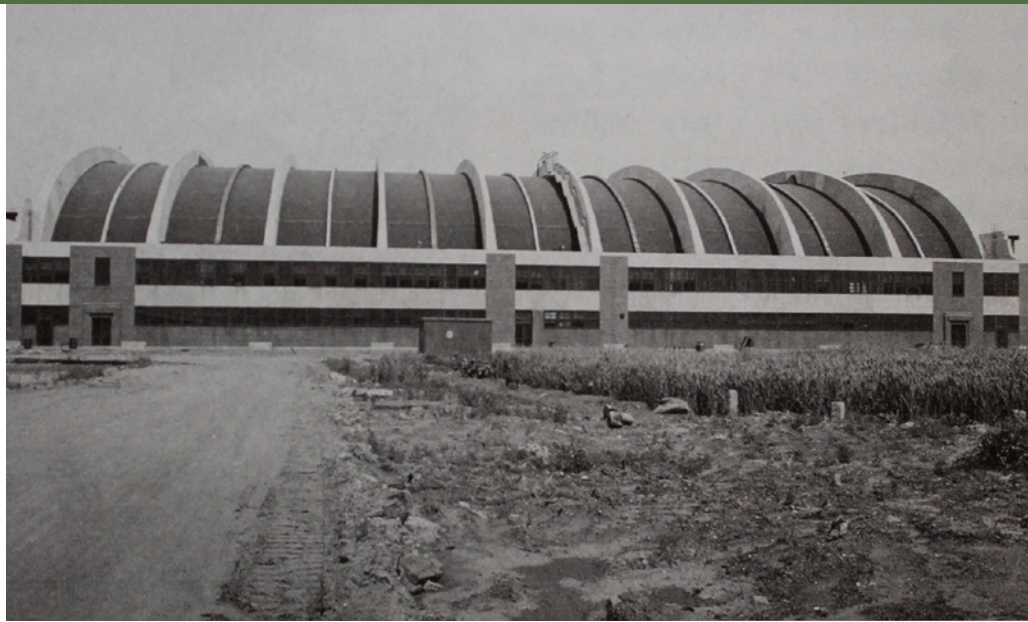
Top: Northampton Street Bridge, Easton, PA to Phillipsburg, NJ **Middle:** New Hope, PA – Lambertville, NJ Bridge; Northampton Street Bridge, Easton, PA; Uhlerstown, PA – Frenchtown, NJ Bridge **Bottom:** New Hope, PA – Lambertville, NJ Bridge; Northampton Street Bridge, Easton, PA (Photos credit: DRJTBC)



SPECIAL FOCUS AWARD • Sponsored by Modjeski and Masters

Modjeski Award

For excellence in transportation design, preservation and archaeology



MUSTIN SEAPLANE HANGAR MITIGATION PROJECT (PHILADELPHIA COUNTY)

**HONORING: PhilaPort; Pennsylvania Department of Transportation; Multimodal Deputate;
Terracon Consultants, Inc.; WSP Consulting; Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission**

Constructed by the U.S. Navy in 1943, the Mustin Seaplane Hangar was the last surviving World War II-era hangar at the former Philadelphia Naval Shipyard. Designed by structural engineer Anton Tedesko, its enormous barrel-arched form used his innovative thin-shell reinforced-concrete system and represented an important intersection of Philadelphia's aviation, military, industrial, engineering and transportation history.

When redevelopment plans called for demolition, the project entered federal preservation review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and transportation-related consideration under Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act. These processes require agencies to consider historic resources and seek ways to avoid, minimize or mitigate harm, but they do not guarantee preservation in place. The Mustin project therefore confronts a difficult reality: when loss cannot be prevented, mitigation must be rigorous, meaningful, and publicly accessible.

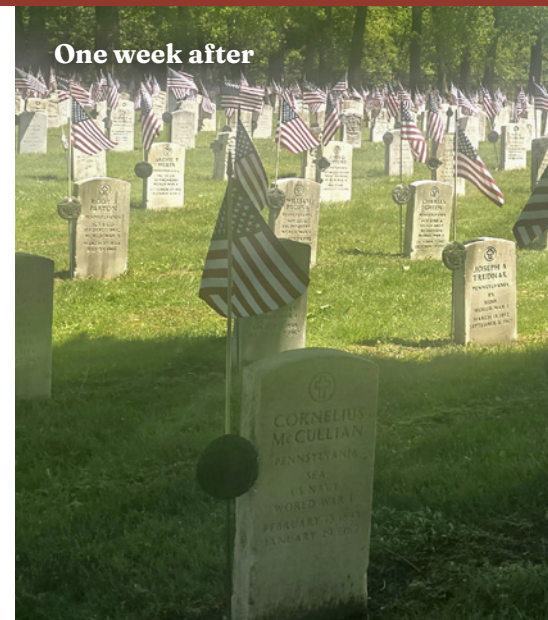
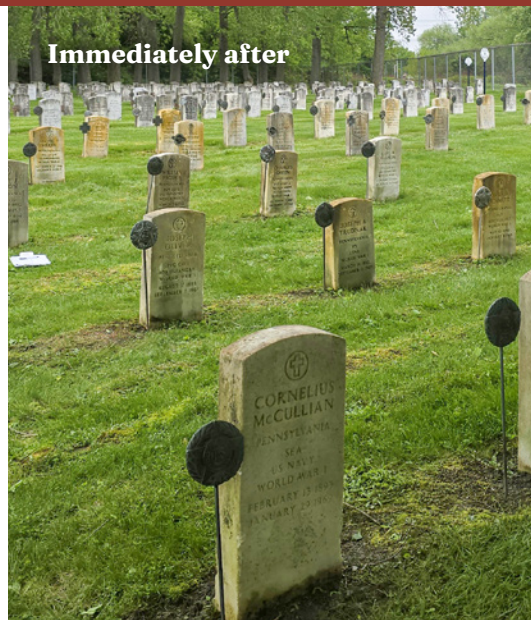
PennDOT, the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, PhilaPort, Terracon Consultants, and

a multidisciplinary team went well beyond minimal documentation. They salvaged signage and artifacts; completed large-format photography, aerial scanning, and detailed interior laser scanning; and used the resulting data to produce a three-dimensional printed model and digital reconstruction video. Archival research informed historical publications, survey documentation, a brochure, and interpretive exhibits.

The model and materials are now available through the Tinicum Township Historical Society at the rehabilitated Lazaretto, linking the hangar's story to the broader history of seaplane transportation along the Delaware River. Online resources further expand access.

The Ralph Modjeski Award recognizes mitigation that preserves evidence, interpretation, and public understanding without suggesting that documentation can replace the physical building. The hangar's loss remains sobering, but the project ensures that its engineering and history did not disappear with it – and demonstrates the standard meaningful mitigation should meet when preservation in place is no longer possible.

Left: 3D model of the Mustin Seaplane Hangar, front view (Photo credit: 3D Brooklyn, LLC) **Right:** Completed hangar in 1943, side elevation (Photo credit: Princeton University Library)



MARYJANE KOENIG & THE PRESQUE ISLE CHAPTER, DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

(ERIE, ERIE COUNTY)

HONORING: MaryJane Koenig; Presque Isle Chapter of the DAR; PA Soldiers' & Sailors' Home Veterans Memorial Cemetery

Established with the Pennsylvania Soldiers' & Sailors' Home in 1886, its Veterans Memorial Cemetery is the only state-owned cemetery maintained by the Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. The four-acre Erie site contains the graves of veterans whose service spans from the Civil War through the Iraq War, including 19 members of the United States Colored Troops.

By 2022, biological growth and accumulated grime obscured inscriptions on many stones. MaryJane Koenig of the Presque Isle Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, transformed the need for conservation into a sustained community-service effort. Drawing on professional gravestone-cleaning training, she secured authorization, coordinated volunteer waivers, assembled equipment, and taught techniques consistent with those used at national military cemeteries.

From 2022 through 2025, Koenig led weekly sessions during Erie's warmer months. Individual kits included appropriate brushes, hand tools, and D/2 Biological Solution, while the Pennsylvania National Guard's 112th

Infantry supplied water through a mobile tank. Koenig worked alongside 150 volunteers from businesses, civic organizations, JROTC units, Scouts, Preservation Erie, and the Presque Isle Chapter DAR. Together, they cleaned all 1,381 veterans' gravestones.

The project concluded with a candlelight ceremony attended by volunteers, religious leaders, an American Legion Color Guard, and Civil War reenactors, with the final gravestone cleaned symbolically as part of the remembrance. Its effects continue through increased visitation, genealogical research, educational programs, Wreaths Across America participation, and additional conservation workshops. Koenig has also trained volunteers at other regional cemeteries.

The Leadership—Community Involvement Award recognizes a project that combined sound conservation, education, remembrance, volunteerism and public service. By bringing diverse participants together, Koenig and the Presque Isle Chapter restored the visibility of those buried at the cemetery and built a wider community committed to its continuing care.

The May 18, 2025 gravestone cleaning workshop focused on Section G of the Veterans Memorial Cemetery. After the workshop, MaryJane Koenig provided these three photographs of Section G. **Left:** Before **Center:** At the end of the workshop **Right:** One week after the workshop to show the impact of the D/2 cleaning solution (and sunlight) on the gravestones



MARK FREDERICK
(ALTOONA, BLAIR COUNTY)

When the Pennsylvania Military Museum closed for a major renovation, educator Mark Frederick ensured that its public mission did not close with it. Without galleries or many normal facilities, he treated the disruption as an opportunity to develop new programs, locations, partnerships, and methods of interpretation.

Frederick expanded the museum's Living History Weekend series, using the grounds as an outdoor classroom. Reenactors, period encampments, demonstrations, guided tours, and family activities interpret the Civil War, World War I, World War II, and Vietnam, with Revolutionary War programming being added for the nation's 250th anniversary. These events typically attract 250 to 400 visitors, with an estimated 35% to 40% traveling from outside Centre County. Frederick's History Mystery Kid's Program also encourages younger visitors to investigate historical questions rather than remain passive observers.

His work reaches beyond the museum campus. Lantern tours at Boalsburg Cemetery connect military history with veterans'

lives, community memory, and a landscape associated with the origins of Memorial Day. The History After Hours lecture series brings authors and historians to an offsite venue, while outreach exhibitions have appeared at community events and the Pennsylvania Farm Show.



Among his most inventive programs is The Ghost Front: A World War II Experience. The outdoor December event uses reconstructed foxholes, guided patrols, demonstrations, and family activities to interpret the Hürtgen Forest campaign and Battle of the Bulge. Its first presentation drew approximately 400 visitors.

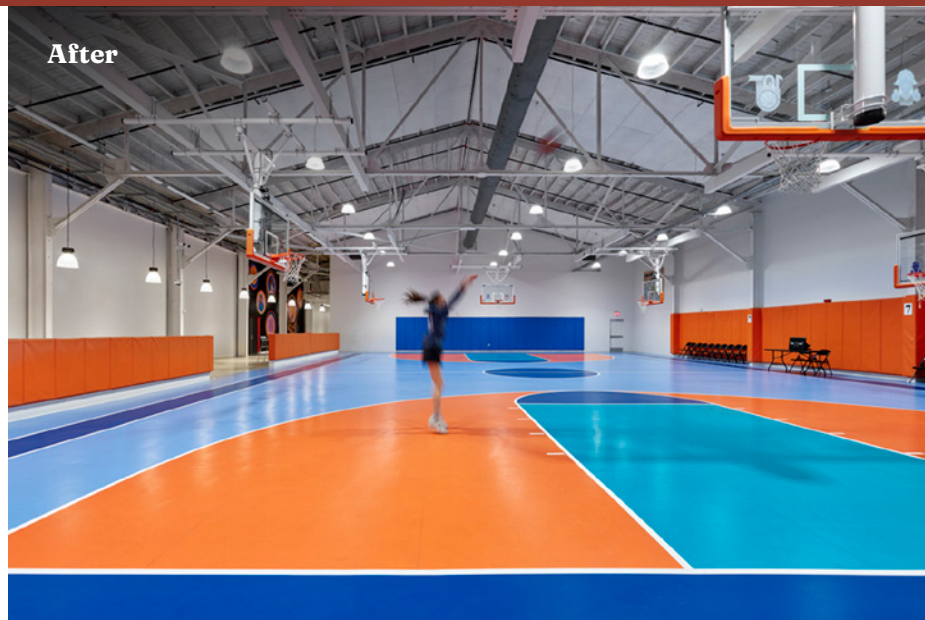
Creating temporary programs without a functioning museum requires constant coordination of reenactors, volunteers, vendors, interpretation, equipment, weather plans, and partnerships. The Leadership-Education Award recognizes Frederick for sustaining and expanding public engagement during a difficult institutional transition. His work demonstrates that a

museum's educational value does not depend solely on its galleries and has established programs and relationships that can continue after the building reopens.

Top left: History Mystery Guests at Civil War event **Top right:** Vietnam Weekend Cemetery Tour **Center:** Mark Frederick and Maddie Letsche at PA Farm Show
(Photos credit: PA Military Museum)



Before



After



THE ALAN HORWITZ “SIXTH MAN” CENTER, PHILADELPHIA YOUTH BASKETBALL

(PHILADELPHIA, PHILADELPHIA COUNTY)

**HONORING: Philadelphia Youth Basketball; Voith & Mactavish Architects LLP;
D3 Development, LLC; Pride Enterprises; Dimitri J. Ververelli, Inc.; O'Donnell & Naccarato;
Cornerstone Consulting Engineers; Acentech; TBS Services, Inc.**

The Alan Horwitz “Sixth Man” Center has given Philadelphia Youth Basketball a permanent home and transformed an underused industrial complex in North Philadelphia’s Nicetown neighborhood into an active civic resource. The organization previously depended upon scattered borrowed courts, limiting enrollment, scheduling, transportation, and its ability to establish a consistent community presence. The centrally located site, accessible by public transportation and adjacent to the Salvation Army Kroc Center, strengthens a growing network of neighborhood resources.

The 94,000-square-foot Center occupies six interconnected warehouse buildings constructed between the early 20th century and the 1940s. Rather than conceal their differences, the rehabilitation preserved exposed brick, steel columns, beams, roof trusses, and two industrial gantries. Enclosed classrooms, offices, and support spaces were inserted beneath the historic structure, allowing the large volumes and evidence of industrial use to remain visible.

Innovative solutions improved performance without obscuring character. Insulation was installed outside masonry

walls and above roof decks so historic materials could remain exposed inside. Solar panels use the expansive roof area. Concealed fire curtains divide the complex into three fire areas, meeting life-safety requirements without coating or enclosing defining steel structures. Clear circulation routes and integrated acoustic treatments support athletic, educational and public programs.

The completed facility contains basketball courts, classrooms, meeting areas, offices, gathering spaces, and a Civic Engagement Arena. Partnerships also bring financial-literacy instruction, rehabilitation services, and other resources to local residents.

The Leadership–Public Impact Award recognizes Philadelphia Youth Basketball for using preservation and adaptive reuse as tools for community investment. Once inaccessible and underused, the complex is now filled with athletics, education, mentorship, civic engagement, and youth development – demonstrating how a historic industrial property can become a catalyst for lasting neighborhood benefit.

Left: Youth development court structural system at the start of the project (Photo credit: Voith & Mactavish Architects) **Right:** Youth development court after rehabilitation (Photo credit: Jeffrey Totaro)



ABRAHAM BOMBERGER FARMHOUSE/RED GABLES FARM

(LOWER PAXTON TOWNSHIP, DAUPHIN COUNTY)

HONORING: Vladimir & Ruth Karabcievsky

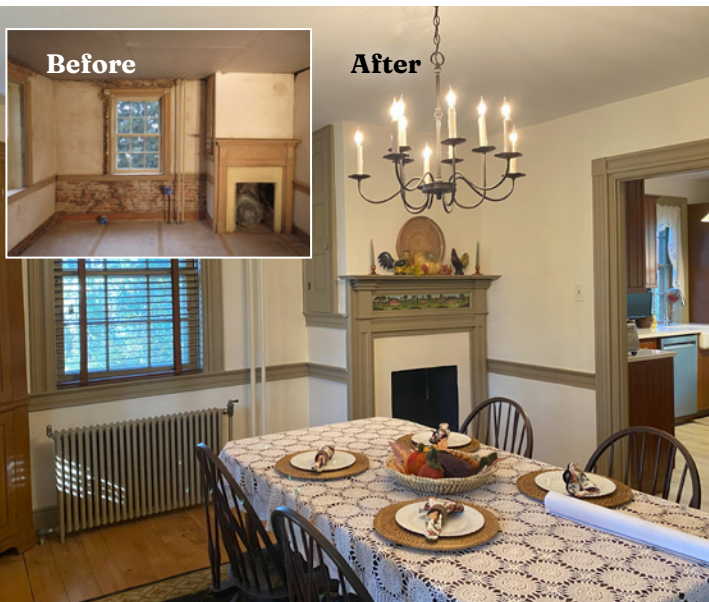
The Abraham Bomberger Farmhouse, known as Red Gables Farm, is a rare survivor of the agricultural landscape that once defined Lower Paxton Township. Constructed between 1842 and 1844, the property retains its distinctive two-door Pennsylvania farmhouse, summer kitchen, smokehouse, shed and garage despite surrounding suburban development, highway construction, and the loss of neighboring farmland.

Vladimir and Ruth Karabcievsky purchased the property in 1979 and began nearly five decades of patient, preservation-minded stewardship. Rather than approach the farmstead as a one-time restoration, they cared for it incrementally, documenting their work and prioritizing the conservation of historic materials.

Original wood windows were repaired opening by opening, with salvaged historic glass used where necessary. Exterior doors, hardware, masonry, porch elements, roof and chimney were restored. Inside, the owners retained the historic floor plan while conserving plank floors, plaster walls and ceilings, trim, fireplaces, doors and hardware. Modern kitchens and bathrooms were introduced sensitively. They also rehabilitated the outbuildings, preserving the farmstead as a complete historic place rather than focusing only on the house.

Their stewardship extended to research and interpretation. They collected photographs, recorded the recollections of a former resident who had lived at the farm during the 1920s, and investigated the Bomberger and Swartz families associated with the property. That work demonstrated how closely the present farmstead reflects its early 20th-century appearance.

Red Gables Farm was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in March 2026 as a rare and remarkably intact example of a Pennsylvania two-door farmhouse. The Leadership–Stewardship Award recognizes not a single dramatic intervention, but a lifetime of informed decisions that allowed an authentic historic property to endure amid profound change.



Top: Primary elevation, 2026 **Center:** Main floor, east parlor (before and after)
Bottom: Main floor, east parlor (before and after) (Photo credits: Vladimir Karabcievsky [before] and Rebecca Zeller [after])



FOUNDER'S HALL CEILING CONSERVATION, GIRARD COLLEGE (PHILADELPHIA, PHILADELPHIA COUNTY)

HONORING: Girard College; Johnson & Griffiths Studio; Preservation & Decorative Arts

Founder's Hall, designed by Thomas Ustick Walter and constructed between 1833 and 1847, is a National Historic Landmark and the architectural centerpiece of Girard College. Its first-floor southwest room contains the building's oldest surviving painted finish: an elaborate stenciled ceiling created in 1890 by decorative painter George Herzog, also known for his work at Philadelphia's Masonic Temple.

The decoration combines a cross-hatched light-green field with aluminum-leaf stencil and pounce work, a yellow size layer, and freehand ochre highlights. Created only a few years after aluminum became commercially viable, it is an unusually early decorative use of the metal. Significant original evidence survived, including preparatory lines and tracing marks, and the ceiling is identified as a character-defining feature in a Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission preservation easement.

By 2025, flaking paint, unstable plaster, cracking, concealed voids, soot, staining, and inappropriate earlier repairs threatened the design. Rather than repainting the ceiling, conservators used ultraviolet examination, testing

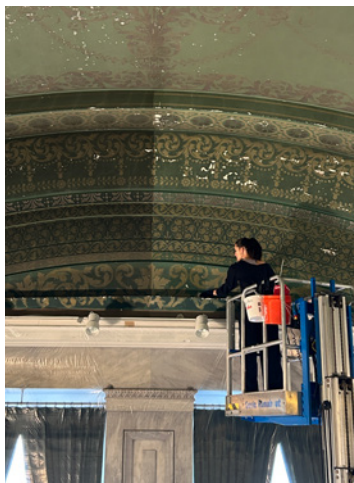
and documentation to distinguish original work from later interventions. They carefully cleaned the surface, stabilized fragile paint, consolidated detached plaster, treated voids through targeted injection, and reduced

overpaint only where it could be removed safely. Some residual soiling was accepted rather than risk the loss of historic material. Missing areas were selectively reintegrated with reversible treatments, and ornament was replicated only where evidence supported an accurate reconstruction.

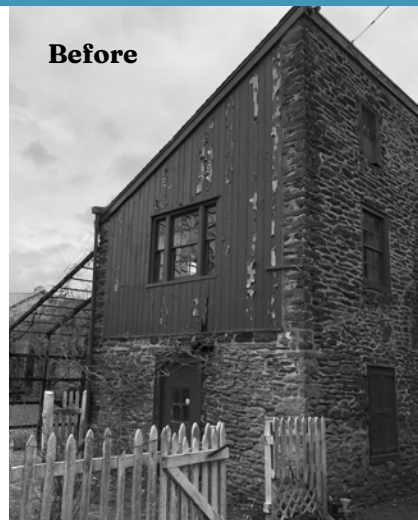
Completed in April 2025, the conservation restored visual clarity without erasing age or craftsmanship. The room has returned to active use for student assemblies, celebrations, community meetings, fundraisers, and public events.

The Construction–Restoration Award recognizes a project defined by research, restraint, and respect for original material.

By stabilizing rather than replacing this rare decorative finish, Girard College preserved an exceptional interior while strengthening the room's continuing role in the life of the school and the wider community.



Upper left: View of first-floor southwest room prior to ceiling conservation (Photo credit: Garry Norton) **Upper right:** View of first-floor southwest room after ceiling conservation (Photo credit: Juan Vidal) **Center:** East view during conservation cleaning by Jacintha Kruc. Right half of tympanum has been cleaned; left half has not yet been cleaned. (Photo credit: Jacintha Kruc)



GRUMBLETHORPE

(PHILADELPHIA, PHILADELPHIA COUNTY)

**HONORING: PhilaLandmarks (Philadelphia Society for the Preservation of Landmarks);
John Milner Architects**

Grumblethorpe is one of Philadelphia's most significant surviving examples of 18th-century German domestic architecture. John Wister constructed the Tenant House in 1742 and the Main House in 1744 using local Wissahickon schist and oak. The property later served as British headquarters during the Battle of Germantown, remained in the Wister family for six generations, and was transferred in 1941 to the Philadelphia Society for the Preservation of Landmarks.

Beginning in 2023, PhilaLandmarks undertook a comprehensive exterior restoration of both buildings. The work addressed deteriorated roofs, masonry, woodwork, structural framing, drainage, and building systems while the property remained open and the Tenant House continued to be occupied. Public funding required review by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission and Philadelphia Historical Commission for compliance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards.

At the Main House, inappropriate asphalt shingles were replaced with historically appropriate western red cedar. Copper roofing, flashings, gutters and downspouts were renewed, while deteriorated rafters, sheathing, cornices,

siding, masonry, and first-floor framing were selectively repaired. At the Tenant House, the team retained the clay-tile roof installed during an important mid-20th-century restoration. Rather than replace it, they repaired the tiles and reinforced the undersized historic framing from inside. Additional work included exterior painting, plaster repair, lighting, lightning protection, and a trench drain to address longstanding water problems.

The restored property continues to support interpretation, community events, and hands-on youth programs. Its Youth Volunteers and Farmstand programs teach gardening, beekeeping, food preservation, accounting, customer service, and small-business skills while supplying affordable produce to the neighborhood.

The Construction–Restoration Award recognizes a project that balanced historical accuracy, structural necessity, financial limitations, and continuous public use. By caring for the Main House and Tenant House as a unified historic site, PhilaLandmarks protected Grumblethorpe's architectural integrity and sustained its active role in Germantown community life.

Left: Front exterior view of Grumblethorpe after restoration **Center:** Rear exterior view of Grumblethorpe before restoration **Right:** Rear exterior view of Grumblethorpe after restoration (Photos credit: Jeffrey Totaro Architectural Photographer)



LAUREL HILL GATEHOUSE EXTERIOR RESTORATION

(PHILADELPHIA, PHILADELPHIA COUNTY)

HONORING: Laurel Hill; Archer & Buchanan Architecture; Aegis Property Group; Wolfe Scott Associates; IMEG Corporation; Keast & Hood; Herbert E. MacCombie, Jr., P.E. / Consulting Engineers & Surveyors; Kreilick Conservation; The Lighting Practice; Boyertown Planing Mill Co.

Designed by John Notman in 1836, Laurel Hill's Roman Doric Gatehouse is the only original building remaining at the National Historic Landmark cemetery. For nearly two centuries, it has served as the ceremonial entrance and architectural symbol of a landscape that combines commemoration, design, recreation, and public education.

A 2021 conditions assessment identified deterioration affecting the Gatehouse's structural integrity and safe use. The exterior restoration, completed between May 2024 and May 2025, brought together architects, engineers, conservators, craftspeople, contractors, and public agencies. Federal and state funding supported work reviewed by the National Park Service, Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office, and Philadelphia Historical Commission.

The most demanding work involved 16 monumental wood columns. Water damage and nearly 190 years of paint had obscured profiles and rotted portions of the bases and capitals. Custom cutting knives were created to mill replacement staves, which on-site carpenters then shaped, ground and

chiseled by hand to reproduce the columns' subtle entasis and blend with surviving historic fabric.

The project also returned the original Gothic Revival cast-iron gates to the entrance after two decades in storage. Nearly 14 feet high and weighing approximately 2,500 pounds, the gates were documented through three-dimensional

scanning. Digital models supported engineering analysis and the accurate reproduction of missing ornamental details before the gates were repaired, cleaned, painted, reassembled and rehung.

Additional work repaired the colonnades, granite bases, storefront, stucco finishes, and exterior lighting. More than 250 workers contributed, combining traditional building trades with scanning, modeling, and structural simulation.

The Construction–Restoration Award recognizes the technical ingenuity and collaborative stewardship that returned the Gatehouse to prominence. The restored

entrance once again communicates the dignity of Laurel Hill and welcomes visitors into a place where history, memory, recreation and community remain closely connected.



Top: View of east elevation of the Gatehouse at dusk following the rehabilitation project and installation of night lighting that creates a welcoming and safe environment
Center: The iconic porte cochere entry into Laurel Hill through the Gatehouse following the rehabilitation project (Photos credit: Jeffrey Totaro)



Before



After



WYCK EXTERIOR CONSERVATION

(PHILADELPHIA, PHILADELPHIA COUNTY)

**HONORING: Wyck Association;
Mark B. Thompson Associates; Dan Bosin Associates;
Heritage Conservation Collective**

Wyck is a National Historic Landmark house, garden and farm that has occupied an important place in Germantown for more than three centuries. The property includes an 18th-century house, America's oldest rose garden maintained in its original plan, and more than 10,000 family objects. Through tours, festivals, horticultural programs, and urban agriculture, it also serves as an active neighborhood resource.

The house developed over generations, beginning with a stone section built in 1736. The two early buildings were later joined and covered with the white stucco and limewash that remain defining exterior features. In 1824, architect William Strickland completed his only known domestic commission there.

Decades of storm damage, rising damp, paint failure, mildew and rot threatened significant windows, doors, shutters, cornice, stucco, and the historic trellis. Wyck's unusually complete family records, combined with modern testing, guided a conservation plan focused on retaining original material. Conservators used steam to remove unstable paint from woodwork, limiting damage, lead dust, and chemical exposure. A carefully researched linseed-oil paint and putty system reintroduced traditional materials with improved performance.

An on-site workshop allowed more than 80 window sashes to be repaired without transportation risks. Each pane of 18th-century crown glass, 19th-century cylinder glass, and later float glass was documented and returned to its original location. Broken panes were replaced with restoration-grade cylinder glass so the rare early material remained identifiable. Deteriorated stucco was repaired, protective limewash reinstated, and the historic wooden trellis conserved and reinstalled.

The Construction–Restoration Award recognizes a project combining archival research, material analysis, traditional techniques, and carefully selected modern products. The work preserves visible evidence of Wyck's architectural evolution while ensuring that this nationally significant property remains a prominent and useful part of the Germantown community.

Top: South elevation before **Second from top:** South elevation after **Third from top:** Andrew Fearon, principal conservator on the project, applying linseed oil glazing putty **Bottom:** Wyck south elevation c.1895 (Photos courtesy of Wyck Association)



CONSTRUCTION PROJECT AWARD Rehabilitation

Before



After



THE CARVERSVILLE INN (CARVERSVILLE, BUCKS COUNTY)

HONORING: Milan Lint; Carversville Inn; Wolstenholme Architects

Constructed in 1813 and originally known as the Bird-In-Hand, the Carversville Inn has served its village for more than two centuries as a tavern, inn, store, restaurant, and gathering place. A second-floor porch added in 1859 created the distinctive form long associated with the Federal-style building.

After repeated flooding and nearly five years of vacancy, the property required structural repair, flood remediation, accessibility improvements, code upgrades, and new building systems. Owners Mitchell Berlin and Milan Lint chose to revive it as a restaurant, bar, and six-room inn while preserving its historic presence at the center of Carversville.

The rehabilitation followed a repair-first philosophy. Historic masonry was stabilized and repointed while retaining its irregularities and evidence of age. Original first-floor windows and doors were restored, and compatible replacements were fabricated where upper-story units could not be saved. Using historic evidence, the team reconstructed the defining two-story wraparound porch in timber while integrating modern structural and safety requirements.

Because the property lies entirely within a floodplain, resilience was essential. The foundation was engineered for anticipated flood forces, waterproofing extended above the base flood elevation, and quickly deployable floodgates were installed at vulnerable openings. An elevator,

accessible suite, ramps, new egress routes, and discreet heating and cooling systems improved accessibility and performance without overwhelming the historic fabric. A low-profile rear addition accommodates a contemporary commercial kitchen.

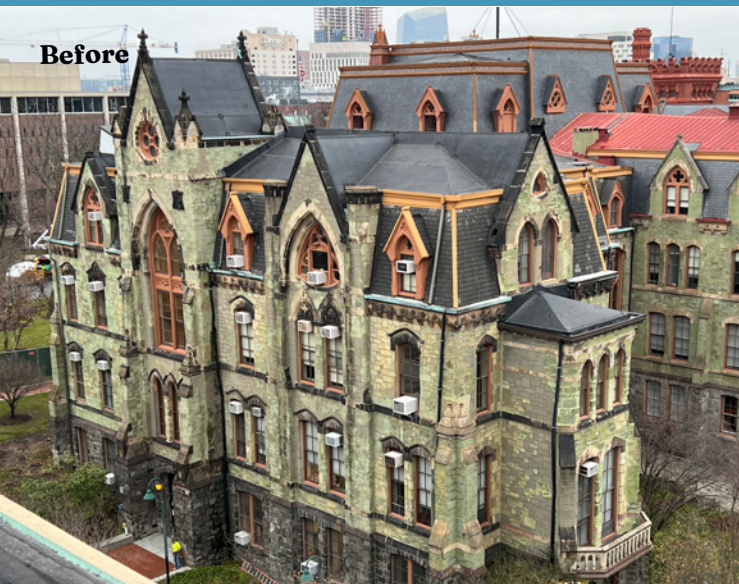
Completed in April 2025, the inn once again provides a place for residents and visitors to gather, while supporting the local economy and attracting activity to the village.

The Construction-Rehabilitation Award recognizes the successful integration of preservation, accessibility, flood resilience, and modern hospitality. By retaining historic materials, reconstructing defining features,

and sensitively adapting the building, the project ensured that the Carversville Inn can continue its long-standing role as the social heart of the community.



Upper left: Carversville Inn 2022, preconstruction. (Photo credit: Kelly Adomsky) **Upper right:** Carversville Inn 2025, post construction (Photo credit: Juan Vidal Photography) **Center:** The entryway of the restaurant from Fleecydale Road, showcasing the original exterior of the building as a main feature in design (Photo credit: Juan Vidal Photography)



COLLEGE HALL WEST WING RESTORATION & RENOVATION, UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA (PHILADELPHIA, PHILADELPHIA COUNTY)

HONORING: University of Pennsylvania; Atkin Olshin Schade Architects; Kelly Maiello Architects; Keast & Hood; H.F. Lenz Co.; The Lighting Practice; VDA; Shen Milsom & Wilke; Metropolitan Acoustics; Exit Design; RWDI; Re:Vision; Envision Consultants, Ltd.; Clemens Construction

Designed by Thomas Webb Richards and completed in 1873, College Hall was the first building constructed on the University of Pennsylvania's West Philadelphia campus and remains its architectural and symbolic center. The West Wing rehabilitation addressed deteriorated masonry, monumental windows, roofs, historic interiors, accessibility, sustainability, and outdated building systems.

College Hall's green serpentine stone began deteriorating soon after construction. By the start of this project, comprehensive replacement was necessary. Drone photography, point-cloud scanning, archival research, and Building Information Modeling guided the work. Original casting molds and information from a 1990s repair campaign helped the team develop cast-stone units matching the historic serpentine in color, texture, dimensions and coursing. Full-scale mockups established standards for both masonry and mortar.

The building's 344 monumental windows posed another challenge. Original wood units were conserved where possible, while new high-performance windows reproduced their Gothic Revival profiles. At dormers, 19th-century wood quatrefoil transoms were retained within new assemblies.

Slate roofs, gutters, red low-slope roofing, and ornamental metal trim were also restored or recreated.

Inside, more than a century of alterations had obscured the original organization. The project reopened a monumental stair blocked by an elevator, restored 15-foot corridor ceilings, cast-iron railings, terrazzo treads, faux-ashlar plasterwork, moldings, chandeliers and sconces, and concealed modern systems. Three carefully located elevators now provide full vertical access.

Energy improvements include insulated walls and roofs, high-performance windows, heat recovery, efficient equipment, and daylight-responsive lighting. The completed project achieved LEED ID+C Gold certification.

The Construction-Rehabilitation Award recognizes the project's combination of research, advanced documentation, material testing, craftsmanship, and interdisciplinary coordination. College Hall's West Wing now supports accessible, sustainable, technologically advanced academic use while again expressing the historic character and architectural ambition that have defined the building since 1873.

Left: College Hall exterior, SW corner view, before (Photo credit: Atkin Olshin Schade Architects) **Right:** College Hall exterior, SW corner view, after restoration (Photo credit: Clemens Construction)



CONSTRUCTION PROJECT AWARD Rehabilitation

Before



After



CRESSON HALL, LINCOLN UNIVERSITY

LINCOLN UNIVERSITY, CHESTER COUNTY

HONORING: Lincoln University; Voith & Mactavish Architects LLP; Bancroft Construction; Hunt Engineering Company; Keast & Hood; Entech Engineering, Inc.; Viridian Landscape Studio; Nv5; AECOM

Constructed in 1870 as Lincoln University's first purpose-built residence hall, Cresson Hall is a tangible link to generations of students at the nation's oldest degree-granting Historically Black College and University. After a decade of vacancy, severe water infiltration, failing foundations, deteriorated masonry, damaged floors, and incompatible repairs, many questioned whether the building could be saved.

The rehabilitation began with foundation reinforcement, waterproofing, structural stabilization, and repair of displaced floors. Hard Portland-cement mortar – damaging to the softer historic brick – was removed and replaced with natural hydraulic lime. Incompatible 20th-century brick repairs were corrected, the slate roof and ornamental cornice were restored, and the tower's fish-scale slate pattern was recreated from surviving evidence. A long-forgotten bell was also returned to service.

Cresson Hall now combines residential and public history functions. Its reconstructed historic front porch again serves as the residence hall entrance, while a new porch facing the campus provides a distinct and welcoming entrance to the

public history center. The upper floors house 30 students in the Cresson Scholars Focus Group, while the first floor provides a permanent home for the Center for Public History. Reconstructed porches, sensitively designed ramps, and an elevator concealed within the central tower provide full accessibility without compromising the historic exterior.

Sustainability was incorporated through reversible insulation, energy modeling, hygrothermal analysis, and a geothermal system. The improvements are projected to reduce energy use by approximately 57% while protecting the historic masonry from damaging moisture conditions.

The Construction–Rehabilitation Award recognizes both the technical achievement of saving a building once considered beyond repair and the significance of its return to university life. Cresson Hall again houses students, supports scholarship and public programming, and demonstrates that historic buildings can meet demanding standards for accessibility, energy efficiency, and contemporary use.



Upper left: Front façade at start of project (Photo credit: Voith & Mactavish Architects) **Upper right:** Front façade after (Photo credit: Jeffrey Totaro) **Center:** Reconstructed front porch detail (Photo credit: Jeffrey Totaro)



VALLEY REFUGE SHELTER, RIVERVIEW PARK (PITTSBURGH, ALLEGHENY COUNTY)

**HONORING: Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy; City of Pittsburgh; POH+W Architects;
Allen + Shariff MEP Engineering**

Built in the late 1930s through the Works Progress Administration, the Valley Refuge Shelter is a characteristic example of New Deal rustic architecture. Its hand-laid stone walls, broad roof, and flagstone floor were carefully integrated into the wooded Kilbuck Valley of Pittsburgh's Riverview Park, creating an enduring gathering place for Northside residents.

Deferred maintenance eventually threatened both the structure and its public use. Mortar joints and flashing deteriorated, the roof began to fail, paving became uneven, and the restrooms, electrical service, water system, and drinking fountain no longer functioned. The Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy and City of Pittsburgh Department of Public Works responded with a comprehensive rehabilitation focused on retaining historic material while improving accessibility and daily operation.

The approximately \$195,000 project cleaned and repointed the hand-laid masonry with compatible materials, replaced the roof and flashing, and carefully lifted, stabilized and reset the original bluestone floor rather than replacing it.

A restrained exposed-aggregate ramp now provides access to a multifamily restroom. Electrical service, plumbing, restrooms, a drinking fountain, and seating were restored, with new interventions kept visually secondary to the historic stonework and landscape.

The renewed shelter again supports neighborhood gatherings and now hosts the annual Reggae at Riverview festival, which grew from a small pandemic-era event into an important community tradition. Funding combined the City's Parks Tax Trust Fund, a Keystone Historic Preservation Construction Grant, nonprofit leadership, and private philanthropy – an effective model for preserving smaller historic resources in public parks.

The Construction–Rehabilitation Award recognizes a project that balanced material conservation, accessibility, infrastructure, and active public use. The Valley Refuge Shelter once again fulfills its original civic purpose: providing a durable, welcoming place where people can gather within the landscape.



Upper left: Exterior of the shelter prior to construction **Upper right:** Restored shelter **Center:** Interior of the restored shelter, including restored bluestone, repointed and cleaned masonry, restored roof piers and shelter roof, and replaced benches (Photos credit: Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy)



NAZARETH MEETING ROOM ANNEX, NAZARETH BOROUGH MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

(NAZARETH, NORTHAMPTON COUNTY)

HONORING: Nazareth Borough Municipal Authority; Artefact, Inc.

The Nazareth Meeting Room Annex expands an important civic complex within the Nazareth Borough Historic District while respecting the community's Moravian architectural heritage. The new building connects to the circa-1950 Borough Chambers, originally designed as a library with a slate roof, pink-toned stone, brick detailing, and windows inspired by historic Nazareth buildings.

The design challenge was to create a compatible addition without producing either a conspicuous contrast or a false historic copy. The Annex shares the original building's stone-and-brick palette, window rhythm, proportions, and traditional detailing, but remains distinguishable through its smaller footprint, lower roofline, and recessed connector. Durable synthetic slate and aluminum-clad nine-over-nine windows provide improved performance while maintaining the intended visual relationship.

The building provides a dedicated meeting room for the Nazareth Borough Municipal Authority, shared office space, accessible restrooms serving both buildings and the adjacent park, and needed storage and mechanical areas. Exposed timber trusses give the principal room what the team called "humble grandeur," while water-inspired finishes reflect the Authority's mission. Windows frame views of the Moravian Church, park, and historic streetscape.

The project required collaboration among the Municipal Authority, Borough officials, and the public. A 2023 public presentation allowed residents to review the final design and confirmed broad support for the approach. Unexpected subsurface debris led to extensive soil remediation and reinforced foundations. The stonework also exposed a shortage of specialized tradespeople, prompting the masonry contractor to train younger workers in traditional techniques.

The Construction-Infill/New Construction Award recognizes a civic project attentive to scale, materials, accessibility, craftsmanship, and public function. The Annex demonstrates how contemporary municipal facilities can strengthen a historic district without imitating the past or diminishing the character of the existing building.

Top: Nazareth Meeting Room Annex **Top inset:** Rear view, building site before Annex construction (Photo credit: Amy Unger / *Morning Call*) **Middle:** Side view, completed Meeting Room Annex with playground in foreground **Bottom:** Interior, Nazareth Meeting Room Annex



CASCADE GARDEN, LONGWOOD GARDENS

(KENNETT SQUARE, CHESTER COUNTY)

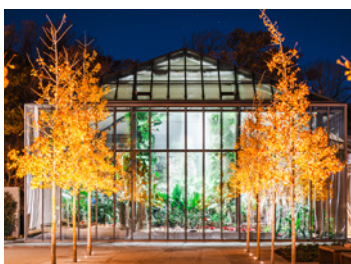
**HONORING: Longwood Gardens; John Milner Architects; Weiss Manfredi;
Reed Hilderbrand; Bancroft Construction**

Longwood Gardens' Cascade Garden is the only intact North American garden designed by internationally renowned Brazilian landscape architect Roberto Burle Marx. Opened in 1993, its bold composition of sculptural stone walls, cascading water, curving paths, and more than 100 species of bromeliads and tropical plants forms a unified work of modern landscape art.

When Longwood's larger campus transformation required the garden to move, preserving it meant relocating not simply plants and architectural fragments, but an integrated cultural landscape in which every stone, wall, path, water feature, and planting contributed to the design. Between 2021 and 2024, the garden was documented, disassembled, stored and reconstructed within a custom-designed glasshouse.

High-resolution laser scanning captured the garden before plant removal, during disassembly, and after concealed construction was exposed. Point-cloud data informed a detailed digital model and construction documents. Individual stones were scanned, tagged, barcoded, cleaned and stored before being returned to

their documented positions. The living collection was transferred to Longwood's nursery, where horticulturists maintained and monitored the plants throughout construction. Landscape architects, preservation specialists, scholars, longtime Longwood staff, and the Burle Marx Landscape Design Studio contributed specialized knowledge to the relocation.



The reconstructed garden also achieves full accessibility. Subtle adjustments to path slopes and wall heights created a route suitable for wheelchairs and strollers without compromising Burle Marx's proportions or sequence of experience. Tinted glazing, root-zone heating, computerized irrigation, misting, and environmental controls sustain the specialized tropical setting.

The Construction–Documentation and Reconstruction Award recognizes a project that expanded the technical boundaries of cultural-landscape preservation. Through exhaustive documentation, digital technology, horticultural knowledge, and painstaking reconstruction, Longwood Gardens preserved a singular work of landscape architecture stone by stone and plant by plant.

Upper left: Interior view of the Cascade Garden during construction **Upper right:** Interior view of the Cascade Garden after restoration **Center:** Exterior view of the new glasshouse and restored Cascade Garden at night (Photos copyright by Longwood Gardens)



Before



After



FOXFIRE BARN REHABILITATION, CAMP FURNACE HILLS

(DENVER, LANCASTER COUNTY)

HONORING: Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania; McKissick Associates Architects; Paragon Engineering Services; Quality Buildings, LLC; Caldwell, Heckles & Egan, Inc.

The Foxfire Barn at Camp Furnace Hills was an early 19th-century agricultural building associated with the National Register-listed Furnace Hills Tenant House. Owned by Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania, its sandstone lower level and timber-framed loft reflected Pennsylvania German building traditions, while generations of Girl Scouts used the barn for outdoor education, leadership activities, workshops, and traditional crafts.

A 2017 windstorm destroyed the timber superstructure, leaving only unstable sandstone walls exposed to the weather. With no original drawings or detailed measurements, the project team relied on historic photographs, traditional barn forms, fragmentary records, and the memories of longtime Girl Scouts. A 2024 structural assessment determined that the cracked and displaced walls, built without foundations, could not safely remain in place.

The sandstone was carefully dismantled, cataloged, cut into thinner sections, and reinstalled over new reinforced foundations and structural walls. Above it, the barn was reconstructed with rough-sawn vertical siding, hand-split

wood shingles, custom wood windows and doors, and recreated features including the hayloft opening and masonry ventilation slit. White-oak flooring, wood walls, replica lanterns, and punched-tin fixtures recall the building's rustic character and camp traditions.



Completed in June 2025, the barn again supports educational programs, workshops and gatherings. The project also honored the memory of longtime Girl Scout and troop leader Carole "Alfi" Ackerman, who cherished the barn, and inspired an endowment for continuing care of the Foxfire House and Barn. Reconstruction was therefore paired with a long-term commitment to stewardship.

The Construction-Preservation Recovery Award recognizes a project that confronted catastrophic loss with research, salvage, traditional craftsmanship, and informed reconstruction. The Foxfire Barn once again contributes to its historic agricultural setting and provides a place where Girl Scouts can learn, gather, and carry traditions forward.

Upper left: Following the 2017 windstorm, the timber superstructure of the Foxfire Barn was destroyed, the red sandstone masonry walls were the only remaining portion left standing, and the ruins were left exposed to the elements **Upper center and right:** Completed barn exterior, shown within the site context of the entry road and garden **Center:** Custom wood casement window with true divided light muntin bars, wavy glass, and replica historic hardware, installed within rough-sawn vertical wood plank siding, hand-split wood shingles, and salvaged sandstone (Photos credit: McKissick Associates Architects)



Before

**HORN FARMHOUSE**

(HELLAM TOWNSHIP, YORK COUNTY)

**HONORING: Horn Farm Center for Agricultural Education;
Murphy & Dittenhafer Architects; YSM Landscape Architects;
RGS Associates; Baker, Ingram & Associates;
Barton Associates; 7Group;
Convergent Technologies Design Group;
Capital Construction Management;
Quarry View Building Group**

After



The 1830s farmhouse at the Horn Farm Center for Agricultural Education stands within a 186-acre York County property farmed for more than 250 years. Community action saved the land from industrial development in 2000, leading to the creation of the Center and permanent protection through a conservation easement.

On October 25, 2021, lightning ignited a catastrophic fire that destroyed the roof, most of the second floor, and nearly all historic interior finishes. Temporary roofing, fitted window coverings, and structural shoring stabilized the remaining brick walls through the winter. Rather than demolish the building, the Horn Farm Center committed to restoring its historic exterior and adapting the interior for education and public use.

Collapsed walls and chimneys were rebuilt in their original bond using salvaged brick. Surviving masonry was cleaned and repointed with traditional lime putty mortar, while breathable insulation improved performance without trapping moisture. Historically informed triple-glazed windows, doors, porches, trim, gutters, and a standing-seam metal roof reestablished the farmhouse's agrarian character.

Inside, the largely reconstructed building now contains an open classroom, teaching kitchen, accessible restroom, collaborative workspace, and offices. Traditional millwork and a restored cooking hearth recall the historic interior. High-performance insulation, efficient systems, rooftop solar panels, and comprehensive lightning protection improve resilience and sustainability.

After more than two years of fundraising and community support, the farmhouse reopened on April 24, 2026. A building once used primarily for offices can now welcome residents and visitors for hands-on learning focused on agriculture, ecology, food systems, and the land. The Construction-Preservation Recovery Award recognizes the Center's decisive response to catastrophic loss. By retaining historic masonry, restoring the exterior, and transforming the interior for classes, workshops, demonstrations, and community events, the project preserved an important agricultural landmark and gave it a more public and resilient future.

Top: Exterior post fire **Second from top:** Exterior after **Third from top:** North porch post fire **Fourth from top:** North porch after (Photo credits: Horn Farm Center for Agricultural Education [post fire] and Murphy & Dittenhafer Architects [after]) **Bottom:** Interior community classroom space with teaching kitchen (Photo credit: Murphy & Dittenhafer Architects)



STRODE'S BARN AND SPRINGHOUSE

(EAST BRADFORD TOWNSHIP, CHESTER COUNTY)

HONORING: East Bradford Township; Daniel Campbell, AIA; R.C. Legnini Company

Constructed in 1875 of local serpentine and fieldstone, Strobe's Barn and Springhouse stand within the National Register-listed Strobe's Mill Historic District. The property reflects several layers of Chester County history, including early milling, the Battle of Brandywine landscape, agriculture, and the later Strobe's Sausage and Scrapple Company.

When East Bradford Township acquired the site in 2015, the buildings had been vacant for approximately 30 years. Failing roofs, damaged timber framing, deteriorated masonry and stucco, and incompatible industrial additions threatened their survival. The Township sought not merely to stabilize them but to recover their 19th-century character and integrate them into a public outdoor heritage center within Plum Run Preserve.

Construction revealed more extensive deterioration than expected. Architects, engineers and contractors evaluated conditions element by element. Traditional scarf joints supplemented with modern epoxy allowed damaged roof timbers to remain in service, while mockups guided compatible masonry, stucco and roofing treatments. Later

additions were removed to reveal the historic core, doors and windows were recreated from surviving evidence, and standing-seam metal roofing provided long-term protection.

The rural site lacked utilities, requiring stored water, creek water for masonry work, generators, and careful logistical coordination. Despite severe weather and changing field

conditions, the team retained significantly more historic material than wholesale replacement would have allowed.

The springhouse received corresponding repairs to its stonework, roof, and exterior features. Together, the restored buildings now anchor the 48-acre Plum Run Preserve and its developing universally accessible trail network, with interpretation planned for the site's milling,

battlefield, agricultural, and food-production history. The Construction-Preservation Recovery Award recognizes East Bradford Township for transforming a threatened complex into an educational and recreational asset that connects preservation, open-space stewardship, community identity, and public access.



★ Back at The Yorktowne: A Place Worth Celebrating



There could not be a more meaningful place for Preservation Pennsylvania to hold the 2026 Pennsylvania Statewide Conference on Heritage and Pennsylvania Historic Preservation Awards than The Yorktowne Hotel.

Over the years, The Yorktowne was the setting for Preservation Pennsylvania conferences, awards programs, meetings and

financing, partnerships, technical expertise, and an unwavering belief that this downtown landmark was worth saving.

The result is a restored Yorktowne once again welcoming guests, hosting meetings and celebrations, and contributing to the life of downtown York.

In 2023, Preservation Pennsylvania recognized the rehabilitation with a Pennsylvania Historic Preservation Award. Around our office, we have a special fondness for projects that travel the path from *At Risk* to Award. They are some of our favorite preservation stories because they remind us that a threatened place does not have to become a lost place.

That history made The Yorktowne an especially fitting choice for our 2026 events.

This year, the hotel serves as the setting for the Pennsylvania Statewide Conference on Heritage, themed Preservation in Practice, as well as the Pennsylvania Historic Preservation Awards. It is difficult to imagine a building that better represents that theme.

Conference sessions explore the real work of preservation – advocacy, rehabilitation, Historic Tax Credits, partnerships, adaptive reuse, community engagement, and the difficult decisions involved in giving historic places a viable future. At the same time, the Awards recognize outstanding preservation achievements from across Pennsylvania.

And all of it is happening in a building that demonstrates what those very tools, partnerships and persistence can accomplish.

The Yorktowne's story is a reminder of why this work matters. A building that once faced a deeply uncertain future is again an important part of downtown York and once more a gathering place for the preservation community. That is why returning the Pennsylvania Statewide Conference on Heritage and the Pennsylvania Historic Preservation Awards to The Yorktowne means so much to us.

It is more than a beautiful historic venue.

It is an *At Risk* to Award success story.

It is a place with deep ties to Preservation Pennsylvania's own history.

And perhaps most appropriately of all, it is Preservation in Practice.



celebrations. Many of us have memories of gathering there with colleagues and friends from across the Commonwealth. Choosing The Yorktowne for our return to York in 2026 was especially meaningful because there was a time when none of us knew whether this building had a future.

For me, the connection is even more personal.

Before coming to Preservation Pennsylvania, I spent 24 years at Historic York, Inc., including 19 years as Executive Director. During those years, The Yorktowne was simply where things happened in York.

I met board members for lunch in the private dining room. I met friends at Autographs and enjoyed The Yorktowne's famous tomato soup – which I am happy to report is still on the menu. Every Wednesday, I was there for Rotary. And one memorable day, I shared an elevator with Meat Loaf when he was in town performing at the Strand.

Those small memories are part of what made The Yorktowne so important. It was never simply a hotel. It was woven into the civic and social life of downtown York.

So when The Yorktowne closed and its future became uncertain, the potential loss felt very personal. It was also a preservation challenge that could not be ignored.

In 2017, Preservation Pennsylvania placed The Yorktowne on our *Pennsylvania At Risk* list. The *At Risk* program is designed to call attention to important places facing uncertain futures and, we hope, help create the conversations and momentum that can lead to solutions.

In the case of The Yorktowne, I started making phone calls.

Having worked in York for more than two decades, I knew a lot of people – and I called just about all of them. Eventually, someone from the York County Economic Alliance reached out and asked me to come talk about the potential use of Historic Tax Credits.

That conversation was only the beginning.

The York County Economic Alliance ultimately stepped forward as developer and undertook the extraordinarily complicated task of bringing The Yorktowne back to life. The rehabilitation required years of persistence, creative



From Abbottstown to Zelienople

Preservation Pennsylvania helps people save the places they love.

What do we do?

We offer advice.

In 67 counties across the state, we provide technical support, answer questions, and play matchmaker between people in need and expertise.

We educate.

From architectural appreciation and window preservation to community strategies for saving special places.

We advocate.

We speak on behalf of historic preservation at the local, state and federal levels.

Preservation Pennsylvania is the Commonwealth's voice for historic places. This year, we rallied advocates to push for stronger policies that encourage the reuse of Pennsylvania's older and historic buildings, while continuing to champion expansion of the state Historic Tax Credit – powerful tools for economic revitalization in communities large and small.

We also worked hand-in-hand with partners across the state to make preservation more inclusive, providing technical assistance, supporting *Pennsylvania At Risk* properties, and continuing to stand up for endangered places across the Commonwealth.

In June, our statewide conference – Preservation Forward – brought people together in Johnstown to share successes, stories and strategies for preserving the places that matter most to Pennsylvanians.

Preservation Pennsylvania is the ONLY statewide nonprofit dedicated solely to historic preservation in the Commonwealth. We don't exist without your support. Every gift strengthens our ability to save treasured places and to inspire the next generation of preservationists.



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HANDMADE HISTORY

Each year, our Honor Awards are handcrafted at the historic Tileworks of Bucks County, a National Historic Landmark. We highly recommend a visit to the Tileworks and adjacent Fonhill, the home of Henry Chapman Mercer, who was an American archaeologist, artifact collector, tile maker, and designer of three distinctive poured-concrete structures in Doylestown.

Founded by Mercer in 1897, the Tileworks produced tiles for hundreds of private and public buildings, such as the State Capitol in Harrisburg, the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston, the National Press Club in Washington, and the John D. Rockefeller Estate in New York. Mercer's tile production processes are replicated as faithfully as possible to preserve the look and spirit of the originals.

