



Public History News

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by Vonita W. Foster, Ph.D.
Executive Director, U.S. National Slavery Museum

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"Network to Freedom"

The impetus for the creation of a U.S. National Slavery Museum is the former Governor of the Commonwealth of

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We the People Initiative

Virginia, Honorable L. Douglas Wilder, who, in 1992 upon returning from a poignant visit to Goree Island in West Africa, decided that such a museum was and is needed in America if we are to fully realize our collective national potential as an enlightened and progressive-minded citizenry. America,

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even 140 years after the end of chattel slavery, continues to be plagued by the divisive antagonist and polarizing dimensions of race and racism. It has only been within the past 25-30 years that progressive historians have been willing to address slavery's numerous historic issues that sorely need revision and correction. Central among these must be American slavery. There are over 3,000 history-related museums in the United States. Not one of them focuses exclusively on American slavery in its totality and within the context of slavery's centrality to America's emergence, particularly following the American Revolution, as an international economic power. Similarly, in the archaeological community, Africa now stands as the cradle of civilization for all of mankind. This is a far cry from the centuries of intentionally labeling the second largest continent in the world as the "Dark Continent," void of civilized culture and heritage.

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The NCPH Bulletin

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The 21st century challenge, in regards to slavery, rests in the ability to place all of these

significant historical events in their more proper perspective. The mission of the U.S. National Slavery Museum is to vitalize and interpret more completely the human drama and toll of slavery in America. The museum will serve as an anchor in the development of curricular materials for

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the full array of educational institutions, historical organizations and families. It will be the link to improving the quality of people's knowledge on slavery documents, artifacts and related memorabilia across the nation. The museum will provoke wonder and curiosity, and stimulate

questions and discussion that will inspire creativity and provide people with new answers to old questions, as well as interpretations and experiences that will enrich their lives. Achievements, perseverance, and successes in spite of slavery will be the museum's focus.

The U.S. National Slavery Museum's goal is to open new and exciting vistas of knowledge regarding slavery in America and its impact on our nation's institutions and individuals. The museum will interpret, produce, and display the rich history and contribution of enslaved Africans brought to America. Our approach as the center of learning on slavery is focusing on facts and accurate information not often found in history books. Slavery will be presented in a larger, more objective context. The museum will not instill guilt, cast blame, polarize, or alienate people in creating exhibits, displays, programs and educating patrons on slavery. It will be America's museum and the issues of slavery will be a uniting, rather than dividing, phenomena.

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The U.S. National Slavery Museum > continued from page 1

There is a clear and present need for the U.S. National Slavery Museum because slavery was the primary genesis for the socio-political construct of race in the United States and its ultimate prodigious legacy, institutional racism, which has remained virulently omnipresent over the last 200 plus years. Our nation is often polarized on racial issues that have vestiges of racism; e.g., affirmative action, racial profiling, the O. J. Simpson trial, the Rodney King police brutality trials, and the dragging and dismemberment of James Byrd in Texas.

Perhaps the best way to infuse people's thinking with fairness, honesty, and truth is for the public and private education systems to become primary foci of a new, different and better-informed way of thinking about 21st century race, racism, and their attendant divisive by-products. If the national citizenry can be informed about the centrality of slavery to the economic and political growth and prosperity of America since the middle of the 18th century and for the following 150 years, then a more honest discussion of race can begin.

However, the seeds of the new discussions must be sown in the nation's schools and cultural centers.

A local entrepreneur and avid supporter of the museum donated 38 acres along the Rappahannock River in Fredericksburg, Virginia, as the construction site for the museum. In 2004, construction of the museum will begin, and the U.S. National Slavery Museum will open to the public in 2007. The museum is being designed by Pei Partnership Architects located in New York City. The principal of the firm is Chien Chung Pei, the son of renowned I. M. Pei. In the 200,000 square foot facility, there will be 10 permanent exhibits and 4 to 5 temporary exhibits. Theatres, lecture rooms, classrooms, a children's wing, a young adult's wing, a library, archives, a dining hall, a book store, and a gift shop will be just some of what learners will be exposed to when they visit the museum. We also have a traveling educational exhibit on American slavery entitled "Slavery in America: The Complete Story" that is being utilized by schools and universities throughout the country. The exhibit is completely booked for this year and we are taking requests for next year.

The U.S. National Slavery Museum has established a consortium of universities to engage in scholarly research and archaeological projects, which will add to the existing National Slavery Museum's database and will be disseminated to the public and updated annually. The initial consortium members include The University of Virginia, Mary Washington College, Howard University, Virginia Commonwealth University and

Hampton University. Ethnographic studies will be conducted by faculty and students exploring historic and genealogical areas heretofore unknown or unacknowledged. An anticipated outcome of these studies will be the irrefutable reality that America is truly a nation of amalgamated people, many whom can trace their lineage to 17th and 18th century socio-economic relationship patterns that for the most part were void of strict hierarchical racial divisions.

The U.S. National Slavery Museum innately values, in all that we do, self-discovery, new learning, objective understanding, honesty, a search for truth and diversity. The timeliness for such an initiative by the museum is reinforced by the statement made by historian Carter G. Woodson: "Real education means to inspire people to live more abundantly, to learn to begin with life as they find it and make it better." Although the museum will not open to the public until 2007, we have begun and our current work will under-gird and promote the educational

mission of the museum. To some it is incredible that this nation still grapples with the numerous vestiges of slavery. In 2002, during a visit to West Africa, President Bush issued a statement expressing regret

for American slavery and its deleterious effects on the country. His predecessor, President Clinton, issued a similar public denouncement, yet race and racism still command center stage in our daily social, economic and political lives.

Accordingly, the problems and issues that the U.S. National Slavery Museum will address specifically focus on explanation and practical beginning solutions for America's 21st century "American Dilemma," continuing contentious black-white race relations.

The U.S. National Slavery Museum is needed and it is the first of its kind and only in America. We hope all citizens see the importance of this historic initiative.

Dr. Vonita White Foster received her undergraduate degree in Library Science from Virginia State University. She subsequently earned Master's degrees in Library Science and Education Administration/Supervision from Atlanta University and Virginia State University respectively. She also holds a Doctorate in Education from Virginia Commonwealth University. Foster has held professional appointments at the Library of Virginia, Virginia State University, Virginia Commonwealth University, Virginia Union University, and Virginia Power. She currently serves as Executive Director of the U.S. National Slavery Museum.



Preserving America's Sacred Ground

by Glenn F. Williams
Glenn_Williams@nps.gov

What are battlefields? In the United States, they are places to commemorate historic military engagements, and honor the memory of people, both as individuals and in groups, for significant deeds. Battlefields are artifacts, primary sources in their own right, as well as the repositories of evidence found in archeological resources. Battlefields are places to formally and informally study, teach or learn about the past, and apply lessons to gain insight on the problems of the present or future. Battlefields are also venues for rewarding jobs in public history, both for interpreting as well as saving them.

Although considered “hallowed ground,” the one thing that battlefields ARE NOT is protected. When commercial development threatened to destroy 540 acres of historically significant land outside the boundaries of Manassas National Battlefield Park in 1988, historians, preservationists, local officials, and interested citizens pressured the federal government to take action. The fight was a bitter one that pitted those who wanted to preserve the historic site against their equally well-intentioned neighbors who favored economic growth by developing what they perceived as available landscape.

Ultimately, in a reflection of renewed interest in the nation's past and the rise in the popularity and potential economic advantage of heritage tourism, public opinion favored preservation. The matter was resolved when Congress voted to acquire the contested land and add it to the park. Although a victory, the multi-million dollar price made it an expensive lesson. In 1990, to preclude a repeat of the costly and divisive procedure, then Secretary of the Interior Manuel Lujan, Jr., and Congress created the American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) within the National Park Service (NPS).

Congress also appointed the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission (CWSAC), and asked it to report on the condition of the nation's Civil War battlefields. The Commission's 1993 report identified hundreds of battlefields that, although historically significant, were in danger of being lost to continued residential and commercial development. In addition, it was noted that the sites of combat during pre-independence colonial armed conflicts, the American Revolution, War of 1812, Mexican-American War, Indian Wars, and battles among native peoples were equally endangered. With over 3,000 sites of historic military engagements across the nation, the NPS could not expect to care for them all, nor could the taxpayers save them from destruction through the acquisition of real estate. In response, Congress passed the American Battlefield Preservation Act of 1996, “to assist citizens, public and private institutions, and governments at all levels in planning, interpreting, and protecting sites where historic battles were fought on American soil during the armed conflicts that shaped the growth and development of the United States, in order that present and future generations may learn and gain inspiration from the ground where Americans made their ultimate sacrifice.”

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Historic Preservation Planner, Tanya Gossett; Archeologist, Kristen Stevens; ABPP Chief, Paul Hawke; Landscape Architect, Kathryn Schlegel (Northeast Regional Support Office); Historian, Connie Langum (Wilson's Creek National Battlefield); and Historian, Glenn Williams.

To implement the new law, the ABPP assists those historic military sites that are not units of NPS. The ABPP encourages partnerships between the federally operated battlefield parks and other preservation organizations and government agencies. Members of the staff assist state, local, and tribal governments,

nonprofit historical and historic preservation organizations, and educational institutions with a variety of projects to identify, preserve and interpret historic battlefields. This assistance comes in many forms, from fielding inquiries from the office, conducting site visits, and presenting training workshops for audiences of various sizes, to hosting regional and national conferences. In addition, the ABPP administers a project grant program that can help facilitate the protection of battlefields at the grass roots level. Once these grants are awarded, the ABPP staff then coaches and assists those conducting the projects to their successful completion. Grants are awarded, for example, to perform historical research, archeological surveys, and cultural resource inventories, prepare nominations to the National Register of Historic Places, develop preservation, education and interpretive plans, programs and materials, and hold public awareness and consensus-building campaigns. Grant applications are accepted for projects for battles from any war fought on American soil or in territorial waters, regardless of the combatants' nationalities, if they demonstrate how the work will enhance the preservation of the historic resource.

The ABPP staff also conducts studies and other projects associated with the identification, preservation and interpretation of battlefield land. The staff is currently completing a Revolutionary War and War of 1812 Historic Preservation Study for Congress, and is frequently asked to contribute to other NPS projects, such as proposals for National Historic Trails or Heritage Areas, that incorporate sites or themes with military history implications or that involve battlefield parks. The ABPP also operates an “Ask a Historian” program for public inquiries, distributes instructional

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WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Frederick Augustyn, <i>Greenbelt, MD</i>	Rebecca Layton, <i>Chicago, IL</i>
Randy Bergstrom, <i>Santa Barbara, CA</i>	Carolyn Maciolek, <i>Chicago, IL</i>
Mauricio Borrero, <i>Jamaica, NY</i>	Marylou Marshall, <i>Cupertino, CA</i>
California Polytech State <i>University, San Luis Obispo, CA</i>	Michael Mizel-Nelson, <i>New Orleans, LA</i>
CNRS-IHTP Bibliotheque, <i>Cachan Cedex, France</i>	National Capital Commission, <i>Ottawa, ON</i>
Columbia College Library, <i>Chicago, IL</i>	Robert Nickel, <i>Las Vegas, NV</i>
Julie Corley, <i>Hercules, CA</i>	Charles Palmer, <i>Las Vegas, NV</i>
Debbie Doyle, <i>Washington, DC</i>	Joanne Riley, <i>Brookline, MA</i>
Sylvi Elliot, <i>Anchorage, AK</i>	Chick Russell, <i>Pasadena, CA</i>
Gaile Evans, <i>Astoria, OR</i>	Jonathan Souther, <i>Cleveland, OH</i>
Susan Fite, <i>College Park, MD</i>	Justin Snider, <i>Pierre, SD</i>
Michael Hollander, <i>Chicago, IL</i>	Rebecca Vial, <i>Maryville, TN</i>
Katrina Kupricka, <i>Las Cruces, NM</i>	Roger Burns-Watson, <i>Bethany, WV</i>

Thank you, Heather, Kate, Rikki, and Sam

For years, NCPH members have seen their work, but have not known their names. These individuals have played an important role of putting a public face on NCPH and contributing to the daily operations and outreach of NCPH, but you have never met them. Sam Mattes, Rikki Spring, Kate Voss, and Heather Zoellick of IUPUI's Campus Design staff have been the creative spirits behind our NCPH publications, most notably our quarterly newsletter *Public History News*, but also our annual meeting programs, membership brochures, and other printed materials that the Executive Offices generate. These individuals have provided excellent services to NCPH (as well as to thousands of other customers!) over the years—offering design ideas; coordinating the production of newsletters; preparing promotional materials; and handling far too many last minute “rush jobs” with smiles on their faces.

As of 30 June 2004, these good friends of NCPH will lose their positions at the university as the administration closes down Campus Design in a cost-cutting move. Print and design functions will be outsourced to a local private firm.

With the departure of these individuals, NCPH – and I – will be losing good friends and colleagues—ones who have been there constantly to assist NCPH. So, on behalf of NCPH, I wish to extend our thanks to Kate, Heather, Sam, and Rikki, for all that they have done for NCPH over these many years. Best wishes in wherever your careers lead you. You will be missed!

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NPS literature on battlefield preservation, and publishes a newsletter, *Battlefield Update*.

In addition, the ABPP administers an acquisition grant program, using funds appropriated from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). These grants are presently available for the purchase of real estate containing the sites of Civil War engagements from willing sellers by local or state government entities, or by nonprofit organizations in partnership with them. Legislation that would establish a similar acquisition grant program for battlefields of the Revolutionary War and War of 1812 is currently being considered in Congress.

Since 1990, the ABPP has assisted hundreds of individuals and groups, and awarded several million dollars to help protect more than 100 battlefields in several states, territories and the District of Columbia. To accomplish this vital and rewarding task, the ABPP currently consists of a core staff of five members in its Washington, DC, office. These include four public history professionals, all holding advanced degrees, with a program chief and three planners, representing the disciplines of archeology, historic preservation and history, and an Information Technology administrator, who manages

the Comprehensive American Battlefield Information Network (CABIN) database. The team is augmented by a battlefield park historian and a landscape architect, both of whom also hold advanced degrees, adding their talents to ABPP in addition to their primary duties elsewhere, as regional representatives. Battlefield preservation presents a rewarding venue for public historians to practice their craft.

Glenn is the staff Historian for the National Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP). He joined the ABPP staff in April 2001 after serving as the Historian and Exhibit Curator of USS Constellation Museum in Baltimore, MD, from 1999 to 2001. Prior to that, he was Assistant Curator of the Baltimore Civil War Museum – President Street Station in Baltimore, and a research Historian with the Army Historical Foundation in Arlington, VA, both as a volunteer. He entered public history as a second career after completing over twenty years of active military service in 1996.

Glenn holds a BA in History from Loyola College of Maryland, a MA in History, with a certificate in Public History, from the University of Maryland Baltimore County, and is currently enrolled in the Ph.D. program in History at University of Maryland, College Park. His publications include a book, and several journal and magazine articles on military and naval history topics.

“Network to Freedom” Succeeds in Getting the Public Active in History

by Diane Miller
Diane_Miller@nps.gov

Since 1998, the National Park Service has operated the National Underground Railroad “Network to Freedom” program to commemorate this important early chapter in the civil rights movement. The Underground Railroad—the resistance to enslavement through escape and flight—is regarded as a “universal symbol of freedom” and, as this country’s first multi-racial social and political movement, is an example to the world, which resonates even today. Public Law 105-203, the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Act, directs NPS to educate the public, provide technical assistance and maintain a Network to sites, programs and facilities with a verifiable connection to the Underground Railroad, which are identified through a unique symbol.

The “Network to Freedom” Program, through shared leadership with local, state, and other Federal entities, is committed to supporting the efforts of communities to embrace and preserve their heritage as part of a seamless network of parks and historic places. It is also a model of how to accomplish this goal through partnerships, consistent with new initiatives such as the Preserve America Executive Order and Secretary of the Interior Gale A. Norton’s “Four Cs”.

Through charrettes, gatherings, workshops, the “Network to Freedom” website, newsletters, and publications, the Network staff play a crucial part in helping scholars and citizens develop a deeper understanding of the significance of the Underground Railroad, as well as how to uncover this “secret” history. Working with a small group of partners, the “Network to Freedom” program is preparing a new publication on methods for documenting Underground Railroad history, particularly through the use of oral histories. As sites are documented and added to the “Network to Freedom,” new information on the complex nature and geographic diversity of the Underground Railroad is coming to light.

The “Network to Freedom” Program has also given the National Park Service and its historic preservation and academic partners new ways of partnering with communities. A senior member of the Friends of Forks of the Road and the Southwest Mississippi Central Louisiana Underground Railroad Association recently expressed this view: “At the top of what the Program has done well is the wide ranging impact it has made across the Nation and beyond that is making the National Park Service more user-friendly relative to under served populations feeling a part of and in partnership with the NPS.... In fact the Program is a magnet increasingly drawing in segments and persons who otherwise would never associate themselves with the NPS.”



Photograph courtesy of Valerie Chang and Jeff Greer

Mary Meachum Site after construction of wayside, looking north. This wayside was created using local materials by Washington University architectural students and AmeriCorps Trail Rangers.

In Indiana, involvement of the State Historic Preservation Office in “Network to Freedom” related initiatives and support for a community based organization known as Indiana Freedom Trails has led to African American participation in a statewide preservation conference for the first time. At Fort Donelson National Battlefield in Tennessee, park efforts to interpret their Underground Railroad connection has led to increased visitation by the local community, particularly among African Americans who had never visited the park before.

In St. Louis, the Mary Meachum Freedom Crossing Site was added to the “Network to Freedom” as the site where a group of freedom seekers crossed the Mississippi River, only to be betrayed and captured in Illinois. This site is located amongst the most economically challenged areas of the city. With a small grant from the “Network to Freedom” (a grant program had been authorized but funds have only been appropriated one year), local partners are developing a concept plan for developing interpretation and heritage tourism at the site. Significant involvement of the local African American community in the process is making the site a source of pride, heritage, and economic development.

“Network to Freedom” sites have also become a driving force in sustaining local heritage tourism initiatives, such as in Clermont County, Ohio which saw a 300% increase in requests for bus tours since it released its Freedom Trail brochure. The county tour and 19 of the sites included are listed in the “Network to Freedom.” Educational outreach is another important component of many programs listed in the “Network to Freedom.” One program, “Footsteps to Freedom,” takes educators from California on a

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Budget Advances NEH Efforts to Address "American Amnesia" - FY 2005 funding proposal includes \$33 million for *We the People* initiative

WASHINGTON, D.C. (February 2, 2004)--President Bush's FY 2005 budget request for the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) seeks funding of \$162 million, including \$33 million for the agency's *We the People* initiative, which would make it the largest competitive grant program in NEH history. *We the People* is designed to encourage and strengthen the teaching, study, and understanding of American history, culture, and ideas. In May 2003 the President announced that he would request \$100 million in new funding over three years in support of the initiative.

"The President's budget request reaffirms his deep commitment to strengthening our citizens' knowledge and understanding of our nation's history and culture," said NEH Chairman Bruce Cole. "NEH accepts this important responsibility with its own commitment to improving historical and civic literacy throughout the nation."

In addition to sustaining the Endowment's ongoing grant programs in support of excellence in the humanities, the FY 2005 funding will expand support for the multi-faceted, agency-wide *We the People* initiative through a variety of special projects, including the following:

- A new program, "Landmarks of American History," provides K-12 teachers with opportunities to participate in residential summer workshops at important historic and cultural sites across the United States. With the announcement last week of the 2004 Landmarks of American History Teacher Workshops, more than 2,000 teachers will work with distinguished scholars for one week of intensive study on the history and literature associated with historic sites that include St. Augustine, Fla., Mount Vernon, Va., Selma, Ala., and Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.
- An NEH *We the People* Challenge Grant competition will encourage educational and cultural institutions to strengthen their programs that advance knowledge of the founding principles of the United States.
- In its very first year the *Idea of America Essay Contest* attracted more than 1,300 entries from 11th-grade students. Six students submitted prize-winning essays and received recognition from First Lady Laura Bush at a special ceremony in May 2003. Now in its second year, the *Idea of America Essay Contest* is accepting entries through March 15, 2004, from 11th-graders and 16- or 17-year-old home schooled students.

- The Endowment's first *Heroes of History Lecture* was delivered last year by distinguished American historian Robert V. Remini, who spoke on "Ordinary Heroes: Founders of Our Republic." The second annual *Heroes of History Lecture* will be held this fall.

- In 2003 the Endowment established a new *We the People Bookshelf* program to encourage young people to read and understand great literature while exploring themes central to the American experience. Launched with Lynne Cheney at the Vice President's Residence, the Endowment's first *We the People Bookshelf* included 15 books for different age groups on the theme of "courage." Through this annual program, NEH is providing approximately 1,000 public and school libraries across the nation with sets of the books on this year's *We the People Bookshelf*.

- A new program, *America's Historic Places*, will support public programming at historic and cultural sites across the nation, and *Family and Youth Programs in American History* will encourage intergenerational reading about significant topics in U.S. history and literature.

- Support for model curriculum projects to help schools establish or improve course offerings in American history, culture and civics.

- Support for local and statewide projects on American history, culture and civics sponsored by the 56 state humanities councils.

President Bush launched the *We the People* initiative on Constitution Day, Sept. 17, 2002, at a special White House Rose Garden ceremony. The President cited numerous studies that have indicated that many young Americans have at best only a passing knowledge of our nation's history and principles of democratic government.

The FY 2005 budget includes funding for NEH grant programs in support of high quality education, research, preservation, and public programming in the humanities and for the projects and programs of the state humanities councils; challenge and other matching grants to stimulate and match nonfederal contributions to humanities projects; and the Endowment's administrative expenses necessary to operate the agency.

Press release from the National Endowment for the Humanities,
<http://www.neh.gov/news/archive/>



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PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS



by Sharon Babaian
sbabaian@technomuses.ca

For me, April has always been a unique month, characterized by an uneasy mix of promise and trepidation. In Winnipeg, where I grew up, it was the month when winter finally --though not completely -- released its iron grip on us. But as we watched the snow and ice melt, our pleasure was always tinged with anxiety as we waited to see if the Red and Assiniboine Rivers would reach flood levels. April was also exam month for Canadian university students and, for those of us who were hockey fans, it was playoff time -- a sure recipe for tension and, with a bit of luck, elation as well.

In the last ten years, April has become synonymous with the NCPH conference, which has introduced a whole new level of creative tension to my life. The pleasures of travelling to new venues, participating in stimulating sessions, meeting new colleagues and seeing old friends are mixed with the demands of presenting papers, attending meetings, developing and debating policies and budgets, and dealing with administrative concerns. April 2004 was certainly no exception. I took over the presidency at a critical time for the organization. In addition to being in the midst of an important fund-raising campaign, the Board, the Executive Committee and I will have to deal with some very fundamental issues raised during the Board meeting.

The Long Range Planning Committee submitted a report that recommended that the Board take immediate action on the long-standing plan to move towards a full-time Executive Director.

In support of this objective, the committee further recommended that the Board set in motion an organizational self-assessment to help clarify NCPH's priorities and re-define the duties and responsibilities of the Executive Director's position as well as those of the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors. The Board accepted the report and, based on its recommendations, I have begun to put in place an ad hoc committee to develop and carry out the self-assessment. We are planning to have a draft report ready for the fall meeting of the board.

We have set ambitious goals for the self-assessment and it will be a demanding process, but, I believe, an essential one. The field of public history has grown and changed dramatically in the last two decades and NCPH has expanded and evolved to reflect and respond to those changes. While we have always established long-range goals and the strategic plans to achieve them, we haven't always adopted a coherent and consistent approach to implementing those plans in light of the changing character of the organization. This self-assessment, in conjunction with other initiatives, will help us to establish a strong sense of who we are and where we want to go as an organization as well as a clear set of objectives and policies to help us get there.

In addition to the self-assessment, the board also had to deal, once again, with the issue of the editorship of *The Public Historian*. As many of you will have heard by now, Ann Marie Plane announced her decision to resign from the position with about two years of her five-year term still remaining. As an interim measure, the University of California, Santa Barbara

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FROM THE PAST PRESIDENT

At the annual meeting in Victoria my year as president ended, and I want to thank all of those who helped me get through the year. First of all, Rebecca Conard, my predecessor—this sort of thing is always easier when you've been preceded by someone as able and committed as Rebecca. Many thanks as well to the other officers (Vice President Sharon Babaian and Secretary-Treasurer Harry Klinkhamer) and the members of the Board of Directors—we had difficult issues to address and real work to do, but the collegiality of all made it actually enjoyable. And thanks to Jon Hunner as our co-chair of the 2004 program committee—he ended up with a much bigger

job than he anticipated going in and did an outstanding job. But the people I owe the greatest debt of gratitude to are David Vanderstel, our Executive Director, and Dana Ward, his assistant. They keep not only the organization on track, but the president as well —without their collegial and persistent reminders about what I needed to do and when, I would have certainly dropped the ball. Many thanks. And thanks to all of you for the opportunity to serve as president—it's been a real honor.

~ Jim Gardner

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK



by David G. Vanderstel
dvanders@ncph.org

Two years ago, NCPH received a great honor. The American Council of Learned Societies, founded in 1919 to advance humanistic studies in the humanities and social sciences, accepted NCPH's application for membership. Thus, NCPH joined a very distinguished roster of constituent societies that includes our fellow historical organizations -- the American Historical Association and the Organization of American Historians -- and more than 60 other humanities and social sciences associations representing anthropology, religion, political science, geography, languages, literature, law, music, philosophy, and art.

This is an important achievement for NCPH and public history. For years, many considered public history as a fluke, a temporary blip in the job market, and a segment of the discipline that lacked a body of substantive scholarship. Our short track record and the lack of familiarity with public history may explain why our first application to ACLS, initiated by David Kyvig back in 1989-90, was not accepted. But, the re-application process, begun under NCPH President Michael Devine and completed during the term of Patrick O'Bannon, brought NCPH into the fold of the nation's leading scholarly organizations, thus placing us at the table to discuss scholarship, the humanities, and the function of professional organizations in American society.

So, what does ACLS do? Former ACLS President John D'Arms noted that ACLS acts "as Funder, as Convener, as Collaborator, and as Advocate" (ACLS President's Report, 1997-1998). ACLS nurtures scholarship by providing fellowships and research grants to stimulate inquiry into the humanities. ACLS brings learned societies together to discuss issues relevant to our particular disciplines and to scholarship. ACLS collaborates with national and international organizations to promote learning, the intensive study of language, history, and culture, and international understanding through educational exchanges. ACLS also speaks out on issues of significance to the humanities, hoping to shape public opinion regarding the importance of the humanities to the broader public.

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ACLS holds two meetings each year. The fall meeting brings together the Chief Administrative Officers (CAOs) of the affiliated societies to discuss the administration of professional associations and issues pertaining to our areas of specialization. Discussions range from membership development to fund raising, electronic publishing to professional ethics, relationships with boards and challenges faced by executive directors. Local convention and visitors' bureaus host these meetings in hopes of attracting professional meetings to their cities. The annual ACLS meeting, held in the spring, is a gathering of the delegates and CAOs to address the business of the organization, such as reviewing new member applications. But, the meeting also has more intellectual

and substantive content with sessions focusing on new scholarship in the humanities, challenges facing higher education, and issues affecting our respective organizations. One session dealt with challenges facing the university in the 21st century and another

addressed the effects of the Patriot Act on academe. Our keynote lecturer was historian Peter Gay, renowned scholar of the Enlightenment and more recently of the Victorian bourgeoisie (and one of my heroes while in college!), who presented a wonderful lecture on his own "Life of Learning." Two individuals represent NCPH at ACLS meetings. Michael Devine, Executive Director of the Truman Presidential Library and Museum, serves as the NCPH delegate; and I serve as the representative to the Chief Administrative Officers (CAO) forum.

Our affiliation with ACLS has truly been beneficial to NCPH and to me as Executive Director. I have learned a great deal from my fellow administrative officers regarding the life and culture of their respective organizations and the challenges that face each of us in our daily work. But, more important, NCPH's involvement with ACLS clearly demonstrates how scholars -- in our case, public historians -- work with broader publics. This seems to be a key theme of ACLS activity -- of emphasizing the mission of the humanities in public life and making humanities scholarship more accessible and relevant to a non-specialist public. While NCPH can learn from other constituent societies, we can also play a significant role in demonstrating how to extend scholarly work beyond the confines of the academy to nurture interest in and appreciation for the humanities.

I encourage you to visit the ACLS web site --- www.acls.org -- to learn more about the organization, its programs, and the many fellowships and award opportunities.



by Bruce Craig, National Coalition for History
rbcraig@historycoalition.org

The Weinstein Nomination: An Update -- Controversy continues to mount over the Bush administration's nomination of Allen Weinstein to succeed John Carlin as Archivist of the United States. Press coverage in major newspapers including the *Washington Post*, *New York Times*, and other major publications and wire services such as the Associated Press has helped heighten public awareness of the issue that focuses on an apparent attempt by the White House to replace John Carlin as Archivist of the United States with a person of its own choosing. [Note: Weinstein is founder, President and CEO of The Center for Democracy, a non-profit, privately funded program-creating organization located in the Washington, DC. He formerly was professor of history at Boston University, Georgetown University, and Smith College.]

While the selection may well be partly driven by politics, in interviews with press representatives Weinstein declared that "I am not in anybody's pocket and I am committed to maximum access."

Due in part to the publicity and to a statement of concern issued by nearly two dozen historical and archival organizations [<http://www.archivists.org/statements/weinstein.asp>], the White House effort to confirm the nominee through an "expedited" appointment process appears to have been thwarted. The Senate Governmental Affairs Committee – the committee of jurisdiction that will be making a recommendation to the US Senate about the qualifications of the nominee -- indeed will give the Weinstein nomination a full and proper hearing in coming weeks. According to committee spokesperson Leslie Phillips, "We're just beginning the vetting process...But we will examine him [Weinstein] carefully as we do all nominees."

In the meantime, evidence that the nomination was initiated more by the White House rather than by Carlin's desire to step down prior to summer 2005 continues to grow. When reporters queried about allegations that Carlin was being forced out, the White House issued a 19 December 2003 letter signed by John Carlin in which the Archivist states his intention to resign in the future and urges the White House to begin a "smooth transition of leadership." NCH sources inside NARA report that the letter was requested of Carlin by the White House with some critical parts being "essentially dictated." When asked by reporters whether the 19 December letter was generated by the White House, Carlin declined, through a spokesperson, to comment whether he is leaving voluntarily.

Statements to the press by the nominee himself, however, are suggestive of the reliability of the insider's assertion. When asked by Washington Post reporter George Lardner exactly when the nominee was approached by the White House, Weinstein stated that he was contacted by the administration about his nomination in the "fall" of 2003, weeks if not months prior to the crafting of Carlin's intention to resign letter.

While the selection may well be partly driven by politics, in interviews with press representatives Weinstein declared that "I am not in anybody's pocket and I am committed to maximum access." He states he is a registered Democrat -- "a raving

moderate" and that "the National Archives as far as I am concerned, works for the American people and is not a creature of the administration."

Critics note that while Weinstein may be a registered Democrat, The Right Web,

a watchdog group that profiles right-wing organizations and includes on its lists Weinstein's Center for Democracy, documents the nominee's ties to conservative groups and funding institutions and notes that his wife Diane Weinstein, is legal counsel to former Vice-President Dan Quayle.

Discussion also continues about the nominee's credentials. Friends and supporters are beginning to speak out in support of the Weinstein nomination. Richard Norton Smith, executive director of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, views the present controversy as so much "faculty-lounge politics." He sees Weinstein as someone who can bridge the gap between historians and the public. He also notes that Weinstein played a role in persuading the Church of Christ, Scientist, to release the once highly restricted records of the founder of the Christian Science church, Mary Baker Eddy. Said Smith, "He [Weinstein] made the case that if the [church's] library was going to have intellectual legitimacy, it would have to have transparency." Stephen H. Balch, president of the National Association of Scholars, also comments that Weinstein is "a man who is capable of confronting evidence honestly and changing his mind."

Critics, however, continue to raise questions about some of Weinstein's scholarly practices. In the past, the nominee has been criticized for his record on providing access to his research notes used in writing two controversial books about Soviet espionage. According to American University history professor Anna K. Nelson, "his history of sharing information is not all that great."

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President's Comments

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proposed that *TPH's* review editor, Mary Hancock, be appointed to the position of editor to complete Ann Marie's term. While Mary's ability and willingness to do the job were not and are not in doubt, the board had serious reservations about the appointment. As a consequence, we are currently discussing other options with the UCSB History Department. While these discussions are mainly focused on the immediate problem of finding an interim editor, they have also forced us to consider larger issues including our financial and intellectual relationship with UCSB and our long-term goals for the journal. Once we've completed our discussions and I have consulted the board, I will provide a full report to members.

On a more positive note, I can report that our annual meeting committees for Kansas City in 2005 have been hard at work. Andy Ambrose and his team had a somewhat disappointing initial response to their call for papers but have since received a significant number of new proposals. They are now busy ranking and assembling them into what promises to be a very interesting series of sessions on the theme of "Defining Region: Public Historians and the Culture and Meaning of Region." On the local arrangements front, Michael Devine and his committee are putting together a number of special events and tours that will focus on all that Kansas City and region have to offer including jazz, barbeque, baseball and beer, though not necessarily in that order. I think he might also fit in something to do with history and Harry Truman, if time permits.

Arrangements for the 2006 joint conference with OAH in Washington are also underway. Jim Gardner appointed our representatives on the program and local resources/arrangements committees. Marty Blatt, National Park Service, will serve as

co-chair of the program committee and Jan Warren-Findley of Arizona State University and Steve Lubar of the National Museum of American History will be the other NCPH representatives. For local arrangements, NCPH will be represented by Richard McCulley (co-chair) from the National Archives, Laura Kamoie from American University, Jeffrey Stine from NMAH, and Michèle Gates Moresi from the National Park Service.

Two new initiatives are also beginning to take shape. The Board approved, in principle, the Awards Committee's recommendation to create a new NCPH book award. We will provide guidelines and other relevant information in an upcoming issue of the newsletter. The working group on internationalization, created last year by Jim Gardner, met in Victoria and had a very productive discussion about how to develop a more international outlook for the organization and strengthen the exchange of ideas and practice cross-culturally. The group came up with many ideas and proposals for further action and will submit its report and recommendations in the coming year.

In closing I want to thank all those people who helped to make the Victoria conference such a success. Program co-chair Jon Hunner did a superb job in preparing a program that highlighted the best scholarship and practices of our two associations. Lisa Mighetto, in particular deserves our appreciation for, once again, taking on the thankless job of coordinating many of our local arrangements and for remaining, as always, 'steady under fire.' Special thanks are also due to the NCPH staffers, most notably Dana Ward, and the student volunteers who took care of registration and the many other crucial functions before, during, and after the conference. Finally, I would like to thank Rebecca Conard, Jim Gardner, and David Vanderstel who have helped to smooth my transition into the presidency and by doing so have made a daunting challenge less so.

"Network to Freedom"

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week-long study tour of the Underground Railroad. The educators return to teach their colleagues and students—some of them "at risk" and some in juvenile hall facilities—about the history, lessons and inspirations of the Underground Railroad. A "Network to Freedom" grant is helping "Footsteps to Freedom" program leaders to research the Underground Railroad story in California and to uncover the little known story of enslavement and freedom in this "free" state. This will allow educators and students to participate in "Footsteps" study tours in their home state, rather than travel to states more traditionally recognized as having been active in the Underground Railroad.

The future of this dynamic program is, however, in jeopardy. The National Parks Conservation Association has included the "Network to Freedom" in its Ten Most Endangered Parks List for 2004, the second time it has appeared on the list since the Network's inception six years ago. This is a shame, as

the "Network to Freedom" is clearly a valuable program for the public and historians alike, especially considering the increased interest in the Underground Railroad it promotes.

Diane Miller is a graduate of Ohio University, Athens, Ohio. She received a Masters in History (major field African American History) from the University of Maryland, College Park in 1984. Miller joined National Park Service in 1984, working with the National Register Information System. From 1984 to 1996, she worked in various capacities with the National Register of Historic Places, information management, records management, and advising State Historic Preservation Offices and others on automating historic resources inventories and cultural resource management data. From 1996 to 1999, Miller worked in the Midwest Region doing technical support for National Historic Landmarks and related "external" (non-NPS owned properties) cultural programs. She was then assigned as Midwest regional coordinator for the NPS Underground Railroad initiative in summer 1997. Since January 1999, Miller has served as National Coordinator for the NPS National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom program.

NCPH AWARD WINNERS

NCPH would like to congratulate our 2004 award winners. The winners were recognized at the keynote banquet in Victoria. Watch for the winners' articles about their projects and experiences at the Annual Meeting to appear in an upcoming newsletter.

The Student Project Award was given to Georgia State University's Deena Booth, Lara Cullinane-Smith, Jennifer Dickey, Laura Drummond, Jeffrey Jensen, Linda Orr King, Sabrina Meneghello, Rachel Quartarone, Andrew Reisinger, Laurie Sedicino, Beth Watson, and Erin Whittemore for their exhibit, "Rich's: The Store that Married a City."

This exhibit, created in cooperation with the U.S. General Services Administration and the Atlanta History Center, provides the public with the local history of Rich's Department Store. The displays are located in four windows of the former store and deal with stories of commerce, the building's architecture, the Rich family's involvement in the community, the Civil Rights events that took place at the store, the changing nature of downtown, and the closing of the store.

Completed in the students' Museum Exhibitions: Planning and Production course, this exhibit has become a popular site with Atlanta residents. As it is located in the storefront windows of the former store, it is free of charge and open for viewing twenty-four hours a day, year round. Perhaps more importantly, however,

Washington Report

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In an interview with *New York Times* reporters, Weinstein did not address allegations regarding his records practices and opted to reserve discussion of that until his Senate confirmation hearings. He did, however, forthrightly respond to the widely publicized allegation that he or his publisher paid the KGB some \$100,000 for special access to records that facilitated the writing of his latest book, "The Haunted Wood." "That's a total slander" declared Weinstein, though he admitted that his publisher Random House did pay a retired agent's group for "access to files" that contributed to the writing of four books, including his own. But, "no personal money passed hands" he stated. Critics continue to question the ethical ramifications of purchasing access and note that Weinstein continues to restrict access to his research notes based on those restricted files.

The Weinstein nomination will undoubtedly continue to spark lively discussion through the spring and possibly summer months. Hill insiders report that the upcoming November presidential election, coupled with accusations from Democrats that the Bush administration is too secretive in general, could spell difficulty for the Weinstein nomination. Even if the nominee is deemed qualified by the Senate committee assessing his qualifications, his confirmation could be held up until after the election by a single senator who could put a hold on the nomination.

is the fact that this exhibit has allowed residents of Atlanta, old and young alike, to gain closer contact with their city's past.

David Cline, an oral historian affiliated with the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, and Allison Marsh, of Johns Hopkins University and the National Museum of American History, each received the **New Professional Award for 2004**.

The Robert Kelley Memorial Award was given to the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in First Nation. Located on the Upper Yukon River valley in the vicinity of Dawson, Yukon Territory, Canada, the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in is a First Nation of approximately 900 citizens. For the last thirty-five years, the citizens and government of the First Nation have developed an integrated program of public involvement in heritage activities, research into the community's history, and active support for artistic cultural expression. This program's primary objective is the enhancement of community health through the revival of knowledge of, and pride in, their cultural identity; indeed, the program has made significant inroads in making history relevant to the lives of ordinary people.

Because of the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in First Nation's continuing and successful focus on integrating history into the lives of their citizens, they were elected to receive the 2004 Robert Kelley Memorial Award, which was accepted on their behalf by citizen Michelle Olson at the annual meeting in Victoria.



The National Council on Public History promotes the application of historical scholarship outside the university in government, business, historical societies, preservation organizations, archives, libraries, professional associations, and public interest groups.

For details contact NCPH President Sharon Babaian, Canada Science and Technology Museum, PO Box 9724, Station T, Ottawa, ONT, Canada, K1G 5A3; (613) 991-3029; sbabaian@technomuses.ca; or David G. Vanderstel, NCPH Executive Director, Cavanaugh 327, IUPUI, 425 University Blvd., Indianapolis, IN 46202-5140; (317) 274-2716; E-mail: ncph@iupui.edu.

For change of address, write UC Press, 2000 Center St., Suite 303, Berkeley, CA 94704-1223.

Submissions to *Public History News* should be sent to David G. Vanderstel, Editor, at the address above.



NATIONAL COUNCIL ON PUBLIC HISTORY

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David Vanderstel at

317.274.2718

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Thank you for your generosity!

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS AND INTERNSHIPS

The American Historical Association, Columbia University Press and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation are pleased to announce the Gutenberg-e Prize for History. For the 2004 competition (the sixth in the series), submissions will be accepted for dissertations or first manuscripts in all fields of history. Each of the six prizes will consist of a \$20,000 fellowship to be used by the author for converting the dissertation into an electronic monograph of the highest quality to be published by Columbia University Press.

A panel of distinguished scholars will judge the dissertations primarily on their scholarly merits. One prize will be reserved for a dissertation or first-book manuscript by an independent, public, or part-time scholar--that is, a historian who does not have full-time employment in an institution that supports research. The other five prizes will go to dissertations defended between January 1, 2001 and August 15, 2004. The dissertations must be in English and should have been defended at a university in the United States or Canada. A dissertation (in English) defended at a university not located in the United States or Canada will also be eligible if the author is a member of the AHA. Gutenberg-e is a prize competition aimed at encouraging the electronic publication of the best history dissertations. Originally launched in 1999, the program is made possible

with a generous grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. **The deadline for submissions is 1 September 2004.**

For more information and competition guidelines, please go to <http://www.historians.org/prizes/gutenberg>.

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission

(NHPRC) offers two types of grants for those interested in historical documentation and preservation. **Deadlines: 1 June and 1 October.** For more information, please contact: National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), National Archives and Records Administration, 700 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Rm. 111, Washington, DC 20408; (202) 501-5610; <http://www.achives.gov/grants/index>.

CALLS FOR PAPERS, ARTICLES, AND PRESENTATIONS

The program committee for the **American Society for Environmental History** invites panel, paper, and poster proposals for its March 2005 meeting in Houston, Texas. Proposals may address any area of environmental history, but in keeping with the conference themes the committee specifically solicits submissions examining the implications of energy across space and through time.

The committee supports approaches ranging from the transnational to the personal, from policy to politics, and we encourage proposals by anthropologists, ecologists,

economists, geographers, and sociologists. Panels that integrate disparate geographic areas or disciplinary approaches will be particularly favored. By seeking interdisciplinary conversations about energy, we hope to cast new light on this subject. However, the committee strongly recommends proposals for complete panels. Individual papers are welcome, but they are more difficult to accommodate. To maximize the number of papers yet maintain opportunities for creative exchanges among panelists and the audience, the committee also requests that panel proposals be limited either to three papers and a discussant or four papers and no comment. Participants can only present one formal paper, but they may also engage in roundtable, chairing, or commenting duties.

To submit a proposal go to <http://www.hnet.org/~environ/ASEH/conferences.html> Download the ASEH registration form from the website, follow the instructions at the top of the form, save the proposal in rtf format, and send it as an email attachment to aseh2005@sfu.ca.

The deadline for submissions is 1 July 2004.

On 19-21 May 2005, the **Business History Conference** (BHC) will host its annual meeting in Minneapolis. The theme for the conference is "Re-invention and Renewal." Throughout history, firms, industries, regions and nations have demonstrated remarkable capacities to transform prevailing business practices

and reorient economic activities. On another level, the region surrounding Minneapolis has renewed itself by refocusing from flour and cereal to high tech. The program committee invites proposals aimed at elucidating all aspects of such phenomena. Potential presenters may submit proposals either for individual papers or for entire panels. Individual paper proposals should include a one-page abstract and a one-page curriculum vitae. Each panel proposal should include a cover letter stating the rationale for a session, a one-page abstract and author's vitae for each proposed paper (up to three), and a list of preferred chairs and commentators. The conference features several programs of special interest to graduate students and recent Ph.D.s. These include the Kross dissertation prize competition, the Kerr prize for the best final paper presented by a recent Ph.D. candidate or recent Ph.D., dissertation-in-progress sessions and a day-long Dissertation Colloquium preceding the conference.

Deadline for paper proposals: 1 October 2004. Please send all proposals to Roger Horowitz, secretary-treasurer, Business History Conference, P.O. Box 3660, Wilmington, DE 19807; (302) 658-2400; fax (302) 655-3188; rh@udel.edu.

Collections: A Journal for Museum and Archives Professionals is a new, multi-disciplinary journal for all aspects of handling, preserving, researching, and

organizing collections. Edited by Hugh Genoways of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Collections will be both academic and practical. Practitioners will be able to turn to the journal for the most up-to-date research in collections management. In its pages, they will find both professional guidance and theoretical grounding, drawn from fields such as life science, art history, anthropology, history, conservation, law, museum studies, and library science.

Two issues of *Collections* will appear in 2004. In subsequent years, issues will appear quarterly, in February, May, August, and November. We are currently accepting submissions for the 2004 volume; publication begins in August 2004. For manuscript submissions and information, please contact Hugh Genoways at hgenoways1@unl.edu.

The Gulf South Historical Association will hold its twenty-third annual conference on October 7-9 2004 in Pensacola Beach, Florida at the Hilton Garden Inn. They welcome proposals for papers, panels, roundtables, performances, and workshops exploring all aspects of history and cultures of the Gulf Shore and Caribbean Basin. **Proposals will be accepted if postmarked by the deadline of 30 July 2004.**

To submit an individual paper, send a brief C.V., title of the paper and short abstract. Panel organizers (three or more presenters, a chair and commentator, or a chair/commentator) must submit a C.V., paper title and short abstract for each

participant. Send proposals to Dr. Bradley Bond, President, Gulf South Historical Association, 118 College Dr., Box 5024, University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, MS, 39406. Phone: (601) 226-6321; email: Bradley.Bond@usm.edu.

The Pioneer America Society will hold its 36th annual conference in Newtown, Pennsylvania on 21-23 October 2004. The theme for this year's conference is, "The Cultural Landscape of Southeastern Pennsylvania." Committee members are currently soliciting proposals for papers, special sessions, and panel discussions relating to the conference theme; however, papers on all material culture topics of interest to the Society are welcome. **Deadline for abstracts: 2 August 2004.** Contact: David Kimmerly, 1137 Park Avenue, Lansdale, PA 19446; (215) 361-0272; email kimmerly@comcast.net.

The Latrobe Chapter of the **Society of Architectural Historians** is seeking papers for the conference, "Washington Builds for War: Defense, the Homefront, and Security in the Capital Region" to be held 5-6 March 2005 at the University of Maryland, College Park. Papers should relate to the impact of domestic and international conflicts on the built environment of the nation's capital and the surrounding areas of Maryland and Virginia. We encourage papers on all aspects of war-related construction. Please send a 350-word abstract of a 20-minute paper, and a C.V. **Deadline: 2 August 2004.**

Contact: Lisa Pfueller Davidson, Latrobe Chapter, SAU Symposium, 3907 Madison Street, Hyattsville, MD 20781; lisa_davidson@nps.gov; (202) 354-2179.

To commemorate the 30th anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War, the **University of Newcastle's (Australia) Research Group for War, Society, and Culture** will be hosting a conference on 14-15 April 2005. Keynote speakers will be Professor James Westheider (University of Cincinnati-Clermont College) author of *Fighting on Two Fronts: African Americans and the Vietnam War*, and Dr. Peter Stanley, Principal Historian at the Australian War Memorial. The conference theme is designed to attract papers from across a range of disciplinary and thematic areas, and we welcome paper or panel proposals dealing with any aspect of the themes of "Memories, Legacies, and Echoes" as they pertain to the Vietnam War. **Proposals (200 words) should be submitted by 29 October 2004.** For further information contact: Dr. Chris Dixon, School of Liberal Arts, The University of Newcastle, Callaghan, NSW 2308, Australia (chris.dixon@newcastle.edu.au) or Dr. Nathalie Nguyen, School of Language and Media, The University of Newcastle, Callaghan, NSW 2308, Australia (Nathalie.nguyen@newcastle.edu.au).

"War in Film, Television, and History," an interdisciplinary conference, seeks papers and panels for a meeting in the

Dallas area, 11-14 November 2004. The Film and History League gathering will be joined by the Literature/Film Association. **Deadline: 30 July 2004.** Full details on location, registration, etc. can be found on the website: <http://www.filmandhistory.org>.

CONFERENCES AND LECTURE SERIES

The Atomic Heritage Foundation, with the Los Alamos Historical Society, Los Alamos National Laboratory and other partners, is presenting a two-day event on "Oppenheimer and the Manhattan Project" in Los Alamos on 25-26 June 2004. The program will commemorate the centennial of J. Robert Oppenheimer and recognize the progress made in preserving some of the important Manhattan Project properties at Los Alamos. Security restrictions permitting, on Friday, June 25, we plan to offer "behind the fence" tours of some of the Manhattan Project properties that will be restored with a Save America's Treasures grant. On Friday afternoon, there will be a dedication of Oppenheimer's home in Los Alamos followed by a reception and dinner at the historic Fuller Lodge, once the center for Manhattan Project social life.

More information, visit the web site www.atomicheritage.org.

In July 2004 the **Organization of American Historians**, in conjunction with Georgia State University Department of History and the Georgia Association of Historians, will host its second regional

conference. Its aim is to serve anew its members at community and four-year colleges and high schools, and those employed in government, museums, and the private sector as well as in major universities. The conference also seeks to encourage persons who will soon serve in these diverse capacities--graduate students--to get involved in professional activities early in their careers. The regional conference will be held in Atlanta, Georgia, on the campus of Georgia State University, July 8-11, 2004. The meeting takes as its special charge a desire to reach members and other historians and graduate students who find it difficult to attend the national meeting held in the spring each year. Atlanta is a convenient, central location in the Southeast and the conference benefits from the relatively inexpensive lodging and services offered by Georgia State University. Considerable attention will be devoted to professional development and the practice of history both in classrooms and in public settings in the South. **Deadline for preregistration is 17 June 2004.**

2004 Oral History Association Annual Meeting Portland, Oregon September 29 - October 3, 2004
 "Telling Stories: Narratives of Our Own Times" "Telling Stories", the conference theme, invokes both the practice of oral history and the unique ability of oral history to capture stories that are especially revealing and meaningful. The present historical moment lends an especial urgency to this call. War in Iraq, the attacks on the

World Trade Center, the Seattle protests over the World Trade Organization--the enormity and significance of these events, and many others, urge us to record and interpret the "narratives of our own times", not only the cataclysmic events at the turn of the twenty-first century, but also the sweep of the twentieth century that lies within living memory. While recent events suggest histories of conflict, change and rupture, the practice of oral history offers the possibility of bridging differences, finding commonalities, and tracing continuity. Turning lives into stories can help individuals and communities negotiate wrenching social and economic changes and undermine hierarchies of power and dominance. We are eager for presenters to help set an agenda for the myriad of stories of our times that need to be recorded and suggest new ways of preserving and disseminating them.

The conference will be held at the Hilton Portland and Executive Tower, a first-class hotel located nine miles from Portland International Airport.

For more information please visit our website at: http://www.dickinson.edu/oha/org_am.html The full program will be available for review mid-June.

INTERNET

An extraordinary look into the lives of a Union soldier and his family is now available online in "A Civil War Soldier in the

Wild Cat Regiment." The new presentation can be accessed from the **American Memory Web site of the Library of Congress** at <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/terhtml/>.

This presentation documents the Civil War experience of Captain Tilton C. Reynolds, a member of the 105th Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers, also known as the Wild Cat Regiment. The correspondence, photographs and other materials from the Tilton C. Reynolds Papers span the years of the Civil War (1861-1865). Transcriptions of 46 of the most significant letters are also available. The selected letters lend insight into the wartime dynamics of the Reynolds family, and their words reveal how family members in Reynolds' regiment looked after him, announced his capture and gave advice. The letters also describe the daily life of a Union soldier, touching on such topics as food, clothing, shelter, health and punishment. Soldiers' feelings, views on slavery and the election of 1864, as well as Reynolds' account of seeing President and Mrs. Lincoln can all be found in this collection.

H-NET announces a new listserv, **H-1960s**, which will provide a forum for discussion of the history, politics, society, culture, and legacy of the 1960s. The list will also publish reviews of recent books of scholarly interest. For more information, visit <http://www.h-net.org/~h-1960s/>

JOB AND POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Cultural Resource Consulting Group (CRCG), an archaeology and historic preservation consulting firm now in its 20th year of operation, continues to grow and to seek talented, motivated individuals to join a great team of archaeologists, architectural historians, architectural conservators, and historians working on a diverse range of interesting projects throughout the Northeast U.S. We are currently accepting applications for the permanent, full-time position of Senior Historian. The position of Senior Historian is a hands-on position that reports directly to CRCG's Director of Archaeology. Salary is dependent upon experience. The position of Senior Historian at CRCG requires that candidates possess research experience applicable to the fields of Cultural Resource Management (CRM), Archaeology and Historic Preservation. Responsibilities include working with CRCG project teams to complete historical research -- including researching land-use history; collecting oral histories on historic properties; use of deeds, census data (population and agricultural), tax records, and historical maps -- and writing historic context and site-specific histories. Extensive use of state and local libraries -- including online resources -- is essential. Some travel may be required, generally in the northeast US.

Minimum qualifications include a graduate degree in American history, history, or historic preservation; five to ten years of full-time professional experience; experience in the CRM industry preferred; demonstrated ability to carry research to completion; full-time experience at a supervisory level in historical research and report writing; excellent interpersonal and verbal/written communication skills. Candidates must meet the 36 CFR 61 Professional Qualifications for History. Expertise in American history with specific knowledge of the Middle Atlantic/Northeast region is a plus.

This job opening is for CRCG's office in Highland Park, NJ, located across the Raritan River from New Brunswick and Rutgers University. Highland Park is approximately one hour's distance from New York City and Philadelphia, and there are major train lines within one mile of our office and major highways nearby making travel to our office easy and direct.

Qualified applicants are asked to submit their resume, references, salary requirements, and a writing sample by email to crcghr@crcg.net, with "Sr Historian" in the subject line of the email. Please, no phone calls. **The deadline for application is 1 July 2004.**

For more information about CRCG and the services we provide, visit our Web site at www.crcg.net.

GAP Solutions Museum Archivist:

GAP Solutions is an 8(a) government contractor, currently seeking three Museum Archivists for an exciting opportunity in Boston, Massachusetts. Candidates should have demonstrated experience in: professional training in archives management and advanced knowledge and understanding of archival theory, principles, ethics, methods, techniques, automated information systems and their applications to a variety of archival and library situations; knowledge of preservation standards, procedures and techniques for archival and museum materials; knowledge of historical research techniques; professional knowledge of policies, standards, guidelines and management principles established by the NPS and the archival and museum profession to govern the management and development of archival collections; knowledge of computerized cataloging and database management standards, issues and techniques - specifically, knowledge of the Automated National Catalog System Plus (ANCS+), Microsoft Access, Excel and Word; understanding of disciplines represented in the park collections, especially naval and maritime history as documented in architectural drawings, photographs, shipyard records, ledgers, logs, and notebooks; knowledge of Naval Shipyard materials and related subject matter materials in other NPS and non-NPS archival collections in order to ensure complete coverage of significant archival resources during processing.

No Deadline Given. Company: GAP Solutions, Inc.
Contact: Christi Fadely
Email: cfadely@gapsi.com
Fax: (703) 921-5039 AA/EOE.

Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC), an employee-owned corporation, invites applications for the position of Historian. The successful candidate will provide historical support to a variety of government clients. Duties will include developing project plans, conducting archival research and oral history interviews, writing historical studies in response to client requirements, and assisting with short-term and quick turn-around analytical tasks. Ideal candidates will have strong academic and administrative skills, to include a record of publication and the ability to operate independently.

Requirements: Applicant must possess a Ph.D. or Master's degree in History (ABD considered). Preferred areas of specialization include Military History, United States History, History of Technology/Science, Business History, Diplomatic History. Other fields considered. Candidate must possess or be eligible to obtain a U.S. Government Secret and/or Top Secret security clearance (must be a U.S. citizen able to pass criminal background and security investigation). Must be familiar with office productivity and publishing software, such as Microsoft Word. Must possess excellent oral and written communication skills. The position will be based in McLean, Virginia. Travel and fieldwork are anticipated.

SAIC is an equal opportunity employer. Salary based on qualifications and experience. Full benefits package included. Position contingent on funding.

Application Information:

Submit cover letter, C.V., and names of three references to: Roy McCullough, 1710 SAIC Drive, M/S 3-8-3, McLean, VA 22102. E-mail: roy.l.mccullough@saic.com. Note: Telephone calls will NOT be accepted at this stage of the job search. **No Deadline Given.**

University of San Francisco - Associate Director of Research, Chinese-Western Cultural History

The Ricci Institute of the Center for the Pacific Rim at the University of San Francisco is seeking a scholar whose discipline and field of specialization are focused on Chinese-Western cultural contacts especially in the Ming and Qing periods, ideally through the vector of Christians in general and the Jesuits in particular; with demonstrable background in European and Chinese history in related periods. The scholar should possess extensive familiarity with existing archival, bibliographical, and other sources in this field. The primary responsibility of the incumbent is to propose and implement the annual research agenda, do research and publish, and participate in designated research projects.

Applicants should hold a doctoral degree in a related field with a minimum of three-year (five preferred) research experience with publication record in the above subject matter. They should possess excellent communication skills

in written and spoken English with experience in a diverse, multi-cultural and multi-lingual environment; and proficiency in Chinese and at least one major European language (plus Latin preferred). Editorial experience in English language publications is preferable. Experience with on-line database management and tools will be a major plus.

Letters of application or nomination, accompanied by a current curriculum vitae and three references OR three letters of recommendation.

Search Committee
c/o Dr. Xiaoxin Wu
Ricci Institute for Chinese-Western Cultural History
University of San Francisco
21 2130 Fulton Street, CA
94117-1080
E-mail: wu@usfca.edu
Phone: (415) 422-6401
Fax: (415) 422-2291
Website:
<http://www.usfca.edu/ricci/>

Structural Historian Position – West Virginia Division of Highways.

Our historic staff works closely with our staff archaeologists. We are a part of the Environmental Section, which has a total of 19 professionals. Base salary begins in the upper 20s, depending on experience. When necessary, expect overtime at time-and-a-half. Overtime usually results from same-day travel to visit project sites. We cover the entire state from Charleston. Medical insurance. You can chose from an HMO or an indemnity plan. Training in NEPA, Federal Highway Administration, and Section 106 compliance procedures. Continuing professional development

includes schools, seminars, annual meetings, etc. Educational reimbursement. Fourteen paid holidays or more, depending on elections and other factors. Fifteen days paid vacation to start. Retirement plan contribution.

Duties include but are not limited to: Reconnaissance surveys for bridge replacement and small highway projects; Coordination with consultants, state and Federal agencies, and other DOH offices on major transportation projects at various stages of development; Coordination with consultants on significance evaluations too involved for in-house capability; National Register eligibility recommendations; Report writing.

Qualifications: Master's degree in architectural history, historic preservation, or closely related field; Two years of full-time (or full-time equivalent) experience in historic preservation or as an historian involved in National Register evaluations. The official position description is available at <http://www.state.wv.us/admin/personnel/clascomp/specs/9542.htm>

Desirable traits: Ability to work cooperatively with others in a team concept is essential. Good communication skills, particularly the ability to write clearly and concisely. Ability to make decisions. A sense of perspective, adaptability, and flexibility in a fluid environment.

Other selection factors: Knowledge of West Virginia or Appalachian history a plus. Working knowledge of 106 procedures a plus.

Location: West Virginia perennially has the highest rate of home ownership and the lowest crime rate in the nation. The position is in Charleston, WV, the center of a metropolitan area with about 200,000 people. Charleston has a decent social life, a moderate cost of living, and hospitable people. We have concerts by national performers in all genres of music. We have our own symphony orchestra, chamber music ensembles, theater, and dance companies. The Vandalia Festival is three days of old-time mountain music, by real old-time musicians. Charleston has professional baseball (a Class A farm team), and you can get all the outdoor life you need on whitewater rivers, wilderness areas, and ski slopes in the surrounding country. Charleston is within a comfortable day's drive of much of the Mid-Atlantic, Mid-West, and Southeast.

Send your resume to Ben Hark, Head of Environmental Section:
Email: bhark@dot.state.wv.us
Fax: 304-558-7296
or mail to:
Engineering Division,
Environmental Section
WV Division of Highways
Capitol Complex
Building 5, Room 450
Charleston, WV 25305-0430
Voice: 304-558-2885

NEWS NOTES

The files of Carter administration National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski and his staff have now been fully arranged at the **Jimmy Carter Library**. A folder title list for the 775 feet of material was made available to researchers on 1 July 2003. A very small percentage of the approximately 1.5 million pages are currently available for research. Declassification activity continues and should be very productive during the next decade. Potential researchers are encouraged to visit the Jimmy Carter Library website: <http://www.jimmycarterlibrary.org>.

Capping a long battle to save Section 4(f), the strongest legislative protection for historic places, Richard Moe, president of the **National Trust for Historic Preservation**, announced that an agreement had been reached between the Trust and the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials. With the help of Senator George V. Voinovich (R-OH) and the Ohio Department of Transportation, an amendment has been developed that would streamline preservation reviews of transportation projects while continuing to protect historic places.

The 1966 Department of Transportation Act included Section 4(f) to require transportation officials to

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Bulletin

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give paramount consideration to the protection of historic properties in planning their projects. This amendment would ensure that Section 4(f) works effectively to avoid potential harm to historic properties, while encouraging transportation officials and historic preservation agencies to work together to reduce bureaucratic paperwork for projects with truly minimal impacts on historic places. The amendment would not apply to transportation projects that adversely affect historic places and would leave fully intact the strong standards of protection for historic places that transportation law presently provides. The foundation for this agreement was laid in during a major transportation and historic preservation conference in Lexington, Kentucky in June of 2002.

Since becoming law in 1966 Section 4(f) has stopped plans for highways that would have severed the Mississippi riverfront from the historic French Quarter of New Orleans, devastated Overton Park in Memphis, Tennessee, and protected countless other historic places and neighborhoods from being bulldozed. The law enabled citizens in Baltimore to persuade officials to build a tunnel under Baltimore harbor instead of a massive bridge that would have loomed above Fort McHenry, birthplace of our national anthem, destroying thousands of homes throughout the area.

PUBLICATIONS

The editors of "The Houston Review of History and Culture" and the Center for Public History at the University of Houston are pleased to announce the publication of *The (new) Houston Review*. The first issue was released January 2004.

In the journal format published by the Houston Library Board from 1978 through the late 1990s, the original Houston Review presented articles about the city's history. Much of the detail we know about the evolution of Houston first came to light in these articles. When tighter budgets forced the library to suspend publication of the journal in the late 1990s, the Center for Public History at the University of Houston stepped in, giving this important outlet for Houston's history a new home.

Each issue will be an anthology of sorts, presenting a group of essays on a general topic. This first issue focuses on women throughout Houston's history.

We encourage our readers to suggest topics for future issues and to participate in bringing these issues to publication. For subscription rates and to receive *The Houston Review of History and Culture*, please contact Christine Womack, Business Manager, at cmwomack@uh.edu or visit our new website at www.class.uh.edu/thehoustonreview. All other inquiries can be directed to the Editor, Dr. Joseph Pratt, at JoePratt@uh.edu.



CALL FOR ANNUAL MEETING SITE PROPOSALS

The National Council on Public History seeks site proposals for its annual meetings beginning in the year 2007.

Proposals should include the following information:

- A statement of why the site is appropriate for the NCPH annual meeting.
- Information regarding support from local individuals, institutions, and agencies that could work together to plan a successful conference. Letters of intent would strengthen the proposal.
- Potential arrangements for meeting facilities, hotels, and transportation, with approximate costs.
- Proposed dates for the meeting, generally between 15 March and 1 May.
- Any other details that might strengthen the proposal.

Since the NCPH Board of Directors considers proposals at its spring and fall meetings, a representative or representatives of the host institution(s) should plan to present and discuss the site proposal.

For more information, contact the NCPH Executive Offices at 317.274.2716 or by email: nph@iupui.edu

Send completed proposals to:

NCPH Executive Offices

IUPUI

425 University Boulevard – Cavanaugh 327
Indianapolis, Indiana 46202-5140

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425 University Blvd
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