

1994

Preservation Eastern Newsletter, March-April 1994

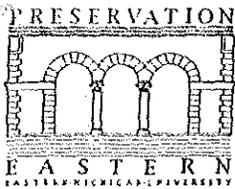
Preservation Eastern
Eastern Michigan University

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Preservation Eastern Newsletter

March / April 1994

Meeting Updates:

Notes from regular meetings on February 28 and March 14, 1994

The fourth meeting of the semester was held on February 28 with about 12 people in attendance. Major topics of discussion included:

- Windmill Project: Kerry Adams gave an update on the potential of Preservation Eastern's involvement with documenting and offering informational support for a windmill in Okemos, Michigan. A letter had been sent to the board at Cobblestone Farm offering Preservation Eastern's assistance in documentation. Since then, Michigan State University had been contacted separately for its involvement in the project. Some sort of cooperative documentation effort between MSU and Preservation Eastern was discussed. Overall, the project and its goals are still very much up in the air. Contact Kerry for more details at 485-2755.
- New York State Trip: Kimber VanRy reported that about 20 people were signed up to go on the trip to the Genesee Valley in New York on March 25-27. Kimber handed out maps, brochures and information sheets. Anyone still needing information on the trip should call him at 485-2987.
- Greenfield Village Building Move: Mike Houser, who works at the Henry Ford Museum/Greenfield Village, told the group that plans were being made by the Dearborn Historical Society to purchase and move a small structure off museum property and onto some other Dearborn site. Mike thought that Preservation Eastern might be able to assist or at least observe the project. For more information, call Mike at 483-1186.
- "Toledo's Old West End": As the meeting's program, Scott Jacob gave a slide lecture on the spectacular collection of architectural history in the Old West End Historic District in Toledo. The area was platted in 1866 and subsequently developed from the 1870s to 1930s. The district's eclecticism of 12 styles was demonstrated through slides depicting demolished structures, surviving restored buildings and some successful adaptive use projects.

The fifth meeting of the semester was held on March 14 with 5 people in attendance. The small turnout allowed for some informal discussion, including the following:

- Windmill Project: Kerry Adams gave a short update of the windmill project. Former student Mary Culver had found a book by Lindsay Baker entitled *A Field Guide to American Windmills* with the Okemos windmill pictured in it. The windmill was built by Rork Manufacturing Co. in Lansing sometime between 1890s-1920s. This would place the Okemos windmill well outside the time frame of Cobblestone Farm.
- Towner House: Lisa Lussier updated the group on the status of Ypsilanti's ongoing saga of the Towner House. Lisa said the *Ypsilanti Press* had reported that the appeal by the Presbyterian Church to the State Historic Preservation Review Board had resulted in a denial for demolition. The church now has the option to appeal to Circuit Court.
- "Genesee's Treasured Architectural Past": In preparation for the trip to New York's Genesee Valley, Kimber VanRy brought a video walking tour of Genesee, a National Landmark Village the tour will be visiting. The video displayed Genesee's wide representation of 19th and early 20th century styles. A discussion afterward brought out the importance of local education of the public in preserving a community's character.
- End of Semester Party: Antone with suggestions on a location for our semester-end party should call Kerry Adams.

=> Next Preservation Eastern Meeting on Monday, April 4 at 7 pm in 239 Strong Hall <=

Ypsilanti - What's in a name, anyhow?

By now, every self-respecting preservation student should know that Ypsilanti was named after a hero of the Greek war of independence, Demetrius Ypsilanti. The same era of "Greek Mania" which left the city with its name is credited with the Greek Revival buildings that dot the local streets and countryside. As with all things, Americans often had trouble translating the original Greek names and styles into practical everyday use. The name Ypsilanti itself became a stumbling block for those using the United States postal system. Charles Chapman and Company's 1881 *History of Washtenaw County* recounted a whole list of misspellings of the city's name which have made for a great deal of confusion at the regional post offices over the years. They are presented here again for your amusement.

Yplanthropi	Epsolynny	Hypisalianty	ipsalantie	Ipsileindi	Epiclantia	ipsloty
Yulomtee	Ypseylantia	Eplonsey	I Pis-lanta	Yps-i Landtine	Upsylanti	Ibcelandie
Gypsslante	I ppslanty	Epoilante	Ippsalanta	Epiclanti	Clypsalanta	I bseliny
Eipsly-Lanty	Upslantei	Ypt-zy-luntia	Hypslenti	Ipelontia	Hypsilantean	Hypsilanthen
E Ypealuntia	eypssillianty	Ipsillanti	Ypslnaty	Ieplantice	Eyspialanti	Yipshulanty
Wipsilanti	Ihaelantie	Ypsyllanti	Apsalanta	Iepclunta	I seland	A Bsa Lanty
Lipsilantic	Ypisyvania	Ebsalanda	Hipsalantie	Cyselantio	Ipsiluntun	Isepylantia
Ipsylanta	Eybylandy	W. Y. Pslantay	Ippssalantia	IPseylunty	Fypistantia	Hipslyanty
Wyphsorlantier						

Preservation Eastern - On the Road to NY

Genesee Valley tour is just around the corner

Preservation Eastern's long-awaited trip to New York State's historic Genesee Valley on March 25-27 is just about a week away, and some 20 students and faculty are set to go for this exciting weekend. Tour highlights will include National Register-listed homes, a National Landmark Village, a Trappist monastery, cobblestone buildings, a canal inn and some of the most beautiful landscapes Western New York has to offer. Much of the group will be guests of Preservation Eastern President Kimber VanRy at his home in the hamlet of Piffard, New York. About a half-dozen other travellers will be lodging in local historic bed and breakfasts. Several Genesee Valley newspapers have been notified of the trip, so the presence of Preservation Eastern is sure to catch some local attention. The people and organizations that are opening their doors to us are anxious to share their experiences and learn something from the group. For last chance information, contact Kimber at 485-2987.

New Instructor Next Fall Will Expand Scope of Historic Preservation Program

The Historic Preservation Program at EMU is unique in the wide variety of courses it is able to offer through its use of specialized adjunct instructors. This coming Fall semester, the program will be benefiting from the arrival of Nancy Bryck as its newest adjunct instructor. Ms. Bryck is currently the head curator at the Edison Institute, otherwise known as the Henry Ford Museum, and will be teaching a graduate course in American Material Culture (GEO 541). She will also be offering an Introduction to Curatorship in the Winter semester. The availability of Ms. Bryck's expertise through these additional courses will allow the program to expand its scope into new areas dealing with the philosophy of examining cultural artifacts and the practical management of historic resources.

More Internships

Since last month's newsletter, there's been some additions to the internship listings posted on the bulletin board across from Marshall and Ted's offices. There's still some time left to meet the deadlines on a lot of great opportunities for the spring and summer months.

Here are a couple of late entries in the internship race.

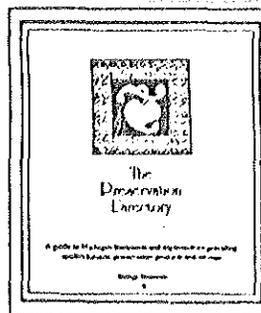
- Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation
- Ella Sharp Museum
- Historic Landmark Foundation of Indiana
- St. Paul, Minnesota Heritage Preservation Commission

1994 Preservation Eastern Officers

Kimber VanRy, President	485-2987
Scott Jacob, Activities	572-7767
Kerry Adams, Publicity	485-2755
Mark St. John, Treasurer	482-1508
Ted Ligibel, Adviser	487-0232

Preservation Eastern is an officially recognized campus organization of EMU, sponsored by faculty of the Geography and Geology Department. Our goal is to promote preservation awareness among the campus community, and to assist in the efforts of local groups engaged in preservation activities. All interested parties are invited to attend the meetings, which are held bi-weekly.

SPECIAL OFFER from Preservation Eastern



The
Preservation
Directory

A Guide to Michigan Businesses and Organizations Providing Quality Historic Preservation Products and Services

An Indispensable Resource for Preservation Students and Professionals

only \$9⁰⁰ (regularly \$13.95)

Contact any Preservation Eastern Officer or Ted Ligibel to get your copy.

A Collection of Conferences

The Spring and Summer months are fast upon us, leading us to visions of lazy afternoons with less work cluttering our slightly relaxed schedules. But just because school may be out for most of us, that doesn't mean that vacations can't be combined with learning something too. This is why conferences were invented, and this is why the next couple of months are clogged with them. Conferences offer one of the best opportunities to make new contacts and broaden your horizons through interaction with preservationists from around the state, region and country. Here's a list of some of the more important upcoming conferences.

- **National Trust for Historic Preservation Midwest Conference** (Indianapolis, IN - April 28-30)

This important Midwestern regional conference will focus on issues such as neighborhood conservation and development, rural development, heritage areas and cultural landscapes. For more information contact the National Trust for Historic Preservation Midwest Regional Office, 53 West Jackson Blvd., Suite 1135, Chicago, IL 60604, (312) 939-5547.

- **National Town Meeting on Main Street** (Tampa, FL - May 1-4, 1994)

The conference will focus on revitalizing America's Main Streets through the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Main Street Program. For more information or to register for the conference, contact Linda Harper, National Trust for Historic Preservation, 1785 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20036, (202) 673-4092.

- **Michigan Preservation Network Conference** (Bloomfield Hills, MI - May 6-7, 1994)

Michigan's annual statewide preservation conference is being held this year at the historic Cranbrook Academy, featuring architecture by Eliel Saarinen and Albert Kahn. For more information or to register for the conference contact the Michigan Historic Preservation Network, P.O. Box 398, Clarkston, MI 48347, (313) 625-8181.

- **Michigan One-Room Schoolhouse Association, 2nd Annual Conference** (Ionia, MI - May 13, 1994)

The Historical Society of Michigan is sponsoring this one-day conference dealing with issues confronting one-room schoolhouses. Discussions will include topics relating to restoration and preservation, heritage interpretation, research and documentation, and adaptive use. Our own fellow student Lloyd Baldwin is coordinating the conference, so contact him for more information or to register at the Historical Society of Michigan, 2117 Washtenaw Ave., Ann Arbor, MI 48104, (313) 769-1828.

- **48th National Preservation Conference** (Boston, MA - October 26-30, 1994)

The National Trust for Historic Preservation's big conference may seem a long way off, but people should start planning ahead to attend this most important of weekends. At the conference in St. Louis last year, everyone was impressed with the turnout from EMU, and one student even landed a job. This year's conference focus will be "The Economics of Livable Communities: The Role of Historic Preservation." The events include over 40 educational sessions, discussion groups, mobile workshops and tours of the historic Boston area, plus plenty of time to interact and socialize with preservationists from all over the country. For more information or to register for the conference contact Preservation Conferences, National Trust for Historic Preservation, 1785 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20036, (202) 673-4092.

Another important item to remember is that scholarships are available from the National Trust for those who want to attend the conference in Boston. The forms are posted on the preservation bulletin board in Strong Hall. Several students from the program have received scholarships in the past, so everyone is encouraged to apply. The application deadline is June 15, 1994.

"A PresHERvationist's Work is Never Done" Celebrate Women's History Month with preservation

March is Women's History Month, and historic preservation owes much of its beginnings and continuous success on the contributions of women. After all, it was Anne Pamela Cunningham and the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association that took George Washington's home and turned it into the first house museum in the country. Their actions in 1859 set the standard for preservation and house museum management for the entire nation.

Another important event in the history of women's role in the movement occurs later this summer at the first national conference focused solely on women in preservation. "Reclaiming Women's History Through Historic Preservation" is the theme of the conference to be held June 17-19, 1994 at Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA (outside Philadelphia). Discussions will include such topics as women and vernacular design, women in the National Park Service, interpretation of women's history, ethnic women's history, women and archaeology, and women's landmarks. The conference will also include an awards ceremony, exhibitor's space and a tour of women's historical sites. A brochure detailing all the conference events is posted on the preservation bulletin board in Strong Hall. For more information contact Womens Way/Preservation Conference, P.O. Box 53454, Philadelphia, PA 19105-3454, (215) 527-4470 or (609) 231-1885.

• Upcoming Events •

Mills Along the Huron River Lecture

The Washtenaw County Historical Society is sponsoring a lecture by Marshall McLennan entitled "Mills Along the Huron River in Washtenaw County" on March 20 at 2 pm at the Ladies Literary Club (218 North Washington, Ypsilanti). Contact Marshall at 487-0232 for more information.

Geography and Geology Department Honor Awards

The EMU Geography and Geology Department Honor Awards will be held at historic Starkweather Hall from 3-5 pm on Monday, March 21. All are encouraged to attend and recognize the outstanding achievements fellow students.

Friends of Pease Meeting

Those who are interested in the progress of the restoration of EMU's historic Pease Auditorium are invited to attend the next meeting of the Friends of Pease on Monday, March 21 at 4 pm in 205 Welch Hall. Updates on the restoration, fundraising and other activities will be discussed.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation's Midwest Flood Response Program

Evan Lafer, a soon to be graduating student in the preservation program, will return to EMU on Wednesday, March 30 at 7 pm in 241 Strong Hall to speak about his work with the National Trust's Flood Response Program. Evan's slide lecture will focus on Clarksville, Missouri, a typical community facing some difficult realities in the wake of last year's midwestern floods. This will also be a great opportunity to speak with Evan about what his experience has been like working for the National Trust. Contact Ted at 487-0232 for more details.

Adaptive Use Tour of Detroit

Ted Ligibel's Adaptive Use class (GHP 680) will be touring a number of sites in Detroit on Friday, April 1. Scheduled stops include the mixed adaptation at Stroh River Place and lunch at Fishbones in Greektown. Those interested in going should meet at the rear of Strong Hall at 9:30 am to coordinate rides. Contact Ted at 487-0232 for more information.

Lost Ann Arbor Lecture

The Washtenaw County Historical Society is sponsoring a lecture by Wystan Stevens entitled "Lost Ann Arbor" on Sunday, April 17 at 2pm. More more information, call 996-3008.

Heritage Tourism in Ohio's Maumee River Valley

Members of Ted Ligibel's Historic Preservation and Tourism class (GHP 591) will be presenting their final reports on heritage tourism in the towns of Grand Rapids, Providence and Waterville on Wednesday, April 20 at 8 pm in 241 Strong Hall. Anyone interested in heritage tourism, heritage corridors or Maumee Valley history is encouraged to attend the class.

Membership Counts! Join Preservation Eastern

Why join Preservation Eastern? Well, it's the best way to keep up on historic preservation activities both within the department and throughout the area. We're planning speakers, activities, events and trips for the upcoming year, so join now and keep informed with our new monthly newsletter which will be mailed to all current members. Dues are only \$5 per year, and your membership and involvement will insure future growth and success in the organization. For more information, contact treasurer Mark St. John or any other officer.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Program of Study: _____

Enclose a check or money order for \$5, and mail to:

**Preservation
Eastern**

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Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197