From the Editor

The Officers of Preservation Eastern (PE) welcome you as the Historic Preservation Program enters its 21st year here at EMU. The Program is nationally and internationally recognized as a leader in historic preservation studies and the largest program of its kind in the United States. Preservation Eastern, a student-run organization, welcomes you and encourages your participation in our tradition of excellence.

Greetings from the Prez

This is the opening issue of a new volume of Preservation Eastern. In this column, I am supposed to impart all the wisdom of a second year grad student onto all of those that are making the Historic Preservation program a "home". Grandiose, I realize. Foolish, absolutely. So instead, accept my welcome, and to those that are returning, welcome back.

Here is a quick overview of what the officers and I have come up with as far as activities for the year. As always, we are open to suggestions, although sometimes reality steps in before we book passage for the month-long European Architectural Excursion. And be forewarned—not everything that takes place in PE is well planned. Pay attention to the bulletin boards and to the ever-frequent special announcements in class.

The Speaker's Series opens up on September 18th with Rob McKay. As those of you who took part in the Fayette Field School remember, he is the State Historic Architect, (and is quite a character around a campfire). Ruth Mills and I gave him free reign over his topic, so the most I can say is that it should prove interesting. This meeting will be at Guild Hall, McKenny Union from 4:30-5:30 PM (done in time for class.)

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Trip to the Windy City: Sept. 29th - Oct. 1

A group from Preservation Eastern will leaving for Chicago on Friday morning, September 29th and touring sites throughout the city. The carpool will return on Sunday, October 1st in the afternoon. Accommodations will be provided downtown and single and group rooms are still available. The group plans on visiting the National Trust's Midwest Office to meet EMU Historic Preservation Alumni and receive an office tour. Other site visits include the Chicago Museum of Art and the Lakefront. Of course a trip to Chicago wouldn't be complete without a couple of nights on the town on Friday and Saturday. Other destinations are scheduled as well. You still have time to register! Call Ruth Mills at (810) 794-9609 or Dr. Ligibel at (734) 487-0232 for more info. Even if you can't make the whole trip, an itinerary is available so you can follow along when you get there.
How to Research Historic Photographs

Historic Preservation often requires research in locating historic photographs of a structure, object, or area to distinguish architectural elements, past alterations, or simply placement on the cultural landscape. For historical accuracy, it is not enough to simply locate the existence of a structure at a specific location using maps, land records and past building surveys. Having worked with the photographic collection of the State Archives of Michigan the past three summers, I have compiled the following suggestions.

Larger Michigan archives are not the best beginning search for historic views of specific Michigan buildings or cities. It is often stated that historic preservation must happen locally; the same is true with research. Local historical societies, museums, or organizations can possess a wealth of historic photos and assistance. Libraries, city halls, and even churches often have historical records and photographs pertaining to local history. It is true that less populated areas would not hold as much potential and larger archives must be sought out, but a good rule of thumb is to begin locally before proceeding further. Locating a residential structure, especially rural, would be unrealistic in larger regional archives unless it is of high architectural quality or cultural significance.

The State Archives of Michigan has 400,000 images in the General Collection arranged by subject folders; "Town and City Scenes" are (cont. on pg. 3)

Speaker Series Dates

Robbert McKay, the State Historical Architect, kicked-off the 2000-2001 Preservation Eastern Speaker Series on September 18 in Guild Hall at the McKenny Union. The topic was "Politics and Preservation: Theory vs. Reality". Those attending got to ask questions and become better acquainted with a man reputable for his expertise in assessing historic architecture. If you feel like you're missing the opportunity to attend presentations representing the top professionals in historic preservation, you've still got a chance. There are six remaining Speaker Series dates remaining this school year. Don't miss out. Preservation Eastern is very grateful for the time Mr. McKay lent to the program. His knowledge and insight helped students and members gain a new perspective on historic structures.

Integrity + Criteria = Eligibility: A Brief Reminder

An Architectural Historian often has to determine whether a structure is Eligible for the National Register. When reviewing a building, it is important to first remember that the building must possess integrity. Secondly it must also: A.) Be associated with a historic event or B.) Be associated with a historic person or C.) Embody distinctive architecture or D.) Will reveal or is likely reveal historic information. While this is largely defined in "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation", by the National Trust, page two lists the components of integrity. This is often the difficult part for Architectural Historians. Integrity must be present when evaluating the building. While there are many interpretations of how each component of integrity is presented, it must be found in ALL of the following forms:

-Location -Design
-Setting -Materials
-Workmanship -Feeling
-Association

Regardless of its historic relevance, the building is INELIGIBLE for the National Register if it fails to provide ALL of the above.

-Rob Linn
Historic Photographs (continued)

alphabetical by location with views of downtown areas. In all archives, some images must also remain with donor collections or vertical files. If you are after a specific building, there is a slim chance it could exist in the "Building-Exteriors" folders indexed by myself this summer. A county courthouse, hotel, or other such classification may also be in other relevant photographic folders. Private collections are another possibility. It is a good idea to inquire if an archive contains any private donation or collections from the area you are seeking. For example, a variety of University of Michigan alumni have donated their personal collections to the Bentley Historical Library in Ann Arbor with historical residential images from across the state. Subject association with certain areas is another possible route. When looking for old industrial buildings in Grand Rapids it would make sense to check folder titles such as "Industry-Furniture". Usually, more images of the downtown area of Marquette can be found under shipping and mining rather than the city itself. These tips are mostly from my experience with the State Archives of Michigan. Other larger Michigan archives may have library catalogs available online that can be searched by subject and, more importantly, key word. A list of archival holdings in Michigan can be found at http://www2.h-net.msu.edu/-maa/archives.html. I also recommend the Historic Sites Online run by Michigan SHPO at: http://www.sos.state.mi.us/history/preserve/michsite/index.html. One final thought, pre-Civil War photographs of downtown areas and Michigan locations are non-existent. Images may exist in the form of a bird's-eye view maps and drawings.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES
-2000 National Trust Conference
   October 31-November 5, 2000
   Los Angeles, CA
   1-800-944-NTHP for more info.
-2000 NCPE National Conference
   Nat'l. Council for Preservation Education
   October 2000 (ask Ted for details).

"Over 20 new Graduate Students have enrolled in the Historic Preservation Program this year"
-Dr. Ted Ligibel

Letter From the Prez (continued)

We have a few trips planned already. Of first importance is a trip to Chicago September 29th to October 1st. There are plenty of things to see and an opportunity to visit with the National Trust's Midwest Office. Please see Ruth on this as soon as possible. We have rooms reserved, but they are limited. And what would fall be without a Fall Color Tour? It looks like a trip to Marshall is being planned to view its unique architecture in October. See the sign-up sheet on the Historic Preservation board (outside of the Geo./Geology Office).

It also appears that some work is being accomplished on the brochure for a Walking Tour of EMU. More information about this will be coming in the next newsletter.

This is enough for now. I wish I could be as profound as my office dictates, yet that is impossible. Apparently, my mind is still on vacation from the recent strike so there won't be any spectacular quotation for everyone to clip and hang onto for eternity. Accept my apologies (on the upside, my sarcasm never left!).

Don't miss the next Preservation Eastern meeting to be held on October 2nd at 4:30 PM in Rackham Hall.

-Tonya Weaver

Preservation Eastern Officers

Tonya Weaver, President
Dan LeBlond, Assistant Director
Julie Courtney, Business Mgr.
Ruth Mills, Public Relations Officer
Rob Linn, Newsletter Editor

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Why join Preservation Eastern? Well, it's the best way to keep up on historic preservation activities within the department and throughout the area. Dues are only $10 annually, and your membership and involvement will insure future growth and success in the organization.

ATTENTION ALUMNI: Even if you're not interested in joining PE, please update us on your present whereabouts. Upcoming information relating to alumni events will be forthcoming. Thanks!

NAME __________________________________________ DATE ____________________________

ADDRESS ___________________________________________ CITY ___________________________ STATE __________

ZIP __________________ PHONE __________________ E-MAIL __________________________

PROGRAM/GRADUATION YEAR ______________ NEW MEMBER ______ ALUMNI ______

Return this application and your $10 check to Preservation Eastern, EMU Dept. of Geography/Geology, Historic Preservation Program, Strong Hall, Ypsilanti, MI 48197.