

2003

Preservation Eastern, February 2003

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PRESERVATION EASTERN

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Special points of interest:

- PE Speaker series Friday, Feb. 21 at 8:00pm in King Hall (EMU Campus)
- EMU Grad Fair - March 24 in McKinney Union (EMU Campus)
- Telephone registration is no longer available - see page 2 for more details
- May 2 is the PE end of year party - come and celebrate another fantastic year in historic preservation! *More details to come in the next PE Newsletter*

RETHINKING OUR ROLE

By: Rick Rockwell

I recently ran into an old friend who I went to school with while we were getting our Bachelor's in History. He had taken a break from school, and the last time we had spoken to one another, he was going to get his teacher's certificate, and I was going to get my Master's in Construction Management. I had been working construction while getting my Bachelor's, and just couldn't shake the feeling I got from working with my hands.

Two years later I have switched programs and so had he. Except now we are merely in the same building, but miles away from one another in philosophy. He told me he was getting his masters in Planning as we walked out of a Rural Planning and Preservation class. The class was the first of the semester, and Rocky had asked the class in the introduction who were Preservationists and who were Planners. I had refrained from answering for a couple reasons.

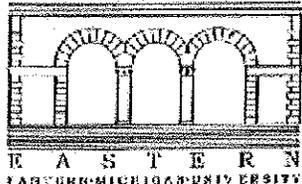
The first I knew quite simply. I was not officially in the Preservation Program yet. And second, there was always something about calling myself a Preservationist that bothered me. It was the look the other person revealed but tried to conceal. That knowing look of "oh, you're one of those..." It was too restrictive and definitive for my tastes. But there was something more. There was the elitist characterization that so many people outside of the field assume you too possess by definition or association. I know.

I thought the same thing once as a residential builder working in Historic Districts, terms like "Hysterical Preservationists" were commonly overheard in meetings. And here I was in a class being asked if I was of one camp or the other. And I didn't feel comfortable claiming allegiance to either. Rocky asked what I was. "What am I?" I asked myself.

"Neither," I responded, and said no more. But I wasn't happy with that answer. He looked at me, and said, "OK, honest answer." Well, I'm not so sure. After class I walked with my old friend, and a classmate of his. They smiled and said, "Yeah, those Preservationists. They're different, aren't they." "How so?" I asked. "Well, you know..." And it was at that moment in the conversation that I put my finger on the crux of the issue for me. *I am a Preservationist.* But I cannot assume the position on the debate that is common to assume. The idea that I am supposed to *educate* people on how they do not see the importance of Preservation is not a role that I can accept whole heartedly. It is what I hear in class, again and again, and every time I hear it, I cringe.

Continued on page 8

PRESERVATION



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Congratulations to Rev. Dr.(and EMU HP student) Lottie Jones Hood on the opening of the New "Old First" Congregational Church of Detroit conference center and heritage education resource center.

Visit the home of the Underground Railroad Living Museum located in the church. Call (313) 831-4080 for pricing, tour dates and times.

S.P.O.O.M, S.W.E.A.T, AND ANTIQUE APPLES

By: Steve Stier

Like most everyone else, my first class in the Historic Preservation Program was "Intro" (Introduction To Historic Preservation). Nearly ten years ago, I presented a paper along with classmate Kirk Bunke with the title you see above. SPOOM and SWEAT are acronyms for Society for the Preservation Of Old Mills, and Society for Workers In Early American Trades; Antique Apples is a reference to once flourishing historic apple types that are nearly extinct today, but being revived by people devoted to their preservation.

Being a bit of a rebel even then, I wanted to make the point that Historic Preservation is not just about buildings and museum artifacts. It is also about the human skills and knowledge, and the context that produced the buildings and artifacts in the first place. Many organizations like "SWEAT" and "SPOOM" do the work of researching and preserving the actual skills and knowledge needed for sensitive and accurate preservation practices and meaningful interpretation of our historical cultural resources.

The challenge to students and practitioners of historic preservation is not only preserve, but also accurately interpret historic material culture. To do this we must pay more attention to acquiring historic knowledge and skills. While knowledge can, to some degree, be preserved in print, the skill; the ability to manipulate tools and materials to produce a product can only be preserved by individuals who study, practice, gain experience and proficiency.

I believe that well-rounded Historic Preservationists must recognize the importance of preserving historic skills. In recognizing this, EMU's Historic Preservation Program has taken significant steps to offer historic skill learning opportunities linking historic materials, methods and tools, with the historic human skills and general context that have produced the buildings and other artifacts that are in our stewardship to preserve and interpret.

The HP Program has begun to make Historic Preservation Technology a fourth area of concentration, along with Planning, Administration and

Interpretation. A concentration on preservation technology should be based equally on the original technology involved in the production of buildings and artifacts and the current and future "modern" technology. Only with a working understanding of this duality can future preservationists knowledgeable and sensitively make informed preservation decisions.

The Fayette Field School was begun in 1999 as a partnership between the EMU/HP Program and the State Historic Preservation Office. Since its beginning, the field school experience is unanimously thought to be an essential part of EMU/HP training. It produces insight to historic building context, and a hands on introduction to historic building skills.

Success of these initiatives depend on student recognition of need and support through the extra effort in participating in non-classroom settings. Recognition of valuable learning opportunities outside EMU/HP classrooms was apparent early on. Program co-founder Dr. Marshall McLennan often

...continued on page 8

NOTES...NOTES...NOTES...

- ⇒ REMINDER: Beginning in March, all registration will be handled online. In order to be able to register for classes, you will need to activate your new my.emich account with the university. If you haven't already done so and you need advice see Dr. Ligibel or call the Help Desk at 487-2120. **Telephone registration is no longer available!**
- ⇒ Spring, Summer and Fall term schedule books will be available shortly.
- ⇒ Volunteers are needed to work at the upcoming *Michigan Historic Preservation Network* annual meeting in Kalamazoo. You will be able to enjoy reduced fees for the conference if you can donate some time. The conference dates are April 23 to 26. Please see Dr. Ligibel for further details.
- ⇒ The *Bay View Internships* will once again be available this summer to two students this year at this unique National Historic Landmark near Petoskey, Michigan. You will receive a stipend as well as room and board. Please see Dr. Ligibel for details.
- ⇒ Those students who participated in the survey of Sylvania, Ohio last year will be happy to learn that the final report was submitted to Sylvania City Council on January 22, 2003. Dr. Ligibel has copies in his office, so please stop by and take a look at how all your hard work turned out. The graphic is an 1875 image of the Lathrop House that we still are fighting to save.

TED'S CORNER

Business & Finance Building/Old Alexander Hall

Many of you have expressed concern to me over the recent loss of the Business & Finance Building which stood at the corner of Perrin and Cross Streets since the 1939.

Here are some facts about the building and its demolition earlier this month:

- it was designed by Ralph Gerganoff, prominent architect of Ypsilanti, who designed almost all of the campus buildings in the 1930s, 40s, and 50s, and who was the architect of the Art Moderne Washtenaw County Courthouse in Ann Arbor;
- the building was designed as an entrance-way to the campus with the neighborhood in mind;
- it was erected during President John M. Munson's tenure (1931-1948);
- it was originally named the Health Center and was the first student health center on campus;
- it was in the Art Deco style of architecture, but was not the best example on campus, King or Rackham Halls being more complete and finer detailed Art Deco models
- the building was not included in the National Register historic district and was not individually listed (only Pease Auditorium is separately listed);
- it was erected as a Public Works effort during the Great Depression;
- it is my understanding that all of the furniture that remained in the building was demolished with the building;
- I do not know if the WPA construction plaques were salvaged although we asked that they be saved if the building was demolished;
- we were not notified of the demolition;
- the last I heard from Physical Plant was that the whole project was being re-evaluated;
- we encouraged the university to consider reuse of the original front portion as potential commercial/retail space while utilizing the area behind for the parking garage;
- the building will be replaced by a small parking garage and lot

Lisa Jacobs and Dan LeBlond included this building in their walking tour of campus buildings and have amassed a substantial amount of information about the edifice.

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SPRING and SUMMER 2003 TERMS

There will be several options for you to pursue this spring and summer:

- The **Fayette Field School (GHPR 636: Historic Preservation Field Project)** will be offered again this year. Prior to going to Fayette there will be three sessions held here on June 5th, 10th, and 12th; these likely will be held on campus though one session may be held off campus. The on-site portion of the course at Fayette will be offered in two one-week sessions from June 15th to the 21st and from June 22nd to the 28th. You may opt to attend on either Week I or Week II or you can choose to attend both weeks. Each week will be dedicated to different building issues. Final details will be available in March, but I wanted you to have the dates for planning purposes.
- The Traverse City class (**GEOG 695; Seminar in Regional Preservation Issues**) will be offered from August 9th through the 16th in Traverse City. We will spend the week addressing real preservation issues and will become heavily involved in at least one of these issues. Again, final details will be forthcoming in March and through the Schedule books.
- Other options could include either the History 123 or 124 prerequisites, both of which always are offered in the spring/summer terms. This may also be a good time to sign up for any Independent Studies, Internships, or Final Preservation Projects that you have been contemplating. As always, please see your advisors to be sure.

Did you know that the Business and Finance Building was originally the Health Center and EMU's first student health center on campus?

AT A GLANCE...

By Lisa Lynde

ACORN studies its African-American roots In Richmond, Virginia, ACORN (The Alliance to Conserve Old Richmond Neighborhoods) is planning to undertake an extensive survey of structures where African Americans "lived, worked, played and worshiped". By undertaking such an extensive survey, ACORN hopes to help educate residents about the contributions African Americans made to Richmond, thereby working to preserve these buildings that are an integral part of Richmond's cultural fabric and architectural legacy.
<http://www.richmondneighborhoods.org/>

The Last Green Valley— That what a 1080 square mile area that encompasses north eastern Connecticut and parts of Massachusetts is called. The 35 town area, already designated a National Heritage Corridor, has been nominated as one of the nation's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places. Why is it at risk? A number of factors have contributed to this area's plight, but the main reason is loss of open space. Single family housing development, farmers forced out of business and the state budget crises have been the main ingredients in the areas land loss. The Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor, Inc. hopes the designation will help to improve funding allowing the group to better protect this areas cultural and historical qualities.
<http://www.norwichbulletin.com/>

Bloomington's and Preservation? One would never expect to hear those two words together in a sentence, but that's exactly what's happening. In Chicago, the historic Medinah Temple, long vacant, has been renovated to house Bloomington's total home furnishings superstore. With their Michigan Avenue department store just nine blocks away, the 140,000 square foot venture is considered risky, but Bloomington's feels confident it is a risk worth taking. While the interior of the building will be largely gutted to house the new store, the renovation project will include the restoration of some 250 stained glass windows and the recreation of the temple's missing 10,000 pound onion domes, which originally were on the front corners of the temple. The dome's stainless steel cladding will be covered in copper. Inside they have restored the plaster proscenium arch that surrounded the large stage. The stage is gone, but the proscenium can be seen from several stories of the store. Is this a trend for the upscale department store? Perhaps. They have also just started work on renovating an elaborate cast-iron fronted historic building in Manhattan.
<http://www.nytimes.com>

Wal-Mart kills store in under 4 months Republic, Mississippi, population 8,400 now has one less grocery store. Rodney Turner, owner of an IGA, closed up shop after 15 years of business. When news of the development for the Wal-Mart Supercenter reached him, he was determined to remain open. How long did that last? Just under 4 months. Unable to compete with the superstore, he was forced to close his doors. Wal-Mart's partner in crime? The city paid \$550,000 for infrastructure improvements to the new Wal-Mart location.
<http://www.sprawl-busters.com>

Is Preservation Passé? In Seattle, preservationists are starting to think that's the public's impression. Walt Crowley, director of History-Link says "The advocacy network we used to have in the 'good old days' of the 1960s and early '70s, when we were saving Pike Place Market, for instance, has shrunk rather dramatically." All these noteworthy successes, combined with the creation of an official city Landmarks Preservation Board, has lulled citizens into thinking "someone else" will take care of it. And now three important historic landmarks are threatened. As preservation advocate Heather MacIntosh stated, "Seattleites have shown they're interested in historic preservation. And they've proved they'll act to prevent a crisis. The worry always is that they won't act without one."
<http://www.seattleweekly.com>

World Legacy Award Winners! Conservation International and National Geographic Traveler announced the first winners of the World Legacy Awards. The new awards focuses on "on environmental responsibility and respecting cultural heritage in the tourism industry." They are the only awards to enlist the services of scientific, anthropological and tourism professionals. One winner was named in each category — Nature Travel, Heritage Tourism, and Destination Stewardship. And the winners are....

Nature Travel Award, for contributions to the conservation of natural areas, was awarded to Wilderness Safaris based in South Africa. The group manages more than 2.5 million acres of African habitat, works with local communities to promote economic growth, provides tourist intensive instruction on conservation and sustainable management, and offers 1,000 underprivileged African children and weeklong safari each year.

Heritage Tourism Award, for contributions to cultural heritage and diversity, was award to ATG Oxford for their work in Italy. The tour company won for its work in Italy, where they use ancient pilgrimage and farming paths as the basis for walking tours. This has given rural agrarian villages increased business, especially during the usual off-season.

Destination Stewardship Award, for protecting the overall natural and cultural heritage of a destination, was awarded to the REST Project (Responsible Ecological Social Tours Project) for its work in the Phuket region of Thailand's Koh Yao Noi island. They have worked with communities to reduce the negative impact of tourism and increasing income for local families through home-stay programs.

<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/>

Historic Preservation Books Available at Hale Library (EMU)

Author	Title
Aiken, Charles S.	Cotton Plantation South Since the Civil War
Andrews	Michigan in Literature
Ashworth	Great Lakes Journey: A New Look at America's Freshwater Coast
Avery, Julie A.	Agricultural Fairs in America
Baker, John Milnes	American House Styles: A Concise Guide
Beasecker	Michigan in the Novel, 1816 - 1996
Blake, Peter	Master Builders
Blum	Brewed in Detroit: Breweries and Beers Since 1830
Brooks, H. Allen	Prairie School" Frank Lloyd Wright and His Midwest Contemporaries
Buttenwieser, Ann L.	Manhattan Water-Bound: Manhattan's Waterfront from the Seventeenth Century to the Present
Chant, Colin	Pre-Industrialist Cities and Technology
Chant, Colin	Pre-Industrialist Reader Cities and Technology
Colten, Craig E.	Transforming New Orleans and Its Environs: Centuries of Change
Cutter, Susan L.	Exploration, Conservation, Preservation: A Geographic Perspective on Natural Resource Use
Davies, Mike	Late Victorian Holocausts: El Nino fanines and the Making of the Third World
de Wit, Wim	Louis Sullivan: The Function of Ornament
Dunnigan	Frontier Metropolis: Picturing Early Detroit, 1701 - 1838
Fiedman, Donald	Investigation of Buildings
Fitch, James M.	Historic Preservation: Curatorial Management of the Built World
Freyfogle, Eric T.	New Agrarianism: Land, Culture, and the Community of Life
Friedman, Donald	Historical Building Construction: Design, Materials and Technology
Garvin, James L.	Building History of Northern New England
Gayle, Margot and Gayle, Carol	Cast-Iron Architecture in America: The Significance of James Bogardus
Glassie, Henry	Vernacular Architecture
Hitchcock, Henry Russell and Philip Johnson	International Style
IAHPC	Landmark and Historic District Designation
Jordan, Tery G.	Texas Log Buildings
Loewen, James W.	Lies Across America: What Our Historic Sites Get Wrong
Lounsbury, Carl B.	An Illustrated Glossary of Early Southern Architecture Landscape
Mackay, Robert B., Anthony K. Baker, Carol A. Traynor	Long Island Country Houses and their Architects, 1860 - 1940
Manson, Philip P. (ed.)	Schoolcraft's Ojibiwa Lodge Stories

Historic Preservation Books Available at Hale Library (EMU)

Author	Title
Mongk, Peter H.	LaNouvelle France: The Makings of French Canada - A Cultural History
Nieuwenhuir, Paul	Death of Motoring? Car Making and Automobility in the 21st Century
Noyes, Stanley	Comanches in the New West, 1895 - 1908 (Historic Photographs)
Peaceful, Leonard (ed.)	A Geography of Ohio
Pearson, Michael	Imagined Places: Journeys into Literary America
Poremba	Detroit in It's World Setting: A Three Hundred Year Chronology, 1701 - 2001
Raitz, Karl (ed.)	Guide to the National Road
Rees, Ronald	Interior Landscapes: Gardens and the Domestic Environment
Rubenstein, Bruce A.	Michigan: A History of the Great Lakes State
Russell, Sharman	Kill the Cowboy: A Battle of Mythology in the New West
Salny, Stephen M.	Country Houses of David Adler
Salvadori, Mario	Why Buildings Stand Up: The Strength of Architecture
Schimmelman, Janice	Architectural Books in Early America
Scott, Geoffrey	Architecture of Humanism: A Study in the History of Taste
Shelton	Huron: The Seasons of a Great Lake
Sitton, Thad	Nameless Towns
Smith, J. Robert	Prairie Garden
Summerson, John	Heavenly Mansions and Other Essays on Architecture
Thirsk, Joan	English Rural Landscapes
Thompson	Graveyards of the Lakes
Thompson	Steamboats and Sailors of the Great Lakes
Viglia, Franca	Hard Places: Reading the Landscapes of America's Historic Mining Districts
Watkin, David	English Architecture
Wolicki, Dale Patrick	Historic Architecture of Bay City, Michigan
Wood, Joseph Sutherland	New England Village
	Videos: Windows (An Educational Video)
	Residential Architecural Styles in Illinois: An Educational Video

R.I.P. 1939 - 2003

Business and Finance Building

Historic Name(s):

Health Building (1939-61),
Frederick Alexander Music Building
(1961-84),
Business and Finance (1984-present)

Date constructed: 1939

Architect: R. S. Gerganoff of Ypsilanti

Style of Architecture: PWA Moderne

Original Use: Health service building

Dates of renovation: Renovated in 1961
to become the music building

Current Use: Financial Services.

History: During the mid-1930s through the early 1940s, President John M. Munson sponsored a wide variety of building projects on campus, including four dormitories, a new field house, and a the new Health Building. Built at a cost of \$60,000, the new health center was intended to insure the good health of students.

Glenadine Snow, who had worked at the college since 1915, took charge of the newly built college health center when it opened in 1939. The new health center had accommodations for ten bed-patients, as well as offices and outpatient rooms. The first student to receive aid was Irving Hooper who suffered a dislocated shoulder. According to the student newspaper however, some forty students sought medical attention at the new hospital in order to see the new amenities. One student arrived out of breath one night with a broken arm but without his trousers. The stalwart health center workers braced his arm, but do not appear to have offered him further clothing. Charity did not extend so far.

The college health center moved to the new Snow Health Center in 1959. In 1961 the Health Building changed its name to the Frederick Alexander Music Building. During remodeling, workers installed practice rooms, teaching rooms, and studios for the music. In 1984 the name changed to Business and Finance Building because of confusion with the new Alexander Music Building built between 1978-80.

For the present, the building houses payroll and other important financial resources for the university. In the near future, however, it is scheduled for demolition. In its place the university will build a new and much needed parking deck. Nevertheless, it is sad to think that the school will have to give up such an important reminder of the university's concern for student health and welfare.



SPEAKER SERIES

By: Lisa Jacobs

Preservation Eastern has a long tradition of an active and enthusiastic speaker series. The club invites members of the historic preservation field to come and speak to us about a wide range of topics. This year, Preservation Eastern has scheduled its speaker series at 8:00 Friday nights and has enjoyed an excellent turn-out.

In October, Rebecca Savage, of the Art Deco Society of Detroit, took Historic Preservation students and alumni on an Art Deco tour of Detroit and southeast Michigan. During her slide presentation in the Art Deco lounge of King Hall, Ms. Savage introduced her audience not only to Art Deco classics like the Guardian

Building and the Penobscot Building but also took them to street-level to see Streamline service stations and Moderne houses. Historic Preservation Alumni sponsored the even and provided a delicious selection of baked goodies, including blondies, lemon squares, and cheese and other, sweets.

Our November lecture took us to the Plymouth Historical Society. Elizabeth Kestens, a genealogist and head of the Plymouth archives, introduced students to the possibilities of databases as a method for organizing the copious research involved in genealogy or in historic building research. Following the presentation, Dan LeBlond, HP alumni

and president of the Plymouth Historical Society, gave students a guided tour of the museum exhibits.

This semester, Preservation Eastern hopes to sponsor field trips as well as speakers. On February 21, the alumni present Barbara Kreeger who will present her work as a stained glass preservationist in historic King Hall Lounge. In March, we plan to tour the Pequette factory, Henry Ford's first plant. When the weather gets warmer in April, Preservation Eastern will tour the preservation efforts at historic Fort Wayne in Detroit. We look forward to seeing you all at these events. Watch the bulletin boards and the Yahoo group for more information.

Don't forget the next PE speaker series is Feb 21 at King Hall (EMU) at 8:00pm.

Come and hear Barbara Krieger's presentation on "Stained Glass Preservation".

HENRY FORD ESTATE - FAIR LANE

By: Kathy Keefer

Become a volunteer tour guide at the Henry Ford Estate -- Fair Lane and gain valuable training in the art of interpretation while working with a group of people dedicated to telling the personal story of Henry and Clara Ford. For over 30 years Fair Lane was Henry and Clara's beloved home. The estate complex, built along the Rouge River in Dearborn during 1914 and 1915, contains a 56-room mansion, innovative powerhouse, and extensive gardens. The internationally renowned landscape architect, Jens Jensen, designed the Estate's grounds. Fair Lane was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1966 by the National Park Service. Tourists come from all over the world to visit Fair Lane and gain insight into the life of the man who in among the 20th Century's most important persons.

Restoring and interpreting a National Historic Landmark can be a challenge. It can also be fun. Tour guides attend a 5-week training session at Fair Lane, where they are introduced to both the public and behind the scenes areas of the Estate while learning many fascinating and little known facts about the Ford family. After completing the training session, guides can chose a schedule that best fits their needs. 2003 should prove to be an especially exciting and interesting time to become involved because of the Ford Motor Company Centennial Celebration that will be taking place in the summer and the many related special events occurring at Fair Lane. Your contribution in time will be relatively small compared to the infinite rewards that volunteering at a historic house like Fair Lane can bring. Such experience looks great on a resume and it can open many doors in the preservation community. Being "on the spot" helped me obtain a valuable and interesting internship position with the Estate's Development Office -- which may, in turn, open other doors in the future.

If you are hesitant about playing the role of tour guide, there are many other volunteer opportunities available such as Gardener's (April - October), Gift Shop Attendants, Cashiers, Greeters-Special Events, and Maintenance-painting/repairs. No matter what position you choose, you can be assured that your contribution will be recognized and rewarded. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me and I will be happy to answer any questions you may have. I can be reached at my personal e-mail address -- kkeef2@aol.com or stop me if you see me on campus (Thursday evening during the Winter 2003 semester). You can also call the Henry Ford Estate -- Fair Lane directly at 313/593-5592 (ask for Carolyn) and inquire about volunteer opportunities.

Calendar of Events

February 21 8:00 pm King Hall Lounge, EMU	PE Speaker Series Presents "Stained Glass Preservation" with Barbara Krieger
March 2 - 9	EMU Winter Break
March 8 1:00 - 2:30 pm Henry Ford Estate Dearborn	Mother/Daughter Tea - Enjoy a pleasant afternoon with your Mom or Daughter in the beautiful historic setting of Henry Ford Estate. Gourmet tea and delectable menu items will be served in the Formal Dining room. Cost is \$20 per adult, \$10 per child under 12. For more information or to make a reservation, please call (313) 593-5590.
March 19, April 16 3:00 - 4:30 pm Henry Ford Estate Dearborn	High Tea - A delightful new program gives the Henry Ford Estate the opportunity to share some of the traditions of Clara Ford. Allow yourself a moment of pure pleasure as you enjoy tea and menu items including assorted tea sandwiches, scones, pastries, quiche, fruit, cheese and much more while you enjoy the architectural magnificence in the Formal Dining room. Cost is \$19 per person. For more information or to make a reservation, please call (313) 593-5590.
March 22	PE Tour - TBA
March 24	EMU Grad Fair (McKinney Union) Come and hear fellow historic preservation students!
April 5	PE Tour: Ft. Wayne in Detroit. Date and time TBA.
April 17 - 20	EMU spring break
April 24 - 26 Kalamazoo, MI	Michigan Preservation Network Annual Conference <i>The Politics of Preservation - Preservation & Public Policy</i> ***Student rates are only \$75 if you register before March 1
April 29 - 30 Chicago, IL	Section 106 Review - Introduction Workshop University of Nevada, Reno Visit www.dee.unr.edu/hrm or call (775) 784-4046
May 2 Sidetrack Restaurant, Ypsilanti	PE Year-End Party with speaker Marshall McLennan. More details to come...
May 5	EMU spring classes begin
May 5 - 11	National Preservation Week
June 5, 10 and 12	GHPR 636 - Fayette Field School Prep Sessions
June 15 - 21	GHPR 636 - Fayette Field School (Fayette, MI) Part I Contact Dr. Ligibel for more details...
June 22 - 28	GHPR 636 - Fayette Field School (Fayette, MI) Part II Contact Dr. Ligibel for more details...
August 9 - 16	GEOG 695 - Seminar in Regional Preservation Issues (Traverse City, MI) Contact Dr. Ligibel for more details...
September 17 - 20 Portland, ME	APT Annual Conference www.apr.org
September 30 - October 5 Denver, CO	National Trust for Historic Preservation Annual Conference www.nthp.org

Do you have an event you'd like to tell EMU Historic Preservation students, faculty and friends about?

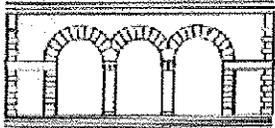
Send an email with the pertinent details to preservationeastern@yahoo.com

Don't forget to keep in touch with Preservation Eastern!

If you are a member of the Preservation Eastern Yahoo! Group, you will receive an official announcement via the email group regarding PE related events and activities.

If you are not a member of the Yahoo! Group, please send an e-mail to: "preservationeastern@yahoo.com" with your name and e-mail information and we will sign you up!

PRESERVATION



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Rethinking Our Role...continued from page 1

This past semester I did a project on Charleston, South Carolina and in doing so I read a biography of a woman named Susan Pringle Frost. A name that could easily slip through the pages of history if it were not for the fact that the Preservation movement in Charleston rests a large part of its success at the feet of this one woman. Without the right to vote or hold office and without much in the way of family influence (having lost most of their wealth in the Civil War), Frost was a crusader. She fought the casual profiteering and popularity of the day in selling everything from furniture to architectural features of Charleston's houses to the northern collectors with cash in hand.

In the face of economic, political and social adversity, with no legal or economic basis to act, Frost raised money (millions in fact), pushed through legislation to save buildings one at a time, and halted the export of Charleston's treasures.

Eventually her actions would lead directly to the development of the first Historic District in America. She didn't do this with *education or enlightenment* at the forefront of her mind. She went about this crusade with passion and conviction that the other parties involved were shortsighted at best or worse, greedy. She *fought* developers and profiteers in the court of law and public opinion. They disagreed with her. And they did not change their minds at some later date with the benefit of hindsight and newly acquired wisdom.

Rightfully so, she saw it as a *fight*. Not some opportunity to enlighten people who do not feel they have a need to be enlightened in the first place. I believe it is time to recognize that there are some minds we will not and cannot change. And today, with legal precedence and legislation in place, I do not wish to assume the role of educator to those who do not wish to be educated. I do not think we as *Preservationists* need to or should assume that we can touch people's hearts

and minds with stories of the past and their importance when they do not *care*. It smacks of condescension either real or imagined. It has acquired that characterization from opponents of preservation and marginal players alike. And the question must be asked at some point, if it is worth it to take on the task of educating or enlightening unwilling opponents. Perhaps it should be as Susan Pringle Frost saw it, a fight. A legal and intellectual battle of ideas, yes. But a fight, nonetheless.

It was disappointing to be sure that this friend of mine who studied history as I did, does not see the importance of saving the things that history has created. That he thinks it's OK to let these artifacts become pictures in history books few people are likely to read is disturbing to say the least. To think that educational enlightenment is the answer in these situations may be too idealistic in these days of economic development. *I am a Preservationist*. But I am not the kind many are used to dealing with, and it is unlikely I will ever be.

S.P.O.O.M., S.W.E.A.T and Antique Apples ...continued from page 2

approved Independent Study proposals that involved study and practice in historic skills.

Currently program director Dr Ligibel continues to endorse the value of skill learning by accepting independent learning proposals that focus on historic skills and technology.

Opportunities for learning historic skills are limited only by student's imagination and determination. Serving an unofficial apprenticeship to a traditional crafts or trades-person is

one source. Contact with organizations like SPOOM, and SWEAT is another. A well-established organization offering hands on workshops in historic skills from broom making to butchering and timber frame construction is Tillers International in Kalamazoo. Tillers can also arrange a summer internship for students who wish to learn multiple historic skills. Their 2003 workshop schedule is available by request at tiller-sox@aol.com.

I hope preserving historic knowledge and skills will become an increasingly accepted component of the his-

toric preservation curriculum. You can show your agreement by signing up for Fayette, or taking specialized courses like the History of Building Technology, Preservation Technology, and Materials Conservation, or studying, practicing and doing a paper on re-pointing historic brickwork, or taking a blacksmith workshop at Tillers.

Historic skills can only be preserved by study, extensive practice, and experience. We all must be stewards of preserving skills and knowledge as well as buildings and artifacts.