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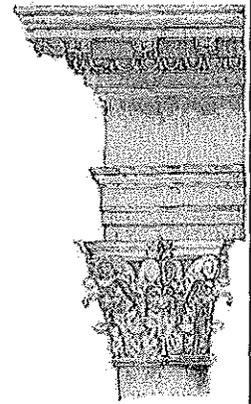
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THE POST & LINTEL

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 4

FEBRUARY 4, 2007



A WORD IN EDGEWISE

By Chris Beyer, Director of Preservation Eastern

This November, Preservation Eastern hosted an innovative new signature event for the semester. Over the summer the board decided that our focus for the school year should be helping students learn more about career options in the field of historic preservation. We set a number of objectives to help meet this goal.

One objective was to foster a close working relationship with the Historic Preservation

Alumni (HPA). We have done this by having representation at HPA board meetings, and supporting HPA programs such as An Evening Under the Stars and the Halloween Party. Another objective was to bring in guest speakers who are professionals in the field to offer career advice. As well as to host a networking event so that students would have the opportunity to interact with professional son a more intimate level.

On November 17th, PE played host to our first ever networking mixer at Weber's Inn in

Ann Arbor. Twenty-five students enjoyed an evening of drinks and hors d'oeuvres with diverse assortment of preservation professionals. In attendance were Christian Overland and Jim McCabe from The Henry Ford, Ruth Mills from Quinn Evans Architects, Susan McCabe from Fairlane, Amy Arnold from SHPO, and conservator Ron Koenig.

Thanks to everyone who attended for making the event such a success!

STEPPING UP TO THE PLATE....

By Jessica Williams, Director-Elect of Preservation Eastern

I hope this new year brings everyone nothing short of splendid conversation, exciting opportunities, blessings in disguise, and comfort in food and those around you! I am simply honored to have been elected as the future Director of Preservation Eastern and I am proud to be part of such a fine organization. I will be shadowing our current Director, Chris Beyer, through the spring semester. I look forward to learning the "inner workings" of PE and I know that my shadowing will be a

promising experience for me.

My platform for PE is to get more involved and associated with the local preservation groups at the grassroots level that surround us in our community. In addition, I would like for PE to maintain and enhance its exceptional rapport and relationship with those organizations at the state level.

As the new Director-elect of PE, I challenge all of you, to get your minds stirring for what you would like to see happen in PE during the 2007-

2008 school year. I welcome all of your thoughts, ideas, concerns, and comments. Together we can make it a stimulating and rewarding year for PE!

I wish you all health and prosperity in your endeavors in this joyful new year and I look forward to being involved with all of you and PE.

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Compiled By: *Cristin Moody*



WHEN WE
BUILD, LET US
THINK THAT
WE BUILD
FOR EVER.
-JOHN RUSKIN

The recent election saw several issues affecting historic preservation on ballots across the country. In Massachusetts, the Community Preservation Act (CPA), which is an enabling law allowing communities to raise funds for preservation and preservation-related initiatives by adding a surcharge to property taxes, passed in seven communities. This brings the total number of communities in Massachusetts participating in the program to 118.

In Virginia, a measure amending Section 6 of Article X in state constitution passed with a nearly 65% majority that may hinder preservation efforts. The Article in question gives local governments' power to offer a partial property tax exemption as an incentive for property owners to make substantial improvements to existing structures by renovat-

ing, rehabilitating, or replacing those structures. The amendment expands this provision to allow tax incentives for new structures and other improvements in conservation, redevelopment or rehabilitation areas. According to the National Trust, "Preservationists fear the amendment may inadvertently result in a greater number of demolitions within and adjacent to historic districts. APVA Preservation Virginia encouraged advocates to oppose the measure unless provisions were added to protect historic districts."

The Ypsilanti City Council voted to establish an Obsolete Properties Rehabilitation District, which covers the Thompson Building (at the east end of Depot Town at the corner of River and Cross Streets). The decision marks the first step in the impending rehabilitation of the 160 year old building. The

City will next approve an exemption certificate, which will result in the taxable value of the property being frozen at current levels for the next twelve years. After the State Tax Commission signs off on the exemption certificate, the structural rehabilitation work will begin, most likely in early 2007. Be on the lookout in early to mid-2008 for this long-awaited addition to historic Depot Town with retail on the first floor, including a restaurant, and office or residential space on the second and third floors.

NATIONAL TRUST CONFERENCE RECAP

By *Jessica Williams*

The 2006 NTHP conference came alive when thousands of preservation professionals gather for one week in "Steel City" (Pittsburgh, PA) with a vibrant message: Making Preservation Work!

"The Power of Voice" was one of the messages given during a session on 'Building Public Will for Preservation' at the 2006 NTHP conference. And that message could never have been more true. The NTHP conference was and is all about voice. In fact, it is the premiere networking event for preservation professionals in the field.

I had the honor and privilege of

attending the conference as one of the 2006 NTHP Mildred Colodny scholars and as student in the HP program at EMU. I am one of three recipients of the 2006 NTHP Mildred Colodny Scholarship, an award that is based on an extensive interview and writing an essay describing why diversity is imperative in the field of historic preservation.

While the message of voice was delivered loud and clear, the message I grasped was a quiet one...completely about listening. I listened to real-world preservation professionals brainstorm ideas that dealt with an array of preservation issues and I heard their concerns for making preservation work. In this environ-

ment, I honestly felt the connection with others around the room who were committed to fighting the same battle: making preservation work and protecting the irreplaceable.

Upon leaving the conference, I felt inspired by the enthusiasm among the conference attendees and the energy that was stimulated throughout the event. I encourage all HP students to attend a conference. The message was simple: "The Power of Voice". One voice heard can change your mind, however, listening amongst a room of preservation enthusiasts can change everything!

DR. TED'S CORNER

Welcome to winter. Its hard to believe those warm days of summer/fall are now a fading memory. Last Fall was a tumultuous term as you know. I have learned that many students and Alumni have let the EMU Administration know how important this program is to them and the community. We are the largest HP Graduate program in the nation for a reason! We are making steady progress toward having the vacant faculty position filled, and will keep you posted as soon as we have a decision as to when the position will be authorized. In the meantime, academic life goes on, and we are doing our best to meet student, Alumni, and community needs.

Also, this term we are very pleased to announce the first distributions from the *Marshall S. McLennan Fund*. We were able to support Kira Macyda and Cheryl Chidester's attendance at the Michigan Museums' Association annual conference in Flint; this was the first time our students have presented at this meeting, and their participation was very well received. Also, Brent Welsh, Wesley Thompson, and Jessica Williams, who attended the annual meeting of the National Trust for Historic Preservation in Pittsburgh, will receive support towards their registration and expenses.

CONGRATULATIONS 2006 GRADUATES!!!

I am very pleased to report that the following 2006 graduates already have received placement in full or part-time paying historic preservation positions; this is about 70% of the graduating class...and that is one reason we

are # 1.

Debra Adamcik, Devon Akmon, Alison Chalom, Cheryl Chidester, Annie Dowling, Carrie Duhl, Rick Kuss, Jennifer Mazurek, Marcia Phillips, Heidi Nielsen, Leslie Pielack, Alexis Reynolds, Jonathan Ringel, Seth Rivard, Natalie Thomas

CURRENT STUDENTS AND ALUMS SEEN AT THE NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION'S ANNUAL MEETING IN PITTSBURGH THIS FALL

Current students Brent Welsh, Wesley Thompson, and Jessica Williams were in attendance; Wesley was the recipient of one of the National trust's Diversity Scholarships. The HP program and the EMU Foundation hosted a reunion reception at historic Mitchell's Restaurant that was attended by many former students, including Amanda Apple, Rhonda Deeg, Kathy Duquette, Kirk Huffaker, Trent Margrif, Ruth Mills, Carol Mull, Frank Quinn, and several others who've slipped my mind at the moment.

CURRENT STUDENTS AND ALUMS IN THE NEWS:

Current students Dennis Caviston and Alumna Margaret Jensen were featured in an article in the *Marietta Times* about the restoration of the Colony Theater in Marietta, Ohio. The newspaper story begins, "Of all the places they could go within a day's drive of Ann Arbor, Mich., Margaret and Dennis Caviston decided to show up in Marietta..." Want the "rest of the story?" See Dr. Ted or Margaret or Dennis.

RECENT JOB PLACEMENTS and AWARDS...for current students.

Sara Jezewski was just named the DDA Director of Ionia, Michigan; (her Internship with the DDA in Hamtramck really paid great dividends).

Michelle Perry received the "Certificate of Distinctive Service" from the White House Architect for her service in locating and documenting a historic globe that will be re-placed in the Vice-President's Office in the Old Executive Office Building.

RECENT ALUMNI UPDATES

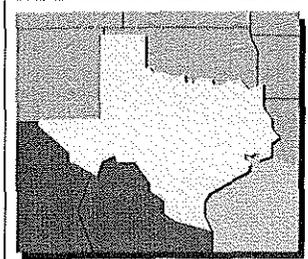
Amanda Apple '05, is the Heritage Coordinator for Queen Anne County, Maryland.

Karen Brandt '05, is the Tax Act/Section 106 Reviewer for the Virginia SHPO/Department of Historic Resources.

Sarah Krans '03 is the Registrar/Conservator for the Fort Winnebago Surgeon's Quarters in Portage, Wisconsin

Rick Kuss '05, was appointed as the NEPA Coordinator for FEMA in New Orleans in October; he is in charge of environmental and historic reviews necessary as a result of the hurricanes of last year.

Dan LeBlond '03, was appointed to fill a vacant City Council seat in Elk Rapids, MI., his new abode, in June and was just elected at the November 7th election to officially fill the seat. Congratulations Dan!!



"Perhaps we should start a Texas alumni chapter..."
-Dr. Ted

Leslie Pielack '06 has just had her book, *A Church for All Seasons*, published by the Orion Historical Society; copies are available at www.orionhistoricalsociety.org.

Alexis Reynolds '06 is working as a Cultural Resource Consultant with the Texas Department of Transportation. She joins Alums. Dan Harris, Carolyn Nelson, and Renee Benn who also work at TxDOT. And

Natalie Thomas '06 also is in Texas working as a preservation consultant for Perhaps we should start a Texas Alumni Chapter.



Preservation Eastern

PRESERVATION EASTERN'S SEMIREGULAR NEWSLETTER

205 Strong Hall
Eastern Michigan University
Ypsilanti, Mich.

CHECK US OUT ONLINE:

WWW.PRESERVATIONEASTERN.COM

Preservation Eastern is an active student organization affiliated with Eastern Michigan University's award winning graduate program in Historic Preservation. Taking part in Preservation Eastern activities allows members to gain valuable practical experience in the many different areas of the historic preservation field.

Board Members:

Chris Beyer	Director
?	Assistant Director
Ryan Schumaker	Business Officer
Allison Craddock	Communications Officer
Mollie Douglas	Public Relations Officer
Dr. Ted J. Ligibel	Faculty Advisor

Annual membership dues are fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per person. Please contact the Business Officer for more information.

TALES FROM A HISTORIC HOUSE MUSEUM

By: *Mary Bishop*

Last January I was hired as the Museum Curator at a very small historic house museum that interprets what life was like in a farmhouse during the Victorian period. Through various classes in the Historic Preservation Program I had learned about historic administration and its challenges: never having enough money, balancing the need to be authentic with today's modern codes and regulations, and the aversion of the museum's administration/volunteers to any sort of change. All things that I have now experienced firsthand. Now that I am finishing up a year at this institution, I am faced with my biggest challenge yet – the Victorian Christmas.

For some reason, setting the museum up for Christmas and all of the events that it entails intimidated me more than anything I've done yet. For one, I

had changed things from what the previous curator always did. In the past, they always had a real Christmas tree, which is authentic, but is a big no-no with the Fire Marshall. Also, they have used a kerosene lamp to light the front porch and candles in the house – also frowned upon by the Fire Marshall. So, I had to still try to keep everything authentic-looking despite using a fake Christmas tree. But even scarier was the anticipated reaction of the old-timers at the museum to these changes. The fake Christmas tree (a very good quality one I might add) went up yesterday and I am happy to report that so far there was a very minimal negative reaction to it.

Aside from all of this, I really wanted the decorations of the house and tree to be as authentic-looking as possible. This should seem fairly easy, but then there are the well-meaning

volunteers that are very intent on trying to "pretty" the house up and insist on doing things a certain way, because "that's the way we've always done it." A phrase that if I ever hear again it will be too soon.

But, I don't want to give the impression that I don't appreciate my volunteers; without them many of the things that the museum does would not be possible. And, I have to say, I was pleasantly surprised yesterday when decorating the house and tree, that everything went smoothly and the volunteers respectfully listened to my ideas. I had been awaiting reluctance to my plans, and instead everyone was very supportive. I guess after a year I'm finally getting somewhere - I've realized that I'm really enjoying myself, which is why I went into this field to begin with!

A DOCTOR CAN
BURY HIS
MISTAKES, BUT
AN ARCHITECT
CAN ONLY
ADVISE HIS
CLIENTS TO
PLANT VINES.
-FRANK LLOYD
WRIGHT