1994

Preservation Eastern Newsletter, September-October 1994

Preservation Eastern
Eastern Michigan University

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EMU to be Well-Represented at Pioneer America Society Meeting

The 1994 Pioneer America Society (PAS) Annual Meeting will be held at Spring Mill State Park in Mitchell, Indiana on November 3-5, and this year's meeting is sure to contain a number of shining moments for EMU's historic preservation program. The meeting will be full of faces familiar to many of us in the program since four former and current students and one professor will be presenting papers.

Recent graduates presenting their research to the society are Mary Culver, Susan Wineberg and Ina Hanel-Gerdenich, while current student Kimber VanHy will also be giving a paper. Mary's paper will focus on her criticism of the connected barn theories of Thomas Hubka, Susan will present her findings on early I-Houses in Ann Arbor, Ina will lecture on her research surrounding German influences on the built environment of Freedom Township, and Kimber's presentation will be on migrant landscapes of the Dust Bowl era. Historic preservation program director Marshall McLennan will be speaking on his observations of Yankee settlementscapes in southern Michigan.

The site of this year's meeting adds another degree of interest to those fascinated with vernacular landscapes and buildings. First settled in 1814, the village of Spring Mill flourished well into the 1800s. By 1892, however, the small town at the bottom of a steep-sided ravine was abandoned, bypassed by the railroad which could not dip into the deep valley and outmoded by technology that made water mills obsolete. Today the pioneer village has been reconstructed as the center of the state park. The site offers well over a dozen sites and structures, including a number of hewn log buildings, a working grist mill and pioneer cemetery.

The PAS concerns itself primarily with the scholarly study of cultural geography and vernacular landscapes and buildings. The society's journal, Material Culture, is published three times a year and features some of the premiere research in the field. Members of the society include such notables as Allen Noble and Henry Glassie, among many others, so the attendees from EMU are certain to be in good company.

Annual Historic Preservation Program Orientation Kicks Off New Semester

For the second year in a row, the EMU historic preservation program will begin the semester with an orientation and welcome on Monday, September 19 from 7 to 9 pm in the McKenny Union Alumni Room. The event will serve as a supreme opportunity for new and returning students to orient themselves for the upcoming semester. The atmosphere will also provide ample time for all those in attendance to meet and talk with old and new acquaintances alike.

The evening's events will begin with Ted Ligibel welcoming new and returning students, faculty members and adjuncts. Ted will also introduce special guests Jennifer Rodcliffe, President of the Michigan Historic Preservation Network, and Kathleen Wendler, Director of the Southwest Detroit Business Association and one of Michigan's Advisors to the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Preservation program director Marshall McLennan will offer an overview of the program at EMU, introduce the full-time and adjunct faculty involved with the program, and give a brief presentation on the Michigan SHPO and State Review Board. Andrew Nazzaro, Head of the Department of Geography and Geology, will speak about the history of EMU, its historic buildings and the department. Norm Tyler will give some comments on his new book, Issues of Historic Preservation. Finally, Preservation Eastern President Kimber VanHy will say a few words on the preservation program's student organization.

All preservation students are encouraged to attend, and refreshments will be served.
New Lifespan Learning Offerings Encourage People to 'Think' About Preservation Issues

A new EMU program called Lifespan Learning is aiming at "thinking adults" with a variety of special programs to be held in September and October at the new EMU Depot Town Center (32 East Cross Street, Ypsilanti). Two short courses being offered deal with preservation. The first is entitled "Restoring Historic Buildings" and will be taught by Tom Dodd, a local teacher and long-time Ypsilanti preservationist. The course will include a broad overview of local architectural styles, as well as information on legal and organizational aspects of restoration. Short on-site tours of a variety of local restoration projects will also be included in this course designed for anyone restoring an historic structure. The class will be held Monday nights, September 19 and 26, and October 3 and 10, from 6:30-8:30 pm.

The second course of interest to preservationists is called "The Challenge of Suburban Sprawl: Balancing Development with Preservation." Two professors from EMU's Department of Geography and Geology, Robert Ward and Gene Jaworski, will be co-teaching this class focusing on the problems associated with America's move to the suburbs. Issues in land use, rural governments, legislation and zoning will be discussed. The class will be taught Thursday evenings, September 22 and 29, and October 6 and 13, from 7:30-9:30 pm.

All Lifespan Learning courses carry a fee, but discounts may be available for preservation students. For information on potential discounts, talk to Ted Ligibel. For more information on courses and registration contact the Office of Continuing Education at (313) 487-0407.

The Class of 1994 Recent Graduates from the Historic Preservation Program

Lauren Cohen, Jan Enns, Sharon Ferrero, Ina Hanel-Gerdenich, Kirk Huffaker, Kari Kamrin, Mark Kindy, Brenda Laakso, Evan Lafer, Kelaine Mish, Chris Owen, Lyla Peruski, Gladys Saborio, Nancy Kotting-Williams and Susan Wineberg

'Building Character' to Focus on Design Review

A fall workshop entitled "Building Character: Preserving the Integrity of Historic Properties" will be held on Friday, September 30 from 8 am to 4:30 pm at The Forum in the Michigan Library and Historical Center in Lansing. The program is being presented jointly by the Michigan SHPO and the Michigan Historic Preservation Network.

The program for the day will revolve around design review and appropriate rehabilitation of historic structures, both commercial and residential. State and local level review processes will be discussed, as well as other topics such as the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation, landscapes and archaeology, additions to historic buildings and new construction in historic areas.

Registration for the workshop costs $8, and should be sent to: SHPO Fall Workshop, Bureau of Michigan History, Michigan Department of State, Lansing, MI 48918-1800. For more information call (517) 373-1630.

Preservation Eastern Plans Day Trip to Midland, MI

The semester has just begun and Preservation Eastern is already planning a day-long field trip to Midland, Michigan, on Friday, October 14. The trip will coincide with Ted Ligibel's Preservation Research Techniques class visit to Midland, though all interested preservation students are encouraged to attend. The day will begin with a late morning tour of the Alden B. Dow Studio and Home, including Dow's architectural archives. Built in the 1930s-40s, the home reflects Dow's unique style and the subtle influence Frank Lloyd Wright had on him as a student in 1933.

After a brief lunch at a vintage diner in downtown Midland, the afternoon will feature a choice of tours. Members of Ted's class will visit the Post Street Archives which houses the Dow Chemical and Dow Corning company records. The building itself is a wonderful example of a highly-specialized adaptive use of an 1870 small brick schoolhouse. For those who aren't interested in seeing the archives, a tour of the H.H. Dow Museum and the adjoining Bradley House is being offered. The museum features three reconstructed buildings telling the story of H. H. Dow's discoveries which led to the establishment of Dow Chemical. The Bradley House is an 1874 Gothic Revival cottage moved to the site in 1969.

The day will conclude with a tour of the Midland County Courthouse, including a talk about the ongoing restoration of the exterior murals which were worked on this summer by fellow students Lloyd Baldwin and Gina Lance. For more info on the day's events, contact Lloyd at (313) 916-3528 or talk to Ted.

1994 Preservation Eastern Officers

Kimber VanRy, President 481-1967
Kerry Adams, Publicity & Activities 994-2938
Mark St. John, Treasurer 482-1508
Ted Ligibel, Adviser 487-0232
Destination: Boston, Massachusetts

The National Trust for Historic Preservation’s 48th National Preservation Conference with the theme “Preservation, Economics, and Community Rebirth” will be held October 26-30 in Boston. The events include over 40 educational sessions, discussion groups, mobile workshops and tours of the historic Boston area. Featured guest speakers at this year’s conference include the likes of historian David McCullough, architect Robert Campbell, and architectural historian Vincent Scully. Perhaps most importantly, there’s plenty of time to interact and socialize with preservationists from all over the country.

At the conference last year in St. Louis, everyone was impressed by the turnout of preservation students from EMU. Former student Evan Lauer even landed a job with the National Trust’s Midwest Flood Response Program which has since blossomed into a full-time position in the Trust’s Midwest Regional Office. Anyone interested in attending the conference should be sure to attend the October 3 Preservation Eastern meeting where we will discuss sharing rides, rooms and other expenses. For more information on who’s attending the conference from EMU, contact Kimber VanRy at (313) 481-1957.

For more information or to register for the conference, contact Preservation Conferences, National Trust for Historic Preservation, 1785 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20036; phone (202) 673-4092.

Fall at Cobblestone Farm
Cobblestone Farm (2781 Packard Road, Ann Arbor) celebrates the fall season with the following special events in October:

Living History Days Sunday, October 2, 12-4 pm
Visitors will have the opportunity to view and participate in hands-on seasonal activities such as wool spinning, weaving, soap making and butter churning.

Harvest Evening Friday, October 21, 5-9 pm
This special evening event will feature harvest activities like cider pressing, preserves, straw ticking and candle dipping. Lantern tours of the grounds, as well as period music and a harvest barn dance will provide the proper 1840s atmosphere.

For more information, call (313) 994-2928.

Preservation Eastern Meeting
Monday, October 3, 1994
6:00 pm
239 Strong Hall
The first regular meeting of the semester will feature a discussion on upcoming activities and events, the National Trust Conference, and a slide presentation by Kimber VanRy entitled:

“Pennsylvania’s National Road State Heritage Park”
**Upcoming Events**

**Kathryn Eckert to Speak on Historic Buildings of Michigan**
Michigan SHPO Kathryn Eckert will be speaking in Ted Ligibel’s Preservation Research Techniques class on Tuesday, September 27 at 5:15 pm in Strong Hall. Eckert, whose book *Buildings of Michigan* was published last year as part of a comprehensive series of books examining the architecture of the United States, will be presenting her thoughts on the significance of Michigan’s rich architectural resources.

**Go Take a Walk Through History**
The Detroit Historical Society continues its 15th season of Sunday Strolls with guided tours of historic neighborhoods and sites in the city. Tours coming up include the Theater District on September 18, the Jefferson-Chalmers District on October 2 and Woodlawn Cemetery on October 9. Tickets must be ordered in advance by mail only. Ticket prices are $4 for DHS members and $8 for non-members. For more information, call (313) 833-1405.

**Restoration 95: A Preservation Products and Services Showplace**
Restoration 95, preservation’s premiere trade show, will be held on February 28-29, 1995, at the Hynes Convention Center in Boston. The show will feature exhibits of preservation products and services, panel discussions and workshops aimed at preservation professionals, antique collectors and private property owners. Previous Restoration shows have attracted hundreds of exhibitors and thousands of attendees from the U.S., Canada and around the world. For more information write to Restoration 95, RA/EGI Exhibitions, Inc., Ten Tower Office Park, Woburn, MA 01801-9916; or phone (617) 933-8744.

**National Conference Celebrates Michigan’s Iron Heritage**
“Forged From Iron: Industry, Society and Culture on the Michigan Iron Ranges” is the title of a national conference observing the sesquicentennial of the discovery of iron ore in the Lake Superior region to be held in Marquette, September 22-24. For more information, contact Thomas G. Friggins, Michigan Iron Industry Museum, 73 Forge Road, Negaunee, MI 49866; phone (906) 475-7857.

**Midwest Museums Conference**
Chicago will be the setting for the Midwest Museums Conference on November 9-12. For more information, contact the Chicago Academy of Sciences, Attn: Paul Heltne, 2001 North Clark Street, Chicago, IL 60614; or phone (312) 549-0606, ext. 2013.

**Pioneer Day at Waterloo Area Farm Museum**
The regular season comes to a close on Sunday, October 9 for the Waterloo Area Farm Museum, located at 9998 Waterloo-Munith Road in the heart of Jackson County's Waterloo Recreation Area. Pioneer Day, an annual fall harvest celebration, will celebrate the end of the busy summer-spring season from 12-5 pm at the museum which includes an 1855 brick farmhouse and several restored mid-19th-century farm outbuildings. For more information, call (617) 596-2254.

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**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 the *Preservation Eastern 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
EMU Department of Geography and Geology
Historic Preservation Program
Strong Hall
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197
Meeting Updates:
Notes from regular meetings on October 3 and October 17, 1994

The Annual Historic Preservation Program Orientation held on September 19 in the Alumni Room at McKenney Union served as Preservation Eastern's first get-together of the semester. About 50 people were in attendance, including regular and adjunct faculty, guest speakers, program alumni and current students. It was especially gratifying to see so many students who are new to the program attend the event.

The first regular meeting of the semester was held on October 3 with 18 people in attendance.
- National Trust for Historic Preservation Annual Conference: At the time of the meeting, over a dozen present and past students of the program were planning on going to Boston. A strong presence of students from EMU's historic preservation program at the Trust's conferences has continued to serve as an important connection in the historic preservation network.
- "Pennsylvania's National Road Heritage Park". As the meeting's program, Kimber VanFyly presented a slide lecture on Pennsylvania's National Road Heritage Park which he interned with this past summer. The slides depicted an introductory east-to-west tour of the road through its 90-mile run through Pennsylvania. The characteristics of the unique "pike towns" and other significant cultural resources were shown, and a brief discussion on the heritage park concept followed.

The second meeting of the semester was held on October 17 with about 10 people in attendance.
- Possible Funding Projects - A discussion was held on what to do with some of Preservation Eastern's money from dues and other income. A $500 donation to the Pease Auditorium restoration fund was considered, as was some sort of program scholarship to aid students wanting to attend conferences. It was decided that more discussion was needed at the next meeting.
- New Officers - It was brought up that new officers would be needed to serve one-year terms, beginning next semester. Possible candidates will be discussed at the next meeting.
- "Timber-framing Tools and Techniques": The meeting concluded with a program by Brett Miller, an Ann Arbor historic tool collector and old furniture restorationist, who brought in a variety of tools having to do with timber-framing. His discussion on the traditional expertise involved in hewing logs, jointing and framing was well-illustrated through hand-outs and the unique collection of rare tools he had with him.

"Documenting Michigan Architecture"

Preservation Research Techniques Class Participates in Pilot State-Wide Project

This semester Ted Lignel's Preservation Research Techniques class (GHP 591) is acting as the pilot group for a large state-wide research endeavor known as "Documenting Michigan Architecture" which is being sponsored by the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office and the Documenting Michigan Architecture Advisory Committee. The project is being directed by Tawny Ryan Nelb, an archivist and architectural records consultant involved with the Alden Dow Archives in Midland. Funding for the project is through a federal grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.

The overall goal of the project is to identify where the holdings of architectural records are in Michigan, what sorts of materials they hold, what condition they are being held in and how they can be accessed by individual researchers. Survey forms created especially for this project by Nelb are being tested by members of the class as they evaluate the collections they have each been assigned to investigate as teams. Each repository is providing different challenges to the teams which must adapt their techniques to fit the idiosyncrasies of each collection.

The five producers of architectural records the class is currently working with includes:
- the architectural firm of Smith, Hinckman and Grylls in Detroit
- the architectural firm of Harley-Ellington-Pierce-Yee Associates in Southfield
- the Physical Plant and University Archives at EMU
- the personal collection of world-famous architectural photographer Balthazar Korab in Troy
- the privately-held papers of 19th-century Detroit architect George Mason.

In order to learn about archives in general, the class has already taken field trips to the Alden Dow Archives and the Dow Chemical Post Street Archives in Midland and the Bentley Library at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

New discoveries are already being made during the course of evaluating these collections, demonstrating the wealth of knowledge they hold for future researchers from disciplines as varied as history, architectural history and historic preservation.
Restoring an Eastern Michigan Tradition at Pease Auditorium

Pease Auditorium: The Restoration

The $15.7 million restoration of EMU's Pease Auditorium, a National Register of Historic Places-listed structure, is marching right along through the help of public and private funding and support.

Begun in 1990, the project is being carried out in stages. The currently active first stage involves bringing the building up to code, the second stage will involve interior restoration, and the third phase of work will focus on the stage area and organ. The Ann Arbor firm of Quinn Evans Architects is providing the project's historically-sensitive renovation direction.

The rehabilitation of the auditorium is being funded through federal and university funds, as well as money raised by the Friends of Pease which was founded in 1989 to raise $1.2 million needed for the restoration of the building's interior. University funding in the amount of $1.8 million is being used for construction having to do with code upgrading and compliance. Significant leadership pledges have already come in from MichCon, Environmental Equality, Ford Motor Co., The Ann Arbor News, Quinn Evans Architects and First of America Bank.

Pease Auditorium: Our Role

As part of their fundraising efforts, the Friends of Pease are selling auditorium seats to donors at the rate of $2,600 for a first row patron seat, $1,000 for benefactor seats in rows two through nine, and $500 for sponsor seats in the rest of the theater. In recognition of giving to the restoration fund, the name of each donor is inscribed on a plaque attached to the seat.

Preservation Eastern has been a long-time supporter of preservation projects on EMU's campus, and Pease is no exception. Aside from general support of the project through research, Preservation Eastern members have also assisted with tours of the building during campus and community special events. Now Preservation Eastern is currently considering donating $500 for a sponsor seat. In order to meet this goal, current historic preservation program students and faculty, as well as alumni, are being encouraged to donate money to Preservation Eastern which will be put toward the purchase of a Pease Auditorium seat.

Pease Auditorium: The History

Completed in 1914, Pease Auditorium was named for Frederick H. Pease, a longtime head of Eastern Michigan University's Conservatory of Music. The neoclassical building was designed by the prominent Detroit architectural firm of Smith, Hinchman and Grylls. The structure was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1984.

Preservation Eastern Meeting

Monday, November 14, 1994
6:00 pm
239 Strong Hall

The fourth regular meeting of the semester will continue a discussion on how Preservation Eastern may soon be spending some of its money on the Pease Auditorium restoration fund or some other projects. We will also be talking about who will be running for positions as officers for next year.

These important issues need your input, and those students with ideas are urged to attend and voice their opinions.
Cooperation Between EMU and City of Toledo
Results in New Graduate Assistant Position

An agreement between the City of Toledo Department of Neighborhoods and Eastern Michigan University has resulted in the creation of a new permanent graduate assistantship in the Historic Preservation Program. The new position provides invaluable experience working with historic preservation at the local governmental level.

The idea for the position began when program alumnus Christopher Owen served as an intern with the Department of Neighborhoods last Winter semester. During his five-month internship, Chris was involved in the various stages of Section 106 review of over 200 nonprofit development proposals and applications to the City of Toledo’s federally funded programs. Projects ranged from commercial redevelopment to demolition and housing rehabilitation. As an intern, Chris reviewed work specifications for compliance with the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation, made determinations on National Register eligibility and communicated with various statewide and federal preservation organizations.

The success of the intern experience for both Chris and the City of Toledo led directly to the creation of a permanent position, the costs of which are being shared by the City and EMU. The position, like all graduate assistantships, features a tuition waiver and stipend, among other benefits. The job is presently open, and application for the position will involve the usual procedures for applying for a graduate assistantship. Obviously, applicants must be willing to travel and work in Toledo. For more information on this exciting new opportunity, talk to Ted Ligibel.

The Newsletter Needs You

The Preservation Eastern Newsletter is always looking for submissions and wants to continue its expansion. The Newsletter is now being read not only by students, but by local and statewide organizations and program alumni. If you have a condensed paper, some interesting research, a book review, a preservation related article or upcoming event you would like to see included in these pages, contact Kimber Vanity at (313) 481-1957.

Internships: The Paths to Careers in Preservation

Sure the semester has just begun, but it’s never too early to think about internships for next semester or way off next summer. Internships provide experience and a foot in the door of the preservation profession, and they can even lead directly to jobs. For more information, check out the constantly changing postings on the bulletin board across from Marshall and Ted’s offices.

Here’s an idea of what organizations are already looking for interns:

- Atlanta History Center
- National Park Service
- Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission
- Preservation Wayne
- Taliesin

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 $9.00 (regularly $13.95)

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

"Culture Is Ordinary" : National Graduate Student Conference in Cultural Studies at BGSU
A two-day national graduate student conference in cultural studies is being sponsored by the Department of American Culture Studies at Bowling Green State University on April 21-22, 1994. The conference theme is "Culture Is Ordinary" and will feature panel discussions on such topics as "Architecture and Cultural Space," "The Machine in the Garden: The Dialectical Interface of Homo sapiens and the Environment," "Postmodern American Culture: Artistic Practices in the Society of the Spectacle" and "Multiculturalism: Communicating the Concept." The keynote address will be given by Jane Caputi, Professor of American Studies at the University of New Mexico. Students wishing to present papers at the conference are encouraged to submit 250-word abstracts to: Kelly Mayle/Ward Miller/Phil Dickinson, American Culture Studies, 211 Moseley Hall, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH 43402. Abstracts should be specified for a particular panel and are due by December 16, 1994. For more information, call (419) 372-2231 or (419) 373-5719.

A Traditional Winter Holiday at Cobblestone Farm
As a grand finale to its 150th year anniversary, Cobblestone Farm (2761 Packard Road, Ann Arbor) will be celebrating the winter holiday season with a "Country Christmas" event on Sundays, December 4 and 11, 1994 from 12-3 pm. These events include traditional Caroling, period music, caroling and holiday food preparations. Special children's story telling and crafts make this an event for the entire family. Admission is $2 per person or $3 per family. For more information on this and other Cobblestone Farm events, call (313) 994-2088.

"Preserving the Recent Past" Conference to Be Held in Chicago
On March 30-April 1, 1995 the Palmer Home Hotel in Chicago will play host to a national conference focusing on the issues of preserving 20th-century buildings entitled "Preserving the Recent Past." Through seminars, tours and some 80 speakers, the conference will address such topics as what should be saved, problems unique to modern buildings, and various other practical and philosophical questions. For more information on the conference, write: Preserving the Recent Past Conference, P.O. Box 77160, Washington, DC 20013 or call (202) 343-6011.

Maumee Valley Heritage Corridor Special Events
The sites and communities along the Maumee Valley Heritage Corridor, stretching 150 miles from Toledo, Ohio to Fort Wayne, Indiana, are hosting a number of special events in the coming months. From November 9-December 31, the Wecess House Museum Complex in Maumee, Ohio will present a "Victorian Christmas by the River" through old-fashioned holiday decorations. Call (419) 893-9602 for more information. Seventy-five handcrafted wreaths will be featured at the "Festival of Wreaths" at the Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory in Fort Wayne from November 23-December 4. Call (219) 427-1287 for more information. Finally, the Embassy Theater in Fort Wayne will host 65 professionally decorated Christmas trees in its "Festival of Trees" from November 24-December 4. The event also includes live entertainment and music from the Grand Page Pipe Organ. For more information, call (219) 424-4071. For information on year-round activities in the Maumee Valley Heritage Corridor, write: Maumee Valley Heritage Corridor, Inc., 5100 W. Central Avenue, Toledo, OH 43615.

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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 the Preservation Eastern Newsletter which will be mailed to all current members. Dues are only $5 per year, and your membership and involvement will assure 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
EMU Department of Geography and Geology
Historic Preservation Program
Strong Hall
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197