2005

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Preservation Eastern
Eastern Michigan University

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Dr. Ted's Corner

by Dr. Ted Ligibel

WELCOME TO OUR 26th YEAR!!!

The Fall 2005 term begins the Historic Preservation Program’s 26th year, and it already promises to be a worthy successor to last year. The 2004-05 year was filled with 25th Anniversary events and celebrations, including the US 12 Mystery Tour, EMU Theater Night, the wildly successful Evening Under the Stars atop historic Sherzer Hall in mid-September, and the official 25th Anniversary celebration on May 14th, at the historic Detroit Club which featured memorable orations by National Council for Preservation Education founder, Dr. Michael Tomlan of Cornell University, and Royce Yeater, Director of the National Trust for Historic Preservation’s Midwest Regional Office in Chicago. All of these events were planned by our very vigorous Alumni Association. In addition, the HP Program was the recipient of the Michigan Historic Preservation Network’s Education-Institutional Award in recognition of a quarter-century of educational leadership in the state (the stunning plaque is in Dr. Ted’s office). Fund raising for our McLennan Fund continued as well, growing to about $25,000 during the year. Too, we were featured in several of EMU’s publications in honor of our 25th year.

This year is shaping up to be another banner year, with continued robust enrollment and a particularly active Preservation Eastern Board. With 23 new students for this term, we are maintaining the strong enrollment levels set during the last several years.

Among the newly admitted students this year are: Jami Babb, Angela Balbo, Michael Barnes, Thomas (T.J.) Bennett, Kathy Bodray, Timothy Boscario, Tami Chapman, Sarah Collingham, Bob Comer, Allison Craddock, Kathryn Dallos, Heather DeKorte, Mollie Douglas, Allison Licavoli, Meredith Long, Megan Matusik, Katherine Marin, Margaret O’Connor, Leslie Pielack, Bill Powers, Shawn Rogers, Ryan Schumaker, and Wesley Thompson. I hope you will welcome these new students and our entire returning student body as well.

Our Graduate Assistant (GA) this year is Alexis Reynolds. Karen Brandt, Jonathan Ringel, and Martha Burczyk hold agency-sponsored GAs with MDOT, the City of Ypsilanti, and the Historic First Congregational Church of Detroit, respectively. A number of others hold GAs with various departments at EMU. Third year student Aletha Lippay received a scholarship to attend and present a poster at the annual conference of the Association for Preservation Technology (APT) this September in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Our new Certificate Program through Northwestern Michigan College in Traverse City continues as well. Drs. Ligibel and Mayda taught classes last year, as did Drs. Kathryn Eckert (former Michigan SHPO) and Mark Livengood. There are ten students currently enrolled in the Traverse City program, and Preservation Eastern is planning to reach out to these fellow students as well. The Field School at Bay View was a great success this past summer. Under the direction of HP Alum and TV star Bill Click, we were extremely fortunate to secure the skills of Ilene Tyler, Steve Stier, and the International Masonry Institute (IMI) who flew in masonry experts from New York for seminars on all manner of masonry repair and restoration. The IMI, it should be noted, is directed by none other than our own Larry Darling, another successful HP Program Alum. We are looking at potentially returning to Bay View next summer.

Should you have any questions, concerns, comments, etc., please contact any of us. Of course Drs. Gabe Cherem, Lauren Sickels-Taves, and I will continue to serve as your advisors. Here’s to another great year!!
25th Anniversary Celebration
by Alexis Reynolds

As the guests filed into The Detroit Club for the 25th Anniversary Celebration of Eastern's Historic Preservation program, an overwhelming sense of pride and energy filled the rooms of the club. Royce Yeater, Director of the Midwest Regional Office of the National Trust for Historic Preservation and one of the speakers for the evening, remarked to a small group of guests before dinner that he could truly feel the excitement and energy for the historic preservation cause, more so than many other places he had visited. Indeed, as fellow preservation student Natalie McLennan and Andrew Nazarro, current director Ted Ligibel, outgoing president Craig Willis and his wife Dr. Marilyn Willis, and Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs Donald Loppnow, among many other distinguished guests. After a welcome from John L. Booth, President of the Detroit Club Foundation and an introduction by Mr. Click, Michigan Historic Preservation Network Executive Director Nancy Finegood presented the program with an award in recognition of its dedication to preservation. Sally Bund, on behalf of the Marshall S. McLennan Endowment Fund, announced that through an intense fundraising campaign, the McLennan Fund has increased its endowment to an all-time high.

The evening then turned its focus to two voices in the preservation world: Mr. Yeater and Dr. Michael Tomlan, co-founder of the National Council for Preservation and Director of the Historic Preservation Program at Cornell University. Mr. Yeater addressed the audience on the National Trust's perspective on historic preservation, where it has been and where the future lies. Dr. Tomlan echoed this retrospection and prediction in his keynote address, "The Past and Future of Preservation Education."

The evening ended with a few final notes from Ted and after-party mingling among the guests. The night was a complete success - thank you to all who planned and attended the event!

Organized by Eastern's Historic Preservation Alumni Association, and spearheaded by alums Tamara and Bill Click, both '03, the celebration brought together many figures in HP and Eastern's history: co-founders Marshall Thomas and I accosted the guests to photo-document all of the evening's attendees, even we could sense the students, graduates, teachers, and supporters' passion for preserving the past.

I'm originally from Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and received my bachelor's degree in American Studies at Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, New York. I toyed with the idea of historic preservation for a year after graduation. While living in Boston last year, I realized that I wanted to engage in a tangible use of my American Studies degree, and decided historic preservation was the way to go. After about five years on the East Coast, it's great to be back in the Midwest! I'm excited about getting rolling on the upcoming year.
Hello! Thank you for voting me in as Assistant Director of Preservation Eastern! A bit about myself... I grew up in Chicago, IL and Daytona Beach, FL. I did my undergraduate degree in History and French at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and I love to cook and play classical guitar. Last August, I returned for a second tour in Southeast Michigan to attend the Historic Preservation program after spending three years as a Field Coordinator at AFS Intercultural Programs in St. Paul, MN, where I did volunteer management and recruitment, promoted international exchange, and taught classes in cross-cultural communication, among other responsibilities. Prior to working at AFS, I worked for Herman Miller, first as an interior designer and later as a market analyst. Preservation Eastern is working on planning some wonderful activities for the upcoming school year, and I look forward to working with all of you!

My name is Natalie Thomas and I am from Kansas City, Missouri. My undergraduate degree is in Drafting and Design, and I moved here and started the Historic Preservation program in the fall of 2004. At one of my past jobs I was a Rehabilitation Assistant and worked on rehabilitating inner city houses. Several of these buildings were in the Historic District, and I found that I really enjoyed working on historic houses. I decided to pursue a Masters and chose the program here at Eastern Michigan University. I am excited about being part of Preservation Eastern, and look forward to the working with everyone!

I obtained my History degree from the University of Michigan, and took a job as the Cooperative Advertising and Publications Manager for a local book distributor. There I handled all company communications, like this one, from concept to printing. Loved the job, but not the pay, so followed friends to EDS. I currently work as an Information Analyst (fancy title for computer systems support) in GM’s Cadillac and SSR plants in Lansing, as well as the new plant currently under construction on the west end of town.

So why the HP program? I now have two lovely little girls of my own, and feel that the time is at hand to do something about the loss of our rural heritage. I feel it is my obligation to them. I cannot expect them to develop a fondness of rural Michigan if I sit by, and watch it all be gobbled up by someone more interested in the bottom line than in what they’re bulldozing.

The Historic Preservation program at EMU has offered me an opportunity to redefine my various historic and conservation interests into a common strategy: Redevelop what is already paid for, and save what we have before it is gone. With that, I hope to use my degree to offer opportunities to the ‘preservation uneducated’; both as developer of old, neglected spaces in cities, and as easement planner for the land rich in the country.
Captive Audience

by Alexis Reynolds

The after-party mingling was only the kick-off to the real entertainment of the evening; when Ted Ligibel volunteered Natalie and me to drive Royce Yeater back to his hotel. We were excited because it meant we could engage him in a conversation about the National Trust’s recent involvement in the Century Building demolition in St. Louis. However, we forgot one small factor: we were also taking Dr. Michael Tomlan back to his hotel. As evidenced not only by their career choices in life but by their speeches at dinner that evening, these two men represent opposite ends of the preservation spectrum. And we had a half an hour car ride between The Detroit Club and the hotels.

While we envisioned an all-out preservation show-down in Natalie’s car, we were pleasantly surprised to find the two men very courteous with each other and the two wide-eyed preservation students. Natalie and I wanted to talk about preservation because that, after all, seemed to be the main theme of the evening. However, we also wanted to avoid the aforementioned preservation brawl.

The four of us discussed how we each got into the preservation world and what our main interests were. After exchanging the requisite small talk -- “wow, look at the construction on that parking lot” and “why is Detroit spending so much money on Super Bowl improvements when there are so many other pressing issues at hand” -- Natalie and I did glean some great insider tips from these two prominent men. I asked Mr. Yeater if in all his travels, he had a favorite hotel that he stayed in, remembering that as a preservationist, he must stay in great historic hotels. Mr. Yeater reminded us that our membership to the National Trust allows us to receive discounts at historic hotels throughout the country. Now, $20 for a whole year and discounts to historic sites and hotels, books and merchandise, in addition to a free subscription to the Trust’s Preservation magazine... how can anyone actually pass that by? Mr. Tomlan also gave us great insight about the fantastic yet untapped resources in the preservation world, both here in Michigan and throughout the country.

We dropped off Mr. Yeater at his hotel, drove the next ten minutes to Mr. Tomlan’s hotel, said our goodbyes and drove away. Natalie and I both let out a sigh of relief, not only at surviving the car ride but at the entire evening going off without a hitch. The preservation world is full of differences in opinions, approaches, and theories. However, it is wonderful that all of these can be channeled into a common cause, one celebrated that night by all those connected to it and Eastern’s own distinguished program.
Field School 2005

by Diana Clark

Field School 2005 As a newcomer to the preservation program, I listened as veteran students and alums reminisced again and again about field school. Though these memories were of different places, different years and different people, they were uniformly positive...even when they involved long hours of labor. I couldn't wait to find out for myself what field school was all about. In fact, because my planning concentration didn't allow for other conservation classes, this opportunity seemed especially important. Fresh from two semesters in Strong Hall where the general ambiance includes fluorescent lights, rattling windows and the periodic sound of scraping chairs from the physics classroom above, field school was an enormous contrast. As a kind of introduction and warm up, two sessions were held at the Miller farm, a wonderful Italianate house in the process of renovation on Plymouth Road. The main event began a few weeks later in Bay View, MI, a quaint turn-of-the-century resort community overflowing with charm and architectural delights. The community of Bay View has an extraordinary group of people working to preserve the character of this resort where Queen Anne still reigns with spindles, shingles and stained glass along with gables, turrets and porches. However ideal the settings, the real delight was working with outstanding preservation specialists, artisans and craftsmen and sharing this experience with new friends and old. There was no shortage of either. Dr. Ted and Bill Click put together an all-star cast of instructors, including timber frame expert Steve Stier, decorative painter Steve Seebohm, and Ilene Tyler, preservation architect extraordinaire. Our days were full from dawn to dusk, and in June dusk does not come early! Just when I thought the routine had been established, a crew of masonry experts entered on the scene and an entirely new aspect of conservation was introduced. These folks were from the International Masonry Institute (IMI) and, while they usually expend their efforts on tradespeople who know which side of the trowel is up, they patiently demonstrated and encouraged all of us to try our hand at such things as wet plastering, stone and brick restoration and plaster molds. One of the most memorable (and messiest) moments occurred when we tried the European technique of plastering. This literally involves slinging the mud at the wall with results resembling a middle school cafeteria after a food fight. As the end of summer draws near, field school, like so many summer memories, has begun to fade and drop out of sight like a Lake Michigan sunset. However, along with the experience of working with fellow students and instructors and learning about such things as field sketches and architectural surveys, paint analysis and window restoration, I now have first-hand knowledge of what I heard in those nostalgic exchanges about field school. This year, I'll have my own tales to tell.
Director's Notebook

by Frank Pompa Jr.

We are making changes with your needs in mind. Change is afoot here at Preservation Eastern (PE), and I am confident you will notice a big difference starting with this first newsletter. It is my extreme pleasure to join PE Advisor, Dr. Ted Ligibel, and the newly elected PE board as your Director for the 2005/2006 Academic year.

Our number one goal going forward is to serve the interests of our student members in the best way possible, so you are likely to notice a number of exciting educational and social events planned for this semester and next. To that end, I am very interested in hearing any comments or suggestions you may have regarding school, the preservation industry overall and how we can improve PE.

In fact, I have, already been in contact with many in the program, and your input has been of great value in some of our improvement efforts thus far. We will continue to survey students to gauge your interests, get feedback on events as they take place, and plan content that you deem valuable to your education and eventual preservation careers.

The beginning of a new school year is an auspicious time to launch growth projects and set new ideas in motion. With this spirit in mind, we have many exciting plans in the works for PE this year.

This October for instance, is the first of four field trips we have planned for the year. We are planning a day trip to Marshall, Michigan during its whimsical Scarecrow Festival. The Marshall Historic District is one of Michigan’s largest National Historic Landmarks with over 750 buildings constructed between 1830 and 1930. Long known for its abundance of Victorian Architecture, Marshall’s Scarecrow Festival has become another community trademark. We will tour the Historical Society House Museum and then take a guided tour of the historic district. The details surrounding this outing will be forthcoming.

Throughout the school year, PE will host a Speaker Series with a number of impressive guest speakers from a wide variety of preservation fields. The Speaker Series is designed to inspire, inform and educate our members. The Series will take place on four Friday evenings (two speakers per semester) beginning in September and concluding in April. A social reception will follow each of the presentations.

Finally, we plan to work closely with the Michigan Historic Preservation Network to offer students the option to supplement their education with voluntary assignments and mentoring opportunities that provide real world experience, while simultaneously reaching out to our communities and have an impact on the public.

This student organization exists to educate and enrich the lives of students in the Historic Preservation program. Moreover, we need your active participation to succeed. When we succeed in doing that, you succeed. Together we can make this an interesting and productive year.
Save the Date
Mark your calendars and join the Michigan Historic Preservation Network in celebrating our 25th Anniversary:
Friday, October 28th, 2005
Matthaei Botanical Gardens
1800 North Dixboro Rd.
Ann Arbor, MI.

Contact:
Nancy Finegood
Phone: 517-371-8080
Fax: 517-371-9090
Email: Finegood@mhpn.org

The Historic Preservation Alumni Chapter will be presenting a one-day tax credit workshop on Saturday, October 22nd, 2005. The workshop will run from 9am to 5pm, and will be held at Cross Street Village (the Old Ypsilanti High School) on Cross Street.

This will be a "warts and all" professional level workshop that will walk you through the tax credit documentation process and paperwork, and give you a "real world" perspective on the use of tax credits. Featured speakers will include: Robb McKay and Bryan Lijewski of the State Historic Preservation Office; and Lis Knibbe, principal at Quinn Evans Architects and an expert in the tax credit documentation process. Lis completed the tax credits for Cross Street Village, and at the end of the workshop will be conducting a walk-through tour discussing how the tax credit process applied to the adaptive use of the building.

We will be providing morning and afternoon snacks as well as a boxed lunch. There is no fee for the workshop itself, but we will be charging $10-15 to cover snacks/lunch.

Space for this workshop will be limited, so if you are interested in attending, please reply to Ruth Mills at mills@I-is.com to secure your place as soon as possible.

More specific details including the final cost, parking details, etc. will be coming soon.

Regards,
Historic Preservation Alumni Board of Directors

Students:
We need about 5-6 students to help with this Michigan Historic Preservation Network 25th Anniversary. Volunteering could get you free admission, so call Nancy at the above number now!

Motor-Cities National Heritage Area
Graduate Assistant – 20 hours a week at MotorCities Office, School Year
Main responsibilities will include:
• Manage MotorCities Site Index: including verification/updating, and assisting semester interns with research/photo documentation as needed.
• Assist with creating a Site Index style guidebook.

Additional responsibilities will include:
• Maintaining and updating MotorCities website, including events.
• Assisting with quarterly newsletter.
• Assisting with grant research/writing.
• Assist MotorCities staff with projects as needed.

Contact:
Brenda Plakmeyer
Phone: 313.259.3425
bplakmeyer@ExperienceEverythingAutomotive.org
200 Renaissance Center, Suite 3148
Detroit, MI 48243
**Museum Curator Position**

The Argus Museum of Ann Arbor is looking for a new part-time Curator. The Argus Museum is a small historic camera museum which showcases the products of the former Ann Arbor-based company, Argus. The museum is located in the historic Argus Company building, now owned by O'Neal Construction, Inc. This position is a great opportunity to learn many aspects of museum work.

Duties of the Curator include:
- Cataloging Argus cameras and products, documents and photographs using a computerized database.
- Designing and creating museum displays.
- Researching the Argus Company's history and products.
- Organizing and maintaining museum files and storage areas.
- Maintaining communications with the public and Argus Collectors.
- Facilitating efforts to transfer O'Neal Construction and Argus archives to research libraries.

This is a 16 hour per week paid position ($12.00 ph), with flexible schedule. A student who can work at the museum year-round is desired. The position requires a self-motivated, detail oriented individual who works well alone. Museum experience and/or historic camera experience a plus.

For more information contact:
Jennifer Wendler Lovell at 313-550-8027 or
Dr. Ted Ligibel at 734-487-0232

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

September 1, 2005

Dear Colleague:

The National Park Service, in partnership with the National Council for Preservation Education, is announcing their historic preservation internships for Academic Year 2005-2006. The program is designed to allow students in historic preservation programs and allied disciplines to gain an awareness of National Park Service cultural resource management activities, and to provide an opportunity to work alongside professionals in the field of historic preservation. A variety of positions in preservation and related fields are being offered at the National Park Service and partnering agencies.

Enclosed you will find a copy of our announcement for Academic Year positions, along with an application that may be copied for students to use if they wish to apply for any of the internships. I would appreciate it if you could post the notice and make it available to any students you think might be interested. The information will also be available on the Web sites of National Council at www.preservenet.cornell.edu/employ.html and the Park Service at www.cr.nps.gov/hps/tps/hptp_p.htm. A downloadable application will be available from each site as well. The deadline for applications is October 14, 2005.

If you have any questions about the program, please do not hesitate to e-mail me at Guy_Lapsley@nps.gov.

Sincerely,

Guy M. Lapsley
Internship Program Coordinator

*Note: Please see Dr. Ted for any attachments.*
About Our Organization

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.

Mission Statement
To enrich the historic preservation education of the students of Eastern Michigan University's Historic Preservation Program, as well as the general public, by providing opportunities for advocacy, networking, and growth while encouraging and promoting the preservation of Michigan's historic and cultural resources.

What Are We Working On?

Speaker Series
We are collecting names and subjects for a monthly speaker series. It is important for all of us to gain experience beyond the classroom, and what better way than to hear about the preservation life from those living it.

Day Trips
More out-of-class learning, we are also collecting ideas for day trips to historic places or preservation projects. Bring any ideas for speakers or trips to a PE board member.

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