Historic Preservation:



Sustaining Communities,



Sustaining Generations.





Message from the Chair Times of Our Lives: A new generation discovers preservation





YPA Chair Dan Holland

hese are the times of our lives. A new generation is awakening and rediscovering Pittsburgh. Led by Gen X, new housing and shopping choices are being created and whole neighborhoods are coming back to life.

In Pittsburgh, Lawrenceville is the hot new neighborhood for businesses and young professionals. East Liberty's real estate market is sizzling. The South Side is strong. Friendship remains among the top three neighborhoods in Pittsburgh for young people.

After years of neglect, downtown housing is becoming a reality—something that YPA commented on two years ago (http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/04039/269671.stm). The revival of our region's core is being driven by historic renovations and a market of willing young professionals and older empty nesters eager to give it a try.

Finally, developers are discovering the value of our riverfronts. The historic Heinz Plant, Armstrong Cork Factory, and new housing at the South Side Works—a thriving example of new development done right—provide more urban choices for young professionals. Individual historic sites around the region, such as the John Woods House in Hazelwood and the Murphy Building in Blairsville, are being restored.

Despite all the progress we've made in historic preservation, the Pittsburgh region, serious problems remain. Consider this quote from the Allegheny County Comprehensive Plan: "Consequently, the Pittsburgh region is the only large metropolitan area experiencing natural population decline at the beginning of the 21st century." [p. 12 in the Demographic report, http:// /www.alleghenyplaces.com/plan/planContent.asp]

We're also losing our hometown businesses. Throughout the Pittsburgh region, an older generation is closing its doors, only to be replaced by faceless national chains—or nothing at all.

Perhaps most emblematic of this trend came earlier in 2005, when Federated Department Stores announced that it is changing the Kaufmann's name to Macy's and closing three stores in regional malls.

Small businesses throughout the region are shutting their doors for the last time after decades—some for more than a century—of serving customers. Just this year, J.H. Shoop & Sons, a men's clothing store in Freeport, closed after 175 years of business; Leonard Skirboll's Card & Gift Gallery in Mount Washington closed after 105 years; and Weber Furniture, which operated for 64 years in Washington, closed. Arthur Moser closed its doors after more than 50 years of operation in Squirrel Hill.



In the Mon Valley, communities traded a family-owned drug store for a corporate chain. Homestead's venerable Chiodo's, a mainstay of the East Eighth Avenue National





Register historic district for more than 50 years, closed earlier in 2005; it was demolished to make way for a Walgreen's. It should come as no surprise, then, that the Sapida family's Leader Drug in Turtle Creek closed after 67 years in the business.

A year after the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission removed the "historic" designation from Braddock, centuryold buildings began to tumble. There's hope: a new mayor, 36-year-old John Fetterman, is a man on a preservation mission. If he gets his way, a number of historic structures surrounding the Carnegie Library will be given new life.

Take a look at Uniontown. Remember the Murphy Building, #1 on YPA's Top Ten List in 2003? Gone. It was demolished to make way for a park, thanks to billionaire County Commissioner and 84 Lumber owner Joe Hardy.

Yes, it's good to have Downtown development and to bring in new businesses. But aren't we losing something when we completely obliterate our history? This forced sterilization on the Pittsburgh region leaves us feeling vacuous—as if the city and region is really no different than Anytown, USA. Where's the competitive advantage? And finally, not everyone is participating in the glory of historic preservation. Low- and moderate-income and African American communities remain left behind in the preservation dialogue. Just look at Hazelwood—Pittsburgh's new ghost town of demolished historic structures. There's no more "there" there.

African American history continues to be slighted. For instance, there are zero African American structures on the National Register of Historic Places in the Pittsburgh region. Our low- and moderate-income communities contain the region's highest concentrations of vacant properties. And sprawling suburban development continues to exacerbate the concentration of poverty in older, urban areas.

This fall, the National Trust for Historic Preservation will be in town for their annual National Preservation Conference. We will put on a good face for the nation's preservationists. But let's not forget those sites and people who aren't in the spotlight.



The Crawford Grill in the Hill District: Despite this sign, it's not a protected city historic landmark.

Preservationists must continue to show that historic preservation is a sound economic development strategy. We will reap the benefits today in the form of new taxes, jobs, and disposable income. But most importantly, the next generation will benefit because they will grow up with something unique that few people can enjoy—a sense of place.

Give life to history.SM





Historic Preservation Month



YPA Events 2005



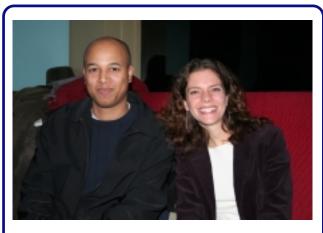
Judging the Top Ten for 2005.



YPA Business Planning Session.



YPA's Year-End Party at Firehouse Lounge.



YPA's Year-End Party at Firehouse Lounge.



YPA Business Planning Session.



YPA's First Conference













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Young Preservationists 2005 Annual Report

September 16-17, 2005







YPA's "Wheeling Through History" bike tour made history as the first historic bike tour of the North Side



PA awards its first "Promise Award" to the Union Proj with City Councilman Bill Peduto, left





Preservation Victories in 2005



Oakland Square is Pittsburgh's newest historic district



The Union Project's restoration is nearly complete



The Armstrong Cork Factory is a preservation success



Mooncrest became a historic district



Lawrenceville is a hot city neighborhood



The Hazelwood Initiative stabilized the John Woods House

Preservation Losses in 2005



Number one on YPA's first Top Ten List . . .



... Uniontown lost the Murphy Building downtown.



Historic Braddock . . .



Hazelwood lost more of its historic fabric



... lost more of its competitive advantage



August Wilson passed on, but his house in the Hill District is still an unprotected historic landmark

Statement of Financial Position*

	Jan 13, 06
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
National City	7,004.39
Total Checking/Savings	7,004.39
Other Current Assets	
Undeposited Funds	230.00
Total Other Current Assets	230.00
Total Current Assets	7,234.39
TOTAL ASSETS	7,234.39
LIABILITIES & EQUITY Equity	
Unrestrict (retained earnings)	7,234.39
Total Equity	7,234.39
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	7,234.39



*Unaudited financials for YE 2005.

Income & Expenses*

	Jan - Dec 05
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Annual Report	15.00
Total Donation	3,125.00
Total Membership	1,300.00
YPA calendar	151.00
Total YPA Conference	22,298.25
Total Income	26,889.25
Expense	
Advertising	250.00
Consultant	525.00
Dues/Subscriptions	76.00
Total MayEvent05	1,900.23
Total New Frontiers in Preservation	334.68
Printing	763.50
Total YPA Conf 05	16,675.13
Total YPA Network	60.00
Total Expense	20,584.54
Net Ordinary Income	6,304.71
Net Income	6,304.71



*Unaudited financials for YE 2005.

YPA Board 2005-06

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YPA Mission

The active participation of young people in the preservation of historic resources.

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