

2013

Annual Report

This past year, as is the case each year, the day-to-day work of the Pennsylvania State Archives proceeded uninterrupted. Many thousands of documents were accessioned, conserved, described and ultimately accessed by the public. Government records in the State Archives are essential to an open and transparent government, and the Archives also preserves the stories of individuals and their families and communities as well as the heritage of the Commonwealth. These ongoing activities are quantified along with descriptions of the numerous special projects, training and programs carried out by the professional staff of the Pennsylvania State Archives.

The State Archives faces many challenges in achieving its mission, and a lack of resources — especially to manage the increasing number of electronic records — remains a critical deficiency. However, one issue has come to overshadow all others as year by year the need for a new archives facility grows. The storage capacity of the archives building will soon be exceeded. Consolidation and deaccessioning have bought several more years, but these tactics are nearing their limits. The time needed to acquire or construct a suitable facility likely means offsite storage will be necessary unless work on a new building begins immediately. The lack of a fire suppression system continues to threaten an immediate and possibly catastrophic destruction of the collections, while the lack of temperature and humidity controls causes the slow deterioration of these valuable historical resources. The building's elevators become increasingly unreliable and hinder service. A dozen or more leaks continue to drip and occasionally flood into internal gutters and pans and through ceiling tiles and down walls. The façade of the entrance and courtyards will be cleaned in 2013-2014 and minor repairs made, but millions of dollars must ultimately be spent to repair the plaza and façade. In 2012-2013 PHMC addressed the escalating needs for a new facility by hiring consultants to prepare a feasibility study for a new archives building. The study has been completed, and the response of the commission and administration to the study is awaited.

Highlights

- The Pennsylvania State Archives provided service to 3,346 on-site patrons who consulted approximately 4.5 million pages of original records and 9.1 million images on microfilm, which represents a 30 percent increase over last fiscal year's visitation. Patrons also requested 9,459 death and birth certificates for examination in the Archives search room.
- Staff gave 24 presentations to 1,570 individuals on various archives and records management topics, including the basic Archives Without Tears workshops, Finding Your PA Civil War Ancestor, Genealogical Resources at the Pennsylvania State Archives and Camp Security: A Revolutionary War Prison Camp.

- Six interns and 13 continuing volunteers made significant contributions to the work of the Archives.
- The State Archives won an Institutional Achievement Award of Merit from the PA Museums association for its Civil War Muster Rolls Project, which conserved and digitized more than 2,500 Civil War-era Muster Out Rolls.
- With the help of a \$59,843 grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, the Archives completed a year-long project to create finding aids, preserve and rehouse various large-format documents and special media in its holdings of the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission. A project archivist was hired to assist staff with the detailed processing of more than 45,000 original engineering field drawings; more than 10,500 black and white photographic negatives and 35mm color slides showing groundbreaking, construction progress and dedication ceremonies; more than 160 reels of 16mm deteriorating motion picture films; and 97 rolls of deteriorating microfilm made by the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission containing unique textual records not duplicated elsewhere.
- The Archives completed its second phase of renovations with major security improvements to the records storage area housing Pennsylvania's Civil War Muster Out Rolls, and also completed work on renovating the conference/public training room adjacent to the Archives lobby.
- The State Archives continued its ongoing conservation efforts by taking several of its most valuable holdings to Philadelphia for treatment by the Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts, including 35 Whiteside maps dating to the early 19th century, as well as the first State Constitution of 1776. The Archives also received a \$6,235 grant from the John Crain Kunkel Foundation to convert 45 16mm motion picture films and six audio tapes drawn from Manuscript Group 301, the John Crain Kunkel Collection, to an electronic format.
- 24,916 cubic feet of state records were accessioned and 25,045 cubic feet were disposed at the State Records Center while responding to 16,909 requests from state agencies. The State Archives accessioned 836 cubic feet of historically valuable records from state agencies totaling more than two million pages of the commonwealth's records and also added manuscript materials and 314 rolls of microfilm containing nearly 314,000 images.
- Archives staff worked with the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) to accession an important collection of records created by Ralph W. Abele, a former PFBC executive director and important figure in environmental conservation. These records were completely processed with the aid of an intern and served as the focal piece of a ceremony honoring Abele hosted by the Archives.
- Staff guaranteed the permanent preservation of historically valuable records by microfilming 15 volumes of local government records (848 images), 155 volumes and nine cubic feet (52,933 total images) of state government records and 19,931 images of manuscripts.
- Additional preservation was undertaken by depositing 4,409 rolls of security microfilm and 1,200 aperture cards into our Security Microfilm Storage Program (8,572,200 images).
- The State Archives website received a total of 260,935 visits (106,372 for Archives Records Information Access System [ARIAS], and 154,563 for Archives) and 1,367,594 page views (988,687 for ARIAS and 378,907 for Archives). Approximately 64 percent of the visits resulted from searches launched through Google and similar external search engines and individuals navigating directly to our website, while 36 percent of visits resulted from referrals from other websites.

- Digital Archives activity for governors' records: Edward G. Rendell, 6,061 (1,213 press releases; 1,041 PR finding aid entries; metadata for 86 video, 2,256 photograph and 2,269 finding aid entries); Tom Ridge/Mark S. Schweiker, 6,093 (1,775 video conversions and metadata for 1,756 videos, and 2,530 finding aid entries). Also 702,469 other Record Group (RG) and Manuscript Group (MG) records were added to VideoBank (702,402 RG documents, 9 RG videos, 52 MG videos and 6 MG audios).

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The Bureau of the State Museum provides multidisciplinary exhibitions and educational programs on the commonwealth's prehistory, history, science, industry, technology, natural history and art at The State Museum of Pennsylvania, adjacent to the State Capitol in Harrisburg. With more than 100,000 square feet of gallery space, it is among the largest museums in the state. The museum, which preserves five million objects and artifacts, welcomes more than 100,000 individuals yearly, including school students, families and walk-in visitors. Its mission is to tell the story of Pennsylvania's human and natural histories.

The State Museum, along with a number of partner organizations, served and engaged a diverse audience during the 2012-2013 fiscal year. The year was marked with a number of important activities with regards to its collections, exhibits, programs and buildings.

Collections

Collections Advancement Project

The first State Museum of Pennsylvania, originally housed in the Executive Office Building, opened its doors in 1905 and continued to acquire objects by purchase and through individual, community and corporate donations. With a small staff dedicated to the care and preservation of the collection for the first time, the collections were sorted, organized by type and entered into a catalog system by accession numbers. Unfortunately, sometimes as administrations changed, so did the numbering system for the collection and some items ended up with three or more different numbers.

By the time the current State Museum building was occupied, the collection had grown significantly, and much of the new museum's fourth floor storage area filled up quickly — so quickly that by the 1980s additional off-site storage had to be acquired.

The first attempt to inventory the entire collection occurred in 1983, with significant staff time involved to complete the process. The inventory was completed after several years, but, as it was conducted in the pre-computer era, it was all on paper. It was nearly impossible to reconcile the nearly 500,000 objects and specimens on the inventory list with the museum's paper records without an enormous investment of time and the reconciliation was never completed.

In October 2010 the Pennsylvania Auditor General's Office released a report on a performance audit conducted on the museum's collections and collection records. The audit report specifically recommended that the entire collection should be inventoried as soon as possible and that the inventory should be automated, as should the museum's collection records.

As a response to the audit, The State Museum's staff took major steps in FY 2012-2013 to organize the collections in by hiring a collections "SWAT" team to jump start the monumental task. Six temporary curators and a contract project manager were hired to assist the existing curatorial staff with the project, the methodology for which includes a physical inventory (counting everything in a given physical location related to a specific collection), recording the data for each object inventoried on an excel database, digitally photographing each object, merging each inventory list into one collective master list and

then reconciling the inventory information with the known records on file for each object.

The Fine Arts collection was the first to be tackled with the inventory process. The inventory revealed that while the original estimate for the size of the collection was approximately 6,500 items, the inventory located more than 9,000 items in the Fine Arts collection storage areas. Thus far, the same phenomenon has been repeated in every collections category inventoried, with an average of nearly 30 percent more objects in collections than previously estimated.

During FY 2012-2013, in addition to the Fine Arts Collection, the inventory team completed inventories of the Political History collection. The inventory team also took on the collections at Cornwall Iron Furnace, the Bradford House, Fort Le Boeuf and French Azilum, and began the inventory at Washington Crossing Historic Park. Plans for the next phase in FY 2013-2014 include an inventory of the museum's vault (estimated 5,000 items) the Community and Domestic Life collection (estimated 58,000 items) and the Pop Culture collection (estimated 5,000 to 6,000 items) and the collections at Washington Crossing Historic Park (WCHP) and WCHP collections stored in Harrisburg.

It is estimated the complete, automated history and reconciliation of the PHMC's non-archaeological collections will take between eight and ten years.

General Conservation Survey

An important collections management document updated in FY 2012-2013 was the General Conservation Survey and Report, last completed nearly twenty years ago, before the laboratories and storage areas were installed for the Archeology and Natural History staff and collections in the Commonwealth Keystone Building (opened in 2000), and before the current collections management software was acquired.

A team of objects and natural history specimen conservators were engaged in November 2012 to visit the museum and re-evaluate its collections storage areas and the staff's exhibit and conservation practices. The resulting conservation survey report provided much-needed and prioritized recommendations on addressing the major collections needs. Armed with the recommendations, the museum applied to the Institute of Museum and Library Services in December 2012 requesting funding to assist with the inventory of the Community and Domestic Life collections.

Return of the Moon Mammoth

A 12,000-year-old woolly mammoth skeleton, discovered at the bottom of a lake in Erie County was returned to The State Museum after it was conserved by the laboratory at the University of Michigan. With the impending retirement of the museum's paleontologist, it was decided the skeleton should be returned to the museum, even though there were a number of small bones that were not yet treated. The skeleton was featured on National Fossil Day on October 17 with bones from the skeleton put on display for the first time. The specimen, which is nearly 80 percent complete, will remain in storage due to its fragility.

Inter-Agency Cooperation

The State Museum has advanced, state-of-the-art laboratory and storage facilities for its natural history collections in the adjacent Commonwealth Keystone Building. Currently, however, a museum staff of one occupies the space. Through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) staff of the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) would share these laboratories and workspaces to assist with the rehousing of the botany collection and to add selected items from DCNR's collections to the museum's holdings.

Exhibits

Objects of Valor

The standing galleries of the State Museum have been left in a state of flux since the opening of the 21st century, left virtually unchanged because planned changes, tentatively scheduled for the first decade of the new century, were not funded. The resulting stagnation prompted visitors who complained about the lack of new and changing exhibits.

To remedy the problem, a series of gallery upgrades were planned beginning with the Paleontology Gallery in 2011 and the Planetarium in 2012. The Civil War Gallery, dominated by the giant Frederick Peter Rothermel painting of Pickett's Charge at the Battle of Gettysburg, was selected for the next gallery upgrade, to be completed by the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg in 2013.

The curatorial staff selected more than 230 objects from the museum's significant Civil War Collection, each with a significant connection to Pennsylvania's role in the American Civil War or with Pennsylvania's commemoration of the war over the past 150 years. Since the battle that ultimately decided the outcome of the Civil War was fought on Pennsylvania soil, it was appropriate that Rothermel's *Pickett's Charge* and the four accompanying paintings continued to be a focal point in the gallery.

In addition to the exhibition of rare objects and artifacts, an interactive digital display was installed that informs visitors about the artist's paintings and about the events depicted in the painting. The gallery was designed to suggest a late 19th-century salon exhibit, which was the period when the enormous painting was placed on tour.

Emancipation Proclamation

The State Museum hosted a small — but select — exhibit that commemorated the 150th anniversary of President Abraham Lincoln's issuance of the Emancipation on January 1, 1863. The display featured a signed copy of the Emancipation Proclamation printed in 1864 and sold at the Great Sanitary Fair in Philadelphia. Forty-eight copies of the Proclamation were signed by Lincoln, Secretary of State Seward and John Nicolay, Lincoln's secretary. The copies were sold for ten dollars each to raise money to help provide care for Union soldiers. Today 26 copies of the document still exist. In addition to the proclamation, several prints and documents from the collections of The State Museum and the Pennsylvania State Archives were displayed.

The exhibit, organized by the Pennsylvania Heritage Foundation and PHMC, was assembled by guest curator and Lincoln scholar Richard Beard. The foundation sponsored a reception and a lecture by renowned Civil War author Harold "Hal" Holzer on January 11. Nearly 200 people attended the lecture and visited the exhibit.

Hannah Penn Exhibit and Proclamation

The exhibit *Hannah Penn*: "blest with a strong Judgment & excellent good sense" resulted from Pennsylvania First Lady Susan M. Corbett's initiative to inspire leadership among women throughout the Commonwealth by recognizing the contributions of Hannah Callowhill Penn in the establishment and governance of colonial Pennsylvania. The exhibit opened on March 12, 2013, with a proclamation presented in the gallery by Governor Tom Corbett that designated the day as "Hannah Callowhill Penn Day" in Pennsylvania.

U.S. Olympic Uniforms Display

The museum displayed Olympic Games uniforms during August 2012 in observance of the Olympics in London. The company, GK Elite Inc., Reading, provided the museum with five different designs of the colorful leotards that were worn by the American team members in their quest for medals.

PA Civil War 150 Road Show Concludes Successful Tour

The PA Civil War 150 Road Show exhibit that toured the state for two consecutive summers concluded its run in September 2012 and was brought to the museum on October 1. Exhibit components were removed from the trailer and stored at the museum. By the end of FY 2012-2013 plans had been drawn up to re-install the exhibit in the museum's Idea Zone for a September 2013 opening.

Pennsylvania Watercolor Society Exhibit

The 33rd annual Watercolor Society Exhibit opened on November 3, 2012, with nearly 200 watercolors. The society began at The State Museum in the early 1970s with one of its founders, the late Nick Ruggieri. An exhibit of watercolors by Ruggieri, drawn from a collection of his works recently donated by the Patriot News Company to the museum, was also on view.

Museum Spruce-up Campaign

Over the past 48 years, the State Museum building has seen its share of wear and tear from the millions of visitors who attended programs, participated in special events and toured exhibits. Nearly five decades of grime and dust, countless alterations and systems installations had taken its toll on the building's overall appearance, both inside and out, obliterating the classic, uncluttered mid-century modern appearance of the museum building when it first opened.

Get the Stuff Out

The museum's curatorial staff was asked to select artifacts from the museum's collection to place at various locations in the museum that did not have any collections on display. Dubbed the "get the stuff out" campaign, the project was designed to fill some blank spaces in hallways and to provide a sampler of the museum's collections for visitors to the public areas on the ground and first floors.

Auditorium Renovation

Several years in the planning, the museum's auditorium renovation project was completed in April 2013. The auditorium's last major retrofit occurred in the mid-1980s, and the carpeting, seating and stage were in need of considerable work. In addition, the space did not meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) specifications, so it was necessary to add a wheelchair lift and wheelchair seating to bring it up to compliance. The auditorium's normally busy schedule was blacked out from the end of January to the end of April 2013 during which time the asbestos flooring tile was removed, the stage was refinished, all 400 seats were fitted with new springs and cushions and the backs and seats reupholstered. A new self-operated wheelchair lift was installed to provide access from the auditorium floor to the stage. A new digital projector and sound system were installed, house lights repaired and new emergency lighting installed.

WiFi Installation

The steel and concrete construction of the building prevents normal cell phone reception in many areas of the museum. As a remedy, a WiFi system was installed throughout the museum in July 2012 which now provides the museum with the opportunity to employ cell phone tours and other digital interpretive measures that would not be possible without the new system.

Interior Finishes Conservation

An interior finishes consultant was engaged to assess the condition of the museum's original walnut paneling, vitrine marble, wallpaper and aluminum trim in its public spaces. The resultant report indicated

that most of the museum's interior finishes survived in surprisingly good condition considering the hard use to which they were subjected over the past half-century. The report provided a plan to restore as much of the building's original interior fabric in its public spaces as possible. Conservation work commenced on the ground floor hallways, the auditorium foyer and memorial hall in June 2013 and is scheduled for completion in autumn 2013.

The State Museum invites Partnerships

With significant decreases in staffing and funding, the museum began looking to other state agencies for help with collections, programs and exhibits. One area that needs considerable work is the Ecology Gallery, which has been largely unchanged since the late 1970s. PHMC Executive Director James M. Vaughan invited the Pennsylvania Departments of Conservation and Natural Resources and Environmental Protection and the Pennsylvania Game and Fish and Boat commissions to tour the gallery and offer input on what inter-agency cooperation might yield. Several meetings have since been held, and a number of possibilities have emerged that, when implemented in FY 2013-2014, will benefit partners and the museum.

Volunteers

The Education and Outreach Division has been busy recruiting and training volunteer docents for all the new exhibits that have come on line over the last two years. They are filling in as gallery guides, manning stop and learn carts, and providing a personal touch for visitors with questions. The museum has built its docent corps to an active group of more than 50 in a brief period, which enables staff to introduce and expand programs.

State Museum Program Highlights

July 2012 Learn at Lunchtime The State Museum offered free admission during the lunchtime hours on designated Fridays over the summer as part of the Museum's Learn at Lunchtime series. Free guided tours of the popular "Art of the State" exhibit and the museum's history and science galleries were offered between 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. The tours were offered every Friday through August.

Weekly themed-tours led by State Museum curators ranged from paleontology, archaeology and zoology to the Civil War. The latter was especially relevant as 2013 marks the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg.

Summer Reading Series was featured Wednesday mornings from July 11 through August 1. The series featured a different book each week from the popular "One Book, Every Young Child" series. Volunteers, including First Lady Susan M. Corbett, read.

Summer Day Camps: Archaeology/Native Americans Camp was offered Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, July 25-27, for children ages 7 to 10 years old. Camp included hands-on activities led by State Museum educators. Fossil Day Camp highlighted the paleontology exhibit "Life through Time" which features The State Museum's restored Marshalls Creek mastodon. Led by museum educators and featuring hands-on activities, day campers explored "behind-the-scenes" at the adjacent Dino Lab and learned about fossils and how paleontologists perform their scientific work.

Artists Conversations paired a selection of “Art of the State” artists with museum staff members to share their perspectives on the 2012 exhibition.

PA Civil War 150 Roadshow The State Museum of Pennsylvania welcomed the Pennsylvania Civil War Road Show to Harrisburg Thursday, July 19, through Sunday, July 22.

August Food in Pennsylvania From Field to Table explored Pennsylvania’s diverse foodways, agriculture and industry in IdeaZone, an interactive learning space for kids and families. Through a variety of hands-on activities, visitors to IdeaZone discovered the state’s fascinating role as the nation’s “breadbasket” from historic times to the present.

September Hispanic Heritage reception The State Museum hosted the annual Hispanic Heritage ceremony. Two large Latino inspired mural paintings were hung in the wings of Memorial hall, created during the Artistās del Verano program sponsored by the State Museum from 2000 to 2003.

Doshi Gallery Opening* The Susquehanna Art Museum celebrated the 40th anniversary of its Doshi Gallery of Contemporary with a free reception honoring its new exhibit, “Forty is the New Forever.”

HomeSchool Day The State Museum hosted its fourth annual HomeSchool Day, a special program tailored for families and community organizations who teach in a home setting. HomeSchool Day 2012 featured the museum’s vast collections and exhibits with a variety of gallery talks and demonstrations focusing on Pennsylvania’s rich heritage, and, this year included a sneak peak of the museum’s newly upgraded Planetarium.

October Archaeology Month As part of a national observance, the achievements of exploring the past through archaeology are commemorated by The State Museum every October. In 2012 the museum continued its annual public dig to uncover the remnants of 18th-century Fort Hunter. State Museum archaeologists participated in Archaeology Day at the State Capitol Building with the Pennsylvania Archaeological Council.

National Fossil Day The State Museum marked National Fossil Day with public tours featuring a newly returned mammoth skeleton discovered in Erie County.

Learn at Lunchtime On October 19, visitors were able to check out the newly-upgraded Planetarium with its state-of-the-art Spitz SciDome “Planetarium XD” projection. The Museum presented the new show.

Great Pumpkin Day The State Museum offered its annual fun-filled family event for the harvest season on Saturday, October 20.

November Annual Archaeology Workshops The State Museum of Pennsylvania conducted an Archaeology Workshop exploring the early years of Pennsylvania. The workshop, Contact, Conflict and Colonization: The Archaeology of Penn’s Woods, focused on European colonization from contact with Native Americans in 1550 through the end of the Revolutionary War in 1783.

Hidden Treasures Scavenger Hunt * The State Museum of Pennsylvania and the Friends of the State Museum hosted a modern-day treasure hunt for visitors to see museum pieces rarely on display.

December Kwanzaa and Christmas Celebration Nathaniel Gadsden's Writers Wordshop, in partnership with American Literacy Corp., Ksongz, Inc. and Life Esteem Inc., presented its annual festival. A community celebration of the family, the event featured music, food and workshops.

Noon Year's Eve: The State Museum welcomed the New Year with its annual Noon Year's Eve celebration for young children and their families on Thursday, Dec. 27, 10 a.m. to noon. An opportunity for kids to enjoy their own special way of "ringing in the New Year," the celebration featured dancing, crafts, and snacks topped off by the museum's famous firefly drop in Memorial Hall at noon.

January
2013 Annual Pennsylvania Farm Show display.

Artists Conversation* The State Museum of Pennsylvania hosted an installment of its popular Artists Conversations, including an insiders' tour of the Pennsylvania Watercolor International Exhibit.

Learn at Lunchtime Lincoln scholar Rick Beard presented a special tour to Learn at Lunchtime visitors highlighting the original, signed copy of the Emancipation Proclamation and related prints and documents on display.

February The State Museum hosted a reception to kickoff Black History Month. Most state agency heads speak at this event, which is accompanied by appropriate food and music. The Black Heritage celebration continued with a variety of events occurring through the month.

DOSHI Gallery Exhibit* The Susquehanna Art Museum (SAM) opened an exhibit in its DOSHI Gallery entitled "Course and Discourse." The exhibit paired works by students and their professors from central Pennsylvania colleges and universities.

March National History Day in Pennsylvania exhibits 2012 award-winning History Day displays and projects on view through June 23, 2013.

Student Art Exhibit The South Central Pennsylvania Arts and Writing Awards presented "Personal Perspectives," featuring 75 award-winning artworks by students in grades 7-12 from Adams, Cumberland, Franklin, York, and Dauphin counties through April 28, 2013.

Charter Day, March 10, saw the usual display of the original 1681 Pennsylvania Charter from King Charles II to William Penn. In addition to Pennsylvania Jack and displays from local preservation groups and historical societies, the new Giant Map of Pennsylvania was unfurled in Mammal Hall. The 20' x 30' map was donated to the Museum by the Pennsylvania Alliance for Geographic Education to enhance visitor experience. With a

grant from Penn National Insurance, State Museum educators worked with a team of students from Harrisburg High School's SciTech Campus to create programming for the map, relating locations of the dioramas in Mammal Hall to their locations on the map.

April

Objects of Valor Exhibit opened Friday, April 19, with a free reception from 7 to 9 p.m., sponsored in part by the Friends of the State Museum and in conjunction with 3rd in the Burg, a monthly celebration of Harrisburg's arts and entertainment venues.

Take Your Child to Work Day In conjunction with the annual national and state observance of "Take Your Child to Work Day." The museum invited Commonwealth agencies and their respective employees and children to a free day at the museum in Harrisburg on Thursday, April 25, 2013. The useum featured its new Giant Map of Pennsylvania. On this 20 x 30 foot floor map, students walked from the Delaware River to Lake Erie and all points in between in their stocking feet.

Volunteer of the Year Ceremony

Each year the PHMC honors its volunteers with a special ceremony and luncheon to pay tribute to the thousands of hours contributed to the agency by a dedicated corps of volunteers. More than 120 attended this year's celebration.

May

Store Deals * The State Museum Store was open for special deals and discounts on June 17 as both a "learn at lunchtime" and as May's 3rd in the Burg program.

June

Learn at Lunchtime The first of a three-part series where visitors meet the curators of the museum's new exhibition, "Objects of Valor: Commemorating the Civil War in Pennsylvania" was held on June 28. Curator Bob Hill talked to visitors about the exhibit and the museum's fascinating Civil War collections on the eve of the Battle of Gettysburg's 150th anniversary.

Art of the State: The 46th annual juried Art of the State Exhibition, co-sponsored by the State Museum and Jump Street and featured over 130 works by Pennsylvania artists in the Museum's 1st floor changing gallery. The opening reception drew more than 700 guests. First Lady and Commissioner Susan M. Corbett presented the Museum Purchase award.

*3rd in the Burg Program

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

The Bureau of Historic Sites and Museums had a dynamic year involving a multifaceted program of services and achievements across the system. Numerous maintenance and improvement projects have helped preserve buildings and structures, while quality programming has attracted, entertained and educated a growing number of visitors. Other initiatives have been put in place, some in an effort to raise funds and others to raise the profile of our sites. As a result of the bureau director's retirement, new bureau leadership has injected new energy, ideas and vision into the Bureau. Our partner properties (those that lost PHMC administrators and staff in 2009) are reaching out to their local communities to build support, while the boards are growing in capacity. PHMC and the Pennsylvania Department of General Services (DGS) are continuing to work with the state legislature in regard to the old Placed Properties, to refine the process of transferring ownership of these properties to local groups. The goal is to maintain preservation and public access for these local historical resources, while removing them from PHMC's area of responsibility. Most significantly, the collaborations and partnerships that have expanded or been put in place in the past year are improving sustainability of our sites.

Infrastructure, Maintenance and Improvements:

- At Cornwall Iron Furnace, Cornwall, Lebanon County, a restoration/stabilization project began to preserve the furnace and related historic structures. This includes re-pointing the furnace, installation of a vapor barrier, repairing damaged cat walks, repairing a stone wall and wooden elements, and painting.
- Drake Well Museum and Park, Titusville, Venango County, celebrated the completion of its five-year, \$8.75 million commonwealth capital project with the grand opening of its new 10,000 square foot, state-of-the-art petroleum exhibit, "There's a Drop of Oil and Gas in Your Life Every Day."
- The sewage treatment plant was completed at Eckley Miners' Village, Weatherly, Luzerne County.
- At Old Economy, Ambridge, Beaver County, after 10 years of research and planning, the restoration of the George and Frederick Rapp Houses got underway in 2012-2013. The furnishings throughout the house were removed and placed into artifact storage in preparation for the restoration.
- A Visitor Center expansion and renovation project began at the Pennsylvania Lumber Museum, Galeton, Potter County, in late April 2013.
- The Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania, Strasburg, Lancaster County, gained approval from Strasburg Township for the roundhouse design concept, a collaborative effort among architects, DGS and township and county planners.
- Washington Crossing Historic Park, Washington Crossing, Bucks County, celebrated the completion and grand opening of a new \$4.6 million visitor center. PHMC collaborated with DGS on the construction and Washington Crossing worked with local historical societies for the installation of a small opening exhibit.
- Washington Crossing received a \$7.2 million Capital Release for site repairs.
- Washington Crossing completed a \$900,000 renovation of the Upper Park Waste Water Treatment Plant, in collaboration with DGS.

Collections and Stewardship:

- A new Standards Program was instituted by the bureau in an effort to ensure that both governance and museum-related standards are achieved at all BHSM sites. A particular focus of this program revolves around maintaining standards at the partner properties, which is being facilitated through a mentor program matching administered sites with partner properties.
- As part of PHMC's initiative to improve the accuracy of collections management records, and gain a true assessment of the agency's holdings, Cornwall Iron Furnace was selected as an inventory test site. An inventory of the entire collection was conducted on both previously catalogued and non-catalogued objects (including photography and renumbering where necessary).
- Drake Well Museum partnered with volunteers from Edinboro University History Club, Edinboro University Anthropology Club and University of Pittsburgh at Titusville students to successfully move Drake Well Museum's library, as well as its entire collection of artifacts, manuscripts and photographs from temporary storage to the museum's newly renovated and updated collections storage area. These materials had been inaccessible since construction on the museum's exhibit building commenced in 2009.
- At the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania, the site undertook repair of the wooden pilot beam of an 1888 PRRH3 locomotive; asbestos abatement of a Bethlehem Fireless steam locomotive; and continued progress on restoration of 1914 PRR E6s locomotive.

School Groups and Visitation:

- The Anthracite Heritage Museum, Scranton, Lackawanna County, completed a school tour agreement with 15 school districts in Broome and Tioga counties of New York State for school tours in 2013-2014.
- Summer Camps were offered at many sites, including Brandywine Battlefield Park, Chadds Ford, Delaware County; the Pennsylvania Military Museum, Boalsburg, Centre County; the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania; Daniel Boone Homestead, Birdsboro, Berks County; Old Economy Village; and the Anthracite Heritage Museum.
- From Drake Well an innovative educational outreach program, MEET-U (Mobile Energy Education Training Unit), visited 52 schools and events this year, educating 23,101 people (including 6,878 children) about petroleum history, fossil fuels, alternative energy initiatives and the scientific and environmental issues facing the energy industry. Sponsors included Universal Well Services, PIOGA, Penneco, Hunting Titan, IOGA NY, Snyder Brothers, Inc., Natural Energy Development Corp., Fleming Family Foundation, Jesse Peters Foundation, DE Limited Family, Pennsylvania Propane Association, Chevron, Seneca Resources, Hunter Truck Sales, Shell and XTO.
- For the first time at Ephrata Cloister, Ephrata, Lancaster County, all four Ephrata Area School District elementary schools attended the Community Days school program.
- Landis Valley Village and Farm Museum, Lancaster, Lancaster County, was successful in increasing school visitation to its education programs.
- Visitation to Old Economy grew by 7 percent during the fiscal year thanks to increased marketing and programs such as Beaver County Tourist Days.
- On Charter Day, March 10, 2013, the board of Conrad Weiser Homestead, Womelsdorf, Berks County, officially reopened the site to the public under a new management agreement with PHMC.
- A tour bus visited the Joseph Priestley House, Northumberland, Northumberland County, in July 2012, with attendees from the Biennial Conference on Chemical Education being held at the Pennsylvania State University. The visitors came from many different states and countries for the conference, and choose the Priestley House tour as a conference session.

Programs:

- The Anthracite Heritage Museum reported that more than 1,750 people attended its annual Arts on Fire program.
- Lantern Tours at Ephrata Cloister enjoyed record attendance in December 2012.
- At Landis Valley Village and Farm Museum, the extremely popular Lancaster Long Rifle exhibit was extended until June 2013. A statewide Institutional Award of Merit was given to the exhibit and related programs by PA Museums.
- The Old Economy Village Gardens featured two distinct concerts in 2012-2013. The historic rock band Survivor took the stage for an August 2012 show. River City Brass closed out the year with an evening concert in June 2013.
- Pennsbury Manor, Morrisville, Bucks County, hosted its inaugural Brews and Bites program.
- The Pennsylvania Lumber Museum held its 39th annual Bark Peelers' Convention event on the weekend of July 6-7, attracting approximately 1,500 visitors.
- A new program at the Pennsylvania Military Museum, called Kids Day, allowed kids of all ages to try on uniforms from the museum's education collection. Education stations in the museum's galleries offered additional activities and exploration for visitors.
- The Pennsylvania Military Museum hosted Peoples' Choice Arts Festival, an annual arts and crafts festival featuring the best of Pennsylvania's artisans.
- The Pennsylvania Military Museum offered Vietnam Revisited and WWII Revisited living history programs such as bivouac and tactical demonstrations with reenactors portraying combat soldiers of the eras.
- Washington Crossing held its annual December 25 crossing of the Delaware River program.
- At the Heritage Day & Craft Fair on October 14, 2012, the Friends of the Daniel Boone Homestead, Birdsboro, Berks County, opened a new exhibit entitled "Myth & Truth: America's First Frontiersman" during its annual Heritage Day celebration. The living history event attracted 375 people and included a variety of 18th-century demonstrations, trades and hands-on activities, as well as a new craft fair.
- At Charter Day & Craft Fair on March 10, 2013, the Daniel Boone Homestead joined PHMC sites in offering free admission and an open house. Highlights included hearth cooking, meat smoking, log hewing, textile processing, horn making and Native American Culture presentations. The site saw a personal best in attendance with approximately 1,400 visitors.
- The Daniel Boone Homestead's annual summer evening program Evening on the Green attracted a record attendance of 215 people in June 2013. Visitors listened to music on the lawn from 6 to 7 p.m. and then enjoyed wine and mead tastings in the Bertolet Log House. Volunteers offered blacksmithing demonstrations and guided tours of the Boone House and Bertolet Log House. Horse-drawn wagon rides were offered throughout the historic area, and visitors watched old-fashioned ice cream making demonstrations in the Boone Yard.

Other Initiatives:

- Landis Valley Village and Farm Museum introduced e-commerce to the Museum Store.
- Landis Valley Village and Farm Museum published a new book on Henry Landis's photography.
- Pennsbury Manor was able to make significant improvements to the site through fundraising. The site completed a \$120,000 path improvement project, which was partially funded by a grant. Pennsbury also installed outdoor signage which was funded by an IMLS grant.
- Pennsbury Manor appeared in an episode of "700 Club" and also filmed with MTV.

- The board of Bushy Run Battlefield, Jeannette, Westmoreland County, has been successful in fundraising for a monument that will help commemorate the 250th anniversary of the Battle of Bushy Run.
- The Friends of the Daniel Boone Homestead debuted its children's book, *Daniel Boone's Boyhood Adventures in Colonial Pennsylvania*, written by Museum Director Amanda Machik and funded by a generous donation from the Children of the American Revolution.

Staff Changes:

- Brenda Reigle was named acting bureau director in January, upon the retirement of Steve Miller. Reigle was later promoted to the permanent bureau director's position.
- Melissa Mann was hired as the site administrator at Drake Well Museum, following Barbara Zolli's retirement.

Collaborations and Partnerships:

- Landis Valley, Ephrata Cloister and the Railroad Museum are all participating in a library pass program with the Lancaster County Library System. This program allows library users to "check out" an admission pass to the respective museum or historic site.
- In several instances BHSM sites have offered meeting space to other agencies or community groups to facilitate training programs or host public meetings. Examples include:
 - At Anthracite Heritage Museum, the Pennsylvania Game Commission hosted five Hunter-Trapper Education Training Sessions in the museum's auditorium.
 - Pennsbury Manor co-hosted a teachers' workshop for the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) on land use, and an information session for the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission.
 - Pennsbury co-hosted a STEM workshop for gifted female students with Waste Management and other community partners.
- Many sites (including Eckley, Washington Crossing and the Somerset Historical Center, Somerset, Somerset County) worked with Pennsylvania Job Corps and/or with the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections, providing work opportunities.
- The Pennsylvania Lumber Museum collaborated with the Pennsylvania Hardwoods Council for assistance with the new exhibition script. The Lumber Museum is also working with DCNR, particularly Susquehannock State Forest, for maintenance and interpretation of its trail system, and for script assistance and donations of modern forestry artifacts for the museum's new exhibit.
- DCNR staff members remain active in the maintenance of the recently re-created birch still at the Pennsylvania Lumber Museum.
- As part of the effort to raise standards, the Bureau of Historic Sites and Museums has been working closely with the Pennsylvania Association of Nonprofit Organizations (PANO) to improve the capacity of associate groups and nonprofit groups across Pennsylvania through day-long training seminars and site-focused governance development sessions. The Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania achieved Tier One Certification in PANO's Standards for Excellence program
- The Greater Hazleton Area Civic Partnership, the driving organization behind the Hazleton Rails to Trails, has been working for several years to create a trail system from the Hazleton area to the Delaware and Lehigh (D&L) trail system that runs from Philadelphia through Allentown into the anthracite region along the Lehigh and Delaware rivers. A key component of the Hazleton Rails to Trails is to connect to Eckley Miners' Village. The system has the first four miles heading east from Hazleton open to users and is currently working on the next two miles, leaving them about two miles west of Eckley. This year

the group funded and began preparations for the first two miles of the trail heading west from the D&L toward Eckley. The two sections of trail will eventually meet at Eckley and provide a destination for bikers and hikers.

- Ephrata High School technology teacher Rod Myers and two students created four YouTube videos for Ephrata Cloister.
- Erie Maritime Museum and The Flagship *Niagara* League collaborated with the U.S. Navy, coordinating commemoration of the war of 1812 in port visits that *Niagara* attended with the tour of a Navy frigate and a patrol craft. These coordinated visits took place at various ports around the Great Lakes in the fall. Earlier in the summer *Niagara* visited Kingston, Ontario, Port Colborne, Ontario, and Marquette, Michigan (without the U.S. Navy frigate). Visitation in all ports totaled 30,000, and generated nearly \$300,000 of port income. *Niagara* also had 88 live-aboard trainees and 2,700 day sail students.
- Landis Valley Village and Farm Museum continued its partnership with Members 1st bank, providing a significant income stream for the site, helping it reach a new audience, and offering benefits to new Members 1st patrons.
- The Pennsylvania Military Museum hosted the 28th Division-U.S. Army reunion and memorial service sponsored by the Pennsylvania National Guard commemorating the Pennsylvania citizen-soldier.
- The Railroad Museum developed a new working relationship with Amtrak that will include cooperative programming and feature modern Amtrak equipment at the museum.
- Washington Crossing Historic Park, working with numerous stakeholders and partners, began developing a master plan to identify the park's best direction for the future.
- Bowman's Hill Tower at Washington Crossing Historic Park was used as a location for mounting State Police communications signal amplifiers.

Transfer of Properties:

- Ownership of the Customs House and Cashier's House has been transferred through state legislation to the Erie Art Museum.
- A 99-year lease was signed with the Borough of Prospect Park, Delaware County, for management of the Morton Homestead.
- Several other properties are pending legislative transfer.

List of Sites

Administered Sites

1. Anthracite Heritage Museum
2. Brandywine Battlefield Park
3. Cornwall Iron Furnace
4. Drake Well Museum and Park
5. Eckley Miners' Village
6. Ephrata Cloister
7. Erie Maritime Museum and Flagship *Niagara*
8. Landis Valley Village and Farm Museum
9. Pennsbury Manor
10. Pennsylvania Lumber Museum
11. Pennsylvania Military Museum
12. Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania
13. Old Economy Village
14. Washington Crossing Historic Park

Partner Properties

1. Bushy Run Battlefield
2. Conrad Weiser Homestead
3. Daniel Boone Homestead
4. Graeme Park
5. Hope Lodge and Mather Mill
6. Joseph Priestley House
7. Somerset Historical Center

Placed Property Program

1. David Bradford House
2. Old Mill Village
3. French Azilum
4. Judson House
5. Fort LeBoeuf
6. Museum of Anthracite Mining
7. Peace Church
8. Robert Fulton Birthplace
9. Tuscarora Academy
10. Warrior Run Church
11. McCoy House
12. U.S. Brig *Niagara*
13. Fort Pitt Museum
14. The Highlands
15. Old Chester Courthouse
16. Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve
17. Curtin Village

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Keystone Fund

Since its creation in 1993, the Keystone Recreation, Park and Conservation Fund has supported thousands of projects in many Pennsylvania communities, including nearly 600 historic preservation projects. To mark the fund's 20th anniversary, on March 18, 2013, the Keystone Partners took a moment to pause and reflect on its impact and honor several of its success stories. Gathered below the majestic dome of the State Capitol's grand rotunda representatives from several nonprofit fund partners, current and former state legislators and state agency directors presented awards to projects from throughout the commonwealth that exemplify the intent and impact of the Keystone Fund.

The Keystone Recreation, Park and Conservation Fund is a critical dedicated funding source for recreation and conservation projects, libraries, historic preservation initiatives and higher education. Established in 1993 with an overwhelmingly approved voter referendum, a 48-0 vote in the state Senate and a 196-3 vote in the House, the Keystone Fund automatically receives 15 percent of the state's realty transfer tax. Since its establishment, the fund has helped conserve more than 130,000 acres of green space, supported more than 1,900 park projects and funded 570 historic preservation projects and more than 200 library projects.

Proceeds from the Keystone Fund are divided among several state agencies, including the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Education, State System of Higher Education, and the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC). PHMC uses its allocation of Keystone Funds to support state-owned historic sites and museums, in addition to providing grant funds to non-profit organizations and municipal governments for community-based historic preservation projects.

While it is likely that many of the resources and communities supported by our partner agencies are historic in themselves (such as Carnegie libraries, trails along canals, historic farms and rural villages), Keystone grants offered by PHMC remain the only state-funded assistance specifically for historic preservation projects. This includes both bricks-and-mortar projects and non-capital projects such as the preparation National Register of Historic Places nominations, architectural plans and re-use studies. The winning historic preservation project was the Pearl S. Buck House in Perkasio, Bucks County. Home to the Nobel Prize-winning author and philanthropist, this National Historic Landmark served as her residence and as the headquarters for her foundation, the Pearl S. Buck International. The author used her influence as a writer to help children throughout the world through adoption, sponsorships and in-country programs. Keystone funds of \$135,000 helped support the \$2.8 million preservation of the historic main house. The funds were instrumental in leveraging other private and public funding to restore the house, which was at risk of closing its doors because of safety issues, structural problems, significant water damage and general disrepair. The third and final phase of the restoration of the house is currently underway and a grand reopening is planned for June 26, 2013, the author's 121st birthday.

Eastern State Penitentiary Historic Site in Philadelphia and the Ambler Theater, Montgomery County were presented with Honorable Mentions for their achievements using Keystone funds.

The awards were presented by a coalition of non-profit partners who work with and on behalf of the entities which most directly benefit from Keystone Funds. The

coalition partners include Preservation Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Growing Greener Coalition, Pennsylvania Land Trust Association, Pennsylvania Library Association, Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation and the Pennsylvania Recreation and Parks Society. Among those present at the ceremony were PHMC Executive Director James M. Vaughan and Bureau for Historic Preservation Director Jean Cutler. Dignitaries at the ceremony included several of the original legislative champions of the Keystone Fund including former Lieutenant Governor Mark S. Singel, former state Senator F. Joseph Loeper, former state Representative William Lloyd and former Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Community Affairs Karen Miller.

The Coalition also presented the results of a recent economic impact study of the Keystone Fund, which found that projects supported by the fund help create jobs and generate revenue, increase the value of nearby properties, boost spending at local businesses, make communities more attractive places to live, influence business location and relocation decisions, reduce medical costs by encouraging exercise and other healthy outdoor activities, provide low or no-cost recreation to families, stabilize local taxes in the communities in which they are located and help revitalize depressed areas.

State Historical Markers

Summer 2013 was filled with interesting state historical marker dedications. In June the Williamson Free School of Mechanical Trades received a historical marker. This unique Delaware County institution was founded in 1888 in response to the decline of the apprenticeship system in the late 19th century. Still offering all of its students full scholarships, the school provides many of its students vocational opportunities they might not otherwise have been able to afford. It served as a model for the Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology, Lancaster, and the Milton Hershey School, among others, and is credited with establishing the “Williamson Model for Change.” It boasts a beautiful 32.5-acre campus replete with original buildings designed by noted Philadelphia architect Frank Furness.

Also in June, the Pennepack Baptist Church, the oldest permanent Baptist church in the Commonwealth, was recognized with a marker in Philadelphia. In a rather unique circumstance, a marker for the Black Boys Rebellion was dedicated at Fort Loudon, Franklin County. A 1955 marker entitled Widow Barr Place had long been missing from this location. With financial support of the Franklin County Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, PHMC was able to revise the title and text of this marker to better reflect the significance of the site and the event. The Black Boys Rebellion involved a group of local settlers who conducted raids on British supply shipments in protest of the British negotiations with the Indians. The settlers had been plagued by Indian raids and opposed dealings with the natives. A skirmish occurred on the site of the Widow Barr Place in 1765, which is considered by many to be the first armed resistance to British rule — a precursor to the American Revolution.

July saw the dedication of a marker for Scotland School for Veterans’ Children in Greene Township, Franklin County. This 1895 state-run institution was established to educate veterans’ children from throughout Pennsylvania. Most students were either orphans or from single-parent families. The school initially focused on providing an training in the trades, as the Pennsylvania Soldiers’ Orphans Industrial School, intended to provide the students with a sense of self-sufficiency. Its curriculum became more traditional in recent years, and the school’s teams achieved notable success in scholastic sports. Among the first state-operated schools for veterans’ children in the nation, at its closing in 2009 it was also the last. Many former students returned for the dedication.

There were four marker dedications in August. Schuylkill County was recognized as “Little Lithuania, USA,” having the largest percentage of Lithuanian heritage within its population of any county in the nation. The marker is located in Shenandoah, but the dedication took place at the Schuylkill Mall in Frackville. The unveiling was part of one of the longest consecutive ethnic celebrations in the country, Lithuanian Days, sponsored by the local Knights of Lithuania chapter. Traditional Lithuanian dances were performed, Lithuanian songs were sung and, of course, delicious Lithuanian dishes were served as part of the celebration.

The Mason-Dixon Survey marked its 250th anniversary this year in Philadelphia, where a marker was dedicated at the starting point of the survey. One of America's most famous borders, the Mason-Dixon Line separates Pennsylvania and Maryland. It was the traditional line of demarcation between the North and the South during the American Civil War. A unique organization was recognized in Ashland, Schuylkill County, the Ashland Boys' Association (ABA). Established in the early 1900s, the group sponsored annual homecoming events to welcome the many former miners that dispersed throughout the state and nation when the local anthracite mines began to fail. The ABA also raised money to erect the *Mother's Memorial*, a prominent landmark in the community. The marker is placed at the base of this impressive monument. The celebration included an address by the current Miss Pennsylvania and a parade.

The highlight of summer marker dedications had to be that for the Banana Split in Latrobe, Westmoreland County. David Stricker of Latrobe is credited with creating the first banana split in 1904. The city organized a weekend-long event which featured a sock hop, bubble gum-blowing and limbo contests, a flash mob, a banana baking contest, a song competition and more. The local St. Vincent's College was involved in the event as were local service and community groups. Dole Food Company sponsored the event, donated hundreds of bananas for the celebration, and sent their mascot Bobby Banana to represent the company throughout the weekend. The marker dedication was the kick-off event for the festival, and Latrobe native Arnold Palmer participated. The first ever Great American Banana Split Festival received great media coverage and was a rousing success. Judging from the many photographs — both professional and avocational — taken throughout the weekend, a great time was had by all.

Federal Tax Credit Program

In FY 2012-2013, 33 rehabilitation projects were completed, generating more \$300 million in construction costs related to the preservation and re-use of these historic properties.

Projects included

Market Place Square, Pittsburgh

Downtown Pittsburgh struggled to provide an energized purpose for many abandoned and underutilized buildings in the Fifth and Forbes corridor. As the area suffered from disinvestment, the City of Pittsburgh became the de facto developer of the area for many years. After the failure of numerous retail stores the city pursued with an outside, private developer.

In May 2006, the city selected Millcraft Industries to develop a mixed-use development consisting of residential rental "workforce" housing units with first floor retail and space for the local YMCA. This project involved the redevelopment of five dilapidated, but historically significant buildings, including the nostalgic G.C. Murphy building.

US Bancorp CDC served as both NMTC and Historic Tax Credit investor, and US Bank National Association Pittsburgh's office participated in its first NMTC transaction as leverage lender. The CDEs provided both debt and equity financing. Additional funding sources included: Historic Tax Credit equity; Commonwealth Redevelopment Capital Assistance Program (RACP) grant funds; and City of Pittsburgh Housing and Redevelopment Assistance Program soft debt.

The Market Square development won a Commonwealth Award Gold Medal for "Best Mixed Use Development" in Pennsylvania.

Project Details

- Mixed-use development
- Historic rehabilitation
- 27,000 square feet of retail space
- 45,000 square foot YMCA
- 46 loft-style apartments

Community Impacts

- Created an estimated 227 construction jobs and 98 permanent jobs
- Provided 46 affordable apartments
- Rehabilitated five historic buildings

Wilkes-Barre YMCA

The project involves the acquisition (via long-term lease) and adaptive re-use of the Wilkes-Barre YMCA, a five-story, 97,655 square foot building originally constructed in 1934. In addition to a pool, gyms and fitness center, the property has apartments that will be renovated as part of the project. The apartments were traditionally leased through Wilkes University; however, the lease arrangement with the school expired in May 2011.

The YMCA is a major community anchor in Wilkes-Barre, serving 2,000 patrons during the week and 1,000 patrons per day on weekends. The decision to renovate, versus relocate outside the city, was based on desire to continue to serve low income persons concentrated in the city. Currently the YMCA provides approximately \$400,000 in financial assistance to low income members of the Wilkes-Barre community each year and 55 percent of its members receive some form of financial assistance.

The project consolidated YMCA operations to the lower floors and basement, while renovated apartments will occupy upper floors. The reconfigured building area is split between the YMCA (76,600 square feet) and 21 residential apartments (totaling approximately 21,000 square feet) marketed directly to Wilkes University students.

The property was developed in conformance with New Markets Tax Credits requirements for mixed use facilities, whereby residential lease revenue comprises less than 80% of total building revenue. In addition, the rehabilitation of the building was certified by PHMC and the National Park Service for federal historic preservation tax credits.

Total project costs including placement and legal were roughly \$16 million. Financing consisted of a New Market Tax Credit allocation of \$7.25 million, an affiliate loan of \$3.942 million loan from the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency, \$5 million in Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (“RACP”) grants and \$1.7 million in historic tax credits.

Project Details:

- 97,655 square feet for fitness/recreation center and residential rental units
- Historic rehabilitation

Community Impacts:

- Retention of anchor community center serving 4,000 people per week in a severely distressed area
- Rehabilitation of historic structure
- Creation of estimated 100 construction jobs and retention of 20 full-time staff
- Construction of 21 apartments to house 56 students

PHMC is a statewide system of programs and services that supports the preservation of the Commonwealth’s unique historical and cultural character. The agency is responsible for safeguarding 464 buildings, 3,504 acres, 500,000 square feet of exhibition space, 5 million objects and artifacts, 220 million pages of state government records and more than 2,600 state historical markers. The Pennsylvania Trails of History’s historic sites and museums serve one million visitors and exert an economic impact of more than \$45 million in tourism spending annually. The State Historic Preservation Office manages federal tax credits projects totaling \$4.1 billion. Each of the five bureaus also provides a wide range of statewide services and outreach to individuals, communities, local governments, educational institutions and other state agencies.

PHMC Budget Summary

Summary of Funding Sources	2012–2013	2013–2014
State Funds	\$26,243,000	\$29,108,000
Federal Funds	\$2,519,000	\$2,530,000
Special Funds	\$2,567,000	\$2,760,000
Total	\$31,338,000	\$34,398,000

State Funding	2012–2013	2013–2014
General Government Operations	\$16,649,000	\$17,293,000
Cultural and Historic Support Grants	\$1,151,000	\$2,000,000
Non-Preferred Institution Grants	\$0	\$0
Keystone Fund	\$8,443,000	\$9,815,000
Maintenance Program	\$0	\$0
Other State Funding	\$0	\$500,000
TOTAL STATE FUNDING	\$26,243,000	\$29,108,000

Employee Headcount

	2012–2013	2013–2014
Salary	210	210

[Return to Table of Contents](#)