

# THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE



The Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office is the official historic preservation agency for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

A bureau within the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission, PA SHPO administers several federal programs created by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470), in addition to many state programs authorized through the Pennsylvania History Code (Title 37).

PA SHPO uses its resources to educate, encourage and enable Pennsylvanians to value and preserve Pennsylvania’s history and culture. Our role is to identify, promote and protect the architectural and archaeological resources of the commonwealth. PA SHPO works with state and federal agencies, individuals, communities, and local governments to balance development needs with the retention, reuse and preservation of Pennsylvania’s priceless heritage.

Through our many partnerships, we assist communities in the process of incorporating preservation strategies into development goals that balance their history with economic development and growth.

## PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL & MUSEUM COMMISSION

PHMC is the commonwealth’s official history agency and is composed of five bureaus: the Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office, The State Museum of Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania State Archives, Historic Sites & Museums, and Management Services. PHMC provides a wide range of services and facilities to Pennsylvanians and serves as the repository of the commonwealth’s historical, archaeological, geological and natural history collections.

The responsibilities of PHMC are based in the Pennsylvania Constitution and are further defined in the History Code and the Administrative Code. The primary duties include the following:

- the conservation of Pennsylvania’s historical and natural heritage
- the preservation of public records, historic documents and objects of historic interest
- the identification, restoration and preservation of architecturally and historically significant sites and structures.

PHMC’s commissioners meet four times a year in March, June, September and December. Its meetings are open to the public.

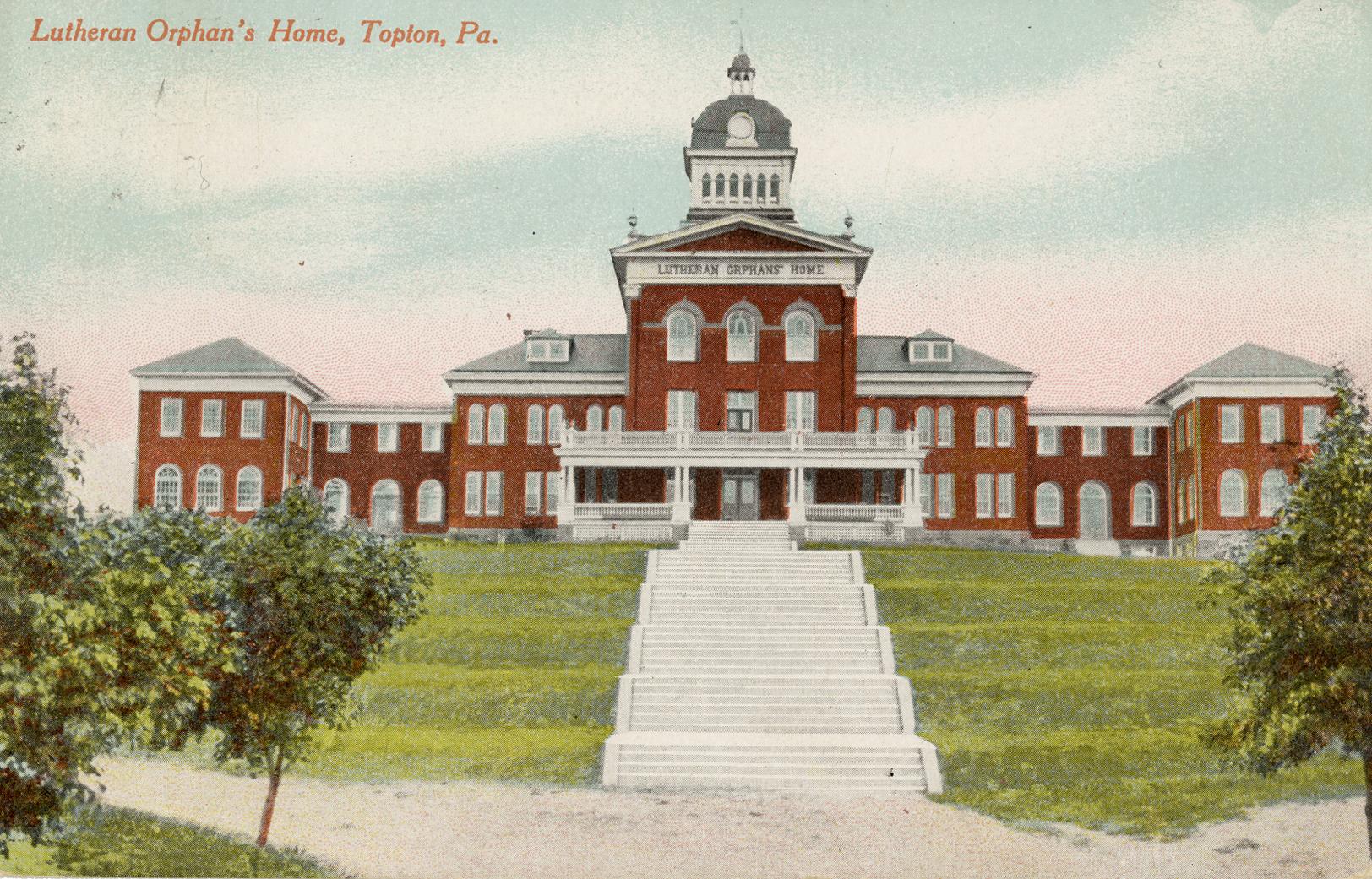
### PHMC Commissioners

Nancy Moses, Chair  
Ophelia Chambliss  
Andrew E. Dinniman, Senator  
William V. Lewis Jr.  
Andrew E. Masich  
Robert F. Matzie, Representative  
Frederick C. Powell

Pedro A. Rivera,  
*Secretary of Education, ex officio*  
Robert Savakinus  
Joseph B. Scarnati III, Senator  
David Schuyler  
Kenneth Turner  
Philip Zimmerman

### PHMC Administration

Andrea W. Lowery, Executive  
Director and State Historic  
Preservation Officer



## HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD

Each state historic preservation program is required by the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, to maintain an adequate and qualified state review board. In Pennsylvania, this is known as the Historic Preservation Board and includes 15 members appointed by the governor.

The board is a primarily professional body that provides advice on historic preservation matters. "Primarily professional" means that the majority of the members must meet minimum professional requirements established in regulation by the National Park Service and represent certain professional disciplines established by the act. Duties of the Historic Preservation Board include the following:

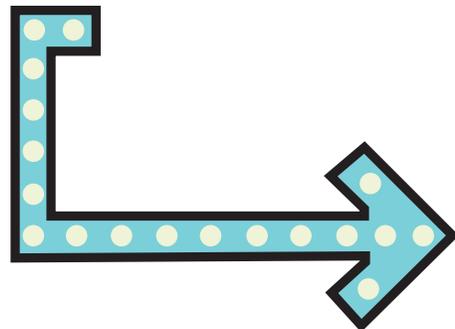
- reviews National Register nominations and nomination appeals
- reviews and provides advice about Pennsylvania's Statewide Historic Preservation Plan and the State's annual Historic Preservation Fund grant
- Provides general advice and guidance to the State Historic Preservation Officer (PHMC's executive director)
- Performs other duties as may be appropriate

## PA SHPO ADMINISTRATION

Andrea L. MacDonald, Director of the State Historic Preservation Office and Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

## PA SHPO DIVISIONS

PA SHPO is divided into four units under the supervision of the Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer. Together, the divisions provide public outreach, education, training and technical assistance to all constituents.





## **CULTURAL RESOURCES GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM (CRGIS)**

The CRGIS Division manages a map-based inventory of the historic and archaeological sites and surveys stored in PA SHPO's archives in Harrisburg. The web-based mapping system displays approximately 23,992 archaeological sites and 133,344 historic properties. CRGIS also provides downloadable PDF versions of National Register nominations and archaeology reports. CRGIS is a partnership between PHMC and the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, with financial support from the Federal Highway Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, the Baltimore District of the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

The Environmental Review Division manages the consultation process for project reviews that may affect archaeological and historic resources in cooperation with state and federal agencies under the National Historic Preservation Act and the Pennsylvania History Code. The staff works with federal and state agencies to identify interested citizens and organizations as consulting parties and considers ways to avoid, minimize or mitigate harm to archaeological and historic resources. In addition, the division provides guidance on archaeological surveys and investigations and is a primary sponsor for Pennsylvania Archaeology Month, observed in October. Project review is a significant component of PA SHPO's work, with more than 3,000 state and federal agency projects reviewed annually.

## **PRESERVATION INCENTIVES**

The Preservation Incentives Division administers PHMC's cultural and museum support and historic preservation and construction grant programs; monitors covenants and easements for properties under the authority of PHMC; serves as the first point of contact for applying for the federal Historic Tax Credit (HTC) program in partnership with the National Park Service and Internal Revenue Service; provides review services for the state Historic Preservation Tax Credit (HPTC) program in partnership with the Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development; and administers the Pennsylvania Historical Marker Program and provides ongoing marker maintenance.

## **PRESERVATION SERVICES**

The Preservation Services Division manages the survey and inventory programs for historic resources, assists property owners with the preparation and nomination of properties to the National Register of Historic Places, and develops historic context studies. Preservation Services also provides community preservation planning assistance to local governments and preservation organizations through the Certified Local Government (CLG) program, the Local Historic District Act, and the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code.

## **PENNSYLVANIA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE CONTACT INFORMATION**

Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission  
State Historic Preservation Office  
Commonwealth Keystone Building, 2nd floor  
400 North Street  
Harrisburg PA 17120-0093  
Telephone (717) 783-8947

PA SHPO also maintains two field offices. The eastern region office is located at Hope Lodge in Montgomery County and the western region office is in Point State Park, Pittsburgh.