Preservation 50: What Does It Mean to You?

Tuesday, June 7, 2016
3:30 – 5:00

PA Statewide Conference on Heritage
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Sponsored by
Janet S. Klein
The State Historic Preservation Board

Reviews National Register nominations
Advises on Statewide Historic Preservation Plan
Provides general advice and guidance to SHPO
1) Statewide Historic Preservation Plan Update
2) Preservation Challenges → Tools → Impacts
   a) Presentation
   b) Discussion
Update: Statewide Historic Preservation Plan

Shelby Splain

PHMC Education and Outreach Coordinator
Community Connections: Planning for Preservation in Pennsylvania

Preparing for Pennsylvania's Statewide Historic Preservation Plan 2018-2022

Places

Values

Community

Heritage

People
Statewide Historic Preservation Plan

Fast Facts

- The PA SHPO issues a new statewide historic preservation plan every 5 years.

- The plan addresses the wide range of historic and cultural resources that represent PA’s communities.

- Public input, like taking our survey, helps identify issues and create a vision for the future of older and historic places in our communities.

- The statewide plan process is collaborative, with many diverse partners and voices.

- PA’s statewide plan will serve as a general guide for decision-making and a resource for communities.

- Adopting and implementing the plan’s goals can help solve preservation challenges in our communities.
Goals for Pennsylvania’s Statewide Historic Preservation Plan:

- Encourage **broad public participation** from communities of all types and sizes throughout the state
- **Collaborate** with local, regional, state, and federal partners
- Analyze trends that affect **historic resources**
- **Seek information** from other local, state, and federal planning efforts
- Identify and address **challenges unique to PA**
- **Influence** preservation policy in local and state governments
- Empower **local communities, organizations, and individuals** to action
Your input is valuable!

Please take a few minutes to complete our survey!

www.surveymonkey.com/r/PA_community_connections

Tell us about your community & what matters to you!
What should the future hold?
Preservation 50: What Does It Mean to You?

“It has been said that, at its best, preservation engages the past in a conversation with the present over a mutual concern for the future.”

—William Murtagh, first Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places

Overview
Preservation Perspectives: 19th Century

Patriotism, Romanticism and Historicism
People and events of the 18th century
Battlefields and monuments
Recording rather than saving buildings

Gettysburg
Increased academic inquiry
Focus on architectural history, design
Social, economic, industrial history
House museums, re-creations

Early 20th century

Charles Morse Stotz,
Toll House Near
Uniontown
Pioneering Pennsylvanians

1903 - State Archives
1905 - State Museum
1914 - Historical Commission

→ 1945: PHMC

Gov. Edwin Martin, 1945
Post World War II

Suburbanization
Interstate highway construction
Urban Renewal
→ Refocus on cultural and economic life

Callowhill East Redevelopment Project, 1969
1966

A seminal call to action

“We have tried to discover what we must do to rescue from certain destruction what remains of our legacy from the past, and how best to do that rescue work.” —Preface
National Historic Preservation Act of 1966

Established
- National Register of Historic Places
- Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
- Section 106 Review
- State Historic Preservation Offices

“This year we reach a milestone in the history of conservation . . . we will restore more land for more parks, for more playgrounds for our children to use, than we will lose to housing ventures, to highways, to airports, and to shopping centers.” — Lyndon Johnson at NHPA signing

October 15, 1966
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Tools
National Register of Historic Places
Properties of national, state and local significance worthy of preservation

❖ Is the National Register fulfilling its intended purpose?
❖ Are we listing too much? Enough diversity?
❖ Should the criteria for evaluation be reconsidered?
❖ Are research/description requirements a barrier to listing?
❖ Does the 50 year rule still make sense?
Secretary of the Interior’s *Standards*

*Guide preservation, rehabilitation, restoration and reconstruction*

❖ Should the *Standards* be revisited?
❖ Is it our *interpretation* of the *Standards* that should change?
❖ Are the *Standards* easily applied to mid-century resources?
❖ Do the *Standards* adequately address energy improvements? (e.g. solar panels, insulation)

Windows: Repair vs Replace

New Additions: shall not destroy historic character

New Construction: “differentiated...compatible”
Federal Historic Tax Credits

Established by Tax Reform Act of 1976

- 20% federal tax credit to “eligible” historic properties
- 10% to non-historic properties built before 1936

- Energy performance requirements?
- 5-year compliance / ownership period: Does it work?
- Usability of the federal credit due to syndication and IRS requirements?
- For the 10% credit: Change age from pre-1936 to 50-years-old?
Section 106
Considers the impact of Federal undertakings on historic sites

❖ Is Section 106 an effective tool for preservation?
❖ Should the Section 106 process be more stringent? Less?
❖ Are typical mitigation efforts enough?
Section 4f

US DOT Act of 1966 legislation
Applies only to DOT-funded projects
Considers the impact of DOT projects on public parks, wildlife areas and historic sites

❖ Is Section 4f an effective tool for preservation? If not, what changes would make it more effective?
❖ Should there be a similar tool for State or locally-funded transportation projects?
❖ Is the process for determining affected “historic sites” working?
1914: Historical Marker Program begins

1979: First annual preservation conference

Historical Marker Program
Annual Preservation Conference
Community Preservation Coordinators
Historic Context Development
Cultural Resources Essentials
CLG & Local Historic District Act Programs
Grants and Tax Credits

Federal and State Project Review
State Historic Preservation Board
Statewide Preservation Plan
Administer National Register Program
CRGIS
Assistance and Training
. . . and much, much more!
Pennsylvania History Code

1988 Legislation
Consolidated statutes related to PHMC.
State agencies to consult with SHPO to protect historic resources.

❖ What changes could strengthen the History Code?
Statewide Historic Preservation Plan

a preservation planning process with a statewide focus

❖ Is the Statewide Historic Preservation Plan relevant? Useful?
❖ Does a statewide approach still make sense?
❖ Who benefits most from the Plan?
❖ 2,500 Pennsylvanians completed a survey for the 2012-2017 Plan. Is that enough? How can we improve the response?
Local Historic Districts

1955: Philadelphia enacts first city-wide ordinance
1959: Lititz passes PA’s first local historic district ordinance
1961: PA becomes the 3rd state to enact enabling legislation
Land Development
Ordinances / Zoning

Form-Based Codes
Sign Ordinances
Property Maintenance Codes

1916 - NYC first zoning code
1920 - Lower Merion Twp: 1st in PA
1923 - Pittsburgh
1926 - Zoning upheld in Euclid v. Ambler
1933 - Philadelphia

Overlay Districts
Design Guidelines
Blighted and Abandoned Properties: Conservatorships / Land Banks

Reading, PA - Blighted Property Review Committee

Housing Alliance of Pennsylvania
Certified Local Governments
1980 Amendment to NHPA

45 in Pennsylvania
Provides exclusive funding and enhanced technical assistance
PA’s first 4 CLGs happened in the same year (1986):
Bristol, Gettysburg, Philadelphia and York

❖ Are CLGs meeting today’s needs?
❖ What changes would make it a more effective tool?
Local Planning Efforts.

- ... work best when there is local political buy-in for preservation
- Local Planning Commissions and County governments add historic preservation into comprehensive plans
- Using recommendations from the Statewide Historic Preservation Plan
- Identifying resources to be locally designated and protected
Easements and Covenants
Voluntary legal agreements

❖ Easement holders: Time, expertise and financial capacity to uphold responsibilities?
❖ What changes would ensure greater participation in this program and future success?

Excelsior Hall
The Conestoga View Almshouse
The Waidley-Trout House

Lancaster County Easement Examples
Technology

- CRGIS
- Social Media
- Non-Destructive Testing & Evaluation
- Aerial Archaeology
- 3D Imaging / Digital Documentation
- Georeferenced Photos
- Crowdsourcing
- Cloud Computing
- Solar panels on historic buildings
- ProjectPATH

...and drones!
Funding

Loans

Grants

Tax Credits

Create Earned Income

Crowdfunding

Easements
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Discussion
Preservationists Wear Many Hats

Planner
Historian
Archaeologist
Conservator
Engineer
Architect
Lawyer
Advocate
Administrator
SHPO
Educator
Elected Official
Curator
Docent
Consultant
Artisan
Craftsperson
Landscape
Architect

Facility Manager
Real Estate Analyst
Accountant
Activist
Property Owner
Cultural Resources Professional
Main Street Manager
Project Manager
Museum Manager
Writer
Heritage Tourism Director
Project Reviewer

Share Your Perspective... and more!
Topic Summary

National Register

“The Standards”

Section 4f

State History Code

Section 106

Tax Credits

Ordinances and Zoning

Easements and Covenants

CLGs
Where do we go from here?

- Engage Millennials in Preservation
- Respond to Climate Change
- Include Intangible Heritage
- Capture a Broader Story
- Document more than buildings, sites, districts, structures and objects
- Reach Underrepresented Communities
- Preserve places, not just buildings

Your thoughts?