The forty-sixth annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Historical Association was held on 14 and 15 October 1977, at Johnstown, Pennsylvania, jointly sponsored by the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown and the Cambria County Historical Society. Registration on Friday was at the Holiday Inn; on Saturday in Krebs Hall, U.P.J.

The first item on the program was a luncheon at 12:15 p.m. at the Holiday Inn, James Sheep of U.P.J. presiding. The invocation was spoken by William Doncaster, History Department, U.P.J. William Frassanito gave a fascinating slide and paper presentation, "Early Photography on the Gettysburg Battlefield." Various series of photographs taken by Alexander Gardner, Mathew Brady and others, including some of the most famous and dramatic war photographs of all time, had not been studied in detail and remained in a confused and neglected state for more than a century. By determining as accurately as possible who took the pictures, when the views were recorded and the specific scene each portrayed, he demonstrated the proper approach to the serious investigation of early photographs. They are not mere ornaments for historical studies, but are valid documents worthy of more professional attention than they have been given in the past.

There were three concurrent sessions in varying rooms of the Holiday Inn, beginning at 2:30 p.m. William Smith of U.P.J. chaired Session I. The theme, "Elite Behavior in Philadelphia around 1800" was explored by Robert Gough and Brodie Remington, both of the University of Pennsylvania. Gough said that residential segregation can be one indicator of social exclusivity. People who live near one another may be expressing a commonly felt membership in a group such as a social class. Wealthy Philadelphians at the end of the 18th century did not strongly
segregate themselves from the rest of the population. Within that wealthy stratum, other social and economic attributes had only a limited influence in the selection of residential location. When the level of the unit for analysis is reduced from the city as a whole to an individual ward, a greater degree of segregation, both by wealth and other attributes, can be found. This segregation, more precisely, clustering, was still limited, however, and affected only a minority of wealthy Philadelphians. The dominant pattern was for wealthy families to be non-exclusive in choosing sites for homes.

Remington examined the civic and social roles of prestige elites, those members of the community who exercise dominant influence over "social" affairs, from 1800 to 1844. He utilized biographical research and social records to identify Philadelphia prestige elites in 1800 and 1844 and to analyse aspects of their behavior. There was brief reference to significant economic, demographic and political changes, and also to historiographic and theoretical literature. He tried to demonstrate that prestige elites did not correlate highly with political and business elites and that schisms existed within the social sector. Prestige elites tended to shun political activism, increasingly turned away from entrepreneurial roles in favor of the professions and sought to erect ascriptively-based status criteria. Though fragmented along religious, political and familial lines, prestige elites succeeded in preserving a stable, secure world of their own, at the expense of power.

Session II was chaired by Opal Regan of U.P.J. The paper, "Response of the Unemployed to the Depression: Allentown, Pennsylvania," was read by Ernest Fricke of Indiana University of Pennsylvania. It explored the cooperative efforts made by the unemployed to better their condition in Allentown between 1930 and 1940. Early in the depression, churches, clubs, and fraternities of which the unemployed were already members were most important. Their many activities included gathering clothing and establishing employment bureaus. Later, collective self-help centered in new organizations, often initiated by the political left. Actions included opening soup kitchens, raising money to supplement incomes, fighting evictions, and performing as labor unions on projects. Usually without violence, the older and newer organizations helped improve the lot of the unemployed. Their usefulness varied inversely with the effectiveness of the relief system.
Thomas Coode of California State College delivered an essay on "The New Deal and Southwestern Pennsylvania Coal Miners." His major thesis was that the New Deal and the United Mine Workers of America acting in concert, penetrated the political and economic barriers that had isolated the miners in the coal fields and patches and served as a conduit in bringing greater political and economic equity to the miners. He described the long depression of Southwestern Pennsylvania miners, the virtual collapse of the UMWA, the resurgence of the union in 1933, the bargaining agreements in both the commercial and the captive fields, and the New Deal legislation which brought a new stability to the bituminous coal industry. The paper utilized appropriate secondary works, private papers of such individuals as Gifford Pinchot and Joseph F. Guffey, collections at the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library, and many interviews with veteran coal miners of Pennsylvania.

Session III was a panel on "History of the Jewish Community in Western Pennsylvania." The moderator was Ida Selawan, coordinator of the Pennsylvania Ethnic Heritage Study Center in Pittsburgh. Jacob Feldman of Sharpsville spoke on "Early Migration and Settlement of Jews in Western Pennsylvania." Marcia Frumerman of the National Council of Jewish Women, a resident of Pittsburgh, gave a slide presentation on "The Oral History Project." This is a volunteer project undertaken by the Pittsburgh Section, National Council of Jewish Women, between 1968 and 1972. More than 200 senior citizens who came to Pittsburgh from Eastern Europe between 1890 and 1924 were interviewed. The results were recorded in *By Myself I'm a Book* and were also presented by Marcia Frumerman and Gene Dickman as a workshop for the Oral History Association's Ninth National Colloquium. Vigdor Kavaler of Rodef Shalom Congregation, Pittsburgh, spoke on "Historical Sources of Jewish History in Western Pennsylvania."

Russell Weigley, P.H.A. President, presided at the annual dinner meeting beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Heritage Room of the Holiday Inn. The invocation was again given by William Doncaster. The President of U.P.J., Frank Blackington, graciously extended greetings from the host campus. The address, "Viet Nam: The Eisenhower Years," well-reasoned and interesting, was delivered by Norman Graebner, Stetinius Professor of History at the University of Virginia.

John Foster Dulles, as Eisenhower's Secretary of State, was among those American leaders who identified Indochina with Korea.
and thus viewed the former as a vital region where French resistance served the cause of containment. The Eisenhower administration accepted the assumptions of the Truman administration regarding Soviet and Chinese aid to North Viet Nam. Eisenhower warned against the U.S. getting involved in a land war in Asia. What made the threat to Indochina so grave was the supposition that communism was a global conspiracy centering in the Kremlin. This reduced Ho Chi Minh, a Marxist, to the status of a Soviet puppet and rendered his possible success a significant gain for the U.S.S.R. in its goal of world conquest. Vast U.S. aid was unable to prevent the French defeat of 1954 and the Eisenhower administration quickly supplanted the French with an American commitment to the new status quo in Southeast Asia. To achieve this purpose, the administration pursued two concurrent policies: a political program designed to create an effective regime in Saigon which could resist all further encroachments from the north and a military alliance (SEATO) capable of containing Ho's power should the far more preferable political program fail. By 1961 it was clear that both efforts were faltering and that the United States would soon retreat or fight.

U.S. policy carried seeds of disaster from the beginning, recognizing losers (Diem) rather than winners (Ho) as the government of Viet Nam. The Geneva Conference did not establish a basis for a stable government there. The seventeenth parallel was a superficial, artificial dividing line. SEATO was only a paper organization. The U.S. had created no anti-Communist armies in Asia. The basic cause of American involvement was the State Department's decision to support France.

The Executive Council of the Pennsylvania History Association met at 9:00 p.m. in the Schwab Room of the Holiday Inn. The program resumed on Saturday, 15 October, with the Phi Alpha Theta breakfast, hosted by Mahlon Hellerich. At 9:50 a.m., the annual business meeting convened in Krebs Hall, University of Pittsburgh, Johnstown, with about thirty-five members present and President Russell Weigley presiding. The reading of the minutes of the 1976 meeting was dispensed with, since they had been printed in the April 1977, issue of Pennsylvania History.

Business Secretary Stebbins reported, that as of 1 October 1977, there were 1108 members (including seven honorary and 15 life...
members), down from 1202 in October 1976. There is an extensive inventory of back copies of Pennsylvania History and an adequate supply of Pennsylvania History Study booklets. There are enough booklets to give free copies to new members. These studies will be continually advertised in Pennsylvania History. He will soon contract with University Microfilms for reproducing back issues of the journal, and thus have full runs. The proposed budget for fiscal 1978 includes $10,000 for the journal editor, $50 for the president's office, $1200 for the business secretary's office, $250 for the membership drive, $160 for research funds, $65 for the annual scholarship, and $400 for the committee, chaired by Hellerich, mentioned two paragraphs below. The total amounts to $12,175.

Treasurer Wright gave very optimistic report. There is a total balance of $21,586.11 of which $10,831.30 was in the investment fund, $11,400.10 in the publication account and $645.29 in the general account. Although the last figure seems low, it was really quite large since five issues of the quarterly journal had been paid from the general account in 12 months. (Only three issues had been paid from it in the previous year, October, 1975–October, 1976). Wright was quite pleased with both editor and printer of the journal. He felt that each issue could contain a few more pages.

Editor Cox of Pennsylvania History was unable to attend. His report was read by Weigley. There was a decrease in the number of acceptable articles in the spring and summer of 1977. A large number arriving in September are being evaluated. Weber has resigned as Book Review Editor and will be replaced by Charles Cashdollar of Indiana University of Pennsylvania as of 1 January 1978. Weber and Bauman (of PHMC) were added to the editorial board. The relationship between P.H.A. and Payne Printery has been cordial. Each issue in the past year has appeared in the month named on the cover or even earlier.

President Weigley discussed two committees: (1) Committee on the Status of History in the Schools of Pennsylvania; and (2) The State Committee to work with the National Coordinating Committee for the Promotion of History. The first committee, which was ad hoc until being made permanent in 1975, is in a precarious condition because of the illness and subsequent resignation of the chairman, Robert Clemmer. The second committee, chaired by Mahlon Hellerich, was granted $400 by the P.H.A. to aid in its work with the national committee.
Vice-President Coleman, also chairman of the Publications Committee, announced that committee's new membership: John Frantz, Benjamin Powell, and Irwin Richman. The Richman manuscript, *Pennsylvania Decorative Arts in the Days of Handicraft*, is the most likely possibility for a new booklet.

President Weigley reported for Research Committee Chairman Rodechko, who told of committee plans at the executive council meeting. That committee will meet in December to finish plans for the spring 1978 research conference. Tentative joint themes will be agricultural and urban history.

Weigley also reported for Membership Committee Chairman Hoffman, who had discussed his plans at last evening’s executive council meeting. New brochures and membership applications will be printed; an active recruitment campaign is in progress; all members were asked to submit suggestions for gaining members to Hoffman, to the Business Secretary or to President Weigley.

Chairman Kent of the Nominating Committee presented a slate of candidates: for Vice-President, Elizabeth Geffen (3-year term); for Treasurer, Richard Wright (3-year term); for Council, Ira Brown (2nd term), Harry Whipkey (2nd term), Herbert Ershkowitz (replacing Frantz), William Hummel (replacing Jennings), and G. Terry Madonna (replacing Robbins)—(all 3-year terms).

A resolution to thank retiring members of the Council for their services was enthusiastically passed.

The Resolutions Committee Chairman (and only member) Robert Carlson, presented resolutions of appreciation and gratitude to the host college and historical society, and to the local arrangements and program committees.

Tentative dates for the 47th annual P.H.A. meeting are 20–21 October 1978. The sponsors for this meeting in Philadelphia are Temple University and the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. Peter Parker and Herbert Ershkowitz are co-chairmen of local arrangements. Irwin Richman is program committee chairman.

The 48th meeting will be at California (Pennsylvania) in 1979, the 49th at Wilkes-Barre in 1980, and the 50th (Golden) at West Chester in 1981.

The annual business meeting adjourned at approximately 10:30 a.m.

The program resumed at 10:45 a.m. with three concurrent sessions. Session I, chaired by William Doncaster of U.P.J., was enlightened
by Cynthia Tonia of Arlington, Virginia schools, who read a paper, "Social Mobility in Pittsburgh, 1880-1920." John Bauman of California State College then spoke on "Patterns of Ethnic Mobility in a Southwestern Pennsylvania Coal Patch: Daisytown, 1910-1940." He used Jones and Laughlin Vesta-Shannopin Mine Division payroll records, census data, assessment records, and oral interviews, to examine rates of persistence, and property mobility for the 1910, 1920, 1930, and 1940 census years. He provided information about occupational mobility in a coal patch (Daisytown). From 1910 to 1940, Hungarian, Polish, Slavic, and Italian miners experienced geographic mobility rates in excess of those found by Stephen Thernstrom in his study of Boston. Many of those who remained in Daisytown experienced unusual property mobility measured in ownership of cows, horses, parcels of land, and houses. Prior to the mid-1920s those hardy enough to endure the miners' life accumulated property. Others, finding harsh conditions intolerable, left.

The Great Depression, by eliminating job opportunities elsewhere, greatly reduced geographic mobility and forced Daisytowners to rely more on ethnic tradition to maintain individual, family, and community.


The final event was a luncheon in the U.P.J. Student Union, with John F. Coleman of St. Francis presiding. Robert Van Wyk of U.P.J. gave the invocation. Benjamin Powell of Bloomsburg, with Mrs. Powell as projectionist, provided a slide and paper presentation, "Art and Economic Enterprise: The Work of Jacob Cist." He gave a brief biography of Cist who was a partner in the richest mercantile firm in northeastern Pennsylvania from 1808
to 1825, and became one of the leading pioneers promoting the Pennsylvania anthracite trade. His work involved drawing pictures of various craft industries which could use anthracite as fuel. These drawings were important in showing how to adjust grates so that hard coal could replace wood and soft coal, thus helping establish a market for anthracite among craftsmen. In addition Cist drew pictures of anthracite mines and the strata of the hard coal formation. His drawings helped convince merchants to invest in mines and construct transportation facilities to connect the anthracite formation with the Atlantic coastal cities. Dr. Powell's slide presentation showed how Jacob Cist used art to promote economic enterprise in the Pennsylvania anthracite trade.

The 46th annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Historical Association adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

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**DICKINSON COLLEGE**

at Carlisle, 19 December 1786

For the satisfaction of the friends and benefactors of this institution, and to encourage young men to come to a seminary, where they may receive a liberal education on the most reasonable terms; the trustees of this college at their last meeting, ordered a brief account of the college to be drawn up for publication, which is as follows.

The house in which the classes are taught at present, is situated in a pleasant part of the town, and is sixty feet long and twenty-three feet broad. Three large rooms are furnished for the purpose of teaching; there is also a library room, and an apartment for the philosophical apparatus.

The library already consists of two thousand seven hundred and six volumes, in the Hebrew, Latin, English, French, German, Low Dutch and Italian languages.

The tuition money is only five pounds per annum. . . . Boarding can be had at twenty-six pounds per annum, in genteel houses, including washing, mending, fire and candles . . . and the greatest attention will be paid to the morals of the students, by dr. Nisbet and dr. Davidson, who officiate in the Presbyterian church on Sundays.

[The Pennsylvania Herald, and General Advertiser, 10 February 1787]

Contributed by Ernest H. Schell, Temple University