NEWS FROM THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE ARCHIVES

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The State Archives is part of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) and is responsible for maintaining the permanently valuable records of the Commonwealth. The Archives’ web page is accessible by going to the PHMC website at: www.phmc.state.pa.us, and click on the left navigation link, “PA State Archives.”

Archives E-Newsletter Now Available

The State Archives is now publishing a biannual electronic newsletter, Access Archives, containing information about the Archives’ current activities and events; new acquisitions, and other information. Access Archives is available via a link on the Archives web page. Readers can subscribe to receive notices of new editions.

Oral History Webpage Now Available

The State Archives announces that a new Oral History web community has been added to the PHMC website. You can find it...
by going to the PHMC website at: www.phmc.state.pa.us and clicking on “Research” in the left navigation bar. Most of the excellent work for this resource page can be attributed to former Bureau member Linda Shopes and 2007 intern Sascha Weismeyer. Among the resources that you will find there include a brief history of oral history in Pennsylvania, guidelines for designing an oral history project, guidelines for conducting an oral history interview, form templates, a bibliography and links to other OH websites, and a listing of the OH collections in the State Archives.

2008–2009 PHMC Scholars in Residence

For more information about the Scholar in Residence Program visit the PHMC website at www.phmc.state.pa.us and click on the left navigation link, “Apply” or contact Joshua Stahlman, SIR Program director at: jostahlman@state.pa.us; or call 717-772-3257; or write SIR Program, 350 North Street, Harrisburg, PA 17120-0090. Applications are usually due the second Friday of each January.

The class of 2008–2009 includes:

April M. Beisaw, Binghamton University; Untangling Susquehannock Multiple Burials. Residency at the State Museum of Pennsylvania, Archeology Section. Ms Beisaw plans to utilize the museum’s archaeology collection in an attempt to establish a relationship between the Susquehannock and Shenk’s Ferry Indians. Growing data suggests that the unique burial method of these examples dictates a previously unknown relation.

Julian C. Chambliss, Rollins College; Perfecting Municipal Space: J. Horace McFarland’s Civic Vision. Residency at the Pennsylvania State Archives. Mr. Chambliss plans to examine the underutilized collection of Horace J. McFarland, an important figure in contributions to municipal development.

Kenneth DeLucca, Millersville University; Making Time Count: Pennsylvania Innovators Have Influenced Time Keeping. Residency at the State Museum of Pennsylvania. Kenneth DeLucca has been working with Beatrice Hulsberg and the museum’s artifact collection. He wishes to further pursue this research by documenting the PHMC’s holdings pertaining to time-keeping.
John M. Foster, Purdue University; *Defenders of the Home Front: The Contributions of Northern State Militias to the Union War Effort*. Residency at the Pennsylvania State Archives. Mr. Foster will be researching the muster rolls, pay rolls, activity reports, orders, correspondence and requisitions held at the archives in an effort to document the contributions of Pennsylvania’s Militia during the Civil War.

Tracy Neumann, New York University; *Planning Decline in Pittsburgh and Hamilton*. Residency at the Pennsylvania State Archives. Ms. Neuman will explore the nuances of post-industrial decline and redevelopment, in a comparison between the formerly steel-dependent areas of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Hamilton, Ontario. She will examine the records of the Department of Labor and Industry, Department of Commerce, Local Government Commission, and the Milton J. Shapp papers at the archives, as well as inspect the MILRITE publications held at the State Library.

J. Adam Rogers, Pennsylvania State University; *Yankee Odyssey: The Return and Readjustment of Pennsylvania’s Civil War Veterans*. Residency at the Pennsylvania State Archives. Mr. Rogers plans to search the archives’ local newspapers, personal accounts, government records, Soldiers and Sailors Homes records, Muster Out Rolls, Grand Army of the Republic collection, and county records to investigate the readjustment of Pennsylvania Civil War Veterans after the war.

Patrick S. Vitale, University of Toronto; *Nuclear Suburbs: Westinghouse and the Everyday Politics of the Cold War in Suburban Pittsburgh, 1937–1979*. Residency at the Pennsylvania State Archives. Mr. Vitale will examine the connections between the Cold War, suburbanization/deindustrialization in Pittsburgh, and the correlation with Westinghouse’s development of the atomic bomb. Mr. Vitale will study the archives’ collection of records pertaining to Westinghouse, the United Electrical Workers, the Allegheny Conference on Community Development, Pennsylvania Emergency Management, various governors’ records, State Planning Board and environmental records.