Remembering Mount de Chantal Visitation Academy:

The Mount was one of the first buildings recognized in the State of West Virginia when the National Register of Historic Places program began. Its nomination dates to 1978, the year I finished high school at a girls’ preparatory school in Ohio and the year I began my freshman year at Bryn Mawr College, one of the original Seven Sisters Colleges. And yes, both still provide education for women only, graduating amazing young people who follow challenging career paths.

Both campuses have changed in appearance since my matriculation. Most of my high school campus has changed; but the original “Manse” remains its centerpiece. At Bryn Mawr, the late nineteenth century dormitories, such as Merion Hall built in 1885, were renovated in the 1990s to address fire code requirements. And the College continues to use Thomas Library; a designated National Historic Landmark built in 1901.

I share this personal story so that you can understand why the demolition of the Mount was singularly distressing to me. As a historic preservationist, I also recognize the beauty and intrinsic worth of this c. 1865 building to the history of my adopted state, West Virginia. Yet the Mount was not protected from demolition. Although many believe that listing in the National Register prevents demolition; it does not. The owners have the right to do whatever they want, regardless of historic value or public sentiment.

My office’s letters to the property owner, along with those of alumni and local preservationists, went unanswered until after demolition began. Only then did we receive a brief explanation regarding the poor condition of the buildings. Maybe there were good reasons for the actions being taken, but they weren’t shared or discussed. Instead of providing us with information that could help us understand what happened, we all felt brushed aside and our concerns ignored. As salt in the wound, my office was sent the internet link for the salvage company which picked over the remains of the building. The lamp fixtures, stained glass, parquet floors, baseboards, and other decorative features were available for purchase. It was advertised as a “once in a lifetime” opportunity for the salvage company.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation has coined the phrase, “this place matters.” Yes, the Mount mattered. Sometimes, buildings are simply worth saving. The cost may be great and a sacrifice to the owner, but it’s the right thing to do. There certainly would have been support from a variety of sources. So, I am sad for the alumnae of the Mount; and my state which lost a fantastic piece of its heritage.

Requisecat en pace, Mount de Chantal!

- Susan Pierce
but the average heat loss through windows range from 10 to 25% and the average heat loss through the roof is approximately 25%.

Any window, new or old, will need maintenance; however, a contemporary window cannot be repaired, it can only be replaced. Many replacement windows are vinyl which is a non-renewable petroleum product and is not biodegradable. The combination of the material used and the embodied energy loss such as raw resources, processing, labor, and shipping energy, gives even more reason to attempt to keep the original windows. Money will need to be invested into windows regardless and by repairing the original windows it will benefit the local economy, the historical integrity of the home and help with the conservation of the environment.

There are times where nothing can be done for the original windows. If this is the case, buy replacement windows wisely. Replace with the same style of the current window to keep the architectural style and do not change the size of the original window. The more in common the replacement window is with the original will help keep the integrity of the building. For more information, www.nps.gov/hps/tps/weather/index.html. - Sara Prior
The following historic resources and districts were listed in the National Register of Historic Places November 2010 through December 2011. A complete list of listed properties in West Virginia is available on our website at www.wvculture.org/shpo/nr. – Erin Riebe

**Harpers Ferry Historic District (additional information)**
*Harpers Ferry, Jefferson County*

Located at the scenic confluence of the Shenandoah and Potomac Rivers in the Blue Ridge Mountains, Harpers Ferry was an important manufacturing and commercial town from the early nineteenth century to the outbreak of the Civil War when it became the scene of John Brown's raid. Following the Civil War, Harpers Ferry underwent a short-lived industrial and residential building renaissance. Mills, factories and hotels were constructed and prospered. This nomination updated the original 1979 nomination. (11/22/10)

**West Union Historic District**
*West Union, Doddridge County*

The completion of the Northwestern Turnpike in 1838 brought economic growth to the area of West Union, which became the county seat in 1845. The town continued to grow, especially following the completion of the B&O Railroad from Harpers Ferry in 1856. West Union was incorporated by the West Virginia Legislature in 1881. By the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries the oil and gas industry began to develop in Doddridge County. This very prosperous time for West Union coincides with the construction dates of many of the West Union homes. The architectural styles within the district are varied. However, collectively they represent the development and popularity of architectural styles from the late 19th to the early decades of the 20th century. (12/14/10)

**West Martinsburg Historic District**
*Martinsburg, Berkeley County*

This district includes portions of several subdivisions dating from the first half of the twentieth century. Most of the nominated area was first platted in 1912 as the Second Part “A” of the Rosemont Company’s Addition. Other portions of the district were laid out later as part of the Commanding View Addition and Winber Addition. The area developed in direct proportion to the growth of Martinsburg’s industrial base and is a reflection of the styles popular in the 1920s and 1930s. Styles of architecture represented within the nominated bound-
The state parks and forest system in West Virginia began in January 1925 when the State Game, Fish, and Forestry Commission purchased land in Pocahontas County as a wildlife and timber preserve. The Commission recommended areas of "outstanding scenic and natural attractiveness" to be purchased and administered by the Commission. These sites combined formed the basis of West Virginia's current state park system.

In 1933, the CCC and other Federal programs were formed under President Roosevelt to alleviate unemployment while developing long-term natural resources and recreational opportunities. That same year, the West Virginia Legislature established the Division of State Parks hoping to utilize the CCC, WPA and other Federal programs to continue developing the state park system. The State provided $75,000 for land purchases and the NPS provided the technical knowledge through engineers, planners, architects and others who designed the state parks. Hundreds of young men employed by New Deal relief programs in West Virginia were put to work in the state's parks and forests. (2/4/11)

The cover document, *New Deal Resources in West Virginia's State Parks and Forests*, was accepted 4 February 2011 with the following for parks (12 additional parks and/or forests are eligible under this MPD):

- **Hook's Tavern**
  *Capon Bridge, Hampshire County*

  The original section of Hook's Tavern was constructed during the period of settlement following the end of the French and Indian War when peace was restored to the region. Additions were made to the log building with its current appearance completed by the 1840s. The tavern/inn was an important stop for travelers along Northwestern Turnpike from the 1840s throughout its heyday. The building is also significant for its architecture. Hook's Tavern is an excellent example of a two-story, two-pen log building expanded by two pens. (4/29/11)

- **North River Mills Historic District**
  *North River Mills, Hampshire County*

  North River Mills Historic District is located in eastern Hampshire County at the intersection of two eighteenth century wagon roads. North River Mills was originally known as Parker’s Gap for Thomas Parker who received a land grant for property in the area in 1753. Following the French and Indian War more settlers began arriving in the area and a small community began to prosper. Due to its location on the wagon roads, one property served as an inn and tavern. The village also included three mills, providing for much of its industrial and commercial significance. Today North River Mills is home primarily to only seasonal visitors. In addition to the mills sites, the community also includes a store, cemetery, school, church, and a handful of houses, barns and privies. (5/4/11)
Harrisville Historic District
Harrisville, Ritchie County

Harrisville was first settled in 1801 by Lawrence Mealey and soon after, in 1807, by brothers, Thomas and John Harris. The Commonwealth of Virginia chartered Harrisville as a town in 1822 with plans for it to someday serve as a county seat. The original plat was land provided by Thomas Harris, who the town is named after. The development of the county was primarily due to its geographic location along two major east-west turnpikes that were constructed between the 1830s and 1850. With population in the county growing, Ritchie County was formed in 1843 from parts of Wood, Harrison, Lewis Counties, and Harrisville became the county seat. The county’s oil and gas boom peaked in the early twentieth century and Harrisville continued to grow. A garment factory that opened in the 1940s once again spurred development. It was not until the late 1950s that many businesses began moving from the downtown. The Harrisville Historic District consists of the historic downtown business area and adjacent residential sections of town. (8/18/11)

Ananias Pitsenbarger Farm
Franklin Vicinity, Pendleton County

The 130 acres of the Ananias Pitsenbarger Farm as it exists today is what remains of a larger farm whose boundaries have fluctuated over the years. The Pitsenbarger ownership dates to 1799 when Abraham Pitsenbarger purchased a parcel from the original land grant recipient. Since this time, and through 1973 when the last Pitsenbarger lived on the property, the farm has been a center of Germanic culture, folklore, and occult beliefs in Pendleton County. The farm is also an important example of a self-sufficient farming operation. Livestock and poultry were kept for food and clothing and trees were harvested for construction materials and for their fruits, nuts, and sap. The farm had its own beehives for honey production as well as its own woodworking shop, a sugar shack for processing maple syrup and maple sugar, and its own blacksmith shop for forging tools. It also had its own still house for production of cider and liquor. Traditional tools and methods were used for construction and harvesting, aided only with the power of horses and mules. It is a significant domestic and agricultural complex representative of the period beginning with the construction of the early outbuildings in the mid nineteenth century to the construction of the youngest outbuildings in the late nineteenth century and early twentieth. (8/18/11)

Davis Coal & Coke Administration Building
Thomas, Tucker County

The Davis Coal & Coke Administration Building was the field operating office and mining headquarters for the DC&C mines from 1900 until the company’s closure in 1950. Beginning in the 1880s the DC&C and its parent company, the West Virginia Central and Pittsburg Railway were the dominant and continuous presence behind many regional towns. The companies were the result of Henry Gassaway and Thomas Beall Davis’ business and political success in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The building played a long-term role in local employment, as dozens of local residents worked in the DC&C building during the first half of the twentieth century. During this period, untold numbers of employees, local citizens, politicians, businessmen, salesmen, and company luminaries passed through this building in their dealings with DC&C. The building represents the overall operations of the significant Davis Coal & Coke Company, not only during its heyday, but throughout the company’s existence. (10/6/11)

Capon Lake Whipple Truss Bridge
Hampshire County

The Capon Lake Whipple Truss Bridge was constructed over the
South Branch of the Potomac River near Romney in 1874 as a two-span, Whipple/Murphy Truss bridge. Squire Whipple’s 1847 patented design incorporated double-intersection diagonals into the standard Pratt truss, meaning that the diagonals extend across two truss bays. In 1863 J.W. Murphy modified the Whipple design by adding double-intersection counter-diagonals, which permitted longer spans. In 1937 one span of the bridge was moved to Capon Lake to provide access across the Cacapon River to Capon Springs. A new pier and abutments were constructed and the bridge was connected to a Pratt truss salvaged from another location. The new bridge was dedicated in 1938. In 1991 the Pratt truss was removed and the decking removed from the Whipple Truss. (12/15/11)

**Hickory Grove**
*Romney Vicinity, Hampshire County*

In 1838 a log house served as Adam Stump and his family’s first house on the property. The house was named Hickory Grove as it sat on a small bluff surrounded by large hickory trees. By 1849 a large addition was constructed of bricks made on the property by Stump and his slaves. The addition included two rooms and a large hall on each floor and a simple trabeated entrance, a characteristic type of bridge uses spans that cantilever out a distance over the piers; the weight of the fully supported end spans hold up the center cantilevered portions that meet in the middle from both sides. (12/15/11)

**Luna Park Historic District**
*Charleston, Kanawha County*

The Luna Park Historic District sits on land once part of the large nineteenth century Glenwood Plantation located west of Charleston’s commercial core. In the 1870s, the area became Charleston’s “west end” when settlement was bolstered, first by the construction of a bridge over the Elk River, and later by the construction of a railroad bridge. The west end began to grow rapidly with new home construction and new industries. Much of the Glenwood Plantation became the Glenwood Addition. Located within the core of the proposed historic district was Luna Park, a popular amusement park that opened in 1912 and closed after a catastrophic fire in 1924. Original plans were to rebuild. However, that proved costly. Instead, the area became a “beautifully plotted subdivision” of “ideally located home sites.” Though some houses predate this period, the majority of the houses within the district date from the 1920s and 1930s. By the start of World War II, the neighborhood was nearly built out with period-style architecture. The district is reflective of the small house movement where inexpen-

**Winfield Toll Bridge**
*Winfield, Putnam County*

When the Winfield Toll Bridge was built in 1955 it provided a major new transportation link across the Kanawha River between Winfield and Red House. Prior to its construction, the only way to cross the river in the area was by ferry. The bridge served as a badly-needed direct connection between Winfield, the county seat and economic center of the area, and surrounding small towns. The bridge is one of seven cantilever through-truss bridges in West Virginia and is exemplary in the use of this uncommon technology. This...
gressive techniques were perfected and period-style architecture was mass-produced, repeating styles over and over in smaller-scale houses throughout neighborhoods. (4/3/2012)

Buckhannon Residential Historic District
Buckhannon, Upshur County

Much of the area located within the proposed Buckhannon Central Residential Historic District was part of a farm once owned by John Smith. In 1892 Smith deeded some of his property to the city for public use. With streets and alleys in place, Smith’s farm was sold off, divided and platted over the following decades to meet the demands of the growing city. New houses were constructed in architectural styles popular at the time. Today, the district is comprised of approximately 110 acres of primarily single-family residential buildings. Of those, several along South Kanawha Street are credited to local architect Draper Camden Hughes. (4/16/2012)

Williamson Field House
Williamson, Mingo County

The Williamson Field House is located in the Williamson Memorial Park, which also includes one multipurpose field and a smaller Little League field. Planning for the facility began by the City of Williamson in 1946 to memorialize World War II veterans. Completed in 1951, the Williamson Field House can seat up to 6,000 spectators. Various sports competitions, community events, and entertainment shows have taken place in the facility. The community continues to use it today. (12/15/11)

New Staff at SHPO

John Adamik, Education and Planning Coordinator, joined the SHPO staff in June 2012. He grew up on a small cattle farm outside Somerset Ohio (Perry County). After serving in the Army for 2 years, John went to Capital University (Columbus, OH) and obtained B.A. degrees in History and Political Science. He then received a M.A. degree in Education (secondary social studies) from The Ohio State University. John taught for a few years before starting a position with the Ohio Historical Society’s Ohio Village. For the next 12 years, John was employed by various living history sites in Nebraska, Michigan, and Ohio. At these various positions, he obtained many of the skills people of the 1800’s used everyday. His position with SHPO will allow him to combine his passion for history with his skill for educating as well as allowing him to show a more creative side.

Belinda Gray, Section 106/Assistant to the Director, grew up in Clay, WV. She earned an associate degree from Glenville State College and later received a B.A. degree from West Virginia State University. Before coming to the SHPO she worked at the WV Office of the Chief Medical Examiner for a forensic pathologist. Belinda likes fishing, camping, and other outdoor activities. She also includes cards and reading among her activities. She states that her time here so far has been wonderful and she feels “truly appreciative to come here to work every day.”
Celebrate Historic Preservation Month

In May 2011 SHPO held a contest to promote historic preservation in West Virginia. We were pleased to see that WV citizens care about their historic resources. Cynthia Staley from Fairmont wrote about the Elkins Coal and Coke Company Historic District, Cooper Johnson, age 8, from Romney drew and colored a wonderful picture of the Indian Mound Cemetery in Romney and Kathryn Burton from Morgantown sent a beautiful colored pencil drawing of historic wallpaper found in the Cockayne House in Moundsville. We would like to thank all of the participants who helped celebrate historic preservation in their community. Don't forget to celebrate this year by visiting one of your favorite sites listed in the National Register of Historic Places. If you would like more information about the National Register of Historic Places, visit www.wvculture.org/shpo.

Please see Cynthia's article below:

In 2005 my father, who had lived in Bretz as a young man, asked me to visit the Bretz coke ovens with him. He was ill and felt he would not live many more years. He spoke of the Italians who had built the coke ovens and worked at the coal mine/coke ovens operation. We walked past a long row of beehive coke ovens and I took some photographs and wondered if someone would rescue this piece of West Virginia history. It started to rain, so our visit was cut short. We would have to visit another time to explore the remains of the 140 coke ovens used to covert coal into industrial coke, a product used in making iron and steel. My father died in March 2008. We had never taken the time to visit the coke ovens again, before his death. I returned to the site in May 2011. Over the years, the equipment and rails have been scrapped. The coke ovens have deteriorated and become a garbage dump for local residents. The areas around the ovens are becoming overgrown by trees. Few can see what was once a major industrial site as little visible evidence remains to tell of its past historical significance. The land has been reclaimed and may offer the opportunity to make a Coke Oven Heritage Park. I hope that some organization will rescue this site to preserve an important part of West Virginia’s industrial history.

Kathryn L. Burton-Ghost Roses, colored pencil drawing of Cockayne House wall paper

Coke Oven and Equipment - Bretz, Tucker County

Cooper Johnson-Drawing of Indian Mound Cemetery, Romney
New Technology in Old Places
Using Geothermal Heating in a Historic House

Elm Grove, Mason County

This past fall, SHPO staff was invited to tour the grounds of Elm Grove in Mason County and see how the site has been preserved and to explore newly installed geothermal heating. Elm Grove was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1992 for its significance in architecture. A once prosperous plantation, the site now consists of over 17 acres of fields and is still being used today as a working farm. The Italianate home was built in 1884 and still shows the quality craftsmanship and beautiful details that makes this home remarkable. The current owners wanted to update the heating, but wanted to preserve the integrity of the structure. They decided on geothermal heating.

Geothermal heat pumps or ground source heating and cooling is similar to regular heating units, but instead of heating or cooling the outside air, the heat pump heats or cools the liquid mixture it has in its system using the stable and even temperature of the earth, which is around 55 degrees. This way the system can take the heat from the liquid in the winter to generate heat in the home and vent heat to the mixture and surrounding ground to cool the home in the summer. Studies show an estimate of 70 percent of the energy used in this type of heat pump systems is renewable energy. Using the earth's constant temperature is why this type of heating and cooling system is so good for the environment.

The geothermal heat pump at Elm Grove is located in the basement and the air ducts and tubes are located in the attic. With very little alterations to the home, the home is now equipped with a more efficient and energy friendly way to heat and cool. The initial investment was costly; however, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the owners will see their energy bills lowered by 30-40%. If you would like more information about this technology, please contact John Thompson with E J Thompson and Son in Cross Lanes for further information.

Pam Brooks

CLG TRAINING WORKSHOP
The City of Charleston will conduct a CAMP (Commission Assistance and Mentoring Program) Training workshop. The Workshop will be available to members of Certified Local Governments and Historic Landmark Commissions. The CAMP program is part of the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions educational programs. $7,000.00. Kanawha County.

2012 STATEWIDE PRESERVATION CONFERENCE
In partnership with Preservation Alliance of West Virginia, the Jefferson County Historic Landmark Commission will host a statewide preservation conference in September 2012. $5,600. Jefferson County.

BOYDVILLE HISTORIC STRUCTURES REPORT
The Berkeley County Commission will hire a consultant to prepare a Historic Structures Report for all extant structures of the Boydville Property. $18,200. Berkeley County.
GREENBRIER SURVEY
The Greenbrier County Commission will hire a consultant to conduct an architectural/historic survey of Greenbrier County. $7,000. Greenbrier County.

BROOKSIDE/NORTHVIEW ADDITION HISTORIC SURVEY
The Mannington Historic Landmark Commission will hire a consultant to conduct an architectural/historic survey of the Brookside/Northview addition in Mannington. $3,500. Marion County.

GRAHAM DISTRICT SURVEY
The Elkins Historic Landmark Commission will hire a consultant to conduct an architectural/historic survey of the Graham District, east of downtown, in Elkins. $11,200. Randolph County.

HAMPshire County National Register Project
The Hampshire County Commission will prepare and submit two National Register nominations to the National Register of Historic Places. $7,000. Hampshire County.

Staats Hospital Building Historic Structures Report
The City of Charleston will hire a consultant to compile a report to identify potential uses for this historic building. $18,200. Kanawha County.

The WV Legislature provides annual funding assistance for the preservation, restoration, and rehabilitation of historic resources listed in the National Register of Historic Places. This matching grant program is competitive and based upon selection criteria included in our annual work program.

The Archives and History Commission reviewed and awarded the following State Development Grants at their June 1, 2012 meeting:


Summers County Courthouse. Repair damaged bricks and repoint deteriorated mortar. $80,000. Summers County Commission, Summers County.

401 Monroe Street. Replace roof and repair windows. $59,685. Fairmont-Marion County Transit Authority. Marion County.

Spadofore Building. Repair masonry, gutters, downspouts, and windows. $20,671. Pisgah Holdings, LLC. Marion County.


Thomas Fleming House. Repair and replace rotten wood; repair declamation of stucco and install new pebble dashed veneer on back wall. $18,712. Woman's Club of Fairmont. Marion County.

110 James Street. Repair porches. $13,800. Ziegler and Ziegler LLC. Summers County.


October is Archaeology Month
Plans are being finalized around the state for events and activities celebrating archaeology month. Visit the Grave Creek Mound Archaeological Complex and learn about the people that lived here long before West Virginia became a state.

On Thursday, October 25 at 7:00 pm there will be a presentation in the ongoing Grave Creek Mound 2012 Lecture & Film Series - Multidisciplinary Excavations at the Flint Run Paleoindian Complex in Warren County, Virginia. The speaker will be Dr. Joan M. Walker, President, Thunderbird Research Corporation. Groundbreaking work at this complex of sites uncovered flint working (continued on page 12)
(continued from page 11)
clusters, living floors, and Paleo-
indian house patterns that were up
to 12,000 years old. This talk is free
of charge and open to the public. See
www.wvculture.org/museumGraveCreekmod.
html for more information.
One can also go to the web page for the
West Virginia Archeological Society (http://
wvarch.org/) or to the Council for West Vir-
ginia Archaeology (http://cwva.org/) to
see what is going on around the state.

Preservation Calendar

October 31, 2012
Survey and Planning grant application deadline. Projects require matching funds and must be completed by June 30, 2014

November 15, 2012
Survey and Planning Grant second round grant application deadline. No matching funds required. Projects must be completed by July 31, 2013.

November 15, 2012
Development Grant second round grant application deadline.

The activity that is the subject of this newsletter has been financed with Federal funds from the National Park Service, Department of the Interior. The program receives Federal funds from the National Park Service. Regulations of the U.S. Department of the Interior strictly prohibit unlawful discrimination in departmental Federally Assisted Programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, or handicap. Any person who believes he or she has been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility operated by a recipient of federal assistance should write to: Office of Equal Opportunity, National Park Service, 1849 C Street NW, Washington, DC 20240.