

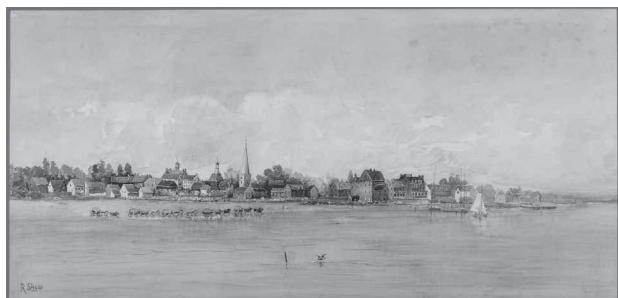


Mid-Atlantic Regional Center for the Humanities

Rutgers University-Camden

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Uniting a Community to Preserve and Learn: The New Castle Community History and Archaeology Program



A romantic view of 1830s New Castle painted in 1896 by Robert Shaw.

*Courtesy of the
Historical Society of Delaware*

For eighty-three years, the residents of New Castle, Delaware have celebrated their town's rich heritage with an annual house and garden tour. In 2005, on *A Day in Old New Castle*, the community took the first step toward uniting with scholars to meld the long grassroots tradition of celebration with modern practices of historical and archaeological study. The resulting organization, called New Castle Community History and Archaeology Program (NC CHAP), works to empower residents to identify, preserve, and interpret publicly-owned and privately-held cultural assets by drawing upon the expertise of humanities professionals and institutions.

The effort taps connects popular enthusiasm for the historic heyday of New Castle with both an active local core of historic properties and organizations and state-level resources at the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs (DHCA), the Historical Society of Delaware (HSD), and the University of Delaware. By blending the preservation efforts and perspectives of residents, history museum professionals, and archaeologists, NC CHAP is pioneering a model for leveraging scarce professional

resources while fostering popular interest in historic communities.

To mark *A Day in Old New Castle*, held the third Saturday in May, revolutionary soldiers march the streets and costumed children dance around a maypole on the

village green. Residents throughout the town's National Historic Landmark district welcome visitors to meticulously decorated eighteenth- and nineteenth-century homes. The festivities honor a continuous residential history that begins with early Dutch, Swedish, and English occupation in the late-seventeenth century, and continues through the town's Federal heyday and building boom to early-twentieth century revitalization and ongoing preservation.

The town historical society supports the passion of New Castle residents by operating two historic house museums: the Dutch and Amstel Houses. The Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs (DHCA) owns the New Castle Court House Museum, the town green, and several buildings on it, and the Historical Society of Delaware (HSD) maintains the Read House and Gardens. Individually and collaboratively, the three institutions have pursued extensive programs of historical research, interpretation, and preservation. HSD and the DHCA have also examined the New Castle landscape through archaeology. The DHCA draws upon state archaeologists and cultural resource managers to explore

sensitive construction areas and open space on New Castle's green. In 1995, the University of Delaware's anthropology department began exploring the formal garden at HSD's Read House. These two independent archaeological programs have markedly increased the number of

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www.march.rutgers.edu

2007 FREDRIC M. MILLER MEMORIAL LECTURE



Alice M. Greenwald

Alice M. Greenwald, Director of the World Trade Center Memorial Museum, will deliver the 9th annual Fredric M. Miller Memorial Lecture at the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia,

Thursday evening, June 7, 2007, beginning at 5:30pm.

Before joining the Memorial Foundation in 2006, Greenwald served as Associate Director of the U.S. Holocaust Museum in Washington and as Executive Director of the National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia. As the principal of Alice M. Greenwald/Museum Services from 1986-2001, Ms. Greenwald worked with a number of regional institutions, including the Historical Society of Princeton, the Baltimore Museum of Industry, and the Pew Charitable trusts.

Ms. Greenwald's lecture is entitled "Passion on All Sides: Planning a Memorial Museum at Ground Zero." Full details and directions will be announced on the MARCH listservs and by invitation later this spring.

Fred Miller, in whose memory the lecture series was created, was an accomplished author of books on archival practice and the histories of Philadelphia and Washington, D.C. He played a major role in building the reputation of Temple University's Urban Archives before becoming a program officer at the National Endowment for the Humanities. The annual lecture is supported and administered by the Mid-Atlantic Regional Center for the Humanities at Rutgers University in Camden, New Jersey.

stakeholders committed to protecting New Castle's cultural resources.

While organizing events for May 2005, professional archaeologists and historical site administrators identified several potential threats to the town's archaeological resources, dangers that could be addressed effectively by increasing popular knowledge of artifact value and best practices in archaeology and preservation. The professional group, determined to mitigate these threats, decided to try engaging the active participation of residents in the management of the town's cultural assets.

Following several town meetings, residents and professionals together formed (NC CHAP) in 2006. Workshops and field trips offered in its first year have encouraged residents to research their homes and properties. By inviting residents to share artifacts "accidentally excavated" in their



Shoebbox archaeology workshop

yards, the NC CHAP has also begun to document a wider range of New Castle properties. In 2007, NC CHAP plans to open a Community History and Archaeology Resource Center, which will serve as a repository for artifact records, a research center to supplement images, maps, and documents readily available on the program's website, and eventually a changing exhibition space for residents' collections.



DDHCA archaeologist relating artifacts to lifestyle of New Castle's earliest residents.



Mother and daughter watch as archaeologist identifies artifacts found in their backyard.



c. 1700 Dutch artisan's home

Courtesy of the New Castle Historical Society

Along with increasing the total documentation available about New Castle, the NC CHAP program is also introducing more social and cultural diversity into interpretation. Participating residents raise new questions and restore neglected stories, eliciting support from scholars and stimulating new interpretation at existing sites. NC CHAP challenges all participants to expand their interest beyond the National Historic Landmark district, consider the town's history before European settlement and after its Federal period heyday, and explore the town's cultural resources from multiple perspectives.

NC CHAP continues to evolve in its purpose and activities, supporting current residents as they adapt to living modern lives in a town layered with centuries of history. With professionals helping identify the "trash-cum-treasures" emerging around the community, enthusiastic residents may ask more of NC CHAP. One current goal of the program is to secure more appreciation for — and preservation of — urban cultural resources. New Castle is one of many living historic towns and cities in the Mid-Atlantic region that could benefit from this holistic approach to cultural resource management, one that blends the knowledge of humanities

professionals with the passion of local residents.

Michele Anstine is director of Read House at the Historical Society of Delaware ☒

FEATURED RESOURCE *PLACE MATTERS*

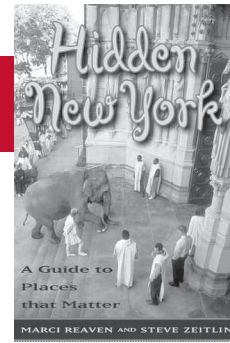
Inviting Citizens to Define Which Places to Protect

Place Matters, a collaboration of two nonprofits — City Lore and the Municipal Art Society - uses its website, www.placematters.net, as a digital knowledge bank supporting education about and advocacy for historically and culturally significant places in New York City. With funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Place Matters website helps draw attention to places that promote historical memory and host vital forms of public life. Through the web portal, visitors can learn about the locations and help protect them, assuring that the city's treasured places continue to perform their many productive functions. The project demonstrates the power of web-based knowledge to integrate and mobilize communities on behalf of history.

The heart of the Place Matters website is the PlaceExplorer, a large database searchable

by keyword, theme, and location that contains results from the project's "Census of Places that Matter." The Census is an ongoing citywide survey, an open invitation to the public to nominate places in the city that matter to them. Some nominations are collected through fieldwork and public programs, while others are submitted directly online. All nominations are accepted and published on the website. Many are further amplified through research and written up as Place Matters profiles. Each "place record" in the Census contains that place's nominations, any profiles, and information to help website visitors conduct further research and political advocacy on its behalf.

While the website is the primary portal to the Place Matters project, the organization also actively conducts interpretive and advocacy projects. An online exhibit called



"Marking Time on the Bowery," funded by the New York Council for the Humanities, maps the history of

the storied Bowery at a time when its historic structures are under intense pressure from real estate development. The exhibit's map is in its user-testing phase, with more entries being added each week. Place Matters also just published *Hidden New York: A Guide to Places that Matter* (Rutgers University Press, 2006), by Marci Reaven and Steve Zeitlin with contributions from cultural experts and documentary photographers. Place Matters welcomes inquiries about its work from organizations inside and outside of New York City. They can be reached from www.placematters.net, by phone at (212) 529-1955, or by email to placematters@citylore.org.

Marci Reaven is the Executive Director of Place Matters ✕



GOING TO THE WELL

At the end of 2006, the Greater Philadelphia Cultural Alliance and the Pennsylvania Economy League jointly published a report, called *Portfolio*, on the position of the arts and culture in the regional economy. Five years in the making, and based on data from 218 institutions, the report offers itself as "the most reliable, consistent set of data available on non-profit cultural organizations." The data is drawn from the Pennsylvania Cultural Data Project (PACDP), a collaborative of several major foundations that is based at the Pew Charitable Trusts. PACDP collects a wide range of mission, service, and financial information from foundation grantees. Readers can request a copy of the report from the Greater Philadelphia Cultural Alliance.

The report's major findings offer a mixed picture. On the sunny side, *Portfolio* indicates that arts and culture activity in southeastern Pennsylvania is prominent, plentiful and accessible, engages both adults and school children, creates jobs, and earns nearly half of needed revenue, while also benefiting from philanthropy. More alarming, however, are the indications that the sector operates on very lean budgets, substantially underpays its workforce compared to professionals with comparable training, and that just under half of all the reporting organizations run with a deficit.

Organizations that offer performances to the public make up the largest group in *Portfolio* sample, while other kinds of cultural organizations are under-represented, as they often are in resources of this type. But the

picture of professional life implied by the report — highly-trained, poorly-paid staff working exceedingly hard with thin resources to deliver a wide range of programs that matter to their communities — is quite familiar to humanities organizations as well. The *Portfolio* report concludes that the sector, while providing real value, will not be able to sustain itself as it currently operates, either in terms of funding, staffing, or civic service. If that is true of relatively strong organizations in a wealthy and densely-settled corner of Pennsylvania, it is likely true far more broadly across the profession and the region. It remains an open and important question, however, whether solutions proposed here to strengthen art museums and performance-based groups would significantly help collections-based and humanities organizations.

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EXPLORING THE MID@LANTIC

National Park Service Archeology website

<http://www.cr.nps.gov/archeology/visit/>

The Park Service does archaeological research at sites around the country. Here you can locate a place near you and find volunteer opportunities.

The National Archeological Database

<http://web.cast.uark.edu/other/nps/nadb/nadb.mul.html>

Users can search a list of over 350,000 reports on archeological investigation and planning that are not widely circulated, including reports from state historic preservation offices as well as from Federal projects, and see how to order the reports.

State Archeology month activities:

<http://www.cr.nps.gov/archeology/public/stateArc.htm>

For **New York State**, contact: Dr. Doug Mackey (robert.kuhn@oprhp.state.ny.us)

For **Pennsylvania**, contact: Beverly Chiarulli at Indiana University of Pennsylvania (Bevc@iup.edu)

For **Delaware**, contact: Cherie Dodge, 21 The Green, Suite A, Dover, DE 19901, (302) 739-5685 (cherie.dodge@state.de.us)

For **Maryland**, contact: Charlie Hall, Archaeological Society of Maryland (chall@mdp.state.md.us)

Register of Professional Archaeologists

<http://www.rpanet.org/>

Users can locate professionals through this website. The Register is based in Baltimore, Maryland, but allows you to search in your own area.

Maryland Historical Trust, Archeology Office

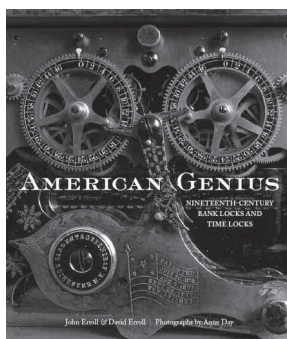
<http://www.marylandhistoricaltrust.net/archeol.html>

The Maryland Historical Trust's Office of Archeology takes a special interest in restoring interpretation of Native American, African-American, and working class history, for which archeology is sometimes the best record that survives. The Trust also maintains programs in terrestrial and underwater archeology.

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PROJECTS TO WATCH

In December, the Pennsylvania State Gaming Board awarded a slots casino license to **Sands/Bethlehem Works** for the site of the abandoned steel plant in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. Despite public controversy over gambling, the casino has been the linchpin of a popular plan to redevelop the site by blending commercial, artistic, and residential uses with historical interpretation of corporate, community and industrial history. The Gaming commissioners mentioned the historic value of the Steel site as a factor in their decision and commended the innovative combination of museum and commercial uses that the coalition of community groups, including MARCH, encouraged the owner/developers to create. MARCH continues to work with and watch this collaboration, as a potential model for industrial history at many of the region's great sites.



The **General Society of Mechanics & Tradesmen** in New York City recently published a book about its lock collection called *American Genius: Nineteenth Century Bank Locks and Time Locks*. Authors David and John Erroll, a father and son team of lawyer and curator, make the history of locks a window into human intrigues, treachery, commercial rivalry, exquisite skill, and the changing definition of security. With beautiful photography by architectural photographer Anne Day, the book's friendly prose and high-quality production incarnate the mission of the newly revitalized society, which is to re-acquaint today's consumer with traditions

of mechanical craftsmanship at work even in the most modern of settings. The book is available for sale through the society, at www.generalsociety.org, or 212-921-1767.



Postcard, 20th century

Colin Campbell, chairman and president of Virginia's **Colonial Williamsburg Foundation**,

announced the impending private sale of **Carter's Grove**, the plantation CW has interpreted for the public since 1969. The leadership of the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation hopes to show how restricted private sales can be used to protect historic properties without burdening museums with their upkeep. The Mid-Atlantic also hosts a number of major historic properties facing similar challenges. Watch for a feature on these complex questions in an upcoming issue of *Cross Ties*.



The **New Jersey Digital Highway** has an infinite number of entrances and exits and no traffic jams or traffic circles! A collaboration of cultural organizations and research libraries around the state, NJDH offers a "one stop shop" for New Jersey history and culture." The site includes an excellent evaluation link, inviting users to make helpful suggestions.

In January and February, Philadelphia's InterAct Theatre Company and the National New Play Network premiered a play based on the five year struggle to mark and interpret the **President's House** on Independence Mall. *A House With No Walls* by Thomas Gibbons interweaves the story of Ona Judge and her escape from the Washingtons with the contemporary politics of commemoration, race, and empowerment. Novels are also underway about Judge, and about Hercules, Washington's enslaved cook, who also escaped from the Philadelphia house. ❌

MARCH HAPPENINGS

On February 8, 2007, MARCH launched South Jersey's first Bard College Clemente course in the humanities. The course, which offers six college credits in the humanities to adult students who, for a variety of reasons, never earned a college degree, is part of MARCH's on-going commitment to a larger process of human investment in the revitalization of Camden. With funding from the NEH and the New Jersey Council for the Humanities, and the support of Cooper University Hospital, thirty adult learners and nine faculty from around the region will spend twenty-eight weeks exploring history, literature, philosophy, art, math and science. **Dr. Diane Turner**, an accomplished scholar and local museum professional, has joined with MARCH as director of the course.

With a generous grant from the 1772 Foundation, MARCH has undertaken a capacity-building effort with the historical societies of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, and Washington DC, and Brooklyn, NY. Using a database built by MARCH program director, **Shan Holt**, the project began with a February meeting to discuss financial performance, how to measure it, and what reasonable goals to set. Through the summer, MARCH will fund a Rutgers graduate student in public history to work with each society on a project specifically designed to build a sustainable funding stream for that organization. We will report on the results of this effort in upcoming issues of Cross Ties.

Shan Holt will also speak on the first of April at the annual conference of the Organization of American Historians. She is part of a panel exploring the implications of regionalism for both scholarship and professional practice.

We are delighted to announce that feedback from the first year of publishing *Cross Ties* has been very strong, and that we have received financial support for a second year of publication from readers, advisory board members, and especially a generous gift from **Ted and Stevie Wolf**. While continuing to provide the region with a high-quality professional resource, we will be working this year to develop an independent funding stream for the newsletter, and we will welcome your support of that effort.

REGIONAL ROUNDUP

The **Historical Society of Pennsylvania** has announced the selection of Kim Sajat, Senior Vice President of Museum and Public Programs at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts since 2004, as its new president, to succeed David Moltke-Hansen. Before joining the Academy in 2001, Sajat worked as the director of corporate relations at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. She also directed two Australian public museums. She holds a B.A., an M.B.A. and a Graduate Diploma in Museum studies from Australia, as well as an M.A. in art history from Bryn Mawr College in Pennsylvania.

Lucienne Beard has become the Education Director at Cliveden of the National Trust in Philadelphia's Germantown neighborhood. Beard came to Cliveden from the Alice Paul Institute in Mt. Laurel, NJ, where she was the Program Director. She has a particular interest in American women's history and educational programs that foster community outreach.

Jeff Groff has left Germantown's Wyck House after many years of widely respected leadership there to become Director of Public Programs at Winterthur. **George Vogt** left his position as director of Delaware's Hagley Museum and Library in November 2006, and is now director of the Oregon Historical Society, and **John Rumm** has left the directorship of Philadelphia's Civil War and Underground Railroad Museum. Searches are underway for new leadership at all three institutions.



Tribal and Museum leaders at exhibit opening.

"Return to a Native Place: Algonquian Peoples of the Chesapeake," an exhibit at the **National Museum of the American Indian** in Washington DC, opened January 29, 2007. The exhibit, curated by MARCH Advisory Council member **Gabrielle Tayac**, examines the lives of Nanticoke, Powhatan, and Piscataway peoples on their original lands from 1600 to the present.

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Regional Roundup, continued from page 5

Congratulations to **Linda Shopes** of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, for winning the annual Troyer Steele Anderson Prize from The American



Linda Shopes

Photo by Beth Hager

Historical Association. The prize honored Shopes' outstanding work for the Association. As a member of the AHA Council from 1999-2002 and as chair of the Task Force on Public History from 2001-2005, Shopes offered "determined leadership, advice, and encouragement reshaped the way the Association relates to public history. Her Task Force report (January 2004) challenged the AHA to fully incorporate public history and public historians into all of its activities, to promote greater professional exchange between public and academic historians, and to encourage all historians, whatever their work context, to participate in public life."

The New Jersey Historical Commission presented **Anna Aschkenes**, executive Director of the Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission, its highest honor, the Richard J. Hughes Award for lifetime achievement. Also honored was **Martin Minner**, for the year's outstanding dissertation in New Jersey history. MARCH director **Howard Gillette** received an awards for his work on Camden, along with the **Atlantic City Historical Museum**, Dr. **Paul Israel**, director of the Thomas Edison papers project, the Living History School Program of Cherry Hill Township, and architect **Michael J. Mills**.



Photo by Ropy P. B. Turner

Oral History in the Mid-Atlantic Region (OHMAR) honored **Elaine Eff** of the Maryland Historical Trust with the 2007 Forrest C. Pogue award for outstanding and continuing contributions to oral history. The award recognized Eff for contributions as a folklorist

and oral historian, service as a board member and former president, and mentoring of many substantial oral history projects. Eff is the author of *You Should Have Been Here Yesterday: A Guide to Cultural Documentation in Maryland* and serves as Co-Director of Maryland Traditions, a partnership of the Maryland Historical Trust and the Maryland State Arts Council.



Othmer Library

In January 2007, the **Brooklyn Historical Society** reopened its exceptionally beautiful Othmer Library to the public. Closed since 1999, the Library re-opening coincides with a major effort to convert the card catalog to digital form to increase access for all users. The restoration and reopening of the library were made possible by a collaboration of civic leadership and philanthropy.

The New Jersey Historic Trust has released a CD-ROM of research information about the **Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route** in New Jersey. Research done by Dr. **Robert Selig** (see *Cross Ties*, Fall 2006) indicates travel routes for some or all of the nearly 10,000 soldiers involved, and opens up multiple interpretive threads that sites and communities can use to develop their own programming.

The **Schuylkill River National Heritage Area** won \$500,000 for the development of a Riverfront Heritage and Academic Center in Pottstown, Pennsylvania. The center will combine arts and cultural programming promoting and interpreting the river's significance.

Pittsburgh's **Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area** was designated a National Historic Landmark by the National Park Service late last year.

Baltimore, Maryland will host the **National Scenic Byways Conference**, May 20-23, 2007. Sessions will examine common ground among Heritage Areas, National Trails, and Scenic Byways. Participants will also explore byways in and around Baltimore's own developing heritage area. For information, contact www.bywaysonline.org, or call 1-800-4BYWAYS. ❖

Going to the Well, continued from page 3

However, by offering such a sobering assessment of an important sector of the contemporary economy, the *Portfolio* report offers a very valuable wake-up call. The analysis suggests that in many cases arts and humanities professionals are meeting the changing needs of audiences quite effectively day-to-day. The challenge that remains is for organizations and local communities to provide the insight, leadership, sustainable funding, and appropriate compensation needed to reward that dedication. ❖

Exploring the Mid@lantic, continued from page 2

Swedish American Historical Society

<http://www.swedishameri-canhist.org/>

The SAHS supports genealogical and historical study of Swedes in America. The Society sponsors two meetings per year for members. Publications can be ordered through their website.

The New Netherland Institute

<http://www.nnp.org/>

The New Netherland Project, established in Albany, New York under the sponsorship of the New York State Library and the Holland Society of New York, transcribes, translates and publishes Dutch documents in New York repositories relating to the colony of New Netherland. New scholarship is already emerging about Dutch colonies along the Hudson and Delaware Rivers. The site includes a database of well-known Dutch-Americans. ❖

FAMOUS LAST WORDS *PETER WISBEY*

The “Goodwin Effect” at the William H. Seward House

In 2006, while historic houses everywhere struggled and prominent ones even closed, attendance at the William Henry Seward House in Auburn, New York jumped 25% over attendance the previous year. An unexpected boost from historian Doris Kearns Goodwin made the difference. The example of this accidental collaboration of scholar and site presents practical challenges and suggests



Seward house, Auburn, NY

opportunities that historic sites elsewhere might consider.

In October 2005, Goodwin published *Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln* (Simon & Schuster, 2005). *Team of Rivals* examines the

men, including William Henry Seward, who joined Abraham Lincoln’s cabinet after competing with him for the 1860 Republican presidential nomination. The culmination of ten years of work, *Team of Rivals* returned Goodwin to the public eye for the first time since plagiarism allegations were made against her in 2002. So far, over 500,000 copies of the book have been sold.

Almost immediately after publication, *Rivals* readers started to arrive at the Seward House in Auburn. Nestled in the Finger Lakes region of New York State, the Seward House remained in the family from its construction in 1816 to its bequest in 1951 for use as a museum. It opened to the public in 1955, with an intact collection of Seward family heirlooms acquired over four generations, including Civil War artifacts, fine and decorative arts, and political souvenirs from all aspects of William Seward’s career as New York governor, U.S. senator and U.S. secretary of state. For decades, though, Seward House was an unpolished gem, with little visibility outside of central New York and Cayuga County. The institution was open nine months of the year for guided tours and had few funds for marketing or promotion. Visitors rarely sought out the museum; most encountered it while touring other area attractions.

Goodwin’s book changed all that. She writes so enthusiastically about Seward and Lincoln that readers now travel here just to see Seward’s home. Two days after the book’s release, a North Carolina man listening to the audio version detoured to visit Seward House. Fifty people took part in a book discussion group in February 2006, and another sixty in July. During the summer, nearly every house tour included someone who had read or was reading the book. By the end of 2006, we had welcomed over 13,000 visitors and broken all our previous attendance marks. Then in August, New York’s Governor George Pataki, having also

read *Rivals*, visited the museum (our first gubernatorial visit since Thomas E. Dewey in 1946) and, in December, we received a state grant of \$250,000 for building preservation. At a time when many historic house museums find themselves in decline, Seward House, thanks to Goodwin’s book, has seen a rebirth.

Luckily, we were almost ready for our good fortune. The museum had hired its first professional director in 2000, and shortly thereafter, its first professional educator.

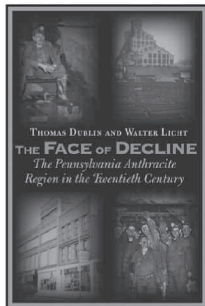
New research in the comprehensive Seward manuscript collection housed at the University of Rochester had spurred changes in interpretation and educational programming, including specialty tours and programs developed to highlight the Seward family’s abolition and Underground Railroad activities and their role in supporting the Women’s Rights movement. Staff also incorporated these topics into programs for school visitors and the general public and into the general house museum tour. The changes, however, were still aimed at local and regional audiences.

The national attention brought to the Seward family by Goodwin’s portrait in *Team of Rivals* raised questions about our preparedness to meet both the practical and intellectual demands of fully interpreting the Seward family, and our ability to retain a dedicated audience over time. Goodwin’s book contains the nucleus of a first-rate, modern biography of William Henry Seward through the Civil War. The few existing studies of Seward — a “definitive” 1967 biography by Glyndon Van Deusen and another 1991 study based largely on Van Deusen and other secondary sources — focus on his political activities, downplaying his social activism and the contributions made to his success by his wife, Frances. Goodwin’s book emphasizes the personal and social relationships that helped to shape Seward’s actions within President Lincoln’s cabinet. It is a “human” view of leadership and reconciliation and engages readers more than the previous works. Interpretation at the House needs to, and fortunately can, respond to this interest in a more three-dimensional history.

Is this “Doris Kearns Goodwin-effect” sustainable? We think so, at least for the next few years. In fact, it may grow, because film director Steven Spielberg has purchased the motion picture rights to *Team of Rivals*. Next year will see national celebrations commemorating the bicentennial of Abraham Lincoln’s birth (1808), and the sesquicentennial of the Civil War begins in 2011. Seward House has an opportunity to capitalize on this public exposure. We have begun to discuss plans to create a more formal visitor orientation area and upgrade our tour experience. By the time the enthusiasm recedes, our institution will be positively changed in countless ways.

Peter Wisbey has been the director of Seward House since 2000. ❖

The Face of Decline



The Pennsylvania Anthracite Region in the Twentieth Century

THOMAS DUBLIN
AND WALTER LICHT

Cowinner of the 2006 Merle Curti Award given by the Organization of American Historians

Winner of the 2006 Philip S. Klein Book Prize given by the Pennsylvania Historical Association

"The Face of Decline gives us a subtle, multidimensional portrait of a region coping with the death of its defining industry. This book is a story not only about economic decline but also about resilience and survival, with lessons that apply to the wider world."

—BARBARA FREESE, AUTHOR OF *COAL: A HUMAN HISTORY*
288 pages, \$24.95 paper

Cross Ties readers are entitled to a 25% discount on *The Face of Decline*. To receive the discount, use promotional code **CCFA** when ordering.

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