Déjà vu:

PAS: APAL Plans Joint 2008 Baton Rouge, Louisiana Conference with the Eastern Historical Geographers Association

By Craig Colten

After the mean winds of Hurricane Katrina disrupted our plans in 2005, Baton Rouge is on its feet again and is ready to host PAS: APAL and the Eastern Historical Geographers Association in October 2008.

With the theme “Landscapes at Risk,” the Department of Geography and Anthropology at Louisiana State University will host the conference on October 16-18, 2008. Since Katrina and Rita, the dual hurricanes of 2005, battered the historic landscapes of Louisiana’s coastal parishes, the fabric of New Orleans has changed in many ways.

Jay Edwards, a cultural anthropologist at LSU, will lead a pre-conference field trip through the extensive areas of devastation and renewal. He will direct you through neighborhoods that survived the initial high water due to slight topographic advantages but that suffered due to wind damages. You will visit areas that saw the most dramatic destruction due to levee failure. Creole cottages, shotguns, and doubles will be staple fare for the day. Professor Edwards, an authority on Creole-Caribbean architecture, will highlight the

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Future Sites of PAS: APAL Conferences

Baton Rouge, Louisiana – October 16-18, 2008
Theme: “Landslapes at Risk”

Sainte Genevieve, Missouri – Fall 2009
Theme: “The World Made Over: Conquest & Empire-Building in the Mid-Mississippi Valley”

Castleton, Vermont – October 2010
Theme: To be announced

The PAS Newsletter

of the

Pioneer America Society:
Association for the Preservation of Artifacts & Landscapes

http://www.pioneeramerica.org

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The PAS Newsletter is a semiannually web-based publication produced by the Pioneer America Society, Inc., an international, interdisciplinary, non-profit organization chartered in 1967 to encourage the study, documentation, and preservation of buildings, sites, structures, and objects representing the history and material culture of the Americas.

The subscription price of The PAS Newsletter is included in the annual dues of the Society.

Members are encouraged to submit news stories, letters, photographs, and other materials for publication. Please email submissions directly to pasnewsletter@yahoo.com, or send a word-processed disk (clearly labeled) plus hard copy directly to: The PAS Newsletter, PAS: Association for the Preservation of Artifacts & Landscapes, c/o W. Frank Ainsley, ERS Department, 601 S. College Road, University of North Carolina, Wilmington, North Carolina 28403. For the return of items, send a self-addressed stamped mailer.

All Newsletter submissions must arrive by February 1st to be included in the Spring issue or by August 15th to be included in the Fall issue of The PAS Newsletter. Newsletter submissions will be published on a space available basis.
Greetings and Salutations!

I hope all of you enjoyed our meeting in Hagerstown, Maryland, as much as I did. We had not one, not two, but three scheduled field trips. What a great way to be introduced to the Middle Atlantic settlement area! There was also a full slate of papers and presentations, along with the now annual Hubert G. H. Wilhelm Student Research Award competition. It was a fantastic venue and a wonderful opportunity to see our old acquaintances and greet new faces that are bound together by the artifacts that supply the meat and potatoes of our research in material culture.

From my perspective, it has been very gratifying to see everyone work together to bring the Society to its current status. The Board of Directors had numerous issues to address during its meeting, and this was based on all the terrific work done by committee members and constituents. We had put together the nominations for new Board and Committee members, reviewed several proposals for future meeting sites, and have approved a new Editor and Book Review Editor for *Material Culture*. Future venues include: 2009 - Sainte Genevieve, Missouri, hosted by Delilah Tayloe, Executive Director of the Arts Council of Southeast Missouri; 2010 - Castleton, Vermont, hosted by Scott Roper of Castleton State College; 2011 - Gainesville, Florida, hosted by Ary Lamme III of the University of Florida; and 2012 - possibly Bloomington or Indianapolis, Indiana, hosted by members/graduates of the Folklore Department of Indiana University.

Sara Beth Keough (Saginaw Valley State University, University Center, Michigan) will be the new journal editor, and Chris Post (University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia) will assume the duties as book review editor. Both will work with the existing editors for one year prior to becoming full-time in their respective positions. In addition, the Membership Committee has made its recommendations to prioritize some simple things that we do. This has led me to adapt two goals in the future: member retention and cost avoidance. In this regard, Chris Mayda has been updating our website, and it will continue to be updated to reflect the Society’s mission.

Then again, we want to maintain the intimacy of our meetings, the congeniality of our members, and the ability to voice our respective opinions about our topic. So, please renew your membership, submit your research to the journal for potential publication, and encourage a colleague to join and/or

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An Autumn Update . . .
(Continued from page 3)

review a book for us. In this way, we can maintain our organization well into the future. Finally, look for plans to celebrate our upcoming 40th anniversary!

I missed seeing some of you in Hagerstown, but I realize that not everyone can make every meeting; so, I hope to catch up with you next October in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

All the best for a good year,

Artimus

Artimus Keiffer, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Email: akeiffer@bellsouth.net

New Book Release


According to the publisher’s editorial synopsis, *Traditional Buildings*, based on the author’s lifelong professional and personal interest, “presents a unique survey of vernacular architecture across the globe. The reader is taken on a fascinating tour of traditional building around the world, which includes the loess cave homes of central China, the stilt houses on the shores of Dahomey, the housebarns of Europe and North America, the wind towers of Iran, the Bohio houses of the Arawak Indians of the Caribbean, and much more. Professor Noble’s extensive travels have allowed him to examine many of the buildings at close quarters, and the richly illustrated text includes photographs from his personal collection. With its comprehensive and detailed bibliography, the work will be welcomed by experts and non-specialists alike.”

Allen G. Noble is distinguished Professor Emeritus, Department of Geography & Planning, at the University of Akron, in Akron, Ohio, and is a long-time member and former executive director of PAS: APAL.

This new volume is currently available from the publisher, I.B. Tauris of London & New York, over the Internet from Amazon.com, and through more traditional brick-and-mortar stores such Barnes & Noble, Inc.

Cloth, US $74.95, UK £49.50. 368 pages; index; illus.; bibliog. ISBN: 978-1-84511-305-6.
After an email consultation with the Board of Directors this summer, Artimus Keiffer, the Executive Director, approved a request from Frank Ainsley, the Secretary-Treasurer, to increase PAS: APAL membership dues in order to be able to meet the ongoing financial commitments of the Society.

The new increases are scheduled to begin January 1, 2008, and will affect all membership categories: Individual member - $50, Student member - $25, Institutional member - $75, and Life member - $450. This is the first dues increase in five years. While it is true that the rate of inflation has remained low during the past several decades, the cost of running the Society does continue to increase. Every increase in postage such as the one instituted by the U.S. Postal Service in May of this year can translate into a significant amount of money, especially when one realizes that each member receives three mailings in terms of journal subscriptions, and those without Internet access still received two additional mailings of paper copies of the newsletter each year. Additional postage is further needed when individual members are slow to pay their annual dues and must be prompted with membership renewal notices from the Society.

In addition to postage, the main mission of the Society, to publish and record items of interest, consumes an enormous amount of our income. The cost of the layout, printing, binding, and mailing of Material Culture and Past is no longer entirely covered by membership dues. In fact, much of our operating expenses have driven down our available monies. Soon we will have to delve into our endowment, which will limit our ability to fund projects and awards in a manner that is needed to help promote the Society's mission.

With that in mind, PAS: APAL is a registered, not-for-profit, educational organization. It does not make money from the annual conference; hopefully, it pays for itself. In that spirit, we would like to make a plea for gift-giving from our members. All monies donated to the organization are tax deductible and go towards maintaining our publishing and award agenda.

If you have enjoyed your membership, including the publications and annual meetings, the Investments Committee urges you to make a contribution to our operating fund. The longer we can keep our endowment

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Individual membership dues are set to increase to fifty dollars in 2008.

intact, the longer we can continue to provide the intellectual stimulation in regards to material culture, historic preservation and landscape interpretation.

The Society will be 40 years old next year. Many academic, professional, and practicing people have passed through the membership rolls over the years. Given the state of the educational programming in many colleges and universities, material culture is bypassed with programs that are more applied and can guarantee jobs. More and more people are not joining groups, and many are allowing memberships in good causes to lapse. PAS: APAL is an organization dedicated to providing a means to study and record those changes. It is hard to do if we are financially unable to fulfill our mission.

The Investments Committee is charged with safeguarding our endowment to insure our continued existence. It is with this charge we approach you to ask for monies to maintain our mission. That can simply be in the form of prompt membership renewal and/or donations to the Society.

The modest dues increase will help supply funding for the day-to-day operations, but the long-term goals of the organization should be considered, too. Many continue to aid the organization with book reviews, peer comments, journal submissions, and volunteering to be board members, and conference hosts. The major financial cost is the publications, which are the essence of recording paper presentations and scholarly research that is fundamental to understanding ourselves, our society, and our niche in the world. It is of dire importance to realize where we have been, where we are, and where we are going. This activity leaves behind artifacts, landscape change, and perceptions of what should be preserved.

We all know of many stories of interesting bits of our history (including all areas of economic activity, trends, and cultural fads) that are being wiped out daily, coupled with innovations, changing traditions, and new ways of doing things that change the cultural milieu of our society.

This, then, is the purpose of the research and documentation of our daily activities, many of which we take for granted. With changing environ-mental, political, and economic conditions, in addition to our loss of certain traditions, social contacts, and niches in the global context, it becomes almost an urgent need to document our activities for future understanding.

Again, the dues increase only helps us sustain. Donations and gifts to the society help us maintain. The Investments Committee can only do so.
The PAS: APAL Board of Directors is pleased to announce the appointment of Sara Beth Keough to the position of editor of the Society’s flagship publication, *Material Culture*. Dr. Keough, the journal’s first female editor, will replace Dr. Artimus Keiffer who has so ably served in this position for the past six years. During 2008, Sara Beth Keough will co-edit the journal with Artimus Keiffer, and then, in 2009, she will become the sole editor of the publication.

Dr. Keough is currently an assistant professor in the Department of History and Geography at Saginaw Valley State College in Saginaw, Michigan, where she teaches undergraduate classes in both physical and cultural/human geography. At the same time, she is on the executive board for the Cultural Geography Specialty Group and the Canadian Studies Specialty Group through the Association of American Geographers (AAG). Sara Beth Keough received her Ph.D. in geography at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, Tennessee.

At the same time, the PAS: APAL Board of Directors approved the appointment of Chris Post to the position of Book Review Editor for both of the Society’s journals, *Material Culture* and *P.A.S.T.* Dr. Post will replace Dr. Scott C. Roper who has done an outstanding job in this position for the past five years. During 2008, Chris Post will function as a co-book review editor with Scott Roper, and then in 2009, he will become the sole book review editor.

Dr. Post is presently an instructor in the Department of Geography at the University of Georgia in Athens, Georgia, where he has taught Human Geography including honor sections, is teaching United States Cultural Geography including honor sections, and will be teaching an undergraduate/graduate Landscape and Memory course in the Spring. In addition, he is the Awards Director for the Cultural Geography Specialty Group and is a member of the Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers (AAG). Chris Post received his Ph.D. in geography at the University of Kansas in Lawrence, Kansas.

*(For further news related to this announcement, please turn to pages 8 and 9.)*
Greetings fellow material culture enthusiasts!

First, I would like to thank PAS: Association for the Preservation of Artifacts & Landscapes for inviting me to serve as editor of your flagship publication, *Material Culture*. These letters are always a little awkward for me, as I feel they sometimes come dangerously close to sounding like personals ads. Nevertheless, I appreciate this opportunity to introduce myself to you.

I was born and raised in the Adirondack Mountains in upstate New York, in a town called Tupper Lake. In May 2000, I received a B.S. in history and a B.A. in Spanish from Jacksonville University in Jacksonville, Florida, with minors in geography, mathematics, and music. I pursued a Master's degree in geography from Virginia Tech (2003) in Blacksburg, Virginia, and I completed a Ph.D. in geography at the University of Tennessee (April 2007) in Knoxville, Tennessee.

As a geographer, my research reflects my interest in people's experience with place, the importance of an interdisciplinary approach to geographic research, and my fascination with Canada. Based on my past research and goals for the future, I would classify myself as a cultural geographer whose research extends into the realms of urban, political, and economic geography with a regional focus on Canada. I also believe that the world is one big classroom, and that travel is one of the best venues for learning.

My research focuses on the multi-scalar dimensions of cultural policy and its impact on cultural identity, with a specific concentration on the media. My recent projects have explored how globalization changes the way cultural policies are idealized and implemented, and how the presence of cultural policies affects cultural identities. I apply my interests in cultural policy, media, and globalization to Canada, a country that we, as Americans, are taught little about, but which is economically, culturally, and environmentally important to the United States. Specifically, my research examined how radio stations in St. John's, Newfoundland, serve as catalysts for overlapping and often conflicting identities in Newfoundland. Music plays a prominent role in the construction of a Newfoundland identity, so I also conducted qualitative interviews with both radio station personnel and radio listeners to ascertain the role that music and radio technology together play in their lives and their construction of identity. I spent four summers in

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An Introduction to Chris Post: New Book Review Editor

Greetings PAS: APAL Members!

My name is Chris Post, and I will be serving as Book Review Editor for Material Culture starting in 2008. Allow me to take this opportunity to introduce my background, interests, and contact information so that I may best serve you and PAS: APAL over the next many moons.

I am currently an instructor in the Geography Department at the University of Georgia in Athens, GA, where I teach primarily U.S. Cultural Geography (including honors sections). I have also taught Human Geography (honors, too), and next Spring, I will be teaching an upper-undergraduate/graduate course in Landscape and Memory. My undergraduate degree is in social studies education from the University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK. In 2003, I attained my master’s in geography at the University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS, under long-time PAS: APAL member James R. Shortridge, with a thesis that looked at community and sense of place in a federal company town built for employees at a WWII munitions plant. This project led to my first publication in Material Culture. In addition, I received my doctorate in geography from the University of Kansas in 2006 with a dissertation focused on the memorialization of guerilla warfare in America, using the violence between Missourians and Kansans before and during the Civil War as a backdrop. That work is currently under contract as a book with the Center for American Places (due in 2010!).

I consider myself a broadly trained cultural and historical geographer with a regional focus on North America. My research interests are centered on the material manifestations and micropolitics of collective memory, sense of place, and identity. Aside from my thesis and dissertation work, I have also researched social fragmentation in the exurbanizing West, the invented Bavarian identity of Helen, Georgia, approaches to teaching the concept of homeland, and the college football spectacle of tailgating. My professional memberships extend to the Association of American Geographers for who’s Cultural Geography Specialty Group, I serve as the Awards Director, and the Southeastern Division of the AAG.

I am excited to serve as the Book Review Editor for Material Culture. Artimus Keiffer and Scott Roper have done an excellent job leading the journal, and I look forward to helping Sarah Beth Keough and Scott continue the editorial organization and integrity that has been preserved and built (no pun intended?). Of course, the greatness of our journals reflects that of our members and their interests and (Continued on page 22)
An Introduction to Sara Beth Keough . . .

(Continued from page 8)

Newfoundland conducting fieldwork, and the island and its people have become very dear to my heart. Nothing has taught me more about the United States than my travels throughout the Canadian provinces where my Canadian colleagues constantly give me opportunities to look at issues from the Canadian perspective.

Currently, I am an Assistant Professor in the Department of History and Geography at Saginaw Valley State University in Saginaw, Michigan. This is an institution focused primarily on undergraduate education, and I teach undergraduate classes in both physical and cultural/human geography. In addition to editing *Material Culture*, I am on the executive board for the Cultural Geography Specialty Group and the Canadian Studies Specialty Group through the Association of American Geographers.

In an effort to balance my professional and personal life, I remain active in many extra curricular activities. I am writing this during “rest time” at a summer camp for kids with Muscular Dystrophy in Wakefield, Virginia, where I volunteer each summer as a camp counselor. I am also a semi-professional trumpet player, and I play in music groups from a variety of musical genres (classical, big-band jazz, Broadway musicals, brass quintets, community bands, choir accompaniment, etc.).

Finally, I am an avid road biker and runner, and I completed the 2007 Boston Marathon the day before the Association of American Geographers (AAG) meeting in San Francisco. (Getting up at 3:30 a.m. to catch my plane to San Francisco the day after the marathon was almost harder than running the race itself!) But, nothing passes my time better than diving into a good book!

As the editor of *Material Culture*, I hope to receive and solicit submissions from academics, consultants, practitioners, professionals, and students. I see *Material Culture* as an inter-disciplinary journal, and I hope it becomes a venue for interactions between the many disciplines that study the material world.

I am looking forward to getting to know the PAS: APAL membership better during my term as editor. Thank you so much for this honor.

*Sara Beth Keough*

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What We Did on Our **Summer Vacations:**
Featuring the photographs of Brett Rodgers, Keith Roe, Joanne Raetz Stuttgen, and Cathy Wilson

*Brett Rodgers* shot these photos during his summer trip through the German settlements of Texas Hill Country. Counterclockwise from the *upper right*: St. Mary’s Catholic Cemetery, Fredericksburg, TX; *upper left*: German heart with cross and hexagrams, St. Mary’s Catholic Cemetery, Fredericksburg, TX; *center left*: Shell-covered concrete grave mounds, Comfort, TX; *lower left*: Rusted metal wreath, Gillespie County, TX; *lower right*: Der Stadt Friedhof (Protestant) Cemetery, Fredericksburg, TX.

(Continued on page 12)
Our Summer Vacations . . .
(Continued from page 11)

Continental U.S. . . .

Keith Roe snapped these pictures on his summer travels across the country. Clockwise from the upper left: Two working, mobile feed mills like those that commonly served farms in the 1940s and 1950s, Mainesburg, PA; upper right: Wheat Growers Hotel, Kimball, NE, is being restored to its former elegance; center right: Exterior of the vacant, circa 1927 Balsiger Ford building, Klamath Falls, OR, is recognized as a fine example of Egyptian Revival architecture; lower right: Interior of the Balsiger Ford building; lower left: An example of fences in southern Oregon and northern Nevada, many of which have an occasional enclosure filled with rocks; They can be made of wood or wire, and may serve to help stabilize the remaining fence, or act as corner posts.
Our Summer Vacations . . .

*Minnesota . . .*

Joanne Raetz Stuttgen recorded these scenes on her Bluffs & Prairies Bicycle Tour in southeastern Minnesota in June. Counterclockwise from the upper right: abandon schoolhouse at the top of a extremely steep hill outside of the Whitewater River Valley; upper left: a bluff farm with a round barn; center left: former Welch Feed Mill, Welch, MN, is now a river tubing business; lower left: 1875 Italianate style St. James Hotel, Red Wing, MN, which originally welcomed rail and Mississippi riverboat travelers, was restored and reopened in 1979; lower right: Lanesboro, MN, received the Great American Main Street Award in 1998 and was named one of the 20 best dream towns in America to live and play.

(Continued on page 14)
Our Summer Vacations . . .
(Continued from page 13)

Pennsylvania . . .

Cathy Wilson captured these images of Bedford, PA, on her way home from the Hagerstown, MD Conference. Clockwise from the upper left: the newly renovated 1828 courthouse is the oldest courthouse still in use in Pennsylvania; upper right: a Victorian wing of the Bedford Springs Hotel which reopened in 2007 following a $120 million restoration; center right: the 1766 Espy House served as George Washington’s headquarters during the Whiskey Rebellion in 1794; lower right: the 1927 Bedford Coffee Pot was moved to the local fairgrounds and restored in 2004; lower left: Dick Dunkle’s 1933 art deco gas station is one of the last surviving examples of a classic Gulf gas station still in use.
In memory of folklife scholar Warren E. Roberts, a longtime PAS: APAL member and former director, this annual competitive award recognizes excellence in original graduate student fieldwork, documentary research, and writing in the area of traditional North American material culture.

Born in 1924, Warren E. Roberts received, in 1953, the first Ph.D. in folklore awarded in the United States. At first a literary folklorist, Dr. Roberts’ interests turned to material culture after spending one year in Norway under a Fulbright fellowship and an additional two months under a Guggenheim fellowship. The remainder of his long career was spent researching and writing about traditional material culture, most notably tree stump tombstones and log buildings. Warren E. Roberts died on February 1st, 1999.

Students who are unfamiliar with Warren E. Roberts or his contributions to the field of material culture studies or uncertain whether their paper meets the eligibility requirements are strongly urged to read his important article, “Folklife and Traditional Material Culture: A Credo,” first published in Material Culture 17 (1985): 89-95 and reprinted in Viewpoints on Folklife: Looking at the Overlooked (1988): 15-19.

Award Criteria

Eligibility
Students in any field who are working toward a graduate degree in an accredited program, or who have graduated from such a program within one academic year of the submission deadline, are eligible for the Warren E. Roberts Graduate Student Paper Competition.

Submissions and requirements
All research must be original, be based on fieldwork, and must be accompanied by a brief paragraph as to how the submission reflects the sentiment expressed in “Folklife and Material Culture: A Credo.” Four copies of the paper must be submitted to the chairperson of the Award Review Committee. Papers must be double-spaced and should be 20-25 pages in length. The winning paper must be presented at the annual meeting of PAS: APAL in the year in which the Award is sought.

Selection
The Award Review Committee will choose one award winner. However, the Committee does reserve the right to withhold the Award for any given year if no papers are considered to be meritable.

Deadline
The deadline for submission is June 30th, 2008.

Award
The winner of the Warren E. Roberts Award will receive a certificate of recognition, a cash prize of $200.00, one free conference registration, and a banquet ticket.

Award Presentation
Awards will be announced and presented at the PAS: APAL Annual Conference, which will be held in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, on October 16-18, 2008.

Award Review Committee
The Committee is comprised of the winner of the previous year’s Award and three PAS: APAL members appointed by the Executive Director.

For more information, contact:
Dr. Joanne Raetz Stuttgen, Chair
Warren E. Roberts Graduate Student Paper Competition
PAS: APAL
759 E. Washington Street
Martinsville, Indiana 46151
tel: 317/349-1537
e-mail: stuttgen@insightbb.com
This page has been intentionally left blank so that the information on the Roberts Award (see reverse side) can be easily removed in order to post, photocopy, and distribute.
2008 PAS: APAL Membership Renewal Form

Your membership renewal to Pioneer America Society: Association for the Preservation of Artifacts & Landscapes for 2008 is now due. Records indicate that your dues are now paid through the 2007 calendar year. Please pay dues for the 2008 calendar year by **January 31, 2008.** Your cancelled check will be your receipt.

Membership in PAS: Association for the Preservation of Artifacts & Landscapes includes subscriptions to *Material Culture, PAST,* and *The PAS Newsletter.*

**Membership categories:** (please circle)

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Contribution $___________

**TOTAL** $___________

I enclose $___________ for my 2008 PAS: APAL membership. Make your check/money order (U.S. dollars only) payable to: “Pioneer America Society.” **IMPORTANT - Please remit your 2008 dues by January 31, 2008!**

Name ______________________________________________________________________

Address_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

City____________________________________State/Providence_______________________

Zip/Postal Code____________________________Country____________________________

Phone______________________**Email**

**Current email address required so that the PAS Membership Directory can be updated!**

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In the Spotlight

Applied Cultural Geography with the National Trust for Historic Preservation
By Artimus Keiffer

This past Spring I had the distinct pleasure of using my acquired abilities as a cultural geographer in an applied situation. The program, sponsored by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, called “New Perspectives,” served the purpose to assess, enhance, and improve interpretation at certain National Trust Historic Sites. This initial phase included four sites: 1) Shadows-on-the-Teche, New Iberia, Louisiana, a 19th century plantation house that I evaluated, 2) Decatur House, Washington, D.C., a 19th century residence designed by Benjamin Henry Latrobe, 3) Drayton Hall, Charleston, South Carolina, an 18th century plantation house considered to be one of finest examples of Georgian-Palladian architecture in the U.S., and 4) Lyndhurst, Tarrytown, New York, the finest 19th century Gothic Revival mansion in the country. Additional comments were to address and ensure the tours, exhibits, publications, school programs, and other educational activities incorporate diverse perspectives and include current scholarship.

Each site brought together several scholars specializing in different disciplines such as African American history, labor history, diplomatic history, leisure history, social history, architectural history, and cultural geography. Even though it leaned heavily to history and historical geography, the cultural aspect was definitely important, not only to add a spatial component, but to put the entire property in context. This contextual approach, in my mind, included elements of economic, technological, resource, and migration geographies.

As a result, I attended a one day, on-site workshop at Shadows-on-the-Teche in order to tour the property. I also took an extra day to visit the surrounds including going to the local coffee shop, getting a haircut, and talking to various organizations promoting tourism in the area. I had been to New Orleans before, and even took a day then to drive through the backwater bayous. This time, I was more focused and used my previous experience to appreciate the site.
experience as a base to evaluate the site and situation.

Basically, my personal research found the continued use of negative stereotypes, ecological degradation, and the property itself, although lending to a "sense of place" among local residents, had morphed into little more than a well-documented house museum that had been reduced from three thousand acres to one and a half. This, of course, is the purpose of the program and such comments can help reposition the property in the local history and its appeal to tourists; drawing from the typical southern Louisiana tourist who thinks the city of New Orleans is the only attraction in the region.

To fulfill my contractual obligations, I authored a four thousand word paper based on my perspective titled, "The Rise and Demise of a Plantation on the Teche: A shadow of its former self." The thesis of the paper suggested that the various layers of settlement (original indigenous peoples, French, Spanish, Arcadian, and English) left a legacy of exploitation, and this was exacerbated by the increase in transportation technologies ultimately leaving a cultural mosaic that is part of the American experience. This can still be seen in the landscape today.

It was an interesting study and a good way to re-interpret the sites perhaps in a different perspective. As we know, history is re-written with each successive generation. Researching the site meant taking into account historic versus contemporary interpretations, and their importance in developing the true meaning of such a historical site.

The research will be used primarily by the current site staff, both management and guides, secondarily, to future site staff, and finally, by historic site professionals across the country. These essays will be shared with historic preservation professionals, either individually or as a set, so they can understand the value and benefit of working with scholars and incorporating different perspectives in the interpretation of historic sites. Hopefully, readers will gain a more scholarly understanding of the subject so that they will be able to apply the techniques and knowledge to their own site.

It was a great program and, based on its success, may be continued in the future. It is much better to have shared visions of the same site by various (Continued on page 30)
Obituary

Gary L. Collison
1947-2007

Gary L. Collison, 60, died at home in York, Pennsylvania, on Wednesday, September 19, 2007, of cancer. He was the husband of Linda (Travis) Collison, to whom he was married for 38 years. Gary was born in Lewistown, PA, on January 17, 1947, a son of Dorothy (Wisehaupt) Collison of Reedsville, PA, and the late Frederick Collison.

Dr. Collison graduated from Lewistown High School, Lewistown, PA. He received his B.A. from Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA, his M.A. from Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA, and his Ph.D. from Penn State University, University Park, PA. He was a professor of English and American Studies at Penn State-York for more than 30 years, until his retirement in January 2007.

Dr. Collison has been the editor of Markers: Annual Journal of the Association of Gravestone Studies for the past seven years. He was also the author of Shadrach Minkins: From Fugitive Slave to Citizen (Harvard University Press, 1997). Dr. Collison was a member of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of York and the York YMCA, as well as the Association for Gravestone Studies, PAS: Association for the Preservation of Artifacts & Landscapes, and other professional organizations.

In addition to his wife and mother, he is survived by his children, Megan (Collison) Primavera and husband of Glenside, PA, and Evan Collison and wife of Philadelphia, PA; and his grandsons, Sawyer and Sage Primavera. He is also survived by his brother, Martin Collison and his family of Liberty, MO; and his sister, Ellen Collison of Reedsville, PA.

A funeral service was held on Saturday, September 22, 2007, at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation, and burial was at Prospect Hill Cemetery in York, PA.

The Etzweiler Funeral Home and Cremation Service of York was in charge of arrangements, and condolences may be left at an online guest book through the funeral home website at:


Memorial contributions may be made to: Gary Collison Scholarship Fund, Penn State-York, 1031 Edgecomb Avenue, York, PA 17403.

---Adapted from an obituary which initially appeared in the York Daily Record & York Dispatch on September 20, 2007.

Cemeteries and gravemarkers were his passion.
An Introduction to Chris Post . . .
(Continued from page 9)

abilities. The number of books available for review is tremendous, and I encourage all our members to request one and write about it. We will continue to place reviews in both Material Culture and P.A.S.T. to facilitate these numbers. I will be looking to streamline the number of books a little, but plenty will still be available. I also hope to be more active in personally soliciting reviews. Do not be surprised to receive an email or phone call if a particular book comes across my desk!

I thank all of you for the opportunity to serve this role within our organization and hope to be in contact with everyone. I have provided my contact information below for you.

Cheers!

Chris Post, Ph.D.
Fence Talk:
News From and About Our Members

(Do YOU have news? Then, “Fence Talk wants to hear from YOU! Just email “Fence Talk at pasnewsletter@yahoo.com, or write to: “Fence Talk,” The PAS Newsletter, c/o Frank Ainsley, ERS Department, 601 S. College Road, University of North Carolina, Wilmington, NC 28403.)

Margaret J. King, a new member of the PAS: APAL Board of Directors and a co-chair of the Membership Committee, is Director of Cultural Studies & Analysis, a Philadelphia-based think tank that profiles how people think, act, and make decisions. Cultural analysis, which draws on fields as diverse as architecture and zoology, with brain research, cognitive science, psychology, evolution and engineering in between—identifies how people find and recognize value in products and experiences—running the gamut from theme parks to the U.S. Constitution.

The database for the models developed to study culture is one of the world’s largest and longest: the record of how people have spent their time, energy, and dollars on the arts, commerce, and communication of shared culture: products, places, building, travel, fashion, food, and festivals. The interest in landscapes, artifacts, and architecture comes from the need to understand inductively what they have to tell us about our cultural history, environment, and values.

Margaret was awarded the first graduate degree in popular culture from the Center for the Study of Popular Culture at Bowling Green State University (Ohio), in 1972. She wanted to study not high culture but the culture of shared values and daily decision-making. That interest has now become an expertise valued by all enterprises that need to understand how their customers think and make choices. This universe includes business, government, nonprofits, academe, and emerging global multinationals, corporations, and non-governmental organizations.

While businesses are aware by sales numbers that they offer something important to people, few companies understand exactly what that value is and how to keep it intact and recognizable, especially the traditional long-term successes like Disney, Coke, and Harley-Davidson.

“What we learned was that many businesses think they are making business decisions, when they are, in fact, making cultural decisions that people respond to—favorably or unfavorably—based on an entirely different set of criteria,” says Margaret.

“Understanding how the consumer actually makes decisions is the start of all business success. That’s why it’s the core of what we study in analyzing culture, the software of the brain—which operates beneath our conscious logic system. That’s where all the important cuts are made. We use conscious logic (Continued on page 24)
Margaret J. King (Cont’d)

at the very last point in the process – when we have to decide between two or three apparently equal choices.

“Culture is also a logic system, but it is so deeply imbedded that its operation takes place on an invisible level. We study the effects of this Cultural Logic over time, how it operates, and takes it apart to see what drives the process. It’s complex, but it is logical and knowable. It also runs the economy, which means business needs to understand how people think, and why, not just what or how, they buy.”

Cultural Studies & Analysis researches long-term values, the cultural imperatives that make American (and every other) culture work. This is the “prime directive,” the dynamic behind our thinking at all levels. In the U.S., the individual is the base unit of culture. U.S. culture runs on the shared need for choices, mobility, aspiration (class), and community built from the inside out. How we recognize which artifacts and experiences best fill those needs determines what we buy, from products like the iPod to ideals like fairness.

“Humans haven’t evolved biologically in millennia,” since we first walked upright six million years ago, according to Margaret. “Only our environment, and the body of knowledge we have acquired over a thousand generations, has changed. While our knowledge-based starting point is different from our Cro-Magnon ancestors, our body’s needs still evolve as we age, and our brain is wired to make decisions in the same way as those early cave-dwellers. So we don’t study trends, we study these long-term drivers that prompt decisions: what needs are consistent over generations, at what point in the human lifespan, and how those needs are met and value is recognized across generations. When Americans have been buying the same value set consistently for two hundred years, we aren’t likely to stop tomorrow.”

Margaret is often asked to comment on cultural issues, from the value of roller coasters for Six Flags Theme Parks to a current project on the topic of whether Americans have become less civil for a major television news organization. She is frequently sought out as an expert on cultural topics by media such as the L.A. Times, NBC, NPR, The Washington Post, and The Learning Channel. She lectures at Thomas Jefferson University (medical school) and Harvard’s Experience Design Forum.

Margaret attended Lewis & Clark College in Portland, and the University of Oregon’s Honors College in Eugene (Class of 69). As mentioned previously, she received the first graduate degree in popular culture from the Center for the Study of Popular Culture in 1972 and a Ph.D. in American Studies from the University of Hawaii in 1976. Research at the Culture Learning Institute at the East-West Center included fieldwork in Tokyo and Kyoto.

She served as president of the Fellows in American Studies, as a Board member of the American Culture
Fence Talk . . .

Margaret J. King (Cont’d)

Association and the Geographical Society of Philadelphia, and as a Colleague on the faculty of the Creative Education Foundation and the American Creativity Association. Her research interests range from theme parks, museums, the popular arts, the nature of creativity, film, television, cross-cultural issues, and marketing, to evolutionary psychology, decision-making, and culture theory. Her recent research explores the process of transformation and change in design and use of built environments and experiences.


The Center provides cultural intelligence for major corporations, cultural and educational institutions, trade associations, resource providers, think tanks, and corporate and creative leaders. Her studies have been used by clients as diverse as Walt Disney Imagineering, Thomas Jefferson University, Six Flags, General Mills, NASA, DuPont, Proctor & Gamble, J. Walter Thompson (JWT), Scotts Lawn and Garden, the Color Marketing Group, the International Dairy Foods Association, the World Game Institute, The National Constitution Center, The California Oil Museum, and The Autry Museum of Western Heritage.

Margaret may be reached at the Center for Cultural Studies & Analysis either by phone at: 215/592-8544, or by email at: majking9@comcast.net.

Kevin Patrick, another new member of the PAS: APAL Board of Directors, has belonged to the Society for nine years. He obtained his Master’s degree in geography from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Illinois, and his Doctorate from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, North Carolina. He has been a member of the Indiana University of Pennsylvania Geography and Regional Planning Department in Indiana, Pennsylvania, since 1993, and last year, he was promoted to full professor.

His dissertation, The Cultural Identity (Continued on page 26)
Fence Talk . . .
(Continued from page 25)

Kevin Patrick (Cont’d)


Kevin’s interest in cultural landscapes, especially those related to transportation, has resulted in other publications. He co-authored Diners of Pennsylvania (Stackpole Books) with Brian Butko in 1999, and co-edited with Joseph Sarpaci, Pittsburgh and the Appalachians: Cultural and Natural Resources in a Postindustrial Age (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2006), in which he authored the essays, “Joe Magarac and the Spirit of Pittsburgh,” “Pittsburgh: City of Bridges,” and “Pittsburgh as Concentric Triangle.” As these titles suggest, Kevin leans more toward industrial (and even post-industrial) age built environments rather than pre-industrial vernacular landscapes. This interest is even further emphasized by his essay, “Post-Industrial Philadelphia: Dismantling the Workshop of the World,” in Percy H. Dougherty’s Geography of the Philadelphia Region: Cradle of Democracy, (Association of American Geographers 2004); and his “Michigan Steel” chapter in the forthcoming volume, Geography of Michigan and the Great Lakes Region.

At the same time, Kevin’s interests extend to human interpretations of natural environments, as is apparent from his chapter, “Seeing the Sunny South: Mother Nature and the Morphology of Tourist Landscapes,” in Claudette Stager’s and Martha Carver’s work, Looking Beyond the Highway: Dixie Roads and Culture (University of Tennessee Press, 2006), the 2007 winner of the Society’s Allen G. Noble Book Award, as well as his own recent book, Pennsylvania Caves and Other Rocky Roadside Wonders (Stackpole Books, 2004). Currently, Kevin is working on several new book projects including, Diners of New Jersey (Stackpole Books), My Kind of Highway (Johns Hopkins University Press), and a collaboration with Curt and Libby Roseman highlighting the landscapes of transcontinental U.S. Highway 6.

Finally, Kevin has been an active member of the Association of American Geographers (AAG), having served as a leader or co-leader of ten different AAG field trips in five different cities.

Kevin may be reached at: kpatrick@iup.edu.
preservation challenges facing the city and its home owners in a place of perpetual risk from hurricanes. This trip will likely include a fine Creole lunch.

The conference will take place in the recently restored Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center. This was the grand railroad hotel during the era of Huey Long, and it stands atop the bluff overlooking the Mississippi River in the heart of downtown. Idle for more than two decades, it reopened in 2005 after a major renovation and now offers visitors a great location. Nearby is the historic Old State Capitol, built before the Civil War and now restored and open to the public as a museum. Almost across the street is the new LSU Museum of Art. A few blocks away is the new Louisiana State Museum, which houses a colorful collection of objects, artifacts, and music that chronicle the state’s past. And, just beyond the state museum is the new state capitol – Huey Long’s creation and the site of his assignation. To the east of the capitol is “Spanish Town” - Baton Rouge’s earliest suburb, destination for the Canary Islanders who left the swamps after the Louisiana Purchase, and more recently, home to an interesting mix of hard core urban dwellers. A walk through the city’s center can be rewarding.

Friday, October 17th, will be devoted to paper sessions. We invite scholars to present papers that explore the role of extreme events in shaping the form of the structures we occupy and in influencing and changing settlement patterns and regional landscapes. In addition, we hope to have sessions devoted to the challenges to preservation in landscapes with high risk. The Eastern Historical Geographers Association will have one track of sessions that will emphasize historical geography and landscapes of risk. Registration will allow participants to attend sessions organized by either (Continued on page 28)
(Continued from page 27)

organization.

We will have our banquet on Friday evening in the Heidelberg Room atop the hotel with a stunning view of the Mississippi. Presentation of awards to local preservation groups will highlight the banquet. Our guest speaker will discuss the role of hurricanes in Louisiana’s Cajun Country.

On Saturday, Craig Colten will lead a River Road field trip that will explore the landscapes which face a different sort of risk. It will include stops in Carville, Donaldsonville, and Plaquemine, Louisiana. Risks from sprawling chemical complexes and the emissions that drift from these facilities present challenges to communities and landscape preservation. Featured stops will include a hospital built to reduce the spread of Hansen’s disease in the early 20th century and communities that risk the loss of important structures due to population loss and economic decline. A reception at a historical museum will cap off the field trip.

Baton Rouge and Louisiana State University are pleased to serve as host for PAS: APAL and to fulfill its previously frustrated intents. With a rich tradition of landscape studies, the Department of Geography and Anthropology is especially eager to have you visit.

Baton Rouge is served by several airlines – Northwest, Delta, Continental, and American. Interstate highway I-10/12 runs through town and connects to I-55 a few miles to the east. And, for those who opt to arrive via flatboat, you can tie up at the waterfront within easy walking distance of the hotel.

Baton Rouge is on the edge of a major cultural divide. To the west and South is Acadiana – home to the Cajun house type and a host of local material culture traditions. To the north is the Upland South with its I-houses and dogtrots. Along the river, there is the additional influence of Creole (Continued on page 30)
Resources on the Web

Delaware Folk Art Collection Catalog


The Delaware Division of Parks and Recreation is pleased to present the Delaware Folk Art Collection catalog on this website.

The Collection is housed at the Blue Ball Barn of Alapocas Run State Park. The Barn was built by A.I. DuPont in 1914 and served as a dairy barn, first for his estate, and then for tenant farmers until the 1970s.

The Barn was abandoned until the early 21st century when this project was conceived. The entire Alapocas Run State Park is part of a larger land preservation project that included the Department of Transportation and the pharmaceutical company AstraZeneca.

The collection, possibly the first of its kind in the United States, reflects the contemporary cultural composition of Delaware's people. This small state, with a population of less than one million, is nearly as diverse as any other.

Smithsonian Center for Education and Museum Studies

http://museumstudies.si.edu/

Museum studies or museology is the field that encompasses the ideas and issues involved in the museum profession—from the practical, day-to-day skills needed to operate a museum to theories on the societal role of museums.

The Smithsonian Center for Education and Museum Studies (SCEMS) assists the museum community in acquiring and strengthening its understandings and practices of museology. This website is one of the Center's tools for serving the educational and informational needs of the field.

Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers

http://www.loc.gov/chroniclingamerica/

Approximately 310,000 digitized newspaper pages, dating from 1900 to 1910, are now accessible through this website. The site is a project of the National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP), a partnership between the Library of Congress (LC) and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH).

NEH has just announced that eight awards to institutions have been made to continue and expand the program. The program is also expanding the time period of newspapers that may be digitized to 1880-1910.

NDNP is a long-term effort to develop an Internet-based, searchable database of U.S. newspapers with select digitization of historic pages, as well as information about newspapers from 1690 to the present. Supported by NEH's "We the People" program and Digital Humanities Initiative, this rich

(Continued on page 30)
Resources . . .
(Continued from page 29)

Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers (Cont’d)

digital resource will continue to be developed and permanently maintained at the Library of Congress.

Ultimately, over the next 20 years, NDNP will create a national digital resource of historically significant newspapers published between 1836 and 1922 from all the states and U.S. territories.

At the same time, this website presently contains an accompanying national newspaper directory of bibliographic and holdings information that directs users to newspaper titles in all types of formats. This information in the directory was created through an earlier NEH initiative: the United States Newspaper Program.

(Continued from page 28)

architecture from the Caribbean and African-based shotguns. We are close enough to enjoy influences from all in our buildings, our food, and our music. Come enjoy!

October is a splendid time of the year. You can expect mild (read “warm” if you are from the north or “not so hot” if you are from the south). Normally, October is one of our drier months, but rain is not out of the question. Overall, this is an ideal time to visit south Louisiana, and we encourage you all to come and partake in a bit of our distinctive hospitality.

Applied Cultural Geography . . .
(Continued from page 20)

methods of research to conclude a good contextual approach to keep our history “historical” well into the future.

Artimus Keiffer is a cultural geographer and the executive director of PAS: APAL. He may be reached at: akeiffer@bellsouth.net.
The Pioneer America Society: Association for the Preservation of Artifacts & Landscapes (PAS: APAL) is proud to issue a call for nominations for the 2008 Fred B. Kniffen Book Award, and the 2008 Allen G. Noble Book Award.

The Fred B. Kniffen Book Award was established in 1989, in honor of the work that Prof. Kniffen completed as a long-time scholar at Louisiana State University. His work was influential especially in the fields of cultural geography and vernacular architecture, and he is known as the founder of an entire approach to looking at and understanding the landscape. The award recognizes the best-authored book in the field of North American material culture.

The Allen G. Noble Book Award, established in 2001, is given in honor of Prof. Noble’s scholarship in cultural geography. The award recognizes the best-edited book in the field of North American material culture. As a long time scholar and professor emeritus of geography and planning at the University of Akron, Professor Noble is recognized for his influential and seminal work.

The awards are intended to honor these two scholars by recognizing outstanding contemporary or recently published books. The nominated books may address several topics which could include some aspect of material culture, vernacular/contemporary/pop culture, cultural and physical landscapes, cultural geography, or extant artifacts. PAS: APAL awards bestow an esteemed honor on recipients.

Members are encouraged to nominate books that they believe deserve recognition and have been published in the years 2006-2008. They may nominate their own authored or edited books. Many award winning books have become classroom texts or significant references for other scholars. The Book Award Committee encourages you to submit nominations for both awards.

Please send three copies of your nomination for the Book Award Committee members by June 1, 2008, to:

Chris Post, Ph.D.
Department of Geography
139 Geography-Geology Building
210 Field Street
University of Georgia
Athens, Georgia 30602
email: cpost@uga.edu

The awards will be announced at the annual Friday Awards Banquet at the PAS: APAL meeting in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, on October 17, 2008. Once the authors, editors, and winning presses are notified, and the awards announced, a publicity statement will be mailed to the PAS: APAL press list announcing the books which have been chosen for awards.
Call for Papers

Designing the Parks

A conference in two parts examining the design of buildings and landscapes in regional, state, and national parks; Sponsored by the University of Virginia, the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, and the National Park Service.


Designing the Parks, Part 2: The Present and Future of Park Planning and Design, San Francisco, California (Fall 2008)

This conference will meet for three days in Charlottesville, Virginia (May 20-22, 2008). A three-day work session in San Francisco will follow in the Fall of 2008. In Charlottesville, the meeting will be hosted by the University of Virginia and the papers presented will address the history of the planning and design of regional, state, and national parks. The San Francisco meeting, which will be held at the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, will explore current issues and future trends in park planning and design, building on the research presented the Charlottesville meeting.

Interested scholars, scientists, park professionals, and design practitioners are invited to submit paper abstracts of no more than 300 words for the Charlottesville meeting of Designing the Parks by January 7, 2008.

At both meetings, participants will include architects and landscape architects, historians, scientists, national and state park managers, partnership organizations, and others involved in park research, design, and management. Many types of landscape reservations will be the subjects of papers and presentations at both meetings of Designing the Parks, including but not limited to scenic and wilderness reservations, historical and archeological parks, ethnographic and memorial sites, national heritage areas, and protected landscapes of all types. The Charlottesville and San Francisco meetings of Designing the Parks will be linked in terms of content, themes, participants, and mutual relevance.

The purpose of the Charlottesville session is to assess lessons learned through an examination of park planning and design history. The research presented will provide a foundation for presentations and workshops addressing the unique challenges facing current park design and management, which will be the subjects of the San Francisco meeting of the conference. Both meetings of Designing the Parks will also stand independently for those attending one or the other of the meetings.

CALL FOR PAPERS
for
Designing the Parks, Part I:
The papers presented at the Charlottesville meeting of *Designing the Parks* will feature new research into the history of the planning and design of regional, state, and national parks. Many aspects of park design will be considered, including buildings, designed landscapes, park roads, interpretive design, or any other aspect of how parks have preserved and presented nature and history to the public. The emphasis of the papers will be on the inherent meaning, ideology, and intent of large public parks as works of design, with a particular focus on design expression in state and national parks. Papers will also address the social, economic, and political contexts within which each park was designed and constructed, and will attempt to assess the relevance of historic park management strategies to the issues facing park managers today.

Abstracts should be submitted by January 7, 2008. Please include short résumés, titles, affiliations, and full contact information for all presenters. Participants are invited to submit abstracts for any of the thematic sessions suggested below, or to propose their own thematic session. The titles and descriptions of these sessions will be altered or developed as needed, and open sessions will also be organized for papers not easily grouped thematically.

**Possible Thematic Sessions:**

- Municipal Landscape Parks
- Yosemite, Yellowstone, and Early Park Preservation
- Scenic and Historic Preservation
- The Evolution of Park Ideals
- Rustic Park Design
- Automotive Tourism
- The CCC and the State Park
- Modernism in the Parks
- Historical and Urban Park Design
- Nature and Culture in Park Design
- The Battles over Battlefields
- Colonial Revival and Park Design
- Presidential Sites
- The Archaeological Park
- New Stories Told

Send abstracts as attachments to: designingtheparks@virginia.edu, or mail to:

DESIGNING THE PARKS
University of Virginia
Campbell Hall
P.O. Box 400122
Charlottesville, VA 22904-4122

For more information, contact Ethan Carr at: ec2h@virginia.edu, or Shaun Eyring, NPS-Northeast Regional Office, at: shaun_eyring@nps.gov, or Stephanie Toothman, NPS-Pacific West Regional Office, at: stephanie_toothman@nps.gov.
Conference Calendar

2007

December

2008

January

The American Historical Association (AHA) will hold its 122nd annual meeting in Washington, DC, on January 3-6, 2008. The theme for the meeting is: Uneven Developments. For additional information, visit the AHA website at: http://www.historians.org/annual/2008/index.cfm.

The Society for Historic Archaeology (SHA) will hold its 41st annual meeting in Albuquerque, New Mexico, on January 9-12, 2008. The theme for the meeting is: The Public Benefits of Historical Archaeology. For complete information, visit the SHA website at: http://www.sha.org/about/conferences/2008.htm.

February

The Southwest/Texas Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association (SW/TX PCA/ACA) will hold its 29th annual conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico, on February 13-16, 2008. For further information, visit the SW/TX PCA/ACA website at: http://www.h-net.org/%7Eswhpca/.

March

The Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association (PCA/ACA) will hold its annual conference in San Francisco, California, on March 19-22, 2008. For additional information, contact Delores Rauscher, the Conference Coordinator, at rausche5@msu.edu.

April

The National Council on Public History (NCPH) will hold its annual conference in Louisville, Kentucky, on April 10-13, 2008. The theme for the meeting is: Public Histories of Union and Disunion. For additional information, visit the NCPH website at: http://www.ncph.org/2008annualmtg.html.

The Association of American Geographers (AAG) will hold its 104th annual conference in Boston, Massachusetts, on April 15-19, 2008. For more information, visit the AAG website at: http://www.aag.org/annualmeetings/2008/index.htm.

May

The Vernacular Architecture Forum (VAF) will hold its 29th annual conference in Fresno, California, on May 7-10, 2008. The theme for the meeting is: In the Garden of the Sun: California’s San Joaquin Valley. For further information, contact Karana Hattersley-Drayton, Local Arrangements Chair, at: 559/621-8520; email: karana.hattersley-drayton@fresno.gov; or visit the VAF website at: http://www.aag.org/annualmeetings/2008/index.htm.
Calendar . . .


The Society for Industrial Archaeology (SIA) will hold its 37th annual conference in San Jose, California, on May 29-June 1, 2008. For more information, visit the SIA website at: http://www.siahq.org/conference/STIAconf.html.

June

The Agricultural History Society (AHS) will hold its annual meeting at the University of Nevada in Reno, Nevada, on June 19-21, 2008. The theme for the annual conference is: Fertile Connections: Agriculture, Environment, and Society in a Global Perspective. For more information, contact Brian Cannon, Chair, Department of History, 2119 JFSB, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah 84606, email: brian_cannon@byu.edu, or visit the AHS website at: http://www.aghistorysociety.org/meetings/2007/cfp.html.

The Association for Gravestone Studies (AGS) will hold its 31st annual conference at Hampshire College in Amherst, Massachusetts, on June 19-22, 2008. For further information, visit the AGS website at: http://www.gravestonestudies.org/conferences.html.

The Association for Living History, Farm, & Agricultural Museums (ALHFAM) will hold its annual conference in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, on June 22-26, 2008. The theme for the meeting is: Loyalty in Living History. For further information, visit the ALHFAM website at: http://www.alhfam.org/index.php?cat_id=233.

October

The American Quilt Study Group (AQSG) will hold its 29th annual seminar in Columbus, Ohio, on October 3-5, 2008. For complete information, contact the American Quilt Study Group, 1610 L Street, Lincoln, NE 68508; tel: 402/477-1181; email: AQSG2@windstream.net; or visit the AQSG website at: http://www.americanquiltstudygroup.org.

The Society for the History of Technology (SHOT) will continue to celebrate its 50th anniversary at its annual conference in Lisbon, Portugal, on October 9-12, 2008. For additional information, visit the SHOT website at: http://www.historyoftechnology.org/annualmtg.html.

The Oral History Association (OHA) will hold its annual conference in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on October 15-19, 2008. For complete information, visit the OHA’s website at: http://omega.dickinson.edu/organizations/oha/org_am.html.

The American Studies Association (ASA) will hold its annual conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico, on October 16-19, 2008. For further information, email: annualmeeting@theasa.net, or visit the ASA website at: http://www.theasa.net/annual_meeting/page/annual_meeting_general_information/.

The Pioneer America Society: Association for the Preservation of Artifacts & Landscapes (PAS: APAL) will hold its 40th annual conference in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, on October 16-18, 2008. The theme for the meeting is: Landscapes at Risk. For complete information, contact Craig Colten, Department of Geography & Anthropology, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803; tel: 225/578-6180; email: ccolten@lsu.edu, or visit the PAS: APAL website at: http://www.pioneeramerica.org.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP) will hold its annual preservation conference in Tulsa, Oklahoma, on October 21-25, 2008. For additional information, contact the National Trust at: conference@nthp.org, or visit the NTHP website at: http://www.nthpconference.org.

The American Folklore Society (AFS) will (Continued on page 36)
October (Cont’d)

hold its 120th annual conference in Louisville, Kentucky, on October 22-26, 2008. For more information, visit the AFS web site at: http://www.afsnet.org/annualmeet/index.cfm.

November

The American Anthropological Association (AAA) will hold its 107th annual conference in San Francisco, California, on November 19-23, 2008. For more information, visit the AAA website at: http://www.aaanet.org/mtgs/mtgs.htm.

******

Please Join Us!
Become a PAS: APAL Member Today.

Pioneer America Society:
Association for the Preservation of Artifacts & Landscapes
Membership Application Form

Name__________________________________________________________

Address________________________________________________________

City________________________State/Province________________________

Postal Code________________________Country________________________

Phone________________________Email Address_______________________

Membership Classifications & Annual Dues: (Please check one)
_____ Individual $50.00; _____ Student $25.00; _____ Institutional $75.00;
_____ Life Member $450.00

To join PAS: APAL, complete this application form, enclose a check or money order (U.S. dollars only) made payable to “Pioneer America Society,” and mail it to:

Dr. W. Frank Ainsley, Secretary-Treasurer, PAS: APAL,
Department of Earth Sciences, 601 S. College Road, University of North Carolina, Wilmington, NC 28403, U.S.A.
The Pioneer America Society: Association for the Preservation of Artifacts & Landscapes (PAS: APAL) will hold its 40th annual conference at the recently restored Hilton Capitol Center in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, on October 16-18, 2008.

This event will be held in conjunction with the Eastern Historical Geographers Association (EHGA) meeting and will be hosted by the Department of Geography & Anthropology at Louisiana State University.

The 2008 Conference theme is: Landscapes at Risk. There will be a pre-Conference tour on Thursday led by cultural anthropologist, Jay Edwards through the extensive areas of devastation and renewal in New Orleans. Creole cottages, shotguns, and doubles will be staple fare for the day. Professor Edwards, an authority on Creole-Caribbean architecture, will highlight the preservation challenges facing the city and its home owners in a place of perpetual risk from hurricanes. On Saturday, cultural geographer, Craig Colten will lead the River Road field trip that will explore the landscapes that face a different sort of risk. It will include stops in Carville, Donaldsonville, and Plaquemine, LA. Risks from these sprawling chemical complexes and the emissions that rift from them present many challenges to communities and landscape preservation. Featured stops will include a hospital built to reduce the spread of Hansen’s disease in the early 20th century, and communities that risk the loss of important structures due to population loss and economic decline.

The conference committee will be soliciting proposals for papers, special sessions, and panel discussions relating to the conference theme after the first of the year. However, papers on all material culture topics of interest to the Society will be welcome. The abstract deadline will be announced in the Spring of 2008.

For further conference information, contact Craig E. Colten, Department of Geography and Anthropology, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803; telephone: 225/578-6180; email: ccolten@lsu.edu; or visit the Society’s website at: http://www.pioneeramerica.org.
Membership Dues to Rise . . .
(Continued from page 6)

much with what we have. We certainly don’t want to drive away members since various committees and board members have made substantial efforts to help further the goals of the organization.

In short, many organizations such as PAS: APAL face a daunting dilemma. That is, how to maintain services and retain members in an economic climate that currently competes for disposable income dollars. It is the hope of the past, present, and future members that this organization thrive and strive to carry out its mission. To do this, operating monies are needed. Members are encouraged to renew their dues annually. Friends of the Society are requested to remember the organization when planning their budgets, and institutions are asked to maintain their PAS: APAL publication subscriptions. Finally, please recruit one new member this year, and request an institutional subscription (either electronic or hardcopy) for your library. Given our collective genius, it is great the things we do, and the things we are capable of. In essence, it is priceless.

Have a safe and happy holiday period and a productive new year....and please don’t forget to renew your membership dues in January 2008!

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It’s Time to Renew . . .

It is now time for you to renew your PAS: APAL membership for 2008. For your convenience, a membership renewal form has been included in this issue of *The PAS Newsletter* on pages 17-18. The deadline for renewal is:

**January 31, 2008.**

Otherwise, you may experience interruptions in your subscriptions to *Material Culture* and *PAST*.

*Don’t Delay, Renew Today!*