2017 PHA Annual Meeting

Public Histories of the Mid-Atlantic: Exploring the Ways We Engage with our Past

Scranton
October 12-14

Scranton’s Courthouse Square
About Scranton
Nestled in a valley along the Lackawanna River, Scranton gained fame as an immigrant destination and a hub of industry. By the late 1880s, Scranton had become one of the nation’s leading industrial centers. Rich veins of anthracite coal, iron furnaces, thriving silk mills, and several railroad companies drew laborers and entrepreneurs to the city. Today, Scranton is a growing commercial and cultural destination. The city’s renaissance is occurring in the footprint of its former glory. Coal company offices house university departments; a grand railroad station serves as a full-service hotel; and commercial structures have been adapted as luxury apartments. The many magnificent houses of worship and ethnic festivals that immigrants created still endure, making Scranton a patchwork quilt of myriad cultures. Thanks to the efforts of community organizations and volunteers, the industrial scars on the landscape are disappearing. The Lackawanna River is nearly pristine, and old industrial sites are now green spaces enjoyed by residents and visitors alike. Scranton’s revitalization embraces the past and the future.

Some Historical Notes

- Scranton was originally known as Capouse Meadows, named after the chief of the Moonesey Tribe that settled in the area in the mid-1700’s.
- In 1847, the Lackawanna Iron & Coal Company became the first American Company to mass produce iron rails, sparking a boom in the local railroading industry. Anthracite coal, indigenous to this area, fueled railroads and heated homes.
- Scranton was incorporated as a borough on February 14, 1856.
- Between the 1870’s and 1920’s, Northeastern Pennsylvania supplied more than 85 percent of the world’s anthracite coal and Scranton became known as the Anthracite Capital of the World.
- Significant numbers of local men joined the Union Army during the Civil War, notably Col. Ezra Ripple, who survived imprisonment at Andersonville and would become the Lackawanna County’s first Postmaster.
Conference Hotel
The Radisson Lackawanna Station Hotel is located in historic downtown Scranton, is ADA accessible, and within a 5-10 minute walking distance of restaurants, pubs and eateries, trails and parks, and arts and entertainment venues. The Radisson at Lackawanna Station Hotel is a six-story hotel that once served as a passenger train station. A neoclassical landmark, the Radisson not only adds to the grandeur of Scranton’s historic downtown, but it is also on the National Register of Historic Places. Amenities include fully-renovated rooms and suites with custom artwork and marble-top furnishings and award-winning restaurants. Guests enjoy complimentary 24-hour airport shuttle service to and from Wilkes Barre/Scranton International Airport (AVP), free high-speed Internet access and an on-site fitness center, available 24 hours.
The PHA Conference rate is $129 (plus 13% occupancy tax) per night. Rooms must be reserved by September 12, 2017 To reserve your hotel room online, go to: http://pa-history.org/meetings or call 800-333-3333 Request PA Historical Association Room Block or use code: PAHIAS Deadline for reservations is 9-12-17.

Directions
To the Radisson Lackawanna Station Hotel:
*GPS Address: 138 Jefferson Avenue, Scranton, PA

From the Poconos: Take Route 940 W to I-380 W to I-81 S to Exit 185, Central Scranton Expressway (former Exit 53). Stay left when the road forks. Make a left at the first traffic signal. The hotel will be on the immediate left.

From Western PA: Take I-80 E to I-81 N to Exit 185, Central Scranton Expressway (former Exit 53). Stay left when the road forks. Make a left at the first traffic signal. The hotel will be on the immediate left.

From New York City or New Jersey: Take I-80 W to I-380 W to I-81 S to Exit 185, Central Scranton Expressway (former Exit 53). Stay left when the road forks. Make a left at the first traffic signal. The hotel will be on the immediate left.

From Philadelphia: Take the Northeast Extension Turnpike, and then take Exit 115 Wyoming Valley to I-81 N. Take Exit 185, Central Scranton Expressway (former Exit 53), and exit in the left lane. Stay left when the road forks. Make a left at the first traffic signal. The hotel will be on the immediate left.

From Binghamton: Take I-81 S to Exit 185, Central Scranton Expressway (formerly Exit 53). Stay left when the road forks. Make a left at the first traffic signal. The hotel will be on the immediate left.

From Clarks Summit/Northern Suburbs: Take Route 11 S (merges with Route 6 W). Take Route 6/11 to where the expressway ends at Mifflin Avenue. Make a right turn on Mifflin Avenue to end on Lackawanna Avenue. Turn left onto Lackawanna Avenue. After five blocks, the hotel will be on your right.

From Radisson to Lackawanna Historical Society’s Catlin House & University of Scranton
Walk behind hotel to the left to find pedestrian bridge leading to Ridge Row, turn left at intersection to see Catlin House on the right or driving, turn left out of Radisson Parking lot onto Lackawanna Avenue, turn right at first stop sign onto Adams Avenue, go two blocks then turn right onto Linden Street, stay straight on Linden to University of Scranton Campus and turn right onto Monroe Avenue to see Catlin House on left.
About the Speakers

Nancy Moses

*Stolen, Smuggled Sold: How Cultural Objects Reveal Historical Events*

Nancy Moses began her career as a Program Chief at the National Endowment for the Humanities and then went on to top management positions at WQED-Pittsburgh Public Broadcasting, the University of Pennsylvania’s Center for Philadelphia Studies, and the City of Philadelphia. As an independent consultant, and through her firm, Collaborations, Inc. she has helped clients create heritage tourism entities and digital learning labs; launch international, environmental and civic initiatives; and establish new philanthropies. Her clients range from government, foundations, and national cultural treasures to community-based heritage, economic development, and service organizations. Moses is the author of *Stolen, Smuggled, Sold: On the Hunt for Cultural Treasures* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2015) and the award-winning book, *Lost in the Museum: Hidden Treasures and the Stories They Tell* (AltaMira Press 2008). She currently serves as a guest columnist for the Philadelphia Business Journal where her she profiles influential women in her "Power Lunch" column. Born and raised in Pittsburgh, Moses has lived in Philadelphia since 1976, where she has been active in numerous boards and civic initiatives. She holds Bachelors and Masters degrees in American Studies from The George Washington University.

Brenda Barrett

*Public History in Action - Pennsylvania Style*

Brenda Barrett is the editor of the *Living Landscape Observer* an online site that provides information and commentary on the emerging field of landscape scale conservation, historic preservation and sustainable communities. She served the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as well as the National Park Service for over three decades in a variety of conservation and historic preservation positions. For the National Park Service, she was the coordinator of the National Heritage Areas program in Washington DC. She is a board member of US/ICOMOS and an expert member of the ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on Cultural Landscapes. She writes and lectures on cultural landscapes, heritage development and landscape scale conservation.

Roger Simon

*Dimensions of Philadelphia’s History*

Professor Simon is an urban and social historian, focusing on the impact of industrialization and the urbanization process. He is particularly interested in Philadelphia and New York. He is the author of a monograph on ethnicity and neighborhood-formation in Milwaukee, *The City-Building Process*, and co-author of a study of the urban adjustment of Italians, Poles, and African-Americans in Pittsburgh, *Lives of Their Own*. His revised and updated edition of *Philadelphia: A Brief History* in the PHA History Series has just been published jointly with Temple University Press.
Program Schedule
Thursday, October 12

4:00 pm - 7:00 pm PHA Council Meeting
Lackawanna Historical Society’s Catlin House, 232 Monroe Ave.

7:00 pm - 7:30 pm Opening Reception
Lackawanna Historical Society’s Catlin House 232 Monroe Ave.

7:30 pm - 9:00 pm Welcome, Opening Plenary & Exhibit
University of Scranton’s Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Memorial Library,
5th Floor Heritage Room, 300 Monroe Ave.

World War I: From the Trenches to the Coal Seams
Moderator: Bill Fischer, Steamtown National Historic Site
Panelists: Sarah Piccini, Lackawanna Historical Society,
Michael Knies, University of Scranton
and Pat McKnight Steamtown National Historic Site

Friday, October 13

8:00 am – 8:50 am Morning Plenary
Radisson Lackawanna Station Ballroom

King’s College Undergraduates’ Virtual Museum Exhibits on Northeastern Pennsylvania History
Chair: Thomas Mackaman, King’s College 
Discussants: King’s College Students

9:00 am - 10:15 am Session One
Radisson Lackawanna Station Ballroom

PANEL 1: Public History in the Pennsylvania Wilds: An Examination of Three Thematic Museum’s in Pennsylvania’s Central Region
Chair: Gregory Peek, Pennsylvania State University, University Park
Commentator: Jeanine Mazak-Kahne, Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Joshua Roth, Pennsylvania Lumber Museum:
From Pine Cone to Hemlock: The Pennsylvania Lumber Museum
as a resource for history, education and community in the Pennsylvania Wilds
Joe Horvath, Pennsylvania Military Museum
Pennsylvanians in Service to State and Nation
Gregory Peek, Pennsylvania State University, University Park
A “Sentimental Journey:” Piper Aviation Museum and the Burden of History

PANEL 2: Using Land and Water Trails to Engage the Public with History
Chair: Jane Sheffield, Allegheny Ridge Corporation
Discussants: Laura Hawkins, Allegheny Ridge Corporation, Chad Crumrine, Shippensburg University,
Annette Schultz, Endless Mountains Heritage Region, and Jane Sheffield, Allegheny Ridge Corporation,

PANEL 3: Organized Crime in Pennsylvania: Three Case Studies
Chair & Commentator: Thomas Mackaman, Kings College
Jeanine Mazak-Kahne, Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Repeaters and the Mob-Backed Political Machine:
Voter Fraud and the 1952 Elections in New Kensington, Pennsylvania
Robert Wolensky, University of Wisconsin Stevens Point
Organized Labor and Organized Crime in the Northern Anthracite Field, 1917-1959
David Witwer and Catherine Rios, Pennsylvania State University, Harrisburg
The Mob and the Women's Garment Shops of Northeast Pennsylvania in the Post-WWII Era
10:30 am -11:45 am  Session Two  
Radisson Lackawanna Station Ballroom

**PANEL 4: Undesirable Consequences: Pennsylvanians Respond to Steam, Coal, and Automobiles**

Chair: Rachel Batch, Commenter: Ken Heineman  
Amber Noecker, Shippensburg University  
Ed Slavishak  
*Turned Turtle: Car Crashes in the Central Susquehanna Valley, 1910-1930*

**PANEL 5: Schuylkill Haven's Walk In Art Center:**  
*How a Provider of Studio Space for Local Artists Helped a Community Reconnect with its Past*  
Chair: Harold Aurand, Jr., Pennsylvania State University, Schuylkill Campus  
Commentator: Anita Vickers, Pennsylvania State University, Schuylkill Campus  
Harold Aurand, Jr. Pennsylvania State University, Schuylkill Campus  
The Walk-In Art Center as a Supporter of Folk and Traditional Art in the Anthracite Region  
Rori Smith, Ralph Rinzler Folklife Archives and Collections  
at the Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage  
The Folk Art Alliance at the Walk-In Art Center: Oral History Fieldwork and Archive  
Nicole M. Andel, Pennsylvania State University, Schuylkill Campus  
The Gubi and the Carpatho-Rusyn Diaspora: A Past, a Present, and Future in Pennsylvania?

**PANEL 6: Methods of Resistance: Prisoners, Miners, and Concerned Parents**  
Chair/Commentator: Karol Weaver, Susquehanna University  
Janet Irons, Lock Haven University  
The 1952-53 Prison Riots in Pennsylvania: An Unknown Chapter in PA's Penal History  
Matthew Smalarz, Manor College  
Tiffany Weaver, Penn State Harrisburg  
“Industrial War in the Coal Fields:” Black Fury in Pennsylvania

12:00 pm - 12:30 pm  Member’s Meeting  
Platform Lounge at the Radisson Lackawanna Station

12:30 pm - 1:45 pm  Lunch  
Platform Lounge at the Radisson Lackawanna Station  
Stolen, Smuggled Sold: How Cultural Objects Reveal Historical Events  
Nancy Moses, PHMC Chair

2:00 pm - 3:15 pm  Session Three  
Radisson Lackawanna Station Ballroom

**PANEL 7: Celebrating A Free African American Family in early Susquehanna County Pennsylvania:**  
*Investigations of the Historic Dennis Farm*  
Chair:  Wade P. Catts, Commonwealth Heritage Group  
Commentator:  Tom Scofield, Town of Leesburg Virginia  
Phil Yocum, Commonwealth Heritage Group  
Developing the Vision: Goals for Interpreting the Historic Dennis Farm  
Rebecca Sheppard, Center for Historic Architecture and Design, University of Delaware  
Candice Myruski, Commonwealth Heritage Group  
*A Little Piece of Home: New England Building Traditions in Northern Tier Pennsylvania*
PANEL 8: Roundtable: Anthracite, Alcohol, Iron and Ink: Presenting Public History in Scranton, Pennsylvania
Chair: Ella Rayburn, Lackawanna Historical Society
Commentator: Sarah Piccini, Lackawanna Historical Society,
Discussants: John Fielding, Anthracite Heritage Museum, Darlene Miller Lanning, University of Scranton and Nezka Pfeifer, Everhart Museum of Natural History, Science & Art

Chair: Sue Borders, Darby Free Library
Discussants: Sue Borders, Darby Free Library, Laura Kuchmay, Middletown Free Library. and Jenifer Phillips, Haverford Township Free Library/Marple Public Library

3:30 pm - 4:45 pm Session Four
Radisson Lackawanna Station Ballroom

PANEL 10: New Initiatives to Preserve Pennsylvania's Rural and Suburban African-American Historic Sites
Chair: Steven Burg, Shippensburg University
Commentator: Brenda Barrett, Living Landscape Observer
Shelby Splain, Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office
Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office's NPS Underrepresented Communities Grant: Establishing a Context to Preserve Historic Sites of African-American Religious, Educational, and Benevolent Institutions
Rebecca Justinus, Shippensburg University
A Context for African American Burial Grounds: The Case of the Locust Grove National Register Nomination
Barbara Barksdale, Friends of Midland Cemetery/Pennsylvania Hallowed Grounds
Grassroots Efforts to Preserve African American Cemeteries

PANEL 11: Famous Pennsylvanians of the 18th and 19th Centuries
Chair/Commentator: Barbara Lewis, University of North Dakota
Francis Hopkinson: Philadelphia Poet, Patriot, Composer & Gary Coppock, Skelly and Loy, Inc.
The Life and Legacy of Abraham Sharpless Valentine:
Quaker Ironmaster, Inventor, and Scholar of Centre County, Pennsylvania
Carla Mulford, Pennsylvania State University
"Prevent[ing] . . . restless Spirits from exciting Disturbances:” Benjamin Franklin, George Washington, and Uprisings in the Wyoming Valley

PANEL 12: Roundtable: How Relevant is Relevance?: Public Engagement with History in the 21st Century
Chair: Kristin O'Brassill-Kulfan, Rutgers University
Discussants: Lynne Calamia, Historic Arch Street Quaker Meeting House, Hilary Miller, National Park Service at Fort Necessity National Battlefield, and Kristin O'Brassill-Kulfan, Rutgers University

5:15 pm Train departs Radisson for Steamtown
5:30 pm - 9:00 pm Dinner and Reception
Steamtown National History Site
Public History in Action - Pennsylvania Style
Brenda Barrett, ICOMOS

“Scranton After Dark” walking tour of the downtown Scranton starts after dinner program!
Saturday, October 12
8:00 am - 9:00 am Morning Plenary
Radisson Lackawanna Station Ballroom

Undergraduates in the Archives: Transforming Students into Scholars
Chair: Christy Fic, Shippensburg University
Discussants: Allen Dietrich-Ward, Shippensburg University, Tara Wink, West Chester University and Christy Fic, Shippensburg University

9:00 am - 10:15 am Session Five
Radisson Lackawanna Station Ballroom

**PANEL 13: Roundtable: Producing Documentaries on Local History**
Chair: Andrea O'Neil, WVIA Public Media
Discussants: Tom Curra, WVIA Public Media, Kris Hendrickson, documentary filmmaker and John Mikulak, documentary filmmaker

**PANEL 14: Women's Sphere/Digital Sphere: Exposing Women’s History in Pennsylvania**
Chair: Margaret Graham, Drexel University
Commentator: Eric Pumroy, Bryn Mawr College Library

Eric Pumroy, Bryn Mawr College Library
Personal Ambition, Family Pressures, and Political Reform: The Lives of the First Generations of Students at the Seven Sisters Colleges as Revealed through Collegewomen.org
Christina Larocco, Historical Society of Pennsylvania
In Her Own Right: Selecting and Contextualizing Documents on American Women’s Activism, 1820 to 1920
Margaret Graham, Drexel University
In Her Own Right: Women Asserting Their Civil Rights, 1820-1920s

**PANEL 15: Gettysburg: Public History, Tourism, and Memory**
Chair: Michael Birkner, Gettysburg College
Commentator: TBD

John Rudy, National Park Service / Gettysburg College
"Openly Expressed Indignation": The Alienation of African-American Tourism in Gettysburg
Kendrick Gibbs, Shippensburg Historical Society
“Deathless Field: ” The Picturesque and Landscape Tourism at Gettysburg
Jessica Rudy, Shippensburg University
Hotel Gettysburg’s Henry Scharf and the development of Gettysburg as a temple of American Exceptionalism

10:15 am - 11:15 am Poster Sessions
Radisson Lackawanna Station Ballroom Lobby

11:15 am - 12:30 pm Session Six
Radisson Lackawanna Station Ballroom

**PANEL 16: Visitor and Community Engagement at Three Pennsylvania Sites**
Chair/Commentator: Christina Larocco, Historical Society of Pennsylvania

Jayashree Shamanna, Marywood University
Community United and Divided: Saving a Piece of Local History
Kate Lukaszewicz, Wigle Whiskey
Crafting a Distillery Tour: Wigle Whiskey's Storytelling
Kyla Cools, University of Maryland, College Park
Memory and Relevance: Local Histories and Outreach at Eckley Miners' Village
PANEL 17: Pennsylvania Religious Communities during Times of Change
Chair/Commentator: Diane Wenger, Wilkes University
Jeff Kaja, California State University, Northridge
Godly Paths: Religion and Mobility in Eighteenth-Century Pennsylvania
Rhonda Miller, independent scholar
At the Hands of "Cruel Neighbors" and an "Unworthy Backslider:
The Ordeal of the Bethlehem Moravians during the American Revolution
Karen Guenther, Mansfield University
German-American Patriotism during the 20th Century:
Zion's Reformed Church and the Second World War

PANEL 18: Putting Public History to Practice in the Field
Chair: Curt Miner, State Museum of Pennsylvania
Commentator: Curt Miner, State Museum of Pennsylvania
Samantha Forsko, Conservation Center for Art & Historic Artifacts
Developing Cooperative Disaster Networks for Cultural Institutions:
A White Paper on the Pennsylvania Cultural Resilience Network (PaCRN)
Caitlin Black, Pennsylvania State University, Harrisburg
Forgotten and Fraught Public History: Tobacco and Cigars in South Central Pennsylvania
Joana Arruda, independent scholar, and Holly Genovese, Temple University
“Except as punishment for a crime:” Prison Labor and the Invisible Foundation of Philadelphia

12:30 pm - 1:45 pm Lunch
Platform Lounge at the Radisson Lackawanna Station
Dimensions of Philadelphia’s History
Roger Simon, Lehigh University

2:00 pm - 5:00 pm Explore Scranton
Conference attendees will receive free or reduced admission at several local cultural/historic attractions including the Everhart Museum of Natural History Science and Art, the Anthracite Heritage Museum of Pennsylvania and the GAR Civil War Museum and Archives. Plus guided tours of local landmarks like St. Luke’s Episcopal Church, the Albright Memorial Library. We encourage everyone to visit the local sites to discover more about the city’s fascinating history. Maps and Schedules will be provided.

Confirmed schedule at this date include:
2:00 pm to 5:00 pm:
Free admission to Everhart Museum to any annual meeting participants
2:00 pm to 5:00 pm:
Free admission to Anthracite Heritage Museum to any annual meeting participants
2:00 pm to 4:30 pm: Free guided tours of St. Luke’s Church
2:30 pm: Free guided tour of the Albright Memorial Library
2:30 pm to 4:30 pm:
Open House at the GAR Civil War Museum
Additional sites and venues will be announced.

Everhart Museum of Natural History, Science & Art