From the President

As winter claims us with its chilly grasp, and we huddle around our fireplaces, it’s a good time to reflect on the year past and the one to come. Your board met at Mt. Auburn Cemetery in November, courtesy of Bill Clendaniel. A wonderful dinner was hosted by past president Shary Berg and her delightful family and a cocktail party was given for our group by Ron Barbagallo at his charming condominium. Many thanks to all our hosts.

Liz Vizza was a guest at our board meeting. She provided some wonderful insights about how we think and talk about the Alliance. The current poster/flyer has been revised to reflect some of her input. Liz is a well-known consultant in the Boston area, specializing in organizational development. We hope to have more input from her in the future. The poster is downloadable and is wonderful for schools and colleges. It is tasteful but colorful and helps promote our website. If you are a teacher, professor or have access to a bulletin board anywhere that students and professionals gather, please download and post copies now. You can obtain the poster by sending an e-mail request to Wendy Shearer at: wshearer@on.alb.com.

In this issue we are featuring abstracts of the work of the two scholarship students who presented at our last conference in California. I hope that you enjoy their work. It is gratifying to see that our mission, as a forum for creative interaction among professionals can extend to new members just coming into the field. If you are a student in a field related to the historic/cultural landscape, please look at our web site for more information about applying for a scholarship to next year’s meeting, or contact: Hugh Miller (hcmfaia@mindspring.com) or Anne Hoover (ashoover@bsu.edu). If you are a member, please consider making a contribution to the fund for these scholarships. Our board has made a firm commitment to fully fund at least one, and probably two scholarships next year, but they will appreciate all the help that might be available. Please help us continue to provide unique opportunities to young professionals interested in the cultural landscape.

Annual Conference 2004:

“Authenticity”

Plan on joining Alliance members and the Colorado preservation community for the 2005 Annual Meeting at the Chautauqua Park Historic District in scenic Boulder, Colorado located just 45 minutes from the Denver International Airport in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains. Boulder is one of the US’s most livable cities. Boulder is a great destination with incredible outdoor activities, a pedestrian friendly town, lots of unique shopping and restaurants, and a community that believes in protecting significant resources.

The four day conference, beginning with a keynote address on Wednesday evening May 18th and continuing through Saturday evening May 21st, will be filled with discussion, field trips and ‘chautauqua’ activities all related to cultural landscape preservation.

Originally established as a seasonal ‘camp’ to bring education, including the arts, to working and middle-class people, the Chautauqua Park Historic District is one of only a handful chautauquas that remain of the approximately 12,000 chautauquas that existed at the height of the ‘chautauqua movement.’ It is the only chautauqua west of the Mississippi River with its original landscape and buildings intact. Its significance as a cultural landscape is recognized by its listing on the National Register of Historic Places and as a City of Boulder Landmark District. Chautauqua Park Historic District is immediately adjacent to one of Boulder’s mountain parks with a wide array of trails for hiking and running.

Conference activities and accommodations will be in the historic cottages and lodges of the Chautauqua Park Historic District with lodging in the historic Missions House and one, two and three bedroom cottages. Excursions will include a thought provoking keynote speaker; a working session with the Boulder community on Valmont Butte - a significant landscape of Native American, agricultural and mining heritage threatened by development; a morning tour to Denver’s Mountain Parks including the internationally renown Red Rocks Park; a guided walk and trail run to explore the foothills immediately surrounding Boulder.

Chautauqua Auditorium Circa 1898

Continued on page 2
The Alliance for Historic Landscape Preservation

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From the President Continued

Finally, our upcoming annual meeting and conference in Boulder, Colorado will be the kind of gathering that the Alliance is known for. The theme, “Authenticity” is provocative and is currently one of the hottest “topics” in the preservation world. Chairman Tina Bishop has put together a variety of speakers, events and venues that will be sure to stimulate everyone. In addition, we will be staying in a historic chautauqua, whose management has recently been dealing with the issues to be brought up at the meeting. Don’t be left out, accommodations in the Chautauqua cabins are rather limited, so check our web site to sign up early. Reservation forms should be posted by the time you receive this newsletter. See you in Boulder!
—Camille Fife

Annual Conference continued
Chautauqua; and a day-long trip to Denver for a walking tour of LoDo – Denver’s blossoming downtown historic district and Skyline Park - Lawrence Halprin’s 1970 masterpiece that was recently modified.

The conference topic of “Authenticity” offers an opportunity to explore the connections between the theory and practice of cultural landscape preservation and provides a forum to discuss issues facing historic landscapes and the challenges of maintaining authenticity while accommodating contemporary use.

Registration costs will include lodging, excursions and activities. Please visit the website at www.ahlp.org for updates on conference activities and information on registration. For additional information and images of the Chautauqua, please visit the Colorado Chautauqua Association web site at www.chautauqua.com.

Below: Three photographs of buildings and grounds of Chautauqua Park.
Alliance Annual Conference
Call for Papers
The AHLP committee is seeking papers that explore the ideologies and philosophies of preserving historic landscapes that are evolving as part of contemporary life and natural processes. The topic, “Authenticity,” provides a foundation for exploring the why and how of working with significant landscapes and their landscape characteristics within the realities of use, perception, interpretation and preservation. Particularly encouraged are papers that offer new insight or fresh ideas to traditional technologies and techniques, and that consider current relevant issues such as: What does sustainability mean in the context of historic landscape preservation or conservation? What philosophical or practical basis is there for determining how authentic a landscape restoration or rehabilitation should be? Can new materials suffice as appropriate replacements? When is documentation a valid approach?

Abstracts should be between 300 and 500 words and must be submitted by April 1, 2005. Abstracts should include the author’s name(s), postal and e-mail addresses, telephone and fax numbers. Papers will be selected based on how well they address the focus of the conference, thoughtfulness, and organization.

Abstracts and any inquiries should be sent to Anne Hoover, Professor. Abstracts may also be E-mailed to ashoover@bsu.edu or faxed to 765-285-1983.

Call for Papers
Landscape Preservation Papers are sought for the Association for Preservation Technology (APT) conference in Halifax, Nova Scotia, September 21 – 24, 2005. APT HALIFAX 2005 takes as its theme: Managing Technology, Time and Chaos.

There is an interest to organize landscape preservation sessions for this Halifax meeting. Paper topics will focus on different aspects of managing the chaos generated by working with multiple stakeholders, the complexities of historic materials and their interaction with the environment over time. The region is rich in historic sites and conservation experience. Planning for technical field sessions on Saturday, September 24, includes a visit to Grande-Pré, the center of the Acadian heartland and home to the legend of Evangeline, with the new Irving Gardens at Wolfville, and to Lunenberg, a UNESCO world heritage site. Training courses being considered include Historic Concrete, Historic Building Envelopes and Conservation Engineering (September 25 - 26). There are also plans to set up a self-guided tour of the Halifax Public Gardens. This National Historic Site of Canada recently underwent an excellent restoration following the devastation of Hurricane Juan.

Let’s build on our landscape preservation participation in APT’s 2003 meeting in Portland, Maine. The conference theme offers Alliance members an excellent opportunity to exchange knowledge and perspectives with an audience widely interested and professionally involved in historic preservation. A formal call for papers will be issued in January. If you are interested in organizing or participating in a session at Halifax, contact Hugh Miller hcmfiaa@mindspring.com or Susan Buggey susan.buggey@sympatico.ca. For general information, write to: apt2005@apti.org or visit the website www.apti.org.
Endless Summer:
Managing Character in Coastal Communities
The Olmsted Center, Conservation Study Institute, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, and Cape Cod National Seashore and several local organizations cosponsored a conference in early October 2004 to focus on preserving the character of coastal communities. Using the Outer Cape as a “classroom,” the conference included speakers from coastal areas across the country.

The conference began with a team from UMass who presented research findings from their study completed in June 2004, People and Places on the Outer Cape: A Landscape Character Study. This study highlights the work of two graduate-level studios plus an ethnography and public history study. One group of landscape architecture students examined the trends, events and people that shaped the current “character” of the Outer Cape, which includes six towns and over 43,000 acres of protected land within the National Seashore. As part of a land planning studio, the second group envisioned the Outer Cape in the future with alternative build-out scenarios. The study included “Cape Conversations,” where local residents were invited to speak about their associations, memories, and special places on the Outer Cape. The team then compiled a list of challenges, goals, recommended community-based actions, and planning and zoning tools and techniques, all of which were discussed at the three-day October conference.

With active involvement of local organizations in the design and planning of the conference, the event attracted a diverse audience from other coastal communities, as well as many cape-based organizations, business owners, and residents. After presentations by specialists from other coastal areas, including Point Reyes, California and Marathon, Florida, the 120 registered participants divided into four theme groups—working waterfronts, smart growth and redevelopment, affordable housing, and preserving community character—and focused on strategies for preserving the character and livability of communities on the Outer Cape. Facilitators helped each group develop a vision statement for the year 2020, identify key issues and challenges, and then set long-term goals and short-term actions to spark opportunities for moving from planning to action.

The report, People and Places on the Outer Cape, is available from Cape Cod NS. Both printed and web-based proceedings will also be available in the near future. Local organizations and the Cape Cod National Seashore are also planning a series of follow-up working group meetings. The conference website is www.umass.edu/larp/endless_summer/ and the park’s website is www.nps.gov/caco/.

A Study of Schenley Park:
Historical Interpretation to Guide Intervention
By Shruti Dixit* (Pennsylvania State University)
The 114-year-old Schenley is Pittsburgh’s nineteenth century flagship park that has evolved over time and responded to changes in the city. This study offers a historical interpretation of Schenley Park and provides recommendations for how this interpretation can guide future intervention in it.

Following an extended period of growth, development and significance, Schenley Park witnessed environmental degradation and declining relevance. After years of relative neglect, it is only recently that there is renewed interest in the park and the Pittsburgh Regional Parks Master Plan provided guidelines for future intervention. Though the Master Plan recognizes the need to nurture the park’s historic legacy, guidelines addressing this legacy lack a holistic approach that addresses the multiple dimensions of the historic park landscape. In part, this is because available scholarship on park history is largely site specific, focuses on developments in the park but does not adequately address the context and intent behind these developments.

Research Query
The Library of American Landscape History (LALH) in Amherst, Mass., is seeking information about landscape architect Warren H. Manning (1860–1938) and landscapes planned or designed by him.

We would be grateful for any of the following:
1) information about properties known or believed to be designed or planned by Manning;
2) historic preservation professionals, landscape architects, and other interested professionals who would be willing to conduct site surveys or supervise interns (academic affiliation not required);
3) prospective student interns interested in gaining site-survey and archival research skills for historic properties.

This information will form the basis for a publicly accessible database on Manning and assist in the preparation of two-volume, multi-author book on his life and work (projected publication: 2008).

Please contact LALH consulting editor, Jane Roy Brown: jroybrown@lalh.org, 413-549-4860, P.O. Box 1323, Amherst, MA 01004-1323.

A N D  N O T E S
This study fills that gap in scholarship, and interprets the history of Schenley Park in a manner that addresses the park as a system, examines the ideological and temporal layers in it and connects these to the physical landscape. In exploring ideas associated with the park, the project identifies that at given periods in the park’s history, certain ideas had a stronger influence than others did; and these define Ideological Eras in the park. In addition to defining Ideological Eras, the study identifies and examines themes expressed in the park that have influenced developments in it across the Ideological Eras. Finally, the dominant ideas and themes are linked to the physical features and use in the park, and to each other.

Through the focus on ideas and themes associated with Schenley, the study identifies its relationship to broader social, political and economic conditions both in Pittsburgh and in the national context, in the United States. In this manner, this project reveals multiple dimensions to the park and suggests that intervention should be planned in a holistic manner that integrates the physical, ideological and temporal layers in the landscape.

To summarize, this project helps to understand the value of Schenley Park and serves as a reference to inform and facilitate its interpretation and preservation. The study is suitable for discussion in the 2004 Annual Meeting of the Alliance for Historic Landscape Preservation at Sonoma since it is aligned with the main theme of the conference that discusses 200 years of Landscape Evolution. The story of Schenley Park is closely linked with the evolution of landscape architecture in the United States; and a discussion of Schenley’s history and preservation, though site specific, addresses issues relevant to many historic cultural landscapes. This study thus also contributes to the discussion on the future of historic landscape preservation, an important concern of the attendees of the Annual Meeting.

The Historic Rock Fences of Blanco County
By Laura Knott
(University of Texas at Austin)
The 125-year-old rock fences of the Texas Hill Country are an important component of the historic agricultural landscape of the area, yet a lack of understanding of their importance in contributing to the narrative of local place is threatening their very existence as a historic resource. The economic pressures in this troubled agricultural region of Texas have led to either the removal of fences for sale by the ton, reuse of the rocks for other projects, or simple lack of maintenance, leading to collapse and loss of integrity.

Changes in the economy since World War II have made it difficult to make a living as a farmer or rancher in the Hill Country, so communities have been exploring heritage tourism as a possible solution to economic woes. Therefore, it is becoming important that all historic resources be identified, researched, and plans to preserve or restore these resources be implemented. Although historic buildings are being identified and preserved with the help of federal and state agencies, cultural landscape resources, such as historic rock fences, have not yet been widely recognized as an important component of the historic fabric of the region.

In the Hill Country, although these fences are popularly known as “German fences,” attributed to the 19th century German immigrants to the area, there is no such type fence found in the European origin regions of these immigrants. In fact, the fence types found in the area appear to be of British origin, indicating probable influence by Anglo-American Upland South immigrants in the area, who, although not known to build many fences themselves, preferring the open range, brought their British fencing technology with them from Tennessee, Kentucky, and northern Alabama and Georgia. One of my research questions is related to how this fence technology was transmitted by the Anglo farmers and ranches to the Germans, if not by example.

This question of the origins of these fences and an exploration of related preservation issues is the basis of research for my master’s thesis in Historic Preservation at the University of Texas. In order to focus and intensify my investigation, I am concentrating on Blanco County, on the eastern edge of the Texas Hill Country. Blanco County was home to both German and Anglo-American immigrants and may prove to be an important point of the transmission of this fencing technology between the two groups. The research work includes a “windshield survey” of the rock fences found along county roads, as well as more detailed surveys of fence complexes on a few local ranches. Survey information will be supported and expanded by deed research and other investigations of county history.

Regarding preservation issues, I will be looking to outside examples for ideas on initiatives that might educate and train the local population in preserving or restoring their rock fences. Many states, especially in New England, have initiated legislation which penalizes the removal of historic rock fences in the public right-of-way, especially for road-widening projects. In Kentucky, not only has legislation been put in place, but the Dry Stone Conservancy has been organized to both educate the public and train interested persons in the preservation and restoration of their local rock fences. As a result, I plan to develop written guides to the history of preservation of these rock fences for local distribution.

* Student scholarship recipients, 2004 Sonoma Valley Annual Meeting.
News from the Members
Shary Berg is working on heritage landscape inventory in 24 communities in Essex County, Massachusetts and teaching at Goucher College with Hugh Miller.

During the spring and summer, Pleasance Crawford collaborated with photographer Geoffrey James, designer Bryan Gee, and others in creating Toronto Tree Portraits, Calendar 2005: an awareness- and fund-raising project of the Toronto Parks and Trees Foundation. Through stunning black-and-white photographs and accompanying texts, the calendar celebrates a few of Toronto’s millions of trees. Eleven of those included are in older city parks and open spaces; two in historic cemeteries; and one at an Ontario Heritage Foundation site.


Sharon Crawford’s email address is now: sdcrawford@charter.net. Since retiring to Los Osos, Sharon has not been involved in preservation work; instead, she has completely redesigned and replanted her own garden, concentrating on water conservation rather than historical issues. Sharon was rewarded by having her garden selected to be in the local AAUW’s annual benefit garden tour last spring.

Barbara Geiger is teaching History of Landscape Architecture in the College of Architecture at the Illinois Institute of Technology spring semesters, and this fall taught a new seminar, The Prairie School and Naturalistic Landscape Design, to 4th and 5th year undergrads and graduate students. In spring 2005, Barbara will introduce a new History of Gardening class in the Chicago Botanic Garden’s new design certificate program, and a similar course for the Graham School on Continuing Studies at the University of Chicago.

Upcoming Events

The conference offers a wide range of hands-on workshops, pre-conference seminars, educational sessions, tours, events, networking opportunities and presentations. The conference program and registration application are available online at www.coloradopreservation.org or by calling CPI at 303-893-4260.

February 17–18, 2005 Southern Garden Heritage Conference, State Botanical Garden of Georgia, Athens, GA.

The conference is cosponsored by the Botanical Garden, University of Georgia School of Environmental Design, and The Garden Club of Georgia. Alliance members Denise Adams and Jim Cothran will be speaking at the event. For complete information, contact the State Botanical Garden of Georgia, 2450 S. Milledge Ave., Athens, GA 30605, 706-542-1244, garden@uga.edu.

April 20-21, 2005 Historic Landscapes: Planning, Management, and Cultural Landscape Reports, Greensboro, NC. Professional training seminar offered by the National Preservation Institute (NPI). For complete information, contact NPI at 703-765-0100, info@npi.org, or www.npi.org.

May 5-7, 2005 Preserve and Play: Preserving Historic Recreation and Entertainment Sites, Chicago, IL. The purpose is to explore and promote successful ways of preserving our recreation heritage. Conference themes include: Identification and Evaluation, Preservation Strategies, Conservation and Rehabilitation. For information visit www.preserveandplay.org or call 202-354-2040.

In this fascinating book, Judith Sumner rescues from the pages of history the practical experience and botanical wisdom of generations of Americans. Crossing the disciplines of history, ethnobotany, and horticulture — and with a flair for the colorful anecdote — Sumner underlines a part of the American story often ignored or forgotten: how European settlers and their descendents made use of the “strange” new plants they found, as well as the select varieties of foods and medicines they brought with them from other continents. From “turkie wheat” (corn) to “tuckahoe” (a Native American source of starch), Sumner describes the transition from wonderment to daily use, as homesteads were built upon and prospered from the plants of the New World. It is a remarkable story of the interdependence of plants and the American home. Historians, herbalists, home gardeners, and ethnobotanists will find American Household Botany a treasure trove of original research and insight.


In April 2005, the Library of American Landscape History (LALH), in association with the University of Massachusetts Press, will release a new edition of John Nolen’s 1927 classic, New Towns for Old: Achievements in Civic Improvement in Some American Small Towns and Neighborhoods ($34.95, cloth). Rare and long out of print, New Towns for Old (1927) is still of great interest to urban historians and planners, especially those involved in the New Urbanism movement. The well-illustrated study contains an overview of the development of American urbanism and a concise discussion of Nolen’s ideas for the improvement of towns and cities. Individual chapters examine a variety of towns planned by Nolen including Mariemont, Ohio; Kingsport, Tennessee; and Kistler, Pennsylvania, as well as the new suburbs of Union Park Gardens in Wilmington, Delaware, and Myers Park in Charlotte, North Carolina. The re-planned towns of Cohasset and Walpole, Massachusetts, are also featured. The forward-looking final chapter includes material on Venice, Florida, one of Nolen’s most ambitious projects.


This book grew out of a two-day symposium held at Wave Hill and Columbia University in 2002. Sponsoring organizations included the CATALOG of Landscape Records in the United States at Wave Hill, National Park Service Historic Landscape Initiative, New York Landmarks Conservancy, Columbia University, The Cultural Landscape Foundation (CLF), and DOCOMOMO.

The new edition of New Towns for Old contains additional plans and illustrations, a new index, and a new introduction written by New York architect Charles D. Warren, which presents biographical and historical context that illuminates the diverse, productive career of this nationally significant practitioner. Perhaps most significant, the new edition features Nolen’s project list, which has never before been published.
**Application for Membership**

The Alliance for Historic Landscape Preservation

Membership is open to individuals and organizations with a commitment to landscape preservation. Complete this form and return it with a check payable to Alliance for Historic Landscape Preservation, c/o Sherda K. Williams, 118 S. Pleasant St., Stockton, KS 67669.

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**About the Alliance**

The Alliance for Historic Landscape Preservation is an interdisciplinary professional organization which provides a forum for communication and exchange of information among its members. It is dedicated to the preservation and conservation of historic landscapes in all their variety from formal gardens to public parks to rural expanses.

The Alliance was founded in 1978 when a small group of people from diverse backgrounds met at New Harmony, Indiana, to share their mutual interests and concerns about the growing fields of landscape preservation. From this initial symposium came recognition of the need for increased communication and understanding regarding historic landscapes and a commitment to the interdisciplinary nature of the field.

**Alliance News**

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Front and back cover illustrations courtesy of Massachusetts Horticultural Society Library, from J.C. London’s Arboretum et Fruticetum Britannicum (1838)