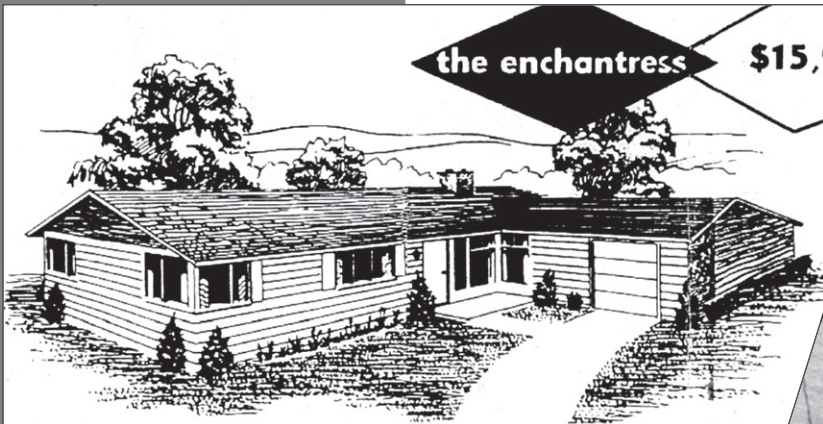




Preservation Advocate

Spring 2003

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN • Secretary of the Commonwealth • MHC Chairman



in . . .

ridgefield - at - framingham



At the close of WWII owning a home became the American dream for returning servicemen.

Postwar Housing Comes of Age

Betsy Friedberg

RANCH HOUSES, CONTEMPORARIES, SPLIT-LEVELS, AND CAPES—THE HOUSING OF THE MID 20TH CENTURY AND OUR OWN RECENT PAST, IS (OR MIGHT BE) HISTORIC. JUST AS WE'VE BECOME ACCUSTOMED TO THE FACT THAT THE FUTURE IS UPON US—THE 21ST CENTURY HAS ARRIVED. AND SO WE MUST REALIZE THAT THE DOMESTIC ARCHITECTURE OF THE postwar era, found in subdivision upon subdivision, is potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. While only a handful of postwar houses in Massachusetts have been listed in the National Register thus far, hundreds have been surveyed, and these survey forms already provide food for thought and analysis. And yet, much work remains to be done.

In many ways, the postwar houses are the modern-day equivalents of the tidy

Greek Revivals or the fanciful Queen Annes built in great numbers in the 19th century. The houses of postwar subdivisions are worthy of consideration for National Register listing for what they can tell us about our recent past. The process of identification and evaluation for postwar resources is no different than it is for any other building, site, structure, or object of the previous eras. And mass housing for

IN THIS ISSUE

- Post-War Housing Comes of Age 1
- A Message from the Chairman 2
- Director's Notes 2
- Preserving Our Commonwealth 3
- Round 10 MPPF Grant Workshops. 3
- Technical Assistance Tips:
 - Vinyl Siding 4
- LHD or NRD?
 - There is a Difference 5
- The Community Preservation Act... 8
- MHC News 9
- Preservation Education: WHALE
 - Makes it Work in New Bedford . 10
- Seeking Your Input 11
- What is it?..... 12

Continued on page 6



A Message from the Chairman

William Francis Galvin

There is exciting news for historic preservation in Massachusetts! In August 2002, the Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund (MPPF) program was refunded. In this challenging budget year, \$15 million dollars was appropriated for the matching grants program. The MPPF Grant Program is one of the strongest preservation tools available. It ensures that we continue caring for and protecting our significant cultural resources. Last fall, MHC staff members conducted grant workshops in Lee, West Dennis, Holyoke, Millbury, and Dorchester. We thank those organizations that hosted the workshops for their commitment to preservation and to the MPPF Grant program. Round 9 grant applications are currently under review. Round 10 applications will be accepted through June 27, 2003. Upon review of Round 10 applications, selection will be awarded subject to the avail-

ability in the Administration & Finance bond cap.

The 25th Annual Preservation Awards will take place in September this year. It's a great opportunity to recognize preservation success stories. Please nominate a deserving project or person for this special award. Nomination forms are available on the MHC's website.

This year MHC is celebrating its 40th Anniversary. Over the years, preservation has grown and attracted new and diverse audiences. The MHC has created a State Register, approved the nominations of more than 55,000 resources to the National Register of Historic Places, awarded millions in state and federal funds, and created many important programs.

Please join us in celebrating 40 years of historic preservation in Massachusetts. ▾



Director's Notes

Cara H. Metz

MHC is 40 years old! As we look back on and celebrate the last 40 years, we will be compiling the history of the preservation movement in Massachusetts (early historical commissions, preservation efforts, leaders of the preservation movement). Be on the lookout for further information on how you can help. In the meantime, if you have any images or information that we can reproduce for an on-line exhibit, please send them to us.

We will also be looking toward the future of preservation in Massachusetts—a task made more difficult by the challenging economic times. As is the case with so many other organizations, we have been subject to budget cuts and are looking for new ways to get our message out. For example we are going

to be using our website more effectively and will be asking you to turn to that resource more and more.

In the last issue of the Preservation Advocate, several of the economic benefits of preservation were described. The theme of last year's Preservation Conference was "Preservation Works: The Economics of Preservation." This year, we will continue to work on spreading that message and will publish the information collected as part of the economic impact study that was conducted by Rutgers University's Center for Urban Policy Research.

Finally, congratulations to the City of Lowell and the Town of New Bedford's Waterfront Area Historic League for the awards they received from the National Trust for Historic Preservation. ▾

Reflections on Preserving Our Commonwealth

As the Massachusetts Historical Commission celebrates its 40th anniversary as well as the 25th anniversary of the Preservation Awards, it seems fitting that we reflect on our accomplishments. The successes of the MHC over the years were not achieved in isolation; they reflect the support and success of our many preservation partners and the communities throughout the state that agree that the buildings, landscapes, and archaeological sites of the Commonwealth are integral to our sense of place and to maintaining a certain quality of life. They are indeed our Commonwealth.

In light of our anniversary we would love to hear from you. Over the next months we would like to collect your reflections on the last 40 years of the MHC. Your comments will be collected and shared at events throughout the year. Please send your thoughts and comments on great experiences you've had in preservation to Cara Metz, Executive Director, MHC, 220 Morrissey Blvd., Boston, MA 02125 or e-mail them to MHC@sec.state.ma.us

Here is a little food for thought:

- There are 168,692 entries in the inventory of historic places.
- Massachusetts has 3,817 listings in the National Register of Historic Places (#2 in the Nation) and 62,048 contributing resources.
- The MPPF program has funded more than 500 projects and awarded nearly \$40,000,000. 📄



The Kresge Auditorium, designed by architect Eero Saarinen in the mid 1950s, is one of several significant Modernist buildings on the M.I.T. campus in Cambridge and just one example of Massachusetts's diverse architecture.

Round 10 MPPF Grant Workshops

Learn more about Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund (MPPF) grants at an upcoming grant workshop in your area. No registration is required. Round 10 MPPF

applications are due June 27, 2003. For more details, please visit our website www.state.ma.us/sec/mhc.

Monday, April 14, 2003, 1:00–3:00pm

Massachusetts Archives Building
220 Morrissey Blvd.
Boston, MA

Tuesday, May 6, 2003, 4:00–6:00pm

Lee Library
100 Main St.
Lee, MA

Friday, April 25, 2003, 3:00–5:00pm

Millbury Public Library
128 Elm St.
Millbury, MA

Thursday, May 8, 2003, 3:00–5:00pm

Kilroy House, Springfield Library and Museum Association (Springfield Quadrangle)
63 Chestnut St.
Springfield, MA

Wednesday, April 30, 2003, 4:00–6:00pm

Sandwich Public Library
142 Main St.
Sandwich, MA

Thursday, May 15, 2003, 10:00am–Noon

Massachusetts Archives Building
220 Morrissey Blvd.
Boston, MA

Technical Assistance Tips: Vinyl Siding

Ann Lattinville and Carol DiNinno

In the last Preservation Advocate, we explored the benefits of cyclical maintenance and asked ourselves, where does the “vinyl siding issue” fit into that discussion? As we thought about it, we felt strongly that vinyl siding fits squarely in the middle of the important discussion of cyclical maintenance as well as any discussion of preserving the character of a building.

Many builders, realtors, and of course the vinyl siding industry itself, argue that the application of siding makes a house far more marketable because it makes the building “maintenance free.” It’s not uncommon to see a vinyl siding contractor making an installation and then weeks later a realtor’s sign go up on the front lawn, offering the house for sale. Many historians, preservationists, and architects, however, decry the belief that the installation of vinyl siding makes the house more saleable. They argue that the character of the old house is exactly what many buyers seek and the synthetic siding compromises this character and in some cases obliterates it.



Vinyl siding not only covers the historic character of a house, it can also cover problems.

Whatever side of the philosophical debate your opinion may fall on, there is a central issue common to both sides: the economics of maintenance. Before making the decision to reside your home or building with vinyl siding, which is a significant financial investment that will profoundly change its

appearance, please consider the following points.

Covering up the Problem

Frustrated by the need to scrape and repair their wood siding, many building owners elect to install vinyl siding in hopes of eliminating the cost and effort associated with painting. Although synthetic siding may temporarily hide problems such as peeling paint and deterioration, it is not a substitute for proper building maintenance. Studies show that a quality paint job will last five to eight years. Chronic, premature paint failure is often an indication of moisture penetration due to deteriorated roofing, flashing, and drainage systems or leaking foundations. None of these problems are corrected by vinyl siding. The perceived “no maintenance” solution that vinyl seems to offer is a cosmetic solution that could cover and exacerbate serious moisture problems—problems that are not “paint problems” at all, but larger, more serious problems in the building’s

Continued



Traditional wood siding, trim, and decorative elements have stood the test of time and, when maintained, can last longer than vinyl siding.

LHD or NRD? There is a Difference

There is a big difference between a Local Historic District and a National Register District. While both are automatically listed on the State Register of Historic Places, the way each is established and the reviews that are required are quite different. For more information on the difference between a local historic district and a national register district, contact the Massachusetts Historical Commission for a copy of “There’s a Difference” or download a copy from our website.

Local Historic District

- Established through 2/3-majority Town Meeting or City Council vote following the process under Massachusetts General Law.
- Requires review when changes are made to exterior architectural features. A locally appointed historic district commission administers review.

National Register District

- Established through the Massachusetts Historical Commission and the National Park Service as a formal recognition by the federal government that a district is significant.



Fire Station, Melrose Town Center Historic District, both a Local and National Register Historic District.

- Requires review only when there is state or federal involvement in a project, or when a local or regional regulation is in place. The Massachusetts Historical Commission reviews state and federally involved projects. 📄

Vinyl Siding *(Continued from page 4)*

system. In the long run, covering the problem with siding can cost a building owner more.

Choosing a Short-sighted Solution

Although many vinyl siding companies claim at least a 20 year life expectancy, many products can and do fail within 10 to 15 years. New England’s dramatic temperature differences, for example, can cause expansion and contraction of the material, which results in warping and cracking. Small repairs to vinyl siding are far more difficult and often cost more than repairs to traditional wood siding that in most instances has already lasted 5 to 10 times longer than vinyl. When repair is not possible, the recommended solution is vinyl siding replacement—a costly, short-sighted approach that eliminates any possible

return on an investment gained by not having to prep and repaint. Furthermore, in order to keep a building looking clean, vinyl siding needs to be washed in the spring and the fall. Perhaps the most ironic issue is that colored vinyl siding can fade, and while there are paints on the market made specifically for painting vinyl siding, this simply returns folks to the central maintenance issue that they are trying to avoid—painting!

Destroying the Historical Integrity

Aside from the decisions that need to be made to find the most cost-effective approach to building maintenance, another important consideration is that the application of vinyl siding often involves the removal of door, window, and porch trim and other architectural

decoration. This results in the irretrievable loss of character-defining features. For the homebuyers interested in purchasing an historic building, vinyl siding is most definitely seen as a negative selling point.

By now you must be asking if there is an appropriate place for the use of vinyl siding in today’s building industry. Certainly! Newer homes were designed with vinyl siding in mind. As such, this product is as much a reflection of current building technology as the use of wood shingles or clapboards was in the past. Be mindful, however, that unlike traditional wood siding materials, vinyl is a building product whose longevity has not been time tested. 📄

Post-War Housing

(Continued from page 1)

the middle-class American family, built in vast numbers and at low cost in the decades after the Second World War, is as worthy of study and preservation as are the custom-built examples that epitomize the modern movement. Careful documentation of both landmark and vernacular examples, placed in context, is necessary in order to more fully understand our recent past. Residential subdivisions, with some of the most familiar house types in our communities today, present the greatest challenge.

With the close of World War II, there was an extreme housing shortage in America. Vast numbers of returning veterans wanted to finish their education and start their families, and they felt entitled to home ownership after their years of national service. In 1945, the US government passed the Serviceman's Readjustment Act (otherwise known as the GI Bill), which allowed veterans to purchase or build their own houses at lower costs and offered low-interest loans and fixed mortgages. During the next decade, the nation embarked on an unprecedented burst of housing construction, aided by the technological advances achieved in wartime. In a number of Massachusetts communities, more houses were constructed during the 1950s than in all previous decades combined.

For many veterans and their families, the American Dream became a single-family home in a safe and quiet environment, close to life's amenities but away from the hubbub of the inner city. Initially, government loan policies were such that most veterans could afford only small houses, and the Federal Housing Act thus encouraged the construction of modest homes in familiar forms. So while Americans embraced some aspects of modern life by purchasing the latest automobiles, gadgetry, and fashions, most were slow to renounce tradition when it came to buying their ideal home. Municipalities, large corporations, and private builders were all involved in constructing houses for sale and rent, and responded to demand with compact, inexpensively built houses with little variety and standardized features.

The Dalton Housing Authority, for example, erected housing for returning veterans on land donated by Crane Paper Company, long the town's most significant manufacturer. Ranged at a uniform setback along two short parallel streets, the sparsely ornamented houses sat alone on small lots, identical single-story Cape-style residences, built on slabs, with unfinished attic crawl spaces.

Oak Hill Park in Newton provided affordable housing for hundreds of the city's returning veterans. Prospective buyers bought the unimproved land first and then made a lim-



A Campanelli Brothers' Enchantress—complete with prominent garage.

ited number of choices to customize the design of the new home—would it be a Cape-style cottage or a gambrel colonial? Clapboard-clad, cedar shingle, or asbestos? Standard amenities included shutters, door knockers, built-in ironing boards, and fluorescent lighting in the kitchen. And for a modest additional sum, buyers could add a porch, breeze-way, or garage. The site plan for the development, designed by city engineer Willard Platt, included a mix of through and dead-end streets and a complex footpath system, all in a park-like setting. Houses fronted on the greenways, while the backs of the properties looked toward the parking areas and streets. Today, it must be noted, many homeowners have reoriented their front doors toward the street, reflecting the impact of the automobile on daily life.

While buyers and builders alike generally stuck to the more traditional forms immediately following the War, an increasingly adventurous image of modernity was also entering the picture. Books and magazines touted a more modern sensibility and promoted new, contemporary designs that could also be efficient and practical. Popular publications portrayed a confident and easygoing way of life that could be accessible to one and all; of particular interest was the casual California lifestyle, implying prosperity, glamour, and optimism as embodied in a sunlit and breezy ranch house where indoors and outdoors blended effortlessly. These publications included an astounding number of advertisements hawking products for the modern home, and all promised to ease the life of the homeowner—especially the housewife. The magazines promoted a new American dream, one where



A mature

living spaces were expanded, the family automobile was not just accommodated but celebrated, and life in general was more healthy and carefree.

American builders and American consumers quickly responded, aided by the fact that federal guidelines were liberalized in the early 1950s, thus broadening the various acceptable housing types that could be constructed under government loan policies—the result: housing for mass consumption that took on a new, contemporary look. In the process, once-sprawling farmland gave way to grid-like tract development in town after town. Formerly rural areas saw unprecedented development as woodlands and orchards were cleared, and farmlands gave way to street after street of tract developments to house ever-growing families.

Among the most prolific builders of new, modern housing for the Massachusetts middle class was the Campanelli Brothers of Braintree. Using only a few basic styles, the Campanellis built more than 8,600 single-family houses in eastern Massachusetts in the 1950s and 1960s. Not coincidentally, many of the new Campanelli subdivisions were near the area's new and improved highways. In Peabody and Beverly, Framingham and Natick, residents of Campanelli-built neighborhoods were a short distance from employers such as General Electric, Sylvania, and Raytheon. And in several cases, a short distance as well from a nearby shopping plaza, which might also be the work of the Campanellis.

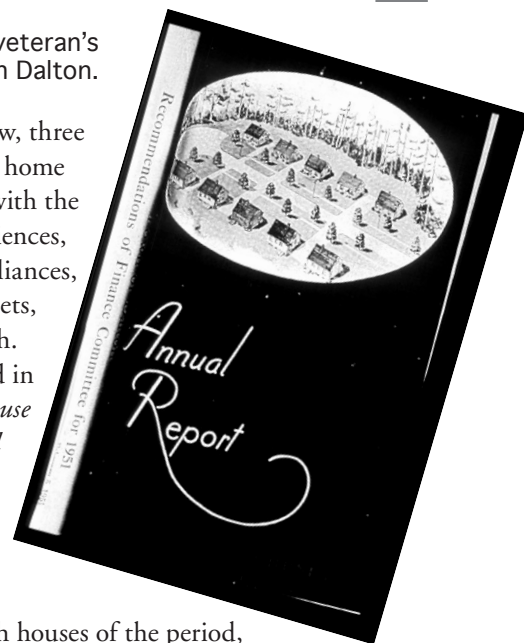
With picturesque names like Pleasantfield, Centerfield, Bayberry Hill, and Pocahontas Farms, the Campanellis' developments provided thousands of homes at affordable prices. So young families with little money on hand could

A street plan for veteran's housing in Dalton.

move into a brand-new, three bedroom, ranch-style home completely outfitted with the latest modern conveniences, including electric appliances, built-in kitchen cabinets, and a ceramic tile bath. The dreams promoted in magazines such as *House and Garden* and *Good Housekeeping* could become reality in a Campanelli Brothers home.

Like most of the ranch houses of the period, the Campanelli designs recognized the extreme importance of the automobile in modern life. The family car was not housed in a separate building behind the home, or obliged to face the elements while sitting by the front door. Instead, there was a place for the car fully integrated into the house itself. The large overhead door dominated the façade of the building—the garage often took up a third of the house's volume and floor space. The Campanelli houses were sold under a number of different models: the L-plan "Enchantress," for example, was a gable-roofed ranch with an integral—and prominent—garage. A simpler rectangular box was known as "The Charmer." Both sold for less than \$16,000 (see ad on page 1 and upper left photo).

Today, despite the predictions of those who criticized these houses as "cracker boxes" that would never last, the Campanelli subdivisions, like the Dalton and Oak Hill Park neighborhoods, have acquired a look of maturity—after all, some of them have already celebrated their 50th birthday. Once-stark tracts with barely a tree in sight have filled out with evergreens, oaks, and maples; yards are landscaped with flowerbeds, shrubs, and the occasional swimming pool or lawn ornament. The houses themselves have seen some alteration—most frequently, the garage has become a family room. Sunrooms, additional bedrooms, and multiple bathrooms have been added; metal-frame windows have been replaced; and often the original siding has been covered with vinyl. In some cases, there has been elaborate rebuilding—or demolition. But for now, the overall character of these neighborhoods survives. And without a doubt, these reflections of our recent past merit consideration for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. 📍



postwar neighborhood.

The Community Preservation Act

Christopher Skelly

So often, communities in Massachusetts complete master plans, preservation plans, and downtown revitalization plans and conclude that historic resources in their community need restoration. Usually, however, funds to accomplish these goals are not available. The Community Preservation Act is making these local goals a reality. The Community Preservation Act is a funding mechanism for Massachusetts cities and

towns that can help protect community character by allowing cities and towns to adopt a property tax surcharge (usually 1%–3%). Thirty percent of the funds must be spent on historic preservation, open space preservation, and affordable housing—10% in each category. The remaining 70% can be used in any of the three categories. Communities that pass the Community Preservation Act receive matching funds from the state of Massachusetts. This will be approximately \$26 million per year statewide. Of the 351 cities and towns in Massachusetts, 58 have passed the Community Preservation Act.

With this dedicated funding source now available, exciting rehabilitation projects are proceeding. Whether it



CPA funds have been used to shore up the foundation of Bedford's historic Job Lane House.

is the town hall, library, community center, police station, public park, landscape, cemetery, or school building, historic resources in need of rehabilitation and vital to the community now have a dedicated revenue stream. Funds from the Community Preservation Act can even be used on private property so long as a clear public benefit is realized. For instance, a community could assist homeowners or downtown merchants with exterior rehabilitation costs so long as the property owner agrees to a preservation restriction on their building. Several communities are planning to use Community Preservation Act funds for historic preservation planning by hiring a consultant to prepare MHC inventory forms.

Local Historical Commissions in

communities that pass the Community Preservation Act must take an active part in determining which projects are recommended for Community Preservation Act funding. Once a community adopts the Community Preservation Act, a Community Preservation Committee is formed to conduct a study of potential projects. A member of the Local Historical Commission must be a part of this Committee. Additionally, the Community

Preservation Committee is required to consult with the Local Historical Commission on potential projects. The Local Historical Commission can help to make sure that all projects meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.

The Community Preservation Act, signed into law in September 2000, is enabling legislation. The state funds are raised through real estate transfer fees. To adopt CPA, a majority of city or town voters must vote to approve it at the ballot. If you are interested in rehabilitating historic resources in your community, CPA can lend a hand. 📍

For more information on the Community Preservation Act, visit www.communitypreservation.org.

CPA Towns

Acton	Carlisle	Georgetown	Medway	Rockport	Wareham
Agawam	Chatham	Grafton	Mendon	Rowley	Wayland
Amherst	Chelmsford	Hampden	Nantucket	Scituate	Wellesley
Aquinnah	Chilmark	Harvard	Newburyport	Southampton	Westfield
Ashland	Cohasset	Hingham	Newton	Stockbridge	Westford
Ayer	Dartmouth	Holliston	Norfolk	Stow	Weston
Bedford	Dracut	Hopkinton	North Andover	Sturbridge	Westport
Boxford	Duxbury	Leverett	Norwell	Southwick	Williamstown
Braintree	Easthampton	Lincoln	Peabody	Sudbury	
Cambridge	Easton	Marshfield	Plymouth	Tyngsborough	

MHC News:

MHC Moves West!

To help provide our constituents with better access to MHC's many programs, Chris Skelly will be splitting his time between Boston and Western Massachusetts offices. Chris is still your contact for issues pertaining to local government—no matter where you live in Massachusetts. He can be reached by phone at (617) 727-8470 or (413) 834-0678.

MHC On-line

Many MHC publications and forms are available for download at our website. If you have internet access please make our website your first stop. www.state.ma.us/sec/mhc

In an attempt to reduce our paper and postage expenses, we would like to keep in-touch via e-mail. To be included on MHC's e-mail list to receive information on MHC programs please send your e-mail address to mhc@sec.state.ma.us.

MHC Receives Award

The Society for Historical Archaeology recognized MHC's public education program at its annual conference. Citing the MHC's "outstanding efforts at public outreach through its exhibit and accompanying booklet *Highway to the Past: The Archaeology of Boston's Big Dig*." This is the first time the SHA has recognized an exhibit with an Award of Merit.



MHC Executive Director, Cara Metz accepts the award from SHA President, Vergil Noble.

Dates to Remember:

March 14, 2003 - Deadline for MHC Preservation Awards nominations

- Nomination forms are available at our website.
- Nominations will be accepted in the following categories:

Archaeology

Rehabilitation or Reuse

Adaptive Reuse

Education/Outreach/Media

Landscape Preservation

Local Preservationist

Individual Lifetime Achievement

April 9, 2003 - Round 9 MPPF grant announcements

April 15, 2003 - Deadline to submit an event application for Massachusetts Archaeology Week

- To receive information on planning an event please call Ann-Eliza Lewis at the MHC

May 1, 2003 - PRESERVATION Mass Preservation Awards Dinner, Copley Plaza Boston

May 5–11, 2003 - National Preservation Week:

- Theme: Cities, Suburbs and Countryside
- www.nationaltrust.org/preservationweek

May 8, 2003 - Historic Salem lecture

June 27, 2003 - MPPF Round 10 application deadline

July 1–6, 2003 - Boston Harborfest 2003

September 5, 2003 - 25th Annual MHC Preservation Awards

September 5, 2003 - MHC's Annual Preservation Conference

- Theme: Linking Arts, Culture, and Preservation

October 11–19, 2003 - Archaeology Week 2003

November 2003 - PRESERVATION Mass Conference

Preservation Education: *WHALE Makes it Work in New Bedford*

Teachers and kids agree—hands-on learning projects are great, but teaching history with engaging interactive activities is a real challenge. Teachers often ask for classroom materials on architectural history that can be adapted to their community, but few programs are available. New Bedford's Waterfront Historic Area League (WHALE) has taken an innovative approach to teaching history and social history by using the architecture of New Bedford as a history laboratory that could become a model for other preservation agencies looking to expand their educational missions. "Our goal," says Antone G. Souza Jr., the Executive Director of WHALE, "is for all of New Bedford's children to take pride in their homes and neighborhoods [and] to know that every house ... plays its part in making the City of New Bedford a vibrant diverse community."

WHALE offers a variety of programs during the school year and in the summer including "Discovering New Bedford" a 10-week after school program. Under the direction of Peggi Medeiros and her team, children study New Bedford's architecture through scavenger hunts in the National Park, the New Bedford Whaling Museum, and the downtown historic district. Students also engage in art projects and hands-on building exercises, culminating in building a model of New Bedford. Medeiros says, "We use everything from simple wooden building blocks to recycled yogurt containers and every form of cardboard known to man. Mix that with lots and lots of water-base paint, foam core, stones,

sticks, and straws and you end with Box Bedford—our group's view of New Bedford." Box Bedford is based on the CUBE Box City program. CUBE (The Center for Understanding the Built Environment) is a non-profit organization that provides educational material to help kids appreciate the built environment, improve their problem solving and social skills, and engage in responsible action (www.cubekc.org/lessons.html).

WHALE has a great coloring book titled "Towers, Turrets, & Tenements: The Brave Houses of New Bedford," which includes images of real New Bedford houses for kids to color. Sixth graders have taken part in a summer institute of the same name in which, among other activities, students enjoy private tours of historic homes and

visits from special guests.

WHALE's commitment to educating local students is impressive and an important component of their mission. These educational programs encourage students to learn about and understand the city's past and to understand how the past shapes the future. By tying architecture and social history together for New Bedford's school kids they are preparing the next generation to be responsible stewards of the city. It's a model that should inspire other cities and towns to develop similar programs. Teachers interested in learning more can contact WHALE directly; and teachers in other communities should reach out to their local historical commissions and societies to encourage them to develop similar programs for your community. 🐋



Students from the John Avery Parker School create their vision of New Bedford at WHALE's Discovering New Bedford Program.

Point the Way to MHC

Set your browser to www.state.ma.us/sec/mhc to learn more about:

- Grants
- Workshops & Exhibits
- Historic Places for Historic Parties
- Publications & Forms
- Programs



Keep checking back for the latest MHC news, information, and forms.

Seeking Your Input

The Massachusetts Historical Commission is conducting its yearly planning. Each State Historic Preservation Office is required to provide the National Park Service with its Annual Work Program. We are interested in your input as we develop our priorities for the coming year. MHC will continue to administer its core programs, including the National Register Program in Massachusetts, survey for significant properties, review of federal projects for their effects on cultural resources, survey and planning grants, the preservation tax incentive program, and the certified local government program. We will continue to provide information, education, and assistance in preservation matters. We would, however, like your input on the ways in which we administer these programs. We are especially interested in your responses the following questions:

1. How do you think the MHC could best assist in the preservation of minority-related and owned properties?
2. What kinds of technical assistance from MHC would most benefit your community?
3. What kinds of publications could the MHC produce to assist preservation efforts in your area?
4. How could the MHC publications that you are aware of be made more user friendly?
5. How could electronic media, including the MHC website, be made more accessible and helpful?
6. What would local preservation commissions like to see done in historic preservation next year?

Please send your suggestions for the annual work program to Cara H. Metz, Executive Director & SHPO, Massachusetts Historical Commission, 220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, MA 02125. E-mail responses may be sent to cara.metz@sec.state.ma.us.



Preservation Advocate

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William Francis Galvin, *Secretary of the Commonwealth and Chairman, MHC*

Cara H. Metz, *Executive Director/SHPO*

Ann-Eliza H. Lewis, *Editor*

Thomas M. Blazej, *Designer*

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Winter 2003

The **Massachusetts Historical Commission** (MHC), the State Historic Preservation Office, was established by the legislature in 1963 to identify, evaluate and protect the important historical and archaeological assets of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Program areas include Preservation Planning, Grants, Public Information, and Technical Services. The MHC is a division of the Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, William Francis Galvin.

What is it?

Shown at virtually actual size, these thin pieces of bone were once part of a common fashion accessory. These examples were found at the Cross Street Backlot Site. Famous as the site that included the 17th-century privy that belonged to Katherine Nanny Naylor, these items date to a more recent period than the Naylor occupation. To learn the answer to this “What is it?” please go to our website www.state.ma.us/sec/mhc If you don't have access to the internet, please call the MHC's archaeology lab and we'll send you the answer by mail. 📧



STATE REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES 2002



MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
2002
HISTORIC PLACES REG.
#25,40

State Register of Historic Places

The latest compilation of the State Register of Historic places is now available for purchase at the State House Bookstore. This comprehensive list of all properties listed on the State Register of Historic Places is a useful tool for understanding the historic resources in your community and in the Commonwealth.

For more information please contact the bookstore directly at 617-727-2834. An order form is available for download at the State House Bookstore's website www.state.ma.us/sec/spr/sprcat/order.htm 📧

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