Historic Preservation:

Sustaining Communities,

Sustaining Generations.
**Message from the Chair**

**Times of Our Lives: A new generation discovers preservation**

These are the times of our lives. A new generation is awakening and rediscovering Pittsburgh. Led by Gen X, new housing and shopping choices are being created and whole neighborhoods are coming back to life.

In Pittsburgh, Lawrenceville is the hot new neighborhood for businesses and young professionals. East Liberty’s real estate market is sizzling. The South Side is strong. Friendship remains among the top three neighborhoods in Pittsburgh for young people.

After years of neglect, downtown housing is becoming a reality—something that YPA commented on two years ago [link](http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/04039/269671.stm). The revival of our region’s core is being driven by historic renovations and a market of willing young professionals and older empty nesters eager to give it a try.

Finally, developers are discovering the value of our riverfronts. The historic Heinz Plant, Armstrong Cork Factory, and new housing at the South Side Works—a thriving example of new development done right—provide more urban choices for young professionals.

Individual historic sites around the region, such as the John Woods House in Hazelwood and the Murphy Building in Blairsville, are being restored.

Despite all the progress we’ve made in historic preservation, the Pittsburgh region, serious problems remain. Consider this quote from the Allegheny County Comprehensive Plan: “Consequently, the Pittsburgh region is the only large metropolitan area experiencing natural population decline at the beginning of the 21st century.” [p. 12 in the Demographic report, http://www.alleghenyplaces.com/plan/planContent.asp]

We’re also losing our hometown businesses. Throughout the Pittsburgh region, an older generation is closing its doors, only to be replaced by faceless national chains—or nothing at all.

Perhaps most emblematic of this trend came earlier in 2005, when Federated Department Stores announced that it is changing the Kaufmann’s name to Macy’s and closing three stores in regional malls.

Small businesses throughout the region are shutting their doors for the last time after decades—some for more than a century—of serving customers. Just this year, J.H. Shoop & Sons, a men’s clothing store in Freeport, closed after 175 years of business; Leonard Skirball’s Card & Gift Gallery in Mount Washington closed after 105 years; and Weber Furniture, which operated for 64 years in Washington, closed. Arthur Moser closed its doors after more than 50 years of operation in Squirrel Hill.

In the Mon Valley, communities traded a family-owned drug store for a corporate chain. Homestead’s venerable Chiodo’s, a mainstay of the East Eighth Avenue National Chiodo’s, a Homestead institution for three generations . . .

Photo:  Melody Farrin

YPA Chair Dan Holland

South Side Works: expanding urban living spaces for young people.
Register historic district for more than 50 years, closed earlier in 2005; it was demolished to make way for a Walgreen’s. It should come as no surprise, then, that the Sapida family’s Leader Drug in Turtle Creek closed after 67 years in the business.

A year after the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission removed the “historic” designation from Braddock, century-old buildings began to tumble. There’s hope: a new mayor, 36-year-old John Fetterman, is a man on a preservation mission. If he gets his way, a number of historic structures surrounding the Carnegie Library will be given new life.

Take a look at Uniontown. Remember the Murphy Building, #1 on YPA’s Top Ten List in 2003? Gone. It was demolished to make way for a park, thanks to billionaire County Commissioner and 84 Lumber owner Joe Hardy.

Yes, it’s good to have Downtown development and to bring in new businesses. But aren’t we losing something when we completely obliterate our history? This forced sterilization on the Pittsburgh region leaves us feeling vacuous—as if the city and region is really no different than Anytown, USA. Where’s the competitive advantage?

And finally, not everyone is participating in the glory of historic preservation. Low- and moderate-income and African American communities remain left behind in the preservation dialogue. Just look at Hazelwood—Pittsburgh’s new ghost town of demolished historic structures. There’s no more "there" there.

African American history continues to be slighted. For instance, there are zero African American structures on the National Register of Historic Places in the Pittsburgh region. Our low- and moderate-income communities contain the region’s highest concentrations of vacant properties. And sprawling suburban development continues to exacerbate the concentration of poverty in older, urban areas.

This fall, the National Trust for Historic Preservation will be in town for their annual National Preservation Conference. We will put on a good face for the nation’s preservationists. But let’s not forget those sites and people who aren’t in the spotlight.

Preservationists must continue to show that historic preservation is a sound economic development strategy. We will reap the benefits today in the form of new taxes, jobs, and disposable income. But most importantly, the next generation will benefit because they will grow up with something unique that few people can enjoy—a sense of place.

Give life to history. SM
Hard Hat Party at the Union Project, Highland Park May 6, 2005.

More than 100 people attended.

Pittsburgh City Councilman Bill Peduto

PA State Senator Jim Ferlo

Boilermaker Jazz Band

Perfect weather for Historic Preservation Month

Arthur Ziegler, Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation

Quote from the YPA Chair: “Put the preservation losses behind us & celebrate the victories!”
YPA Events 2005

Judging the Top Ten for 2005.

YPA Business Planning Session.

YPA’s Year-End Party at Firehouse Lounge.

YPA’s Year-End Party at Firehouse Lounge.
YPA's First Conference
September 16-17, 2005

YPA Chair Dan Holland, left, with keynote speaker Don Rypkema

YPA tours the Armstrong Cork Factory lofts for the first time

YPA’s “Wheeling Through History” bike tour made history as the first historic bike tour of the North Side

YPA Chair Dan Holland with keynote speaker Mindy Thompson Fullilove

YPA awards its first “Promise Award” to the Union Project with City Councilman Bill Peduto, left

Stanley Lowe, Vice President of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, wraps up YPA’s first conference
Preservation Victories in 2005

Oakland Square is Pittsburgh’s newest historic district

The Union Project’s restoration is nearly complete

The Armstrong Cork Factory is a preservation success

Mooncrest became a historic district

Lawrenceville is a hot city neighborhood

The Hazelwood Initiative stabilized the John Woods House
Preservation Losses in 2005

Number one on YPA’s first Top Ten List . . .

. . . Uniontown lost the Murphy Building downtown.

Historic Braddock . . .

. . . lost more of its competitive advantage

Hazelwood lost more of its historic fabric

August Wilson passed on, but his house in the Hill District is still an unprotected historic landmark
### Statement of Financial Position *

#### Jan 13, 06

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| **LIABILITIES & EQUITY** |         |
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| Unrestrict (retained earnings) | 7,234.39|
| **Total Equity** | 7,234.39|
| **TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY** | 7,234.39|

*Unaudited financials for YE 2005.*
## Income & Expenses*

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**Total Income**

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**Total Expense**

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**Net Ordinary Income**

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**Net Income**

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*Unaudited financials for YE 2005.*
YPA Board 2005-06
Dan Holland, Founder and Chair, Senior Advisor, Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland, Pittsburgh Branch
Deborah Gross, Vice Chair, Partner, Percolater consulting firm
Lee Ann Antol, Secretary, Financial Institution Examiner, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
Chloe Velasquez, Treasurer, Founder and Principal of Sabio Water
Melinda Carbonell, Historic Preservation Consultant
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Linda Gwinn, President, Blairsville (Indiana County) Improvement Group
Nathan Hart, Architect, Desmone Associates Architects
Rachael Kelley, Event Planning Consultant
Michelle Mixell, Director, Planning and Community Development, Cranberry Township
Norma Ryan, Borough of Brownsville
Heather Sage, Director of Outreach, Citizens for Pennsylvania’s Future [PennFuture]
Sean Simmons, Research Analyst, National City Bank of Pennsylvania
Dan Woodske, Director of Marketing, Beaver Initiative for Growth

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Terri Davis, Vice President, Community Development, Sky Bank
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Tim Hadfield, Robert Morris University
Randy Harris, Historian
David Kahley, President and CEO, The Progress Fund
Stanley Lowe, Vice President, National Trust for Historic Preservation
Jim Matthews, Senior Vice President and Corporate Community Reinvestment Manager National City Bank
Tracy Montarti, Owner, In the Loop, Inc.

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Charles Peterson, Dollar Bank
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John Stephen, Consultant
Richard Taylor, CEO, Macedonia Development Corporation
Shelly Todd, Esq., Mooncrest
Althea Worthy, Historic Preservationist

YPA Mission
The active participation of young people in the preservation of historic resources.