



# Historic Preservation Program

# Newsletter

University of Vermont \* History Department  
Wheeler House \* Burlington, Vermont 05405

Fall 2002

Volume 9, Number 1

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*UVM graduate students and faculty examine a restored 1802 coffee plantation site in the UNESCO designated Sierra del Rosario biosphere reserve.*

## University of Vermont Graduate Students Study Preservation in Cuba

As part of the *Historic Preservation: Contemporary Practice* course a group of graduate students and faculty from the University of Vermont Historic Preservation Program collaborated with professional preservationists from the Preservation Trust of Vermont on a weeklong research trip to Cuba in March 2002. Amidst crumbling urban neighborhoods in downtown Havana and isolated rural areas in outlying provinces, historic preservation is being used as an innovative tool for economic development. These examples provide models for the revitalization and sustainable development of urban and rural areas in other economically challenged areas of the world, including the United States. The week included numerous discussions with organizations around Havana actively involved in various aspects of historic preservation.

The Office of the City Historian of Havana (Oficina del Historiador de la Ciudad de la Habana) has developed a comprehensive strategy to manage the safeguarding of Old Havana, which was designated a World Heritage Site by

*Continued on Page 12*

## Greetings from Wheeler House

Welcome to our ninth annual issue of the *UVM Historic Preservation Program Newsletter*. This past year has been one of the most exciting for our students and faculty. In the spring 2002 semester a team of UVM historic preservation graduate students, faculty, and Vermont preservationists participated in a remarkable research trip to Cuba. There we found impressive examples of how historic preservation leadership can transform a beleaguered society by revitalizing neighborhoods, improving living conditions and social services, fostering sustainable economic development, and protecting sensitive biological reserves through the application of internationally recognized preservation and conservation principles and professional practices.

The UVM Historic Preservation Program has also worked to strengthen cross-campus links with our colleagues in the UVM Natural Resources Planning Program and the UVM Field Naturalist Program. In September 2002, these three professional master degree programs conducted a joint field charrette at Shelburne Farms in Shelburne, VT, where first-year graduate students worked in interdisciplinary teams to assess conditions and to develop treatment recommendations for an area within the Olmsted designed landscape of this National Historic Landmark property.

On a personal note, as a follow-up to being awarded tenure by the University of Vermont last year, I was pleased to be granted a semester of sabbatical during the spring 2002 semester. While I was deeply immersed in research on the history and dynamics of change of American porch design and use, Dr. Robert McCullough did a wonderful job of guiding the Historic Preservation Program with the very capable help of adjunct faculty members Nancy Boone and Doug Porter. Now back at the helm, I am working with colleagues, students, and historic preservationists to advance the program in several new areas.

On the national level, we have entered into an agreement with the National Park Service to collaborate on an innovative program of preservation research, education, and service. For our students this is providing exciting internship and research opportunities in California and New Mexico. Project coordinator Doug Porter, who has built on his close ties with the National Park Service to help establish this agreement, will be serving as a UVM adjunct faculty member through the six-year grant project.

Another fresh initiative is to host a national conference on best practices for the preservation of historic wooden covered bridges at UVM in June 2003 in collaboration with Historic Windsor's Preservation Education Institute and the National Park Service's Historic American Engineering Record and Historic Preservation Training Center.

The further development of our teaching and research facilities continues to be a top priority. Gifts by alumni and friends have enabled us to add more microscopes, computer equipment, and drawing tables in the historic preservation studio and conservation laboratory. We are also very grateful for a generous contribution from an anonymous donor that has made it possible for us to match a challenge from the UVM College of Arts and Sciences to provide an additional graduate teaching assistantship position for a historic preservation graduate student this semester.

We sincerely thank all who have contributed to the Historic Preservation Program Fund over the past year, and especially those affiliated with the Preservation Trust of Vermont, who helped to underwrite expenses for the Cuba research trip. Such gifts play an increasingly important role in helping us provide a rigorous and rewarding educational experience for our students. These contributions also help to support the production costs of this annual newsletter. We hope you will consider making a generous tax-deductible gift this year to the UVM Historic Preservation Program. Checks may be sent to the Historic Preservation Program Fund, Wheeler House, University of Vermont, 133 South Prospect Street, Burlington, VT 05405.



Thomas D. Visser  
Associate Professor of Historic Preservation

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**Managing Editor:** Eric L. Martin

**Copy Editor:** Lois H. Coulter

**Layout Editor:** Robert F. Panepinto

**Photography Editor:** Nate Bailly

**Editorial Board:** Lois Coulter, Eric Martin, Robert Panepinto, Thomas Visser, and Rebecca Williams

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*Chester Liebs with Japanese and Cambodian preservation graduate students surveying an abandoned soy-sauce factory in Sawara, Japan, 2001.*

## Update on Founding Director, Chester Liebs

Since receiving a 1996 National Trust "National Honor Award" for his contributions to preservation education, Professor Emeritus Chester Liebs has been busier than ever. After completing his 1994-1995 Fulbright Senior Fellowship in Japan, he has served as Visiting Professor of Area Studies at Tsukuba University, helped the Glynwood Center and the Japan National Trust conduct a U.S./Japan Countryside Exchange, and is now Visiting Professor (April 2000-April 2003) at Tokyo National University of Fine Arts of Music, assisting development of its new Heritage Conservation Program. In a recent project the Heritage Conservation Program saved an endangered, wooden, traditional-style Tokyo house for use as public-event space and graduate student living quarters (See "Students Bring Life to a Historic Tokyo House," *Forum News: A Newsletter of the National Trust for Historic Preservation*, Vol. III, No. 4, March/April 2002, 3).

Also as Adjunct Professor in Urban Planning at Tokyo University, Liebs is currently advising, researching, and lecturing not only in Japan, but in Taiwan, the Philippines, Hong Kong, China, and the United Kingdom. He praised the UVM Historic Preservation Program's recent field trip to Cuba and stated, "The conservation of traditional places and knowledge worldwide is one of the key issues of this century. Especially after 9/11, preservationists no longer have the luxury of being concerned with heritage only within their national borders."

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## National Park Service Awards UVM HP Program Grant

In May 2002, the National Park Service awarded a six-year grant to the University of Vermont Historic Preservation Program to complete a program of research, training, and implementation at the Las Flores Adobe Ranch House. Built in 1868, the house is a National Historic Landmark located on the United States Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton in northern San Diego County, California. This special program provides opportunities for UVM historic preservation graduate students to gain practical research and conservation experience, while training NPS employees and area preservationists in appropriate conservation methods.

Doug Porter, an adjunct faculty member of the UVM Historic Preservation Program, is coordinating the project under the auspices of the NPS Intermountain Support Office in Santa Fe, NM. Professor Thomas Visser, the project's Principal Investigator, states, "As we work together to conserve an important National Historic Landmark, this research project will offer our students exciting opportunities to gain direct knowledge of professional preservation practices while providing a public service to the nation. We are pleased that the University of Vermont can join with the National Park Service in this innovative collaboration of conservation research, education, and service."

To begin the project a team of three UVM graduate students—Jeff Fellingner, Joe Haun, and Eliot Lothrop—and Doug Porter spent the summer of 2002 working at Las Flores. Eliot Lothrop and Joe Haun worked on a variety of projects, including repairing or replacing damaged wood structural elements while saving as much historic fabric as possible. Doug Porter conducted a comprehensive window and door survey detailing each element's period of installation, construction form, and component integrity. Using the survey as a reference, Jeff Fellingner removed the doors for stripping

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*Las Flores Adobe Ranch House in Southern California.*

## From Functional Pipes to Fanciful Plastic

By Eric L. Martin

*[As part of Dr. Robert McCullough's History on the Land course in the spring of 2002, historic preservation graduate students were assigned to analyze an aspect of the American landscape at two discrete periods in history. Source materials included trade journals, professional and popular articles, and advertisements in periodicals. Students' topics ranged from billboards to fire towers and sprinkler systems. The following synopsis examines playground apparatus in the periods around 1910 and 1960.]*

While a few American cities, like Boston and New York, passed legislation to establish public playgrounds in the late nineteenth century, large-scale development of playgrounds did not begin until the first decade of the twentieth century. Beyond simply providing safe areas for children to play off busy urban streets, advocates saw supervised playgrounds as the answer to an assortment of social concerns, including improving physical health and decreasing juvenile crime.

The traditional playground apparatus—swings with wooden seats, slides, see-saws, and merry-go-rounds—were all broadly utilized during this early period. In addition, giant-strides (a metal pole around which several rope or metal ladders rotated), horizontal, vertical, and inclined ladders, parallel bars, and rings were commonly found on these sandy playgrounds. These apparatus were contained within structures made of wrought iron or galvanized steel pipes with diameters of up to four inches. Pipes were threaded, bolted, or clamped together using T or L-shaped fittings and set into beds of buried concrete. Wooden frames were typically avoided, except when the apparatus were fashioned locally. Case-hardened steel ball bearings secured moving parts to the metal structures. The omnipresent vertical, horizontal, and inclined iron and steel pipe frames dominated the playground environment of the early twentieth century.

By the early 1960s, playground apparatus had become familiar components of parks, camping areas, schoolyards, and rest areas across the United States. Although traditional apparatus and materials from the early years of the playground movement in America continued to be utilized, new materials, like fiberglass and plastics, became central components of apparatus design and permitted an infusion of cheerful color to captivate children's attention while improving upper body strength. Playgrounds were transformed from a manufactured mass of joined metal pipes into a collection of designed play structures.

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## Alumni Updates

**Deb Andrews '82** started her career in Albany, NY, in 1982 as the Director of Planning and Education for the Historic Albany Foundation before moving to Portland, ME, in 1984. In Portland, she has served as the Executive Director of Greater Portland Landmarks, Inc. (1984-1991), Senior Planner for the City of Portland (1991-1994), and is presently Portland's Historic Preservation Program Manager. In 2001, the City of Portland received a National Trust Honor Award for the restoration of the Portland Observatory, the last remaining signal tower in the U.S. Deb, a resident of Yarmouth, ME, is married with two sons ages ten and eight.

**Justin Cook '02** is the History Reviews Manager at the Ohio Historic Preservation Office (OHPO). As a member of the Resource Protection and Review Department, he reviews federally-assisted projects for effects on historic properties in Ohio under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Typical projects under review range from the construction of wireless communication towers to multimillion-dollar rehabilitations of properties listed on the National Register. Justin also participates in the Ohio Historic Preservation Office's Building Doctor program. Building Doctor seminars are held in ten Ohio cities each year. Employees from OHPO provide instruction on proper preservation techniques, conduct site visits throughout the community to help owners of old buildings recognize and solve some of the most common problems associated with maintaining older buildings, and help owners make informed decisions about repairs and improvements.

After completing his course requirements in December of 2001, **Michael Goebel-Bain '02** continued working part-time as Property Manager for Historic Harrisville, a job he began while at UVM. Michael also completed an architectural history of the Amos Brown House in Whitingham, VT, for Landmark's Trust, USA, and catalogued and organized Historic Deerfield's architectural fragments collection for their architectural conservator, William Flynt '79. In June 2002, Michael began work as an Architectural Conservator at Bero Architecture, P.C. in Rochester, NY, a thirteen member firm working mostly in western New York. His responsibilities include writing condition reports, National Register nominations, historic resource surveys, and construction administration. His work has involved several historic churches and an early farm implement factory on the Erie Canal.

**David Payne '98** is currently working as the Architectural Historian for the Boston Landmarks

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## NPS Grant

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*Joe Haun conducts an epoxy pour on a rafter in situ at the Las Flores Adobe Ranch House.*

and the window sashes for repair while performing *in situ* repairs on the doorjamb and window frames. Repair work on these elements will continue next spring during Doug Porter's workshop on door and window repair in Santa Fe, NM. University of Vermont Historic Preservation Program students will be invited to join the workshop to learn hands-on techniques for repairing historic window sashes and doors. Upon completion of the repairs, the doors and windows will return to the Las Flores site for reinstallation.



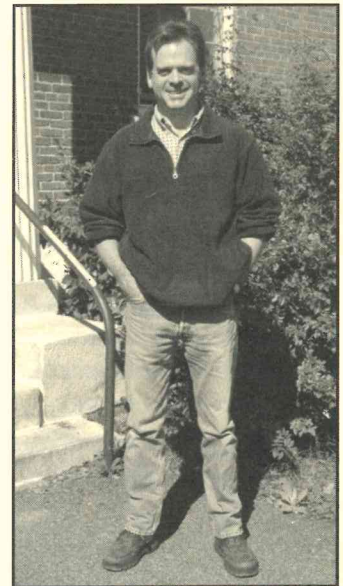
*Eliot Lothrop and Jake Barrow, NPS senior exhibit specialist, conduct an epoxy strength test at the Las Flores Adobe Ranch House.*

## New UVM Faculty Member: Doug Porter

Doug Porter '02 of Jeffersonville, VT, has joined UVM as an adjunct faculty member in the Historic Preservation Program. After completing the program last winter, Doug served as the instructor for *Architectural Conservation I* this past spring during Professor Thomas Visser's sabbatical. In May 2002, he created a new grant-based research and training program in cooperation with the National Park Service. He will now serve as a liaison between the University and the NPS for this program, in which historic preservation students will work with the NPS's Division for Architectural Conservation at Las Flores Adobe Ranch House, a National Historic Landmark, in Southern California. Doug states, "Some of the most interesting projects I've worked on have been in the National Park system! Working on National Landmarks and Monuments with the Architectural Conservation Projects Program has provided me with opportunities to learn cutting-edge conservation technology and philosophy, and I'm delighted that the National Park Service is extending this opportunity to UVM students through the new field-study program." Doug also leads an instructional course on log conservation at the University of Pennsylvania.

With over twenty years experience as a contractor and carpenter in the building trades, Doug has had a working relationship with the Architectural Conservation Division, NPS Intermountain Region as a wood conservator since 1998. In his most recent project with the NPS he conducted a detailed window and door survey at the Las Flores Adobe Ranch House. The windows and doors have been shipped to the NPS Intermountain Support Office in Santa Fe, NM, where Doug will lead an instructive workshop on the repair and maintenance of wooden doors and windows in the spring of 2003.

Doug also works for the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the Preservation Trust of Vermont as a field representative. In this capacity he provides technical assistance to building owners and communities across Vermont.



## Entering Class of 2004

**Kim Balserus** is a 2002 graduate of Norwich University and is a Burlington, VT, native. She graduated with a BA in History and a minor in Architecture. Having grown up in Vermont, Kim is very interested in protecting small communities and preventing urban sprawl. She hopes to combine her love of both history and architecture in historic preservation.

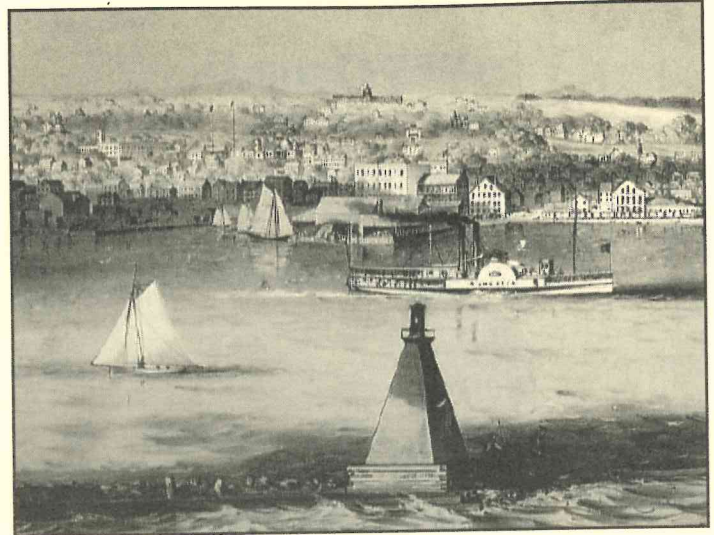
**Sabrina Carlson** graduated from Mary Washington College in 1999 with a dual degree in American Studies and Historic Preservation with a concentration in architectural conservation. While at Mary Washington College, she studied in Scotland and completed a National Register nomination for Carl's, a circa 1953 ice cream stand. Upon graduation, Sabrina worked for a New York state park and an engineering firm. She also surveyed seventy-two historic bridges as part of a statewide inventory for the NYDOT and Allee, King Rosen & Fleming. For the past year and half, she was employed as a Historic Preservation Specialist at a cultural resource management firm in New Jersey. Sabrina hopes to continue her career track in historic preservation and hopefully narrow her preservation interests while at UVM.

**Roger Ciuffo** is a 1999 graduate of The Pennsylvania State University with a bachelor's degree in American Studies. His interest in historic preservation dates back to the mid-1970s when his hometown of Carlisle, PA, created a downtown historic district. Helping an aunt restore her

*Continued on page 8*



From left to right: Joshua Phillips, Tara Harrison, Rebecca Williams, Elizabeth McGinnis, Kim Balserus, Tiffany Mitzman, Sarah Vukovich, Sabrina Carlson, Charlie Degener.



*Burlington, VT, from Lake Champlain in 1858.*

## Growth of a City: Burlington 1853-1869

First-year graduate students in the *Researching Historic Sites and Structures* class continue an ongoing UVM Historic Preservation Program project to survey surviving historic structures in Burlington, VT. This year the project is based on the 1869 F. W. Beers Atlas map of Burlington. Previous classes used the 1830 Ammi B. Young and the 1853 Presdee and Edwards maps of Burlington. The results of their research can be found at the UVM Historic Preservation Program website at [www.uvm.edu/histpres/HPJ](http://www.uvm.edu/histpres/HPJ).

By isolating surviving structures that were constructed between 1853 and 1869 through observational, archival, and analytical research, this year's class will further document the growth and expansion of Burlington. As with previous classes, this year's students will use current aerial photographs of Burlington and historic maps, photographs, journals, and directories in the UVM Special Collections to complete their study. Unlike previous classes, however, this new historical analysis of the city will include settled land south and west of Burlington, which was absent on previous maps. Upon completion, the results of this year's project will be published on the internet for public use.

Follow the news and events of the UVM Historic Preservation Program at its home on the World Wide Web. Visit [www.uvm.edu/histpres](http://www.uvm.edu/histpres). Included on the site are links to student and alumni projects, course information, the Preservation Web Journal, and historic preservation sites around the world.

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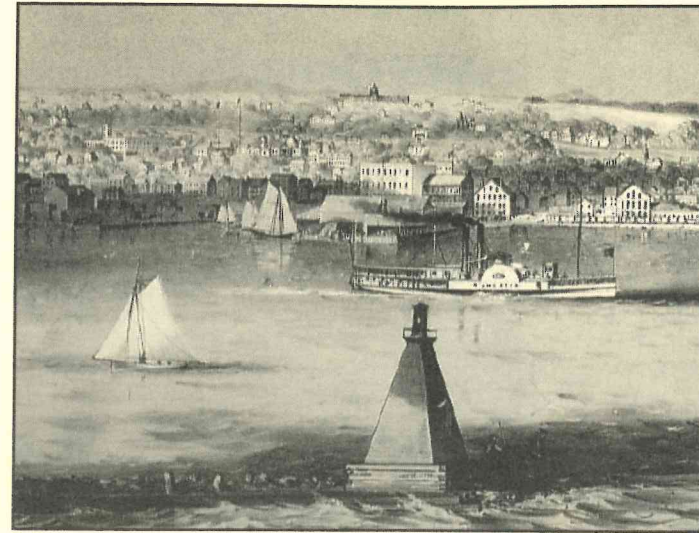
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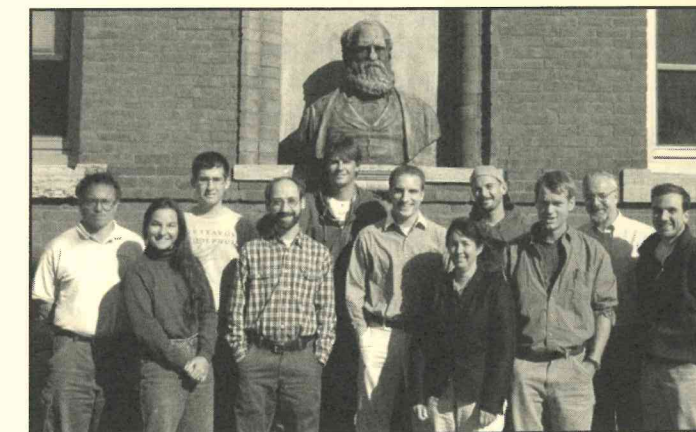
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## Graduating Class of 2003

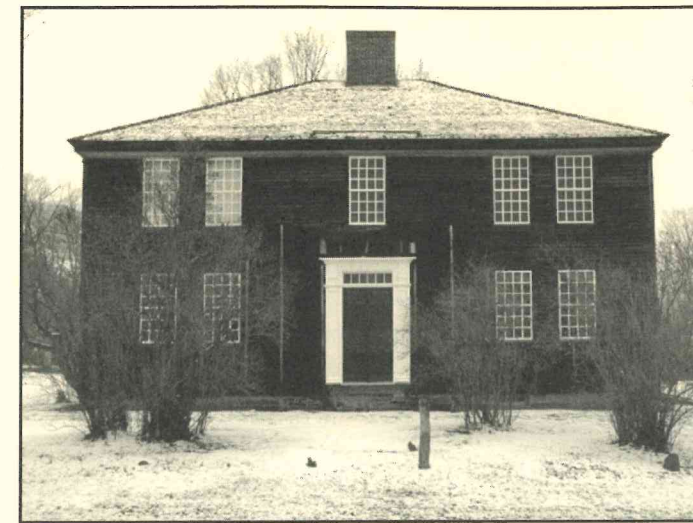
**Nate Bailly** graduated with a BA in History from Hamline University in St. Paul, MN. His interest in historic preservation was spurred by participation in a student residency program at Frank Lloyd Wright's Fallingwater in Pennsylvania. After completing an undergraduate thesis illustrating the adaptive reuse of a downtown St. Paul, MN post office, Nate decided to pursue his master's degree in historic preservation and moved to Vermont with his wife Kisha. His work at UVM has included an internship with the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office where he produced an assessment report on the Historic Properties Reuse Team model for conducting reuse studies in the state. He spent additional time during the internship with the Preservation Alliance of Minnesota serving as a resource for those inquiring about preservation resources in Minnesota. His additional experience includes travel to Havana, Cuba to study preservation efforts along the famous Malecón waterfront and research for an National Register nomination of Burlington's Oasis Diner. Currently, Nate is working on an National Register nomination for a bakery connected to the Socialist Labor Hall in Barre, VT, and a condition assessment for the Herrouet Theater at Fort Ethan Allen.

**Christian C. Carey** graduated from Wentworth Institute of Technology with a Bachelor of Architecture degree. Since then, he has worked throughout New England on residential, light commercial, and preservation related projects. Chris is a registered architect in Vermont and Massachusetts. He was recently involved with an internship providing existing condition documents for Historic

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From left to right: Steven Levine, Mary O'Neil, Eric Martin, Nate Bailly, Joe Haun, Dan Everhart, Lois Coulter, Eliot Lothrop, Jeff Fellingner, Walter Maros, and Rob Panepinto.



## Students Conduct Research at Udall-Boyd House

During the spring 2002 semester, UVM Historic Preservation Program graduate students conducted field research at a state-owned historic site in Quechee, VT. The 1786 Udall-Boyd House served as a study site for the *Architectural Conservation I* course taught by Doug Porter. The project was conducted in cooperation with John Dumville '77, who serves as the Historic Sites Operations Chief for the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation. The students' main goal was to determine the cause of significant efflorescence and spalling on two brick walls in the basement.

Using digital data-loggers, temperature, humidity, and dew points were recorded on an hourly basis for four months. Students developed a mapping system to track the moisture levels of the two brick walls during each site visit. Photo-documentation assisted in monitoring the movements of efflorescent and the spalling of bricks. Other research involved surveying the grade around the perimeter of the house, sampling soil from the basement, and taking mortar and air samples for analysis at Wheeler House and at the Los Alamos National Laboratory.

Based on their research findings, the students discovered that a vapor barrier and a humidistat-controlled heating system installed to reduce the excessive moisture levels in the basement that had caused serious decay of wooden structural elements, was causing an accelerated rate of deterioration of the historic brickwork in the basement. The vapor barrier covering the dirt floor was directing ground moisture into the brick walls through capillary movement. Since the ground water contained soluble salts, these salts also were moving into the brickwork, as evidenced by whitish salt deposits that effloresced on the brick walls as the moisture evaporated. The humidistat-controlled heating

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## Entering Class of 2004

*Continued from page 6*

colonial townhouse in the district led Roger on the path to preservation. After graduation he worked in various positions and locales, ranging from a French restaurant manager in Washington, DC, to Reno, NV, where he worked in a hotel. These experiences, in what he believes are the two worst examples of urban sprawl and urban planning, led Roger to graduate studies at the University of Vermont. Currently working on his degree as a part-time student (full-time next fall), he hopes to use the knowledge gained from this program to work as a conservator and in vernacular restoration in the near future.

**Charlie Degener** is a 2002 graduate of Champlain College with a BA in Business Administration. While at Champlain College he completed an internship with the R.H. Fleming Museum. In high school Charlie served on a committee that revitalized the Chester (VT) Town Hall. He also worked to extend a protective covenant on the valley in which he lives. An interest in historic buildings, a concern for sprawl, and the desire to build stronger communities has brought him to this program.

**Tara Harrison** comes to the Historic Preservation Program with a diverse background. She graduated in 1996 from Colgate University with a degree in Mathematics and Spanish. After completing an Accessory Design Program at the Fashion Institute of Technology, Tara worked in shoe and handbag design for four years. Her interest in preservation stems from the over development of her hometown, as well as courses taken last year in museum studies. She is very excited to begin this program.

**Elizabeth McGinnis** was born and raised in New York City. She received a BA in Anthropology from Purchase College. Her first preservation experience was in Scarborough, NY, where she co-chaired a fundraiser to restore the rare Boulton windows of St. Mary's Church. Later, in Pleasantville, NY, where she lived for fifteen years, Betsy was part of a team of volunteers who in 1995 revived the "Pleasantville House and Garden Tour" as a fundraiser to support an exchange student scholarship program. Encountering the field of historic preservation through her work as a real estate broker, she represented two nonprofits—AHOME and the Northern Westchester Shelter for Victims of Domestic Violence—that purchased and rehabilitated historic houses for use as shared housing for senior citizens and single parent families on limited incomes and as temporary refuge for domestic abuse victims and their children. Both projects generated lengthy hearing processes

*Continued on page 10*

## Summer Internships

*[The Historic Preservation Internship is designed to allow graduate students to gain valuable professional experience in a chosen area within the field. Students devote their summer to preservation work with a variety of organizations and agencies across the entire United States and the world. The articles below and on the next page describe two of the many internships graduate students completed in the summer of 2002.]*



*Lois Coulter talks with a building owner along the historic Lincoln Highway.*

## Surveying the Lincoln Highway

The National Park Service was directed by Congress in 2001 to study the Lincoln Highway for possible inclusion as a unit of the National Parks. The second year of this four year study involved a cultural resource study to establish what parts of the original road are still open to automobile traffic and what resources encountered by an early automobile traveler still exist along the 3,500 mile route.

Three graduate students—Lois Coulter (University of Vermont), Manish Chalana (University of Colorado, Auriana), and Cory Kegerise (University of Pennsylvania)—worked under the direction of the National Park Service Midwest Regional Office to conduct a nine-week field study of all generations of the Lincoln Highway during the summer of 2002. The daily work was divided into driver, navigator, and spotter responsibilities. Each task held its own challenges. On any given day the road surface varied from a dirt track to an Interstate Highway. The navigator worked from both computer software utilizing USGS quad maps with topographic and local street name overlays and printed maps. The spotter was responsible for identifying individual resources and filling out a survey with a written description

*Continued on page 14*



## Entering Class of 2004

*Continued from page 6*

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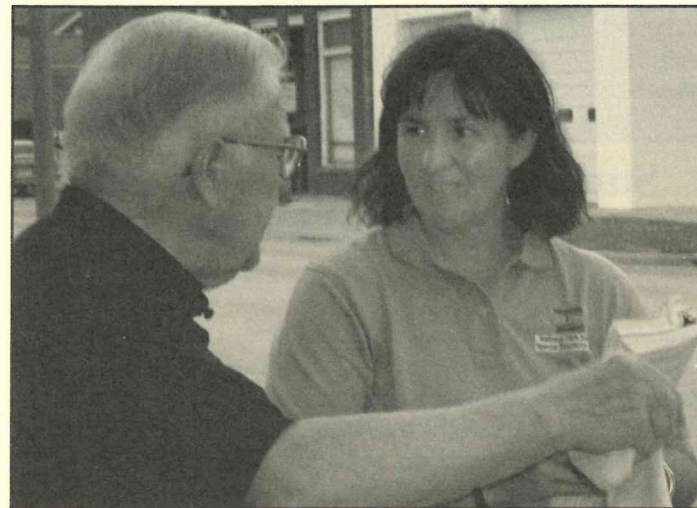
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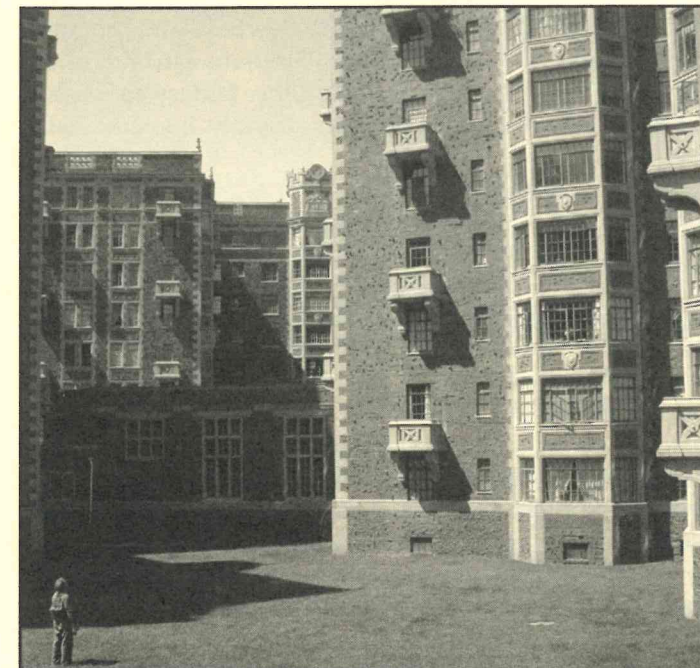
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## Philadelphia Easement Program

As part of its mission statement, the not-for-profit Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia actively promotes the appreciation, protection, and appropriate use and development of the Philadelphia region's historic buildings, communities, and landscapes. The Preservation Alliance strives to set the agenda for preservation issues of regional importance and advocates strong preservation policies. The Preservation Alliance also provides technical assistance and educational materials to property owners to improve the quality of restoration and maintenance of historic buildings and sites.

An important component of the Preservation Alliance's work is its easement program. For more than twenty-five years, owners of certified historic properties in and around Philadelphia have had the opportunity safeguard their property's facade, interior, or surrounding open space by donating a historic preservation or conservation easement to the Alliance. The easement serves as a deed restriction or covenant that will permanently prevent demolition, neglect, or insensitive alterations. To date the Alliance holds over 150 easements mostly located in Philadelphia but also in surrounding suburban areas and as far away as Pittsburgh. The easement program requires an annual inspection of the eased facades or open space, which the Alliance carries out through its internship program.

*Continued on page 14*



*Inspecting the facade easements at Alden Park, a thirty-eight acre apartment complex developed in 1926-1928.*

## Graduating Class of 2003

*Continued from page 7*

Deerfield Village, Deerfield, MA, and paint analysis for Westminster Town Hall, Westminster, VT.

**Lois Coulter** graduated from the Queen's University at the Kingston School of Business in Ontario and also from Niagara College with a diploma in Interior Design. Since graduation she has been employed in the advertising business as a mechanical artist, as a Conservation Educator with New York State Department of Parks and Recreation, and is currently the Curator/Archivist/Registrar of the Massena (NY) Museum. At the Museum she is responsible for grant writing and administration, displays, public relations, and cataloguing the Museum's archives and artifacts. During the summer of 2002, Lois traveled across the United States as a member of the National Park Service's Lincoln Highway Special Resource Study team collecting data on existing resources associated with early transcontinental highway travel. She is continuing to pursue her interest in interpretation and presentation of cultural resources working with the Friends of the Ronathahonni to develop a historic farm site on the Akwesasne Mohawk Reservation as an interpretive Center for Traditional Arts.

**Dan Everhart** is a 2001 graduate of Baylor University with a BA in Museum Studies and History. A Boise, ID, native, Dan's internship with the National Forest Service was spent in the Boise National Forest, where his duties consisted mainly of survey work to determine National Register eligibility. Much of the summer was spent on a region wide project to survey all National Forest administrative sites including guard stations, experimental stations, and fire towers, while the remainder of his time was devoted to a controversial project to determine the eligibility of privately owned recreational cabins in the Boise National Forest. Having accepted a position with the Boise National Forest, Dan will return to Boise in December to begin his career in the field of historic preservation.

**Jeff Fellingner** is a part-time student and a Burlington-area native. In his other lives, he is a carpenter, musician, and environmental advocate. Jeff spent the month of August in Southern California working for the National Park Service on the Las Flores Adobe Ranch House stabilization project. His work there focused on the cataloging and repair of the structure's windows and doors. Jeff spends as much time as possible sailing, biking, playing soccer, and canoeing.

*Continued on page 11*

## Entering Class of 2004

*Continued from page 8*

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**Tiffany Mitzman** received a BA in Art History from Wake Forest University in 1997. After graduation, she moved to Seattle, WA, and worked at the Seattle Art Museum in both the Admissions and Finance Departments, learning the inner workings of a non-profit organization. She returned to the East Coast and settled in Boston to continue her love of art and architecture. While working at the architectural firm of E. Verner Johnson and Associates, Inc., Museum Architects and Planners, she deepened her understanding of building design and developed an interest in adaptive reuse. While continuing her education at UVM, she hopes to gain a better understanding of the unique nature and use of historic properties.

**Joshua Phillips** graduated magna cum laude from Brandeis University in 1999 with a major in History and minors in Art History and Legal Studies. A Milton, VT, native, he was employed as a computer consultant in the Burlington area before coming to UVM. Josh's interest in preservation stems from his academic work, a work-study position in the conservation department at the Baltimore Museum of Art, and an appreciation of the working landscape of his home state.

**Sarah Vukovich** comes to UVM with a BA in Studio Art from Hamilton College. She has spent the past 3 years teaching art in South Carolina and attending preservation classes at the College of Charleston.

Hailing from Massachusetts, **Rebecca Williams** graduated cum laude from Mount Holyoke College with a BA in Biology and an interest in museum studies. In the year following graduation, an internship at the Ethan Allen Homestead in Burlington, VT, helped shape her interest in history and structures. Looking for more formal training in the museum field, Rebecca moved to the Boston area to pursue coursework towards a Certificate in Museum Studies through the Extension School at Harvard University. Courses in preservation and topographic history strengthened her interest in the area of historic preservation. During this time Rebecca worked in a Harvard departmental academic office coordinating graduate admissions and facilitating the pre-award grant and fellowship process for faculty and postdoctoral fellows. Returning to Burlington for the Historic Preservation Program, Rebecca plans to work in the areas of building preservation, rehabilitation, or adaptive reuse.

## Chester Liebs Update

*Continued from page 3*

Liebs, however, has not abandoned Vermont. He has continued his commentaries on the built environment on Vermont Public Radio, gave the millennial keynote address at the Preservation Trust's May 2000 conference ([www.uvm.edu/histpres/news/liebsvergenes.html](http://www.uvm.edu/histpres/news/liebsvergenes.html)), and has been a major contributor to the forthcoming *The Buildings of Vermont*, (Society of Architectural Historians, Oxford University Press, 2003) co-authored by Glenn Andres and Curtis Johnson.

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## From Functional Pipes to Fanciful Plastic

*Continued from page 4*

The most significant difference in playground apparatus between the pre-World War I period and the early 1960s was the introduction of themed play spaces. Playgrounds no longer consisted of an unrelated progression of simple play devices sharing a common support structure, but instead contained groups of related fantasy structures. The most common of these fantasy themes were the western American frontier of the nineteenth century and space exploration. Manufacturers produced an extensive assortment of Wild West apparatus—bucking bronco seesaws, frontier outposts, stage coaches, and teepees—on which children could act out their “Cowboys and Indians” daydreams. Children could also emulate astronauts on multi-level rockets and spacecraft. Other fantasy apparatus reflected bedtime stories and nursery rhymes, like Cinderella and Jack 'n Jill.

In addition to fantasy themes, colorful animal apparatus permeated playgrounds during the early 1960s. Tut the Turtle, Don the Dragon, Jeff the Giraffe, Buzz the Bee, and Catty the Caterpillar (or similar onomatopoeic apparatus) could be found on playgrounds across the country. The most common animal element was the animal rocker, which consisted of a colorful fiberglass animal fitted with a saddle seat, handlebars, and feet rests attached to either a steel or iron compression spring or a basic torsion spring. Vibrant modern designs, fantasy themes, and animals created the attractive and imaginative environment of playground apparatus in the early 1960s.

Every child in America has probably played on playground apparatus at one time or another. Beyond simply providing spaces for children's play, these structures reflect the changing American culture in which they were constructed.

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*Continued from page 8*

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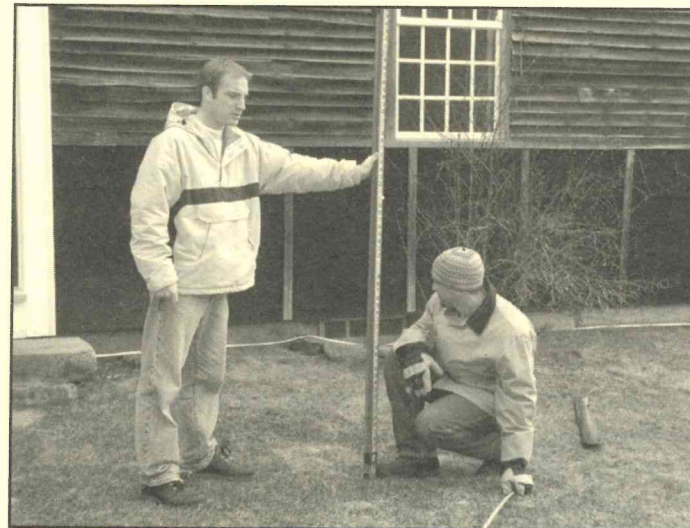
## Alumni Updates

*Continued from page 4*

Commission, the city's preservation agency. Incidentally, he is the first UVM grad to work there, and hopes he's paved the way for others to follow in the future. David's duties include administrating Boston's Certified Local Government program, including preparing all National Register Opinions of Eligibility and editing all National Register nominations; preparing and administrating Massachusetts Historical Commission grants for annual architectural surveys; producing Boston Landmarks Commission Study Reports for properties such as the Mission Church complex, Modern Theater, and Fenway Park; and meeting with architects and planners to discuss the preservation aspects of their projects in Boston. David is also in the third semester of the MArch program at the Boston Architectural Center.

## Udall-Boyd Research

*Continued from page 7*



*Dan Everhart and Eliot Lothrop survey the grade around the perimeter of the Udall-Boyd House.*

system was also causing these salts to subfloresce as a result of overly rapid surface drying, causing severe spalling.

The study concluded that in this situation, a common conservation treatment for addressing dampness in seasonally unoccupied buildings was having unforeseen side effects. The students' conclusions were conveyed to the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation to be used in refining a long-term conservation strategy for the building.

## Graduating Class of 2003

*Continued from page 9*

**Joe Haun** graduated from Bucknell University with degrees in English and Art. Always holding an appreciation for the character and beauty of old buildings, he returned to school after the realization that historic preservation was a field of study. An internship with the National Park Service this summer brought him to Southern California researching, documenting, and performing hands-on conservation work at the Las Flores Adobe Ranch House, a National Historic Landmark. He plans to continue his relationship with the National Park Service after graduation.

**Steven Levine**, from the Boston area, has a BA in English, a MEd in Counseling Psychology, and a certificate in Computer Software Technical Writing. For the past twelve years he has been employed as a technical writer, but he also volunteered giving architectural tours in the Boston area, as well as being involved with civic design, transportation, and urban planning issues. Last spring as part of his class work, he studied the historical development of Haarlem in the Netherlands and during the summer had an internship with the Vermont Agency of Transportation in Montpelier. This semester he will be working with Preservation Burlington on issues of neighborhood growth and change in Burlington's Old North End.

**Eliot Lothrop** graduated from Hobart College with a BA in Architecture and Studio Art. He has worked for nearly a year as an independent contractor on a variety of projects—mainly timber-frame restoration. This past winter and early spring he worked for Jan Lewandowski on the \$1.1 million restoration of the monitor barns in Richmond conducted by the Richmond Land Trust. For his spring research trip, Eliot traveled to West Sussex, England, to visit the Weald and Downland Open Air Museum, a collection of nearly fifty timber-frame buildings from the fifteenth to nineteenth centuries. While there he met with Roger Champion, the museum carpenter since 1967, as well as Richard Harris, museum director and author of *Discovering Timber-Framed Buildings*. He spent this summer working at the Las Flores Adobe Ranch House in Southern California doing restoration carpentry for the National Park Service.

**Walter Maros** chose to enroll in the UVM Historic Preservation Program and leave a career of over fifteen years with the brokerage firm Merrill Lynch to fully commit to his long-term interest in preservation. He has a BA in English from Rutgers College and has served on his local historic preservation commission in Franklin Township, NJ, since the late 1980s. A firm believer that the surrounding landscape is

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## Graduate Students in Cuba

*Continued from page 1*

UNESCO in 1982. Rather than simply accepting a watchdog role, the Office of the City Historian has been actively restoring Old Havana, following international preservation standards, since 1981. Many of the key landmark buildings surrounding the main squares have been rehabilitated to provide housing, offices, tourist facilities, and social services, the revenues from which are reinvested in new rehabilitation projects. By 2000, the Office of the City Historian had invested \$192.5 million from taxes, international partnerships, and tourism into Old Havana.

The Vermont preservationists met with planners at the Group for the Integral Development of the Capital (El Grupo para el Desarrollo Integral de la Capital), which has been developing innovative planning techniques for the entire Havana region since 1988. Located in the Havana suburb of Miramar, the centerpiece of El Grupo's efforts has been the creation of a large 1:1000 scale model of the Havana area that is used for regional planning and public education. According to Elio Guevara Romero of El Grupo, "The main goal of the model is for Cubans to be educated about urban culture and to understand the place where they live."

At the International Journalism Institute (Instituto Internacional de Periodismo Jose Martí) the group toured an ongoing rehabilitation of an early twentieth century residence and discussed planning efforts with local residents and students of the Institute. The group also met with leaders of the National Museum of Fine Arts (Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes), which recently restored its mid-1950s international style museum and rehabilitated the opulent 1895 Austurian social center into a grand exhibition space for its foreign collection. In addition, the itinerary provided time for graduate students to visit sites, conduct research, and interview participants of specific preservation projects in Havana to present back in Burlington. (See the adjoining columns for two examples of these projects.)

In Cuba's western province of Pinar del Rio, the group talked with scientists at the UNESCO designated Sierra del Rosario biosphere reserve. There they learned about an innovative project that combines eco-tourism with research and preservation of both fragile ecological areas and heritage sites to foster the sustainable economic and social development of the surrounding rural area.

Travel grants from the Historic Preservation Program's endowment helped students finance their trips. The UVM Office of International Educational Services and Music Contact International of Burlington, VT, provided organizational arrangements and support for this study tour that was specially licensed by the U.S. Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control.



## Havana's Malecón: Revitalization of an Urban Waterfront

Text and photographs by Nate Bailly

As an integral pedestrian and automobile corridor connecting the western and eastern portions of the city, Havana's Malecón is distinguished by a classical colonnade linking early twentieth century buildings that face the relentlessly crashing surf. This romantic setting has been termed the "business card" and the "face of Havana." Unfortunately, overcrowding, deferred maintenance, and the penetrating surf have taken their toll on the Malecón's buildings, roadway, sidewalk, and sea wall. Severely deteriorated reinforced concrete, crumbling masonry, dangerous potholes, and a failing infrastructure have been the bill of fare for many years.

There is hope, however, for this prominent Havana landmark. In a similar vein to the preservation efforts underway in Old Havana, a plan for the Malecón has been drafted. It has provided a solid platform from which the slow process of revitalization has sprouted. Newly restored buildings proudly stand next to their dilapidated neighbors, dangerous sidewalks are being repaired, and historic street lighting has been replicated and installed.

This visible progress is a small part of a larger plan to revitalize strategic areas of Havana that are prime tourist destinations. Entitled the "Special Plan," the revitalization proposal developed by the Office of the City Historian for the Malecón encompasses fourteen blocks stretching from the Prado to Belascoain Street. It calls for the retention of the neighborhood's character, while rehabilitating its buildings to accommodate residential and commercial uses for both local residents and visitors. Proposed businesses include hostels, cultural centers, museums, exhibition halls, cafeterias, restaurants, and discotheques. The density of residents will be necessarily decreased with the displaced being located in nearby housing. In addition, the Office of the City Historian is training local residents in the physical skills necessary to preserve and restore their own neighborhood.

From an economic perspective, Cuban officials seem to have discovered a sustainable means of financing the rehabilitation work. The "Special Plan" is funded in part by joint ventures with Spanish municipalities that "adopt" a block of the Malecón and contribute funding to its

*Continued on page 15*

## Graduate Students in Cuba

*Continued from page 1*

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There is hope, however, for this prominent Havana landmark. In a similar vein to the preservation efforts underway in Old Havana, a plan for the Malecón has been drafted. It has provided a solid platform from which the slow process of revitalization has sprouted. Newly restored buildings proudly stand next to their dilapidated neighbors, dangerous sidewalks are being repaired, and historic street lighting has been replicated and installed.

This visible progress is a small part of a larger plan to revitalize strategic areas of Havana that are prime tourist destinations. Entitled the "Special Plan," the revitalization proposal developed by the Office of the City Historian for the Malecón encompasses fourteen blocks stretching from the Prado to Belascoain Street. It calls for the retention of the neighborhood's character, while rehabilitating its buildings to accommodate residential and commercial uses for both local residents and visitors. Proposed businesses include hostels, cultural centers, museums, exhibition halls, cafeterias, restaurants, and discotheques. The density of residents will be necessarily decreased with the displaced being located in nearby housing. In addition, the Office of the City Historian is training local residents in the physical skills necessary to preserve and restore their own neighborhood.

From an economic perspective, Cuban officials seem to have discovered a sustainable means of financing the rehabilitation work. The "Special Plan" is funded in part by joint ventures with Spanish municipalities that "adopt" a block of the Malecón and contribute funding to its

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## 360 San Ignacio: A Cuban Preservation Case Study

Text and photograph by Dan Everhart

Surrounded on all sides by gleaming examples of modern conservation and restoration in the heart of Havana's Plaza Vieja, 360 San Ignacio stands forlorn. As yet untouched by the Office of the City Historian, this tarnished gem of colonial architecture is home to 147 residents in 51 separate families, each with a myriad of cultural and historical ties to the center of Havana's Old City. But change will occur, and this vestige of the dilapidated heart of inner city Havana will soon be restored.

In 1976, the Ministry of Culture completed a preliminary study of the Plaza Vieja to determine its cultural and social importance. Although the study's results brought to light the enormous potential inherent within the square, the lack of financial resources prevented redevelopment. The international recognition provided by UNESCO declaring Havana's Old City a World Heritage Site in 1982, secured the financial backing to implement the recommendations of the Ministry of Culture's 1976 study. Subsequent years have seen the renovation and restoration of a majority of the buildings located around the Plaza Vieja. Buildings of greater historical, cultural, and architectural value were restored first, while buildings such as 360 San Ignacio were set aside. Social concerns, including the relocation of residents, also delayed the building's restoration, relegating it to one of the final projects in the square.

The project proposal by Zoila Quadras, which won a formal competition administered by the National Center for Conservation, Restoration, and Museology (Centro Nacional por Conservacion, Restoracion, y Museologia),

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*Havana's Plaza Vieja. (360 San Ignacio is the second building from the right.)*

## Graduating Class of 2003

*Continued from page 11*

an integral part of the contextual meaning of a historic site or district, Walter served on the Franklin Township Open Space Advisory Committee, which was charged with making recommendations for the township's tax-funded land preservation program. His graduate work at UVM included an internship with the Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia, where he was responsible for evaluating the condition of buildings with facade easements, prioritizing work that must be done to bring the facades into compliance with the terms of the easement deeds, and meeting with building owners to discuss facade repairs. This fall Walter will be working to produce a guide to the architectural carvings of Albert Wittekind in Burlington, VT.

**Eric Martin** graduated summa cum laude from Gustavus Adolphus College with a degree in Honors History. A member of Phi Beta Kappa, Eric's travels in Europe and the Middle East and his volunteer work for a county historical society in Minnesota fostered his initial interest in historic preservation and the built environment. After working in the world of banking, Eric decided to pursue a graduate degree in historic preservation. This past summer Eric worked at Historic Boston Incorporated (HBI), a private, non-profit revolving fund. His responsibilities included a feasibility study that HBI and a local Main Street organization conducted on the reuse of a vacant electric trolley substation and an update to HBI's *Preservation Revolving Fund Casebook*. This fall Eric is developing a strategy for the Canterbury Shaker Village in New Hampshire to use to proactively protect the integrity of its historic site in the face of surrounding development. Eric is eager to pursue a professional career in the entrepreneurial reuse of historic properties.

**Mary O'Neil** received her undergraduate degree from the University of Vermont. She is a trustee of the Brownell Library in Essex Junction, VT, and has participated in their centennial celebration efforts as well as a recent successful capital campaign and major building expansion/renovation. Mary has published articles in the newsletter for the National Council for Preservation Education, the *UVM Historic Preservation Program Newsletter*, and the *UVM History Forum*. She has guest lectured for the Chittenden County Historical Society, Essex Community Historical Society, the Bakersfield Historical Society, Yestermorrow Design/Build School, and the Preservation Burlington/Lake Champlain Maritime Museum lecture series. Mary is the 2002 recipient of the West A. Cate, Jr. Research Fellowship from the Vermont

*Continued on page 15*

## Surveying the Lincoln Highway

*Continued from page 8*

of the resource and a sketch map of its location. While the survey was being completed, the driver photographed the resource as the navigator pinpointed its location on a USGS quad map using a GPS locator. At the end of the day the completed surveys and maps were sent with a daily log detailing the route to the project's lead consultant for database entry and website development. Information on the project is available at [www.nps.gov/mwro/LincolnHighway](http://www.nps.gov/mwro/LincolnHighway).

When the highway was begun in 1913, the intent was to develop the shortest and fastest route between the starting point at Times Square in New York City and the terminus at the Palace of the Legion of Honor in San Francisco. Before the Interstate Highway System superseded the Lincoln Highway, the route was frequently updated by



*Headquarters of the Lincoln Highway Association, this former dry goods store was built in 1860 by H. I. Lincoln in Franklin Grove, IL.*

better and straighter roads. The survey team drove all generations of the highway wherever possible. In some cases, the highway has been obliterated by the construction of improved roads on the same road bed; in other cases, the original highway now traverses inaccessible private property. There are still other places where all that remains are remnants of the early road fading to nothing in a farmer's field, ending where a bridge no longer traverses a river or gully, or cut off by the construction of railway rights-of-way or Interstate Highways.

In addition to assessing the condition of the Lincoln Highway itself, automotive related structures and objects were surveyed. The buildings under consideration were

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## Philadelphia Easement Program

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In his summer 2002 internship with the Preservation Alliance, Walter Maros inspected easements on buildings that ranged from small eighteenth century townhouses to very large twentieth century apartment and factory complexes. One unique easement preserves the open space, vistas, houses, and barns of an early twentieth century gentleman's farm above the Schuylkill River and within Philadelphia's city limits.

Walter evaluated the condition of eased facades and open space, identified any maintenance concerns or unauthorized alterations, and prioritized the work needed to bring the properties into full compliance with the terms of the easement. His field work included meeting with property owners and managers to discuss planned repairs, such as the facade repair of a notable mid-nineteenth century bank building where matching new brick stock had to be ordered.

The Preservation Alliance's easement program helps protect a diverse selection of Philadelphia's rich architectural heritage, including buildings encountered in architectural history courses as well as unheralded structures that nevertheless are an important part of the ensemble of Philadelphia's urban landscape.

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## Surveying the Lincoln Highway

*Continued from previous column*

primarily travel related amenities available to the early tourist: gas stations, garages and auto showrooms; restaurants, diners, and drive-ins; and lodging in the form of hotels, "one-stops," and cabin courts. On September 1, 1928, the Boy Scouts of America put up 3,000 concrete posts to mark the route of the Lincoln Highway. The few remaining markers were documented, as were establishments listed in early travel guides as "Control Points." For the purposes of the study, the period of significance was 1913, when the Lincoln Highway was first built, to 1956, when the Interstate Highways were constructed. In evaluating the resources, the attributes for eligibility for listing on the National Register of Historic Places were applied.

Over 1,400 resources were identified in the fourteen states traversed by the Lincoln Highway. The Park Service will hold a series of public meetings in locations along the Lincoln Highway throughout the winter of 2002-2003. They will use the outcome of these meetings, along with the data collected by the survey team, to determine how the corridor is to be developed to appropriately interpret for the public the experience of early automotive travel along the United States first transcontinental highway.

## Surveying the Lincoln Highway

*Continued from page 8*

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## Havana's Malecón

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*A local resident fabricates a window frame for the restoration of a building along the Malecón.*

preservation. In this way, the "Special Plan" is not dependant on a single source of financing but on many, which will enable the project to continue even if one Spanish town is unable to provide funding.

Although it is difficult to predict the outcome of Havana's revitalization efforts along the Malecón, the plan includes an element of sustainability, from which preservationists around the world can learn. Perhaps most importantly, the plan for the Malecón makes an effort to avoid gentrification by restoring historic character as well as functionalism. It seems inevitable, however, that the next decade will bring changes to the governmental context within which the plan for the Malecón exists, which may affect its implementation.



*Stabilization efforts on the Malecón.*

## Graduating Class of 2003

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Historical Society, and she continues her research on the identification of the Captain White Place in Burlington as catalyst in understanding early Burlington settlement, commerce, transportation, and the domestic experience. Mary currently works for the City of Burlington Assessor's Office as a research associate for land records.

**Rob Panepinto** spent the summer of 2001 in the heart of the Adirondacks at the Santanoni Preserve in Newcomb, NY. His internship was with Adirondack Architectural Heritage, a regional preservation organization, whose Executive Director is Steven Engelhart '85. Spending two and a half months in the Adirondack's was a new experience for this NYC boy. Rob has thoroughly enjoyed returning to school after ten years in retail and looks forward to finding employment as a historic preservationist somewhere in the NYC Metro area, so he does not have to return to retail. He is currently working on a Section 106/Act 250 review of the Abair House located in Burlington's Intervale for the Intervale Foundation.

## 360 San Ignacio: A Cuban Preservation Case Study

*Continued from page 13*

focused not only on the building restoration but also on the implementation of social reform. Her plans call for a drastic improvement of current living conditions, and Ms. Quadras believes the social benefits of the project to be equal to the cultural benefits of the restoration.

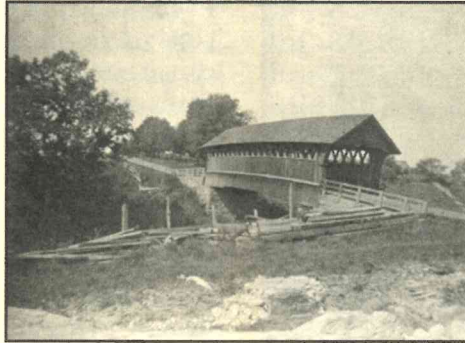
Due to the original overcrowding, however, only forty-three percent of the original inhabitants will return to their homes after construction is complete. Precedence will be given to current legal residents of the building, followed by those families whose size equals the capacity of the eighteen apartments to be created. Final determination will be dependent upon the individual family's historical ties to Havana's Old City in general, and to the Plaza Vieja in particular. The remainder will be permanently housed in various apartment complexes located throughout the suburbs of Havana.

Keeping in mind the historic and architectural significance of the building, which was first constructed in the late eighteenth century and radically enlarged in the 1850s, every effort will be made to retain the structure's original detailing. The newest incarnation of 360 San Ignacio will provide the finishing touch to Havana's Plaza Vieja, bringing with it the promise of improved housing.

## Covered Bridge Preservation Conference Coming to UVM

*Covered Bridge Preservation: National Best Practices Conference* will be held at the historic Billings Center on the campus of the University of Vermont in Burlington, VT, on June 5-7, 2003. The conference will explore various conservation methods, funding and maintenance strategies, case studies, and state-of-the-art timber frame and engineering research that can help preserve the approximately eight hundred remaining historic wooden covered bridges in the United States.

The University of Vermont Historic Preservation Program and the Preservation Education Institute of Historic Windsor, Inc. (VT) are coordinating the event in conjunction with the National Park Service (Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) in Washington, D.C. and Historic Preservation Training Center in Frederick, MD) along with the staff of the office of U.S. Senator James Jeffords



and other groups and agencies. The conference is presented as part of the National Historic Covered Bridge Research Program funded under Section 1224(b) of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in partnership with the National Park Service, HAER, is in the midst of documenting significant covered bridges in the United States. Coinciding with their selection to coordinate this conference, UVM Professor Thomas Visser and Judy Hayward of the Preservation Education Institute have been appointed to serve as advisors to the National Covered Bridge Research Program. Dr. Robert McCullough and graduate student Lois Coulter of the UVM Historic Preservation Program are also part of the conference planning team. For more information visit the conference website at [www.uvm.edu/coveredbridges](http://www.uvm.edu/coveredbridges).

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