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## WEATHERIZATION GUIDE LAUNCHES ON PRESERVATION NATION

The National Trust for Historic Preservation has launched an online guide offering homeowners a one-stop resource with the latest information about how to make their homes more energy efficient and comfortable—without spending a lot of money or compromising the historic character of their homes. Called the “Weatherization Guide for Older and Historic Buildings,” the interactive guide can be found at: [www.PreservationNation.org/Weatherization](http://www.PreservationNation.org/Weatherization).

The Guide was developed in response to the growing interest in weatherization and energy conservation, in part, generated by the recent federal stimulus package that sets aside an unprecedented amount of funding for weatherization and energy efficiency upgrades. There is a lot of information – not all correct -- out there about weatherization. To help homeowners, the Guide offers links to over 200 resources, web sites, articles, reports, case studies, and do-it-yourself checklists. We’ll continue to build on and add to this resource, so check back with Preservation Nation often! We are always presenting new research, case studies, and daily blog entries and updates on preservation issues and news from around the country. Many thanks to Rebecca Williams and Anita Franchetti from the Northeast Office and former NEFO Director Adrian Scott Fine for their efforts in creating this tremendous resource!

## WALTER GALLAS TO HEAD NORTHEAST FIELD OFFICE

We are delighted to announce that a new Director has been selected for our Northeast Field Office in Philadelphia. Walter Gallas, who has served brilliantly as Director of our New Orleans Field Office since January 2006, will begin in Philadelphia in mid-October. Along with Field Representative Anita Franchetti, Walter will be the Trust’s lead advocate in Delaware, New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

Walter has been an extraordinary advocate for preservation-based recovery in post-Katrina New Orleans. He has worked with all levels of government, as well as the private and non-profit sectors in New Orleans. He has worked with every department within the National Trust and has a great familiarity with all available programs, resources and expertise.

Prior to opening the New Orleans Field Office for the National Trust, Walter was Senior Education Planner for the National Preservation Conference, as part of our Center for Preservation Leadership. He has a Masters Degree in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of New Orleans, with an Historic Preservation emphasis, and he is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners.

Please join us in warmly welcoming Walter Gallas to the Northeast Field Office. He can be reached at [walter\\_gallas@nthp.org](mailto:walter_gallas@nthp.org),

## 2009 National Preservation Conference October 13-17, 2009

Plan your trip to Nashville, Tennessee! Online registration is now open. For more conference information, click [HERE](#).

# COURT RULING MAY FINALLY SAVE GIBRALTAR

Following a tremendous amount of work by a lot of individuals, including past and present board members and staff of Preservation Delaware, Inc. (PDI) and the National Trust for Historic Preservation, a solution finally may be in sight for 'Gibraltar', the Wilmington, DE mansion associated with the Hugh Rodney Sharp family. The plan has been in a sort of limbo for more than ten years. With a recent decision by the Delaware Supreme Court, everyone hopes Gibraltar will now be out of limbo, with long-delayed renovation and re-use commencing very soon.

Gibraltar became a focal point for preservation in 1995 when it was threatened with demolition. In 1997, PDI acquired it with the assistance of Open Space funding through the State of Delaware. The six acre site also includes the historic Marian Coffin-designed garden.

Preserving the deteriorated, 17,000 square foot house has been the difficult part of this long-term endeavor by PDI. Options for reusing Gibraltar in a manner that both preserves the house and are economically sustainable have not been without challenges. In 2006, PDI entered into an agreement with an area developer for the rehabilitation of Gibraltar. The plan called for adding a wing and converting it for Class A office space.



There were a few hurdles before the rehabilitation could begin. One, in particular, was gaining a zoning variance from the City of Wilmington for use. Although this was granted, it became the focus of a protracted legal dispute between neighbors, PDI and the developer. Five neighbors appealed the decision made by the City, citing traffic concerns around the project. Their appeal was heard and reversed by the superior court. With assistance from the National Trust, the developer and PDI then appealed that decision, leading to the lawsuit that ultimately landed in the Delaware Supreme Court.

In mid-July of this year, after three years of lawsuits, the Delaware Supreme Court ruled in favor of the developer of Gibraltar, upholding its original zoning use request. While there is still much to be done before rehabilitation work begins on Gibraltar, the preservation community, especially Preservation Delaware, Inc., is looking forward to the day when Gibraltar can indeed be declared "saved."

## UPCOMING DATES, DEADLINES AND EVENTS

### SEPTEMBER

**New Canaan Moderns: A Request for Qualifications** announcement will be issued on **September 10, 2009** for a multiple property nomination to the National Register of Historic Places for Modern residences in Connecticut and the corresponding nomination of qualifying Modern residences in New Canaan, Connecticut. For a look at the New Canaan Moderns survey work to date, please visit [www.preservationnation.org/modernhomesurvey](http://www.preservationnation.org/modernhomesurvey). If you would like the RFQ e-mailed to you on September 10th, please send your contact information to [alicia\\_leuba@nthp.org](mailto:alicia_leuba@nthp.org) with "RFQ Request" written in the subject line.

Don't miss the inaugural **New York Heritage Weekend, September 12 and 13, 2009**. Visitors will be welcomed free or at a reduced rate to many museums and historic sites throughout the Hudson River Valley and New York City. For more information, click [HERE](#).

Nominations for the **2009 Seven to Save list**, a program of the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance, are due **September 18, 2009**. For more information and nomination forms, click [HERE](#).

Nominate your community and be recognized as one of the most distinctive places in America! The **Dozen Distinctive Destinations** program recognizes unique cities and towns that are working to preserve their historic character, promote heritage tourism, enhance their community and encourage others to enjoy all they have to offer. The deadline to apply has been extended to September 10, 2009. For more information, click [HERE](#).

The **Association for Preservation Technology - Northeast Chapter** invites the submission of presentations for the February 5, 2010 Symposium. The focus of the Symposium will be Energy Efficiency, Insulation and Historic Building Envelopes. Abstract submissions are due **September 17, 2009**. For more information, click [HERE](#).

# UPCOMING DATES, DEADLINES AND EVENTS (CON'T)

## OCTOBER

The next round of applications for the **National Trust Preservation Fund** grants are due **October 1, 2009**. Grants from National Trust Preservation Funds (NTPF) are intended to encourage preservation at the local level by providing seed money for preservation projects. These grants help stimulate public discussion, enable local groups to gain the technical expertise needed for particular projects, introduce the public to preservation concepts and techniques, and encourage financial participation by the private sector. A small grant at the right time can go a long way! Grants generally range from \$500 to \$5,000. For more information visit [www.preservationnation.org](http://www.preservationnation.org), or click [HERE](#) for an application.

Don't delay in registering for the **2009 National Preservation Conference October 13-17, 2009 in Nashville, Tennessee!** Get inspired with new ways to sustain your own community and organization at the National Preservation Conference. Discuss the latest research and strategies to place preservation at the center of green practices. Learn what tools your colleagues in the field are using in their hometowns by joining 2,000 of them in Nashville. Get the invigorating education and networking that is the hallmark of the National Preservation Conference. In addition, our discussions will be informed by the cutting-edge research and policy advocacy of the National Trust's Sustainability Initiative. For more conference information, click [HERE](#).

Head to the C. Walsh Theater at Suffolk University for **Abolitionism in Black and White: The Anti-Slavery Community of Boston and Cambridge Symposium, October 23 and 24, 2009**. For more information and to register, click [HERE](#).

Attend the **13th Annual Conference on Cultural and Historic Preservation** at Salve Regina University, Newport, RI, **October 15-17, 2009**. Register by phone: 1-866-841-2348 or by mail at Salve Regina University; ATT: Conference Center; 100 Ochre Point Ave.; Newport, RI 02840

## NOVEMBER

Don't miss **RAIL-VOLUTION 2009**, a conference on building livable communities with transit, for passionate practitioners from all perspectives who believe strongly in the role of land use and transit as equal partners in the quest for greater livability and greater communities. **Rail-Volution is being held in Boston, Massachusetts October 29-November 1st, 2009**. For more information, click [HERE](#).

The deadline for applications for the **American Academy in Rome's Rome Prize** in Historic Preservation and Conservation, Design, Architecture and other arts and humanities fields is **November 1, 2009**. Rome Prize winners reside at the Academy's 11-acre center in Rome and receive room and board, a study or studio, and a stipend for 6-month or 11-month fellowships. For more information, visit the Academy's website, [www.aarome.org](http://www.aarome.org)

## 2010 and beyond...

Executive directors, northeast advisors, and other invited guests, please mark your calendars for the next **Northeast Regional Preservation Leadership Meeting to be held April 18 - 20, 2010**. The meeting will convene at the Mohonk Mountain House in New Paltz, NY, a fantastic *Historic Hotel of America* in the Hudson River Valley.

### NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION PARTNERS AND ADVISORS IN THE NORTHEAST REGION

#### Statewide Partners

Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation; Maine Preservation; New Hampshire Preservation Alliance; Preservation Delaware; Preservation League of New York State; Preservation Massachusetts; Preservation New Jersey; Preservation Pennsylvania; Preserve Rhode Island; Preservation Trust of Vermont

#### Local Partners

CT: Hartford Preservation Alliance, New Haven Preservation Trust  
ME: Greater Portland Landmarks  
MA: Boston Preservation Alliance, Historic Boston, Inc., Preservation Worcester, Waterfront Historic Area League (WHALE)  
NY: Landmark Society of Western New York, Municipal Art Society of New York, The New York Landmarks Conservancy, Preservation Buffalo Niagara  
PA: Lower Merion Conservancy, Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation, Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia  
RI: Providence Preservation Society

#### Main Street Programs

Boston Main Streets (Boston, MA); Connecticut Main Street Center; Delaware Main Street Program; Main Street New Jersey; Maine Downtown Center; New Hampshire Main Street Center; Office of Community Development (PA); Pennsylvania Downtown Center; Vermont Downtown Program; Western Erie Canal Main Streets (NY)

#### NORTHEAST ADVISORS

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