



# CHRS, Inc.

Cultural Heritage Research Services, Inc.

ARCHAEOLOGY, RESEARCH & HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Fall 2009

HORIZONS

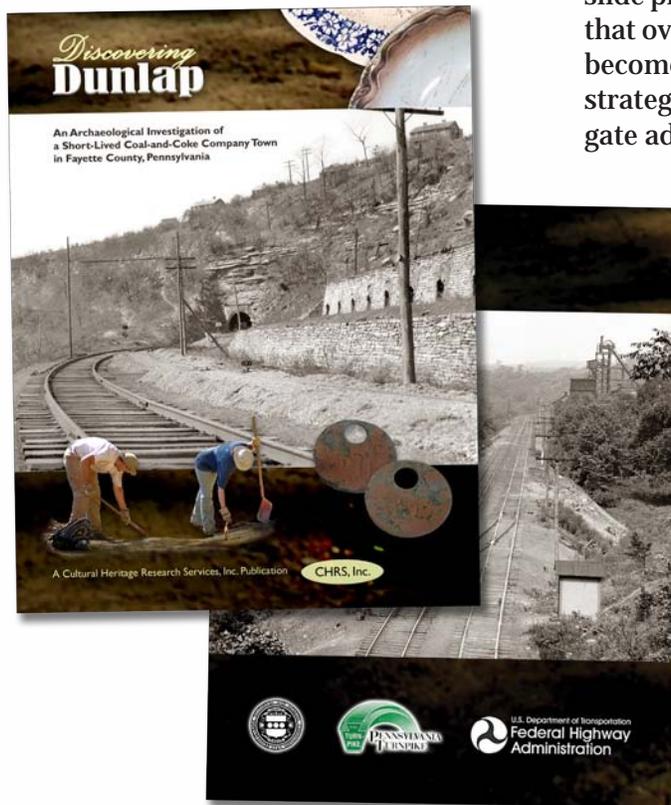
## Cultural Resources and Spanning the Public Interest Gap

CHRS staff are frequently asked to present ideas at Transportation Research Board meetings and other professional conferences catering to cultural resources. These presentations are typically given fanciful titles such as “Posters for the Public: Plenty of Possibilities for Popular Propagation of Project Perspectives” and “From Ruins to Relics: Many Ways of Reaching the Public.” But they all speak to the same issue. How do we bring the information gathered during historic or archaeological projects to the public in a meaningful and worthwhile way? Taking the often dry, technical data written in

the jargon of the cultural resources practitioner and adapting this information to a product that is not only informative, but interesting, is not an easy task. Those who write the technical reports are seldom able to produce a document that will hold the attention of the public. Special expertise and experience is necessary to transform the technical data and span the public interest gap.

Nine illustrated histories, 8 wayside interpretive panels, 4 exhibit posters, and multiple exhibit panels, commemorative markers, brochures, video documentaries, portable exhibits, and animated slide presentations provide colorful proof that over the past 15 years CHRS, Inc. has become a leading developer of creative strategies and products intended to mitigate adverse impacts of Section 106 projects on cultural resources in the Mid-Atlantic region.

*(continued on page 2)*



One of two general audience publications produced by CHRS, Inc. as part of the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission's Mon/Fayette Expressway Project, *Discovering Dunlap* explains the process and results of a Phase III archaeological investigation of an early twentieth-century coal-and-coke company town in Fayette County, Pennsylvania.

### Spanning the Public Interest Gap (continued from page 1)

In an earlier era of cultural resource management, adverse impacts to cultural resources were typically mitigated through the preparation of exhaustive studies and recordation reports. Geared for limited audiences of specialists and scholars, these documents were welcome additions to a few libraries and archives, but they offered little benefit to residents of regions where the projects were located.

That has been changing in recent years, as project sponsors—with encouragement from State Historic Preservation Offices—have looked for ways to share the results of in-depth, project-related cultural resource investigations with a wider public.

For dozens of clients, this has meant tapping into CHRIS's expertise. We have a long history of working with local historians and cultural organizations to conceptualize optimal "general audience" products. Our researchers, writers, designers, reviewers, and editors have extensive experience in all aspects of turning concepts into engaging, informative, and attractive presentations. Some recent examples are highlighted on the following pages.

If you need to reach an audience with the results of a cultural resource investigation, CHRIS is uniquely qualified to help you develop a strategy and create the product—or suite of products—that get you to your goal. As some of our clients can attest, you might even win a cultural resource mitigation award!

## The DOLPH/SUNNYSIDE INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT

### Borough of Jessup, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania

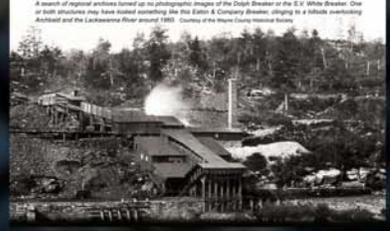


The "Dolph/Sunnyside" designation derives from the names of the two collieries that operated along Grassy Island Creek in the early years of the twentieth century. The older of the complexes—the Dolph Colliery—had been established in 1884 by Edward J. Dolph (1844-1899), a native Lackawanna Countyman who amassed a fortune through lumbering and mining ventures. Dolph owned a coal tract east of Jessup in partnership with William W. Winton (1815-1908), a Scranton-based banker and capitalist reputed to be the largest individual holder of coal lands in the Lackawanna Valley. Winton had founded the Winton Coal Company and established a colliery north of Jessup in the early 1870s. Two years after the Dolph Colliery's 1884 launch on the south side of Grassy Island Creek, the Winton Coal Company opened a colliery some 700 yards to the east, on the opposite (north) side of the creek. William Winton named this operation the "S.V. White Colliery" in honor of Brooklyn stockbroker and banker Stephen Van Cullen White (1831-1912), a major stakeholder in the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad who had just been elected to represent New York State's 9th District in the 99th Congress.

Soon after the 1886 opening of the S.V. White Colliery, surveyors visited the two collieries along Grassy Island Creek. Data recorded by these men were used to plot the primary above-ground and subsurface components of the two collieries on Sheet 18 of the Northern Coal Field Mine Sheets, published in 1888 as part of the Second Pennsylvania Geological Survey (see detail at right). "Dolph's Breaker" was depicted on this map as a large, irregularly-shaped structure standing roughly 600 feet north of the opening of "Dolph's Drift" (in drift mining, the coal seam is accessed by drilling horizontally into a hillside). From this air-shaft-ventilated opening, the Dolph mine extended southward into a flank of East Mountain, penetrating the "Dunmore or Red Ash Bed." Coal extracted from this bed was hauled in mule-drawn coal cars over rails to the breaker, where it was broken into usable sizes, cleaned, sorted, and loaded onto railcars for transport to market. Small steam-powered locomotives ("lokes") pulled loaded coal trains out of the valley over a spur line extending westward to a connection with the Winton Branch of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad in Jessup.

The breaker of the S.V. White Colliery (later renamed "Sunnyside") was depicted on the 1888 map as having an as-shaped footprint, with its "handle" pointing northward in the direction of the "S.V. White Drift," two-thirds of a mile up the "Winton Coal Co.'s Mine Railroad." This mine tunneled into the southeastermost outcropping of the Archbald coal bed.

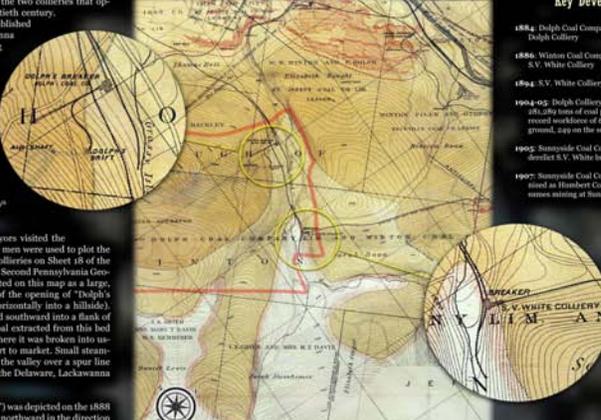
In the course of archaeological and historic structures surveys conducted by Cultural Heritage Research Services, Inc. in 1989 during an early phase of the Lackawanna Valley Industrial Highway construction project, surveyors noted numerous stone, concrete, and metal structural ruins along Grassy Island Creek in the wooded eastern section of Jessup Borough. Interviews with local residents, and a review of historic maps, aerial photographs, and regional histories, revealed that this area on the western footslope of the Lackawanna Valley's East Mountain had been occupied in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries by a pair of coal production facilities ("collieries") and a row of residential duplexes inhabited by laborers and their families. Through a subsequent evaluation of the site's physical dimensions, its surviving features, and its historical significance, the Dolph/Sunnyside Industrial District was delineated and determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. By 2008, the western half of the District had been occupied by the Valley View Business Park.



A search of regional archives based on the photographic images of the Dolph Breaker or the S.V. White Breaker. One or two structures resembling the Dolph Breaker or the S.V. White Breaker were identified in the Lackawanna River around 1985. Courtesy of the House Committee on Energy in a White House briefing.

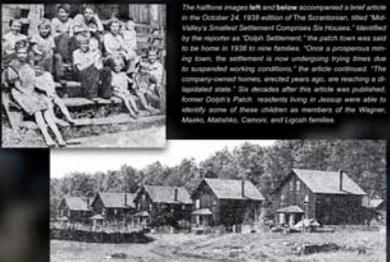
#### Key Developments in the Rise and Fall of the Dolph/Sunnyside Industrial District

<p>1884: Dolph Coal Company establishes the Dolph Colliery</p> <p>1886: Winton Coal Company opens the S.V. White Colliery</p> <p>1884: S.V. White Colliery is shut down</p> <p>1904-05: Dolph Colliery reaches its apex; 28,200 tons of coal produced in 1904; record workhorse of 699 (top underground, 400 on the surface) in 1905</p> <p>1905: Sunnyside Coal Company converts the smaller S.V. White breaker into a washery</p> <p>1907: Sunnyside Coal Company is reorganized as Humbert Coal Company; resumes mining at Sunnyside Colliery</p>	<p>1909: Sunnyside breaker is destroyed by fire; is quickly replaced</p> <p>1913: Dolph Coal Company ceases operations at Dolph Colliery</p> <p>1916: Dolph breaker is destroyed by fire</p> <p>Ca. 1920: Humbert Coal Company acquires surviving components of the defunct Dolph Colliery</p> <p>1923: Peak year for Sunnyside Colliery; 126,000 tons of coal produced; 213 laborers underground; 77 on the surface</p>	<p>1929: Second Sunnyside breaker is destroyed by fire; is not replaced</p> <p>Ca. 1930: Martin J. Loftus acquires rights to the Sunnyside Colliery and associated coal tracts</p> <p>1935: Loftus shuts down the Sunnyside Colliery following a labor dispute</p> <p>1938-41: Small, independent operators sporadically lease Loftus coal tracts for subsurface and strip-mining</p> <p>1948: Mining ceases in the Dolph/Sunnyside Industrial District; "Dolph's Peak" (drift) is wasted</p>
--	--	---



Components of the Dolph Coal Company Colliery and the Winton Coal Company's S.V. White Colliery are highlighted on this detail of a map published by the U.S. Geological Survey in 1888 as part of the Second Pennsylvania Geological Survey. A red line indicating the northern half of the Dolph/Sunnyside Industrial District has been superimposed.

The Airline images left and below accompanied a brief article in the October 24, 1938 edition of The Scrantonian, titled "McVetty's Smelter Settlement Contains 5th House," identified by the reporter as "Dolph Settlement." The patch firm was said to be home to 1932 in new location. "Once a prosperous mining town, the settlement is now undergoing a long struggle due to suspended working conditions," the article continued. "The company-owned houses, erected years ago, are reaching a dilapidated state." Six decades after the article was published, former Dolph's Peak residents living in Jessup were able to identify some of these children as members of the Wagner, Martin, Malinski, Connor, and Lynch families.



This panel was produced in 2009 by Cultural Heritage Research Services, Inc. of North Wales, Pennsylvania, for the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, District 4-0, and the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, in consultation with the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission.

This wayside interpretive panel was one of several products prepared by CHRIS, Inc. for the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, District 4-0, and the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, as mitigation for the effects of Valley View Business Park construction on the Dolph/Sunnyside Industrial District in Jessup, Pennsylvania.

## Recent CHRS Mitigation Products

**STARRUCCA HISTORIC DISTRICT**

The Starrucca Historic District includes two-dozen dwellings, commercial buildings, and out-buildings erected between 1800 and 1940. Half of these structures were built between 1845 and 1885, when the village's booming economy was fueled by local tanning and lumber-related industries. Starrucca was incorporated as Wayne Borough in 1853, early in this period of heightened prosperity. The Borough's name was changed to Starrucca ("junction of waters") in 1873.

On the basis of its period architecture and historic associations, the Starrucca Historic District was determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places in 2000.



## Animated Slide Presentations

- Mining Data at Marshalls Creek: A Phase III Archaeological Investigation of Three Native American Chert Quarries in the Upper Delaware Valley
- Rediscovering the Dolph/Sunnyside Industrial District
- All About Expedience: A Phase III Archaeological Investigation of Two Quarry Sites in Eastern Pennsylvania's Hardyston Jasper Prehistoric District Quarry Zone

## Brochures

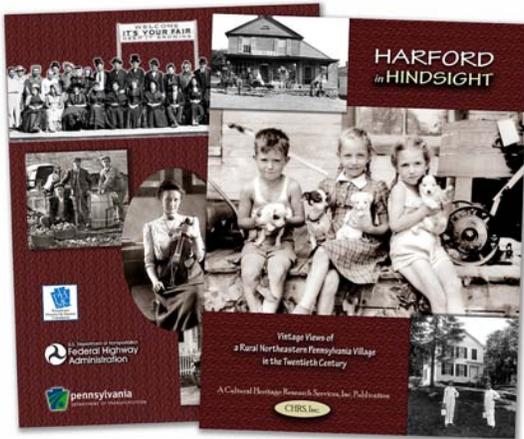
- Mining Data at Marshalls Creek: A Phase III Archaeological Investigation of Three Native American Chert Quarries in the Upper Delaware Valley
- Recovering a Record in the Riverside: The Shohola Flats Archaeological Site, Shohola Township, Pennsylvania (*below*)

## Commemorative Markers

- Starrucca Historic District (*top left*)
- Central Norristown Historic District
- Higgenbotham Farm Archaeological Site

## Exhibit Posters

- Recalling the Isaac Heintz Homestead
- The Pohopoco Creek Bridge on the Pennsylvania Turnpike: An Engineering Rarity in Parryville Borough, Carbon County, Pennsylvania, 1957-2008 (*left*)
- The Getz Family's Sylvan View Dairy



## More Recent CHRS Mitigation Products

### Illustrated Histories

- *Discovering Dunlap: An Archaeological Investigation of a Short-Lived Coal-and-Coke Company Town in Fayette County, Pennsylvania*
- *Harford in Hindsight: Vintage Views of a Rural Northeastern Pennsylvania Village in the Twentieth Century* (left)
- *Bringing the Bishop Farm Tenant House to Light: An Archaeological Investigation of a Mid-Nineteenth-Century Residential Site in Exeter Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania*

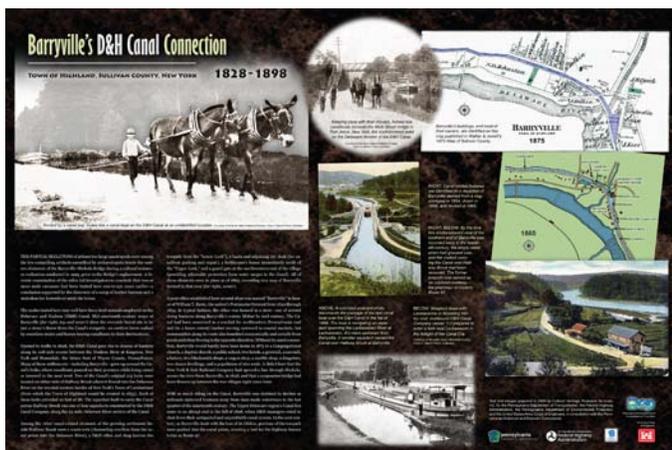


### Portable and Permanent Exhibits

- The Dolph/Sunnyside Industrial District
- Recovering a Record in the Riverside (Shohola Flats Archaeological Site; left)
- Remembering the Linvill-Brackbill-Kreider Farm

### Video Documentaries

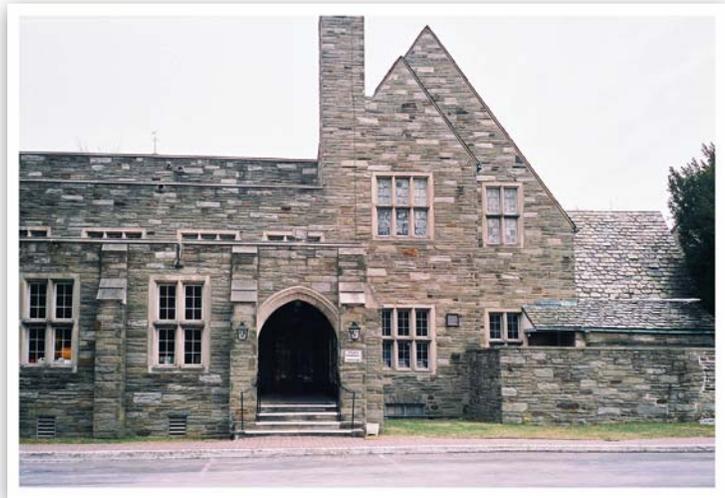
- *The Gravity: The Story of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company's Gravity Railroad*
- *Silver Cinders: The Legacy of Coal and Coke in Southwestern Pennsylvania*



### Wayside Interpretive Panels

- Crossing the Mon at Point Marion: Two Eras, Two Methods; The Dillinger Family's Point Marion Ferry, 1847-1931; The Point Marion Bridge Company's Albert Gallatin Memorial Bridge, 1930-2008
- The Dolph/Sunnyside Industrial District
- Barryville's D&H Canal Connection (left)

For the past five years, CHRS, Inc. preservationist **Christine Miller Cruiss** has been volunteering with the **Community Design Collaborative**. Beginning this past summer and continuing into the fall, she has served on a team completing a Preliminary Master Plan for the Rehabilitation of the Overbrook Presbyterian Church, in the National Registered Overbrook Farms Historic District in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Christine brings over ten years of preservation and conservation experience to the rehabilitation project. Her work focuses on regulatory issues as they pertain to the historic preservation of the church, as well as the completion of a conditions assessment of the property, which will be included as part of the Master Plan.



*This Gothic Revival Church built of cut stone and designed by architect Addison Hutton was constructed by I.M. Green in 1889. It grew from a small country church at the Overbrook Station to a metropolitan church in a developing area.*

Recently CHRS, Inc. completed the **Pennsbury Manor Archaeological Mapping Project**, a detailed spatial model of the historic archaeological Pennsbury Manor Site in Falls Township, Bucks County, Pennsylvania. William Penn's original estate at Pennsbury Manor is a featured public attraction, open to the general public year round, and sponsoring many educational events each year. Like most attractions open to the public, Pennsbury Manor is in constant need of maintenance and upkeep, activities that might impact archaeological resources. A large number of archaeological projects had been undertaken at the site, but many had occurred so far in the past that it was uncertain where this work had been done and what was found. The mapping project was devised to graphically provide this in-

formation in a manner that would allow maintenance activity to proceed while protecting potentially important archaeological deposits. This computer-generated spatial model encompassed all archaeological testing performed at Pennsbury Manor from the 1930s through the present. The model also provided overlays of relevant historic maps. The varying data sets allowed an in-depth understanding of the historical development of this State-run historic site and its past archaeological investigations that could never have been achieved before.



*The computer-generated spatial model produced by CHRS, Inc. encompasses all archaeological testing performed at Pennsbury Manor from the 1930s through the present.*

**CHRS ARCHAEOLOGIST Justin McKissick** has moved around quite a bit since first setting out from his hometown of Strattanville, Pennsylvania to pursue his undergraduate degree at Clarion University of Pennsylvania. When asked about the origins of his interest in the field of archaeology, Justin said, "To be honest, I was unaware it existed as an occupation." But while studying biology at Clarion University he took an Introduction to Anthropology course and decided to minor in anthropology. During the summer of his sophomore year, Justin participated in a field school to earn credits toward his minor, and he



"enjoyed the experience so much that I switched my degree and made biology a minor and anthropology my new major." After receiving his B.A. in anthropology in 2006, Justin came to CHRS as a member of the field crew in the

summer of 2007. At the beginning of the academic year, Justin left CHRS to pursue an M.A. in archaeology at Eastern New Mexico University. After finishing his coursework in the spring of 2008 (which included Section 106 training), Justin decided to return to the CHRS field crew while completing his M.A. thesis, entitled *The Estimation of Irrigable Land for the Hohokam Canal Systems of the Salt River Valley, Arizona: A GIS Approach*. Justin chose the topic because he was "interested in the Hohokam after taking a Prehistory of the Southwest course, because the Hohokam seem to have many Mesoamerican ties and they are a pretty different culture compared to the Mogollon and Anasazi, who resided in the same general region." Justin took full advantage of the thesis-writing process, explaining that he was able to "get more involved with GIS and ArcGIS software. I think I would like to take some supplemental courses, like a soils class and geology. Mostly, I want to continue to learn." Upon receiving his Master's degree, Justin qualified to serve as a project manager on archaeological projects.

## CHRS, Inc.

*Providing a wide range of  
cultural resource management  
services since 1981*

### **Historic Preservation**

Historic Resources Surveys  
National Register Nominations  
National Historic Landmarks  
State Nominations  
Documentation  
State-level Recordation Reports  
HABS/HAER Recording Projects  
35mm, medium format, and large format photography

### **Research**

Building and Site Specific Histories  
Regional Histories  
Corporate Histories  
Exhibition Development  
Video Production  
Brochures and Pamphlets  
Illustrated History Books  
Wayside Interpretive Panels

### **Archaeology**

Prehistoric Archaeological Models  
Historic Archaeological Models  
Phase I Surveys  
Phase II Surveys  
Phase III (Data Recovery) Surveys  
Public Archaeology  
Archaeology in support of restoration work

### **Preservation Planning**

Historic Structures Assessments  
Measured Drawings  
Preservation Plans  
Preservation Ordinances  
Zoning

### **Materials Conservation**

Conditions Assessments  
Materials Analysis  
Paint  
Mortar  
Monument Conservation

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

**Historic** adj. 1. Having importance in or influence on history. From O.Fr. *historie*, from L. *historia* "narrative," from Gk. *Historia*, from *historein* "inquire," from *histor* "wise man, judge," from PIE \**wid-tor-*, from base \**weid-* "to know," lit. "to see."



When asked what I do, I say CHRS, Inc. provides Historic Preservation services. We seek to preserve that which is historic, that which has importance to our past. The next question that I often hear is, "How does one do that?" This question usually elicits a response about preservation law and the procedures that are followed to identify and evaluate historic properties. But the etymology of the word "history" provides the fundamental clue to our work. Like the Proto-Indo-European root of the word, one literally has "to see" the past. You must be able to recognize what has gone before, even when it is partially hidden beneath the veneer of change that time brings. To the Greeks, those who could "see," were "wise men." They recognized that "to see" well, you also needed to be

wise enough to ask questions, to "inquire." To be able to evaluate a historic property, you must ask the right questions—questions that relate to the integrity of the resource, its history, and its importance to understanding the past. In the world of Historic Preservation and Cultural Resources Management, it is not enough "to see" the past, or "inquire" as to the importance of a historic property. You must also be able—as the Romans saw—to provide a "narrative." You must be able to provide a concise story that presents a clear enough argument to withstand the scrutiny of review personnel. The tasks of seeing, inquiring, and narrating are not easy and are not learned quickly. At CHRS, Inc. these tasks are a team effort. Our historians, architectural historians, archaeologists, graphic artists, and editors work together to collect information, evaluate the data, and provide the necessary high-quality narrative. Individuals come and go, but the team and the company's philosophy of work maintain our ability to see the past, ask the appropriate questions, and present the information in a meaningful way. The next time I am asked what I do, I will say that I lead a team of highly qualified individuals who seek to help preserve elements of the past for the future. We're a historic bunch.

## CONFERENCE NEWS

In January of 2009, CHRS, Inc. President **Kenneth J. Basalik, Ph.D.**, and preservationist **Mary Alfson Tinsman** attended the annual Transportation Research Board (TRB) conference in Washington, DC, where they presented at a poster session chaired by **Mary Alfson Tinsman**. • In March 2009, Director of Archaeology **Thomas R. Lewis** attended the Middle Atlantic Archaeological Conference in Ocean City, Maryland. • CHRS, Inc. was one of the corporate sponsors of the Statewide Conference on Heritage in May 2009. This was a joint conference of PennDOT's Byways to the Past X, and Preservation Pennsylvania's Heritage Partnerships Conference XXXI held in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. In attendance were

**Ken Basalik**, preservationists **Mary Alfson Tinsman**, **Christine Miller Cruie** and **Lisa McConahy**, and archaeologist **Justin McKissick**. • In July 2009, **Ken Basalik** and **Mary Alfson Tinsman** attended the ADC50 Committee on Historic and Archaeological Preservation in Transportation in Sheridan, Wyoming, at which Mary gave a presentation entitled *Documenting Mid-Twentieth Century Resources Within Budget and On Time*. • In October 2009, **Mary Alfson Tinsman** and **Lisa McConahy** were invited to present a poster entitled *Historic Bridge Mitigation: Spanning the Public Interest Gap* at the National Trust for Preservation's annual meeting held in Nashville, Tennessee.

CHRS, Inc. provides Cultural Resources services for a variety of **cell tower and telecommunication projects** located throughout the country, including full and partial 620/621 services for both co-locations and raw land sites. The work includes limited background research, file searches at the appropriate SHPO, Effect and Adverse Effect Determinations and, if an area cannot be documented as previously disturbed, limited archaeological testing of the proposed tower sites. Each project requires coordination with the appropriate State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) as well as an understanding of the guidelines and procedures appropriate in each state. In addition, CHRS, Inc. conducts balloon tests, where necessary, to determine the potential visual effects on specific historic resources. If required, a full range of specialized archaeological services are also available. Our extensive experience with this type of work allows us to provide prompt services, and recent work has extended into the following states:

- Delaware
- Florida
- Georgia
- Indiana
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Maryland
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- Montana
- New Hampshire
- New Jersey
- New York
- North Carolina
- Ohio
- Oklahoma
- Pennsylvania
- Rhode Island
- South Carolina
- Tennessee
- Texas
- Virginia
- West Virginia
- Wisconsin

CHRS, Inc. is pleased to announce a need to update our email addresses! **Mary Alfson Tinsman**, preservationist, celebrated a spring 2008 wedding. Mary's new email address is [MTinsman@CHRSinc.com](mailto:MTinsman@CHRSinc.com). **Maria (DiNicola) Rossi**, assistant editor, married in the winter of 2009, can now be contacted at [MRossi@CHRSinc.com](mailto:MRossi@CHRSinc.com). **Christine Miller Cruieess**, preservationist/conservator, was married this past spring. Christine's new email address is [CCruieess@CHRSinc.com](mailto:CCruieess@CHRSinc.com). **Lisa McConahy**, preservationist, is planning a summer 2010 wedding. Visit our website at [www.chrsinc.com](http://www.chrsinc.com) for the most up-to-date list of staff contact information.

CHRS, Inc.

403 East Walnut Street  
Suite 200  
North Wales, PA 19454  
Tel.: 215-699-8006  
Fax: 215-699-8901

4150 Washington Road  
Suite 200  
McMurray, PA 15317  
Tel.: 267-652-7130

For more information  
about our services, contact:

Mary Alfson Tinsman  
at [mtinsman@chrsinc.com](mailto:mtinsman@chrsinc.com)  
or visit our website  
at [www.chrsinc.com](http://www.chrsinc.com)

Visit us at [WWW.CHRSINC.COM](http://WWW.CHRSINC.COM)