

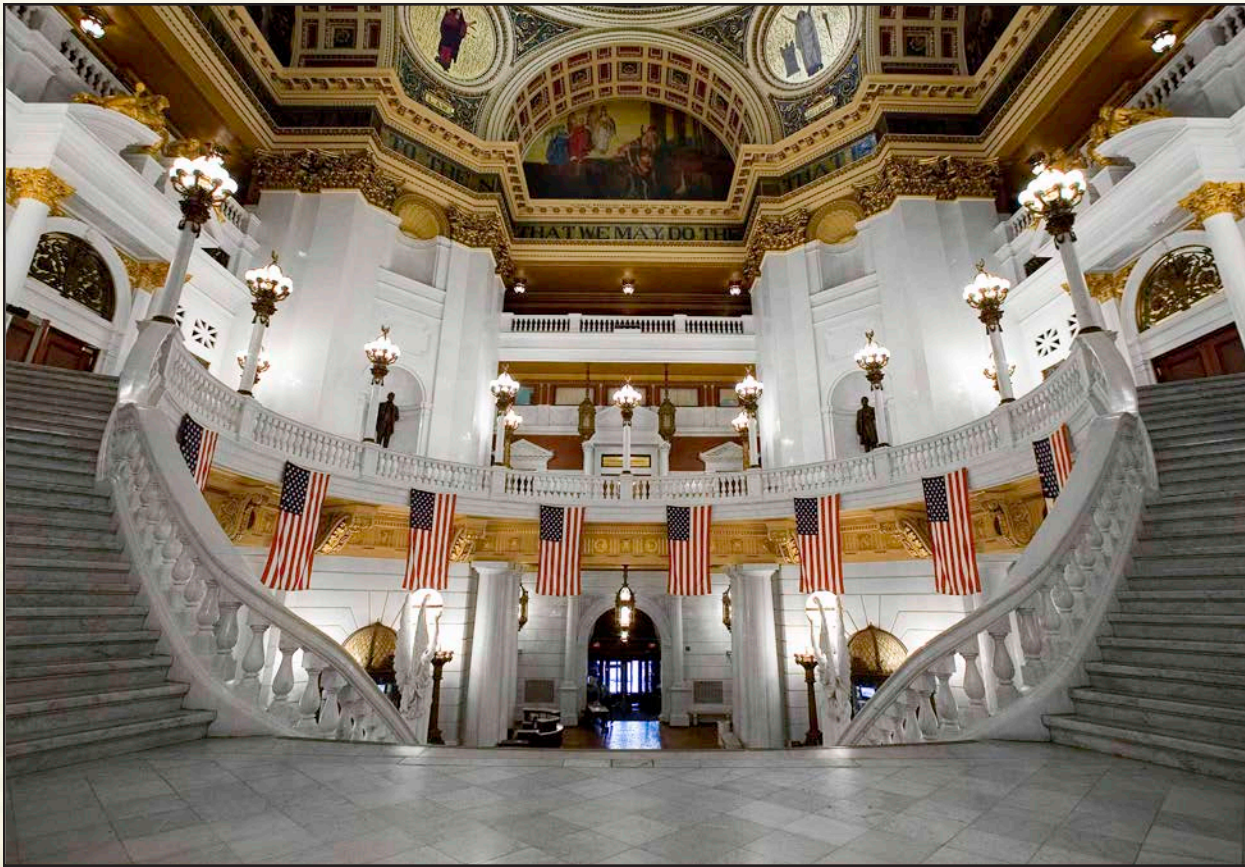


PENNSYLVANIA CAPITOL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

2018 Annual Report
Preserving a Palace of Art



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About the Committee

In 1982 the Pennsylvania Capitol Preservation Committee was created by the General Assembly (Act 327). As an independent Commonwealth committee, its purpose is implementing and directing programs to conserve and restore the Pennsylvania State Capitol, the historic Capitol Complex buildings, and their contents—preserving and maintaining them for future generations.

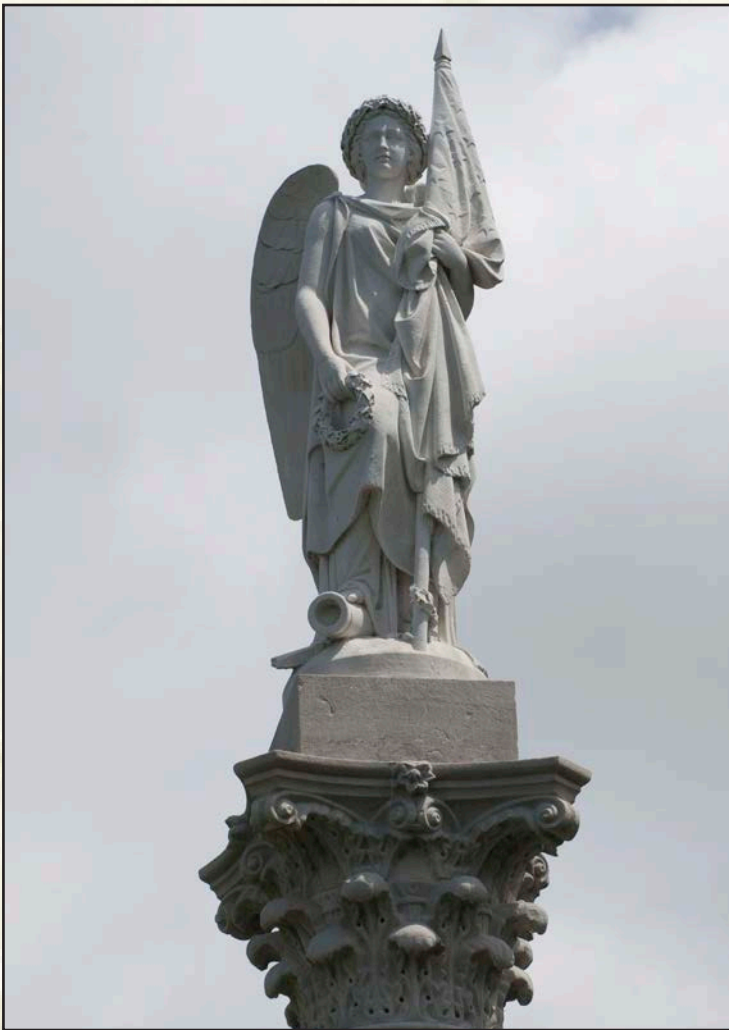
Preservation and Maintenance

Prior to 1982 the Capitol building had been host to a string of abuses and neglect which obscured its original beauty and in some places altered its historic appearance. With the majority of the Main Capitol now restored, the Committee's major work has transitioned from restoration to long-term preservation maintenance. This will ensure that over time the building and its historic works will retain their integrity and historical significance, preventing deterioration, and making future costly campaigns of restoration unnecessary. As part of the cohesive maintenance master plan, a list of maintenance items is regularly prepared, with repairs addressed as they arise. In order to prevent history from repeating itself, continued preservation must be done. While the needs of individuals and agencies will change, priorities in state government will vary—one thing is certain, fiscal responsibility indicates that periodic cyclical maintenance over time is more effective than successive non-unified campaigns of often detrimental renovation. Unified efforts at sustaining a regular and preservation-based maintenance plan will ensure that all Pennsylvanians can continue to be proud to walk the halls of their State Capitol, Pennsylvania's "Palace of Art."



Services We Provide

The Committee oversees the restoration of all art and artifacts throughout the Capitol Building, the Park, and the surrounding National Historic Landmark Capitol Complex, as well as performs long-term preservation maintenance. Committee staff is responsible for monitoring the restoration and repair of historic clocks, furniture, and artwork within the buildings through the use of an archival database to catalog damage and maintenance. The Committee also serves to educate the public and state agencies about the history of the Capitol Complex, the Commonwealth's Civil War flags, and produces literature to educate visitors and school groups on Pennsylvania's history.



Educational Purpose

The Capitol Preservation Committee serves an important role in an educational capacity as the primary clearinghouse for information on the history of Pennsylvania's Capitol Building, its fine and decorative arts, architecture, and Civil War battle flags. The Committee conducts tours of the 390 Civil War battle flags, which are seen by reenactors, genealogists, Civil War scholars, and the general public. Committee staff also answers hundreds of questions regarding the history of the building and the Capitol Complex. The Committee's staff also educates the public and agencies on the benefits of long-term preservation maintenance. The Committee installs biennial exhibitions in the Main Rotunda to educate visitors and the public about our Capitol's rich history and has published several books and pamphlets on the art and history of the Capitol Building.

A National Historic Landmark

In September 2006, on the eve of the 100th anniversary of its dedication, the Capitol Building was proclaimed a National Historic Landmark. According to the National Park Service, "National Historic Landmarks (NHLs) are nationally significant historic places designated by the Secretary of the Interior because they possess exceptional value or quality in illustrating or interpreting the heritage of the United States." In 2010, the application was amended to include the Ryan, Irvis, North Office, Forum and Finance Buildings, as well as the State Street Bridge, Soldiers' Grove, and historic south Capitol Park as contributing resources to the Complex's national significance. To this end, the Pennsylvania State Capitol stands as one of the most beautiful buildings in America, the culmination of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania at the height of its industrial and commercial might. "The rich decoration, which glorifies Pennsylvania's achievements in labor, industry, and history, is expressive of the power and might of the Commonwealth. The Pennsylvania State Capitol is both unique and representative of the finest in American Renaissance style architecture and stands apart from other capitol buildings of its time." The members and staff of the Capitol Preservation Committee are honored to be the guardians and stewards of the Pennsylvania State Capitol, architect Joseph Huston's amazing "Palace of Art."

Chairman's Message



I would like to welcome you to the Pennsylvania State Capitol Building—architect Joseph M. Huston's amazing "Palace of Art." Over the past thirty-six years, our Committee has undertaken over 150 individual and multi-year projects to painstakingly restore and maintain the historic integrity and beauty of this amazing building. Built from 1902-06, the Pennsylvania Capitol Building is widely acclaimed as one of the most beautiful state Capitols' in America. It stands as a prime example of American Renaissance architecture, a National Historic Landmark, and a crowning testament to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania at the turn of the twentieth century.

Much of the massive restoration of the Capitol was completed over the first twenty-five years of the Committee's existence, but preservation maintenance and ensuring the building remains restored is a never-ending task. Additionally there are ornate spaces within the Irvis, North Office, Forum and Finance Buildings which are in dire need of restoration.



This past year we finished and finalized the design for a new Civil War Flag facility meant to house the Committee's collection of 390 Civil War battle flags and ensure that this collection is preserved for posterity. We are also in the process of designing a new offsite museum-quality storage facility meant to house the vast collection of historic furniture, carpet, glass and other relevant pieces which allow us to keep the building in top form.

The Pennsylvania State Capitol is truly a one-of-a-kind edifice. As you tour the building we hope you notice the amazing fine and decorative art, murals by Edwin Austin Abbey and Violet Oakley, statues by George Grey Barnard, stained glass by William Brantley van Ingen and Alfred Godwin, Henry Chapman Mercer's Moravian Tile Floor, gold and aluminum leaf and the attention paid to detail by architect Joseph M. Huston and our Committee, which help make our building and the entire Capitol Complex a National Historic Landmark. As chairman, and on behalf of all our members, we are truly proud to be a part of its continued care and long-term preservation.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John R. Gordner". The signature is fluid and cursive.

John R. Gordner, Senator
Chairman

Committee Members



Vice Chairman
John R. Bowie
Governor's Appointee



Secretary
Thomas B. Darr
Supreme Court Appointee



Treasurer
Patty Kim
Representative



Alex Charlton
Representative



Jim Cox
Representative



Andrew Dinniman
Senator



Frank Dittenhafer, II
FAIA, LEED, PA



Art Haywood
Senator



Andrea Lowery
Executive Director
PHMC



Guy Reschenthaler
Senator



Stephen P. Samuelson
Representative



Curtis M. Topper
Secretary,
Department of General Services



David L. Craig
Executive Director



Ruthann Hubbert-Kemper
Honorary Emeritus Member

Administrative Staff



David L. Craig, Executive Director

Christopher R. Ellis, Director of Projects

Carla Wright, Controller/Personnel
Supervisor

Tara Pyle, Project Assistant

Jason Wilson, Historian

Hayley Moyer, Retail/Office Administrator



At the end of July, 2018, the Capitol Preservation Committee's long time Controller and Personnel Supervisor Susan (Sue) Ellison retired. Sue began her career with the Pennsylvania House of Representatives in 1983 as a secretary for Representative, (later Congressman), Joseph Pitts. In 1989, she began her tenure as Secretary, Controller, Administrative Assistant and later Controller/Personnel Supervisor for the Committee.

Sue was a dedicated and meticulous controller for the Committee, honest and fair in her role as personnel supervisor, and a great friend to all staff, past and present, of the Capitol Preservation Committee. We will definitely miss her smile, her laugh, and the casual, upbeat professionalism she brought to the committee. We wish her all the best for a long, well-deserved, and happy retirement.



History Under Foot-Stories of Henry Chapman Mercer's Moravian Tiled Floor

Splitting with the Froe, Guide Book, page 59, Tile Number 147.

Titled "Man Using Frow" or "Splitting with the Froe" this depiction from Henry Chapman Mercer's Moravian Tile Floor shows the old practice of hand-splitting shingles. "With an L-shaped knife blade held upon a cylindrical section of white oak trunk set on a chopping block, the man splits with the grain, thin sections off the piece, by blows of a short large-headed wooden club. These shingles thus split, and afterwards pared where necessary with a draw knife, roofed early houses and log cabins. Homemade shingles split and used at Wormansville, Bucks County, 1896."



Clover Nipper, Guide Book, page 82, Tile Number 188.

Alternately known as a clover nipper or stripper, this centuries-old device was used to harvest the ripe-seed filled pods of clover from farm fields and eventually developed into other types of reaping machines. According to Mercer's Guidebook to the Tiled Pavement: "The farmer by means of shafts, pulls a wooden comb projecting from a wheeled box across the clover field, thus tearing off the ripe seed-filled tops, which, as they clog the teeth, a boy rakes into the box. Predecessor and type of all reaping machines, lacking only the transverse knives. Described as for reaping wheat or rye when drawn by oxen, by Pliny. Surviving in Germany and probably France through the middle ages. Brought to America and used among Pennsylvania Germans until 1840."



Preserving Pennsylvania's Civil War Battle Flags

Whether the vision of young Sergeant Benjamin Crippen shaking his fist at advancing Confederates, or a stage of fiery shot and shell illuminating the first color to be planted upon the ramparts, the image of Civil War battle flags is one of the most prevalent in Civil War iconography. Most all the hopes, dreams, and fears of Civil War soldiers and a nation at war are encapsulated within their silken folds, and they have been the subject of countless photographs, paintings, and articles. The lifeblood and spirit of any Civil War regiment was its regimental standard. Not only was the flag the point upon which a regiment would rally in times of desperation, but it served as a visible sign of what was occurring on the turbulent, ever-changing battlefield. In a time before radio communication, the flag was the point on which the regiments' communication hinged, and therefore largely determined the ebb and flow of battle.

Numerous states north and south provided regiments with their own state-issued colors, while the national government and many small American communities did the same. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania appropriated money to outfit the majority of its 215 regiments with flags emblazoned with the state Coat of Arms and lettered with the regimental designation. At times, Governor Andrew G. Curtin would personally travel to a regiment's location to present the new colors to its colonel. As the war wound on, most regiments at one time or another became embroiled or entangled in varying degrees of vicious, often desperate combat, sometimes even hand-to-hand. While the veterans who experienced this horrific struggle have passed on, these invaluable artifacts remain as testament to the nature of mid-eighteenth century warfare.



In the postwar years, after the conflict was decided, Pennsylvania's men-in-arms presented their colors back to the Commonwealth at a large ceremony on July 4, 1866 in Philadelphia. General George G. Meade gave the keynote address and officially handed over the collection to Governor Curtin. The banners were then transported back to the old state arsenal, and in the 1870s placed in a special flag room adjacent to the Hills Capitol. The collection remained safe in the new Executive, Library, and Museum Building when in 1897 the Capitol building burned. By 1911 it was determined by state officials to build large bronze cases in the main rotunda of the new Capitol to house the Commonwealth's Civil War flag collection. On June 15, 1914 (Flag Day, observed) a parade stepped off from the old library and museum building with some 300 Civil War veterans, original color bearers in many cases, carrying their furled standards. The flags were gingerly placed in the new flag cases and it was here that they remained for approximately seventy-two years.

In 1981 the 87th reenactment group expressed a desire to raise funds and conserve its original banner for posterity. Though the original color had deteriorated almost beyond salvageability, a record banner for the original regiment was conserved. However, the 87th served an important role in heightening the awareness of the need for immediate conservation of the entire collection.

The newly created Capitol Preservation Committee, along with bipartisan support of House leaders, began a project of sponsorship and conservation of the collection in 1984. By 1992 the entire collection, now numbering 390 flags, was completely conserved and stands as one of the most remarkable single collections of battle flags in the country. With the success of Pennsylvania's project of flag conservation and a one-of-a-kind symposium on battle flag conservation, many states across the nation began their own state-sponsored conservation projects.



The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's collection of state-issued battle flags serves as an invaluable window into the nature of Civil War battle and the horrors of Civil War combat. Many of the colors were riddled with bullets and torn by shells. Staffs were completely broken in two, sometimes three pieces, and in-the-field splices and repairs are evident.



Blood stains and powder burns remain as sobering reminders of the grueling ordeal and the sacrifices made by the 620,000 men who paid the ultimate price. At present the Committee is in the process of building a new flag facility with upgraded fire suppression and environmental controls to ensure that this priceless collection is preserved for posterity.

The entire collection of Pennsylvania Civil War flags is available for tours, via appointment. To schedule a tour of the collection, or for more information, please contact the Committee at 717-783-6484, or visit our website at <http://www.pacivilwarflags.org>

Committee Projects

Mexican War Monument

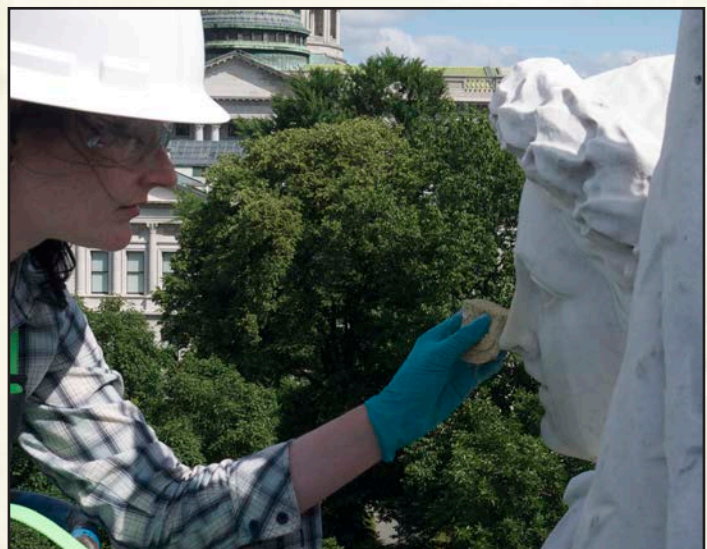
The summer of 2018 marked year three of a six year project of alternating work on the Mexican War Monument and Barnard statues. Cyclical alternating maintenance of the Mexican War Monument and Barnard statuary ensures that the work of previous conservation efforts is maintained and areas of weathering and loss from our regions sometimes harsh weather are addressed.

Initial examination of the Mexican War monument showed only slight loss to material which was loosened by freeze/thaw cycles. Areas which had washed out were filled with new grout which was injected into the cracks. Overfill of the Jahn mortar (for cracks larger than 1/8" in width) was immediately sponged from the surface.

For micro cracks and fissures less than 1/8" in width a DHL (dispersed hydrated lime) putty was introduced and left slightly proud from the surface. Both the Jahn and DHL mixtures were tinted to match the color of the existing monument. Overall, many of the previous campaigns of introducing fill remained intact, indicating that the Committee's conservation program has been successful in protecting the monument. Most of 2018's treatment was conducted at the capital, cavetto, and inscription areas of the statue.

Additional areas of treatment removed soiling and biological growth using a D/2 Biological Solution. The shelter coat from 2016 was largely intact and required only re-application on the eagles' wingtips. Areas of mortar loss and spalling were addressed in a fashion similar to the process for filling of the cracks and fissures, as well as surface deterioration on the acanthus leaves. Other

areas of the monument such as Dutchman repairs, eagles, anchors, and weather caps showed no appreciable deterioration in 2018. Lastly, the stepped granite base of the monument was washed with a Triton-X-100 detergent and rinsed, as well as the U.S. Coastal Survey Monument located at the base of the monument. The cyclical treatment of the Capitol's exterior monuments ensures that they are preserved and prevents future expensive campaigns of restoration.



Bronze Conservation: Exterior Fixtures and Doors

In 2017 the Committee completed year three of the Bronze Conservation of Exterior Fixtures and Doors. This project serves to mitigate the effects of harmful weathering, salts, freeze/thaw cycle and biological growth. All bronze surfaces including lanterns and torchieres, north, south and center bronze doors and assemblies, north and south Security gates as well as fixed pedestal signs were addressed.

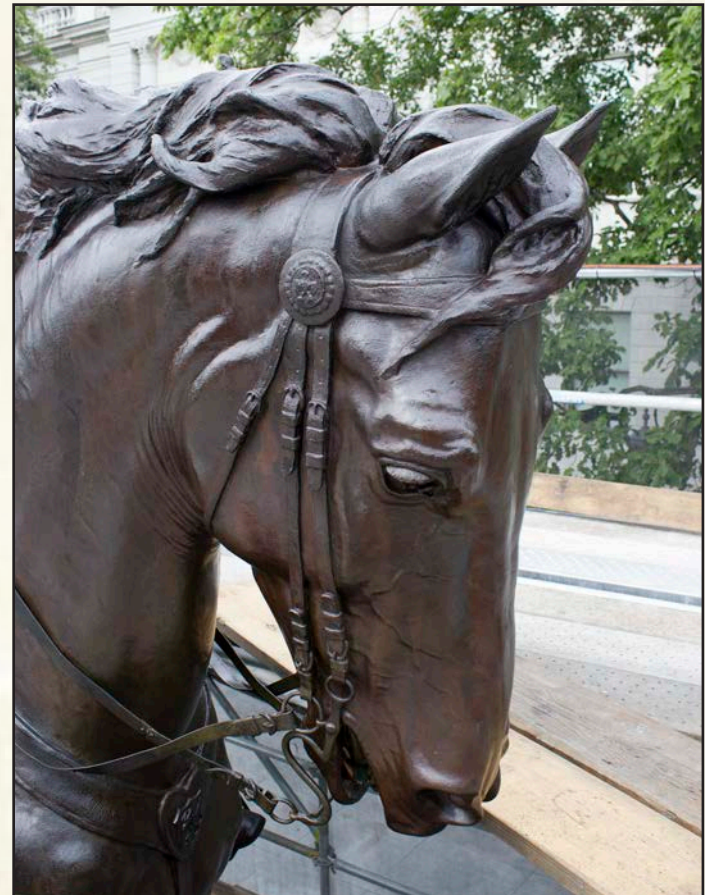
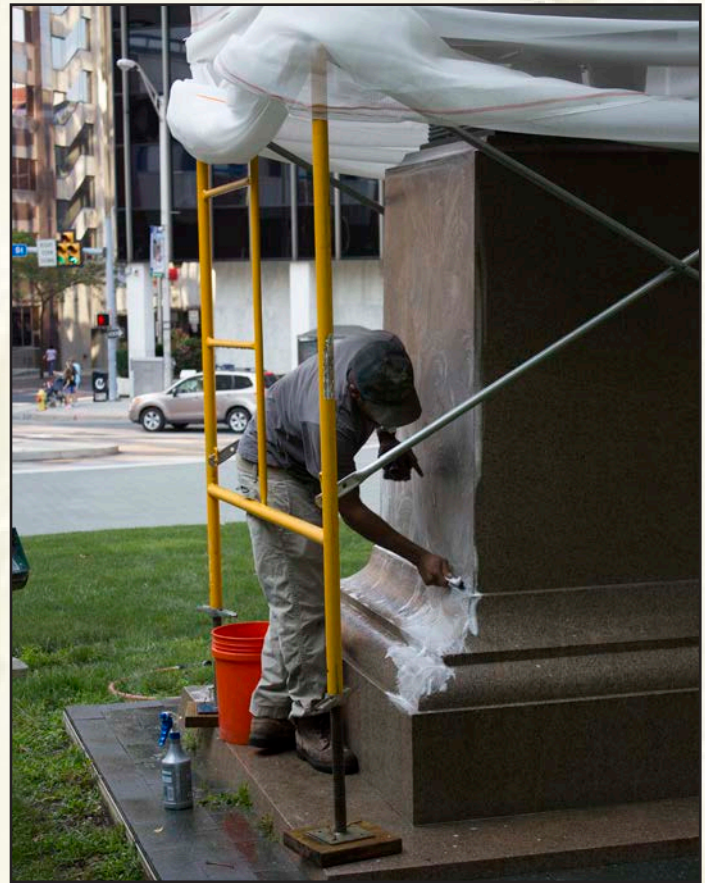
The bronze was first cleaned, brushed, and vacuumed, then wiped with cotton knit microfiber cloths using a light detergent and filtered tap water. The doors were then rinsed and dried. After cleaning, bowling alley wax was reapplied using a hot wax method to allow the wax to reflow on the bronze. Once dry and hardened, the bronze was hand-buffed.



Restoration of the fixtures and torchieres entailed removal of the glass from each fixture, after which vacuuming, washing, re-waxing and buffing was undertaken. Once complete, the clean glass was reinstalled. Additionally, the revolving entry doors at the Capitol's Main/Center entrance were cleaned, and vacuumed and the woodwork retouched and polished. Each door threshold received two applications of naval jelly to help prevent oxidation. This five-year project ensures that the Capitol's exterior bronze fixtures remain preserved and in good working order for years to come.

Bronze Conservation: Statuary

The year 2017 marked year three of the five-year project of conservation maintenance of the John F. Hartranft and Boies Penrose bronze statues in Capitol Park. The Hartranft statue was first photographed and then cleaned using brushes and vacuums. Next, wet cleaning of the metal was undertaken with filtered water and detergent, followed by a complete rinsing. The surface was then dried using cotton cloths and swabs.



The protective wax coating, which had been previously applied, was heated and reformed using torches. Small amounts of microcrystalline wax were blended into the existing wax as needed to achieve a balance of color and hardness. After application, the wax was buffed using cotton cloths.



Biological growth in the mortar joints of the granite base of the monument was removed using a stiff plastic brush. The base was then rinsed with plain filtered water and, once dry, a biocide was applied to slow future plant growth.

Although in good overall condition, the Penrose monument seems to attract a larger array of insect and arachnid nests. This statue, like the Hartranft, was first photographed and dry cleaned. It was then scrubbed with filtered water and mild detergent and the protective wax again heated to allow it to reflow on the bronze.



The wax was buffed with cotton cloths, and the granite base was cleaned and a biocide applied. Some loss of the patina is evident on both the Hartranft and Penrose monuments and future projects may need to address the loss of this protective coating before elements of the bronze are damaged by environmental conditions. In the short term, the cyclical application of the sacrificial wax coating achieves the same result.

Lawrie Forum Doors

The Committee began year three of a five-year conservation maintenance project for the Lee Lawrie-designed ornate Art Deco Forum doors in 2017. These doors depict “the things that man has learned to do, the industries and arts upon which all civilization rests.”

Each set of doors scheduled for maintenance was first dry cleaned and then wet cleaned and rinsed. After drying, each door was heated with a brush torch to allow the wax to reflow. Any areas of wax loss were reapplied. It was noted that the doors and thresholds seem to be suffering greatly from the application of salt during the winter, as well as blown dirt and debris accumulating on both the glass and bronze.



Normal, yearly accumulations of dirt and debris were examined as well as wear on handle areas on the most used doorways. Yearly maintenance of the Lawrie Doors ensures that the Forum Auditorium remains in top operating shape for years to come.

Mercer Tile Preservation Maintenance

The Committee began year three of this five-year project in 2017, with continued maintenance on the Moravian tiled floor. This cyclical, specialized preservation schedule ensures there is no buildup of harmful dirt, salt, and debris on the tile and grout joints. The west entrances of the Capitol are given special attention over the winter months in an effort to reduce the adverse effects of the de-icing salt which is tracked in from the outside. The tile maintenance program also includes the marble floor outside the Lieutenant Governor's office on the second floor of the Rotunda. During bi-weekly cleanings, any new repair items are identified and addressed immediately. A survey of repairs is typically completed in the summer while the legislature is in recess. These repairs include re-grouting loose or missing joints, repairing pitted or cracked tiles, and application of protective coatings.



Capitol Maintenance of Finishes and Fixtures

The Capitol Preservation Committee has a continuing preservation maintenance program that is a long-term campaign of restoration meant to fix minor building damages before they become larger problems. In addition to the semi-annual preservation cleaning of the public corridor surfaces, the Committee conducts a review and documents necessary repairs. Staying on top of repairs throughout the building, whether big or small, provides a stopgap measure that, barring emergencies, will keep the building in good condition. While preservation cleaning is not as glamorous as some of the larger projects the Committee has undertaken, it is equally, if not more important, because continued maintenance is the greatest form of historic preservation, preserving the initial restoration investment and limiting costly repairs.



Preservation Maintenance of Ryan Building Finishes and Fixtures

The Committee continued its preservation maintenance of the Matthew J. Ryan Legislative Office Building. The scope of work for this project is very similar to the preservation program in the Main Capitol. Work in the Ryan Building includes cleaning of plaster, finished canvas and stone, walls, beam drops, soffits, moldings, bronze and stone railings, gilded surfaces, finished woodwork, light fixtures, artificial palms, and miscellaneous architectural materials and finishes. In addition to the specialty preservation, this project also undertakes more meticulous repairs.



Clock Maintenance

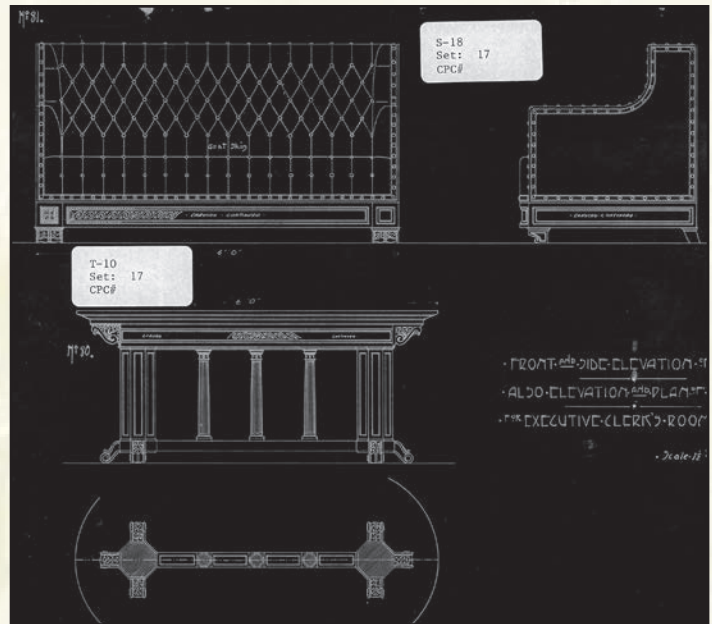
The Capitol Preservation Committee is responsible for the regular maintenance of more than 270 original Capitol clocks located throughout the Capitol and associated Complex buildings. The clock project began in 1993 with the objective to restore and maintain the clocks' wood finishes and inner mechanisms. In addition, the Committee wanted to collect and maintain historic documentation along with an inventory of each clock. By developing an electronic database, detailed information was compiled, including clock descriptions, construction materials, conditions, location, and an ongoing maintenance history. Following their restoration, each clock was put on a cyclical maintenance program. The Committee's clock conservator cleans the clocks and then they are placed on a yearly maintenance schedule wherein they are either oiled or cleaned cyclically every five years. While the majority of Capitol clocks have now been restored, ongoing preservation maintenance remains key to ensuring that they continue to operate and keep the correct time for years to come.



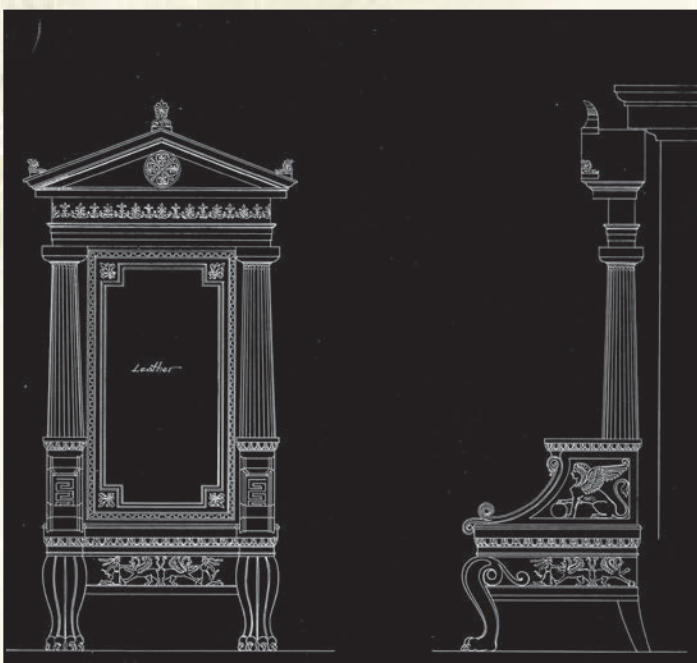
Capitol Furniture and Comprehensive Inventory

In addition to the meticulous detail employed by architect Joseph Huston while designing the Capitol in 1906, many people are unaware that he also designed thousands of pieces of historic furniture for the new building. Housed in the Pennsylvania State Archives are over 100 pages of furniture line drawings and designs, which correspond to the 1904 Special Furnishings and Fixtures schedule for the Main Capitol. From corner cabinets to desks, chairs, mirrors, even the escutcheon and telegraph plates, architect Joseph Huston had his hand in the design of everything for the building.

As part of the Committee's preservation efforts, staff periodically surveys and inventories all of the historic pieces of furniture that remain in the Capitol. This allows us to note any damages or maintenance needs and also insures that furniture remains in the correct locations.



Committee staff has entered the collected furniture inventory into a comprehensive database system which will track the historic contents of every room in the Capitol to the most minor detail. When completed, this comprehensive database will allow the Committee to maintain the Capitol's fixtures and furnishings with an even greater degree of respect for the historic integrity of the building as originally envisioned by Joseph Huston.



Rotunda Exhibit: Capitol History

In 2016, the Committee completed installation of a new Rotunda exhibition which details the history of all three of Harrisburg's Capitol buildings. The first case highlights the red brick Hill's Capitol and the fire that consumed it on Feb. 2, 1897. Case two showcases the interim Cobb Capitol which served as Pennsylvania's state house from 1898 until 1901.

Case three is the design and construction of the current Joseph Huston Capitol which was built from 1902-1906 and celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2006 when it was listed as a National Historic Landmark. Case four details the 37-year restoration and ongoing maintenance program of the Preservation, highlighting select past and current projects.

We are currently exploring the development of expanded QR tags which will allow visitors to utilize their mobile phones to obtain more information on the Capitol artifacts.



Pre-1950 Historic Capitol Photos Sought



The Committee is seeking pre-1950 interior photographs of the Main Capitol and all Capitol Complex buildings including: the Ryan Office (*Executive, Library, Museum*) Building, North Office Building, Irvis (*South Office Building*), Finance, and Forum (*Education*) Buildings.

These historic photographs will aid the Committee's ongoing restoration mission. If you, or anyone you know, has historic images, the Committee would like to obtain digital copies of these pertinent photographs. Interested parties can upload digital photos at <http://www.cpc.state.pa.us/upload-historic-photos.cfm>

If you are unable to upload photos and are in the Harrisburg area, please call our office at (717) 783-6484 to set up an appointment to come in and have your images scanned by Committee staff.

On the Horizon: 2019 Projects and Beyond

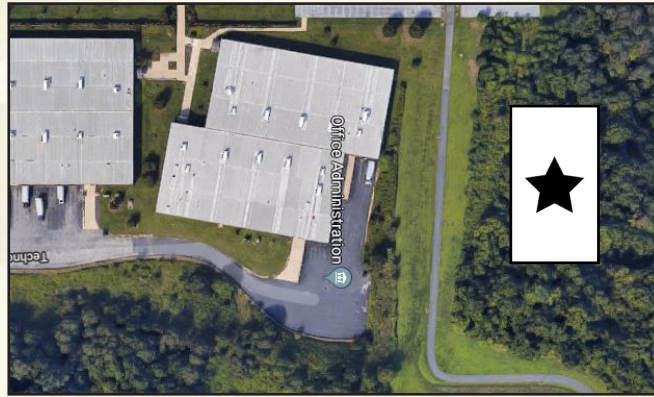
The following is a list of projects that the Capitol Preservation Committee is either developing or that will be executed as funding becomes available. Timely rather than deferred maintenance is the key to ensuring that expensive campaigns of restoration are unnecessary.

New Storage Facility

The Committee is planning and designing a new facility in which to house historic Capitol artifacts, chandeliers, furniture, and other attic stock, as well as historically-significant items necessary to the Committee's restoration projects.



EXISTING FACILITY



FUTURE LOCATION OF NEW STORAGE FACILITY

Capitol Park Hardscape & Landscape Maintenance

This project will address continued maintenance needs in the historic South Capitol park including step repointing, resetting of asphalt pavers, pointing cobblestone gutters, and storm drain repair, as well as addressing lawn, tree, and planting issues.

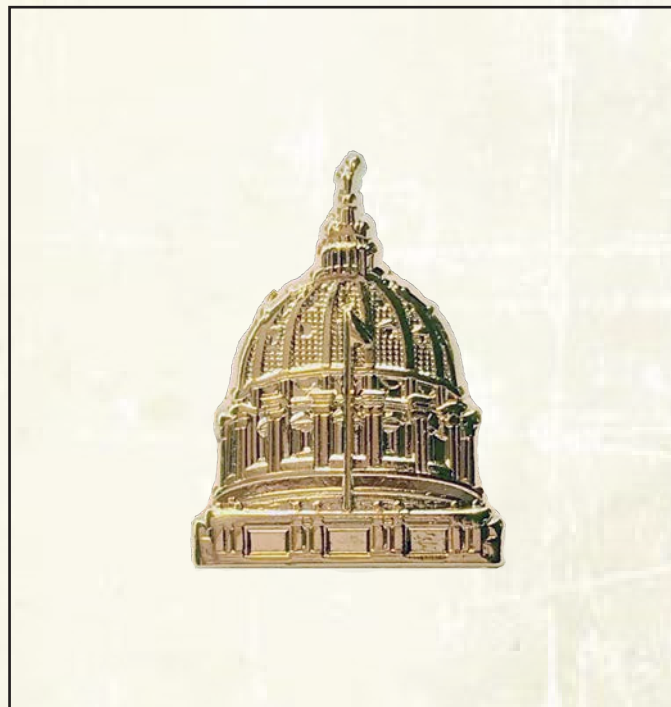


Gifts and Collectibles

The Capitol Preservation Committee maintains a retail shop in Room 630 Main Capitol. Hours are Monday through Friday 9:00 am to 3:30 pm. For a full catalog of gifts and collectibles, or to order online, please visit our online store at <http://store.cpc.state.pa.us>



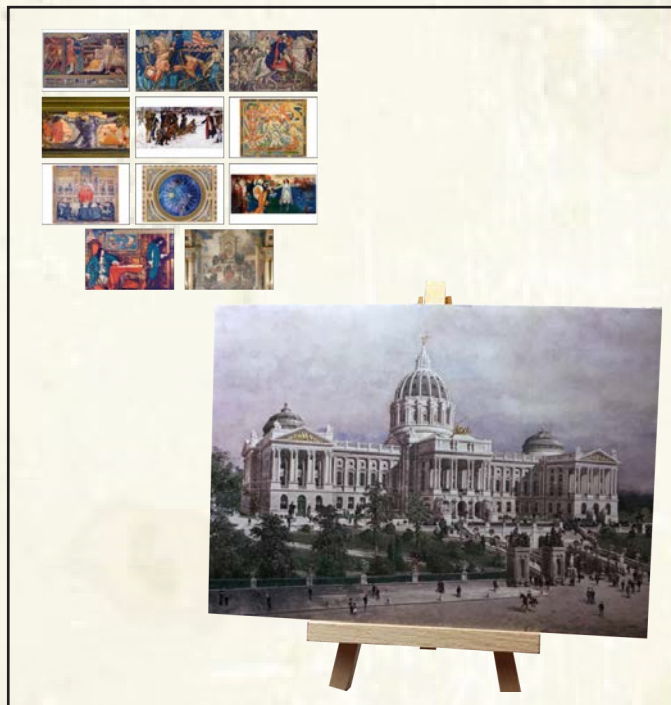
2019 Capitol Tree Ornament



Capitol Dome Lapel Pin

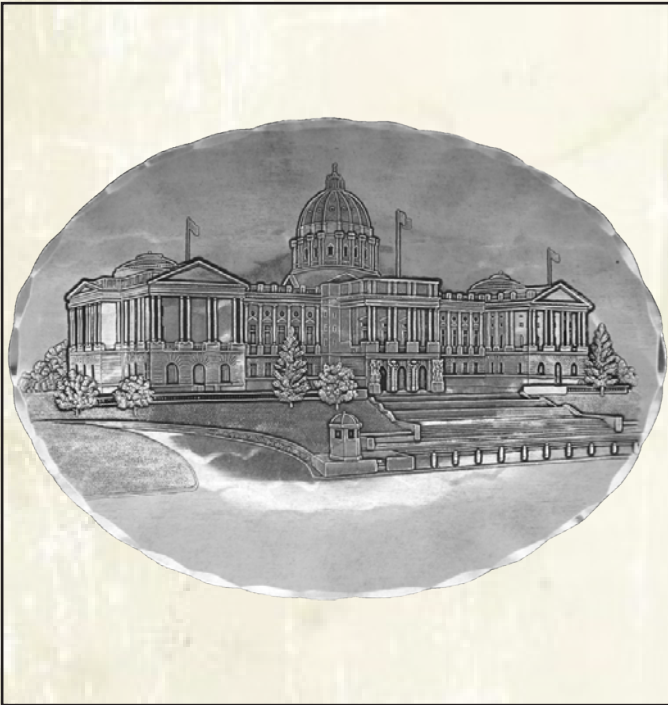


Commonwealth Statue Lapel Pin

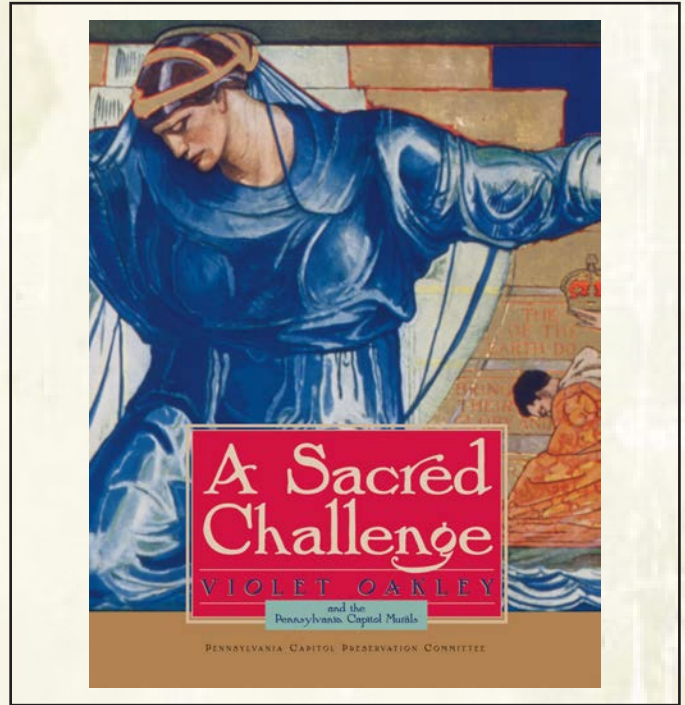


Art Collector Card Set with Easel

For further information or to order via phone, please call (717)-783-6484



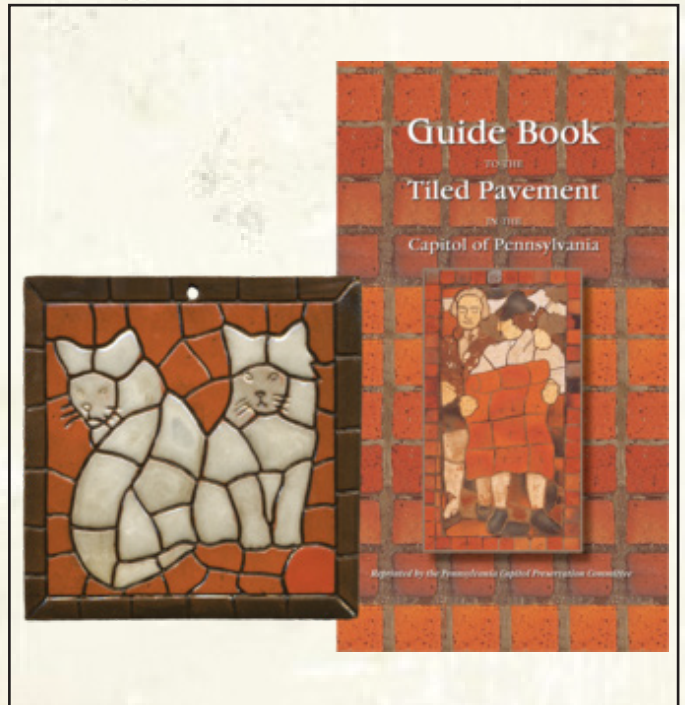
Capitol Building Oval Dish



Violet Oakley - A Sacred Challenge Book



Wooden Capitol Pen/Pencil Holder

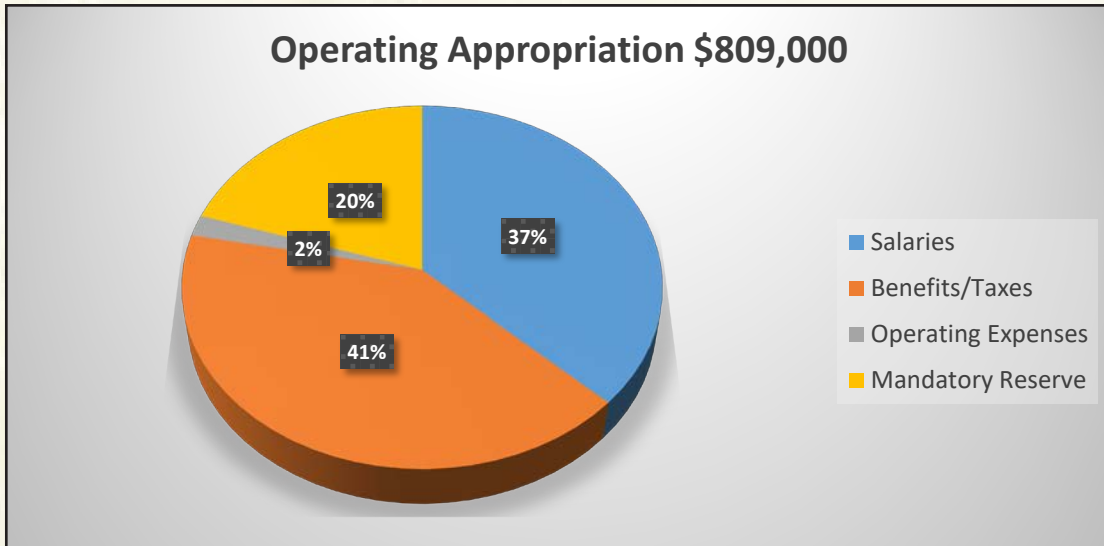


Kitten Mercer Tile and Guide Book Set

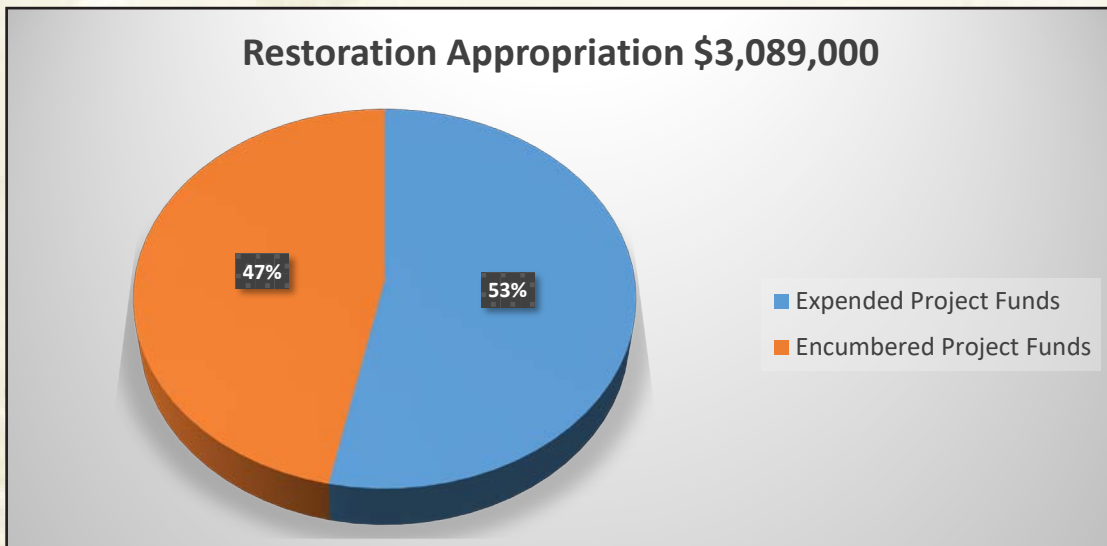
Financial Report

Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2019

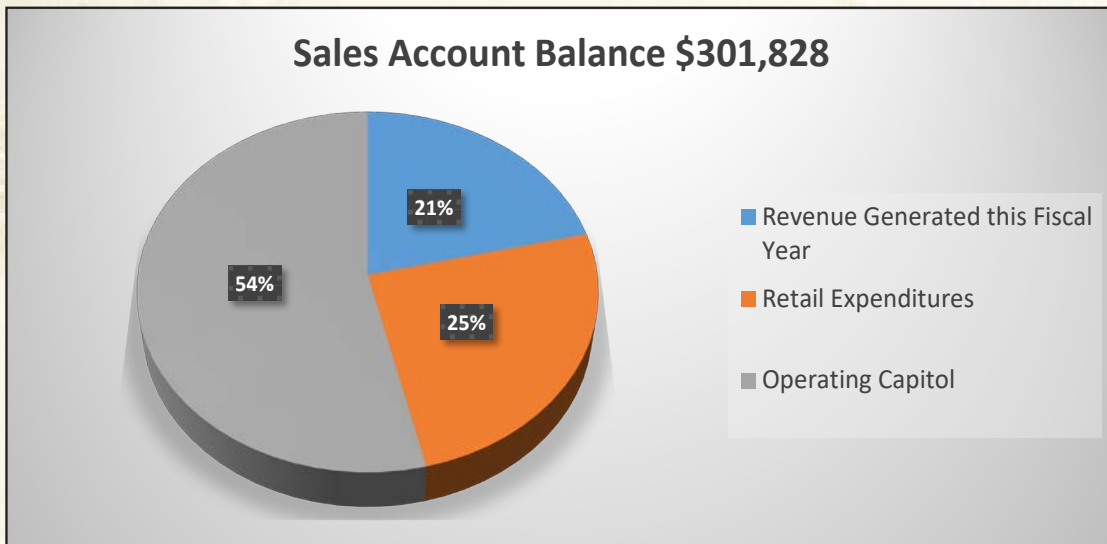
Appropriation FY 17-18



Project Budget FY 17-18



Sales Account FY 17-18





The Capitol Preservation Committee is an independent Commonwealth committee established by the General Assembly in 1982.

Serving as historic guardian, its mission is directing programs to conserve and restore the Pennsylvania State Capitol and associated historic complex buildings and grounds, preserving it for future generations.



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