

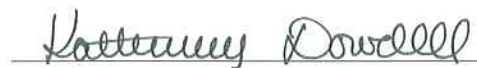
P R E S E R V A T I O N A L L I A N C E
for greater philadelphia

2009 Grand Jury Award

Please Touch Museum
Memorial Hall

HONORING

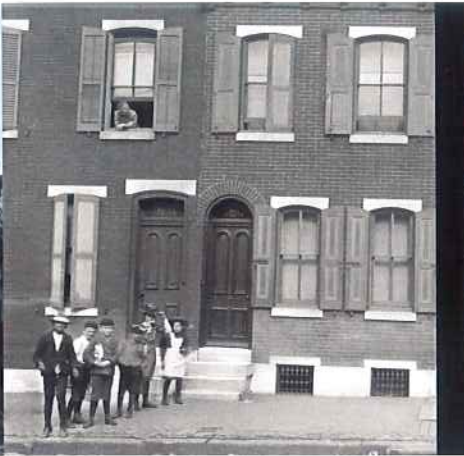
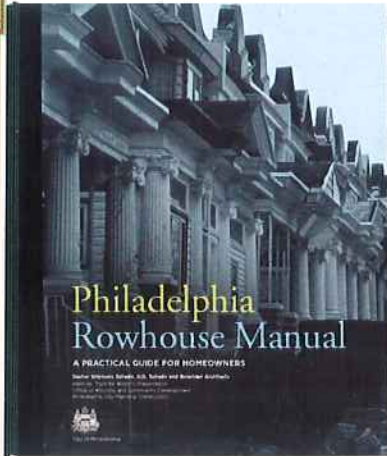
Bala Consulting Engineers, Inc.



Chair of the Board



Executive Director



PHILADELPHIA ROWHOUSE MANUAL

HONORING:
Philadelphia City Planning Commission
*Shade & Bolender Architects, Gallini Hemmann Inc.,
 James S. Russell, The Steering Committee*

The rowhouse, whether a simple brick Trinity or a highly ornamented brownstone, is the quintessential Philadelphia housing form. The *Philadelphia Rowhouse Manual*, the first-ever guidebook specifically for Philadelphia rowhouses, is both an artful celebration of the city's iconic housing type and an invaluable aid to rowhouse owners in adapting and maintaining their property as an ideal model for 21st-century urban living.

The Philadelphia City Planning Commission published the *Philadelphia Rowhouse Manual* in 2008 so that rowhouse owners could obtain specific, practical advice to maintain and appropriately rehabilitate their property. Using clear language, illustrations and case studies, the 48-page publication provides guidance on how to adapt rowhouses for modern living without compromising their historic form and architecture.

The *Manual* begins with a brief history of the rowhouse, showing how the typical rowhouse floor plan has changed over the centuries. It then provides an easy guide for maintaining exterior building systems, such as roof, windows and masonry walls. The last section focuses on the interior with information on mechanical systems, storage, bathrooms and kitchens. With specific examples, the *Manual* also provides ideas to make the building type more sustainable. There is also a list of sources of information and products useful to the rowhouse owner.

The *Manual* is available as a free download at www.philaplanning.org and copies are available at all of the branches of the Free Library of Philadelphia. The Planning Commission also gave copies to all the city's civic associations, community development corporations and the Office of Housing & Community Development to distribute to their constituents.

PLEASE TOUCH MUSEUM MEMORIAL HALL

Fairmount Park, Philadelphia

HONORING:
Please Touch Museum
Northstar Advisors LLC, Kise Straw & Kolodner, Bala Consulting Engineers Inc., Design + Communication Inc., Keating Bittenbender McCrae, Grenald Waldron Associates

Designed as the Fine Arts Building for the 1876 Centennial Exposition, Memorial Hall in Fairmount Park is the new home of the Please Touch Museum, the result of an \$88-million restoration and reuse project that took six years from concept to grand opening.

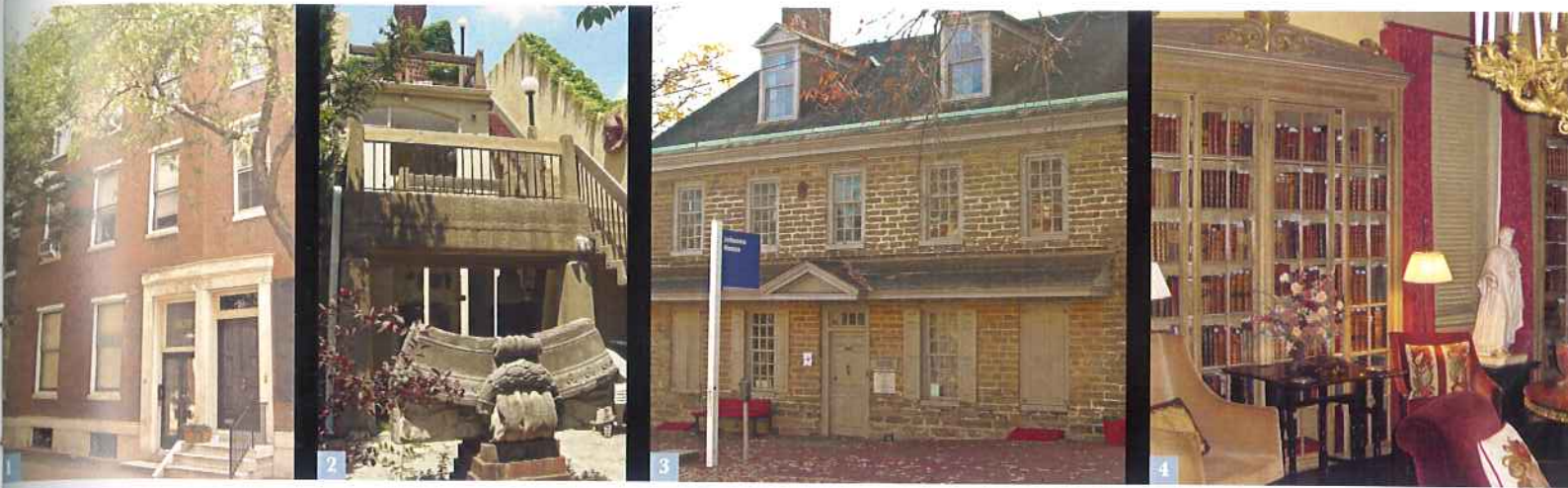
Following the Exposition, Memorial Hall served as the original Philadelphia Museum of Art, a recreation center, police station, recording studio and headquarters for the Fairmount Park Commission. But by 2000, Memorial Hall was closed to the public after years of neglect, quick fixes and unsympathetic alterations.

The Park Commission leased the building to the Museum, which set out to create a contemporary children's museum while restoring the historic structure. Exterior restoration included cleaning soiled granite and replacing missing carved stone. Original window configurations, long gone, were incorporated in the design of replacement windows, and new wood doors were based on historic photographs.

Inside, damage from roof leaks required the restoration or replacement of plaster and sheet metal ornament and the marble floor. Extensive paint research suggested an exuberant polychrome scheme in public spaces. Visitor amenities including a cafe, family-capacity restrooms, elevators and accessibility ramps were installed with minimal impact on the building.

Memorial Hall now houses more than 40,000 square feet of interactive children's exhibits. The restored Dentzel Carousel occupies a new 9,000-square-foot addition; in the basement, a restored model of the Exposition is on display. In its new setting, the Please Touch Museum can welcome nearly half a million visitors a year while returning one of Philadelphia's most distinctive structures to active use.

2008 EASEMENT DONATION PROPERTIES



The Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia began accepting preservation easements in this region in 1979 and today holds more than 220 easements on historic properties ranging from Center City skyscrapers to landed suburban estates, from converted factories in Old City to townhouses in Society Hill, from downtown hotels to modernist residences in outlying counties.

In 2008, property owners donated protective preservation easements on eight historic properties:

Donated by Magarick Real Estate Associates, six Philadelphia townhouse easements:

- 1** • 309 and 311 South 12th Street
- 1015 and 1820 Pine Street
- 910 Clinton Street
- 2** • 406 Spruce Street

3 **Donated by Johnson House Historic Site, Inc.:** exterior, interior and open space easements on the circa 1765 Johnson House, 6300 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia.

4 **Donated by the Andalusia Foundation:** interior and exterior easement on the 1834 library wing—designed by architect Thomas Ustick Walter—of Andalusia, the Bucks County estate of the Biddle family.