Tenth Annual Salvage Report

2004 Salvage Report
We will look back on 2003 as a year of progress and setbacks. Our sales were down from last year’s record, and we suffered from three robberies. On the positive side, we have greatly improved our outside storage area and completed a large part of our planned interior work. We offered several very popular lead paint workshops, and acquired a paint shaver with a HEPA vacuum for the safe removal of lead paint.

Highlights at the Warehouse
The most striking change at the warehouse is the appearance of our outside storage area. The 2,000 square foot area had an old asphalt surface that had deteriorated so that grass and weeds were growing through it, often obscuring salvage items. Over the course of our first four years at this location, bathtubs, windows, storm doors, radiators, sinks, slate, columns, and miscellaneous items were leaning against the fence and the building in pretty much utter chaos. What was particularly disheartening was the breakage of a significant number of slate blackboards, that were saved from several local schools, due to poor storage practices.

In August, Pankau Masonry completed the first phase of the improvement. A wide concrete pad was poured on the east side of our building and the south side of the adjoining building owned by David Myers. A large number of people helped clear the way to make this work possible. Next, heavy-duty A-frame storage racks were built so, for the first time, slate and marble can be safely stored. Bath tubs and sinks are now lined up in neat rows for better display. In October, Champaign Asphalt and Champaign Signal and Light arrived on the scene. A concrete footing was poured for our historic streetlight in the southeast corner of the lot. The asphalt paving was courtesy of Champaign Asphalt; the concrete was by Pankau Masonry.

The next major change to the building took place in December, but this time it was not by choice. First some background information is needed. In June, the warehouse was broken into twice. Cash and cordless hand tools, along with the PACA truck, were stolen. The truck was later recovered, but the engine was damaged beyond repair. The broken windows that were used to gain entrance to the building were replaced, and all the door locks changed. On Thanksgiving weekend we were broken into again. This time the door to the sideyard was kicked in. A set of doors that had been salvaged from 2 Main, Champaign, were installed to replace the single door leading to the side area. The door was graded and a new asphalt surface was added. This spring we will add landscaping, create an artifacts display area, and have outside seating.

The efforts of volunteers Tedra Ashley, Greg Clark, Brian Duffield, Hank Kaczmarski, Rex Kummer, Bob Swisher, Betty Swisher, Dan Leasure, John Leasure, Robert Nemeth, Kathy Reeves, Nicole Swiss, Rich Taylor, and Suzanne Ashley-Wanemuehler are greatly appreciated.

Changes to the interior of our building are not as dramatic, but are greatly appreciated by our volunteers and customers. The construction of the resource room/office, ADA accessible bathroom, and shop area were completed. A new hot-water heater and new telephone lines and jacks were installed. The security of the building was enhanced with the installation of nightlights, motion detector lights in the side yard, and an alarm system. Fire extinguishers were purchased and mounted at strategic locations in the building. The efforts of volunteers Tedra Ashley, Greg Clark, Brian Duffield, Hank Kaczmarski, Rex Kummer, Bob Swisher, Betty Swisher, Dan Leasure, John Leasure, Robert Nemeth, Kathy Reeves, Nicole Swiss, Rich Taylor, and Suzanne Ashley-Wanemuehler are greatly appreciated.

Our annual Volunteer Recognition and Membership Party was a great success. Many thanks go to David Spears of Radio Maria Restaurant and Chevys Fresh Mex Restaurant for donations of beverages and food. As in years past, Longhorn Smokehouse catered the food. The following individuals were recognized for their efforts to keep the salvage and warehouse operations up and running: Stewart Martin, Gary Peters, Dave Godwin, Phyllis...
Godwin, Al Frieder-ich, Rich Cahill, Darrel Foste, Karen Kummer, Dan Leasure, Mike Miller, Bill Odenweller, Kathy Reeves, Mike Richards, Betty Swisher, Bob Swisher, Nicole Swiss, Alan Eckel, Brian Duffield, Elizabeth Janiecek, Suzanne Ashley-Wanemuehler, and Robert Nemeth. The party this year will be on October 10, with the chance of live entertainment.

Major Salvage Operation of 2003

This year there were fewer major salvage operations, and only a few that were conducted outside of the immediate Champaign-Urbana area. The decrease in salvage operations and salvaged materials was made up with an increase in the amount of donated materials.

The closing of historic local schools is very difficult for many communities. When creative re-use alternatives are not possible, PACA has been able to save architectural elements from a number of schools prior to demolition. In each case a significant amount of time and effort was required to gain permission and coordinate the operation, often on a very tight schedule. This year we were able to secure permission to salvage schools in Philo, Sidney, and Tolono, but were unable to arrange permission to salvage from schools in Fisher, Lincoln, Mattoon, Pesotum, or Sadorus. Clearly, as other communities are faced with the demolition of old schools, PACA needs to be involved much earlier.

The Danville Area Community College (DACC) occupies a complex of buildings that were once part of the Veterans Administration Hospital. The VA complex is a series of brick buildings dating to the 1880s and formerly used to house civil war veterans. The college has restored a number of the buildings and the complex is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. However, because of reduced enrollment and the deterioration of some aspects of the buildings, DACC has received permission to demolish three buildings, although funds are not yet available. We were given permission to salvage interior elements of the buildings (each ~27,000 SF) including trim, doors, floor tiles, and pink marble from the bath and shower rooms. Fifteen volunteers made three trips to Danville in May. We were able to salvage six of the twelve bathrooms and two of the six shower rooms and all of the pine trim in the attic of one building. The work was difficult, and literally wore out our volunteers. We need to go back sometime this year to finish up since most of the marble we brought back has been sold. PACA appreciates the help of Sarah Robison, Richard Donahue, Dick Shockey, and the DACC building security staff for making this salvage operation possible.

One major salvage operation this year was Gregory Place, 1101 West Oregon, Urbana. This three-story brick apartment building, built in the 1920s, was demolished to make way for a huge five-story residential/commercial development. Each apartment had oak pocket doors, French doors, radiators, built-in cabinets, and lots of unpainted oak trim. Although our salvage operation was limited to five days, we were able to save 15-20 truck loads of material with the help of a large group of volunteers.

Properties salvaged during 2003 included the following in Champaign: 201 E. Stoughton, 110 E. Washington, 910 S. Oak, and 108 E. White; and the following in Urbana: 401 W. Park, 308 W. University, 303 W. Elm, 708 S. Race, 902 W. Nevada, and 208 W. Oregon. In addition, a house was salvaged in Royal and one outside of Homer. We appreciate the cooperation of the owners of these properties in granting PACA salvage rights.

PACA Income and Expenses

Salvage sales were $48,824 in 2003 compared to $55,556 last year. Other income in 2003 came from: memberships $5,740, contributions $1,995, and interest earned $396. Salvage expenses included: sales tax, $3,012; salvage tools & equipment, $609; building utilities, $2,584; building repairs & maintenance, $3,545; donations for salvage, $1,000; salvage travel & meals, $95; and miscellaneous salvage expenses, $704. In October, PACA began accepting credit cards, as a convenience for our customers. In three months, credit card sales represented about 15 percent of our sales. We thank Treasurer Lou Simpson for setting this up for us.

The truck that was stolen in June had just been purchased last year. It was a 1992 Ford F150 with 59,400 miles, and had toolboxes and an extended rim rack over the cab. We are currently investigating the purchase of a small box truck with a lift. This would provide a vehicle that would be more versatile, and allow us to store materials in the truck for the short term. Currently, we need to unload following a salvage operation, when volunteer energies are at their lowest.

Goals for 2004 and Beyond

We will have hands-on workshops at the warehouse again this year. Last year we had lead paint seminars conducted by Jeff Gordon. Future workshops will be developed in part from comments from our members as well as individuals willing to teach. If you have a skill you would like to share, please volunteer to do a workshop.

We will continue to try and develop better ties with preservation groups in the cities of Charleston, Danville, Decatur, Springfield, Mattoon, and Peoria where no salvage operations currently exist. We have a number of very loyal customers from these areas that often are very frustrated by how much is lost as a result of demolition in their communities. If we can find local contacts in these areas to make the initial site visits and provide some volunteers, salvage materials could be sold in Champaign. The sale of these architectural elements could then be used to fund preservation awareness efforts in the host communities. Eventually these communities could establish stand-alone operations, especially if they can get local government cooperation. We will be glad to discuss this idea further with interested local groups.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Total Income</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Expenses</strong></td>
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<td>Membership</td>
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<td>Projects &amp; Grants</td>
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Gregory Place Apartments were demolished last May. PACA salvaged all the interior woodwork and windows. (Cahill)

PACA Donation and Pricing Policy

Often newer building materials come to PACA as donations that may be more appropriate for Habitat for Humanity's new home improvement center. Homeworks is located at 40 East University in Champaign. For example, we do not take appliances, hollow-core doors, storm windows, screens, or modern plumbing fixtures, while Homeworks does. We urge you to call them first (355-6460) to be sure they can accept your donation. PACA and Homeworks have the problem of getting unwanted and unusable items left outside our buildings.

This is a reminder of PACA policies.

PACA is a not-for-profit organization with 501 (c) 3 status. Donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowable by law. We depend on obtaining donations from remodeling projects, and acquiring salvage rights for buildings in the area. Often the items took a considerable effort to remove safely with minimal damage. Porch columns, pocket doors, and claw-foot tubs are examples. PACA does not purchase salvage material, offer consignments, or trade. Please call 359-7222 first to check if we can accept your items. Prices are based on what staff considers as fair market value and are much less than commercial architectural salvage or antique stores. Prices are established to keep PACA financially strong and provide good value to our customers. The warehouse has no paid staff and depends solely on volunteers. PACA will hold items for no longer than 2 weeks. Items that are purchased must be picked up within 30 days or they will be put back for sale and the purchase price will not be refunded.

Personal Note

This is the tenth report I have written summarizing our salvage and warehouse activities. In looking back at old reports, we have come a long way since our days on University and Water streets. However, three things have remained consistent over the years. One is our very loyal customers, who often travel considerable distances, even on the coldest nights in January. Second, are local government institutions, businesses, and individuals who have donated materials or provided salvage opportunities. Third, and most important, are all the volunteers, many of whom have left the area, who have helped with salvage and with keeping the warehouse well organized. Thanks again to all for helping with the great strides we have made in the last ten years.

Richard Cahill  President & Salvage Co-Chair
2004 Heritage Grants

Applications for PACA's 2004 Heritage Grants will be available in mid-March. Eligible grant applicants are non-profit organizations, public institutions, recognized neighborhood associations, and public agencies based in Champaign County. Projects must involve preservation, conservation, and/or education related to history, architecture, or archaeology in Champaign County and may fall into any of five categories: bricks and mortar, land acquisition/move, professional architectural feasibility study, preservation education, and interpretation. To date, PACA has awarded over $35,000 to area non-profits. Last year’s awards went to an energy efficiency project, school field trips, curriculum development, purchase of educational materials, repointing a chimney, and fixing a parapet. Grants are generally small, and depend on the number and type of projects submitted. For 2004, $8,000 or over 10% of PACA's 2003 salvage proceeds has been allocated to Heritage Grants. For more information or to receive a Request for Proposals, contact PACA.

Save the Date!

PACA Annual Membership Meeting
Sunday
March 28, 2004
2-4 pm
Central High School Auditorium
610 W. University Ave.
Champaign

Salvage Donations
Gillespie-Roland Apartments
City of Champaign
Carlos & Marco Nieto

New & Renewing Memberships
(received since the last newsletter)
Charter Members (1981-1983)
Ruth Youngerger
Sharon Rapp
Patricia Miller
Dr. & Mrs. Edward Kolodziej
John Severns
Samuel Gove
Hermenia Kruidenier

Over Ten Year Members
Robert & Sarah Nemeth
Bob & Bette Leach
Neil Schurter
Bernadine Evans Stake
Bill & Jane Kruidenier
Mr. & Mrs. Roger Yarbrough
Ruth Fliegel
Chris Anderson
Dorthy Neumann
Pius Weibel & Sue Feldman
Dennis Lewis
Caroline Hibbard
Richard Cannon
Dan McCollum

Five to Ten Year Members
Kathy Reeves
Jeff & Joyce Gordon
Jeff & Cathy Cunningham
Flo Lanford
Mindly Moncel
Fred Krauss
Susan & Maggie Wikoff
Dusty Cory Family
Daniel & Kim Wurl
Jennifer Hines & Robert Krumm
Wendy & Ron Turner
Mary Jo Erickson
Marianne Winslett & Eric Bina
Lee Stoops
Mr. & Mrs. E.R. Gordon
Richard A. Kirkpatrick
Zarina M. Hock
Smith/Burgett Architects (Corporate)
Geoffrey Merritt

Five to Four Year Members
Kathy & Jonathan Sweeney
Steve & Sandy Burgner
Loren Kirkwood
Steve Davis Family
Jeannie Covert
Tim & Sara Ingram
Daniel Folk
Dale W. Eddings
William C. Baker
Jean Burridge
Glenn & Laura Harriger
Jim & Pam Sisco
Stephen & Chris Mechling
Kathleen Zanotti
Ted & Donna Odenweller
Vicki Burkhalter & Susan Kundrat
Greg Williams
Nancy Uchtman
Michelle Walden
Linda L. Lorenz
Bill McNeill
Susan Froebish
Mary E. Jones
Steve & Kathy Thompson

One to Four Year Members
Kathy & Jonathan Sweeney
Steve & Sandy Burgner
Loren Kirkwood
Steve Davis Family
Jeannie Covert
Tim & Sara Ingram
Daniel Folk
Dale W. Eddings
William C. Baker
Jean Burridge
Glenn & Laura Harriger
Jim & Pam Sisco
Stephen & Chris Mechling
Kathleen Zanotti
Ted & Donna Odenweller
Vicki Burkhalter & Susan Kundrat
Greg Williams
Nancy Uchtman
Michelle Walden
Linda L. Lorenz
Bill McNeill
Susan Froebish
Mary E. Jones
Steve & Kathy Thompson

New Members
Patricia Cardenas
Michael Meindl
Will Clayton
Dependable Plumbing (Corporate)
Tari & Sam Bricker
Alex Ruggieri
Mary Eddy
Lisa & Richard Smith, Sharon Cemashko

Remember to check your mailing label for your membership renewal date. The date shown indicates when you last renewed; membership runs for one year from that date.

Give Champaign County's Past
A Great Future!