

Randolph J. Harris

314 West Chestnut Street · Lancaster, PA 17603

Curriculum Vitae Winter 2018-2019

Professional Experience

Heritage conservation & community development services—2003 to present

Independent Consultant

- Research, writing, editing, photography and graphic design to certify the historic significance of properties. Certification assists investors and developers to obtain federal tax credits for the appropriate rehabilitation of historic buildings as incoming-producing properties. Recent projects: **Keppel Building** and **Steeple View Lofts, Lancaster, PA.**
- Fee for service engagements to certify historic significance and advocacy for the adaptive re-use of historic properties. Work products include documentation and assessment of physical conditions with conceptual analysis and planning for returning generally older, deteriorated buildings to occupancy and productive use. Recent examples: **Mifflin House, Hellam Township., York County, PA; Thaddeus Stevens Home and Office, Lancaster, PA; Christiana Machine Shop, Christiana, PA.**
- Organize and promote heritage-themed tours and public history programming for community groups, schools, senior centers and individuals. Co-author, *The Underground Railroad in Lancaster County – A Study Guide*, 2016; Tours focused on Underground Railroad, African American Heritage & **the life and legacy of Thaddeus Stevens**. Developed current program for installation of historical interpretive markers throughout City of Lancaster. Founder, Origins of the Underground Railroad, private heritage tour services, 2017-present.

Fizika Group LLC, Lancaster, PA, 2011-2013

Manager, Communications & Development

- Social media marketing, photography, graphic design, website development & maintenance, trade show exhibit design and support for professional development firm that helps educators and organizations apply the latest brain science by incorporating movement and creative play into the learning process.
- Partnered with Harrisburg University of Science and Technology to market Fizika's online course to train and certify *Active Learning Specialists* who engage students in learning through physical activity.

Navarro & Wright Consulting Engineers, New Cumberland, PA, 2008- 2009

Architectural Historian

- Field surveys, site visits, photography and local archival research across Pennsylvania, followed by writing, editing and graphic design as part of environmental reviews in connection with highway projects using federal and state funding that impact properties with potential historic significance.

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Historic Preservation Trust of Lancaster County, PA, 1995 – 2003

Executive Director

- Strategic planning, budgeting, grant application and administration, capital campaigns and fund-raising projects for a non-profit, membership-based education and advocacy organization with a mission to preserve and re-purpose the historic architectural heritage of Lancaster County, PA.
- Responsible for marketing, communications, graphic design, publications and web presence, public speaking/presentations and team-building with staff, board members and volunteers for advocacy initiatives and educational community events.
- Public policy formulation and community planning initiatives to advance sustainable development through best practices in environmental protection and effective administration of land use ordinances.
- Member, City of Lancaster's Exterior Commercial Property Review Commission (ECPRC) – advisor on behalf of City to building owners and contractors for façade, signage and streetscape improvements consistent with community historic character.
- Leadership from conception to execution for real estate projects involving acquisition, rehabilitation and re-sale of historically-significant buildings.
- Product development, sales and marketing support for publications and reports.
- Conservation Easements: prepared documentation and legal filings to preserve historic properties in contractual relationships between private owners and the private, non-profit preservation organization.

Tourfactory.com, Spokane, WA, 2004- 2006

Account Executive/Southeast Pennsylvania

- Photographer/producer web-based virtual tours supporting real estate marketing.

Heritage conservation & community development services, 1990 – 1995

Independent Consultant

- Environmental reviews: compliance with state and federal historic preservation regulations.
- Interpretive planning for multi-county area for heritage tourism and tourism development projects.
- Land use planning and administration: membership on Boards of Directors for Enterprise Zone, Municipal and Regional Planning Commissions.
- Certification of properties for federal Rehabilitation Investment Tax Credits.
- National Register of Historic Places—Listings of sites & districts: writing narratives, mapping, photography and graphic design to secure designation of properties, neighborhoods and districts as significant in local, state or national history.
- Publication design and development, video production, research and writing.

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U. S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development, Pittsburgh Office, 1978 – 1990

Assistant to the Manager for public affairs & internal communication initiatives

- Public information contact and news media spokesperson with primary responsibility for news release writing, production of employee newsletters, photography for office developments & ceremonies in a federal agency of 130 employees administering federal housing and community development programs covering 29 counties of Western Pennsylvania and State of West Virginia.

Multi-family Housing Program Representative and Review Appraiser

- Coordinator (one of four staff) for a direct loan program for construction of housing for the elderly in a multi-county area of Western Pennsylvania.
- Environmental Reviewer, involving field surveys, photography, and research; writing reports about hazardous or other conditions at sites proposed for construction of new multi-family housing or rehabilitation of existing buildings financed in whole or in part by the federal government.
- Review Appraiser, responsible for conducting desk audits and field reviews of the appraisals prepared by private appraisers under contract with HUD to determine property values for purpose of extending federally insured mortgages for single family homes purchased by the public.
- Coordinator of HUD's Rehabilitation Mortgage Program for One to Four Family Properties: Writing, photography, public speaking and production of marketing materials to increase access to and use of this special financing vehicle designed to assist in the revitalization of existing, older neighborhoods.

Pittsburgh Suburban Community Newspapers and *The Daily Messenger, Homestead, PA,* 1975 – 1978

Journalist

- Editor and graphic designer for daily and weekly newspapers.
- News gathering & feature writing, photography.

Education & Training

- Adobe Creative Suite - Pennsylvania College of Art & Design, 2006
- Master Planner Course - Lancaster County (PA) Planning Commission, 1996
- Appraising Real Property - U.S. Dept. HUD and Greater Pittsburgh (PA) Board of Realtors, 1986-87
- Freedom of Information Act Policy and Administration - U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C., 1983
- BA - Journalism and Communications, Point Park University, Pittsburgh, PA, 1974
- AA - Liberal and Commercial Arts, Community College of Allegheny County (PA), 1972

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Community Involvement

Shreiner-Concord Cemetery Foundation— President, 2014-2016. Board member 2008-2016.

Management, maintenance, fund-raising and event planning for historic cemetery in the City of Lancaster's National Register Historic District. A public burial ground established in 1836 open to everyone, regardless of race or religion. Includes the grave and monument of U.S. Congressman Thaddeus Stevens (1792-1868), champion of free public education in Pennsylvania, a founder of Republican Party, Abolitionist, Underground Railroad activist.

St. James Episcopal Church, Lancaster, PA- Mission & Justice Committee— Planning and execution of projects and activities focused on parishioners and outreach to community, re: housing, food security, support for public education and racial justice. 2010 to present.

St. James Episcopal Church, Lancaster, PA - Building and Grounds Committee— Planning and execution, in conjunction with church staff of on-going maintenance and capital improvement needs of early 19th century church, City of Lancaster. 2000-2003.

Main Street Mount Joy, Lancaster County— Chair of Design Committee of this Commonwealth of PA-designated and funded program. 2002-2007.

Lancaster County Livable Communities Initiative Board of Directors— Public/private partnership to develop traditionally designed housing units adjacent to existing community; sustainable housing model for households with a variety of incomes. 1998-2014.

Atglen-Susquehanna Trail— Lancaster County (PA) Advisory Committee member. Advisors to County Commissioners on preservation and development of a 24-mile hiking and biking trail on abandoned historic railroad corridor. 2004-2006.

Young Preservationists of Pittsburgh - Advisory Committee member. Private, volunteer initiative to engage young people in historic preservation in six county region. 1994-2002.

Other relevant experience, affiliations & memberships:

- **African American Historical Society/South Central Pennsylvania**, 2014 to present
- **Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Partner**, National Park Service, 2004 to present
- **Community Loan Fund of Western Pennsylvania**, Member, Board of Directors, 1988-90
- **Planning Commission Chair**, Borough of Homestead, PA, 1990 - 95
- **Habitat for Humanity** - Pittsburgh/Homestead, PA Chapter President, 1991 - 93
- **Main Street Program**, Design Committee, Mon Valley Initiative, Homestead, PA, 1992 -95
- **Steel Industry Heritage Task Force** of Southwestern Pennsylvania, 1987- 91