

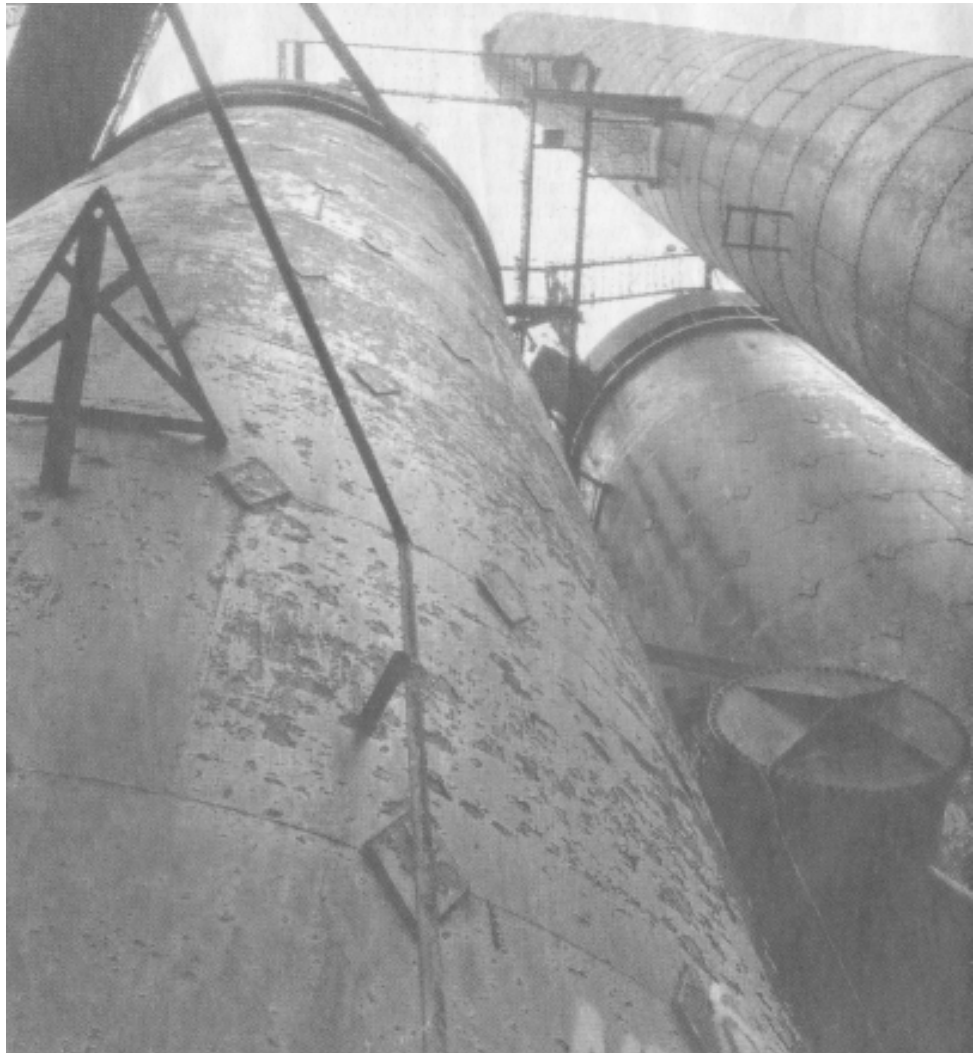
Historic Landmark status for the Carrie Works

The Carrie Furnaces, a part of the old Homestead Works for 86 years before its closing in 1984, was designated a National Historic Landmark by the National Park Service on November 4. US Rep. Mike Doyle of Swissvale made the announcement of the designation, which sets the stage for future historic development.

Rivers of Steel president August Carlino said that the designation “was a culmination of all the men and women who worked in the mill over the decades. Everything they did at that site was supremely significant in the history of the nation.” Rivers of Steel and the Steel Industry Heritage Corporation had lobbied for the Park Service designation for 16 years.

The Pittsburgh **Post-Gazette** editorialized that “as any Pittsburgher knows, the rusty walls of Carrie Furnaces 6 and 7 once breathed fire, but they also breathed life into an American city and strength into a nation. The furnaces produced iron for the U.S. Steel Homestead Works, and they remain across the Monongahela River from the Waterfront, the office and commercial complex that eventually replaced the old mill site.

“The designation is a victory for advocates at the Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area and their allies.”



PITTSBURGH POST GAZETTE

Homestead steel legacy focus of diverse public programs in 2006

Several hundred attended and participated in Pump House programs 2006, the end of the first decade of public forums and programs sponsored at the site by the Battle of Homestead Foundation. Among them were:

April 28: Sago Mine Disaster: Would a union have made a difference? Ed Yankovich, Ron Bowersox, Ron Airhart, Chris Potter and Steve Twedt. **May 27:** Images of America:

Archival and Postcard Views of Homestead and Duquesne. Jim Hartman and Daniel J. Burns.

June 17: American history teachers at the Pump House. Chris Magoc, Mike Healey, Russ Gibbons, Charles McCollester. **July 8:** 20th anniversary of the closing of the Homestead Works. Bill Serrin, Mike Stout, Betty Esper.

continued on page 4

In This Issue

Bernie Kleiman, Top Negotiator and Friend 2

Cooper’s Walk Tells Commonwealth Story 3

Time for Amphitheater At Pump House Site? 4

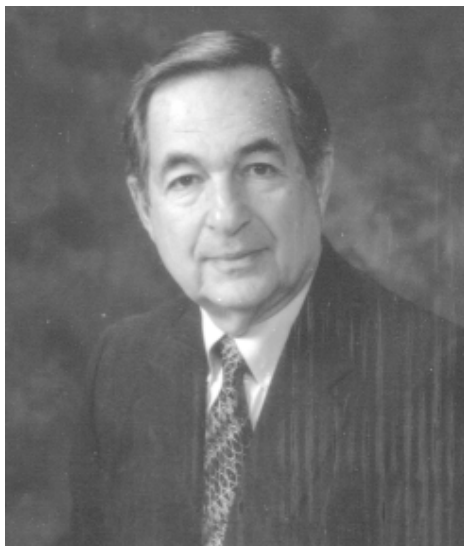
Bernard Kleiman, legendary union negotiator who made time for preserving labor heritage

Just days after returning from a four-state tour of striking Goodyear Tire plants in the midwest and south, Bernie Kleiman entered a Pittsburgh hospital. The lead negotiator for the United Steelworkers for more than 40 years, he was close advisor to five International presidents of the union and respected as the top labor negotiator in the steel industry for the past half century.

Kleiman, who was 78 when he died on December 13, had retired as General Counsel for the USW nine years ago but still had an office in the International Headquarters building and was in the forefront of several difficult strikes and negotiations for the union since. He was an advocate of labor heritage and an active participant in the Battle of Homestead Foundation.

He was known for marathon bargaining efforts and worked with companies including U.S. Steel, Newport News Shipyard, Warren Consolidated Industries, Kaiser Aluminum, Continental Tire, Bridgestone/Firestone, Goodyear Tire, International Steel Group, and many others.

USW President Leo Gerard, who he had served as Special Counsel, said "It is difficult to overstate his impact on the union. His role with the union was much broader than the typical duties of General



Bernard Kleiman (1929-2006)

Counsel. In addition to his legal work, he was a respected contract negotiator, labor strategist and counselor."

Former USW President Lynn Williams said that "Bernie related to the local union leaders who were on the front line, and he was always with them during the struggle and in reaching an agreement. He was never there for the photos, but he made sure the local union people were there."

In January the United Steelworkers and the Battle of Homestead Foundation jointly established a Bernard Kleiman

Memorial Lecture to be delivered at the Pump House in Homestead. The first lecture will be delivered in July on the weekend of the 115th anniversary of the battle.

He created the union's well-respected legal department in 1965, and played a key role in the April 1974 federal Consent Decree that brought the steel industry into compliance with the Civil Rights Act. That agreement opened mill jobs to African Americans and women.

During his tenure as General Counsel, the union had 18 cases before the U.S. Supreme Court. The union won thirteen of them and lost five. One victory was the Weber case, which affirmed the legality under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of affirmative action plans in employment.

Kleiman enlisted in the U.S. Army after graduation from high school just after the end of World War II and served in Korea. After the service, he returned to Indiana and attended Purdue University, majoring in metallurgical engineering. He then enrolled at Northwestern University School of Law, where he was awarded a law review position.



Battle of Homestead Foundation NEWSLETTER

January 2007, V. 1, No. 8

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'a faithful and tireless advocate'

Excerpts from a letter to USW President Leo Gerard from BHF President Charles McColleston:

"I want to add a personal note on behalf of the Battle of Homestead Foundation to express our profound sadness over the death of Bernie Kleiman. Bernie was a faithful and tireless advocate for the Battle of Homestead Foundation during our many negotiations with the Steel Industry Heritage Corporation over the past decade. He attended, with Mike Healey, more than a half-dozen negotiations with SIHC as the USW rep and our counsel. This fall, I sent him an e-mail full of issues and two days later got a call from his hospital bed where he was recovering from surgery. He said that one good thing about his physical problems was that it would keep him in town for a few months and he could help us more in our negotiations.

"In November, he was an important presence at a board-to-board meeting with the SIHC that was very positive and hopefully provides a new basis for cooperation and better understanding. Bernie's presence in a room with a legal pad immediately established the grounds for a serious negotiation.

"But, even more than all he did for us as our liaison with the USW, while serving as our big gun when we needed one in our relationship with our landlord, Bernie took time out of his crushing schedule to attend many programs at the Pump House over the years. In often intense discussions, he patiently explained the union's position both historically and actually. His integrity, intellectual grasp, personal kindness had a way of winning over nearly everyone."

Yund does it again: 'Cooper's Walk' tells working folks story

Bill Yund, BHF Vice President, labor essayist and editor-artist, would be an artist in residence at the Pump House if we had one. His banner paintings of a century of Steelworkers adorn the windows of the structure. Following are some "Talking Points" from his newest work. *Coopers Walk*, a history of Pennsylvania workers:

✓ Factory owners in Pittsburgh suppressed wages and threatened to move their factories away rather than give in to employee's requests. Eventually, the textile industry faded. What other factors may have played a part the demise of textile in the region?



✓ Today, we hear of clothing being made under exploitative conditions in third world countries, and sold by international companies. How does this differ from,—or resemble—the situations for textile workers in Philadelphia in 1903 and the early 1800s, or Pittsburgh in the 1840s?

✓ What other factors led to changes and the eventual demise of the cooper's trade? Are there parallels with the decline of the steel industry in the U.S., or the printing industry everywhere, during the late 1900s? What might affect your job, at some time?



✓ Spies were used at Homestead, in the coal fields, and elsewhere, to monitor employee activity, but also to provoke instability. How?

✓ The ability of a slave owner to control slave's lives denied the sanctity of family implied in a marriage ceremony, whether conferred by jumping the broom, (a custom brought from Africa) or by clergy. Company agents with unrestricted access to workers' homes also denied the sanctity of the home and family. Many think the plight of immigrants in places like the coal fields and the Pressed Steel Car Corporation was as bad as that of slaves. Discuss the similarities and differences.



✓ Father/son trade apprenticeships sometimes played a part in maintaining craft standards, but were also often critical to family welfare and survival. Working children provided additional income and security. In the event of any breadwinner's debilitation or death, the family and community support system could lessen the impact. How reliable was this? What programs today deal with the same problems?



Pittsburgh Works:

The photographic essay
by Sandra Gould Ford



An Ode to the Pittsburgh Works

Many Steelworkers are and were poets, as well. An "Ode to the Pittsburgh Works" was by an unknown worker, left in a handwritten poem found by Sandra Gould Ford and reproduced in her photographic essay on the Pittsburgh Works. The Ode follows:

The time has come to close again
Our best was not enough
Our bills need paid, our kids need shoes
Yes, times are pretty rough.
We were told "Great Job," "AttaBoy,"
"Hang in there" and "Stay tough."
Yes, the time has come to close again.
Our best was not enough.
So we hear, our costs were great,
We shipped the greatest stuff
We all pitched in and joined the team
Our best was not enough.
To the folks in Dallas, who hold the dice
And rolled for us to close —
Who picked the other plants to work
And to us they thumbed their nose.
"Good-Bye" we say as proud men—
At Pittsburgh we're of the right stuff
And in our hearts, we truly know
Our best was good enough.

Time for an amphitheater at the Pump House?

With a more positive political climate in Washington, there is a real possibility that the efforts of the Steel Industry Heritage Corporation to develop the Carrie Furnace, Pump House and Bost Building are coming to fruition. The SIHC plan for the Pump House site includes many of the features long advocated by the Battle of Homestead Foundation, including an amphitheater for outdoor educational and cultural activities. Passing through the site a riverfront bike trail, nearing completion, will link Pittsburgh to Washington, DC. Plans for the site also include a boat landing that will provide new opportunities for tourism and historical interpretation.

It has been a decade since the Committee on the Interpretive Conference for the Pump House met on the site and at the Carnegie Library of Homestead to report on various aspects of Interpreting the Pump House. Steffi Domike, a BHF board member who was co-producer of the 1993 film, **The River Ran Red**, developed a proposal an interpretation of the Pump House site and a possible amphitheater:

“Two rare photographic images from the Illustrated American, of July 23, 1892, concern the site. This journal, which we discovered at the New York Historical Society Library, used photographs to accompany most of its articles. “The Pinkerton landing site as seen from the Pemickey Bridge” reveals the exposed lower floor of the Pump House. The railroad tracks then came down to the loading dock at the Monongahela River. Today we see the great river wall from the bridge, with only the top floor of the Pump House showing.

“Because the contour of the land has been transformed and built up, it would take a great deal of money to return it to the state it was in one hundred years ago. My judgment is that the steel reinforced concrete river wall speaks its own story, an element of the industrial landscape which, like the huge press west of the Pemickey Bridge and the row of smokestacks by the Hi-Level Bridge, were built to last and not to be removed. The river wall should remain as a ‘preserved ruin,’ along with the Carrie Blast Furnaces seen from the Pump House vantage point.

As the 250th Anniversary of Pittsburgh approaches in November 2008, the Pump House is positioned to provide an important forum to discuss and

remember the significant and dramatic labor and industrial history of Pittsburgh. The renovation of the Carrie Furnaces, construction of an amphitheater, provision of a boat landing and the completion of

the bike trail - all these pieces could fall in place in the near future and coincide with the declaration of National Park status for the sites. Look for exciting times ahead.



Women's Labor History Honored

Two state historical markers have been proposed for 2007 by the Pennsylvania Labor History Society to the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, honoring the Allegheny Cotton Mill strikers and the work of pioneer worker safety advocate Crystal Eastman.

The cotton mill Strikes of 1845 and 1848 in the City of Allegheny (now the Northside of Pittsburgh) were important events in the history of the struggle of workers for a legal limitation on the hours of work. The struggle in Pittsburgh was linked to similar battles in New England, especially Massachusetts. A movement to restrict the hours of work in textile factories gained momentum and spearheaded a broader movement to restrict and regulate the hours of work that eventually led to mass upheavals for the eight hour day in the 1880's and culminated in the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938.

Crystal Eastman came to Pittsburgh at the age of 26 in 1907. Graduate of Vassar with a Masters from Columbia University, she graduated second in her class at NYU Law School. Hired initially for two months by Paul Kellogg of the Pittsburgh Survey,

she stayed more than a year investigating in depth and in detail the industrial accidents that occurred in Allegheny County during 1906-07. Her study of the county's 526 workplace deaths in a single year analyzed the specific hazards of various occupations including coal mining, steel making, and railroad work. She also extended accident investigations to detail the profound impact the deaths had on workers' families.

Pump House programs in 2006

continued from page 1

July 11: USW members of a class at Linden Hall Education Center visit. **July 22:** Nick Coles reads from his Oxford University anthology of workers poetry.

Sept. 3: Black Valley: The Life and Death of Fannie Sellins. Rick Gazarik and Tony Slomkoski. **Sept. 4:** Open House following the Labor Day parade. **Sept. 12:** Class from Linden Hall, USW Education Center.

Oct. 7: Readings about working class life. University of Pittsburgh. Greensburg. Lori Jakiela and Stephen Murobito.