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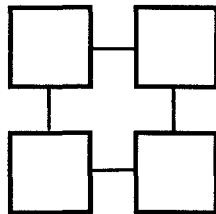
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MAINE STATE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COUNCIL

1992 First Annual Report

*including
Establishment Period, February-June 1991
and Fiscal Year 1992*



**coordinated support of
cultural heritage and activities through the:**

- MAINE ARTS COMMISSION
- MAINE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
- MAINE STATE LIBRARY
- MAINE STATE MUSEUM

MAINE STATE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1992

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INTRODUCTION

Charged in its enabling legislation to report annually to the Governor and Legislature, the Maine State Cultural Affairs Council and its individual members seriously regard the responsibility and sincerely appreciate the scope of the initial challenge.

It is incumbent upon the Council to take stock of its establishment period and first full fiscal year as a unique entity within Maine government, to report on Council and Agency efforts, and to cite accomplishments. From the perspective of the Council, the unique quality of its construction should be mirrored in the reporting, just as it factors in any assessment of its Agencies' deeds and the Council's actions.

Established in February 1991, the Council unites four of the State's cultural agencies for administrative procedure and to encourage the cooperation of the cultural affairs of Maine. In accordance with the legislation, Council membership includes the chair and vice-chair of each of the four agencies (Maine Arts Commission, Maine Historic Preservation Commission, Maine State Library and Maine State Museum), and the chair of the Council appointed by the governor. Ex-officio members include the four agency directors and liaison representative from the Governor's office. This annual report includes an overview of the Council's activities and a report from each of the four directors of the Maine State Cultural Affairs Council.

Operations

The duties of the Council call for the coordination of budget requests, the provision of a forum for interagency planning, a liaison capacity for receipt and distribution of notices and instructions from other governmental administrative agencies, a mechanism to enhance statewide cultural planning, and the presentation of an annual report.

A major influence in the evaluation and report of the Council has been the change in the economic and governmental environments during the effective time of the reporting period. This period, February through June of 1991 and Fiscal Year 1992 (FY 92), was a challenging one for the State of Maine. All government agencies and councils were affected, and the cultural agencies had to deal with budget decisions that impacted upon their operating functions.

It is a credit to the cultural agencies that despite the poor economy, the demand for programs and services matched and surpassed the levels existing prior to the Legislature granting independent status to the agencies and creating the Cultural Affairs Council.

From the effective date of the passage and signing into law of the enabling legislation by the 114th Legislature and the Governor in 1990, the Agencies, as directed in the law, began their respective planning for the upcoming Part I budget request to the 115th Legislature. The uncertainty regarding the amount of the budget shortfall became a critical consideration entering the last half of FY91 and was not finally resolved until well into the 1992 legislative session.

As part of the revised Part II FY91 budget compromise arrived at by the Legislature and Governor, a special commission was formed to study a possible restructuring of the Maine State Government.

One of the Administration's proposals within the call for the study was the replacement of the Cultural Affairs Council through the formation of a Bureau of Cultural Affairs. The Restructuring Commission was asked to study the issue and deliver by mid-December of 1991 recommendations relating to that proposal and others. Substantial portions of their recommendations were to be forwarded for legislative drafting and consideration by the Legislature when it reconvened in January of 1992.

The Restructuring Commission acknowledged the newness of the Cultural Affairs Council structure and, upon analysis, found little argument to support a reconfiguration. The Restructuring Commission noted that the Agencies suffered from "chronic underfunding" and recommended that a mechanism such as a private, non-profit foundation be devised and authorized to raise funds for complementary dispersal to the Agencies.

The Administration also proposed consolidating the appointive commissions of the Agencies into a single advisory body, naming an Executive Director to head the new construction, eliminating the positions of the Directors of Historic Preservation and Arts and establishing a single grants coordinator, reclassifying the Directors of the Museum and Library as appointments of the Executive Director, eliminating all General Fund positions in the Arts and Historic Preservation, and trimming positions from the Library and the Museum.

The restructuring proposal, submitted also as part of the Administration's budget, met with objection from the Agencies, their Commissions, and, ultimately, the Legislature.

Because of the size of the reported deficit, the Legislature sought and received substantial budget reductions from the Agencies. Thus, a compromise of the restructuring legislation as it related to budgetary matters became a target for the agency directors. They met with the liaison from the Governor's office to attempt to reach an understanding. The directors detailed the amount of Federal funding jeopardized under the Administrations's proposal and cited some of the fundamental requirements the State must meet to qualify for further funding. The Governor's office accepted the Agency budget concessions and notified the Legislature's Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee that the restructuring plan could be withdrawn from consideration.

The Legislature, recognizing the arguments for maintaining the organizational structure, concurred with the Agencies that the Council as constituted should remain.

Planning

The core of the Cultural Affairs Council construction related to the orderly planning of activities within and about legislation and the intent of the Council was the prospect of formalizing the various informal relationships which have heretofore existed to facilitate the overall cultural planning process.

The initial year of the Council, however, found much of the attention focused on the Legislature. The Agencies worked within the Council structure to attempt to coordinate their activities before the Legislature in preparing and presenting testimony.

Beyond those initiatives, the Council and Agency directors conducted outreach with statewide cultural organizations such as the Maine Community Cultural Alliance, a nascent organization that combined public and private cultural organizations for advocacy, awareness, and education. Through the direct efforts of the Agencies and the involvement with such entities as the Alliance, the Council remains aware of and prepared to act upon regional, state and national issues as they arise.

Additionally, in keeping with the responsibilities incorporated within the legislation, the Council solicited opinions from such formal organizations as the Maine State Archives, the Maine Film Commission, the Maine Humanities Council, and the Maine State Law Library. Opportunities for individual interchanges presented themselves already as a matter of course because the interests and activities of the organizations outside the Cultural Affairs Council occasionally involved Council members.

A significant example was the meeting at Bates College in May 1991 of the Statewide Preservation Planning Project that involved archivists, historic preservationists, librarians and interested members of the arts community. Although not a formal function of the Council, it drew participants from across the cultural spectrum and addressed a shared concern.

Partly in response to the budgetary problems, the findings of the Restructuring Commission and the Legislature, and the on going negotiations regarding Council activities and structure, the Agencies explored possibilities where a variety of support functions could be shared while maintaining the individual professional identities and operations. For instance, the Arts Commission and Historic Preservation Commission combined their reception services for phone and visitation, and the State Library undertook the additional responsibility for the State Museum's business and personnel management.

AGENCY REPORTS

In spite of a year of budgetary cuts that had deleterious impacts upon each Agency, notable achievements bear mentioning.

Maine Arts Commission

The Maine Arts Commission suffered fiscal uncertainties in FY92 that resulted in frequent and often unexpected cutbacks and budgetary readjustments. The pressures of lay-offs, furlough days, and staff reassignments greatly strained the Agency's accustomed work flow. The accomplishments of the Agency, viewed against the backdrop of a difficult financial and organizational situation, are a source of pride.

The Agency receives its operating and program revenues from two principal sources, State and Federal governments. They are yardsticks by which to assess the working relationships established and maintained.

The Arts Commission received substantial bipartisan support from legislative leadership, the Appropriations Committee and the Education Committee, the three entities with which the Agency most deals. The two committees - as well as others, such as Taxation - find the Commission's work important to Maine. Their attitude is a by-product of many years of advocacy and positive support to and from Commission programs.

During February 1991, the Arts Commission faced a non-budget related salary shortfall. If uncorrected, the shortfall would have required laying off half the professional and clerical staff for the remainder of the fiscal year (Feb. 1 to June 30.) The Agency testified before the Appropriations Committee of the human and programmatic impacts of such a lay off, including the likelihood of a major loss in revenues from the federal government to Maine.

At a time when every State agency brooked cutbacks, the Appropriations Committee approved restitution of salaries and reinstated all program support.

Yet, no one escaped the on-going budget turmoil. The Agency's first reduction of 11.3 percent was slightly less than that proposed for all other agencies. By trimming the permanent staff by

20 percent and factoring in the federal block grants to the State, the Agency suffered no program reductions and enjoyed a \$30,000 program increase. The Commission actively reviewed a number of legislative issues in the most recent regular session. Taxation proposals garnered particular attention for suggesting changes relating to exemptions for non-profit organizations and the imposition of a sales tax on memberships and admissions. The Agency worked closely with individual organizations and statewide alliances to assist them with information and advocacy.

The Agency actively opposed a bill that proposed eliminating peer review for virtually all Commission programs and allowing local communities full authority over selections of artists for the Touring and Education programs. The Agency testified against the bill and rallied other arts advocates to do likewise. The bill received a unanimous ought-not-to-pass recommendation.

The Agency worked closely with the Maine Alliance for Arts Education to preserve the fine arts requirements on Maine schools. The effort was successful through careful legislative negotiations from the arts and education communities. Again, parenthetically, the response from arts advocates was clearly visible and vocal - on this as well as the Touring Artists initiative.

The Percent For Art program received re-authorization and, despite the troubled economy, the Legislature agreed to raise the ceiling on public school Percent for Art projects from \$25,000 to \$40,000. The change resulted in an increase of \$104,000 in commission amounts to Maine artists and brought the total of active projects to approximately \$900,000. Additionally, the Agency testified before the Education Committee in opposition to a bill proposing to make the Percent For Art program optional for all public buildings and eviscerating the selection process. Unanimously, the Committee reported the bill ought-not-to-pass. The full Legislature concurred.

In the presentation to Maine's Appropriations Committee regarding staff lay offs, the Agency reported that it risked losing up to \$400,000 in new federal competitive grants. While not guaranteeing just how much there would be, the Agency expected to receive between \$225,000 and \$250,000 from grants applied for during the tumultuous winter months. The final total, however, was surprising and gratifying, nearly \$500,000, 97 percent of the requested amount.

Maine's \$150,000 grant to assist under-served communities received a top rating from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). The proposal, supporting Franco-American and several rural communities, ranked second nationally out of the 79 applications submitted to the Endowment.

Maine was invited to submit a request to the NEA's Expansion Arts Program to assist a number of community-based arts organizations. The resulting support, \$120,000 over three years, may help strengthen and stabilize several organizations. The invitation was timely, given the economic troubles in Maine, and significant in that only one or two states are invited to participate.

Statistically, the Maine Arts Commission received 508 grant applications during FY92 and awarded \$592,724 to 306 of these applicants. A total of 1,624,323 individuals were served by these grants. \$13,919,000 in local matching funds was generated by Maine Arts Commission grants.

In addition to the funding-related work of the commission are those efforts undertaken because they are in keeping with the perceived mission and interest of the Agency. The Commission took strong stands regarding censorship in the arts in national and in-state issues and actively urged individuals and organizations throughout Maine to fight vigorously against the attacks on the NEA involving artistic freedom and censorship. Further, the Commission passed its own censorship resolution and helped reverse a prosecutorial decision of U.S. Attorney Richard Cohen involving a work of art he suspected to be pornographic. For their work on these censorship issues, Agency Director Aldon Wilson and Information Associate Dick Dyer, received Maine's Intellectual Freedom Award of the Year from the National Social Issues Research Society through the Maine Library Association.

Maine can soon boast of its Acadian Cultural Commission, an entity accorded federal status akin to Louisiana's Cajun Cultural Center. Congress authorized the establishment of the new commission and provided \$250,000 for an Acadian studies and interpretive center in the St. John Valley. The commission facilitated the introduction and acceptance of this project in advising the American Folklife Center of the Library of Congress on professional matters regarding the interpretation of Acadian culture and history, and in helping to coordinate the project's initial research phase.

The Commission remains very active in work with the New England Foundation for the Arts. Agency Director Alden Wilson serves on the Executive Committee, New England Foundation for the Art's (NEFA) Planning Committee, its New Financing Mechanisms Committee, and chairs the Nominating Committee. Beyond working to coordinate the programs of the Foundation with those of Maine, the commission informs Maine people of NEFA opportunities. As a result, Maine received \$3 from NEFA for every \$1 invested, the highest return in New England. Also, because Maine took the lead in coordinating new special federal application opportunities with the Foundation, New England enjoyed the highest regional return of federal grants in the country.

Strong working relationships help the commission with national organizations. Then-NEA Chairman John Frohnmayer appointed Wilson to serve on NEA's States Program Advisory Panel, the group that oversees a large share of NEA's program expenditures and policy matters. Panelists perform site reviews of some of the country's major organizations, most recently the Western States Arts Federation, which represents the 12 westernmost continental states and Hawaii. Emanating from the Agency's work on the Russian and Canadian projects, Frohnmayer also asked Wilson to be a member of the International Advisory Committee, a group comprised of people interested in international exchange projects.

In contemplating the future, the commission needs to consider innovative means of support that address well the aftermath of the current difficulties. In particular, the Commission is assessing its support for institutions and considering mechanisms to help them achieve stability during harsh periods. Criticism, healthy and caustic, is one reactive outgrowth of the recent financial trials and program modifications. The Commission, sensitive to the views of the institutional and artist communities, is involving them in a fuller dialogue to ascertain how better to assist their needs. Commission strength is based on its relationships with those in the field. Much as the commission prides itself on its relations with the Legislature and federal government, the picture is incomplete if those served are disquieted.

Change, and the threat of change, cause stress and duress. Despite the budget and funding accomplishments, change has occurred. Assimilating and accommodating that change, the Commission intends to enhance its communications effort with the cultural community to explore and develop options and solutions. The

commission members, Agency staff, and members of the arts field are working together to discern and seize what opportunities emerge from adversity. Specifically, the Commission embarked upon a long range planning process to totally redesign the Agency in the face of changing times. The plan, to be completed in early 1993, should chart a new path for the Commission for the remainder of the 90's.

Maine Historic Preservation Commission

A quarter century has passed since the National Historic Preservation Act became law, creating the National Register of Historic Places and establishing mechanisms for the states to identify and preserve significant cultural resources.

Mindful of this federal action, Maine's 105th Legislature in 1971 created the Maine Historic Preservation Commission. The Commission immediately began administering the historic preservation program, assuming the responsibility from the Maine Bureau of Parks and recreation, who had borne it since 1969.

During the past two decades, the program has developed in ways that the Congressional founders could hardly have imagined 25 years ago. Maine's statistics provide ample evidence of the growth and breadth of the historic preservation program.

In 1971, Maine listing in the National Register totalled 78 individual properties and five historic districts. Through 1992, the figures are 995 individual properties and 114 historic districts. Listings with the National Register are important in that they provide certain protections under the law and eligibilities for federal and state restoration grants.

Within the 1992 fiscal year alone, Maine's Historic Preservation Commission nominated three historic districts, 24 individual buildings and one archeological site to the National Register.

From the beginning of the Federal Restoration Grant Program in 1971 to 1983, Maine's Commission awarded \$2.9 million in such grants, which were in turn matched on a 50 percent basis by the institutions owning the registered properties, for a total investment of \$5.8 million. The grant program was suspended from 1983 to 1988, when Congress created the three-year Bicentennial Lighthouse Fund. From 1988 to 1990, Maine's commission awarded \$350,000 from

that fund to restore eleven historic light stations.

During the intervening years between the Federal Restoration Grant Program and the Lighthouse Fund, Maine State Government and the Maine electorate acted to fill the temporary void. A \$2 million bond issue passed in 1985 authorized the Historic Buildings Restoration Grants Program. From 1986 through 1989 the Commission awarded state matching grants to 142 projects throughout Maine's sixteen counties, for a total investment of more than \$4 million.

In November of 1991, another bond issue, linking historic preservation efforts with the parks program, went before the Maine voters. Despite the difficulties in Maine's economy, there seemed a considerable chance of passage. Election day, however, found a voting public unwilling to place the State any deeper in debt. The bond issue was defeated.

In spite of the disappointing outcome at the polls, the Commission's survey program attempted to grow apace in the publicly acknowledged effort to identify significant prehistoric and historic archeological sites, as well as buildings and districts, to assess more clearly their vulnerability, and to develop strategies for their preservation.

Staff-conducted surveys and survey partnership grants uniting the Commission and other institutions have made dramatic progress since the first tentative steps twenty years ago. One telling statistic of the progress of this long-term program is the success of the Commission in identifying prehistoric sites. In 1971, Maine's known inventory was 300 such sites. In 1992, that number is 5,000 and growing.

The FY92 budget reductions necessitated more than a 50 percent cut in the Commission's survey program. Survey activities, fundamental to the on-going accomplishments of the program, have necessarily been curtailed accordingly.

Other essential program areas merit mention.

- The Commission staff annually reviews approximately 1,000 proposed construction projects funded or licensed by the United States or Maine governments to ensure that significant archeological sites and buildings will not be damaged or destroyed.

- The Commission works with many municipalities in sharing inventory data and recommending local preservation strategies, such as adoption of municipal preservation ordinances. About two dozen Maine cities and towns have taken this important step. That number will assuredly grow quickly in response to and from the impetus of Maine's comprehensive planning program.
- Since 1981, Commission staff have assisted Maine's private development community in the area of preservation tax incentives. The result to date has been 288 projects fueled by private-sector investment in historic rehabilitations totalling \$152 million.
- From its inception, the Commission has placed a high value on publications for both public benefit and public education on preservation issues. In the Commission's 20 year history, the list of books, booklets and reports on Maine archeology, history and architectural history has grown at a rate consistent with the accomplishments in the field.

From the achievements of the Historic Preservation Commission to date, a pattern emerges that stands to guide the work of the Commission into the foreseeable future. At every juncture when preservation initiatives at the federal or state level have emerged, Maine has been found rich in subject material worthy of preservation.

As long as our society regards preservation efforts as significant to the cultural fabric of the community at large, the work of the Commission remains well short of completion. The dilemma, however, is that the pressures of time and development continue to imperil those archeological sites and historic buildings that have yet to be included in the preservation realm.

A recent program at the federal level provides a clear example of the problem. The Abandoned Shipwreck Act, passed by Congress in 1987, may have little impact in Kansas, but it holds considerable promise in a state like Maine, whose maritime history is almost unmatched anywhere in the nation. While the federal government has thus recognized the importance and, of equal weight, the fragility of a resource of obvious significance to Maine, the Commission has yet to acquire the tools needed to identify and protect worthy underwater sites.

Not all of the Commission's long term priorities will require increased federal and state commitments to historic preservation, but many will. If the past quarter century is an indicator, ways will be found to secure the needed commitments. The people of Maine will benefit significantly from these preservation efforts.

Maine State Library

In many respects, FY 1992 was an extraordinary year for the Library.

Maine sent four delegates to the White House Conference on Library and Information Services in July. The Maine delegation, Neil Rolde of York, Nann Blaine Hilyard of Auburn, Donald Wismer of Wayne, and Theodore M. Andrei of Washington, were selected from among 80 delegates and 40 observers who participated in the Blaine House Conference in March. The state conference helped select and refine several topics and recommendations for consideration by the national assembly. The White House Conference, in turn, arrived at 97 recommendations to be incorporated in a report to the President and the Congress.

The Maine Library Association adopted new public library standards and identified them in **Achieving Quality Public Library Service in Maine: A Planning and Standards Documents**. Maine State Library staff are assisting in the implementation of the standards. Principally, the guide aids libraries in examining their particular situations, setting goals and objectives, selecting appropriate community-based roles, and evaluating their achievements. The intent of the guide is to serve as a self-improvement tool in addition to providing an outline of sound management practices for public libraries. The State Library staff, especially its consultants, will work with local libraries to ensure standards can be met and services improved.

Another outreach accomplishment between the Maine State Library and its community resulted in the URSUS (University Resources Serving Users Statewide) catalog system incorporating the resources of the Maine State Library. The development was made possible through a cooperative grant with the University. URSUS now includes material located in the eight campus libraries, four branch libraries, and the Maine State Library. The system supports automated circulation control and catalog maintenance services, including inter-library loan operations. In addition, URSUS will open

up automated access to the State Library's entire collection of Maine State documents, a unique feature of the collection. Plans are currently being discussed to expand URSUS to major public libraries throughout the State, as well as the Maine State Legislature.

The Maine State Library also completed a new venture in summer reading for Books-By-Mail registrants. The program, serving children in towns with no libraries or limited library services, had a theme of "Travel Down the East Coast," combining geography skills with reading to acquaint Maine children, through the eighth grade, with other places while at the same time accentuating their reading skills. Of the nearly 400 children who began the program, over half were able to accomplish the entire "journey."

The most publicized event involving the Maine State Library occurred in April. Laurel Thatcher Ulrich continued to reap recognition for her work, **A Midwife's Tale: The Life of Martha Ballard, Based on Her Diary, 1785-1812**. Ulrich was awarded the 1991 Pulitzer Prize for history, as well as Columbia University's Bancroft Prize. The work, based on the diary of a Hallowell woman, chronicled births, deaths, marriages, crimes and other human events of the late 18th century. The diary, a gift to the Maine State Library nearly 50 years ago, has been a treasured possession. In the tumult of the past year, the celebration of **A Midwife's Tale** buoyed the spirits of the Library staff and served to validate their work as much as it commended Laurel Ulrich. The Library hosted a reception in her honor. The event contrasted sharply with the on-going difficulty involving the operating revenue of the Agency.

By the year's end, Maine had joined a handful of states who did not provide per capita support for libraries.

Budget reductions exacted a human toll upon library services. Four positions that had previously been frozen were eliminated outright, and there were three additional layoffs. The positions lost necessitated reducing the hours of service. Evening hours were eliminated, however, full time Saturday services continued. Acquisitions of up-dated reference works such as annual continuations and printed and computer indexes were cut.

Preservation grants for restoring and preserving historically significant local and state material were suspended.

Funding for libraries wishing to participate in MaineCat, the

computer access to information among over 250 libraries, was frozen.

The purchase and duplication of education videotapes for schools was reduced by 50 percent. Purchases of large-print books for the visually impaired were eliminated, as were the purchases of new videotapes for loaning to public libraries and nursing homes.

Because of the State's financial troubles, a major goal of the Library will be to restore on a prioritized basis those services that have been curtailed or eliminated. The top priority will be to re-fund, through state aid per capita, the State's commitment to local public library services. The Library will seek to secure a greater budget for book purchasing, merely to keep pace with demand from the field; because, despite budget and service reductions, demand for library use continues to increase. This pattern is typical of all other periods of our history when the economy is sluggish. Often libraries offer the key to re-education, job training, and ultimately re-employment.

All statistical measures demonstrate a rise in activity.

- * 76,000 items are circulated to library users statewide; over 83,000 items are used by patrons in the Library
- * Over 23,000 subject requests were processed last year
- * 33,000 requests for books and periodical articles were processed through the inter-library loan system
- * 1,000 computer-based citations are provided
- * 65,533 sets of catalog cards are provided to 135 public libraries
- * 140,000 talking books are circulated to over 3,700 visually impaired readers
- * 60,000 books-by-mail items are mailed to 17,420 users throughout rural Maine
- * 60,000 large-print books are circulated to over 110 public libraries and 345 individuals
- * 12,000 film/video programs use the State Library collection, servicing over 200,000 viewers
- * over 8,400 items are circulated from video packets
- * Maine's Regional Library System provides over 55,000 inter-library loan items - one of the country's highest per capita rates

- * Library consultant services are provided to nearly 500 Regional Library System members
- * 30,000 educational videotape programs are distributed to schools
- * 100 schools are visited for consultation and workshops
- * Our Information Exchange processed 2,000 computer-based searches to help locate resources for solving classroom instruction problems
- * Over 100 school tours were conducted, benefiting more than 3,500 Maine students

The future of the Library will increasingly involve technologies such as automation, which can help offset budget reductions and yet maintain high levels of service. The Library staff looks forward to the development and expansion of the current partnership with the University of Maine and the public libraries of Portland and Bangor. Resource sharing should enhance the capability to locate and utilize more materials in-state.

Maine State Museum

The Maine State Museum Commission dealt with extraordinary events in Fiscal Year 1992. Responsibilities were met in accordance with long-term plans and mandated responsibilities.

The startup and first fiscal year of the Maine State Cultural Affairs Council coincided with a fundamental change within the Museum. This was an organizational evolution, from a relatively young institution into a mature one.

Tracing its roots back to 1837, the modern Museum was initiated by the Maine Legislature in 1966 to "...further the cultural and educational interests of the People of the State, to present through the use of its collections and activities, the proud heritage and unique historical background, and preserve and exhibit the environmental and cultural richness of the State...".

The Museum Commission and staff have built a very fine institution in the years since. Policies have been established,

educational programs initiated, collections assembled, exhibits built, and publications issued. In many ways the passage from youth to maturity for the institution began with the opening of **12,000 Years in Maine** in May of 1991. This exhibition not only presented the results of nearly twenty years of archaeological fieldwork and study by museum staff in the realm of prehistoric Maine cultures, but it also filled the final space within the original gallery area with a "permanent" exhibit.

As FY92 began, a number of smaller exhibits were in preparation and upgrades to existing exhibits were receiving greater attention also. Initial plans had been made to convert former artifact storage and class room space on the Museum's fourth floor into both permanent and rotating exhibit space. The focus of exhibits in this new space will be on the homes and domestic life of Maine people. This new focus also represents a mature exhibition cycle, revisiting and more fully developing cultural themes previously addressed only in small temporary exhibits.

Unfortunately this period also coincided with the beginning of serious economic challenge within state government. By the end of FY91, three and one half staff positions had been eliminated which brought total staffing down to the 1974 level. (In 1974 the museum had only 15% of the 1991 public visitation and only 10% of the exhibit space to maintain). FY92 reductions further decreased the staff by three full-time and three seasonal positions. This represented a total staff reduction of 23%.

The traditional danger periods for institutions are initial startup and the readjustment to maturity. The Maine State Museum Commission recognized the significance of this danger in light of the state's economic situation. Studies were initiated of outside funding potential and other avenues of support.

New and revived efforts were put in place during FY92. A support organization, Friends of the Maine State Museum was incorporated to "...benefit the Maine State Museum and its mission to preserve Maine's heritage." The legislature approved the establishment of a Membership Program in order to collect dues which in turn pay for member services which would otherwise have been unavailable. Under the guidance of a fundraising consultant, the Museum also began applying for major private and federal grants for the first time in over a decade.

These efforts can never replace General Fund support but should, in time, be able to fund special exhibits, publications, and public programs otherwise beyond the capacity of state budgets. Together the traditional and new efforts are shaping the mature museum into one which can meet the challenge of the future.

To detail some specific accomplishments for FY92 the following programmatic summary is provided:

Education: During FY92 the Maine State Museum continued its program of exhibiting and interpreting its collections to school aged visitors and the general public. Admission charges were introduced in January 1992 with all proceeds deposited into the state's General Fund. Attendance in FY92 totaled over 96,000 visitors. The "Sunday Events" series of winter lectures completed another successful year.

Collections: The Museum acquired over 3,700 artifacts during FY92, the majority of which were donations from Maine citizens. Examples of special acquisitions include: a well documented collection of 680 mineral specimens, a lever action Evans carbine, a Gardiner family silver mug from the late 1700's, and several well documented pieces of paint decorated furniture. Ongoing archaeological research and field work has continued to add to the Museum's wealth of pre-historic knowledge and artifacts. Excavations near Brunswick unearthed a ceremonial site of the Late Archaic Period (6,000 to 3,000 years ago). Some artifacts from this site will be placed on exhibit in the coming year. Specific gifts included 1,749 units, two of which were actually collections of archaeological specimens numbering in the hundreds. Purchases accounted for 61 items, transfers from other institutions numbered 12 with one representing another collection of hundreds of archaeological specimens. Two bequests totalling 84 items were also received.

Each acquisition was fully catalogued, carefully stored, and subjected to appropriate research. The meticulous care accorded the additions amply bespeaks the professional level reached by the Museum's curatorial and registrarial staff over the past several years.

Conservation: The conservation staff was reduced to one technician during FY92. The subsequent activity in this field has been primarily limited to cleaning and preparing artifacts for exhibition, mounting the artifacts in finished installations, and developing plans to use conservation consultants to provide needed advice.

Exhibitions: Several exhibits were completed during FY92 including:

Struggle for identity: Creating the State of Maine, 1675-1842 which touches upon geography, military conflict, political maneuvering, and the achievement of statehood. **Hail Britannia: An Exhibition of Maine Pewter and Silverplate Ware** presents the work of major makers. **Maine Indian Products: Basketmaking and Tools of the Trade** demonstrates Native American craft work through products, tools, and a videotape of traditional basketmaker Billy Neptune producing one of the baskets exhibited. Upgrades of existing exhibits were designed and begun on the subjects of **Maine Inventors** and **The Granite Industry**.

Publications: A catalog entitled "Hail Britannia: Maine Pewter and Silverplate" was prepared and sent to print in FY92. This catalog provides a permanent record of the Pewter and Silverplate makers of Maine with information more extensive than that included on exhibit labels. A grant was obtained to aid in the production of two publications on Maine archaeology. The first will present a series of chapters authored by Maine scholars on themes explored in the Museum's exhibit **12,000 Years in Maine**. The companion book is intended as a gallery guide to the exhibit.

Membership: The new Membership Program described above holds a great deal of promise for broadening the outreach efforts of the Museum. Dues paid by members are restricted to support of Museum operations, collection care, and programs. Members will receive the quarterly newsletter "Broadside" as well as invitations to special events and other benefits.

Professional Outreach: Museum staff supported the founding of the Maine Association of Museums, a statewide, private, membership organization. Maine State Museum personnel contributed extensively in the organizational effort of the new association, whose existence is testimony to the growing concern for the identification and care of Maine's cultural heritage.

In combination with the Maine Association of Museums and Maine State Archives, the Museum established the Cultural Information Resource Center in FY92 to provide professional support to Maine museums, libraries, archives and other collecting institutions. This is primarily done through promoting the networking of advice among these institutions and the establishment of mentor

relationships. An office, located at the Archives, is active each morning via the half-time assignment of a Museum staff member as Manager. Professional support to the state's Museum Community had been the one area of museum responsibility previously considered weak.

The Museum remains committed to achieving all mandated goals and directives. Collections will be cared for; exhibitions tended, expanded and improved; new acquisitions sought; and the public served to the utmost of the Museum's capabilities in accordance with the high standards that have made the Maine State Museum an institution of national and international prominence.

Program needs to be dealt with in the near future include more secure storage for large artifacts, including a good collection of small boats. Currently two small unguarded wooden barns at a remote site are used.

In close association with the Maine Historic Preservation Commission the Museum will seek to begin a survey of shipwrecks in coastal waters, navigable rivers, and great ponds as required by the Federal Abandoned Shipwreck Act (43 U.S.C. 2101-2106). This presents a tremendous challenge in the current budgetary environment.

Fortunately the maturation of the museum, like the development of the Maine State Cultural Affairs Council, has been timely and represents a strong citizen interest in promoting Maine's rich cultural heritage.

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1992

The Maine State Cultural Affairs Council has no separate budget and relies upon the resources of the four agencies for staff support and all activities.

	Arts Commission	Historic Preservation Commission	State Library	State Museum
Receipts				
Federal Funds	697,618	450,036	758,393	
Special Revenue	<u>7,428</u>	<u>203,146</u>	<u>25,910</u>	<u>162,968</u>
Total Receipts	705,046	653,182	784,303	162,968
Expenditures				
General Fund	601,690	246,190	2,656,144	1,159,883
Federal Fund	594,697	426,822	752,725	
Special Revenue	6,950	187,514	2,732	89,527
Bond Account		<u>50,401</u>		
Total Expenditures	<u>1,203,37</u>	<u>910,927</u>	<u>3,411,601</u>	<u>1,249,410</u>
Number of Positions				
General Fund	8	4	55½	24½
Federal	2	5	4	
Other		<u>9½</u>		<u>1</u>
Total Positions	<u>10</u>	<u>18½</u>	<u>59½</u>	<u>25½</u>

SUMMARY OF FOUR CULTURAL AGENCIES

Receipts	
Federal Funds	1,906,047
Special Revenues	<u>399,452</u>
Total Receipts	2,305,499
Expenditures	
General Fund	4,663,907
Federal Fund	1,774,244
Special Revenue	286,723
Bond Account	<u>50,401</u>
Total Expenditures	6,775,275

LEADERSHIP

MAINE STATE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COUNCIL, June 1992

Lai-Kent Orenduff, Chair

Peter Plumb, Chair, Maine Arts Commission

Jim Ugone, Vice Chair, Maine Arts Commission

Richard Will, Chair, Maine Historic Preservation Commission

Malcolm Collins, Vice Chair, Maine Historic Preservation Commission

Nann Blaine Hilyard, Chair, Maine Library Commission

Elaine M. Albright, Vice Chair, Maine Library Commission

Richard N. Berry, Chair, Maine State Museum Commission

John K. Heyl, Vice Chair, Maine State Museum Commission

Nonvoting member:

Harriett Dawson, Special Assistant to the Governor

Nonvoting exofficio members:

Alden C. Wilson, Executive Director, Maine Arts Commission

Earle G. Shettleworth, Jr., Director, Maine Historic Preservation Commission

J. Gary Nichols, State Librarian, Maine State Library

Joseph R. Phillips, Director, Maine State Museum

MAINE ARTS COMMISSION, June 1992

Peter Plumb, Chair, Portland

Jim Ugone, Vice-Chair, Caribou

Patricia Anderson, South Freeport

Rebecca Brown, Walpole

Marvin Garner, Lincolnville

David Lakari, Portland

Georgene Lamoreau, Presque Isle

Nancy Masterton, Cape Elizabeth

Steven Moore, Brunswick

Phyllis O'Neil, Portland

Lai-Kent Orenduff, Farmington

Ronald H. Pearson, Deer Isle

Carol Rea, Auburn

Otto W. Siebert, Augusta

Carl B. Straub, Lewiston

Marian Vafiades, Hampden

Alden C. Wilson, Executive Director

MAINE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION, June 1992

Dr. Richard Will, Chair and Prehistoric Archaeological Member, Ellsworth,

Malcolm Collins, Vice-Chair and Architect Member, South Freeport

Leah Benway, Moody

Dr. Joyce Bibber, Gorham

Margaret Chapman, Woolwich

Paul Dillaway, Sr., Waldoboro

Dr. Alaric Faulkner, Historic Archaeologist Member, Winterport

Dr. Stanley Howe, Historian Member, Bethel

Dr. Brooks Stoddard, Architectural Historian Member, Brunswick

Timothy Woodcock, Bangor

Herbert Hartman, Ex-Officio Member, Department of Conservation

Paul Minor, Ex-Officio Member, Department of Transportation

Earle G. Shettleworth, Jr., Director

MAINE LIBRARY COMMISSION, June 1992

Nann Blaine Hilyard, Chair, Auburn

Elaine Albright, Vice Chair, Orono

Tony Ackerman, Windham

Debbie Chandler, Westbrook

Judith Curtis, Milbridge

Andrew Golub, Biddeford

Richard Gould, Lisbon Falls

Sue Jagels, Winterport

Nancy Joyce, Gardiner

Linda Lord, Brooks

Sally MacAuslan, Bridgton

Jean Pernice, Winslow

Carolyn Watkins, Westbrook

Don Wismer, Kents Hill

Robert Woodward, Bangor

Sheldon Kaye, Ex-Officio, Portland

Barbara Rice, Ex-Officio, Bangor

J. Gary Nichols, State Librarian

MAINE STATE MUSEUM COMMISSION, June 1992

Richard N. Berry, Chair, South Bristol

John K. Heyl, Vice-Chair, Boothbay Harbor

Lila Segal, Secretary, Winthrop

David R. Ault, Wayne

Gail Rae Carter, Cumberland Center

Muriel M. Flagg DeShon, Perry

Diana Gibson, Hallowell

Ester L. Shaw, Gardiner

Kenneth E. Jewett, Belfast

Gwendolyn H. Lyford, Cumberland Center

Minna Pachowsky, Waterville

Frank A. Peltier, Houlton

Elaine M. Pevery, Kittery

Arnold H. Sturtevant, Kents Hill

Elsie Viles, Augusta

Paul E. Rivard, Director (served through 8/30/91)

Terrance H. Geaghan, Acting Director (served 9/1/91 - 4/12/92)

Joseph R. Phillips, Director (served beginning 4/13/92)