



CULTURAL
RESOURCE
CONSULTANTS

ROBERT J. WISE, JR.

PRINCIPAL SENIOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLANNER

YEARS OF EXPERIENCE:

With this firm:

2015-Present

With other firms: 22

Wise Preservation

Planning LLC: 15

Brandywine

Conservancy/other: 7

EDUCATION:

MS 1993

University of

Pennsylvania

Historic Preservation

MBA 1994

The Pennsylvania State

University

Business Administration

BA 1981

Dickinson College

History

PROFESSIONAL

TRAINING:

Cultural Resource

Essentials Planning

Program, PHMC

Harrisburg, PA, 2009

Certificate in Community

Planning, Pennsylvania

Municipal Planning

Education Institute, 2008

PROFESSIONAL

ORGANIZATIONS:

Preservation Pennsylvania

National Trust for

Historic Preservation

Preservation Alliance of

Greater Philadelphia

Professional Experience Summary:

Robert J. Wise, Jr. provides professional historic resource protection planning and cultural resource management to local governments, land planners, developers, attorneys, engineers, and individuals. Mr. Wise's responsibilities include project management and the direction of cultural resource investigations. Project experience includes comprehensive, open space and master plan delineation, master level surveys, historic research, structures reports and impact studies, National Register and National Historic Landmark nominations, battlefield preservation, historic resource protection ordinances, municipal planning assistance, conservation easement drafting and documentation, grant writing, and site interpretation throughout the Mid-Atlantic region. Mr. Wise exceeds the qualifications set forth in the Secretary of Interior's Standards for an Architectural Historian [36 CFR 61].

Representative Project Experience:

Historic Resource Impact Studies, Southeastern Pennsylvania (Sponsor: Private Developers) Prepared scores of Historic Resource Impact Studies throughout Southeastern Pennsylvania ranging from small subdivisions, to adaptive reuse and demolition of historic resources, to large residential and commercial developments spanning hundreds of acres and dozens of historic structures. Developed a five-level impact assessment analysis that is accepted in all municipalities where studies have been submitted. Provides realistic mitigation recommendations for applicants and presents findings at municipal commission meetings. Primary locations: Chester, Montgomery, and Delaware Counties.

Municipal-wide Historic Resource Surveys, Southeastern Pennsylvania (Sponsor: Various Municipalities) Project Manager for intensive-level Historic Resource Surveys of over 16 municipalities located throughout the Greater Philadelphia area. Thousands of resources have been surveyed, photographed, researched and documented in suburban or rural townships and historic boroughs using the latest survey techniques and Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) guidance. These studies are used on a regular basis to augment municipal planning and historic resource protection ordinances, as well as the ongoing Chester County Historic Atlas Project. The projects have often involved the public and brought an awareness of and appreciation for historic preservation throughout the region.

National Register/National Historic Landmark Nominations, Southeastern Pennsylvania with associated projects primarily in Mid-Atlantic region (Sponsor: Various Municipalities and Private Clients) Since 1991, Mr. Wise has successfully drafted or co-drafted 30 National Register and National Historic Landmarks nominations. Before joining RGA, Mr. Wise's own firm was a leading preparer of National Register nominations in Pennsylvania, having documented nearly 3,000 resources. Mr. Wise has also been involved in various capacities in dozens of other National Register projects, including expansions of historic district boundaries, initial evaluations, re-evaluations, updating resource inventories, site interpretation, adaptive re-use, and developing historic resource protection language. Projects include National Historic Landmark listings of properties associated with artists N.C. Wyeth and son Andrew Wyeth (Chadds Ford, PA) and a determination of eligibility for Frank Lloyd Wright's "Suntop" Homes (Ardmore, PA).

Representative Project Experience (Continued):

Upland Farm Historic Structures Report and Re-use Plan, Upper Uwchlan Township, Chester County, PA (Sponsor: Upper Uwchlan Township Historical Commission) [Affiliation: Wise Preservation Planning, LLC] Project manager for the extensive historic architectural survey and documentation of the Joseph Beerbower Farm, a circa 1734 farmhouse with associated barn and outbuildings. Prepared a Historic Structures Report and Re-use Plan that outlined the property's history and provided recommendations for its reuse and interpretation. The results were utilized by the Upper Uwchlan Township Historical Commission in developing a master plan for the property, now a township park. Additional work involved advising an architect for the rehabilitation of the Barn. As the township's historic preservation consultant, Mr. Wise has helped Upper Uwchlan inventory, document and manage its historic resources for nearly 20 years.

Anson Nixon Park Historic Structures Report and Analysis, Kennett Township and Borough of Kennett Square, Chester County, PA (Sponsor: Kennett Area Park Authority) [Affiliation: Wise Preservation Planning] Provided historical and architectural documentation of a 100-year old, former municipal pumping, holding, and filtration facility as part of a master plan to rehabilitate these resources at this heavily used municipal park. Services provided to architectural design team, which developed the master plan. Project elements included a historic investigation of the three principal water company resources at the site, an architectural analysis of these structures, and recommendations for their reuse, in addition to participation in design team meetings and public visioning meetings.

Erie County Historic Resource Survey, Erie County, PA (Sponsor: Preservation Erie) [Affiliation: Wise Preservation Planning, LLC] Responsible for project management for a recently completed comprehensive architectural survey of 31,470 pre-1940 resources in preparation for a county-wide historic preservation plan. The project involved 37 municipalities and the City of Erie, Pennsylvania's fourth largest city. Surveyed resources were classified by architectural significance (National Register criteria) with specific recommendations for 543 listed or potential National Register-eligible properties. All survey information was recorded using a Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission's (PHMC) Access Database and mapped. The survey evaluated 25 National Register-listed, -eligible and potential historic districts. The resulting documentation was also placed on a website created specifically for Erie County.

Bangor Historic District, Borough of Bangor, Northampton County, PA (Sponsor: Borough of Bangor) [Affiliation: Wise Preservation Planning, LLC] Project Manager for the successful Determination of Eligibility and National Register of Historic Places nomination of the Bangor Historic District significant for its role in the slate and manufacturing industry in the Slate Belt region. The district contains over 1,000 contributing resources including 890 residences, 57 commercial and 29 industrial buildings. With its fine central business district, the Borough of Bangor uses the listing in association with its Main Street program and as major anchor in the Slate Belt heritage region, to promote business and tourism.

Oxford Historic District, Borough of Oxford, Chester County, PA (Sponsor: Borough of Oxford) [Affiliation: Wise Preservation Planning, LLC] Project Manager for the successful Determination of Eligibility and National Register of Historic Places nomination of the Oxford Historic District, a historic crossroads village significant for its large concentration of Victorian residential and commercial buildings constructed between 1860 and 1910. Assisted the Borough planner with the drafting of an Act-167 ordinance, the establishment of a Historic Architectural Review Board (HARB) and the training of its Board members.

Mill Creek Historic District Boundary Increase, Lower Merion Township, Montgomery County, PA (Sponsor: Lower Merion Township) [Affiliation: Wise Preservation Planning] Conducted research and historic site evaluation for a 900-acre extension to the National Register-listed Mill Creek Historic District. The district is comprised of the historic industrial core of Lower Merion Township and is the location of some of America's first mills, some of which still stand and are used for residential or light industrial use. Conducted historic resource evaluations for 85 properties including mill ruins, farmhouses, and Main Line manor houses and estates.

Joseph Oat & Son Building (Castings Condominium), City of Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, PA (Sponsor: Private Entity) [Affiliation: Wise Preservation Planning] Prepared a Historic Resource Report for the Joseph Oat & Son building, an 1840 factory building used for the manufacture of cast and later sheet metal products. The report included documenting the company history, structural significance, and remaining vestiges of the company's machinery.