

Henry George Newsletter

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THE HENRY GEORGE BIRTHPLACE: Philadelphia's Newest Restored Museum



413 South 10th Street, Philadelphia, is a modest Center City rowhouse in which, 150 years ago, Henry George was born. Since its restoration this past summer, more and more people are taking notice of the "poorman's house" listed in the National Register of Historic Places. For example, an article on *Land Value Taxation* by Ann L. Rappoport in the October 18th issue of *Focus* begins with the Birthplace and then goes on to discuss the continuing significance of George's ideas. The Birthplace was also recently nominated by Preservation Techniques for the John McArthur Award for Superior Historic Restoration. Preservation Techniques is an organization devoted to improve craftsmanship and historic preservation. The Birthplace's nomination is in the "institutional" and "skilled" categories.

The Birthplace serves two functions. It is a Museum, complete with 19th century decor and objects such as the bed in which George was born, small items of his personal property, as well as a library and archives of old and rare works by George and others in the Single Tax movement. And it also houses the office and classrooms of the Henry George School.

Before-and-after photographs of the Birthplace were included in a recent exhibit held in Philadelphia in October, sponsored by the American Institute of Architects. Coming up in February will be a tour of 413 South 10th Street as part of a symposium of members of The National Trust for Historic Preservation. Richard Tyler, head of the Philadelphia Historic Commission has referred to the Birthplace as the city's newest museum. The Birthplace Museum is open to the public from 1 to 4 PM daily.



The Parlor, with a bust of George, inside the Birthplace.