

Shakertown: Then & Now



In conjunction with another in the Museum's "An Evening With Our History" programs slated for 7:30 p.m., Thursday March 16th, our main lobby is temporary home for an exhibit on the outstanding restoration near Lexington. Prepared for the 40th Anniversary Celebration at Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill, Shakertown's *Then & Now* exhibit consists of nine fascinating panels of photography depicting the Shaker community prior to, during and after its renowned restoration. Today, Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill is noted as one of the finest examples of historic restorations in the United States.

The photographs and text chosen for Pleasant Hill's *Then & Now* Exhibit visually portray the progress of the restoration. The stark black and white images of structures in decline highly contrast with the vibrant colors of the restoration.

Design and construction of the panels themselves, seated in wood frames and constructed by village craftsmen, are painted in colors found at Pleasant Hill through research of historic paint colors.



"Evening" Program

Author Thomas Parrish appears Thursday, March 16th to tell the story of a group of Bluegrass leaders unwilling to allow a unique jewel to be lost forever. In his University Press of Kentucky book, *Restoring Shakertown: The Struggle to Save the Historic Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill*, with a foreword by Dr. Thomas D. Clark, Parrish presents a dramatic chronicle of the village's evolving fortunes, from the challenges of financing restoration to finding preservation experts to achieve the highest standards of authenticity.

In the 50-year history of the Shakertown's restoration effort many sons and daughters of the Bluegrass have been integrally involved. *Restoring Shakertown* recounts the contributions of Earl Wallace, Joseph and Lucy Graves, Barry Bingham, Hilary Boone Jr., James L. Cogar, Dorothy Norton Clay, Juliette Brewer, Betty W. Morris, Robert Jewell, Robert F. Houlihan, William T. Young, Alex G. Campbell Jr., Jim Thomas, Madge Adams, and numerous other people who shaped a dream into reality with their time, talents, and resources.