



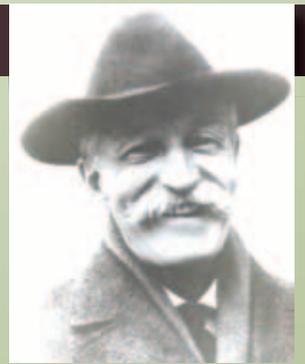
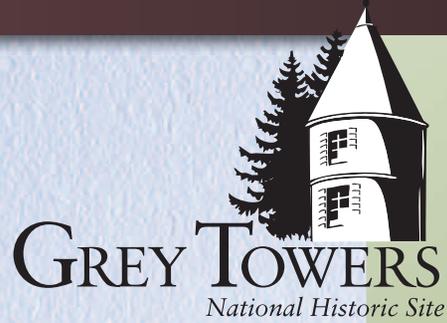
GREY TOWERS
National Historic Site

USDA Forest Service

JANUARY 2011



Grey Towers: Ideas, Innovations & Inspirations
2010 Accomplishment Report



Dear Friend of Grey Towers:

We are pleased to present this publication – *2010-11 Grey Towers Ideas, Innovations & Inspirations* – for your enjoyment and education. This report is not your typical annual accomplishment report; instead, it highlights some of the 2010 accomplishments and offers glimpses of what will unfold in the future. And because Grey Towers has for years been an inspiration to those who spend time here, this publication is filled with photographs, quotes and thoughts that we hope will offer you the experience of the essence of this special place.

Grey Towers National Historic Site, ancestral home of Gifford Pinchot, founder and first chief of the USDA Forest Service, today stands as an iconic symbol for the agency he helped to found. Thanks to the generosity and vision of Gifford Pinchot’s family, Grey Towers is more than a part of our national heritage; it is also a part of our future. Today the USDA Forest Service, with many partners and collaborators, offers programs and services that carry the Pinchot conservation legacy forward.

We are particularly pleased with the progress we have made in the ongoing restoration of Grey Towers. Each project brings us closer to returning Grey Towers to how it looked when the Pinchot family lived here in the 19th and early 20th century, thus enabling

our guests to fully experience the energy generated when the estate was in its heyday, while providing modern-day technology and services to tell the fascinating story of what happened here.

As I approach my one-year anniversary as the Director of Grey Towers, I am proud of the partnerships and networks that we are nurturing and I look forward to increased cooperation and collaboration so that we may best leverage our resources and continue to impact the future of conservation.

We hope that by reviewing this publication you will not only join us in celebrating our accomplishments but will be inspired to carry forward your own conservation ethic. The walls and walkways of Grey Towers have inspired many generations to embrace the future of our nation’s natural resources. We thank our partners, cooperators, the public and our audiences for their continued *ideas, innovations and inspirations*.

Sincerely,

Allison L Stewart
Director, Grey Towers National Historic Site

The job was not to stop the ax, but to regulate its use. . . . A nation utterly absorbed in the present had to be brought to consider the future.

**Gifford Pinchot
Breaking New Ground
1947, Page 29**





Conservation Education, Public Programs

The Grey Towers mansion, stone buildings, and landscaped grounds inspire all who visit. They provide the setting for staff members to connect visitors' hearts and minds to the legacy of the Pinchot family. Interpretive tours, public programs, walks and talks, school programs, and community festivals bring the Pinchot family legacy to life for all who visit.

Highlights of the 2010 season:

- ♦ Informed nearly 16,000 visitors about the Pinchot family's history and its contributions to natural resource conservation and humanity. Added specific interpretive programs and tours to expand visitors' knowledge of and insight into the many altruistic contributions of Pinchot family members to society.
- ♦ Educated more than 750 school children about the history of forestry in America and the role of Grey Towers and the Pinchot family in that history. Developed a curriculum-based program that demonstrates the integration of science and math in forestry.
- ♦ Improved the visitors' experience with a) the addition of a new "Self Guided Landscape Tour," which provides historical information for those who are enjoying the gardens and b) the addition of new interpretive waysides for the Letter Box and the Bait Box buildings in the landscape, the latter of which is not ADA-compliant, so that visitors with mobility challenges can now appreciate the interior of the buildings.
- ♦ Attracted nearly 3,000 people to the 2010 Festival of Wood to learn about sustainable forestry and gain an appreciation of the many ways we use wood in our daily lives. The festival was temporarily moved offsite due to construction projects at Grey Towers. This event had a 100 percent safety record as well as record participation by wood craftsmen and educational exhibitors.
- ♦ Expanded the Grey Towers college intern program by extending opportunities across work units and with partner organizations.
- ♦ Launched the Forest Service Scholar in Residence program with two participants successfully completing the program at Grey Towers.

Looking Ahead:

We will streamline business operations and accountability with installation of a new, Forest Service-wide fee collection system.

We will expand the public's knowledge of the Pinchot family and Grey Towers with production of a booklet, "The Pinchots of Grey Towers" and an introductory visitor brochure.

We will improve the Grey Towers guest experience with a Web-based virtual tour.



Visitors learn about acid rain at the Grey Towers monitoring station.



Interpretive tours educate nearly 16,000 visitors a year about the Pinchot family contributions to society.



Students from area high schools learn about forestry, forest health and management and conservation history along the Forest Discovery Trail at Grey Towers. Hands-on, experiential learning helps promote a stewardship ethic among students.

"The conservation idea covers a wider range than the field of natural resources alone. Conservation means the greatest good to the greatest number for the longest time. One of its great contributions is just this, that it has added to the worn and well-known phrase, "the greatest good to the greatest number," the additional words "for the longest time," thus recognizing that this nation of ours must be made to endure as the best possible home for all its people."

Gifford Pinchot

The Fight for Conservation, 1910

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Grey Towers Provides Historic Setting for Global Leadership Training

To nurture and develop leadership in key forested countries around the world, three partners—the Rights and Resources Initiative, the U.S. Forest Service, and Megaflorestais—brought together 18 emerging natural resource leaders from 10 countries to take part in a leadership training course at Grey Towers.

The course, *Global Issues in Governance of Natural Resources: New Leadership for New Challenges*, is a new approach to developing the next generation of leaders of public forest agencies and preparing professionals to deal with the increasingly complex challenges that exist in landscape-scale forest settings.

Grey Towers was the ideal location in which to engage this next generation of forest leaders. The ambiance of the home and grounds encouraged robust, honest, and transparent discussions as well as the sharing of ideas. This setting also brought to life Gifford Pinchot's historic legacy of nurturing dialogue that is informative, thought provoking, mutually enriching, and focused on solving problems.

The agenda included guest speakers, lectures, and small group dialogue. Course participants also had the opportunity to tour nearby woodlands with Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources staff to see firsthand some of the challenges currently facing natural resource managers and landowners in the Northeast United States.

Conservation Leadership Program

Along with the gift of Grey Towers from Dr. Gifford Bryce Pinchot came the aspiration to use the estate to proactively promote forest conservation. Using its rich history as a foundation, the U.S. Forest Service and its partners use the upper floors of the mansion and the grounds to facilitate leadership development programs and as meeting space for conservation groups. We imagine that the dialogues that take place in these rooms today are the same that the Pinchot family would be having with their guests.

In 2010, Grey Towers staff advanced Agency leadership development by:

- ♦ Coordinating 16 leadership development programs that served 230 agency leaders. Nine programs were held at Grey Towers; others were held at locations from California to Florida.
- ♦ Adding the new *Facets of Leadership* program that engaged 40 participants who examined their leadership strengths and challenges while fully utilizing the uniqueness of Grey Towers and its conservation leadership legacy.
- ♦ Welcoming the U.S. Forest Service International Forestry program *Global Issues in Governance of Natural Resources: New Leadership for New Challenges*—5 days of deep discussion about challenges facing the natural resource leaders of seven countries: United States, Canada, Russia, China, Brazil, Indonesia, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.
- ♦ Joining the Center of Learning and CI International to host the U.S. Forest Service National Policy Seminar at Grey Towers for 40 agency leaders and coordinating presentations that included two retired Chiefs, Dale Bosworth and Gail Kimbell.
- ♦ Taking part in the Forest Supervisors Leadership Council meeting in Washington, DC, attended by Chief Tom Tidwell and three Associate Deputy Chiefs. This meeting included discussions about the future of the Forest Supervisors program and leadership development for the agency and for Grey Towers.

In 2010, the Grey Towers Conference Center staff:

- ♦ Provided conference and meeting support to approximately 1,100 attendees who, in addition to participating in successful sessions, were immersed in Grey Towers and Pinchot family history.
- ♦ Strengthened the international forestry connection by hosting more than 100 forestry professionals from India, in cooperation with the Maxwell School of Business at the State University of New York and the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies.
- ♦ Enhanced the conference dining experience and maximized space use by introducing a new “third floor Bistro,” permitting coffee and food in the meeting spaces, utilizing new food service vendors, and providing information for after-hours dining in the community.
- ♦ Improved the conference “immersion” experience by recreating the Pinchot tradition of serving Baked Alaska floating on the water of the Finger Bowl outdoor dining table.

Looking Ahead:

We will be co-hosting *The Next Generation* International Leadership Seminar with U.S. Forest Service International Forestry and the Rights and Resources Initiative.

We will coordinate nearly 20 leadership development programs for Forest Service professionals and emerging leaders.

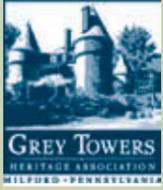
Participants in the 2010 Global Leadership program take time out to enjoy the grounds at Grey Towers. The ambiance and historic significance of the estate nurtured the type of dialogue needed to advance forest conservation thought and action.





Partners, Volunteers, and Interns

Partnerships, collaborations and volunteers are key to the successful delivery of programs and outreach into the community. These relationships enhance both the capacity and quality of all facets of Grey Towers operations. Without these organizations and individuals, we would not be able to carry forward Pinchot's vision and work. Some highlights of these relationships in 2010 include:



Grey Towers Heritage Association (www.greytowers.org)

The Grey Towers Heritage Association is an independent, community-based organization formed in August 2006 to assist Grey Towers National Historic Site in education, improvements, promotion, conservation and wise use of Grey Towers National Historic Site, Milford, PA. With a strategic goal to enhance community relations and strengthen the conservation and cultural programs at Grey Towers, the GTHA in 2010 reached thousands of individuals with public programs, new publications and enhancements at Grey Towers. Highlights of 2010 included accomplishing the four major goals identified by the GTHA and Forest Service:

- ♦ Strengthening the community connection and building community support for Grey Towers and the US Forest Service.
- ♦ Supporting and growing the Volunteer and Intern program.
- ♦ Providing educational materials and products that perpetuate the Pinchot and Grey Towers conservation message.
- ♦ Enhancing the cultural and conservation programming by assisting with Grey Towers public programs through sponsorship, facilitation and promotion, including an ambitious public program schedule that drew thousands to Grey Towers as a way to educate and entertain with historic Pinchot family hospitality.

In addition, the GTHA worked with the Forest Service historian to sponsor two research opportunities through the Scholar in Residence program. Funds and support were provided to scholars to pursue their studies of a) the environmental and social consequences of the use of public land for private corporate gain and b) the development, culture and public image of the Forest Service smoke jumping program.



Above: The GTHA sponsors music with wood instruments at the annual Festival of Wood.



Left: Artists gain inspiration from the landscape.



PINCHOT INSTITUTE FOR CONSERVATION

Pinchot Institute for Conservation (www.pinchot.org)

The Pinchot Institute for Conservation (PIC) works in partnership with the USDA Forest Service at Grey Towers and throughout the country to advance conservation and sustainable natural resource management. In the Delaware River valley where Grey Towers is located, the Pinchot Institute has organized the *Common Waters Partnership* to strengthen cooperation across political boundaries in this tri-state area, and to provide critical

information and data for land use decisions affecting forest conservation and watershed protection. A *Common Waters Fund* was established in 2010 to provide landowners with financial incentives to implement forest management and conservation projects in the Upper Delaware River watershed.

The Pinchot Institute also is taking steps to ensure that policymakers and stakeholders have access to the best available scientific and factual information relating to the development of unconventional natural gas resources, a critical issue in the Delaware River region. During 2010, the Pinchot Institute completed a report on how best to protect forests and environmental values such as water quality and biodiversity during natural gas development.

Delaware Highlands Conservancy (www.delawarehighlands.org)

This collaboration was involved with successful initiatives for regional forest landowners, including:

- ♦ Expansion of the "Women and Their Woods" program, a network of women forest landowners, with new programs on Conservation Options, Forested Wetlands, and Estate Planning. Funding also provided scholarships for attendance at a woodland owner's conference at Penn State University and at a partnership retreat at the Green Mountain National Forest in Vermont.
- ♦ Delivery of four programs for the new Pike-Monroe Woodland Owners group on such topics as forest and estate taxation, deer habitat management, next generation landowners, and other outreach options.
- ♦ Development of the *Shop Local Save Land* Web site (ShopLocalSaveLand.com), an expansion of the *Shop Local Save Land: Guide to Wood Products, Professionals and Resources* guide that connects forest products suppliers and a sustainable marketplace. This new online, comprehensive tool provides a searchable database for local farm and forest products, a regional calendar of educational programs, and articles related to local land and resource sustainability.

National Park Service, Delaware Water Gap

Leveraged staffing and equipment capacity by sharing resources.
(nps.gov/dewa)



Forest History Society

Accomplished Agency history Web site improvements.
(foresthistor.org)



Pocono Arts Council

Facilitated the wood craft educational component of the annual Festival of Wood. (poconoarts.org)



Forest landowners learn about deer habitat management at a new outreach program administered by the Delaware Highlands Conservancy.

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Economic Recovery Projects

In 2010, Grey Towers successfully competed for \$2.59 million in ARRA funding to complete needed work to the facility and historic restoration treatments of the structures and property. The site remained open during construction, and staff members orchestrated public activities around the construction with a 100 percent safety record.

The ARRA projects had significant impacts on all Grey Towers program areas and were a shining example of teamwork, planning, and communication. They met every criteria of ARRA funding, including stimulating the local economy; utilizing Job Corps and other training liaisons; and improving public safety, security, and the recreational experience at Grey Towers. An estimated 30 to 35 jobs were created.

2010 ARRA projects:

- Restoration of the Black Locust Allée to its 1916 appearance, including the road surface; cobble stone gutters and drainage; and historic locust trees, plants, and shrubs
- Restoration of various stone masonry landscape features and walls
- Installation of cedar wood roofs on three historic structures on the grounds
- Repair of leaking flashing, gutter systems, heat tape, and chimney caps on historic structures
- Exterior and interior painting with matching historic colors
- Installation of exterior electric service and exterior lighting
- Heating and air conditioning system retrofitting and ductwork cleaning
- Fabrication of a new exterior steel and stone stair system for access to the mansion
- Paving of driveways, service roads, and parking areas
- Expansion of deer exclusion fencing to protect historic shrubs and plants on the historic landscape
- Preservation of historic specimen trees and mitigation of aged, hazardous, and damaged trees
- Improved energy conservation with installation of low visual impact storm panels on windows and doors on the historic structures

Looking Ahead:

Spring 2011 will bring completion of outdoor projects, including:

- Black Locust Allée: Paving, cobblestone gutters, and herbaceous plantings
- Historic stone wall restoration and repair
- Installation of auxiliary generator for use during power outages



ARRA Projects Foster a Learning Environment for U.S. Forest Service Job Corps Civilian Conservation Students

Some of the 2010 ARRA projects were accomplished by Job Corps Civilian Conservation Center (JCCCC) students, as required by the American Recovery Reinvestment Act (ARRA) legislation. Nearly 100 Job Corps students from 13 JCCCC's and one contract Job Corps center from throughout the country gained valuable, on-the-job experience while working on Grey Towers' projects that will help them when they enter the workforce.

The Job Corps students also gained a sense of pride and stewardship from working on a site of national historic significance. "I was nervous when I first arrived, but now I feel like I can come back and say I painted here, I left my mark for other people to enjoy," said Kendrick Moore, a 23-year-old North Carolina student at the Flatwoods JCCCC in Coburn, VA.

The unique Job Corps—US Forest Service opportunity, funded by the ARRA, offered the students a distinctive real work experience while providing the US Forest Service with a much-needed maintenance task.

"This was a very unique job for us," said Frank Sikora, the Union Painting Instructor at Keystone Job Corps, Drums, PA, a Department of Labor contract center, who supervised one of the Job Corps crews at Grey Towers. "Besides this being the biggest job we ever had, the experience really helped heighten the students' knowledge of things other than painting," such as Forest Service and conservation history, and interpersonal skills.

Students from Mingo (MO); Jacobs Creek (TN); Flatwoods (VA); Great Onyx (KY); Golconda (IL); Trapper Creek (MT); Blackwell (WI); Frenchburg (KY); L B J (NC); Ouachita (AR); Pine Ridge (NE); Boxelder (SD) and Cass (AR) Job Corps Civilian Conservation Centers and Keystone Job Corps center (PA) painted interior walls in the mansion and outbuildings and exterior



Job Corps students learned masonry skills while replacing stone steps in the landscape.



Students "towered" 60 feet above the ground when painting the upper story window frames.

woodwork on all buildings, including the historic shutters on the mansion and repaired masonry walkways and structures.

The Grey Towers project was supported by the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades (IUPAT) and the International Masonry Institute (IMI), providing the professional instruction and supervision.

Editor's Note: The US Forest Service and Job Corps have a long-standing partnership throughout the nation. The Grey Towers job, initiated by Forest Service Job Corp's Natural Resource Liaison Donn Christiansen and staff at Grey Towers, is a representation of the mutual benefit and gain that a productive collaboration such as this can create. Additional opportunities with ARRA funding will continue throughout the year.

Preservation and Use of Grey Towers' Archives, Facilities, and Landscape

When visitors come to Grey Towers, they are most often awed by the stately mansion, magnificent grounds, and other landscape features. While strolling the grounds and touring the historic spaces, visitors receive unanticipated glimpses into the Pinchot family's lives and their work relating to forest conservation.

In 2010, the Curatorial and Museum Program:

- Implemented an international loan of the prestigious oil painting, "Mrs. Pinchot and Her Children in Fifteenth Century Florentine Costume," by Alexandre Cabanel, to the Musée Fabre in Montpellier, France.
- Gave visitors an added glimpse into the Pinchot family's lives with the creation of five new interpretive exhibits, including Gifford Pinchot and Fly Fishing, Gifford Pinchot's Hobbies, Textiles and Jewelry Owned by Cornelia Pinchot, and Mary Pinchot's Lace Collection.
- Obtained professional assessment of the historic outdoor sculptures for conservation planning and implementation.
- Completed archival rehousing and inventory of donated Library of Congress Pinchot papers and documents as well as approximately 1,000 condolence cards and letters received by Cornelia Pinchot upon



her husband Gifford's death that were donated by a family member.

- Received and began researching the authenticity of a child's chair said to be used by Gifford Pinchot in the 1860s.
- Inventoried, organized, and relabeled working copies of historic and current maps and blueprints.

In 2010, the Landscape and Facilities Program completed non-ARRA historic preservation and maintenance projects, including:

- Preservation and treatment of historic wood windows of the mansion, stone masonry walls, exterior elements of the historic milk house, and landscape water features.
- Providing safer and easier visitor access to Laurel Hill Cemetery on the grounds.
- Cyclic, seasonal, and routine maintenance of the buildings, grounds, utilities, and other assets.

Looking Ahead:

- Rehabilitation of the Grey Towers onsite water system and Meadow Pond upper and lower dams



- Preservation of the historic long garden and copper beech trees
- Restoration of historic landscape water features
- Conservation of outdoor sculpture

Greening of Grey Towers:

- We now use green cleaning products and made improvements to our recycling program. We will be installing an advanced electrical metering system to better measure—and address—power usage. We are exploring the addition of solar energy sources as a renewable energy option.

Original Historic Apple Trees Live On at Grey Towers

Fifteen apple tree saplings—created from cuttings taken from apple trees planted 80 years earlier by Cornelia Pinchot—were planted in 2010



Cornelia Pinchot planted an apple orchard at Grey Towers in the 1920s.



Forest Service staff planted the grafted historic saplings in 2010.

at Grey Towers to ensure that these original trees continue to live beyond their natural lifespan for future generations to enjoy. In a successful attempt to create a genetic match of the early 19th-century plantings, the U.S. Forest Service and the Olmstead Center for Landscape Preservation in Brookline, MA, took cuttings from the historic trees and grafted them to apple tree stock. The new trees, which took 6 years to propagate, have a truly historic past and were planted in the original orchard grid pattern on the estate.

Pinchot Family Portrait Exhibited in France

One of the most outstanding paintings in the Grey Towers collection—“Portrait of Mrs. Pinchot and her Children in Fifteenth Century Florentine Costume”—travelled to its country of origin this past year. Grey Towers loaned the painting to the Musée Fabre in Montpellier, France, for an exhibit that paid tribute to one of its most famous native artists, Alexandre Cabanel (1823–1889).

The oil painting, which measures approximately 8 feet tall by 5 feet wide and weighs approximately 150 pounds, hangs prominently in the Grey Towers library on the first floor of the mansion. The portrait includes Mary Pinchot and two of her four children: Gifford and Antoinette (daughter Lucie had passed away at the age of 2, and son Amos had not yet been born). It was commissioned by James Pinchot, an avid patron and support of both American and European arts.

The world’s greatest collection of Cabanel’s work resides in the Musée Fabre. The successful exhibit ran from July 9, 2010, to January 2, 2011. According to the Director of the Musée Fabre, “This first retrospective tribute to one of the great painters of the



“Portrait of Mrs. Pinchot and her Children in Fifteenth Century Florentine Costume,” by Alexandre Cabanel, 1872, oil on canvas with gilded wood and gesso frame.

Second Empire has helped to highlight the international dimension of his career and the role played by Cabanel in transmitting the aesthetics of academic painting.”

The painting has been returned to Milford, PA. Visitors can once again view it in the mansion’s library where Forest Service staff use the portrait to discuss James Pinchot’s patronage of the arts and the contributions that Gifford and his siblings made to society.



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