



P. JOSEPH LEHMAN, INC.

CONSULTING ENGINEERS

# Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
9 AM EST, OCTOBER 6, 2010

## **REHABILITATION OF LONGEST COVERED BRIDGE WINS STATE-WIDE AWARD.**

*Harrisburg, Pennsylvania* - The recent rehabilitation of the Academia/Pomeroy Covered Bridge, the longest remaining historic covered bridge in Pennsylvania, was the recent recipient of the Ralph Modjeski Award for Excellence in Transportation Design, Historic Preservation & Archaeology by *Preservation Pennsylvania* in partnership with the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. *Preservation Pennsylvania* is the Commonwealth's only statewide, private non-profit, membership organization dedicated to the protection of historically and architecturally significant properties. This award marked the significance of the 2009 complete rehabilitation of the almost 280 foot long covered bridge by the Juniata County Historical Society, owners of the state treasure. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Academia/Pomeroy Covered Bridge crosses Tuscarora Creek near Academia, PA. It is the longest remaining covered bridge in Pennsylvania and an excellent example of the Burr Arch Truss design, originally developed by early covered bridge builder Theodore Burr.

Securing of project funding (over \$1,400,000.00) and engineering were completed by P. Joseph Lehman, Inc., Consulting Engineers of Hollidaysburg, PA. This project marked the engineering firm's involvement in some seventeen covered bridge rehabilitation projects in Pennsylvania. On hand

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to receive the award on September 17<sup>th</sup> at the Pennsylvania State Museum in Harrisburg were project partners from The Juniata County Historical Society, P. Joseph Lehman, Inc., Consulting Engineers, and the Theodore Burr Covered Bridge Society of Pennsylvania. Additional project partners, without whom the project would not have been possible, included The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, Engineering District 2-0 of Clearfield, PA, SEDA Council of Governments of Lewistown, PA, the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development and the Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission. Additional support came from leaders such as Congressman Bill Shuster of the 9<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, State Senator Jake Corman of the 34<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District, and State Representative C. Adam Harris of the 82<sup>nd</sup> House District, all of whom saw the importance of preserving this state treasure. The project, funded in large part through the Transportation Enhancement Program, was selected as the only winner this year of this award for excellence in transportation design, historic preservation and archaeology. In 2009, the Federal Highway Administration and the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation were the winners of this award for the Lewistown Narrows Canal Park Project, also in Juniata County. For more information on this project or historic covered bridge projects, please visit P. Joseph Lehman, Inc., Consulting Engineers on the web at [www.LehmanEngineers.com](http://www.LehmanEngineers.com)

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**PHOTOS ATTACHED:**

- A. The recently rehabilitated Academia/Pomeroy Covered Bridge.
  
- B. Recipients of the Ralph Modjeski Award for Excellence in Transportation Design, Historic Preservation and Archaeology from L to R, Marty Malone of P. Joseph Lehman, Inc., Consulting Engineers, Nancy Crago, Vice President of the Juniata County Historical Society,

ACADEMIA/POMEROY COVERED BRIDGE WINS STATE-WIDE AWARD.

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Terry Wheeler, Past President of the Juniata County Historical Society, and Audrey Sizelove, President of the Juniata County Historical Society.



Photo A.

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Photo B.