Now we are ten. The 2014 edition of 292 Preservation Brief comes to you as we celebrate the graduation of the tenth class to complete the graduate program in historic preservation Clemson University and the College of Charleston jointly sponsor here in Charleston. The class of 2014, like each of its predecessors, leaves behind an impressive record of accomplishment, much of it described in the pages that follow.

I am again pleased that many of our Second Years have already found opportunities to share the results of their thesis research with professional audiences. Kendy Altizer, for example, read a paper based on her exploration of Peachtree Plantation ruin at the 2014 meeting of the Society for Historical Archaeology when that group convened at Quebec City in the bitter cold of the Arctic Vortex, and Megan Funk presented a summary of her analysis of the Kentucky Main Street Program just before Arctic cold returned in early March. Great Smokey Mountains National Park is already using Lindsay Lanois’s thesis on a complex of hiking cabins whose preservation has challenged National Park Service policy, and Erin Morton’s assessment of North Carolina’s Historic Mill Rehabilitation Tax Credit is shaping discussion of the renewal of that piece of state tax legislation.

The cover of 292 Preservation Brief for 2014 features a detail of Drayton Hall’s extraordinary mahogany stair balusters and brackets. Follow this image inside to the story that summarizes a new partnership between our program and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Our friend Ashley Wilson, now Graham Gund Architect at the Trust, helped us frame a special assignment for the members of the MSHP class of 2015 that will, by the time this class graduates next spring, result in a thorough revision of the National Historic Landmark documentation for Drayton Hall.

Particularly noteworthy among the projects MSHP students completed this year was the partnership architectural conservator Frances Ford forged with Salve Regina University where her advanced conservation students discovered a long-lost painted ceiling in the course of conducting a workshop. Professor Amalia Leifeste and her First-Year students completed architectural documentation drawings for an important early-nineteenth century house on Smith Street here in Charleston and the ruins of Pon Pon Chapel in Colleton County near Walterboro.

In short, our tenth year was, like each of its predecessors, punctuated by significant accomplishments about which more unfolds in the pages that follow.
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Each summer, MSHP students have the opportunity to apply their preservation knowledge in an international setting. In May 2013, eight students and conservation professor Frances Ford convened at Clemson University’s Charles E. Daniel Center for Building Research and Urban Studies, “the villa” as students call it, in Genoa, Italy. Rising Second Years—Kendy Altizer, Kavan Argue, Megan Funk, Kelly Herrick, Lindsay Lee, Brittany McKee, Melissa Roach, and Will Smith—were tasked with creating measured drawings as part of the continued efforts to complete an Historic Structure Report (HSR) for the villa.

Each day, the students awakened to a breakfast of fresh focaccia and cappuccino, and worked on documentation until lunch. The students’ documentation included the villa’s sunroom, a balcony over the first floor stair, and the foyer. Each student chose an elevation or prominent detail, which they photographed, measured, and drafted in AutoCAD. In total, seven elevations and a series of iron details were completed. The students collected paint samples, which were transported to Charleston for analysis in the program’s microscopy lab. Students visited churches, museums, monasteries, flea markets, among other local destinations.

This year an exciting mini-project was added to the agenda. Clemson architecture professor Dan Harding, who teaches an architecture studio at the villa during the spring semester, developed an assignment for his students that utilized a laser cutting machine. Professor Ford adopted his idea and each student was assigned a piazza in downtown Genoa to observe during different times of the day. The goal was to determine who was using the piazza and at what times in an attempt to understand its atmosphere and setting. Students then created spatial representations of their interpretations using AutoCAD and the laser printer.

Though documentation was a major focus of the Genoa project, the trip wasn’t “all work/no play.” Professor Ford and the students hopped on the train each weekend to explore the Italian Riviera. The first trip was spent exploring the quaint towns of Santa Margherita and Portofino. The next weekend, Professor Ford and the students traveled to Cinque Terre. The five villages that comprise Cinque Terre are located in a more rural section of the Italian Riviera and are a UNESCO World Heritage Site. In addition to program travel, many students traveled before and after their stay in Genoa. Their destinations included the Amalfi Coast, Rome, Venice, Florence, Monaco, France, and England before traveling back across the Atlantic to begin summer internships.

In mid-May 2014, another group of students will travel to Genoa and continue the work started by previous students. They will be in Italy from May 13-28. Be sure to follow their fieldwork journal at blogs.cofc.edu/hspv.
Drayton Hall
Revisiting a National Historic Landmark

Drayton Hall staff announced last fall that, in collaboration with the MSHP class of 2015, they would update and expand the site’s National Historic Landmark designation. The Palladian-style plantation house was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1960 and was acquired by the National Trust for Historic Preservation in 1974. Since the original landmark nomination was completed, an immense amount of information about Drayton Hall has been uncovered. Using this new data regarding the house and its surrounding areas, Drayton Hall and the class of 2015 have worked together to create a more holistic picture of the property. An important part of the group’s research is determining how the house and its environs evolved over generations of Drayton owners and their changes in the use of its land.

Since the 1970s, archaeological studies have been conducted on the property which have provided evidence of the use of the land and former structures. Drayton Hall has also recorded a number of oral histories from the descendants of former slaves. Paint analysis and other architectural studies will be incorporated into the revised designation. There are likewise plans to discuss the history of preservation at Drayton Hall. The philosophy and methodology for preserving Drayton Hall have changed over the years. The updated designation hopes to address those changes in theory along with the other evolutions that have taken place on the property.

The First Years have already begun conducting research and fieldwork for the NHL designation by way of class projects. In the fall, they wrote detailed architectural descriptions of each room in the house, from the basement to the attic. This spring, they completed extensive research on the landscape. The class divided into two groups; one completed a survey of tree patterns and land formations. The data gathered was analyzed to identify patterns connected with Drayton Hall’s rice planting and phosphate-mining operations. The second team mapped historic features in the formal gardens. They were especially interested in investigating the possibility that terracing once existed in the broad gardens which filled the space between the Ashley River and the house.

At the end of the semester, the First Years presented their landscape findings at Drayton Hall. One member of the class of 2015, Katie Dykens, will be furthering this research over the summer as she completes her internship. Efforts as a class will resume next fall.

This process has been beneficial to Drayton Hall in that they now have fourteen preservationists in training, collaborating to expand knowledge about the house and its surrounding landscape. Additionally, this has been a learning experience for the First Years in landscape surveying and architectural investigation. More importantly, the opportunity to work so closely with such an invaluable example of Lowcountry history is something the class of 2015 will be able to carry with them in their future careers in preservation.

1. Class of 2015 at Drayton Hall with professors Carter L. Hudgins and Katherine Pemberton, alongside Drayton Hall staff members Carter C. Hudgins and Trish Lowe Smith
2. A view of Drayton Hall courtesy of student Justin Schwebler
3 Student Laura Lee Worrell in Drayton Hall’s attic
As part of the 2013 Advanced Conservation Course, students traveled to Salve Regina University in Newport, Rhode Island. The goal of the trip was to perform paint analysis on two of the university’s buildings. While in Newport, students worked with the former director of the Clemson University/College of Charleston MSHP program, Dr. Robert Russell, who is now the program coordinator of the Cultural and Historic Preservation Department at Salve Regina University. Students performed paint analysis at the Newport Art Museum and the Tilton House, a Shingle-Style house designed by McKim, Mead, and White. Additionally, the students taught an undergraduate class in historic preservation on the basics of paint analysis.

Perhaps the most exciting project, however, was performing a surface exposure on the ceiling at Ochre Court. Ochre Court was owned by Ogden Goelet, a banker and real estate professional from New York. Goelet commissioned Richard Morris Hunt to design Ochre Court in 1892 in the Chateaux style of France to serve as his summer residence. In 1947, the Goelet family donated the mansion to Salve Regina University. It has since been adapted to house the school’s administrative offices.

While exposing sections of the ceiling, the students, led by Professor Frances Ford, were surprised to uncover portions of a sky mural featuring a cherub. Their findings received national attention and the story was featured in the local and national news. Based on evidence shown in an historic photograph recovered by student Will Smith, student Kendy Altizer hypothesized that the canvas mural was likely painted in Europe and installed in the building at a later date. The photograph shows ghost marks of features on the canvas that have yet to be uncovered.

Adapting the Cigar Factory

During the Fall 2013 semester, Second Years took part in the Adaptive Use and Project Design course led by Professor Amalia Leifeste. As part of the course, students created a program and space plan for the Cigar Factory located in Charleston’s Eastside. The Cigar Factory Industrial Complex was constructed in 1882 by the Charleston Manufacturing Company to house a textile mill and is one of the few remaining examples of industrial architecture on the peninsula. Students worked in teams to create two designs for the five-story structure. Each design included floor plans of each level that designated room use as well as vignette drawings that illustrated the proposed space. Students utilized state and federal tax credits when calculating a budget and seeking funding for their projects. When creating their designs, students pursued levels of LEED certification and adhered to the parameters set by the 2013 International Building Code and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Students proposed two design programs: the first utilized the space to house academic programs based in the city related to architecture, preservation, and the building arts. This plan included space for retail and offices as well as space for academic use such as studios and student residences. The second design utilized the space as a food and cultural hub for the city that housed multiple restaurants, the headquarters of a local lifestyle magazine, an indoor market, roof gardens, and rentable space for local artisans and craftsmen. At the conclusion of the course, students presented their designs to a board of local professionals.
Hampton Park Terrace
Amber Anderson

This spring, under the direction of Professor Amalia Leifeste, the Preservation Studio students completed an Area Character Appraisal of Charleston’s Hampton Park Terrace. MSHP students then utilized this appraisal to create a set of Design Guidelines to aid the neighborhood in dealing with encroaching development and change. Hampton Park Terrace is a unique example of an early twentieth-century planned suburb on peninsular Charleston, and its current residents have expressed an interest in its preservation and the completion of this study.

The appraisal began with an initial walking tour of the neighborhood. During this outing, students sketched and took note of important “character-defining features” such as commonly-used materials and color palette. The resulting report included a list of these features and a careful analysis of urban form, architectural styles, landscape patterns, and a general history of the area’s development. Following an assessment of integrity, students wrote guidelines to guide the neighborhood’s future in terms of urban form and scale, landscape, the preservation of existing structures, alterations or additions, and new construction. The final document was presented to the City of Charleston’s Planning, Preservation & Sustainability Department.

Nominating Byrnes Downs
Claire Achtyl

During the Fall semester, the First Years completed the National Register of Historic Places Nomination for Byrnes Downs subdivision, a neighborhood just off of the Charleston peninsula in the suburb of West Ashley. The neighborhood’s construction began in 1945 to house part of Charleston’s Navy population during World War II. The neighborhood was built over 79 acres and currently contains 375 single-family dwellings. The neighborhood is significant as an unusually well-preserved example of the housing types and development associated with the post-World War II suburban boom. As part of the project, the First Years completed the work started by previous years’ MSHP classes to determine which houses contribute to the integrity of the district. From this documentation, all of the contributing houses were divided into smaller groups based on type. These typologies were determined based on roof type, the number of window bays, the position of porticos and porches on the structures, and the location of entrances. While the houses have evolved, their materials, type of construction and character remain consistent throughout the neighborhood. The class of 2015 hopes former students and alumni are pleased with the progress made on this long-standing project and recognizes the many contributions made by previous classes. This project will now move Byrnes Downs closer to fruition as an historic district considered for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.
In the fall of 2013, a unique opportunity presented itself when the MSHP program partnered with the Historic Charleston Foundation (HCF), the National Park Service’s Historic American Building Survey (HABS), and local Charleston architecture firm Liollio Architecture to offer a two-week internship to four MSHP students. The goal was to complete digital documentation at HCF’s historic Aiken-Rhett House. Made possible through a grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the project’s primary purpose involved the digital scanning of the double parlors to provide detailed documentation of the spaces.

Located at Elizabeth and Judith Streets in the historic Charleston neighborhood of Wraggborough, one of the defining features of the Aiken-Rhett House is the preserved state in which it is maintained. This preservation philosophy dictates that the house remain in an “as is” state. There are no plans to restore the building, a distinct contrast to what one finds in most historic homes across the country. While this philosophy is geared toward providing a unique and authentic experience, many visitors desire to see the house restored to its former grandeur. The digital scanning project is the first step in HCF’s plan to create 3D digital renderings of the double parlor spaces and incorporating them into the house’s interpretation. In creating a digital version of a restored and furnished Aiken-Rhett House, HCF intends to bridge interpretative challenges posed by their preservation philosophy.

Although project planning began much earlier, the first phase of the documentation process took place in November 2013 when two members of the HABS team, architects Mark Schara and Paul Davidson, traveled to Charleston to complete initial survey and documentation. During an intensive two-day process, the HABS team was assisted by First Year Amber Anderson, Sarah Sanders, and Laura Lee Worrell alongside Second Year Leigh Schoberth. Both traditional hand measurement techniques and digital laser scanning were employed to accurately capture the ornate details in the Aiken-Rhett’s double parlors. Davidson supervised the laser scanning of the double parlors, collecting millions of data points used later to provide measurement for 2D AutoCAD drawings of the spaces. These points will later be used to create the digital 3D renderings.

Students from the MSHP program visited the house throughout the project timeline to observe the scanning process.

The second phase of the project took place in December 2013 during the first two weeks of the winter holiday. During this phase, the student team of four split in half. Sanders and Worrell traveled to the HABS office in Washington, D.C. to complete a measured drawing set, utilizing the digital scanning data and field notes collected in November. Anderson and Schoberth remained in Charleston to work with local architectural firm Liollio Architecture, under the supervision of architect Jay White. During their time with Liollio Architecture, Anderson and Schoberth were tasked with conducting historical research on the numerous pieces of historic furniture found in the Aiken-Rhett House. The results of their research will be used by Liollio Architecture in the creation of a digital 3D replication of the furnished double parlors.
1. Point cloud rendering of the double parlors at the Aiken-Rhett House, courtesy of HABS
2. Leigh Schoberth and Laura Worrell measure the south wall of the double parlors
3. Front facade of the Aiken-Rhett House
4. HABS architect Mark Schara introduces the documentation project to students
5. HABS architect Paul Davidson captures a point cloud
6. Amber Anderson completes field sketches

To see the HABS fly-through animation visit: www.youtube.com/HDPNPS
Learning how to document an historic structure is an essential component of the MSHP program. During the fall 2013 semester, First Years were introduced to documentation through an immersive, hands-on experience with 61-63 Smith Street, an 1825 Federal-style single house in the Harleston Village neighborhood of downtown Charleston. The First Years documented the Smith Street property to learn the step-by-step process of HABS standards documentation and for eventual submission to the Peterson prize competition. The project required a great deal of work on site as students carefully measured every aspect of the building, from determining the overall height with a measuring pole to capturing the intricate details of the window molding. The measurements were recorded using hand-drawn field notes, an organized method of note-taking which combines careful sketching with corresponding numerical data.

Once the students recorded the information in field notes, they translated the information into a sharable format. To accomplish this, the students used AutoCAD and network files to piece everything together. Progress moved quickly, and the net result was a series of technical drawings to a level of detail, accuracy, and completeness that even surprised its creators.

The documentation of the property was coupled with paint analysis, a process by which the various layers of paint on a surface are analyzed microscopically. Paint analysis yielded interesting information about 61-63 Smith Street. There was evidence of faux wood graining on doors, one room with over 40 layers of paint, and indications that the front sides of the outside shutters were painted twice as frequently as the backs.

The project culminated with a presentation for the owner of 61-63 Smith Street, which gave the students an opportunity to thank her for allowing them to use her property as a lab. The owner expressed her appreciation for the thoroughness of the study and was touched to learn how much her property meant to the students. She will use the finished documentation drawings and paint analysis for guidance in her ongoing restoration efforts.

The documentation of the Pon Pon Chapel of Ease was the next major project the First Years completed under the guidance of Professor Amalia Lefeiste. The documentation of Pon Pon advanced the skills the First Years had learned at Smith Street by including an architectural investigation, conditions assessment, and mitigation plan as part of the finished document. Now a ruin, Pon Pon once served as the chapel of...
ease for plantation owners who lived in Colleton County. The first chapel to exist on the site was built of wood in 1713 and was later replaced by multiple brick structures when fire destroyed the original buildings. The chapel is on the National Register of Historic Places due to its association with various influential South Carolina politicians and John Wesley, the founder of Methodism.

The initial documentation efforts were conducted by two groups, one of which conducted photography, and the second performed measurements for a site plan and elevations to draw in AutoCAD. After the first phase of documentation, the class returned to the site to explore the building, working again in two teams. One focused on architectural investigation and the other on conditions assessment. The first team’s goal was to investigate the ruins for evidence of window placement, roofline, and floor plan. The other team’s mission was to assess the present conditions of the ruins by looking for cracks, mortar loss, bio growth, and alignment. The teams used the measured drawings they created and photographs of the clues to illustrate what they discovered. One discovery was the evidence of a cut-out in the brick with wood grain indents in the mortar, indicating wainscoting. Additionally, interior score marks on the brick evidenced the use of plaster on the interior of the building. Exterior elevations, floor plans, and roof type were also recreated based on precedent and the site investigation. Interestingly, the reconstructed west wall was found to be more out of plumb than the remaining original wall. Once this section was completed, the entire class worked together on the last part of the project, recommendations for mitigation of the site. These suggestions included immediate stabilization of the east wall, new bracing methods for the west elevation, use as an event venue, and the installation of more security measures.

The final report was presented to the Colleton County Historical Society, the organization which oversees the Pon Pon Chapel of Ease. A group of six students traveled to Colleton County to deliver a PowerPoint presentation on their work to the society in which its members were excited about the documentation, hypothetical floor plans, and mitigation recommendations.

1. South facade of 61-63 Smith Street
2. Student Claire Achtyl measures the attic
3. Student Quan Zhou measuring the entry surround
4. A team of students document the facade of Pon Pon Chapel
5. Some students take scaled photos of Pon Pon while others create measured drawings
6. A team uses a datum line to place windows and doorways on the front facade
Furnishing Fenwick Hall
Lindsay Lanois

Led by Professor Elizabeth Garrett Ryan, the 2014 Historic Interiors class created an historic house furnishing plan for Fenwick Hall. Located on John’s Island, South Carolina, Fenwick Hall is a mid-eighteenth-century house with modifications dating to the early 1800s and the 1920s. While the MSHP Program has engaged in substantial research and documentation of Fenwick Hall in previous years, historic research revealed little in the way of furnishing inventories for the house. The lack of information regarding Fenwick’s interior inspired the class to be creative with its interpretive furnishing plan. The project emphasizes the unique nature of the house’s multiple building campaigns. The class selected the drawing room, dining room, and a bedchamber to interpret and did so for three different periods of Fenwick’s development: the 1750s, the year 1803, and the 1920s. Using research regarding period-appropriate furnishings from the region, the Historic Interiors class described the furnishings located in each room through drawings and text. The study of Fenwick Hall’s interior design over time was complimented by a broader interpretive plan, exploring potential future uses for the house. Throughout the years, Fenwick Hall has been a valuable resource for the graduate program’s various research projects, and the Historic Interiors class hopes that the efforts have contributed a new perspective to the collaborative understanding of the house.

Going for Ten
Megan Funk

Since 2006 students in the MSHP program have submitted measured drawing sets to the Charles E. Peterson Prize competition. Conducted by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS), the Athenaeum of Philadelphia, and the American Institute of Architects, the competition seeks to reward exemplary student work while also expanding the HABS collection. Of the ten MSHP class submissions, nine have received recognition ranging from honorable mention to first place. All sites documented are located in South Carolina and include Hopewell in Clemson, the Othniel Beale House in Charleston, and Christ Church in Mount Pleasant. Last year, the drawings submitted for Fenwick Hall on John’s Island received second place. This year, students are submitting drawings for the early-nineteenth-century Federal-style William Blacklock House on College of Charleston’s campus. Along with floor plans and elevations, students documented exterior and interior details which featured intricately-composed details of egg and dart, bead and reel, swags, and urns.

For the first time, current students are submitting drawings to the Leicester B. Holland Prize as well. Although similar to the Peterson Prize, this competition is limited to a single-sheet of measured drawings. It is open to professionals as well as to students. Alumna Laura Beth Ingle’s documentation of White Rocks Lookout Tower was rewarded the Holland Prize in 2012, but this is the first time the program is submitting documentation from a studio course. The project chosen for submission is the ruins of the eighteenth-century Peachtree Plantation in McClellanville, South Carolina. Home of Declaration of Independence signer Thomas Lynch, the brick structure burned in the 1840s. Current Second Years documented the ruins in the spring of 2013 and now look forward to seeing their work recognized. With submission of the first Holland Prize entry and a tenth Peterson Prize entry, MSHP students are certainly making a name for themselves.
This year, the MSHP program traveled far and wide yet again. Several class trips stayed close to home and focused on experiencing the Lowcountry outside of Charleston. *Historic Interiors* students visited Millford, an impressive 1840 plantation in Pinewood, South Carolina, to study antique furnishings and historic finishes. The house contributed to the class’s research for a furnishing plan at Fenwick Hall on John’s Island. The first-year *Preservation Studio* class documented the ruins of Pon Pon Chapel, an early-nineteenth-century chapel of ease in Colleton County. In their *Landscape Preservation* class, First Years surveyed various state parks in South Carolina to assess the remaining integrity of their Civilian Conservation Corps origins. The second year *Conservation Science Laboratory* class traveled up Highway 17 to visit Georgetown, Atalaya Castle at Huntington Beach State Park, the chapel of ease for St. James Santee Parish, and the overgrown Tibwin Plantation.

Moving north, the entire MSHP program packed up for an annual trip to study other preservation-minded areas in the region. This year Winston-Salem, North Carolina, served as the classroom. Originally settled by Moravians, the distinct German-influenced architecture of Old Salem demonstrated the city’s unique preservation story. Students toured the town with the site’s architectural historians to learn about how the society’s values shaped their building construction and evolution. The students also visited Historic Bethabara Park, the first Moravian settlement in the area and the famous Reynolda House, a 1917 manor retreat for tobacco tycoon R.J. Reynolds and his family.

Once again, students in the *Historic Resource Administration and Management* class headed to Washington, D.C. for Preservation Advocacy Week. Meeting with Sen. Lindsey Graham, Rep. Mark Sanford, and the office of Sen. Tim Scott, the South Carolina delegation discussed preservation issues associated with federal funding, rising flood insurance cost and the importance of tax credits. The MSHP crew, despite eight inches of snow, toured a number of historic sites in Virginia, including Bacon’s Castle, Jamestown, Williamsburg, Fredericksburg, and took a private tour of Mount Vernon with 2013 alumnus Neale Nickels, Architectural Conservator.

Multiple students represented the program at conferences and presentations across the country. Valerie McCluskey Heider attended the National Trust Conference in Indianapolis and presented a lecture to Valpraiso University undergraduates about religious utopian movements of the nineteenth century. Megan Funk presented thesis research on the Kentucky Main Street program at a conference in Lexington, Kentucky. Kendy Altizer presented her archaeological findings regarding Peachtree Plantation in Quebec City, Canada. Finally, Kavan Argue and Laura Worrell attended the APT Conference in New York City. Laura presented an overview of current wood preservation techniques using modern paint application and technology, based on her previous summer work with NCPTT.
KENDY ALTIZER: Three Hoes in the Kitchen: Historical and Archaeological Exploration of Peachtree Plantation, St. James Santee Parish, South Carolina explores the historical and architectural significance of Peachtree Plantation, the ruin of a large brick mansion on the South Santee River built between 1760 and 1762. Peachtree burned in 1840 and was never rebuilt. Limited archaeological testing revealed portions of the original plan of the house and recovered artifacts suggesting probable room uses.

MEGAN FUNK: The Evolution of the Kentucky Main Street Program—Its Beginning, Expansion and Renaissance examines the organizational structure of the Kentucky Main Street Program (KYMS), the nation’s first statewide Main Street program. Since its inception, KYMS has modified its program in response to changes in Kentucky’s economic situation and community needs, expanding the program to include smaller communities, adjusting the provision of technical services, and offering grants for manager’s salaries and projects.

VALERIE MCCLUSKEY HEIDER: Spectrum of the Spirit: Interpreting the Material Connotations of Ecclesiastical Stained Glass in Charleston, South Carolina expands the study of the city’s ecclesiastical stained glass in churches and mausoleums in the city’s upper boroughs. Religion, race, socio-economic identity and neighborhood affected the character of stained glass windows and at the same time strengthened cultural group identities.

KELLY HERRICK: A Forgotten Castle: Archer and Anna Huntington’s Winter Residence Atalaya in Murrell’s Inlet, South Carolina focuses on an architecturally-unique house constructed in 1934 by Anna and Archer Huntington. Now operated as a state historic site, Atalaya is designated as a National Historic Landmark in conjunction with Brookgreen Gardens. This thesis traces the inspirations for Atalaya’s design, explores long-held notions about its construction’s effect on the local economy, and assesses its architectural and historical significance.

LINDSAY LANOIS: The Le Conte Lodge: A Lens for the Evolution and Development of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park focuses on the 1925 rudimentary hiking cabin, now the only structure in Great Smoky Mountains National Park that pre-dates the creation of the park to retain its original use. By focusing on the architectural, recreational, and managerial history of the site, this thesis approaches the lodge and the complex constructed around it as a lens to explore the preservation policies and practices the National Park Service employs.

LINDSAY LEE: The Colonist’s Concrete: Analysis of a Seventeenth-Century Tabby Floor at Charles Towne, South Carolina analyzes the composition and cultural context of a lime mortar floor discovered by archaeological excavation at Charles Towne Landing State Historic Park. This rare architectural feature is a remnant of Charleston’s first English settlement and suggests a connection to flooring used in the colonial Caribbean, Africa, and Europe. Through historical, chemical and geological analysis, this study also develops a mitigation plan for conservation and public interpretation.

BRITTANY MCKEE: Domestic Cisterns in Charleston, South Carolina: Public Health and Private Water in an Antebellum City is the first comprehensive analysis of domestic cisterns in the antebellum United States. Cisterns, traditionally defined as catchment or storage facilities for rainwater collected by means of a drainage system, became a common domestic utility in Charleston, South Carolina, during the nineteenth century. In response to rising fear of disease, residents incorporated cisterns to provide a convenient and well-monitored source of potable water.

ERIN MORTON: The Mills Bill: An Economic Impact Study of the North Carolina State Historic Mill Rehabilitation Tax Credit quantifies the economic successes of North Carolina’s mill rehabilitation tax credit program. This economic impact study determines the level of economic development for each year of the program’s existence. Significant findings include total rehabilitation expenditures, direct and indirect jobs created, tax-generated revenue, and the overall cost to the state.

MELISSA ROACH: Crosstown: Physical Effects of the Expansion of Highway 17 Across the Charleston Peninsula examines the City of Charleston’s role in the placement of the Crosstown and assesses the short and long-term effects of the highway on the working-class neighborhoods it disrupted. City Council journals, minutes and South Carolina Department of Transportation survey photographs reveal the character of the neighborhoods through which the highway sliced.

LEIGH SCOBERTH: Detroit’s Theaters: A Study of Significance and Reuse explores the history of Detroit theatres and their cultural significance while prioritizing and developing a range of appropriate preservation treatment options for currently abandoned theaters. While the large scale of these theatres provides a generous canvas for reuse, Detroit’s current socio-economic climate presents numerous challenges. The National Theater provides a case study of the potential benefits of reuse and rehabilitation.

KATHERINE M. C. SCHULTHEIS: Death Incorporated: The Emergence of the Funeral Parlor in Charleston SC, 1880-1920 is a geographical and historical analysis that traces the shift in funeral preparation from familiar household surroundings to the unfamiliar commercial surroundings of new funeral parlors in the last decades of the nineteenth century.

WILL SMITH: Lowcountry Ghost Signs: A Study and Preservation Plan of Historic Signage in the South Carolina Lowcountry focuses on painted outdoor ads in the South Carolina Lowcountry and presents a summary of the form and design these signs assumed. The thesis also deals with methods for local communities to assess and mitigate the effects of aging and decay to ensure that future generations enjoy and learn from them.
2013

LAUREL BARTLETT is an architectural historian with Southeastern Archaeological Research, Inc. in Florida. She conducts cultural resource assessment surveys for long-term general service contracts with the Federal Government, Florida DOT, and private contractors for projects involving Section 106 and 4(f) review. Part of her work involves identifying historic resources, evaluating their eligibility for listing on the National Register, and proposing mitigation strategies to limit the effects of transportation projects on those resources.

EMILY FORD and her feline life-mate Leonard are living the quiet life in New Orleans. Emily works as an independent conservator and researcher in local cemeteries; her current projects include a large-scale conditions survey of Lafayette Cemetery No. 1, headstone repairs, and working as a liaison between the City and respective clients. In her spare time, she is contemplating writing a book about whiskey.

JULIANNE JOHNSON moved to Seattle after graduation and began an internship with Historic Seattle conducting annual easement inspections. Since January, she has been working at SHKS Architects, a firm focused on renovation and adaptive reuse projects. Although her primary role is marketing and business development, Julianne contributes to historic projects through research and writing. She is also in the process of establishing a paint analysis lab. Julianne is getting married in September.

PAM KENDRICK works for Bernardo Wills Architects in Spokane, Washington. She also works as a volunteer Historian for Fairchild Air Force Base, and she is a Board Member and the Education Chair for Spokane Preservation Advocates.

NEALE NICKELS is the Architectural Conservator for George Washington's Mount Vernon, where his work focuses on overseeing the restoration and conservation needs of the estate's historic and reproduction buildings. Recently, he and his team completed the restoration of the New Room and are preparing to work on the second floor bedchambers. In the fall, he will marry Courtney Roberts of Atlanta.

2012

ELISE HAREMSKI recently moved to Trenton, NJ, where she works for the New Jersey Historic Trust as a Program Manager administering a grant program that funds repairs to historic properties that were damaged by Hurricane Sandy. She is also a board member for the William Trent House and has been getting to know New Jersey in her spare time.

2011

ALISSA KELLER serves as the Executive Director of the Museums of Historic Hopkinsville-Christian County in Hopkinsville, Kentucky. With three museums each housed in a historic structure, she has put her knowledge of old buildings to good use. In addition, she worked with an intern to nominate and list Attucks High School, the only local African American high school during the era of segregation, to the National Register of Historic Places.

CHRISTINE MATHIESON lives and works at the Tennessee Historical Commission as the National Register Coordinator. She recently bought a 1910 Victorian Cottage in East Nashville that she's in the process of rehabbing/restoring (and putting on an historically-appropriate addition.)

2010

KELLY CIOCIOLA has been working as an Architectural and Sculptural Conservator for Kreilick Conservation in Philadelphia, PA. Her most recent project was the conservation of the Carrara Marble capitals at the Merchants’ Exchange Building. In April, she began a new job as an Associate Conservator for Rosa Lowinger and Associates in Miami, FL.

REBECCA MORRISH CYBULARZ is the historical architect with the NPS’s Historic Preservation Training Center. Her most recent projects include an HSR at Antietam National Battlefield and an assessment of 39 monuments and memorials at Arlington National Cemetery. She was recently appointed to the Historic Preservation Commission for the City of Frederick, MD. The commission reviews alterations and additions to properties within Frederick’s downtown historic district.

KATE STAMPS is entering her fourth year as the Architectural Historian for Redstone Arsenal, AL. She was recently appointed to the Huntsville Historic Preservation Commission and was thrilled to learn that an architectural survey she conducted for a local historic school is being turned into a book. Kate enjoys living in downtown Huntsville with her cat Oscar and spending time with her family, including two sweet nephews with one more on the way.

TRISH LOWE SMITH, Curator of Historic Architectural Resources at Drayton Hall, was awarded the 3D Visualization Fellowship offered by the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation’s Digital History Center and the National Endowment for the Humanities. Following this two-month residential fellowship, Trish returned to Drayton Hall where she is using 3D technology to digitally recreate the house to its appearance circa 1765.

2009

JESSICA G. RICHARDSON interned with US/ICOMOS in Falmouth, Jamaica before working at the Louisiana SHPO in Baton Rouge. There she worked with rehabilitation tax incentive and certified local government programs. In August 2013, she became the National Register Coordinator and works on a variety of projects throughout the state. Working at the Louisiana SHPO is a great balance between working with the technical research side of preservation and hands on preservation in the field.

2008

WILL HAMILTON is currently working for the Historic Charleston Foundation (HCF) as their Property Coordinator. He acts as the project manager for technical restoration, renovation, and construction projects at HCF’s three museum properties, manages HCF’s salvage warehouse and maintenance staff, acts as the chair of the Properties Committee and supports other projects in The Foundation’s Preservation Department.

MEG RICHARDSON was recently hired as an Environmental Review Historian in the Historic Preservation Division of the Georgia State Historic Preservation Office in Atlanta. In this capacity, she reviews HUD, surface mining, and cell tower projects. Meg moved to Atlanta in March and is enjoying the transition.

2007

SANDI FEASTER WORTHY was named the City Administrator of Chester, SC in August of 2013 and is currently enrolled in the online MPA program at Clemson. Although she has taken a separate path from her fellow classmates, Sandi still remembers the comradeship from the MSHP program.

Alumni Spotlight

Brittany Lavelle (2012) is the owner and lead historic researcher of BVL Historic Preservation Research, headquartered in Charleston, where she is currently working on a number of diverse projects ranging from National Register nominations for property owners and building histories for new Upper King Street restaurants to serving as the lead research consultant for the Charleston World Heritage Coalition. In addition to Charleston, Brittany also works with clients in her hometown on the Jersey Shore and is a contributing writer on historic architecture topics for two publications in the local community. Brittany serves on committees for local preservation groups and will begin teaching as an adjunct professor in the Department of Historic Preservation & Community Planning at the College of Charleston this fall.
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