



the Wheeler Gazette

a publication of the UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Program Mourns the Loss of Roger Lang

by Paul Wyncoop

Roger Lang taught the graduate course Development Economics for Preservation for over 20 years at UVM. He led students bi-annually through the complexities of Adaptive Reuse, Historic Tax Credit Hieroglyphics, Economic Pro-formas, and voluminous glossary of Real Estate jargon all over a full Saturday class.

Despite all of the potentially grueling material, Roger, with his giant personality, amazing boundless knowledge, and encouraging teaching style, made it entertaining, enlightening and alive. Roger never displayed arrogance or aloofness, the reason this class remained the popular favorite amongst the majority of students.

The entrance into the world of "Roger's Architectural Wonder Land" further heightened this vivacious classroom. This was a magical tour of preservation projects, historic sites, streetscapes, local lore and the best historic watering holes to end your day. Whether in Burlington,

Boston, Uptown or Downtown NYC, Ellis Island or Governors Island, Roger was there, leading the pack. His voice rang clear above the din of sirens and noise of busses and trains while he expounded on the grandeur of a building lobby, an intricate cornice, or the ingenuity of a truss system. Roger enthusiastically voiced the potential of any historic site for a transformation from its current state of disrepair to the next, new, thriving downtown redevelopment project.

To quote a former student:

"When Roger did his walking tour of Boston with my class, I was blown away by the comprehensive quality of his descriptions- taking in not only buildings and architectural elements but also City Planning and Jane Jacobs and politicians and ethnic cultures and history and economics and the benefits of the tax credit . . ."

Those of us who had the privilege of

going on Roger's Architectural Walk-Abouts" are truly a lucky bunch.

Roger was a rare, one of a kind personality, more than just a professor, Roger was a true educator- he didn't teach his subject to others; the knowledge just came bubbling out. Everyone would gather around him and collect the drops of wisdom as quickly as they could, hoping to remember every moment.

Roger was all positive energy and for this reason and so many others, it is with great sadness we announce his passing in March 2008 at the age of 64. He will always be remembered as a brilliant educator and his absence is a true loss to the budding preservationists at UVM; he will be missed.



Tom Visser: Investigating the Porches of North America

by Kevin Kasun

For the 2008-2009 academic year, Prof. Thomas Visser, director of the Historic Preservation Program, has been granted sabbatical leave to research the porches of the United States and Canada. Through the documentation of these porches, he hopes to breath new life into the cultural history of the built environment.

Utilizing sources such as historic and contemporary diaries, journals, travelogues, novels, interviews and oral histories; Visser is seeking to answer such questions as: When and why did porches become so popular in North America?; How have changes in social attitudes influenced the uses of porches over the past two centuries?; Why does style of a porch often not match the architectural style of the rest of the house?; What are we to make of the rather sudden turn away from porches that occurred during the mid-twentieth century?; and, Why now do we find such resurgent interests in porches, both for new houses and as additions to existing buildings?

(continued on page 13)

Inside this issue:

Historic Preservation in the Wake of Disaster	3
HP: Inherently Green	4
On Cultural Landscapes.....	5
HP & Substitute Materials.....	8
Recent Student Theses	9
New Adjunct Faculty	10
Entering Class	12
Returning Students	14

Greetings from Wheeler House

This fall marks the 33rd year of course offerings in historic preservation at UVM. That's a remarkable period of longevity for a youthful academic discipline. When Chester Liebs began teaching UVM courses in 1975, the prospects for growth of our field seemed exciting indeed, with boundaries nearly invisible beyond the horizon. Yet, if we mark 1966 as the beginning of America's modern preservation movement, I find myself wondering whether the graying of the country's first and second-generation preservationists, schooled during the post-1966 era, corresponds to a similar graying of the discipline itself. It's a nagging thought these days, as our country struggles to confront rapid and unprecedented economic, environmental, political, and social change.

Given the tenor of such times, it seems especially important to reaffirm, for our newly-arrived colleagues here in Burlington, a few of the truths that have served the discipline of historic preservation well for the past four decades. At the top of my list is the belief that America's historic built and cultural environments are fundamental to our health and well-being: as individuals, as communities, and as a larger society. This is true, and will remain so, despite the still-large segments of our population who sometimes neglect to consider the inherent meaning and value in these environments. Thus, our mission seems as clear as ever.

Close to the top of the list, too, is the knowledge that our instinct to conserve is very often grounded in well-reasoned practicality: the conservative approach is often the least costly choice! In addition, the pure enjoyment of being able to read and understand the history that surrounds us -- whether buildings, parks, industrial sites, engineering heritage, or rural landscapes -- is a talent that we can exercise all our days; and, it's usually free!!

Just as the discipline of historic preservation must adjust to changing

times, so, too, must preservation education. Toward that end, our program continues to explore ways to emphasize interdisciplinary study. For example, a program in landscape architecture is, at long last, emerging at UVM, offering potential for cross-fertilization in course offerings. We also continue to explore ways to integrate our courses with those offered by both the natural resources and engineering schools. Equally important, we continue efforts to build a strong alumni association, certainly an important facet of any program grounded in heritage preservation.

Young alumni are energetically stepping in to teach while Tom Visser is away on sabbatical during the fall and spring semesters. Sarah Vukovich is teaching courses in architectural conservation and historic interiors, while Liisa Reimann leads students in the research and documentation of historic structures. Paul Wyncoop and Joshua Phillips are filling the painful void left by the death of Roger Lang last spring; we will miss him.

The History Department has a new chair, Professor Steven Zdatny, who arrived here from West Virginia University this summer. Kathy Carolin and Kathleen Truax continue to keep us together, body and soul, with energy, skill, humor, and consummate diplomacy.

As for my part, the coming year will put my long-dormant administrative philosophy to the test: helping whenever needed, and staying out of the way whenever not. With luck, I'll still find a little time to continue exploring the remnant places - factories, racing tracks and grandstands, sidepaths, and clubhouses - associated with 19th and early 20th century bicycling history. As always, please stop by to chat if you're in this neck of the woods!



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Historic Preservation In the Wake of Disaster

by Andrea Glenn

Historic buildings can be vulnerable to natural disasters while presenting their own problems during recovery. While the physical needs of historic buildings can differ from those of modern buildings, so too can the financial and legal needs. Problems arise not only in gulf coast areas such as New Orleans, but in many other parts of the country as well. In the wake of recent hurricanes Gustav and Ike, many gulf coast areas have been inundated with high winds and water, along with large areas of the Midwest that experienced severe flooding.

Working to mitigate some of the effects of these disasters are several UVM alumni. Amanda Ciampolillo '07, is a Historic Preservation Specialist for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). As such, she coordinates the federal Section 106 process for FEMA during disaster recovery, and ensures public infrastructure projects are compliant with the National Historic Preservation Act as well as other federal, state and local historic preservation and environmental laws. Two and a half years after Hurricane Katrina there is still much work to be done in the Gulf Coast area.



*The remains of Round Island Lighthouse, off the coast of Pascagoula, Mississippi, after Hurricane Katrina.
(Photo: April Cummings)*

Because of the large scale of damage hurricanes leave behind, the recovery work is split into many different pieces that can be accomplished in steps. Ciampolillo has spent the last two years assembling a draft of the historic context of one of the seven gulf counties in Mississippi, compiling a statement of the historic significance of the many historic resources in the



*Beauvoir, the NHL home of Jefferson Davis, suffered substantial damage during Hurricane Katrina.
(Photo: George Armstrong/FEMA)*

county that will hopefully help to protect these resources.

April Cummings '05, also works for FEMA. She lives in Cape Canaveral, Florida, where she works with various southeastern states and Native American tribes to identify, mitigate, and repair historic resources that have been damaged by natural disasters such as flooding and tornadoes.

Funding for rehabilitation of damaged historic properties can be difficult to attain and the motives can be misunderstood. For example, Mayor Nagin of New Orleans, under pressure from Hurricane Gustav damage, temporarily issued an executive order in early September that suspended the functions of the Neighborhood Conservation District Committee.

The Committee is responsible for reviewing the demolition applications for historic buildings. The order was an effort to speed the demolition of buildings that were in imminent danger of failure. While the order lasted for just over two weeks, the National Trust expressed concern that in that time many buildings that could have been saved were instead slated for quick demolition.

With work by UVM graduates such as Ciampolillo and Cummings such orders may be avoided and a greater understanding of the importance of protecting our cultural resources can be achieved.

The Trust has several free resources available for owners of historic buildings, such as advice on flood damaged older buildings as well as how to apply for grants to finance repairs. (Visit: www.preservationnation.org)

If there is a specific area, town, or even neighborhood that you are concerned about, contact the National Trust for Historic Preservation or a local historic preservation organization. Many of these smaller organizations also actively seek volunteers and donations.

Historic Preservation: Inherently Green

by Liza Plantilla

The National Trust for Historic Preservation's Sustainability Program, which positions preservation within the current green building movement, indicates that:

"Historic preservation can – and should – be an important component of any effort to promote sustainable development. The conservation and improvement of our existing built resources, including re-use of historic and older buildings, greening the existing building stock, and reinvestment in older and historic communities, is crucial to combating climate change."

Emily Wadhams, Vice President for Public Policy at the NTHP, recently spoke to students in the UVM Development Economics course about the program, which has helped establish adaptive re-use as the 'ultimate form of recycling'. To those outside the field, the connection between sustainability and preservation is not always so obvious. While new, energy-efficient building technology has its place, it is not the only solution to "greening-up" our built environment. It is important for preservationists to be able to articulate what the inherent green features of historic buildings are in order to foster greater connections between the preservation and sustainability movements, as well as to counter the misconception that historic buildings are less efficient than new buildings.

The green features of historic buildings are many and vary by region, but there are a few general concepts and facts that are useful. The following has been summarized from the NTHP website (for more information visit www.preservationnation.org/issues/sustainability):

[preservationnation.org/issues/sustainability](http://www.preservationnation.org/issues/sustainability)):

1) A building already exists. New buildings are not necessarily more energy-efficient than older structures, which contain 'embodied energy.' Simply put, the energy used to create a building, must be considered in the calculation of its energy costs to the environment. By demolishing a structure and rebuilding, the initial energy investment in that building is lost. According to the NTHP, " (it) takes about 65 years for an energy efficient new building to save the amount of energy lost in demolishing an existing building."

2) Historic design features save energy. Historic buildings were generally placed on their site with special consideration for the sun and wind -- and their ability to warm and cool a structure naturally. Termed 'passive solar' and 'passive cooling', these features already exist in many older buildings, helping to reduce fuel demands of HVAC system. Windows, shutters, awnings and porches were all intended to allow occupants control over the heating, lighting and ventilation of a building. Ensuring that these features are still in good operating order maximizes a building's ability to moderate interior temperature naturally. The NTHP tells us that, 'In 1999, the General Services Administration examined its building inventory and found that utility costs for historic buildings were 27% less than for more modern buildings.'

3) Older wood windows are better for the environment. Preservationists advocate for the retention of original windows, for their historic significance as well as their embodied energy.

"Much of the focus on addressing climate change has been on an "assumption of consumption". People are fascinated by all the cool new green technology you can buy - a new Prius, a new "green" house. The National Trust's Sustainability Program is drawing attention to the fact that there is much you can do to reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions by reusing older buildings and reinvesting in existing communities as a first step."

Emily Wadhams, '80
VP for Public Policy, NTHP

Windows built before the 1940's are often constructed of old growth wood, which is more durable than the younger wood used in contemporary windows. New wood windows won't last as long as well maintained historic windows. Studies show that adding 3½ inches of insulation to the attic of a home will save more energy than replacing the average home's windows, the cost of which can take 240 years to recoup.

UVM alumni have been studying the natural synergy of preservation and sustainability for years, and the state has a growing number of experts working in this emerging discipline. Gregory Tisher '06 focused his thesis on 'Conflict and Collaboration: Historic Preservation and Academic, Government, and Nonprofit

(continued on next page)

On Cultural Landscapes

by Jessica Brakenwagen

The study and conservation of cultural landscapes continues to gain prominence in the field of historic preservation. Although it has been recognized by the National Register since its inception in 1976, few are familiar with the vocabulary and concept. As our country continues to embrace conservation theory, it is important for preservationists to better understand and consider these historic resources in tandem with the built environment.

Students in Bob McCullough's classes have been engaging in the exploration and interpretation of cultural landscapes, which are defined by the Secretary of the Interior as the geographic areas (including both cultural and natural resources and wildlife and domestic animals therein) associated with an historic event, activity, or person or exhibiting other cultural or aesthetic values.

Several organizations are working to demystify cultural landscapes -- including the Alliance for Historic Landscape Preservation (www.ahlp.org/index.html), which has helped to identify three types of cultural landscape: 1) A man-made landscape, such as a garden or park; 2) An

"organically evolved landscape," also referred to as a vernacular landscape. This includes townscapes, farmland or other areas that continue to be used and changed over time; 3) An associative (or ethnographic) landscape, which has strong religious or cultural ties and includes important Native American sites.



*Vernacular landscape, Shelburne, Vermont.
(Photo: Jessica Brakenwagen)*

Support during a historic landscape project may be provided by plant archeologists, who can interpret types and eras of various plantings; architectural historians, who through archival documents and physical evidence determine original orientations of buildings, plantings, and garden sculpture; and landscape

architects who look to the future with compatible plantings and maintenance plans.

Additional cultural landscape conservation information:

Olmstead Center for Landscape Preservation:
<http://www.nps.gov/oclp>

National Park Service, Historic Landscape Initiative:
<http://www.nps.gov/history/HPS/hli/>

Historic Preservation: Inherently Green

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Sustainable Rehabilitation Projects in the United States, 1989-2005'. James Duggan '08, principal of Preservation Unlimited, a Vermont-based company specializing in the architectural conservation and restoration of landmark buildings, advocates preservation's green potential. Chris Quinn of Red House Building, works on both new green building projects as well as historic restoration projects for a firm that has both a strong preservation and conservation ethic.

UVM's long history of encouraging environmental stewardship has helped cultivate a pool of professionals well positioned to become national leaders in this new area of study and concern.

On a related note ...

Doug Royalty, in addition to presently writing his thesis, is working with the Charlotte (VT)/Norwalk (CT)-based firm Heritage Landscapes in developing a preservation and management plan for Court Street in New Haven, CT, a modernist landscape dating to the city's urban renewal period. The project is based in part on a Cultural Landscape Report he produced at UVM.

Royalty is also part of a team working to preserve a rare surviving example of the modern prefab housing movement of the early 1930s—a small panelized steel home erected in New London, CT. The house, owned by Connecticut College, was listed on the State Register of Historic Places in 2007 and is currently under review for National Register listing. (Funding for both projects is being provided in part by the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation).

Historic Preservation: Wild and Wonderful in West Virginia

Each year, students taking the Contemporary Preservation Policy and Planning Seminar are eligible to receive travel grants to help them report on a preservation project or preservation advocacy program in an area of their choosing. In March, second year student Michael Plummer traveled to southern West Virginia to learn more about a controversial National Register Nomination. The following is his summary of that trip.

I have a natural affinity for the state of West Virginia. To me, it combines great natural beauty with other areas of interest: early American history, military and industrial history, and architecture both high style and vernacular. In addition, I was raised in Maryland, so if West Virginia doesn't feel like going home again, it at least feels like visiting a close family friend.

When I began to plan for the spring break research trip, West Virginia was near the top of my list of potential destinations. As my planning process continued, I learned that the site of a battle between pro-labor coal miners and anti-union forces - the Battle of Blair Mountain - was being considered for nomination to the National Register. As I dug deeper, I learned that the nomination was controversial, with energetic arguments being made both for and against the site's nomination. I wanted to learn more.



Historian Kenny King displays a bullet dropped during the Battle of Blair Mountain. Archaeological evidence like this is prevalent throughout the site. (Photo: Mike Plummer.)

The Miner's March (which culminated in the Battle of Blair Mountain) was a demonstration of more than 7,500 pro-union mine workers who wanted better working conditions and limits on the great power wielded by the coal companies in southern West Virginia. As the march approached Blair Mountain, the miners were confronted by an armed force of police, troops hired by the coal companies, and ultimately the U.S. Army. Taking place in 1921, the Battle of Blair Mountain was the largest domestic uprising since the Civil War and saw the use of machine guns and air power.

In recent years, the battlefield was listed in 2006 as one of the National Trust's 11 Most Endangered Places. Owing to its remote location, the battlefield continues to hold a

high degree of integrity. However, coal mining continues in southern West Virginia and the battlefield faces threats from the encroachment of mountaintop removal mining. Should mountaintop removal mining take place



The results of Mountaintop Removal Mining. These hills were once twice as high and their contours bear no relation to their original form. (Photo: Mike Plummer.)

on the site of the battle, not only would it eliminate the integrity of the site's setting, feeling, and association; it could completely destroy the battlefield itself, erasing any physical evidence that the conflict took place.

However, the nomination faced challenges. In addition to historical and environmental advocates who wanted to see the battlefield preserved, there were passionate, powerful, and motivated groups that saw a National Register listing as placing an undue burden on the exercise of industry. Coal companies were concerned with the costs associated with not being able to mine the site and mine workers were concerned with the potential loss of income.

My trip to southern West Virginia was a tremendous opportunity to immerse myself in a preservation issue that is as controversial as it is interesting. I met informative and generous individuals and was given a first hand introduction to both historic and present conflicts between the coal operators and the citizens whose lives they influence. I find it interesting that the Battle for Blair Mountain is ongoing, but now it's no longer between pro-union miners and anti-union forces. Today the battle lines include those who perceive limits on the unencumbered use of their property and those who want an important piece of history acknowledged as worthy of preservation.

Also drawn to the Mountain State this summer was second year student Aubrey Von Lindern, who interned at the West Virginia SHPO. The following is her report.

My mother was born and raised in southern West Virginia and when I was growing up we would make frequent trips to visit relatives or to vacation there. It was during those visits when I became captivated by the rugged yet beautiful landscape and intrigued by its distinctive culture and fascinating history. West Virginia's history has been heavily influenced by trends in transportation, industry and agriculture. It is primarily a rural state where a historic preservationist may be found working to preserve an elegant Greek Revival Style home and not five miles down the road trying to preserve what is left of an abandoned coal mine or camp or even an art deco structure in a downtown district.

During the three months I spent at the State Historic Preservation Office I was able to observe, first hand, the many roles that the office must play to help protect the states historic resources. I was constantly amazed at how busy the office was with consultants coming in and out and the many meetings that would take place to discuss and determine whether a resource is eligible or non eligible in regards to Section 106. Other numerous discussions took place with city officials to discuss what it would mean to have their town listed on the National Register or on

how to encourage public participation and education and outreach. I was able to attend some of these meetings and personally observe preservation policy at work. On a personal level it was good to see such excitement for protecting some the state's historic resources and especially the public's interest in maintaining important aspects of their cultural heritage.

It was in the first week that I realized that this was going to be a great opportunity to learn many facets of the historic preservation field. My two main projects were to complete a National Register nomination and a Historic Resources Survey. Both of these projects allowed me to build upon skills learned in my previous two semesters at UVM. The National Register nomination was for a small downtown district and the historic resources survey encompassed

a residential district with a variety of styles dating from the early to mid 20th Century. Both assignments required numerous hours researching state and local archives, title searching at local courthouses and onsite architectural analysis.

Although these two projects were my main focus it was the many site visits I participated in, conducted as part of Section 106 review or tax credit applications, that were the most beneficial. They allowed me to interact with the public and observe some of those "difficult conversations" that often occur in the field of historic preservation. One such conversation dealt with window replacements on an historic school. Several townspeople felt it was too expensive to restore the existing windows and just as easy

to replace them with new vinyl units. I mention this one example because it accurately reflects the issue of restoration versus replacement. It was a theme in almost every single site visit with homeowners, city council members and the general public. They continually expressed their concern over the cost of restoring original materials rather than just replacing them.

The other dominant issue in most discussions revolved around the question of integrity. It is hard to tell a homeowner or city council member that, due to numerous changes, a resource's historic designation may be

severely compromised. The opportunities to observe and participate in these types of conversations were invaluable.

Overall, my time in West Virginia was both professionally and personally fulfilling. I enjoyed returning to a state that has intrigued me for so long, all while gaining experience in my chosen field. It was confirmation that I had made the right decision to go back to school and that I had made the right decision to pursue a career in Historic Preservation.

Von Lindern extends special thanks to all at the State Historic Preservation Office in West Virginia, especially Erin Riebe, National Register Coordinator and Kelly Wilson, Architectural Historian.



Barlow & Moore General Store, Pocahontas County West Virginia. Site Visit where the owner wanted to discuss a potential National Register Nomination and Restoration Techniques. The owner was especially concerned about restoring versus replacing the historic windows. (Photo: Aubrey Von Lindern.)

The Use of Substitute Materials

by Jessica Brakenwagen

Does the aesthetic value change? Do the cost benefits outweigh the historic integrity? These questions are representative of conversations occurring across the country and in the UVM historic preservation classroom; should substitute/replacement materials be used on historic structures?

Not since the invention of vinyl siding has the construction materials market been so inundated with consumer-ready products. PVC is being shaped to look like stone, shakes, and shingles. There are cement pieces that look like clapboards and tires are recycled into a slate substitute. These are just a few of the common substitute materials municipalities and historic commissions are beginning to wrestle with. New “for historic homes” advertising campaigns confuse consumers and suddenly preservationists have a very real problem on their hands.

Burlington is a perfect example of the confusion these products have created. The 2006 Municipal Development Plan states that, “the City will identify and protect historic structures and resources, as well as conserve existing elements and design of its established neighborhoods.” Using the National Register as a model, it has been easy for Burlington to identify the historic structures. However, working out zoning clauses to insure integrity is the issue on which many cannot agree.

Following the Guidelines for Rehabilitation from the Secretary of the Interior, “the removal of historic materials or alteration of features should be avoided, distinctive techniques or examples of craftsmanship should be preserved, and if features do need replacement, the replacement should be done ‘in-kind.’” (More in depth discussion can be found in NPS Preservation Briefs 8 and 16). This is a convenient talking point for preservationists to argue. However, it does not address the reality of bringing the need for preservation to the layperson.

The heated debate and miscommunication has injected itself into present environmental discussions. The ecological impact of fabrication and transportation of substitute materials is often underestimated. And although the retention of historic materials results in less waste to landfills, homeowners, forced to sift through technical jargon, often gravitate to the newer materials that are touted as more efficient, maintenance-free and low-cost (see also “Historic Preservation: Inherently Green” on p4).

Students in the UVM historic preservation program are grappling with the same questions facing communities and heritage organizations and are learning that substitute materials need to be evaluated not only on their own merits, but also within the broader context of their application – specifically with consideration for construction methodology. Older structures were built with the expectation of movement while newer structures are quite rigid. Often, these substitute materials either do not allow for this shifting, or expand and contract at different rates and degrees to the historic materials around them, causing unintended damage to a structure.

Longevity is also a concern. Here preservationists contend that historic materials have withstood the tests of time. Conversely, few existing tests accurately predict the durability and lifespan of synthetic replacement materials. Burlington, however, understands the need for a pragmatic and realistic approach to the problem – especially when faced with property owners exhausted by maintenance and expense issues. “These materials have become very seductive for homeowners,” acknowledges Mary O’Neil, Associate Planner for the city. Consequently, in the past few years the city has allowed selective use of substitute materials on historic buildings, limited in scope and manner, to gauge performance as well as some of the “lifetime warranty” claims manufacturers tout. How their relative success will be measured though, remains to be seen.

On the Calendar

Two new exhibits at UVM’s Fleming Museum worth seeing if you are in Burlington now through December 19:

- *Stooks, Stacks & Sheaves: Agricultural Landscapes in America, 1850s - present*
- *Architectural Improvisation: A History of Vermont’s Design/Build Movement, 1964-1977*

(<http://uvm.edu/~fleming>)

UVM HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM ALUMNI ASSOCIATION UPDATE

Bylaws for the fledgling association have been drafted, and will be circulated to the Board of Directors for review and approval later this fall.

If you would like to be added to the mailing list and be included in updates or are interested in helping launch the Association, please contact Liisa Reimann at lreimann@uvm.edu.

MEET UP WITH US IN TULSA

Friends and alumni are invited to meet for drinks at the National Preservation Conference in Tulsa, Oklahoma on Thursday, October 23. Meet at Arnie's Bar, in the Blue Dome District, at 8:30pm. (Arnie's does not have a kitchen, so we recommend that you have dinner beforehand.)

What's in a Name?

Students in HP 206: *Researching Historic Structures & Sites* have been examining a variety of archival documents in order to gain a deeper understanding of not only the physical structures, but also of their previous owners and occupants. Census schedules, corporate registers, and land records, to name a few, all reveal information that can be puzzling at times. Historic occupation titles in particular are often the source of much confusion and amusement. Consider the following:

Fogger: a pedlar; farm manager; groom or servant; hardware salesman or low class lawyer.

Pargetter: an ornamental plasterer.

Patibular: a hangman.

Cracker Jack: a quarry or mining worker (usually a boy) who sorted impurities from coal or stone crushed by the "cracker" machine.

Featherer: a stone worker who drilled holes in the stone before it was split.

Source: A Dictionary of Old Trades, Titles and Occupations, by Colin Waters (Berkshire: Countryside Books, 2005).

Recent Student Theses

Elizabeth Mary Andre:

Fire escapes in urban America: history and preservation.

Phillip Barlow:

The current state of historic structure survey methodology and the incorporation of digital technology.

Devin Colman:

The future comes home: modernist residential architecture in Chittenden County, Vermont.

Gregory Tisher:

Conflict and collaboration: historic preservation and academic, government, and nonprofit sustainable rehabilitation projects in the United States, 1989-2005.

Jean Innamorati:

The Burlington waterworks 1865-1915.

Joseph Hoefflerle, Jr.:

Movable wall systems in the American office from 1906 through 1968 : a history and preservation guide.

These are available for inter-library loan through the University of Vermont's Bailey Howe Library:
<http://libraries.uvm.edu>

Digital Resources for Researchers

Early Vermont Maps & Atlases:

<http://maozi.middlebury.edu/SharingVTHistory/MapsAtlases/index.htm>

Library of Congress Map Collections:

<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/gmdhtml/gmdhome.html>

UVM Center for Digital Initiatives:

<http://cdi.uvm.edu>

Vermont Historical Society

<http://www.vermonthistory.org>

Vermont State Archives & Records Administration Databases

<http://vermont-archives.org/research/database/index.htm>

New Adjunct Faculty Faces

by Jessica Brakenwagen, Chris Dooley, Britta Fenniman, and Allison Paradee

With the beginning of another school year, we look around the Historic Preservation Department and notice some changes. Usually it's new students, projects and books. This year, we quickly recognize new instructors as well. Not just one, but four. We welcome professionals and program alumni Josh Phillips, Liisa Reimann, Sarah Vukovich and Paul Wyncoop to share their experiences and areas of expertise to help budding preservationists decide what we would like to contribute to the field.

Josh Phillips, continuing his work as Executive Director of the Middlebury Area Land Trust, joins forces with Paul Wyncoop to teach Development Economics. Here he hopes to encourage preservation students to expand their careers beyond cultural resource management consulting and claim a valuable place in the commercial sphere.



Josh's previous position, as Director of Preservation Services at Preservation Maryland, helped him recognize the need to be more pragmatic about preservation. He also counts the Baltimore Westside Revitalization as a favorite project for its ability to use public-private partnership to engage community and benefit a wide range of individuals.

A native Vermonter, Josh received a degree in History from Brandeis before returning to Vermont for his MS in Historic Preservation. He currently lives with his wife and cat and is looking forward to moving to northern Addison County soon. His non-professional pursuits include hiking. Asked about the most unusual activity he has performed for preservation he names the removal, by hand, of a family of woodchucks threatening the sill of an historic house in Maryland.

Like many of us, **Liisa Reimann** fell into Historic Preservation somewhat accidentally. Growing up in England and what is now the Czech Republic, surrounded by centuries-old cities, monuments and castles, Liisa came to the U.S. for undergraduate study. With a dual degree in English and Russian from the University of New Hampshire, she initially worked in international education and, later, in

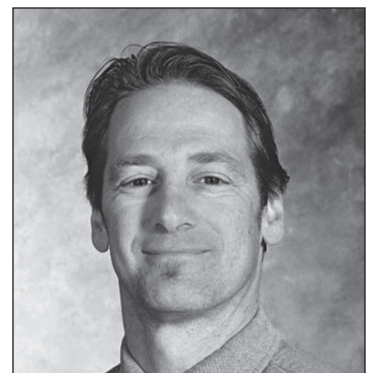
web design and development.

The purchase of an historic home outside of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, found her increasingly curious of the building's history. Liisa's fascination got the better of her and, together with a desire to learn how to take care of her home while respecting its integrity, led her to a non-traditional internship in archaeology and preservation carpentry at the Strawberry Banke Museum and, ultimately, the MS program in Historic Preservation at UVM.



After completing the program Liisa worked for NH-based Preservation Company before returning to Burlington as a principal and architectural historian with the New England Preservation Collaborative. Her first book, *Burlington Firefighting*, borne of a UVM class project, was published in 2006. This fall she is teaching a first-year course in Researching Historic Structures and Sites and will build upon that with Historic Preservation Practice Methods in the spring.

Paul Wyncoop is co-teaching Development Economics with Josh Phillips. He is employed as a project manager for the Breadloaf Corporation of Middlebury, Vermont, a company whose mission is to integrate planning, design and building into one system.



Paul's background in the field of historic preservation is rich and varied. He remembers growing up inspired by the stone buildings in New Paltz, New York built by 17th-century Huguenot settlers. After studying engineering in college, he decided not to pursue it as a career and went to work on a number of carpentry and restoration jobs. He traveled to Masias and Barcelona, in the Catalonia region of Spain, where he worked on restoration projects

of fortress houses and served as the head of a stewardship program in Catalonia. In 1996 he returned to the States to continue his journey in the field of historic preservation, enrolling in UVM's program.

In addition to his culturally diverse work overseas, what distinguishes Paul's approach to his work is his commitment to integrate the two often disparate realms of historic preservation and green building. For him, the intimate relationship between these two approaches to building is obvious: the most ecologically sensitive building project is one that utilizes resources already in place. As a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) accredited professional, Paul attempts to integrate energy efficiency into all the projects he is involved with. He is happy to report that many people in the field of historic preservation, including Richard Moe of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, are lobbying for more LEED points to be given to historic buildings. Paul strives to work towards LEED certification adding minimal additional costs in a restoration project.

Paul's passion for historic buildings extends beyond the classroom and the workplace. He is the owner of a 75-acre farm with seven barns and a 200-plus-year-old house, just a minor restoration project which he is trying to tackle in his free time (which he also dedicates to his two sons). As of now, he has been occupied with post and beam repair and attempting to insulate some of the barn structures while incurring minimal alterations to the buildings. Paul good-naturedly gripes that this is no easy task. However, it is perhaps just the kind of project that, when complete, will mark yet another step towards him and perhaps even the greater preservation community understanding how energy efficiency and historic integrity can exist under one roof.

New Jersey native **Sarah Vukovich** is a principal and architectural conservator for the New England Preservation Collaborative and also teaches at the Rhode Island School of Design. She is teaching Architectural Conservation I and II this fall at UVM and will be teaching a class on historic interiors in the spring.



A graduate of Hamilton College, Sarah became interested

in historic preservation while living in Charleston SC. Watching beautiful historic buildings pulled down to make way for parking lots led her to seek out classes in Historic Preservation and Planning at the College of Charleston. This was followed by two Master's degrees, one in Historic Preservation from the University of Vermont (2004) and the other in Architectural Conservation from the University of Pennsylvania (2007). Sarah's work at UVM concentrated on hands-on work and community involvement, while the Penn program introduced her to the philosophy behind preservation and conservation, historic interiors and emphasized the importance of testing of building materials.

Sarah's specialties as a consultant include research and historic interiors. When asked why she likes researching, Sarah said, "I find that every project starts with a good basis of research. I like the crinkly documents that are completely illegible and the Nancy Drew hunt that ensues every time I start a project." Her thesis work for UPenn took place at Strawberry Hill in Twickenham, England where she focused on wallpaper analysis and the building's history when owned by Lady Frances Waldegrave.

Two additional alumni, **James Duggan** and **Jeff Fellingner**, will be acting as guest lecturers this fall, leading workshops in sustainability and conservation.

UVM Fun Fact!



In the early 1800's, townspeople used the University Green to graze their animals. To show their frustration, on one occasion some University students snuck out in the night to bury the sheep of one offending farmer with only the sheep's heads exposed. (*Burlington Free Press and Times*, 5/16/1893)

Meet the Entering Class



*Left to right: (front) Britta Fenniman, Laura Sadowsky, Abigail Muse;
(back) Allison Paradee, Lauren Plude, Andrea Glenn, Chris Dooley, Heather Cox, and Lauren Hummer.*

Heather Cox grew up in Perkinsville, Vermont and graduated from the University of Maine in 2007 with a Bachelor of Arts in History and minors in Anthropology and Dance. Taking a year off before graduate school, she interned at Woodlawn, an early nineteenth century house museum in Ellsworth, Maine. Through her experience at Woodlawn as well as her prior involvement in the field of living history, Heather's interest in history and preservation efforts led her to the University of Vermont. She would someday like to work in living history but is also enjoying studying different aspects of the discipline.

Chris Dooley comes to the Historic Preservation program with a wide and varied background. After graduating from college with a B.A. in American History from Westfield State College, he spent several years traveling and working in the Western US. Many of his trips were spent exploring

National Parks and historic sites from Alaska to California. Chris and his wife Holly moved to Burlington in 1999 after living out west for several years. In Burlington, Chris worked in the IT field for five years before the tedium of the job drove him to go back to school. It was the combination of academic work – research, writing – with the physical connection to local history that drew Chris to the Historic Preservation Program at UVM. Currently he works as a brewer for a local craft brewery while attending UVM.

Andrea Glenn grew up in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. She attended Warren Wilson College near Asheville, North Carolina, graduating in May 2008 with a B.A. in Anthropology and Mathematics. While in college she became interested in archaeology, specifically the contact period in the southeast. Through work in the WWC archaeology lab and summer field seasons she became

acquainted with many historic preservationists, eventually leading her to the University of Vermont. She looks forward to a career in historic preservation.

Britta Fenniman has entered the Historic Preservation program this year without much formal knowledge about architecture or historic buildings. However, she brings with her a deep passion for all things old and historic, particularly in the realm of houses. Houses have been the source of her obsession since she was a little girl when she would follow her uncle, who is a restoration architect, around his work sites in NYC. After studying the history of art and architecture at Middlebury College, education at Goddard College, and working as an educator at the Fleming Museum (where she currently works), Britta has finally returned to a field of study that she can call home!

Lauren Hummer received her B.A. in Historic Preservation and Community Planning from the College of Charleston in 2007. While in Charleston, Lauren served for several years as a docent for both the Historic Charleston Foundation and the Preservation Society of Charleston, giving tours of many of the city's noteworthy historic houses for the organizations' annual tours. She also worked as a research assistant for the Lowcountry Basket Historic Resources Survey, helping research and survey historic communities associated with sweetgrass basket production for a Clemson University-led effort to document their previously unstudied built resources. Most recently, Lauren was employed as an architectural field surveyor with the Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana, surveying and researching the historic resources of a rural county in eastern Indiana.

Abigail Muse is from Amesbury, Massachusetts and recently graduated from Salve Regina University in Newport, RI with a double major in American History and Cultural & Historic Preservation. Her interests lie in architecture and architectural history, but hands on preservation of buildings is something she is looking forward to learning more about during her time at UVM.

Allison Paradee graduated from the University of Vermont with a B.A. in American History and a minor in Vermont Studies. As an undergraduate student, she began taking Historic Preservation classes, and after some time off, has returned to UVM to continue her education. Allison is interested in the research side of preservation and plans on staying in Vermont to pursue her career.

Lauren Plude received her undergraduate degree magna cum laude from Marymount Manhattan College in New York with a B.A. in History. Lauren recently completed a

three-year internship with the Shelton Historical Society where she worked as the Interim Education Director for the society's Youth Education Program and as a curatorial assistant. Lauren also gained considerable tax and legal experience working as a junior accountant for a small Fairfield County accounting firm and as a legal intern for The Law Offices of Shawn K. Span. Lauren hopes to put her Historic Preservation degree to good use by starting her own consulting company after graduation.

Laura Sadowsky grew up in an 1890 gable-front house that was always in a state of renovation flux in a very tiny town in Iowa. Though always interested in historical architecture and landscapes, her first Bachelors degree in 1996 was in English Literature and Art from Cornell College. After being a stay-at-home mom for over seven years, she went back to school. In 2008, she earned a degree from Iowa State University in Anthropology and History with the intention of becoming an archaeologist. Midway through an archaeological dig in Ireland, she found that the mid 19th century house she was excavating was going to be restored and began looking for programs that would allow her to be involved in similar projects. Her preservation interests include adaptive reuse, cemeteries, and historic residences and landscapes.



The class on a recent field trip. (Photo: Sarah Vukovich)

Visser: Investigating North American Porches

(continued from page 1)

"While preparing to conduct this research, it was surprising to discover how little scholarly research has been done on the history of North American porches. It also has been a great surprise, however, to find that so many people are eager to share their fond recollections of a favorite porch with such obvious delight," Visser said.

Visser's ultimate goal is to develop a well-illustrated typology of varied porches to help guide students, architectural historians and the general public, as well as document the numerous types of porches on historic buildings. In addition, his research will help him to develop a historic preservation course and lecture materials. §

Catch up with the Returning Students



Left to right: Matthew Holtkamp, Carrie Mardorf, Michael Plummer, Aubrey Von Lindern, Jessica Brakenwagen, Johnny Holdsworth, Malin Deon, Layne Tharp, Errin Creed, Liza Plantilla, Kevin Kasun.

Jessica Brakenwagen is excited to be finishing her career as a student at UVM. This past summer, Jessie worked as a covenant and easement intern with the Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana, where she gained new skills in deed research, community interaction, and the financial aspects of preservation. With existing degrees in business and construction technology, she is eager to be returning to the full-time work force. Jessie hopes to find a career where she can meld her varied background skills to increase mainstream consumer appreciation for the superior framework, eco-friendly qualities, and adaptability of historic resources.

Errin Creed continues to pursue his many preservation interests. Errin has a growing fondness for architecture of the recent past and its associated preservation issues. Roadside architecture is another of Errin's developing interests. This semester finds him anxious to learn more about materials conservation, and he hopes to explore hands-on, practical skills in greater depth. Eventually, Errin desires to return to his "stomping grounds" in the Pacific Northwest, working as an architectural historian and/or consultant. Before arriving in Burlington, he worked at a retail/wholesale nursery, where he gained appreciation

for quality landscape design and historic landscape conservation.

Malin Deon is a native of Berlin, Vermont. This summer, she served as an intern for the Landscape Change Program, an online archive of images of Vermont. Her work with the LCP focused on identifying, dating and describing historic photographs. After graduation, Malin plans to remain in New England and hopes to pursue a career that integrates preservation advocacy and community education.

Johnny Holdsworth comes to UVM from Bow, NH. A graduate of Saint Michaels College in Colchester, VT, he has been completing the program while working for the UVM College of Arts & Sciences' Dean's Office. Johnny looks forward to completing his remaining classes this year and finding an internship abroad for next summer.

Matthew Holtkamp's preservation interests lie within the realms of industrial and landscape history and it is the folk history of Vermont and New England will likely hold his professional focus. Since moving to Vermont via New York City from his native Kansas, he has worked on numerous projects within the preservation trades, primarily in

masonry conservation at Shelburne Farms. For his summer internship, he worked for the Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia where he prepared nominations for the local Historic Register. Ultimately, he hopes to incorporate an appreciation of unpretentious, vernacular design into his work as a preservationist.

Kevin Kasun's past projects include a history of the rehabilitation of an historic downtown theatre in Lewistown, Pennsylvania and a historic exploration of farm icehouses. This year, Kevin is looking forward to working on a project with the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation in which he will digitally map the historic covered bridges of Vermont. Recently married, Kevin and his wife Genna live in Burlington, Vermont.

Originally from Iowa, **Carrie Mardorf** is employed full time as a project manager and preservation landscape architect at Heritage Landscapes, based in Charlotte, VT. Enrolled part-time, Carrie has enjoyed the curriculum at UVM - focusing on her interests of vernacular cultural landscapes, such as farmsteads and cemeteries. While employed at HL, she's had the opportunity to work on multiple historic sites around the nation, including Valley Forge National Historical Park in Pennsylvania, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park in West Virginia, the Richardson-Olmsted Complex in Buffalo, New York, and Longue Vue House & Gardens in New Orleans.

Born and raised in New York City, **Tracy Martin** received a bachelor's degree in Art History and Chemistry from Marlboro College in Marlboro, VT and a master's in Archaeological Studies from Yale University. Tracy has worked in the museum field for almost twenty years in the areas of collections management and general administration. Her interest in historic preservation developed during her tenure as Director of the Old Stone House Museum in Brownington, VT. Tracy is currently the Assistant Curator for the State of Vermont's Department of Buildings and General Services.

Prior to joining the Class of 2009, **Liza Plantilla** worked in the field of affordable housing finance as a construction lender and low-income housing tax-credit underwriter. Years of funding adaptive reuse projects in historic Vermont buildings rekindled her interest in architectural history and led to her return to academia. This past summer Liza completed an internship at the Municipal Art

Society of New York, working as their Everett Public Policy Intern. Her work was focused on the greening of historic buildings in New York City. Liza, currently the chair of the VT Green Building Network, hopes to continue working on policy that promotes the sensitive greening of historic buildings.

Michael Plummer, a native of Hagerstown, Maryland, is excited to be in his final semester of the graduate program. Mike spent eight years in Baltimore as a Business Analyst, before realizing that professional satisfaction would only come through work that is personally meaningful. In addition to his UVM coursework, Mike traveled to West Virginia to research the nomination to the National Register of an important battle in the West Virginia Mine Wars (see his report on page 6) and interned at the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation with the Vermont Barn Census – a project to find and document Vermont's historic barns. Mike's preservation interests

include industrial/commercial sites, maritime sites, and historic battlefields.

Given a lifelong interest in architecture and her current career as a professional gardener, **Layne Sharp** has found the HP program to be a great match for her interest in landscape preservation. In

2004, Layne became the garden consultant at Goddard College in Plainfield, Vermont. Since 1939, Goddard has been located on a gentleman's farm in rural Vermont. The historic farmstead buildings, which comprise the central campus, are listed on the National Register of Historic Places and the beautiful gardens were recognized by The Cultural Landscape Foundation's Landslide 2006: Spotlight on the Garden. Layne's work with Goddard has included gardening and garden consultation, limited research, and promotion. She is currently writing her first grant for matching funds from the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation.

Virginia native **Aubrey Von Lindern** spent the summer of 2008 working for the West Virginia SHPO, where she completed a National Register nomination for the Barboursville Historic District located in southwest West Virginia and a written history and survey of Montrose, a residential district in South Charleston (see her report on page 6). This fall Aubrey will complete a Multiple Property Documentation Form on Vermont's historic gas stations. After graduation, she hopes to return to the Mid- Atlantic Region or the South to pursue her preservation career.

UVM Fun Fact: *The Dean's Office on 438 College Street at one time had dozens of individual light bulbs lining the eaves of the 2-story Colonial Revival building. If you look closely, you can still see some light bulbs left in place!*



The current repair strategy for one of the University of Vermont's most prominent buildings, the 1896 Williams Hall, includes the use of substitute materials in the replacement of severely deteriorated terra cotta elements. Understanding the practical and philosophical aspects of the debate and controversy surrounding the use of such materials is part of the curriculum for historic preservation students at UVM.

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