



# Preservation Architect

The Newsletter of The Historic Resources Committee | July 20, 2006



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## Upcoming Conferences and Events

### Letter from the Chair

by James J. Malanaphy, AIA, and Kwendeche, AIA

The AIA Historic Resources Committee, fresh from the success of its spring meeting and AIA Convention programs, has a full agenda through the rest of the year and through 2007, when preservation architects can increase their impact on the profession and their communities through the AIA150 initiative.

### 2006 HRC Programs and Events

The AIA [HRC home page](#) now runs a regularly updated list of scheduled HRC events in the "HRC Highlights" box. Just click on the links for more information about any HRC event.

### Other Historic Preservation Events

In addition to the HRC events listed on the HRC home page, check out these other preservation-related events as well as the National Trust for Historic Preservation's comprehensive list of historic-preservation conferences and workshops scheduled through June 2006.

## In the News

### Preservation Action Legislative Update

by Heather McIntosh

Demands for supplemental spending on the war in Iraq and on the post-Katrina rebuilding effort in the Gulf have pushed the federal government and Congress toward a steady reevaluation of how historic preservation is a tool for revitalization and a community building. Existing pressure to reduce the budget deficit is all the greater in this election year.

### Tulane and NTHP Focus on "Rebirth: People, Places, & Culture in New Orleans"

Dozens of artists, educators, chefs, writers, and other cultural ambassadors joined governmental leaders and journalists at Tulane University May 30–June 1, 2006, for "Rebirth: People, Places and Culture in New Orleans." The conference, cohosted by Tulane University and the National Trust for Historic Preservation, examined the role that New Orleans' cultural legacy will play in the city's recovery from Hurricane Katrina.

### National Trust Announces America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places for 2006

The sites on this year's "most endangered" list include the first museum of the Smithsonian Institution, the only remaining fragment of the destroyed Twin Towers of the World Trade Center, and historic neighborhoods of hurricane-ravaged New Orleans.

### NTHP's "Dozen Distinctive Destinations" for 2006

Check out the National Trust's annual list of unique and lovingly preserved communities in the United States. Since 2000, the Trust has honored 84 Distinctive Destinations in 41 states.

### Architect Wins Fulbright Distinguished Scholar Award

Michael C. Henry, AIA, received a Fulbright Distinguished Scholar award from the US-UK Fulbright Commission to lecture at the Centre for Sustainable Heritage, University College London, for the 2006 Spring term.

### Fitch Foundation Names New Executive Director

Erin Tobin Bearden has been named the executive director of the James Marston Fitch Charitable Foundation, whose grants, publications, seminars, and lectures support and advance the study and practice of preservation in the United States.

### Rome Prize Winners Announced

Patrick J. Tighe, AIA, and Thomas K. Tsang, Assoc. AIA, are recipients of the 2006-2007 Rome Prize fellowships in Architecture.

## Features

### The Lazzaretto: An 18th-Century Landmark at Risk

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by Richard Linderman, AIA

The AIA Historic Sites Advisory Team is supporting efforts to preserve the Lazaretto, the site of a 1799 quarantine hospital 10 miles southwest of Philadelphia. It is believed to be the last surviving building of its type in the country. If a Delaware County, Pa., municipality has its way, half of the 10-acre Lazaretto site will become a new municipal fire department with several acres of paved parking lot.



View of the Lazaretto from the Delaware River. Photo from the Historical Society of Pa. (HABS PA,23-ESTO,1-3)

### HRC 2006 Spring Meeting

by James J. Malanaphy III, AIA

The AIA Historic Resources Committee (HRC) held its Spring 2006 meeting April 8-9, 2006, amid the architecture of Chicago during Restore Media's **Traditional Building Exhibition and Conference**. The meeting comprised the following events:

- › Preservation Breakfast
- › Glessner and Clarke House Tours
- › 2005 Peterson Prize Reception
- › HRC 2006 Spring Business Meeting
- › Preservation Roundtable

### "A Critical Look at Authenticity"

by David N. Fixler, FAIA, and Don A. Swofford, FAIA

Authenticity is currently a hotly debated and often misunderstood concept in our culture, particularly as it pertains to issues surrounding the conservation of cultural resources. Presenters of 15 papers at the Fifth National Forum on Preservation Practice at Goucher College in Baltimore did not shy away from provocative viewpoints.



Skyline over the Chicago River.  
Photo: James Malanaphy, AIA

### Texas A&M Symposium: "Preparation for Preservation Practice"

by David G. Woodcock, FAIA

The newly formed Center for Heritage Conservation hosted the Seventh Annual Historic Preservation Symposium at Texas A&M University. The cross-disciplinary gathering opened with demonstrations of crafts and trades and concluded with wide-ranging presentations of papers representing preservation-education programs and projects of several accredited architecture programs, including five of the eight in Texas alone. Adding interest was an open house at **Nautical Archaeology Conservation Laboratory**, which showed materials from La Belle, a 16th-century French warship commanded by La Salle that was excavated off the Gulf Coast.



Students demonstrate rammed earth construction at Texas A&M symposium. Photo by Professor Richard Burt.

## Preservation Knowledge and Networks

### HRC 2006 Liaison Reports from Allied Preservation Organizations

The AIA Historic Resources Committee (HRC) Liaison Reports are presented annually to offer a forum and networking opportunity for HRC members and representatives of organizations engaged in historic preservation.

### Georgia Tech Launches Traveling Exhibition on "New Classicism"

Beginning this fall, the College of Architecture at Georgia Tech will provide a traveling exhibition that features projects from 14 of the best classically oriented firms in the United States and

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Britain as well as student work from the University of Notre Dame. A recent book by Elizabeth Dowling, PhD, AIA—*New Classicism: The Rebirth of Traditional Architecture*—serves as the exhibit catalogue. The complete exhibition will include 16 24"x36" professionally designed posters in vertical format. For detailed information about the exhibit and its participants and to obtain an exhibit application, visit the [exhibit Web site](#).

## Recent Preservation Publications

### Model Policies for Preserving Historic Schools

The [National Trust for Historic Preservation](#), through its Public Policy Department, has published the second in its "Model State Policies" series, intended to present best examples of policies that support community preservation and revitalization. "Model Policies for Preserving Historic Schools" was developed with the assistance and support of local and national experts on school facility policy from across the United States. The four-page issue (available on the NTHP Web site through the link above) addresses school facilities planning, community involvement, maintenance, and rehabilitation. It includes a list of additional resources, references to state facility policies, and Web contacts for further research.

### The Community Design Assessment: A Citizens' Planning Guide

Another new title from the National Trust for Historic Preservation shows how to assess—and protect—the look of your community. Afraid that your community is losing its identity? That mushrooming chain stores will turn it into Anyplace, USA? *The Community Design Assessment: A Citizens' Planning Guide* by Kennedy Smith and Leslie Tucker provides a step-by-step process for evaluating the design and visual impact of buildings and corporate graphics in your community to guide decisions about future development. The accompanying CD-ROM includes a PowerPoint presentation for assessment team leaders, assessment score sheets and tabulation worksheets, and image files of community-friendly design by national chain stores. To order, contact Preservation Books at 202-588-9296 or purchase through the Web site at [www.preservationbooks.org](http://www.preservationbooks.org).

## HRC Member and Component News

### A Note from New Orleans

by James S. Cripps, AIA

The rebuilding of New Orleans is progressing, albeit slowly due to lack of cash on hand and the slowness of some insurance companies to pay claims. Given the magnitude of the work yet to be done, New Orleanians take some solace in the small signs of recovery occurring every day.

### Q&A with Restoration Architect Mary Brush, AIA

During six months in France as the 2005 laureate of the Richard Morris Hunt Fellowship, Mary B. Brush, AIA, focused her study on building-envelope restoration practices. Back in Chicago as director of the Preservation Group at Klein and Hoffman, Brush discussed her fellowship experience with *AIArchitect*.

### Architects Receive Preservation Virginia Honors

Each year since 1971, APVA Preservation Virginia has presented historic preservation awards to those individuals, groups and organizations that have made the most significant contributions to preserving the Commonwealth's built and natural resources. Among this year's honorees were Don A. Swofford, FAIA, DASA Architects; and David L. Bandy, AIA, Spectrum Design.

### List of State and Local HRCs

Get involved! Check out a complete list of state and local AIA components that have formed Historic Resources Committees, complete with contact names, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses.



In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, previous plans to replace the roof on the Upper Pontalba Building in New Orleans have been held up by complications and skyrocketing local construction costs. Photo courtesy of James S. Cripps, AIA.





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## Letter from the Chair

The HRC 2006 Spring Meeting was held April 7, 8, and 9 during the Restore Media [Traditional Building Exhibition and Conference](#) and [Association for Preservation Technology \(APT\) Building Codes and Historic Rehabilitation Conference](#) in the beautiful windy city of Chicago.

Thanks to all the HRC members and our preservation partners whose contributions and attendance made the HRC Spring Meeting a resounding success. Thanks to David Look, FAIA, and Tracey Tobin at APTI, and to Peter Miller, Eric Peterson, Judy Hayward, and staff at Restore Media for their perseverance and support in planning and executing this successful collaboration. Extra big thank-yous to Donna Robertson, FAIA (dean, Illinois Institute of Technology [IIT] College of Architecture); Walker Johnson, FAIA (Johnson Lasky Architects); Richard Driehaus (Driehaus Capital Management Inc.); Mark Schara (National Park Service [NPS] Heritage Documentation Programs); and Shawn Intagliata (Unico Inc.) for their special contributions to the success of the HRC 2006 spring meeting.

Without Johnson, access to the Cliff Dwellers' Club, Glessner House, Clark House, and Driehaus Capital Management corporate headquarters simply would not have happened. Likewise, Dean Robertson made sure the doors to Crown Hall and the College of Architecture at IIT were wide open for the HRC and led us on a pleasant Sunday morning tour of the magnificent International Style campus. Driehaus made all the arrangements necessary for the HRC to use the wonderful interiors of the Driehaus Capital Management corporate headquarters building as a stunning backdrop for the [2005 Charles E. Peterson Prize](#) awards ceremony, recognizing the best measured drawings prepared by students to the standards of the [Historic American Buildings Survey \(HABS\)](#). NPS Heritage Documentation Programs administered the 2005 Peterson Prize competition in its usual professional manner and furnished Schara to present award certificates to student representatives of the prize-winning teams. Finally, Unico Director Intagliata had arranged for Unico to fund the student travel scholarships that allowed a student representative from each prize-winning team to represent their schools at the awards ceremony.

HRC member attendance at the Spring Meeting was excellent. It was good to see such a strong turnout and familiar faces of members who traveled to Chicago from all over the country. We missed those unable to attend and will be looking for you at the HRC 2006 Fall Meeting, to be held November 17–19 at the University of Minnesota, during the annual AIA Minnesota State Convention in Minneapolis.

At the HRC 2006 Fall Meeting, HRC will gather with AIA Minnesota, University of Minnesota students and faculty, and preservation partners from the region and across the country to host a symposium on historic preservation and sustainable design, tour local architectural landmarks, and

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recognize the excellence and academic achievement of the 2006 student winners of the Charles E. Peterson Prize. Unico has announced it will again fund student travel to the Peterson Prize award ceremony this fall.

The call for papers for the symposium, "[Energy, Currency, and Memory: Sustaining the Value of Historic Resources](#)," was recently distributed to all HRC members and liaison organizations. We received a broad response from a wide variety of disciplines presenting diverse perspectives. It is shaping up to be an exciting program. Please forward information on the symposium to all friends and associates who may be interested. Help the HRC define and measure historic preservation's contribution to sustainable, livable communities. Make plans to attend the symposium, November 17–19, 2006, at the [University of Minnesota College of Design](#).

If you look at the [AIA/HRC Web site](#) and click the link on the left to the view the [directory to state and local component HRCs](#), you will notice a couple of things. First, the Web site is looking better, brighter, and fresher than ever—thanks to the efforts of Kwendeche, AIA; members of the HRC Communications subcommittee; Kathleen Lane, Assoc. AIA; and AIA Web-site staff. Second, you'll notice that, yes, more state and local component HRCs are listed on the site than before—about a 10 percent increase, but this is still not good enough. Information on existing and newly formed component HRC committees is coming to us much slower than hoped for.

To serve HRC members, preservation partners, and communities, preservation practitioners must become more visible and accessible at the local component level. Help us gather this important information and place it prominently, where others can find it easily. Follow the example of the components already listed and provide contact information for the HRC in your component. If your state or local component hasn't yet organized an HRC, contact the leadership of your [AIA state or local component](#) and ask for assistance in starting your own.

Every year, at the AIA National Convention and Design Expo, the HRC assembles teams of qualified preservation professionals to conduct preconvention workshops, continuing education seminars, and fellowship meetings to introduce new AIA members to the HRC and the principles of responsible preservation practice. This year's convention in Los Angeles, held June 8–11, was no exception.

On June 7, HRC conducted two preconvention workshops. The Charles L. Lummis home, "El Alisal"—built by photographer, artist, and journalist Lummis as his own residence between 1897 and 1910—was the subject of the HRC's sold-out [Conducting a Historic Structure Assessment](#) workshop. The Herald Examiner Building (Julia Morgan) was the site of the HRC [Certifying Federal Tax Credit Projects](#) workshop, which taught architects how to successfully complete the NPS preservation tax-credit application process. Friday, June 9, brought another wonderful opportunity to meet and network with preservation practitioners from across the country at the Preservation Breakfast, held at the historic Biltmore Hotel. Francois LeBlanc, head of field projects at the [Getty Conservation Institute](#), was our guest speaker.

In addition to the convention, the [AIA150 Champions](#) gathered from around the country for training and to share information on a wide variety of component-level activities to take place across the nation beginning in 2007. [AIA150](#) is a national program for AIA members to "mark the

Institute's 150 years of service to the profession and the nation by working with their communities to create a better future by design." A key AIA150 initiative is the [Blueprint for America](#), a comprehensive community service program that encourages each AIA component to engage in an open dialogue with its civic and community leaders, fellow citizens, and design professionals through a series of public events. The events include design and public planning exercises intended to produce a roadmap leading each community to a healthier, more sustainable, more livable future. Blueprint for America also provides resources from the AIA national component to assist with state and local component implementation of the program.

I urge you to take advantage of this opportunity to become an AIA150 Champion for your component or to join your local champion's Blueprint for America team. I've taken this step myself. As the AIA150 Champion for AIA Alaska, I look forward to integrating historic preservation values into the planning efforts for sustainable communities throughout Alaska that will result from this initiative. Consult the list of [AIA 150 Champions](#). Some areas of the country remain underrepresented. Some states with large components and even larger populations and numbers of cities and towns are represented by a few or, in some cases, a single individual. This is an important opportunity.

HRC members can provide leadership in the AIA for their communities and help fellow practitioners, civic leaders, and citizens understand the critical connection between historic preservation and healthy, sustainable, livable communities. With your assistance, HRC members in your local component can take advantage of AIA150 and Blueprint for America to champion historic preservation in your community.

Contact your component leadership, meet with preservation architects in your area, and locate—or volunteer to become—the AIA150 Champion for your component. Help draft your component AIA150 Action Plan. If you are starting from scratch, you must act quickly. Time is short. The first round of grant applications for AIA 150 funding for the Blueprint for America program closed April 1. However, allowances were made for a second round of grant requests for AIA150 funding that will close September 1, 2006. See the [Blueprint for America Web site](#) for details, instructions, and a grant application.

Bottom line, use the AIA and the HRC to make your preservation practice more visible. Look for opportunities to network and collaborate with other preservation professionals to assist your component leadership with AIA150 and the Blueprint for America—to ensure that historic preservation values are integrated into the roadmap for *your* community's future.

James J. Malanaphy III, AIA  
2006 Advisory Group Chair, AIA Historic Resources Committee

Kwendeche, AIA  
Chair, HRC Communications and Publications Subcommittee



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## ***Other Historic Preservation Events***

### **The Best in Heritage: An Annual Presentation of the Best Museum, Heritage, and Conservation Projects**

*Dubrovnik, Croatia*

*September 21–26, 2006*

"The Best in Heritage" is an annual in-depth presentation of the most successful projects internationally, showing award-winning professional achievements of the previous year. Sharing these projects with interested professionals and media provides a unique opportunity to learn from exemplary projects concerning the care and communication of heritage. The event is under the patronage of International Council of Museums (ICOM), UNESCO (ROSTE, Venice), Europa Nostra, ICOMOS, and the City of Dubrovnik and is supported by the Ministry of Culture of Republic of Croatia.

### **Inaugural James Hoban Symposium and Commemoration Colloquium**

*September 28–October 2, 2006*

The James Hoban Societies of the United States and Ireland, with the support of the AIA, the Royal Institute of Architects of Ireland, and more than 15 other professional, heritage, academic, and research interests, have developed a commemoration program to heighten awareness of James Hoban's contribution to early U.S. architecture and the importance of the nation's architectural heritage and the influences (including the Irish context) which helped to form and inspire it.

### **Traditional Building Exhibition and Conference**

*Washington, D.C.*

*October 4–7, 2006*

The Traditional Building Exhibition and Conference is the only national trade show and conference for old-house owners, architects, designers, contractors, developers, building owners, and craftsmen involved in historic restoration, renovation, and traditionally inspired new design and construction.

### **Where Hi-Tech Touches the Past: Risks and Challenges for the 21st Century**

*Nicosia, Cyprus*

*October 30–November 4, 2006*

The conference will provide an opportunity to exchange research results, opinions, and experiences on the best practices and hi-tech tools used to document, preserve, manage, and communicate cultural heritage.

### **NTHP National Preservation Conference**

*Pittsburgh*

*October 31–November 5, 2006*

Every year preservation experts, professionals working in related fields, and community leaders all gather at the National Preservation Conference. Come

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together to share preservation challenges, successes, new information, and inspiration. The Fall 2006 conference will have a special emphasis on green buildings. The conference will include targeted educational and field sessions plus a full-day, pre-conference summit addressing the combined goals of green building and historic preservation advocacy, LEED certification issues, and more.

» [September 2003](#)





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## **Legislative Update from Preservation Action**

by Heather MacIntosh

In Congress and in federal-level preservation news in general, "the times they are a-changin'."

Demands for supplemental spending on the war in Iraq and on the post-Katrina rebuilding effort in the Gulf have pushed the federal government and Congress toward a steady reevaluation of how historic preservation is a tool for revitalization and community building. The pressure to reduce the budget deficit all the greater in this election year, when the entire House of Representatives is up for grabs due to retirements and reelections. One-third of the Senate will be turning over as well.

### **New Interior Secretary**

The Secretary of the Interior slot is being turned over to Idaho Governor Dirk Kempthorne, a charismatic, consensus-building outdoors and clean-water advocate. During his May 4 confirmation hearing, the Senate Energy and Natural Resource Committee engaged Kempthorne on a number of priority issues, most of which focused on oil production, public lands, and environmental issues. Historic preservation and cultural resources were, in this context, footnotes.

### **Cut in Core Preservation Funding**

On the same day, the House of Representatives made a preliminary decision on the budget recommendation for core preservation programs. Funding for State Historic Preservation Offices and Tribal Historic Preservation Offices will be level with last year, funding for [Save America's Treasures](#) will be half the FY2006 recommendation, and \$3 million was recommended for [Preserve America](#). This represents a significant overall reduction in historic preservation funding (mostly represented in the Save America's Treasures cut), and we're heard it's only going to get worse next year.

### **Senate-House Discord on Hurricane-Relief Grants for Historic Preservation**

Also on May 4, the Senate voted in favor of a \$109 billion supplemental spending bill, including \$83 million for preservation grants to hurricane-damaged states. The House has criticized the Senate for being "happy with money." The House and Senate conference on the bill will likely result in some reduction of preservation grant relief funding.

### **Tax Credit Bill Gains Support**

HR3159, a bill of amendments that improve the federal rehabilitation tax credit, was re-reintroduced last spring by Rep. Phil English (R-PA) and original cosponsor Rep. William Jefferson (D-LA). Since then, the bill has attracted 55 cosponsors—good but probably not enough to push the bill through. The bill has yet to be scored—that is, evaluated for its cost to the

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federal government—and some of the most expensive pieces of the bill would have the greatest impact on preservation-oriented development. These include (a) deepening the 20 percent credit to 40 percent for the first \$1 million in tax credit projects under \$2 million and (b) removing a provision within the current law that prevents condominium developments in tax credit projects. Ideally, preservation advocates would entice half the House of Representatives to cosponsor to ensure success. Given HR3159's immediate community benefit, support for the bill would make an excellent congressional candidates' forum topic.

### About the Elections

Before they were elected to national office, about 75 percent of the current House of Representatives and 68 percent of the Senate ran for state or local office. In the House, 32 percent were state representatives or senators, while about 20 percent ran for city or county council (81 Reps). Of the current House, 7 percent ran for mayor (31 Reps), 4 percent ran for governor (18 Reps), and 2 percent for lieutenant governor (10 Reps). In the Senate, 41 percent ran for state Senate or representative, 10 percent for city or county council, 10 percent ran for mayor, slightly more than 13 percent ran for governor, and 7 percent ran for lieutenant governor. Many also ran for other state and local offices like circuit judge, auditor, or for the local school board.

Given that times are changing, it's critical that potential elected officials at all levels of government are engaged by preservationists. For ideas on how to get historic preservation on the political radar in an election year, visit the Preservation Action Web site at [www.preservationaction.org](http://www.preservationaction.org).



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## ***The Lazaretto: An 18th-Century Landmark at Risk***

By Richard Linderman, AIA

*The Historic Sites Advisory Team is working with the Lazaretto Task Force to work for the preservation of the Lazaretto, which was developed as the Philadelphia Quarantine Hospital in response to the devastating yellow fever epidemic of 1793. The present building dates to 1799, but the site also has a rich history of Native American settlement and was a part of the New Sweden settlement of 1643. The site is currently threatened by planned development by its owner, Tinicum Township, as described in the article below.*

*The Historic Sites Advisory Team was founded by the AIA Historic Resources Committee (HRC) to work with local agencies and groups for the preservation of nationally significant historic resources. Made up of former HRC Advisory Group chairs, the Team serves as a resource to AIA in identifying threats to historic resources and determining the appropriate advocacy responses. We anticipate taking further action in urging local officials, legislators, and the public to recognize the value of this resource, to explore development alternatives, and to plan for the preservation of the site.*

—Michael J. Mills, FAIA, chair, AIA Historic Sites Advisory Team

Imagine a fire station being built directly in front of the main entrance to the Ellis Island Immigration Museum.

Or a parking lot replacing the beautiful shores of the Angel Island Immigration Station in San Francisco Bay.

If a Delaware County, Pa., municipality has its way, that's just what could happen to the Lazaretto, the 1799 quarantine station less than 10 miles southwest of Philadelphia. Tinicum Township plans to build its new 36,000-square-foot municipal fire department (with several acres of paved parking) on the front half of the 10-acre Lazaretto site.



Front view of Lazaretto administration building (trellis since demolished) as of 1936. Photo from Historical Society of Pennsylvania (HABS PA,23-ESTO,1-5).

## **Immigration Station Is a National Landmark**

Predating such national landmarks as Ellis Island, Angel Island, and the Canadian Facility at Grosse Isle in the Saint Lawrence River in Quebec, the Lazaretto was built in response to the devastating yellow fever epidemic of 1793. For most of the 19th century, it functioned as a station to inspect cargo and screen passengers on ships headed up the Delaware River toward Philadelphia. Thousands of immigrants' first steps on U.S. soil took place at the Lazaretto.

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Wing to the left of the administration building. Photo by Joseph P. Sims. (HABS PA,23-ESTO,1-5)

"The Lazaretto is a major national landmark with international significance," says Bill Bolger, program manager, National Historic Landmarks, National Park Service. "It is distinguished historically, architecturally, politically, and culturally. Tinicum Township's proposed fire station will irreparably damage its integrity and severely

limit its potential as a distinguished site of learning and commemoration."

Tinicum Township acquired the Lazaretto with help from Pennsylvania state grants over the past five years in an effort to save it from developers who wanted the land to build private parking facilities for nearby Philadelphia International Airport. Now Tinicum Township wants to use the site for its new fire station. Although the plans allow for the preservation of the Lazaretto's main 3.5-story Georgian brick administrative building, the construction of a new fire department on this site poses a direct threat to the historic integrity of the Lazaretto and future development of the site as a historic landmark.

### **A Rich Treasure with Archeological Resources**

The site of the Lazaretto also has significant potential to yield other historic artifacts from various eras. The fertile strip of land sits on the banks of the Delaware River near the mouth of Darby Creek and what is now the John Heinz Wildlife Refuge tidal estuary. It has been home to Native Americans for the past 10,000 years. The site also lies within the area identified as the capital of the New Sweden settlement of 1643, the first European settlement in Pennsylvania. Archeological remains from both of these eras are likely present on the 10-acre site.

During the early part of the 20th century through World War I, the Lazaretto served as the Philadelphia Seaplane Base, one of the earliest and most noted seaplane bases in the nation. Early aviation structures pertaining to this important





history survive  
on the property  
today.

This aerial photo of the Lazaretto, circa 1929, shows the docks on the Delaware River leading to the former immigration station. Photo by Aero Services, courtesy of the aerial archives of the Philadelphia Free Library Print and Picture Department (negative No. 11578).

In addition, the proposed site for the fire station once served as a graveyard for the quarantine station. Although the bodies reportedly were exhumed in the early 20th century, the potential for human remains still exists.

### Preserving Our Heritage

If the proposed fire station is constructed as planned, it would screen the historic administration building from the street and public view, decreasing awareness and greatly jeopardizing its value as an educational resource. The construction would also preempt future archeological investigation that could yield important information about native settlement and the 17th-century New Sweden settlement. It could also disturb "sacred ground" where scores of immigrants seeking a new life in America were buried.

A task force has been formed to help prevent the fire station from being built as planned and persuade Tinicum Township to consider other alternatives. It is in the public's best interest that the Lazaretto site and its stories remain broadly accessible for engagement, education, and heritage tourism. For more information on how you can help save the Lazaretto, please visit the Web site at [www.ushistory.org/laz](http://www.ushistory.org/laz) or contact Richard Linderman, AIA, at 610-874-5101 or [dick@linderman.net](mailto:dick@linderman.net).

*Richard Linderman, AIA, is principal of Linderman Group Architects in Chester, Pa., just outside Philadelphia. He is a member of the Lazaretto Task Force and is also heavily involved with preservation and redevelopment efforts in the historic Central Business District of Chester. In addition, he is active with the Delaware County Coastal Zone Task Force.*



# Preservation Architect

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## HRC 2006 Preservation Breakfast

By James J. Malanaphy III, AIA



Skyscrapers loom over the Chicago River. Photo by James J. Malanaphy III, AIA.

Early Saturday morning, walking along the Chicago River toward the Michigan Avenue Bridge and on to the Cliff Dwellers Club at 200 South Michigan Avenue for the Preservation Breakfast at the HRC 2006 Spring Meeting, the adage about Chicago being the city of big shoulders easily came to mind. In every direction, you see skyscraper after skyscraper, overwhelming the site of Fort Dearborn that once stood at the south end of the bridge. Chicago is a city of tall buildings, and plenty of stories are told about those who design and build them, but you seldom encounter the story of those who risk life and limb to go about saving them.

The [Cliff Dwellers Club](#) is a private club and nonprofit organization of men and women professionally engaged in or interested in the arts. It was founded by Chicago novelist Hamlin

Garland in 1907 as The Attic Club. It changed its name shortly thereafter and has relocated from time to time, most recently in 2001. Frank Lloyd Wright and Louis Sullivan were members of the Cliff Dwellers Club, and the desk at which Sullivan wrote his autobiography still resides there. The Cliff Dwellers location, atop a modest skyscraper overlooking Grant Park, provides a spectacular view and is the perfect place to watch the sun rise over Lake Michigan and examine the ever-changing skyline of the city, including recently completed Millennium Park. As Walker Johnson, FAIA, quipped during his welcoming remarks to the HRC, "Chicago, once known as the city where 'less is more,' has now become the city where 'too much is never enough.'"

Johnson past chair of the HRC and Cliff Dwellers member, welcomed the HRC members and then assisted HRC Chair James J. Malanaphy III, AIA, in recognizing current HRC sponsors: Restore Media, Shaws of Darwin, Mohawk Carpets, and Unico Inc. Walker later introduced our guest speaker: Tim Samuelson, cultural historian for the [Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs](#). This was the third time I had heard Samuelson speak, and I've been enriched by each experience. He never fails to educate and entertain. Perhaps because



Walker Johnson, FAIA, at Glessner House following the HRC Preservation Breakfast. Photo by James J. Malanaphy III, AIA.

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I've seen the two men speak together, interviewing each other on the finer points of Chicago history, I closely associate Samuelson's affable and sometimes irreverent manner with that of Studs Terkel, another historian I greatly admire.

Samuelson recounted his early experiences with historic preservation in Chicago, which began sometime during Chicago's period of unrestrained massive urban renewal after World War II in the 1950s, '60s, and '70s. He spoke about the importance of preserving architectural artifacts *in situ* within their original context—as opposed to predatory architectural scavenging—and the difficult issues associated with acquiring and protecting architectural features of buildings facing imminent demolition. Samuelson recounted many instances when he was present at the 11th hour, in the dead of night or early morning hours—after months of unsuccessful wrangling and cajoling with developers and owners to prevent the demolition of an important building designed and built by masters of their respective trades—to negotiate with the demolition crew for permission to salvage and preserve decorative features of the building, moments before the building was lost. He described the perils one often encounters in trying to carefully remove and transport beautiful, heavy, yet fragile works of decorative art while bulldozers and wrecking balls steadily turn surroundings to dust and rubble.

Samuelson also paid tribute to Richard Nickel, a Chicago preservation pioneer, friend, and mentor whom Samuelson often followed and accompanied on his personal mission to remove and salvage decorative ornamentation from buildings before demolition. Nickel was a Chicago historian and photographer who spent virtually all of his time photographing the interiors and exteriors of the buildings he could not convince others to save. He was especially fond of the work of Louis Sullivan and led numerous campaigns to prevent the demolition of Sullivan's Chicago buildings, including the Garrick Theater and the Chicago Stock Exchange. Nickel was killed at work, on April 13, 1972, when a stairwell in the Chicago Stock Exchange building collapsed on him while he was attempting to rescue and preserve decorative elements from the building.

Samuelson's presentation proved to be powerful and moving. I believe we all left the Cliff Dwellers Club inspired to put forth our best efforts to promote the responsible stewardship of our architectural heritage. I know I did. You can read more about the work of Richard Nickel in the book, *They All Fall Down: Richard Nickel's Struggle to Save America's Architecture*, by Richard Cahan.

*James J. Malanaphy III, AIA, is 2006 Advisory Group Chair of the AIA Historic Resources Committee.*





# Preservation Architect

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## ***Glessner and Clarke House Tours Enhance HRC Spring Meeting***

By James J. Malanaphy III, AIA

Following the Preservation Breakfast, HRC members gathered on Michigan Avenue outside the Cliff Dwellers Club to board buses and head south of the Loop to tour the [Glessner House National Historic Landmark](#) (designed in 1886 by H. H. Richardson for John and Frances Glessner) and [Clarke House](#), a timber-frame Greek Revival mansion built in 1836 and considered Chicago's oldest surviving building. The two former residences are located adjacent to one another in the Prairie Avenue Historic District and now operate as house museums. [Glessner House Museum](#) and [Clarke House Museum](#) offer public tours of the properties led by trained docents.



Glessner House

The HRC tour of the Glessner House was led by Walker Johnson, FAIA, and Anne Sullivan, AIA, of [Johnson Lasky Architects](#), which is leading a thoughtful restoration of the house and grounds. The massive and somewhat austere Richardson Romanesque Revival exterior belies the spacious, sunlight-filled, oak-paneled English Arts and Crafts interiors arranged around a large landscaped courtyard. Decorated in accordance with the principles of the Aesthetic and English Arts and Crafts movements, the home contains much of the family's original collection of furniture and personal belongings, which the family donated to the museum. Richardson's design for this stately home presented a radical departure from traditional residential design.



In contrast, 50 years earlier, the Clarke House design is open and outward looking. With large, outwardly facing windows, the home was sited classically, centrally, and symmetrically in the center of its then-agricultural surroundings. It is remarkable to encounter an example of timber-frame residential construction dating from this period still standing in Chicago and possessing this much integrity. Although there have been considerable interventions

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Clarke House. Both photos, this page, by James J. Malanaphy III, AIA.

throughout the years, the buildings' conservation plan endeavors to restore most of the home to its early condition and still allow for interpretation. The Clarke House Museum successfully interprets the period of Chicago's early settlement and rapid expansion; the home and its materials and method of construction; the Clarke family; and pre-Civil War Chicago lifeways. If you are new to Chicago, the museum offers a unique and unparalleled vantage point from which to begin your personal investigation of the history of Chicago.

Note: You can view the [HABS/HAER Documentation](#) for Glessner House and Clarke House by clicking on the link and searching the collection using the phrases Glessner House Chicago and Clarke House Chicago.

*James J. Malanaphy III, AIA, is 2006 HRC Advisory Group Chair.*

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## **Peterson Prize Reception at Cable House**

By James J. Malanaphy III, AIA

On April 8, 2006, AIA HRC members and guests were entertained at a reception hosted by Driehaus Capital Management Inc. and Driehaus Securities Corp. at their corporate headquarters: [Ransom R. Cable House](#), 25 East Erie Street, Chicago—a 15,000-square-foot mansion originally designed by the prominent Chicago architect, Henry Ives Cobb. It was built in 1886 as a residence for Ransom R. Cable, president of the Rock Island and Pacific Railway Co., in H. H. Richardson's Romanesque style. (Richardson designed the [Glessner House](#) that same year.) The Cable House has undergone a recent skillful and imaginative rehabilitation of the mansion's interiors, resulting in a fantastic transformation of the 19th-century mansion into a forward-looking 21st-century work environment without losing touch with its original historic context.

The Cable House provided a stunning setting for the HRC 2005 [Charles E. Peterson Prize](#) award ceremony, recognizing winners of the annual student competition for measured drawings. As you may recall, Hurricane Katrina cancelled the HRC 2005 Fall Meeting and postponed the student award ceremony until our Spring Meeting in Chicago. Near the end of the reception Saturday evening, 2005 Peterson Prize juror Mark Schara of the National Park Service's Heritage Documentation Program distributed the award certificates to representatives of the six prize-winning student teams from five colleges and universities, including Chicago's own School of the Art Institute of Chicago. The following students were present to receive the award certificates:

- **First Place:** Jason Henson, Louisiana Tech University (Guy W. Carwile, AIA, professor)—*Samuel G. Wiener House*
- **Second Place:** Kristin Harpst and Laura Schatte, Texas A&M University (Robert B. Warden and David Woodcock, FAIA, professors)—*Montezuma Castle National Monument*
- **Third Place:** Nathan Schneider and Jeremy Vincik, Texas Tech University (John P. White, AIA, professor)—*Charles H. Bugbee and Harold Dow Bugbee Ranch House*
- **Fourth Place:** Patricia Fisher-Olsen, Bucks County (Pa.) Community College (Kathryn Auerbach, professor)—*Thomas Farm Outbuildings*
- **Honorable Mention:** Nathan Schneider and Jeremy Vincik, Texas Tech University (John P. White, AIA, professor)—*Charles Goodnight Ranch House*
- **Honorable Mention:** Maura Pilcher, School of the Art Institute of Chicago (Charles Pipal, AIA, professor)—*Thalia Hall*

The HRC was fortunate to arrange grants that enabled the students to travel to Chicago and represent each college's or university's award-winning student team through the generous sponsorship of Unico Inc. of St. Louis. Restore Media also provided some additional student support.

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The Cable House also provided the perfect location during the Saturday evening reception to award a special AIA Presidential Citation to Richard H. Driehaus and the Richard H. Driehaus Foundation. AIA Regional Director Jonathan Fischel, AIA, was on hand to present the citation to Driehaus on behalf of AIA President Kate Schwennsen, FAIA. Walker Johnson, FAIA, had nominated Driehaus for the AIA Presidential Citation, which acknowledges Driehaus's long involvement in the architectural community, strong commitment to historic preservation and design excellence, and outstanding philanthropic and community service projects. Driehaus could not attend the evening's events, and the honor was accepted on his behalf by Sunny Fischer, executive director of the Richard H. Driehaus Foundation.

HRC programs that recognize the significant achievements and contributions of historic-preservation supporters such as Driehaus and the Charles E. Peterson Prize winners are among our most important. As a result of the Peterson Prize competition—cosponsored by the National Park Service and the Athenaeum of Philadelphia—more than 2,000 students from 68 colleges and universities have completed more than 500 entries, and nearly 5,000 measured drawings have been added to the HABS collection.

It was extremely gratifying to recognize the contributions of Driehaus and the 2005 Peterson Prize-winning students who share our passion for beautiful architecture and recognize the importance of recording significant works of architecture before they are lost to posterity through demolition or neglect. The reception and award ceremony attracted an appreciative and dedicated audience who celebrated Driehaus's business acumen in support of helping our nation's architectural heritage play a meaningful role in shaping the future and who also understand the lasting contribution the Peterson Prize competition makes to the HABS/HAER/HALS collection in the Library of Congress. It was truly a night to remember.

*James J. Malanaphy III, AIA, is 2006 HRC Advisory Group Chair.*



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## **HRC 2006 Spring Business Meeting at IIT**

By James J. Malanaphy III, AIA

On Sunday morning, the AIA HRC members gathered for an informal business meeting and discussion to update members about recent and forthcoming HRC programs. The meeting was hosted by Donna Robertson, FAIA, dean of the [College of Architecture](#) at the Illinois Institute of Technology. HRC members gathered in the Core Center of [Crown Hall](#). Those who arrived early could review student projects for a Museum and Interpretive Center for the Pullman Historic District still on display from a Friday afternoon jury. The student work displayed inventiveness and sensitivity to historic fabric preserved and incorporated in the vignettes. The thoughtfulness of the students' solutions and the strong convincing graphic presentations show that IIT continues to maintain high academic standards.

The HRC Business Meeting began with a presentation and tour led by Robertson and Gunny Harboe, AIA (Harboe Architects), an architectural consultant during the recent rehabilitation of Crown Hall. Harboe explained the major issues encountered during the project to restore the building's exterior and interior features and



A view of early spring on the IIT campus, where the HRC held its business meeting. Photo by James J. Malanaphy III, AIA.

to sensitively introduce new energy-saving mechanical and electrical systems in a nonintrusive manner. The project has been extremely well executed. Crown Hall's integrity is undiminished. In fact, it has been cleaned up and allowed to shine brightly. Even though more recent buildings have been constructed on campus by leading contemporary architects such as Rem Koolhaas and Helmut Jahn, Crown Hall remains the centerpiece of Ludwig Mies Van der Rohe's remarkable International Style campus.

Leaving Crown Hall, Robertson and Harboe led the group on a walking tour of the IIT campus. We were led into and through the playful and sometimes riotous interior spaces of the new Student Center (Koolhaus) and into Mies's original Student Center just behind the Koolhaus building. The Student Center has also been rehabilitated recently—masterfully restoring original fabric, removing noncontributing features, and installing new systems and elements transparently and unobtrusively in this active, hard-working building.

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The tour also featured newly constructed dormitory buildings (Jahn); a close-up view of the typical maintenance and repair issues facing many of Mies's campus buildings that still need attention; charming yards recently replanted with indigenous trees, flowers, and shrubs to restore character-defining features of the original campus landscape; and the interior of Mies's first American building, the School of Engineering, which still awaits restoration.

These recent improvements at IIT are worthy of broad recognition. The restoration of Crown Hall and Student Center are exemplary. The introduction of the new Student Center and dormitory buildings into Mies's campus master plan has been handled masterfully. Whereas each of the two new buildings deviate stylistically in their own way from Mies's architectural vocabulary and could easily have been allowed to dominate the original campus master plan, the new buildings have instead been carefully sited along the CTA rail, where they are both visible and unobtrusive. They enliven the IIT campus without detracting from Mies's original intention.

However, I can only imagine what Mies might say . . .

*James J. Malanaphy III, AIA, chairs the 2006 HRC Advisory Group.*

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## HRC 2006 Preservation Roundtable

By James J. Malanaphy III, AIA

The HRC 2006 Spring Meeting at Restore Media's Traditional Building Exhibition and Conference opened with the AIA HRC Preservation Roundtable on the exhibit floor at Chicago's [Historic Navy Pier](#). Moderators James J. Malanaphy III, AIA, 2006 HRC Advisory Group chair; Royce A. Yeater, AIA, Midwest director, National Trust for Historic Preservation; and Harry Hunderman, FAIA, representing the Association for Preservation Technology International, led the session for members and allied groups. Representatives of allied preservation organizations in Chicago and the Midwest region introduced their organizations and shared information about their missions, current initiatives, programs, and challenges facing the historic preservation community.

The following organizations presented liaison reports at the Chicago session:

- Royce A. Yeater, AIA—National Trust for Historic Preservation, Midwest Regional Office
- Eleanor Gorski, AIA—City of Chicago, Department of Planning and Development
- T. Gunny Harboe, AIA—DOCOMOMO, Midwest Chapter
- David Bahlman—Landmarks Preservation Council of Illinois
- Brad White—Preservation Action
- Harry Hunderman, FAIA—Association for Preservation Technology International
- Mike Jackson, FAIA—Illinois Historic Preservation Agency
- Jonathan Fine, AIA—Preservation Chicago
- James J. Malanaphy III, AIA—AIA Historic Resources Committee

[Copies of the written reports](#) received during the session can be found under the "Preservation Knowledge and Networks" section in this issue of *Preservation Architect*.

Among the HRC's most successful ongoing programs, the HRC Preservation Roundtable provides a forum for our historic preservation partners to address our members and encourages collaboration among organizations as a successful strategy to achieve our shared goals and objectives.

*James J. Malanaphy III, AIA, chairs the 2006 HRC Advisory Group.*

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## ***Goucher College Forum on Authenticity***

By David N. Fixler, AIA, and Don A. Swofford, FAIA

"A Critical Look at Authenticity," the [Fifth National Forum on Preservation Practice](#), was held March 23–25, 2006, at [Goucher College](#) in Baltimore. Authenticity is currently a hotly debated and often misunderstood concept in our culture, particularly as it pertains to issues surrounding the conservation of cultural resources.

In a keynote speech, David DeLong of the University of Pennsylvania defined four degrees of authenticity: (1) literal, whereby the original fabric is conserved and restored to the greatest degree possible; (2) conceptual, where the original form remains but with replacement material; (3) surface, in which the surface remains original but with new backup and in a new context; and (4) fragmented, whereby remaining pieces of an artifact are partially re-erected or incorporated into new fabric as bricolage. DeLong's taxonomy proved effective in creating a framework for the papers that followed.

The forum consisted of 15 papers on topics such as conserving cultural landscapes and industrial ruins; issues of weathering in, and the adaptive reuse of, early Modern movement buildings; and a provocative discourse on "Authenticity and Embodied Information" by production designer Emanuel Jannasch that challenged basic ideas about the preservationist's conception of authenticity.

The presentations and ensuing discussions made it clear that authenticity—as the preservation community currently understands it—is, like the field itself, a subject in flux. In the preservation history, authenticity is simultaneously defined by the presence of original material and finish (from Ruskin) and by replications that use new materials to copy an original design (from Viollet-le-Duc). In the last generation, to use DeLong's terms, American preservation practice has clearly favored the literal over the conceptual in the hierarchy of the embodiment of authenticity. As many of the speakers affirmed, this philosophy still has considerable merit when dealing with a built environment of traditional materials and construction practices as the breadth of preservation has expanded to include works of industry, cultural landscapes, and the Modern built environment. These priorities are often no longer relevant, however. One paper described the conversion of an industrial gas works into a park, suggesting that the entire idea of what is authentic in an industrial complex has been transformed as they have become, in effect, follies in a pastoral landscape. Another paper concluded that because early Modern buildings were not designed to weather, the authentic course of action is to allow them to become ruins.

A second day of papers delved into authenticity as it will apply to the future—documentation of authenticity in the oral traditions, verification of those traditions, and use of those traditions to raise awareness of cultural

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significance and their communities. Jannasch followed the query into oral traditions with a provocative and deeply engaging work on “embodied energy” and the taxonomy of dealing with historic information and its transition into practical application, particularly in the future. Here Jannasch made a closing case for “keeping old things in reasonable shape besides making it available to future historians” for reasons as simple as function, aesthetics, sentiment, stories, and peer approval. What seemed missing from that five-part argument was embodied energy and the lessons of sustainability. Finally, we heard a paper on the responses to the damage or destruction of historically significant buildings based on conflict. The designer notion of “adjusted expectations” proved truly apparent in Europe, particularly postwar Germany. The call was for new authenticity models in the postconflict environments to which the model responded anyway.

Finally, the esteemed David Lowenthal, professor emeritus of geography at University College London, sat at a plain table and poured his brain out on the subject through a series of digressions from a paper titled “Pastiche or Palimpsest: Authorized Versions from Venice to Las Vegas.” Lowenthal’s thesis concerned the phenomenal growth of the desire and demand for “synthetic history” and its decrying of authenticity in the modern acceptance of the phony for the sake of entertainment.

As the forum clarified, our definition of authenticity continues to evolve, and it behooves the preservation community to keep an open mind about the pitfalls of taking too literal an approach to this subject, particularly regarding the sanctification of original fabric, and what this means relative to looking at the issue of authenticity from a broader and more critical standpoint.

*David N. Fixler, AIA, specializes in historic preservation projects for Einhorn Yaffee Prescott in Boston. Don A. Swofford, FAIA, former chair of the AIA Historic Resources Committee, is founder and principal of DASA Architecture, Conservation, and Planning in Charlottesville, Va.*





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## ***Texas A&M University hosts Seventh Historic Preservation Symposium***

By David G. Woodcock, FAIA

The [Center for Heritage Conservation](#) (CHC) at Texas A&M University hosted the [Seventh Annual Historic Preservation Symposium](#) on March 24–25, 2006. The topic was "Preparation for Preservation Practice: A Comprehensive Perspective." The [graduate preservation certificate program](#) at A&M is cross-disciplinary, as emphasized by the list of sponsors: Watkins Hamilton Ross Architects, Jaster Quintanilla Engineers, Sparks Engineering, and TBG Partners (a landscape architecture and planning group). The participants represented most of the Texas preservation programs, including students, faculty, and a number of practitioners and government officials, including the Texas Historical Commission and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

The opening day focused on crafts and trades, with demonstrations and exhibits by Texas Timber Framers from San Antonio and Chisum Steel from Paris, Tex., which brought a large fabricated section of mockup of the original roof of the Bosque County Courthouse, being restored under the direction of Architexas Inc., a strong CHC supporter. Also on hand was a team of students under the direction of Professor Richard Burt,

who demonstrated their research on rammed earth construction. The several earth mixtures and the technique of forming and ramming the walls proved a day-long excitement!

Also adding interest to the day was an Open House at the Institute of the Nautical Archaeology Conservation Laboratory, where the main feature was the materials from La Belle, a 16th-century French warship commanded by La Salle that was excavated from Matagorda Bay on the Gulf Coast. The remains of the ship have been reassembled and are being treated with preservatives. Thousands of artifacts were recovered, including the skeletal remains of a sailor drowned in the wreck. Thanks to DNA analysis, his present-day relatives have been identified in Brittany, France!

While the demonstrations proceeded, Texas A&M University was honored to host the Spring board meeting of the [National Council for Preservation Education](#) (NCPE). Four board members joined us that evening at a



Demonstration of rammed earth construction at Texas A&M's 7th Annual Historic Preservation Symposium. Photo by Professor Richard Burt.

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celebration dinner attended by university and college administrators, professionals, government officials, and faculty in honor of the newly created Center for Heritage Conservation.

The Saturday events combined papers from members of the NCPE Board attendees and from faculty from five of the eight accredited architecture programs in Texas with preservation education components. Dean J. Thomas Regan, Assoc. AIA, of the Texas A&M College of Architecture opened the day with a welcome and recognition of the importance of cross-disciplinary learning as preparation for practice that is becoming increasingly integrated. He stressed the need for strong disciplines with the ability to work together.

Michael Tomlan, director of the Historic Preservation Planning Program at Cornell University, provided a spirited introduction to the work of the [Preservation Trades Network](#), an appropriate follow-up to Friday's demonstrations. He noted that the crafts have always been at the forefront of innovation, citing the transformation of trades practices like that of the turner and the development of mechanics' guilds leading to formation of the American Federation of Labor. The whole field of materials science began with industrial technology in glass, paints, and coatings, and new 20th-century materials became part of that transformation. Tomlan drew attention to studies in England and the United States that identified a critical need for traditional trades to be nurtured. Nearly half a million historic structures are listed in the U.K. whose maintenance and preservation rest on available craftspeople and professionals who understand the technology.

Sue Ann Pemberton-Haugh, AIA, of the University of Texas at San Antonio described an annual summer study-abroad program that combined the creation of measured drawings of Spanish missions in Northern Mexico with a hands-on building experience aimed at assisting the Mestizo Indians of Norogachi (about 250 miles south of El Paso) by improving their school and community buildings. She noted that the U.S. students learned the use of local crafts and worked side-by-side with the villagers of several generations. The students assisted in the improvement of drainage and septic systems and had introduced and built a wind generator and a composting toilet.

Elizabeth Loudon of Texas Tech University is recognized as a leader in the field of 3-D laser scanning, most notably for her work at the Statue of Liberty. She was conscious of the fact that this technology separates the student from the object, and she described a design studio where an advanced laser scanner (HDS 3000 with a motorized base) was used to gather vast amounts of data quickly and brought her research into this technology into the classroom. She suggested that new technologies are enabling students to explore design and construction issues more effectively and that the integration of faculty research into the classroom had significant benefits. In the case of the town of Troy, Texas students were developed an overall recording of the community and used this base data for a series of adaptive-use studies, one of which is already being implemented for the local NPR/PBS station.

Anna Mod of Prairie View A&M University is a historic-preservation specialist serving as an adjunct professor. She described the development of the university from a Normal and Industrial School, strongly influenced by Booker T. Washington's vision of industrial education but recognizing the

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need to include the precepts of W.E.B. DuBois, who saw the need for a broad liberal education if the "colored" students were to play a full role in society. The accredited program at Prairie View recognizes the value of heritage education and has participated in a series of studies of African American cemeteries, a regional plan for the communities surrounding the university, and a study of the legendary El Dorado Ballroom in Houston, which was active from 1939 to 1970. Rick Baldwin, PhD, director of the Community Development program at Prairie View A&M, has been instrumental in incorporating architectural conservation into the curriculum of the university.

Vince Michael, current NCPE president from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, presented a critical analysis of the development of historic districts and the increasing role of community and culture in designating heritage settings. He cited Jane Jacobs's attack on the "professional elite" as a milestone in adding community quality-of-life issues to the notion of "scholarly legitimacy." In reviewing a number of projects in the Chicago area, he stressed the importance of a broadly conceived base survey as a prerequisite to any plan and suggested that down-zoning might assist in the protection of recognized community heritage. He noted that the academy must introduce these concepts if graduates are to play a constructive part in community preservation.

Barry Moore, FAIA, an architect for Gensler and an adjunct professor at the University of Houston, where he directs the Workshop for Historic Architecture, described an innovative way to introduce [HABS](#) techniques to summer students. Before heading to projects in Mexico, the students have a "10-day boot camp," documenting heritage furniture that is "recorded and drawn like a building" to develop field-note skills and drawing techniques that are later applied to 16th-century structures in Mexico. The furniture drawings will be developed into an Archive of Early Texas Furniture. The drawing subjects in Mexico have included an aqueduct (3,000 feet long and 120 feet high at the center) and a series of UNESCO World Heritage sites that demanded extending the traditional HABS black-and-white line drawings to include colored images of frescoes that are added to each sheet of drawings. The research has encouraged a broader concern for colonial structures and buildings from the 1870–1910 period. Moore suggested that HABS might consider adding digitally created images and color to the collection to ensure a more complete understanding of heritage buildings.

David G. Woodcock, FAIA, of Texas A&M University introduced the concept of a graduate Certificate in Historic Preservation that was available to any graduate student in the university. The core curriculum parallels the NCPE outline and is tailored to meet the needs of more than 11 disciplines that have participated to date. Woodcock noted that the certificate is based on cross-disciplinary learning and has encouraged many students to reexamine career goals within their fields as they explored the opportunities in working with historic buildings and places.

Robert Warden, also of Texas A&M, followed with an examination of the role of documentation as an aid to interpretation, citing recent projects. The interpretation of history at the Cathedral of St. Just at Narbonne, France, and at Montezuma Castle, Arizona, was made possible by the addition of total station theodolite surveys and



D-Day Memorial at Pointe du Hoc, France.  
Photo by Robert Warden.

photogrammetry to the traditional hand-measuring techniques. The interpretation of engineering ranged from an analysis of 12th-century foundations—now overlaid with a later building at the Abbaye de Valmagne, France, using ground-penetrating radar—to use of the same technology at the D-Day landing site at Pointe du Hoc, where the target was the tunnel system used to link observation posts, gun emplacements, and living quarters. The Pointe du Hoc project will continue in summer 2006 with an added component of geotechnical analysis to assist the [American Battle Monuments Commission](#) (ABMC) to consider ways to stabilize the chalk cliffs adjacent to a Forward Observation Post that was the prime target of the U.S. assault on June 6, 1944. ABMC will use the analysis of historic and current documentation of the site in management and interpretation studies.

Ted Ligibel of Eastern Michigan University concluded the presentations by returning to the broad issues of craft and professional interaction through the use of field schools. He noted the importance of preplanning, the use of expert team members, and the value of partnerships with trade groups not just in providing credibility but also financial support. The student teams can include individuals from geography, geology, and cultural landscapes. He cited [Historic New England](#) (formerly the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities) as a provider of outstanding field school experiences in which the projects are “complete-able” within the time frame, allow for creative downtime, and include public interpretation while the work is in progress. Ligibel noted that alumni of capstone field school experiences have provided positive feedback in much the same way that HABS “graduates” recall the summer field program as a career milestone.

While the presentations described in this article were important insights into a variety of programs across the country, the symposium’s informal exchanges at lunch and coffee breaks obviously provided the networking experiences that are invaluable to the professional and the emerging professional. The AIA Historic Resources Committee’s [Preservation Education Initiative](#) and the growing connection with the [American Institute of Architectural Students](#) are welcome signs that preservation education is entering the mainstream of education for architectural practice.

*David G. Woodcock, FAIA, is a member of the 2006 HRC Advisory Group and director of the Center for Heritage Conservation at Texas A&M University.*





# Preservation Architect

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## ***HRC 2004 Liaison Reports from Allied Preservation Organizations***

The AIA Historic Resources Committee (HRC) Liaison Reports are presented annually to offer a forum and networking opportunity for HRC members and representatives of organizations engaged in historic preservation. The following HRC allied preservation organizations presented liaison reports at the HRC Preservation Roundtable during the HRC 2006 Spring Meeting at Restore Media's Traditional Building Exhibition and Conference, held April 5–8, 2006, in Chicago:

[DOCOMOMO US](#)

[Heritage Preservation, Heritage Emergency National Task Force](#)

[National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers](#)

[National Trust for Historic Preservation](#)

[National Trust for Historic Preservation Library Collection](#)

[Preservation Action](#)

[RESTORE](#)

[U.S. General Services Administration, Center for Historic Buildings, Public Buildings Service](#)

[World Monuments Fund](#)

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## ***A Note from New Orleans***

By James S. Cripps, AIA

Wow, it's been 10 months since the storm and not much seems to have happened. This is, of course, not true. Quite a bit *has* happened around this old town, but the magnitude of the work to be done is so great that the progress can seem almost unnoticeable.



On two of the French Market buildings, the old clay tiles are due to be replaced shortly.

Replacing the clay tiles on the French Market roofs has been delayed due to insurance holdups.

Photo courtesy of James S. Cripps, AIA.

The holdup has been with the insurance company. The larger historic structures are taking so long to repair or restore largely because of the lack of cash on hand and the slowness of some of the insurance companies in supplying the proceeds for the work. What a pity. FEMA has stepped in and paid a roofer from Indiana to install a special tarp on these two buildings, and so the continuing damage has been halted.

The Upper Pontalba Building on Jackson Square is also getting a new roof. Although the plans and specifications were prepared before the storm, the project was not bid until afterward. Now that our local construction costs have gone up 50 percent, this project presents a different set of problems. FEMA has refused to help with the additional costs of construction for this National Landmark—nor does the National Trust for Historic Preservation have funds to help us. Such is the new reality that is New Orleans. On the other hand, the State of Louisiana seems to have sufficient funds to restore its historic structures, and the work is ongoing.

Many people feel that storm left the Vieux Carré unharmed. This is not the case. A few

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The Upper Pontalba Building. Photo courtesy of James S. Cripps, AIA.

fires caused extensive damage to buildings when the electricity was turned back on.

Unfortunately, we had little or no water pressure at that time to fight fires. Some of the old 3wythe brick buildings actually racked and cannot be repaired. Other buildings just collapsed. Still, this is the least damaged portion of the city.

The new reality has not been all bad, though. Many of my favorite restaurants have either reopened or are being rebuilt. This is a truly wonderful thing. The streetcars are operating on Canal Street. We seem to have far less debris on the curb. A grocery store has finally opened in Mid-City, as well as a laundry. Mardi Gras and the first weekend of Jazz Fest were great. Things are really happening all of the time, and we will forget about this mess someday.

*James S. Cripps, AIA, is director of design for The Design Build Group LLC, New Orleans.*

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