# UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA SCHOOL OF DESIGN GRADUATE PROGRAM IN HISTORIC PRESERVATION



# STUDENT INTERNSHIPS SUMMER 2015



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# Sang Bae

NPS Pacific West Regional Office San Francisco, CA





Bear Valley Schoolhouse, 2015

Eugene O'Neill Historic Site Walnut Grove, 2015

This summer, I had the opportunity to work with the National Park Service Cultural Resources department within the Pacific West Regional Office based in San Francisco, CA. My tasks revolved around two major projects: CLI updates and the editing and publishing of raw oral history interviews from the 2014 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 40 Acres National Historic Landmark.

I worked on three CLIs: the Ben Bacon Historic Ranch, the John Muir Historic Site, and the Eugene O'Neill Historic Site. The majority of the work for the latter two sites involved obtaining geospatial data for the restored landscapes, spending hours in the fruit orchards and the walnut/almond groves getting a GPS point per tree, to create a base map for the properties. The Ben Bacon Historic Ranch was a little unique in that the CLI update involved incorporating a newly acquired property into the existing CLI. While the research for the new property and the National Register applications were mostly complete, the information had to be inserted into the existing CLI to communicate a cohesive story. Site maps for this historic district had to be updated using GIS and Illustrator.

Similarly, my involvement with the oral history project dealt with existing data: the park historians had carried out interviews with the volunteers who helped build the Agbayani Village, a retirement community for the first generation Filipino farmworkers who had started the grape strike. There were twelve interviews, each at least half an hour long, addressing a wide range of experiences and questions. I was tasked with creating video clips ready to publish on the 40 Acres National Historic Landmark page on the NPS website. I spent most of my time editing transcripts and collaging snippets of each interview to create a short, cohesive compilation of all the speakers. As this was a very large-scale project, I was unable to finish in the 10-week internship—I was asked to stay on as a remote intern to complete it.

My summer internship with the NPS PWRO not only allowed me to further pursue my particular interests in cultural landscapes and oral history but also to see the broad spectrum of projects that the Cultural Resources Department carried out. It was a great learning opportunity, and gained insight into the professional opportunities within this field.

#### Joshua Bevan

Fairmount Park Conservancy Philadelphia, PA



Fairmount Park Conservancy at Thomas Mansion, 2015





Working in the office, 2015 (Top)

Testing moisture levels at Rockland, 2015 (Bottom)

After returning from HSPV Praxis 760 in mid-June I began my summer internship at Fairmount Park Conservancy (FPC) in Philadelphia. Prior to this internship I had spent time at the Conservancy (then known as the Fairmount Park Historic Preservation Trust) as a Conservation Science intern working on sash window repairs and repainting. I attended the spring semester internship night where I was informed about my property management internship that fit well with my previous experience in real estate and desire to gain more experience in preservation planning in and around Philadelphia.

Accordingly, I was tasked with attending property inspections, obtaining property insurance certification from tenants for city records, and scheduling showings to potential investors, lessees, and caretakers at various properties with the Fairmount Park system. The Fairmount Park Conservancy works frequently with local government, non-profits, and private businesses in to maintain and promote preservation and related economic development. This afforded me the opportunity to meet professionals in a variety of fields, not just preservation related. One of the most beneficial aspects of the internship, however, was not actually related to duties, but simply being able to listen and/or absorb interaction between professionals including executive directors, architects, investors, etc.

Most of my time was spent at Thomas Mansion in Germantown (a satellite office of the FPC), Hatfield House near Brewerytown (caretaker lease), and Loudon Mansion in Germantown (a property that is being considered for commercial lease). The common theme between these and other properties in the Fairmount Park system that involves property management concerns matching the need to restore and maintain use historic buildings with a commercial tenant whose proposed use will support continued stewardship of the building and generate rental revenue for the city of Philadelphia. This internship was most closely related to coursework I encountered in Theories of Historic Preservation, Preservation Economics, and Project Management (ARCH-765) during my first year at PennDesign.

#### **Charlette Caldwell**

The National Gallery of Art, Administrator's Office of Architecture + Engineering Washington, D.C., 2015



On the future sculpture roof terrace of the East Building, 2015



Looking down toward the vertical slot windows in the East Building's Study Center that was open during the renovation, 2015

This summer I had the great opportunity of working with the Administrator's Office of Architecture + Engineering staff at the National Gallery of Art. As the summer intern, my task was to create a finding aid/fact sheet of two significant restoration projects that were completed and are in the process of being completed at the Gallery. The full report will be used in the Gallery archives as a basis for reference for future restorations done to the East Building in the future.

From 2009 till 2014, the Gallery participated in the re-installation of the marble stone exterior of the Gallery's East Building. Designed by I.M. Pei and with its construction concluded in 1978, the East Building exterior cladding system, a series of Tennessee pink marble stone panels supported individually by a concrete frame and brick substrate wall, was conceived to be a modern technical marvel. However, due to the inability to foresee inevitable stress and weather conditions that would occur over time on the experimental design, the structural cladding system needed to be replaced in 2009. A few of the Gallery staff members reported seeing individual stone panels titling away from the exterior of the building. It was then decided to bring in a structural engineer, Robert Silman Associates, to investigate the cause of the structural system failing and to find a way to improve as well as preserve the integrity of Pei's original concept of individually supported pieces. My task for this particular project included reviewing the investigation done by RSA and record the completed construction project of the exterior stone repair. All 17,026 stone panels were removed from the exterior of the East Building and only 6 of those panels were replaced with new stone from the same quarry the original stones originated from.

The Gallery's second significant restoration project of the last two decades, the current project set to be completed in the Fall of 2015, stemmed from the removal of the original egress spiral stairs located in the gallery pods of the East Building. The original stairs, also designed by Pei's firm, were considered an integral part of the building's architectural and design integrity, however, the stairs failed to meet the code requirements required for them to serve as egress. From the study that was conducted on the solution to the building's egress, the Gallery also decided to renovate the three gallery pods of the building including designing a sculpture roof terrace that would sit between Pods 1 and 2. Perry Chin, an architect who worked closely with Pei, was brought on as the conceptual architect while Hartman-Cox Architects served as the project architects. Before writing the fact sheet for the renovation, I was given the opportunity to study the architectural history of the East Building, which included listening to interviews conducted by Pei and J. Carter Brown, the Gallery's director during the construction of the building, studying the design sketches of Pei & Partners from the famed Weymouth Sketchbook which is housed in the Gallery's archives, and researching the overall Gallery's history using the Study Center and the library in the Architecture + Engineering Office.

Along with my specific duties as the Architecture + Engineering intern, through the Gallery's academic program, I was given the opportunity to visit other departments in the Gallery, which were conducted as biweekly seminars. I have always been interested in art history and design, so it was great to see the way the curatorial staff, the conservation staff, etc. works and the influence of the appreciation of art not only in the DC area, but nation/worldwide. I definitely feel that I have learned a great deal during this internship, not just in my own field/office, but also the greater museum environment, which is a possible career path of mine after I graduate.

#### **Andrew Cushing**

Grafton Historical Society New Hampshire, 2015





Restoring schoolhouse windows, 2015

Residing and re-sheathing the tramp house, 2015

For anyone who has talked with me for five minutes, give or take, they know that a) I'm from rural New Hampshire, b) I love my hometown, and c) I've been seduced by its granite hills and elderly women to live there forever. This parochialism made my summer internship an easy decision. The ease ended there, however.

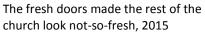
With grant funding from the NH Charitable Foundation, I signed up with my hometown historical society for ten weeks of summertime preservation. It's a town that seldom receives attention for anything other than its sizeable population of extremist Libertarians, and the society and I agreed that my job title was along the lines of "make Grafton look better."

During my tenure, I hauled around putty knives, a chain saw, clapboards, an OSHA-unapproved ladder, and my trusty mutt, Rascal, to five different properties owned by the historical society. My tasks were varied: I built stone retaining walls and mapped out the timber frame at our 1823 carding mill; I restored nine sashes at our 1854 schoolhouse; I added sheathing, clapboards, and trim to our 1910 tramp house (used to lodge hoboes during the railroad days); I restored the front doors at our 1785 meetinghouse; and I did lots of land clearing. At night I went to meetings about Grafton's library expansion, designed the historical society calendar, nominated two roadside historic markers, and organized my annual Race to Save the Mill — a fundraiser for Grafton's carding mill. (It's fun and you should come north for it.)

I didn't get everything on my list done. That's what happens when your bosses are 70-year-old volunteers who meet monthly, or when lawn mowers meet rocks, or when poison ivy surfaces, or when your trusty

mutt attacks a porcupine. But I did leave feeling accomplished, knowing that Grafton looks better after a summer of preservation work.







I mapped out the timber frame structure of this 1823 carding mill, 2015

#### Alice Gilmore

Building Conservation Associates New York, 2015



Taking paint samples from a cast iron building, 2015



Building Survey, 2015

This summer I worked at Building Conservation Associates, a private historic preservation and conservation consulting firm, in New York City. BCA has three offices - located in Boston, New York and Philadelphia. They provide a wide variety of services including materials conservation, building assessments and specifications, construction monitoring and strategic planning. BCA's projects range in size from small historic house museums to iconic skyscrapers in Manhattan. My internship lasted for a duration of eight weeks.

My time at BCA required me to wear many hats, however the bulk of my time was spent completing paint reports and working on AutoCad Drawings. I processed samples from two cast iron buildings, analyzed them under the microscope, and then provided a color match to a commercial paint line. The first building, located in Soho, was painted in an off-white, monochromatic paint scheme. The second building, located on the edge of the lower east side, was also off-white, however, the paint scheme was polychromatic and the decorative elements were picked out in gold leaf.

I also helped prepare drawings for a Schematic Design deadline for the US embassy in Athens. This task entailed putting field documented conditions on a base drawing to provide approximate quantities of repairs for the bidding process. I also conducted a variety of cleaning tests on marble samples taken from the building to determine the best method for removing the yellowed patina that had developed over time. The tests included both commercially available cleaning products and mircoabrasive cleaning.

Finally I also did a building survey on a brick and terra cotta church in Manhattan. The objective of the survey was to determine the quality and extents of a previous campaign of work and to look for any major areas of deterioration.

Overall my experience working at BCA was great. The projects were interesting, multifaceted and require a large variety of skills. The office environment at BCA is incredibly supportive and it is great place to develop your skills.

#### Julia Griffith

New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission, Adolf Placzek Summer Fellowship New York City, NY, 2015





Attending Commission Hearing, 2015

Speaking with Property Owners, 2015

The Adolf Placzek Summer Fellowship with the NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission is an excellent opportunity to work with one of, if not the first and largest city landmark agency in the country. Though each fellow works on specific and unique projects each summer, 2015 was a special year because the NYC Landmarks Law is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Signed into law in April of 1965, this milestone offered the agency and the City an opportunity to celebrate and reflect the accomplishments and struggles of the past half-century. One of the projects I worked on during the fellowship was a special anniversary website to highlight interesting and diverse New York City Landmarks and encourage people to visit and explore these protected sites. I used designation reports to create brief histories and coordinated with leadership from each of the respective sites to highlight events. The practice of writing about and drawing people into the history of their city is an important part of preservation especially for a city agency.

My other major project related to the agency's Backlog Initiative, a project to find resolution for properties under consideration for designation, most 20 years or more. This special process, created in consultation of some of the City's advocacy groups, offers the public a chance for review and comment on the 95 properties in question and includes special hearings and finally decisions by the Commission based on all the relevant information. Though the hearings will be held later this Fall, most of the summer was spent making research files public, notifying property owners and explaining the process and benefits of landmark designation. This provided me with an opportunity to interact with a public constituency; some who have a good handle on designation and others who, frankly, wish the agency would just leave their property alone.

In both large projects and in the daily execution of tasks for the Communication and Outreach Departments, I saw preservation from a different perspective. I was certainly exposed to Certificate of

Appropriateness projects relating to rear yard additions, rooftop alterations and demolitions, the stock and trade of the Preservation Staff, but I also got an education in the relationship between a City Agency and the public. Sitting in on Commission Hearings and listening to the testimony given by advocates and neighbors taught me a lot about the way individuals see the Landmarks Preservation Commission and the regulation of protected properties. By working regularly with the Communications Director, Counsel and Outreach Managers, I saw not only the successes of positive press like that following the designation of the Stonewall Inn but also the responsibility we as preservationists have to educate people about the process and its ramifications.

As a part of this year of celebrations I was able to attend a number of lectures and panel discussions hosted by museums and other city agencies relating to the history and impact of the Landmarks Law in New York City. These discussions and multiple perspectives helped to place the work of the LPC in a larger context and certainly sparked my interest in understanding where preservation will fall after the majority of landmark designations is complete and the work of regulation becomes the major focus. This summer offered me a short glimpse into the complex and creative world of preservation in a complex and fast-moving place like New York City and revealed the nuanced approach necessary to retain the historic and special character of the buildings and neighborhoods that make it the layered landscape people enjoy so much.

# **Andrea Haley**

Philadelphia City Planning Commission Philadelphia, PA





Circa 1950s Glen Foerd Mansion in Northeast Philadelphia, 2015

Roller skating at RiverRink, 2015

The far northeast and southwest of Philadelphia are not places which I was familiar with before this summer. Despite living in Philadelphia for years and exploring new areas of the city, I never ventured to the outskirts until I worked with the Philadelphia City Planning Commission and helped begin the district plans for North Delaware and The Lower Southwest. The district plans are in the beginning stages of development, and I worked on history and analysis of both areas.

One of the best parts of working on the plans was going on site visits to key assets in the districts. In the North Delaware District I went to Glen Foerd, a beautiful 19<sup>th</sup> century mansion built on the Delaware, which is in the process of creating a new master plan. I also looked at historic plans for the area, and evaluated the development of the various neighborhoods and industrial areas in the northeast. The area developed around large different industrial complexes, like the Disston Estates Industrial Village for steel tool manufacturer workers. Working on the district plans also allowed me to do research on specific issues concerning parts of Philadelphia: brownfield and Superfund sites, floodplains, and aging-in-place. The industrial and waterfront legacy of the two areas is important for future planning, as well as the effects of mid-century urban renewal in the southwest.

The office, even though it was kept at arctic temperatures, is in the perfect location, right off the parkway. I enjoyed lunch in Love Park on nice days, and the office had an evening of roller skating at the Blue Cross RiverRink Park. The last week of my internship there was a tour of the Heinz Wildlife Center and other environmental resources in the Southwest, including the largest community garden in the area, and a survey of the commercial corridors. My internship at the Planning Commission allowed me to work with great people, learn more about preservation and planning, and learn a lot more about Philadelphia neighborhoods as well.

#### Nathaniel Hammitt

Design Collaborative Fort Wayne, Indiana 2015





Design charette featured on local NBC news, 2015

Fort Wayne Arts United exploration, 2015

Following the HSPV-760 summer preservation praxis in Belgrade Serbia with Donovan Rypkema, I completed an internship at Design Collaborative in Fort Wayne, Indiana. This internship was focused on master-planning and developing architectural strategies for the expansion and renovation of several institutions in northeast Indiana.

The highlight of the entire experience was a study of a nearly-historic 1972 theater designed by Louis Kahn (his only theater project ever constructed). The building was in need of a study to ascertain its handicap accessibility and its connectivity with the adjacent Friemann Square, and I led a team of four architects in developing a strategy for visualizing these connections and making recommendations to enhance the building's future use as a community theater.

In addition, several master-plan proposals (one for a large Lutheran school/church campus and the other for a regional performing arts center) both investigated the impact of changing uses and local planning strategies for important civic institutions. Design Collaborative proved to be an excellent location to study the intersection of planning, preservation, and design since the company employs a full

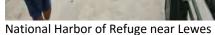
contingent of engineers in addition to its core team of architects. I was able to make several site visits out to projects in the early phases of design development, and one of our team's design charettes was featured on the local NBC news station. The sketchbook I kept for the duration of the praxis course and summer internship can be accessed by scanning the QR code to the right. Special thanks to Donovan Rypkema and Ron Dick for their mentorship and guidance over this summer internship period.



#### Madeleine Helmer

National Park Service, Northeast Regional Office Philadelphia and throughout Delaware, 2015







Fort Delaware on Pea Patch Island

I had the opportunity to spend this past summer with the National Park Service in Philadelphia, researching nationally significant historic sites in the State of Delaware. A 2014 legislation that recently created Delaware's first national park, First State National Historical Park, also stipulated that a study would be made of potential National Historic Landmarks (NHL) throughout the state. It is this legislation that was the basis for my work.

To find possible National Historic Landmarks in Delaware, I conducted research at the NPS office in Philadelphia and I consulted with various state officials, historians, experts, and NPS staff. I traveled to Delaware a few times a week for site visits and research, sometimes accompanied by my two colleagues from the NHL program. Site visits are effective for assessing integrity and other issues that may impact a property's ability to be nominated as an NHL (such as ownership consent and resources for future research), and so I made arrangements to visit all of the most promising sites. I produced a lengthy spreadsheet of information and a written report. I also made recommendations for amendments to some of the existing Landmarks, for including histories that were not included in the initial nomination but have since been revealed by historians. This project provided me with a great opportunity to not only conduct fascinating research and visit outstanding buildings and structures, but also to develop an understanding of the National Park Service's methods and approach, and to participate in the implementation of an important national preservation program.

I researched a variety of places, including a breakwater built in 1826 by William Strickland, a remarkably intact 18<sup>th</sup> century timber church in rural Sussex County, a Huguenot farmhouse set within a 14,000 acre wildlife preserve, and a fort on a small island in the Delaware River. I enjoyed visiting these sites, speaking with the individuals who are connected to them, and discussing the properties with staff in the NHL program. Working throughout the state, I aimed to find properties that exemplified themes that have historically been under-represented as Landmarks, such as Underground Railroad sites or buildings belonging to Native American communities. With my own research interest in land conservation and the connection between land preservation and historic fabric, I was also eager in finding properties that could encourage partnerships between natural and cultural resource groups.

I will continue to work at the National Park Service's Philadelphia office through the fall, to produce indepth reports of some of the properties and present my work to colleagues. I am hopeful that this project will lead to the designation of new National Historic Landmarks in Delaware and amendments to existing Landmarks.



Fort Delaware on Pea Patch Island



Nemours near Wilmington, 2015

#### Preston Hull

University of Pennsylvania: Architectural Conservation Laboratory

Lehigh Valley, Pennsylvania 2015





Amy Lambert and I at American Bangor slate quarry, 2015

Lafarge (Whitehall) Cement, 2015

This summer I performed preliminary fieldwork—"scouting"—for a research grant provided by the J.M. Kaplan Fund to study the slate and cement industries of the Lehigh Valley in Pennsylvania. These two industries developed along parallel bands following their respective geological formations, just north of the valley's cities of Allentown, Bethlehem, and Easton, and each dominated nation- or world-wide production for portions of their histories. In fact, the United States' modern "portland" cement industry began along the Lehigh River in the 1870s.

I set out with sets of old maps documenting the locations of cement and slate quarries and production mills. My task was to discover what physical evidence remained of these sites today. I found enormous cement-producing complexes still in operation, other cement plants and quarries that were retooled for other purposes, and ruins of early cement mills hidden in the woods. I found a few struggling slate quarries still producing shingles, countertops, even coasters and turkey calls; several others flooded and stocked with fish for "rod and gun" clubs; and many others that were now, to all outward appearances, simply ponds in farmers' fields.

In addition to logging probably five thousand vehicle miles, my co-researcher Amy Lambert and I identified the key repositories of archival information in the region, including the National Canal Museum, the Lehigh Valley Heritage Museum, and the Slate Belt Heritage Center. We also made important connections with local experts, such as Bill Schaumburg and Dave Drinkhouse, whom we hope to partner with as the project moves from its research phase into the next phase, where it will address a difficult question: what can we do to preserve important industrial sites that can't be turned into loft apartments?

The results of the research were organized into one modern map documenting all current and former quarry and processing sites for each industry, as well as a database and finder's aid of relevant documents and repositories. Difficult as it was to do justice to two entire industries, the overall experience was tremendously rich and rewarding for this researcher.

# Jean Jang

Montana Preservation Alliance | Architectural Conservation Laboratory Helena, Montana | Moran, Wyoming, 2015





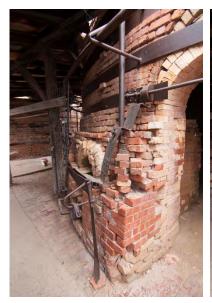


Working on wicket repointing at the Archie Bray Foundation with Casey (left), on our last day of the internship in Montana (center), and condition surveying a guest cabin building (right), 2015

I was fortunate to spend my summer out west in Montana and Wyoming with perfect mild weather for summer and amazing experiences.

For the first part of the summer in 2015, I interned for the Montana Preservation Alliance (MPA) with my lab partner, Casey Weisdock. Our work site was once the Western Clay Manufacturing Co. but now is the Archie Bray Foundation for the Ceramic Arts, a non-profit institute supporting ceramic artists. The site is in outside of downtown Helena, MT, started as a brick yard in 1883 and continued to be a brick and heavy clay business until it collapsed in 1960.

The internship project at the Archie Bray was led by the Restoration Program Director of MPA, Matt Morgan who is a recent graduate of the University of Pennsylvania's Historic Preservation Program. Our work was mainly focused on documenting the condition and stabilization treatment on Kiln no.7 but we got to experience different tasks like sistering the historic structure with new materials and welding a tool for stone masonry. During our time there, we were able to learn the traditional brick masonry techniques from Walt Morris. We started with cleaning and repointing a small area of the kiln and when we finished the five week internship, we could manage entire sections like wickets and an entrance wall where we found the most damage. It was good opportunity for me to think, "What is conservation in the real world," and "How can you speak to the public about conservation projects?"





Before (left) and after (right) stabilization treatment on an entrance of the Kiln 7, 2015

MPA truly welcomed us for our time there and really encouraged us to experience profound heritage in Montana. One weekend at MPA, we were invited to attend the Board Retreat to B-Bar Ranch, Emigrant, MT. Our trip to B-Bar Ranch was my first experience on dude ranch. Unlike Bar B-C at Grand Teton National Park, it is an operating ranch and this experience helped me to visualize my later part of the summer in Wyoming. The B-Bar Ranch since 1978 have been supporting non-profit organizations for use of board meetings, workshops, and staff retreats at the ranch. We participated in the first day of the three days retreat schedule. We toured the Wampler/Shimmin Barn with its distinctive stone walls and the Tom Miner Schoolhouse, one room school house in the area.

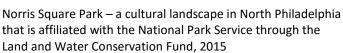
Along with these wonderful experiences through MPA, we visited other places in Montana during weekends. Visiting Glacier National Park and other cities like Butt, Bozeman, Missoula, Whitefish, Great Falls, I was impressed by the rich cultural and natural resources and how preservation projects were successfully done in Montana.

Wrapping up my Montana experience, I flew to Jackson Hole, WY on the 4th of July for my next adventure. It was a two-week internship through Architectural Conservation Laboratory (ACL) working at Jackson Lake Lodge in Grand Teton National Park. The project was on the second phase of the Historic Structure Report (HSR), which was submitting a condition survey of the property.

# Angelina R. Jones

National Park Service and The Cultural Landscape Foundation Philadelphia, 2015







Brooklyn Botanic Garden, 2015

This summer I worked with the National Park Service's (NPS) Northeast Regional Office (NERO) and The Cultural Landscape Foundation (TCLF) to create digital City Guides for four northeast cities: Boston, New York, Philadelphia, and Richmond. These are the four Urban Agenda cities in the Northeast Region and as part of this NPS initiative, NERO is promoting urban parks in these cities. The guides are developed from TCLFs existing What's Out There City Guides format and will allow users to find descriptions and photos of over fifty NPS affiliated sites in each of the four cities. I created a database for these cities with a comprehensive list of cultural landscapes that covered a wide range of types and users that were affiliated with NPS in a variety of ways. These included Park Units, National Register properties, National Historic Landmarks, National Natural Landmarks, National Heritage Areas, Land and Water Conservation Fund, and/or the Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program. We will be choosing fifty sites from each of the cities to include in each of the four City Guides. In making this final selection, we are considering the significance and integrity of each landscape, diversity of types and users, NPS affiliation, and public accessibility. I am currently researching each of the fifty cultural landscapes for Philadelphia and writing short descriptions as well as visiting and photographing the sites that will be included in the City Guides. The Philadelphia City Guide will be the first to launch in March 2016 in conjunction with the Philadelphia Flower Show, which will have an NPS theme in honor of the centennial of the Organic Act of 1916. The other guides will launch later in 2016 and will be hosted on the TCLF website. The digital platform makes the City Guides easily accessible for urban park goers and include well-known park units such as Independence National Historical Park, but also aims to bring awareness to lesser-known sites such as Eden Cemetery and Norris Square.

# Sonja Lengel

Jefferson County Historical Society Madison, Indiana, 2015







Myself inside the General Store of the Children's Experience Room, 2015

Preservation is big in small town Madison, Indiana. At the beginning of the 19th century, Madison was booming with river commerce. But when the railroad passed Madison by, the town went into decline and remained unchanged preserving its river town character. In 1960, John T. Windle founded Historic Madison Inc. a nonprofit organization devoted to preserving and celebrating Madison's heritage. I worked with the Jefferson County Historical Society to design a new master plan for their history museum celebrating the history of Madison and the surrounding county.

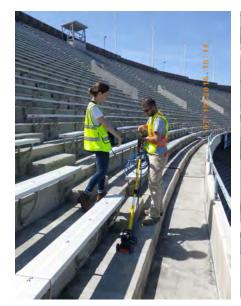
I worked with the executive director and a committee to determine what are the most important stories that needed to be told in the museum. My design included a floor plan and 3D model incorporating a children's exhibit, the preservation movement in Madison, and the Hydroplane Regatta among others. This internship was a perfect combination of my previous skill set and practical application of what I had learned in HSPV. I was able to implement a children's experience room during my time there that contained a general store and one room school house representing rural Jefferson County. It was fun to research period store merchandise like *French Arsenic Face Cream* or locally made *Fish Candy*. The exhibit is hands on and geared to kids ages 6-10.

My internship was a part of an internship network called M.A.I.N (Madison Area Intern Network) where other local preservation and civic organizations sponsored their own interns but we had combined events. We had tours of local museums and the ever popular Sunday night dinners. Local families, who also happened to live in historic buildings, had our group over for dinner. A tour would always follow along with the lessons learned while preserving their house. We also found time to walk across the bridge to get ice cream in Kentucky!

#### **Grace Meloy**

**CVM** 

King of Prussia, PA, 2015





(Left) Collecting sound penetrating radar data, 2015. (Right) Reviewing stone cleaning mock ups, 2015.

For ten weeks this summer, I worked with CVM, an engineering firm located just outside of Philadelphia in King of Prussia. The firm does a variety of work, including structural engineering and building envelope assessment for historic buildings.

While at CVM, I performed a variety of tasks, such as performing site documentation, researching products and their maintenance, creating small designs, and editing specifications and reports. For many of the projects I worked on, I conducted archival research. Often the goal of this research was to find images (historic photos or drawings) to understand the construction of a particular building. For example, we wanted to know more about the types of roofing a building in Cambridge had had in the past to understand what kinds of loads the roofing frame had sustained and could possibly sustain in the future. Similarly, while working on a building located in Washington, DC, we wanted to learn more about the assembly of a terra cotta cornice and soffit. Using historical terra cotta construction manuals, we were able to determine how the cornice and soffit are likely anchored to the structure and the surrounding pieces of the terra cotta assembly.

Much of my time was also spent researching and learning about concrete, methods of condition assessment, and repairs/treatments. During my time at CVM I had the opportunity to participate in onsite condition assessment of concrete and steel reinforcement. The methods used included visual inspection, hammer sounding, chain dragging, carbonation testing, half-cell testing, and sound (ground) penetrating radar. The project around which these tests revolved opened my eyes to the significance of learning about how we can improve concrete/steel reinforcement repairs and methods of evaluation to preserve the many mid-twentieth century buildings that are becoming eligible to be designated as historic structures.

Working with CVM, I was also afforded the opportunity to participate in an on-going project all summer and attend weekly project meetings on-site with the building's manager, as well as the project architect, contractor, and subcontractors. These on-site meetings were typically preceded by a walk around the site to learn about and document what had been accomplished in the previous week and to conduct mock up reviews of the stone conservation work (including cleaning, patching, repointing, and new flashing details) and the slate roof replacement. We also had to conduct a structural investigation of the building's skylights to determine the composition of the skylight's framing system.

This experience has been invaluable in learning about the role of engineering in preservation, as well as how the many players involved in a preservation project interact. Additionally, this internship confirmed the important role that historic preservation philosophy must play in engineering decisions, even if these principles are not formally acknowledged. Thus, through working with CVM, I fully appreciated the significance of critically making decisions for a given project and attempting to appropriately balance both historic preservation interests and engineering interests, especially when those interests do not inherently coincide.

# Joseph C. Mester

Center for Research on Preservation and Society at the University of Pennsylvania Philadelphia, PA/Washington, DC | May-July 2015



Research at the Fisher Fine Arts Library for the crafting of Cultural Landscape Inventories



Site Visit to Fort Bunker Hill Park in Northeast Washington, DC

The Center for Research on Preservation and Society was charged with completing two Cultural Landscape Inventories (CLI) for the National Capital Region of the National Park Service (NPS) during the summer of 2015. The National Capital Region consists of more than 350 properties located within Washington, DC. These properties, also known as reservations, amount to over 6,700 acres. Working alongside Randy Mason, Chair of the Graduate Program in Historic Preservation, and recent alumnae of the program, Molly Lester and Shannon Garrison, we were able to draft the CLIs for reservations 312—Grant Circle—and 443—Fort Bunker Hill Park. The team documented and recorded the ways in which earlier generations engaged with and altered the environment of these specific geographies located within the District of Columbia. The CLIs will serve as resources for future management and treatment decisions made by NPS personnel.

Fort Bunker Hill, erected in the fall of 1861 by the Eleventh Massachusetts Volunteer Regiment, was one of the 68 enclosed, earthen forts/batteries that encircled Washington during the American Civil War. Today, the remnants of the fort are almost indecipherable as the site was dismantled and has weathered over 150 years since it was decommissioned. It serves as a park for dog walkers, neighborhood picnics, and the urban explorer looking for a bit of wilderness amid the streets of the Nation's Capital.

Grant Circle was an integral part of the Petworth neighborhood, which was laid out in the northwest quadrant of the District in 1889. Unlike most of the District's neighborhoods that were developed at the end of the nineteenth century, Petworth followed the specifications of L'Enfant's 1791 plan, including boulevards and circles. It is unique among the circles within the District as it never received statuary at its center but instead features a grand Cedar of Lebanon. Grant Circle continues to serve as a traffic node for the southern section of Petworth, and the focal point of the Grant Circle Historic District, newly designated in the spring of 2015.

# Sanjana Muthe

Eastern State Penitentiary Philadelphia, 2015



Eastern State Penitentiary, 2015



Documenting doors at Eastern State, 2015



Rendering of Lion Head on Catholic Chaplain's Office door

I had the opportunity to work at the Eastern State Penitentiary in Philadelphia for 10 weeks this summer. This abandoned prison is known for its unique design, the first of its kind in the world. I had first been to this historic site during the workshop organized for the new batch of preservation students in August 2014 and had the opportunity to learn more about the prison through the academic year.

I have been concentrating on Preservation Planning during my academic year at University of Pennsylvania but became interested in documentation of historic sites through courses like Documentation, Research and Recording. This internship gave me the opportunity to work on one such documentation project. I worked under the expert guidance of Sally Elk, the CEO of the Eastern State Penitentiary. She was interested in having the numerous varied designs of doors around the prison and furniture in the prison cells like stools documented so that further research may be conducted on their origin. I began documenting the various doors and in the process discovered a number of clues that suggested that some of the cell doors were brought in from other prisons while some were moved around within the site through its life.

The Eastern State Penitentiary was also about to begin a conservation project on the exterior and interior walls of some of its cell blocks for which the details of the conservation project and parts of the cell blocks to be worked on had to be submitted to the contractor. This project was being conducted by the firm J & M Preservation Studio, Swarthmore. Jessica Senker, the principal of this firm conducted a site visit with the contractor which I participated in and later briefed me about the project while I worked on creating AutoCAD sheets to provide project details to the contractor.

This became my first experience of working in the field of Preservation in the United States of America which I thoroughly enjoyed. I was exposed to a part of the field of preservation besides my academic concentration expanding my knowledge of historic preservation.

# Jessica Neubelt National Park Service Providence, RI 2015





Finding old tractors at Waters Farm in Sutton, MA, 2015. Taking selfies with the larger-than-life Roger Williams, 2015

This summer I had the opportunity to live in Providence and help with the planning process for a new National Park. Blackstone River Valley National Historical Park was legislated in December 2014 and will be the first National Park established within the footprint of a National Heritage Corridor. It is also a new model of park. The federal government will not own many of the properties and instead will require strong historic preservation protections in place at the community level to ensure long-term protection of both the resources and the government's investments. Though the NPS has many urban parks that use this model—New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park, Lowell National Historical Park, and Paterson Great Falls National Historical Park are a few examples—none has yet applied this approach to several discontiguous sites. My primary job was to understand the existing historic preservation protections in four different communities and then make recommendations to the park's superintendent about how and where to strengthen these protections.

In order to conduct this research, I spent most of my summer speaking with community leaders, National Park Service officials, and staff from various Massachusetts and Rhode Island-wide organizations. I learned an incredible amount about the intricacies of town politics and governing, about the National Parks' goals and limitations, and about the history of the Blackstone Valley, a wonderful resource not too far from my hometown. I also became more comfortable leading meetings and guiding conversations, a skill I have not previously had many chances to develop. Throughout the summer, I travelled up and down the valley, visiting sites, getting tours with Historical Commission members, and participating in weekly Ranger Walkabouts. I also worked out of Roger Williams National Memorial, the 47<sup>th</sup> smallest National Park, located in downtown Providence. Being on-site at a small but active park gave me wonderful insight into the constant debates about interpretation, resources, and best practices that are necessary to keep even 4 acres of federally owned park afloat. These observations, in turn, influenced my ideas about Blackstone.

#### Evan Oskierko-Jeznacki

John DeSalvoDesign, EndreStudio Chicago, IL 2015

Philadelphia Ship Preservation Guild Philadelphia, PA 2015







Project Management, 2015

Client Field Meeting, 2015

Gazela Primeiro Preservation Volunteer, 2015

Summer of 2015 took me to Chicago, Illinois to continue working for a small architecture firm, JohnDeSalvoDesign. My time was spent as a project manager, designer, and technical architectural detailer. Our architectural firm was also partnered with an engineering firm, EndreStudio, where I spent my time as an architectural detailer, fabrication designer, and parametric designer. Between the two firms I was involved directly with 12 projects, ranging from small and large residential projects to large commercial renovation design. While the firms are primarily dedicated to new and modern design my involvement with JohnDeSalvoDesign was very heavily focused on securing the contracts for three historic renovation proposals, all three of which are now in the pre-design and design development phases. The largest of these projects is the stabilization and renovation of a 60,000sf five-story masonry and heavy timber warehouse in the Kinzie Industrial Corridor in Chicago. The commercial building was formerly the warehouse for the L. Wolff Manufacturing & Plumbing Co. ca.1887. Following further historical research the project will include exterior restoration of existing masonry work and structural stabilization where necessary; new exterior egress methods will be designed and installed; existing rooftop clerestories will be restored (visible in photo); lastly, the interior commercial spaces will be renovated and a new café space will be introduced.

Other projects were engineering focused, where I was involved with the design and specification of dynamic structural elements and fabrication design/structural analysis of custom structural elements. Another large new residential project located in Michigan City, Indiana required parametric optimization of interior spaces and exterior elements for energy efficiency.

After seven weeks in Chicago I returned to Philadelphia where I spent two weeks volunteering for the Philadelphia Ship Preservation Guild aboard the *Gazela Primeiro* as well as the tug *Jupiter*. Albeit short, my time was spent helping preserving the two operational vessels, from engine and equipment maintenance to deck safety and gangway/ramp repair. The *Gazela* is a fully-functioning, early 20<sup>th</sup> century triple-mast, barkentine cod fishing vessel originally flagged as one of the famed Portuguese 'White Fleet.'

The summer was capped off with three weeks in Jackson Hole, Wyoming taking part in the conservation praxis there where our team was involved with the preservation and conservation of two of the original log cabins that were part of the Bar BC Dude Rach complex ca.1912.

#### Maya L. Thomas

The City of Philadelphia Mural Arts Program Philadelphia, PA 2015



The City of Philadelphia Mural Arts Program was started in 1984 by then city Mayor Wilson Goode as the Anti Graffiti Network. The program hired Los Angeles based artist Jane Golden as its lead. Golden took a different approach to the problem by working directly with graffiti artists to transform their neighborhoods and from that ideal Murals Arts was founded. Philadelphia now has one of the largest collections of murals in the world which range in age and scope and are by some of the most recognized artists today. Murals Arts has recognized its impact on the city's built environment and is now focusing on the preservation and conservation of their mural collection during Summer 2015.

I worked closely with fellow interns to enter all the know murals in the city into a new database for Mural Arts. While in the field we collected general information about the murals as well as perform a conditions assessment of the mural, the wall and the roof of the buildings. The information will be used to make better decisions about the future of the collection. Questions of relevancy, blight and preserving significant works for future generations are major concerns for Murals Arts as they move into 31 years of impacting neighborhoods with art in the City of Philadelphia. The work completed this summer is only

the first stage of the complete conservation plan that was developed by University of Pennsylvania professor Cassie Myers, whom I also worked with to help with the training and logistics of the intern program.

This internship combined my interests in art, conservation and planning. I worked closely alongside Professor Myers, surrounded by art and participated in cool activities like the restoration of the of the Philadelphia City Hall compass. Classroom skills in building diagnostics through visual inspection, coordinating field work with a city wide scope, data entry, photography, GIS and mapping were all utilized in this position. It was a really great experience that gave me insight into future career options and also helped me decipher the research areas I could undertake as I move into my second year in the HSPV program.

Historicorps Clermont Farms Slave Quarters Berryville, VA 2015



I also volunteered with the organization Historicorps in restoring slave quarters built in 1823 in Berryville, Virginia. The structure is a vernacular wood cabin that eventually transitioned into the largest African American community of the area after the Civil War. The property is being managed by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources. Historicorps is a volunteer based organization that restores buildings around the country. This opportunity was especially rewarding because I transitioned the skills I learned from the conservation praxis course in Wyoming this summer (vernacular building techniques and wood construction) directly to this project. African American historic places are very important and I want to be able to support their preservation hands-on. This opportunity was beyond rewarding but also challenged me. I never thought that would be something I would learn how to do and it's a great feeling.

#### Haoyu Wang

Beijing Municipal Institute of City Planning and Design, Urban Planning Department Beijing, China 2015





Courtyard investigation with stakeholders, 2015

Talks with a Hutong resident, 2015

Within this summer's two months, I was busy coming and going around seven "Old Beijing" Hutong, helping Beijing Municipal Institute of City Planning and Design (BMICPD) to manage and plan events of the first bottom-up registered preservation association "Shijia Hutong Heritage Preservation Society" (SHHPS) in Beijing. The SHHPS was founded spontaneously by local residents in Shijia Hutong community at September 2014, and it is now a co-stewardship society of residents, communities, governments and enterprises. Its core mission is to impel the Hutong heritage preservation and public revitalization by encouraging community participation and self-management. So my job on one hand was to stay in Hutong with local residents and designers, the other hand was writing reports of field survey and workshop discussions.

Generally, my work included three main parts. One was draw up the second-half year schemes of SHHPS including time nodes, main and coordinated responsible, and fundraising. Since I have already contacted with my internship director for months before my internship started, I basically understood the background of SHHPS and on-going programs. But I never imagined that SHHPS needs to implement almost eight important events before the end of this year. So I spent one week to consult relative organizations to figure out and to assure each responsibilities. This concentrated work was helpful as my first step of an internship. Second work was focus on two particular courtyards by doing respectively historical investigations and documentation of a historical floral-pendant gate. I talked several times with one courtyard's residents about their family histories and memories of architectural and public space changes. I also got a chance to cooperate with Beijing Technology University to document a historic wooden gate. My third work was to organize a design workshop to help renovating public space of seven selected courtyards in Shijia community on behalf of SHHPS. It was a very challenge task because it concerned so many stakeholders to do a project which is not a common strategy they adopted as usual in Chinese context. We hope our six architectural and planning studios can design together with residents in each courtyard, knowing their needs, listening to their histories, guiding their initiatives, etc. I also talked with tens of residents in depth altogether, measured and documented many historic elements and public space situation of each courtyards, and helped to organize three stakeholders' workshops. In addition to these three jobs, I also did a case study presentation about

community design to my director, carefully noted reports and wrote an essay in terms of issues at historic Shijia Hutong, and luckily obtained a chance to attend a forum about living heritage preservation on regeneration of community culture.

Two months are too short to devote my effort by ways of a bottom-up preservation in China. Although I will be hard to continuously follow-up every detailed progresses of SHHPS that I started from very detailed plans, calls, talks, measuring, etc., I really feel a sense of fulfillment of what I learned about managing a complicated historic site and what I experienced with wonderful Hutong residents, aspiring designers, conservationist, program directors, cultural consulters, professors and governmental officers, etc. These stakeholders have helped me gradually establish a multiple network about how and to what extend that I can do with local people to preserve together of their surrounding heritages and communities in contemporary China.

#### **Casey Weisdock**

Montana Preservation Alliance Helena, MT 2015





Learning how to brick point, 2015

Repointing the kiln wicket, 2015

My purpose this summer as an intern for the Montana Preservation Alliance was to learn techniques of historic conservation and traditional brick masonry construction, structural stabilization, and recording and documentation. Over the course of the past five weeks I can safely say that under the auspices of the MPA I succeeded in our agreed objective and even learned a great deal more.

Firstly, I gained a thorough understanding of the history of Western Clay Manufacturing and its significance to Helena and the rest of Montana. In addition I also learned quite a bit about the Archie Bray Foundation for the Ceramic Arts as well as the state of Montana at large by way of the literature provided, oral history, heritage sites and museums visited. The MPA staff harbors a wealth of information pertaining to Montana and its history and I appreciated very much how interested everyone was in sharing their knowledge. Matt at every opportunity took us to see different parts of the Bray and areas of the manufacturing plant that now are closed off in disrepair in an effort to help us understand the site better and what could be done to preserve it in the future. In addition, I certainly enjoyed our group trip to the Montana Historical Society, our visit with Van West and our time spent on the Alliance's retreat. It was refreshing and educational to be included in the operational aspects of the MPA. I have never worked with or for a non-profit organization; so to be involved in the meeting with Van as well as the retreat was fun and helpful to observe. Jean and I filled our free time with visiting historical and cultural sites in and out of Helena at the astute recommendations of those involved with the MPA and truly enjoyed what Montana has to offer in terms of tourism and historic cities, towns, and sites.

Secondly, our work at Western Clay Manufacturing was enriching and productive. It ranged from manual labor to highly technical craft and conservation technique. Our initial work consisted of removing vegetation and overburden to reveal the historic "patio" of brick and create a deliberate path to the kiln complex. It was hard work but very rewarding to see what a difference it made to the overall setting of the site. Another laborious task undertaken and completed was that of sistering roof beams in an effort to stabilize the kiln shed roof. We learned how to cut timber with hand saws, hoist and safely install them next to the original structure. We too learned what proper tools and hardware should be used in doing so. We successfully hoisted steel cable and secured it with a large turnbuckle to stabilize the metal banding of both kiln #7 and #8. With the guidance of Matt Morgan and Walt Morris I learned how to build mortar boxes out of pine, mix Natural Hydraulic Lime-based mortar, clean and repoint brick masonry, rebuild areas of loss with salvaged brick and the proper finishing techniques to clean up my work in an effort to match the existing surrounding masonry. Walt taught us extensively how to follow existing bond pattern, how to modify it for conservation purposes and about the use of proper tools for the job. Both he and Matt showed us how to modify and even make our own tools when necessary. In lieu of that, Matt taught us to weld and grind metal, in which we made our own tuck pointers from steel. Lastly drawing from our first year of study, Jean and I spent time recording and documenting basic measurements of kiln #8 in preparation for Matt to construct the temporary steel reinforcing bands as well as taking photographs of the exterior in RAW.

At the conclusion of this internship I can see that I learned and honed my skills greatly and broadened my knowledge of traditional masonry technique. I feel far more adept at repairing historic masonry in accordance with conservation ideology as well as how one would construct a new masonry structure. Not only did I perfect my hand skills but also the skill of working together on a team, and how to be flexible and open to new experiences. Being essentially exactly what I would like to do in the conservation field after I graduate from University of Pennsylvania, I am confident that I will draw from this internship experience endlessly in the future.

# Shuang Wu

Brenne Architekten / *Domus* China Berlin (Germany), 2014-2015 / Shanghai (China), 2015



Photo with the Chief Architects Mr.Brenne(s) in the office, 2015



Standing in front of one of our renovation projects, Bauhaus Dessau Building, 2015

I left school last year to have a one year internship outside of USA. I want to know how our field, conservation science, or wider, historic preservation is carried out in different parts of the world. So I can think about more how to develop our field in China.

First phase: Brenne Architekten in Berlin, December 2014 – June 2015

I spent my first half year in an architecture office called Brenne Architekten in Berlin, Germany. Our chief architect, Mr.Brenne and his son have done the famous renovation project, German Historic Museum, together with another famous architect Yumin Bei in Berlin. Under his instruction, I have learned a lot. During my stay in office, I have participated in four projects. One is the renovation design of Bauhaus Dessau. This famous building designed by Gropius is a national landmark so each phase of design needs to be discussed with the landmark officer to get permission. The height of the door handle, the style of the stopcock, even the soap machine need to be considered carefully.

We have also done a renovation design competition of a church (The Parochial Kirche) in the middle of Berlin. The Parochial Kirche is a Reformed church in the neighborhood of the Mitte (center) in Berlin. The church, now a listed building, was built between 1695 and 1703, which is the oldest church in Berlin built as a Protestant place of worship. We reorganized the interior space, designed some installations to change the atmosphere and the light inside the church.







The Parochial-kirche in 1896 (left) and the church in 2006 (right)

The GartenStadt Falkenburg, 2013

Another interesting project is a competition in the world heritage site, Garten Stadt Falkenburg, designed by a German architect Bruno Taut. It is deeply influenced by the Garden City movement from England that time. Each house is painted with various bright colors. Different flowers and vegetables in front of the houses make this neighborhood more like a big garden. Our task is to design a new building at the corner of the district. The first question came to our mind was: do we use color or not use color? If we use color, it will conflict with the rest of the houses. If we don't use color, what kind of material should we use on the façade? Different real world problems came out as our design processed. Finally, I think we have made a good result.

#### **Findings and implications**

• The real world project needs an architect or a conservator to have sufficient knowledge in different fields. It is more complicated than on text book. Sometimes, the clients also give us some new ideas.

Second phase: Domus in Shanghai, June – August 2015

The second half of my internship (this summer), I spent my time in an Italian architecture magazine called *Domus* in the Shanghai office. Our Chief Editor, Mrs. Ye, decides to publish a new Chinese-English magazine called *Young Birds* in September. This magazine focuses on young Chinese architects (or those who are interested in this field), giving them a platform to show their new ideas. My job is to plan a 10 page context based on conservation science. Now in China, a lot of architecture offices and companies have already begun planning and renovation design of historic buildings and towns, but the technology of restoring and conserving the building is still underdeveloped. I take this chance to interview several conservators from different countries. I hope through the power of media, more people in my country could care more about historic preservation and more companies will be willing to pay for this meaningful work.

#### **Findings and implications**

Raising the awareness of young people about historic preservation will be very important for the
protection of historic heritages in cities and the sustainability of rapid urbanization in the
developing countries, such as in China;

#### Shuxin Wu

Suzhou Jicheng Preservation Architecture & Engineering Inc. Suzhou and Lianyungang, Jiangsu Province, China, 2015 July





Left: context of the General Cliff (Jiangjun Ya) in the city of Lianyungang, Jiangsu, China. July 9, 2015. Right: myself with some colleagues was investigating the existing condition of the petroglyphs at the General Cliff, Lianyungang, Jiangsu, China. July 10, 2015.

This July, I spent four weeks as an intern at Suzhou Jicheng Preservation Architecture & Engineering Inc. back in China. I was assigned to work on the value analysis and the condition survey of a prehistoric rock art site at the General Cliff (Jiangjun Ya). The General Cliff is located on the southwest outskirts of the city of Lianyungang, in northeastern Jiangsu. The petroglyphs was first discovered in 1978. In 1988, it was nominated as a major historical and cultural site protected at the national level. By the common consent of scholars and professionals in the field, the rock art is dated about 6000-10000 years ago.

During the first two weeks, I was doing archival and scholarly research in office in Suzhou. The goals of the research were to familiarize myself with the basic knowledge of the site and its context, as well as to understand the history of the site since its discovery, to learn the terms and knowledge of prehistoric rock art, and to study the professional written requirements as well as government regulations on historic preservation. I also talked to my colleagues and supervisor who had previously worked on the project and gained their insights to help generate my value analysis report, especially set the priorities of all the different values the site possessed.

During the third week, while I was finishing up with the value analysis, myself and three colleagues went to visit the site. The main goal of our fieldwork was to prepare for the condition survey. The existing condition of the site, including the petroglyphs, the rock, the context, and the management were recorded in photos, drawings, and field notes. In the last week, based on the initial research and following field work, I was working on the final editing of the value analysis and starting the condition survey.

To conclude, the experience was both challenging and interesting. First, it was my first time to work on a site associated with prehistoric civilization, which required highly specialized knowledge. Though, I had great fun with the research and in the field, learning a lot that I did not know before. Second, it was very amazing to see those petroglyphs in person. Since the site was discovered, many scholars

have raised their own interpretations on the meanings of those prehistoric engravings. I read almost all of them during my research. However it was not until I saw those rock carvings at the site that I believed the possibility that those 'theories' could be true. Third, it was very fortunate to have the chance to work with experienced practitioners in China, to learn about their former projects (including Suzhou Guanqian Street project, the Grand Canal project, and many traditional Chinese gardens). It was great to learn about the professional workflow, to apply what I have learned in the past year, and to learn that cultural heritage is a rising field in China. However, to my regret, the current site management at the General Cliff lacks professional input and the petroglyphs has been deteriorated and weathered since its discovery 35 years ago. One group of the petroglyphs on the rock is hardly to be recognized.

Hence it is the difference between the idealized conception and the reality that tells us what we can improve. Two other major takeaways are: as is stressed again, value always stands in the core; cross-disciplinary efforts must be required for a site like the General Cliff - archaeology, astronomy, symbolism, iconology - in order not to dismiss any possible significant aspects of the site.





Left: one group of petroglyphs on the north section of the rock, including animal-face and human-face alike figures, images of corps, and worship pictures. July 10, 2015.

Rght: one group of petroglyphs on the west section of the rock, including star chart, figures, and a carved line approximates to the meridian. July 10, 2015.

#### Xinhui Yang

Cultural Heritage Conservation Center of Beijing Guowenyan Co., Ltd. Beijing, 2015





A panoramic view of the Xiaqiong Temple, 2015

During the survey on site, 2015

I worked for six weeks this summer with the Cultural Heritage Conservation Center in Beijing. My internship involved documentation, condition survey and recording of a very interesting site named Xiaqiong Temple, a Tibetan Buddhist temple in Qinghai Province in the west of China. It was part of the study for a preservation planning project of this temple, which was recently listed as a Major Historical and Cultural Site Protected at the National Level.

In the first part of my internship, I worked on the site to photograph some of the buildings (there were about three hundred in total), mark the alteration based on a CAD drawing done a year ago, and record the function and condition of each building. As we found that some alteration and recent construction damaged the integrity of the site, we developed some basic ideas about restoration and construction control. Also, our team talked with the local government and the administration of the temple, learning more about the history of the site and the management issue. It is essential because the site is still a religious center today with hundreds of monks living and practicing in it.

In the second part, I mainly worked on modifying the CAD drawing and inputting information of each building into GIS. I also did some research on the geographical environment of the site and this was included in the first-stage report of the project.

Since it was the first time I worked as a preservationist, this internship was a great opportunity for me to learn about the typical process of a preservation project in China.

# Yimei Zhang

Cultural Heritage Conservation Center of GUO WEN YAN Co., Ltd. Beijing, Jun.29<sup>th</sup> 2015 – August 21<sup>st</sup>. 2015



Mid-Year Meeting, Aug. 17<sup>th</sup> 2015

It was a great experience working in the Cultural Heritage Conservation Center in Beijing this summer. The institute specializes in preservation planning and conservation. I worked in Studio Three, whose projects mainly involve modern and contemporary heritage (after 1840), as well as rural heritage all over the country.

This short internship provided me a big picture of how preservation works in China, and also makes me realize how challenging our task is. One of my tasks was to compile data of national and provincial historic sites to provide statistical support of national preservation plans. The difficulty of accessing data revealed to me how much groundwork is needed, the lack of which strongly hindered further research using more advanced tools. I also took the advantage of the internship to attend several events, including the press conference of releasing the Design Guidelines of Pingyao World Heritage site; lectures on urban regeneration of historic towns in Japan and Taiwan; as well as a presentation by an American who rehabilitated a temple in historic Shaxi village in Yunnan Province. These events provided valuable insights on alternative efforts in the current murky preservation system in the country.

I was also responsible for developing a comprehensive report of the US preservation system for the Institute, which perhaps was the best utilization of my knowledge. Professor Hollenberg's course on public policy was extremely helpful. There were other researchers doing case studies on Japan, Great Britain and Germany. I do hope our work would help promote reform in the preservation system in the next five-year plan in China.

Besides, I was also very glad to write the industry analysis for preservation plan of Jingmai Ancient Tea Village, which is on the tentative list of World Heritage Sites, and is now under planning process in our institute. Our team views the tea industry as an integral part of the preservation plan, since it is at the

core of the social and economic life of the villagers. However, it was perhaps the first time to include such analysis in preservation planning in China. Hampered by limited data and examples, I wasn't able to come up with concrete numbers or spreadsheets, and ended up with an industry report of the area with case studies of vineyards and coffee plantations in other countries as comparison. It was a small step forward, but I was glad to make a little difference.

I think I became clearer about the preservation field in China as well as my own career plan after this short internship. I am also glad to know people and make connections during the summer, which I believe will be an important asset in the future.

# Chuhan Zheng

ACL & Cultural Heritage Conservation Center of Guowenyan Co., Ltd Jackson WY, Helena MT, Beijing China, 2015





Making mortar while working at the Archie Bray, 2015

The wall and montage view of Xihaijun Ruins, 2015

This summer I had the precious opportunity of working on two different internships in different countries. The first half of the summer from May 30<sup>th</sup> to July 4<sup>th</sup> I was interning with the Architectural Conservation Laboratory (ACL) on the historic structure report of Jackson Lake Lodge in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. My duty was to help two HSPV alumni, Nityaa Iyer and Cesar Bargues, with the survey and assessment of the main lodge and cabins of Jackson Lake Lodge. Specific tasks that I've completed included: field surveying the condition of the main lodge and cabins and taking photos for documentation, revising existing CAD drawings based on field survey, retaking photos according to historic photos, editing and managing metadata for all photos we took and creating photo montages as needed, and helping to create a condition glossary. Between June 14<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>, we drove to Helena, MT and helped with the conservation work on historic kilns at the Archie Bray Foundation for the Ceramic Arts. I learned many skills and knowledge of conservation there that I'd never got a chance to learn, such as the way of making mortar as well as laying and re-pointing the brick.

The second half of the summer from July 6<sup>th</sup> to August 19<sup>th</sup> I went back to Beijing and interned with the Cultural Heritage Conservation Center of Guowenyan. Guowenyan is an authoritative company in China for preservation planning and heritage conservation. Part of the company's team also belongs to the Architectural Design and Research Institute of Tsinghua University. The company is majorly working on the national level heritage, which include historic architecture, archeological ruins and tombs, and contemporary architecture. During the internship, I was mainly involved in the preservation planning project of Xihaijun Ruins, which was an important frontier city from 4 A.D. to 23 A.D. during the Xihan era. My specific tasks included: researching the historic background and development of Xihaijun, field surveying the condition of ruins and surrounding environment and taking photos for documentation, editing and managing metadata for all photos and creating photo montages as needed (such as shown in the photo above), and completing a chart for primary condition assessment. My other tasks besides the

Xihaijun project included: researching case studies of earthen heritage interpretation and making a presentation for the entire Second Institute that I was working at, cleaning up the CAD drawings of Xiabali Tombs for basemap, researching and concluding a chart for all the historic kilns that are listed as national heritages, and writing an article about public involving during planning process in US.

Both internship experiences help me practice the skills and knowledge that I've learned in classes in real working environment. This not only includes the in field working and learning ability, but also researching, writing and using designing tools such as AutoCAD, Photoshop, Bridge, Illustrator and etc. More importantly, working in the professional environment allow me to realize that learning is a self-oriented process, which under most conditions I need to learn and figure out the way to complete my tasks without clear directions. Understanding the expectations and utilizing all my limited skills and knowledge to meet the expectations are more efficient that learning a new tool and wasting time on unwanted goals. Moreover, the internships not only allow me to experience many new things such conservation skills and preservation planning, but also give me opportunity to compare different experiences. Through comparing my past internship experience at planning institute in China with this internship at preservation institute in China, as well as comparing the ACL preservation internship with Guowenyan preservation internship, I indeed realize there are big differences between planning and preservation institutes in China, as well as between US and China preservation institutes. In the future study, I hope to understand more about both US and China systems in both preservation and planning, in order to find a way to fuse the advantages of both.