HSPV 601, Spring 2021
Syllabus 1: Course overview

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Meeting Time and Place:
Lectures Monday 9:00-12:00
Demos/Tutorials/Practica Monday 9:00-12:00 / Check Class Schedule for Details
Office Hours: By appointment

Course Description
Surveying and recording the physical and cultural characteristics of the built environment to include historic buildings, structures, sites, objects, urban districts, and cultural landscapes is a prerequisite of professional preservation best practice. The data generated form a critical platform for analysis, decision-making, planning and implementation necessary for the management of historic resources and reinforce a case for conservation. A rigorous and accurate physical documentation provides the platform for:

- Facilitating property designations.
- Developing conservation plans.
- Providing a record of change over time.
- Serving as a permanent record in cases where demolition may be considered.
- Measuring energy performance

The primary focus of this course is on metric recording tools and techniques. Students will also learn how these specialized skills may be employed selectively and self-critically, leading to more effective stewardship and management: affordability and budget, client needs, and immediate and long-term use of the information.

Goals
Upon successful completion of the course students will:

- Understand why we record and comprehend the varied roles of visual information-gathering in historic preservation with a knowledge of national and international standards.
- Understand how we record - the tools, technology, and techniques currently available with their concurrent strengths and limitations,
- Understand the differences between the production and use of different types of visual records of historic places and the implications of these differences,
- Understand how accurate recording facilitates good preservation practice and leads to more informed decision-making.
• Be able to create rudimentary documentation products, including photographs, rectified photographs, measured two-dimensional drawings, and maps, with the knowledge of industry-standard practice.
• Be able to request and supervise documentation and recording by survey professionals using total stations, laser scanners, VR, and other technologies
• Be able to manage and compile imagery and data into a coherent document or ‘product’ for “the client”.

Structure

This course will build on skills taught in: HSPV 600 – Documentation I: Archival Research & the Interpretation of Historical Data. The course is fundamentally skills based, balanced with theoretical knowledge and analysis. Therefore, many classes will be held in the field.

For a full picture of the course structure refer to Syllabus 2: Schedule, HSPV 601, Spring 2021

Lectures

Except as noted all lectures, presentations and critiques will be via Zoom

Lectures will focus on the theory and methodology of site recording, The course will include guest instruction by national experts and specialists drawn from various fields associated with historic preservation and management of the built environment including architects, engineers, conservators, survey recording specialists, site managers, historians, and preservation planners. Students will become familiar with current survey technologies including hand measurement and drawing, photography, photogrammetry, laser scanning (LiDAR), use of UAV drones, and 3-D modeling software.

Preliminary Drawing Practice

During weeks 1, 2 and 3 students will complete three short drawing/photography exercises at their own location.

In-class Field Work

Field work will be divided between a series of exercises and a final project.

Field work will be conducted at Holy Apostles and the Mediator Episcopal Church (HAM). HAM is a historically African American parish located at 260 S 51st St, Philadelphia, PA. It is large structure with plenty of room for social distancing. We have an ongoing relationship with the church and have conducted field work there for several years. For background on the church please visit: https://www.hamphilly.org/history.

Exercises: Hands-on exercises will allow students to learn basic recording skills and current tools.

• Survey instruments and tools
• Photography
• Field measurement
• Hand and Computer Aided Design drawing.
• Professional grade deliverables
While students may be familiar these skills from previous coursework or field experience, it is expected that all students will work on improving each of these skills, regardless of comfort level or prior experience.

**Final Project:** Students working in small groups will safely record a section of the building by appropriate means. This will include field notes, measured drawings and photographs.

**Prerequisites/Equipment Requirements**

**AutoCAD 2021**, and **Adobe Photoshop 2021** and **Adobe Bridge 2021** should be installed on students’ laptops on or before the start of the course. Free copies of AutoCAD are available for download by registering at the Autodesk Education Community (http://students.autodesk.com)

**AutoCAD:** Students are expected to know the basic two-dimensional drawing features in AutoCAD. All required assignments that are to be digitized can be done using AutoCAD; however, alternative ways of creating drawings will be considered after discussion and approval from class faculty. Additional CAD tutoring during currently unscheduled evening sessions, may be available if there is sufficient demand.

**Digital photography:** each student should have access to and be familiar with:

- A SLR camera with at least 18-megapixel resolution. Three digital SLRs will be available to check-out, but schedule any planned use of them well in advance and retain for as short a time as possible.
- A tripod. You are encouraged to purchase your own, but five will be available for check-out.
- An 18% gray card
- A small level or combination square
- Access to professional-quality printing is necessary. Printing can be accomplished on the Meyerson plotters on at an off campus lab (e.g., at PhotoLounge located at 1909 Chestnut Street https://www.myphotolounge.com). Multiple prints will be required for assignments. Students who are not familiar with the school plotters must get proper instruction through IT.

**Requirements**

- Students are expected to attend all lectures, demonstrations, and working sessions.
- Absences will generally be excused only for emergencies.
- All practicum exercises are to be submitted on the due dates in the syllabus.
- Late work will be penalized depending on the degree of lateness.
- Representation of someone else’s work as your own, without proper attribution, is a serious breach of these guidelines.
- Cell phones are prohibited during class and are to be put away except during break time.
Grading

Each of the first two assignments (on-site drawing and photography) will count 15% for a total of 30% (2 assignments x 15%). The final project will be 60%. 10% will be given for class attendance and commitment to the work. The first two assignments will be graded on an individual basis. The final project assignment will be a group grade.

In most cases assignments can be resubmitted after grades and comments have been determined. Resubmission allows people to make changes to their work based on the comments received in order to achieve a higher grade.

Grading will be in accordance with general academic policies: a grade of A/A- will represent exceptional work, B/B+ will represent good work that meets the academic standard set for the course, and B- will represent work that is just under the established standard. C and C+ are barely passing for graduate courses and will indicate work that is less than satisfactory. Failure to meet the minimum requirements will result in an F. All work is to be delivered on the dates described in the syllabus or agreed upon in class if changed. Students are asked to contribute to a positive learning environment and to review the school’s guidelines on academic integrity at:

http://www.upenn.edu/academicintegrity/ai_codeofacademicintegrity.html

A Note on the “Green Box” and other Available Tools

The department has available a set of recording tools located in a large green cabinet located in the 4th floor studio. This cabinet has all of the tools a student would need in order to complete assignments for this class, however, the supply is limited. While there are a large number of tape measures, there is only three SLR cameras and only one total station. If you want to use any of this equipment you MUST schedule it in advance through the course teaching assistant. Our TA will specify the weekly hours during which such equipment may be borrowed and returned. It is the responsibility of each student who checks out the equipment to make sure it is returned on time and in good condition; damaged or lost equipment will be repaired or replaced at student expense.

In addition to the Green Box, there is a Media Lab offered to all students at the University, located in Van Pelt Library. This facility, known as the Vitale Center, has equipment that may be checked out. Below is a link that covers available equipment:

https://commons.library.upenn.edu/equipment-lending

This facility is run by the university and is independent of the School of Design. Any equipment borrowed must be done on your own, independent of the teaching assistant for this class. The website for this center is below. Please make sure you check information about its lending policies and how to borrow equipment at the following address:

https://commons.library.upenn.edu/how-reserve-equipment
Assignments/Submissions

Practice sessions: to be completed at home.

For each session make one free-hand drawing and one photograph of the object or space. These will be completed on minimum 8.5x11 unlined paper. Images of the drawings with photo must be submitted to Box for review by faculty. Submission to Box will be by good quality photos or scans. Comments will be provided by faculty, but drawings will not be graded. Lack of submission will impact final grade.

- A chair, to be submitted by 2/1
- Interior of a room, to be submitted by 2/8
- A building across the street, to be submitted by 2/15

Assignment 1: Measurement/Drawing exercise at HAM:

- Submission must include: 1. elevation, 2. section, 3. plan, and 4. detail
- Deliverables must be a scaled hand drawing and survey notes
- Due date in Box to faculty 3/8 (Submission to Box will be by good quality photos or scans)
- Review with faculty 3/15
- Due date of revised drawing 3/22

Assignment 2: Photography exercise at HAM:

- A set of six photographs of HAM, delivered as full size tiff, small size jpeg, and in HABS template format. Photographs must meet HSPV 601 Photography Guidelines.
  - Exterior elevation
  - Exterior context view
  - Exterior perspective view
  - Exterior detail view of window or door
  - Interior elevation of the of the door or window you are drawing (if window must expose for glass).
  - Interior detail view of the door or window you are drawing
- Shooting will be accomplished during the class sessions on 2/15 and 2/22
- Images due for processing in class 3/1
- Processed images due in Box folder 3/5
- Evaluation will take place with individual meetings at HAME on 3/15

Final project assignment at HAM (produced by groups of 3-4 students)

- Each student in the group will be responsible for at least one final drawing, two photos
- Minimum of 9 photographs, including tiff, jpeg, and HABS standard prints for each
- Set of large scale drawings: plan, section, and elevation and detail using AutoCAD
- Drawings must meet Penn HSPV Drawing Standards
- Photographs meet HSPV 601 Photography Guidelines
- If applicable, rectified image produced from multiple views, using appropriate technology as determined by instructors
- Due date for all work is at final presentation TBA week of May 5
Bibliography and Recommended Readings


14. Historic England Publications free Downloads:
   a. Presentation of Historic Buildings in CAD
   b. Understanding Historic Buildings
   c. Drawing for Understanding
   d. Metric Survey Specifications for Cultural Heritage
   e. Photogrammetric Applications for Cultural Heritage
   f. 3D Laser Scanning for Heritage
   g. Traversing the Past


**Important Websites:**


5. NPS Heritage Documentation Programs, [https://www.nps.gov/hdp/about.htm](https://www.nps.gov/hdp/about.htm)


