

Building History Newsletter

Issue 3

March 2016



January at Boughton House, Northamptonshire. Cohort 5 enjoys a visit led by Jeremy Musson, Honor Gay, Crispin Powell and Jana Schuster (Cohort 4).

IHBC recognition

We are very pleased to announce that the MSt in Building History has been recognised by the Institute for Historic Building Conservation (IHBC).

The IHBC awards recognition to courses in higher education judged to offer suitable training for those engaged in, or proceeding to, professional careers in conservation. Completion of a course of study recognised by IHBC meets key requirements for IHBC membership and may enhance an individual's prospects when seeking relevant employment.

The MSt in Building History is not a conventional conservation course. Instead it cultivates specialists in a discipline central to good building conservation. The IHBC has confirmed that, combined with appropriate professional experience, the MSt will help secure membership either as an IHBC Associate (Evaluation) or as a Full Member (go to <http://ihbc.org.uk/join/Categories/index.html> for details).

If you are not yet an IHBC member you may wish to take the IHBC's offer of six months' free access to their News-blog service: <http://ihbconline.co.uk/newsarchive/?p=11932>.

Building History Annual Lecture

This year's Building History Annual Lecture will be on Saturday 9 April at Queens' College, when Dr Simon Bradley will deliver a lecture entitled 'St Pancras Station: Architecture and Engineering'. The lecture is free; everyone is welcome:

<http://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/whatson/detail.shtml?uid=9a87d6b7-48f1-42ad-911e-3563bb33f6dd>

Simon Bradley, who studied at Oxford under Sir Howard Colvin, is an architectural historian and Joint Editor of *The Buildings of England* at Yale University Press. His publications include revised 'Pevsner' volumes on London (City of London, 1997; Westminster, 2003), Berkshire (with Geoffrey Tyack, 2010) and Cambridgeshire (2014). His special interests include the Gothic Revival, the work of George Gilbert Scott and British railway architecture, all of which feature in his book *St Pancras Station* (2007). His *The Railways: Nation, Network and People* (2015) was recently serialised on Radio 4. His most recent book is *Churches*, in the new *Pevsner Introductions* series, published in March 2016. He is a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, an Associate Fellow of the Institute of Historical Research, and a former committee member of the Society of Architectural Historians of Great Britain. He is currently revising Oxford and South Oxfordshire for *The Buildings of England*.

As last year, the lecture will be timetabled so as to dovetail with the end of the 3rd annual Construction History Society conference in Cambridge on 8-9 April, and will be followed by a dinner for past and present students. On the following day we will visit the medieval aisled timber-framed barns at Crossing Temple and the nearby late 11th-century 'log church' of St Andrew, Greensted, both in Essex.

Research commended

We were delighted to hear that Anna Shelley (Cohort 3) earned a 'commendation' in the 2016 Gus Astley Prize awards for her MSt dissertation on the architectural patronage of Anne of Denmark. In January Anna gave a paper based on her dissertation research to the 2016 'New Insights into 16th- and 17th-Century British Architecture' conference at the Society of Antiquaries.

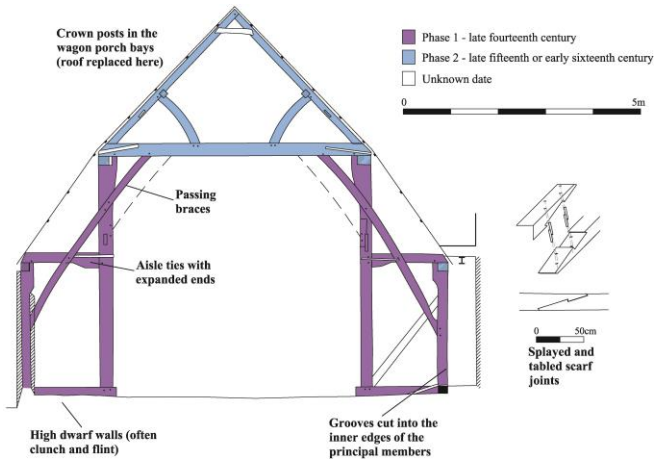
Bursary awards

Various students have benefited from conference bursaries. Tansy Collins (Cohort 3) attended the 2015 Spring Conference of the Vernacular Architecture Group, based in Penrith; Nadia Knifton (Cohort 3) participated in the IHBC 2015 Summer School in Norwich; and Claudia Suckling (Cohort 5) joined the 2016 VAG Winter Conference in Leicester.

Rodolfo Acevedo Rodriguez (Cohort 5) was awarded a Kettle's Yard travel bursary to support his proposed dissertation research on the late 14th-century Augustinian gatehouse at Thornton Abbey, North Lincolnshire.



Research into St Albans Abbey 'Moote' barns



Tansy Collins (Cohort 3) has been studying a group of medieval aisled barns in Hertfordshire, extending research begun more than 50 years ago when the late Adrian Gibson proposed and subsequently proved them to be the result of late 14th-century rebuilding and expansion by John Moote, abbot of St Albans Abbey. After a further candidate was identified, which Tansy surveyed for her recording project, the research continues, with hopes to secure a grant for tree-ring dating of the two most recently discovered examples. They share distinctive characteristics, some of them rarely seen elsewhere in the county, such as the use of passing braces and half-bay arcade-shores (there are parallels in medieval Kent barns but not in Herts.). Tansy writes: 'If anyone records unusual barns in Hertfordshire on land formerly owned by the abbey that might conform to the type, please do get in touch as I can provide more details of the group' (tansycollins@btinternet.com).

Conference papers

Amy Boyington (Cohort 1) gave a paper in May on 'Widows of the eighteenth-century: power over architecture', at the annual conference of the Centre for the Study of Historic Irish Houses and Estates at Maynooth University, Ireland.

Wendy Andrews and Karey Draper (Cohort 1) presented papers at the 5th International Congress of the Construction History Society in Chicago in June. Karey's paper was on 'Building for War' and Wendy's was on 'Innovations in English Wallpapers from 1824 to 1938'. Karey's trip was fully funded with a Kettle's Yard grant and a Wolfson College travel grant. Wendy was funded through a Queens' College travel grant. Wendy's PhD research is funded through the Arts & Humanities Research Council's Cambridge Doctoral Training Partnership.

Karey Draper also gave a lecture in June on the role of Northamptonshire country houses during WW2 at a special event at Lamport Hall. She has recently been awarded funding for the conclusion of her PhD research by the Society of Architectural Historians of Great Britain.

Professional placements and jobs

Two students who undertook professional placements at Purcell UK in Cambridge now have permanent positions with the company. Anna Shelley is working in the London office, and Helen Warren (Cohort 4) in the Oxford office. Bev Kerr (Cohort 1), who joined Purcell as a Heritage Consultant in London, recently transferred to their York office.

Sophie Hetherington (Cohort 4) similarly secured a permanent job as a Heritage Consultant at Beacon Planning based at Stow-cum-Quy, Cambridge, following a successful placement there, and Ophelia Blackman (Cohort 4) has stayed on at Ptolemy Dean Architects in Southwark.

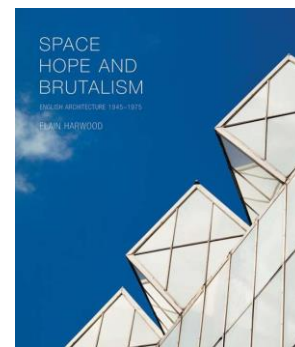
Lee Bilson (Cohort 3), who was recently made a Fellow of the Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce (RSA), has started a new job with Recclesia, a specialist masonry and stained glass conservation practice based in Chester.

Others who have started new jobs since our last Newsletter include Alex Bowring (Cohort 3), now a secular conservation adviser at the Victorian Society in London, where Chris Costelloe (Cohort 1) is Director; Edmund Harris (Cohort 3) who has moved to The Built Heritage Consultancy, also in London; Aimee Dobb and Katherine Harrison (both Cohort 2), who hold conservation posts with Bassetlaw (Notts.) and South Northamptonshire District Councils respectively; and Gillie Roberts (Cohort 4), who is working as a Senior Archivist at Wolverhampton City Archives.

Luke Jacob (Cohort 2), who has been researching a forthcoming V&A exhibition on Ove Arup and Partners, opening 18 June, is now working as an Assistant Designation Adviser with Historic England in Cambridge.

Jonathan Lee (Cohort 3) set up a new consultancy company in 2015 called Heritage Strategies, which has been appointed by Capita DIO (Defence Infrastructure Organisation) to develop an overall strategy for the Ministry of Defence's heritage assets. The Ministry of Defence owns more than 800 listed buildings and over 750 scheduled monuments throughout the UK.

Contributors' publications



Elain Harwood's long-awaited study of post-war architecture, *Space Hope and Brutalism: English Architecture 1945-1975* (Yale University Press, 2015), extensively illustrated with photographs by James O. Davies, was launched at a large gathering last October. This is a monumental achievement and likely to command lasting attention. Its appearance roughly coincided

with the issuing of a revised edition of Elain's *England's Post-War Listed Buildings* (Batsford, 2015), also illustrated with James's outstanding pictures.

Collaborative work by Nick Hill has borne fruit in the co-authored publication of *Buildings and People of a Rutland Manor* (Lyddington Manor History Society, 2016), the outcome of an HLF-funded community research project examining the vernacular heritage of Lyddington, Caldecott, Stoke Dry and Thorpe by Water. Copies for sale via <http://www.lyddingtonhistory.org.uk/>.

Application deadline

Applications are invited from graduates with a good 2:1 or better in any subject, to be received no later than 30 June. Please contact the Course Director or Course Administrator (email addresses below) for information about the course. <http://www.arct.cam.ac.uk/courses/mst-building-history-1>