



Building History Newsletter

Issue 7

March 2018

Building History graduates take doctorates



Our congratulations to three Building History graduates from Cohort 1 who have recently completed doctorates at Cambridge, all supervised by Dr James Campbell. Amy Boyington (left) researched female architectural patronage in the 18th century, Karey Draper (centre) examined the phenomenon of wartime prefabricated huts and Wendy Andrews (right) analysed the Cowtan decorating firm's wallpaper order books at the Victoria and Albert Museum. Using the same source, Wendy will now be researching wallpapers for buildings in the care of Historic Royal Palaces. Karey's research recently bore fruit in the identification of a rare surviving First World War timber and corrugated iron hut, reported in *The Architectural Historian*, 6 (Feb 2018), 17. She is collaborating with James on a paper on historic doors. Amy will be giving papers at two upcoming symposia: 'Telling Her Story: Women's History, Heritage and the Built Environment' at Wrest Park, Beds, on 19 March, and 'Untold Stories of the Country House' at Doddington Hall, Lincs, on 22 March.

Fifth Annual Building History Lecture

On Saturday 7 April Dr Nat Alcock will deliver the 5th Annual Building History Lecture at Queens' College, Cambridge, under the title: 'Saddles and Skew-pegs: The construction of cruck buildings'. Nat is a distinguished member and Past President of the Vernacular Architecture Group and has published on many aspects of vernacular architecture. See <https://www.arct.cam.ac.uk/events> for more details.

Gavin Stamp, 1948-2017

Though the sad news of his death on 30 December 2017 has been widely reported we could not fail to add our regret at the passing of Gavin Stamp, one of his generation's most admired architectural historians and (as *Private Eye's* 'Piloti') controversialists. Gavin, who was an Honorary Professor at the Department of History of Art in Cambridge, lectured only once to the MSt (on George Gilbert Scott senior, subject of his Cambridge PhD) but also acted as a dissertation examiner. We hoped to involve him more in the course. Many obituaries have appeared in the national and architectural press.

Treve Rosoman, 1948-2017

It was with the greatest sorrow that we heard of the death of Treve Rosoman on 4 October 2017. Treve was an annual contributor to the MSt in Building History in what he christened the 'Hinge and Bracket' session, speaking eloquently and in absorbing detail on the materials, fixtures and fittings of the polite interior. He also supervised a dissertation before illness prevented him, and was external examiner for Wendy Andrews' doctoral thesis (see left). Treve's knowledge and expertise were impressively wide-ranging. The publication of his *London Wallpapers: Their Manufacture and Use 1690-1840* (1992; 2nd edition 2009) confirmed him as a leading authority on historic wallpaper, and he was a founder member of the Wallpaper History Society. But he was equally at home with historic furniture (a founder member, too, of the Regional Furniture Society) and the bits and pieces of 18th- and 19th-century houses, where his curiosity teased out acute insights from apparently prosaic material. Who could forget his story (after Joseph Nollekens) of the elderly women who chewed paper for the papier-mâché industry? It was as a Curator for English Heritage – notably at Eltham Palace, where he oversaw a stunning restoration, and Kenwood House – that many will picture him. Those privileged to have known him will remember his enthusiasm, unflinching good humour and great modesty about his own knowledge and achievements. For a longer obituary of Treve see the William Hogarth Trust website (<https://williamhogarthtrust.org.uk/?p=1524>).



Awards and prizes

In October Tszwai So (Cohort 5) was named Young Church Architect of the Year by HRH the Duke of Gloucester at a ceremony conducted jointly by the Ecclesiastical Architects and Surveyors Association and the National Churches Trust. His Belarusian Memorial Chapel in Finchley was highly commended at the same awards and at the national Wood Awards, and also won a Barnet Architecture Award. Tszwai joined the University of Westminster as a visiting lecturer in September, leading a design studio for second-year students. Earlier in the year he became a Trustee of Heritage Trust Network (formerly UKAPT).

Students and alumni

Genevieve Arblaster-Hulley (Cohort 6) has taken a permanent position in the heritage team at Icen in London, where she undertook her professional placement; Jacob Billingsley (Cohort 7) is now an Assistant Heritage Consultant with



Heritage Collective, also in London; and Lee Bilson (Cohort 3) will shortly start work as a Project Manager with English Heritage, based in Bristol.

Roy Bolton (Cohort 4) will be giving the 2018 Bampfylde Lecture at Hestercombe House, Somerset, on 12 April, on Halswell Park, the subject of his MSt dissertation.

Sarah Bridger (Cohort 2) is now a Senior Historic Buildings Advisor with Donald Insall's in London, where her current workload includes the Old War Office on Whitehall.

Tansy Collins (Cohort 3) co-organised (with Dr Lee Prosser of Historic Royal Palaces) the very successful 2017 Vernacular Architecture Group Spring Conference in Hertfordshire. The two delivered a paper at the subsequent Winter Conference of the VAG (see below), examining the 17th- and 18th-century evolution of timber barns in Hertfordshire, Essex and Norfolk. Tansy is now Membership Secretary for the VAG.

A week in the life of Chris Costelloe (Cohort 1), Director of the Victorian Society, featured in the SAHGB newsletter, *The Architectural Historian*, 5 (Aug 2017), 31.

Chris Curtis (Cohort 4) is working in the Historic Places Investigation Team at Historic England's Cambridge office.

Mary Ann Donovan (Cohort 2) has been undertaking research in Rutland on a wide variety of topics, including deserted medieval villages, Cold War 'Thor' missile sites and Messenger glasshouses.

Megan Doole (Cohort 3) has written a series of short articles, based on original research, for the *Thoroton Society Newsletter*, including one on the Nottinghamshire joiner and architect John Hallam (c. 1681/2 – 1729), who rose to prominence in the Office of Works. Megan has also been assisting Nat Alcock with updates to the Vernacular Architecture Group's online Bibliography.

In November Sophie Drew and Holly Lomax (Cohort 6) shared the MSt's place at the IHBC's Course Connection Day in Birmingham, for students on conservation-related courses.

Charlotte Evans (Cohort 2) has moved into a 1460 aisled hall, Tŷ Mawr, Montgomeryshire; MSt student visits welcome!

Sam Falco (Cohort 4) has been promoted to Principal Built Environment Officer for Peterborough City Council.

Oliver Gerrish (Cohort 4) has an article in *Country Life* (18 November 2017) on Upmeads, Edgar Wood's remarkable 1908 house in Stafford. His Syon House lecture series (with Caroline Percy) on historic interiors will soon be supplemented by evening lectures at LASSCO Brunswick House, London.

Katherine Hardwick (Cohort 5) is undertaking a 6-month internship with the Estates, Appraisals and Valuations Department of Christie's; Edmund Harris (Cohort 3) has started a new job as Secretary to the Diocesan Advisory Committee in Canterbury; and Jessica Jones (Cohort 6), currently working for CgMs in Cheltenham, is now a Full Member of IHBC. She has also been appointed to the judging panel in the south west for the RICS Conservation Awards.

Peter Kulpa (Cohort 4) gave a lecture to Fulham and Hammersmith Historical Society based on his dissertation research into the 'Lion Houses' of the Peterborough Estate.

Jana Schuster (Cohort 4) has commenced studying for a PhD at Cambridge, expanding on her MSt research on Boughton House, Northamptonshire. A technical aspect of her research was presented at the 26th International CIPA Symposium in Ottawa: 'Re-writing the Construction History of Boughton House with the Help of Docu-Tools', in *The International*

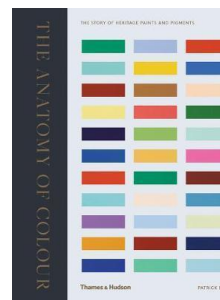
Archives of the Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing and Spatial Information Sciences, Volume XLII-2/W5 (2017). A résumé of her Giles Worsley Rome Fellowship on 'Living Heritage: The Adaptive Reuse of Ancient Buildings in Rome' is in *Papers of the British School at Rome*, 85 (October 2017), 353–4.

Chris Senior (Cohort 3), Director of PiP Architects, published an opinion piece on the relationship between historic buildings and modern design in the *Cambridge Independent*.

Anna Shelley (Cohort 3) has been appointed to the post of Conservation Advisor for the Victorian Society.

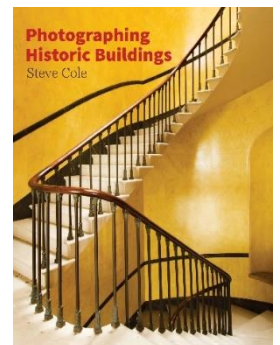
Deborah Slade (Cohort 5) has started a new job as Planning and Built Heritage Consultant at Draycott Chartered Surveyors, based in Lymington, Hampshire.

Course contributors



Two recent publications emphasise the importance of the visual sense in the appreciation and documentation of historic architecture. Patrick Baty's *The Anatomy of Colour: The Story of Heritage Paints and Pigments* is published by Thames & Hudson, and draws on the author's extensive collection of publications and ephemera relating to the historic colour trade.

Steve Cole's *Photographing Historic Buildings*, published by Historic England, offers all-round coverage of this central component of building recording and research, from composition to post-production. Historic England is offering *Newsletter* readers 25% discount on the normal price of £20 (plus free UK p&p). Follow the link below and enter the discount code PHBCAM on the basket page:



<https://retail.historicenglandservices.org.uk/photographing-historic-buildings.html>

Adam Menuge convened the Vernacular Architecture Group Winter Conference at the University of Leicester in January on the theme of 'Vernacular Survival: Vernacular architecture in the "long eighteenth century"'. Speakers included Elizabeth McKellar, Philip Aitkens, Adrian Green, Nat Alcock, Chris King and Lee Prosser. Jill MacMahon and Annika McQueen (both Cohort 7) were awarded VAG student bursaries to attend.

Jeremy Musson published two substantial books in 2017: *Between Two Worlds: An Architectural History of Emmanuel College, Cambridge* (Scala), and *Robert Adam: Country House Design, Decoration and the Art of Elegance*, with architectural photographer Paul Barker (Rizzoli).

Volunteering opportunity

Cambridge Past, Present and Future are looking for volunteer committee members to assist with conservation work. Contact Stacey Weiser at planning@cambridgeppf.org.

Application deadlines

Applications for October 2018 entry to the MSt in Building History are invited from graduates with a good 2:1 or better, to be received no later than 30 June 2018. Please contact the Course Director or Course Administrator (email addresses below) for information. Full details available at <http://www.arct.cam.ac.uk/courses/mst-building-history-1>.