



Building History Newsletter

Issue 10

March 2021

Wentworth Woodhouse defies Covid gloom

This has been a deeply unsettling year for all of us in the grip of the pandemic. Our teaching moved online at the beginning of April 2020 and we scrambled to create virtual visits and practical exercises. Field tests were conducted online for the first time in June. Students have found access to sites and archives severely curtailed for nearly a year.

Meanwhile at Wentworth Woodhouse, as CEO Sarah McLeod informs us, events have moved rapidly despite the pandemic. The £7.6 million East Front roof repair project finished recently. Further funding from a Culture Recovery grant



(£800k) has been secured to extend the repairs to the North Pavilion, North Quadrant and South Quadrant roofs, and a second grant of £340k has been secured to allow for enabling works (drainage repairs, asbestos removal, water mains and sub-station relocation) for a ground-source heat-pump system to be introduced. A further six major capital projects are now in the pipeline to begin in 2022. The image above recalls our small contribution, following a 2019 visit, when students and staff paid for a commemorative slate in aid of conservation.

Awards

We were delighted to hear that Jessica Jones (Cohort 6) has won the RICS Young Surveyor of the Year (Land – Urban and Rural) award. Jessica works as a Development Surveyor and Heritage Specialist for Network Rail, with responsibility for some major heritage projects including Temple Meads Station, the centrepiece of which is Brunel's Tudor Revival terminus of 1839-41 for the Great Western Railway. See <https://www.rics.org/uk/surveying-profession/global-professional-network/matrics/young-surveyor-of-the-year-awards-2020/rics-matrics-young-surveyor-of-the-year-2020/>.



Art and the Country House

The results of this Paul Mellon Centre research project led by Martin Postle are now accessible online. The project investigated a series of houses with historic art collections of note. Research has focused on the relationship between the collections and the buildings that housed them and yielded valuable essays on the evolution of each of the houses as well as explorations of their collections. Amy Boyington and Karey

Draper (Cohort 1), Rodolfo Acevedo Rodriguez (Cohort 5; recently elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London) and Alice Blows (Cohort 8) are among the contributors, writing on Raynham Hall (Norfolk), Doddington Hall (Lincolnshire), Trewithen (Cornwall), and Mells Manor (Somerset). See <http://www.artandthecountryhouse.com/>.

Students and alumni

Wendy Andrews (Cohort 1) has an article – 'How Cowtan & Sons Papered the World' – in the 2020 issue of *The Wallpaper History Review*, the journal of the Wallpaper History Society.

Alexander Bowring (Cohort 3) is working for Historic England as an Inspector of Historic Buildings and Areas, based at the London Office.

Amy Boyington (Cohort 1) was recently appointed as the Trust Manager for the Lutyens Trust. During 2020 she undertook research for the National Trust on Stowe, Buckinghamshire, and was quoted in *Guardian* coverage of the National Trust's recent restructuring plans.

Matt Cooper (Cohort 3) has taken up a new Historic England post in Listing.

Chris Curtis and Gillian Roberts (both Cohort 4) are working as architectural investigators with Historic England, based in York and Birmingham respectively.

Karey Draper (Cohort 1) was elected a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society.

Duncan Gregory (Cohort 8) is working as a Church Support Officer for the Southwark Diocese of the Church of England.

Katherine Harrison (Cohort 2) is now a Principal Heritage Consultant for Bidwells, covering Oxford and adjoining areas.

Angharad Hart and Ffion Jones (Cohort 6) are both now working for Historic England on the 'Local to Statutory' listing project. Ffion was previously the War Memorials Trust's Conservation Officer responsible for grants in London, the East, and the South-East.

Lorie Komlyn (Cohort 4) has been helping to edit a book on the 50 oldest buildings in Boston, Massachusetts, and is on the Board of Directors of two historic houses. At Gibson House (1860) she is helping manage a project to restore the foundations and basement floor. At Loring Greenough House she is preparing a grant application to restore the 18th-century windows. She has also been campaigning to save the home of the prominent 19th-century architect H. H. Richardson.

Jonathan Lee (Cohort 3) has taken up a new Townscape Heritage Officer post at West Lindsey District Council, based in Gainsborough.

Sophie McIlwaine (Cohort 8) has set up a small architectural illustration business. See www.sophiemcilwaineart.com.

Annika McQueen (Cohort 7) has placed a text-only version of her dissertation on Hertfordshire inns on an open access site: <http://dx.doi.org/10.17613/hwan-qx61>.



Jane Pettitt (Cohort 8) is now working as a Collections Assistant at the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology in Cambridge.

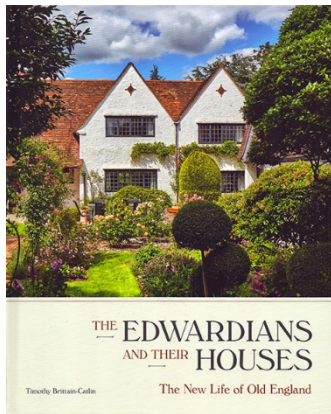
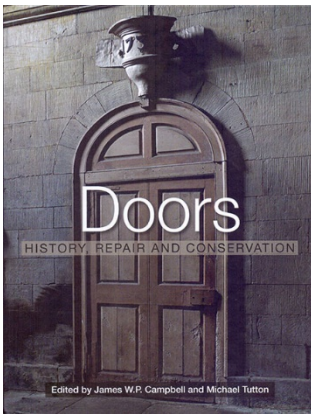
Bethan Scorey (Cohort 8) has started a PhD at the University of Bangor, researching the history of the Elizabethan, Grade I listed St Fagans Castle, the nucleus of the St Fagans National Museum of History.

Tszwai So (Cohort 5) of Spheron Architects has posted a thoughtful video on Youtube about the realisation of his prizewinning Belarusian Memorial Chapel in Finchley: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ECwR7Alm7bq>.

James Sugrue (Cohort 3) has been appointed an Associate Director in the Heritage and Townscape team at the London office of Turley.

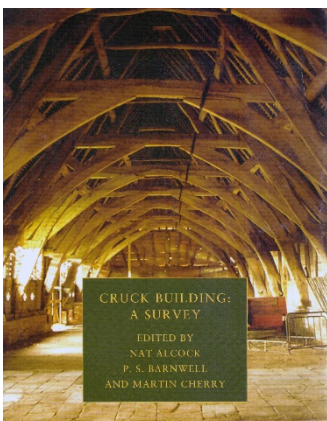
Coco Whittaker (Cohort 9) has been recruited as a caseworker for the Twentieth Century Society.

Publications



Doors can be invaluable aids to understanding and dating buildings, especially interiors and their development. *Doors: History, Repair and Conservation*, edited by James Campbell and Michael Tutton, is published by Routledge, and follows their earlier volume, *Staircases*. The volume includes contributions by Linda Hall and the Course Director.

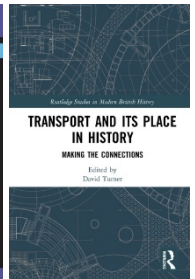
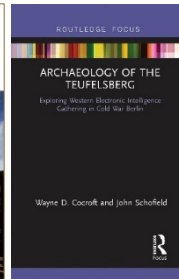
Timothy Brittain-Catlin's exploration of the domestic architecture of the Edwardian period, published by Lund Humphries, focuses on the building projects of the leading figures of Liberal England. Timothy is now the Course Leader for the MSt Architecture Apprenticeship at Cambridge.



Nat Alcock is the co-editor (with Paul Barnwell and Martin Cherry) of a new volume, gathering the proceedings of a conference on crucks organised jointly by the Vernacular Architecture Group (VAG) and Rewley House, Oxford. The book, published by Shaun Tyas, was shortlisted for the SAHGB's Colvin Prize.

Alexander Bowring (Cohort 4) has an article on inter-war London office buildings in *Building for Business*, the latest volume of *Twentieth Century Architecture*, edited by Elain Harwood and Alan Powers. The volume also contains articles by Jonathan Clarke, Alistair Fair, and Geraint Franklin.

Geraint Franklin is also the principal author of a new book on Ramsgate, Kent, in Historic England's long-running Informed Conservation series. In keeping with the general tenor of the series, the book examines a place with pressing conservation concerns, revealing easily overlooked historical and architectural interest.



Wayne Cocroft's recent book with John Schofield, *Archaeology of the Teufelsberg* (Routledge), explores a key component of NATO's Cold War infrastructure in West Berlin, proposing a methodology for addressing structures that have remained largely outside mainstream architectural analysis.

Megan Doole (Cohort 3) has contributed to a recent book of essays on transport history, *Transport and Its Place in History: Making the Connections*, edited by David Turner (Routledge). Megan's essay develops her MSt research on horse-drawn transport and its built legacy in Worksop, Nottinghamshire.

Course contributors

Anthony Geraghty's catalogue of the Wren and Hawksmoor drawings at All Souls College, Oxford, is now online at <http://codrington.asc.ox.ac.uk/wren/index.html>. All the drawings are reproduced.

Andrea Kirkham has been elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London.

David Parr House virtual tour

In 2018 some of our students were privileged to preview David Parr House, Cambridge, before it opened to the public the following year. While the house remains closed to visitors you can enjoy the impressive, recently launched 3D virtual tour. Deborah Carnwath (Cohort 5), who presented it to the latest cohort of students in February, is one of the guides. Go to <https://davidparrhouse.org/product/online-tour/>.

Freddie and Mary Charles Digital Archive

A selection from the archive of Freddie and Mary Charles, who undertook some of the most celebrated timber-framing conservation projects of the later 20th century, is now online at https://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archives/view/charles_he_2020/. Gillian Roberts (Cohort 4) helped initiate the project, which was supported by Worcestershire County Council, Worcester City Council, Historic England and the Vernacular Architecture Group.

Application deadlines

Applications for entry to the MSt in Building History next October are invited no later than 30 June 2021 from graduates with a good 2:1 or better. Please contact the Course Director or Course Administrator (email addresses below) for more information.

<http://www.arct.cam.ac.uk/courses/mst-building-history-1>