

Building History Newsletter

Issue 9

December 2019

Wentworth Woodhouse lecture and visit



This year's annual Building History Lecture was delivered on 6 April by Sarah McLeod, CEO of the Wentworth House Preservation Trust, and explored the many challenges of securing the future of this extraordinary country house. In her lecture Sarah narrated the post-war decline of the estate and the ways in which it was compromised by unsympathetic buildings in the grounds. She emphasised the scale of the works required, but also paid tribute to the powerful upsurge of local support for the initiative. On the following day a party was greeted by Sarah at Wentworth Woodhouse and enjoyed an extensive tour of the house, gardens and stables, including access to high-level scaffolding to view the urgent repairs currently in progress. In response to a fund-raising initiative organised by WHPT a roofing slate commemorating the visit was purchased by members of the party.



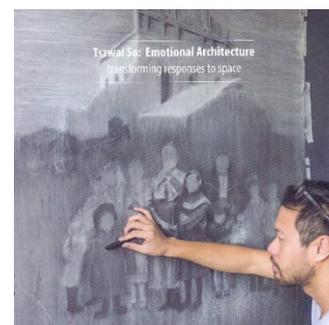
David Parr House opens to public

Preparations for opening David Parr House, Cambridge, to the public, and the involvement of several of our students, have been reported previously. The opening was celebrated in an official launch on 8 May. So much interest has been aroused that visits have been booked up for many months to come. Deborah Carnwath (Cohort 5) is one of the volunteer guides.

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Awards and prizes

Tszwai So (Cohort 5) has been awarded first prize in the practitioner category of the *RIBA Journal* Annual Drawing Competition, which attracted drawings from around the world. His work was exhibited by the RIBA in London and Liverpool, and now finds a place in the V&A's permanent collection. For details, see: <https://www.ribaj.com/eyeline/eyeline-winners-2018>. On 2 July Tszwai appeared in conversation with Hugh Pearman, Editor of the *RIBA Journal*, to open an exhibition of his work at Wolfson College entitled 'Emotional Architecture: transforming responses to space' (pictured).



The Ancient Monuments Society has inaugurated an annual essay prize (£500) in memory of the late Stephen Croad MBE, former head of the architectural section of the National Monuments Record (now the Historic England Archive). The AMS notes: 'in the spirit of Stephen's own research and practice, [essays] should be factually verifiable, documented new discoveries on the historic buildings of England and Wales, whether part of the established canon or hitherto less examined'. See <http://www.ancientmonumentsociety.org.uk/stephen-croad-essay-prize/> for further details.

Students and alumni

Rodolfo Acevedo Rodriguez (Cohort 5) is undertaking laser-scanning surveys of Boughton House, Northamptonshire, and of the floor of the Marble Hall at Wentworth Woodhouse.

Annie Allen (Cohort 5) has started a new position as a Data Development Specialist with Maryland Historical Trust, which is the Historic Preservation Office for the state of Maryland, USA.

Ophelia Blackman (Cohort 4) has joined Arup Associates in London.

Chloe Booyens (Cohort 4) completed a six-month run appearing in Agatha Christie's play, *Witness for the Prosecution*, at London's County Hall.

Amy Boyington (Cohort 1) is undertaking research on Stowe House, Buckinghamshire, for the National Trust.

Mary Chisholm (Cohort 5) has started a Building History website and blog: <https://www.exploringbuildinghistory.co.uk/>.

Matt Cooper (Cohort 3) has taken a new post as a Listing Adviser with Historic England, based in Cambridge.

Chris Costelloe (Cohort 1) gave the keynote address at the 'Creative Conservation: Partnerships and Public Value' conference organised by the London Branch of the IHBC.

Chris Curtis (Cohort 4) is now working as a Sheffield-based building archaeologist for York Archaeological Trust.



Aimée Dobb (Cohort 2) is now a Chartered Member of the Royal Town Planning Institute. She has moved to a new post as Senior Planner with DLP Consultancy.

Mary Anne Donovan (Cohort 2) has been chairing the development of a Neighbourhood Plan in Leicestershire.

Karey Draper (Cohort 1) and Patricia Forero Senior (Cohort 8), working for Caroe Architecture, are producing a CMP for Britain's last working bell foundry, Taylor's in Loughborough. Coco Whittaker (Cohort 9) has been assisting.

Sophie Drew (Cohort 6) is studying for her RICS chartered status at the Royal Agricultural University, Cirencester.

Stephanie Hammer (Cohort 8) completed a period assisting voluntarily with planning casework at Cambridge Past, Present & Future.

Angharad Hart (Cohort 6) has started a new post as Senior Conservation Officer at Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service. She is also now the East Anglia Regional Representative of the newly formed UK Art Deco Society.

Sarah Hendriks (Cohort 2) completed a PhD at the University of Edinburgh last year on early British concert halls, co-supervised by Alistair Fair. She is currently working as Training and Placements Officer for the Open-Oxford-Cambridge AHRC Doctoral Training Partnership.

Jessica Jones (Cohort 6) has moved to Network Rail, where she will be a Development Surveyor managing change on the former Great Western Railway network, including Brunel's Temple Meads Station.

Hannah Kingsbury (Cohort 8) has left the Yorkshire Dales National Park to take up the post of Cultural Heritage Officer with the newly formed Westmorland Dales Landscape Partnership Scheme in Tebay, Cumbria.

Jonathan Lee (Cohort 3) is now Townscape Heritage Project Officer for Mansfield District Council, Nottinghamshire, managing a £1.3m budget, including Heritage Lottery funding.

Holly Lomax (Cohort 6) has been awarded a scholarship to study the part-time MSc in Building Surveying at Kingston University.

Eimar McDonagh (Cohort 7) has commenced working as an architect for the practice of Simpson & Brown, based in Leith.

Annika McQueen (Cohort 7) is beginning a new job as a Learning Facilitator at the British Library.

Charmaine Ng (Cohort 3) is working towards a PhD based at ETH Zürich, exploring the development of the museum quarter in nineteenth- and twentieth-century urban design.

Nick De Pauw (Cohort 4) has set up his own heritage consultancy, based in Antwerp.

Emily Rahimi (Cohort 7) is undertaking research for a National Register of Historic Places listing nomination for the New York Fire Museum, originally a 'firehouse' (fire station) known as Engine 30, in Manhattan.

James Rennie (Cohort 6) has been studying for the MPhil in Architecture and Urban Design (MAUD) in Cambridge.

Gillian Roberts (Cohort 4) has started a new post as a Heritage Action Zone project officer with Historic England, based in Birmingham.

Jana Schuster (Cohort 4) and Jeremy Musson have established a new public Architectural History lecture series in Cambridge. It was inaugurated by the new director of the

Fitzwilliam Museum, Dr Luke Syson, who spoke about the recent re-presentation of the British Collections at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York.

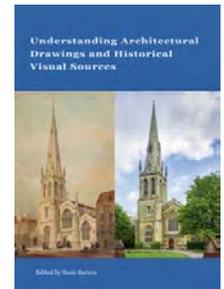
James Sugrue (Cohort 3) has left Mott Macdonald to take up a new position with Barton Willmore.

Helen Warren (Cohort 4) is now working as a heritage consultant with Donald Insall Associates at their new Oxford office.

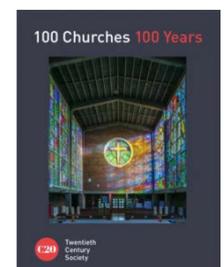
John Willans (Cohort 7) has a permanent appointment at Alan Baxter Associates, where he undertook a placement last year.

New publications

Elain Harwood, Gordon Higgott, Ian Leith, Adam Menuge and Olivia Horsfall Turner are the contributors to *Understanding Architectural Drawings and Historical Visual Sources*, edited by Susie Barson and published by Historic England. The book examines in turn the main visual sources for Building History, including historic maps.



Sam Hawksford White (Cohort 6) contributed to the Twentieth Century Society's new publication, *100 Churches, 100 Years*. The book is edited by Susannah Charlton, Elain Harwood and Clare Price: <https://c20society.org.uk/books/100-churches-100-years/>.



David Watkin, 1941-2018

David Watkin, one of the leading architectural historians of his generation, died in August 2018. David, whose life was celebrated in a number of obituaries in the national press and architectural history journals, took his PhD at Cambridge and continued to teach there for nearly fifty years. He lectured to six cohorts of Building History students, giving an overview of the classical house that was both erudite and colourful. In 2012 he also led a delightful tour of the John Adey Repton-designed house at Sheringham Park, Norfolk.

Andy Donald, 1948-2018

We were saddened to hear of the sudden death last year of Andy Donald, who taught architectural surveying and drawing to the first seven cohorts of Building History students. Andy was a popular tutor, combining great professional wisdom with an ability to cut through the perplexities of student learning. Born in Suez in the dying days of the British Empire, he made his career in London as a draughtsman with the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England (RCHME) and latterly English Heritage, illustrating countless architectural publications and reports with his cool, precise drawings. In his spare time he was a classic car and Indian motorcycle enthusiast and, when he retired to Devon, custodian of a local group of almshouses.

Application deadlines

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

Applications for entry to the MSt in Building History next October are invited no later than 30 June 2020 from graduates with a good 2:1 or better. Please contact the Course Director or Course Administrator (email addresses below) for more information.