

ARCH 549: Fundamentals of Heritage Conservation

Fall 2012

Monday 6:30 - 9:30

Zumberge Hall of Science (ZHS), Room 360

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Office Hours: after class or by appointment

This course introduces the field of heritage conservation (a/k/a historic preservation), serving as a required class and provided the needed background for further studies in the Certificate and Master's Degree programs in Heritage Conservation. Heritage Conservation is a multi-disciplinary and far-reaching field that has evolved steadily and dramatically over the decades. We will cover a range of subjects and issues that affect contemporary heritage conservation practice, including its historical and philosophical underpinnings, the role of government and individuals in identifying and protecting historic resources, and the field's political, legal, economic, social, cultural and technical dimensions.

...and don't forget our class motto, courtesy of Charles Fletcher Lummis: *Mañana Flor de Sus Ayeres*.

Course Requirements

Required Reading Material

Required Texts

Robert E. Stipe, ed. *A Richer Heritage: Historic Preservation in the Twenty-First Century*, Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2003.

Owen Hopkins. *Reading Architecture: A Visual Lexicon*, London: Laurence King Publishing, 2012.

Required Readings

All other required readings will either be placed on Blackboard or taken from the internet (links are provided in the reading lists below)

Participation

Active participation in all lectures, discussions, and site visits is expected, as is completion of the readings assigned for each session. A brief (and unexpected!) reading quiz or two will be interspersed throughout the semester to keep you on your toes.

Midterm

The midterm exam is scheduled for **October 22** and will cover all lectures, readings, and site visits up to that date.

Assignment 1: Experience a Historic Site – Short Paper and Class Report

As of April, 2012, there were 1004 designated Historic Cultural Monuments in Los Angeles. Your job...

- 1) choose one HCM that you've never seen or heard of and visit it **COLD** (and with your camera) – find one here: <http://cityplanning.lacity.org/complan/hcm/hcm.cfm>. E-mail me your choice prior to your visit so we can avoid any duplications.
- 2) soak it up, note your initial thoughts about the site and its surroundings
- 3) do a bit of background reading (designation report, published information, internet research).

You'll answer a series of questions (that will be distributed in class) in a one or two page paper due on **September 17**. On the same date, you'll make a 5 minute presentation (with visuals) to share your experience with the class

Assignment 2: Visit to a Local Landmarks Commission – Short Paper and Class Report

You will attend a local preservation commission or board meeting and relate what you hear and see there to what we've discussed in class. You will report back about your experience in class on **October 22**, at which time you will also submit a short paper (max. 3 pages) summarizing your visit. You may make the visits in two-person teams, but each student must participate in the presentation and submit an individual written summary. **Please note that many boards and commissions only meet once a month, so plan your visit early!** A partial list of local boards and commissions is at the end of this syllabus.

Assignment 3: Final Paper and Presentation

The final assignment consists of an in-depth look at a preservation issue somewhere in the United States. You will produce a 10-15 page report based on a structure you will receive in class on September 10. An outline of your report is due in class on **October 1**. You will also make a 10 minute presentation to your colleagues on either **November 26 or December 3**. Your final paper is due **via e-mail on December 17**.

Grading

Participation: 10%
Historic Site Visit: 15%
Commission Visit: 15%
Midterm Exam: 25%
Final Presentation: 10%
Research Paper: 25%

Grade reductions for unexcused late assignments: one-half grade deducted for each day late.

Attendance

More than three unexcused absences will result in a failing grade for the class.

Class Schedule and Readings

1. Monday, August 27

What Is Heritage Conservation and Why Do We Do It?: General Introduction

Readings:

Text

- Stipe - "Prologue: Why Preserve?," pp. xii-xv.

Blackboard

- Donovan Rypkema, "Making Historic Preservation Relevant for the Next 50 Years"

2. Monday, September 3

NO CLASS: Labor Day

3. Monday, September 10

How We Got Here: Historical Contexts and Underlying Philosophies

Readings:

Text

- Stipe - Chapter 1

Blackboard

- Eugene-Emmanuel Viollet-le-Duc, "Restoration" Parts I and II
- John Ruskin, "The Lamp of Memory,"
- William Morris, "Manifesto of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings"
- Steven Semes, *The Future of the Past*, Chapter 5, pp. 115-129
- David McCollough, "A Sense of Time and Place"

4. Monday, September 17

Early Preservation Efforts in the U.S. through World War II

***Historic Site Visit Presentations

Readings:

Text

- Stipe - Introduction (pp. 1-8)

Blackboard

- Ned Kaufman, "History Is Important and It is Not Over"
- Mike Wallace, "A History of Historic Preservation in the United States"
- Robert Weyeneth, "Ancestral Architecture: The Early Preservation Movement in Charleston"

4b. Saturday, September 22 1:30 p.m.

Field Trip: Heritage Square and Charles Lummis House

\$10 admission for Heritage Square

Blackboard

- Carey McWilliams, excerpt from *Southern California: An Island in the Land*
- Helen Hunt Jackson, excerpt from *Ramona*

5. **Monday, September 24**
Becoming a Profession: the Government Steps In

Readings:

Text

- Stipe – Chapter 1 “Some Preservation Fundamentals”
Chapter 2 “The Federal Preservation Program”
Chapter 3 “The States: The Backbone of Preservation” (skim)

Blackboard

- Who’s Who In Historic Preservation (CPF chart)

Internet (background information)

- National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA): <http://www.achp.gov/NHPA.pdf>
- National Trust for Historic Preservation
Main site: www.preservationnation.org
NTHP historical timeline: www.preservationnation.org/about-us/history.html
- Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
Information about ACHP: <http://www.achp.gov/aboutachp.html>
Overview of National Historic Preservation Program: www.achp.gov/overview.html

6. **Monday, October 1**
Identification, Evaluation, and Protection of Historic Places

*****Final Report Outline Due**

Readings:

Blackboard

- Secretary of the Interior’s *Standards for Identification*
- Secretary of the Interior’s *Standards for Evaluation*
- Secretary of the Interior’s *Standards for Rehabilitation*
- Venice Charter
- Richard Longstreth, “The Problem with “Style””
- Rem Koolhaas, “Preservation is Overtaking Us”

For your reference:

- National Register Bulletin 16A: How to Complete the National Register Form
- NRB15 : How to Apply the NR Criteria for Evaluation
- Secretary of the Interior’s *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*

7. **Monday, October 8**
Local Preservation: What Big Teeth We Have

Readings:

Text

- Stipe – Chapter 4 “Local Government Programs”
Chapter 5 “Preservation Law and Public Policy”

Blackboard

- Historic Preservation at the Local Level: Los Angeles
- Los Angeles Cultural Heritage Ordinance
- Historic-Cultural Monument Nomination: Glen Lukens House
- California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Historic Resources
- CEQA process flowchart

8. Monday, October 15

Who Says What's Important?: Authenticity and Significance

Readings:

Text

- Stipe – Chapter 12 “Social and Ethnic Dimensions of Preservation”

Blackboard

- Chris Wilson, “Place over Time: Restoration and Revivalism in Santa Fe”
- Howard Green, “The Social Construction of Historical Significance”
- Richard Striner, “Determining Historic Significance: Mind over Matter?”
- Dolores Hayden, “Place Memory and Urban Preservation”
- Karina Muniz, “Este Lugar es Importante”: Embracing Diverse Perspectives on Significance”
- Melissa Jest, “Making Preservation Relevant in Urban Communities of Color”

9. Monday, October 22

*****Presentations: Commission/Board Site Visits**

*****Midterm Exam**

10. Monday, October 29

Preservation Advocacy: Views from the Field

Visit to Pasadena Heritage: 651 South Saint John Avenue, Pasadena, 91105

Special Guests: Sue Mossman, Executive Director and Jenna Kachour, Director of Preservation

Readings:

Blackboard

- Los Angeles Conservancy: 25 Years of Making History

11. Monday, November 5

Current Issues: The Recent Past and Sustainability

Readings:

Blackboard

- NR Bulletin 22: Recent Past Evaluations
- Richard Longstreth: “I Don’t See It; I Don’t Understand It; and It Doesn’t Look Old To Me”
- Lauren Weiss Bricker: “History in Motion: A Glance at Preservation in California”
- Elaine Stiles: “50 Years Reconsidered”
- Alan Hess: “Coming to Terms with the Sixties”
- Jeffrey Chusid: “Teaching Sustainability to Preservation Students,” *APT Bulletin*, April 2010
- Walter Sedovic: “History’s Green Genes.”
- Carl Elefante: “The Greenest Building is...One that is Already Built.”

12. Monday, November 12
Recognizing and Protecting Cultural Landscapes
Field Trip to Village Green, Baldwin Hills
Special Guest: Holly Kane, Village Green

Readings:

Text

- Stipe – Chapter 6 “Preserving Important Landscapes”
Chapter 15 “Where Do We Go From Here?”

Blackboard

- Charles A. Birnbaum, “Protecting Cultural Landscapes: Planning, Treatment, and Management of Historic Landscapes.” (Preservation Brief 35)
- Hillary Jenks, “The Politics of Preservation: Power, Memory, and Identity in Los Angeles’ Little Tokyo”
- Catherine Howett, “Integrity as a Value in Cultural Landscape Preservation”

13. Monday, November 19
Field Trip to Getty Conservation Institute
Conservation: the science and art of preservation

Meet at the Getty Center at 6:30 p.m.

Readings:

Blackboard

- About ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites)

14. Monday, November 26
Final Paper Presentations I

15. Monday, December 3
Final Paper Presentations II

16. Monday, December 10
NO CLASS: Study Day

17. Monday, December 17
Final Papers Due
Submit via e-mail by 9:30 p.m.

Selection of Local Municipal Preservation Boards and Commissions

Commissions occasionally reschedule or cancel public hearings. **Be sure to confirm the date and time of a hearing by calling the city or reviewing published agendas.** Feel free to visit the board or commission of a city not listed here.

Burbank Heritage Commission

Meets on the first Thursday of every month at 5:30 p.m. in the Community Services Building, Room 104, at 150 N. Third Street.

<http://www.burbankca.gov/index.aspx?page=647>

Glendale Historic Preservation Commission

Meets on the fourth Monday of every month at 2:00 p.m. in the Municipal Services Building, Room 105, 633 E. Broadway.

www.ci.glendale.ca.us/planning/HPHPC.asp

Long Beach Cultural Heritage Commission

Meets the second Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chamber at 333 W. Ocean Avenue.

http://www.lbds.info/planning/historic_preservation/cultural_heritage_commission.asp

Los Angeles Cultural Heritage Commission

Meets on the first and third Monday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in Room 1010 of City Hall at 200 N. Spring Street.

<http://www.preservation.lacity.org/commission>

Los Angeles HPOZ Boards

Look for “Historic Overlay Zone” on the following pages – click on “Agenda” to confirm meeting information.

Central LA: http://cityplanning.lacity.org/MeetingsNHearings/Dsp_Results_Central.cfm?Subtype=Agendas

South LA: http://cityplanning.lacity.org/MeetingsNHearings/Dsp_Results_SLA.cfm?Subtype=Agendas

East LA: http://cityplanning.lacity.org/MeetingsNHearings/Dsp_Results_ELA.cfm?Subtype=Agendas

West LA: http://cityplanning.lacity.org/MeetingsNHearings/dsp_Results_WLA.cfm?Subtype=Agendas

Pasadena Historic Preservation Commission

Meets on the first and third Mondays of every month at 6:00 p.m. in Hearing Room #120 of the George Ellery Hale Bldg, 175 North Garfield Avenue.

<http://www.ci.pasadena.ca.us/planning/meetings/chcomm/homechc.asp>

Santa Monica Landmark Commission

Meets on the second Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, Room 213, of Santa Monica City Hall located at 1685 Main Street.

<http://santa-monica.org/planning/planningcomm/historicpreserve.html>

South Pasadena Cultural Heritage Commission

Meets the third Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers located at 1424 Mission Street.

West Hollywood Historic Preservation Commission

Meets the fourth Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the Plummer Park Community Center at 7377 Santa Monica Boulevard.

<http://www.weho.org/index.aspx?page=226>

University Policies

Academic Integrity

USC seeks to maintain an optimal learning environment. General principles of academic honesty include the concept of respect for the intellectual property of others, the expectation that individual work will be submitted unless otherwise allowed by an instructor, and the obligations both to protect one's own academic work from misuse by others as well as to avoid using another's work as one's own. All students are expected to understand and abide by these principles. Scampus, the Student Guidebook, contains the Student Conduct Code in Section 11.00, while the recommended sanctions are located in Appendix A:

<http://www.usc.edu/dept/publications/SCAMPUS/gov/>

Students will be referred to the Office of Student Judicial Affairs and Community Standards for further review, should there be any suspicion of academic dishonesty. The Review process can be found at:

<http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/SJACS/>

Students With Disabilities

Any Student requesting academic accommodations based on a disability is required to register with Disability Services and Programs (DSP) each semester. A letter of verification for approved accommodations can be obtained from DSP. Please be sure the letter is delivered to me (or to TA) as early in the semester as early as possible. DSP is located in STU 301 and is open 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The phone number for DSP is (213) 740-0776.

Religious Holidays

The university recognizes the diversity of our community and the potential for conflicts involving academic activities and personal religious observation. The university provides a guide to such observances for reference and suggests that any concerns about lack of attendance or inability to participate fully in the course activity be fully aired at the start of the term. As a general principle students should be excused from class for these events if properly documented and if provisions can be made to accommodate the absence and make up the lost work. Constraints on participation that conflict with adequate participation in the course and cannot be resolved to the satisfaction of the faculty and the student need to be identified prior to the drop add date for registration. After the drop/add date the University and the School of Architecture shall be the sole arbiter of what constitutes appropriate attendance and participation in a given course.