

Historic Preservation

at University of Mary Washington

Spring 2006

Sigma Pi Kappa Inductees

In January 2006, the Theta Chapter of the historic preservation honor society, Sigma Pi Kappa, initiated six eligible students from the department. Sigma Pi Kappa is a national honor society endorsed by the National Council for Preservation Education, which recognizes superior scholarship and professional achievements in the field of historic preservation. Membership is open to all historic preservation students (undergraduate or graduate) who are in their final year of study and have a minimum GPA of 3.5 (undergraduate) or 3.7 (graduate). The Theta Chapter was formed at Mary Washington in October 1997. Professor Sanford serves as the chapter advisor/faculty sponsor.



Sigma Pi Kappa inductees, from left to right:

Elizabeth Schmidt, Melissa Celii, Elyse Gerstenecker, Kaitlin O'Shea, Kelly Timmerman

Not shown: Sarah Peterson

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In & Around the Department

Professor Doug Sanford

Continuing with the theme of change I developed in the fall newsletter, it is my pleasure to bring more of the same to your attention. A most significant change occupied the faculty for a period of nearly five months – finding someone to fill the position in preservation planning and law formerly occupied by Professor Wendy Price. The selection process required advertising for applicants, winnowing those down to three candidates who came to campus for interviews and presentations, and determining a finalist for the position. The faculty is pleased to announce that our new Assistant Professor will be Ms. Gillian Bearns, an attorney and preservation planner currently residing in Arlington, Virginia. Originally from Virginia, Ms. Bearns has a master's in regional planning from the University of Massachusetts (Amherst) and received her law degree from Western New England College. "Professor" Bearns will be joining us in the fall 2006 semester and will teach "Preservation Law" (HISP 302) and the senior "Survey & Planning" course (HISP 405). In the following spring semester she'll be responsible for the introductory planning course (HISP 209) and of course, the preservation planning lab (HISP 469).

We encourage our upper class majors to join the faculty in welcoming Ms. Bearns to the Department and our newer majors to introduce themselves. And speaking of students, the faculty greatly appreciated the input and participation of our majors during the interview process. All three candidates took notice of the solid student turnout for their presentations, and they made positive remarks about the students' vitality and involvement. To use poor language, but in a good way – you did us proud! Special thanks go out to the student aides and representatives who assisted with on-campus tours, scheduling, meals, and their candid insights. The selection of a new faculty member represents a trying, even nerve-racking experience, but also one of excitement, renewal, and positive anticipation.

Once again adjunct faculty members have made a positive difference in our program and deserve recognition. Returning this semester as a veteran, Gardiner Hallock (class of 1997) has taken time away from his new position

as head of restoration at Montpelier to teach the planning lab class. We should also mention that Gardiner is a proud new father of a baby boy. This year's lab class is assisting Spotsylvania County with its preservation plan by conducting fieldwork and background research, and by developing elements and recommendations for the plan. A new adjunct for us but a long-term Mary Washington staff member, Carolyn Parsons from Simpson Library teaches the "Archives & Society" class. The Department has sought to resurrect this elective course, and Carolyn has more than met that goal. Students are actively involved in archival research, collections management, and archive-based interpretation projects. We anticipate offering "Archives & Society" every other year so that all of our majors would have at least one opportunity to take the course, experiencing how issues of collections management intertwine with all our disciplines. Another new adjunct, but a Mary Washington alum is Andrew Painter (2002, Political Science), who's teaching both sections of the introductory planning class. Since graduating Andrew, who began his interest in planning with Professor Price's courses, has obtained a master's in urban and environmental planning from the University of Virginia, and currently is a second year law student at the University of Richmond. It's been a boon to us that he can find the time to help our program.

And since I'm on a roll about collections, let me say a few words about changes to our own and the role of the Department's student aides. Collections can languish at times, going unappreciated, even unorganized – and despite our best intentions, that has happened in our world. But thankfully our student aides have risen to the challenge. Irene Frankofsky and Trillian Hosticka have responded wonderfully to the charge of taking on the "library" in the seminar room. They've taken stock, re-organized, de-accessioned, and increased the accessibility and utility of all those books, journals, newsletters, and miscellaneous pamphlets. They're developing a guide to the collections and another guide to relevant graduate school programs that will be available in the seminar room. Trillian and Irene, along with other students, made the

Department News

You Work Twice as Hard to Have Fun

Professor Gary Stanton

If you are (or have ever been) a student of Historic Preservation at Mary Washington you have probably recognized a certain stability to the course content and structures that the faculty provide. That is unless you were here when I first arrived at this campus and had to quickly create courses to fit a curriculum that I had never been taught. New faculty members, and everyone was new once upon a time, often are hard pressed to stay a week or two ahead of the classes, sometimes a day or two. But when the dust clears and nobody died, commencement arrives and then an all too brief summer is followed by a new cycle; the task of adjusting course presentation, content, assignments, and materials becomes more evolutionary than revolutionary. But in every teacher's fantasy there grows a course (or maybe more) that would be exciting to teach, but doesn't fit the goals of the major. For the purposes of this fantasy I'm making a distinction between someone who wants to teach, a teacher, and someone who is a scholar and teaching is what scholars do to be paid, so they can research and write.

To set sail into a subject area that is personally compelling, intellectually challenging, and not a little bit daunting one should be humble without being contrite. So in fall 2006 it will be my opportunity to live out a fantasy teaching assignment—to follow the trajectory of vernacular music in America from the colonial experience to the "folk song revival" in the mid-20th century. One major problem with fantasy involves textbooks. Rarely does fantasy have a textbook. Now bluegrass music, or shape-note singing, ragtime, minstrelsy, ethnic music, even cowboy songs in America each has a text book—but no one has written across all the forms. Musicologists have discussed at some length the development (or lack of development) of art music in America, and critics have opined what is right and wrong with jazz from their particular pulpit. So I have found that with libraries full of books, none quite fits the fantasy and the course will push forward with cobbled-up pieces of analysis and some truly undigested original material.

Perhaps most tricky will be the sounds of music—and how could there be a class on music without the

sounds—when for a good portion of the American experiment recording equipment did not exist. Like a siren call the vernacular threshold is richly preserved in commercial recordings of the early 20th century that could over balance the course and give short shrift to the earlier evolution of form and taste that makes the 20th century possible. The other element of uncertainty is my own limited knowledge of some important musical traditions. What I don't know about brass instruments would (and probably has) filled books. The course needs to be a cooperative experience; I cannot play the pundit-from-the-podium (all the time). Everyone in the class will need to bring their knowledge and interest in music to our collective party.

So the fantasy of teaching the course is blended with the fantasy of having participated in this course. We'll be able to sample the musical gardens of so many communities. Almost every night I'm listening, seeking, or outlining some other aspect of the cultural landscape of music here in America. Just the opportunity to discuss the dozens of dance forms that have been popular over this time and to listen and talk about the music that accompanied the dance, from quadrille to jitterbug is exciting to imagine. The mind moves ever faster with ethnic music that is so rich, from the Irish music of Fanin Street with Michael Coleman and thousands more, to Lydia Mendoza and the Tec-Mex conjuntos, Houdini and the calypso invasion, Hawaiian melodies, French music many times, and central European mix of Klezmer, Romany, and national music. The fantasy moves to musical instruments and follows the banjo through its many permutations and performance styles. The marimba, the musical saw and jaw harp, whistling, and empty jugs are but the send up to the musical nuttiness of Spike Jones and the other novelty bands.

In the end the fantasy needs to avoid the greediness of doing it all and move closer to the motto "take all you want, eat all you take." But that's what fantasy does and I'm working hard to make it happen. Of course, you work twice as hard to have fun. I hope you'll be having fun this next semester. Come by and see if we are from time to time.

Archaeological & Museum Object Analysis, Spring Break 2006

Professor Evelyn Godfrey

European colleagues and I carried out more experiments to develop a totally non-destructive, non-invasive method of finding the chemical and microstructural composition of historic artifacts this Spring Break at the ISIS neutron research facility, Rutherford-Appleton Lab, near Oxford in England.

During the nine days, we analyzed twenty-nine objects of a variety of materials and dates: Merovingian (6th-8th century AD) iron axes, spearheads, tools, and a dagger, all from France originally provided by the Spurlock Museum at the University of Illinois; Roman iron tools and glass objects, also from the Spurlock collections; Roman and Byzantine copper alloy coins provided by Dr. Houghtalin in the Classics Department here at UMW; Roman-Iron Age (4th-5th century AD) iron smelting slag from an excavation in the Netherlands; and glassy blast furnace iron smelting slag from the 18th century sites of Ashburnham in England and Accokeek in Stafford County, VA (surface survey finds).

The attempt to board the plane with two cases full of axes and spearheads proved rather stressful, but fortunately in the end no artifacts were damaged and no one got an all-expenses-paid indefinite holiday in Cuba.

Masses of data processing, discussion, and interpretation are now all that is necessary for publication! The plan is to return to England to process data and so forth at ISIS in June. More analyses, using different neutron scattering methods (tomography and bulk chemical analysis), are being done now on some Dutch Roman-Iron Age iron artifacts that I'd analyzed previously and brought with me to Oxford over Spring Break to lend to other scientists from Switzerland and Hungary. So this project seems to know no bounds, geographically speaking at least.



Figures: Merovingian glass beads and iron axe from the Spurlock Museum

Professor Morton Undertakes Structural Rehabilitation and Sabbatical Leave

W. Brown Morton III

On September 27, 2005, just a few weeks into the fall semester, Professor Morton's twenty-six year old right hip prosthesis collapsed as he was crossing the street in front of Combs Hall en route to his HISP 205 class. Rescued by the grandfather of a UMW freshman, some thoughtful HISP majors, and Professor Stanton, he made it home and into the hospital. Total hip revision was necessary, and so Professor Morton had to give up his classes for the rest of the semester. These classes were assumed by Professors Sanford, Stanton, Hudgins and HISP alumnus, Matthew Webster. In late October a new hip was installed; a procedure Professor Morton refers to as "The Big Dig."

Up and about again after the holidays, albeit on crutches, Professor Morton began his already scheduled second semester Sabbatical leave to pursue research for the book he is writing, *Robert E. Lee: Engineer*. He will return to UMW in mid-August.

UMW/RGU Scotland Summer School 2006 on Target

W. Brown Morton III

Professor Morton will be leading the 2006 Historic Preservation in Scotland summer school from June 4th to June 24th. Nine HISP majors from UMW will participate: Emily Bowman, Jeanine Ciulik, Katherine Egner, Elizabeth Flaig, Sarah Herzog, Rachel McDonald, Terrance Revella, Morgan Riley, and Christian Tenney. The Cromarty fieldwork project for 2006 will be to document Cromarty-specific architectural and planning details appropriate for replication or adaptation in the new housing scheme being planned for the large open space behind the Townlands Barn (originally the late-17th c. Sandielands House). An earlier UMW/RGU summer school fully documented the Townlands Barn and prepared conjectural drawings of Sandielands House.

James Monroe Museum and Memorial Library:

Director's Den Come Remember Monroe's Aprils Past

Professor John Pearce



A "selection by month" is one of the many ways of contemplating the life, work and achievements of James Monroe—and for this issue I have listed some of "Monroe's Aprils" which I hope you'll enjoy contemplating with me and think of it as springboards for museum work and preservation activities. Here's a selection:

A selection of April events in the life of James Monroe
1758—Born.

1777—Began duty as a Revolutionary recruiting officer in Virginia.

1782—Elected to the Virginia House of Delegates from King George County.

1787—Elected to the Virginia House of Delegates from Spotsylvania County.

1802—Birth of third child, Maria Hester Monroe.

1803—Arrived in Havre, April 8th as Minister Plenipotentiary to France; arrived in Paris by the 12th; appointed also Minister to Great Britain, 18th (subsequently also Minister to Spain); signed the Louisiana Purchase agreement, 30th.

1810—Elected to the Virginia House of Delegates from Albemarle County.

1811—Appointed Secretary of State in the Madison administration.

1817—Appointed to the Board of Visitors, University of Virginia.

1818—Elected to the American Antiquarian Society.

1819—Began a tour of southern and western states.

1824—Signed the northwest boundary treaty with Russia in his second term as president.

And what are some of the themes of his life, and thus of our work in museums and preservation offices, which are selected this way?

First of all, of course, life itself—his own birth in April 1758 and the birth of his third child, Maria Hester Monroe, in April 1802. And the museum itself; without Monroe's birth we'd have no reason for our museum, and without the birth of Maria Hester Monroe we might not have the wonderful collections. It was her son Samuel L. Gouverneur, Jr., who particularly collected objects, books and documents relating to his grandfather. In turn, it was Gouverneur's daughter, Rose Gouverneur Hoes, who saved our building in 1927 and brought her collections here, and it was her son, Laurence Gouverneur Hoes, who directed the museum for 50 years, overseeing its gift to the James Monroe Memorial Foundation and to the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Then there was his service in the Revolutionary War, symbolized in this period by his work as a recruiting officer in Virginia. This was preceded by his valiant duty in the victory at Trenton, December 1776 (and his severe wounding). The victory of Trenton was succeeded by so much else in Revolutionary battles and other duties, including encampment at Valley Forge in the winter of 1777-1778, the April 1778 events of the news of support from the government of France, and the arrival in camp of the Marquis de Lafayette, General von Steuben, and von Steuben's military secretary, Pierre Etienne duPonceau, who became a great friend of Monroe's.

Monroe's many services to the Commonwealth of Virginia are symbolized by his April elections to the House of Delegates: 1782 from his home in King George County, 1787 from his work and life here in Fredericksburg, Spotsylvania County, and 1810 from his later home in Albemarle County, near Charlottesville.

His numerous foreign services are symbolized by the cluster of April 1803 events: arriving in Havre on the 8th, in Paris on the 12th, appointed as Minister to Great Britain on the 18th, and signing the Louisiana Purchase agreement on the 30th—what an April that was!

Further service to the nation is noted in his appointment

Next volume in The Papers of James Monroe

Professor John Pearce



The Papers of James Monroe: Selected Correspondence and Papers, 1776-1794, Volume 2.

It's out!—the next volume in *The Papers of James Monroe*, the publishing project of our sister institution here at the University of Mary Washington, the James Monroe Presidential Center. You may recall that the first two volumes published were the *Comprehensive Catalogue* of 36,000 letters and other documents to and from James Monroe, in more than 180 libraries and archives. The next publication, technically

"Volume 1" of the *Papers*, focused on Monroe's presidential travels of 1817, 1818 and 1819. Greenwood Press has already published the next work by Editor Daniel Preston and assistant editor Marlena C. DeLong, *The Papers of James Monroe, Vol. 2, Selected Correspondence and Papers, 1776-1794*. These are wonderful complete texts of letters and other documents from the period of the Revolutionary War through Monroe's work in the Continental Congress, his move to Fredericksburg (and then to Charlottesville), and his duty as U.S. Senator just on the eve of his first posting to France. We continue to rejoice in the Jepson gift, which has made this work possible, and the continuing work of the editors and the publishing plan of Greenwood Press.

Preservation Club News

Lauren Trice, Victorian Ball Chair

The Historic Preservation Club's annual Victorian Ball took place on February 25, 2006 in soon to be renovated Ann Carter Lee Hall Ballroom. This year's theme was Southern Elegance. Gilmore's Light Ensemble, a group of Civil War Era musicians, performed for the evening. David and LuAnn Swonger taught dance lessons in the morning and called the dances during the event. The eighty people who attended were able to have glimpse of the high etiquette and tradition of social dances in the late 19th century.

Later in the semester, twelve preservation students left for Savannah on March 30th. The eight hour drive was worth it when they arrived to seventy degree temperature at 8:00pm. The next day they enjoyed a group tour around Savannah's historic district enabling them to see many of Savannah's historic homes and gardens. Some students attended a concert connected with Savannah's Annual Music Festival that featured a brass band from New Orleans. But the highlight of the entire trip was when an excursion was made to Tybee Island where they took advantage of the beautiful weather to spend time on the beach and to tour a historic lighthouse.

Our spring event this year was Mary Washington's version of Preservation Week. In late April we held a week of events including movies featuring preservation, a demonstration by several reenactors, and an ice cream social/swing dance event.

Another Graduate Publication in Arcadia's Images of America

We have previously reported on two graduates' publications in the Arcadia Publishing series. *Images of America*; and here's news of a third: "Stafford County" by De'Onne C. Scott, '99, published in 2005 (\$19.99). Beginning with her own great collection of old postcards, De'Onne gathered and annotated hundreds of photographs, ranging from prehistoric oyster shells to motor courts of the 1950s-- and hundreds of people, from John Smith and George Washington to boys fishing in the 1950s.

Alumni, please let us know of you publications or other notable events for future issues!

Remember to keep the Department updated with your information!

You can contact the Department at:
Phone: (540) 654-1041
or e-mail Sharon Hale at shale@umw.edu

In & Around the Department

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very logical suggestion of increasing the room's open hours, and we have done so. If that's not enough, this dynamic duo has set their sights on improving the Department's décor, updating the images that adorn our halls and rooms. I contributed some used (funky?) sofas (another request from students), but so far have balked at curtains and other Martha Stewart-esque niceties.

Last, but not least, Theresa Hicks volunteered for the daunting task of organizing past student drawings, of which there are only a few hundred. I'm sure many students have asked themselves, "What happens to all those HISP 205 and 305 drawings?" Well, those materials get stuffed into drawers, left on tables, and shuffled to remote corners. But no longer, thanks to Theresa. We now have a database of the drawings by municipality, property, and type of rendering (plan, section, elevation), and a physical organization to match that's nearing completion. This collection is important, as most municipalities don't have one, and as we all know – these historic buildings get altered and worse, removed from the landscape. Besides making the collection more useful for researchers, we can de-accession extra copies to property owners and the students who labored over these products, if so desired. A further goal is to scan representative drawings and put all that information online. If all this wasn't enough, Theresa got so excited she cleaned the drafting lab and its tables! Such energy moved Professor Stanton into action, repairing tables and chairs, and shock of shocks, we're next considering what to do about all those photograph boards!

Come Remember Monroe's Aprils Past

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as Secretary of State in April 1811, in his beginning of his presidential tour to the south and west in April 1819, and the achievement of the northwest boundary treaty with Russia in his second term as president in April 1824.

Monroe's lifelong emphasis on the importance of scientific inquiry and education are symbolized by his April 1817 appointment to the Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia, and his April 1818 election to the American Antiquarian Society.

Examining any month in this way provides symbolic "markers" for Monroe's life events, duties and achievements, and I'll plan to share some others with you in future issues.

Alumni Advances

Allyson Bristor ('01) is currently working as the Historic Preservation Planner for the city of Bozeman, Montana.

Kathleen Kauffman ('95) currently resides in Tallahassee, FL as the Executive Director for the Florida Trust for Historical Preservation.

Liz Weaver-Williams ('97) welcomes their firstborn son, Logan Ashleigh Williams, on December 19, 2005, weighting at 6 pounds, 12 ounces; 19 inches. Congratulations.

Sarah Rice ('99) is currently employed at the National Building Museum in Washington, DC as Family Programs Coordinator.

Take time to visit the Department on the Web!

<http://www.umw.edu/historicpreservation/>

Also be sure to check out the Department's job site at

http://www.umw.edu/historicpreservation/jobs_in_preservation/ for jobs, internships, and more!