

## **HISP670**

Fall Semester 2006

Historic Preservation Program, School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation  
University of Maryland

# **CONSERVATION OF HISTORIC PLACES: Historic Materials, Building Systems, and Conservation**

Monday 7:00pm- 9:40pm Architecture Building room 1125

David C. Overholt

202/829-0436 x 2 (work). 202/327-3455 (mobile). E-mail: [david\\_overholt@nthp.org](mailto:david_overholt@nthp.org)

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION AND RATIONALE:**

This course is designed to provide an overview of conservation project management and techniques for the physical care and long-term stewardship of historic places. Content will be offered through lectures, class discussions, assigned readings, and three required field trips focusing on professional practice.

### **OBJECTIVES:**

Through this course the student will:

- be taught the methods and techniques of conservation employed by consultants, artisans, contractors, and property owners;
- become familiar with basic assessment of construction materials and mechanical systems and learn how to identify probable causes of deterioration;
- learn how a conservation project is managed and executed;
- critically analyze the rationale and motivations that fuel conservation practices; and
- acquire analytical skills for a comprehensive approach to conservation of historic places which encompasses the short and long-term needs of materials and built features.

### **ASSIGNMENTS, TERM PROJECT, AND GRADING POLICY:**

Academic honesty is a serious matter for everyone. The University of Maryland has a “Code of Academic Integrity” which is extremely important and must be followed. (See [www.inform.umd.edu/JPO/AcInteg/code\\_acinteg2a.html](http://www.inform.umd.edu/JPO/AcInteg/code_acinteg2a.html))

### ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION IN CLASS:

- Class meets weekly, so attendance is very important.
- Productive participation in class discussions is highly desirable. Be prepared to answer (and ask) questions based on weekly topics and lead discussions on assigned readings.
- Each student will make a brief presentation in PowerPoint (5-10 minutes) to the class about a conservation issue they have recently observed.
- Unexcused absences beyond one class period (or field trip) will reduce the final grade by 1/3 of a grade for each additional absence.
- 20% of final grade for class participation.

### ETYMOLOGY AND CONTEMPORARY USE OF FUNDAMENTAL WORDS:

- Two (2) words selected by student from list provided below.
- Submit a brief (*less than 350 words*) report to include original definition, source, and use of word; overview history of the word’s usage if changed over time; significant synonyms (if any) and how they differ from the subject word; contemporary use of the word by conservation professionals; thoughts on how it relates to course content; and footnotes or

other appropriate citations. Utilize the Oxford English Dictionary, Getty Art & Architecture Thesaurus (<http://www.getty.edu/research/tools/vocabulary/aat/>), and other reference dictionaries and thesauri as needed.

- 15% of final grade.

#### EXTERIOR CONDITION ASSESSMENT:

- Choose an easily accessible site where you can safely work on your own time. It is always preferable to work in pairs during daylight hours only. The instructor must approve of each site in advance.
- Photograph the building and conduct field observations of the exterior (allow yourself approximately 3 hours)
- Submit rough draft focused on field investigation, observations, and causes of deterioration.
- Prepare and submit final report, annotated with photographs, which describes and assesses existing conditions. Provide recommendations for treatment, ongoing care, or further investigation, as appropriate. (Full outline and examples to be provided.)
- 35% of final grade.

#### GRANT APPLICATION:

- Write a complete application for a grant to support a hypothetical project.
- Grant application questions and certain project information to be provided. Additional research on the historical significance of your project will be necessary.
- 30% of final grade.

#### SPECIAL NOTE:

Written assignments must be submitted before class on the scheduled due date (see below) and will be penalized 3 points for each week late. The last assignment is submitted via email. Work must be typewritten, neatly formatted, and submitted on 8½ x 11 paper. Graphic illustrations such as maps, plans, drawings, diagrams, sketches, photographs and tables, must have a title block that includes: site, subject; date; reference and cross reference information to construction documents, reports, laboratory data, etc.; comments; photographer; photographic equipment. Use scale and color control patches in photographs. Example:



President Lincoln and Soldiers' Home National Monument  
Paint removal test location, west hall room 103, west side of chimney mass.  
8/29/06  
Cross reference: Hillier Architecture Lincoln Cottage Interior Preservation  
Bid Set Drawings 5.22.06, SR2.02, A0.12 Finish Code Key note 2.  
Comments: Wood graining- exposed decorative finish.  
Photographer: David Overholt  
Equipment: Nikon 5400 digital camera, 1:2.8-4.6 5.8-24mm, automatic exposure

**COURSE OUTLINE, SCHEDULE AND READING ASSIGNMENTS**

<p><b>CLASS 1:</b> 9/11/06</p>	<p><u>Topics:</u> <b>Introduction, Overview and Course Requirements.</b> What is a Historic Place? Why conserve? What causes the need for conservation? What are the benefits of having a tangible past? Who are the typical players in a conservation project? How does one develop a comprehensive approach to conservation of places, features, and materials? Define and discuss <i>value</i> and <i>significance</i>. <u>Conservation Ethics and Definitions of Conservation.</u> What is the 'fabric' of history and how do we prolong its existence? Application of charters, standards and guidelines.  <u>Nomenclature Discussion:</u> Elements of an architrave, door and window surrounds.</p>
<p><b>CLASS 2:</b> 9/18/06 <b>FIELD TRIP TO LINCOLN COTTAGE</b></p>	<p><u>Topics:</u> <b>Conservation Methodology.</b> Principles of Field Observation/ Assessment. Exploratory Investigation and Disassembly. Monitoring and long-term observation. Techniques of Documentation and Recording.  <i>Good methodology = quality results.</i>  <u>Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Weaver, Martin E., with F.G. Matero, <i>Conserving Buildings: A Manual of Techniques and Materials</i>, Revised Edition; 1997; (chs. 1, 2).</li> <li>▪ Marquis-Kyle, Peter and Walker, Meredith. <i>The Illustrated Burra Charter</i>. Sydney: Australia ICOMOS, 2004 (pp. 4-51).</li> <li>▪ Clark, Kate. Preserving What Matters, <i>Conservation</i>, Volume 16, No. 3, 2001.</li> <li>▪ Matero, Frank G. The Conservation of Immovable Cultural Property: Ethical and Practical Dilemmas. <i>Journal of the American Institute for Conservation</i> 32 (1993): 15-21.</li> <li>▪ <i>The Secretary of the Interiors' Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties</i>, rev. 1995. (pp. vi-15)</li> <li>▪ Brand, <i>How Buildings Learn</i>, 1995; (chs. 1, 2, 7).</li> <li>▪ NPS Preservation Brief #35, Understanding Old Buildings: The Process of Architectural Investigation.</li> <li>▪ "Best Practices for Conditions Assessments of Historic Structures," Heritage Preservation, Inc., 2004.</li> </ul> <p><u>Assignment Due:</u> Etymology, word #1.  <u>Reading Assignment Discussion Managers:</u>  <u>Student Presentations:</u>  <u>Nomenclature Discussion:</u> Wood door and window elements, materials, joinery.</p>
<p><b>CLASS 3:</b> 9/25/06 <b>FIELD TRIP TO LINCOLN COTTAGE</b></p>	<p><u>Topics:</u> <b>Conservation of Masonry.</b>  <u>Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ NPS Preservation Brief numbers #2, Repointing Mortar Joints in Historic Masonry Buildings.</li> <li>▪ <i>The Secretary of the Interiors' Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties</i>, rev. 1995. (pp. 3, 22-25, 67-70, 122-126).</li> <li>▪ Weaver, Martin E., with F.G. Matero, <i>Conserving Buildings: A Manual of Techniques and Materials</i>, Revised Edition; 1997; (chs. 5-8).</li> </ul> <p><u>Reading Assignment Discussion Managers:</u>  <u>Student Presentations:</u>  <u>Nomenclature Discussion:</u> Brick bond patterns and masonry wall features.</p>

<p><b>CLASS 4:</b> 10/2/06</p>	<p><u>Topics:</u> <b>Conservation of Wood.</b>  <u>Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Curtis, Wayne. "Lord of the Rings." <i>Preservation Magazine</i>, May/June 2006.</li> <li>▪ NPS Preservation Brief #9, The Repair of Historic Wooden Windows.</li> <li>▪ Lincoln Cottage Window Treatment Protocol.</li> <li>▪ Weaver, Martin E., with F.G. Matero, <i>Conserving Buildings: A Manual of Techniques and Materials</i>, Revised Edition; 1997; (chs. 3, 4).</li> <li>▪ Marquis-Kyle, Peter and Walker, Meredith. <i>The Illustrated Burra Charter</i>. Sydney: Australia ICOMOS, 2004 (pp. 78-99).</li> </ul> <p><u>Assignment Due:</u> Etymology, word #2.  <u>Nomenclature Discussion:</u> Wooden structural frame construction.</p>
<p><b>CLASS 5:</b> 10/9/06</p>	<p><u>Topics:</u> <b>Conservation of Metals.</b>  <u>Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ NPS Preservation Brief number #27, The Maintenance and Repair of Architectural Cast Iron.</li> <li>▪ Gayle, Margot and Look, David W. <i>Metals in America's Historic Buildings: Part 1. A Historical Survey of Metals</i>. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Service, Preservation assistance Division, 1992. (pp. 3-88).</li> <li>▪ Weaver, Martin E., with F.G. Matero, <i>Conserving Buildings: A Manual of Techniques and Materials</i>, Revised Edition; 1997; (ch. 9).</li> <li>▪ Canadian Conservation Institute Notes, 9/1-9/9.</li> </ul> <p><u>Reading Assignment Discussion Managers:</u>  <u>Student Presentations:</u>  <u>Nomenclature Discussion:</u> Metal fasteners, hardware, metal building components.</p>
<p><b>CLASS 6:</b> 10/16/06</p>	<p><u>Topic:</u> <b>Conservation Objectives.</b> Case Studies in the performance, care and treatment of materials. Writing a Programmatic Use Policy, and Understanding the importance of use (<i>i.e.</i> function) in the past, present, and future.  <u>Guest Lecturer:</u> William Dupont, AIA, Chief Architect, National Trust for Historic Preservation  <u>Reading:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Marquis-Kyle, Peter and Walker, Meredith. <i>The Illustrated Burra Charter</i>. Sydney: Australia ICOMOS, 2004 (pp. 52-77).</li> <li>▪ <i>Historic Preservation Forum</i>, "Exploring Authenticity at Historic Sites," Fall 2003, Vol.18, No. 1.</li> <li>▪ NTHP "Best Practices" for the Care of Buildings and Grounds, 2002.</li> </ul> <p><u>Assignment Due:</u> rough draft Exterior Condition Assessment.  <u>Reading Assignment Discussion Managers:</u>  <u>Student Presentations:</u>  <u>Nomenclature Discussion:</u> Spanning elements-arches, vaults, lintels, trusses and domes.</p>

<p><b>CLASS 7:</b> 10/23/06</p>	<p><b>Topics:</b> <i>Water the Catalyst of Decay.</i> Conservation of the Building Envelope.  <b>Guest Lecturer:</b> Dr. George Skarmeas AIA  <u>Reading:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Weaver, Martin E., with F.G. Matero, <i>Conserving Buildings: A Manual of Techniques and Materials</i>, Revised Edition; 1997; (chs. 12, 13).</li> <li>▪ NPS Preservation Brief numbers #1; Assessing Cleaning and Water Repellent Treatments for Historic Masonry Buildings; and</li> <li>▪ #4, Roofing for Historic Buildings; and</li> <li>▪ #39, Holding the Line, Controlling Unwanted Moisture in Historic Buildings.</li> </ul> <p><u>Reading Assignment Discussion Managers:</u>  <u>Student Presentations:</u>  <u>Nomenclature Discussion:</u> Roofing types and features, wall cladding and finishes.</p>
<p><b>CLASS 8:</b> 10/30/06</p>	<p><b>Topics:</b> <i>The Owner's Perspective.</i> Maintenance Planning, Emergency Response and Disaster Mitigation Planning.  <u>Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Cultural Resource Management</i>, "Disaster Management," Volume 23, Number 6, 2001.</li> <li>▪ Brand, <i>How Buildings Learn</i> (ch. 8).</li> <li>▪ Dorge and Jones, <i>Building an Emergency Plan</i>, 1999.</li> </ul> <p><u>Reading Assignment Discussion Managers:</u>  <u>Student Presentations:</u>  <u>Nomenclature Discussion:</u> Elements of a fire suppression system.</p>
<p><b>CLASS 9:</b> 11/6/06  <b>FIELD TRIP TO LINCOLN COTTAGE, VISITOR EDUCATION CENTER USGBC LEED PROJECT</b></p>	<p><b>Topics:</b> <i>Craftsmanship and Durability.</i> Sustainable Principles of Historic Preservation.  <b>Guest Lecturer:</b> Carl Elefante, AIA, LEED, Quinn Evans Architects  <u>Reading:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Class hand-out <i>Sustainable Allocation of Materials and Resources at Lincoln Cottage</i>, Unified Management, Maintenance and Preventative Conservation Strategies Designed for the Protection of a Presidential Home, William A. Dupont &amp; David C. Overholt.</li> </ul> <p><u>Reading Assignment Discussion Managers:</u>  <u>Student Presentations:</u>  <u>Nomenclature Discussion:</u> Building ventilation, passive climate control.</p>
<p><b>CLASS 10:</b> 11/13/06</p>	<p><b>Topics:</b> <i>Conservation of Architectural Surface Finishes.</i>  <u>Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Weaver, Martin E., with F.G. Matero, <i>Conserving Buildings: A Manual of Techniques and Materials</i>, Revised Edition; 1997; (chs. 10, 15).</li> <li>▪ NPS Preservation Brief #10, Exterior Paint Problems on Historic Woodwork.</li> </ul> <p><u>Reading Assignment Discussion Managers:</u>  <u>Student Presentations:</u>  <u>Nomenclature Discussion:</u> The vocabulary of surface finishes, methods, materials.</p>

<p><b>CLASS 11:</b> 11/20/06</p>	<p><b>Topics:</b> <i>Conservation of Mechanical Systems. Climate Management in Historic Buildings.</i></p> <p><b>Readings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Linebaugh, Donald W. "Gas Lighting at the President Lincoln and Soldiers' Home National Monument." University of Maryland, School of Architecture Planning and Preservation. 2006.</li> <li>▪ "Environmental Issues and Maintenance of Historic Sites," <i>Historic Preservation Forum</i>, Volume 12, Number 4, summer 1998.</li> <li>▪ NPS Preservation Brief number #24, Heating, Ventilating and Cooling Historic Buildings.</li> <li>▪ Parks Canada - Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada. <a href="http://www.pc.gc.ca/docs/pc/guide/nldclpc-sgchpc/sec3/page3f10_e.asp">http://www.pc.gc.ca/docs/pc/guide/nldclpc-sgchpc/sec3/page3f10_e.asp</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Reading Assignment Discussion Managers:</b></p> <p><b>Student Presentations:</b></p> <p><b>Nomenclature Discussion:</b> Chimney construction and design.</p>
<p><b>CLASS 12:</b> 11/27/06</p>	<p><b>Topic:</b> <i>Conservation of Cultural Landscapes.</i></p> <p><b>Guest Lecturer:</b> Patricia M. O'Donnell, FASLA, AICP, Heritage Landscapes</p> <p><b>Readings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ NPS Preservation Brief #36: Protecting Cultural Landscapes.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assignment Due:</b> Exterior Condition Assessment</p> <p><b>Reading Assignment Discussion Managers:</b></p> <p><b>Student Presentations:</b></p> <p><b>Nomenclature Discussion:</b> Landscape and garden features, design elements.</p>
<p><b>CLASS 13:</b> 12/4/06</p>	<p><b>Topics:</b> <i>Conservation Project Management.</i></p> <p><b>Guest Lecturer:</b> Mr. Ronald Staley, FAPT, Vice President, The Christman Company</p> <p><b>Readings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Staley, Ronald D. "Successful Preservation Implementation: A Planned Approach to Risk Management," APT Bulletin, Vol. XXXVII, Number 2-3. 2006.</li> <li>▪ "Preservation Trades and Crafts," <i>Cultural Resource Management</i>, Volume 20, Number 12, 1997.</li> <li>▪ Brand, <i>How Buildings Learn</i>, 1995; (chs. 3, 4, 9, Appendix).</li> </ul> <p><b>Reading Assignment Discussion Managers:</b></p> <p><b>Student Presentations:</b></p> <p><b>Nomenclature Discussion:</b> Moulding profiles.</p>
<p><b>CLASS 14:</b> 12/11/06</p>	<p><b>Topic:</b> <i>Interdisciplinary Documentation of Conservation Projects.</i> Case study: The art museum of the archbishopric of Cologne.</p> <p><b>Guest Lecturer:</b> Teresa Norton, Artist</p> <p><b>Readings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <a href="http://www.kolumba.de">www.kolumba.de</a> choose: <a href="#">New Building</a></li> <li>▪ "Quite Literally," Vol. 1-5. Koln: Diozesanmuseum. 1996. Translation by Daniel Kletke.</li> </ul> <p><b>Reading Assignment Discussion Managers:</b></p> <p><b>Student Presentations:</b></p> <p><b>Nomenclature Discussion:</b> Gothic Style architectural elements.</p>

**12/20/06: ASSIGNMENT DUE 5 PM:** Grant Application. Email to: david\_overholt@nthp.org

**ETYMOLOGY ASSIGNMENT WORDS: (choose 2)**

anachronism  
antique  
artifact  
authentic  
conjecture  
palimpsest

conserve  
corrode  
decay  
deteriorate  
diachronic  
ephemera

integrity  
memento  
obsolete  
original  
palliate  
patina

relic  
remnant  
restore  
reversibility  
stabilize  
tangible

**August 2006**

- 29     **Last Day** to Cancel Fall 2006 Registration  
       **Last Day** to Register without \$20.00 Late Registration Fee
- 30     **First Day** of Classes - Fall 2006 semester  
       **Late Registration** Begins (late fee of \$20.00 will be assessed)  
       Waitlist/holdfile Mandatory Check-in day
- 30     Regular check-in begins for waitlist and holdfile; check-in daily to remain on list

**September 2006**

- 4       Campus Closed - Labor Day Holiday
- 13      Undergraduates - **Last Day** of Schedule Adjustment for Fall 2006  
       Grad Students - **Last Day** to add classes for Fall 2006

**October 2006**

**November 2006**

- 8       Undergraduates - **Last Day** to Drop with a "W"  
       Grad Students - **Last Day** to adjust schedule for the Fall semester (drop, credit change, grading method change)
- 23-24   Thanksgiving Recess

**December 2006**

- 12      **Last Day** of Classes, Fall 2006
- 13      Exam Study Day
- 14-20   **Final Exams**
- 20      **Main Winter Commencement(Wednesday evening)**
- 21      **College Commencement Ceremonies(Thursday)**