The Post and Lintel, Fall 2016

Preservation Eastern

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A Note from the Board:
This year is getting off to a wonderful start with two exciting events, our New Student Orientation and the First Annual Matt Cook-Out, held at Katherine Besemer’s beautiful historic home near Depot Town! We are excited to begin working with our new director, Chelsea Dantuma and continuing to provide members with an enriching Preservation Eastern experience. We have many events planned for this fall—almost too many—both business and pleasure alike. We wish everyone a fulfilling semester and encourage you to get involved!

Chelsea, Katherine, Diane, Val, and Lindsay

Upcoming Events
Cemetery Walk with James Mann—October 14
Michigan Modern Lecture Series at Cranbrook—October 23
Fall Networking Mixer—December 2
Annual Holiday Party—December (Date and Location TBD)

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Val Pulido spent some time at the Bluebird Inn this summer. (See page 5)
Welcome New Students for Summer & Fall 2016


We are also welcoming a new faculty member, Dr. Matthew Cook. Matt comes to us from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville with a Ph. D. in Geography. He focused his studies on cultural and historical geography culminating in his dissertation, “A Critical Historical Geography of Slavery in the U.S. South.” His current research interests build on his dissertation focusing on geographies of memory, historical interpretation, and race relations in the southern U.S. He looks forward to expanding his research to other areas including southern Michigan. This term he will be teaching the undergraduate Intro to HP course as well as Intro to Geography and World Regions.

Graduate Assistants

The HP program has four GAs this year: returning GA’s Christina Miranda and Rachel Ellenson and two new GA’s, Haley McAlpine, and Hannah Meyer. Also, a number of students hold paying agency-sponsored GA’s or internships, including MDOT (Chelsea Dantuma), the City of Ypsilanti (available), two positions with the Ypsi Historical Society, one of which is supported by the EMU President’s Office (Courtney Brandt and Michael Gute), Oakland Township HDC (available) and Rebecca Schmitt who is our GA with the Michigan Historical Center for the Michigan Historic Marker program.

Should you have any questions, concerns, comments, etc., please contact me, or Professors Dan Bonenberger, Matt Cook, or Nancy Bryk.

Looking ahead to another great year...our 37th year of incomparable preservation education! - Dr. Ted
Local & Seasonal Foods Picnic
Menu & Food Sources:

**Hamburgers and Chicken:**
Webfoot Pines Farm, Jasper, MI

**Buns, French Bread, & Rye Bread:**
Ven’s Bakery, Tecumseh, MI

**Condiments:**
Pickles: Bessinger Pickle Co, Au Gres, MI
Onion: Kastle’s Produce, Adrian, MI
Spinach: Needle Lane Farms, Adrian, MI
Ketchup & Mustard: Heinz, Pittsburgh, PA*
Hot Sauce: Papa Turt’s, Fowler, MI

**Snacks:**
Potato Chips: Better Made, Detroit, MI
Tortilla Chips: Rojo, Mexicantown, Detroit, MI
Hummus: Fresh Express, Detroit, MI
Cherry Salsa: Brownwood Farms, Traverse City, MI
Salsa: Tony Pacco’s, Toledo, OH

**Potato Salad:**
Redskin Potatoes, Chicken Eggs, & Asparagus: Kastle’s Produce, Adrian, MI
Mayo: Meijer, Grand Rapids, MI

**Deviled Eggs:**
Mayo: Sir Kensington, New York, NY
Chicken Eggs: Kastle’s Produce, Adrian, MI
Pickles: Bessinger Pickle Co., Au Gres, MI

**Blanched and Roasted Asparagus**
Kastle’s Produce, Adrian, MI

**Sautéed Greens:**
Spring Garlic & Collard Greens: Bonenberger’s Kitchen Garden, Ypsilanti, MI
Swiss Chard & Spinach: Needle Lane Farms, near Adrian, MI
Leeks: Sow Fresh Farm Market, Adrian, MI

**Sundry Items:**
Pickles (Turnip & Beet): The Brinery, Ann Arbor, MI
Storm Cloud Zapper: The Brinery, Ann Arbor

**Homemade Ice Cream:**
Milk, Half&Half, Whipping Cream: Calder Dairy, Carleton, MI
Sugar: Pioneer Sugar, a Michigan Brand
Strawberries: Haler’s Produce, Adrian, MI
Bourbon Vanilla Extract: Nancy Bryk, A2, MI

**Michigan 4-Berry Pie:**
Achatz Handmade Pie Co., Chesterfield, MI

**Compromises:**
Kensington Mayo (NYC)
Trader Joe’s Olive Oil (Location Unknown)
Lawry’s Seasoning Salt (No MSG but not local)
Salt & Pepper
Tea (and local water!)
Extra Buns (Meijer—Indiana)
Kentucky Bourbon & Madagascar Vanilla Beans (compliments of Nancy Bryk)
*Heinz uses Lenawee Roma Tomatoes & makes the ketchup approx. 50 miles east of Adrian, MI

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Goin’ Local: The Local Foods Picnic at EMU’s Historic Preservation Field School

During the last week of May, EMU graduate students worked to document and record the Governor Croswell House in Adrian, MI, inventory its contents, and assess a variety of conservation issues. The 1840s Croswell House is an outstanding example of a “Hen and Chick” dwelling designed in the Greek Revival style. Owned by Michigan Governor Charles Croswell and his descendants, it is lovingly maintained by the Lucy Wolcott Barnum Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR). EMU Professor Dan Bonenberger continued his tradition of organizing a local foods picnic for the last evening of each field school. The local foods picnic dates back to the 2010 Field School. It has become an integral activity, helping to connect students with the local community, which has been rooted in agricultural production since its establishment in the 1820s and ’30s.

At various points throughout the week, Bonenberger and his students procured a variety of local foods, including vegetables and other produce, beef and chicken from local famers, and buns from the local bakery. On Wednesday and Thursday, led by Lindsay Ellis, the team prepared the foods in the Croswell kitchen as others worked to finalize the week’s conservation efforts. Among the most popular was Bill Johnson’s homemade vanilla ice cream produced with the help of his fellow students. The ice cream was enjoyed with pie during the awards ceremony after dinner Thursday night on the rear lawn of the Croswell House. The DAR provided the tables, chairs, plates, bowls and silverware, and the students organized into three work teams for setting up and cleaning up afterward. A number of DAR members and guests joined the EMU faculty and students in the festivities, and each person took a moment to reflect on the week’s activities.

*Article and photographs contributed by Dan Bonenberger*
Continued from the previous page

I also did a lot of heritage interpretation. I loved telling the story of the U.S. Lifesaving Service, which ran from 1871 to 1915 and how they rescued people from shipwrecks on the Great Lakes (and the coasts of the U.S. as well). There were 63 lifesaving stations on the Great Lakes and they were one of the predecessors to the Coast Guard which was formed in 1915. They were brave, strong men who rescued people with their rowing surfboats and with a beach apparatus cart where they would basically set up a zip line between the shore and the sinking ship. Who knew? In setting up the zip line, they were limited by the distance that the ship could be from the shore—their cannon called the Lyle gun, would shoot a torpedoshaped projectile with a 700 yard messenger rope attached. The surf boat men were particularly adept at this as they practiced twice a week setting it up from shore to shore and had to be able to get it all set up within five minutes. Guests to the museum would be amazed by the beach apparatus cart and the description of how they set up and operated the zip line and by our replica of the Beebe-McLellan Lifesaving Surfboat which was the workhorse of the U.S.Lifesaving Service. They have such an illustrious history; they rescued 99.2% of the people they attempted to rescue. It is estimated that 30,000 people lost their lives on the Great Lakes in shipwrecks.

The point is also a major bird migration route and is one of the premier birding locations in the country. Just south of the museum is a raptor tower visible from the top of our Whitefish Point Lighthouse. Every spring, between 15,000-25,000 raptors (eagles, hawks, falcons, owls, vultures) migrate through the area on their way to Canada which is only 16 miles across Lake Superior from our point. Across the parking lot, there is a small museum and gift shop for the Whitefish Point Bird Observatory. In the spring, summer and fall, owl sounds would be played after dark to attract owls for netting and banding before being released. So at night, I fell asleep to the gentle sounds of hooting owls and to the sound of the waves of Lake Superior lapping against the shore. Talk about nature sounds. I did not need to use my white noise machine there.

A Cultural Landscape Inventory at Mt. Rainier National Park by Rachel Ellenson

Over the summer, I worked as the historical landscape architect intern at Mount Rainier National Park in Washington State. Working under the supervision of the park historical landscape architect, I completed a Cultural Landscape Inventory of the White River Entrance Station. A CLI is a comprehensive inventory of all culturally and historically significant landscapes within the National Park System, and my team focused on documenting landscape features, the historic structures on the site, and the intangible integrity of the entrance station. By completing this document and submitting it to the Department of the Interior for approval and publication, the site has been adequately documented, which will help preserve the historic integrity of the site by limiting future development. If necessary maintenance is to be conducted, park employees and outside contractors will have to comply with the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, meaning all structures or landscape alterations will have to be compatible with the existing features of the site.

In addition to completing a CLI of the White River Entrance Station, I had the opportunity to be involved with the $9M road construction project being completed in the park. While road construction is not an obvious way to practice preservation in national parks, every effort was made to retain historic features of the landscape throughout the entire project. Working with my boss who acted as the park liaison to Federal Highways Administration engineers and contractors, I was able to understand the workings of such a project and how everyone involved comes together to preserve the historic nature of the landscape. From very specific road removal standards to deciding what color mortar to use when reconstructing historic stone guard walls, I was able to watch the process of removing an old roadway and installing a new one, all while being mindful of the historic elements that go into blending the new construction with the old.

I feel very fortunate to have been selected for this internship because I was exposed to so many different elements of historic preservation, all while moving forward and updating park infrastructure for the enjoyment of visitors. It is easy to only consider historic preservation relevant to buildings and tangible features of the landscape, but there are so many intangible historic features such as feeling and land use, that are retained through the efforts of people who work in the National Park Service. If the feeling of driving through a national park on winding roads with scenic overlooks was not retained and non-compatible infrastructure was installed, people would not enjoy their visit to the park as much as they would if they had the opportunity to feel like they were a part of something much older than themselves; something that is timeless and beautiful because of people who fight for it to stay that way.
One thing that people are intrigued about is the mystery of the Edmund Fitzgerald freighter which sunk on November 10, 1975 with the entire crew lost. She sunk just 17 miles northwest of our point and the crew of the ship had been trying to locate the light from the Whitefish Point Lighthouse to get their bearings to get to the safety of Whitefish Bay. (Their radar had gone out from the storm.) Unfortunately, the light was out due to the terrible storm and as we are all aware, the ship was having serious problems taking on water and they sunk just a short distance away. At the request of the family members, the bell of the Edmund Fitzgerald was recovered 21 years ago and is on display in our museum and a replica with all the names of the crew was placed on the ship as a memorial to the 29 men lost. Last November 10 was the 40th anniversary of the sinking of the Edmund Fitzgerald and the family members and the public come every year to commemorate the event. Last November, Gordon Lightfoot was also there.

One of my favorite things at the Museum was taking guests up to the top of the beautiful and well-maintained Whitefish Point Lighthouse which is owned by the U.S. Coast Guard and telling them about the history of our museum and about the local history. I would bring a small group of people every half hour. It was an adventure for people because it is an absolutely gorgeous view and many people are afraid of heights. It was a shared adventure between us and we got to know each other somewhat. From the tower, guests enjoyed seeing Lake Superior, Whitefish Point, Whitefish Bay, the entrance to the Sault Ste Marie locks and all the buildings of the Great Lakes Shipwreck Museum and hearing about the local history, and often where to eat in our remote location. The museum is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Pictured Below, artifacts on display at Submerge Records (Val Pulido)

Park Break Fellowship by Valentin Pulido

This August, I spent a week in Detroit as part of the Park Break fellowship. The fellowship is a program provided by the National Park Service (NPS) and the George Wright Society for graduate students to learn about park management. This year, Park Break came to Detroit as part of the NPS’s Urban Agenda; an initiative to raise awareness of local heritage sites within underrepresented communities. In its thirty-fifth year of the program, this was only the fifth time cultural heritage was the focus and Detroit was the first major city to host the program. These two elements reflect the growth of the NPS in terms of historic preservation and minority cultural heritage.

In all, eight students were a part of this year’s program. We were given the task of researching four sites in consideration of National Register of Historic Places nomination; the Motown Museum, United Sound System Recording Studio, Submerge Recording Studio, and the Blue Bird Inn. Aside from researching the sites individually, we were learning how music plays an important role in Detroit’s development over time and space. The work we did contributed to the City of Detroit Planning and Development Department’s continuing efforts to develop comprehensive community histories and better understand the role of historic resources in guiding new development.

Park Break was truly an intense experience. The eight of us were confronted with a large challenge, which we had little time for completion. We decided to split into two groups; one focused on Motown and United Sound System, while the other focused on Submerge Records and the Blue Bird Inn. I was on team Motown/United.

Both teams spent three solid days working on our respective topics. The synergy among us was something special, almost as if we were a dream team of individuals. I learned much about Detroit history that week, but I learned more from my peers about research techniques. It was interesting to see how other students from a variety of backgrounds utilize their skills.

At the end of the week, we presented our findings to the Detroit Senior Historic Planner and other representatives from preservation agencies. The level of work completed was exceptional given our limited time to research. Much of what I did contributed to a data base for a map app, which displayed recording studio locations and information. The central theme we established concentrated on how these music sites contribute to the city’s development and therefore are worthy of preservation.

Though Park Break has ended, the experience is still shaping me. This fall, I will be a part of a discussion on our findings at two separate conferences in Detroit; the Midwest Historical Archeology Conference in September and the Detroit Sound Conservancy Conference in October. But more importantly, I hope the personal and professional relationships made will endure.
A Summer Spent with Assemble Sound by Abigail Jaske

A very wise professor of mine during my undergraduate career used to always say, “you never know where you’re going to end up.” This could not be more true for me in the summer of 2016. Rewinding it back a few years, in May 2013 I had moved from upstate New York to Virginia for a career in latent print photography, and then back to Michigan in 2014 to pursue a graduate degree in art conservation turned historic preservation a few Google searches later, and upon my acceptance to the program at Eastern Michigan University (EMU) in fall 2015. Fast forward, four semesters, and four historic preservation internships later, I was looking to get involved with an organization that held similar ideals to my own and aligned with my current passions: Detroit’s growth and revitalization, and Detroit’s music scene.

I really wanted something I could dig into and feel like I was making a contribution; an outlet to utilize my unique skillset over the summer. On a whim, I decided to apply to a marketing internship at an organization called Assemble Sound, based out of Corktown, Detroit. Assemble Sound functions as an artist collaborative hub; resident artists are given 24-hour access to the space to record, create, and brings artists together that may not have the opportunity to work with each other otherwise in a collective space. Upon applying, I received a phone call to come in for an interview so I graciously agreed.

Arriving at my interview, I was greeted by a brick gothic revival style church that had been painted over in a forest green, with a white cornerstone that read 1872. I walked into a sanctuary with old pews still intact, and a not so historic drop ceiling while pianos, oversized couches, and musical equipment stood in place of a pulpit. I was escorted upstairs to one of the studios for my interview.

During the interview, discussion shifted from a marketing internship to historic preservation; something that Assemble had been interested in pursuing, but had not had the time or resources to move forward with yet. In the broadest sense, it was explained to me that they would like me to complete research on the church, determine historic designation possibilities, and develop a visual way to share the history. I was told to think about accepting and decide once I read the written description, but I was already sold.

Over the summer months, I spent time researching databases, visiting archives, and meeting with other historic preservationists in Detroit to develop a timeline, a story, if you will, for the church. Sharing blips of information or photographs with people at Assemble has been one of the most rewarding parts of my internship; I was able to witness their faces lighting up in a genuine excitement equivalent to my own. Roots are an integral part of any organization and helping Assemble find theirs has been gratifying to say the least. Additionally, I spent time volunteering at events hosted by Assemble and supporting resident artists by attending local shows in Detroit. Moving forward, this internship has the potential to function as a final project as I complete my final year of the program at EMU.

This has been one of the most inspirational internship experiences of my historic preservation career. I am surrounded by motivated, hardworking people, who work everyday to make their dreams a reality. I could go on and on about the positive aspects of my experience, but to all you fellow historic preservation students I say this: If you’re passionate about it, go for the internship that doesn’t necessarily make sense; learn from the people you work alongside, share your knowledge collectively, and most importantly remember that life is an adventure and sometimes what looks best on your resume isn’t always the best educational experience.

Photos:
Top Left: Image of the church c. 18th century. Source: Burton Online Historical Collection
Top Right: Image of the church now. Photo by Abigail Jaske, 2016
Top Center: Abby hard at work with General Manager of Assemble Sound, Garret Koehler. Photo by Brian Iglesias.
Your 2016-2017 PE Leaders:

Chelsea Dantuma, Director
Chelsea is pursuing Museum Studies and her favorite food is anything Italian. She could not live without her dog, Chigaru. Her current positions include the Graduate Assistantship at MDOT in Lansing, and working as a Henry Ford Estate Research Assistant at Fair Lane in Dearborn. She considers herself a true southern girl by heart from Georgia, but she is learning to love her new home, Michigan. She holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Anthropology from Kennesaw State University.

Katherine Besemer, Assistant Director
Katherine’s concentration is a combination of Museum Studies and Historic Preservation Planning. Her favorite food is bacon and she could not live without freedom. She is an Army veteran who is proud to have served her country. She also holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Art History from Kendall College of Art and Design in Grand Rapids.

Diane Conde, Business Officer
"Welcome to those who are new to the EMU HP program and to those not so new! We want to get to know you!! Join us so we can do great things together like some fun social activities or visit a local historic preservation site, or network with local HP professionals. Please let us know what your interests might be! You are welcome in Preservation Eastern!" Diane was just admitted to the program last spring and doesn’t have a concentration yet. Initially, she thought she would be most interested in Preservation Administration & Planning, but after her internship this summer finds herself interested in all three concentrations offered by the program. Her favorite food is a good cheese sandwich or Indian food and she could not live without the love & support from friends and family (thanks Brad!); gorgeous sunset and nature; t-shirts; soy coffee; traveling; reading; and great music. Here’s a shoutout to Linda and Michael, longtime radio hosts at WEMU, our campus radio station!

Valentin Pulido, Events Coordinator
Val’s concentrations are Planning and Administration, and Recording, Documentation, and Digital Heritage. His favorite food is anything with a lot of carbs, and he serves as a Public Policy Intern for the Michigan Historic Preservation Network. Val could not live without a creative outlet, and says that from his first year in the Historic Preservation Program, he learned that he has a lot to learn. Year two is all about acquiring the skills and taking them to a professional level. There is intense opposition to preservation, so don’t hold back—be strategic and aggressive.

Lindsay Ellis, Communications Officer
Lindsay’s concentration is Preservation Planning and Administration. She is currently a Graduate Assistant at the State Historic Preservation Office in Lansing and an Intern for Wayne Main Street. Her favorite food is anything Polish and she could not live without Jimmy John’s and Post-It notes. She holds a B.S. in History from EMU and is a rabid fan of all Detroit sports teams.

Join us!
Memberships can be renewed at PE General Assembly Meetings or with any PE Board Member!

Semester: $15
One Year: $25
Two Year: $40

Dues payable in cash, check or money order to any PE Board Member!