



HISTORIC PRESERVATION
ARCHITECTURAL CONSERVATION

J. CHRISTOPHER FREY
SHELBY WEAVER SPLAIN

J. CHRISTOPHER FREY
President and Principal Conservator

Experience

Keystone Preservation Group:

President, Principal in charge of all operations (March, 2005-present)

Noble Preservation Services: Senior Associate (2004-2005), Associate (1997-2004)

AIC: Professional Associate (2001-current), Member (1997-current)

Borough of Doylestown, Pennsylvania

Planning Commission (1998-2000), Historic and Architectural Review Board (1998-2000)

Fairmount Park Historic Preservation Trust: Conservator (1995-1997)

Historic Charleston Foundation (1996)

New Hampshire Historical Society: (1994-1995)

Bay Towne Builders (1987-1992)

Education

University of Pennsylvania: Master of Science., Historic Preservation (Architectural Conservation): 1997

Dartmouth College: Bachelor of Arts, History, 1992

National Center for Preservation Training and Technology: Cemetery Conservation Workshop, 2005

National Park Service: Field Program in Architectural Conservation, 1996

Publications/Presentations/Panels

"An Assessment of the JOS/Quintek Microabrasive Cleaning System: A Case Study for Historic Granite from the Pennsylvania Capitol." Journal of the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works, 2003.

The Federal Rehabilitation Investment Tax: Credit Program for Historic Buildings: Bucks County Chapter of the American Institute of Architects: 2009. West Jersey Real Estate Investors Group: 2009.

Guest Lecturer: Drew University Historic Preservation Program: 2009.

Scholarship/ Abstract Reviewer: Association for Preservation Technology International, 2009.

Historic Preservation Grant Review Panel: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission: 2007.

Four Centuries of History, Conservation of Historic Grave Markers at the Cemetery of the First Presbyterian Church of Elizabeth, NJ: Union County, NJ, 2007.

Color Palettes for Historic Buildings: Allentown Historical Society: 2006.

Rehabilitation of the Hedge-Carpenter-Thompson Historic District: Salem, NJ.: New Jersey State Historic Preservation Conference, 2005.

Analysis of Historic Finishes: Preservation Pennsylvania, 2004.

PRIMER Workshop on Historic Mortars/Finishes: University City District, 2001-2002.

An Assessment of Historic Mortars from the William Keith House: APT/DVC, 2000.

Conservation Treatments for Exterior Masonry on the Historical Society of Pennsylvania: Association for Preservation Technology, 1999.

Frank Lloyd Wright's Usonia: Case Studies for the Hanna and Bazett-Frank Houses Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy, 1996.

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Selected Representative Projects

Architectural Conservation/Analysis of Historic Building Materials

Architect of the Capitol of the United States of America (AOC): Washington, DC (2008-2009)

Served as historic preservation consultant charged with the documentation, recordation and assessment of historic building materials and significant architectural features within the Longworth House of Representatives Office Building (Allied Architects, 1925-1933) and the Cannon House of Representatives Office Building (Carrere and Hastings, 1903-1908). Pertinent information, conditions assessment and treatment recommendations were recorded into an electronic facilities management database in order to properly plan for historic preservation issues during upcoming restoration/maintenance campaigns. Future work includes materials conservation testing, analyses of historic finishes and scope recommendations as required.

First Presbyterian Church: Elizabeth, NJ (2005-2008)

Completed comprehensive survey, recordation and treatment recommendations for more than 2,000 historic grave markers dating from the 17th-19th centuries. Execution of conservation and restoration programs for 6 sandstone, marble and limestone markers including structural reinforcement, pinning, composite repair, adhesives, re-creation of missing detail, cleaning and biogrowth removal. Specifications consultation, bid documents and administration of a multi-phased site wide conservation program.

Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church: New York, NY (2007-2008)

Completed a comprehensive analysis of historic interior finishes for an historically significant High Victorian Gothic Church. Work included the installation of in-situ exposure windows to reveal multiple campaigns of ornamental stenciling, glazing, gilding and other decorative finishes as well as laboratory microscopy and color matching. Our chronological assessment identified four primary periods of significance within more than a dozen refinishing campaigns.

Congregation Rodeph Shalom: Philadelphia, PA (2005-2009)

Consulted on the execution of a multi-phased restoration of historic terra cotta and brick to arrest material degradation and water infiltration at roof level. Role included comprehensive conditions survey, preconstruction testing, scope recommendations, quantification of repair types, specifications and construction administration. Project work included terra cotta repair and re-glazing, cleaning, repointing and installation of elastomeric sealants. Completed conservation, repair and reinstallation of historically significant mosaic tiles on main façade.

Black Horse Inn: Flourtown, PA (2006-2009)

Provided consultation and guidance for the conservation, preservation and restoration of character-defining features and materials from historic tavern which is listed as a National Historic Landmark. Recommendations include replacement of failing exterior stucco using traditional hydraulic lime-based materials, scope for preservation of historic windows, designation of character-defining interior features, finishes, etc. Project funded by Keystone Historic Preservation Grant Program and grant from Save America's Treasures.

Count Basie Theater: Red Bank, NJ (2007-2009)

Consulted on a comprehensive masonry restoration/ reconstruction program and interior finishes restoration for this historically significant theater. Designed, executed and supervised all aspects of a preconstruction testing program, including masonry probes, composite repair, cleaning, coatings and finishes assessment. Ongoing work includes consultation for construction documents/specifications, design development and construction supervision.

Liberty Hall: Union, NJ (2007-2008)

Provided a comprehensive analysis of historic interior and exterior finishes for one of New Jersey's most significant historic landmarks. Analysis included survey, sampling, preparation of polished cross-sections and color matching for more than 250 samples. Interpretation led to the identification of five primary periods of historic significance and assessment of the way the building looked throughout its history.

University Cottage Club: Princeton University: Princeton, NJ (2007-2009)

Designed and supervised the completion of a preconstruction testing program for exterior masonry. Work included conditions surveys, treatment recommendations, scope consultation, matching historic mortars, cleaning, stain removal and composite repair. Assisted with construction administration and provided guidance for masonry contractors throughout multiple phases of construction.

Willow Hall: Morristown, NJ (2009)

Completed a comprehensive analysis of historic interior and exterior finishes, as well as analysis/replication of historic pointing mortars for an early Victorian mansion inspired by the treatises, theories and design guidelines of A.J. Downing as a component of an Historic Structures Report and Preservation Plan.



Vail House at Historic Speedwell: Morristown, NJ (2009)

Analysis of historic finishes and characterization of historic mortars, plasters and stuccoes completed as a component of an Historic Structures Report. Findings were used to identify the way the building appeared at different points in its history as well as to identify changes which had taken place over time.

Somerville Borough Hall (Somerville, NJ)

Provided architectural conservation services including the design, execution and evaluation of a preconstruction testing program to identify appropriate products and procedures for the removal of non-historic paint finishes and architectural coatings from exterior brick and stone. Completed an analysis of historic exterior finishes and pointing mortars.

Waterloo Village: Stanhope, NJ (2008)

Completed a site wide analysis of historic exterior finishes for 14 buildings from this historically significant canal town. Sampling, polished cross-sections, stratigraphic analysis and chronological interpretation for more than 250 samples. Identification of color palettes from four primary periods of significance and interpretation of changes over time.

Hoboken Public Library: Hoboken, NJ (2008)

Completed an assessment of historic building materials and problematic conditions for exterior terra cotta, brick and limestone on this historically significant late 19th century public library. Scope included an extensive conditions survey drawn into AutoCAD, narrative conditions report outlining treatment options and analysis of historic interior finishes as one component of a Preservation Master Plan.

Fort Christian: Charlotte-Amalie, St. Thomas USVI (2006-2009)

Completed a comprehensive study chronicling a multi-year construction project to conserve, repair and restore this historically significant military site which dates to the 17th century. Provided a compositional analysis and interpretation of historic mortars, plasters and stuccoes using Jedrzejska calcimeter method, gravimetric analysis and ASTM C1324.

Tree House at the Philadelphia Zoo, Philadelphia, PA (2009)

Evaluation of historic building materials including a broad overview of existing conditions which will require treatment during an upcoming restoration campaign. Site assessment, conditions report, specifications consultation and analysis/replication of historic pointing mortars.

Van Camp/Hall Cemetery: Nesbanic, NJ (2007-2008)

Completed a comprehensive survey of conditions for historic cemetery. Work scope included recordation of individual markers, conditions assessment, treatment recommendations and cost estimation for approximately 150 markers and monuments.

Pennsylvania Capitol: Harrisburg, PA (1997-2001)

Assisted in the supervision and administration of a comprehensive exterior restoration program including masonry conservation, roof replacement and conservation of the statue *Commonwealth*. Specific work included execution of a preconstruction testing program, conditions survey, repair quantification and construction administration. Supervision of restoration work in House of Representatives and Senate Chambers. Conservation of Minority Caucus Room and Third Floor Office Suites.

Iowa Capitol: Des Moines, IA (2002-2005)

Conservation and comprehensive analysis of historic finishes for the Main Rotunda and 25 individual office suites. In-situ exposure windows revealed the presence of multiple, highly ornamental finish campaigns which included ornamental stenciling, trompe l'oeil, gilding, graining and glazing. Assisted in the composition and review of contract documents, specifications and construction administration.

Historical Society of Pennsylvania: Philadelphia, PA (1997-1999)

Designed and supervised the execution of a program to conserve and restore exterior masonry including brick and Pennsylvania Blue Marble, a locally significant building material which was used in the construction of many of Philadelphia's architectural landmarks from the 18th-20th centuries. Completed a conditions survey, preconstruction testing program, construction supervision for specialized microabrasive cleaning, removal of metallic stains, repointing and composite repair.

Bowlsby-DeGelleke House: Parsippany, NJ (2008-2009)

Provided a comprehensive analysis of historic finishes for exterior elements and analysis/replication of historic pointing mortar. This analysis provided insight into the evolution of the building and identified historic finishes from two significant construction periods: early 19th century Greek Revival and late 19th century Victorian.

Village Hall: South Orange, NJ (2008-2009)

Completed an analysis of historic interior and exterior finishes, and analyzed/replicated historic mortars and stuccoes for a Tudor Revival building which was constructed in 1894 and expanded in the 20th century.



Edgewater Municipal Building: Edgewater, NJ (2005-2006)

Designed and executed a preconstruction testing program to assess the effectiveness of potential conservation treatments on historic brick, limestone and copper. Installed and recommended site wide treatments for masonry cleaning, metallic stain removal, removal of biological growth, removal of gypsum crusts and repointing.

Music Hall/Talbot County Courthouse: Easton, MD (2005)

Completed an analysis of interior finishes for an historically significant theater space. Work included microscopic analysis of more than 120 samples including stratigraphies and color matching. Installed more than one dozen exposure windows which revealed the presence of previously-concealed polychromatic decorative stenciling.

Squan Beach Lifesaving Station: Manasquan, NJ (2006)

Provided an analysis of historic interior and exterior finishes, interpretation and assessment as one component of an Historic Structures Report/Preservation Plan.

Campbell-Christie House: River Edge, NJ (2005-2007)

Provided an analysis of historic interior and exterior finishes, interpretation and assessment as one component of an Historic Structures Report/Preservation Plan.

Garretson Farm and Forge: Fair Lawn, NJ (2005-2006)

Provided an analysis of historic interior and exterior finishes, interpretation and assessment as one component of an Historic Structures Report/Preservation Plan.

Boudinot-Southard Estate: Basking Ridge, NJ (2008)

Provided analyses of historic exterior finishes as well as compositional analyses of mortars, plasters and stuccoes for 8 buildings in preparation for rehabilitation work to comply with the Secretary's Standards. Review of quality standards, construction documents and construction administration as required.

Lower Market District: Wilmington, DE (2005-2008)

Provided analyses of historic exterior finishes as well as compositional analyses of mortars, plasters and stuccoes for 8 buildings in preparation for rehabilitation work to comply with the Secretary's Standards. Review of quality standards, construction documents and construction administration as required.

Federal Triangle Statues at the Ronald Reagan Building: Washington, DC (2005)

Provided a survey of existing conditions, treatment recommendations, archival research and full documentation for artistically significant, contemporary bronze and aluminum statues.

Governor's Mansion: Annapolis, MD (2005)

Served as consulting supervisory conservator for exterior repointing and masonry restoration project.

University of Pennsylvania: Philadelphia, PA (1995-2008)

Provided various analyses of historic architectural finishes, historic mortars and masonry, preconstruction testing, scope consultation, specifications and construction supervision for the restoration of buildings including Irvine Auditorium, Richards Biomedical Laboratories, Furness Library, Bennett Hall, Houston Hall, Meyerson Hall, Sigma Chi, Fels Building, Veterinary School, Music/Morgan Buildings, Moore Building and others.

Princeton University: Princeton, NJ (1997-2008)

Provided various analyses of historic building materials and scope consultation for significant buildings including Nassau Hall, Palmer Hall, Procter Hall, 4 Mercer Street, Constitution Hill and others.

Morris County, NJ (2005-2009)

Completed analyses of historic materials including paint finishes, mortars, stuccoes and plasters to support construction documents and historic preservation plans for buildings including Butler Railroad Station (Butler), Hibernia Church (Hibernia), Growing Stage Theater (Netcong), DuCret School of Art (Plainfield), Bowsby-DeGelleke House (Parsippany), Morris Canal, Doremus House (Montville), Kincaid House (Boonton) and others.

Haverford College: Haverford, PA (2002-2008)

Completed historic research, assessment and interpretation of historic finishes and mortars spanning four primary periods of significance for 36 core historic buildings under the auspices of a Getty Grant. Issued recommendations for repair, maintenance and future repointing and refinishing campaigns based on historic assessment.

Iowa State University: Ames, IA (2003-2005)

Supervised comprehensive preconstruction testing program for historic exterior brick and limestone, completed conditions/restoration survey and specifications, completed analysis of historic exterior and interior finishes for Morrill Hall.



Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission Contract (1998-2005)

Member of project team for two joint ventures, completed analyses of historic building materials (stand-alone or as a component of Historic Structures Reports) for:

Conrad Weiser Homestead: Completed an in-depth characterization of historic and contemporary mortars from various locations on building and surrounding site; results provided substantial insight into the evolution of the property through the course of several construction campaigns. Analyses of selected interior and exterior finishes. Scope included all fieldwork, all laboratory work, historical and contextual assessment.

Curtin Village: Provided a comprehensive analysis of historic interior and exterior finishes for Ironmaster's Residence. Scope included collaboration with PHMC representatives, survey, sampling, fieldwork, all laboratory work and contextual assessment.

Eckley Miner's Village: Completed an analysis of exterior architectural finishes for House #159. Scope included all fieldwork, laboratory microscopy and issuance of a report on findings.

Ephrata Cloister: Completed analyses of historic architectural finishes and building mortars as a means for identifying early/original materials and understanding the evolution of several buildings including the Academy, the Almanry, Householders House, Print Shop and Solitary House.

Amos Judson House: Completed a comprehensive analysis of historic interior finishes. Scope of work included the installation of exposure windows to reveal highly-stylized vernacular graining patterns on interior woodwork, all surveys, sampling and other fieldwork, laboratory microscopy and generation of a report on findings.

Graeme Park: Provided compositional characterizations and historic context for masonry mortars from the William Keith House; worked with members of PHMC and the project team to interpret data and better understand the evolution of and changes to the building. Scope included all fieldwork, laboratory analysis and findings. Presented findings to on-site meeting of the Association for Preservation technology Delaware Valley Chapter.

Landis Valley Museum: Completed analysis of historic finishes and masonry materials for several buildings, including the Landis Brothers House and associated outbuildings, Toll House, Yellow Barn and Stable. Scope included all fieldwork, all laboratory microscopy and findings with multiple periods of significance.

Old Economy Village: Analysis of Historic Mortars and findings for Pavilion Building.

Morton Homestead: Assisted with preliminary stages of scope planning and proposal generation.

Pennsbury Manor: Assisted in preliminary stages of project documentation and contractor direction.

Bryn Mawr College: Bryn Mawr, PA (1997-2002)

Project manager and consultant on various aspects of conservation/preservation projects for Roberts Road Historic Houses, Gateway Center, Rhoads Hall.

Drew University: Madison, NJ (2000-2002)

Provided consultation on the conservation and analysis of historic building materials for buildings such as Sitterly House and S.W. Bowne Hall

James Brice House: Annapolis, MD (2008)

Provided a compositional assessment more than one dozen different historic mortars. Created discs with custom mortar mixes to match original materials using various combinations of lime, cements, Natural Hydraulic Lime, specialized sands and pigments.

Philadelphia School District: Philadelphia, PA (2004-2006)

Provided scope consultation based on a combination of forensic analysis, preconstruction testing, masonry probes, conditions surveys and analyses of historic building materials for the William Levering School, Morris School and Newlin-Fell School.

Independence Charter School: Philadelphia, PA (2006-2007)

Served as historic preservation consultant during preliminary planning for the adaptive reuse of an historic early 20th century school building. Scope included conditions survey and analysis, a narrative report outlining potential treatments for historic materials, discussions of potential Section 106 mitigation, consultation with historic reviewing agencies and potential issues with the federal RITC program.

Newark City Hall: Newark, NJ (2004-2005)

Designed, installed and evaluated comprehensive preconstruction testing program for exterior envelope (granite). Issued recommendations for treatment during construction and consulted on masonry restoration specifications. This project received a 2007 Historic Preservation Award from the New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office.

Blue Horizon: Philadelphia, PA (1999-2004)

Project management, construction administration, completed conditions survey, consulted on specifications and developed scope for restoration and re-creation of highly visible sandstone façade on significant urban landmark.



Central Catholic High School: Pittsburgh, PA (2004-2005)

Project management, analysis of historic finishes including exposure windows, microscopic analysis, cleaning tests, specifications consultation for restoration of significant decorative finishes within main auditorium.

State Theater: New Brunswick, NJ (2003-2004)

Designed, installed and evaluated preconstruction testing program for exterior envelope (terra cotta). Issued recommendation for treatment during construction.

Carnegie Library: Atlantic City, NJ. (2001-2002)

Designed, installed and evaluated preconstruction testing program for exterior envelope (terra cotta and marble). Issued recommendation for treatment, consulted on specifications and worked with architect and contractor to resolve/refine issues during construction.

United States Courthouse: Camden, NJ (1999)

Project management, analysis of historic finishes including exposure windows, specifications consultation for restoration of historically significant decorative finishes in main lobby and ceremonial courtroom.

Holy Ghost Catholic Church: Bethlehem, PA (2001)

Project management, completed conditions survey, consulted on specifications and developed scope for restoration of exterior quartzite and sandstone.

St. Thomas Episcopal Church: Whitmarsh, PA (2000-2001)

Project management, completed conditions survey, and developed preliminary scope for restoration of exterior quartzite and sandstone.

Scope Consultation

Dynamo House/Narragansett Electric Lighting Co.: Providence, RI (2006-2008)

American Locomotive Company (7 buildings): Providence, RI (2006-2008)

American Tobacco Complex (4 buildings): Raleigh, NC (2005-2008)

Rising Sun Mills (6 buildings): Providence, RI (2006-2007)

Royal Mills (2 buildings): Warwick, RI (2006)

Ace Calendaring and Dyeing Mills (3 buildings) (2006-2008)

Gunther Bottle Building: Baltimore, MD (2005)

Bethlehem Silk Mill: Bethlehem, PA (2003-2004)

Scope consultation for the rehabilitation and restoration of historic exterior and interior masonry (brick, granite, limestone, cast stone), including conditions surveys, narrative reports outlining treatment options, specifications, consultation during construction and certification of final completed scopes. All projects complied with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Rehabilitation of Historic Properties.

Historic Resource Surveys

Souderton Historic District (2008)

Surveyed, documented and issued recommendations regarding contributing and non-contributing buildings within potential historic district. Coordinated data collection, management and input of required information into PHMC's survey database for nearly 600 individual resources.

Rehabilitation Investment Tax Credit Consultation

Altland Building: York, PA (2009)

Bell Telephone Building: Norristown, PA (2007-2008)

Reservoir Hill District (31 buildings): Baltimore, MD (2003-2005)

Hedge-Carpenter-Thompson District (85 buildings): Salem, NJ (2000-2005)

The Chateau: Baltimore, MD (2001-2004)

Jefferson Elementary School: Pottstown, PA (2001-2003)

Hanover Shoe Factory: Hanover, PA (1999-2001)

Academy/Hanover Street Properties (25 buildings): Trenton, NJ (1997-2002)

Baltimore Court Apartments: Philadelphia, PA (1998-2000)

Allison Hill Properties (12 buildings): Harrisburg, PA (1998-2001)

Hope VI Properties (6 buildings): Coatesville, PA (1999-2002)

Served as Project Manager for all historic aspects of architectural programs under the auspices of the federal Rehabilitation Investment Tax Credit Program. Role typically included design consultation, scope recommendation, construction administration, negotiation with State Historic Preservation Offices (SHPOs) and National Park Service (NPS), as well as submission of Part 1, Part 2 and Part 3 Certified Rehabilitation Applications.



Awards and Honors

Maryland Historical Trust
Preservation Pennsylvania
Trenton Landmarks Commission
Preservation Alliance of Philadelphia
New Jersey Historic Preservation Office
University of Pennsylvania
Delaware County Heritage Preservation Commission
Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy

Affiliations (Past and Present)

American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works
Association for Preservation Technology/International and Delaware Valley Chapter
National Trust for Historic Preservation
Preservation Trades Network
Bucks County Historical Society
Habitat for Humanity
Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy
New Hampshire Historical Society