

PRESERVING AMERICA
(A FIRST COURSE IN ARCHITECTURAL PRESERVATION)
ARTH-38002
Fall 2010

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Office Hours: W 2-4, F noon-1, and by appointment

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Statement of purpose

PRESERVING AMERICA provides an introduction to the topic of architectural preservation and the preservation movement in the United States. We will explore a range of issues from the role government has played in historic preservation to grass roots approaches to saving buildings. We will also examine specific local and regional examples in depth using a variety of available resources, including site visits. Finally, we will consider the intersection of two important movements: Sustainability and Historic Preservation.

Course text

A Richer Heritage: Historic Preservation in the Twenty-first Century, Robert Stipe, ed. Copies are in stock at the College Bookstore. This material is also available to you as an electronic book through IC's library.

Course work required

- One term paper; group projects, a midterm, and a final exam.
- **Regular attendance and participation in discussions** (including group discussions and projects) **is required. You are permitted three absences, only.** Additional absences may result in grade reductions or removal from the class. See the instructor if you have any questions about this policy.
- **Attendance at Ithaca Landmarks Preservation Commission meetings is required.** This is an important opportunity to see how preservation issues intersect with the "real world." You may use only one of your absences for this aspect of the course requirement. ILPC meetings take place on either Tuesday or Thursday evenings, once a month, beginning at 7 p.m., at Ithaca's City Hall.
- Field trips (with specific details TBA)

Concerning plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious academic offense and is prohibited; see me or consult the Ithaca College *Student Handbook* if you have questions about this issue.

Concerning electronic equipment

The use of tape recorders, cell phones, pagers, and other personal electronic equipment is strictly prohibited. Make sure all such equipment is turned off before entering the classroom. Use of laptop computers is by permission of the instructor, only.

Books on reserve

NA31 D55 1996: *Dictionary of Building Preservation.*

NA2543.H55 S43 2009 *The Future of the Past.*

NA108.N48 M37 2009 *Once and Future New York: Historic Preservation and the Modern City.*

NA735.C4 H4: *Historic American Buildings Survey: Chicago & Nearby Illinois.*

NA682.M63 P78 2008: *Preservation of Modern Architecture.*

NA9053.C6C66: *Conservation of Cities.*

NA4170 .C53 1992: *Changing Places: Remaking Institutional Buildings.*

NA2750.A46 2005: *Almanac of Architecture and Design.*

E-reserve

Place, Race, and Story, Chapter 1.

The Gentrification Reader, “Alternatives to Orthodoxy: Invitation to a Debate.”

Preservation of Modern Architecture, “Levittown.”

Also: note this valuable electronic resource available through our library:

[Future anterior : \[electronic resource\] journal of historic preservation history, theory and criticism / GSAPP, Columbia University.](#)

While this publication often references non-US architecture, there are articles relevant to our course, as well.

Final exam (as scheduled by the IC Registrar):

Thursday, December 16, 7:30 p.m.

Tentative Schedule (through October 28)

8/31	Basic vocabularies; introducing some case studies	Prologue & Ch 1
9/2	Historic preservation: a brief history	E-reserve WM Ch2
9/7	Fundamentals: governmental involvement; changing values	Ch 2&3
9/9	Preservation at the local level: Landmark Commissions; local designations; historic districts; interactions of local agencies	Ch 4 + Website
9/14	Landmarks Commission meeting; City Hall, 7 p.m.	Review documents
9/16	Reflections on Landmarks content	
9/21&23:	No class: I will be attending the FLW Conservancy conference in Cincinnati.	
9/28	House museums and outdoor museums	E-reserve WM Ch 6
9/30	Field trip	
10/5	Midterm	
10/7	Preservation Law & Public Policy	Ch 5
10/12	NYC as a case study	
Fall Break		
10/19	Sustainability and Preservation	Handout
10/21	Gentrification and Preservation	E-reserve
10/26	Preservation of Modern Architecture	E-reserve
10/28	Begin student reports	