

CLAIRE WOODFORD DEMPSEY

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CURRICULUM VITAE

BOSTON UNIVERSITY

American & New England Studies Program, 1991- present

Director, Preservation Studies Program, 2006- ; Director *ad interim*, Preservation Studies, 2004-2006; Associate Professor, 2004- ; Adjunct Associate Professor, 1999-2004; Acting Director, Preservation Studies, 2002; Adjunct Assistant Professor, 1991-1999; Instructor, 1991. Graduate courses taught include: "Early American Architecture," "Documenting Historic Buildings," "American Vernacular Architecture," "New England's Historic Landscape," and "Historic Preservation."

OTHER EMPLOYMENT

Independent Consultant, 1982-present.

Interdisciplinary research and writing on the architecture, material culture, and social history of New England communities. Products include historic structure reports, nominations to the National Register of Historic Places, inventories of historic resources, cultural resource management reports, and research for museum interpretation. Clients include museums, historical societies and commissions, planning and development departments, and preservation organizations.

Massachusetts Historical Commission, Boston, MA, 1983-88.

Consulting architectural historian and editor for the National Register Program. State Reconnaissance Survey Team for 119 cities and towns: survey team manager and architectural historian for Essex County; social and architectural historian for Cape Cod and the Islands; historical archaeologist and social historian for Central Massachusetts; 1 multiple resource area overview, 10 individual nominations, and 7 district nomination.

American & New England Studies Program, Boston University, Boston, MA, 1980-82.

Assistant to the Director. Coordinating grant applications, lecture series, and publicity; Director of Summer Institute, a program of visiting faculty and graduate students.

EDUCATION

Master of Arts, 1980, American & New England Studies, Boston University, Boston, MA. Candidate for Ph.D., 1981, major field in social history, minor fields in architectural history and material culture.

Bachelor of Arts, *magna cum laude*, 1974, Wheaton College, Norton, MA.
Departmental honors in Anthropology, *Phi Beta Kappa*.

PUBLICATIONS

“The Rundlet-May House,” Portsmouth, MA, entry on drawing and plot plan, for James F. O’Gorman and Christopher Monkhouse, eds., *Drawing Toward Home*. Boston: Historic New England, 2010.

“Architecture, 1780-1830” and “Charles Bulfinch,” in Burt Feintuch and David H. Watters, eds., *The Encyclopedia of New England*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2005.

Contributor to *Vernacular Architecture Group American Tour: New England, the Delaware Valley, the Chesapeake*, ed. Carl Lounsbury. Colonial Williamsburg Foundation for the Vernacular Architecture Group, 2004.

The Early Architecture and Landscapes of the Narragansett Basin, with Myron O. Stachiw, Laura B. Driemeyer, Richard E. Greenwood, and W^m. McKenzie Woodward. For the Vernacular Architecture Forum, 2001. Volume I: “Faith and Worship in the Early Narragansett Basin,” pp. 28-33; Volume II: Overview essay: “The Blackstone Valley,” pp. 8-20; “Eleazer Arnold House,” pp. 31-33, “Valentine Whitman House,” pp. 34-35, “Saylesville Friends Meetinghouse,” pp. 40-42, “Chestnut Hill Meetinghouse,” pp. 42-44, “Southwick-Daniels Farm,” pp. 44-48. Volume III: “White-Handy House,” pp. 23-25.

Building Portsmouth: The Neighborhoods & Architecture of New Hampshire’s Oldest City, ed. Richard M. Candee. Portsmouth: Portsmouth Advocates, 1993. Overview essay, “The Language of Portsmouth Architecture,” with Richard Candee, pp. 6-17; “John & Mary Sherburne House,” with Richard Candee, pp. 53-54; “Downtown Portsmouth, Civic and Religious Structures,” pp. 79-82; “The West End,” with Richard Candee, pp. 106-143.

Building Hardwick: Community Histories in Landscape and Architecture. Hardwick, MA: Hardwick Historical Commission, 1991.

Historic and Cultural Resources of Cape Cod and the Islands. With Leonard Loparto, Michael Steinitz, and Peter Stott. Boston: Massachusetts Historical Commission, 1987.

Historic and Cultural Resources of Central Massachusetts. With Myron Stachiw, Michael Steinitz, and Charlotte Worsham. Boston: Massachusetts Historical Commission, 1984.

Long Wharf: Archaeological Testing at Parcel D-10. With Beth Anne Bower, Stephen Mrozowski, and Byron Rushing. Boston: Massachusetts Historical Commission *Occasional Publications in Archaeology and History* #3, 1984.

Book reviews in *New England Quarterly*, *New England Historic Genealogical Society*, *Design Book Review*, *Public History*, *Technology and Culture* and *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians*.

AWARDS

Sampson Fund Grant, Kingston, MA, 2008-2010: Architectural and documentary research on the Bradford House, Kingston MA.

Scholar-in-Residence for the Mansfield Historical Commission, Program of the Bay State Historical League and the Massachusetts Foundation for the Humanities, 1995: The Fisher-Richardson House: Building, Expanding & Restoring a Mansfield Landmark.

Paul Revere Memorial Association Fellowship at the Massachusetts Historical Society, 1994: The 18th-Century Landscape of Boston's North Square Neighborhood.

Graduate Assistantship, the Museum of the American China Trade, Milton, MA, (1979-80).

National Endowment of the Arts Fellowship, the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities, Boston, MA, (1978-79).

Graduate Assistantship, the New England Historic Genealogical Society, Boston, MA, (1977-78).

MEMBERSHIPS & PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Alternate Member, Medford Historical Commission, 2008- . Local district review; demolition delay review; grant from Massachusetts Historical Commission for survey plan.

Chestnut Hill Meetinghouse Association, Millville, MA, 2003. Stewards for 18th century meetinghouse.

Colonial Society of Massachusetts, elected Resident Member, 1999.

New England Chapter of the Vernacular Architecture Forum, organizing group and first president 1997- 2006; board member 2009- . Organize three tours and a conference annually.

Vernacular Architecture Forum: Archivist, 1995- ; Board Member, 1993-96, 1983-86; Planning Committee for visit to the U.S. by members of the Vernacular Architecture Group of Great Britain, 2004; Annual Meeting Planning Committee, 2001, 1992, 1981.

Old Sturbridge Village Colloquium on Early New England Society and Culture, Steering Committee, 1988-92.

Manuscript review for University of Massachusetts Press, University of Virginia Press, *Arris*, and *Historical Archaeology*.

LECTURES

“Established Error or Novel Truth? Changing Interpretations of Early New England Buildings,” Chilmark Public Library, Chilmark, MA, August 2009.

“Educational Programs at Davenport Farm,” The Mary M.B. Wakefield Charitable Trust Property, New England Museum Association Annual Meeting, November, 2008.

“Boston’s Federal Architecture and Landscape,” Boston-by-Foot Spring Training Sessions for Guides, 2005-07.

“New England’s Federal Architecture and Landscape,” Historic New England (SPNEA) Summer Institute: Program in New England Studies, 2003-07.

“The Coburn House,” Winter Meeting of the New England Chapter of the Vernacular Architecture Forum, 2006.

“Urban Refinement in Federal Boston,” at the Boston Furniture Symposium, Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, MA, 2003.

“Established Error or Novel Fact? Preliminary Findings from the First Period Survey of the Old Colony,” New England Chapter of the Vernacular Architecture Forum, Winter Meeting, 1999; Massachusetts Preservation Conference, Lowell, 2000; The Pilgrim Society, Plymouth, MA, 2002; Plymouth Antiquarian Society, Plymouth, MA, 2005.

“Modest and Handsome Houses for the Worship of God’: New England’s Colonial Meetinghouses,” West Barnstable Congregation Church, Barnstable, MA, 2002.

“Native American Housing at the Close of the 18th Century: A Design for the Mashantucket Pequot Museum,” Symposium on Native American Architecture, Mashantucket Pequot Museum, 2001; New England Chapter of the Vernacular Architecture Forum, Winter Meeting, 2002.

“Eighteenth Century Building Practices in New England,” Massachusetts Preservation Conference, Amherst, 2001; New England Chapter of the Vernacular Architecture Forum, Winter Meeting, 2000; Colonial Society of Massachusetts, Teacher Enrichment Seminar, 1999.

“Understanding Massachusetts Buildings,” Field School in Architectural History, Roger Williams University, Bristol, RI, 2004; Field School in Architectural History: Samuel Huntington Birthplace, Scotland CT, 1997; Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities, Wiscasset, ME, 1996; Old Sturbridge Village, Sturbridge, MA, 1989, 1991.

“The Boast of Boston: Charles Bulfinch and Franklin Place.” Annual Fall Symposium, Strawberry Banke Museum, Inc., Portsmouth, NH, 1990.

HISTORIC SITE RESEARCH

Including historic structure reports and museum interpretation.

Davenport Estate, Milton, MA, 2005-present. Research on 20-acre property with students in the Preservation Studies Program, the American Studies Program, and the Archaeology Department, Boston University. Principal investigator for major reports: Red Cottage with Zachary Violette (2006); Outbuildings with Dayl Cohen (2007); Mansion House with Zachary Violette (2008), Biographies of Property Owners with Shelby Graham et al. (2008); Property Histories with Annie Rotner et al. (2009), Farmhouse with Leo Greene and Shelby Graham (2009); Collections Assessment and Recommendations with Robert Mussey, Richard Nylander, and Cheryl Robertson (2009). For the Wakefield Charitable Trust.

The Bradford House, Jones River Village Historical Society, Kingston, MA. 2004 - present: The Bradford House: A Documentary History of its Owners and Occupants, 2010; The Bradford House: A Description of its Building Fabric and Evolution, 2008; Documentary research on the house and its occupants, 2004.

Strong House, Windsor Historical Society, Windsor, CT, 2008. Research on 18th-century house with Thomas Paske.

Bacon House, Winchester, MA, 2008. Research on ca. 1865 house with students in Preservation Studies Program, Boston University.

Davis House, Woods Hole, MA, 2007. Research on 1842 house with Zachary Violette and Thomas Paske. For the Children's School of Science.

Parker House, Reading, MA, 2007. Research on 18th century house, with Dayl Cohen, Amy McCollum, and Thomas Paske. For the Reading Historical Commission.

Coburn House, Boston, MA, 2005- 06. Research on remnant of a rare survival of Beacon Hill's alleys landscape and small houses, owned by a leader of the ante-bellum African-American community. For the ad hoc committee convened by the Museum of Afro American History.

Chestnut Hill Meetinghouse, Millville, MA., 2006. Research on 18th-century meetinghouse, with Preservation Studies Program, Boston University. For the John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor (NPS).

The "Buttonwoods," the "John Ward" House, and the Hunkins Shoe Shop, Haverhill Historical Society, Haverhill, MA, 2003. Research on Haverhill Historical Society campus, independently and with Preservation Studies Program, Boston University. For the Massachusetts Historical Commission and the Haverhill Historical Society.

Strong House, Amherst Historical Society, Amherst, MA, 2002. Documentary research on 18th-century house as member of historic structure report team, with Myron Stachiw and Thomas Paske.

Daniels Farm, Blackstone, MA, 2001. Research on primarily 19th-century farmstead, with Preservation Studies Program, Boston University. For the Massachusetts Historical Commission and the Metacomet Land Trust.

Assessment of Campbell House, Norton MA, 2000. With Thomas Paske.

The Fisher-Richardson House, Mansfield Historical Commission, Mansfield, MA. 2000: Historic structure report and preservation plan for mid-18th-century building, with Thomas Paske. 1996: "Building, Expanding & Restoring a Mansfield Landmark," Scholar-in- Residence Grant from the Bay State Historical League.

Conditions Assessment for Caryl House, Dover Historical Society, Dover MA, 1999. With Thomas Paske.

The Dickinson Homestead, Amherst College, Amherst MA., 1999. Documentary research as member of historic structure report team, with Myron Stachiw and Thomas Paske.

Masonry Structure at the Asa Waters Mansion, Friends of the Asa Waters Mansion, Millbury, MA, 1998. Documentary research on outbuilding ruin.

1780 Era Pequot Farmstead House, Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center, 1997. Research on regional building traditions and preparation of design for museum installation, with Myron Stachiw and Thomas Paske.

Landscape Evaluation for Castle Hill, Ipswich, MA, The Trustees of Reservations, Inc., 1996. Research on all buildings on 165-acre estate, with Past Designs.

Exhibit Themes for River Bend Farm, Uxbridge, MA, Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor, 1995. Prepare interpretive essay for the Department of Environmental Management, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, with Myron Stachiw.

The Spencer-Pierce-Little Farm, Newbury, MA, Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities, 1993. Research on the house and its occupants and develop interpretative plan.

The Sherburne House at Puddle Dock, Strawberry Banke Museum, Portsmouth, NH, 1992. Research on house, its occupants, and Portsmouth's 18th century landscape.

Database for Furnishing Documentation and Research Report for the Codman House, Lincoln MA, Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities, 1989. Collect and analyze family papers related to decorating the house, for AASLH Grant.

Timeline of Black History in Massachusetts, for exhibit "Creating Community: the African Experience in Massachusetts," Commonwealth Museum, Boston, MA, 1988. Interactive computer exhibit, with Learningways, Cambridge, MA.

Rundlet-May House, Portsmouth, NH, Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities, 1980. Research binder.

"The Peter Tufts House," in Seventeenth Century Historical Archaeology in Cambridge, Medford, and Dorchester, 1980. Ed. David Starbuck. Boston University, Boston, MA.

INVENTORIES OF HISTORIC RESOURCES

Medford, MA. 2010. -Twentieth-century neighborhoods, with students in the Preservation Studies Program, Boston University.

Beacon Hill, Boston, MA. 2006-2010. North Slope neighborhood; 1999-2001, South Slope neighborhood; with students in the Preservation Studies Program, Boston University.

Winchester, MA. 2004–06. Survey of town's North End neighborhood with students in the Preservation Studies Program, Boston University.

Haverhill, MA. 1993-2002. Survey of city neighborhoods for Community Development Department, including the Acre, Bradford, the Highlands, and Mount Washington. Continuing research, including public buildings and parks, and for housing rehabilitation review. With Tim Orwig, Sally Hild, Laura Driemeyer, John Clemson, and Maura FitzPatrick

First Period Survey of Plymouth Colony. 1997-2000. Grants from the Massachusetts Historical Commission to the Preservation Studies Program, Boston University. Supervisor of project to develop methodology and survey the earliest surviving buildings in Plymouth and Bristol counties.

Housing Boston: Toward a New Method for Understanding the City's Residential Architecture. 1998. Developed a new methodology for studying residential architecture through the use of building types and a consideration of interiors, for the Boston Landmarks Commission.

Braintree, MA. 1995-2000. Strategic Survey Plan. Two phases of survey including South Braintree and Braintree Square. With Laura Driemeyer, John Clemson, and Jennifer Morvan.

Medway, MA. 1995-1998. Three phases of survey including West Medway, Medway Village, and Medway's agricultural resources. With Laura Driemeyer, John Clemson, and Jennifer Morvan.

Harvard, MA. 1992-97. Three phases of survey including Harvard Center, Shaker Village, Still River, as well as agricultural resources. With Maura FitzPatrick.

Upton, MA. 1996. With Laura Driemeyer.

Hanson, MA. 1996. With Laura Driemeyer.

Millville, MA. 1994. With Maura FitzPatrick.

Swampscott, MA. 1993.

Hardwick, MA. 1989.

Millbury, MA. 1988. With Peter Stott.

Cultural Resources of the Blackstone Canal and River Valley: City of Worcester. With Myron Stachiw and Michael Steinitz. For the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Management, 1984.

NOMINATIONS TO THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Davenport Farm, Milton, MA, in progress (with Maria Kohls)
Old Sturbridge Village Historic District, Sturbridge, MA, in progress.
Medway Village, Medway, MA, 2008 (with Laura Kline)
Pembroke Friends Meeting House, Pembroke, MA, 2006
Haverhill Civic Historic District, Haverhill, MA, 2003
Haverhill Historical Society Historic District, Haverhill, MA, 2003
Bradford House, Kingston, MA, 2003
Olmsted Subdivision Historic District, Swampscott, MA, 2002
Caryl House, Dover, MA, 1999
Upton Town Hall, Upton, MA, 1998
St. Luke's and St. Margaret's Church, Allston, MA, 1997
Eagle Hill Historic District, East Boston, MA, 1997
Fisher-Richardson House, Mansfield, MA, 1997
Prince Hall Masonic Cemetery, Arlington, MA, 1997
Whitney Tavern, Templeton, MA, 1995
Harvard Center Historic District, Harvard, MA, 1995
Fruitlands Museums Historic District, Harvard, MA, 1995
Gretchen Osgood and Frederick Fiske Warren House, Harvard, MA, 1995
Still River Baptist Church, Harvard, MA, 1995
Powers Institute Historic District, Bernardston, MA, 1993
First Church, Unitarian, Bernardston, MA, 1993
Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church, Salem, MA, 1993
Fort Lee, Salem, MA, 1993
Naumkag Steam Cotton Company Historic District, Salem, MA, 1993
Winter Island Historic and Archaeological District, Salem, MA, 1993
Village of Hardwick Historic District, Hardwick, MA, 1992
Gilbertville Historic District, Hardwick, MA, 1992
District Five Schoolhouse, Webster, MA, 1991

CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT REPORTS

Hanscom Air Force Base, selected resources, Lexington, MA. For Archaeological Services, University of Massachusetts and LEC Engineers, 1996.

Historic Documentation, Deerfield River No. 5 Dam, Monroe Bridge, MA. With Peter Stott. For New England Power, 1990.

Historical Summary and Reconnaissance Survey of Chelmsford, MA. Historical Summary of Bellingham, MA. 1982. With Beth Anne Bower and Byron Rushing. For the Museum of Afro American History, Boston, MA.

Phase II Archaeological Site Examination for the Central Artery, North Area. Charlestown, MA. With Stephen R. Pendery, John Cheney, and Ed Gordon. Institute for Conservation Archaeology, Harvard University, 1982.

PRESERVATION PLANS

Planning for Harvard's Rural Landscape: Case Studies in Historic Conservation and public information brochure based on report, Harvard, MA. With Shary Page Berg. For the Harvard Historical Commission, 1996-98.

Strategic Preservation Plan. Boston, MA. With the Preservation Studies Program, Boston University. For the Boston Landmarks Commission, 1993.

Preservation Plan, Millbury MA. With Gretchen Schuler. For the Millbury Historical Commission, 1989.