Thanks to SC Archives and History Foundation

- Eric Emerson
- Elizabeth Johnson
- Donna Foster
- Ben Hornsby
- Others
About Me?

- Historian. Love classroom but made a career of museums and historic preservation
- Native of Atlanta
- U.S. Peace Corps in Africa but drafted and served in infantry with First Infantry Division, Vietnam, 1969-70
- Worked with Smithsonian and Maryland Historical Trust, which introduced me to museums and historic preservation
- Was director of Drayton Hall for 25 years, 1989-2015
What is historic preservation?
- Place and people
- Recent history too

Too often, only the place, the materials are accented to the neglect of the people, but both were intertwined.

Historic Preservation: Can serve as gathering point for people of different races, genders, ages by using a place as a focal point.

You can use *Drayton Hall Stories* as a prompt or model for using a historic place
Historic Preservation

- Not only about the past
- Both the past and the future
- What kind of future do we want?
Why This Title?

- Preservation of a historic place can be *either divisive or unifying*.
- Our choice: Not “either/or” but “both/and”
- Polarity thinking; polarity management
- Tell a complete story, not because it’s politically correct, but because it’s history
- Preservation: Not only its past, but also its future. What is its future?
- Involve people in answering that question
Who Cares about Historic Preservation? People You Know: All Types of People.

- Book: one place but many people caring about it:
- 50+ Interviews:
  Descendants: Draytons and African Americans
- Board members, staff, donors
- Historians, curators
- Architects, preservationists
- Tour guides, tourism leaders
- Like a mosaic that fits together to create a picture
# Table of Contents: Preservation + People

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Tony Wood, preservationist: “When recent history is lost, we lose the history of preservation and the story of those people.

*Example:* Drayton Hall as a club house for golf course.

Charles Lee, director of SC Archives and History, and Fred Brinkman, assistant director of SC Parks, Recreation, and Tourism, played leading roles in Drayton Hall’s preservation.

*Story in print for first time: Thanks to Peter McGee*
Peter and Patti McGee re Frances Edmunds, Historic Charleston Foundation. Interview: “A Two-Word Answer.”
One Individual Makes a Difference.

- Peter, Patti McGee
- Pic with Frances, Hollings
Why Were Women So Involved in Historic Preservation, Especially in Its Early Days?

- Patti McGee: p. 93.
What was being preserved? What did they see and appreciate?

- Architect Jim Thomas
- Architect Glenn Keyes
Oldest unrestored plantation house in America that's open to public.
Masterpiece of Colonial American Architecture. Balance, Symmetry, Harmony
Same Historic Building: Different Points of View

- Architectural Symmetry of House
- And
- Imbalance of Power
- and
- Who Did the Work?
Villa Cornaro – inspiration for Drayton Hall. Andrea Palladio, Italian Renaissance architect, 1508-1580
First Fully Executed Palladian Building in America:

Drayton Hall, 1765

Pierre Eugene du Simitiere
Seven Succeeding Generations of Drayton Ownership and Stewardship to 1974
What did they help preserve? Portico Is An Example. We must preserve the place. Trish Smith’s Thoughts, Later.

Award for Preservation from Gov. McMaster to Craig Bennett, Richard Marks, Patricia Smith (Drayton Hall)
Research Surprise: Susan Buck, Paint Conservator. What Do You See about Its Original Appearance? Paint?

- Cream-colored walls
- Mahogany balustrade and brackets painted orangy-Chinese red.
- Never seen an interior in America or England with color scheme.
Before Being Preserved as a Site, Drayton Hall Was a Home and Lived in.

- Charlie Drayton, p.13-14; Molly, pp. 20, 24;
- Anne Drayton Nelson, p. 16, 17.
Why Home?
Memory Map in *Drayton Hall Stories.*
Recent History
Your Site or Place?

Drayton Hall site map from Richmond Bowens’ memory, c. 1920

1. Store & house*
2. Dennis house
3. Washington house
4. Nanny Notes house*
5. Robert/McKeever house #2
6. Johnson house*
7. Graveyard
8. MacBeth Road
9. (Former house)*
10. Bowens house*
11. McKeever house*
12. Uncle Sammy’s house*
13. Small’s house*
14. (Former house)*
15. Burn
16. Blacksmith shop*
17. Orangeile
18. Store*
19. Shoemaker’s house
20. Spring site
21. Old well (open)
* No trace remains

Drayton Hall site map from Richmond Bowens’ memory, c. 1920
Jenny Sanford McKay, Former Board Member, “Integrity. Respect.” pp. 134, 136
Richard Marks, Contractor: “A Time Machine”

- How do you read Drayton Hall as a Contractor?
- P. 217
Peter Wood, Historian, “To Think and Imagine Differently”, p. 267. Catherine Braxton and Rebecca Campbell
Tony Wood, Board Member, Donor: “Transformative.”
p. 138
Lonnie Bunch, Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, “The Sunshine of Remembering,” p. 148
From his interview in *Drayton Hall Stories*:

1. From your experience in the state and nation, what do you see as the two or three biggest challenges or opportunities in historic preservation?

2. Why are historic sites like Drayton Hall important to the state and their community?
For you
Connect place and people
Use a place in your community
Use my book as a model, a prompt, and a guide
Evening Post Books, due out April 28
Help. Be glad to speak, do workshops. In Charleston, Summerville, Atlanta, Washington DC (Colonial Dames)
Let’s get this approach used
Questions and Discussion
Richard Marks, Contractor: “A Time Machine”

- How do you read Drayton Hall as a Contractor?
- P. 217
Frank Drayton, son of Frank Drayton, Charlie’s Brother at Family Growth Chart with His Son and Grandson, Being Measured. Memory of His Birthday Party and Jets.
Carter Hudgins, Current Director of Drayton Hall, “A National, Indeed an International Treasure,” p. 164
Recent History: Annie Meyers, niece of Richmond Bowens, and Lucille Blunt, Meyers, resident, 1950s, and Lucille’s granddaughter, Pp. 34, 36, 42
Michelle McCollum, Director, SC Heritage Corridor, “A Compelling Story Is Not Enough.” Engage community. p. 283

- Message for towns, museums, sites, and places of interest
- SC Heritage Corridor: From Greenville and Anderson
- To Aiken and Orangeburg
- To Charleston

- What are key lessons you’ve learned about historic sites?
- What roles do historic sites play in the future of history education?
- What are biggest challenges or opportunities in historic preservation?
- What are your closing thoughts about historic sites and historic preservation? Why care?
Patricia Lowe Smith, Curator of Historic Architectural Resources at Drayton Hall

- B.A. in Art History from the University of South Carolina Honors College
- M.S. from the Clemson University and the College of Charleston joint graduate program in Historic Preservation.
- Featured in my book, *Drayton Hall Stories: A Place and Its People*
Patricia Lowe Smith

- “Being the Best Steward I Can Possibly Be”
- Why is that important?
Patricia Lowe Smith

- What are your favorite places at Drayton Hall?
What is the difference between measuring by hand as opposed to using a digital scanner?
If specific places, structures, or objects at Drayton Hall could speak, which ones would you select? What questions would you ask?
Of the many research and preservation projects at Drayton Hall you’ve been involved in, which one(s) have meant the most to you?
Since today’s iPhones, audio tours, or computerized recreations will be old-fashioned decades from now, what ways of engaging people might you envision?
Patricia Lowe Smith

- Why care about historic sites like Drayton Hall or others in South Carolina?