This book is dedicated to the many people who make our work possible: the clients who provide fascinating projects, the property owners who let us crawl all over their buildings, and the tireless efforts of all the students who have spent time at CHAD.
Established in 1984 (initially as the Center for Historic Architecture and Engineering), the Center for Historic Architecture and Design grew out of a crisis on Delaware’s historic landscape in the early 1980s. Settled by Europeans beginning in the 1640s, Delaware’s historic architectural landscape is among the oldest in the United States. Although small territorially, it contains a diverse architectural heritage reflecting cultural influences from Calvert’s Maryland in the south to William Penn’s Philadelphia in the north. Delaware’s landscape also reflects the historic development progression from early agriculture to nineteenth-century industrialization and city building, culminating in twentieth-century suburbanization, coastal resort development, and creation of retirement communities.

Rapid suburbanization, development, and urban revitalization created serious threats to the state’s historic buildings and landscape. In rural areas, this was compounded by the first oil crisis, in which shortage of home heating fuel led to demolition of historic wooden agricultural buildings for fuel. With grants from the University of Delaware, the City of Wilmington, and the Delaware State Historic Preservation Office, David L. Ames and Bernard L. Herman (faculty in the College of Urban Affairs and Public Policy) collaborated on an emergency effort to document buildings in Wilmington and rural New Castle County with drawings, photographs, and narrative research before they were demolished.

Bringing different disciplines and skills to bear on the problem, Herman is a folklorist and historian of vernacular architecture while Ames is a cultural and urban geographer and urban planner. Within their scholarly pursuits, they differed in both architectural focus and time period. Herman’s area of interest was in rural agricultural vernacular architecture of the eighteenth and early...
nineteenth centuries while Ames concentrated on urban and industrial buildings of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

What Herman and Ames shared was a passionate commitment to record these buildings and landscapes before they were lost to development. First, they believed that documentation through measured drawings (Herman) and large-format photographs (Ames) was a form of preservation on paper. Secondly, they realized that the documentation related to a larger research agenda of extending our knowledge about vernacular architecture and historic development patterns. Consequently, the goals of the Center were set in the research needs of the academic fields of vernacular architecture and historical urban geography, and the professional fields of historic preservation and planning.

While historic preservation problems require interdisciplinary research, it is the problem and the nature of the resource that determines what disciplines need to be brought to bear. From the beginning, the staff of the Center was conceived as a small core, drawing on expertise from other disciplines as needed. Rebecca Sheppard joined Ames and Herman as a full-time research assistant in 1985, bringing a background in American Studies, vernacular architecture, and the application of database technology to archival sources. Today Sheppard serves as Associate Director of the Center, overseeing the Mid-Atlantic Historic Buildings and Landscapes Survey and the Archives, while teaching on the historic preservation faculty. Herman moved to Art History in the mid-1990s, but continued an informal relationship with the Center until his departure to the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill in 2008. Chandra Reedy, from Museum Studies and Art Conservation, joined the Center faculty in 2007, bringing a new expertise in the analysis of materials and technology and the study of Asian art and architecture. Over the years, other affiliated faculty have included J. Ritchie Garrison (Winterthur Program in American Material Culture), Lu Ann De Cunzo (Anthropology), Katherine Grier (History/Museum Studies), Sue McNeil (Engineering), Paul Sestak (Hotel Restaurant and Institutional Management), Janet Hethorn (Art), Chad Nelson (Plant and Soil Sciences), John Meakin (Engineering), Jonathan Justice (Urban Affairs and Public Policy), Thomas Meierding (Geography), Yda Schreuder (Geography), Brock Jobe (Winterthur Museum), Robert Warren (Urban Affairs and Public Policy), and April Veness (Geography).

During the 1980s, CHAD was in the forefront of changes in the field of historic preservation. In 1980, the National Park Service required all states to complete comprehensive historic preservation plans that would identify the types of significant resources in a state and set priorities for their preservation. With a grant from the State Historic Preservation Office, CHAD completed the first preservation plan for Delaware in 1987, which established the historic context matrix that still guides the state’s preservation priorities today.

Part of the new approach to preservation lay in the creation of historic contexts that would establish the significance of particular types of historic resources, especially the everyday buildings pre-

Above— Cooking kettles at the Isaacs Cannery, Ellendale, Delaware.
viously ignored by the preservation process. Between 1989 and 1994, CHAD undertook the research and writing of five fully-developed historic contexts for Delaware, exploring industries ranging from agriculture to ship and boat building to canning, and development patterns ranging from the economy of the marsh to suburbanization. We also began to prepare thematic National Register of Historic Places nominations that followed the historic context model, nominating resources for their construction techniques, styles, and associative factors such as worker’s housing.

At the same time, a trend in the field of social history was drawing on new computer technologies to study historic communities and learn more about the everyday lives of Americans. The Center became a pioneer in the application of these technologies to

Above—Field notes for the Crossan House, Glasgow vicinity, Delaware.
Right—Graduate students learning to draw at Oversee Farm, Yorklyn vicinity, Delaware.
historic preservation and the study of the historic built environment. Modeling earlier work by Jack Michel and Professor David Allmendinger with the manuscript population census of 1850, Sheppard and Herman developed databases with period building descriptions and economic data from tax assessments and used them to support historic context research by reconstructing elements now missing from the landscape.

From the beginning, CHAD staff sought to collaborate and partner with federal and state agencies such as the National Park Service, National Register of Historic Places, Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record, Delaware State Historic Preservation Office, Delaware Agricultural Lands Preservation Foundation, Delaware Office of State Planning, Delaware Department of Transportation, the New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office, and the Maryland Historical Trust. We also cultivated relationships with the local network of preser-

Above—Environmental view of the Anderson Farm, Indian River Hundred, Delaware.
vation planners, advocacy organizations such as Preservation Delaware, and local historical societies and preservation review boards. These partnerships led to a wide variety of projects addressing a range of preservation issues over the years.

CHAD’s materials analysis work began with a study for the National Park Service under the National Acidic Precipitation Assessment Program (NAPAP) to evaluate the effects of acid rain on monumental bronze statues. It was a project that exemplified why CHAD had been formed, assembling a team that consisted of a physical geographer, an art historian, a corrosion engineer, and a conservator. This type of work continues today under the direction of Professor Chandra Reedy and the Laboratory for Analysis of Cultural Materials.

The architectural documentation and analysis program at CHAD has evolved considerably over the years, in terms of its funding sources, the types of documentation produced, and the technology used to collect and record information. From the beginning, CHAD collaborated with the Historic American Building Survey (HABS), a federal agency created during the 1930s to record historic buildings. By the 1980s, HABS had assembled in the Library of Congress the premier collection of architectural documentation in the world. Based on our early work, CHAD was invited to enter into a cooperative agreement with HABS and the National Park Service to carry out documentation and research as requested. Among other projects conducted under the cooperative agreement, Ames was asked by HABS to do photography for projects such as the Southwest Pennsylvania Industrial Heritage Project and the New Jersey Maritime Trail.

As evidenced in a recent Academic Program Review, CHAD has the best graduate training program in architectural documentation and analysis in the United States, a program that matured in three stages. At first it focused primarily on Delaware and for a period of about 12 years was called the “Delaware Threatened Building Survey” and funded largely by the DE SHPO. At the same time, we were also beginning to do work outside of the state, often funded by private property owners, and this larger effort was known as the “Delaware Valley Threatened Building Survey.” But the goals

Above—GIS map showing the route of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Scenic and Historic Byway.
of the program moved beyond just an interest in threatened buildings, to recording buildings on the basis of their type and significance. In 2000, the program was renamed the “Mid-Atlantic Historic Buildings and Landscapes Survey” or MAHBLs, and now includes under that umbrella all documentation work carried out by CHAD, ranging from cultural resource surveys to National Register nominations to measured drawings and photographs. Starting in 2003, CHAD began working in conjunction with the Scenic and Historic Highway Program of the Delaware Department of Transportation to research and write nominations for Scenic and Historic Highways in Delaware. Because the Scenic and Historic Highway Program is a “bottom-up” program initiated by local communities, CHAD provided technical assistance to sponsors of nominations for the Philadelphia Pike (New Castle County), the Western Sussex Scenic Highway (Western Sussex Advisory Group), and for the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Historic Byway (the Delaware Underground Railroad Coalition).

Several scholarly themes have guided CHAD’s work over the years. One of these is an interest in discovering and advocating for under-represented resources. Thus our research has focused on the material lives and architecture of enslaved individuals, free blacks, women, and tenants—groups often invisible in the documentary record—in an effort to bring their histories into the public eye by connecting them to surviving physical resources.

Through all of this, what tied CHAD together was the integration of research, technical assistance, and graduate professional education. Students were central to this mission and historically served as staff for the Center, funded by external grants and contracts for projects. Again, we started small, hiring only two or three students each year, but by the mid-1990s numbers started to increase and currently the Center funds an average of 14 graduate students and 5 undergraduates per year. Although the majority of the students come from Urban Affairs/Historic Preservation, we draw from a variety of disciplines, including History, Archaeology, and Environmental Science. The students are instrumental in conducting the research and preservation work of CHAD.
American Studies, Art History, Museum Studies, Geography, Material Culture Studies, and Art Conservation.

The concentration in historic preservation in the Master's Program in Urban Affairs and Public Policy began in 1986 and since its inception more than 80 students have graduated from the program. Students in the Urban Affairs/Historic Preservation program follow two tracks that prepare them both intellectually and practically for their careers; the first is their academic program and the second is their applied track in professional practice by working as graduate research assistants on projects. Some of the students stay beyond their graduation as professional staff or limited term researchers, filling particular needs of the time. Gabrielle Lanier played a critical role in the early development of the Delaware Valley Threatened Buildings Survey, co-authoring *Everyday Architecture of the Mid-Atlantic: Looking at Buildings and Landscapes* with Bernie Herman. Kelli Dobbs Racca served as our resident architect for two years, introducing the use of AutoCAD to produce our measured drawings. Jennifer Cathey and Kara Briggs Green each spent at least a year working in the CHAD Archives, creating the database that helps us manage the documentation and research files for several thousand buildings. Victoria Walker spent a year providing support to the MAHBS crew during a year with several large cultural resource survey projects. Jeroen van den Hurk supervised the Mid-Atlantic Historic Buildings Survey program for a year while Sheppard was on leave.

As we move into our next 25 years, we face new challenges and find new opportunities opening for us. In response to the University of Delaware’s Path to Prominence, we are expanding our academic programs and the scope of our research. Our fieldwork is taking us to places far beyond the Mid-Atlantic, including the Inter-Mountain West and Tibetan cultural areas of China, prompting us to think more globally in our research questions. In 2010, we plan to launch a new Master's Degree in Historic Preservation and a Graduate Certificate in Historic Preservation, which will increase our enrollments and allow students to take courses online from distant places. We will continue to place a major emphasis on teaching skills in documentation and architectural analysis, to blend theory and practice in the classroom, and to provide a wide variety of internships and field study programs that will enhance the learning experience of our students.

David L. Ames, Ph.D, Director

Rebecca J. Sheppard, Ph.D, Associate Director
Before the formal creation of the Center in 1984, several documentation projects helped shape the intellectual focus of the faculty and staff and set an agenda for responding to threats to the built environment. Serendipitously, the buildings most threatened by development were also those most significant to the fields of vernacular and urban architecture. As development efforts accelerated in the northern part of the state in the late 1970s and early 1980s and threatened both agricultural and urban landscapes, Ames and Herman framed a strategy for preserving information about these significant historic resources on paper.

One of the first projects was a response to an urban renewal project in Wilmington that cleared multiple blocks of historic buildings to make way for a new transportation corridor linking I-95 to the downtown business district. The area being cleared involved some of the earliest buildings in the city, including one of the last surviving 18th century commercial and residential blocks. Thus, in 1980, Herman led a team...
to document three buildings once owned by Thomas Mendenhall with drawings and photographs; in the process of conducting the fieldwork, they uncovered a privy filled with domestic trash from the 18th and early 19th centuries. The materials removed from the privy included a wide range of ceramics, along with other household items. In an effort to make the public aware of the significance of this site, Ames and Herman collaborated with the University of Delaware Gallery to mount an exhibit that told the story of the Mendenhall houses through objects ranging from ceramic fragments to an entire streetscape.

Historically a state of family-operated farms, Delaware contained agricultural complexes influenced by at least two major cultural traditions, the Chesapeake in the south and the English Quakers in the north. Changes in social structure and agricultural practices over time produced parallel changes in the landscape, rendering some buildings obsolete. By the late 20th century, many of the 18th and 19th century outbuildings were vacant and deteriorating; being made of wood, they were also threatened by farmers and others scavenging for fuel. In the early 1980s, Herman received a grant from the UD General University Research Fund to document some of the agricultural buildings in southern New Castle County threatened by suburban development. Beyond preserving individual buildings on paper, this project and the cultural resource survey conducted by Herman’s Vernacular Architecture classes led to two thematic National Register nominations and Herman’s first book, *Architecture and Rural Life in Central Delaware, 1700-1900*. All of this research led to a far greater appreciation of the motivation and meaning behind the 19th century changes to the agricultural landscape. The project also introduced Ames and Herman to the Delaware State Historic Preservation Office and the politics of the National Register process, establishing a strong relationship between the two organizations that continues today.

*Opposite Page*—Workmen demolishing the Mendenhall Tenant Houses, Wilmington, Delaware.

*Upper Left*—View of Cochran’s Grange farm complex, Middletown vicinity, Delaware.

*Lower Left*—Ceramics from the Mendenhall privy.

*Above*—Elevation and section of the Monterey smokehouse, Boyds Corner vicinity, Delaware.
The study of cultural materials is an important tool in historic preservation. Materials analysis provides data useful for identifying deterioration mechanisms and developing and testing long-term preservation strategies. A closer look at materials and fabrication methods help us better understand intended meanings and values expressed by material culture, the changing functions of cultural resources, and social and cultural context. Materials analysis also expands our understanding of history and the reasons for change in how people make and use things and the style of what they build or design.

An early example of CHAD’s involvement in materials analysis is a study of degradation of monumental bronzes, a collaboration with the Department of Mechanical Engineering. The interdisciplinary team developed an innovative approach to measuring the linkage between corrosion and air pollution. They focused on a large bronze statue by T. A. R. Kitson called, The Hiker, commemorating Spanish-American War veterans. More than 50 replicas were cast by the Gorham Company of Providence, Rhode Island over a 35-year period and were installed in various locations throughout the United States. Microscopic studies of these statues, in conjunction...
with environmental data, were used to examine and quantify the relationship between corrosion and atmospheric pollutants. The many Hiker replicates were viewed as multiple exposure tests of essentially the same test specimen (statues of same material and fabrication method) with a known range of exposure times. The team developed a novel technique for non-destructive study of surface morphology, using dental molding material. They were able to compare each of the replica’s surface changes due to atmospheric corrosion, and quantitatively assess the amount of corrosion over time due to environmental exposure.

More recently, the Laboratory for Analysis of Cultural Materials joined CHAD, extending the materials analysis focus to objects and building materials of stone, ceramic, metal, and glass, with a strong emphasis on microscopy. Polarized light microscopy of small samples taken from stone or ceramic materials is called thin-section petrography, and is a nationally- and internationally-known strength of the Laboratory. This technique provides information about choices in raw materials, possible location of material sources, fabrication methods, firing conditions, decorative techniques, possible functions of the object, technological style of the craftsperson or workshop, state of deterioration and possible deterioration mechanisms, and results of testing various preservation approaches. The Laboratory has pioneered the use of contemporary methods of digital image analysis to produce quantitative data from thin-section petrography.

*Above—* A thin section, viewed under a polarized light microscope, showing the structure and composition of a stonepaste tile from the ancient Near East.

*Right—* Using digital image analysis to quantify surface deterioration on a thin section from a schist sculpture.
If planning is about the future, historic preservation planning may sound like a contradiction. But if you don’t plan to protect significant historic resources you may not have any left in the future! CHAD is painfully aware of this fact; we have been running ahead of suburban development for 25 years—documenting buildings and landscapes before they fall to the bulldozer.

The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) established the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and required that states conduct statewide surveys to identify historic resources. Delaware embarked on this effort quickly and now has more than 40,000 resources surveyed across the state. In the rush to get buildings listed on the NRHP, however, both the National Register and the state preservation offices became deluged with surveys and nominations.

To help solve this problem, in 1983, the US Department of Interior required all states to complete state historic preservation plans as defined by the “The Secretary of Interior’s Standards for Historic Preservation Planning.” The Standards mandated that an historic context be developed to guide the survey, identifying major historic trends, the types of properties associated with those trends, and guidelines for evaluating the surveyed properties to determine their significance.

In the mid 1980s, the Delaware State Historic Preservation Office contracted with CHAD to research and write the Delaware Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan. Completed by 1989, the heart of the plan was a “Historic Context Matrix.”
CHAD then authored a second volume that established the current understanding of each cell within the matrix. Since the late 1980s, CHAD has prepared more detailed context statements for many of the under-researched areas, including such topics as agricultural tenancy, dwellings built by the rural elite, ship and boat building, canning, the economy of the marshlands, log construction, suburbanization, 18th century dwellings, and military resources along the Delaware River. Much of this research was conducted by students, some of whom converted the work into their Master’s theses.

The plan also predicted where growth was expected to occur geographically and thus where historic resources would be most threatened in the future. It set priorities for preserving historic resources within the state based on their significance, how threatened they might be, and their potential for preservation. Overall, the highest priority was placed on the oldest properties along the coast, and the second highest on agricultural and urban properties in the path of development. After this approach was used as a model by the National Park Service, CHAD also completed a similar plan for New Jersey. Preservation planning continues as an underlying element of the curriculum for CHAD students today.

Matrix”, which provided a framework for placing every property in the state within one or more historic contexts. The state’s history was divided into five historic periods that represented the significant stages in the state’s history, from its initial settlement through its growth as an agricultural and industrial economy, to suburbanization in the twentieth century. Major economic, cultural, and physical historic themes cut across these chronological periods, creating the matrix.

Opposite Page— View of Isaacs Cannery, documented as part of the historic context research on the canning industry, Ellendale, Sussex County, Delaware.

Upper Left— View of the Starl House along Route 13 near St. Georges, showing the impact of improving transportation corridors.

Lower Left— View of Snowland, an 18th and 19th century farmhouse documented as part of a context on 18th century architectural patterns, Leipsic vicinity, Delaware.

Right— GIS map showing population density in Delaware in 1840, and demonstrating the shift towards the industrial opportunities in Wilmington and the northern Piedmont region.
Preservation on Paper
Everyday Architecture of the Mid-Atlantic
The ultimate goal of any preservationist is to protect historic buildings and landscapes. Unfortunately, this is not always possible. The dramatic transformations that took place in Delaware’s urban and rural landscapes during the 1970s and 80s exacted a tremendous and irreversible penalty on the built environment. Increasing development pressures and the years of the energy crisis took their toll on frame outbuildings. Abandonment, neglect, vandalism, demolition, and uninformed renovations all contributed to the overall loss and many resources disappeared without any record. In 1988, an impassioned plea by Bernie Herman at a meeting of the Delaware State Review Board for Historic Preservation resulted in the creation of a funding pool for the documentation of threatened architectural and archaeological resources. Over the next twelve years, CHAD received an annual matching-funds grant for the Delaware Threatened Buildings Survey (DE TBS), generating documentation of 114 properties.

The Survey was designed to record threatened resources for which there was no other source of funding, and drew on a broad network of local preservation planners, property owners, and citizen advocates to identify potential projects. In consultation with the Delaware State Historic Preservation Office, CHAD staff selected resources on the basis of imminent threat and rarity of the property type. While the majority of the properties selected were rural or agricultural, we also documented urban properties, including dwellings, commercial buildings, and industrial resources.

Many of the resources recorded face imminent threats, allowing access to the buildings for only one day with a small crew. During the first grant year, CHAD developed a set of guidelines for several levels of documentation, ranging from 35mm photographs and a survey form to full measured drawings and large-format photographs. Staff employed a triage approach to make decisions about the level of documentation required for a particular building or property, and to maximize the amount of information that could be collected in the time.
available. We determined the most important features of the building and then identified the best way to document those features—through floor plans, elevations, framing sections, details, or just photographs. Many buildings were in a state of disrepair that left the construction elements easily visible for documentation. Imminent threat of destruction also permitted “selective” or “constructive” demolition to learn more about materials and construction features. Onsite discovery of unusual construction details, particularly in agricultural outbuildings, often resulted in upgrading the level of documentation from basic floor plans to include detailed drawings of framing and joint construction.

Initially CHAD followed Historic American Building Survey guidelines carefully, choosing one or two properties to document with large-format photographs, ink-on-mylar drawings of floor plans, site plans, elevations, and architectural narratives. However, this proved extremely costly, especially in terms of time, for a small organization with limited financial resources. We began to experiment with ways to retrieve maximum amounts of raw data about buildings and came up with the concept of “partial-intensive documentation” which included scaled, annotated field notes (completed in one day with a crew of four), 35mm color slides, large-format black and white photographs, and notes for an architectural description of the property. This practice maximized the amount of physical information that could be salvaged from a building prior to demolition, leaving the archival record to be explored later, or when additional funds became available.

Prior to the loss of funding in 2001, the Delaware Threatened Buildings Survey collected an extensive body of photographs, field notes, and drawings for historic resources throughout Delaware, essentially preserving those resources on paper. The CHAD Archive now contains multiple examples of different floor plans, architectural styles, property types, and construction systems, creating an unprecedented library of information about Delaware architecture over time. Gabrielle Lanier and Bernie Herman drew heavily from the collection while writing Everyday Architecture of the Mid-Atlantic: Looking at Buildings and Landscapes. While the state funding no longer provides for the documentation of threatened resources, the work continues today in other ways.
“The experiences I had measuring buildings did more to make me a confident professional than the papers I wrote or the books I read. And they landed me my first ‘real’ job—at HABS/HAER. Although I’ve shifted my career a good bit since then, the Center gave me a solid foundation and I’m very grateful for it!”

—Meg Mulrooney

CHAD 1984 – 1987
The study of vernacular architecture often means reconstructing the built environment of the everyday or ordinary world in order to understand how the extant resources represent the past. Most of the time, the buildings that survive into the present are the most durable and substantial ones; brick survives more often than log, and large houses adapt more readily to modern life than small ones. Thus, the challenge for CHAD lies in mining both physical and archival evidence to bring these long-vanished buildings and landscapes back into focus. Over the past few decades, we employed several different strategies to achieve this goal.

One strategy involved the use of archival sources and computer databases to gather statistical data about vanished landscapes. Tax assessments, for example, yield valuable information about the economics of a particular area, including ownership of land, livestock, slaves, and buildings. Orphans Court valuations provide detailed descriptions of the buildings on individual properties. We developed a system for creating databases from these sources that helped to construct a more complete picture of an area, by giving details about people
and buildings not available from extant buildings. We now have a collection of databases that span the Mid-Atlantic region, as well as a major project, funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, that addressed the Federal Direct Tax of 1798 and examined landscapes of the Early Republic from Maine to Tennessee.

A second strategy focused on the study of resources connected to populations often invisible in the documentary record—tenants, women, African Americans (both free and enslaved), Native Americans, and the poor. Because these groups rarely owned land or other taxable goods, they often failed to leave wills or other probate data after their deaths. Many appeared only in the census records for the houses of employers or masters. Women, for the most part, appeared in the records only in connection to their husbands and fathers. Linking these people to buildings that they occupied, but never owned, can be difficult and required development of new research methodologies.

CHAD has maintained a strong research agenda around the resources associated with enslaved and free blacks. A context on agricultural tenancy identified the critical role played by African-Americans in the agricultural economy, while the study of Orphans Court valuations and 1798 Direct Tax records provided a more complex understanding of the housing built for slaves on the Delmarva Peninsula and the restoration of the slave quarter at the Ross Plantation in Seaford. Examination of the resources related to African-Americans in Wilmington eventually led to the preparation of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Scenic and Historic Byway. Most recently, CHAD developed a methodology (drawing largely on tax assessments, manuscript census, probate records, and historic maps) for studying the material life of the free black communities that appeared in Delaware starting in the 1820s; the methodology will serve as a model for future studies of these communities in other parts of the country.
Historic contexts are pivotal to the nomination of a property to the National Register of Historic Places. Built around three key elements—chronological period, geographic location, and historic theme—historic contexts demonstrate the significance of particular historic resources, or property types, by showing how they relate to the human activities that shape the broader landscape. Since the late 1980s, CHAD has produced more than a dozen historic context studies, many of which led to thematic National Register nominations. These documents form not only an important part of the scholarship on Delaware’s social, economic, and architectural history, they also play a critical role in the education of preservation students learning about the process of preservation planning.

One of the first contexts produced by CHAD, Agricultural Tenancy in Central Delaware, 1770-1900+/-, led directly to the nomination of one property type, The House and Garden in Central Delaware, 1780-1930+/- . Historically, agriculture was the driving force behind the state’s economy and agricultural tenancy became a critical part of that industry starting in the late 18th century, when wealthy landowners began to amass multiple farms as an investment strategy. Roughly one of every two farms in the central part of the state

Agricultural Tenancy
From Historic Context to National Register Nomination
Housing Agricultural Laborers
served as tenant farms at some point during their history.

Due to the difficulty of identifying tenant farms from their physical characteristics, we developed a methodology that drew on databases constructed from tax assessments. Although it proved highly labor intensive, this strategy allowed us to identify landlords and tenants by name, create a statistical picture of the landscape of tenancy, and explore the complex social and economic relationships between farmers, landowners, and laborers. Ultimately, the context identified two property types associated with agricultural tenancy: the tenant farm, and the house and garden. While the tenant farm could be any farm complex with a history of tenancy, the house and garden proved to be a physical property type that helped address the need for agricultural laborers in an economy that was shifting away from slavery toward hired labor.

Using the context study as a starting point, CHAD staff prepared a thematic National Register nomination that resulted in the listing of five properties. Landowners built these houses to provide housing for the agricultural laborers needed to plant and harvest their crops. A house and garden was typically one and a half to two stories tall, often with a shed kitchen, set on a small plot of land that allowed the tenant to plant a kitchen garden and raise a small amount of livestock (a cow, pig, and a few chickens). Most commonly, they were located along roads or near tree lines, on land only marginally suited for farming. Ultimately, this property type represents the process of negotiation between landlords and tenants over the circumstances under which they would live and labor.

The results of these types of projects have been disseminated in a variety of ways. In this particular case, Rebecca Sheppard presented several papers focused on the methodology used to create the databases, as well as the findings from the context research. She co-authored with Anna Andrzejewski an article on the house and garden for the Vernacular Architecture Forum’s journal, *Perspectives in Vernacular Architecture*.
In many cases, the research interests of CHAD faculty intersected with the need for survey and context research. In the mid- to late-1990s, this resulted in a series of projects focusing on the military resources that defended the Delaware River and Bay. Historically, this waterway was significant to the national defense because it provided access to the ports of Wilmington, Philadelphia, Camden, and Trenton, and points inland. To protect these critical areas, the federal government erected a series of fortifications along the Delaware. CHAD staff developed an interest in these resources after conducting a survey of aids to navigation from the waterway, and becoming more aware of the network of fortifications.

In 1994, CHAD undertook an intensive level survey of Fort Dupont for the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC). Located just south of Delaware City, Fort Dupont was built in the late 1890s as part
of a triangulated gun-emplacement that included Fort Mott (on the New Jersey side of the river) and Fort Delaware on Pea Patch Island. The project included a cultural resource survey of the Fort and archival research to establish its historical context. A particularly useful source came from the National Archives, which contained detailed construction plans with annotations about modifications made as the purpose of the structures changed. Ultimately, the project led to a National Register nomination of Fort Dupont, and a Master’s thesis by Caroline Fisher focusing on federal architectural standards for military housing.

A few years later, in 1998, CHAD became involved with the ongoing restoration efforts at Fort Delaware. Working again with DNREC, CHAD set out to construct a database of letters and drawings produced by the Chief Engineers Office to allow park historians and planners easier access to the research material to make decisions about the project and develop interpretations of the site. These documents contained a wealth of information depicting the design plans, the application of emerging construction technology, the role of the Fort as a prisoner of war camp for Confederate soldiers, and day-to-day activities in the community. In addition to creating a set of GIS/AutoCAD maps that charted development of the Fort at different points in time, Kelli Dobbs wrote a Master’s thesis that explored the role of the construction workers within the larger community.

A third aspect of our military research focused on Fort Miles, located at Cape Henlopen State Park, near the mouth of the Delaware Bay. Master’s student Elizabeth Ross conducted a cultural resource survey of Fort Miles and wrote her thesis on that landscape. In addition, CHAD conducted more intensive documentation of a Cold War era bunker used for tracking missile activity. Overall, these projects have helped to develop a comprehensive context for the military resources related to the defense of the Delaware River and Bay from the War of 1812 through the end of the Cold War.

Opposite Page— Site plan for Fort Delaware, showing elements present during the Civil War.
Above— View of Fort Delaware from the Delaware River.
Right— Delaware Parks historian Lee Jennings leading a group of CHAD students on a tour of Fort Dupont.
In the late 1980s and early 1990s CHAD staff, led by Bernie Herman and Gabrielle Lanier, expanded the scope of our work to include historic resources in the neighboring states of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and initiated the Delaware Valley Threatened Buildings Survey as a way for property owners to contribute to the cost of documentation and receive a tax deduction at the same time. Most of the clients were private property owners, many of whom planned to renovate or restore their historic buildings and sought some guidance about the critical architectural elements that needed to be preserved. Some of these properties were threatened by deterioration or neglect, or faced imminent demolition. In other cases, we contracted with state or federal agencies to create a permanent record of historic resources owned by the government.

Broadening our focus geographically allowed us to explore types of resources not often found in Delaware, but which formed part of the regional landscape. For example, one project took us to the Double Trouble State Park in southeastern New Jersey, to record a complex of buildings used for packing and sorting cranberries harvested from the bog. The James Stewart House and the David Sterrett House in Pennsylvania gave us the opportunity to look at examples of 18th century log construction. Agricultural buildings such as the Fahnestock Barn encouraged us to think about the differences in agricultural practices throughout the region. Documentation of the Lancaster County Almshouse led Monique Bourque to a dissertation on the process of constructing almshouses in the mid-Atlantic region. Two years of the documentation course focused on the Quaker meetinghouses in...
the region, creating a record of the subtle variations in construction details and materials among this property type.

A key concept in CHAD’s overall philosophy is the importance of building a documentary record of historical and cultural resources. CHAD’s Archive serves as the repository for this record, allowing for the possibility for research to be conducted even after a historic site has been lost. By the mid-1990s, CHAD had begun to amass an impressive collection of documentation on historic structures throughout the Mid-Atlantic region. To date, more than 3,000 buildings and landscapes have been surveyed, drawn, photographed, and/or researched by CHAD students and staff. At least one-third of these resources have been either demolished or lost to neglect, and CHAD’s collection of documentation stands as the only record of their existence.

The archive contains hundreds of hand-drawn and computer-generated drawings, thousands of photographs, and an abundance of research and historical documents such as probate inventories, deeds, tax assessments, census data, and maps. Every site researched by a CHAD staff member or student has a file containing all of the documentation collected during fieldwork and investigation. The collection is available as a research tool for students, scholars, preservation professionals, and the public. As more documentation is added to the collection, its potential as a tool for future generations of students and researchers will only increase.

Opposite Page (left)— Section of log construction in the James Stewart House, West Nottingham, Pennsylvania.

Opposite Page— View of Fahnestock Barn forebay area, Waynesboro, Franklin County, Pennsylvania.

Above— Axonometric drawing of the frame for the Caesaria River House, Greenwich vicinity, New Jersey.
For the past decade, our staff has struggled with the monumental task of organizing these materials, converting earlier materials to digital formats, and searching for ways to make the research more readily available to the public. Graduates Jennifer Cathey and Kara Briggs were both instrumental in early efforts to organize the Archives, working in conjunction with a series of undergraduate interns. We now have a database, constructed using *PastPerfect*, to formally accession and identify each property, allowing us to quickly search by name, address, or location. Many of our early historic context and survey reports have been digitized and are now readily available on UD’s DSpace webpage, and we are steadily moving ahead with digitizing the documentation materials for each property. New initiatives for the future include linking the property research information to a Geographic Information System (GIS) map that will allow more complex analysis and research.

CHAD’s DSpace page:
http://dspace.udel.edu:8080/dspace/handle/19716/420

*Left*– View of the Double Trouble sorting and packing equipment, Double Trouble State Park, Bayville, New Jersey.  
*Above*– Architectural details of the Mill Creek Friends Meeting, Corner Ketch, Delaware.
“I thought that losing a measuring tape to a curious bovine was going to be the site visit I remembered most. The homemade cherry picker in Milford changed my mind. Nothing beats the view when you are three (or more) stories high!”

—Rochelle Bohm

CHAD 2002 – 2005
In Delaware, a Scenic and Historic Highway is a transportation route which is adjacent to or travels through an area that has particular intrinsic scenic, historic, natural, cultural, recreational or archeological qualities. It is a road corridor that offers an alternative travel route to our major highways, while telling a story about Delaware’s heritage, recreational activities, or beauty. Since 2003, CHAD staff and students have worked with the Delaware Department of Transportation by assisting communities to prepare nominations for new Byways.

CHAD has done this in several ways, first by preparing manuals that guide communities through the process of preparing their nomination, and second, by preparing research guides that reference the resources and places where people could learn about their road. In addition, CHAD also undertook research and prepared nominations directly. One of the first nominations was for Philadelphia Pike, today’s US Route 13, which is the historic road that connected Philadelphia and Wilmington starting in the 1670s. It was called “The Road
Through History” because most phases of Delaware’s history could be found along it. In a more rural area of small towns at the other end of the state, CHAD assisted local sponsors in researching and completing a nomination for the Western Sussex Scenic Byway. This road traverses a culturally rich area that is part of the Chesapeake drainage basin and was once part of Maryland.

The most complex nomination was for the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Historic Byway. Harriett Tubman was the most famous conductor on the Underground Railroad. Born near Cambridge, Maryland, she made several trips northeast through Maryland and Delaware, leading groups of freedom-seekers to Pennsylvania and farther north. In Delaware, she collaborated with Thomas Garrett, a Wilmington Quaker who assisted more than 3,000 freedom seekers in Delaware. The states of Delaware and Maryland are cooperating to make a single interstate Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Historic Byway.

Involvement with the Scenic Highways program, together with other research projects, led CHAD to an interest in heritage tourism, particularly in Sussex County. Tourism research has focused on the topics of slavery, the natural environment, transportation routes, resort communities, and agriculture. In 2008, CHAD prepared a plan for cultural tourism in Sussex County based on its historical and environmental diversity, which identified heritage themes and threats to historic resources. This plan is now serving as the basis of a much larger effort towards unifying cultural and heritage tourism efforts in the county, drawing on a wide range of government and non-profit groups.

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Opposite Page— View of Cannon Hall near Woodland Ferry, on Western Sussex Scenic and Historic Byway route.
Above— View of cars unloading from the historic Woodland Ferry after crossing the Nanticoke River.
Right— GIS map showing the route for the Harriett Tubman Underground Railroad Historic Byway.
Tobacco Barns and Agricultural Landscapes
Partnering with the Maryland Historical Trust
African-American Resources

As the Center's reputation in the area of architectural documentation and analysis grew, staff began to seek opportunities outside of the state of Delaware. In 1991, we entered into an on-going partnership with the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) that has resulted in eight grants so far. Initially the grants were small and focused on a handful of highly threatened properties, such as the Beatty-Kramer and Derr farms in Frederick County. Documentation packages typically included large-format black-and-white photographs; scaled, annotated field notes; 35mm color slides; and a short descriptive narrative. In some cases, the field notes were drawn up in pencil, but not taken to final ink-on-mylar in order to save on cost.

By the third grant, however, in 1995, MHT staff (Orlando Ridout, Marcia Miller, and Tom Reinhart) and CHAD embarked on a larger and more focused effort to record key examples of a highly threatened property type: resources related to the lives
of slaves and free blacks in Maryland. In that year, we examined slave quarters on six farms located throughout the state, along with examples of both urban and rural free black housing. This project tied in well with our ongoing research interests in the landscape of slavery and freedom. In 2003, we conducted a second phase of documentation focused primarily on free African-American resources, recording three churches, four schools, a rural store, a Negro League baseball field, two fraternal lodges, and two dwellings. All of the material from this grant was produced digitally and included in a website organized by property types.

Approaching documentation from a thematic viewpoint proved very successful, both in terms of the bulk of documentation and the knowledge gained by comparing resources with common functions. Building on the success of the African-American resources studies, MHT asked us to pursue two additional thematic studies of rural resources threatened by development and changing agricultural practices. In 1996, we recorded nine farms, seeking to document the range of farming landscapes across the state. This gave us the opportunity to look at different types of outbuildings, construction methods influenced by various cultural traditions, and site plans shaped by topography that ranged from the flat Atlantic Coastal Plain to the rolling hills of the Piedmont. In 2007, we took a slightly different approach—examining the tobacco barns of southern Maryland, which became highly threatened by obsolescence when the state offered a buyout program to tobacco farmers as an incentive to stop producing tobacco. Thus, this grant required highly detailed drawings of tobacco barns across the region, documenting changes in construction techniques over a period of 200 years.

Currently, CHAD is providing a new service to MHT, creating base-line architectural documentation for properties on which MHT holds a conservation easement. Although funding issues present a challenge, we hope that this partnership will continue well into the future.
One research goal of CHAD is to understand the evolution of Delaware’s landscape and built environment. Ominously, however, in the last twenty years, land has been developing at a faster rate than population growth. Not only does each new household take up more land than it used to, but automobile travel is much more spread out. As a very small state, Delaware is rapidly losing the distinction between city and town, between country and suburb.

To help understand and predict the impact of this demographic trend on Delaware’s historic resources and new land use development, CHAD completed a study for the state planning office called *The New Arithmetic of Development*. The study found that expanding land consumption was driven more by the formation of new households choosing places to live than by population growth. Households grow at a faster rate than population because households are becoming smaller. Not only are more people living alone and having fewer children, households are breaking up due to divorce and empty nesting. At the same time, more people are working and traveling further to their jobs, which helps explain why development is sprawling. Recent highway construction also promotes sprawl. The big picture is that Delaware is losing its historic fabric; this study helped determine where development pressures will be the greatest and where preservation is possible.

Delaware’s small towns faced a potentially overwhelming impact from this type of development. To help counter that impact, CHAD also developed the *Small Town Design Atlas*, which analyzed the physical character of selected towns in...
terms of design criterion laid out by a planning movement called “New Urbanism.” New Urbanism tries to mitigate the impact of sprawl by promoting design standards for new suburban communities that emulate the best characteristics of historic towns. The Small Town Design Atlas project found that many of Delaware’s towns exhibit those desirable characteristics and that one antidote to sprawl is to preserve and protect existing towns.

While it is changing the Delaware landscape, suburban development is also historically very significant. While most people think of historic suburban development as taking place after the end of World War II, it really began in the late 19th century, stimulated by the development of streetcar systems. Since anything more than 50 years old can be considered eligible for the National Register, much of the early post-World War II suburban boom is now potentially eligible. Indeed, CHAD has been a national leader in developing criteria for evaluating historic suburbs. In 1997 we completed an historic context for Wilmington’s suburbs, one of the first in the United States. David Ames then co-authored with Linda McClelland a National Register Bulletin for evaluating historic residential suburbs. Research on the resources of the recent past remains an ongoing interest at CHAD and has resulted in theses and dissertations dealing with Delaware’s small towns, the process of suburbanization, gas stations, motels, 20th-century workers’ housing, street-car suburbs, and mail-order kit homes.

National Register Bulletin on Residential Suburbs:
http://www.nps.gov/history/nr/publications/bulletins/suburbs/suburbs-start.htm

Opposite Page – View of suburbs encroaching on agricultural landscapes along Route 9 in southern New Castle County.
Left – Map showing population impact on Sussex County.
Upper Right – 20th century housing in Colorado City, Colorado.
Lower Right – Bungalow in Newark, Delaware.
Perhaps the single geographic area in which CHAD has conducted the greatest volume of documentation is New Castle County (NCC), Delaware, largely because of the intense development pressure in this county and because of our strong relationship with the NCC Historic Preservation Review Board and the preservation planners (Valerie Cesna, Richard Jett, Stephanie Bruning, and Christine Quinn). Suburbanization and rampant sprawl in the northern part of the County began in the early 20th century and intensified in the post-World War II era. By the 1980s, developers were reaching south of the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal to purchase large expanses of land for subdivisions and the agricultural landscape began to disappear in earnest.

Over the years, funding to record the county’s historic buildings came through the Delaware Threatened Buildings Survey, but also from the property owners who sought demolition permits for their buildings, and more recently, from the County itself. Because the greatest pressure from development comes from the consumption of agricultural land for large subdivisions, the majority of the resources documented are farm complexes such as the Beck Farm or the house on Church Road, both demolished for residential suburbs. The Janvier-Morrow House near Newark was moved to a new foundation in 2008 to make way for a proposed commercial development.

Others fall prey to vandalism, particularly arson, like the Brunson-Jester House in Summit Bridge or the Huber Farm near Boyds Corner. Fire heavily damaged the Huber House in
2008, inadvertently exposing the unusual framing system of the rear service wing on the house, so our efforts focused on reconstructing that information before the building was demolished. The three-story Choptank Granary was simply collapsing on itself when we arrived.

CHAD staff regularly attend the New Castle County Historic Preservation Review Board meetings, offering testimony about the significance of resources being considered for demolition permits. We have worked hard to cultivate strong relationships with local developers, many of whom now call us in for consultation before deciding on demolition.

Certain areas of the county have been particularly hard hit in the last decade. Vance Neck Road, for example, which runs parallel to Appoquinimink Creek just north of Odessa, once contained a pristine collection of agricultural complexes with buildings dating to the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries. Since 2005, CHAD has documented three neighboring properties along the road, all slated for development. Refuge and High Hook each contained a late 18th or early 19th century brick farm house, while the Voss Farm featured a frame dwelling built in several sections over the course of the 19th century, along with a set of outbuildings ranging from a two-seater privy to a massive dairy barn.
In the past few years, the County has also attempted to create better records for the properties nominated to the National Register in the 1970s and 80s. As part of this effort, CHAD has provided physical documentation and analysis of such landmark farm complexes as Achmester, home of agricultural reformer Richard Mansfield; the Hermitage, a 19th and 20th century dairy complex near Glasgow; and the R. G. Hayes farm near Middletown, which features an early 19th century log dwelling. All of this work continues to enrich our Archives with more and more data regarding the historic development of the urban, industrial, and agricultural landscapes of New Castle County.

*Upper Right* – Floor plan of 1927 dairy barn at Staats-Dukes Farm, Taylors Bridge vicinity, Delaware.

*Above* – Detail of log construction at McMurphy-Eliason House, Blackbird vicinity, Delaware.
“We climbed a seven-story water tower, balancing on rotting floor joists to collect measurements and photographs. All my fears were dispelled when we opened the hatch in the roof and took in the surrounding view. Understanding the cultural landscape, the tower integrated into the natural wetlands setting, is representative for me of the new perspectives that CHAD provides its students.”

—Elizabeth Peebles

CHAD 2008 – 2010
Agricultural landscapes are without question the most common type of historic resources in the Delmarva Peninsula, but they are also the most threatened by development. Over the years, CHAD has documented these landscapes in Delaware, Maryland, and Pennsylvania, yielding the chance to compare these landscapes across the region. One particular effort resulted in the survey and documentation of more than 300 farms in Delaware alone. Like many states, Delaware created a program (the Delaware Agricultural Landscapes Preservation Foundation or DALPF) designed to preserve much of the open space associated with agriculture by granting tax benefits to eligible farms and purchasing development rights for the most significant parcels in order to prevent future development. Traditionally, the evaluation process focuses primarily on the type of soil and the crops grown, but in recent years, the historic significance of the built environment became a factor as well.

At the request of DALPF, CHAD undertook the documentation and evaluation of agricultural landscapes in Delaware, focusing on farmsteads whose owner was applying for purchase of development rights. The first step in the process was to create a methodology, which took the form of
a streamlined cultural resource survey. Survey forms briefly
noted the types of agricultural buildings with their dates of
construction and historic function, linked to a sketch site plan.
Digital photographs recorded individual buildings, but also
sought to document the broader view-sheds. After the initial
survey, the farmsteads were placed into one of three cate-
gories of significance—high, medium, and low—based on the
age of the buildings (more than 50 years old), the integrity of
the individual buildings and the complex as a whole, the pres-
ence of rare or highly significant buildings, and the connec-
tion of the farmstead to particular agricultural trends such as
dairying, broiler chickens, fruits and vegetables, etc.

Over the course of
four studies between
1998 and 2006, CHAD
teaches visited more than
300 farms, conducting
surveys and talking with
the property owners.
More than 80 percent
of the complexes were
determined to have
medium or high levels of
historic significance, a
fact that came as a sur-
prise to some of the farm
owners. In 2004, the
team selected 10 farm
complexes that were par-
ticularly significant, and in many cases, threatened by deteri-
oration, for more detailed physical documentation and more
complete historical narratives. Research drew on archival
records as well as oral histories collected for some of the
farms by the Delaware
Century Farm Program.

The opportunity to
see so many farms in a
relatively short period of
time inevitably piqued the
interest of graduate stu-
dents. At least three mas-
ters’ students wrote their
theses on topics that arose from fieldwork and discussions
about the outbuildings in these complexes. Jeff Everett tack-
led some of the larger questions regarding the preservation of
agricultural landscapes; Aaron Shriber explored the history of
dairying in the state and the changing form of dairy barns;
Grace Cosenza surveyed chicken houses, looking at the techn-
ological evolution of this industry. Rebecca Sheppard’s
doctoral dissertation, a study of the evolution of Delaware’s
agricultural landscapes, drew heavily on the experience of
recording such a critical mass of properties.

Opposite Page— Larimmore Barn and Corn Crib, Big
Pine vicinity, Delaware.
Upper Left— Eiermann Farm, Smyrna vicinity, Delaware.
Lower Left— Exchange Tract Dairy Farm, Woodside
vicinity, Delaware.
Above— Round Barn at Cherbourg, Little Creek vicinity,
Delaware.
CHAD contributes to efforts expressed in the 2003 UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage, especially those aimed at preserving the skills and knowledge crucial for the production of traditional crafts. The underlying philosophy of the UNESCO convention is that craft objects or traditional building materials and methods cannot be preserved in isolation from the knowledge and skills that create them; and that in a rapidly changing world traditional material culture is disappearing quickly. Documentation of the material remains, the technological knowledge, and related oral traditions, rituals, reasoning processes, and social practices is crucial. Yet, opportunities for doing so are disappearing at an alarming rate as development and globalization rapidly overtake more and more traditional communities.
Most recently, CHAD has focused on documentation and analysis of intangible aspects of material culture production in Tibetan areas of China (especially Sichuan Province and the Tibet Autonomous Region). Examples of craft traditions studied include utilitarian objects (village blacksmithing, silver jewelry workshops), religious objects (clay sculptures, metal statues), and ritual crafts (barley-dough sculptures called tormas, and small sun dried clay objects called tsa-tsas). Within the built environment, CHAD has also studied Tibetan homes and village design aspects, and cave temples located in isolated mountain regions for use as meditation and teaching retreats for the Tibetan Bon religion (native pre-Buddhist spiritual practices of Tibet).

Tsa-tsa production was studied at a Bon village near the monastery of Serling, about 270 kilometers north of Chengdu in Sichuan Province. Some of the intangible aspects examined include those surrounding the decision of when to make tsa-tsas, where and how to collect the clay, preparing raw materials (the clay, and barley grains added in a consecration ceremony), the consecration ritual itself, selecting images to be depicted, acquiring the brass molds, fabricating the tsa-tsas, the drying regime, and final placement of the tsa-tsas for long-term storage.

In 2009, Tibetan Bon cave temples were explored in Sichuan Province along the Gyarong River gorges, with partners from the Palace Museum (Forbidden City, Beijing) and the Sichuan Provincal Cultural Relics and Archeology Research Institute (Chengdu). These small temples are unique cultural resources because they contain the only surviving Ming-period Bon mural paintings known in this province, with inscriptions naming Bon teachers not known from historical records. CHAD hopes to continue this collaboration, to further document and analyze these and other Tibetan Bon mural painting sites in China.
CHAD has a long-standing relationship with the Vernacular Architecture Forum (VAF), which was founded in 1980 to encourage the study and preservation of ordinary buildings. Bernie Herman was a founding member of the VAF, and many of CHAD's faculty and graduates have served on its board of trustees (including, among others, Herman, David Ames, Ritchie Garrison, Susan Chase, Gabrielle Lanier, and Anna Andrzejewski). CHAD and VAF share many of the same intellectual goals, focused on the study of traditional everyday architecture ranging from domestic and agricultural outbuildings to suburban dwellings to industrial and commercial landscapes.

Thus, it is not surprising that CHAD faculty and students have been involved with VAF's annual meetings in a variety of ways. CHAD graduate students have long been encouraged to submit paper proposals for the conference, based on project or thesis research; many have been accepted for pres-
entation at an annual meeting and even for publication in the organization’s journals, *Perspectives in Vernacular Architecture* and *Buildings and Landscapes* (including Susan Chase, Gabrielle Lanier, Monique Bourque, Nancy van Dolsen, Anna Andrzejewski, Kirk Ranzetta, Jeroen van den Hurk, Dawn Melson, and many others).

In the past decade, we have helped the local planning groups prepare for the tours by conducting fieldwork needed to create the floor plans and other drawings published in the tour guides. CHAD faculty were heavily involved with the planning of the 2004 conference, held in southeastern Pennsylvania to examine the landscapes of the Pennsylvania Germans. During 2000-2003, CHAD crews measured and drew more than 60 buildings ranging from churches to dwellings to multi-level bank barns. The tour guide from that conference is now being converted to a book that will feature many of those drawings. Rochelle Bohm was so curious about the brick-end barns of Cumberland County she drew that she wrote her thesis on the topic.

In 2008, the planning team for the 2009 conference in Butte, Montana, approached CHAD to help fill a gap in their fieldwork. Sheppard took a team of six students to Butte and Anaconda for a week of intensive drawing that explored the urban landscapes of these mining towns. The students looked at brothels, office buildings, and a range of miners’ houses with equal fascination. The work in Butte led to subsequent work in Virginia City with the Montana Heritage Commission (MHC) in August 2009, documenting one of the earliest mining communities in Montana. This included early miners’ housing, false-front commercial buildings, a church, doctor’s office, blacksmith shop, and a wide variety of log construction.

*Opposite Page*—View of the Kraemer-McGovern-Strasburg Commercial Block, Virginia City, Montana

*Upper Right*—Environmental view of the Cabbage Patch, the last remnants of the earliest miners’ housing in Butte, Montana.

*Lower Right*—Fieldwork is all about the details, Virginia City, Montana.
methods. The students tacked on a quick trip to Yellowstone National Park before returning home, and one member of the team, Allison Olsen, will be returning to Virginia City in 2010 to pursue thesis research on the McGovern Sisters’ Store. Based on the experience, we are now developing plans to offer a preservation summer field school in Virginia City and Nevada City in partnership with MHC.

In June 2010 another team will head to Madison, Wisconsin, to document the limestone dwellings of Cornish miners in the town of Mineral Point, helping to prepare for the 2010 conference. We hope to arrange more opportunities like this for students in the future.

Left—Elevation of a two-family worker’s house, 111 Copper Street, Butte, Montana.

Upper Right—Drawing a floor plan for the three-story Herr Farm Bank Barn, Lancaster vicinity, Pennsylvania.

Above—View of the Lydia Smith House, Lancaster, Pennsylvania.
“Work at CHAD will either make you deeply love or thoroughly hate historic buildings and landscapes... Thus far, I have experienced the joys and frustrations of historic preservation, braving hissing groundhogs, dark corners, and nor’easters to get the proper measurements.”

— Allison Olsen

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