

The Sextant

GREAT HALL ARCHITECT JULIAN ABELE'S LEGACY EXPLORED

By Evan Kotler

For the Fall 2020 semester, Professor Melissa Ziobro planned for her Museum and Archives Management Basics class to create an exhibit showcasing the mostly unacknowledged and unknown African American architect of Monmouth University's own Great Hall, Julian Abele (pronounced "able"). Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, plans for a physical display at the University library were altered to instead honor Abele in perpetuity through a digital project dedicated to his accomplishments and work at Monmouth.

Though Abele (1881-1950) has long since passed away, his buildings, found all along the East Coast, have only recently begun to be recognized as his. His career as an employed architect began and ended with the famed Horace Trumbauer Firm in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where Abele worked from 1906 until his death in 1950. Architects at the firm did not sign their plans, so it has been difficult to ascertain which buildings by the Trumbauer firm were primarily of Abele's design. Thankfully, people have recently been taking the time to explore Abele's legacy further. Author Dreck Spurlock Wilson, for example, has been researching Abele for over thirty years, and recently published the only biography of him. He graciously took the time to be interviewed for our project by student Kelly Dender.

While each individual student in the class researched Abele on their own, they collaborated on ideas for the website

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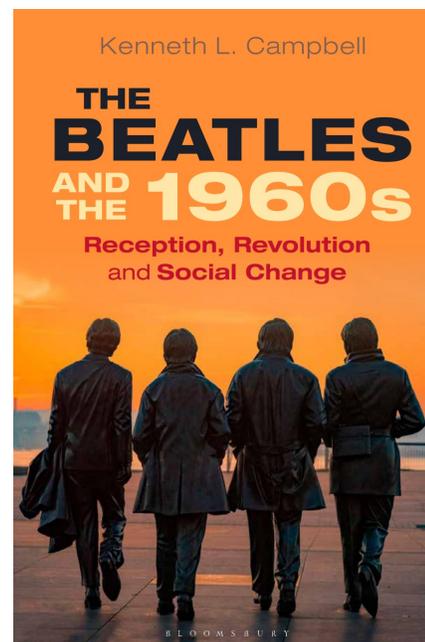
ABELE PROJECT, CONTINUED

format and agreed on what information would be presented. The resulting virtual dedication includes pictures, timelines, a history of the most formally educated African American architect of his time, the aforementioned interview with Wilson, an interactive map, and more. With Monmouth University's Great Hall being one of over two hundred buildings credited to the mastermind and precision of Abele, it is only a start to helping his legacy emerge from the shadows cast over his career. View the project [here](#).

NEW BOOK BY DR. KENNETH L. CAMPBELL

Dr. Campbell's latest book, *The Beatles and the 1960s*, is scheduled for release in September 2021.

According to Walter Everett, a professor of musicology at the University of Michigan and the author of *The Foundations of Rock* and two volumes on *The Beatles as Musicians*, "Whether you grew up with the Beatles or are discovering them for the first time, *The Beatles and the 1960s* will give you a fresh understanding of the group's historical context, their reception by critics and fans, the growth of their music and personalities alongside their listeners' lives, and their lasting social and cultural legacies. Guiding us from England to Germany, the U.S. and the world beyond, from Beatlemania through films, stadium tours, godlike personae, psychedelia, and revolutionary experimentation to the most crushing breakup in pop history, Kenneth Campbell offers the reader a new appreciation shaped by both contemporaneous opinion and Brexit-era reconsideration, thereby joining social attitudes across the decades that separate one set of culture wars from another. College-newspaper record reviews, comments by world-shaking recording artists, and dozens of perceptive fan interviews are just some of the newly curated sources that bring the Beatles, their audience and their world to life in this volume."



AN382 & 582: Applied Anthropology - Fall 2020

A large component of Dr. Heidi Bludau's Applied Anthropology course at Monmouth is learning not only what students want their careers to look like, but how to enter into them after they graduate.

The students would like to thank the following guest speakers who spoke to the class about their careers this Fall:

- Brittany Erskine (BA, Anthropology 2016), Senior Account Executive at G&S Business Communications
- Brittany Fishman (MA, Anthropology 2017), Data Analyst II at RWJBH Institute for Prevention and Recovery
- Michael Gall (MA, History 2001), Principle Senior Archaeologist at Richard Grubb & Associates
- Kristen Hohn (MA, Anthropology 2018), Historic Preservation Specialist at Monmouth County Park System
- Rajshree Solanki, Chief Registrar for the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden

Some important tips learned this Fall about going on the job market:

1. Think about where your interests lie and what jobs you would NOT want to do; you'll find a way to fit anthropology into it.
2. Think outside of academia; there are more options than you think.
3. Keep yourself organized - use a spreadsheet to keep track of jobs, applications, etc.
4. Job descriptions aren't written for "anthropologists" but for our skills. Be creative with your keywords in job searches. Use your skills and repeat them in your application, resume, digital profiles, etc.
5. Develop an elevator pitch to have a concise way to describe your skill set to a potential employer or just to network.
6. Look for opportunities to get new skills and experience - paid or not! Draw on your network.
7. Connect with people on social media like LinkedIn to build your professional network.
8. Do some informational interviews - they are beneficial to you, even if you decide the company/industry is not for you.
9. Try cold calling in your region - even though it can be tedious, it's a great skill showing perseverance and effort.
10. Be prepared for an interview - research the company, the culture, have questions for the interviewer, prepare your answers for questions that may be asked.
11. Hustle! Put in the work - be confident in your abilities and show what you can bring to the company.

Part of the class requirement this Fall was to create a digital portfolio. Check just a few of these out by clicking on the names that follow:

[Mark Cianciosi](#)

[Alessandra Conte](#)

[Victoria Lohnes](#)

[Rachel Mellilo](#)

[Catherine Melman-Kenny](#)

Katie Riso

[Sierra Sorrentino](#)

HISTORY AND ANTHROPOLOGY CLUB NEWS

By Killian Mann

The History and Anthropology Club, during the fall 2020 semester, hosted several virtual events despite the usual in-person activities and trips being curtailed due to the ongoing COVID-19 crisis.

We kicked things off on September 30th with “Meet the Club and BYO artifact.” This always popular event allowed attendees to show off items from their own collections and just chat with members of the department outside the classroom.

The October trivia hang out quizzed attendees on Monmouth University history. Players competed for honor... and a \$25 gift card! Congrats to our winner, past Club President, Jenna Paterno.

In November, we were happy to have hosted two events. First, in honor of Veterans Day, guest speakers from the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and Museum in Holmdel joined students to speak on and answer questions about military history and the memorial and museum.

Two weeks later, we hosted a lively discussion after an independent, asynchronous viewing of the film *Mayflower*, discussing historiography, genealogy, and national memory.

Finally, in December, our very own Monmouth alumnus Megan Kleeschulte gave a talk on her work assisting on Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act claims and inventories for the Forensic Anthropology Center (aka Body Farm) at the University of Tennessee.

This semester went by quickly but was a lot of fun for everyone. We hope to see everyone at the Club events this spring! If you have any ideas for activities, feel free to reach out to our adviser, Professor Ziobro or:

Victoria Sharp, President

Giovanni Palumbo, Vice-President

Me, Killian Mann, Treasurer

And we could still use a secretary and parliamentarian! If anyone is interested in pitching in, send an email to Professor Ziobro.

Artwork courtesy Jonathan Conner



MA THESES AND COMPREHENSIVE EXAMS

Thesis defenses took place via zoom once again this summer and fall. While this was a novelty in the spring, we were all old pros at this point!

History Theses Successfully Defended:

(* denotes completed with distinction)

Matthew T. Degenhardt, "Irish Sectarian Violence, 1918-1923." Readers: Drs. Ken Campbell and Maryanne Rhett

Collin Dougherty, "The Embattered European 'Isthmus:' Hungary, Trauma, and the Road to Orbanism." Readers: Drs. Tom Pearson and Maryanne Rhett *

Bill Elwell, "Steel Rails to the Seashore: Railroads, Tourism, and Commuters at the Jersey Shore." Readers: Dr. Richard Veit and Prof. Melissa Ziobro *

Joe Grabas, "The Promise of Land: African American Land Ownership during the Colonial and Antebellum Period in Monmouth County, NJ." Readers: Drs. Richard Veit and Ken Campbell *

Jenna Paterno, "Up Against the Wall: Leftist Musicians and the Appropriation of Music by Ultra Right-Wing Extremists." Readers: Drs. Maryanne Rhett and Ken Campbell

Aly Riley, "Secret Shadows: The Role of Female Spies and the Significance of Espionage in the American Revolution." Readers: Drs. Richard Veit and Katherine Parkin

Lauren Rorie, "All for the Freedom of Her People: Elizabeth Catlett - A Black Feminist Internationalist." Readers: Drs. Hettie Williams, Maryanne Rhett, and Julius Adekunle *

History Comprehensive Exams Passed:

Owen Flanagan *

Daniel Gregor

Anthropology Theses Successfully Defended:

Matthew Craig, "A City's Response to Epidemic: The Archaeological Investigation into the Lazaretto Quarantine Hospital at Essington Township, Pennsylvania." Readers: Drs. Richard Veit and Adam Heinrich

Bianca Lucarini, "A Picture Is Worth a Thousand Likes." Readers: Dr. Nica Davidov and Professor Melissa Ziobro *

(Continued, next page)



In Memoriam

We remember our recent history graduate and Marine Corps veteran Patrick Duva, who passed away on November 5th.

Please join us in keeping his family and friends in your thoughts.

You can read more about Patrick

[here.](#)

MA THESES AND COMPREHENSIVE EXAMS

Taylor Napoleon, “A Predictive Model for Pre-Contact Period Occupation within the Rancocas Creek Watershed: Ranking Variables Using Random Forests.” Readers: Drs. Geoff Fouad and Adam Heinrich

Ashley Parker, “Humanizing Visitor Data: Seeking Connections Through Nostalgia, Childhood, Family, and Education.” Readers: Profs Heidi Bludau and Melissa Ziobro *

WORKS IN PROGRESS SERIES

Our Works in Progress series provides a forum for both full time and part time faculty in the Department of History and Anthropology (and occasionally beyond) to present their research in progress and teaching pedagogy to the campus community. Presentations generally take place once per month from 1:15-2:15 pm on Wednesdays in HH 342. This semester, presentations were virtual. Dr. Geoff Fouad now coordinates the program, which was started by Dr. Hettie Williams.

The following presentations took place in the Fall 2020:

Presenter: Dr. Kristin B. Bluemel

Title: Preserving Peter Rabbit: Beatrix Potter, the Lake District, and Conservative Modernity

Presenter: Dr. Stanton Green

Title: Engaging with Millennials about Climate Change

Presenter: Professor Pat Cresson

Title: The Interface Between Marine Biology and Creative Microscopic Inhabitants of the Sea

See more about these talks, and the Works in Progress series generally, [here.](#)

NEWS AND NOTES

Here we present good news from throughout the Department, in no particular order:

Dr. Anjali Vats will be speaking for Black History month about her book *The Color of Creatorship*, an intellectual property history of race and the creator/infringer dichotomy. Stay tuned for more info from Dr. Hettie Williams.

Our Anthropology program was ranked 6th in the nation by CollegeFactual! Students, alumni, faculty, and the university all played a role in the metrics used. See more [here](#).

Professor Melisa Ziobro hosted several episodes of Preservation New Jersey's new web series, "Q&A with PNJ." It seeks to highlight voices across New Jersey's historic preservation community and bring their knowledge and expertise on a wide variety of historic preservation topics to the public. You can view the whole series for free, anytime, [here](#).

Save the date! On January 27, 2021, Dr. Hettie Williams will be in conversation with Dr. Ibram X. Kendi, one of the most prominent public intellectuals of our day, for the Martin Luther King Distinguished Lecture. Faculty and students may request a complimentary copy of the book [here](#) and register for the talk [here](#).

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Brian Greenberg, Professor of History Emeritus, on winning the Commerford Labor Education Award, bestowed by the New York Labor History Association!

Gabrielle Mauriello and Lauren Rorie both turned papers from Dr. Hettie Williams's Spring 2020 African American Historiography graduate course into a publication in the award winning peer-reviewed blog *Black Perspectives*, published by the African American Intellectual History Society. See more [here](#) and [here](#). Congrats, Gabrielle, Lauren, and Dr. Williams!

The new publication, *Democracy in Crisis around the World*, is edited by our Provost Rekha Datta and Professor of Political Science Dr. Saliba Sarsar. It features essays from Department faculty Dr. Julius Adekunle, Dr. Ken Campbell, and Dr. Tom Pearson. Congratulations, colleagues! See more [here](#).

Graduate student William Elwell won a \$300 research grant from the NJ Studies Academic Alliance for his work on the relationship between NJ's railroad and tourism industries, specifically at the Shore. Congrats, Bill!

"This Week in Black History, Society, and Culture," the podcast of the Black and African Diaspora Forum Unit-

NEWS AND NOTES

ed (BADFU), has been accessed thousands of times around the globe since its inception this September. Dr. Hettie Williams is the driving force behind this project, while Dr. Mel Brzycki has produced and Dr. Katherine Parkin has hosted. See more [here](#).

On Saturday, October 10th, Professor Adam Black represented the Monmouth University faculty in the first ever installment of Hawk TV Trivia Night! Kudos to Professor Black and all those who worked to ensure a full college experience for the students even in these trying times.

Dr. Tom Pearson continued his stalwart leadership of the World Cinema series even as the ongoing pandemic made live viewing in Pollak Theatre untenable. The 2020-2021 theme is “A Delicate Balance: Global Communities and the Natural Environment.” The series kicked off with a zoom discussion of participants' independent viewing of *The Salt of the Earth* (2014). There are events scheduled for January-April. See more [here](#).

The Department continues to be a co-sponsor of *New Jersey Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal*, along with the New Jersey Historical Commission and Rutgers University Libraries. Professor Melissa Ziobro is the editor of this peer-reviewed, open access publication. Access it anytime, [here](#).

This semester, our own Professor Richard Veit and Urban Coast Institute Marine Scientist Jim Nickels brought their maritime archaeology class aboard the R/V Heidi Lynn Sculthorpe to scan for wrecks along the bottom of the Sandy Hook Bay and Shrewsbury River.

Through this unique course, students explore the underwater history of New Jersey through readings, lectures and fieldwork, including the use of side-scan sonar and camera-equipped remote operated vehicle technologies.

In advance of the 2020 presidential election, Dr. Chris DeRosa shared his thoughts on the electoral college with *Monmouth Magazine*. See more [here](#).

That edition also featured an article focused on Dr. Katherine Parkin's work on the Christmas Boycott of 1963. See more [here](#).

It also featured an interview with Dr. Hettie Williams on the ongoing fight for Black equality. See more [here](#).

On December 16, Dr. Maryanne Rhett participated in the World History Association workshop, “Comics, World History, and the Classroom.” This event focused on the opportunities and pitfalls of using comics in the World History classroom.

Professor Sean McHugh and graduate

NEWS AND NOTES

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student Matthew Craig helped Richard Grubb and Associates conduct a unique archaeological investigation to uncover and fully document a previously identified, mid-to-late nineteenth-century canal barge. See more [here](#).

Monmouth University students and researchers, including Dr. Geoff Fouad, returned this semester to Crosswicks Creek in Bordentown, where two ships destroyed in the Revolutionary War were found lastwinter. See more [here](#).

Gillian Demetriou and Vincent Sauchelli completed three oral history interviews for the Monmouth Memories Oral History Program as a part of their oral history independent study this semester. They preserved the stories of Gary Barnett, '63, Brielle Pett, '20, and Omar Abdelmoneim, a current student. You can read more about the Program [here](#).

Congrats to former GIS minor student, Gina Badlowski, who is the lead author on a paper with Professor Jason Adolf of the Urban Coast Institute and our own Dr. Geoff Fouad that has been accepted for publication in the journal *Environmental Monitoring and Assessment*.

The Monmouth University Urban Coast Institute (UCI) awarded a Heidi Lynn Sculthorpe Faculty Enrichment Grant for a study of COVID-19's impacts on the African American community in Asbury Park, New Jersey. Titled "Paradoxical Paradise: Asbury Park (An African American Oral History and Mapping Project)," the project is led by our Dr. Hettie V. Williams, Dr. Geoffrey Fouad, and Professor Melissa Ziobro. See more [here](#) and [here](#).