

Preservation Books

What's in your library and how do you rate it

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Introduction

PlaceEconomics and our companion firm, Heritage Strategies International, work at the intersection of historic resources and economics. To inform our own research, but also to provide insights to those working in the field of heritage conservation, we periodically conduct online surveys which we call *PresPolls*.

This poll asked about preservation-related books in thirteen categories. PlaceEconomics colleagues suggested books within each category to constitute the survey, but for every question there was also an opportunity for survey respondents to suggest books they felt should be included in that category. Respondents were asked to rate the books on the following scale: 1 = Poor; 2 = Fair; 3 = Good; 4 = Very Good; 5 = Excellent. The option "I don't know this book" was the alternative choice.

There was also a fourteenth, open-ended question for survey respondents to identify books they felt should be in a preservation library. Your bookshelf needs to be large, as nearly 100 additional books were recommended.

The survey was open from June 7 through June 11, 2021. Just short of 100 responses were received. It is important to understand this is *not* a random survey of the general population. The vast majority of both our Facebook friends and our mailing lists have at least an interest in and are often vocal advocates for historic preservation and many are professionally involved in the fields of historic preservation and heritage conservation.

The PlaceEconomics crew also took the opportunity to identify our book choice in each of the areas. Those colleagues include Katlyn Cotton, Director of Marketing and Design; Alyssa Frystak, Director of Research and Data Analytics; Starr Herr-Cardillo, Content Writer; Donovan Rypkema, Principal; and Rodney Swink, Senior Associate for Planning and Development. Consider these choices similar to the "Staff Recommends" list at your local bookstore.

These surveys are conducted using Survey Monkey, a link to which is provided through our direct mail list and through social media. The link to the survey was shared via our three Facebook pages (PlaceEconomics, Heritage Strategies International, and Donovan Rypkema) as well as on the "Historic Preservation Professionals" Facebook page, a private group with approximately 5,400 members, and the National Trust's Preservation Forum. Additionally, we sent a link to the survey to our domestic and international mailing lists of more than 6,000.

Finally, four things became apparent in reading the results of this survey. First, there were several titles suggested by survey respondents that once we saw them, we said, "of course we should have listed that book." Second, we obviously should have had an "architectural history" section. I don't know how we missed that. Third, although as noted, most of these respondents are self-described preservationists, there are a wide variety of interests within the field. These interests range from

the conservation of materials to architectural history, to social anthropology, to urban planning, to racial equity. The richness of the field of historic preservation is enhanced by the diversity and complexity of the issues within the field. Fourth, it is clearly evident that the world of historic preservation has moved far beyond just thinking about buildings to a focus on the people who built, live and work in, and are affected by the heritage context of their communities.

Key Findings

The five best known books were:

- *A Field Guide to American Houses*, McAlester
- *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*, Jacobs
- *Devil in the White City*, Larson
- *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil*, Berendt
- *With Heritage So Rich*, Rains

The six highest rated books were:

- *The Color of Law*, Rothstein
- *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*, Jacobs
- *A Terrible Thing to Waste: Environmental Racism and Its Assault on the American Mind*, Washington
- *A Field Guide to American Houses*, McAlester
- *Building the Dream: A Social History of Housing in America*, Wright
- *The Power of Place*, Hayden

Six rather than five were included as "highest rated" in that *A Terrible Thing to Waste* earned the third highest score, but the sample was quite small as almost 90% of respondents were unfamiliar with the book.

It should be noted that the difference between the Highest Rated and the next highest in any given category were often so small as to be statistically insignificant. But there was a general pattern that the better a book was known the higher it scored.

Most frequently added by respondents (whether or not it was on one of our lists)

- *The Color of Law*, Rothstein
- *Keeping Time: The History and Theory of Preservation in America*, Murtaugh
- *A Richer Heritage: Historic Preservation in the Twenty-First Century*, Stipe

There may be an opportunity for more books in the interrelated "Historic as Green Building" and "Historic Preservation as Sustainable Development" categories in that no respondents to the survey suggested additional books in those questions.

However well-read we think we are and however full our bookcases, there is an abundance of riches of preservation books yet to be discovered.

Question 1 – Introduction to Historic Preservation

When you know nothing about preservation, the book that provides you with the basics you need to know.

Best known: *Historic Preservation: An Introduction to its History, Principles, and Practice*

Highest rated: *Historic Preservation: Curatorial Management of the Built World*

Survey Results:

Book	Author	Score	I don't know this book
<i>Historic Preservation: An Introduction to its History, Principles, and Practice</i>	Tyler et al	3.68	27.8%
<i>Historic Preservation: Curatorial Management of the Built World</i>	Fitch	3.69	46.7%
<i>Readings in Historic Preservation: Why? What? How?</i>	Williams, et al	3.60	72.2%
<i>Historic Preservation: Caring for Our Expanding Legacy</i>	Tomlan	3.34	61.1%

Additional Respondent Choices:¹

- *The Same Ax, Twice: Restoration and Renewal in a Throwaway Age*, Mansfield
- *Loving Frank: A Novel*, Horan
- *They All Fall Down: Richard Nickel's Struggle to Save America's Architecture*, Cahan
- *Keeping Time: The History and Theory of Preservation in America*, Murtagh
- *Giving preservation a history* - Page and Mason
- *Keeping Time: The History and Theory of Preservation in America*, Murtaugh
- *Human-Centered Built Environment Heritage Preservation: Theory and Evidence-Based Practice*, Wells and Stiefel
- *Design with Culture: Claiming America's Landscape Heritage*, Birnbaum and Hughes
- *Preserving Cultural Landscapes in America*, Arnold and Melnick
- *Keeping Time: The History and Theory of Preservation in America*, Murtaugh
- *A Richer Heritage: Historic Preservation in the Twenty-First Century*, Stipe
- *Giving Preservation a History*, Page and Mason
- *Preserving the World's Great Cities*, Tung
- *With Heritage So Rich*, Rains

¹ When a book appears more than once it means more than one respondent mentioned that book

- *Revitalizing Main Street: A Practitioner's Guide to Comprehensive Commercial District Revitalization*, Dono
- *Keeping Time: The History and Theory of Preservation in America*, Murtaugh
- *A Richer Heritage: Historic Preservation in the Twenty-First Century*, Stipe

PlaceEconomics' choices:

Katlyn: *Historic Preservation: An Introduction to its History, Principles, and Practice*

Alyssa: *Historic Preservation: Caring for Our Expanding Legacy*

Starr: *Historic Preservation: An Introduction to its History, Principles, and Practice*

Donovan: *Historic Preservation: An Introduction to its History, Principles, and Practice*

Rodney: no choice

Question 2 – Influential

We're looking for the book that got you into preservation, the one that set your course and defined the type of preservationist you wanted to be, the gateway book, the *To Kill a Mockingbird* of preservation books.

Best known: *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*

Highest rated: *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*

Survey Results:

Book	Author	Score	I don't know this book
<i>The Death and Life of Great American Cities</i>	Jacobs	4.35	7.6%
<i>The Power of Place</i>	Hayden	4.27	34.4%
<i>A Richer Heritage</i>	Stipe	3.87	30.0%
<i>The Past is a Foreign Country</i>	Lowenthal	3.98	51.1%
<i>The Living City</i>	Gratz	3.58	50.6%

Additional Respondent Choices:

- *Outside Lies Magic: Regaining History and Awareness in Everyday Places*, Stilgoe
- *Imagining the Past: East Hampton Histories*, Breen and Kelly
- *The Experience of Place*, Hiss
- *The Granite Garden: Urban Nature and Human Design*, Spirn
- *The Geography of Nowhere*, Kunstler
- *Preservation Comes of Age*, Hosmer
- *With Heritage so Rich*, Rains

PlaceEconomics' choices:

Katlyn: *The Power of Place*

Alyssa: *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*

Starr: *The Power of Place*

Donovan: *The Living City*

Rodney: *A Richer Heritage*

Question 3 – Paradigm Shifting

Which book took what you thought you knew about preservation and exploded it? Is there a read that unleashed a new way of thinking or seeing the world of preservation?

Best known: *How Buildings Learn*

Highest rated: *How Buildings Learn*

Survey Results:

Book	Author	Score	I don't know this book
<i>How Buildings Learn</i>	Brand	4.20	35.2%
<i>Decolonizing Methodologies</i>	Smith	3.57	84.3%
<i>The Anarchist's Guide to Historic House Museums</i>	Vagnone	3.46	58.4%
<i>Uses of Heritage</i>	Smith	3.57	76.4%
<i>Why Old Places Matter: How Historic Places Affect Our Identity and Well-Being</i>	Mayes	3.76	40.0%

Additional Respondent Choices:

- *Preserving What Is Valued*, Clavir.
- *New Solutions for House Museums*, Harris
- *New Solutions for House Museums*, Harris

PlaceEconomics choices:

Katlyn: *Why Old Places Matter: How Historic Places Affect Our Identity and Well-Being*

Alyssa: *Why Old Places Matter: How Historic Places Affect Our Identity and Well-Being*

Starr: *How Buildings Learn*

Donovan: *Why Old Places Matter: How Historic Places Affect Our Identity and Well-Being*

Rodney: no choice

Question 4 – Likely to Rile You Up

You know when you're reading a book that's so eye-opening, so full of useful stats and tantalizing information that you find yourself wiggling in your seat and pacing around your house reading it? We're looking for the kind of book that makes you feel ready to get to work solving the world's problems, or makes you want to share each line with your pets, your partners, or even complete strangers so you can say "See?! See how this makes so much sense?!"

Best known: *The Geography of Nowhere*

Highest rated: *Race for Profit: How Banks and the Real Estate Industry Undermined Black Homeownership*

Survey Results:

Book	Author	Score	I don't know this book
<i>Family Properties: How the Struggle over Race and Real Estate Transformed Chicago and Urban America</i>	Satter	3.50	82.0%
<i>Race for Profit: How Banks and the Real Estate Industry Undermined Black Homeownership</i>	Taylor	3.95	77.5%
<i>Stolen: How to Save the World from Financialisation</i>	Blakeley	3.86	92.1%
<i>How to Kill a City: Gentrification, Inequality, and the Fight for the Neighborhood</i>	Moskowitz	3.83	74.2%
<i>The Geography of Nowhere</i>	Kunstler	3.98	37.4%

Additional Respondent Choices:

- *Color of Law*- Rothstein
- *New Urban Frontier*, Neil Smith
- *Asphalt Nation: How the Automobile Took Over America and How We Can Take It Back*, Kay
- *The Color of Law* - Rothstein
- *Experimental Preservation*, Otero-Pailos
- *The Color of Law*, Rothstein
- *Suburban Nation*, Duany et al
- *The Color of Law*, Rothstein

PlaceEconomics choices:

Katlyn: *Stolen: How to Save the World from Financialisation*

Alyssa: *Family Properties: How the Struggle over Race and Real Estate Transformed Chicago and Urban America*

Starr: *How to Kill a City: Gentrification, Inequality, and the Fight for the Neighborhood*

Donovan: *The Geography of Nowhere*

Rodney: *The Geography of Nowhere*

Question 5 – Incognito Preservation Book

Sometimes, labels can really get in the way. Few people will read a preservation book if they don't think they're interested in preservation and plenty of books, movies, and music are about preservation-related themes like place, collective history, and identity. What great reads are really preservation reads in disguise? Looking for fiction, memoirs, essays, short story collections and the like.

Best known: *Devil in the White City*

Highest rated: *Wrestling With Moses*

Survey Results:

Book	Author	Score	I don't know this book
<i>The City and the City</i>	Miéville	3.64	87.2%
<i>The Yellow House</i>	Broom	4.00	85.2%
<i>Devil in the White City</i>	Larson	3.96	18.9%
<i>Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil</i>	Berendt	3.68	19.1%
<i>Wrestling With Moses</i>	Flint	4.05	74.7%
<i>The Stones of Florence</i>	McCarthy	3.60	83.0%
<i>Invisible Cities</i>	Calvino	3.82	68.5%

Additional Respondent Choices:

- *Bowling Alone: The Collapse and Revival of American Community*, Putman, et al
- *Pillars of Earth*, Follet
- *Loving Frank*, Horan
- *Pillars of the Earth*, Follett
- *Somerset Homecoming*, Redford
- Everything by Josephine Humphries

PlaceEconomics choices:

Katlyn: *The City and the City*

Alyssa: *The Yellow House*

Starr: *The Yellow House*

Donovan: *Invisible Cities*

Rodney: *Devil in the White City*

Question 6 – Preservation as Green Building

We all know the greenest building is the one that's already been built. But which book makes the best case for historic preservation as green building

Best known: *The Power of Existing Buildings: Save Money, Improve Health, and Reduce Environmental Impacts*

Highest rated: *The Power of Existing Buildings: Save Money, Improve Health, and Reduce Environmental Impacts*

Survey Results:

Book	Author	Score	I don't know this book
<i>The Power of Existing Buildings: Save Money, Improve Health, and Reduce Environmental Impacts</i>	Sroufe Jr., et al	4.26	41.9%
<i>Green Restorations: Sustainable Building and Historic Homes</i>	Lubeck	4.24	43.5%
<i>Historic Preservation Technology: A Primer</i>	Young	4.05	51.6%
<i>Sustainable Preservation: Greening Existing Buildings</i>	Carroon and Moe	4.14	55.6%

Additional Respondent Choices:

- None

PlaceEconomics choices:

Katlyn: no choice

Alyssa: no choice

Starr: no choice

Donovan: *Historic Preservation Technology: A Primer*. Young and *Green Restorations: Sustainable Building and Historic Homes*, Lubeck

Rodney: no choice

Question 7 – Historic Preservation as Sustainability

Looking for that read that convincingly and eloquently proves preservation and sustainability--social, economic, and environmental--go hand-in-hand.

Best known: *Buildings, Landscapes, and Memory: Case Studies in Historic Preservation*

Highest rated: *A Terrible Thing to Waste: Environmental Racism and Its Assault on the American Mind*

Survey Results:

Book	Author	Score	I don't know this book
<i>Design for Ecological Democracy</i>	Hester	4.20	93.9%
<i>A Terrible Thing to Waste: Environmental Racism and Its Assault on the American Mind</i>	Washington	4.33	89.3%
<i>Buildings, Landscapes, and Memory: Case Studies in Historic Preservation</i>	Bluestone	4.02	50.0%
<i>Paradise Built in Hell: The Extraordinary Communities That Arise in Disaster</i>	Solnit	3.45	87.1%
<i>Sustainable Heritage: Merging Environmental Conservation and Historic Preservation</i>	Leifeste and Steifel	4.12	80.0%

Additional Respondent Choices:

- None

PlaceEconomics choices:

Katlyn: *Paradise Built in Hell: The Extraordinary Communities That Arise in Disaster*

Alyssa: *Buildings, Landscapes, and Memory: Case Studies in Historic Preservation*

Starr: *Buildings, Landscapes, and Memory: Case Studies in Historic Preservation*

Donovan: *Sustainable Heritage: Merging Environmental Conservation and Historic Preservation*

Rodney: *Design for Ecological Democracy*

Question 8 – Racial and Social Equity

What books make a strong case for the connection between preservation/preservation-adjacent fields and racial and social equity?

Best known: *The Color of Law*

Highest rated: *The Color of Law*

Survey Results:

Book	Author	Score	I don't know this book
<i>Why Preservation Matters</i>	Page	3.90	42.5%
<i>Place, Race, & Story</i>	Kaufman	3.94	62.4%
<i>The Color of Law</i>	Rothstein	4.60	42.2%
<i>The Right to the City: Social Justice and the Fight for Public Space</i>	Mitchell	4.23	74.4%
<i>The Sustainers: Being, Building and Doing Good Through Activism in the Sacred Spaces of Civil Rights, Human Rights and Social Movements</i>	Bruce	4.17	85.9%

Additional Respondent Choices:

- *Slavery and Public History: The Tough Stuff of American Memory*, Horton

PlaceEconomics choices:

Katlyn: *The Right to the City: Social Justice and the Fight for Public Space*

Alyssa: *Place, Race, & Story*

Starr: *The Right to the City: Social Justice and the Fight for Public Space*

Donovan: *The Color of Law*

Rodney: *The Color of Law*

Question 9 – Reference Book

Which book do NEED on your work bookshelf & find yourself turning to again and again?

Best known: *A Field Guide to American Houses*

Highest rated: *A Field Guide to American Houses*

Survey Results:

Book	Author	Score	I don't know this book
<i>A Field Guide to American Houses</i>	McAlester	4.29	6.6%
<i>Visual Dictionary of Architecture</i>	Ching	4.16	33.7%
<i>The Fate of Place</i>	Casey	3.00	91.6%
<i>Presence of the Past: a History of Preservation in the United States before Williamsburg</i>	Hosmer	3.47	55.3%
<i>With Heritage So Rich</i>	Rains	3.81	22.1%

Additional Respondent Choices:

- *America's Favorite Homes*, Schweitzer
- *Dictionary of Building Preservation*, Bucher and Madrid
- *Preservation Comes of Age*, Hosmer
- *Dictionary of Architecture and Construction*, Harris
- *Architecture: The Natural and the Manmade*, Scully
- *Twentieth-Century Building Materials: History and Conservation*, Jester
- *About Your House*, Yapp
- *The Conservation Easement Handbook*, Byers and Ponte
- *Revolving funds for historic preservation: A manual of practice*, Ziegler
- *Conserving Buildings: Guide to Techniques and Materials*, Weaver
- *American Vernacular Buildings* Gottfried and Jennings
- *The Buildings of Main Street: a Guide to American Commercial Architecture*, Longstreth and Liebs

PlaceEconomics choices:

Katlyn: *With Heritage So Rich*

Alyssa: *With Heritage So Rich*

Starr: *Visual Dictionary of Architecture*

Donovan: *The Fate of Place*

Rodney: *With Heritage So Rich*

Question 10 – Planning Related Book

Which book helps get preservationists up to speed on planning-related issues or has helped you better understand the world of planning?

Best known: *Image of the City*

Highest rated: *The Power Broker*

Survey Results:

Book	Author	Score	I don't know this book
<i>Capital City</i>	Stein	3.8	84.7%
<i>Social Justice and the City</i>	Harvey	4.0	75.6%
<i>The Great Good Place</i>	Oldenburg	3.9	74.1%
<i>Design After Decline: How America Rebuilds Shrinking Cities</i>	Ryan	3.2	82.6%
<i>The 99% Invisible City: A Field Guide to the Hidden World of Everyday Design</i>	Mars and Kohlstedt	3.6	68.2%
<i>The Power Broker</i>	Caro	4.2	65.5%
<i>Changing Places: Rebuilding Community in the Age of Sprawl</i>	Moe and Wilkie	3.7	61.6%
<i>Image of the City</i>	Lynch	4.1	48.2%

Additional Respondent Choices:

- *A Pattern Language: Towns, Buildings, Construction*, Alexander et al
- *A Pattern Language: Towns, Buildings, Construction*, Alexander et al
- *The Timeless Way of Building*, Alexander

PlaceEconomics choices:

Katlyn: *The 99% Invisible City: A Field Guide to the Hidden World of Everyday Design*

Alyssa: *Design After Decline: How America Rebuilds Shrinking Cities*

Starr: *Capital City*

Donovan: *The Great Good Place*

Rodney: *Image of the City*

Question 11 – Urban History Book

Which book offers a noteworthy, nuanced, or fascinating urban history?

Best known: *Crabgrass Frontier*

Highest rated: *Empire of Mud: The Secret History of Washington, DC*, and *The Myth of Santa Fe* (tie)

Survey Results:

Book	Author	Score	I don't know this book
<i>Empire of Mud: The Secret History of Washington, DC</i>	Dickey	4.00	90.6%
<i>The Myth of Santa Fe</i>	Wilson	4.00	81.0%
<i>The Third Coast: When Chicago Built the American Dream</i>	Syja	3.57	83.1%
<i>La Calle</i>	Otero	3.25	95.2%
<i>Crabgrass Frontier</i>	Jackson	3.91	49.4%

Additional Respondent Choices:

- *The Big Roads: The Untold Story of the Engineers, Visionaries, and Trailblazers Who Created the American Superhighways*, Swift
- *Tulsa! Biography of an American City*, Goble
- *The New City: Urban America in the Industrial Age, 1860-1920*, Mohl
- *Urban America in the Modern Age*, Abbott
- *The Hub's Metropolis*, O'Connell,
- *Southern CA: An Island on the Land*, McWilliams
- *Main Street (The Face of Urban America)*, Rifkind
- *The Making of Urban America. A History of City Planning in the United States*, Reps
- *Close-Up: How to Read the American City*, Clay

PlaceEconomics choices:

Katlyn: *Empire of Mud: The Secret History of Washington, DC*

Alyssa: *The Third Coast: When Chicago Built the American Dream*

Starr: *La Calle*

Donovan: *Crabgrass Frontier*

Rodney: *Crabgrass Frontier*

Question 12 – Landscape or Cultural Landscape

What books have helped you expand your preservation thinking to the realm of the cultural landscape?

Best known: *Discovering the Vernacular Landscape* and *The Social Life of Small Urban Spaces* (tie)

Highest rated: *The Social Life of Small Urban Spaces*

Survey Results:

Book	Author	Score	I don't know this book
<i>Discovering the Vernacular Landscape</i>	Jackson	4.03	56.3%
<i>American Space</i>	Jackson	3.73	69.8%
<i>The Last Landscape</i>	Whyte	3.85	76.2%
<i>City: Rediscovering the Center</i>	Whyte	3.92	70.5%
<i>Designing with Culture: Claiming America's Landscape Heritage</i>	Birnbaum and Hughes	3.78	68.2%
<i>The Social Life of Small Urban Spaces</i>	Whyte	4.21	56.3%

Additional Respondent Choices:

- *A Sand County Almanac*, Leopold
- *The People's Land*, Brody
- *Understanding Ordinary Landscapes*, Groth
- *Landscape and Memory*, Schama
- *Shadowed Ground: America's Landscapes of Violence and Tragedy*, Foote

PlaceEconomics choices:

Katlyn: *Discovering the Vernacular Landscape*

Alyssa: *Discovering the Vernacular Landscape*

Starr: *Discovering the Vernacular Landscape*

Donovan: *The Social Life of Small Urban Spaces*

Rodney: *City: Rediscovering the Center*

Question 13 – Other Preservation Book

What books didn't make the above lists but are still important preservation reads?

Best known: *Preserving New York: Winning the Right to Protect a City's Landmarks*

Highest rated: *Building the Dream: A Social History of Housing in America*

Survey Results:

Book	Author	Score	I don't know this book
<i>New Solutions for House Museums, Harris</i>	Harris	3.87	60.0%
<i>Giving Preservation a History: Histories of Historic Preservation in the United States</i>	Mason and Page	4.13	60.3%
<i>Building the Dream: A Social History of Housing in America</i>	Wright	4.29	44.1%
<i>Cities back from the Edge: New Life for Downtown</i>	Gratz and Mintz	3.97	58.7%
<i>The Past and Future City: How Historic Preservation is Reviving America's Communities</i>	Meeks and Murphy	3.82	68.2%
<i>The Politics of Historic Districts: A Primer for Grassroots Preservation</i>	Schmickle	3.98	53.8%
<i>Preserving New York: Winning the Right to Protect a City's Landmarks</i>	Wood	4.25	40.0%

Additional Respondent Choices:

PlaceEconomics choices:

Katlyn: *Giving Preservation a History: Histories of Historic Preservation in the United States*

Alyssa: *Giving Preservation a History: Histories of Historic Preservation in the United States*

Starr: *Giving Preservation a History: Histories of Historic Preservation in the United States*

Donovan: *Cities back from the Edge: New Life for Downtown*

Rodney: no choice

Question 14 – What other preservation books should be in our library

- *A Golden Haze of Memory: The Making of Historic Charleston*, Yuhl
- *A Richer Heritage: Historic Preservation in the Twenty-First Century*, Stipe
- *City on a Hill: Urban Idealism in America from the Puritans to the Present*, Krieger
- *Harvard: An Architectural History*, Bunting and Floyd
- *American Architecture Since 1780: A Guide to the Styles*, Whiffen
- *American Architecture: A History*, Roth and Clark
- *American Culture, American Tastes: Social Change and the 20th Century*, Kamen
- *Another City: Urban Life and Urban Spaces in the New American Republic*, Upton
- Anything written by Harley McKee
- *A History of Architecture: Settings and Rituals*, Kostof
- *The Architecture of Madness: Insane Asylums in the United States*. Yanni
- *Architecture Without Architects: A Short Introduction to Non-Pedigreed Architecture*, Rudofsky
- *Architecture: A Visual History*, Glancey
- *Bending the Future: Fifty Ideas for the Next Fifty Years of Historic Preservation in the United States*, Page
- *Big House, Little House, Back House, Barn: The Connected Farm Buildings of New England*, Hubka
- *Bright Future: the Re-use of Industrial Buildings*, Binney
- *A Building History of Northern New England*, Garvin
- *Building Washington: Engineering and Construction of the New Federal City, 1790-1840*, Kapsch
- *Sustaining a City's Culture and Character: Principles and Best Practices*, Wolfe and Haas
- *City Center to Regional Mall: Architecture, the Automobile, and Retailing in Los Angeles, 1920-1950*, Longstreth
- *Conserving Buildings: Guide to Techniques and Materials*, Weaver
- *Construction Before Mechanization*, Fitchen
- *Converting Storefronts to Housing*, APA
- *American Residential Architecture: Photographs of the Evolution of Indiana Houses*; Kuhner and Ward:
- *Curated Decay*, Desilvey
- *Devil's Bargains: Tourism in the Twentieth Century. American West*, Rothman
- *Dictionary of Architecture and Construction*, Harris
- *Dictionary of Building Preservation*, Bucher
- *Economy of Cities*, Jacobs
- *Everyday America: Cultural Landscape Studies after J. B. Jackson*, Wilson and Groth
- *Field Guide to New England Barns and Farm Buildings*, Visser

- *Goodbye history, hello hamburger: An anthology of architectural delights and disasters*, Huxtable
- *Great Streets*, Jacobs
- *Historic Capital: Preservation, Race, and Real Estate in Washington, D.C.*, Logan
- *Historic Preservation for a Living City: Historic Charleston Foundation, 1947-1997*, Weyeneth
- *Historic Real Estate: Market Morality and the Politics of Preservation in the Early United States*, Martinko
- *Historic Real Estate: Market Morality and the Politics of Preservation in the Early United States*, Martinko
- *Global History of Architecture*. Fletcher
- *How the Working-Class Home Became Modern, 1900–1940*, Hubka
- *In Praise of Shadows*, Tanizaki
- *Intangible Heritage (Key Issues in Cultural Heritage)*, by Smith and Akagawa
- *Ishmael: A Novell*, Quinn
- *Architectural Conservation in Europe and the Americas*, Stubbs
- *Time Honored: A Global View of Architectural Conservation*, Stubbs
- *Architectural Conservation in Asia: National Experiences and Practice*, Stubbs
- *Main Street to Miracle Mile: American Roadside Architecture*, Liebs
- *Mickey Mouse History and Other Essays on American Memory*, Wallace
- *Root Shock: How Tearing Up City Neighborhoods Hurts America, And What We Can Do About It*, Fullilove
- *Motel of the Mysteries*, MacCauley
- *Our Vanishing Landscape*, Sloane
- *Places That Count: Traditional Cultural Properties in Cultural Resource Management*, King
- *Preservation and Social Inclusion*, Avrami
- *Preservation and Social Inclusion*, Avrami
- *Public Planning and Control of Urban and Land Development: Cases and Materials*, Hagman
- *Routledge Companion for Global Heritage Conservation*, Bharne and Sandmeier
- *Seven Lamps of Architecture*, Ruskin
- *Sacred Objects and Sacred Places: Preserving Tribal Traditions*, Gulliford
- *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings*, National Park Service
- *Shaping the City: New York and the Municipal Art Society*, Gilmartin
- *Sprawl: A Compact History*, Brueggmann
- *The Architecture of Happiness*, De Button
- *The Chesapeake House: Architectural Investigation by Colonial Williamsburg*, Carson and Lounsbury
- *Costs of Sprawl*, Ewing and Hamidi
- *The Destruction of Memory: Architecture at War*, Bevan
- *The Economics of Historic Preservation: A Community Leader's Guide*, Rypkema
- *The Future of the Past: A Conservation Ethic for Architecture, Urbanism, and Historic Preservation*, Semes

- *The Heart of Our Cities: The Urban Crisis, Diagnosis and Cure*, Gruen
- *The Injustice Never Leaves You: Anti-Mexican Violence in Texas*, Martinez
- *The Old Way of Seeing: How Architecture Lost Its Magic (and How to Get It Back)*, Hale
- *The Urban Revolution*, Lefebvre
- *The World Without Us*, Weisman
- *They All Fall Down: Richard Nickel's Struggle to Save America's Architecture*, Cahan
- *Timber Frame Construction: All About Post-and-Beam Building*, Sobon
- *Traditional Construction Patterns: Design and Detail Rules-of-Thumb*, Mouzon
- *Triumph of the City: How Our Greatest Invention Makes Us Richer, Smarter, Greener, Healthier, and Happier*, Glaeser
- *Urban Lowlands: A History of Neighborhoods, Poverty, and Planning*, Moga
- *Variations on a Theme Park*, Sorkin
- *Vitruvius: The Ten Books on Architecture*, Vitruvius and Morgan
- *Why Architecture Matters*, Goldberger et al
- *Window Preservation Standards*, Yapp et al

PlaceEconomics Crew Choices

Must-read preservation book

Katlyn: *The Color of Law*, Rothstein

Alyssa: *Evicted*, Desmond

Starr: *The Power of Place*, Hayden

Donovan: *Why Old Places Matter*, Mayes

Rodney: *Color of Law*, Rothstein

Preservation book if I'm stranded on a desert island

Katlyn: *Devil in the White City*, Larson

Alyssa: *Division Street America*, Terkel

Starr: *All Over the Map*, Sorkin

Donovan: *Invisible Cities*, Calvino

Rodney: *Devil in the White City*, Larson

My next preservation book purchase

Katlyn: *Race for Profit: How Banks and the Real Estate Industry Undermined Black Homeownership*, Taylor

Alyssa: *Little White Houses: How the Postwar Home Constructed Race in America*, Harris

Starr: *The Sustainers: Being, Building and Doing Good Through Activism in the Sacred Spaces of Civil Rights, Human Rights and Social Movements*, Bruce

Donovan: *Playing with the Past: Exploring Values in Heritage Practice*, Clark

Rodney: *Designing with Culture: Claiming America's Landscape Heritage*, Birnbaum and Hughes

Conclusion

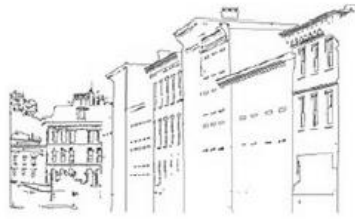
Some have argued that historic preservation is not a distinct field of scholarship nor a separate area of professional practice. Rather it should be seen as simply a subset of architecture or urban planning or cultural anthropology or history.

We believe that the depth and breadth of the writings on historic preservation amply demonstrate preservation's legitimacy as a discrete professional and academic sphere of activity. The cross-sectoral interests and undertakings of preservationists position the field as complementary to, not subordinate to a wide range of professional, academic, technical, cultural, and political activities.

The results of the PresPoll provide ample opportunities to identify a new (to us) books to explore, perhaps beyond our current focus, but within the field of preservation. Knowing more about the principles, practices, and challenges in other areas of preservation cannot help but make us better within our own realms.

The diversity of interest areas, perspectives, scholarship, and opportunities in historic preservation make it an interesting and ever-evolving field within which we individually have the ongoing opportunity to grow. A book or two from these lists can help us do that.

Appendix 1 – Copy of Survey



PlaceEconomics

Preservation Library

What preservation related books are on your shelves? Which is the best among them? The choices below were included by the PlaceEconomics crew, but every category gives you an opportunity to add books that aren't on our lists. You may believe we've put a book in the wrong category. Feel free to list that book in the "Other" section in the category where you think it belongs. 1 = Poor, 2 = Fair, 3 = Good, 4 = Very Good, 5 = Excellent.

1. Introduction to Historic Preservation

	1	2	3	4	5	I don't know this book
<i>Historic Preservation: An Introduction to its History, Principles, and Practice, Tyler et. al.</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>Historic Preservation: Curatorial Management of the Built World, Fitch</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>Readings in Historic Preservation: Why? What? How? Williams, et. al.</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>Historic Preservation: Caring for Our Expanding Legacy, Tomlan</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Others (as many as three additional books in this category)

4. Likely to rile you up

	1	2	3	4	5	I don't know this book
<i>Family Properties: How the Struggle over Race and Real Estate Transformed Chicago and Urban America, Satter</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>Race for Profit: How Banks and the Real Estate Industry Undermined Black Homeownership, Taylor</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>Stolen: How to Save the World from Financialisation, Blakeley</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>How to Kill a City: Gentrification, Inequality, and the Fight for the Neighborhood, Moskowitz</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>The Geography of Nowhere, Kunstler</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other (as many as three additional books in this category)

5. Incognito preservation book

	1	2	3	4	5	I don't know this book
<i>The City and the City</i> , Miéville	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>The Yellow House</i> , Broom	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>Devil in the White City</i> , Larson	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil</i> , Berendt	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>Wrestling With Moses</i> , Flint	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>The Stones of Florence</i> , Mary McCarthy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>Invisible Cities</i> , Calvino	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other (as many as three additional books in this category)

6. Preservation as Green Building

	1	2	3	4	5
<i>The Power of Existing Buildings: Save Money, Improve Health, and Reduce Environmental Impacts</i> , Sroufe Jr et. al.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>Green Restorations: Sustainable Building and Historic Homes</i> , Lubeck	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>Historic Preservation Technology: A Primer</i> , Young	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Sustainable

7. Historic Preservation as Sustainability

	1	2	3	4	5	I don't know this book
<i>Design for Ecological Democracy</i> , Hester	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>A Terrible Thing to Waste: Environmental Racism and Its Assault on the American Mind</i> , Washington	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>Buildings, Landscapes, and Memory: Case Studies in Historic Preservation</i> , Bluestone	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>Paradise Built in Hell: The Extraordinary Communities That Arise in Disaster</i> , Solnit	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>Sustainable Heritage: Merging Environmental Conservation and Historic Preservation</i> , Leifeste and Stiefel	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other (add as many as three books in this category)

8. Racial and Social Equity

	1	2	3	4	5	I don't know this book
<i>Why Preservation Matters</i> , Page	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>Place, Race, & Story</i> , Kaufman	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>The Color of Law</i> , Rothstein	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>The Right to the City: Social Justice and the Fight for Public Space</i> , Mitchell	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>The Sustainers: Being, Building and Doing Good Through Activism in the Sacred Spaces of Civil Rights, Human Rights and Social Movements</i> , Bruce	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other (add as many as three books in this category)

9. Reference book

	1	2	3	4	5	I don't know this book
<i>A Field Guide to American Houses</i> , McAlester	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>Visual Dictionary of Architecture</i> , Ching	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>The Fate of Place</i> , Casey	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>Presence of the Past: a History of Preservation in the United States before Williamsburg</i> , Hosmer	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>With Heritage So Rich: National Trust of the United States</i> , Rains	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other (add as many as three books in this category)

10. Planning related book

	1	2	3	4	5	I don't know this book
<i>Capital City</i> , Stein	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>Social Justice and the City</i> , Harvey	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>The Great Good Place</i> , Oldenburg	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>Design After Decline: How America Rebuilds Shrinking Cities</i> , Ryan	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>The 99% Invisible City: A Field Guide to the Hidden World of Everyday Design</i> , Mars and Kohlstedt	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>The Power Broker</i> , Caro	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>Changing Places: Rebuilding Community in the Age of Sprawl</i> , Moe and Wilkie	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>Image of the City</i> , Lynch	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other (add as many as three books in this category)

11. Urban history book

	1	2	3	4	5	I don't know this book
<i>Empire of Mud: The Secret History of Washington, DC, Dickey</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>The Myth of Santa Fe, Wilson</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>The Third Coast: When Chicago Built the American Dream, Dyja</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>La Calle, Otero</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>Crabgrass Frontier, Jackson</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other (add as many as three books in this category)

12. Landscape or cultural landscape

	1	2	3	4	5	I don't know this book
<i>Discovering the Vernacular Landscape, Jackson</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>American Space, Jackson</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>The Last Landscape, Whyte</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>City: Rediscovering the Center, Whyte</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>Designing with Culture: Claiming America's Landscape Heritage, Birnbaum and Hughes</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>The Social Life of Small Urban Spaces, Whyte</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other (add as many as three additional books in this category)

13. Other preservation books

	1	2	3	4	5
<i>New Solutions for House Museums</i> , Harris	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>Giving Preservation a History: Histories of Historic Preservation in the United States</i> , Mason and Page	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>Building the Dream: A Social History of Housing in America</i> , Wright	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>Cities back from the Edge: New Life for Downtown</i> , Gratz and Mintz	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>The Past and Future City: How Historic Preservation is Reviving America's Communities</i> , Meeks and Murphy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>The Politics of Historic Districts: A Primer for Grassroots Preservation</i> , Schmickle	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>Preserving New York: Winning the Right to Protect a City's Landmarks</i> , Wood	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

14. What other preservation books should be in our library?

1	<input type="text"/>
2	<input type="text"/>
3	<input type="text"/>

