

1800's Massachusetts Architecture

The architecture of churches, mills, markets, schools and mansions in 19th century Massachusetts towns

Purpose: Participants will study the distinguishing characteristics of outstanding Massachusetts buildings such as Bulfinch's State House, Parris' Quincy Market, McIntire's historic Salem, the Tower brothers' Holyoke mills, Richardson's Trinity church Boston or Hampden County Courthouse, or McKay's Amherst Town Hall.

Course #	19SMA
Format:	Seminar
Moderator:	Linda Honan
Date and Time:	Wednesday, 2:15-4:40 10 weeks, starting February 27
Location:	Loomis Village, South Hadley

Description: Massachusetts' cities and towns owe much of their beauty to the buildings erected by our ancestors. With no American colleges teaching their craft, many nineteenth-century architects like Parris learned by being apprenticed to a housewright (a house builder). Like most housewrights, Parris copied designs from architectural books such as those published by Asher Benjamin of Greenfield and Springfield. Others traveled to Europe to study architectural masterworks. Richardson was the second American to attend the École des Beaux Arts in Paris and this school trained many American architects. D. H. & A. B. Tower, who were among the foremost architects and civil engineers in their day, designing both mills and milling machinery, were trained by being apprenticed as millwrights. They designed not only 16 mills in Holyoke but many other mills across the U.S.A. The moderator will give participants handouts featuring notable buildings, and will also plan an optional trip to historic Holyoke to visit the Skinner Mansion, canals, and mills.

Role of participants: Each participant will give a 30-minute audiovisual presentation, introducing us to one architect's work, outlining their career and showing pictures of their buildings, and will then lead a discussion.

Resources: *From Craft to Profession. The Practice of Architecture in Nineteenth Century America.*, Woods, Mary N.; *American Architecture 1607-1976.*, Whiffen, Marcus; Koeper, Frederick.

About the Moderator: Linda Honan is a historian who loves Massachusetts buildings. She has recently moderated three seminars. She has degrees from Yale and the National University of Ireland.

Maximum number of participants: 15

Auditors accepted: yes, up to 2