

Call for Papers

Fieldwork and Applied Research and Learning—Preservation Outside of the Traditional Classroom in the 21st Century

Future Anterior Journal

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Historic preservation is an applied discipline that aims to provide tangible benefits for communities. Fieldwork is the vehicle through which we achieve our preservation goals. Early preservation fieldwork often entailed windshield surveys or intense analog built heritage documentation. These efforts were designed to generate empirical, baseline knowledge about the past. Today, preservationists thoughtfully engage with not just the historic built environment, but also the people and communities who live, work, and value the past as it is embedded in the present.

It is the applied, service-oriented, and capacity-building aspects of preservation fieldwork that set it apart as an academic discipline and a profession. Fieldwork is preservation in its most impactful form and frequently lies at the intersection of research, education, and service where we simultaneously can advance our understanding and interpretations of the past, better prepare students to be practitioners who will lead and facilitate preservation efforts in communities through high-impact learning, and provide training, programming content, and capacity to stakeholders.

Driven by new technology, data collection methods, and research questions, preservation field research and learning is changing constantly, with projects often taking transdisciplinary approaches bringing together the diverse aspects of the field from documentation, built environment history, public history, planning, materials and architectural conservation, design, and heritage studies.

Future Anterior seeks papers that explore the diverse and dynamic methods and means through which we research, teach, and engage with stakeholders outside of the academy and the traditional classroom. Potential topics include, but are not limited to—fieldwork pedagogy and philosophy; stakeholder engagement and capacity-building; new mapping, recording, and documentation technology and its application; inter- and meta-disciplinary approaches to fieldwork; service learning.

This issue will foster new and path-breaking dialogues on the state of preservation research, the manifold ways we are training students to be critically-engaged preservationists, and the new means through which we are positively impacting communities and stakeholders, ultimately pushing forward the preservation theory, research, and practice in the 21st century.

Future Anterior is a peer-reviewed (refereed) journal that approaches the field of historic preservation from a position of critical inquiry. A comparatively recent field of professional study, preservation often escapes direct academic challenges of its motives, goals, forms of practice, and results. Future Anterior seeks contributions that ask these difficult questions from philosophical, theoretical, and critical perspectives.

Formatting requirements for the manuscript:

Articles should be no more than 4,000 words (excluding footnotes), with up to seven illustrations. It is the responsibility of the author to secure permissions for image use and pay any reproduction fees. A brief abstract (200 words) and author bio (around 100 words) must accompany the text. Acceptance or rejection of submissions is at the discretion of the Editorial Staff. Please do not send original materials, as submissions will not be returned.

Formatting Text:

All text files should be saved as Microsoft Word or RTF format. Text and citations must be formatted in accordance with the Chicago Manual of Style, 15th Edition. All articles must be submitted in English, and spelling should follow American convention.

Formatting Illustrations:

Images should be sent as TIFF files with a resolution of at least 300 dpi at 8” by 9” print size. Figures should be numbered clearly in the text, after the paragraph in which they are referenced. Image captions and credits must be included with submissions.

Checklist of documents required for submission:

- Abstract (200 words)
- Manuscript (4,000 words)
- Illustrations (maximum of 7)
- Captions for illustrations
- Illustration Copyright information
- Author biography (100 words)

All submissions must be submitted electronically, via email to Future.Anterior.Journal@gmail.com

Questions about submissions can be emailed or mailed to:

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