

**Robert W. Blythe**

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**History/Historic Preservation**

**Independent Historian.** January 2008 to present. Wrote histories of two National Park Service units, National Register of Historic Places and National Historic Landmark additional documentation for the James A. Garfield National Historic Site, and a history of the textile industry in Valley, Alabama.

**Regional Historian,** August 1998 to January 2006, Cultural Resources Division, National Park Service Southeast Regional Office, Atlanta, GA. Managed National Historic Landmark program, park history program, and cultural resource publication program for the Southeast Region. Supervised staff of six historians and one archaeologist who produced a variety of historical studies and National Historic Landmark nominations. Other responsibilities included providing historic preservation and history-related advice to the staff of 65 National Parks within the region; copyediting and production coordination for published studies; writing/production of brochures, videos, and museum exhibits; and managing the division's library. Responsible for an annual budget of \$300,000.

**Historian,** June 1992 to July 1998, National Park Service, Atlanta. Researched and wrote historic resource studies, National Register of Historic Places nominations, and other history studies. Input data into a regional database of NPS historic structures. Supervisory responsibilities from January 1995.

**Editorial**

**Technical Editor,** June 1988 to November 1990, Ecology & Environment, Inc., Chicago. Responsible for copyediting, organizing, and coordinating production of reports on polluted industrial sites written by technical staff.

**Project Editor and Assistant Editor,** Subscription Products, December 1986 to June 1988, Longman Publishing Group, Chicago. Responsible for copyediting and production of newsletters and looseleaf services marketed to financial planners. Responsibilities included mark-up for typesetting, layout, and approval of boards and blueines. Supervised freelance proofreaders and copyeditors.

## Teaching

**Adjunct Associate Professor**, Master of Arts in Historic Preservation Program, Goucher College, Baltimore, August 1997 to January 2000.

**Instructor**, Summer 1990 and Summer 1991, Introduction to Architectural History, University of Illinois at Chicago Summer Bridge Program.

## Education

University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago: M.A. in History of Architecture, 1992.

Roosevelt University, Chicago: B.A. with Honors, 1974. United States History major; Economics minor.

## Publications

*Administrative History: Everglades National Park*. National Park Service, forthcoming.

*Administrative History: Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve*. National Park Service, 2014.

“Horseshoe Bend National Military Park” in *American Indian Places*, Houghton Mifflin, 2008.

“Civil War Tourism” in *The Encyclopedia of Appalachia*, University of Tennessee Press, 2006.

“Unraveling the Threads of Community Life: Work, Play, and Place in the Alabama Mill Villages of West Point Manufacturing Company,” in *Constructing Image, Identity, and Place: Perspectives in Vernacular Architecture IX*, University of Tennessee Press, 2003.

“The American Revolution” (web-based publication for the National Park Service). Coordination of project, development of text, editing. [www.nps.gov/revwar](http://www.nps.gov/revwar)

“The American Revolution at a Glance” (brochure for the National Park Service). Coordinator and co-author for project.

With Steven Moffson and Maureen Carroll. *Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site Historic Resource Study*, 2001.

Review of *Park Forest: America's First GI Town*, in *Vernacular Architecture News*.

With Steven H. Moffson and Emily Kleine. *Historic Resource Study: Charles Pinckney National Historic Site*, 2000.

With Jill Hanson. *Historic Resource Study: Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park*, 1999.

Editor and co-author for “Textile Mills and Villages” chapter of *Cotton Mills, Planned Communities and the New Deal*, Vernacular Architecture Forum Tour Book, April 1999.

Review of *Carved in Stone: The History of Stone Mountain*, in Spring 1998 issue of *The Public Historian*.

With Maureen A. Carroll and Steven H. Moffson. *Historic Resource Study: Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park*, 1995.

With Maureen A. Carroll and Steven H. Moffson. *Historic Resource Study: Kings Mountain National Military Park*, 1995.

With Maureen A. Carroll and Steven H. Moffson. *Historic Resource Study: Martin Luther King Junior National Historic Site*, 1994.

Entries on Charles Atwood, Minard Lafever, and the Lincoln Memorial in the *International Dictionary of Architects and Architecture*, 1993.

Six building entries in the *AIA Guide to Chicago Architecture*, 1993.

### **Unpublished Work**

NHL and NRHP additional documentation, James A. Garfield National Historic Site, 2015.

“Château de Kérivon, Catalogue de la Bibliothèque” (Catalogue of a private library), typescript, 368 pages, and database, Lannion, France, 2007.

Historic Buildings Survey, Housing Type Analysis, and National Register of Historic Places Nominations for the City of Valley, Alabama, 2000-2002.

### **Papers Presented**

“The Second Battle of New Orleans: Historic Preservation Versus Cold War Defense Needs.” Paper presented at annual meeting of the Society for American City and Regional Planning, Oakland, CA, October 2009.

“Creating the Mill Village Environment: The Negotiated Spaces of the West Point Manufacturing Company.” Paper presented at the Vernacular Architecture Forum Annual Meeting, Columbus, GA, May 1999.

“'You're Saying that Comfort Station is a Historic Structure!': Defining Historic Resources in the National Park Service.” Paper presented at National Council on Public History Annual Conference, Albany, NY, May 1997.

“Remembering the Battles for Chattanooga: Commemoration and Preservation at Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park.” Paper presented at "Americans Remember the Civil War," Murray State University, Murray, KY, March 1997.

### **Awards, Professional and Volunteer Service**

Award of Excellence, 2005, Southeast Chapter, Society of Architectural Historians, for “Unraveling the Threads of Community Life: Work, Play, and Place in the Alabama Mill Villages of the West Point Manufacturing Company.”

Certificate of Commendation for Historic Resource Study publication series, American Association for State and Local History, 1997.

Vernacular Architecture Forum's 1994 Paul E. Buchanan Award for Excellence in Field Work, Public Interpretation and Service for *Historic Resource Study: Martin Luther King, Jr., National Historic Site*, co-written with Maureen A. Carroll and Steven H. Moffson.

Treasurer, Chicago Chapter, Society of Architectural Historians, June 1990 to June 1992.

Docent, Chicago Architecture Foundation, 1987 to 1992.

Docent, Atlanta History Center, 1993-1994.

Volunteer, Chicago History Museum, May 2015 to present.

### **Professional Memberships**

American Society for Environmental History  
Organization of American Historians  
Society of Architectural Historians