

CHARLETTE M. CALDWELL

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Fall 2025 –

Spring 2027 **Postdoctoral Fellow, Rutgers University**
Presidential Postdoctoral Fellowship,
Department of Art History,
Rutgers New Brunswick

Current research interests: Social and cultural history of architecture in the 19th and 20th century United States; material culture; Black studies, vernacular architecture; historic preservation

EDUCATION

2025 **Columbia University**, New York, NY
Ph.D., History and Theory of Architecture

2016 **University of Pennsylvania**, Philadelphia, PA
M.S., Historic Preservation

2013 **Syracuse University**, Syracuse, NY
B. Arch.

PUBLICATIONS

Books:

“Crucible of a Freedom Church: The African Methodist Episcopal Church and the Culture of Building in the United States, 1790s – 1920s” (invited by the University of Virginia Press to publish monograph in the series “Race, Place and Justice”)

Articles/Essays:

2020 “What is a Civil Rights Site?": Re-conceptualizing the Preservation of Black American Heritage," The Center for the Preservation of Civil Rights Sites, Stuart Weitzman School of Design, University of Pennsylvania.

2019 “The Lowliest Type?: The Historiography of the Shotgun House,” in *The Avery Review* 37 (February 2019), <http://averyreview.com/issues/37/lowliest-type>.

Editorials:

2023 Black American Heritage Anthology, *Future Anterior* 18, no. 2. Written and co-edited with Anna Gasha and Jorge Otero-Pailos.

Refereed Encyclopedia Entries:

- 2023 *Society of Architectural Historians Archipedia*, “The Building Culture of the African Methodist Episcopal Church”; “Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church (Richmond, Indiana)”; “Montier Family Homestead”; “Waters Memorial African Methodist Episcopal Church”; “Mount Calvary Churchyard”; “Wunsch Hall, New York University”

Book Reviews:

- 2023 “*Building Antebellum New Orleans: Free People of Color and Their Influence* by Tara A. Dudley,” *Buildings & Landscapes: Journal of the Vernacular Architecture Forum* 30, no. ½ (Spring/Fall 2023): 142-143.
- 2020 “*The Black Skyscraper: Architecture and the Perception of Race* by Adrienne Brown,” *IEEE Technology and Society Magazine* 39, no. 3 (September 2020): 1112; 98.

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS AND AWARDS

- 2025 **Provost Postdoctoral Fellowship**, The University of Pennsylvania (declined)
- Fall 2024 –
Spring 2025 **Provost Predoctoral Fellowship**, The University of Pennsylvania
- 2024 **Buell Graduate Fellowship**, The Temple Hoyne Buell Center for the Study of American Architecture, Columbia University
- Fall 2023 –
Spring 2024 **Mellon Scholars Program in African American History Dissertation Fellowship**, The Library Company of Philadelphia and the Historical Society of Pennsylvania
- 2023 **McNeil Center for Early American Studies Dissertation Fellowship**, University of Pennsylvania (shortlisted)
- 2022 **Charles E. Peterson Fellowship of SAH Archipedia and the Athenaeum of Philadelphia**, Society of Architectural Historians and the Athenaeum of Philadelphia
- 2022 **Pamela H. Simpson Presenter’s Fellowship**, Vernacular Architecture Forum
- 2021 **HABS-SAHS Sally Kress Tompkins Fellowship**, Society of Architectural Historians and the Historic American Building Survey
- 2019 **Keystone Historic Preservation Grant: Construction Projects** (awarded with Chachira Smith and Aaron Wunsch), Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

- 2018 **National Trust Planning Grant** (awarded with Chachira Smith and Aaron Wunsch), National Trust for Historic Preservation
- 2018 **Provost Diversity Fellowship**, Columbia University
- 2015, 2016 **Albert Binder Grant Travel Award for Conference Paper Presentations**, University of Pennsylvania
- 2016 **Pew Center for Arts and Heritage Discovery Grant** (listed with the Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia), “Revisiting a Better Philadelphia, 1947 - 2017”
- 2014 **Diversity Scholarship**, University of Pennsylvania

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

PANELS/ROUNDTABLES/WORKSHOPS ORGANIZED:

- 2025 “Case Studies in the Global Beaux-Arts,” Society of Architectural Historians, 2025 Virtual Conference, Session organizer + chair and presenter
- 2024 “Clearing: Afterlives of Spatialized Violence, American Academy of Religion, San Diego, CA, roundtable panelist
- 2024 “Contested Ground: Architectures of Black American Religious Spaces,” Society of Architectural Historians, Albuquerque, NM, session panel co-chair
- 2021, 2024 “Method Acts Workshop Series: Emerging Scholars to Present on New and Reconsidered Methods,” Society of Architectural Historians, virtual, co-chair
- 2023 “Constructing Religious Infrastructures and Architecture,” American Academy of Religion, San Antonio, TX, roundtable panelist
- 2021 – 2023 Graduate Student Lightning Talks, Society of Architectural Historians, co-chair
- 2022 Global Architectural History Teaching Collaborative Teacher-to-Teacher Workshop: *Interrogating “Identities” in Global Built Environments*, Society of Architectural Historians, virtual, co-organizer
- 2022 “Activating Architecture in United States History,” Organization of American Historians, Boston, MA, roundtable co-organizer and panelist
- 2021 Graduate Student Book Club: *Building Character: The Racial Politics of Modern Architectural Style* by Charles Davis, Society of Architectural Historians Conference Roundtable, virtual, moderator with Jonah Rowen

PAPER PRESENTATIONS:

- 2025 “The Parlor in the Black Mind: W. E. B. Du Bois and the Spatial Politics of Black Victorianism”, Society of Architectural Historians, Atlanta, GA (basis for forthcoming research project)
- 2022 “The Crucible of the Freedom Church: Building Culture and the African Methodist Episcopal Church,” *African American Art History: Present Coordinates*, Boston University, Boston, MA (similar to paper given at 2022 VAF, but edited for the symposium)
- 2022 “Documenting the Architectural History of the African Methodist Episcopal Church: A Case Study,” Vernacular Architecture Forum, San Antonio, TX, paper presentation
- 2022 “Black-Owned Periodicals: Towards A More Holistic Approach to Understanding the Built Environment,” Society of Architectural Historians, Pittsburgh, PA, paper presentation
- 2021 “Method Acts Workshop Series: Emerging Scholars to Present on New and Reconsidered Methods,” Society of Architectural Historians, virtual, co-presenter with Pollyanna Rhee
- 2019 “The Lowliest Type?: The Historiography of the Shotgun House, *Black Production and the Space of the University Symposium*, Columbia University, New York, NY symposium co-coordinator + paper presentation
- 2016 “Collection Sites: A History of Black Burial Sites in Nineteenth and Twentieth Century Philadelphia,” The Dynamic City: Futures for the Past Conference, Boston, MA, paper presentation
- 2015 “Dear Architecture,” Short Circuit Series, Weitzman School of Design, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, paper presentation
- 2014 “New Gourn: Cultural Continuity and Vitality in Indigenous Building Heritage,” The Alliance for Historic Landscape Preservation Annual Meeting, Savannah, GA, paper presentation

CONFERENCE SUPPORT:

- 2015 “Symposium: Therapeutic Landscapes,” Symposium, Weitzman School of Design, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, assisted for Aaron Wunsch

UNIVERSITY EMPLOYMENT

- Fall 2024 –
- Spring 2025 Lecturer, University of Pennsylvania
- Fall 2022 Visiting Associate Professor, Pratt Institute

- 2022 Researcher, Residence Hall Historical Marker Project, Lehman Center for American History, Columbia University
- Summer 2021 Instructor (Co-taught), Master of Science in Architecture and Urban Design program, Columbia University
- 2020 – 2021 Research Fellow, The Center for the Preservation of Civil Rights Sites, Weitzman School of Design, University of Pennsylvania
- 2019 – 2021 Doctoral Teaching Fellow, Master of Architecture program, Columbia University
- 2020 Departmental Research Assistant with Mabel O. Wilson, Columbia University
- 2016 Graduate Research Associate, PennPraxis, University of Pennsylvania
- 2014 – 2015 Graduate Teaching/Research Assistant, Weitzman School of Design, University of Pennsylvania

RELATED PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- 2023 SAH David B. Brownlee Dissertation Award moderator, Davide Spina, ETH Zurich "Christian Democrats, Architecture and Capitalist Development in Post War Italy: Società Generale Immobiliare (SGI), 1945–75"
- 2021 Selection Committee Member, The Society of Architectural Historians Student Diversity Fellowship
- 2017 – 2018 Research Assistant, Venturi, Scott Brown and Associates, Philadelphia, PA
- 2016 – 2017 Project Manager, Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA
- 2016 Graduate Assistant to the Communications Director, Weitzman School of Design, University of Pennsylvania
- 2015 Summer Intern, Department of Architecture, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.

INVITED TALKS, WORKSHOPS, AND EXHIBITS

- 2022 The Architectural History of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, Changing the Face of the City, The Carpenter's Company of Philadelphia
- 2021 Reimagining Learning and Research in a Global Crisis: An Avery and GSAPP Open Forum, Columbia University, invited panelist
- 2020 Columbia GSAPP Dean's Lecture Series: Black Reconstruction Collective, panel respondent

- 2020 Public History of the Built Environment, Professional Development Series: Historic Preservation, Weitzman School of Design, University of Pennsylvania, Invited panelist
- 2018 “African (Im)mobilities,” Workshop with Mabel O. Wilson and Mario Gooden, Columbia University, invited participant
- 2014 “White Towers Re-visited,” exhibition, Kroiz Gallery, Architectural Archives, University of Pennsylvania, assisted for William Whitaker

COURSES TAUGHT

***Instructor on record**

Fall 2024 –

Spring 2025 *HSPV 6600 Theories of Historic Preservation, Master of Science in Historic Preservation, University of Pennsylvania (1 section, enrollment typ. 20), Lecturer

Fall 2022 ARCH-251 History and Theory of Architecture, Bachelor of Architecture, Pratt Institute (2 sections, enrollment typ. 25), Visiting Associate Professor

Summer 2021 A4685: Urban Theory + Design in Post Industrial Age, Master of Science in Architecture and Urban Design, Columbia University (1 section, enrollment typ.15), Instructor

Fall 2020 –

Spring 2021 A4348: Questions in Architectural History I and II, Master of Architecture. Columbia University (2 sections, enrollment typ.15), Teaching Fellow

Fall 2019 –

Spring 2020 A4348: Questions in Architectural History I and II, Master of Architecture, Columbia University (2 sections, enrollment typ.15), Teaching Fellow

Summer 2019 A4402: Transscalarities, Master of Science in Advanced Architectural Design, Columbia University (1 section, enrollment 14), Graduate Assistant

SERVICE

2025 – 2027 Investment Committee, Society of Architectural Historians

2023 – 2025 Graduate Student Representative, Society of Architectural Historians Board of Directors

2020 – 2025 Member, Society of Architectural Historians Graduate Student Advisory Committee

2018 – 2020 Senior Advisor, Black Student Alliance, Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, Columbia University

- 2020 – 2022 President, Weitzman School of Design Alumni Association, University of Pennsylvania
- 2016 – 2022 Member, Weitzman School of Design Alumni Association, University of Pennsylvania
- 2020 – 2021 Member, Weitzman School of Design, Historic Preservation Alumni Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Group
- 2020 Member, Anti-Racism Task Force, Historic Preservation Program, Columbia University
- 2018 – 2020 Member and Organizer, Workshop and Conference Series organized by the Ph.D. program in Architectural History and Theory, Columbia University

Manuscript/Peer Reviewer:

Future Anterior, University of Minnesota Press.

Change Over Time, University of Pennsylvania Press

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Society of Architectural Historians

Vernacular Architecture Forum

Organization of American Historians

American Academy of Religion

American Society of Church History

Nineteenth Century Americanists

Victorian Society in America

The Society of Historians of the Early American Republic