

tection, and interpretation of their national heritage. Using this legal foundation, the development of a national teacher education program in 2002 is presented in detail with a case study on its application in rural communities.

The chapter on Singapore explores the private, non-government role of the all-volunteer Singapore Heritage Society in a country where the national government is the major force in nearly all aspects of the country's pursuit of a "civil society." The paper details the society's founding in 1987, and its organization, advocacy, growth, and contributions to the preservation of man-made and natural heritage in this densely populated island city-state. Of particular interest is the future of historic cemeteries in the face of demands for additional public housing. The paper concludes with advocacy for the creation of a more effective and better-funded public-private Heritage Conservation Trust.

The two papers on eco-tourism cover familiar ground but are noteworthy for illustrating what has, and is, taking place in Southeast Asia as a direct result of the 1992 Rio Earth Summit.

Nearly all of the papers include comprehensive lists of additional published references and some include related Internet sites. While several of the papers refer to the lack of financial and human resources, none of them include specific information on project costs and the numbers of personnel involved. An appendix including the four complete seminar programs would have provided additional context for the selected papers.

Readers not intimately acquainted with the regional and national geography of Southeast Asia and these five countries would benefit from the inclusion of some simple maps. Likewise, for a subject that lends itself so well to accompanying illustrations, they are few in number and small in scale.

Following the devastation of the December 2004 tsunami, which particularly affected the western

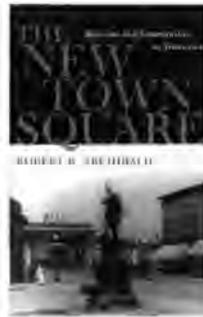
coastal tourist centers in Thailand, one waits with interest and concern for information on the new challenges facing those responsible for tourism and cultural heritage in this region of the world.

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The New Town Square: Museums and Communities in Transition

By Robert R. Archibald. American Association for State and Local History book series. Walnut Creek, CA: AltaMira Press, 2004; vii + 224 pp., illustrations, notes, index; cloth \$69.00; paper \$24.95.



The Missouri Historical Society's director, Robert R. Archibald, is both concerned and optimistic. He is troubled that the forces of marketing, commerce, and land use are tearing apart the community cohesion, self-perception, and social interaction that infused

the world of his youth, but he is convinced that the application of history can blunt these insidious assaults on the common good. These conflicting responses to change serve as connective tissue for *The New Town Square: Museums and Communities in Transition*, which presents edited versions of Archibald's recent lectures and addresses. Using a variety of approaches and examples, the museum administrator argues that a sense of community is dependent upon the respect of others and their differences, an understanding of our individual and collective pasts, the preservation of representative symbols of our history, and an awareness and appreciation of the natural environment.

Maintaining that "we must find new ways to nurture the civic 'we' instead of our current overemphasis on the individualistic and insular 'me,'" Archibald

calls for a renewed appreciation of town squares—of physical locales that project collective values steeped in history and geography. A sense of place, he asserts, is also intimately tied to social commitment. Places “are good if they connect people to each other and to the preceding generations that have walked that place and left their mark to be absorbed by those who inherit their place.”

In many ways, these essays constitute a call to arms for public historians. Archibald seeks to embolden his professional colleagues in the power and importance of what they do, and *The New Town Square* is a work likely to be of considerable interest and utility to cultural resource managers. For historic preservationists, museum curators, re-enactors, public programmers, park rangers, and interpreters, it offers a model for examining the impact of the environment on how communities came to define themselves, that is, through how their citizens interacted, how they pursued their livelihoods, and how they developed their recreational preferences. This is best exemplified in the compelling and evocative accounts of his hometown of Ishpeming on Michigan’s Upper Peninsula.

Archibald’s writings are tethered strongly to his sense of social and environmental responsibility. “Those who forget the past, or who choose to ignore or obliterate it,” he warns, “will behave as if there is no future.” He urges that all professionals, not just historians, must “think with a consciousness of the past.” But his essays dealing with a sense of place are among the book’s most genuine and original—providing examples from the wide-open expanses of Montana to the cityscapes of St. Louis. These essays will benefit anyone seeking to write about a favorite locale, or hoping to develop exhibitions or programs that convey the virtues of a particular site. Archibald notes that “communities that are not environmentally sustainable are also communities where the relationships that provide a sense of connectedness, of belonging, of civility, of security are fractured.” Place, he contends, is an

important factor in culture because it contributes to community and diversity. “Human culture is inseparable from geographical place,” he argues. “People create places, and places make people. And that’s what makes a culture.”

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Recording Historic Structures

Second Edition. Edited by John A. Burns and the staff of the Historic American Buildings Survey, Historic American Engineering Record, and Historic American Landscapes Survey, National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons, 2004; xiii + 306 pp., drawings, photographs, bibliography, index; cloth \$65.00.

The 1980 amendments to the National Historic Preservation Act directed the Secretary of the Interior to develop “a uniform process and standards for documenting historic properties” for deposit in the Library of Congress. These standards were first issued as internal government publications, then later used as the basis of a book published in 1989 by the American Institute of Architects Press with extensive illustrations and examples. The work under review is a revised and expanded second edition, with a different publisher.

The first part, almost half the book, discusses three methods of recording information: compiling a history, taking photographs, and making measured drawings. The history chapter is a short primer on historical research. The only “standard” mentioned is a Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) outline of topics to include in a report. The photography chapter describes and illustrates what constitutes a good photograph and sets out technical requirements as to film size, type, processing,

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