Katherine A. Dowdell

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Professional Experience

Principal, Farragut Street Architects, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

2013-present

Founding principal of small architecture firm specializing in the renovation, preservation, restoration, and adaptive use of historic built structures. Projects include residential and small commercial buildings located in Philadelphia and the surrounding region. www.farragutstreet.com

Jefferson (Philadelphia) University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

2018-2022

Adjunct instructor in the architecture program, and in the construction management major. Courses taught include senior-level adaptive reuse design studio; Contemporary Preservation.

Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

2011-2022

Adjunct instructor in the architecture program. Courses taught include second year architectural design studio; architectural programming; introduction to historic preservation, adaptive reuse studios; thesis advisor.

Principal, Blackney Hayes Architects, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

1998-2013

Project manager/principal for numerous adaptive use and low-to-moderate income housing projects (both new construction and rehabilitation). Clients included the Philadelphia Housing Authority, urban community development corporations, and private developers and owners. Project manager for the conversion of a former YMCA building in Center City Philadelphia to a luxury hotel, and for the adaptive use of the Chester Power Station, an historic building converted to office use. Project architect/manager for many projects involving the conversion and/or adaptive re-use of historic buildings for commercial and residential use. Leader in moving the firm into building information modeling (BIM). Became an Associate of the firm in 1999; Senior Associate in 2005; Principal in 2008.

Selected Projects:

Le Meridien Hotel

Adaptive re-use of 1907 YMCA building, designed by Horace Trumbauer, for luxury hotel. 202 rooms; historic rehabilitation of significant public interior areas for banquet and restaurant facilities. Historic tax credit project. Completed September 2009. 2011 Preservation Alliance Grand Jury Award Winner.

Norris Apartments

Demolition of a public housing high-rise and redevelopment as low-rise neighborhood housing – row houses and low-rise apartments. 50 new units constructed for the Philadelphia Housing Authority. LEED Gold. Completed 2012.

The Wharf at Rivertown

Adaptive re-use of 1916 Chester Power Station into commercial office space. Completed project provided 450,000 square feet. Historic tax credit project. 2006 Preservation Alliance Grand Jury Award Winner.

The Office of Charles King, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

1992-<u>1998</u>

Project architect/project manager for various clients, primarily retail stores and restaurants. Projects ranged from 3,000 s.f. to 12,000 s.f. and up to \$1.2 million in construction cost. Responsible for project architecture and management; interior design and color/finish selection; general staff supervision.

Gensler and Associates, Architects, Los Angeles, California

<u> 1989-1992</u>

Project architect for various renovation projects ranging from \$300,000 to \$1.4 million in construction costs. Responsible for coordinating design and construction documents, supervising staff, coordinating consultants. Staff architect on several major projects.

Selected Projects:

- Palm Springs Airport (construction cost projected at \$60 million)
 - Complete renovation of small regional airport, with proposed expansion to more than double size and capacity of existing airport. Proposed addition was an open-air, tensile roof structure for concourses.
- Beverly Hills Hotel (construction cost projected at \$200 million).

Staff architect on project team for the complete renovation of historic hotel and bungalows. Project included survey of historic hotel and 17 adjacent freestanding bungalows; restoration of all existing spaces, and new additions for ballrooms and other significant public spaces.

Adjunct professor in architectural technologies program.

Calvert Architects, Narberth, Pennsylvania

1984-1989

Staff architect in small office. Projects ranged in size and variety from small custom residential additions and renovations to medical office buildings up to 20,000 square feet. From 1984-1987, firm's emphasis was on historic renovations and adaptive reuse: conversion of single family residences to apartments and rehabilitation of historically certified structures for office use, using the National Historic Investment Tax Credit program.

Selected Projects:

Oddfellows Hall

Adaptive reuse of abandoned structure for medical offices. Historically certified building in Norristown, PA. New structural framing required due to deteriorated condition of building; additional structural work required for installation of MRI suite.

• 2024 Spring Garden Street

Typical of many residential rehabilitation projects completed from 1984 through 1987. Deteriorated and/or abandoned historic structures converted to high-end multi-family residential use. Projects averaged \$250,000 to \$400,000 in cost; 3,000 to 6,000 square feet. Most of these projects received historic tax credits.

Early Career Professional Experience and Internships

The Salkin Group, Architects, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Hahnemann University, Facilities Department, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Seeler-Smith Inc., Mechanical Engineers, Atlantic City, New Jersey
Marnell-Bolles, Architectural Joint Venture, Atlantic City, New Jersey
Charles E. Broudy & Associates, Architects, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Professional Activities

Honors and Awards

Preservation Alliance Grand Jury Award For 1000 S. Saint Bernard Street, an adaptive reuse project which converted an historic industrial building to mixed use. (2022)

Rankin-Epstein Distinguished Alumni Award Annual award given to distinguished alumni of the Antoinette Westphal College of Media Arts & Design at Drexel University. (2010)

Rhoda and Permar Richards Award for Service to the Alliance Given annually by the board of directors in recognition of exceptional dedication and service to the Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia (2017)

Preservation Initiative Award One of several annual awards given by the University City Historical Society, the Preservation Initiative Award recognizes contributions to neighborhood preservation efforts. (2018)

Conferences/Panels/Lectures

Master of Ceremonies, Preservation Alliance Awards, 2007- 2013, 2018 – 2022 Master of ceremonies for annual awards event, sponsored by the Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia. Attendance generally 500-600 people.

Lecturer, University City Historical Society Online lecture for the University City Historical Society on historic house issues, focused on windows and basements. Offered to members and the general public. (2020)

Speed Mentoring Session Session sponsored by the Women In Architecture committee of AIA Philadelphia chapter. Served as a mentor for an evening of "speed mentoring" for women design professionals. (2019)

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission Keystone Grants Member of an invited panel to review grant applications for capital grants for historic buildings, and to recommend grant awards. (2017)

Strategic Planning Working Group, Glen Foerd on the Delaware Member of an invited working group to help a public park and historic site chart its future by balancing activities, fundraising, and events. (2017)

Mentor, Liberty Scholars Program, Drexel University Member of faculty and staff mentoring program for Philadelphia high school students attending Drexel on a Liberty Scholarship. (2014-2016)

Instructor, Elective Class in Architecture, Julia R. Masterman High School Overview of architecture for academic magnet high-school. Ten-week course of lectures and field trips focused on Philadelphia architecture. (2011-2016)

Senior Project Mentor, Julia R. Masterman High School Mentor for individual students during their two-week senior project. Students work on self-directed project and present to teachers, fellow students, and outside reviewers. (May 2012, 2013, 2016)

"Introduction to Historic Preservation in Philadelphia" General lecture on the development of the city and its most significant historic structures, given to architecture class at Philadelphia Community College. (2013, 2014)

Guest Lecturer, Franklin Institute STEM Scholars Summer Program Overview of basic architectural concepts and significant buildings in Philadelphia for summer STEM program for high-school students. (Summer 2013)

Panelist, "BIM Perspectives From Architectural, Engineering And Construction Firms, & Legal Perspective Of BIM" Panelist for half-day seminar on BIM coordination and project delivery from many points of view. Presentation focused on BIM implementation at small/medium architectural firm. (September 2012)

Panelist, "Focus Your Network of Mentors" Firm principal/mentor for a speed-mentoring workshop for women architects offered at the 2011 AIA National Convention. Workshop sponsored by AIA New York. (May 2011)

Panelist, MAGIC Camp Professional Day Participant on panel of architects and engineers for MAGIC Camp (Mentoring a Girl in Construction), sponsored by Philadelphia chapter of NAWIC. (April 2011)

Panelist, "Diversity Delivers Results in the Construction Industry" Panelist in a workshop at the Business Opportunities Convention of the PA-NJ-DE Minority Supplier Development Council. (August 2010)

Career Day Speaker, Country Day School of the Sacred Heart Speaker at the annual career day for a private girls school in suburban Philadelphia. (March 2010)

Senior Project Reviews, Classes of 2008-2013 - Julia R. Masterman School Parent member of panel to review presentations of senior projects at the Julia R. Masterman public school, academic magnet school in Philadelphia, PA Included review of proposals, papers, and final presentations. (April – June 2008-2013).

Multi-Family Housing Access Forum Panelist/presenter at a forum to educate developers, government officials, and other building professionals on their legal obligations under the Federal Fair Housing Act's accessibility requirements. Case studies presented; panel discussion and questions. Sponsored by the U.S.Department of Justice. (May 2009)

Building Information Modeling Overview Panelist for half-day seminar on all aspects of implementing building information modeling (BIM) into the architecture and construction industry. Panelists included representatives from architecture, banking, insurance, legal community, and construction. Presented for the American Institute for Architects and the General Building Contractors Association. (April 2009)

New Jersey Historic Trust Grant Review Panel – 2006 and 2008 One of three outside reviewers, along with additional NJHT staff and board members, to review applications for relevant grant rounds. Awards given to various New Jersey historic organizations for both capital grants (bricks and mortar) and planning grants. Capital grants totaled \$9 million in 2006; \$15 million in 2008. Planning grants totaled approximately \$2 million each year.

Design Charette for Julia R. Masterman School Floating expert and panelist for day-long design charette to renovate and/or expand a severely overcrowded public high school in Philadelphia. Part of Design on the Delaware, a three-day local conference sponsored by AIA Philadelphia Chapter. (November 2008)

Implementing BIM (Building Information Modeling) Software Panelist for 90-minute seminar on how offices are using and implementing building information modeling (BIM) software. Part of Design on the Delaware, a three-day local conference sponsored by AIA Philadelphia Chapter. (November 2008)

Judge, Delaware Valley Habitat for Humanity "Build a House...Build a Dream!" contest One of a team of judges for an annual contest for area fifth graders, who design and build a model house. Event sponsored by Habitat for Humanity. (April 2008)

Careers for Women in Architecture Lunchtime speaker/panelist for University of Pennsylvania architecture students on opportunities for women in the field of architecture and related professions. (May 2007)

"New Housing in Philadelphia" Lecture for local chapter of National Association of Women in Construction (NAWIC) on the current state of housing design and construction in Philadelphia, including a brief history of the rowhouse (May 2007)

"Historic Interiors" One of four presenters advocating for the preservation of historic interiors, featuring signature projects in Philadelphia and Chester, PA. Program presented by AIA Philadelphia and the Preservation Alliance of Greater Philadelphia. (May 2006).

- "Engaging History" One of three panelists discussing case histories in the adaptive use of three iconic buildings. Presented at the American Institute of Architects national convention, held in Los Angeles, California. (June 2006)
- "Neighborhood-Based Initiatives in Historic Preservation Update" Moderator and panelist for discussion about a university-based housing preservation initiative. Presented at the American Institute of Architects national convention, held in Chicago, Illinois. (June 2004)
- "Housing Development in Philadelphia" Lecture on the development of the city through studies of housing, given to architecture class at Philadelphia Community College. (September 2003)
- "Reading Blueprints: The Key to Effective Project Management." Presented at the "Construction Management for Project Managers" workshop, part of the Community Economic Development Skills Building Workshop Series, held in Philadelphia, PA. (September 2000)
- "Neighborhood-Based Initiatives in Historic Preservation." Moderator and panelist for discussion about a university-based housing preservation initiative. Presented at the American Institute of Architects national convention, held in Philadelphia, PA. (May 2000)

Math and Science for Girls Member of a panel of professionals from technical fields presented to encourage high-school girls to continue with math and science studies. Cerritos High School in Torrance, CA. (March 1992)

Broadening the Discourse Co-chair of two-day statewide conference for California Women in Environmental Design, an organization of architects, landscape architects, engineers, and other design professions. Conference held in Santa Monica, CA. (May 1991)

Professional Practice Day Organized of a series of workshops and seminars for women and minority architects, a joint effort of the Association for Women in Architecture and the AIA Committee on Women and Minority Resources. (June 1990)

Articles

Various short articles and columns on preservation issues for the local design press. Publications include Hidden City's "Soapbox"; the Design Advocacy Group's DAG Space; Mid-Atlantic Real Estate Journal; The Philadelphia Architect. A full list is available on request.

Juries

Frequent guest critic for student projects at Drexel University, Jefferson (formerly Philadelphia) University, and Philadelphia Community College.

Professional Organizations and Memberships

2020-present	Board Member, Wagner Free Institute; member of Property Committee since 2015
2016-present	Building Committee, The Woodlands
2013-2019	Board of Directors, Bartram's Garden; member of Preservation and Landscape Committees
2008-2011	Chair, Board of Directors, Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia; Board Member 2003-2011
2005-present	Advocacy Committee member, Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia
2004-2006	Board Member, AIA Philadelphia Chapter and Center for Architecture
2002-2008	Board Member, Friends of Walnut West Library
1999-2001	President, University City Historical Society; Board Member 1998-2005
1990-1992	Board Member, Association for Women in Architecture, Los Angeles chapter; member 1989-present
1989-1992	Los Angeles AIA Historic Preservation Committee
1989-present	National Trust for Historic Preservation
1989-present	American Institute of Architects; Member of Historic Preservation Committee; Co-chair 2000-2005

Education

Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Bachelor of Science, Interior Design 1979

Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Coursework in Bachelor of Architecture program, 1981-1986

Professional Registration

Pennsylvania architectural registration (RA-010219-X), 1986. N.C.A.R.B. certification, 1989.