

PRESERVATION  
FOUNDATION  
OF PALM BEACH

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# FOUNDATION FALL 2018 NEWS

[www.palmbeachpreservation.org](http://www.palmbeachpreservation.org)

561.832.0731



THE ROYAL POINCIANA PLAZA

JOHN L. VOLK, ARCHITECT

## John L. Volk Collection

The Preservation Foundation is pleased to announce the generous gift of the John L. Volk Collection by his son, John K. Volk, Jr. Acquisition of the Volk Collection fulfills a longtime goal of the Foundation to house the last available architectural collection of one of Palm Beach's great architects. The Volk Collection will join the architectural collections of Marion Sims Wyeth, Belford Shoumate, and Henry K. Harding.

Shellie Labell, Director of Archives, is working with a team of consultants and interns to appraise, accession, and prepare the collection for storage in the Foundation's climate-controlled archives. The collection contains over 26,000 architectural drawings by Volk, 300 volumes from his personal library, 4,000 photographs, and a collection of Volk family correspondence and social history documentation. The collection will be available for research beginning in Fall 2019.

The Foundation's goal is to digitize the entirety of the Volk Collection to facilitate more efficient access and preserve the condition of the documents. Donations are currently being accepted to advance this effort and naming opportunities are available. Please contact Amanda Skier, Executive Director, for more information.



*John and Jane Volk*



*Shellie Labell and Kathryn Wood*

## Archival Internship

Concluding its second successful year, the archival internship provides a talented, future museum professional with hands-on experience in the Foundation's library and archives.

This year's archival intern, Kathryn Wood, holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in History from the University of Central Florida and is pursuing a Master of Arts degree in Museum Studies from University of Leicester in the United Kingdom this fall.

Kathryn's achievements this summer include creating a catalog for the Olive M. Gowen collection of Palm Beach postcards dating back to the early days of Palm Beach. She was instrumental in organizing the Foundation's extensive house files and creating a database of works by the architect Maurice Fatio.

Her work in the archives was extended upon the acquisition of the John L. Volk architectural collection, consisting of approximately 26,000 hand-drawn renderings by the architect, as well as collectible books, scrapbooks, and social histories ranging from the 1920s to the 1980s.

## Anthony K. Baker Internship

The Preservation Foundation's Anthony K. Baker Summer Internship Program has enriched the educational experiences of undergraduate and graduate students of architectural design and historic preservation since 2009. The scholarship is named in memory of longtime Foundation supporter and preservation advocate, Anthony K. Baker. This summer's interns were Lydia Costello (left) and Hanna Stark (right).

Lydia Costello, who graduated from Roger Williams University with a bachelor's degree in historic preservation, was recently hired by the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission. Hanna Stark, an architecture major, is entering her senior year at Clemson University.

Each summer the Baker Interns work on a project pertinent to a town preservation issue. This year's project was to produce comprehensive marketing materials to educate the public on the importance of the landmarks program and to provide an understanding of the landmarking process in Palm Beach. The project coordinates with the Fall 2018 exhibit, "From the Beginning: Celebrating 40 Years of the Landmarks Preservation Ordinance," and the publication of the fourth edition of Barbara Hoffstot's *Landmark Architecture of Palm Beach*.

While working on their project, the Baker Interns were also provided the opportunity to be mentored by local leaders in the preservation field. The Preservation Foundation of Palm Beach thanks the City of West Palm Beach Historic Preservation Division, Research Atlantica, Murphy Stillings, Kemble Interiors, SMI Landscape Architecture, Smith and Moore Architects, Pandula Architects, SKA Architects, REG Architects and Kirchoff & Associates Architects for providing hands-on professional experience and guidance to the Baker Interns.





*Elie Merisier and Lauren Mashek Fitzgerald*



*Austin Cassidy and Susan Lerner*

## Mashek and Tishman Scholarships Awarded

On July 20th, the Preservation Foundation had the pleasure of granting two scholarships to deserving individuals in the field of architecture.

The John D. Mashek Scholarship was created in honor of the Foundation's late chairman, John Mashek. The scholarship is granted to a graduating high school senior pursuing a Bachelor's degree in architecture or interior design. Lauren Mashek Fitzgerald, Mr. Mashek's daughter, presented the award to Elie Merisier and generously doubled the gift amount from \$5,000 to \$10,000 in honor of the inaugural year. Merisier is a graduate of Lake Worth High School and is enrolled in the Florida Atlantic University Bachelor of Architecture Program starting in Fall 2018.

The Jerry A. Tishman Scholarship is open to students enrolled in an architectural graduate-level program in Florida and generously awards \$10,000 to a student each year. Austin Cassidy, who is pursuing a master's within the School of Architecture at the University of Miami is this year's recipient. Cassidy received his bachelor's degree at the University of Miami, and hopes to add a Certificate of Historic Preservation to his coursework stating, "Historical preservation is crucial for urban development as without it an area's intrinsic authenticity and unique character would be lost."

## New Director of Education Joins Staff

Aimee N. Sunny is the new Director of Education for the Preservation Foundation of Palm Beach. Sunny previously served as the Senior Preservation Coordinator for the City of Lake Worth. Former Director of Education Katie Jacob was promoted to Director of Programming, a new position for the Foundation.

Sunny has a background in classical and traditional architecture and historic preservation, and is looking forward to using this to support the Foundation's education, advocacy, and preservation efforts in Palm Beach. She earned her Bachelor of Architecture degree from the University of Notre Dame, with a concentration in historic preservation, and her Master of Science in Historic Preservation from Ball State University. Sunny studied abroad in Rome, Italy, and Lennox Head, Australia. During her graduate career she served as a graduate assistant teaching undergraduate architecture studio, and interned with the City of Chicago's Landmarks Division and Indiana Landmarks. Sunny's thesis research focused on adaptive re-use and renovation strategies for historic properties.

After graduating, Sunny worked for the architectural firm of Fairfax, Sammons & Partners in Palm Beach on new traditional residences and renovation projects. In 2014, Sunny joined the City of Lake Worth, where she oversaw the City's historic preservation program. Her work included reviewing development projects and Certificates of Appropriateness, and implementing a historic district signage program, a historic structure marker program, and a preservation awards program. She also met with the public, presented to the Historic Resources Preservation Board, and wrote and managed several State-funded historic preservation grant projects to re-survey the City's historic districts and to develop the first set of City-specific historic preservation design guidelines.



*Image by Capehart Photography*



9 Golfview Road



Everglades Club

## Historic Properties Workshop: Water Rising

This year, the Preservation Foundation will dedicate its Historic Properties Workshop on November 8th and four lectures beginning in January to one of the most important issues of our time: sea-level rise and its impact to our built environment. Through the Water Rising Series, the Foundation will explore the ways our built environment and historic resources can be protected from the threats of rising waters. By hearing from local and national experts, the community will have the opportunity to understand the broad effects of what is happening around the United States and the solutions that can be applied locally.

The Historic Properties Workshop will be an interactive walking workshop that will take participants on a tour of two landmarked properties that have had to mitigate against the effects of rising waters. Starting at the Preservation Foundation headquarters, participants will receive a brief history of the development and topography of Worth Avenue and Golfview Road from Dr. Jane Day. Afterwards, participants will have the opportunity to visit two landmarked properties whose owners have utilized unique engineering solutions to protect their historic buildings. At 9 Golfview Road, architects Anne Fairfax and Richard Sammons will demonstrate a flood gate that is designed to prevent flooding within the property lines. At the Everglades Club, architect Jason Drobot and engineers Paul Reilly and Sam Dossdourian will discuss the techniques used to raise the building in order to protect it.

There will be a meet and greet with Josh Martin, the new Director of Planning, Zoning, and Building for the Town of Palm Beach, from 9am to 9:30am on the terrace at 311 Peruvian Avenue. Dr. Jane Day's lecture will start promptly at 9:30am, and the tours will leave at 9:50am. The workshop is limited by reservation to sixty participants. No jeans of any color are permitted. Please wear sensible shoes.

# Muck City Sugar: Glades Academy Book Project

In the fall of 2017, the fourth-grade class at Glades Academy began a project with the Preservation Foundation of Palm Beach to learn about sugarcane. The goal was to research and write a book as a class. Sugarcane grows throughout the Glades area and students witness many aspects of the sugarcane industry on a daily basis. This book provided an opportunity to explore the science and technology behind the crop and create a deeper understanding of the community's agricultural roots.

Students took field trips to learn about the sugarcane plant and farming process. They were able to sit in the pilot seat of a plane and learn about crop dusting through a visit to the Belle Glade Municipal Airport. A visit to the Everglades Farm Equipment Group taught students about modern day farm equipment and allowed them to compare and contrast changes in the technology over time. At the Agricultural Center for Excellence, students shadowed scientists to learn about the development and care of sugarcane.

The fourth-grade class was able to apply all they had learned by growing their own sugarcane in the raised-bed gardens donated by the Preservation Foundation in 2013. Experts visited Glades Academy to provide experiential learning in cultivating and processing sugarcane. Students tested the soil in their beds and introduced missing micro-nutrients prior to planting. While their crop will not be ready for harvesting until the fall of 2018, they were able to taste the future fruits of their labor through the demonstration of an old-fashioned sugar grinder.

The Preservation Foundation of Palm Beach has enjoyed a rewarding partnership with Glades Academy for close to a decade. Over time, the partnership has evolved from the construction of raised bed gardens for exploration and learning to student publications for improvement of reading and writing skills. Please contact Susan Lerner, Director of Horticulture, to learn more about this outreach program.







## Meet the Director of Horticulture

Susan Lerner is the first Director of Horticulture at the Preservation Foundation of Palm Beach. In this new position, she will focus on promoting environmental stewardship through the instruction of school groups and the tending of the Foundation's gardens. She brings a deep knowledge of and passion for the native plants showcased in Pan's Garden.

Lerner earned her interdisciplinary Bachelor of Arts in Human Relations at Queens College of the City University of New York, and her Certificate in Physical Therapy from the University of Pennsylvania. She was awarded the title of Florida Master Gardener by the University of Florida IFAS Cooperative Extension Service in 2009. Along with her passion for educating young and old to become stewards of the natural world, she brings a mosaic of professional skills to the multi-faceted Director of Horticulture position. Lerner has had careers as physical therapist, electrician, construction estimator and project manager, photographer, property manager, health educator and inter-faith minister.

Since certification as a master gardener, Lerner has served two terms as President of the Palm Beach Chapter of the Rare Fruit Council, and three terms as President of Palm Beach County Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society (PBCC FNPS). Her final term as President of PBCC FNPS will conclude in September. She also currently serves as Secretary of the Florida Backyard Beekeepers Association.

Lerner has given presentations on *Fruit Trees for South Florida*, *Gardening Naturally with Florida's Native Plants*, *Native Plants for Honeybees*, and *Pollinators in the Native Garden* to garden clubs, master gardeners, and many other groups. In 2017, she received the Earth Steward Award from District X of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs.

# Preservation Advocacy Efforts

The year 2019 will mark the 40th anniversary of the Town of Palm Beach's Landmark Preservation Ordinance. Adopted in 1979, the Ordinance acknowledges that the "protection, enhancement and perpetuation" of landmarked properties is in the best interest of the community. Since that time, the Town has made great strides to preserve our architectural heritage but threats to landmarked properties and potential landmarks remain ever present.

For the past year, the Preservation Foundation has ardently advocated for the protection of two landmarked properties from demolition: 323 Chilean Avenue and Duck's Nest. The first property, attributed to Addison Mizner with alterations by Wyeth, King and Johnson, is a Mediterranean Revival-style residence representative of the charming homes that once dominated Midtown. Duck's Nest is the second oldest residence in Palm Beach and represents the simple frame vernacular buildings that early pioneers constructed along the shores of Lake Worth.

Approval of the demolition applications for these properties would have critically weakened the Town's landmark program. The structural engineering reports commissioned by the applicants failed to provide competent substantial evidence that the buildings could not be saved. Submitted as demolition/reconstruction projects, both applications included plans for demolition and new construction that specified different building materials, different proportions and detailing, and significantly altered the original building footprint.

The Preservation Foundation of Palm Beach has always been supportive of sympathetic additions and modernization of landmarked properties. Our Robert I. Ballinger and Polly Earl awards for rehabilitation celebrate property owners who work within the constraints of the Landmark Preservation Ordinance to accommodate the requirements of modern living. Outright demolition is in complete opposition to the intent of the ordinance and visibly erases part of our history.

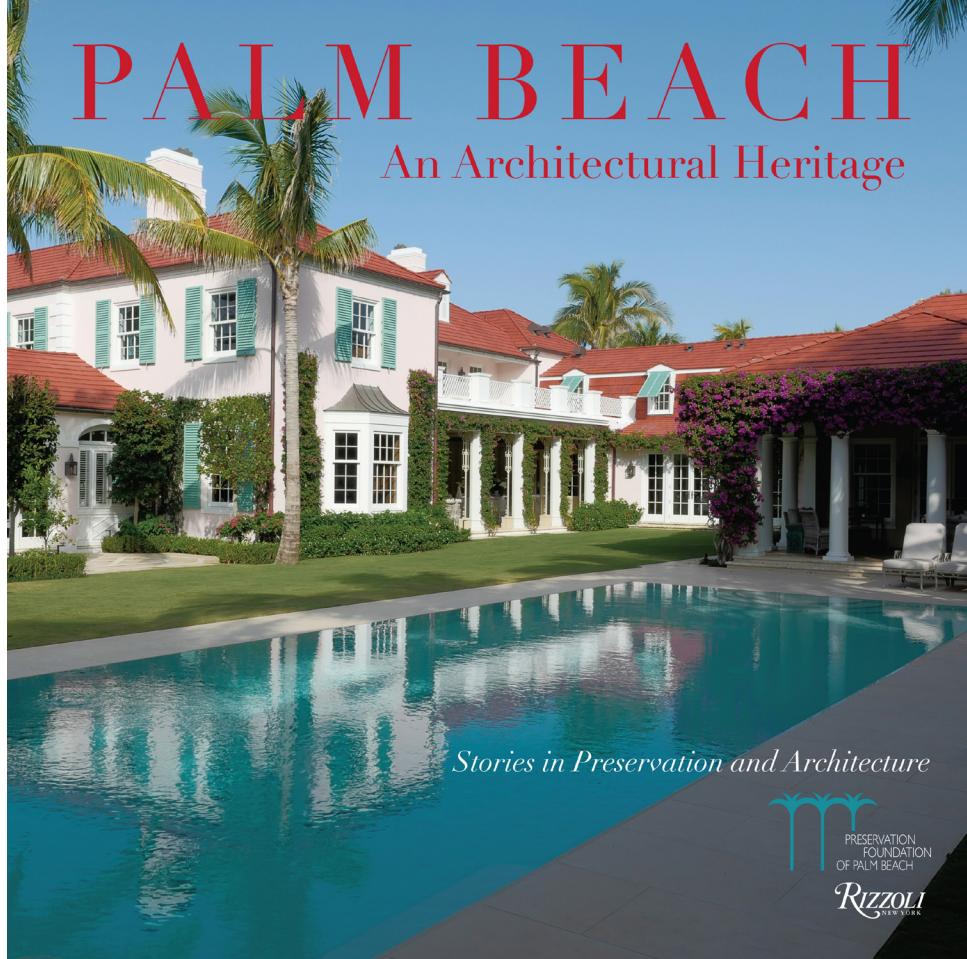
Through letters to the editor of the Palm Beach Daily News, engagement with the Landmarks Commission and its commissioners, and an independent structural engineering report of Duck's Nest, the efforts of the Foundation convinced both property owners to withdraw their applications for demolition. Duck's Nest has recently sold and the new owners are proceeding with plans to restore the home. The fate of 323 Chilean Avenue remains unknown but the immediate threat of demolition has been curtailed for now.



*Duck's Nest*



*323 Chilean Avenue*



## *Palm Beach: An Architectural Heritage* Book Release

With its lush gardens, palm tree-lined promenades, and romantic homes, Palm Beach has long been considered a playground for the rich and famous. Resplendent with old grandeur, Palm Beach houses and gardens are the subject of this elegant volume, detailing the meticulous restorations of thirty-eight grand estates and public buildings in this exclusive resort town.

*Palm Beach: An Architectural Heritage*, awes and inspires by showcasing historic properties that have received the Preservation Foundation of Palm Beach's coveted Robert I. Ballinger Award. First presented in 1988, the award commemorates a restoration or rehabilitation that best exemplifies the traditions of Palm Beach's original houses and the architects who designed them. From Casa de Leoni to Junglewood, El Castillo to Las Palmas, the houses of Palm Beach are fantasies of splendor that inspire dreams of fine living in the sun amid beautiful, fragrant gardens. Public and private structures designed by architects Addison Mizner, Joseph Urban, Marion Sims Wyeth, John Volk and Maurice Fatio are included as well as those by less recognized architects and builders whose feats of imagination rival those of the most celebrated professionals.

The publication is currently available for pre-sale at [shoppalmbeachpreservation.org](http://shoppalmbeachpreservation.org) and will be released on October 16th.

Lady Henrietta Spencer-Churchill, author of the book's foreword, will be present for a book-signing at the 30th Anniversary Ballinger Award presentation on Monday, December 10, 2018 at The Breakers.

Copies may also be purchased at the Foundations' headquarters. Complimentary gift wrap is available.

## SEASON PREVIEW

All events are subject to change and dates may vary based on hours and holidays.

### NOVEMBER 2018

Monday, November 5, 2018 to Friday, February 8, 2019  
Weekdays | 10am to 4pm  
Exhibition

**From the Beginning: Celebrating Forty Years of the Landmarks Preservation Ordinance**

Free to Public

Thursday, November 8, 9am  
Historic Properties Workshop

**Water Rising: Interactive Walking Workshop**

Free to Public | Limited to 60 people

Wednesday, November 14, 6pm  
Lecture and Cocktail Reception

**Polly Jessup Design Series featuring Lars Bolander**  
Members Only

### DECEMBER 2018

Monday, December 10, Noon  
Luncheon

**Ballinger Award Presentation**  
The Breakers  
Invitation Only

Wednesday, December 12, 6pm  
**Holiday Party**  
Members Only

### JANUARY 2019

Thursday, January 3, 2pm  
Lecture

**Saving Olana: An American Preservation Triumph by Sean Sawyer**  
Free to members | \$30 non-members

Wednesday, January 9, 11am

**Trustees Meeting and Polly Earl Award**  
Invitation Only

Thursday, January 10, 2pm  
Lecture/Book Signing

**The Water Will Come by Jeff Goodell**  
The Colony Hotel  
Free to members | \$30 non-members

Wednesday, January 16, 2pm  
Lecture

**Lord Peter Palumbo on the Award-Winning Architecture of the Pritzker Prize**

The Colony Hotel  
Free to members | \$30 non-members

Thursday, January 17, 6pm

Exhibition Opening and Cocktail Reception  
**From the Beginning: Celebrating Forty Years of the Landmarks Preservation Ordinance featuring Lord Peter Palumbo**  
Members Only

Thursday, January 24, 2pm  
Lecture/Book Signing

**The Art of Elegance by Marshall Watson**  
Free to members | \$30 non-members

Friday, January 25, 2pm  
Walking Tour

**Bethesda-by-the-Sea and Rectory**  
Members Only

Thursday, January 31, 2pm  
Lecture/Book Signing

**Timeless by Patrick Ahearn**  
Free to members | \$30 non-members

### FEBRUARY 2019

Wednesday, February 6, 7pm

**Preservationist Dinner featuring Nina Campbell**  
Invitation only

All events located at 311 Peruvian Avenue unless otherwise noted.  
Space is limited for all events. Reservations are required.

Thursday, February 7, 2pm  
Lecture

**The Impact of Rising Waters by Sandra Whitehouse**  
The Colony Hotel  
Free to members | \$30 non-members

Thursday, February 14, 2pm  
Lecture/Book Signing

**Dream Spaces by Victoria Hagan**  
Free to members | \$30 non-members

Tuesday, February 19 to Thursday, April 18

Monday to Saturday | 10am to 4pm |  
Exhibition

**Graham Rust: Designs and Illustrations**  
Free to Public

Wednesday, February 20, 6pm  
Exhibition Opening and Cocktail Reception

**Graham Rust: Designs and Illustrations**  
Members Only

Thursday, February 21, 2pm  
Lecture

**Revisiting the Painted House by Graham Rust**  
The Colony Hotel  
Free to members | \$30 non-members

### MARCH 2019

Friday, March 1, 7:30pm

**Annual Dinner Dance**  
The Breakers  
Invitation Only

Thursday, March 7, 2pm  
Lecture/Book Signing

**The Waters of Rome by Katherine Rinne**  
Free to members | \$30 non-members

Wednesday, March 13, Noon

**Elizabeth L. and John H. Schuler Award Presentation and Luncheon**  
Free to members | \$50 non-members

Thursday, March 14, 2pm  
Lecture/Book Signing

**Havana Living Today by Hermes Mallea**  
Free to members | \$30 non-members

Thursday, March 21, 2pm  
Lecture

**Interior Design in Palm Beach by Charlie Ferrer**  
Free to members | \$30 non-members

Thursday, March 28, 2pm  
Lecture

**Weather it Together by Lisa Craig**  
Free to members | \$30 non-members

Friday, March 29, 4pm  
Musical

**Yale Whiffenpoofs**  
Pan's Garden  
Free to Public

### APRIL 2019

Thursday, April 4, 6pm

**Lesly S. Smith Landscape Award Presentation and Reception**  
Free to members | \$50 non-members

Thursday, April 11, 2pm  
Lecture

**Mitigation Efforts for Historic Structures by Ashley Wilson, AIA**  
Free to members | \$30 non-members

Thursday, April 18, 2pm  
Lecture/Book Signing

**Addison Mizner: The Architect Whose Genius Defined Palm Beach by James Caughman and Stephen Perkins**  
Free to members | \$30 non-members