

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION TRAINING ■ ROME, GEORGIA ■ OCT 6-7, 2006

Ann Arnold has over twenty-one years experience with volunteer based downtown development organizations. Presently, she serves as Director of the Office of Downtown Development for the City of Rome and has held that position for seven years. She is Nationally Certified in Downtown Management by the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Main Street Center. She was an organizing member of the Georgia Downtown Association and is a graduate of the US Chamber of Commerce Institute for Organizational Management. Ann was instrumental in the City of Rome receiving the *National Preserve America Award* and the National *Great American Main Street Award*.

Monica Callahan is Planning & Community Development Director for the City of Madison. She staffs seven citizen commissions appointed to oversee a range of community planning functions - including historic preservation, downtown development, greenspace conservation, corridor management, cemetery stewardship, comprehensive planning, etc. Originally from Ashburn in Southwest Georgia, she attended Mercer University as an undergraduate and graduate school at the University of Georgia. She is a principal in Piedmont Preservation, a firm devoted to cultural resource management providing a range of preservation services through the Southeast. Through her work as both a public servant and a private consultant, Monica encourages all local planning decisions to incorporate a preservation perspective.

Ken Kocher is a native Illinoisan who now calls Madison his home. He received a Bachelors Degree in History from the University of Illinois and completed the Master's in Historic Preservation program at the University of Georgia. He is a founding partner of Piedmont Preservation, a historic preservation consulting firm specializing in historic resource surveys and historic district design guidelines. Past positions include Design Coordinator for Main Street Louisiana and Certified Local Government Coordinator for the State of Mississippi. In addition to his work with Piedmont Preservation, Ken serves as staff for the Monticello and Madison Historic Preservation Commissions.

Jennifer Martin Lewis is the Certified Local Government Coordinator for the state of Georgia. As an employee of the Center for Community Design & Preservation at the University of Georgia and in conjunction with the State Historic Preservation Office, she assists Georgia communities in establishing local preservation commissions who can then protect what is significant from their past and manage future growth. Prior to her current position, Jennifer was the Design Specialist for the Better Hometown Program at the Georgia Department of Community Affairs. Jennifer has a Master of Historic Preservation from The University of Georgia, having completed her thesis on justifying the reuse of historic school buildings as schools.

James K. Reap is an attorney who specializes in historic preservation issues. He has served as chair of the preservation commissions in the City of Decatur and DeKalb County and as vice chair in Athens, Georgia. He is a founding member of both the Georgia Alliance and National Alliance of Preservation Commissions. He teaches preservation law at the University of Georgia and Georgia State University and conducts preservation commission training around the country. James was one of the first two preservation planners in Georgia and served as Deputy Executive Director of the Northeast Georgia RDC. He is currently President of the Legal Committee of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS).

William J. Schmickle is the author *The Politics of Historic Districts: A Primer for Grassroots Preservation* (AltaMira Press, 2006). Bill currently chairs the Annapolis Historic Preservation Commission and was a co-founder of the Oak Ridge, NC, Historic District. Educated in politics at Davidson College, the University of Glasgow and Duke University; Bill is a former professor of political science who now writes and consults on preservation issues. He and his wife, Charlotte, own and operate the Flag House Inn in the Annapolis National Landmark Historic District.