



Emerging
Conservation
Professionals
Network

Each month, ECPN is proud to introduce one of our amazing Specialty Group Liaisons. Specialty Group Liaisons are volunteers who serve as an intermediary between emerging conservation professionals who are interested in or part of the specialty group they represent. To learn more about ECPN liaisons contact the ECPN Outreach Officers at ecpn.aic.outreach@gmail.com or visit [ECPN's website](#).

For our March feature, we would like to introduce our Architecture Specialty Group liaison, Lindsay Dobrovoly. Lindsay has an M.S. degree in Historic Preservation from Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation.

Photo (right): Lindsay Dobrovoly re-adhering several small stone fragments that were found detached from the South and West walls of Temple R during her work as a conservation student in Selinunte, Italy.



1. Of all the specializations, why did you decide to pursue architectural conservation?

I chose to study architectural conservation due to my interest in archaeological site preservation and management strategies. Historic preservation enabled me to combine history, archaeology, art history, and conservation to address site-specific preservation issues.

2. Are there any particular skills that you feel are important or unique to your discipline? Skills specific to architectural conservation include knowledge of architectural design and history, building materials and construction techniques, as well as proficiency using design software such as AutoCAD, ArcGIS, Agisoft Photoscan, Sketchup, etc.

3. What has been your favorite treatment within your specialty?

In the summer of 2014, as a member of the NYU, IFA excavation at Selinunte, Italy, objects conservator Caroline Roberts and I went to the Antonino Salinas Regional Archaeological Museum in Palermo to conduct Multispectral Imaging of polychrome architectural fragments

from Temple B. Undertaken at the direction of Professor Clemente Marconi, our process necessitated (among other things) a DIY setup using trash bags to block out ambient light. Though challenging, our efforts proved ultimately successful, and it was amazing to get hands-on experience with such an innovative non-destructive imaging technique (I also appreciated viewing the museum collection while the building was closed to the public for refurbishment).

4. Do you have any advice for someone interested in specializing in your discipline?

From my experience, I have found that it is important to do your homework before entering this field. I made sure to reach out to professors and colleagues throughout my time both as a student and as a volunteer. Something I wish I had known before entering this field is how important internship opportunities can be for cultivating relationships that might lead to potential employment. So, for anyone reading this who is concerned about the likelihood of finding a job in their preferred specialization, pursue your passions as hobbies first and focus on setting goals in your education (i.e. combining preservation studies with either architecture or engineering degrees). Make sure you are qualified for the positions you are applying for, and don't be afraid to take the unpaid internships, because there is rarely a direct line into a job without this invaluable experience. Websites such as <http://www.preservenet.cornell.edu/> are a good resource listing current opportunities and information regarding architectural conservation and allied fields.