

**LAVERNE WELLS-BOWIE** Professor of Architecture, Florida A&M University  
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**RESUME OVERVIEW OF RELEVANT EXPERIENCE**

I have led and participated in projects involving memorials, historic preservation, (including interpretive centers), cultural conservation and community vision planning.

**National and International**

- Delegate for the U.S. General Service Administration, Public Buildings Service; "Design Excellence Program", 2002-2003
- Consulting Scholar for planning of conference; "Places of Cultural Memory: Africanisms on the American Landscape", National Park Service, US/ICOMOS, 1999-2001
- Competition Manager and Design Programmer; the Martin Luther King, Jr. International Memorial Competition, for the Memorial honoring Dr. King, on the National Mall; DC, 1998-2000
  - Memorial Competition Juror; worked with an international team of noted architects
  - Memorial Interagency Task Force Team member; responsibilities included preparing and making presentations to the National Park Service, National Capital Planning Commission and the National Commission of Fine Arts, 1998-2002
- Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture, 2000 Annual Conference Program Chair; developed and managed international conference program and structure Robert B. Taylor Award; also, Instituted New ACSA Award to promote awareness of the accomplishments of traditionally underrepresented architectural works, 1999
- Historic Redevelopment Guidelines for Eastern Caribbean Urban Districts; organized local participation workshops in 9 Caribbean countries for planning the redevelopment of historic urban districts. Goals focused on both architectural preservation and maintaining cultural conservation through healthier impacts of tourism on traditional uses of downtown; 1995-96
  - Published "Beautiful Basseterre: Guidelines for Eastern Caribbean" and legislation for protection in Basseterre, St. Kitts construction in Basseterre. Project awarded an honorable mention among international recognition of sites based upon its strength in sustaining community character. Research and production funded by FAVA/CA, the McKnight Foundation and the Mukti Fund, 1996

**State and Region**

- Scholar/Co-Principal Investigator, "Think Tank: "Implementation of Community Vision and Voice", (EPA Grant); Florida A&M University, Environmental Justice Institute, 1998-2000
- "Accentuate the Positive" (A Participatory Community Design Planning Workshop, West Palm Beach County) 1998
- Community Visioning Workshops and Master Planning; South Quincy, Florida, 1996-98
- Architectural Restoration Design and Curator of Opening Exhibit; African Bahamian Museum and Resource Center, Key West, Florida, 1998
- Community Visioning Charette, Key West, FL; McArthur Foundation funding, 1997
- Architectural Restoration Design; Mojeska Simpkins House, (South Carolina civil rights leader); Columbia, 1997
- Florida Humanities Scholar Projects:
  - "Making Community"; Fifth Ave./Pleasant St, Gainesville and Seaside, Florida; Team member, communities exchange project highlighting characteristics of historic environments versus the historicism of New Urbanism communities, 1996

### **Tallahassee Community Service**

- COCA (Council on Culture and Arts); Grant Reviewer and Panelist, representing 25 community organizations for the City of Tallahassee Cultural Services Grants, Selection Committee member of entries for the Annual Photo Fest. 2007-2008
- Volunteer committees for the John G. Riley Center; assisting with the annual fundraising Rock-a-thon and the annual Blended Lives program, enriching cultural education for local school children, 2003-2007
- Board Member: Florida National Review Board, National Trust for Historic Preservation, 1998-99
- Founding Board Member; The John G. Riley Center/Museum for African American History and Culture, Tallahassee, 1996-98
- Executive Board Member: The Lemoyne Art Foundation, Tallahassee, 1996-98
- Board Member: State of Florida Weatherization Board, 1995
- Tallahassee Trust for Historic Preservation, Jury member for Tallahassee's Annual Preservation Awards, 1996

### **Selected Lectures Sites**

- Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire
- Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
- La Habana, Cuba
- La Sorbonne, Paris
- Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum (Smithsonian)
- Harvard University
- Cooper Union University
- New York University
- Howard University
- Tuskegee University
- Drury University

### **Publications**

*Currently* completing a book on the contributions of skilled black builders and craftsmen to the historic fabric of Charleston, South Carolina. This work sites names of those formerly unknown to the public as well as noted builders and projects, which include some of the most important historic structures of the city. University of South Carolina Press, upcoming, 2009

Other publications will be submitted upon request.

Bio

LaVerne Wells-Bowie

Emphasis in relations between cultures and buildings heavily inform my views and approaches to architecture. Thus, as a professor and practitioner, I have worked to engage cultural conservation within historic preservation.

My graduate work in architecture was completed at the University of California, Berkeley. Prior to that I earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree at California College of Arts and Crafts. Post-graduate honors have included grants and awards from the National Endowment of Arts, The National Endowment for the Humanities, a Fulbright Fellowship, McKnight Fellowship and several teaching awards. The Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA), which sets the standards for architectural education in North America, honored me as a distinguished faculty. This award especially cited my work in exposing students to the architectural richness of a variety of cultures.

Recently, I held the position of Mickel Endowed Chair in the School of Architecture at Clemson University. Previously, for two years, I co-managed the Martin Luther King, Jr. International Memorial Competition for a memorial honoring the contributions of Dr. King to be located on the Mall in Washington, D.C. In that capacity I was directly responsible for writing the competition program and overseeing the design of the solicitation packet. As well, I was a member of the Interagency Task Force that secured the historic Tidal Basin site on the National Mall. My involvement, on behalf on the M. L. King, Jr. Memorial Foundation, has continued for design review processes with the National Capital Planning Commission, the Commission of Fine Arts and the National Park Service. I am especially honored to have served as a member of the prestigious international Design Competition Jury.