

Craig M. Bennett Jr., PE

Craig Bennett is the founder and president of Bennett Preservation Engineering PC. He is a structural engineer with undergraduate degrees in both civil engineering and architecture, and a graduate degree in structural engineering. For the past 25 years, his focus has been on structural engineering for historic structures, but his experience also includes design of new structures of all sizes, including several early years in the design of high-rise hotels and office buildings.

Bennett's particular strength is in the structural evaluation, repair, rehabilitation, and restoration of existing structures, with a specialization in historic preservation. His work regularly involves assessment of the causes of structural distress or failure and the design of rehabilitative measures.

Bennett is a former faculty member in the College of Architecture and the School of Civil Engineering at Georgia Tech. He is currently adjunct faculty in the joint Clemson University / College of Charleston Graduate Program in Historic Preservation, is past president of the Board of Trustees of the Charleston Museum and past chairman of the City of Charleston's Board of Architectural Review.

Professional Experience

July 2012-Present	Founder and President, Bennett Preservation Engineering, Charleston, SC
2002-2012	Founder and Principal Engineer, 4SE, Inc., Charleston, SC
1990-2002	Head of Engineering, Cummings & McCrady, Inc., Charleston, SC
1985-1990	Engineer, Sheridan Corp., Charleston, SC, part time
1981-1985	Engineer, John Portman & Associates, Atlanta, GA
1978-1985	Faculty, Georgia Tech School of Civil Engineering and/or College of Architecture, Atlanta, GA

Education

Georgia Institute of Technology	Master of Science in Civil Engineering, Major: Structures, 1981 Bachelor of Civil Engineering, Major: Civil Engineering, 1978 Bachelor of Science, Major: Architecture, 1978
École des Beaux-Arts Paris, France	School year of study, 1975-1976

Registrations and Professional Affiliations

- Registered Engineer: Alabama, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia
- Association for Preservation Technology International
- American Society of Civil Engineers
- American Concrete Institute
- American Institute of Steel Construction
- The Masonry Society
- Construction History Society of America
- Earthquake Engineering Research Institute
- Regularly lectures at national and international conferences on structural engineering for historic preservation.

Academic Positions

- Clemson University / College of Charleston Graduate Program in Historic Preservation, current adjunct faculty
- College of Charleston, adjunct faculty in the undergraduate program in Historic Preservation and Community Planning, 2008-2013
- Georgia Tech, Faculty of the College of Architecture and/or the School of Civil Engineering, 1978-1985

Civic and Community Activities

- City of Charleston Board of Architectural Review, past Chairman
- Charleston Museum, past President, Board of Trustees
- Charles Towne Neighborhood Association, past Board Member
- Charleston Symphony Orchestra, past Board Member
- St. Philip's Episcopal Church, past Vestry Member
- Charleston Computer Club, past President

Honors and Awards

- The South Carolina Historic Preservation Stewardship Award for Drayton Hall, 2017
- The Governor's Award by the Palmetto Trust for Historic Preservation for lifetime achievement in support of historic preservation, June 2014
- Honor awards by the Palmetto Trust for Historic Preservation for:
 - Converse College, Pell Dormitory, 2015
 - Receiving Tomb, Structural Stabilization, 2014
 - Grace Episcopal Church, Structural Stabilization and Tower Strengthening, 2011
 - The Church of the Holy Cross, Structural Repairs and Restoration, 2011
 - The Cathedral Church of St. Luke and St. Paul, 2008
 - Walker Hall at the South Carolina School for the Deaf and the Blind, Spartanburg, 2005
 - St. Philip's Episcopal Church, 1995
- Historic Savannah Foundation Preservation Award for the First Baptist Church Savannah, 2011
- Award for Outstanding Support of the Citadel School of Engineering, 2007
- Award for Engineering Excellence by Charleston Contractor's Association, 2006

- Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation Award for preservation work on St. Luke's Episcopal Church & Tower, Atlanta, 2001
- Robert N.S. and Patti Foos Whitelaw Founders' Award for preservation work on St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 1994 (at Cummings & McCrady Architects)
- Chi Epsilon National Civil Engineering Honor Society
- Work in Charleston has won numerous Carolopolis Awards from The Preservation Society of Charleston.

Publications by Craig M. Bennett Jr.

- 2013. Bennett, Craig M, and Kristine Morris. "Stability and Survival: The Structural Analysis of a National Treasure." In *Friends of Drayton Hall: Interiors*. 31.3. 2-5, 11.
- 2013. Bennett, Craig M., et al. "Survivors Tales: Unreinforced Masonry and the 1886 Charleston, South Carolina Earthquake." 12th Canadian Masonry Symposium, Vancouver, British Columbia.
- 2013. Bennett, Craig M. "Rebuilding the Walls of Fort Jefferson." In *Structure Magazine*. 30-33.
- 2007. Bennett, Craig M. "Common Threads." In *Structure Magazine*. 24-26.
- 1980. Bennett, Craig M. and Barry Goodno. "Structural Analysis on Microcomputers." 2nd Conference on Computing in Civil Engineering.

Publications about Craig M. Bennett Jr. and his work

- 2015. Green, Henry. "Slave cabins behind historic Abbeville house studied." In *The Press and Banner*.
- 2011. Behre, Robert. "Rice Mill gets a boost." In *The Post and Courier*.
- 2010. Behre, Robert. "Fabled Façade." In *The Post and Courier*.
- 2009. Harrison, Carlos. "The Fort that Time Forgot." In *Preservation*. 30-32, 52-56.
- 2009. Behre, Robert. "The neatest thing you'll never see." In *The Post and Courier*.
- 2008. Mayo, Chris. "When the Bells Ring." In *Traditional Masonry*. 3.2. 12-15.
- 2007. Parker, Adam. "Remaking History." In *The Post and Courier*.
- 2000. Lameiras, Maria M. "Swinging Ring." In *Georgia Tech Alumni Magazine*. 58-63.

Presentations and Lectures

- Association for Preservation Technology International Conference – November 2, 2016 – San Antonio, TX
Drayton Hall: The Failure of Early 20th Century Concrete in a 1740s Plantations House
- The Masonry Society – October 8, 2016 – Raleigh, NC
Treating Historic Masonry Gently at Drayton Hall
- Preservation Alliance of West Virginia – September 24, 2016 – Beverly, WV
Taking Care of Porches
- Preservation Alliance of West Virginia – September 23, 2016 – Beverly, WV
Mortars for Rebedding, Repointing and Stuccoing Historic Masonry
- Association for Critical Heritage Studies – June 3, 2016 – Montreal, Canada
Public Debate: What Does Heritage Change for Tourism
- South Carolina State Historic Preservation Conference – April 22, 2016 – Columbia, SC
Taking Care of Porches
- Slave Dwellings Project Conference – October 9, 2015 – Charleston, SC
South Carolina Slave Dwellings: Findings, Conclusions and Recommendations
- South Carolina State Historic Preservation Conference – April 23, 2015 – Columbia, SC
Preserving a Lowcountry Icon

- Earthquake Engineering Research Institute Annual Conference – April 3, 2015 – Boston, MA
Tie Rods and Pattress Plates
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology – March 31, 2015 – Cambridge, MA
Why We Do What We Do
- Preservation Society of Charleston – November 13, 2014 – Charleston, SC
Recent Work at Grace Church
- Eastern Section of the Seismological Society of America – November 4, 2014 – Charleston, SC
Grace Episcopal Church and the Mineral, VA Earthquake
- FEMA – July 23, 2014 – Charleston, SC
Grace Episcopal Church: Strengthening and Restoration
- Savannah College of Art and Design Preservation Week Keynote Address – May 2, 2014 – Savannah, GA
Why We Do What We Do
- South Carolina State Historic Preservation Conference – April 22, 2014 – Columbia, SC
Cyclical Maintenance
- Holy City Workshop, Preservation Society of Charleston – September 24, 2013 – Charleston, SC
Dealing with the Forces that Destroy Historic Structures
- South Carolina State Historic Preservation Conference – April 16, 2013 – Columbia, SC
How Masonry Deteriorates and What to Do About It
- Association for Preservation Technology International Conference – September 30, 2012 – Charleston, SC
A Retrospective on Historic Preservation Work Following Hurricanes and Lessons Applicable to All Disaster Recovery
- Sanford Historic Trust – April 12, 2012 – Sanford, FL
Dealing with the Forces that Destroy Historic Structures
- South Carolina State Historic Preservation Conference – March 29, 2012 – Columbia, SC
Dealing with the Forces that Destroy Historic Structures
- The Masonry Society Conference – November 12, 2011 – San Antonio, TX
Rebuilding Fort Jefferson's Walls
- Himelright Lecture at The Citadel – November 7, 2011 – Charleston, SC
Preserving our Nation's Third System Coastal Defenses
- Association for Preservation Technology International Conference – October 14, 2011 – Victoria, British Columbia
Fort Jefferson National Monument
- Florida Trust for Historic Preservation Conference – May 19, 2011 – Orlando, FL
The Forces that Destroy Historic Structures,
- South Carolina State Historic Preservation Conference – March 31, 2011 – Columbia, SC
The Forces that Destroy Historic Structures,
- Charleston Chapter of the Construction Specification Institute – March 30, 2010 – Charleston, SC
Seismic Upgrade of Existing Structures,
- Waterproofing Contractors Association Conference – March 5, 2010, Wilmington, NC
Historic Preservation: Dealing with Waterproofing Issues
- South Carolina State Historic Preservation Conference – March 26, 2009 – Columbia, SC
A Walk through Time: Understanding Historic Structural Systems
- International Council on Monuments and Sites International Symposium – March 13, 2009 – New Orleans, LA
Lessons Learned from Charleston's Hurricane Hugo: 20 Years Later
- Lorman Seminar – July 24, 2008 – Columbia, SC
Historic Preservation: Prepurchase Questions and Issues
- National Park Service Coastal Fortifications Workshop – April 8, 2008 – Sullivans Island, SC

Historic Brick Failure: Lessons Learned

- Civil Engineers Club of Charleston, SC – December 6, 2007 – Charleston, SC
Recent Construction at the Cathedral of St. Luke and St. Paul
- Himelright Lecture at The Citadel – March 22, 2007 – Charleston, SC
A Few Case Studies in Structural Engineering for Historic Preservation
- The Masonry Society – October 14, 2006 – Atlanta, GA
Rehabilitation of Historic Masonry Churches: Focus on the Southeastern United States
- Clemson University / College of Charleston Graduate Program in Historic Preservation – October 12, 2005
Wood: Behavior, Examples and Field Trip
- Clemson University / College of Charleston Graduate Program in Historic Preservation – September 14, 2005
Concrete: Two Case Studies
- American Society of Civil Engineers State Presentation – April 21, 2005 – Columbia, SC
Structural Engineering for Historic Preservation: A Focus on Churches
- Civil Engineers Club – December 5, 2002 – Charleston, SC
Arches and Bell Towers
- South Carolina Historical Society – March 9, 2002 – Charleston, SC
Fireproof Building

Representative Historic Preservation Experience

1690-1710	141 Church Street, Charleston, SC
c. 1725	Brick House Plantation, Edisto Island, SC
1738-1752	Drayton Hall, Charleston, SC
1751	St. Michael's Church, Charleston, SC
1764	Pompion Hill Chapel, Huger, SC
1787,1852	Unitarian Church, Charleston, SC
c.1780	56 South Battery, Charleston, SC
c.1790	Chart House, Savannah, GA
1790s	69 Church Street, Charleston, SC
1791	Lt. Governor Ladson House, 31 Meeting Street, Charleston, SC
1795-1799	Beaufort Arsenal, Beaufort, SC
1798	Kingsley Plantation, near Jacksonville, FL
c.1800	Missroon House, Charleston, SC
c.1800	Fort Johnson Powder Magazine, James Island, SC
1803	58 George Street, Charleston SC
1804	John Mark Verdier House, Beaufort, SC
1809	Fort Washington, Prince George's County, MD
1810	Marshlands Plantation House, James Island, SC
1814	Cathedral Church of St. Luke and St. Paul, Charleston, SC
1820	William Mason Smith House, 26 Meeting Street, Charleston, SC
1826	The Fireproof Building, Charleston, SC
1828-1930	Randolph Hall, Towell Library, Porter's Lodge, Charleston, SC
1829	Fort Sumter National Monument, Charleston, SC
1833	Winnsboro Clock Tower, Winnsboro, SC
1833, 1922	First Baptist Church, Savannah, GA
1835	St. Philip's Church, Charleston, SC

1840 Magnolia Grove, Greensboro, AL
1840s 21 Legare Street, Charleston, SC
1840s 5 College Way, Charleston, SC
1843 Gaineswood Historic House, Demopolis, AL
1845 Bennett Rice Mill, Charleston, SC
1846 Grace Episcopal Church, Charleston, SC
1846 Fort Jefferson National Monument, Dry Tortugas National Park, Garden Key, FL
1848 Walker Hall, Spartanburg, SC
1850 Church of the Holy Cross, Stateburg, SC
1854 Cedar Key Light, Seahorse Key, FL
1859 Cape Lookout Lighthouse, Cape Lookout National Seashore, NC
1864 Chalmette National Cemetery Walls, New Orleans, LA
1870 Cape Hatteras Lighthouse, Cape Hatteras National Seashore, NC
1880 230-232 Bull Street, Savannah, GA
1898 Plum Orchard, Cumberland Island, GA
1906 St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Atlanta, GA
1925 Fort Sumter House, Charleston, SC
1925 Montgomery Building, Spartanburg, SC
1929 St. John's Episcopal Church, Lynchburg, VA
1958 Walton Research Building, Charleston, SC
