ELIZABETH GARRETT RYAN

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EDUCATION

Master of Arts, May 2005

Winterthur Program in Early American Culture, University of Delaware

Master's Thesis: Entertainment of the Most Beautiful Kind: The House of William and Harriet Aiken, 1833-1860

Winterthur Winter Institute, 2002, Winterthur Museum, Del.

Three-week study of American domestic furnishings and historic interiors

Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts Summer Institute, 2002, Old Salem, N.C.

One-month study of the decorative arts and historic interiors of Charleston and the Lowcountry

Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts Summer Institute, 2001, Old Salem, N.C.

One-month study of the decorative arts and historic interiors of the Chesapeake region

Bachelor of Science, Anthropology, May 1998

College of Charleston, Charleston, S.C.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Decorative Arts Appraiser, January 2009 - present

Alice L. Patrick, Inc., AAA, Charleston, S.C.

Appraiser of furniture, silver, ceramics and fine art for insurance, estate and resale purposes

Director of Museums, July 2005 – November 2008

Historic Beaufort Foundation, Beaufort, S. C.

Responsible for curatorial operations and interpretations of HBF Museum Properties including the Beaufort Arsenal museum and the Verdier House museum. Responsibilities included conducting research on collections, developing displays and exhibits, planning and coordinating temporary exhibits, making knowledge of collections and their contents accessible through lectures and publishing, answering research queries, advising on and initiating acquisitions, implementing curatorial procedures and directing volunteer staff and interns.

Senior Guide, August 2003-May 2005

Winterthur Museum, Winterthur, Del.

Skilled in interpreting six tours and 175 period rooms with early American furnishings to museum visitors.

Curatorial Intern, June 2004-August 2004

Historic Charleston Foundation, Charleston, S.C.

Conducted documentary research on William Aiken family of Charleston, S.C.; located, documented and compiled catalogue of extant furnishings and decorative objects original to the Aiken-Rhett House and descended through Aiken family members.

Research Assistant, September 2002- June 2003

Historic Charleston Foundation, Charleston, S.C.

Worked to measure, photograph, and catalogue furniture located in Aiken-Rhett House, conducted object research as to maker and provenance, also assisted Collections Manager with curatorial tasks.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE, CON'T

Associate, May 2001–June 2003

Alice L. Patrick, Inc., AAA, Charleston, S.C.

Assisted with all aspects of furniture, silver and fine art appraisal for insurance, estate and resale purposes including documentation, research, condition reports, photography and written presentation.

Archaeological field and lab technician, June 1998-July 1999, March 2002-August 2002

The Charleston Museum, Charleston, S.C.

Conducted fieldwork on urban and suburban historical sites, including Pineapple House at 14 Legare St., Charleston; Heyward-Washington House, Charleston; and Willtown Plantation, Ravenel, S.C. Lab work included identifying, cataloging and mending ceramics, glassware and other artifacts.

Instructor, Summer 1999

College of Charleston Field School in Historical Archaeology, 14 Legare Street, Charleston, S.C.

Archaeological field and lab technician, July 1998-May 1999

Diachronic Research Foundation, Columbia, S.C.

Excavation of historic and prehistoric sites at Wood Creek, Columbia, S.C.; Heron Pond, Myrtle Beach, S.C.; Fort Johnson, Charleston, S.C.; and Kolb Site, Darlington, S.C.. Also cleaning, sorting, analyzing, cataloging and mending recovered artifacts.

EXHIBITS

Bay Street During the Union Occupation of Beaufort (1861-1865), Exhibited at The Verdier House museum, Historic Beaufort Foundation, January 2008 – present

Davenport's Exhibition of Human Oddities, Exhibited at The Beaufort Arsenal, Historic Beaufort Foundation, October 2006 – May 2007

Tabby: The Architecture of the Lowcountry, Exhibited at The Beaufort Arsenal, Historic Beaufort Foundation, October 2006 – May 2007; traveled to South Carolina museums June 2007 – May 2008

At Home With Henry Dupont, 1812-1889, Exhibited at Eleutherian Mills, Hagley Museum and Library, Wilmington, Del., May 2005 – August 2005

PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

Session organizer and co-presenter: "Preservation versus Restoration in Historic House Museums," Landmark and Preservation Conference. Beaufort, S.C., March 16, 2007

Session organizer and speaker: "Cleaning House: Reinterpreting Historic House Museums for the 21st Century," South Carolina Federation of Museums. Sumter, S.C., March 8, 2007

Presentation: "Furnishing Plan for the John Hare Powel House," Friends of Winterthur: Winterthur Museum, May 1, 2004

Presentation: "Purpose Built: Sociability, Access and Continuity in the George B. Rodney House, New Castle, Delaware," New Castle Historical Society: New Castle, Del., November 30, 2004.

Contributing Author: Zierden, Martha, et al. *Willtown, An Archaeological and Historical Perspective*, Chapter 8. South Carolina Department of History and Archives, 1999

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Member, (2005-2008) Professional Development Committee for the South Carolina Federation of Museums

Member, (2006 – 2008) Tourism Management Advisory Commission for City of Beaufort

Member, (2007 – 2008) Beaufort County Historic Preservation Review Board

PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES

American Association of State and Local History annual meeting, Rochester, N.Y., 2008 Local Arrangements Chair, South Carolina Federation of Museums conference, 2008 American Association of Museums annual meeting, Chicago, Ill., 2007 South Carolina Federation of Museums conference, 2008 American Association of State and Local History annual meeting, Phoenix, Ariz.,2006 Williamsburg Forum, 2005 Emerging Scholars conference, Winterthur Museum, Winterthur, Del, 2005 Decorative Arts of the White House conference, Washington, D.C., 2004

Classicism in America conference, Yale University, New Haven, Conn., 2003

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Lois A. McNeil Fellowship in Early American Culture, Winterthur Museum, 2003-2005 James F. Short student scholarship, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, 2005 Frank L. Horton Fellowship, Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts, 2001 Jon Morter Memorial Scholarship in Archaeology, College of Charleston, 1998