

Michael J. Mills AIA, NCARB

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Principal Architect

Mills Group, LLC

October 2005- Current

The **Mills Group** specializes in the restoration of historic buildings and the sensitive land planning for residential and mixed use projects ensuring for design solutions that break the cookie cutter mold. Additionally the firm designs of new residences which reflect the rich architectural character of the past and vernacular design with traditional architecture influence. The firm provides consulting services that include downtown revitalization master planning, contextual infill design, existing building assessment, conceptual design for rehabilitation, and building maintenance strategies.

Director of Historic Preservation

Vandalia Heritage Foundation (Fairmont, WV)

May 2002-September 2005

- ◆ Managed all details involving programming, building design, and preservation for a non-profit organization with a mission of economic revitalization through historic preservation. Oversaw architectural planning and construction related to the organization's real estate holdings which included over fifteen historic structures ranging from hotels to houses. Led construction administration on the organization's projects to ensure that builders were in compliance with documentation as well as all local and national codes. Managed preventative and cyclical maintenance from the organization's real estate portfolio. Provided technical architectural and preservation assistance to clients of North Central West Virginia. Facilitated public outreach through lectures, workshops, an in house Preservation Resource Center, and personal one on one guidance by appointment. Initiated and coordinated the 2002 International Preservation Trades Workshops in Fairmont, West Virginia. Ensured compliance with local, state, and federal regulations as well as the Secretary of the Interior's Guidelines. Point person with the State Historical Preservation Office for all projects and programs. Mentored two student interns as well as providing guidance to junior staff members. Developed project scopes of works as well as RFPs and RFQs for both A/E and contractor procurements. Selected, oversaw, and managed A/E consultant teams.

Director of Historic Preservation Services

HNTB, Architects, Engineers & Planners (Washington, DC) August 1999- May 2002

- ◆ Led the preservation and restoration projects while helping to develop a local and national preservation practice. Specifically led a national effort to strategically position the firm to be the recognized preservation firm with respect to historic transportation structures. Developed locally and nationally recognized preservation practice in collaboration with several of the firm's major offices through proactive marketing, networking, and presentations at national events. Directly worked with the Federal Market Leader to promote the firm's national preservation experience. Successfully co-led the project pursuit for the firm's first GSA Design Excellence Project. Managed several clients and large-scale contracts such as a Smithsonian IDIQ and NAVFAC IDIQ contract. Served as a project manager for the 2012 US Olympic Bid. The task focused on the reuse of existing facilities and leveraging existing resources to enhance the overall master plan.

Design and Technical Associate

Einhorn, Yaffee, Prescott (Washington, DC) February 1994-August 1999

- ◆ Project architect and project manager on historic preservation and architectural design and planning projects. Served as client point person and marketed the firm for future work. Led several condition surveys on historic structures. Wrote several condition assessment reports that led to extensive preservation projects. Conducted historical research that led to an exhibit, conference, and publication. Assembled construction documents on several historical preservation projects. Provided technical problem solving to preservation projects. Collaborated with engineers to integrate complete building infrastructure within historic structures.

EDUCATION

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (1993)

- ◆ *Building Science*
- ◆ *Bachelor of Architecture*

PROFESSIONAL LICENSING

- ◆ *Registered Architect, Virginia, 2001 & West Virginia 2003*

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS/MEMBERSHIPS

- ◆ *Preservation Alliance West Virginia (Board Member & Executive Committee)*
- ◆ *Institute of Preservation and Contemporary Design (Council of Affiliates Member)*
- ◆ *Pleasant Hills Home Owner's Association Building Commission (Chairman)*
- ◆ *American Institute of Architects*
- ◆ *City of Morgantown Planning and Zoning Design Review Committee*
- ◆ *Main Street Morgantown Design Committee*
- ◆ *National Trust for Historic Preservation-Member*
- ◆ *National Building Museum-Member*
- ◆ *Urban Land Institute-Member*

SPEECHES/ PRESENTATIONS

- ◆ **2004 West Virginia Preservation Trades Workshop,**
"Architectural Styles," presented as part of the opening keynote speech.
- ◆ **2004 Preservation Alliance West Virginia Annual Conference,**
"Preservation Projects from Start to Finish."
- ◆ **2003 West Virginia Preservation Trades Workshop,**
"Historic Preservation in Your Backyard."
- ◆ **2003 International Preservation Trades Workshop,**
"Documenting Conditions."
- ◆ **2002 National Trust's Main Street Town Meeting,**
"White Elephants on Main Street."
- ◆ **2001 National Trust's Main Street Town Meeting,**
"Historic Transportation Structures Fostering Community Revitalization."
- ◆ **1997 Montgomery C. Meigs Symposium,**
"Commissary Sergeant's Quarters, Building 42," presented at the National Building Museum co-sponsored by the U.S. Capitol Historical Society.

PUBLICATIONS

- ◆ **Vandalia Heritage Foundation's Preservation Resource Center Publications:**
"An Introduction to Historic Preservation", "Researching your Historic Home", "What is Historic Preservation?", and "Preservation Bulletin #1: The Rehabilitation Process."
- ◆ *"Convergence: Effective Preservation Through Collaboration / An Interdisciplinary Approach,"* submitted to **APT Bulletin, Spring 2002.**
- ◆ *"Commissary Sergeant's Quarters, Building 42,"* **Montgomery C. Meigs and the Buildings of the Nation's Capital.** Edited by William C. Dickinson, Dean A. Herrin and Donald A. Kennon, 2001, Ohio Press.

AWARDS

- ◆ **Recipient of Rensselaer's 2000 Director's Award** - The Director's Award is presented each year to individuals who have made significant contributions to the success of the Office of Alumni Relations and to the Rensselaer Alumni Association during the past year.
- ◆ **Recipient of Honorable Mention in the 1992 Progressive Architecture "New Public Realm" Design Competition.**

HIGHER EDUCATION INSTRUCTION

- ◆ **West Virginia University** (Fall 2003) Course: *"History of American Architecture."* Instructed graduate students in the Cultural Resource Management Program.
- ◆ **West Virginia University** (Spring 2006) Course: *"History of American Architecture."* Instructed graduate students in the Cultural Resource Management Program.