Betsy Frederick-Rothwell

Lecturer, School of Architecture, The University of Texas at Austin

*The Underground Origins of Air Conditioning*

Betsy Frederick-Rothwell recently received her PhD from the School of Architecture at the University of Texas at Austin, where she is currently a lecturer in architectural history and historic preservation. Her research approaches the study of buildings and spaces with disciplinary tools from the history of technology and the history of medicine, looking particularly at the intersections of building environmental systems and physiological theories in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Before moving to Texas, Betsy worked as a preservation specialist for the U.S. General Services Administration in San Francisco and as an archivist at the Environmental Design Archives at the University of California, Berkeley, where she also received a master’s degree in architecture. Her current research has been supported by fellowships from P.E.O. International and the Consortium for the History of Science, Technology, and Medicine. You may find her trying to talk her way into boiler rooms throughout the world.