“Domicology: Opportunities, Markets, and Innovations” Summary

By Madison Nacker and Heather Mahoney

On Friday May 17th 2019, nearly 70 professionals came together at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing, MI to discuss the state of structural abandonment in the US, and potential solutions to address this socially, economically, and environmentally detrimental phenomenon. The audience included those representing private industry, scholars, policy makers, state & local government officials, historic preservationists, architects, builders, contractors, reuse industry professionals, community organizations and others concerned with blight and abandonment as well as structural material reuse and salvage.

There were 10 speakers at the event, including a keynote presentation and 8 lightning-round presentations. The lightning rounds were 15 minutes long and were based off of PechaKucha. Sessions were selected to represent elements along the Domicology value-added chain: Keynote Jeff Spencer, EGLE; Kim Buchholz & Dustin Altschul, Hungry Architecture; George Berghorn, MSU Construction Management; Jimmy Mitchell, Skanska; Ted Reiff, The ReUse People; Bill Stough, Sustainable Research Group; Dan Bollman, AIA, Preservation Architect; Travis Blomberg, WasteCap Resource Solutions; Chris Deuel, Community Action Allegan County.

While many speakers were present at the event, the CCED was also able to utilize Zoom web calls to hear from speakers across the country. Attendees enjoyed the fast presentation style that allowed for the coverage of so many topics in the industry with many saying the most effective part of the event was the “sequencing of topics from start to finish” along the supply chain and the “rapid presentations.” We would like to thank all who attended the event for your valuable input and contribution to Domicology. For those interested in attending next year, you can keep up to date by joining our Domicology Network by emailing Heather at mahone86@msu.edu.