The Technical Committee on Sustainable Preservation (TC•SP) of the Association for Preservation Technology International was created to provide increased opportunities for interdisciplinary cooperation and practice.

In the U.S. and Canada, nearly three quarters of the building stock is more than thirty-five years old, beyond the intended service life of many exterior envelope components and energy consuming systems. Many are potential candidates for historic or heritage designation. Recycling existing structures is fundamental to achieving sustainability.

Combining experience in existing building renewal with emerging practices in sustainable design, TC•SP is developing tools, documenting best practices, and preparing educational materials to achieve the sustainable use of the existing building stock.

Stewardship of irreplaceable resources is the shared ethic of both sustainability and preservation. Conservation of energy and ecological, material and cultural resources are interdependent. Collaboration among sustainability and preservation advocates is imperative.

The Halifax, Montreal, and Victoria Symposia
Setting the Agenda for Sustainable Heritage Conservation

TC•SP conducted three symposia during APT’s 2005 Annual Conference in Halifax, Nova Scotia, the 2008 Annual Conference in Montreal, Quebec, and the 2010 Annual Conference in Victoria, British Columbia. These symposia attracted leaders in the sustainable preservation field where they collaborated to sharpen the vision, clarified the mission and advanced the techniques of sustainable heritage conservation.

The Halifax Preamble:

Sustainability is of critical importance to APT’s mission to promote the wise use of the built environment.

There is a need to make the cultural dimension of sustainability explicit.

Respect for the cultural dimension requires a process that is broad-based and inclusive.

Interpreting cultural significance and historic integrity in sustainability rating systems requires both quantitative and qualitative measures.

The greenest building is…
…one that is already built!

APT
The Association for Preservation Technology International
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The 2010 Special Issue explored the integral role of sustainability in the field of preservation and heritage conservation. Several articles illustrated that the value of heritage conservation is magnified through the lens of sustainability by quantifying embodied energy and material resources in historic buildings. Others demonstrated the integration of high-performance systems, green materials and sustainable practices in historic places.

The 2010 Special Issue explored the integral role of sustainability in the field of preservation. Guest editor Walter Sedovic introduced the issue by saying “this issue of the Bulletin is proof that we as a profession have matured and that our notion of sustainable preservation has come of age.” The articles in the issue revealed how deeply sustainability and preservation are connected and explored the ways in which this relationship can be strengthened over the coming years.

**TC•SP Action Agenda**

Make a difference by contributing to these TC•SP Focus Group activities for 2013/2014!

TC•SP works via monthly teleconferences. If you would like to join these calls, please contact the focus group leaders.

**Education + Research:**

Identifying strategic partnerships and developing sustainable preservation educational “modules”. The group has recently completed surveys of Canadian and American academic programmes in heritage conservation / historic preservation that will help establish priorities for identifying resources to assist in developing integrated sustainable conservation teaching and research initiatives.

**Climate Change:**

Documenting how climate change impacts historic structures and landscapes and determining how preservation technology can best address this issue. The group is currently developing case studies looking at the affects of climate change and mitigation of the affects in large urban environments.

**On-line Sustainable Conservation Assistance Resource (OSCAR):**

TC•SP is developing OSCAR to be an interactive resource that establishes a clear process to make the decisions necessary for the sustainable treatment of historic buildings.

**Publications + Outreach:**

Preparing TC•SP newsletters and articles for the APT Bulletin and Communique, and other preservation and green building publications, as well as updating the TC•SP webpage.

**TC•SP Book Club:**

The new Sustainable Preservation Book Club has been launched! Please join in the reading and discussion of past and current publications on heritage preservation and other timely topics.

**Find Out More!**

**TC•SP Publications and Sustainable Preservation Information**

APT Bulletin Vol. 41, No. 1 and APT Bulletin Vol. 36, No. 4; Special issues on sustainability and preservation for sale in the Committees Section at www.apti.org

TC•SP Quarterly Report available online in the APT Communiqué at www.apti.org

Links to TC•SP activities and a bibliography of resources for sustainable preservation can be found at www.apti.org. All APT members are encouraged to participate.

**What is APT?**

Created in 1968 in Quebec as a joint venture between preservationists in Canada and the United States, the Association for Preservation Technology International has always been at the forefront of the rapidly evolving preservation movement. Drawn together by a need to know, APT members gather at conferences, training sessions and social functions to expand their professional spheres and share their hard-won knowledge and expertise.

www.apti.org