Foundation courses cover the basics of Historic Preservation and are strongly recommended for all students before taking Core, Materials, and Special Topics courses. They are offered multiple times every year in a variety of locations.

Core courses are designed to move students through the standard preservation process, dedicating each workshop to a specific phase in the progression of a preservation project. Core courses are hands-on but do not include instruction on treatment options, which are covered in Materials courses. Core workshops will be offered yearly on a rotating basis.

Materials workshops cover the history of use, technology, and treatment of major building materials. Students can choose from Wood, Masonry, and Earthen Building Materials tracks and are required to complete introductory courses or their equivalent before progressing to advanced topics. Like Core courses, Materials workshops will be offered yearly on a rotating basis.
Special Topics

Vanishing Treasures’ Special Topics workshops offer additional exposure to burning preservation topics facing our National Parks. They are offered in addition to the standard progression of Foundation, Core, and Materials courses.

Offered in partnership with the WASO Cultural Landscape Program, this workshop will provide students with the foundation of maintaining trees and shrubs to perpetuate the historic character of a cultural landscape. Participants will learn how to use Cultural Landscape Inventories and Reports to recognize historic vegetation, identify landscape deficiencies, prune trees and shrubs, replace historic plants, and optimize plant health.

Executing a Historic Preservation Project in Wilderness

Laura Kim (NPS); Tim Devine (NPS)
Death Valley National Park | OCT 17-19

This course will focus on the perceived conflict between cultural resource and wilderness stewardship. Participants will learn about the laws and NPS policy regarding historic preservation in federally designated wilderness areas; how to determine the type and level of preservation that may be necessary; how to approach project design; and the traditional skills often required to execute historic preservation projects in wilderness.

Preservation Horticulture: Maintaining Trees and Shrubs in a Cultural Landscape

Keith Park (NPS); Vida Germano (NPS); Fielding Link (NPS) Susan Dolan (NPS)
Eugene O’Neill National Historical Site | MAY 23-25

Working with Traditional Wood Finishes: Lime-based Treatments

Sarah Jackson (NPS)
Grand Teton National Park | JUL 25-27

This workshop focuses on lime-based traditional finishes, their history of use, composition, application, and maintenance for all substrates. Students will have the opportunity to work in the field mixing limewash solutions and practicing application techniques at the historic Menor’s Ferry log structures in Grand Teton National Park.

Moisture Management in Historic Buildings and New Assemblies

Bill Turner (Turner Building Science & Design)
Grand Teton National Park | AUG 29-31

One of the leading causes of rapid deterioration in historic structures and new assemblies is water; as vapor, liquid or in solid form. This course will examine moisture-related building issues as found in various foundations, walls, roof structures, and interior spaces. It will address evaluating the cause of suspected moisture damage or mold; designing effective drainage; the use of vapor and air barriers; considerations for adaptive reuse; and implementing moisture monitoring protocols. The course will focus on regional issues and other appropriate climates related to participants’ regions. Hands-on evaluation and problem solving components are planned.

Creating and Using Oral Histories in the Preservation of Traditional Resources

LuAnn Jones (NPS); Brenna Lissoway (NPS)
Grand Teton National Park | AUG 8-10

In this course, participants will learn how to effectively plan and implement all phases of an oral history project and will explore how interviews can in turn help inform preservation treatment plans. Using case studies, classroom presentations and a practicum, participants will gain the tools they need to gather reliable historic information through the use of the spoken word.

San Antonio Missions Preservation

San Antonio Missions National Historical Park | MAY 22-25

San Antonio Missions has the largest concentration of Spanish Colonial Architecture in the United States and was designated a World Heritage site in July 2015. With over 250,000 square feet of historic masonry, these structures present many preservation challenges. Topics covered will include the history of Spanish Colonial construction, condition assessment methods, lime mortars, washes, renders and plasters, geology of stone types, and best practices for conservation treatments.

INTERESTED?

Read further to learn more about Vanishing Treasures and how to register for a workshop.

What do we do?

The Vanishing Treasures Training program identifies and develops annual training opportunities for historic preservation. Training are offered throughout the western parks, including Grand Teton National Park, at the VT training facility.

How do I sign up?

Fill out the Vanishing Treasures Registration Form, found at https://goo.gl/forms/MQBY2uvXtnZZp8dy1, to reserve a space in one of our courses. Reservations are handled on a first-come-first-serve basis.

How much does a course cost?

Vanishing Treasures covers all tuition expenses, however, participants are responsible for lodging and travel costs. Limited lodging for Grand Teton National Park courses is available at the White Grass Dude Ranch.

Thanks to our partners:

For more information, contact vanishingtreasures@nps.gov | 307-739-3469 | Grand Teton National Park PO Drawer 170, Moose WY, 83012