The APT Bulletin on Iron and Steel: Evolving Preservation Practice

As a sequel to a special issue published in fall 2012, the latest issue of the APT Bulletin presents case studies that focus on investigative, protective, and repair methods applicable to the conservation and restoration of iron and steel. This issue was guest-edited by Richard I. Ortega and Justin M. Spivey.

The articles in the first issue dealt with iron and steel metallurgy and the history of iron and steel production. The focus of articles in this new issue is more specific. In the article “Nondestructive Evaluation (NDE) of Embedded Iron and Steel,” Charles Bransby-Zachary, George Ballard, and Avigail Charnov describe and explain the scientific bases for the selection of investigative techniques. Gina L. Crevello and Paul A. Noyce present a methodology for corrosion assessment based on the principles of cathodic protection in “Corrosion Assessments for Historic Steel-Frame, Masonry-Clad Buildings.” In “Seeing with Different Eyes: Two Investigations of Embedded Steel at Yale University,” Richard I. Ortega continues the discussion of investigative methods with two case studies in which the application of NDE at one building yielded more meaningful results than at the other. James Dossett, in “Case Studies in the Repair of Masonry-Clad, Steel-Framed Buildings,” gives examples of the interventions that can be
made after the diagnostics have been completed and the problem has been defined. Frederick R. Rutz, Todd M. Riley, and Peter Foster explore other issues that can affect historic iron and steel structures in “Fire and Reconstruction at Lobato Bridge in New Mexico.” Sara E. Wermiel rounds out this second issue on iron and steel with an article about a distinctive but little-known building in “Early Curtain-Wall Buildings and the Higgins Armory Museum in Massachusetts.” While this building is clad in glass rather than masonry, it illustrates many of the challenges to preservation that are presented by steel-framed buildings dating from the first half of the twentieth century. Finally, Peg Breen’s discussion of preservation in New York City shows how the political environment can be just as challenging as the physical environment when it comes to saving historic buildings.

Also in this issue of the APT Bulletin are reviews of books assembled by the book review editor, Frances Gale: Architectural Conservation in Europe and the Americas by John H. Stubbs and Emily G. Makaš and Heritage Masonry: Materials and Structures edited by Stavros Syngellakis.

The APT Building Technology Heritage Library column by Mike Jackson highlights trade catalogs featuring metal components used for structural and architectural purposes, as well as building systems. In the nineteenth century the companies that processed these materials were generally ironworks, but in the 20th century steel became the dominant metal for construction.

The Association for Preservation Technology is the only international organization dedicated solely to promoting the best technology for conserving historic structures and their settings. Founded in 1968 in Québec as a joint venture between
Canadian and United States preservationists, APT provides members with benefits such as publications, networking, conferences, training courses, and student scholarships. As a benefit of membership, APT members can search, browse, download, and print full-text PDF versions of past *Bulletin* articles on JSTOR, the international online digital archive. Visit [http://www.apti.org/](http://www.apti.org/) for more information.

The *APT Bulletin*, a peer-reviewed, scholarly journal, is a valued source for state-of-the-art information on preservation technology. Published three times a year by APT, the *Bulletin* examines all aspects of preservation technology in feature articles and book reviews, keeping readers at the leading edge of the field.

Mount Ida Press, which edits and produces the *APT Bulletin*, specializes in high-quality publications on history, architecture, and building technology. For further information about the *APT Bulletin*, please contact the editorial office in Albany, New York, at 518.426.5935 or at info@mountidapress.com.

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