



The Association for Preservation Technology International
Association pour la préservation et ses techniques

For immediate release

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Preserving the Past with Innovative Techniques and Traditional Methods

The latest issue of the *APT Bulletin*, Vol. 39:4, explores a variety of far-ranging topics, including digital printing technology in the reproduction of wallcoverings, lime-mortar preparation and treatment, injection grouting, the impact of colonialism on preservation philosophy, the significance of sustainable design, and the preservation of structures built during the Modern movement. With case studies from Morocco, Mississippi, Bolivia, and Iran, the articles offer diverse international perspectives.

Both new and traditional techniques for preservation, restoration, and reproduction are explored in three articles. Christopher Mills describes innovative techniques used to reproduce historic wallcoverings at the Grand Opera House in Meridian, Mississippi. He details how digital printing technology was balanced with hand finishing and screen printing to make affordable reproductions of 49 different wallcoverings, including hand-blocking, embossing, appliquéing, flocking, and anaglypta. Dagmar Michoinová and Pavla Rovnaníková evaluate traditional techniques in their scientific analysis of high-calcium lime-mortar preparation and treatment. By analyzing shrinkage, carbonation, flexural strength, compression strength, and pore structure of mortar specimens, the authors determine effective methods to make repairs to historic structures. Using a case study of the archeological site of Chiripa, Bolivia, to determine the effectiveness of this technique, Charu Chaudhry and Koenraad Van Balen explore injection grouting as a means to improve the strength of earthen structures that may be at risk of damage from earthquakes.

Fatemeh Mehdizadeh Saradj stresses the importance of sustainable design through her examination of badgirs, traditional wind catchers used to cool buildings in Iran. She analyzes the structure and function of the badgir and uses flow-modeling analysis to determine the effectiveness of these structures in hot, arid climates.

Looking to the recent past, David N. Fixler reassesses preservation practices for works from the Modern movement. He examines the issues that the philosophy of the Modern movement poses for preservation, and he ponders whether modern materials can acquire age value through patina. Stacey E. Holden questions whose legacy is preserved in areas under foreign rule through an analysis of the impact of French colonialism in the Fez medina of Morocco. Holden argues that when the French colonized Morocco they created a “romanticized vision of Fez as a medieval relic” through preservation policies that did not reflect the social history of Morocco and diminished pre-colonial modernization. Both articles acknowledge the importance of understanding events and ideas in the past as the basis for making decisions in preservation.

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, an international online digital archive.

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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