



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

For immediate release

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The *APT Bulletin*: Preserving Building Materials, Harnessing Traditional Skills

The latest issue of the *APT Bulletin: The Journal of Preservation Technology* contains articles on the preservation of traditional and modern building materials, as well as the importance of training craftsmen. Three articles focus on the preservation of masonry. Nicole Trujillo, Thomas E. Boothby and Erik Valentino discuss how the air-coupled impact-echo system, a nondestructive evaluation tool, could make the masonry-repair industry more effective at preserving buildings. Alex B. Lim, Frank G. Matero, and Michael C. Henry point out that soft capping, an alternative to traditional hard capping for masonry walls, is an environmentally sustainable approach for archaeological ruins that is related to the recent success of green roofs and their role in environmentally conscious design. Manish Chalana and Jeana C. Wisner demonstrate how existing data sources when integrated with fieldwork can greatly expand knowledge about the inventory of historic commercial unreinforced masonry buildings in earthquake-prone Seattle.

Two articles focus on engineering issues in twentieth-century structures. Mark R. Chauvin and Arne P. Johnson explain how knowledge of the typical performance and deterioration mechanisms for timber piles was combined with the strategic use of modern scientific testing and analysis methods to assess the expected performance of a railroad structure supported by historic timber piles. Greg Donofrio and Meghan Elliott pose the question, “Is engineering history ‘significant?’” while presenting an “unrecognized” building which plays a role in the development of the modern reinforced-concrete frame.

An article by Gerard Lynch, based on the APT College of Fellows lecture given at APT's 2012 annual conference in Charleston, South Carolina, explores the importance of crafts training to historic preservation. The article by Adam Johnson, Mary Slater, Laura Carter Schuster, and Mary Jane Naone demonstrate how in Hawai'i a natural disaster provided an opportunity not only to collaborate on preservation work at cultural sites but also to draw upon traditional Hawaiian building skills and cultural practices.

Also included in this issue is a selection from Jeffrey M. Chusid's book, *Saving Wright: The Freeman House and the Preservation of Meaning, Materials, and Modernity*. The APT 2012 jury for the 2012 Lee Nelson Award conferred a honorable mention to Chusid's book.

Also in this issue of the *APT Bulletin* are reviews of two books assembled by the book review editor, Frances Gale: *Salt Attack and Rising Damp*, by David Young and *Old Buildings, New Designs: Architectural Transformations* by Charles Bloszies.

Finally, the APT Building Technology Heritage Library column by Mike Jackson highlights trade catalogs related to concrete, masonry, structural piles, and decorative plaster.

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. Visit <http://www.apti.org/>

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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Structural Assessment of Aging Timber Piles on the Banks of the Mississippi
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Greg Donofrio and Meghan Elliott

Nondestructive Evaluation of Brick Masonry Using Air-Coupled Impact-Echo Analysis
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APT Membership Information

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