



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

For immediate release

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The *APT Bulletin* Puts the Spotlight on Sustainability

A new special issue of the *APT Bulletin*, Volume 41:1, explores the integral role of sustainability in the field of preservation. In 2005 the *Bulletin* published its first special issue on sustainability, and over the past five years the relationship between preservation and sustainability has continued to grow. Guest editor Walter Sedovic introduces 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.” Editor Diana S. Waite notes that “the limited nature of our resources, both natural and cultural, has become an ever more pressing concern” and that “the need for action has gone from being regarded as a specialist topic to an ‘inconvenient truth’ in our culture at large.” The articles in the current issue display how deeply sustainability and preservation are connected and explore the ways in which this relationship can be strengthened over the coming years.

Several articles in this issue use case studies to address preservationists’ concern with maintaining the historic integrity of existing buildings that undergo changes to improve their sustainability. John H. Cluver and Brad Randall examine Swift Hall at Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, New York, to illustrate how energy modeling and life-cycle costing can be used to increase energy efficiency and make improvements without disturbing the historic fabric of a building. Ilene Tyler and Ann K. Dilcher explain how the recent conservation of the Pere Marquette Railroad Depot in Bay City, Michigan, retained already sustainable features and reused building materials to reduce environmental impact. Pamela Jerome looks at twentieth-century buildings to advocate that long-term service life and

built-in redundancy should be considered in the sustainable reuse and enhancement of existing buildings. Paul Baker, Roger Curtis, Craig Kennedy, and Chris Wood focus on traditional windows in their article, using a case study of two windows to test both simple, traditional improvements that can improve the energy efficiency of older windows, such as shutters, blinds, and curtains, and more complex methods, such as installing second glazing.

Mike Jackson examines green home-rating systems, which are often seen by preservationists as advocating more for the “tear down” of older structures rather than for “green home makeovers.” Jackson calls for the development of these systems to meet the needs of preserving historic buildings and not just for new construction. Also included in this article is a list of energy-efficient rehabilitation Web sites. Recognizing that sustainability will continue to be a concern for future preservationists, Jeff Chusid addresses this issue by turning the discussion to the role of sustainability in the classroom. He asks the question: “What, if anything, needs to be taught in college-level preservation programs in order to better prepare the next generation of professionals to practice and think sustainably?” Chusid then examines the five themes of environment and energy, stewardship and management, social equity and economics, planning and design, and better preservation practice to explore answers to this question.

Mary B. Brush’s *Practice Points* column in this issue examines the technique of dry-ice cleaning to remove spray paint from weathering steel. Using the example of the Time Life Building in Chicago, Brush explains that after exploring various cleaning methods, dry ice was found to provide satisfactory results that removed the paint for aesthetic reasons while minimizing harm to the building material.

This issue of the *APT Bulletin* contains reviews of five books, including *Living Buildings: Architectural Conservation: Philosophy, Principles and Practice* by Donald W. Insall; *Windows: History, Repair and Conservation* edited by Michael Tutton, Elizabeth Hirst, and Jill Pearce; *Long Island Landscapes and the Women Who Designed Them* by Cynthia Zaitzevsky; *Zinc Sculpture in America 1850-1959* by Carol A. Grissom; and *Don’t Tear It Down: Preserving the Earthquake*

Resistant Vernacular Architecture of Kashmir by Randolph Lagenbach. Frances Gale, the book review editor, oversaw these reviews.

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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