The newest issue of the *APT Bulletin: The Journal of Preservation Technology* celebrates the 50th anniversary of the Association for Preservation Technology. Articles in this issue chronicle the history and development of APT, as well as the growth of the technical committees and the Student Scholarship Program. Other articles discuss important topics for the future of the field of heritage preservation.

In “APT’s Fifth Decade: Reaching Maturity and Facing the Future,” guest editor and past president Dean Koga looks at the history and outlook of APT, with a focus on how the goals of the 2009–2014 strategic plan have been met. This article delves into APT’s publications, conferences, and training and education programs, as well as the strategic plan for 2015–2020.

This issue also includes reports from APT’s four technical committees: the Preservation Engineering Technical Committee, the Technical Committee on Sustainable Preservation, the Technical Committee on Modern Heritage, and the Technical Committee for Documentation. As Dean Koga writes, the technical committees “have all exceeded the requirements of the 2009–2014 strategic plan to such an extent that their activities have become central to the work of APT.”
Another important and evolving program highlighted in this issue is APT’s investment in Student Scholars. In their article entitled “APT’s Student Scholarship Program Sets the Tone for the Future of APT,” Lesley M. Gilmore and Sue Ann Pemberton explain how the program has provided a travel stipend and complimentary registration for the APT annual conference, giving Student Scholars the opportunity to work with advisors and to present papers at the conference. The program has connected students with the APT College of Fellows and often led to long-term professional relationships between its participants and APT.

“APT Building Technology Heritage Library” by Mike Jackson discusses the development of this online library of out-of-print trade catalogs that APT started in 2006. The BTHL has proven to be a major accomplishment of APT and an indispensable resource for heritage professionals. The BTHL has partnered with other libraries and organizations in order to digitize their materials.

Sharon Park’s article, “Sustaining Historic Properties in an Era of Climate Change,” looks at the impacts of climate change on heritage properties. Park writes that the challenges for the future may be that the adaptations required by many communities and government agencies threaten the authenticity and integrity of historic buildings and districts.

In “The Stewardship of Modern Heritage: Looking Forward,” Kyle Normandin reflects on the challenges of protecting and adapting modern, postwar, and postmodern structures. He traces the emergences of modern heritage as a distinct area of conservation practice and of the recognition of the special problems involved in the conservation and restoration of iconic twentieth-century buildings, as well as ordinary everyday modern structures.
In “Biofilms and Lichens on Eroded Marble Monuments: Reconsidering Cleaning,” authors Judith M. Jacob, Michaela Schmull, and Federica Villa look at the communities of bacteria, algae, and fungi that exist on eroded marble surfaces. As they explain, the darkening or coloring of eroded white marble often leads to repeated cleaning without full understanding of the associated damage and future cleaning difficulties.

“Phosphate Consolidants for Carbonate Stones” by George W. Scherer, Elisa Franzoni, Enrico Sassoni, and Gabriela Graziani reviews results obtained in the laboratory and in the field with regard to the effectiveness of calcium phosphates for application on limestone and marble.

Julia Gersovitz, Ronald D. Staley, John G. Waite, and the late Robert Silman, leaders in their fields and within the Association for Preservation Technology, share their reflections, experiences, and highlights in “Development of Professional Heritage Conservation Practice in North America as Told by a Few Luminaries.” Each author provides insights into APT’s development as an organization that fosters learning and information sharing.

Also in this issue, Lonnie Hovey has compiled an “Historical Supplement, 1968–2018,” which includes a list of all APT presidents, award winners, and conference locations. Also listed are all of the members of the College of Fellows and lecturers, as well as all Student Scholars and Martine Weaver Award recipients.

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 U.S. preservationists, APT provides members with benefits that include publications, networking opportunities, conferences, training courses, and student scholarships.
As a benefit of membership, APT members can, at no cost, 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 for more information. Non-APT members also have the option of joining JSTOR’s “Register and Read” program, which involves signing up for a MyJSTOR account; this allows the user to read six articles without charge each month.

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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