The APT Bulletin: Susan Buggey and Cultural Landscapes

The summer issue of the APT Bulletin: The Journal of Preservation Technology examines the importance of cultural landscapes while also paying homage to Susan Buggey. Susan Buggey was a forerunner in the field of cultural-landscape preservation and over the years developed a lasting legacy. Guest editor Hugh Miller writes, “Her work was seminal and extended beyond gardens and grounds to define the environmental, social, and historic values in the landscape. She was a quiet pioneer who understood the broad scope of APT and brought cultural landscapes into focus.” Throughout the issue, authors take readers around the world to explore and analyze these landscapes.

Several articles reflect on Susan Buggey’s contributions to the field. In her article, “Contributions of Pioneers on the Shared Terrain of Culture and Nature,” Nora Mitchell discusses Susan’s influence, as well as the change over time, in perceptions of cultural landscapes. She also writes about initiatives that are being implemented today. Christina Cameron and John Zvonar provide thoughtful articles that reflect on Susan’s legacy in the field of cultural-landscape preservation.

One of the major themes of the issue is the difficult relationship between the modern world and cultural landscapes. In “Restoring Landscapes in the Anthropocene,” Susan Herrington writes about the restoration of a residential site by landscape architect
Cornelia Hahn Oberlander and her efforts to sustain the landscape in this time of climate change. The struggle between civilization and nature is also evident in Ron Williams’s article, “A Québec Case Study in the Repurposing of Declining Cultural Landscapes”; this article discusses the progress made by residents of a historic village on the shores of the Saint Lawrence River to integrate a lakeside convent into modern life while still maintaining its historic integrity.

The issue also explores the ways technology can be used to advance the field of cultural-landscape preservation. In “Time, Architecture, and Geography: Modeling the Past and Future of Historic Districts and Cultural Landscapes,” Jennifer Minner and Jeffrey Chusid take on the subject of GIS technologies and how they can be applied to public spaces, such as Flushing Meadows Corona Park in New York City. Susan Ross’s paper, “Enhancing Conservation Tools for Natural Heritage in Ottawa’s Historic Districts,” discusses conservation-planning tools that can aid preservation efforts in heritage-conservation districts.

In “Cultural Traditions of Abandoned Rural Landscapes,” Carrie Gregory writes about the importance of abandoned southwestern cultural landscapes and their revelations about past inhabitants. This issue also features a Practice Point, written by Edward Gerns and Rachel Will, that explores best practices when working with architectural terra cotta.

The book reviews for this issue were collected by book review editor Frances Gale. The reviews are on Centro histórico de Valencia. Ocho siglos de arquitectura residencial by Camilla Mileto and Fernando Vegas, and Stirling and Wilford, American Buildings, A Collection edited by Alan Berman.
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.

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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