

The Association for Preservation Technology International Association pour la presérvation et ses techniques Asociación Internacional para Técnicas de Conservación del Patrimonio

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## Special Issue of the APT Bulletin on Wood

The newest issue of the *APT Bulletin: The Journal of Preservation Technology* is devoted to multiple aspects of wood construction. It was guest-edited by Ron Anthony, FAPT, a wellknown expert on wood science and technology. Anthony states in his guest editor's note that "the examples described here serve to broaden our technical knowledge and the availability of assessment, design, and repair methodologies so that we can make more informed preservation decisions."

The first article, entitled "Plywood in Twentieth-Century Built Heritage: Considerations for Conservation" by Suzana Radivojevic and Chad Randl, discusses the history and use of softwood plywood. It also highlights architect John Yeon's use of plywood in some of his innovative structures.

"Open-Web Wood Trusses: Wood Behavior under Unanticipated Loading Conditions" by Ronald W. Anthony and Brian D. Aschim examines the problems that wood trusses can face. The authors point out that these components can be at increased risk of collapse. The article sheds "light on how we might approach their preservation for long-term use while understanding the factors that increase the risk of collapse." Erin Gibbs and Katherine Wonson's article, entitled "Purified Linseed Oil:

Considerations for Use on Historic Wood," outlines the characteristics of this product. The article looks at the several misconceptions about linseed oil and discusses its successful use at White Grass Ranch in Grand Teton National Park in Wyoming.

The next paper, "Considering Modern Fire Codes in Replacing Wood-Shingle and Wood-Shake Roofing" by Samuel Zabb-Parmley, discusses possible substitutes for wood-shingle and wood-shake roofing that can be used in California, where codes impose strict restrictions on usage.

"Preservation of the Aerial Tramway at Keane Wonder Mine, Death Valley, California" by Douglas Porter and Michael Cotroneo looks at the preservation and repair of a 1906–1907 tramway constructed of wood and iron components. The authors discuss the difficulties of preserving this complex, exacerbated by its remote location, difficult access, and harsh climate.

The article entitled "Hidden Queen-Post Trusses: Discovery, Analysis, and Repairs at Princeton Theological Seminary," by Annabelle Radcliffe-Trenner and Edmund P. Meade, provides a case study of repairs to the roof of Stuart Hall at Princeton Theological Seminary in New Jersey. Two hidden trusses complicated the repair process.

And lastly, Lauren R. Hall and John E. Dumsick discuss several projects dealing with wood components in structures under the care of the Bureau of Overseas Buildings Operations of the U.S. Department of State. Entitled "Building Diplomacy: Preserving Wood at the U.S. Department of State's Culturally Significant Properties Abroad," the article highlights the diversity of problems that the bureau has dealt with, as well as the challenges faced by overseas locations, types of available wood, and more. Book review co-editors Lesley Gilmore and Natascha Wiener secured several reviews for this issue. *Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Covered Bridges*, edited by Christopher H. Marston and Thomas A. Vitanza, is reviewed by Lesley Gilmore. Jack A. Sobon's *Hand Hewn: The Traditions, Tools, and Enduring Beauty of Timber Framing* is reviewed by Susan D. Turner. *In Situ Assessment of Structural Timber*, edited by Bohumil Kasal and Thomas Tannert, is reviewed by Craig M. Bennett, Jr. This issue's Building Technology Heritage Library article by Mike Jackson highlights historic trade catalogs relating to wood.

The Association for Preservation Technology is the only international organization dedicated solely to advancing appropriate traditional and new technologies to care for, protect, and promote the longevity of the built environment and to cultivate the exchange of knowledge throughout the international community. Founded in 1968 in Québec as a joint venture between Canadian and U.S. preservationists, APT provides its international 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 available around the world. Visit <u>http://www.apti.org</u> for more information. Non-APT members have the option of joining JSTOR's "Register and Read" program, which allows a user to read one hundred articles online without charge each month.

The *APT Bulletin*, a peer-reviewed, scholarly journal, is a valued source for state-of-theart 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 <u>info@mountidapress.com</u>.

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