



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

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APT Bulletin 53:2-3: Special Issue on Materials

This special issue of the *APT Bulletin: The Journal of Preservation Technology* focuses on the significance of materials in historic preservation, from conservation training, analysis, and sustainability to the use of alternative materials.

Guest editors Chris Gembinski and Lorraine Schnabel curated this series of articles as a special edition centering on materials conservation in conjunction with the APT Technical Committee for Materials (TCM). This issue furthers TCM's goals by providing comprehensive information on this topic.

“We hope these articles illustrate how we think about the field of preservation technology as it relates to materials and that they also shed light on the ways in which traditional approaches to materials and architecture are transforming,” Gembinski and Schnabel wrote in their Guest Editors’ Note.

This edition features the following articles:

- “Material Matters” by Frank Matero examines education in architectural materials studies and how it influences the discipline and profession.
- “When the Material Becomes the Protagonist: Debating Reconstruction and Authenticity in Southern Europe” by Shirley Cefal and JoAnn Cassar discusses how materials used in architectural preservation are important factors when addressing authenticity, particularly when there has been a loss of original material.
- “Investigations of Historic Finishes: Finding the Earliest Extant Color and More” by Emily MacDonald-Korth centers around materials science to determine the original and subsequent finishes.
- “Retain, Reinforce, or Reclaim: Best Practices for Renovating Structural Wood Floors” by Tim Michiels and Dan Bergsagel highlights the important debate around building demolition, replacement, and renovation and how these factor into sustainability.

- “Substitute Materials and The Secretary of the Interior’s Standards” by Brian Goeken asks the reader to think about the term “substitute material.” He talks about how alternative materials can be used and still meet the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Property.
- “The Stylistic Evolution of Historic Cast Stone” by Richard Pieper examines the modifications in the early twentieth century of this ubiquitous material.
- “Glazing Design for the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library in Washington, D.C.,” by Rebecca Wong and Martina Driscoll illustrates how best preservation practice utilizes past knowledge and modern thinking.
- And “Practice Points: No. 24, Versatility in Design: History, Installation, Assessment, and Repair of Terrazzo” by Anne T. Sullivan addresses terrazzo from its history of using scraps from the Italian marble industry to its modern use in flooring.

Book reviews edited by Lesley Gilmore and Natascha Wiener in this issue include *Stories in Stone: Memorialization, The Creation of History and the Role of Preservation* by Emily Williams, reviewed by Minxie and Jim Fannin; *Construction Materials: Their Nature and Behaviour, Fifth Edition* by Marios Soutsos and Peter Domone, reviewed by Lesley M. Gilmore; and *Art Conservation: Mechanical Properties and Testing of Materials* by W. (Bill) Wei, reviewed by Jenny Ellison.

Finally, in his Building Technology Heritage Library column, Mike Jackson presents early twentieth-century catalogues, including one from Sears, Roebuck & Co. regarding millwork, lumber, and roofing materials.

The Association for Preservation Technology is the 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 online digital archive available around the world. Visit <http://www.apti.org> for more information. Non-APT members have the option of joining JSTOR’s “Register and Read” program, which allows the 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-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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Vol. 53:2-3, 80 pp., 65 illus.