



Statement from the Association of Preservation Technology's Inclusion Advocacy Committee against Racial Injustice

The Association for Preservation Technology International (APT) extends our sympathies to the George Floyd family and the multitude of other African Americans who have continually been forced to endure the trauma of racial injustice, police brutality, and other blatant and subtle assertions of privilege. We are in solidarity with a nation in pain due to the overt and sustained racism demonstrated.

APT's mission is to advance 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. However, the distressing fact remains that the communities that exist within the built environment have never been viewed or treated as equal. While we strive for best practices in the preservation of the built environment, it is our collective reverence of the human spirit that inspires our dedication to this profession.

At the end of 2019, APT formed the Inclusion Advocacy Committee in a commitment to be a liaison to underrepresented and marginalized communities and in effort to collaboratively and fittingly preserve the built environment. We are fully dedicated to the following actions to bring this initiative forward:

- **Educate** - APT will make a continuous effort to advance the dialogue of the impact of preservation on underrepresented and marginalized communities; specifically, through conferences, publications, symposiums, tours, and workshops.
- **Advocate** - APT will seek to inspire understanding of and support for the goals of our organization by advocating for and contributing to the places where APT conferences are held, with larger projects that would be an asset to underrepresented and marginalized communities. This effort involves a 2-year commitment to serve specific communities in need with the tools of preservation.
- **Partner** - APT is working to expand the network of knowledge sharing by connecting and building partnerships with organizations interested in preservation and conservation in other countries and cultures.
- **Diversify** - APT is committed to expanding cultural diversity within APT membership and the preservation community to promote dialogue and participation among diverse perspectives and voices.

While APT has been committed to creating an inclusive and diverse community, we acknowledge that the time has come for action: not only inclusion, but also calling out and pushing back against racial injustice. In this moment, we can choose to heal the division in our nation. We call our colleagues, our profession, and our community to come together, united in the ideology that ALL lives are worth celebrating. This celebration is reflected in every brick, every building, every neighborhood, every place, and every architectural masterpiece. All is worth preserving; every story has value. It is time for us to recognize the stories that have not been valued and dedicate ourselves to giving those narratives a voice.

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If you are interested in joining APT's Inclusion Advocacy Committee, please contact administration@apti.org.