



Preserve America Summit Implementation **One-Year Progress Report**

Promote innovation by creating a clearinghouse through the National Park Service National Center for Preservation Technology and Training to disseminate information on innovative technologies and encourage their use.

Lead Agency/Agencies: National Park Service, National Center for Preservation Technology and Training (NCPTT)

Summit Recommendation Progress: NCPTT's legislated mission is to advance the application of science and technology to historic preservation. The Center does this by developing research and training on innovative technologies and disseminating that information via the Center's website and other media. The dissemination of NCPTT's research and training programs directly supports the clearinghouse envisioned in the recommendation.

NCPTT conducts in-depth research on current preservation issues at its laboratories in Natchitoches, Louisiana. The Center's research, and that promoted through its grants program, is available online at NCPTT's website at no cost to users. Many of America's most treasured cultural resources have benefited from NCPTT's research, including the Statue of Liberty, Congressional Cemetery, and a number of national parks. In 2008, NCPTT undertook research on paint removal from brick, removing graffiti from masonry, bone consolidation, developing a program for inventorying historic landscape features, and developing online tutorials for thin layer chromatography. Research supported through the 2008 Preservation Technology and Training Grants Program included developing a conservation wiki, an assessment of the performance of historic windows, development of a national chert characterization database, and testing sustainable fiber-reinforced mortar mixtures for preserving unreinforced masonry architecture. Once completed, the results of these projects will be disseminated through NCPTT's website.

NCPTT training courses propagate innovative preservation practices through hands-on use of the latest technologies in real-world settings. NCPTT works with partners in the fields of archeology, architecture, materials research, and historic landscapes to develop and instruct our courses, ensuring a training experience that is comprehensive and relevant. NCPTT's training programs enable participants to return to their jobs with a holistic perspective and a thorough knowledge of innovative tools and techniques. This year NCPTT has offered training workshops on preparing historic resources for natural disasters, nondestructive evaluation methods for historic structures, laser documentation for architecture and archeology, preserving coastal forts, geophysical prospection for archeology, conservation of iron fences, cemetery monument conservation, heritage education training for interpreters, and preservation trades curriculum development.

Next Actions: NCPTT will continue to create new partnerships to develop, digest, and disseminate information on innovative technical preservation and to develop the clearinghouse. Additional funds will be sought to support the research and staffing needed to fully develop the clearinghouse as a comprehensive and exhaustive technical center serving all areas of preservation.

Important Links:

National Center for Preservation Technology and Training website www.ncptt.nps.gov

Product Catalog www.ncptt.nps.gov/Product-Catalog/Default.aspx

2009 Call for Proposals www.ncptt.nps.gov/Grants/2009-PTT-Grants-Call-for-Proposals.aspx

Comments or Questions? Please send comments or questions to preserveamerica@achp.gov.

August 8, 2008