



NCPTT News Release

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NCPTT AWARDS GRANTS TO PRESERVATION TECHNOLOGY PROJECTS ACROSS U.S.

NATCHITOCHEs, LA — Nine locations across the country undertaking cutting-edge preservation technology research have been awarded 2004 PTT Grants from the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training. Secretary of the Interior Gail Norton approved the release of \$300,190 for the projects, which are poised to benefit numerous preservation-related fields.

“Over the past decade, NCPTT has helped pioneer many important research projects that apply new technologies to solve preservation problems,” Kirk Cordell, NCPTT executive director, said. “Our newest PTT grant awards make it clear that this research continues to be vital to the preservation of our nation’s cultural resources.”

State governments, universities and non-profit groups are eligible to apply for funding through the preservation technology grants program. Each project is funded for one year with the option to reapply in subsequent years for ongoing research.

Projects funded in 2004 included the following:

1. Water Transport Characteristics of Masonry Restoration Mortars; Rocky Mountain Masonry Institute, Denver, Colorado.
2. Unreinforced Load-Bearing Masonry Structure Assessment by Modeling, Validation and Testing; Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania.
3. Protocol for Emergency Washing, Drying and Sterilization of Historically Significant Books; University of Utah Marriott Library, Salt Lake City, Utah.
4. Microbial Detoxification of Mercury Contaminated Museum Collections; University of Colorado at Denver, Denver, Colorado.
5. Using the General Land Office Records to Enhance Identification of Cultural Landscapes in North Mississippi; Mississippi State University, Starkville, Mississippi.
6. Creating an On-line Library: Electronic Conservation and Distribution of 85 Years of Historic Masonry Articles; The Masonry Society, Boulder, Colorado.
7. Complementary Geophysical Survey Techniques at Old Mobile; Friends of Old Mobile Inc., Mobile, Alabama.
8. Biofeedback: The Investigation of Historical Human Biological Materials; Institute for Science, Law and Technology, Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago, Illinois.
9. Supercritical Fluid Cleaning of Perishable Organic Artifacts for Non-destructive Radiocarbon Dating; Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas.



The Department of Interior has awarded more than \$300,000 in PTT-Grants for 2004. These grants advance the use of technology for preservation purposes. The picture above illustrates a 2003 PTTGrant awarded to Montana Public Broadcasting to investigate America’s cultural resources underwater. Here, an NPS archeologist draws a sextant at Dry Tortugas National Park in Florida.

According to Fran Mainella, National Park Service director, the projects will help uphold the values of preserving national heritage for the future.

“These awards further the mission of NCPTT,” Mainella said. “The recipients will undertake projects that promote preservation and conservation skills and technologies for the protection of America’s cultural heritage.”