Background

The National Park Service’s National Center for Preservation Technology and Training (NCPTT) funded a grant to the Public Works Historical Society (PWHS) to compile and publish a guide and to conduct a workshop for public works officials on a variety of preservation issues and public works topics. PWHS contracted the Institute for the History of Technology and Industrial Archaeology to prepare the guide and participate in this workshop for public works officials from various locations around the country.

Scope

The main focus of the project was the preparation of the Preservation Resource Guide for Public Works Managers that included such topics as local records, historic property surveys, state and federal resources, and electronic information resources available on the Internet. The guide provided Listservs and web addresses, along with information for researchers on topics ranging from architectural identification to National Park Service and National Trust for Historic Preservation publications. The guide also included forms and instructions for the completion of National Register of Historic Places nominations and Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record (HABS/HAER) documentation, as well as three case studies on rehabilitation and restoration projects.

Results

The final products were the publication entitled Preservation Resource Guide for Public Works Managers (1997) and a workshop on preservation issues and other public works topics for public works personnel, which was held in the Public Works Museum at the Inner Harbor in Baltimore, Maryland, in December 1997.

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Preservation Resource Guide for Public Works Managers

By Larry N. Sypolt