THE JOURNAL OF PRESERVATION INTELLIGENCE

FOUNDING ISSUE
FALL 2026
VOLUME I • ISSUE 1

THE PRESERVATION STANDARD

PRESERVE KNOWLEDGE. PROTECT ASSETS. PLAN WITH CONFIDENCE.



BUILDINGS DON'T FAIL FROM AGE.
They fail from lost knowledge.

THE PRESERVATION STANDARD
A Foundation for the Future
PAGE 4

THE PEOPLE WHO PRESERVE
Craft, Knowledge, and Stewardship
PAGE 10

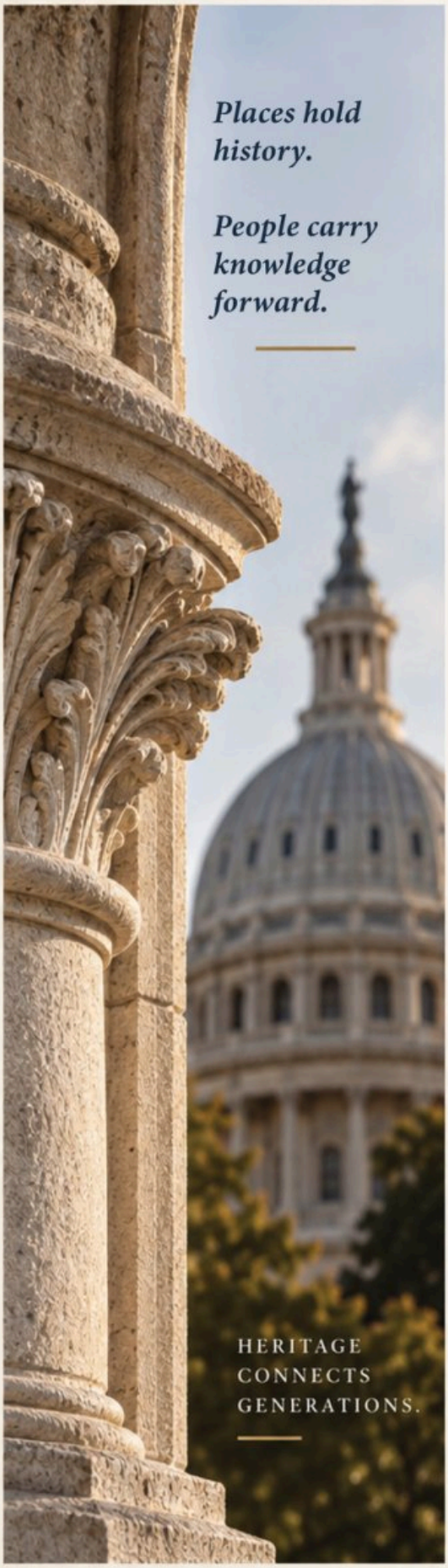
STEWARDSHIP IN ACTION
The Michigan State Capitol
PAGE 18

DIGITAL TWIN & PRESERVATION INTELLIGENCE
From Information to Intelligence
PAGE 22

FROM INTELLIGENCE TO A STANDARD OF CARE
The Preservation Standard Framework
PAGE 28

HISTORICAL CAMPUSES
Where Knowledge Lives On
PAGE 36

PRESERVING KNOWLEDGE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS
How We Carry Stewardship Forward
PAGE 42



IN THIS ISSUE

The Founding Issue

A journal of stewardship, institutional memory and Preservation Intelligence.

03 | FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK
The Responsibility We Inherit

04 | THE PRESERVATION STANDARD
A Foundation for the Future

06 | A SHARED HERITAGE
Buildings, Art, Instruments, and More

08 | INFRASTRUCTURE WITH A LEGACY
Preserving the Foundations of Our Lives

10 | THE PEOPLE WHO PRESERVE
Craft, Knowledge, and Stewardship

12 | FROM DOCUMENTATION TO DECISIONS
Turning Knowledge into Action

14 | A MORE SUSTAINABLE TOMORROW
Preservation and a Healthier Planet

16 | GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES
Ideas, Innovation, and Inspiration

18 | STEWARDSHIP IN ACTION
The Michigan State Capitol

20 | A LIVING BUILDING, MADE LEGIBLE
Quinn Evans and the digital twin

22 | DIGITAL TWIN & PRESERVATION INTELLIGENCE
From information to intelligence

24 | THE BUILDING REMEMBERS
What the next steward should inherit

28 | FROM INTELLIGENCE TO A STANDARD OF CARE
The Preservation Standard framework

30 | PRESERVATION OBJECT / PRESERVATION ROUTINE
Identity, continuity and transferable practice

34 | INTELLIGENCE - PSC / ACE+T
The evidence of performance

36 | HISTORICAL CAMPUSES
Where Knowledge Lives On

38 | HISTORIC ESTATES
Living Legacies Worth the Effort

40 | THE HANDS THAT PRESERVE
People. Knowledge. A Lasting Difference.

42 | PRESERVING KNOWLEDGE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS
How we carry stewardship forward

44 | A WORD OF THANKS / INDIANAPOLIS
Founding Stewards and APT 2026

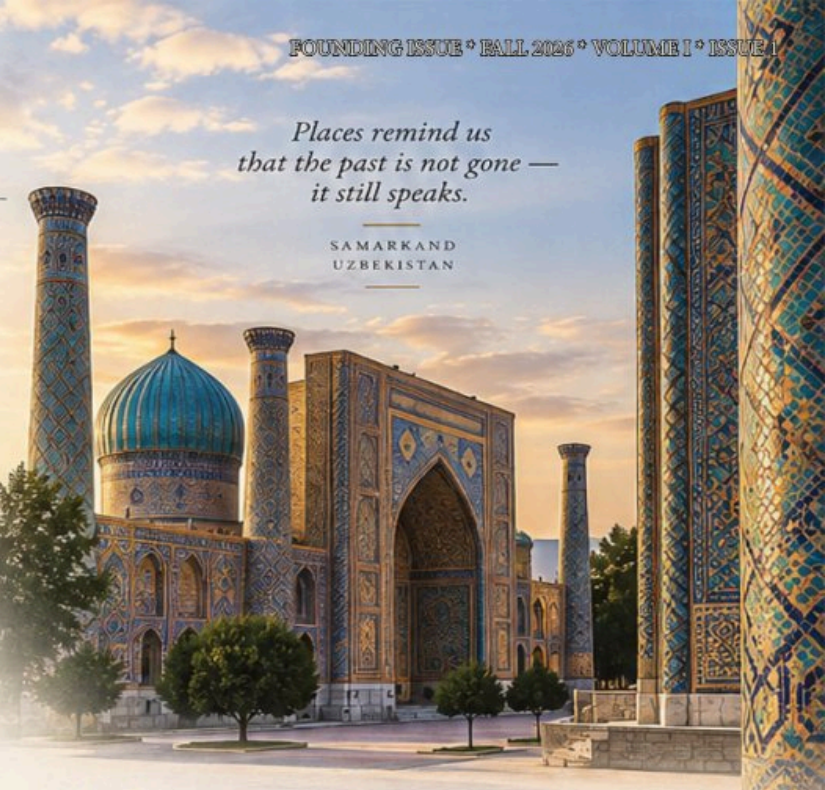
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Become a Founding Steward. Join the Founding Stewards Registry.
Continue the preservation conversation.

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The PRESERVATION STANDARD
PEOPLE PLACES PRACTICE PURPOSE

FOUNDING ISSUE * FALL 2026 * VOLUME I * ISSUE I



Places remind us that the past is not gone — it still speaks.

SAMARKAND
UZBEKISTAN

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

The Responsibility We Inherit

There is a moment in the life of every building, object, institution, and work of craftsmanship when its future passes from one set of hands hands to another.

Sometimes that moment is formal. A new director assumes responsibility for is historic property. A conservator accepts the care of a collection. A facilities professional inherits a campus built and modified over generations.

More often, it happens quietly.

Someone retires. A craftsman puts down his tools. A longtime employee leaves. A handwritten note is misplaced. A repair made decades ago is remembered by only one person — and eventually, no one at all.

The physical object remains.

The knowledge does not.

That simple reality is at the heart of *The Preservation Standard*.

Preservation has traditionally been associated with the things we can see: architecture, materials, artifacts, landscapes, works of art, instruments, and objects of cultural significance. Their protection is essential. But caring for them requires something equally valuable and often far more fragile — the accumulated knowledge of **the people** who have understood, maintained, repaired, and protected them.

A building can stand for centuries while the knowledge required to care for it disappears in a generation.

Our responsibility, therefore, extends beyond preserving the physical past.

We must preserve the knowledge that allows future generations to understand it.

That is stewardship.

A Personal Journey

My understanding of stewardship has also been shaped by places far from home.

I have been fortunate to spend much of my life traveling and working in places where history is not something encountered only in books. From Moscow, Kyiv and Odesa to Tashkent and Samarkand; from Siberia to Paris, Istanbul and Ankara, I have experienced places shaped by centuries of culture, conflict, faith, craftsmanship, destruction, and renewal.

Those experiences changed me.

> *I have seen atrocities no one should see, beauty that is unimaginable, kindness in poverty, forgotten art and culture — and people who live to preserve it.*

I have seen reminders that preservation is not simply about beautiful buildings. It is about people and memory. It is about the craftsman who still knows how something was made. The caretaker who understands a place better than any drawing ever could. The community that refuses to allow its history to disappear.

And sometimes it is about what happens when those things are lost.

There are stories from those years that I have rarely shared.

Through *The Preservation Standard*, I intend to begin sharing some of them.

In future editions, The Editor's Travels will take us to places I have personally encountered — some celebrated, some forgotten, some beautifully preserved, and others whose histories remain vulnerable.

We will explore places of unimaginable beauty and terrible loss, forgotten art and enduring culture, extraordinary kindness in the midst of poverty, and the people who have devoted their lives to preserving what might otherwise disappear.

I look forward to taking you along.

Why This Journal Exists

Technology now gives us extraordinary ways to document, connect, and preserve knowledge. But technology itself is not stewardship. People are.

The *Preservation Standard* is intended to be a meeting ground for preservation professionals, craftspeople, architects, engineers, facilities teams, conservators, historians, curators, technologists and, above all, fellow stewards.

We will explore the past, but our responsibility is ultimately to the future.

Because preservation is not about stopping time.

It is about ensuring that what time has taught us is not lost.

We inherited extraordinary things from those who came before us.

What we preserve — and what we remember — will become our gift **to those who come next.**

Raymond E. Olivier

RAYMOND E. OLIVIER
Editor-in-Chief



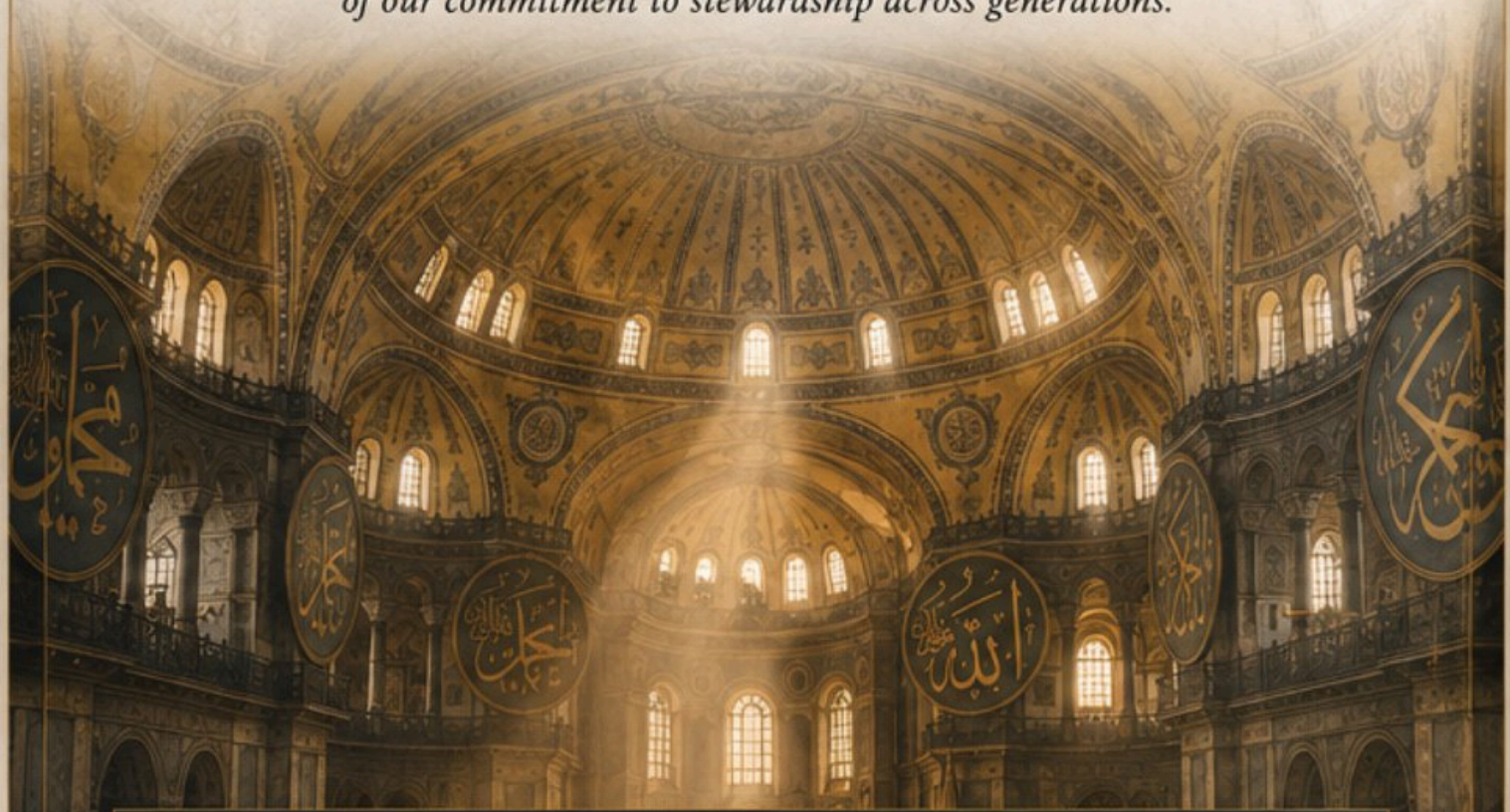
DIFFERENT PLACES.
A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY.

THE PRESERVATION STANDARD

THE PRESERVATION STANDARD

FOUNDING PRINCIPLES

These principles guide every word we write, every idea we share, and every action we take. They are the foundation of our commitment to stewardship across generations.



OUR PURPOSE

To elevate the practice of stewardship by preserving knowledge, strengthening performance, and inspiring a legacy that outlives us all.

THE PRESERVATION STANDARD • FOUNDING PRINCIPLES



1 STEWARDSHIP

We accept responsibility for what has been entrusted to us. Stewardship is not ownership—it is a sacred trust.

2 PRESERVATION

We preserve what is worthy—our buildings, our assets, our knowledge, and our heritage—so that future generations may thrive.

3 KNOWLEDGE

We capture, curate, and share knowledge. What is documented can be preserved. What is shared can be multiplied.

4 INTELLIGENCE

We transform data into insight and insight into action. Intelligent stewardship leads to better decisions and lasting value.

5 STANDARD OF CARE

We uphold a Standard of Care that is consistent, defensible, and rooted in best practice. Excellence is our benchmark.

6 COMMUNITY

We believe stewardship is a shared journey. We collaborate, support, and elevate one another for the good of all.

7 LEGACY

We think beyond ourselves and build for those who will follow. Our legacy is measured in the strength of what endures.

> *"The greatest inheritance is not what we leave behind.*
>
> *It is what we leave within them."*
>
> - The Preservation Standard

STEWARD TODAY.
LEGACY TOMORROW.

OUR COMMITMENT

We are committed to elevating the practice of preservation intelligence and advancing a culture where knowledge is valued, performance is measured, and heritage is protected.

This is not our work alone.
This is our work together.

A SHARED HERITAGE

Buildings, Art, Instruments, and More

Every generation inherits more than buildings. We inherit works of art, historic structures, bridges, libraries, landscapes, musical instruments, archives, collections, traditions, and the accumulated knowledge of those who came before us.

These inheritances are more than objects.





WHAT WE PRESERVE

DIFFERENT FORMS. A SHARED PURPOSE.

They are expressions of human creativity, craftsmanship, discovery, culture, and purpose. Preservation is more than protecting physical things. It is preserving the knowledge, context, craftsmanship, and memory that allow those things to remain meaningful for generations yet to come.

ARCHITECTURE & PLACES

ART & COLLECTIONS

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

ARCHIVES & DOCUMENTS

INFRASTRUCTURE

CRAFT & HUMAN KNOWLEDGE

Our purpose is to explore stewardship in all its forms through one shared philosophy:

Preserve what matters.
Pass on what endures.

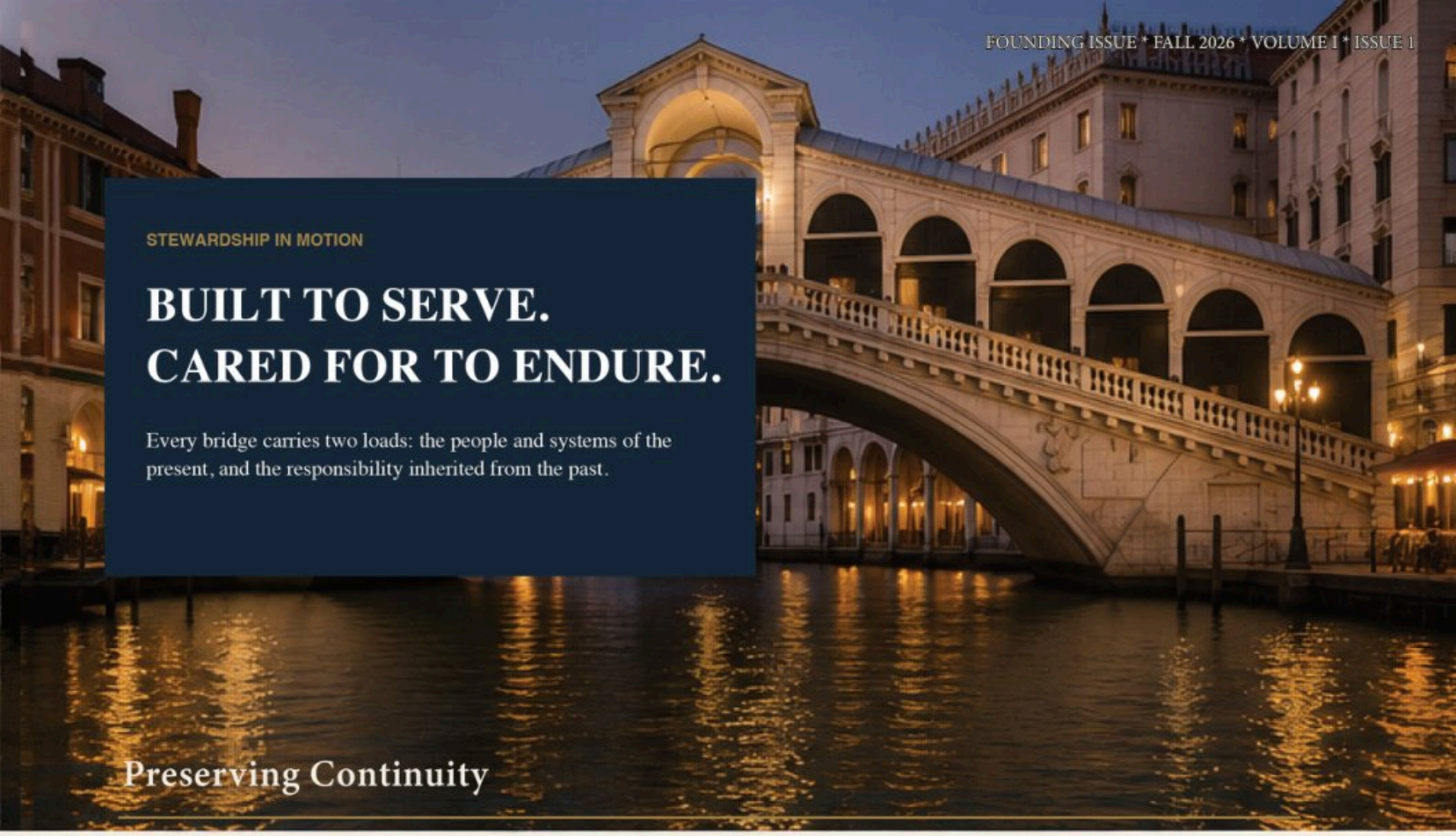
INFRASTRUCTURE WITH A LEGACY

Preserving the Foundations of Our Lives

Bridges, systems, and essential assets connect communities and generations. Their value is measured not only in what they carry today, but in the knowledge, craftsmanship, and care that allow them to continue serving tomorrow.

Infrastructure is inheritance in active use.





STEWARDSHIP IN MOTION

BUILT TO SERVE. CARED FOR TO ENDURE.

Every bridge carries two loads: the people and systems of the present, and the responsibility inherited from the past.

Preserving Continuity

Long-lived infrastructure depends on more than durable materials. It depends on inspection, maintenance, documentation, skilled judgment, and the transfer of knowledge from one generation of stewards to the next. When those connections are preserved, an asset can adapt without losing the story of how and why it was built.



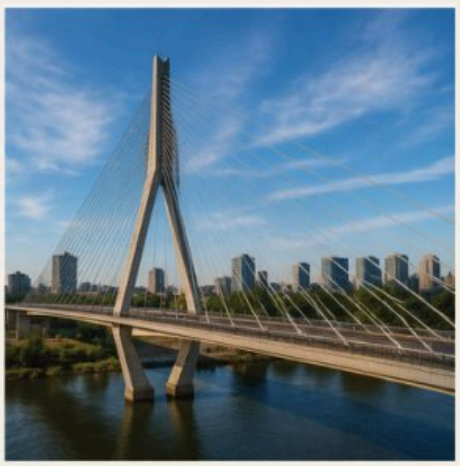
ADAPT

Care evolves as conditions change.



UNDERSTAND

Past decisions inform present judgment.



TRANSFER

Knowledge gives the next steward a starting point.

THE PEOPLE WHO PRESERVE

Craft, Knowledge, and Stewardship

Preservation ultimately depends on people. Craftsmen, conservators, technicians, facilities professionals, engineers, historians, and caretakers bring judgment to the places and objects entrusted to them.

Skill is knowledge made visible.

Much of that knowledge is learned through experience: by seeing how materials behave, recognizing subtle change, understanding earlier repairs, and knowing when a familiar condition requires a different response.

The individual changes.
The responsibility continues.



Knowledge Lives in Practice

OBSERVE | UNDERSTAND | ACT

Preservation is more than technical work. It is a cycle of observation, understanding, and action — informed by experience and guided by a sense of responsibility.

The people who preserve combine knowledge from the past with the tools of today to solve real problems, protect irreplaceable assets, and ensure that future generations can experience, learn from, and be inspired by our shared heritage.



Skill transforms knowledge into enduring value.

Preserving the Knowledge Behind the Work

Every building, instrument, artwork, and infrastructure system carries knowledge — about its design, materials, construction, repairs, and the people who cared for it. When that knowledge is captured, organized, and shared, it becomes a living resource that empowers better decisions and stronger stewardship.



DOCUMENT
Capture what is known.



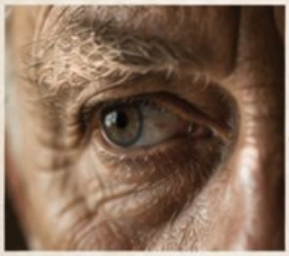
LEARN
Understand why it matters.



APPLY
Use knowledge to protect and extend asset life.

A Continuous Chain of Stewardship

KNOWLEDGE PASSES FORWARD WHEN PEOPLE TAKE THE TIME TO TEACH.



SEE
Notice the details.



UNDERSTAND
Learn the context and purpose.



DECIDE
Choose the best course of action.



TEACH
Share the knowledge and experience.



CONTINUE
Ensure it endures for future generations.

Preserving the object matters.
Preserving the knowledge required to care for it is what allows stewardship to endure.

FOUNDING ISSUE * FALL 2026 * VOLUME I * ISSUE 1

THE PRESERVATION STANDARD

PEOPLE | PLACES | PURPOSE

Document the past. Inform the present. Strengthen the future.

From Documentation to Decisions

TURNING KNOWLEDGE INTO ACTION

Good stewardship begins with knowledge. But knowledge only creates value when it is documented, organized, and applied to real decisions.

From historic landmarks to modern infrastructure, documentation captures the condition, history, and intent of an asset. It connects people, disciplines, and data — creating a foundation for informed decisions today and for generations to come.

What we document today gives tomorrow a better chance.



Technology extends our reach. People give it purpose.

PRESERVE KNOWLEDGE. PROTECT ASSETS. PLAN WITH CONFIDENCE.

THE PRESERVATION STANDARD
PEOPLE | PLACES | PURPOSE

The Path from Information to Impact

A CLEARER PROCESS FOR A STRONGER TOMORROW.



CAPTURE

REAL-WORLD CONDITIONS

Collect accurate, structured information about each asset — its location, condition, materials, and history.



ORGANIZE

CREATE A LIVING RECORD

Turn data into connected knowledge — drawings, images, reports, and routines in a single, accessible system.



ANALYZE

FIND INSIGHTS

Identify risks, trends, and opportunities through visualization, comparison, and intelligent analysis.



DECIDE

TAKE ACTION

Use trusted information to prioritize work, allocate resources, and make confident, defensible decisions.

"Better decisions are not made by chance. They are made from preserved knowledge."

- The Preservation Standard

LOWER RISK
SMARTER INVESTMENT
LONGER ASSET LIFE
STRONGER COMMUNITIES

Real Decisions. Lasting Results.

When documentation is complete and knowledge is connected, organizations can:

- **Prevent** costly failures
- **Plan** with greater accuracy
- **Extend** the life of critical assets
- **Support** regulatory compliance
- **Preserve** historical and cultural value
- **Demonstrate** accountability
- **Inspire** confidence in stakeholders



Information tells us where we are. Knowledge helps us decide where to go.

From records to renewal — knowledge keeps the story going.

FOUNDING ISSUE * FALL 2026 * VOLUME I * ISSUE 1

THE PRESERVATION STANDARD

PEOPLE | PLACES | PURPOSE

A More Sustainable Tomorrow

PRESERVATION AND A HEALTHIER PLANET

Preservation is a powerful climate solution. By caring for and adapting what we already have, we reduce embodied carbon, conserve resources, and keep valuable materials in use for future generations.

Every building, bridge, and cultural asset we preserve avoids the environmental impact of unnecessary demolition and replacement. It's a practical way to honor our heritage while protecting the planet.

Preservation today creates a healthier tomorrow.



Healthy places. Stronger communities. A brighter, more resilient future.

The past can help build a healthier future.

PRESERVE KNOWLEDGE. PROTECT ASSETS. PLAN WITH CONFIDENCE.

THE PRESERVATION STANDARD

PEOPLE | PLACES | PURPOSE

Preservation Creates Real Impact

PEOPLE. ENVIRONMENT. ECONOMY. GENERATIONS.

REDUCE CARBON



Keeping existing structures in use significantly reduces embodied carbon and construction waste.

CONSERVE RESOURCES



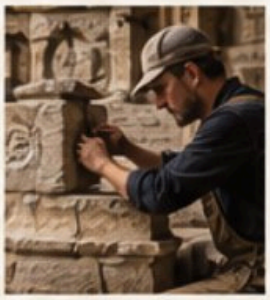
Preservation maximizes the lifespan of materials, energy, and natural resources already invested in our built environment.

STRENGTHEN COMMUNITIES



Heritage places create vibrant, resilient communities with lasting social, cultural, and economic benefits.

DRIVE ECONOMIC VALUE



Adaptive reuse and thoughtful restoration create jobs, attract investment, and generate long-term economic returns.

LEAVE A LASTING LEGACY



Preservation ensures that future generations inherit places of beauty, meaning, and opportunity.

"Sustainability is not a new idea.
It is what past generations practiced by necessity.
Preservation simply continues that wisdom."

-The Preservation Standard

LESS WASTE
CLEANER AIR
STRONGER PLACES
HEALTHIER PEOPLE
BRIGHTER TOMORROWS



FOUNDING ISSUE * FALL 2026 * VOLUME I * ISSUE 1

Global Perspectives

IDEAS, INNOVATION, AND INSPIRATION

Preservation is a global responsibility. Every culture, region, and generation adds to a shared story — "everyone has something to teach and something to learn."

Around the world, communities, governments, and organizations are finding innovative ways to preserve what matters. Different challenges, different solutions, same purpose: to protect our heritage and create a better tomorrow.

By sharing knowledge and experiences across borders, we build stronger practices, stronger partnerships, and a more resilient future.

A wider world.
A stronger tomorrow.

Different places.
Shared challenges.
A common purpose.



Rome, Italy
A global legacy.
A shared responsibility.

THE PRESERVATION STANDARD
PEOPLE | PLACES | PURPOSE

Different Places. Shared Solutions.

HOW COMMUNITIES AROUND THE WORLD ARE PRESERVING WHAT MATTERS.



EUROPE

HONORING HISTORY

From ancient ruins to historic cities, European nations continue to set standards in conservation, research, and adaptive reuse.



ASIA

BALANCING TRADITION AND TOMORROW

Across Asia, modern innovation and ancient wisdom work together to preserve cultural identity while meeting future needs.



THE MIDDLE EAST

PRESERVING ACROSS GENERATIONS

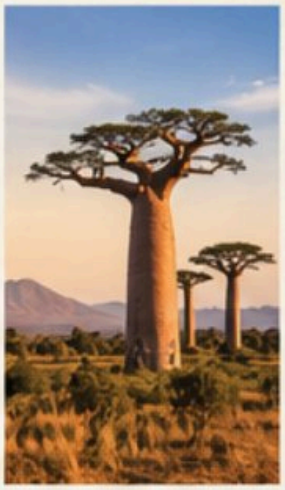
Sacred places and cultural landmarks remind us of our shared humanity and the importance of stewardship across faiths and generations.



THE AMERICAS

PEOPLE AND PLACES

From indigenous heritage to colonial architecture, the Americas show how diverse histories can be preserved and celebrated in vibrant communities.



AFRICA

HERITAGE FOR THE FUTURE

Across Africa, communities are preserving cultural landscapes, traditions, and historical sites while creating opportunities for future generations.

"When we share knowledge, we multiply its value."

-The Preservation Standard

A STRONGER GLOBAL NETWORK

Preservation thrives when ideas, people, and technologies cross borders. International collaboration leads to better solutions, stronger policies, and greater impact — not just for iconic landmarks, but for the everyday places that matter to communities everywhere.



Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina
Restoration brings people together.

FOUNDING ISSUE * FALL 2026 * VOLUME I * ISSUE 1

THE PRESERVATION STANDARD

PEOPLE | PLACES | PURPOSE

STEWARDSHIP IN ACTION

The Michigan State Capitol

PRESERVING A LEGACY FOR GENERATIONS

In the heart of Lansing stands more than a seat of government — it is a living record of Michigan's history, resilience, and aspirations.

The Michigan State Capitol reminds us that preservation is not simply about maintaining buildings, but about sustaining the stories, values, and opportunities they represent.

Through careful stewardship, innovation, and collaboration, this landmark continues to serve the people of Michigan today — and will inspire generations tomorrow.

History endures when we care.

Michigan State Capitol
Lansing, Michigan
A shared legacy.

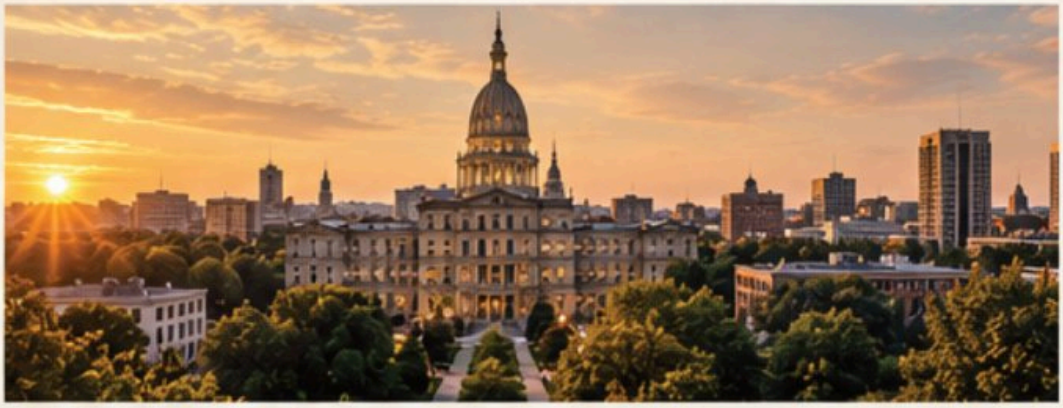
PRESERVE KNOWLEDGE. PROTECT ASSETS. PLAN WITH CONFIDENCE.

THE PRESERVATION STANDARD

PEOPLE | PLACES | PURPOSE

A Past Preserved. A Brighter Tomorrow.

HISTORY. STEWARDSHIP. PEOPLE. PROGRESS.



A landmark restored. A future strengthened.

"Preservation is an investment in people, place, and possibility."

— ROBERT BLACKSHAW

State Capitol of Michigan Preservation Leader

A CONTINUING STORY

Originally completed in 1879, the Michigan State Capitol is a masterwork of architecture, civic vision, and craftsmanship. Its restoration and ongoing care reflect a deep commitment to preserving not only a building, but a symbol of democracy, service, and community.

Today, modern tools — including digital documentation, building information modeling, and preservation intelligence — help guide informed decisions that extend the life of this extraordinary landmark.

The Capitol's preservation is a powerful example of what's possible when knowledge, technology, and dedication come together.



Craftsmanship. Art. Civic pride. Details that tell a deeper story.



Honoring historic details.



A symbol that endures.



Preservation in action.

Same building. New tools. A stronger tomorrow.

THEPRESERVATIONSTANDARD.ORG



A LIVING BUILDING, MADE LEGIBLE

The digital twin reveals relationships that conventional records separate - architecture, systems, spaces and the accumulated evidence of care.

DIGITAL TWIN IMAGE COURTESY OF QUINN EVANS

PRESERVING A LIVING CAPITOL

CONNECTING WHAT WE KNOW TO WHAT WE CARE ABOUT

A living historic building must continue to serve its purpose while the materials, craftsmanship, character, and history that define it are protected. Every intervention becomes part of the building's continuing record.

> *"The twin becomes a way of connecting what we know to what we care about "*
>
> CHARLES THOMPSON | PRESERVATION ARCHITECT, QUINN EVANS

THE INFORMATION ALREADY EXISTS

Historic drawings and photographs, material information, conservation reports, maintenance records, building systems, and sensor data all matter. But Thompson identifies the most important source as the knowledge of the people who actually operate the building. The challenge is not a lack of information; it is that information lives in different places and was created by different people at different moments.

NOT MORE DATA. BETTER CONTEXT.

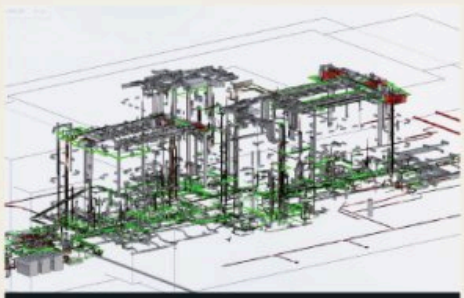
A successful digital twin is not measured by how much information it collects. Its value is in making the right information easy to find and placing it in context so stewards, technicians, engineers, architects, and leaders can make better decisions. The goal is not to replace people or existing workflows, but to connect knowledge to the physical place it describes.

WHY CONTEXT MATTERS

A drawing can show what was designed. A photograph can show what changed. A maintenance record can show what was repaired. A sensor can show what is happening now. On their own, each tells only part of the story.
When these records are connected to the same building, system, room, or object, they become far more useful. A digital twin brings place, history, condition, and intervention together so stewards can understand what happened, why it matters, and what should happen next.
The goal is not more information. It is a clearer record for better stewardship.



BUILDING IN CONTEXT



SYSTEMS IN CONTEXT



CONDITIONS IN CONTEXT

A living record preserves not only what changed - but why the choice was made.

NEXT: DIGITAL TWIN & PRESERVATION INTELLIGENCE >

DIGITAL TWIN & PRESERVATION INTELLIGENCE

A LIVING RECORD

Alongside the physical building

A digital twin is not simply a three-dimensional model. As preservation architect Charles Thompson explains, it is a virtual representation of a physical place or object driven by data - a way to make information easy to access and useful to the people caring for the building.



HISTORIC FABRIC INTEGRITY - THE RECORD CAN CARRY TIME WITH THE OBJECT

IMAGE COURTESY OF QUINN EVANS

> *"A digital twin gives us a way to bring those pieces together and put them into context."*
>
> **CHARLES THOMPSON**
> Preservation Architect, Quinn Evans

"THE INFORMATION ALREADY EXISTS"

Historic drawings. Photographs. Material information. Conservation reports. Maintenance records. Building systems. Sensor data. And, most importantly, the knowledge of the people who operate the building.

A digital twin connects that information to the physical building-showing where it belongs, what it describes, how conditions have changed, and what work has been performed. The result is a living record that can be searched, understood, and carried forward.

FROM INFORMATION TO INTELLIGENCE

CONTEXT CHANGES THE DECISION

The preservation challenge is rarely that information does not exist. It is that drawings, reports, photographs, maintenance history, environmental data, and human knowledge were created by different people at different moments and remain separated from one another.

1 CONNECT

Bring records, observations, and operational knowledge together.

2 CONTEXT

Relate information to the building, object, material, or condition it describes.

3 DECIDE

Give each steward the information needed to make a better preservation decision.



CONDITION + HISTORY + THRESHOLDS = EVIDENCE IN CONTEXT

IMAGE COURTESY OF QUINN EVANS

THE PRESERVATION PRINCIPLE

A successful twin should not demonstrate how much information has been collected. Its purpose is to make the right information easy to find so the right decisions can be made. Technology does not replace stewardship; it helps preserve the accumulated knowledge that stewardship depends upon.

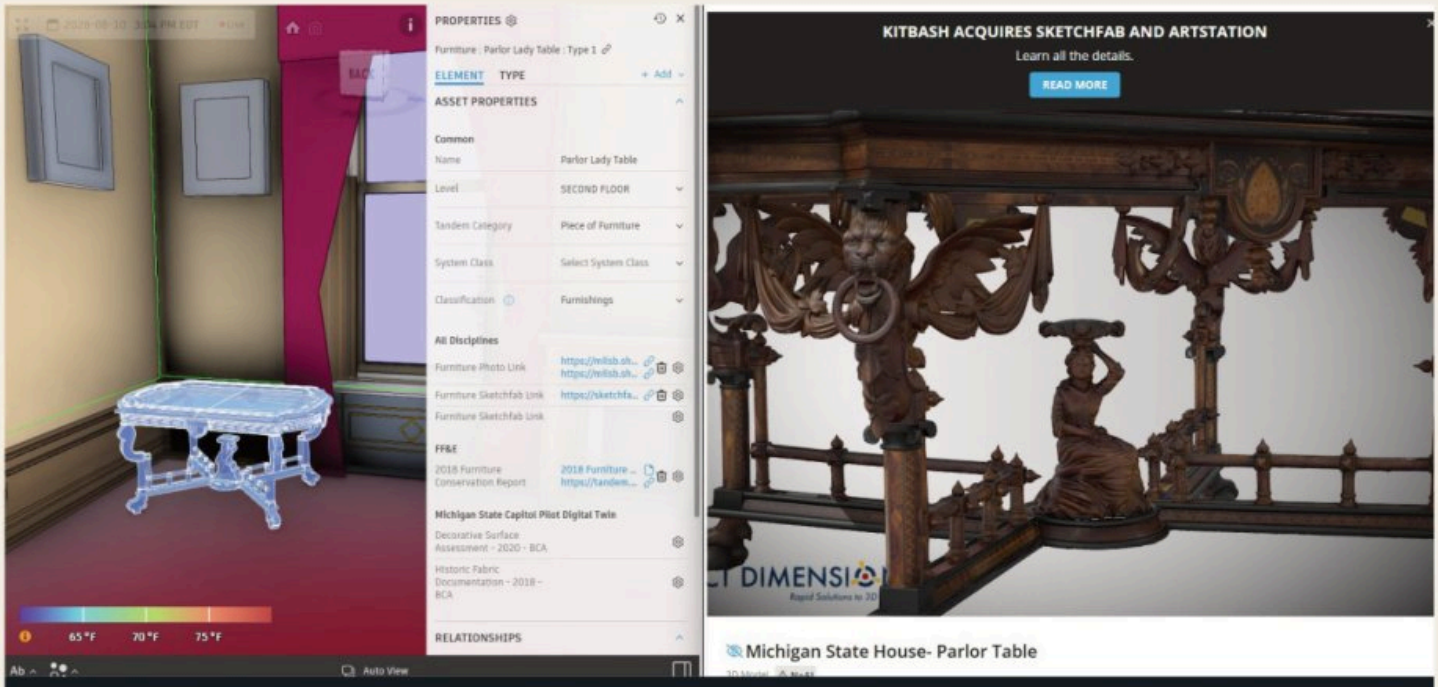
A living building deserves a living record.

PRESERVATION INTELLIGENCE

THE BUILDING REMEMBERS

From institutional memory to a living record

A historic building is an accumulation of decisions. Every investigation, repair, conservation treatment, enviromental event, and adjustment adds another layer of knowledge. The preservation challenge is ensuring that those layers remain connected to the place - and available to the next steward.



AN OBJECT CAN CARRY ITS OWN RECORD - DOCUMENTATION, CONSERVATION HISTORY AND RELATED KNOWLEDGE

IMAGE COURTESY OF QUINN EVANS

KNOWLEDGE ACCUMULATES

The living record remembers what was repaired, what changed, what was monitored, what worked, what did not, and why choices were made. It can connect a room, material, system, or individual object to the evidence that explains its condition and care.

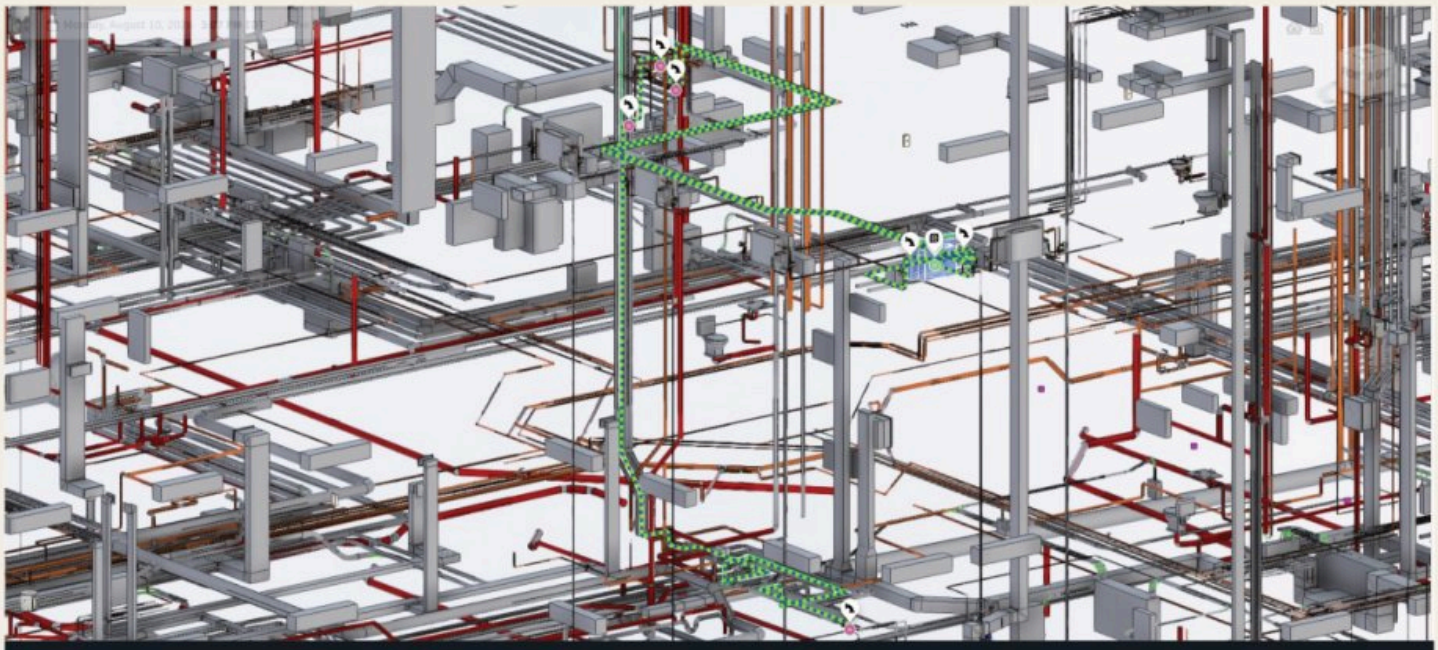
> *"We have an obligation to capture that knowledge and connect it to the knowledge that has accumulated over time."*

CHARLES THOMPSON | QUINN EVANS

A CONTINUOUS CHAIN OF STEWARDSHIP

WHAT THE NEXT STEWARD SHOULD INHERIT

Preservation succeeds across generations only when knowledge can move with responsibility. The next facilities director, conservator, architect, or craftsperson should not have to rediscover what the previous team already learned.



RELATIONSHIPS BECOME VISIBLE - SYSTEMS, CONNECTIONS AND DEPENDENCIES CAN REMAIN PART OF THE RECORD IMAGE COURTESY OF QUINN EVANS

DOCUMENT > OBSERVE > ACT > LEARN > TRANSFER

INSTITUTIONAL MEMORY SHOULD NOT WALK OUT THE DOOR

People remain at the center of preservation. The purpose of the living record is not to replace expertise, but to make expertise durable - preserving the reasoning, evidence, and experiance that future stewards will need.

The physical building endures.
Its knowledge should endure with it.

FROM KNOWLEDGE TO INTELLIGENCE

PRESERVATION INTELLIGENCE

When information becomes understanding.

Preservation Intelligence begins when isolated facts are connected to the place, system, object, and history they describe. A condition becomes more meaningful when it can be viewed beside environmental data, previous repairs, photographs, maintenance activity , and the experience of the people who know the building.

DATA What we record > **CONTEXT** What surrounds it > **KNOWLEDGE** What we understand > **INTELLIGENCE** What patterns reveal > **DECISION** What we do next



OBSERVATION BECOMES MORE VALUABLE WHEN CONDITIONS CAN BE SEEN IN RELATION TO PLACE AND TIME

IMAGE COURTESY OF QUINN EVANS

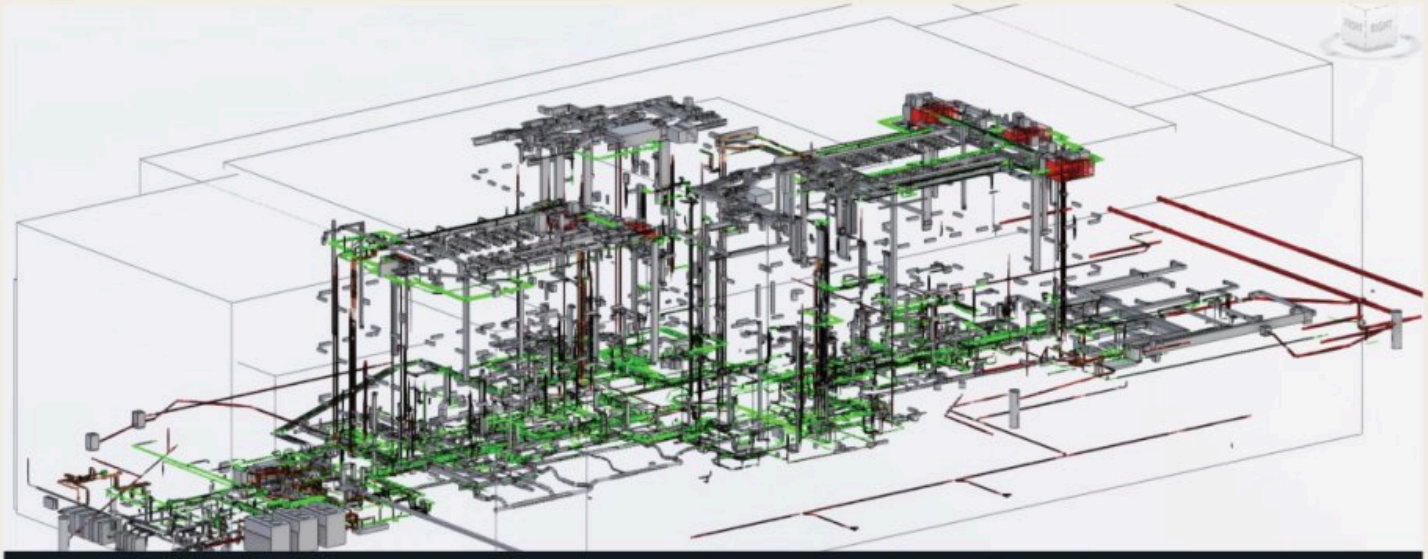
"We are no longer just recording symptoms; we are building evidence to a solution."

CHARLES THOMPSON | QUINN EVANS

THE PRESERVATION INTELLIGENCE CYCLE

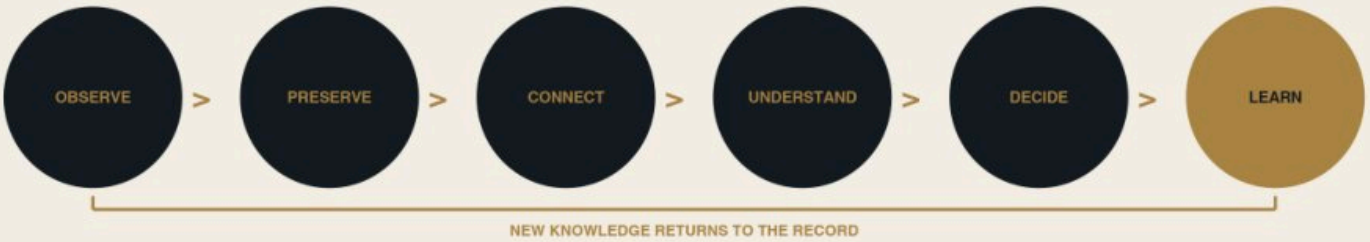
KNOWLEDGE BECOMES MORE VALUABLE WITH USE

Historic buildings are dynamic. Every investigation, intervention, and repair adds context. When new observations return to the living record, the next decision begins with more knowledge than the last.



SYSTEMS, CONDITIONS, AND HISTORY CAN BE READ TOGETHER RATHER THAN AS SEPERAT RECORDS

IMAGE COURTESY OF QUINN EVANS



WHY THE LOOP MATTERS

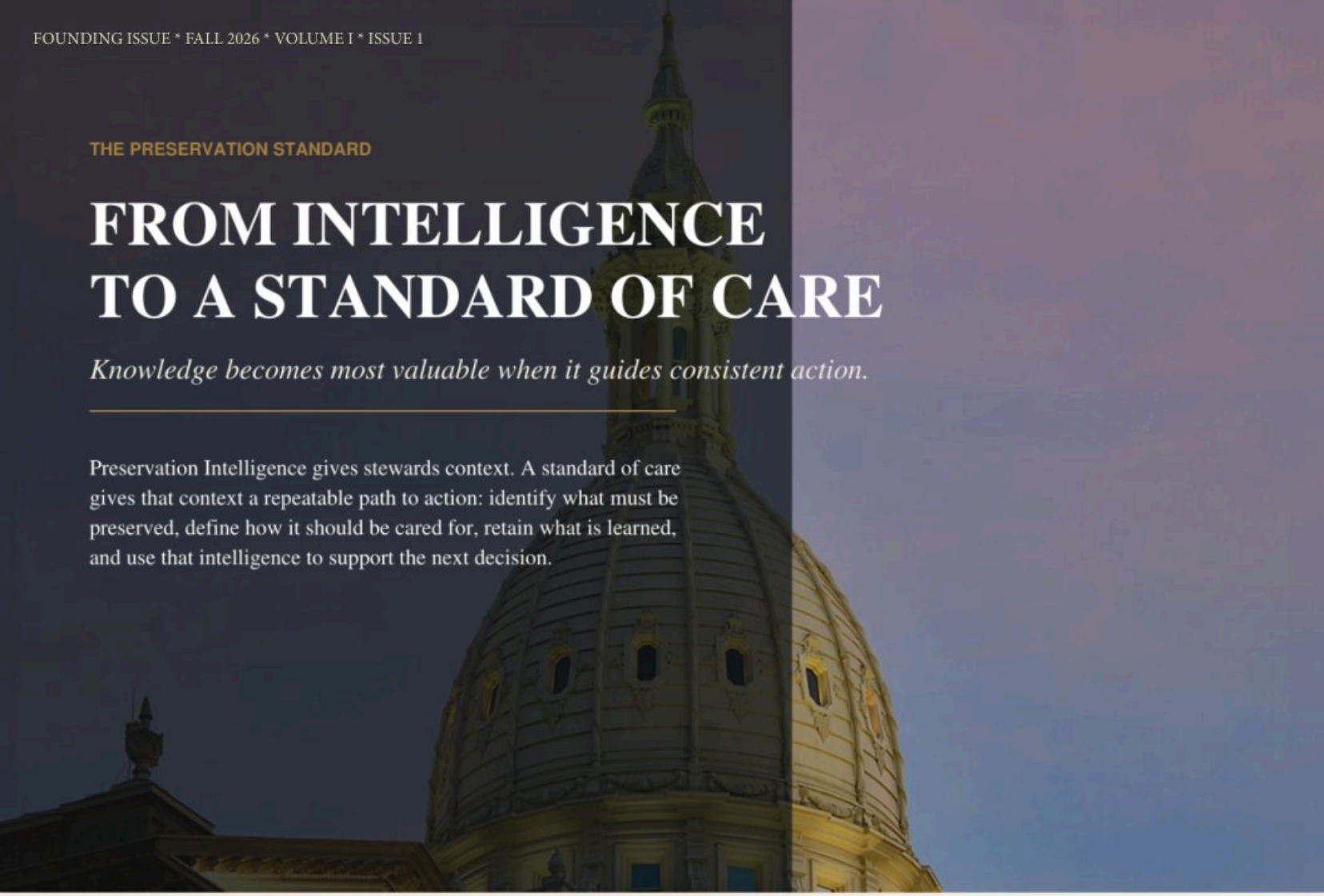
Each cycle adds evidence. Recurring conditions can be compared with prior repairs and environmental behavior. Effective responses become visible. Failed approaches are less likely to be repeated. The record becomes an active instrument of stewardship.

PEOPLE REMAIN AT THE CENTER

The digital twin does not make the preservation decision. It helps people make a better one by carrying forward the context, evidence, and institutional memory on which informed judgment depends.

Information tells us what happened.

Preservation Intelligence helps us understand what it means — and what we should do next.



THE PRESERVATION STANDARD

FROM INTELLIGENCE TO A STANDARD OF CARE

Knowledge becomes most valuable when it guides consistent action.

Preservation Intelligence gives stewards context. A standard of care gives that context a repeatable path to action: identify what must be preserved, define how it should be cared for, retain what is learned, and use that intelligence to support the next decision.

WHY A STANDARD MATTERS

Without a common preservation framework, even excellent work can become isolated. Assets may be documented differently. Routines may depend on individual experience. Observations can remain disconnected from previous repairs. Decisions may be made without the full history that gives them meaning.

A preservation standard creates continuity. It establishes a shared discipline for identifying the object of care, carrying out repeatable preservation routines, retaining the intelligence produced by that work, and applying it to defensible decisions.

THE PRINCIPLE

IDENTIFY.

STANDARDIZE.

UNDERSTAND.

DECIDE.

THE PRESERVATION STANDARD FRAMEWORK

A CONTINUOUS PATH FROM ASSET TO DECISION

01 PRESERVATION OBJECT — PO

Every asset becomes uniquely identifiable.

Establish what is being preserved, and connect its identity, characteristics, history, and documents.

02 PRESERVATION ROUTINE — PR

Every routine becomes teachable, and repeatable.

Translate preservation practice into consistent actions that can be carried forward across teams and generations.

03 INTELLIGENCE — PSC / ACE+T

Every action aligns to the Preservation Standard of Care, and performance.

Connect observations, conditions, history, and outcomes so accumulated knowledge can inform present understanding.

04 DECISION — CAPITAL INSIGHT

Every decision is backed by preserved intelligence.

Use the record to support priorities, planning, accountability and more defensible capital decisions.

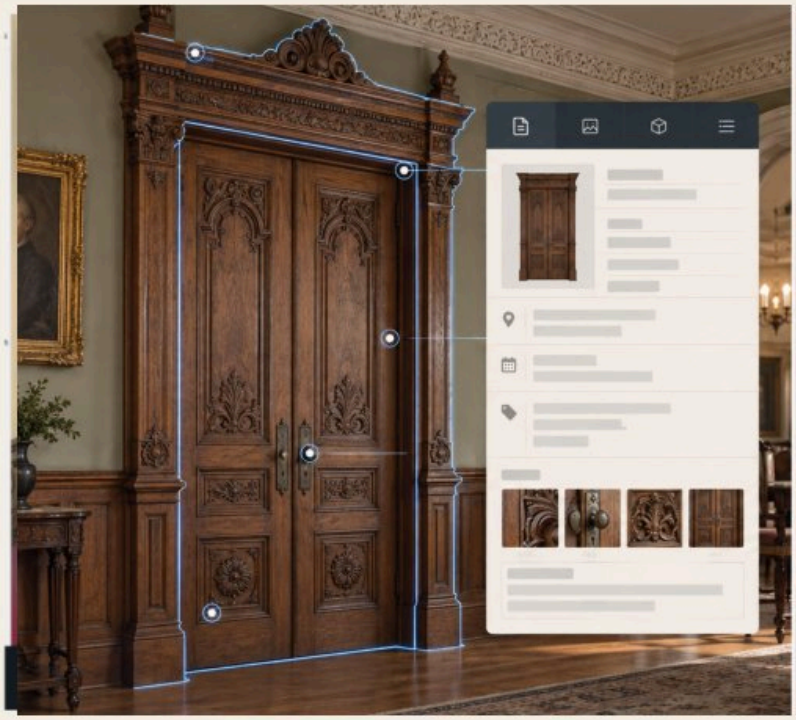
Preserve Knowledge. Protect Assets. Plan With Confidence.

THE PRESERVATION STANDARD · 01

PRESERVATION OBJECT

PO *Every asset becomes uniquely identifiable.*

Preservation begins by knowing precisely what is being cared for. A Preservation Object gives an asset a persistent identity so its characteristics, history, documentation, observations, and future care can remain connected to the same object over time.





IDENTITY BEFORE INTELLIGENCE

A building is not one object. It is an environment of interconnected things: rooms, finishes, systems, equipment, architectural features, artworks, furnishings, and historic fabric. Each can carry a different history, condition, significance, and standard of care.

THE OBJECT BECOMES THE ANCHOR

When an asset has a durable identity, new knowledge has somewhere to belong. A photograph becomes evidence associated with a specific object. An inspection becomes part of its condition history. A repair becomes part of its preservation record.

Before we can preserve knowledge,
we must know exactly what that knowledge belongs to.

FROM A NAME TO A LIVING RECORD

THE OBJECT BECOMES THE ANCHOR

The value of identification is not the label itself. The value is continuity. Once the object remains identifiable through time, every meaningful observation can return to the same record and be understood in relationship to what came before.

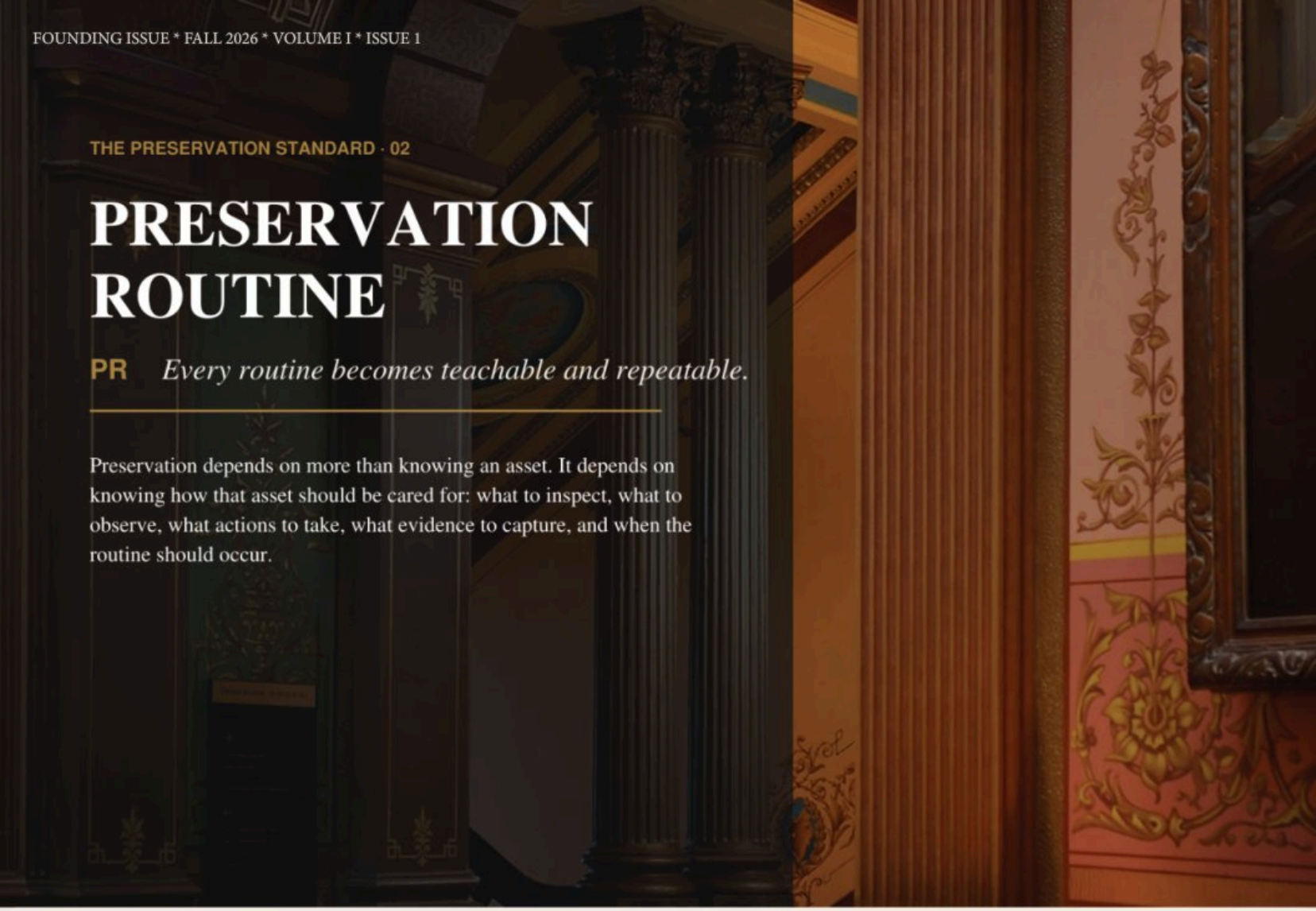


A PRESERVATION OBJECT CAN CONNECT

- Identity & location
- Characteristics & significance
- Drawings & photographs
- Condition & observations
- Repairs & interventions
- Documents & institutional knowledge

A durable identity gives preservation knowledge somewhere to belong.

The object is not merely cataloged. It becomes the reference point for a living preservation record.



THE PRESERVATION STANDARD · 02

PRESERVATION ROUTINE

PR *Every routine becomes teachable and repeatable.*

Preservation depends on more than knowing an asset. It depends on knowing how that asset should be cared for: what to inspect, what to observe, what actions to take, what evidence to capture, and when the routine should occur.

FROM EXPERIENCE TO PRACTICE

In every institution there are people who know the building in ways that no manual completely captures. They know which sound is normal, which crack has been stable for years, which surface needs special care, and which seasonal condition deserves attention before it becomes damage.

A Preservation Routine gives that experience a repeatable structure. It does not replace professional judgment. It preserves **the steps, observations, and expectations that allow good practice to be taught, performed consistently, documented, and improved** over time.

A PRESERVATION ROUTINE DEFINES

- What requires attention
- What the steward should observe
- How the work should be performed
- What evidence should be captured
- When the routine should occur
- What knowledge returns to the record

MAKING GOOD PRACTICE TRANSFERABLE

THE ROUTINE BECOMES INSTITUTIONAL MEMORY

A repeatable routine creates continuity between generations of stewards. The experienced person can contribute what matters; the next person can inherit not only an instruction, but the reasoning, observation, and evidence that make the instruction meaningful.

01
PREPARE
Know the object, history, and purpose.

›

02
OBSERVE
Look for the right conditions, and changes.

›

03
ACT
Perform the defined preservation practice.

›

04
CAPTURE
Record evidence, findings, and expectations.

›

05
LEARN
Return what was learned to the record.



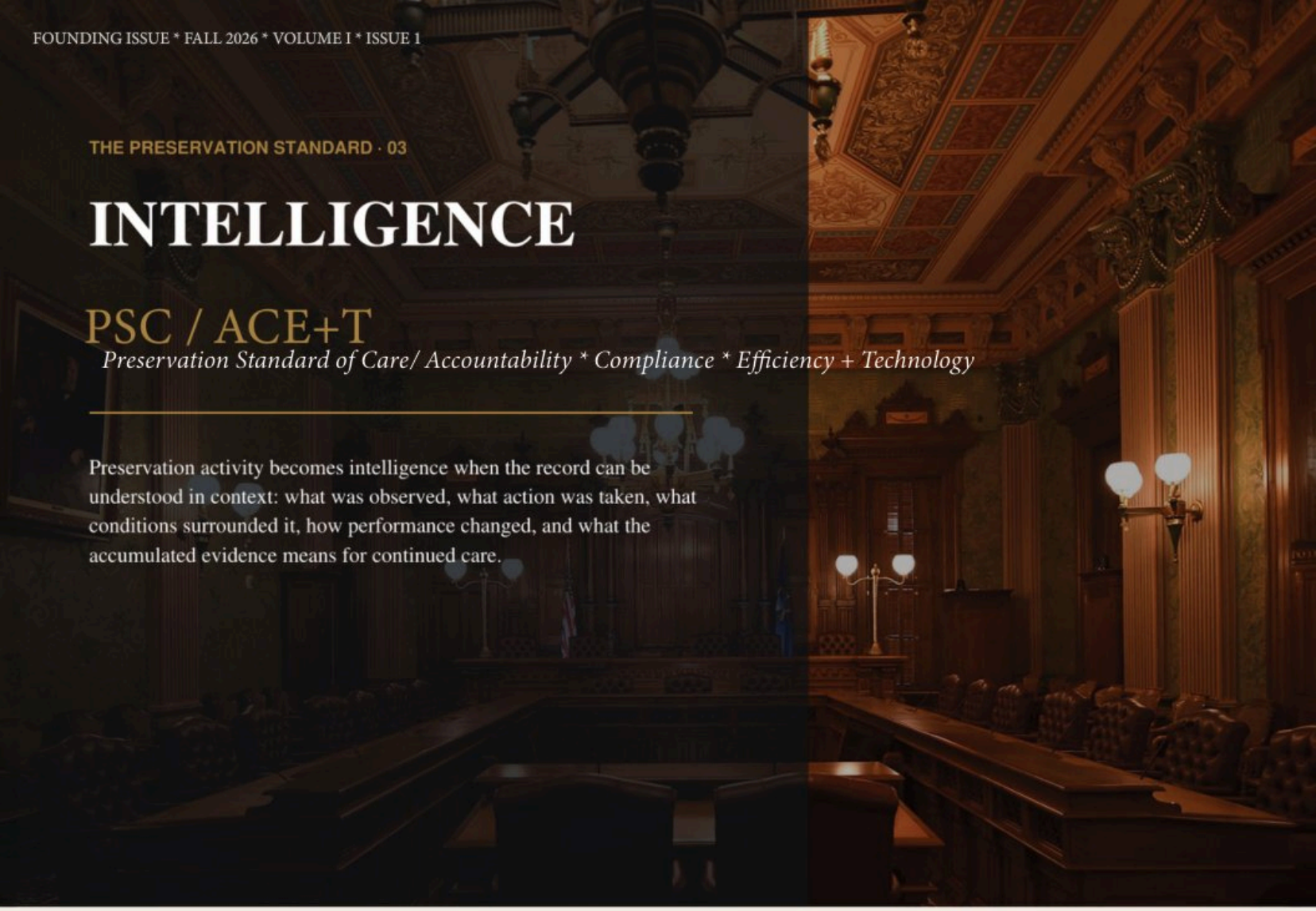
CONSISTENCY WITHOUT LOSING JUDGMENT

Standardization does not mean treating every condition as identical. Historic places require judgment. A Preservation Routine creates a reliable baseline while leaving room for the steward to record expectations, observations, and professional decisions. Those exceptions then become part of the intelligence available to the next person.

The routine preserves the practice. The record preserves what the practice teaches us.

THE TRANSFER OF STEWARDSHIP

When good preservation practice can be taught, repeated, and improved, institutional knowledge no longer depends on one person being in the room.



THE PRESERVATION STANDARD · 03

INTELLIGENCE

PSC / ACE+T

*Preservation Standard of Care/ Accountability * Compliance * Efficiency + Technology*

Preservation activity becomes intelligence when the record can be understood in context: what was observed, what action was taken, what conditions surrounded it, how performance changed, and what the accumulated evidence means for continued care.

FROM ACTIVITY TO UNDERSTANDING

A completed task tells us that work occurred. Preservation Intelligence asks a deeper set of questions. What condition prompted the work? Was the response consistent with the standard of care? What evidence was captured? Did the asset improve, remain stable, or continue to decline?

When those answers remain connected to the Preservation Object and its routines, individual actions begin to form a history of performance. Patterns become visible. Exceptions become meaningful. The record starts to support judgment rather than simply document completion.

ACE+T brings accountability, compliance, and efficiency together through technology, creating a consistent framework for preservation performance and informed decision-making.

THE INTELLIGENCE LAYER CONNECTS ACE+T

- Standard of care
- Asset condition
- Actions & observations
- Evidence & documentation
- Performance through time
- Exceptions, patterns & outcomes

THE EVIDENCE OF PERFORMANCE

THE RECORD BEGINS TO REVEAL PATTERNS

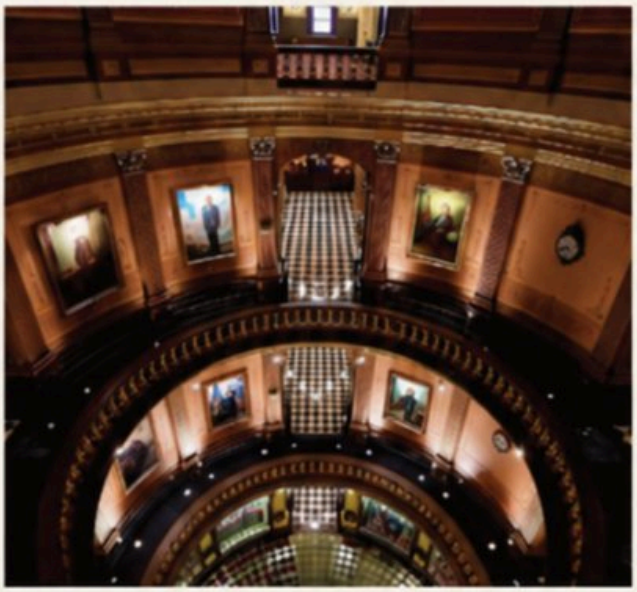
A preservation standard is most useful when it can show not only what should happen, but what actually happened over time. Repeated observations create a performance history. That history gives stewards evidence for recognizing change, **evaluating care,** and adjusting when a different approach may be required.

STANDARD — What should happen › **OBSERVE** — What is happening › **ACT** — What was done › **COMPARE** — What changed › **LEARN** — What the evidence means

WHY PERFORMANCE MATTERS

The same routine performed repeatedly can create a valuable longitudinal record. If a condition stabilizes, the evidence supports confidence in the current approach. If deterioration accelerates or a repair repeatedly fails, the pattern can signal the need for investigation, specialist judgment or a change in strategy.

The goal is not a score for its own sake. The goal is better stewardship through evidence.



INTELLIGENCE SUPPORTS JUDGMENT

Preservation Intelligence does not replace the steward. It gives the steward a stronger record — one capable of showing how an asset has performed, what has changed, and where attention may be needed next.

Historical Campuses

Where Knowledge Lives On.

Historic campuses are more than buildings — they are living ecosystems of learning, culture, and community. Their enduring value depends on thoughtful stewardship, ensuring that each generation inherits not only the places, but also the knowledge and purpose they represent.

"A university is a place where the past and future meet in the present."

— UNKNOWN

PEOPLE | KNOWLEDGE | ACTION | LASTING VALUE

Preserving the Places That Build Brighter Futures.

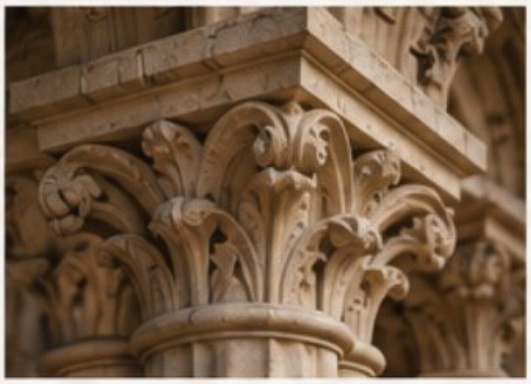
"Knowledge preserved today creates opportunity tomorrow."

- The Preservation Standard

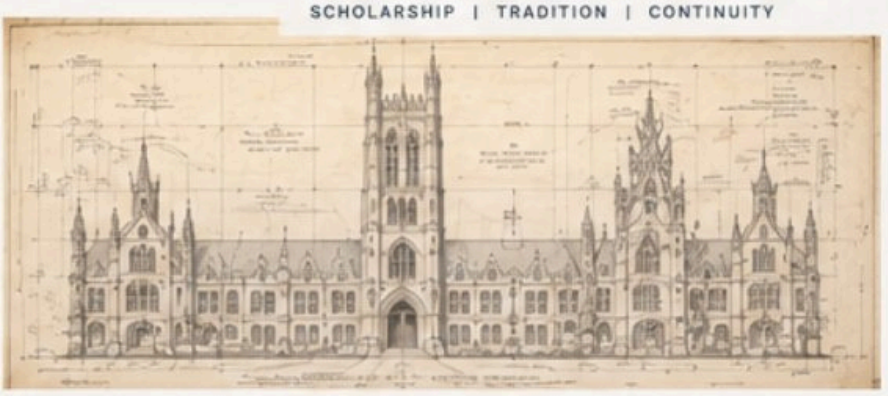
From iconic quadrangles to libraries, laboratories, and residential halls, historic campuses require a balanced approach — honoring their heritage while adapting to modern needs. The Preservation Standard provides the structure to document, maintain, and plan, so these places continue to inspire learning, discovery, and human potential.



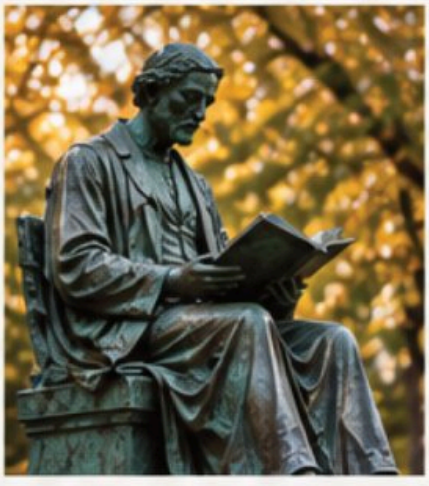
SCHOLARSHIP | TRADITION | CONTINUITY



DETAIL | CRAFTSMANSHIP | ENDURING VALUE



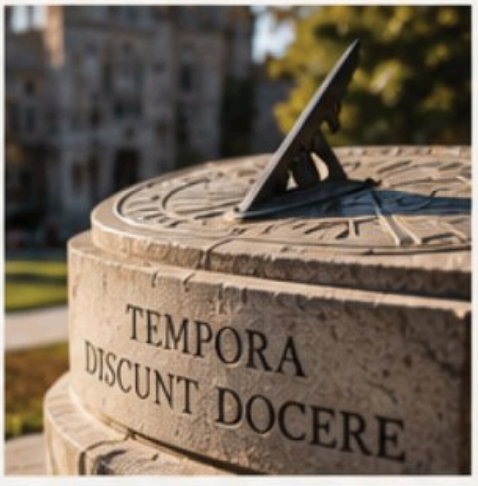
PLANS | KNOWLEDGE | GENERATIONS



IDEAS | PEOPLE | PURPOSE



LEARNING | COMMUNITY | TOMORROW



TIME | PERSPECTIVE | WISER STEWARDSHIP

Preservation sustains the environments where knowledge changes the world.

Historic Estates

Living Legacies Worth the Effort.

Historic estates are more than extraordinary homes—they are repositories of art, architecture, landscape, and the personal histories that shaped them. Each generation inherits not only the physical place, but the responsibility to understand, care for, and pass it forward.

Preservation ensures these places remain vibrant—not as static monuments, but as living legacies that continue to educate, inspire, and enrich future generations.



PLACES | PEOPLE | STORIES | GENERATIONS

Stewardship Across Generations.

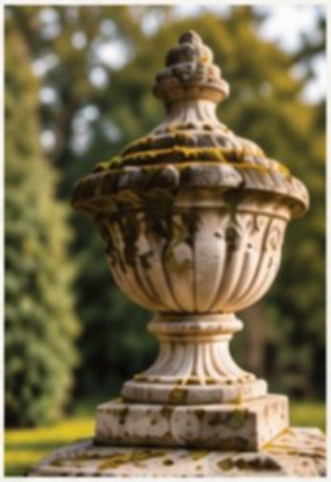
From grand estates to modest historic homes, these places connect us to our shared past. They embody the artistry of their time, the landscapes that shaped them, and the people who lived, worked, and dreamed within their walls. Preserving them requires more than maintenance — it requires knowledge, planning, and a commitment to continuity.

"We do not inherit the land from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children."

— NATIVE AMERICAN PROVERB



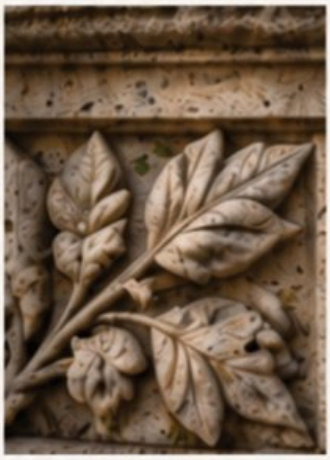




ARCHITECTURE | TIME | LANDSCAPE | CRAFTSMANSHIP | HISTORY | CONTINUITY







PEOPLE | PLACES | KNOWLEDGE | CARE | A BRIGHTER TOMORROW

Preservation is a bridge between generations — linking the past, enriching the present, and ensuring a more inspired future.

The Hands That Preserve

People. Knowledge. A Lasting Difference.

Behind every preserved building, restored artwork, maintained instrument, or functioning system is a person — a craftsman, a conservator, a facilities professional, a technician — whose knowledge, skill, and judgment make preservation possible.

Tools can document.
Systems can organize.
But it is people who see, understand, decide, and act.

Their knowledge is not just technical — it is experiential, cultural, and deeply human. And it is worth preserving.

"Craft is a conversation across time."
- The Preservation Standard

SKILLED PEOPLE | LIVING TRADITIONS | STRONGER TOMORROWS

More Than a Trade — A Transfer of Knowledge

Every generation inherits a body of knowledge — not only in the form of buildings, objects, and infrastructure, but in the skills and wisdom required to care for them. This knowledge is often learned by doing: in workshops, on scaffolding, in conservation labs, in mechanical rooms, and at the workbench.

When experienced people retire, change careers, or are lost to time, their knowledge can disappear — taking with it the ability to properly maintain, repair, and restore what matters.

Preserving the physical is not enough. We must also preserve the knowledge, techniques, and traditions that keep our heritage alive.

"A society grows great when old men plant trees whose shade they know they shall never sit in."

— GREEK PROVERB



TRADITION | SKILL | CONTINUITY



CONSERVATION | PRECISION | PATIENCE



TRADES | EXPERTISE | ENDURING VALUE



MATERIALS | PROCESS | MASTERY



KNOWLEDGE | DOCUMENTATION | LEGACY

When we preserve knowledge, we empower the next generation to carry the work forward.

DIFFERENT HANDS.
THE SAME PURPOSE.

People preserve the past. Together, we ensure the future.

PRESERVE KNOWLEDGE. PROTECT ASSETS. PLAN WITH CONFIDENCE.

From Knowledge to Continuity

Capturing Today What Tomorrow Will Depend On.

Every facility, collection, and infrastructure system holds valuable knowledge — about how it was designed, built, maintained, and cared for.

When that knowledge is captured, organized, and passed on, we reduce risk, lower costs, and ensure that future generations inherit more than just physical assets — they inherit the wisdom to sustain them.

"What we preserve today becomes the knowledge tomorrow can build upon."

- The Preservation Standard

PEOPLE | KNOWLEDGE | PRESERVATION | CONTINUITY

A Clearer Path for What Comes Next

Preservation is not just about what we save today, but how we prepare for tomorrow. By turning people's knowledge into structured, accessible, and actionable intelligence, we create a clear path for future stewards to maintain, operate, and make informed decisions with confidence.

"The true measure of a civilization is how well it preserves what it cannot replace."

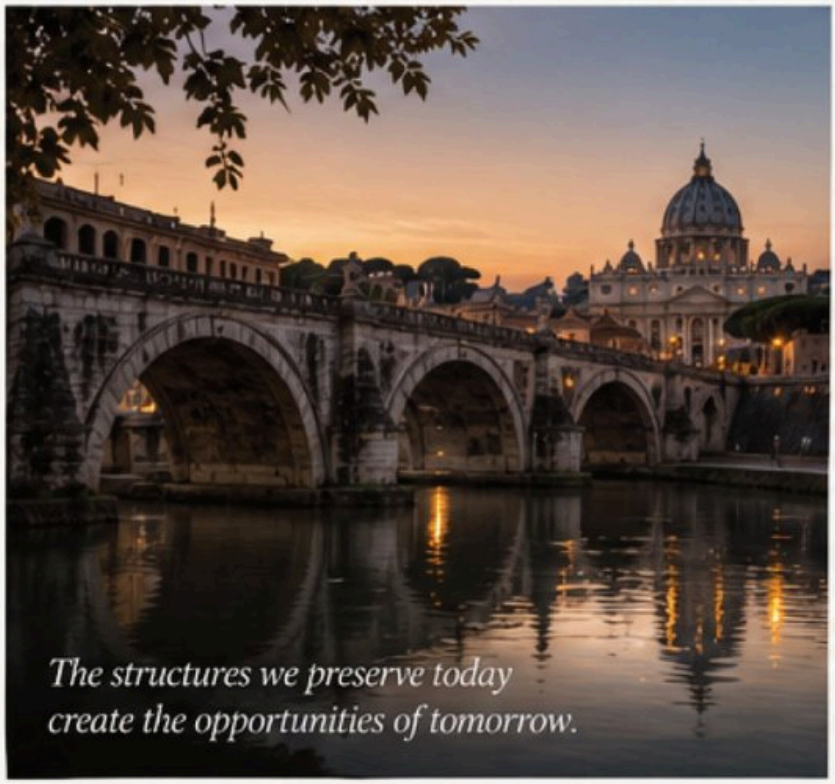
— ANONYMOUS

CAPTURE
Document expertise before it's lost.

ORGANIZE
Turn knowledge into usable intelligence.

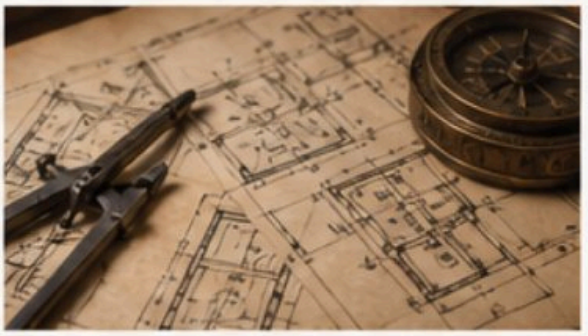
SHARE
Empower teams across generations.

SUSTAIN
Improve decisions and extend asset life.





PEOPLE | PROCESS | TECHNOLOGY



PLAN | PRESERVE | PROGRESS

Preservation builds more than buildings.
It builds a future.

DIFFERENT GENERATIONS. A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY. A STRONGER TOMORROW.

PEOPLE
PLACES
KNOWLEDGE
A STRONGER
TOMORROW

STEWARDSHIP
CONNECTS
GENERATIONS

A WORD OF THANKS

Preservation is never the work of one person.

This Founding Issue of The Preservation Standard was made possible by people who share a belief that the places, objects, knowledge and traditions entrusted to us deserve thoughtful stewardship.

To those who contributed their knowledge, experience, photographs, ideas and time — and to those whose work continues every day in buildings, workshops, museums, campuses and communities — thank you.

Most importantly, thank you to our readers and fellow stewards, for joining us at the beginning of this journey.

This is only the first issue.

There are extraordinary places to visit, important stories to tell, lessons to share and much still to learn.

We look forward to continuing the journey together.

Raymond E. Olivier

Raymond E. Olivier
Editor-in-Chief

Preserve Knowledge. Protect Assets. Plan With Confidence.

WITH APPRECIATION

We gratefully recognize the organizations and individuals who contributed to this Founding Issue.

FacilityWISE

MICHIGAN STATE CAPITOL COMMISSION
PRESERVE EDUCATE INSPIRE

QUINN EVANS

And to our individual contributors, whose expertise, insights and passion enriched this issue — thank you.

JOIN US IN INDIANAPOLIS

APT 2026 INDIANAPOLIS CONFERENCE
OCTOBER 26 – 30, 2026
JW MARRIOTT INDIANAPOLIS

PEOPLE
PLACES
KNOWLEDGE
A STRONGER
TOMORROW

Different disciplines.
A shared purpose.
A more resilient tomorrow.

VISIT FACILITYWISE — BOOTH 107

BECOME A FOUNDING STEWARD

Come meet the FacilityWISE team and experience a new approach to preserving the knowledge, experience and intelligence entrusted to today's stewards.

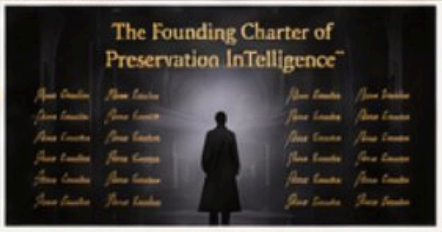
Sign the Charter.
Add your name.
Join a growing community.
Become part of the beginning.











THE PRESERVATION STANDARD
FOUNDING STEWARD REGISTRY
SCAN TO JOIN
Powered By FacilityWISE

SCAN TO LEARN MORE

SPECIAL SHOWCASE
The Dawn of Preservation InTelligence
Friday, October 30, 2026
12:45 PM – 1:15 PM ET
Sponsored By FacilityWISE

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU IN INDIANAPOLIS.

Preserve Knowledge.

Protect Assets.

Plan with Confidence.

The Preservation Standard

FOUNDING ISSUE · FALL 2026 · VOLUME I · ISSUE 1

THE PRESERVATION STANDARD

THE NEXT FOUNDING STEWARD COULD BE YOU.

People. Places. Knowledge.
A Stronger Tomorrow.



PRESERVE HISTORY

PROTECT WHAT MATTERS

BUILD A STRONGER TOMORROW

"The past gives us roots. Stewardship gives us a future."

THE PRESERVATION STANDARD
FOUNDING STEWARD REGISTRY
SCAN TO JOIN
Powered By FacilityWISE

SCAN TO TAKE YOUR PLACE IN THE FOUNDING STEWARDS REGISTRY.

Same Vision. A Stronger Tomorrow.

PRESERVE KNOWLEDGE. PROTECT ASSETS. PLAN WITH CONFIDENCE.