

ABSTRACT

Title of Thesis: THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN INTRODUCTORY
PRESERVATION MASONRY TRAINING PROGRAM FOR
HIGH SCHOOL AGE STUDENTS

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Degree and Year: Master of Arts in Historic Preservation, 2007

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The proposed outcome of this thesis is the formation of a preliminary preservation masonry training program for high-school-age students in New York City. The program would meld worksite training with classroom instruction by introducing trainees to preservation craftsmanship through a combination of hands-on experience and academic lessons. It introduces students to the proud traditions of preservation and the masonry trade, provides a preview of possible work and education opportunities in masonry preservation, and establishes standards for desirable work ethics including the qualities of tradition, recognition and integrity.

The thesis includes case studies of high school masonry and preservation programs, a description of a proposed preservation training facility and curriculum, work site responsibilities, administrative requirements, and a preliminary budget.

This program is proposed as a preliminary resolution to the dilemma of the dwindling number of skilled, quality craftspeople who are able to respectfully restore, repair, and maintain the built environment's aging masonry structures.