



SOCCRAM

September/October, 2001

Tomb Restoration Workshop a Success

On Sunday morning, September 9th, a group of seventy-five tomb owners, architects, students of preservation, contractors, tour guides, and cemetery operators gathered in the Protestant section of St. Louis Cemetery No. 1.

They were there for a four hour workshop on cemetery restoration. The preservation of historic cemeteries requires a holistic approach to these unique sites as cultural landscapes. Documentation, survey, technical treatment, and management are all necessary components of a conservation plan. Team members from the University of Pennsylvania and Tulane University and local craftspeople presented the methods and materials of tomb conservation.

Frank Matero and Anthony Henderson addressed issues of stonework deterioration problems, cleaning, consolidation, mechanical repair and stone carving and replacement.

Dorothy Krotzer and Royal Osborne presented issues of brick and stucco deterioration problems, profile recording, grouting and repointing, mortar formulations, lime-wash and brick and stucco work.

Patricia Hulin, Steve Curtis, and Jim Jenkins presented metalwork deterioration problems, abrasive cleaning, surface protection, wrought iron repair and replication, and cast zinc and lead.

This workshop was funded in part through the National Park Service, Department of the Interior through the Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, Office of Cultural Development, Division of Historic Preservation and the Booth-Bricker Fund.

We hope to present similar workshops in the future.



Above, workshop participants watch as Royal Osborne (on ladder) applies stucco to a tomb.



Stone Carver Anthony Henderson demonstrates his technique to interested participants.

