Vi sono tre principii fondamentali nel mantenimento e riadattamento dell'architettura tradizionale:
1) Il restauro scientifico ad opera dei Conservatori (un sistema eccezionale e costoso).
2) L'adozione di metodi usati nelle costruzioni moderne. Ciò significa però un rinnovo inutile di quasi tutte le antiche strutture e, di conseguenza, uno spreco di valori storici e di denaro.
3) Il metodo tradizionale, cioè restaurare un edificio nello stesso modo in cui fu costruito. In questo caso sono necessari materiali tradizionali e molta abilità.

In Finlandia esiste un tipo di formazione professionale per gli artigiani del restauro disoccupati. Si tratta di 4 corsi di 3 mesi ciascuno. L'addestramento pratico si svolge in diversi edifici antichi dove gli artigiani anziani insegnano, in base alla loro esperienza ed abilità, la giusta attitudine verso la tradizione architettonica. La formazione è gratuita e finanziata dallo Stato. I corsi contengono poca teoria, dando solo alcuni cenni storici sull'ambiente e sui materiali tradizionali.

THE NEW YORK CITY URBAN CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY (UCRS)

The URBAN CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY is a unique preservation survey. Fully computerized and comprehensive, the UCRS will be able, by 1984, to furnish detailed information on almost every component of New York City's built environment.

Under the sponsorship of the city's Landmarks Preservation Commission and the direction of Meredith Sykes (who designed this an earlier prototype system, in 1970, for Canada), teams of architectural historians, photographers, and community-group volunteers are gathering data not only on potential and designated landmarks and historic districts but also on garden-variety office buildings, street furniture, cobblestone paving, parking lots, bridges, factories, parks, vistas, wharves, trees, gravestones—every material ingredient, both splendid and ordinary, of New York's cultural heritage.

The result of their efforts will be a system that provides immediate answers to questions about location, size, date, style, architect, materials, level of significance, past and current uses. With similar speed, an answer can be summoned for which data must be selected, counted, and compared. (It will be possible, for example, to locate all pre-1850 buildings that are primarily Georgian and that currently are used as residences and to determine how many of these are outstanding in terms of style and how many have been designated as landmarks or are part of a designated historic district.) Photographs are available for all entries and are keyed in to the computer system.

The data-gathering method is the foundation of the survey's rigorous organization. Using the unique survey forms, staff professionals are able to analyze any feature of the built environment by responding to 99 questions.
most of which can accommodate up to 999 possible answers. More than half of these questions can accommodate further choices of 999 materials, 99 styles, and 99 structural locations. Even individual decorative elements can be identified by style, material, and exact location—a unique feature for a preservation survey. And there is space provided for professional commentary that remains outside given categories.

Because of the extent to which the format is organized and inclusive, non-professionals can make important contributions as well. In the borough of Brooklyn, for example, four groups of volunteers have been trained under the auspices of the Historic Districts Council to participate in gathering of data. The volunteers take photographs, record information such as location and number of stories, and do Buildings Department research. They also are encouraged to assist in documenting style and materials. And each group has its own liaison at the Landmarks Preservation Commission. This volunteer program, besides establishing community support for the survey, provides the volunteers themselves with a heightened knowledge of the architectural and cultural assets of their own neighborhoods.

In another program, members of the American Society of Interior Designers are volunteering their services in an effort to locate significant New York City interiors. They use special survey forms and document their findings in accordance with UCRS methodology.

In order to be an effective component of other citywide planning processes, the UCRS is, by design, compatible with the existing computer programs of agencies such as the City Planning Department and the Real Estate Department. In addition, all entries are coded in accordance with Sanborn land-use maps which provide a permanent record of property dimensions and block and lot numbers. It is therefore possible for almost anything that is a part of, or tangent to, a city block or lot to be included in the survey. Even tiny parks or peculiar urban design features (aboveground subway kiosks, enclaves created by multiple street intersections) that do not have their own blocks or lots can be located by relating them to the nearest tangential property.

Once the data is gathered and stored, the computer format makes it possible for a sophisticated analysis to be presented in a simple and economical code. The data is then left open-ended in order to ensure that entries can be modified in the future.

An additional UCRS feature is the English translation program which will provide a hard-copy printout for those who prefer not to read the digital code in which the information is stored.

The survey will have a wide range of benefits. At the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission (the largest municipal preservation agency in the country), standard procedures, such as the preparation of designation reports, will be streamlined—since virtually all basic architectural research, including photographs, will be on file in advance. And since buildings of outstanding significance will be classified in advance, priorities for landmark designation can be established throughout the city. After designation, individual structures and historic districts can be more effectively monitored as a result of the range and accessibility of information on materials, details, and use. Extensive information (for example, analyses of all extant structures that lie in the path of a proposed highway) also will be available in cases where environmental reviews are required by executive order and by other federal, state, and local historic preservation regulations.

A complete file of buildings that are of architectural, historical, or cultural interest and that may be eligible for National Register listing (and the subsequent tax incentives that encourage preservation) can be provided not only to state offices but to potential developers as well. Similarly, all vacant buildings that are suitable for rehabilitation or adaptive reuse can be pinpointed easily.

Using the UCRS in combination with information files of other city agencies, preservationists, city planners, and real estate developers will be able to work together on projects that are economically useful to the city and, at the same time, are sensitive to the cultural landscape. When, for example, a question of demolition or rehabilitation arises, the particular building can be considered not as an isolated element but in terms of all material features of the surrounding neighborhood and in terms of all other extant buildings in the city that are of comparable style, period, or significance, or that were designed by the same architect. A history of tax assessments might then be summoned, as might up-to-date information on ownership, and this data could be cross-referenced with borough, block, and lot numbers. Thus, decisions could be made based upon an understanding of the fabric of the city as a whole.

Funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, two Challenge Grants from the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service of the U.S. Department of the Interior, and by Community Development funds, the UCRS is meant to serve as a model for preservation agencies in other urban areas throughout the country. The fact that it is now successfully underway in New York City—where there are an estimated 850,000 buildings alone—is a strong indication of the system's efficiency and adaptability.
The UCRS computer programs and codebook as well as information on methodology will be available to the public. For further information, contact:
Meredith Sykes, Landmarks Preservation Commission 20 Vesey Street, New York, N.Y. 10007 (212) 566-7577.

NOM: MEREDITH SYKES - Directeur de l'Inspection - Commission de Préservation des cas exceptionnels - New York - Etats-Unis.

THEME: PROFESSION

TITRE: INSPECTION DES RESSOURCES CULTURELLES URBAINES A NEW YORK.

RÉSUMÉ:

Toutes les données de l'inspection des ressources culturelles urbaines sont enregistrées sur ordinateur. Ce registre est en mesure de fournir les informations concernant pratiquement tous les éléments des édifices de la ville. Des équipes d'historiens de l'architecture, de photographes et des groupes de volontaires de la communauté recueillent ces données qui émanent non seulement des monuments reconnus exceptionnels ou pouvant l'être et les quartiers historiques, mais également des immeubles de bureaux, des installations urbaines, ponts, usines, parcs, points de vue, meubles, arbres, pierres tombales, bref tous les éléments d'intérêt ou communs qui font partie du patrimoine culturel de la ville. Chaque fiche est assortie de photographies et codifiée en vue d'être introduite dans le système électronique. Grâce à cette fiche, les spécialistes de l'institution peuvent analyser tous les détails de l'édifice construit et répondre à 99 questions la majorité desquelles prévoient 999 réponses. Plus de la moitié de ces questions peuvent s'adapter à un choix de 999 matériaux, 99 styles et 999 sites. Il est possible grâce à ce système d'identifier même des éléments décoratifs isolés selon leur style, leur matériel et leur emplacement exact.
NAME: MEREDITH H. SYKES - Director of Survey - Landmarks Preservation Commission - New York - U.S.A.

SUBJECT: PROFESION

TITLE: THE NEW YORK CITY URBAN CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY (UCRS)

SUMMARY:

Fully computerized the Urban Cultural Resources Survey will be able to furnish detailed information on almost every component of New York City's built environment. Teams of architectural historians, photographers and community group volunteers are gathering data not only on potential and designated landmarks and historic districts but also on office buildings, street furniture, bridges, factories, parks, vistas, wharves, trees, gravestones — every material ingredient both splendid and ordinary of New York City's cultural heritage. Photographs are available for all entries and are keyed into the computer system. Using the unique survey forms, staff professionals are able to analyze any feature of the built environment by responding to 99 questions — most of which can accommodate up to 999 possible answers. More than half of these questions can accommodate further choices of 999 materials, 99 styles, and 999 structural locations. Even individual decorative elements can be identified by style, material and exact location.

NAME: MEREDITH SYKES - Director de Inspección - Comisión de Preservación de Casos excepcionales - Ciudad de Nueva York - Estados Unidos.

TEMA: PROFESION

TITULO: INSPECCION DE RECURSOS CULTURALES URBANOS DE LA CIUDAD DE NUEVA YORK.

SUMARIO:

La Inspección de Recursos Culturales Urbanos, totalmente computabili- zada, podrá suministrar información de casi todos los componentes edificados del entorno en la ciudad de Nueva York. Equipos de historiadores de arquitec- tura, fotógrafos y grupos voluntarios de la comunidad recogen datos no solamente de los casos excepcionales declarados o potenciales y los distritos históricos, sino también de edificios de oficinas, mobiliario urbano, puentes, fábricas, parques, vistas, muebles, árboles, lápidas funerarias — cada ele- mento integrante, espléndido u ordinario que forma parte de la herencia cultural de la ciudad de Nueva York. Cada ficha cuenta con fotografías y se codifica para ser alimentada al sistema de computación electrónica. Con la ficha única de registro, los profesionales de la institución, pueden analizar cualquier razon del entorno construido, respondiendo a 99 preguntas — la mayoría de las cuales puede aceptar hasta 999 posibles respuestas. Más de la mitad de estas preguntas pueden adecuarse a otras 999 alternativas de materiales, 99 estilos y 999 localizaciones. Aún elementos decorativos aislados, pueden ser identificados a través de estilo, material y localización exacta.
Название: ПЕРЕСОТОГИ ГОРОДСКИХ КУЛЬТУРНЫХ СРЕДСТВ
ГОРОДА НЬЮ-ЙОРКА

Краткое описание: Будучи вполне электронизированным, Комиссия для обеспечения городских культурных средств позволяет получить подробные сведения как по каждому отдельному построению города Нью-Йорка. Команды архитектурных историков, фотографов и писателей, взятых из общественных групп собирают данные не только о возможных и об указанных достопримечательностях, их исторических местностях, но также и о которых, об экзотических узалах, о портах, фабриках, парках, людях, привязаных к городским кварталам, о ведущих к ним материальных составных частях.

События этих ведомств имеют свою полезность в своем роде формулами, членами из профессиональной деятельности, которые могут быть использованы при анализе всех строительных деталей, включая 999 различных аспектов. Большинство которых могут иметь 999 возможных значений. Весьма похожа эта книга на 999 различных вопросов, которые могут быть заданы для дальнейшего выбора 999 материалов, 99 стилей и 999 пунктов для возможных построек. Каждый индивидуальный декоративный элемент может быть идентифицирован благодаря своему особенностям, материалам, используемым для их защиты и своему положению.