

The Tile Heritage Foundation, founded in 1987 as a nonprofit charitable organization, is dedicated to promoting an awareness and appreciation of ceramic surfaces in the United States.

The Foundation serves the need for a historical perspective regarding all ceramic surfacing materials, both past and present. In addition to aiding in the education of the public about the rich and varied history of tile, the organization is a major voice in the preservation of existing installations of rare and unusual ceramic surfaces while enhancing the visibility of contemporary tile work as well.

Tile Heritage involves more than the promotion and protection of tiles, murals and mosaics. The Foundation represents the need to preserve a perception of ourselves. From the time of the earliest cave paintings and molded clay forms, people have always sought to conceptualize themselves and inspire others through artistic endeavors. Safekeeping ceramic surfaces today is an integral part of preserving ourselves, a means of being remembered and understood by future generations.

"There is no more market for old tiles than for diseased tonsils."

- Albert Solon, founder of Solon & Schemmel, manufacturers of wall and floor tile in San Jose, California, in correspondence to a friend and former employer, October 29, 1930.

As we expand and remodel our existing world, increasing numbers of old tiles, mosaics and architectural terra cotta facades are torn away, thoughtlessly discarded and lost forever.

Join in the historic venture to unearth the ceramic traditions which beautify our homes and urban centers today. Participate in playing a vital role in stimulating public appreciation and support for our national ceramic treasure. Invest in preserving one of America's most permanent, yet vulnerable, artistic traditions.

Why should we care about the fate of ceramic surfaces in America? Because we are all a part of the tradition; this is our heritage.



Visit us on the web: www.tileheritage.org

YES! sign me up to support the preservation of ceramic surfaces

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in the Tile Heritage Resource Directory