

5TH ANNUAL 2024 48StateTour! Saving America's Graveyards



My name is Jonathan Appell. I am the founder and CEO of Atlas Preservation, which is the primary company providing monument restoration products and training in the USA. During the Spring and Summer of 2024, we will be conducting the 5th Annual 48 State Tour, a FREE national gravestone preservation workshop tour.

The Knight's Tombstone in Jamestown, Virginia. 2017

For nearly 25 years I have performed projects and training covering every state in the continental United States and, along the way, also restored the oldest gravestone in America, "The Knight's Tomb" in Jamestown, VA
<https://historicjamestowne.org/archaeology/1617-church/knights-tomb/>.



Graveyards and cemeteries have fallen into disrepair

and only rarely is funding available to restore the fallen and broken stones in need of attention. From sea to shining sea, in virtually every state, county, town & city in America, there is an increasing need to save our collective history carved in stone. To help solve this growing problem, Atlas Preservation created our philanthropic division for the mission in 2020 called the "48 State Tour" (www.48statetour.com). The objective is to help save America's graveyards. What began as a personal initiative has now grown to help manifest a growing grassroots movement all over America.

140+ events have been held over the past 4 years

All events are 100% free & open to the public w/ no limit on attendance

48StateTour! Past Events

We are collaborating with 56 locations across all 48 interconnected states for the upcoming 2024 tour and many portions will be live-streamed onto social media platforms. The true realization of our long term vision has become a reality and the 2024 tour will be filmed by a professional cinematographer, Jeremy La Zelle, www.jeremylazelle.com, and then turned into a feature length documentary in order to share our goal and mission to an unlimited audience.

A typical day along the tour: we arrive at a pre-planned location where we discuss & demonstrate practical hands-on techniques in order to properly clean and repair gravestones in disrepair. We leave every site improved, and the community equipped with the proper knowledge to continue the work.



We can help to make a difference in our local communities, one stone at a time!

"Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn."

— Benjamin Franklin

