The Society for the Preservation of Historic Cements (SHPC) was founded for the purpose of advancing the use of appropriate cements in restoration and conservation projects through education, documentation and advocacy.
American Natural Cement Conference

Natural cement was the most widely used hydraulic binder for masonry and concrete in North America during the 19th Century. Thousands of historic buildings and structures, originally built using natural cement, remain in service today. The original quarrying and production of natural cement took place in Central New York, leading not only to monuments such as the Erie Canal, but to the rapid growth and development of communities across the region.

ANCC3 will take place in the heart of this historic region, examining natural cement through the lenses of its history of production and use, its petrography and physical properties, identification and analysis in situ, and as an appropriate replacement cement in historic projects. A distinguished group of experts from across the US will lead this intensive educational program of talks, tours of historic sites, and demonstrations.

Sessions will be held at the Genesee Grande Hotel, located in Syracuse’s historic University Hill neighborhood, and at various historic and new project sites in the region.

Syracuse is the birthplace of American cement, but what is natural cement rock?
In one session Kenneth Uracius and John Walsh will guide us through the geology and character of natural cement, from its national distribution down to the microscopic features that make American cement unique. Along the way, we’ll drive to a quarry where this distinctive quality will be demonstrated through prepared cement and lime rock samples.

Our plenary speaker, Michael Tomlan, will take us through the dramatic early history of discovery and manufacturing. Other historical perspectives will be provided by Jeffrey Chusid, Dennis Connors and Douglas Cubbison. The current state of natural cement technology and practice will be addressed by Norman Weiss, Michael Edison, Beth Crawford, and Kyle Normandin from Wiss, Janey, Elstner.

Site visits will include Chittenango Landing Canal Boat Museum, the Jamesville Quarry, Fayetteville, the Erie Canal Museum, and Syracuse’s Armory District.

www.naturalcement.org
www.geneseegrande.com
www.visitsyracuse.org
www.cnyhistory.org