E-News July 2012

In this issue:

Save the Dates for other US/ICOMOS Programs and Activities

ICOMOS Warning on Aleppo’s Cultural Heritage

In Memoriam: Hiroshi Daifuku (d. July 12, 2012)

New Booklet Highlighting US World Heritage Areas

More Press About the US/ICOMOS Symposium in San Antonio

Mid-Tex Mod Pre-Conference Tour in San Antonio

Conference and Other Opportunities

Save the Dates for US/ICOMOS Programs and Activities

August 15, 2012 (Wednesday) - Reception for the 2012 US/ICOMOS International Exchange Program (Board Room of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, 1785 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC)

November 2, 2012 (Friday) - US/ICOMOS International Breakfast (National Preservation Conference, Spokane, WA)

November 15, 2012 (Thursday) - Ann Webster Smith Award Benefit Dinner (Cosmos Club, Washington, DC)

May 2-4, 2013 - 16th US/ICOMOS International Symposium (Savannah, GA)

ICOMOS Warning on Aleppo’s Cultural Heritage

Distributed by ICOMOS, Paris, 27 July 2012

In recent days, and following fighting in Damascus and Aleppo, the conflict in Syria has reached an unprecedented level. On 27 July 2012, the UN Human Rights Chief expressed particular concern about the likelihood of an “imminent major confrontation in Syria’s second largest city Aleppo.”

The Ancient City of Aleppo has been inscribed on the World Heritage List of UNESCO since 1986, as it “reflects the rich and diverse cultures of its successive occupants” and is “an outstanding example of an Ayyubid 12th century city with its military fortifications constructed as its focal point following the success of Salah El-Din against the Crusaders.”

ICOMOS is extremely concerned about the risks of any heavy conflict that may threaten the World Heritage site of Aleppo and the other precious cultural heritage of the city.

By recalling the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, ICOMOS calls upon all parties involved in this conflict to respect and protect the cultural heritage of Aleppo. UNESCO has also appealed for the protection of the World Heritage City of Aleppo.

ICOMOS is also concerned about other World Heritage sites, and cultural heritage properties with national and local values in other parts of Syria, including monuments, ancient cities and villages, archaeological sites, scientific excavations, museums and other important repositories of movable cultural heritage. Since the beginning of the conflict in Syria, the Blue Shield has also issued two statements for the protection of the country’s invaluable cultural heritage.


In Memoriam: Hiroshi Daifuku (d. July 12, 2012)

Long involved with UNESCO and ICCROM, upon his retirement Mr. Daifuku remained an active member and supporter of US/ICOMOS and, particularly,
the US/ICOMOS International Exchange Program. More information on his life and accomplishments can be found at the links below.


New Booklet Highlighting US World Heritage Areas
Published by Eastern National and the National Park Service’s Office of International Affairs

The year 2012 marks the 40th anniversary of the adoption of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage Convention. Some 189 countries have signed on to the Convention making it perhaps the most nearly universal treaty for cultural preservation and nature conservation in human history. In celebration of the Convention’s 40th anniversary, Eastern National and the National Park Service’s Office of International Affairs have produced the new booklet World Heritage Sites in the United States. The booklet highlights the 21 sites in the United States that have been selected and inscribed on the World Heritage List for their natural or cultural significance that makes them of outstanding universal value. From Independence Hall to the cliff dwellings at Mesa Verde National Park, the booklet includes some of the United States’ most iconic sites and some lesser-known ones that have earned inclusion on the prestigious World Heritage List.

As part of Eastern National’s Passport To Your National Parks® program and the Passport Commemorative Series, this booklet includes a block on each page for visitors to get their booklet canceled with a Passport stamp that records the name of the site and the date of the visit. Cancellations are free and are usually available at a park’s visitor center. “We are privileged to have a wealth of World Heritage sites designated in the United States,” said George Minnucci, Chief Executive Officer of Eastern National. “We are thrilled to offer this publication as one of the only guides available to these hallowed sites, and hope that it encourages visitation and interest in the World heritage areas of the United States.”

The World Heritage Sites in the United States is available now for $4.95 on www.eParks.com. For more information on this publication or the Passport To Your National Parks® program, please visit www.eParks.com or call 1-877-NAT-PARK (1-877-628-7275). Wholesale opportunities are available. Eastern National is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) cooperating association, whose mission is to promote the public’s understanding and appreciation of America’s national parks and other public trusts.
Operating education and interpretive bookstores in over 150 national parks, Eastern National donates its profits from these operations to aid the interpretive, scientific and historical mission of the National Park Service and its other public trust partners. Since its founding in 1947, Eastern National has donated over $105 million to the National Park Service. For more information about Eastern National its products and services, please visit our website at www.EasternNational.org.

More Press about the US/ICOMOS Symposium in San Antonio

Brenda Barrett, in her blog Living Landscape Observer, wrote about World Heritage and the US/ICOMOS Symposium in her June 27 post “Let’s Give a Shout Out to World Heritage.” For the post, go to http://livinglandscapeobserver.net/sanantonioworldheritage/
Her blog’s homepage can be found at http://livinglandscapeobserver.net/

Today’s Catholic has the fourth installment of a multi-part series on the missions and the US/ICOMOS symposium.

2nd installment - http://www.satodayscatholic.com/ICOMOS_SanJose.aspx
Mid Tex Mod Pre-Conference Tour in San Antonio
Conservation of the Modern Movement and the 21st century city: a modern heritage tour (submitted by Kim McKnight)

On a sunny afternoon May 30, Mid Tex Mod hosted a pre-conference tour of San Antonio’s modern heritage as part of the 15th Annual International Scientific Symposium of US/ICOMOS, a leading international heritage conservation organization. Tour participants were delighted to encounter modern resources seldom seen by the casual visitor to San Antonio.

Stephen Fox, architectural historian and Fellow of the Anchorage Foundation of Texas, led a walking tour of Trinity University, designed O’Neil Ford, Bartlett Cocke, with consulting architect William Wurster in 1948. Ford was a preeminent Texas architect and his work is considered highly significant and influential. The rugged site hosts a modern campus that diverges from traditional campus styles with buildings that conform to the sloping contour lines of the site. Especially impressive are the Coates Student Center Building (1952), Frank Murchison Tower (1964), Margarite B. Parker Chapel (1966). Fox discussed Ford’s research into building systems including Youtz-Slick lift slab technology. Further, Fox explained the how Dallas landscape architects Arthur and Marie Berger utilized native plants throughout the campus.

A driving tour to the next site included the Intercontinental Motors (1963) buildings on Broadway Street designed by O’Neil Ford & Associates with the landscape architect Stewart King as well as the Hilton Palacia de Rio (1968) designed by Cerna & Garza. The 500-room pre-fabricated hotel was designed, completed and occupied in an unprecedented period of 202 working days.

The complex and multifaceted HemisFair ’68, the world’s fair site in downtown San Antonio, provided an interesting counter-balance to the largely unified campus of Trinity University. University of Texas professor and Brazilian architect Fernando Luiz Lara discussed the influence of Pan-Americanism on art and architecture of HemisFair , which declared, “Confluence of Cultures” as its theme.

A highlight of the tour included a walk by the Confluence Theater (1968) designed by Marmon & Mok Associates. The building was re-purposed as the John H. Wood, Jr. Federal courthouse a few years after the fair. Its future is presently in question. The tour ended with a trip to the observation deck of the Tower of the Americas (1968), designed by Ford, Powell, Carson and a centerpiece of the HemisFair ’68 complex. Tour participants were delighted by the panoramic view of San Antonio from the 750’ high tower. Architect Stuart Johnson, who serves as Preservation Field Representative at the San Antonio Conservation Society and National Trust for Historic Preservation, discussed the preservation community’s concerns about the potential threat to the modern resources of HemisFair with future redevelopment scenarios.

Docomomo Mid Tex Mod is dedicated to raising awareness of the Modern Movement in Central Texas and the value of documentation, preservation, and sustained use of buildings, sites, neighborhoods, landscapes, and other manifestations of modernism. Visit http://midtexasmod.blogspot.com/ for more information.

Conferences and Other Opportunities
National Preservation Conference “Beyond Boundaries”
Hosted by the National Trust for Historic Preservation
October 31 - November 3, 2012, Spokane, Washington, USA

Registration Rates Increase On Tuesday July 31 at 11:59pm!

The 2012 National Preservation Conference offers not only great education and unique opportunities to see the Inland Northwest, but also opportunity to have some fun, hear first-hand moving and inspiring preservation stories and learn from others who do what you do day-in and day-out. Can you afford to miss this opportunity to share ideas, innovations and solutions to common challenges with other preservationists? Register by Tuesday for the most affordable opportunity to learn from your fellow preservationists.

The US/ICOMOS International Breakfast will be held Friday morning, November 2 as an affinity event of the National Preservation Conference.

Register now at
A portion of the AIDS Memorial Quilt was displayed in the National Building Museum's Great Hall July 21-25, 2012. The panels selected paid specific tribute to designers, architects, and others connected to the building industry who have lost their lives to AIDS.

Call for Proposals from the George Wright Society
Protected Areas in a Changing World: The 2013 George Wright Society Conference on Parks, Protected Areas, and Cultural Sites
March 11-15, 2013 • Denver, Colorado

Every two years, the George Wright Society organizes the USA's premier interdisciplinary professional meeting on parks, protected areas, and cultural sites. The Society is now accepting abstracts for their 2013 conference - the deadline for submissions is October 1, 2012. For more information, please visit the conference website at http://www.georgewright.org/gws2013

Registration is Open for the 2012 Historic Roads Conference
PRESERVING THE HISTORIC ROAD 2012
Indianapolis, Indiana September 20-22

You are invited to travel along the Historic National Road to Indianapolis, Indiana for the next conference, September 20-22*, 2012. Long known as the Crossroads State, Indiana has notable historic roads and scenic byway corridors including the Historic National Road, the Ohio River Scenic Byway, Indiana Historic Pathways, the Lincoln Highway, the Whitewater Canal, the Dixie Highway and the Michigan Road.

Founded in 1821, Indianapolis was designed by Alexander Ralston, an apprentice of Pierre Charles L'Enfant. Nicknamed the Circle City, Indianapolis is centered on historic Monument Circle. In the 1900s, as a part of the City Beautiful movement, the noted landscape architect George Kessler created a plan for parklands and boulevards throughout the City. Today, after forty years of progressive planning, we invite you to experience the historic sites, canal, public spaces and museums of downtown Indianapolis-one of the most dynamic and walkable cities in the United States.

Mark your calendar now for Indianapolis and Preserving the Historic Road 2012! For more information and to register, visit the conference website at http://www.historicroads.org.

TICCIH Congress 2012 in Taiwan
International Committee for the Conservation of Industrial Heritage (TICCIH), November 4-11, 2012, Taiwan

TICCIH CONGRESS 2012 in Taiwan will be the first TICCIH Congress held in Asia since 1978. This forthcoming congress consists of mainly five events. In addition to the major paper presentation and TICCIH members’ assembly, there will be two workshops, exhibition, forum and post-congress tours. Two workshops are organized: one for "Nomination of Industrial Heritage for Inscription on the World Heritage List: Process and Practice", the other for "Digitising Industrial Heritage". Moreover, a curriculum design competition on industrial heritage will be held before the congress.

Please visit the website for more details and kindly forward this information to your colleagues. http://www.arch.cycu.edu.tw/TICCIH%20Congress%202012/index.html

2013 National Main Streets Conference - Call for Presentations
April 14-16, 2013, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA

This year, the 2013 National Main Streets Conference will explore the Creative Economy, seeking out ways in which local communities and regions can benefit from leveraging the ideas, the people, and the unique assets that set them apart.

For information on developing content for the conference, please visit http://www.preservationnation.org/main-street/training/conference/2013neworleans/2013-content-development.html

Contact the National Main Streets Conference at: mconference@savingplaces.org or 202.588.6219 for more information.

LCCHP Conference in Washington, DC
Thursday, November 8, 2012 - Friday, November 9, 2012
From Plunder to Preservation: The Untold Story of Cultural Heritage, World War II, and the Pacific - A Conference Marking the 70th Anniversaries of the Battles of of the Coral Sea, Midway, and Guadalcanal

Sponsored by the Lawyer's Committee for Cultural Heritage Preservation. For more information, please visit the conference website at http://www.culturalheritagelaw.org/warinthepacific

US/ICOMOS Supports National Archaeology Day
October 20, 2012

US/ICOMOS recently signed on as a supporting organization for the Archaeological Institute of America’s 2012 National Archaeology Day, which will be held October 20. Through this program, the AIA celebrates events and programs across the United States and Canada that promote archaeology and the “thrill of discovery.”

Visit the National Archaeology Day website at http://www.archaeological.org/NAD to learn more.

Preservation Education Conference
September 8-9, 2012
Roger Williams University, Bristol, Rhode Island, USA

The School of Architecture, Art and Historic Preservation at Roger Williams University is hosting a Preservation Education Conference in Bristol, Rhode Island (USA), September 8 to 9, 2012. The goal of the conference is to bring higher education leaders in historic environment programs (e.g., historic preservation/heritage conservation) together from across the globe to present their research and address issues in pedagogy and curriculum development.

School of Architecture, Art and Historic Preservation, Roger Williams University, Bristol, Rhode Island, USA

For more information, contact Jeremy Wells, conference chair, at jwells@rwu.edu.

Cultural Heritage Protection in Times of Risk
November 15-17, 2012
Istanbul, Turkey

Yıldız Technical University and ICOMOS-ICORP (International Committee on Risk Preparedness) are organizing an international symposium on “Cultural Heritage Protection in Times of Risk: Challenges and Opportunities” to be held November 15-17, 2012 in Istanbul Turkey.

The aim of this symposium is to contribute towards developing solutions on an international platform by sharing planned and realized works on defining and mitigating slow as well as catastrophic risks, especially natural and human induced disasters and conflict situations, that threaten cultural heritage in short and long terms.

Detailed information can be found by visiting the webpage at http://www.har.yildiz.edu.tr

For further information, please contact the Secretariat at har@yildiz.edu.tr

Rutgers Conference on Cultural Landscapes: Preservation in the 21st Century
October 12-14, 2012
Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey, USA

Celebrating the 40th anniversary of the World Heritage Convention and the 20th anniversary of the Declaration on Cultural Landscapes, this conference will bring together scholars and professionals from around the world to address the debates over the interrelationship between culture and nature, the challenges of preservation within historic urban landscapes, the development of an integrated approach to identifying and assessing cultural landscapes, and the challenges of developing conservation strategies that reflect the complexities of world cultures and sites and respect their multiple stakeholders.
The conference is sponsored by the Program in Cultural Heritage and Preservation Studies at Rutgers University with the participation of the Center for Art and Cultural Policy Studies, the Woodrow Wilson School (Princeton University), Penn Cultural Heritage Center (University of Pennsylvania), the Bloustein School of Public Policy and Planning (Rutgers University), and the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences/Landscape Architecture (Rutgers University).

The conference will be held October 12-14, 2012 at Rutgers University. More information can be found at http://whc.unesco.org/en/events/812/