E-News August 2014

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Membership Renewals Underway

In 2014, US/ICOMOS reached our highest number of members since 2008, when the Great Recession led to cutbacks by numerous individuals and organizations. Membership renewal forms are now being sent by mail. I hope you will help us continue this momentum by renewing your membership for 2015 now. Early renewal will help ensure timely arrival of your 2015 ICOMOS card in January! You can renew online at http://www.usicomos.org/membership.

2014 US/ICOMOS International Exchange Program Concludes

During 2014, US/ICOMOS placed nine interns—5 US interns and 4 from overseas. The host organizations overseas were the National Trust for Scotland (Edinburgh), the International National Trusts Organization (London), Falmouth Heritage Renewal (Jamaica), and Volunteer South America (Ecuador). In the United States, the host organizations were the Presidio Trust (San Francicso, CA), the Preservation Institute: Nantucket (Massachusetts), the National Trust for Historic Preservation (Washington, DC), and US/ICOMOS (Washington, DC).

Orientation began in the US/ICOMOS conference room in the Heurich House, where Director Donald Jones provided an overview of ICOMOS and the role of ICOMOS National Committees. The interns were then joined by representatives from the US/ICOMOS co-tenants in the Heurich House—Preservation Action and Scenic America—who each provided overviews of their organization’s mission, programs, and activities. Following a box lunch, the interns then went downstairs for a tour of the Heurich House Museum. With the remainder of the afternoon free (and available for finalizing last-minute logistical details), the director and interns reconvened for a welcome dinner at Thunder Grill in DC’s historic Union Station.

On Thursday, the director and US/ICOMOS interns were privileged to attend a preparatory meeting of experts at the World Bank on Agra, one of the largest Bank-funded heritage tourism projects in India. The meeting was followed by lunch in the renowned World Bank cafeteria. From the World Bank, the director and interns traveled by foot across President’s Park (stopping for a group photograph in front of the White House), eventually arriving at the offices of the National Park Service on Eye Street. There, the interns were given a presentation by Stephen Morris, Chief, Office of International Affairs, about that agency’s international programs, including US participation in preparing and submitting nominations of US sites to the World Heritage List.

On Friday, back at the US/ICOMOS conference room, the interns met with two representatives of the US Department of State’s Cultural Heritage Center. Martin Perschler gave an overview of the program he directs—the Ambassador’s Fund for Cultural Preservation—and Allison Davis, Cultural Property Officer, talked about the State Department’s role in helping to prevent illicit trafficking in antiquities. Afterward, all went to a final lunch at Teddy & The Bully Bar, and the interns then had the remainder of the day...
Interns taking a tour of the National Trust offices in the Watergate Office Building

Heurich House, site of the final reception

Paul Maynard (Intern to Jamaica) looks at the presentations on display in the Heurich House Conservatory

free before leaving for their internships the following day.

Upon completion of their 10-week internships, the interns returned to Washington in mid-August for the final program, which included presentations, a meeting with the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and a final reception. The interns gave oral presentations to the entire group of interns and posted their presentations for viewing and discussion at the final reception. The final reception was held the evening of Wednesday, August 13, at the Heurich House (Brewmaster’s Castle). The final reception was held the evening of Wednesday, August 13, at the Heurich House (Brewmaster’s Castle).

Below is a list of the interns and their host organizations for 2014 -

Florence Declaveillere (France)
Host: National Trust for Historic Preservation, Washington, DC

Ignacio Pons-Sorolla Casanova (Spain)
Host: The Presidio Trust, San Francisco, California

Kara Roopsingh (Trinidad and Tobago)
Host: Preservation Institute: Nantucket on Nantucket Island, Massachusetts

Katherine Jacob (USA)
Host: International National Trusts Organization, London, United Kingdom

Emily Vance (USA)
Host: The Historic Trust for Scotland, Edinburgh, Scotland (2 weeks) and Falmouth Heritage Renewal, Jamaica (4 weeks)

Paul Maynard (USA)
Host: Falmouth Heritage Renewal, Falmouth, Jamaica

Jaime Young (USA)
Host: Falmouth Heritage Renewal, Falmouth, Jamaica

Daniel Ysique (USA)
Host: Volunteer South America, Ecuador

In addition, US/ICOMOS hosted Zoe Leung (Hong Kong) who is attending the Savannah College of Art & Design. She assisted with a variety of activities, including inventorying additional organizational documents to be donated to the UM Libraries Special Collections Unit, helping to prepare for activities to celebrate the 50th anniversary of US/ICOMOS in 2015, and expanding the social media capacity of US/ICOMOS.

The powerpoint presentations prepared by each intern will be posted on the US/ICOMOS website over the coming months.

Early Registration for the ICOMOS General Assembly Ends September 18


For more information and to register, please visit the ICOMOS General Assembly website at http://florence2014.icomos.org/en.

Invitation to a Meeting of the US Committee of the Blue Shield September 19 in Washington, DC

Please join the U.S. Committee of the Blue Shield and the Office of the Under Secretary for History, Art, and Culture, Smithsonian Institution 2014 Meeting as we celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, Harry Ettlinger, WW II Monuments Men will be our keynote speaker complimented by an exciting lineup of subject matter experts and practitioners (see attached agenda).

The meeting will be on Friday, September 19, 2014, 1:00-5:30 p.m., Ring Auditorium, Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Smithsonian
18th ICOMOS General Assembly to be held in Florence, Italy

Ghazni Towers Documentation Project Now Online

The US Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs recently launched an online virtual exhibit of the Ghazni Towers Documentation Project. US/ICOMOS partnered with the State Department and the National Park Service to host two Afghan architects in our offices in Washington, DC to help complete documentation drawings of the towers.

From the online exhibit -

The “Victory Towers” of Ghazni, Afghanistan are among the last vestiges of the great Silk Road empire of the Ghaznavids, who ruled an area from the Caspian Sea to the Ganges Delta from the tenth to the twelfth centuries A.D. Ghazni was renowned as a center of learning and the arts, as well as a seat of conquest.

In July of 2011, architects from the U.S. National Park Service's Historic American Building Survey (HABS) embarked on a ground-breaking project to fully document the towers. Using high definition surveying, also known as laser scanning, Dana Lockett and Paul Davidson captured the elaborate terracotta details of each façade as well as the brickwork of their exposed foundations to a level of accuracy never previously achieved. Their work, sponsored by the U.S. Department of State's Cultural Heritage Center, is an effort to help cultural heritage professionals in Afghanistan preserve the towers by providing baseline documentation that will underpin future conservation and preservation activities.

Back in Washington, DC the laser scan data was processed using high dynamic range panoramic photography. This created the existing condition drawings of each panel comprised of the towers’ elevations. While several architects worked to complete the documentation, special efforts were made to bring two Afghan architects into the DC office through a partnership with the U.S. National Committee of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (US/ICOMOS) and its International Exchange Program. In 2013, the two historic architecture specialists trained in the operation of the laser scanner and post-processing software to familiarize them with the collected data. They helped process the scan data into standard architectural line drawings, lending their knowledge of the designs and inscriptions adorning the structures.

To view the virtual exhibit, please go to http://ghaznitowers.state.gov

World Monuments Fund to Create New Institute, Seeks Director

World Monuments Fund, founded in 1965, is dedicated to the preservation of historic sites around the world. Although WMF's work focuses on site-specific conservation, throughout its history WMF has also engaged in advocacy, education, and training through its field project activities. These activities have included publications, seminars, training activities, planning, and documentation work in conjunction with field projects. WMF has also developed a high-school-level curriculum in historic preservation and continues to steward its implementation. In 1996 WMF founded World Monuments Watch, which gave shape to its advocacy through a biennial call to action. Inclusion on the Watch has regularly been a springboard for robust advocacy and public education activities initiated by WMF, and many Watch sites have ultimately become WMF field projects. WMF’s website serves as a portal for WMF to communicate its work to the field and to the general public, and to provide access to a rich archive of WMF’s projects and publications. As a result of the completion of a strategic plan in early 2014, WMF is consolidating its education, outreach, and advocacy work through the creation of World Monuments Institute as a department within the organization. WMF will create a new staff position to oversee this department: Director, World Monuments Institute.

WMF is seeking a Director for the new World Monuments Institute. For more information, please visit http://www.wmf.org/content/jobs
**New Getty Conservation Institute Publication Available Online**

The publication *The Role of Public-Private Partnerships and the Third Sector in Conserving Heritage Buildings, Sites and Historic Urban Areas* has been posted on the Getty website as a free online publication. This publication is directed toward those working in the cultural heritage sector. While it is not a guide to the use of public-private partnerships (PPPs), it aims to foster an understanding of their underlying concepts and demonstrate how and where they have been used to create successful heritage conservation outcomes.

You can access the publication through the following link: [http://www.getty.edu/conservation/publications_resources/pdf_publications/public_private.html](http://www.getty.edu/conservation/publications_resources/pdf_publications/public_private.html)

**Laura Bush Traveling Fellowship**

The U.S. National Commission for UNESCO is currently accepting applications for the Laura Bush Traveling Fellowship. The Fellowship is intended to help fund a proposal designed by a student to conduct brief work in a foreign country related to the mandate of UNESCO - using education, natural sciences, social and human sciences, culture, and/or communication and information to build strong ties among nations.

The fellowship is open to US citizens (ages 18-25) enrolled in a college or university who express an interest in international collaboration but have not had many opportunities to travel abroad. The application deadline is Monday, September 22, 2014.

Read more about the Fellowship & recipients: [http://www.state.gov/p/io/unesco/programs](http://www.state.gov/p/io/unesco/programs)

**Coastal Resilience Conference 2014**

**LIVING ON THE EDGE: STRATEGIES FOR BUILDING AND PRESERVING RESILIENT COASTAL COMMUNITIES, OCTOBER 8-10, 2014, GALVESTON, TX**

Galveston Historical Foundation’s Center for Coastal Heritage, in partnership with University of Texas Medical Branch’s Center in Environmental Toxicology, is organizing a three day conference to discuss the challenges and strategies for building and preserving a resilient Gulf Coast.

**THEME 1: THE RESILIENT GULF COAST** - Sustaining and fortifying our coastline.

**THEME 2: THE RESILIENT CITY** - Planning and assessing a strong urban environment.

**THEME 3: THE RESILIENT COMMUNITY** - Fostering social cohesion and preserving our cultural resources.

**THEME 4: THE RESILIENT BUILDING** - Designing, preparing and preserving our historic building stock.

For details and registration, please visit [Galvestonhistory.org/resilience2014](http://Galvestonhistory.org/resilience2014).