

A Year in the Field

July 2009 - June 2010

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Welcome to the Getty Conservation Institute Field Projects Department's first issue of *A Year in the Field*, which provides a snapshot of our work during the 2009-10 financial year. The department currently has sixteen model projects under way that aim to meet the GCI's mission to advance conservation practice internationally.

The departments' purpose is to advance conservation practice worldwide through the development and implementation of model field projects that incorporate strong research, planning and educational objectives. In all projects, the GCI works with local partners to build local knowledge, skills and experience and ensure sustainability.

The department's values are:

- passion for the world's cultural heritage and dedication to its conservation;
- achieving high standards balanced with successful conservation outcomes;
- advancement of cultural heritage conservation through collaboration and effective partnerships;
- professional integrity and cultural sensitivity are hallmarks of our work.

The success of our work is dependent on the strength of our partnerships. A priority over the last year was to work more closely with our partners, collaborators and stakeholders to secure and sustain the sites where we work long after the project is completed. We acknowledge the considerable efforts of all our partners and collaborators and look forward to the year ahead.

Susan Macdonald
Head of Field Projects

PARTNERS

Cape Nature	International Committee for the Conservation of Mosaics (ICCM)	Organization of World Heritage Cities (OWHC)
Chengde Cultural Heritage Bureau	International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS)	State Administration for Cultural Heritage (SACH)
China ICOMOS	Iraq State Board of Antiquities and Heritage	South African National Parks (SANParks)
City of Los Angeles	Jordanian Department of Antiquities	Supreme Council of Antiquities (SCA)
Courtauld Institute of Art	Living Landscape Project	The Getty Foundation
Dunhuang Academy	Los Angeles City Council	UNESCO World Heritage Centre (WHC)
Institut National du Patrimoine (INP) of Tunisia	Metropolitan District of Quito	University of Bath, School of Architecture and Civil Engineering
International Centre for the Study and Preservation of Cultural Property (ICCROM)	Office of Historic Resources, City of Los Angeles	World Monuments Fund



The Getty Conservation Institute

Project Activities

CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE VALLEY OF THE QUEENS



- Specifications and construction drawings for flood control and architectural and engineering interventions at QV were completed by Hamza Associates based on proposals developed by the GCI and have been approved by the SCA.
- Preliminary designs for lighting, barriers and ventilation in the open tombs at QV were developed in cooperation with Shaboury Associates
- Stabilization treatment of the wall paintings in tombs slated for engineering interventions were completed.

CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE TOMB OF TUTANKHAMEN



- The results of research to date and findings from the first field campaign in the tomb were compiled into a major report for the project.
- Extensive documentation on brown spots in the tomb was compiled and a report on the art, architecture and historical significance of the tomb was undertaken.
- A proposal for limited sampling of the wall paintings, sarcophagus and outermost coffin was submitted to the Supreme Council of Antiquities.
- The November 2009 campaign focused on noninvasive scientific investigation by a variety of techniques including portable XRF and XRD/XRF to determine the composition of pigments and plasters. On the sarcophagus, arsenic as well as traces of gold were identified. Visually induced luminescence combined with visual imaging mapped the distribution of Egyptian blue.
- The approach to the microbiological examination of the brown spots in the tomb was determined.
- Preliminary drawings for the presentation of the tomb interior were completed.

MIDDLE EASTERN GEODATABASE FOR ANTIQUITIES (MEGA) - IRAQ



- The GCI and World Monuments Fund met in Cairo to discuss planning for adapting MEGA-Jordan for Iraq with the leadership of the Iraq State Board of Antiquities and Heritage, the Iraq Ministry of Culture, the Kurdish Regional Government's Ministry of Tourism, Heritage, and Municipalities, as well as UNESCO Iraq representatives.

MIDDLE EASTERN GEODATABASE FOR ANTIQUITIES (MEGA) - JORDAN



- The final enhancements to MEGA-Jordan were completed as a result of the final review by the MEGA Scientific Committee at the Jordanian Department of Antiquities.
- Conducted a three-week training course at the GCI for eight Jordanian trainers.
- Completed development of MEGA-Jordan production system.

CHINA INITIATIVE



- The seventh three-year phase in the collaboration of GCI with the State Administration for Cultural Heritage (SACH) was signed.
- The multiyear study to establish the impacts of visitation and an appropriate visitor carrying capacity for the Mogao Grottoes was completed and is being written up.
- An international workshop, Advancing Sustainable Tourism at Cultural and Natural Heritage Sites, was co-organized with the Dunhuang Academy and the Australian Department of Water, Environment and Heritage. The workshop was held in September 2009 at the Mogao Grottoes.
- Design and specifications for presentation and interpretation of Cave 85 at Mogao were agreed upon with project partners from the Dunhuang Academy and a lighting group from Beijing University.
- Initial discussions were held with SACH and China ICOMOS on revision of the China Principles to reflect advances in thinking on cultural heritage conservation and management in China.
- Implementation plans for Shuxiang Temple at Chengde were developed by the Hebei Provincial Bureau and submitted to SACH for review.

HERITAGE VALUES, STAKEHOLDERS AND CONSENSUS BUILDING

- The English-language text was finalized for the didactic case study on the role of heritage values and stakeholders in the management of Jarash archaeological site, Jordan. The publication will be available in January 2011.
- The GCI hosted a three-day workshop to explore applying consensus building, negotiation, and conflict resolution concepts and strategies to management of heritage places; a publication is in preparation.

MANAGEMENT PLANNING

- A comparative analysis of GCI projects was undertaken that examined the role and impact of the management planning methodology.

INJECTION GROUTS FOR CONSERVATION OF ARCHITECTURAL SURFACES



- Disseminated results of testing and evaluation through two workshops at the GCI, one organized with the Association of Preservation Technology International and one for local conservators.
- Published literature review in *Reviews in Conservation*.
- Prepared laboratory and field test procedures.

MOSAIKON: A REGIONAL STRATEGY FOR THE CONSERVATION OF MOSAICS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN



- Two six-week campaigns involving the previously-trained technicians of the Institut National du Patrimoine (INP) were undertaken at each of the Tunisian sites (El Jem, Dougga, Bulla Regia, Thuburbo Majus/Jebel Oust and Pupput) to review the recent conservation work, to supervise their technical mosaic stabilization treatment and documentation work at each site, and to assist in defining the 2011 work program.
- In preparation for the 2011-12 MOSAIKON project training course for technicians from North Africa in El Jem, treatment trials began Spring 2010. These tested the efficacy of local materials and equipment for removing reinforced concrete backings from mosaics and their re-laying on lime mortar in situ.
- Field testing of a cathodic protection system that prevents corrosion of steel rebar in the re-laid mosaics was initiated.

SOUTHERN AFRICAN ROCK ART



- A formal meeting to assess the 2005-08 activities of the project was held at the Rock Art Research Institute in Johannesburg in August 2009, resulting in an assessment report.
- A training workshop was held in Clanwilliam District of South Africa, for nineteen participants from the Southern African region, with a focus on conservation interventions on rock art sites.

CONSERVATION OF AMÉRICA TROPICAL



- Construction commenced on the protective shelter, viewing platform and interpretive center for the *América Tropical* mural in Los Angeles.

HISTORIC CITIES AND URBAN SETTLEMENTS



- The GCI conceived and delivered the scientific component of the 10th Organisation of World Heritage Cities Congress in Quito on the theme of Revitalization of Historic Centers: how to involve all the social actors including publishing the proceedings; the GCI also organized the pre-congress Mayors' Workshop and participated in the compilation of case studies.
- Research work continued on a key documents bibliography, the role of public private partnerships in conserving historic urban areas and the completion of the report of the 2009 Experts' meeting.
- The GCI hosted a summit on conserving historic cities organized by the OWHC and involving the UNESCO World Heritage Center, ICCROM and ICOMOS.
- A reconnaissance mission to southern Morocco was undertaken to investigate a potential project on earthen architecture and the conservation of a historic earthen kasbah and its surrounding village.

LOS ANGELES HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY PROJECT

- The City of Los Angeles furthered the SurveyLA work with continued technical and advisory support from the GCI. The city completed the pilot survey work and progressed to implementation of the three-year survey plan.

EARTHEN ARCHITECTURE INITIATIVE



- Presentation to Peruvian authorities of the earthen historic site structural assessment report for sites damaged by the 2007 Pisco earthquake.
- Launch of the Seismic Retrofitting Project in Peru, which involved the selection of four prototype earthen historic sites, structural assessment of those four sites, and establishment of project partners and consultants.
- Development of methodology and implementation of a testing program to evaluate the effectiveness of several popular consolidants when used on earthen finishes in Mesa Verde.

ARCHITECTURAL RECORDS, INVENTORIES AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS FOR CONSERVATION



- In 2009 the GCI completed the fourth Architectural Records, Inventories and Information Systems for Conservation (ARIS) course in partnership with ICCROM.
- As part of the GCI's long-term investigation of novel and cost-effective methods of documentation a second campaign of aerial photography of Robert Smithson's iconic *Spiral Jetty* with a low-cost helium filled balloon that resulted in important baseline documentation was conducted.

PHARAONIC MUMMY CASES

- Components for twenty-five prefabricated, oxygen-free mummy cases, which were shipped by the GCI last year, were safely transported to a workshop and storage space in the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization (NMEC) for later assembly.
- A mock-up of the GCI-designed mummy case was assembled with an Egyptian-designed base stand for displaying in the NMEC.

PUBLICATIONS & ARTICLES

Achenza, Maddalena, Claudia Cancino, Mariana Correia, Amila Ferron, and Hubert Guillaud, eds. 2009. *Experts Workshop on the Study and Conservation of Earthen Architecture and its Contribution to Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean Region: Final Report*. Los Angeles: The Getty Conservation Institute.

Agnew, Neville, ed. 2010. *Conservation of Ancient Sites on the Silk Road: Proceedings of the Second International Conference on the Conservation of Grotto Sites, Mogao Grottoes, Dunhuang, People's Republic of China, June 28-July 3, 2004*. Los Angeles: The Getty Conservation Institute.

Biçer-Simsir, Beril; Isobel Griffin; Bénédicte Palazzo-Bertholon; and Leslie Rainer. 2009. Lime-based injection grouts for the conservation of architectural surfaces. In *Reviews in Conservation* 10: 3-17.

Hardy, Mary, Claudia Cancino, and Gail Ostergren, eds. 2009. *Proceedings of the Getty Seismic Adobe Project 2006 Colloquium*. Los Angeles: The Getty Conservation Institute.

Meeting report, "Historic Urban Environment: Conservation Challenges and Priorities for Action" Experts meeting March 12-14, 2009.

DesCamps, Françoise, ed. 2009. *Proceedings: X World Congress of the Organization of World Heritage Cities, Quito 8-11 September 2009*.

Torraca, Giorgio. 2009. *Lectures on Materials Science for Architectural Conservation*. The J. Paul Getty Trust, Los Angeles.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Rand Eppich lectured at the following institutions during 2010: the RLICC at the University of Leuven, "Building and Site Analysis" course at the University of Pennsylvania, the ICCROM course on the Conservation of Built Heritage, and a seminar titled "Information and Documentation: Principles, Methods and Tools and a photography workshop at the California Preservation Conference.

Claudia Cancino taught a course on earthen conservation at the University of Pennsylvania and at the "Structural issues on historic building" course, organized by the Universidad San Antonio Abad del Cusco and the Pontificia Universidad Catolica del Peru, in Cusco.

Françoise DesCamps taught a class on management planning at Columbia University.

Lorinda Wong presented Preserving Painted Architectural Decoration at the Mountain Resort of the Qing Emperors at a Courtauld Institute Spring 2010 Friends Lecture on January 12th 2010.

David Myers lectured at the University of Texas at Austin, historic preservation program on the GCI's work in development and implementation of the Middle Eastern Geodatabase for Antiquities.

Neville Agnew spoke on the development and implementation of the GCI's Southern African Rock Art Project at the Australian Heritage Council.

Shin Maekawa presented papers on preventative conservation and climate control systems at the annual ASHRAE meeting in Florida in February and at the 10th Federation of European Heating and Air-Conditioning Congress, Clima 2010, in Antalya, Turkey and at the University of La Laguna, Tenerife.

Thomas Roby and Martha Demas participated as core instructors in the joint Athar/MOSAICON workshop "Conservation and Management of Mosaics on Archaeological Sites" in Tyre, Lebanon.

Susan Macdonald presented a paper titled, "Heritage in Market Driven Economy: A Tale from Down Under" at the 13th Annual US/ ICOMOS International Symposium in Washington D.C.

Neville Agnew and Martha Demas attended the 7th International Congress on Archaeology of the Near East in London to present the GCI work in the Queen's Valley.

For further information on current and past projects visit:
www.getty.edu/conservation/field_projects/