



THE U.S. AMBASSADORS FUND
FOR CULTURAL PRESERVATION

ANNUAL 2012 REPORT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE



U.S. AMBASSADORS FUND FOR CULTURAL PRESERVATION | CULTURAL HERITAGE CENTER
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Design: CAESAR JACKSON

GEORGIA Fresco painting at Gelati Monastery



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BHUTAN 19th-century Wangduechhoeling Palace

SINCE 2001, THE U.S. AMBASSADORS FUND FOR CULTURAL PRESERVATION

has supported more than 750 projects to preserve cultural heritage in over 120 countries. This achievement represents a major contribution to the preservation of cultural heritage worldwide and demonstrates the depth of America's respect for the cultural heritage of other countries.

In 2012, U.S. ambassadors to more than 91 countries applied to the Ambassadors Fund for support in meeting pressing cultural heritage preservation needs. Among the projects supported in 2012 were the documentation of the 19th-century Wangduechhoeling Palace in Bhutan, the preservation of 12th-century royal tombs on the island of Tonga, and the conservation of the ruins of the 11th-century Church of St. Todor in Boboshevo, Bulgaria. Also in 2012, the Ambassadors Fund awarded six grants for large-scale projects in Ethiopia, Laos, Libya, Mexico, Nepal, and Turkmenistan.

By supporting the preservation of cultural heritage, the Ambassadors Fund helps extend its value as a vital and defining element of communities and nations and ensures its continued enjoyment and relevance both today and for generations to come.





UGANDA 20th-century paintings at Makerere University

MISSION

Established at the request of the 106th Congress of the United States (Public Law 106-553) and administered by the Cultural Heritage Center in the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs at the U.S. Department of State, the U.S. Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation supports the preservation of sites, objects, and forms of traditional cultural expression in more than 120 countries around the world.

Projects supported through the fund include the restoration of historic buildings, assessment and conservation of rare manuscripts and other objects, protection of ancient archaeological sites, and the documentation of traditional craft techniques and languages on the verge of extinction.

The U.S. Congress noted that "Cultural preservation offers an opportunity to show a different American face to other countries, one that is non-commercial, non-political, and non-military. By taking a leading role in efforts to preserve cultural heritage, we show our respect for other cultures by protecting their traditions."

BOLIVIA Colonial Period chapels in the Altiplano

NOTRE MISSION

Établi à la demande de la 106ème Congrès des États-Unis (Loi Publique 106-553) et administré par le Centre du patrimoine culturel dans le Bureau des affaires éducatives et culturelles du Département d'Etat américain, le Fonds des Ambassadeurs des États-Unis pour la conservation du Patrimoine Culturel soutient la conservation des sites, des objets, et des formes d'expression culturelle traditionnelle dans plus de 120 pays à travers le monde.

Les projets soutenus par le fonds comprennent la restauration de bâtiments historiques, l'évaluation et la conservation des manuscrits rares et d'autres objets, la protection des sites archéologiques anciens, et la documentation des techniques artisanales traditionnelles et les langues sur le bord de l'extinction.

Le Congrès des États-Unis a noté que «la préservation culturelle offre l'occasion de montrer un visage américain différent à d'autres pays, l'un qui est non-commerciale, non-politique, et non-militaire. En jouant un rôle de premier plan dans les efforts visant à préserver le patrimoine culturel, nous montrons notre respect pour les autres cultures en protégeant leurs traditions.»



LAOS Wat Xieng Thong in Luang Prabang

NUESTRA MISIÓN

Creado a petición de la 106a Congreso de los Estados Unidos (Ley Pública 106-553) y administrado por el Centro de Patrimonio Cultural de la Oficina de Asuntos Educativos y Culturales del Departamento de Estado de EE.UU., el Fondo de los Embajadores de los Estados Unidos para la Conservación de Patrimonio Cultural apoya la conservación de los sitios, objetos, y formas de expresión cultural tradicional en más de 120 países de todo el mundo.

Los proyectos apoyados por el Fondo incluyen la restauración de edificios históricos, evaluación y conservación de manuscritos raros y otros objetos, la protección de los antiguos sitios arqueológicos, y la documentación de las técnicas y lenguajes de artesanía tradicional en el borde de la extinción.

El Congreso de los Estados Unidos señaló que "La preservación cultural ofrece una oportunidad para mostrar una cara diferente de América a otros países, que no es comercial, no política y no militar. Al tomar un papel de liderazgo en los esfuerzos para preservar el patrimonio cultural, mostramos nuestro respeto por otras culturas mediante la protección de sus tradiciones."

Наша миссия

Создана по просьбе 106-й Конгресс Соединенных Штатов Америки (Public Law 106-553) и администрируется Центром наследия культуры в Бюро образовательных и культурных дел в Государственном департаменте США, Фонда послов США по сохранению из культурного наследия поддерживает сохранение объектов, предметов и форм традиционного культурного выражения в более чем 120 странах по всему миру.

Проекты, поддерживаемые через фонд включает в себя восстановление исторических зданий, оценку и сохранение редких рукописей и других объектов, сохранения и защиты древних археологических памятников, и документацию, традиционных методов ремесла и языков на грани вымирания.

Конгресс Соединенных Штатов отметил, что "Сохранение культуры дает возможность показать другую американскую лицо в других странах, тот, который является некоммерческой, неполитической, и не военные. Принимая на себя ведущую роль в усилиях по сохранению культурного наследия, мы показываем наше уважение к другим культурам, защищая свои традиции."

EGYPT 3rd-century BC objects at Karanis



INDIA 18th-century Balaji Ghat in Varanasi

الخلاصة: مهمتنا

أنشئت بناء على طلب من الكونغرس ٦٠١ من الولايات المتحدة (٣٥٥-٦٠١ القانون العام) ومركز التراث الثقافي في مكتب الشؤون التعليمية والثقافية في وزارة الخارجية الأمريكية، وصندوق سفراء الولايات المتحدة للحفاظ تدار على التراث الثقافي تدعم الحفاظ على المواقع، والأشياء، وأشكال التعبير الثقافي التقليدي في أكثر من ١٢١ بلدا في جميع أنحاء العالم.

وتشمل المشاريع المدعومة من خلال صندوق ترميم المباني التاريخية، وتقييم وحفظ المخطوطات النادرة وغيرها من الأشياء، والحفاظ على وحماية المواقع الأثرية القديمة، وتوثيق تقنيات الحرف التقليدية واللغات على وشك الانقراض.

وأشار كونغرس الولايات المتحدة أن "الحفاظ على التراث الثقافي يقدم فرصة لإظهار الوجه الأمريكي مختلفة إلى بلدان أخرى، واحد هو أن غير التجارية، غير سياسية، وغير العسكرية. من خلال اتخاذ دور قيادي في الجهود الرامية إلى الحفاظ على التراث الثقافي، وتبين لنا احترامنا للثقافات الأخرى من خلال حماية تقاليدهم."

我們的使命

成立於美國 (公法106-553) 的第106屆大會的請求，並通過文化遺產中心在教育和文化事務局的國家，美國大使的基金，為保護美國能源部管理文化遺產的支持場所，物品，並在世界各地120多個國家的傳統文化表現形式的保護。

通過基金支持的項目包括修復的歷史建築，評估和保護珍貴的手稿和其他物品，節約和保護古老的考古遺址中的，與傳統的工藝手法和語言瀕臨滅絕的文檔。

美國國會指出，"文化保護提供了一個機會來展示一個不同的美國面對其他國家，一個是非商業性的，非政治性，非軍用。通過採取在努力保護文化遺產主導作用，我們將展示我們對其他文化通過保護他們的傳統的尊重。"

ABOUT THE CULTURAL HERITAGE CENTER

The Cultural Heritage Center supports the foreign affairs functions of the U.S. Department of State that relate to the preservation of cultural heritage in all regions of the world. In addition to the Ambassadors Fund, the Center administers U.S. responsibilities relating to the 1970 UNESCO Convention to reduce pillage and illicit trafficking in cultural property and oversees special projects.

KOSOVO 16th-century hamam in Vushtrri

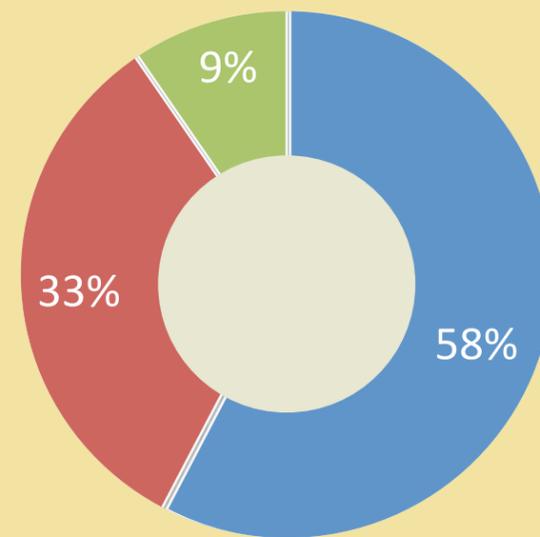




GRANTS AWARDED IN 2012

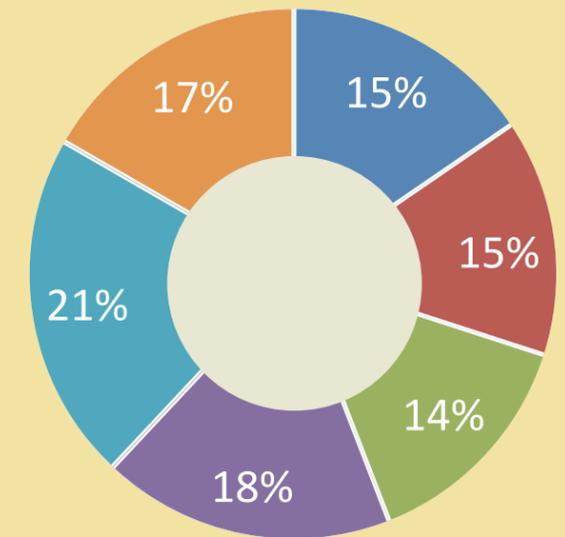
REGION	AFRICA	THE AMERICAS	EAST ASIA & THE PACIFIC	EUROPE & EURASIA	MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA	SOUTH & CENTRAL ASIA
186 TOTAL PROPOSALS	39	47	31	33	18	18
52 TOTAL PROJECTS	10	11	9	7	6	9
18,490,898 \$ REQUESTED	2,822,240	4,029,288	3,614,267	3,364,824	2,590,536	2,069,743
5,773,568 \$ AWARDED	1,143,954	1,128,998	741,521	606,631	942,840	1,209,624

TYPES OF PROJECTS • 2012



● CULTURAL SITES ● CULTURAL OBJECTS AND COLLECTIONS ● FORMS OF TRADITIONAL CULTURAL EXPRESSION

DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS • 2001-12



● AFRICA ● THE AMERICAS ● EAST ASIA & THE PACIFIC ● EUROPE & EURASIA ● MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA ● SOUTH & CENTRAL ASIA



Africa

“ART REFLECTS VALUES, ASPIRATIONS AND CHALLENGES. IT TELLS THE STORY OF OUR PAST AND OFFERS TANTALIZING GLIMPSES OF OUR FUTURE. ART IS CENTRAL TO OUR HERITAGE AND TO DEFINING US AS A NATION.”

SCOTT H. DELISI, U.S. Ambassador to Uganda

BURKINA FASO: Documentation and stabilization of the 15th-century Royal Court at Tiébélé. The court remains central to the civic and spiritual lives of the Kassena people and contains the region’s finest examples of decorated earthen architecture. This project addresses serious flood damage and includes the development of a sustainable preservation plan.

BURUNDI: Preventive conservation of the pre-colonial ethnographic collections of the National Musée Vivant in Bujumbura. The museum’s fragile objects, made from bark and other organic materials, are stored in unprotected locations and exposed to environmental and other hazards. This project includes a conservation needs assessment and the outfitting of appropriate display and storage spaces.

CAMEROON: Documentation and conservation of the remaining walls and pillars of the 18th-century slave port of Bimbia. Between 1750 and 1840, 140,000 slaves passed through Bimbia’s market, making it the largest coastal slaving post in Central Africa. This project includes the cataloging and display of objects uncovered at the site.

ETHIOPIA: Preservation of Biet Gabriel Rafael, a 12th-century rock-hewn church at the UNESCO World Heritage site of Lalibela. One of 11 such churches at the site carved from solid rock, Biet Gabriel Rafael is at risk of irreversible damage. This project involves a suite of non-invasive interventions to repair the most serious structural weaknesses, waterproof where necessary, and repair the damage to the stone surfaces.

“WITH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES NOW WELL INTO THEIR SECOND CENTURY, THE KINDS OF ACTIVITY THAT THIS GRANT MAKES POSSIBLE ARE ONE MORE WAY TO BUILD BRIDGES BETWEEN OUR PEOPLE; IN HELPING TO PRESERVE FOR FUTURE APPRECIATION THIS TREASURE OF ETHIOPIA’S UNIQUE MEDIEVAL CULTURAL HERITAGE, WE ARE ALSO DEEPENING THE TIES THAT CONNECT US.” PATRICIA M. HASLACH, U.S. Ambassador to Ethiopia

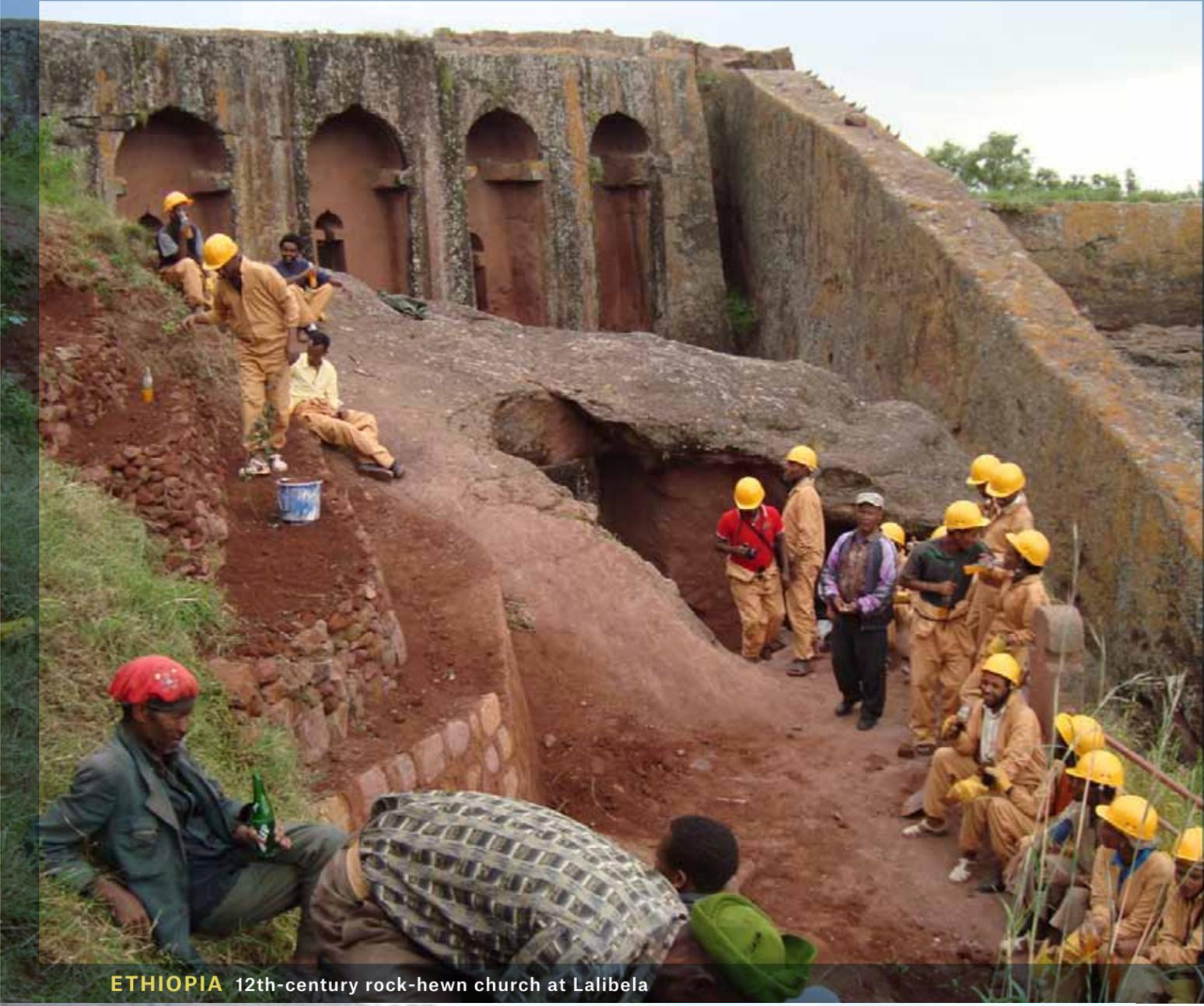
GUINEA Niani ethnographic objects



GUINEA: Preservation of Niani ethnographic objects at the National Museum of Guinea. The 4,000 objects in the collection lack an appropriate storage environment, and the exhibition space is in a poor state due to water, insect, and environmental damage. This project involves the cleaning and consolidation of artifacts and repairs to the building and exhibition spaces.

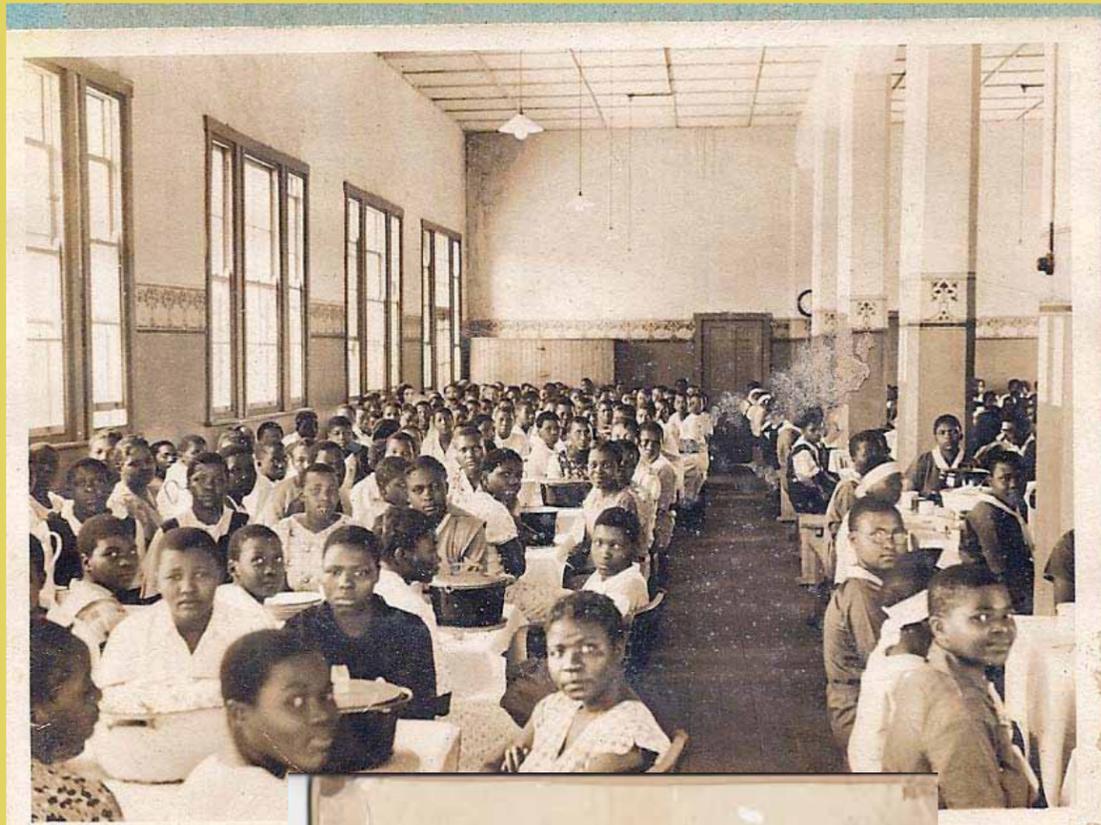
NIGERIA: Preservation and protection of historic ethnographic objects of the Igbo people and others in the National Museum of Unity in Enugu. The museum’s collection of pottery, tools, costumes, and other objects are susceptible to deterioration from exposure to rodents and other threats. This project involves the installation of secure and environmentally suitable display cases.

SOUTH AFRICA: Preservation of the 19th- and early 20th-century archives of Inanda Seminary. Established in 1869 as a boarding school for black girls, Inanda was the only school not forced to adopt South Africa’s restrictive Apartheid-era Bantu education policy. This project focuses on the preventive conservation of documents and complements efforts underway to restore the historic seminary buildings.



ETHIOPIA 12th-century rock-hewn church at Lalibela





SOUTH AFRICA Historic records at Inanda Seminary

“WE ARE DELIGHTED THAT THE U.S. HAS REMAINED WITH US FOR OVER 140 YEARS OF OUR EXISTENCE. OUR SCHOOL HAS PRODUCED A NUMBER OF RESPECTED WOMEN LEADERS AND WE DON’T WANT TO LOSE THAT LEGACY.” **PRINCIPAL JUDY TATE**, Inanda Seminary School



TANZANIA 19th-century Bwanga House in Pangani

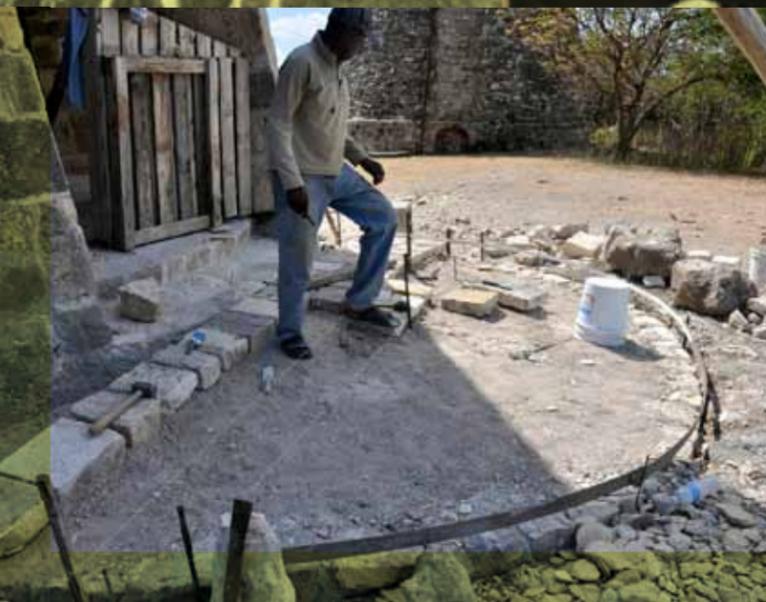
TANZANIA: Restoration of Bwanga House, a 19th-century Indian shop house in Pangani notable for its distinctive architecture. Though the original structure remains largely intact, it is deteriorating rapidly. This project involves training for local craftsmen in traditional building techniques, restoration of the shop house, and the outfitting of a display space for traditional crafts.

UGANDA: Preventive conservation of 20th-century paintings at Makerere University in Kampala. This important collection represents the best of modern art production in East Africa, and many of the works require urgent cleaning and restoration. The project includes the compilation of a collection inventory and museum database, and the outfitting of proper storage and display spaces.

ZAMBIA: Preservation and protection of the visual arts collection at the Lusaka National Museum. The collection, which includes objects from the pre-colonial, colonial, and post-colonial periods, is vulnerable to damage and deterioration from exposure and insect infestation. This project includes the documentation of the collection and creation of a suitable and secure storage environment for the objects.



ANTIGUA 17th-century windmill at Betty's Hope Plantation



THE Americas

“WHEN WE COME HERE WE CAN LOOK AT THE MILL, WE CAN TOUCH IT, WE CAN UNDERSTAND WHAT THE PEOPLE WHO RAN IT WENT THROUGH. IT GIVES US A TANGIBLE INSIGHT INTO THE PAST.”

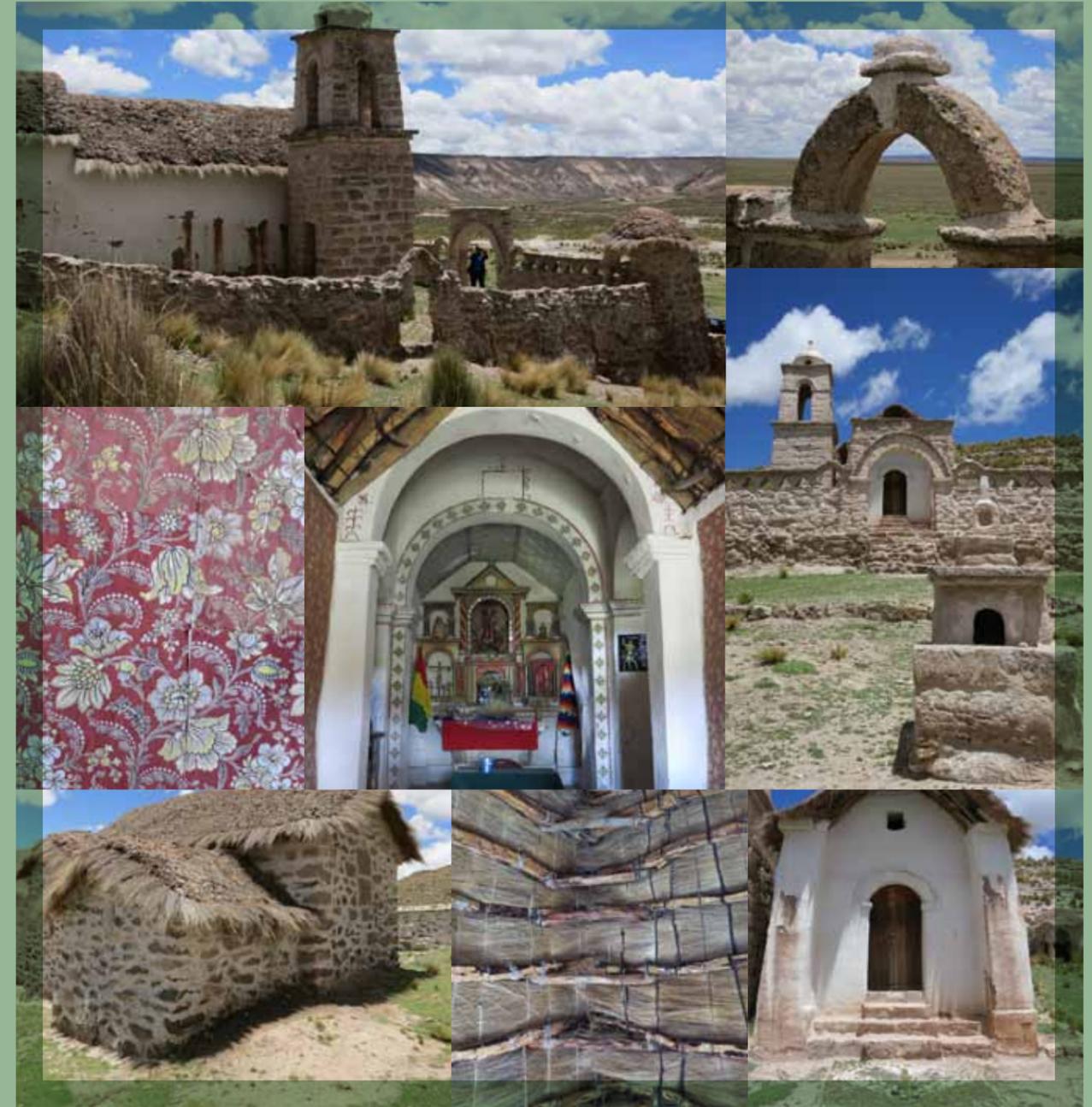
DR. REGINALD MURPHY, Chairman, Betty's Hope Project

ANTIGUA & BARBUDA: Restoration of a 17th-century windmill at Betty's Hope Plantation, a former sugar plantation and one of Antigua's most important cultural heritage tourism sites. This project involves the engagement of local millwrights and stone masons to carry out this specialized work.

BELIZE: Conservation of several ruined structures at Santa Rita Archaeological Site, the original location of the Pre-Columbian Maya city of Chetumal. Exposure to the elements, vandalism, and other threats are impacting the ancient structures of Chetumal. This project includes site preparation activities, conservation work, and site protection measures to safeguard the integrity of the site.

BOLIVIA: Conservation of five 17th- and 18th-century colonial chapels in Curahuara de Carangas. Preserved entirely by local communities, these rural chapels are in serious danger of collapse as straw roofs, plaster, and lime-based paint deteriorate. This project involves the restoration of the chapels to their original condition using traditional materials and local labor.

BRAZIL: Preservation of 18th- and 19th-century objects at the History and Geography Institute of Pará. This project involves the cleaning and examination of objects, as well as the conservation of several objects for display at the Institute.



"THE VILLAGES REALIZED THE IMPORTANT HISTORICAL & CULTURAL VALUES OF THEIR CHAPELS. NOW THEY HAVE PRIDE IN THEIR COMMUNITIES AND THEIR CHURCHES." FATHER GABRIEL ANTEQUERA, Curahuara de Carangas Parish, Bolivia



MEXICO 16th-century Father Tembleque Aqueduct

COLOMBIA: Documentation of a mid-18th-century gilt wood altarpiece in the cathedral of Ocaña in northeastern Colombia. Deterioration of the altarpiece has rendered it structurally unstable. This project includes materials and structural analyses and the emergency stabilization of the most fragile sections of the monumental altarpiece in preparation for its eventual restoration.

GUATEMALA: Conservation of the 3rd-century Maya archaeological site of Kaminaljuyu, one of the few sites with exposed adobe buildings in Mesoamerica. Heavy rains have affected the clay structures, causing roof collapses, structural damage, and wood rot. The project involves physical conservation work and the implementation of preventive conservation measures for the site.

MEXICO: Preservation of the Tembleque (Zempoala) aqueduct in central Mexico, the most important work of hydraulic engineering built in the 16th century in the Americas. This second phase of the project involves the restoration of the monumental Tepyahualco arcade and associated hydrological structures.



NICARAGUA: Remedial preservation of the San Francisco Church in Leon, one of the five chapels of the 17th-century cathedral and the site of an important collection of sacred art and colonial furniture. The church roof is in critical condition, endangering the structure and its contents. The project involves remedial repairs to the roof and the restoration of the church's unique baroque ceiling.

PERU: Preventive conservation of ancient Paracas textiles, archaeological objects, and other Pre-Hispanic Andean objects from 800 to 100 BC. Paracas textiles are among the finest in the world and renowned for their technique and iconography. This project includes the photo documentation and registration of objects and the conservation of a small number of textiles deemed at greatest risk of deterioration.

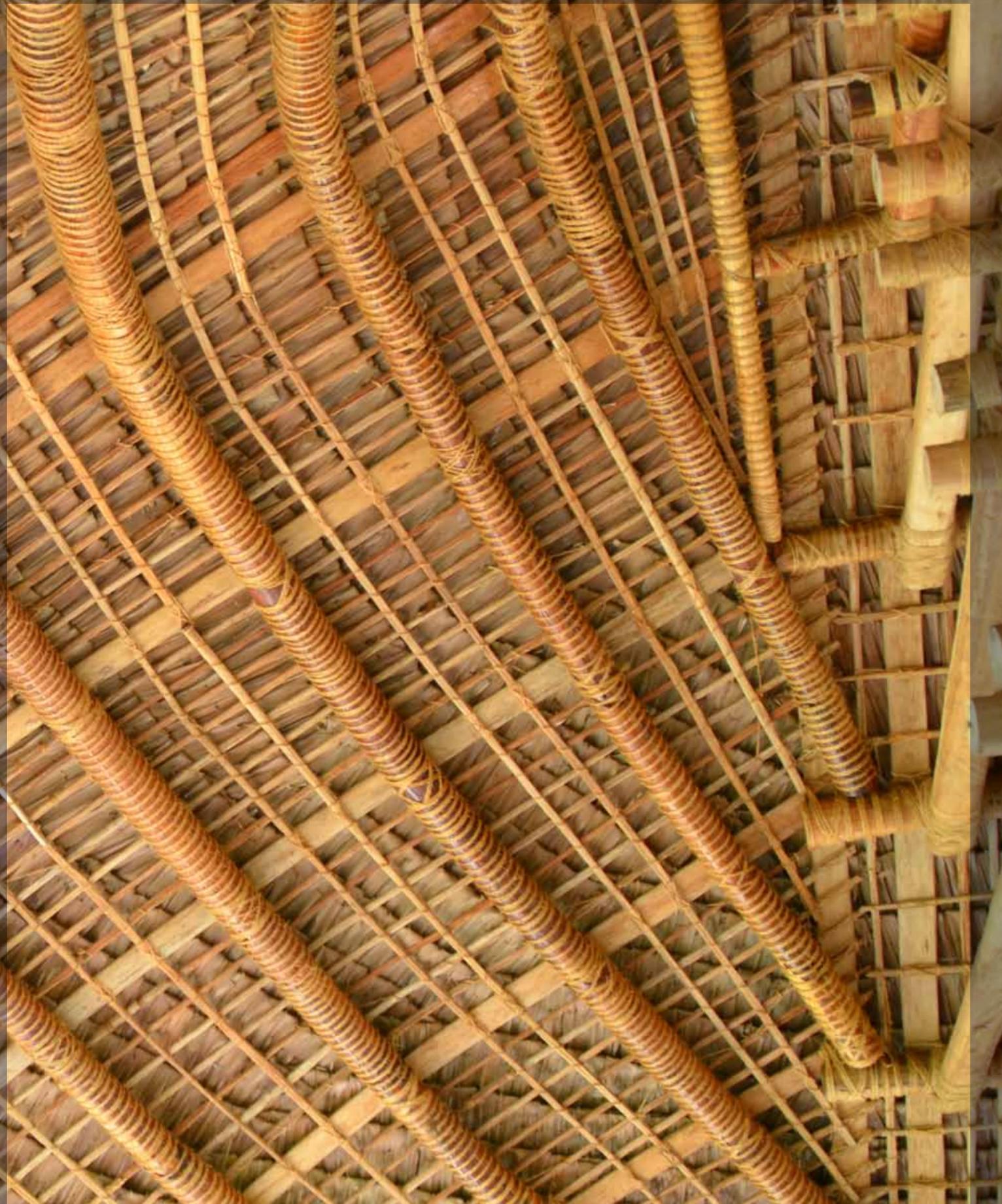
SURINAME: Restoration of the 18th-century commander's residence at Fort New Amsterdam Historic Site, a rare remnant of Dutch mercantile and military dominance in the 17th and 18th centuries in the Western Hemisphere. This project addresses serious deterioration of decorative and structural elements of the building.

URUGUAY: Preventive conservation of the collections of the National General Archives in Montevideo. The archive's holdings, which include the records of the National Historical Museum, are at risk of damage and deterioration from a variety of factors. This project involves the construction of an airtight conservation chamber to preserve the archive's most important objects.



left and right: **PERU** Ancient objects at the Julio César Tello Paracas Site Museum





East Asia & the Pacific

"THE DOCUMENTARY WILL BE
A GIFT TO FUTURE GENERATIONS
OF SAMOANS, INCLUDING SOME
WHO MAY WISH TO TAKE UP
THE CRAFTS THEMSELVES."

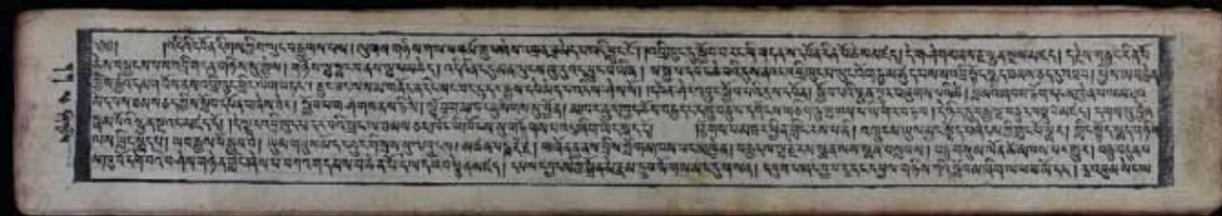
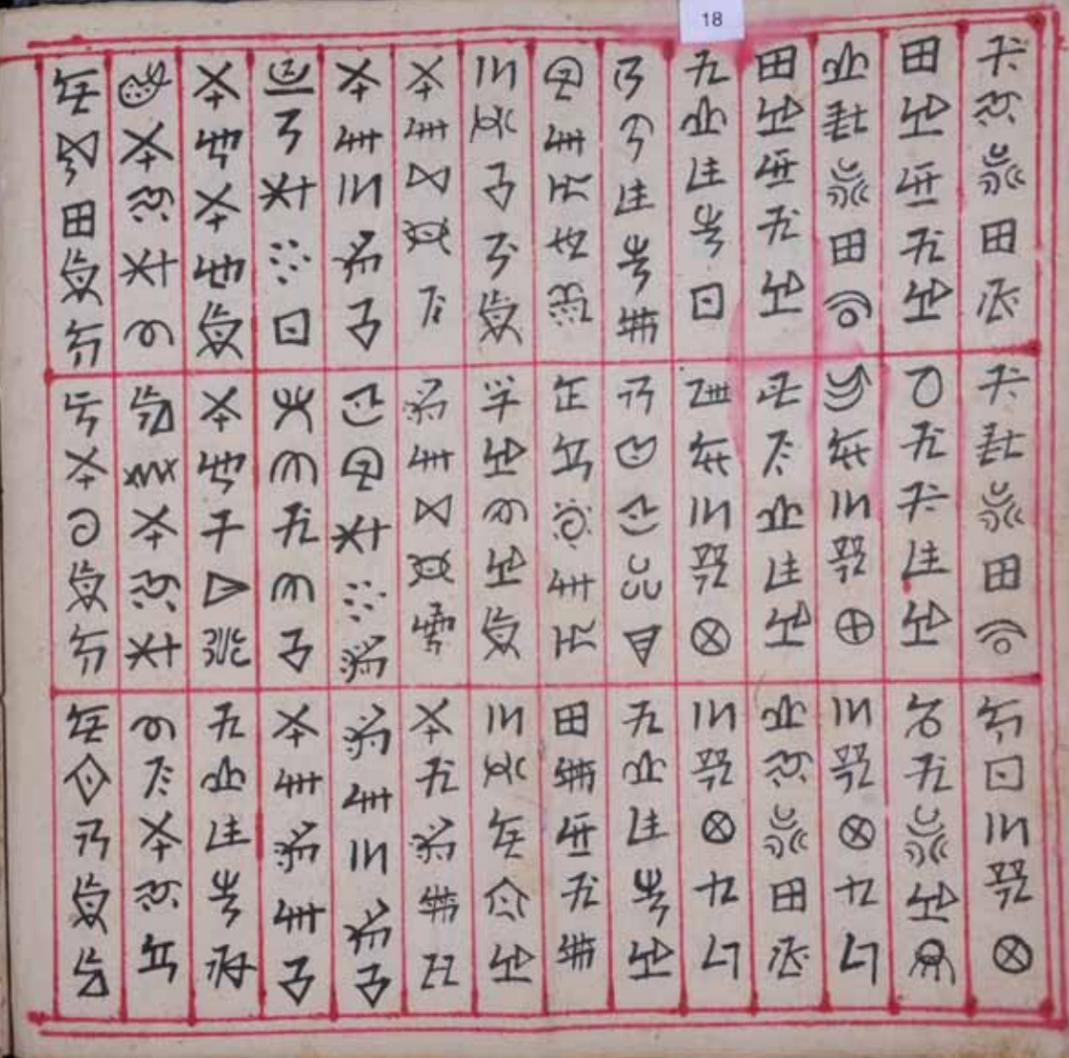
DAVID HUEBNER, U.S. Ambassador to
New Zealand and Samoa

CAMBODIA: Documentation of 9th-15th-century Khmer antiquities and establishment of a comprehensive inventory of known artifacts in Cambodia. Looters are destroying Cambodia's cultural heritage, targeting archaeological sites, temples, and museum collections. This project involves the development of a centralized national register of antiquities.

CHINA: Preservation of more than 2,000 manuscripts of 15 Chinese ethnic minorities at Minzu University in Beijing. Folk culture and ethnic minority traditions are fading rapidly, and many languages are endangered. This project involves the conservation and proper storage of ancient and historic manuscripts and the preservation of the written language and ethnic traditions they document.

LAOS: Conservation of Wat Xieng Thong, the coronation temple of Lao kings from the mid-16th century until the dissolution of the monarchy in the 1970s, in the World Heritage city of Luang Prabang. This third phase of the project involves the conservation of architectural surfaces of the main temple and the preservation of supporting structures within the complex.

MALAYSIA: Documentation of the Wayang Kulit Siam of Kelantan, an uninterrupted 40-day shadow play of the Kelantan version of the Ramayana epic. Wayang Kulit Siam was banned in Kelantan in 1991, an action that adversely affected the generational transmission of the tradition and the number of trained performers. This project includes performance workshops and training programs for youth.





MALAYSIA Wayang Kulit Siam of Kelantan

THE WAYANG KULIT SIAM OF KELANTAN REMAINS ONE OF THE MOST DISTINGUISHABLE ARTISTIC TRADITIONS OF THE MALAY PENINSULA, AND IS ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL EXAMPLES OF THE UNIQUE SHADOW PLAY TRADITIONS OF SOUTH EAST ASIA. IT ENCAPSULATES A TRADITIONAL WORLDVIEW OF THE MALAY PEOPLES AND OFFERS INSIGHTS INTO MALAY HISTORY AND CULTURE, NOW INCREASINGLY ECLIPSED AS A RESULT OF CONTEMPORARY CULTURAL PRESSURES.



LAOS: 16th-century Wat Xieng Thong in Luang Prabang

MONGOLIA: Restoration of fire-damaged paintings in the Mongolian National Modern Art Gallery in Ulaanbaatar. Seventy percent of the museum's collection was either destroyed or damaged by fire in May 2009. This second phase of the project involves the conservation of approximately 375 damaged but salvageable paintings.

SAMOA: Documentation of the Samoan traditional craft of 'afa, also known as coconut sinnet or coir. Use of 'afa permeates Samoan culture, from personal adornment and architecture to hunting and fishing, yet the craft is on the verge of extinction. The project includes the documentation of the making and use of 'afa and a series of instructional craft workshops.



THAILAND 17th-century Wat Chaiwatthanaram in Ayutthaya



“WE ARE IDENTIFYING SITES THAT HOLD HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE TO THE THAI PEOPLE TO HELP PROTECT AND RESTORE MONUMENTS OF THAILAND’S PROUD AND ANCIENT CULTURE.”

HILLARY CLINTON, U.S. Secretary of State



THAILAND: Documentation and assessment of the 17th-century Wat Chaiwatthanaram at the World Heritage site of Ayutthaya. Severe monsoon flooding in 2011 damaged brickwork, stucco, woodwork and mural paintings at this popular tourist site. The project involves surveys of the site, including laser scanning and digital mapping, and field tests of conservation techniques.



TONGA 12th-century royal tombs

TIMOR-LESTE: Documentation of endangered cultural heritage of the Fataluku, an ethnic group in Lospalos. Dislocation and external social and economic pressures have interfered with the transmission of traditional music, dance, and other cultural expressions to younger generations. The project focuses on the documentation of specific cultural traditions as the first phase of a larger preservation effort.

TONGA: Preservation of the 12th-century royal tombs of Tonga in Lapaha. The tombs are the most important monuments in the Kingdom of Tonga and ritual sites for more than 500 years. This project involves the stabilization of each tomb and the development of a sustainable management plan for the site.





Europe & Eurasia

"WE ARE HONORED THAT WE CAN PLAY A ROLE IN HELPING PRESERVE THIS CULTURAL TREASURE.... I'VE BEEN PRIVILEGED TO VISIT MANY OF BULGARIA'S CULTURAL SITES AND HAVE DEVELOPED A DEEP INTEREST IN AND RESPECT FOR THIS COUNTRY'S RICH HERITAGE."

JAMES WARLICK, U.S. Ambassador to Bulgaria

ALBANIA: Preventive conservation of the archaeological collection at the Center of Albanian Studies in Tirana. This extensive collection of objects from more than 80 years of archaeological investigations in Albania is housed in a building lacking proper environmental controls or security. This project includes work on the building infrastructure and the development of a conservation plan.

BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA: Restoration of a late 16th-century stone bridge over the Zepa River in Rogatica. The work of a highly skilled master builder, the bridge functioned well for centuries, but cracks in the bridge masonry have severely impacted the bridge's structural integrity. This project involves the restoration of bridge and the development of a conservation management plan.

BULGARIA: Conservation of the ruins of the 11th-century Church of St. Todor, a rare surviving monument of the First Bulgarian Empire (681-1018). This project involves the comprehensive documentation of the site, construction of a new protective cover, and the development of a site conservation plan.





GEORGIA Fresco painting at Gelati Monastery

GEORGIA: Conservation of 13th-18th-century frescoes in the St. Marine Chapel at the Church of the Virgin at Gelati Monastery, a World Heritage site. Heavy rains in 2011 severely damaged the church and adjacent chapel, where frescoes have become detached from the plaster and are in immediate danger of being lost. The project includes the stabilization of the frescoes to halt further deterioration.



KOSOVO 16th-century hamam at Vushtrri

KOSOVO: Restoration of a 16th-century Ottoman hamam, one of the few surviving historic structures in the city of Vushtrri. Used for centuries as a public bath, the hamam currently sits vacant in an area undergoing rapid redevelopment. This project involves the restoration of the building exterior and interior.



MACEDONIA 17th-century lodge of St. Archangeli

ROMANIA Former Hinech Neorim Orthodox Synagogue

MACEDONIA: Adaptation of the 17th-century lodge at the St. Archangeli Monastery in Skopje for modern use. The lodge at the monastery is one of the oldest of its kind in the Balkans, and exposure to the harsh climate has compromised the wood and masonry structure. The project includes the restoration of the exterior and conservation of historic interior features.

ROMANIA: Adaptation of the former Hinech Neorim Orthodox Synagogue in Oradea for reuse as a Jewish heritage museum. Built in the early 20th century, the former synagogue is one of the few remaining in Oradea, once the home to a flourishing Jewish community. The project involves the restoration of the building facades, roof, and interior.

Middle East & North Africa

"ALGERIA IS AMONG THE MOST IMPORTANT PARTNERS OF THE UNITED STATES, NOT ONLY IN THE MAGHREB REGION BUT ALSO IN THE WORLD... WE STRIVE TO CONSOLIDATE AND GROW THIS COOPERATION."

HENRY S. ENSHER, U.S. Ambassador to Algeria

ALGERIA: Documentation of the ancient coin collection at the Cirta Museum in Constantine. The collection of 19,000 coins spanning 20 centuries is uncatalogued, and museum staff lack training in cleaning and caring for coins. The project focuses on the conservation of the collection under the direction of a conservation expert and cataloging and conservation training for the museum staff.

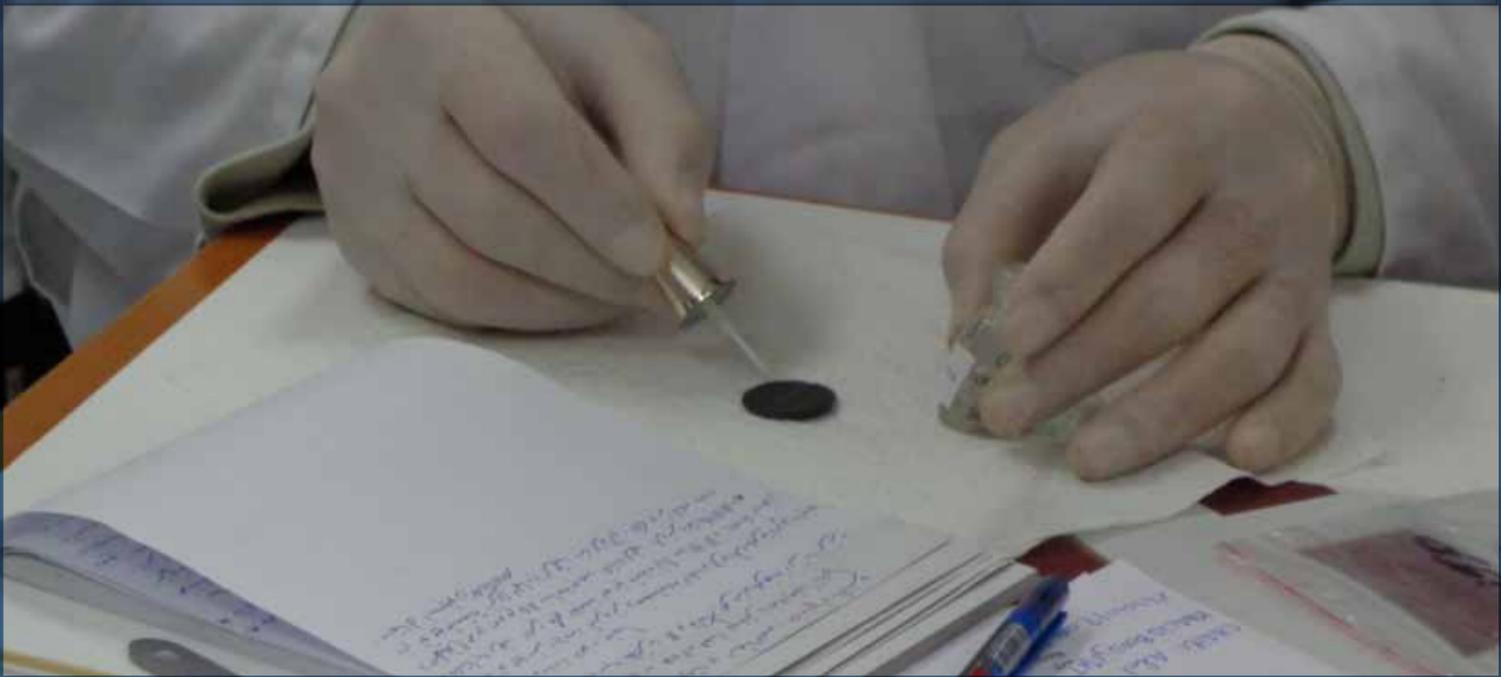
EGYPT: Preservation of objects from the Greco-Roman city of Karanis (present-day Kom Aushim) in the Fayyum Oasis. Established in the 3rd century BC for Greek mercenaries, Karanis faded into oblivion soon after its abandonment in the early 5th century. This project involves the preventive conservation of objects and the development of a management plan for the site.

LIBYA: Assessment and emergency stabilization of the ruins of the extramural Sanctuary of Demeter and Persephone at the Greco-Roman site of Cyrene in eastern Libya. In use for more than 800 years until destroyed by earthquakes in the 3rd and 4th centuries, the sanctuary is vulnerable to urban encroachment and other threats. This project includes a comprehensive survey in preparation for the site's conservation.



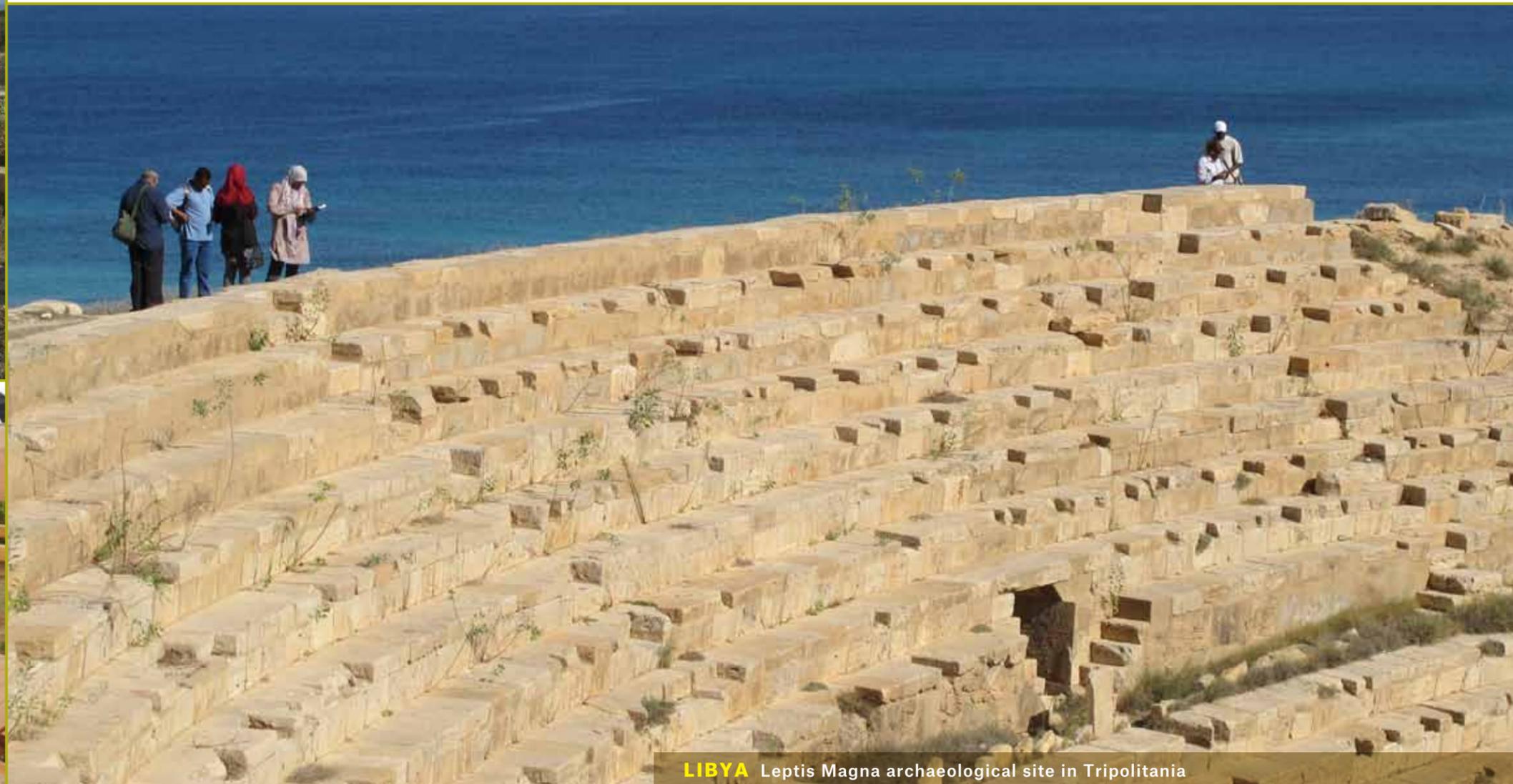
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ALGERIA Ancient coin collection at the Cirta Museum





“THE UNITED STATES IS COMMITTED TO ITS LONG STANDING PARTNER-
SHIP WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF EGYPT AND WE ARE HONORED TO
CONTRIBUTE TO THE PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION OF EGYPT’S
RICH HISTORY AND HERITAGE.” DAVID J RANZ, Acting Deputy U.S. Ambassador to Egypt



LIBYA Leptis Magna archaeological site in Tripolitania



“ONE DAY THE OIL WILL RUN OUT,
BUT IF YOU PRESERVE YOUR
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND
HISTORICAL BUILDINGS, YOU WILL
HELP GENERATIONS TO COME.”

ADEL AL-TURKI, Libyan Department of Antiquities

LIBYA: Documentation and assessment of Greco-Roman and other archaeological sites in the Tripolitania region of western Libya. This project complements similar work in eastern Libya to map, document, and assess culturally important archaeological sites in the country.

LIBYA: Documentation and assessment of Greco-Roman and other archaeological sites in the Cyrenaica region of eastern Libya. This project continues work begun under previous Ambassadors Fund grants and complements work underway in western Libya to map, document, and assess culturally important archaeological sites in the country.

MOROCCO: Documentation of 18th-century Muslim, Christian, and Jewish cemeteries in Essaouira, a World Heritage site and an area representative of the inclusive aspects of Moroccan culture. Many of the tombs are being lost to erosion. This project includes conservation training, sustainable plantings, and promotion of local investment in the sustainable maintenance of the cemeteries.



South & Central Asia

“THESE PRESERVATION EFFORTS WILL BENEFIT SOME OF SRI LANKA’S MOST PRICELESS ARTIFACTS. THE FUND ENSURES THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGY CAN CONTINUE TO PROMOTE SRI LANKA’S RICH CULTURAL HERITAGE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS TO APPRECIATE.”

MICHELE SISON, U.S. Ambassador to Sri Lanka

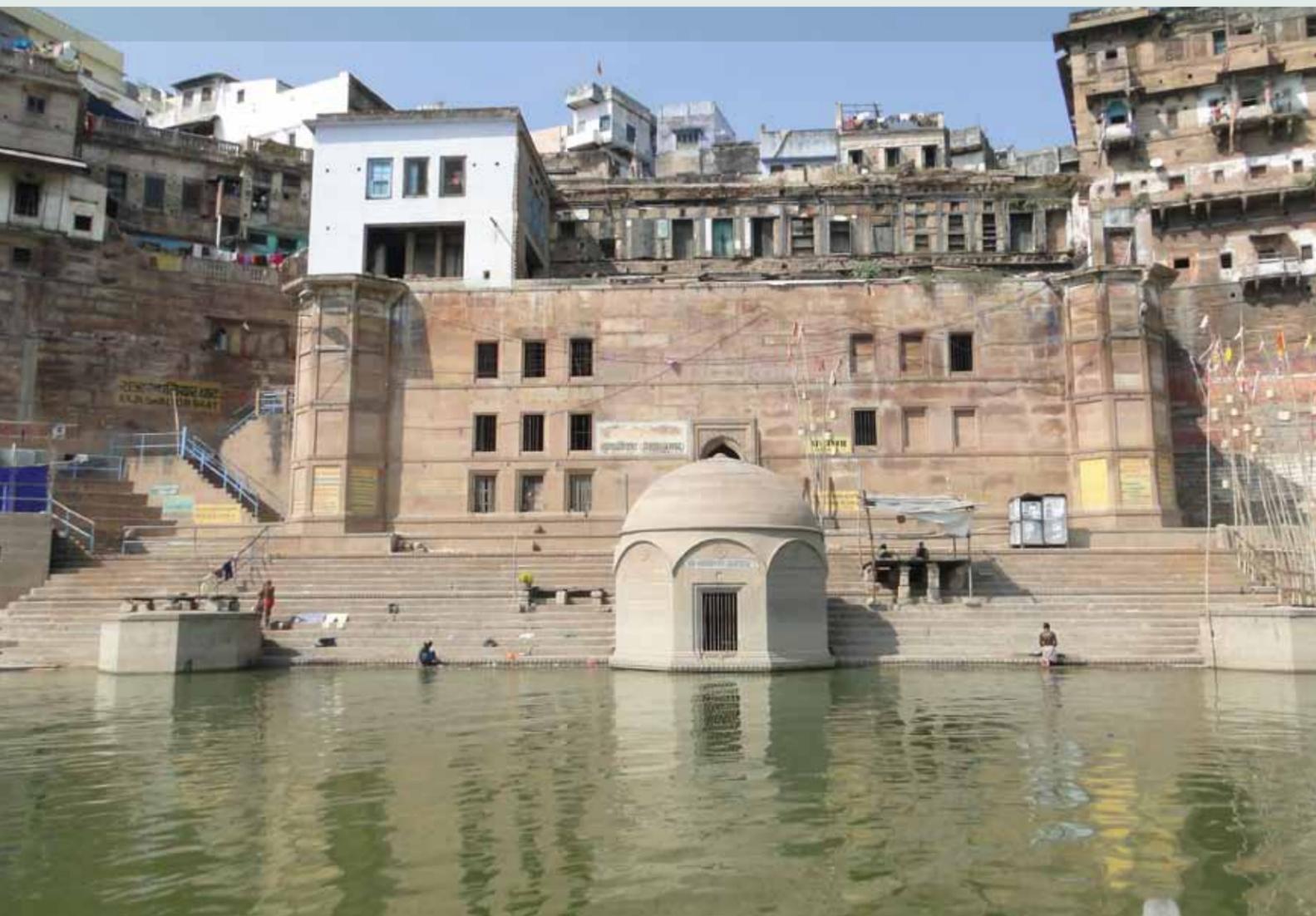
BHUTAN: Documentation of the 19th-century Wangduechoeling Palace in Bumthang, the original seat of power of the ruling dynasty of Bhutan and an exemplar of traditional Bhutanese architecture and craftsmanship. This project involves an architectural conservation assessment, emergency interventions, and other activities in preparation for a comprehensive restoration of the building.

INDIA: Documentation of the 18th-century Balaji Ghat, the only pavilion serving multiple faiths on the banks of the Ganges River in Varanasi. A partial collapse of the building’s wooden upper stories in 1999 rendered it unsafe and unusable. The project involves assessment, photo documentation, archival research, and other activities in preparation for the building’s restoration.

MALDIVES: Preventive conservation of the collection of ancient and other objects in the Department of Heritage in Malé. The varied collection contains Buddhist, Hindu, and Islamic ethnographic objects in fabric, paper, wood, and other materials. This project includes physical improvements to the collections storage areas and conservation training for museum staff.



"VARANASI IS THE SPIRITUAL CENTER FOR HINDUISM AND HAS IMMENSE SACRED VALUE FOR HINDUS. THE CITY DRAWS NOT ONLY PILGRIMS, BUT ALSO TOURISTS FROM ACROSS THE WORLD." WORLD MONUMENTS FUND





NEPAL 18th-century Bahadur Shah wing at Patan Royal Palace **NEPAL** 17th-century Kartik Nach tradition

NEPAL: Restoration of the Patan Royal Palace, one of South Asia’s most intact historic urban royal ensembles. Major earthquakes in 1833 and 1934 and decades of neglect and disuse have left their mark on the palace, most of which dates from the 17th and 18th centuries. Phase two of this project involves the restoration of the late 18th-century Bahadur Shah palace wing.

NEPAL: Documentation of the 17th-century Kartik Nach, a month-long dance performance associated with the Patan Royal Palace. The dance showcases Nepal’s ethnic diversity, yet has been in decline over the past 60 years. This project includes the comprehensive documentation of the Kartik Nach and the transmission of the tradition through training workshops.



“I WAS TOUCHED WHEN I SAT THROUGH THE PERFORMANCE AND WATCHED HUNDREDS OF YOUNG NEPALIS PROUD OF A REVIVAL OF A NEARLY-LOST PART OF THEIR HERITAGE. IF WE CAN HELP DO THAT, WE’VE DONE SOMETHING SPECIAL.”

PETER BODDE, U.S. Ambassador to Nepal



SRI LANKA: Conservation of ancient and medieval materials in the Department of Archaeology of Sri Lanka in Colombo. The Department's vast collections of metal, stone, and other objects pose challenges in a country with few trained conservators. The project includes a collection needs assessment, conservation facility upgrades, and training workshops for department staff.



TURKMENISTAN: Preservation of early folk music recordings at the National Conservatory of Turkmenistan. Tape and vinyl recordings of traditional Turkmen styles and genres of music are nearing the point of irreversible decay. This project involves the stabilization and preservation of these original formats and the digitization of the recordings for dissemination and use.

TURKMENISTAN: Preservation of the Dayahatyn caravanserai of the Silk Road, the last remaining structure of its kind in Central Asia. The 12th-century baked brick structure has deteriorated to the point of near-collapse. This project involves the comprehensive documentation and stabilization of the site and the restoration of walls and other damaged portions of the structure.

TURKMENISTAN: Conservation of the Greater and Lesser Gyz Galas, two monumental mud brick fortresses from the late Sassanid and early Islamic periods (6th-8th centuries) at ancient Merv. Renowned for their tapering "corrugated" columnar walls, the two fortresses are highly susceptible to erosion. Phase two of this project includes conservation and the implementation of a long-term maintenance program.



U.S. AMBASSADORS FUND FOR CULTURAL PRESERVATION 2012 Grant Recipients

Alliance for Ecotourism, Nepal
Asociacion Tikal, Guatemala
Association for the Urban Development of Islamic Cairo, Egypt
Australian National University, Australia
Betty's Hope Trust, Antigua & Barbuda
Bhutan Foundation, USA
Bulgarian National Committee of ICOMOS, Bulgaria
China Ethnic Minority Manuscripts Research Institute, Minzu University, China
Commission to Preserve National Monuments, Bosnia & Herzegovina
Cultural Heritage without Borders, Kosovo
Department of Archaeology, Sri Lanka
Department of Heritage, Maldives
Department of World Heritage Luang Prabang, Laos
Diocese of Ocana, Parish of the Cathedral of Santa Ana, Colombia
Fondo Nacional para la Cultura y las Artes (FONCA), Mexico
Georgian Arts and Culture Center (GACC), Georgia
High Atlas Foundation, Morocco
History and Geography Institute of Pará, Brazil
ICOM Albania, Albania
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Inanda Seminary, South Africa
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Institute of Heritage Conservation and Restoration, Makerere University, Uganda
Jewish Community of Oradea, Romania
Kathmandu Valley Preservation Trust, Nepal
Lusaka National Museum, Zambia
Many Hands International, Timor-Leste
Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Burkina Faso
Ministry of Culture, Peru
Ministry of Fine Arts, Cambodia
Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture, Burundi
Mongolian National Modern Art Gallery, Mongolia
National Conservatory of Turkmenistan, Turkmenistan
National Department of Protection, Research and Restoration of Historical and Cultural Monuments in Turkmenistan, Turkmenistan
National General Archives of Uruguay, Uruguay
National Institution for the Protection of Monuments, Macedonia
National Museum of Cirta, Algeria
National Museum of Guinea, Guinea
National Museum of Unity in Enugu, Nigeria
Oberlin College, USA
Projet Route des Chefferies, Cameroon
PUSAKA, Malaysia
Santiago de Curahuara de Carangas Parish, Bolivia
Fort New Amsterdam Open Air Museum Trust (SOFNA), Suriname
Tiapapata Art Centre, Samoa
UZIKWASA, Tanzania
World Monuments Fund, USA

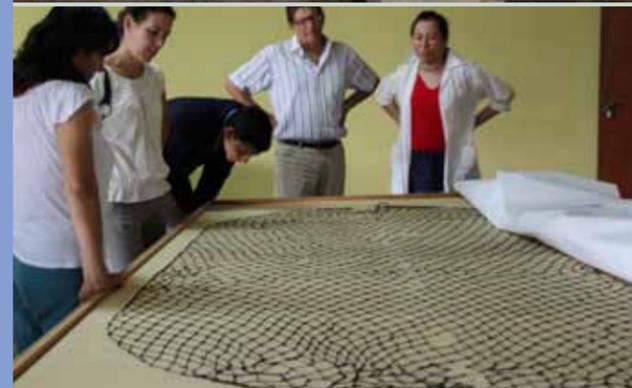


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