

MILESTONES

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE WORLD MONUMENTS FUND

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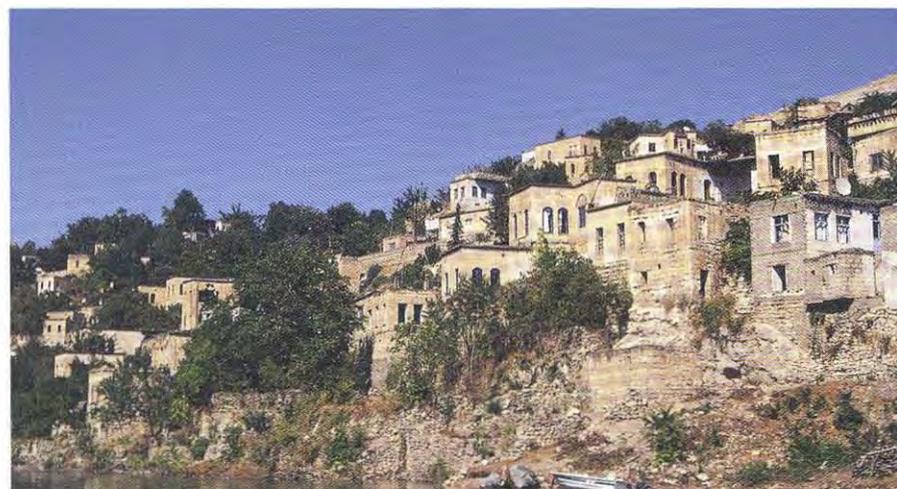
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DEMOLISHED

“The Taliban’s edict to destroy all pre-Islamic statues in Afghanistan and their subsequent demolition of the great Buddhas in Bamiyan are shocking and disturbing reminders that cultural destruction can be a potent weapon in campaigns of political oppression and tyranny.”

BONNIE BURNHAM
President, World Monuments Fund

WMF Offers Assistance to Flood-Threatened Roman Artifacts in Turkey



WMF in 2000 added its voice to an international outpouring of concern over the pending inundation—due to the opening of the Birecik dam along the Euphrates River—of Zeugma, an ancient Roman archaeological site in eastern Turkey. In May, a letter from Bonnie Burnham, WMF's president, to Turkey's prime minister and ambassador to the UN, urged that the dam's completion be delayed so the site could be documented and its extensive valuable mosaics excavated. Archaeological teams from around the world were already laboring diligently. Burnham offered WMF's assistance in recording and rescuing the mosaics.

In July, WMF Vice President for Programs John Stubbs visited Zeugma and other sites nearby. By then the Turkish government and local planning authorities had suspended further water inflow until the fall. The salvage project, moreover, had received \$5 million from the David and Lucille Packard Foundation in California. A portion of this funding supports the mosaics' conservation, as well as an interpretive center to be constructed at the site.

"Upon my arrival I saw as many as 70 archaeologists, support staff and volunteers at work," said Stubbs. "Earlier we had noticed dozens of mosaics from Zeugma in the front and side yards of the history museum in Gazientep." Gazientep, some 35 km to the east, has a well-preserved historic center. Local authorities would like to construct a museum in this neighborhood to house the salvaged mosaics.

Cover: THE MONUMENTAL BUDDHAS OF BAMIAN, AFGHANISTAN, RECENTLY DEMOLISHED BY THE TALIBAN. PHOTO BY JUDGE BENTLEY KASSAL, 1972.

UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, ALL PHOTOS ARE CREDITED TO WORLD MONUMENTS FUND.

MILESTONES:

The Newsletter of the World Monuments Fund

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Publication of the newsletter is made possible through the bequest of Lucius R. Eastman. Mr. Eastman joined the board of trustees in 1972 and served as chairman from 1983 to 1990.

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Friends of Assisi Restore Earthquake Damaged Treasure

On September 26th 1997, devastating earthquakes shattered the province of Umbria in Central Italy. Collapsing vaults at the renowned Basilica of San Francesco at Assisi killed four, and left frescoes by Cimabue and Giotto's workshop in fragments. Towns throughout the province were destabilized, and many still remain uninhabitable.

In response, concerned Americans and Italians, ably led by Barbara Gimbel in New York and Shirley Caracciolo in Italy, formed *Friends of Assisi*. With the help of World Monuments Fund and encouraged by local authorities in Umbria, *Friends* undertook the restoration of the Pieve di San Gregorio, a small twelfth-century parish church in Castel Ritaldi, south of Assisi near Spoleto. Both roof and façade were dangerously unstable. Protection of the façade carvings, a double band of real and fantastic human and animal figures, Evangelist symbols, and figures of Jeremiah and Ezekial, prominently dated 1141, was a priority.

Friends gathered with Italian and American dignitaries and scholars at a New York dinner in June 1998. Later in October, WMF's President, Marilyn Perry and a group of the *Friends*, spent five days visiting damaged sites in Umbria and there examined San Gregorio first hand. Supporting activities in the U.S. included a fundraising reception and dinner in New York accompanied the opening of "The Treasury of Saint Francis of Assisi," an exhibi-

tion of paintings and sacred objects at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in March 1999. In just over two years, *Friends* has raised close to the full restoration cost—roughly \$300,000 dollars, which includes a generous grant of \$50,000 that WMF raised from the Homeland Foundation.



ON THE SCAFFOLDING, WMF DIRECTOR OF ITALY PROGRAMS, STEPHEN EDDY (LEFT), AND ARCHITECT ROBERTO SANTERELLI.

Reconstruction began in the summer of 1998. Professional restorers scrupulously cleaned exterior banding of pink-and-white stone. Using modern techniques the team removed dirt and fungus from the marble portal sculptures, and in the interior painting experts brought to light and restored two forgotten eighteenth-century frescoes. The outline of the rose window, which originally held a carved *Angus Dei* now inserted in the campanile, is now visible. With a new roof of recycled tiles on the exterior, supported inside by handsome chestnut beams, the Pieve's structure is sound. On August 8, 1999 San Gregorio was reopened with a celebratory Mass. Unused for several decades, the church is now the

focus for its parish. Two weddings were celebrated there within a week of the opening.

In the past two years Shirley Caracciolo's welcome to major donors in Umbria has broadened Americans' knowledge of Umbrian history and the important classical and early medieval monuments lying between Assisi and Spoleto, many still in need of rebuilding. From the scaffolding in July 1999, we watched the painstaking care taken to match fresco colors, and the time-consuming washing of façade sculptures to remove centuries of mold. Impressed by the conservators' knowledge and skill, we better understand the wide-ranging costs. In June 2000, it was decided to rebuild the framework for the rose window of the façade. The ambitious scheme, in progress now, is being carried out a local stone mason under the supervision of an Umbrian architect.

For several members, who occupy houses in Umbria for part of the year, the San Gregorio project offers an intimacy with and greater knowledge of Umbrian art and culture. More important, the commitment expresses our concern for this beleaguered area. *Friends of Assisi* takes great satisfaction in being among the first private organizations to undertake a restoration in the Umbrian earthquake zone. Other Umbrian projects lie ahead.

BANNON MCHENRY

Art historian and founding member of Friends of Assisi

Countering Cultural Terrorism

The Taliban's edict to destroy all pre-Islamic statues in Afghanistan and their subsequent demolition of the great Buddhas in Bamiyan was a disturbing reminder that cultural destruction can be a potent weapon in campaigns of political oppression and tyranny.

FROM THE CH'IN EMPEROR'S BURNING of books in the 3rd century BC to Hitler's leveling of Eastern European cities, history is full of examples of cultural destruction as punishment against a victimized people. But this recent act of violence against cultural icons exhibits a troubling new twist. It represents full-fledged cultural terrorism, with the perpetrators using irreplaceable works of art as hostages. The Buddhas of Bamiyan and the statues from the Kabul museum were targeted because their destruction could draw just as much attention—and revulsion—as a far riskier act against human life.

The horrendous loss of cultural property during World War II led to the framing of international standards to protect cultural property deemed to be of universal value. These conventions advanced the notion that protection of heritage should transcend national or local authority and be vested in all mankind. The successful World Heritage Convention, adopted by UNESCO in 1972, stimulated a massive worldwide investment in monuments and sites inscribed on the prestigious World Heritage List. But its poor relation, the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in

the Event of Armed Conflict, has been a notorious flop.

This treaty, which aims to establish standards of conduct and vehicles of protection for sites endangered by political and military conflict, has had little impact, largely because it has not been strongly backed by the Western nations. No court hears cases of violations against internationally recognized cultural heritage. Non-participatory nations and renegade political groups are not constrained to abide by the standards of the accord. And yet, it is during times of human conflict that mankind's monuments are in greatest peril.

Experts have been monitoring the situation of Afghanistan's cultural heritage since 1970, when the Bamiyan Buddhas and other cultural sites were observed to be in fragile physical condition and under a relatively unsympathetic regime. In 1997, a representative of the Society for the Preservation of Afghanistan's Heritage conducted a mission to Bamiyan and noted that the paintings surrounding the Buddhas, deemed unique, were deteriorating badly and being looted by local residents, hoping to sell them in Pakistan. But these reports resulted in no official action or censure.

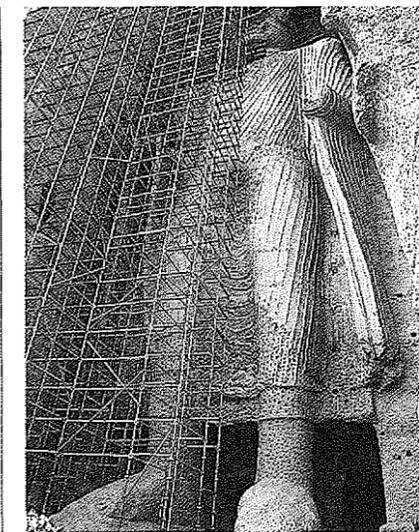
The voice of the United States has been conspicuously absent from the dialogue concerning the protection

A Response to the Destruction in Afghanistan

of cultural property in political and armed conflict. The U.S. never adopted the 1954 Hague Convention, and that abstention has contributed to its lack of authority. At that time, faced with the looming threat of nuclear conflict, the U.S. refused to commit to what it considered an impossible standard: to protect material property in the path of mass destruction. Nearly half a century later, the effects of that decision are still being felt. Not only did the U.S. government fail to join international efforts to monitor escalating threats in Afghanistan, but Washington waited a full week before officially denouncing the Taliban's brutal edict.

Could the catastrophe in Afghanistan be averted through greater international pressure to protect cultural property since the Taliban took power four years ago? It is time to look at that question carefully. In the future, could a "safe zone" be created around monuments of international significance to prevent their willful destruction? Should peacekeeping forces be authorized to safeguard uniquely important cultural treasures when the museums that house them cannot be protected through normal civil action? Could the international community impose sanctions strong enough to deter atrocities involving the destruction of cultural heritage?

An encouraging precedent was set recently when the U.N. war crimes tribunal indicted the forces that shelled Dubrovnik for crimes against humanity—including the destruction



A BUDDHA IN 1972, PHOTO BY JUDGE BENTLEY KASSAL, "THESE PHOTOS WERE IN MY ARCHIVE FOR ALMOST 30 YEARS UNTIL I READ ABOUT THEIR DESTRUCTION AND CALLED WMF."

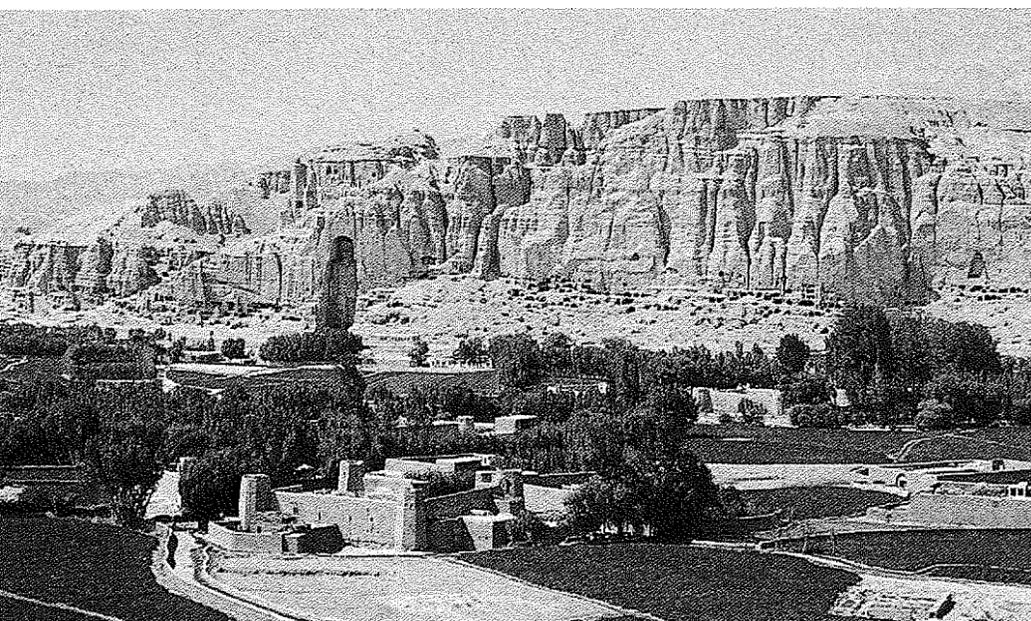
of culturally significant monuments. It should now inspire us to hammer out an international protocol that will combat modern cultural terrorism with the same vigor as those agreements between nations to counter other forms of terrorism. We cannot allow our cultural heritage—the very symbols of our humanity—to be taken a hostage of political and ideological warfare.

The threat of nuclear war has receded in recent decades, but the threat of human aggression continues unabated. From the Balkan conflict and the recent acts of the Taliban we have learned that the definition of crimes against humanity includes not only the loss of human life, but can also include the loss of the cultural context which sustains and defines each human being.

WMF AND AFGHANISTAN

Bamiyan is not the only major cultural site in Afghanistan under serious threat today. In 1998, the Islamic City of Herat was placed on the World Monuments Watch List of 100 Most Endangered Sites. The region's ongoing conflict, with its subsequent population displacement and concomitant looting of artifacts, has seriously threatened the viability of Herat. Brilliantly colored minarets, teeming markets, and vast vaulted spaces mark the city, one of the Silk Route's major stops and the capital of Central Asia's Timurid Empire. Herat reflects its many successive conquerors—Greek, Persian, Arab, and Indian among them. As it grew, its medieval architecture became the premier example of a traditional and vital Islamic urban center. Up until 1978, much of the city center remained intact but since then war damage has been brutal, resulting in the destruction of entire quarters of the old city as well as part of its citadel. Furthermore, many of the structures are of mud brick, a material especially vulnerable to earthquakes, ground water problems, and neglect. At the time Herat was nominated, a group of international NGOs hoped to draft a plan to reconstruct it using local expertise and indigenous materials but this, unfortunately, never came to fruition.

THE BUDDHAS IN 1972, PHOTO BY JUDGE BENTLEY KASSAL, "IN AFGHANISTAN ON ASSIGNMENT FROM A CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION, I WAS TOLD I MUST NOT MISS THE STATUES AT BAMBIAN. AFTER A THREE HOUR DUSTY AND BUMPY BUS RIDE, THE IMMORTAL AND INCREDIBLE BUDDHAS APPEARED; A SIGHT I SHALL NEVER FORGET."



World Monuments Watch

Timely Progress at Endangered Sites

Cambodia

Dancer "Discovered" at Angkor Trains with New York City Ballet

Last January, those of us visiting Angkor with the World Monuments Fund had the privilege to see the Wat Bo Dance School perform in the Hall of Dancers at Preah Khan. One exceptionally talented boy, Sy (Sohvannara) Sar affected me so greatly that, upon my return, I investigated the possibility of bringing him to New York to study. Traditionally, women dance the male roles in classical Cambodian dance; men only perform folk dances. I thought that perhaps, for someone so gifted, classical ballet might offer a more challenging future.

I invited Sy to visit New York to observe classes at the School of American Ballet and attend performances of its parent company, the New York City Ballet. Sy and his parents responded enthusiastically and in May, Sy and his teacher, Mme Kim Boran, arrived for what was meant to be a two-week visit. With the help of Khmer translators from the local Cambodian



CAMBODIAN DANCER SY SAR, AT ANGKOR LAST WINTER

community, a daily schedule of viewing ballet lessons and company performances began.

It soon became clear that Sy was mad about ballet but, almost 17, he was already old for beginning ballet training. Fortunately, one marvelous Russian teacher recognized his potential and agreed to coach him privately and let him attend her classes at Saratoga, where the ballet company has its summer residency, and at the Rock School in Philadelphia. If he made enough progress, Sy would merit admission to SAB in the fall.

At Saratoga, the other students voted Sy "most improved," but he learned only midway through his course in Philadelphia that his impressive and rapid mastery of technique had secured him a place at SAB.

Sy is now a boarding student at SAB and pursuing his academic studies at the Professional Children's School. He speaks excellent English and loves algebra, world history, computer science...and ping pong and soccer. His progress in ballet has exceeded expectations. In a few

years, I hope you will be able to see him perform and understand what a great gift Cambodia has sent us.

ANNE H. BASS
Anne Bass participated in WMF's tour to Angkor in January 2000. She is a trustee of the New York City Ballet. For information about WMF trips to Angkor and elsewhere, please contact Travel Manager Holly Hawkins, at (646) 424-9594, hhawkins@wmf.org.

Italy

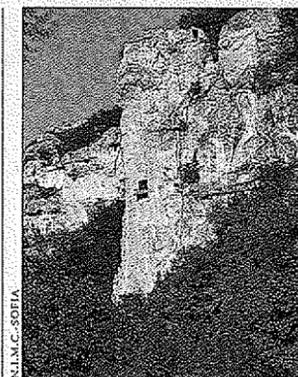
The Marignoli Foundation in London, a donor to the Friends of Assisi, will sponsor, through World Monuments Fund, its own project in Umbria, the Pieve di San Brizio, near Spoleto. Because of its significance, the Italian government stabilized the structure after it was damaged in the 1997 earthquake. But important medieval and renaissance frescoes on the interior are in urgent need of repair. The project also includes restoration of two important paleochristian marble altar fronts, now encased in modern cement constructions. MORE ON FRIENDS OF ASSISI, PAGE 3.

Headley Trust in the UK Joins Wilson Challenge Partnership in Conserving Watch Sites

The World Monuments Fund in Britain has secured grants totaling £68,500 from the Headley Trust for three World Monuments Watch sites in Central Europe. WMF's Wilson Challenge program, established to encourage such private non-U.S. sponsorship for international heritage conservation projects, has matched each grant 1:1. These grants will be administered through WMF's office in New York.

BULGARIA, ROUSSE REGION • Ivanovo Rock Chapels

Medieval wall paintings inside a remarkable rock-hewn monastery complex built from the thirteenth through the fourteenth century face natural threats—moisture infiltration, seismic activity, wind-blown sand, microorganisms—as well as air and ground water polluted by industry. Recent site monitoring detected an increasing rate of deterioration. The Headley Trust awarded £25,000 towards stabilization of the chapels and wall paintings. Listed in 1996 and 1998.



CLIFFS CONTAINING MEDIEVAL MONASTERY CHAPELS WITH FRAGILE INTERIOR WALL PAINTINGS.

CROATIA, DUBROVNIK • Franciscan Monastery Library

With urgent structural repairs to extensive war damage now completed, the Franciscan Order will update the infrastructure at the most important historic library in the Balkans. Through the Watch program, WMF supported the first stage of

work with grants of \$35,000 from American Express and \$80,000 from the Rebuild Dubrovnik Foundation. The monastery has functioned continuously since its founding in 1235; its library is renowned the world over for its 70,000 manuscripts and books, 206 medieval incunabula, and large music archive. For the final phase—installation of building systems, an elevator, and reconstruction of a newly-reconfigured main stairway—the Headley Trust awarded a grant of £25,000.

POLAND, GDANSK • Vistulamuth Fortress

Today local industry around the busy modern port surrounds the Vistulamuth Fortress, a unique monument to sixteenth-century seaside fortification architecture. In June 1999, a \$50,000 American Express Watch grant supported a structural survey. A Headley Trust grant of £15,000, to be matched by the Wilson Challenge, will support a comprehensive conservation plan and has helped sustain local momentum by encouraging the Museum of the City of Gdansk, which owns the site, and enlisting the financial participation of municipal authorities.

For further information about the activities of World Monuments Fund in Britain, please see the profile of Chairman John Julius Norwich on page 9, and the affiliates' section on page 11.

CZECH REPUBLIC, KUKS •

Kuks Forest Sculptures

Water poses the primary peril at the eighteenth-century Kuks Forest Sculptures, an unusual and intriguing ensemble of Central European baroque sculpture by Matthias Bernard Braun. Religious scenes and individual figures appear to be emerging from the living rock into which they have been carved. "The preservation of the complex calls for steps based on an exact knowledge of all factors contributing to the rapid erosion of the stone," said John Stubbs, WMF's vice president for programs. "A scientific, interdisciplinary approach is essential to the success of this endeavor."



WMF CHAIRMAN MARILYN PERRY AT KUKS FOREST SCULPTURES, CZECH REPUBLIC.

The site's custodians have conceived a nine-year plan for study and conservation, and to address the surrounding landscape, security, and visitor access. Work in the first year will include monitoring and evaluation of the stone sculptures; drainage studies and modifications; vegetation adaptation; increased site security; project review by international experts; and small-scale activities to raise public awareness. The project recently received grants of \$35,000 each from American Express and the Kress Foundation European Preservation Program. *Listed in 2000*

ITALY, VENICE • *Bartolomeo Colleoni Monument*
Inclusion of the Bartolomeo Colleoni Monument on the 1996 World Monuments Watch List of 100 recognized that environmental effects had caused considerable decay, compounded by decades of neglect, and threatening the very survival of Andrea del Verocchio's celebrated bronze portrait in the Campo Santi Giovanni e Paolo in Venice. The Colleoni Monument, erected in 1496, is one of the most celebrated sculptures of the Italian Renaissance. It, and Donatello's earlier Gattamelata (1425) in nearby Padua, were the first large

"modern" bronzes inspired by Imperial Roman equestrian portraits. The threats to Verocchio's work also exemplified those facing all outdoor bronze sculptures in urban environments.

The WMF Associazione Comitato Italiano then sponsored conservation studies carried out by the Istituto Central per il Restauro. The restoration experts concluded that, in the absence of any maintenance program since the end of World War I, significant corrosion had occurred and recommended removing both the horse and rider in order to conserve and treat them (each is composed of seven elements).

WMF and the Soprintendenza per i Beni Ambientali e Architettonici in Venice earlier this year concluded an institutional agreement and established a funding partnership, marking the first partnership between them in all the years that WMF has worked in Venice. The project will be carried out at and near the site, enabling public viewing of the work in progress. A temporary structure will be built outside the church of San Giovanni e

Paolo, against a protected area essentially facing the monument, with a window allowing people to watch the sculpture of the rider being restored. At the same time, the horse will be examined carefully and, if its condition is as good as has been supposed, it will then be restored in situ in a second phase. (No rust has been observed on around the hooves, indicating probably that no water has leaked inside and the iron rods inside should be in decent condition.)

The Soprintendenza is providing half the project's \$612,000 cost. WMF is raising the remaining funds, and has received contributions to date from the Samuel H. Kress Foundation, and the Robert W. Wilson Challenge. *Listed in 1996*

MEXICO, TAXCO DE ALARCÓN • *Santa Prisca Parish Church*
On October 5, 2000, the city of Taxco de Alarcón declared a municipal holiday to celebrate a grant presented by American Express to the Santa Prisca church. The local citizenry turned out in force, as church bells pealed and fireworks punctuated the sky.

WMF's President Bonnie Burnham has traveled widely



SANTA PRISCA PARISH CHURCH

in Mexico, yet called Santa Prisca "the most beautiful baroque church I have ever seen in the country." José de Borda, a mine owner on the verge of bankruptcy, was so grateful after striking it rich overnight that he spared no expense in building the lavish church directly atop his silver mine. Completed in only seven years, it expresses a purely baroque style emblematic of its time and place. The paintings inside include a magnificent cycle by Juan de Cabrera, eighteenth-century colonial Mexico's greatest native artist.

Santa Prisca's remoteness kept it from destruction during civil unrest in the late nineteenth

century. But earthquakes and the still-active mine directly beneath it ultimately brought the church to a perilous state of deterioration. From the 1980s, stopgap efforts had been implemented to repair the structure. Finally, after the most recent earthquake, town authorities realized that only a comprehensive campaign would save the church. By the time Santa Prisca was nominated to the Watch list, its dome had separated from the vaulting structure.

WMF first learned about the site when Mexico's ambassador to Ireland, the Honorable Daniel Dultzin, contacted Burnham at the suggestion of the Irish Georgian Society. After learning of WMF's longstanding involvement in Mexico (in 1985 WMF collected, at the initiative of a group of prominent New York art patrons, an emergency appeal to save the social realist murals damaged by the earthquake in Mexico City), he revealed that he had a special interest in Taxco, and helped the Amigos de Santa Prisca prepare its successful application to the 2000 List of 100.

Santa Prisca demonstrates WMF's success as a catalyst to local support for saving an

important endangered site. The local community has rallied behind the project. "Watch listing came in after a grassroots effort was already in place," Burnham said. "The announcement of our grant from American Express helped us secure a commitment from the Guerrero state government." At the American Express grant presentation, Burnham announced a further challenge through the Wilson Challenge program to match any money the local organization can raise over the next year. "If they are successful," Burnham said, "They will have all the funds needed to complete the work." *Listed in 2000*

VENEZUELA, CORO • *San Francisco Church*
La Niña storms that brought floods and mudslides to northeastern Venezuela in December 1999 devastated Coro, the country's only World Heritage site. In conjunction with its generous contribution towards humanitarian relief, American Express awarded a Watch grant of \$50,000 to the Corporación Mariano Talavera to support emergency restoration at the San Francisco Church through development of appropriate conservation methodologies. The donation received substantial publicity in Caracas as well as locally. *Listed in 1998 and 2000*



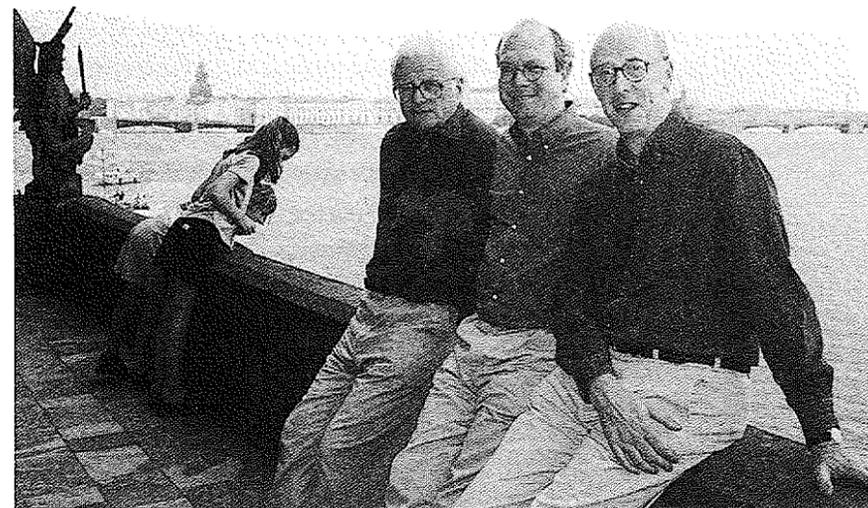
FROM LEFT: KARINA SAN JUAN OF AMERICAN EXPRESS IN MEXICO, ARCHITECT NORMA LAGUNA, WMF PRESIDENT BONNIE BURNHAM, AND ELENE TRAUWITZ, PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIEDAD AMIGOS DE LA PARROQUIA DE SANTA PRISCA, AT THE PRESENTATION OF AN AMERICAN EXPRESS WATCH GRANT TO THE SANTA PRISCA PARISH CHURCH.



Lord Norwich Leads WMF Britain

IN 1994, JOHN JULIUS NORWICH organized the World Monuments Funds in Britain at the behest of WMF's Chairman Marilyn Perry and President Bonnie Burnham, and has chaired what is now the largest overseas WMF affiliate almost from its beginning. He brings to the position a contagious enthusiasm and an impressive ability to get things done. After five years' work in building a constituency and identifying project priorities, the affiliate has come into its own.

"In the last year have we really gotten ourselves off the ground," Lord Norwich said. "Before it was just an effort to keep alive and meet the costs of running our office in London. But we've broken out of that and have our sights on such projects as St. George's Hall in Liverpool, one of the largest and finest neoclassical buildings in the world, and the parish church in Exton with an imposing marble monument sculpted by Grinling Gibbons, who is best known for his wood sculptures." Gibbons worked for the royal family from the reigns of Charles II through George I, as well as for Christopher Wren. The project to restore the funerary monument to the Fourth Viscount Campden, executed in 1695, has received grants through the Kress Foundation European Preservation Program, the Peter Boizot Trust, and WMF's Wilson Challenge, matching funds raised through the Exton Monuments Fund. Work began in October.



FROM LEFT: JOHN JULIUS NORWICH WITH WMF'S VICE PRESIDENT FOR PROGRAMS JOHN STUBBS AND SPECIAL ADVISOR COLIN AMERY, IN ST. PETERSBURG, RUSSIA.

The Blair government's tax code change in the tax rewards for charitable giving have greatly benefited the affiliate's work. This development "has nearly brought us up to U.S. tax standards and is making a lot of difference in giving to projects in Great Britain," Lord Norwich said.

Lord Norwich's ability to speak Russian has led WMF in Britain to Russian projects, making it the first affiliate to work internationally. To date, WMF in Britain has funded conditions surveys of the Flag Pavilion at Yelagin Palace Island, a nineteenth-century neoclassic pavilion designed by Carlo Rossi on an island in St. Petersburg, and the rococo-style Chinese Palace that Catherine the Great commissioned from Antonio Rinaldi at Oranienbaum, near St. Petersburg. Both projects are World Monuments Watch sites, listed in 1998

and 2000 respectively.

John Julius Norwich took degrees in Russian and French at New College, Oxford, before launching a 12-year career with the British Foreign Service. He came to diplomacy naturally since his father, Duff Cooper, the first Viscount Norwich, was ambassador to France from 1944 to 1947 after having served successively as Secretary of State for War and First Lord of the Admiralty just prior to World War II and wartime Minister of Information.

Lord Norwich was evacuated to the United States and then to Canada as a youth during the war and studied at Upper Canada College in Toronto and then at Eton on upon returning to England. After serving in the British Navy, receiving degrees at the University of Strasbourg and Oxford, and occupying British embassy posts in Belgrade and Beirut,

he took up a polymath career as a writer, historian, radio personality, television documentary writer and presenter, museum exhibition curator, art gallery executive, and international lecturer on art history and architectural subjects, music and opera.

As an author, John Julius Norwich is justifiably most famous for his three-volume history of Byzantium, which took 10 years to research and write and which was condensed into a popular single volume.

"Byzantium came into my life when I was in the Foreign Service and finally got a long-delayed vacation with my wife after dealing with Iraq's first attempt to move into Kuwait in 1961," Lord Norwich



(FROM LEFT) MR. MAX ULFANE, JOHN JULIUS NORWICH, AND SIR DAVID DAVIES AT THE BROWN CLAYTON COLUMN, COUNTY WEXFORD, IRELAND.

recalled. "We went to Sicily and I was absolutely staggered by the mix of Byzantine Greek, Arab and Western European cultures that I encountered there. So staggered that I left the service to write a book about Norman Sicily on which there was no previous literature. That led to Venice with its ties to Byzantium, and

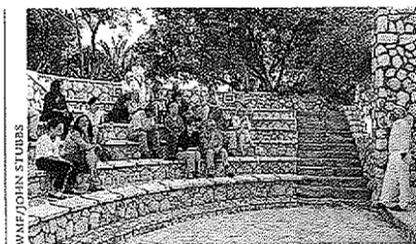
then to Byzantium itself—Turkey."

Lord Norwich has become something of an expert on Turkey and accompanied a group of WMF major donors there on an archaeological study trip in 1999. "I know of no country in the world with such incredible remains of all the past civilizations that have been extant there," he commented, adding that he was grateful for the WMF's efforts to preserve some of Turkey's treasures.

Lord Norwich's career on British radio flourished in the 1970s and '80s when he was emcee of the popular BBC panel show, "My Word," and a regular contestant on the "Round Britain Quiz" show.

In a more serious vein, he simultaneously produced some 30 historical documentaries for television, on subjects including Napoleon's 100 Days, Maximilian in Mexico, the Knights of Malta, and Toussaint l'Ouverture. For PBS in America he produced a three-part series, "Treasure Houses of Britain" as an accompaniment to an exhibition at the National Gallery of Art in Washington in 1985.

Lord Norwich first became acquainted with WMF, then known as the International Fund for Monuments, about the time he helped found the Venice in Peril Fund, one of the many private international groups created to restore damaged cultural heritage after the disastrous flood of 1966. He became a friend of Dr. Marilyn Perry, who would later chair WMF's and was



LORD NORWICH LECTURES TO A GROUP OF WMF VISITORS AT PATARA HOTEL, PATARA, TURKEY.

then living in Venice. This led inevitably to his association with WMF 15 years later as honorary chairman.

For many years he chaired the Venice in Peril Fund and was for several years chairman of the art dealer Colnaghi's in London. He also is a former board member of the English National Opera, Vice-President of the National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Society, and a member of the executive committee of the National Trust, and member of several learned societies in Britain. He is particularly proud of having curated "Sovereign," The Victoria & Albert Museum's exhibition honoring the fortieth anniversary in 1992 of Queen Elizabeth II's accession to the throne.

Lord Norwich even has had time for a hobby, listed in his entry in *Debrett's Peerage* as "nightclub piano."

"That means that if I'm asked to at a party, I can sit down at the piano and play Cole Porter, Jerome Kern, Noël Coward, things like that," he said. "I'm really not good enough to play professionally. But I enjoy it very much."

Just as he enjoys everything else he does.

Harvey Golub

American Express CEO, Honored at WMF Annual Benefit

Harvey Golub received the Hadrian Award 2000 at a luncheon benefit at New York's Pierre Hotel on October 27, 2000. Beth Rudin DeWoody, Mrs. Henry Grunwald, a WMF trustee, and Robert W. Miller co-chaired the event.

Beverly Sills, chairman of Lincoln Center, delivered remarks for Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, who was unable to attend due to illness. Miss Sills, an American Express board member serving on the Public Responsibility Committee, commended Mr. Golub's commitment to WMF's efforts to preserve endangered art and architecture worldwide through the largest contribution in the company's history—\$10 million over 10 years.

To present the award to Harvey Golub, WMF Chairman Dr. Marilyn Perry introduced Lord Sainsbury of Preston Candover K.G. who, with his brothers, received last year's award. Mr. Golub's remarks are excerpted below:

Since this award is named after the Emperor Hadrian, I did a bit of research [and] discovered he was by some reckoning an important Emperor—as emperors go, though he certainly engaged in his share of intrigue, mayhem, massacres and arbitrary behavior. However, he was also an enthusiastic builder and restorer of the treasures of the past like the Pantheon, which by his day

was already a historic monument. Hadrian was an inveterate traveler, having visited 38 of the 48 Roman provinces in his lifetime—without the benefit of telephones or a G4. I share with him the travel bug, and a deep conviction that we must save our historic heritage—although I do draw the line at mayhem and massacres to accomplish that objective.

One of the reasons that American Express embraced the idea of the Watch in the mid '90s was that we had worked with World Monuments Fund over the previous 10 years. We knew how good they were at stretching their dollars and delivering on their promises. Frankly, we liked them and we trusted them and were seduced by their mission.

Nonetheless, even with that history, the Watch was a leap of faith for both of us. It was American Express's largest single philanthropic

commitment to date, and a quantum jump for the World Monuments Fund. Sometimes you have to go with your instincts, as we both did in this case. I think we both believe our instincts served us well.

For my part, I would just like to say that the World Monuments Fund has been wonderful to work with, and the two of us have done great things together. Since 1996 American Express has directed \$5 million in funding through the Watch to 80 sites in 46 countries. As you know we have now committed \$5 million more. So the relationship will continue for some time.

But, the Watch is more than money. It is also about awareness, consciousness raising, getting others involved, and other warm and fuzzy stuff. For example, I am delighted that American Express employees have adopted the Watch as their own—encouraging site nominations, lobbying for grants for listed sites, organizing press events, and championing the cause.

For the past four years our sister publication Travel & Leisure has run an ad insert on the Watch that raises both awareness and money. During an annual travel convention, an impressive array of travel industry partners joins us in a golf tournament to benefit the Watch. Behind this buy-in from the industry, there is the deep conviction that historic

sites are a prime motivator of travel; that these sites are irreplaceable; and that the danger of losing them is real.

The fact that American Express funds have leveraged \$10 million more

try, but also for our communities, and generations to come.

My deepest satisfaction is that through the Watch and our partnership with the World Monuments



MARY HILLIARD

LORD SAINSBURY OF PRESTON CANDOVER, THE 1999 RECIPIENT (RIGHT), PRESENTS THE HADRIAN AWARD 2000 TO HARVEY GOLUB OF AMERICAN EXPRESS, AS WMF CHAIRMAN MARILYN PERRY LOOKS ON.



COURTESY AMERICAN EXPRESS

HARVEY GOLUB (CENTER) AT MACHU PICCHU, A WORLD MONUMENTS WATCH SITE.



HARVEY GOLUB (SECOND FROM RIGHT) PRESENTS AN AMERICAN EXPRESS GRANT FOR PETRA AT A PRESS CONFERENCE IN AMMAN, JORDAN. ALSO PICTURED (FROM LEFT): H.M. PRINCE RAAD, THE DIRECTOR OF ANTIQUITIES DEPARTMENT OF JORDAN, WMF PRESIDENT BONNIE BURNHAM, AND THE MINISTER OF TOURISM, JORDAN.

for sites on the Most Endangered Lists is proof of the resonance of the Watch. It really matters to people. It really matters to me. Yes, I have really enjoyed traveling to see these monuments when I could. It's been a great education. Again and again it has convinced me of the importance of this work, not only for our indus-

Fund, we have been able to make a difference. Thank you again for this honor given to me, but which I accept on behalf of over 90,000 colleagues at American Express. To me it will always be a reminder of the privilege of working with you on this great cause.

World Monuments Fund in Britain

On June 13, 2000, WMF in Britain hosted a gala at the new Arthur Gilbert Collection at the refurbished Somerset House in London. Guests included such dignitaries as HRH Prince Michael of Kent (a patron of the British affiliate), the American, Russian, and Czech ambassadors,

and 1997 Hadrian Award recipient Lord Rothschild. Christie's hosted a benefit dinner afterwards, with HRH Prince Michael as guest of honor.

Andrew Solomon Joins Board

Andrew Solomon, author of *A Stone Boat* and *The Irony Tower: Soviet Artists in a Time Glasnost*, joined WMF's board in 2000. His book, *The Noonday Demon: An Atlas of Depression*, will be published in June by Scribner's. He is a frequent contributor to *The New York Times Magazine*, *The New Yorker*, and other publications. His other affiliations include CEC International Partners, the Shakespeare Project, the Alliance for the Arts, and the New York Public Library.

Executive Vice President Appointed

WMF is pleased to announce the arrival of Henry Ng. Ng was most recently vice president of the Nathan Cummings Foundation. He previously held senior positions at the J. M. Kaplan Fund, American Academy in Rome, and Municipal Art Society.

Staff Changes

Rebecca Anderson, Director of Publications, left WMF after 15 years to pursue freelance work in marketing communications.

Vice President for External Affairs **Laurie Beckelman** left to become deputy director for special projects at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum.

Kirstin Sechler, Director, World Monuments Watch and **Jon Calame**, Partnership Manager, left to form a new venture, Minerva Partners, which will develop and interpret heritage conservation projects with an emphasis on disadvantaged sites.

We will miss all four colleagues who have our affection and best wishes for their new endeavors.

Norma Barbacci joins our staff as Director of Programs. In addition to assuming responsibility for the World Monuments Watch, she will work on all active projects. She has over a decade of experience as an associate at Beyer Blinder Belle, Architects & Planners.

Britt Densmore, Capital Campaign Manager, WMF, was the Director of Development and Public Affairs for the Mid-Atlantic office of the Trust for Public Land. Prior to that he was the Executive Director of Friends of the Upper East Side Historic Districts.

Jose Garcia, Development Assistant, previously worked with Smartmail Inc, a bulk mail company.

Holly MacCammon is our new Grants Manager. She has an M.S. in library science and previously managed the Documentary Heritage Program at the Metropolitan New Library Council.

Archivist **Keith Porteus** is a Princeton University graduate. Her thesis on city planning in Renaissance Venice was selected for the Princeton Thesis Review.

Program Assistant **Anne-Sophie Roure** attended the University of Human Sciences of Strasbourg, France, received an M.S. in historic preservation from Columbia University, and worked last with preservation architect Joseph Pell Lombardi.

Annik Rozwadowska is the Administrative Coordinator for WMF's European offices. For five years she directed reception operations at Christie's France.

Program Assistant **Olivia Stinson** graduated from Carleton College in June 2000 with a degree in art history. She attended high school in Jakarta, Indonesia, and during college studied in India and France.

WMF Moves Headquarters and Opens Gallery

The inaugural exhibit, *The Restoration of Brancusi's Endless Column* will be open to the public May 2nd to June 29th, 2001, Monday – Friday, 10am to 5pm. Look for more information on WMF's expanded programming for our new headquarters in the next newsletter.

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Restructured WMF Jewish Heritage to Provide Emergency Funding

Following the conclusion earlier this year of its landmark \$1 million, six-year project at the Tempel Synagogue in Cracow, WMF's Jewish Heritage Program and the Ronald S. Lauder Foundation have announced \$250,000 in grants to help endangered Jewish cultural heritage sites around the world. The grant program has been modeled after WMF's hugely successful Kress Foundation European Preservation Program (see the Spring 2000 issue of *Milestones*, page 11).

Initially, seven grants have been awarded for projects at six synagogues in Eastern Europe, and an archaeological site in Suriname. *The grants are:*

BELARUS, SLONIM	\$10,000
CZECH REPUBLIC, BOSKOVICE	\$70,000
HUNGARY, MAD	\$40,000
POLAND, PINCZOW	\$30,000
SURINAME, JODENSAVANNE	\$10,000
UKRAINE, ZHOVKVA	\$25,000
YUGOSLAVIA, SUBOTICA	\$65,000

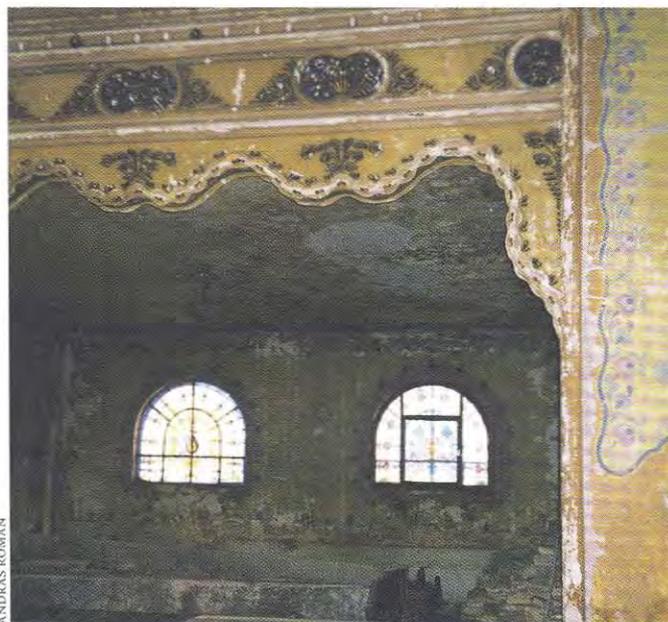
These new grants introduce an expanded program, with a new commitment from the Ronald S. Lauder Foundation of \$500,000 over the next five

years. The projects were selected from sites WMF previously identified as priorities. Beyond lead funding from the Ronald S. Lauder Foundation, the projects received support from the Richard & Rhoda Goldman Fund, The Blanche & Irving Laurie Foundation, Mr. and Mrs. Michel David-Weill, The Malkin Fund, The Kekst Family Foundation, The Liman Foundation, The Cahnman Foundation, and other contributors who responded generously

throughout the year.

Beginning in 2001, grants will be awarded on a competitive basis and will target the development of conservation studies or master plans, discrete phases of restoration work, or—in special cases—emergency stabilization. NGOs, Jewish communities, and other organizations interested in the preservation of Jewish cultural heritage—with special attention to threatened synagogues in Central and Eastern Europe—will be encouraged to submit proposals. As with all its projects, WMF will seek counterpart funding from local governments, sources within site communities, and other individuals and foundations concerned about the preservation of Jewish cultural heritage. Some localities have already pledged matching funds.

Chaired by the Honorable Ronald S. Lauder, a vice chairman of the WMF board of trustees, the Jewish Heritage Program unites communities worldwide with public and private agencies committed to the protection and preservation of Jewish heritage. The Ronald S. Lauder Foundation is dedicated to nurturing the rebirth of Jewish life throughout Central and Eastern Europe.



ANDRÁS ROMÁN

(TOP LEFT) AT THE DEDICATION OF THE RESTORED TEMPEL SYNAGOGUE IN CRACOW LAST JUNE, FROM LEFT: TADEUSZ JAKUBOWICZ, HEAD OF THE CRACOW JEWISH COMMUNITY; BONNIE BURNHAM, PRESIDENT OF WMF; JOYCE Z. GREENBERG; MARJORIE S. FEDERBUSH, VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE RONALD S. LAUDER FOUNDATION; RABBI SACHA PECARIC, DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS PROGRAMMING FOR POLAND, THE RONALD S. LAUDER FOUNDATION.

(BOTTOM LEFT AND TOP RIGHT) EXTERIOR AND INTERIOR VIEWS OF THE JUGENDSTIL SYNAGOGUE IN SUBOTICA, YUGOSLAVIA.

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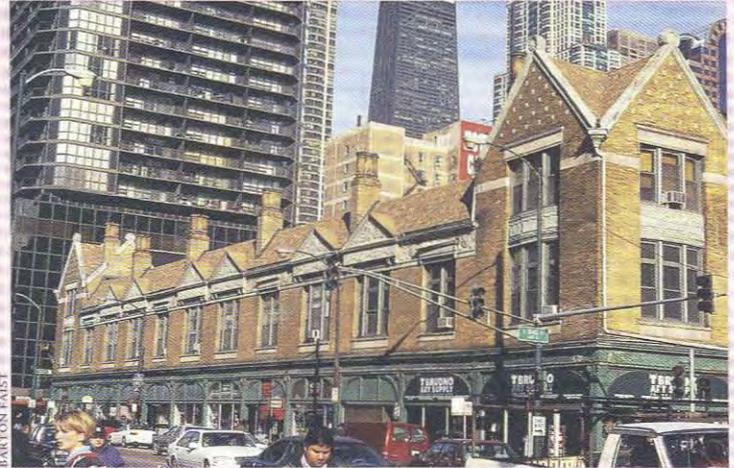
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THE HISTORIC TREE STUDIOS AND MEDINAH TEMPLE IN CHICAGO, LISTED ON THE WORLD MONUMENTS WATCH LIST OF 100 MOST ENDANGERED SITES, CAME VERY CLOSE TO BEING TOTALLY DEMOLISHED LAST YEAR OVER THE STRONG OBJECTIONS OF LOCAL COMMUNITY MEMBERS AND CONCERNED PRESERVATIONISTS ALL OVER THE COUNTRY. SINCE THEN A NEW PROPOSAL—INTENDED TO PRESERVE THE ARTISTS' STUDIOS, THE EXTERIOR AND THE MOST IMPORTANT INTERIOR ELEMENTS OF THE TEMPLE—WAS ACCEPTED BY THE OWNER, THE DEVELOPERS, AND THE CITY IN 2000. WMF HOPES FOR A SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME AND CONTINUES TO MONITOR THE SITUATION.

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