A photograph of a village built into a cliffside. The foreground shows several small, cylindrical huts with conical thatched roofs. The background shows a larger, more complex structure built into the rock face, with a large thatched roof on the left. The scene is set against a backdrop of a steep, rocky cliff under a blue sky with light clouds.

World Monuments Watch
2004
100 Most Endangered Sites

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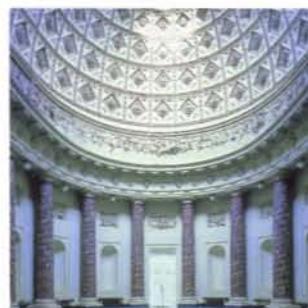
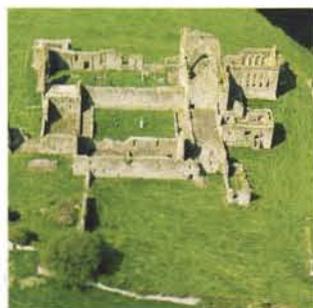
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World Monuments Watch
2004
 100 Most Endangered Sites



ON THE COVER

Bandiagara Escarpment Cultural Landscape, Bandiagara, Mali

photo: ©davidwallphoto.com

WORLD MONUMENTS FUND®

For nearly four decades, the World Monuments Fund (WMF) has dedicated itself to the preservation of imperiled works of art and architecture worldwide through fieldwork, advocacy, grantmaking, education, and training. Since its founding in 1965, WMF has worked with local communities and partners around the globe to stem the loss of more than 400 important and irreplaceable monuments in some 80 countries.

One of WMF's most effective tools in its quest to safeguard humankind's cultural legacy is the World Monuments Watch, a biennial listing of the *100 Most Endangered Sites*, whose loss or destruction would impoverish us all. The list highlights the plight of individual sites and what it would take for them to be preserved for future generations. For many communities around the world, the Watch is the only hope they have of saving the sites that mean the most to them.

A New York-based international organization, WMF has affiliates and offices in France, Italy, Portugal, Spain, and the United Kingdom.





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"[World Monuments Watch]...is an extremely important document, much more than a plea to protect history. It is itself history: a record of the growth of consciousness in a shrinking world."

—Herbert Muschamp
The New York Times; March 31, 1996

A Global Call to Action



Our world has changed dramatically since the first World Monuments Watch list of the *100 Most Endangered Sites* was issued in 1996. It is only natural that the 2004 Watch list would reflect these changes. For the Watch list is not merely a record of great moments in architectural history; it is a testimony and a reflection of what is at risk today, amongst the sites that we value as supreme creations of humankind.

Recent world events have incontrovertibly fostered awareness about the importance, and the fragility, of the art and architecture that define communities throughout the world. The 2004 list manifests a concern for the damage caused to our cultural heritage by human conflict. With multiple listings in the Middle East and Central Asia, it issues a renewed call to action to work globally to stem these losses.



This year, for the first time, the Watch list encompasses every continent of the world, including Antarctica (Sir Ernest Shackleton's hut) and Australia (the Dampier Rock Art Complex). Bi-national and multi-country listings—the Jesuit Guaraní Missions in Argentina, Brazil, and Paraguay, and the Usumacinta River Cultural Landscape linking Mexico and Guatemala—underscore the need for cooperation to protect cultural complexes that span more than one country. It is encouraging to see governments and local organizations working together across borders to ensure the care and protection these sites deserve.



The list reflects a deepening appreciation for the traditional architecture that has shaped and defined everyday lives over long periods of times. The 2004 list includes a traditional port-town in Japan, an American Shaker village, and the Cockcrow Postal Town in China as examples of how ways of life and their settings are often entwined. Each new Watch list advances the notion that these "cultural landscapes" are worth saving.

The current list spans the breadth of cultural history. It is rich in content from the ancient world, and yet a special theme is the architecture created through modern industrialization and technology—designed to the highest aesthetic standards of the twentieth century, but fast becoming obsolete. The Battersea Power Station in London, the Humberstone & Santa Laura industrial complex in Chile, the railway system of Paraguay, Helsinki's Malmi airport,

and one of the greatest engineering triumphs of the modern era, the Panama Canal, invite us to consider the future of such sites.

Architectural gems that have fallen victim to catastrophe or neglect are perhaps the “charismatic species” of the Watch list. The fire-damaged St. John’s Anglican Church in Nova Scotia, Frank Lloyd Wright’s Ennis Brown House in Los Angeles, destabilized by an earthquake; Horace Walpole’s exquisite English mansion, Strawberry Hill, in a state of intense fragility, are among the treasures to be found in these pages. But they need an urgent infusion of support, care, and attention.

The World Monuments Watch 2004 identifies a stunning array of sites and will bring them to the attention of the public, preservation professionals, and governments. By working to preserve these treasures, WMF and its partners are helping to save for future generations the structures and places that tell us who we are. Be it a palace, a cave painting, an archaeological site, or a town, the sites speak of the human aspiration and achievement that unite us all. Likewise, to lose any of them would diminish us all.



MARILYN PERRY
Chairman



BONNIE BURNHAM
President



About the World Monuments Watch® list of the 100 Most Endangered Sites

Launched in 1995, the World Monuments Watch® is a global initiative established by WMF in response to a growing concern over the loss of important cultural sites around the globe as a result of neglect, vandalism, armed conflict, or natural disaster. The biennial list of the *100 Most Endangered Sites* seeks to preserve sites whose loss or destruction would impoverish us all by raising their visibility and attracting the financial and technical resources they so desperately need.

Watch listing differs from landmark designation, a permanent recognition established by governments or regulatory agencies, in that sites selected for inclusion on the Watch list change with each two-year cycle. The Watch list serves not to convey an honorary designation, but to effect change—by targeting key problems and devising solutions for sites at risk.

Selecting the List

Selected every two years, sites included on the Watch list have been nominated by government agencies, non-governmental organizations, conservation professionals, or concerned individuals from all walks of life through a formal application process. To be considered for inclusion on the list, sites must meet three criteria:

- **Significance:** Is a site important in terms of its intrinsic artistic, architectural, historic, or social value?
- **Urgency:** Is a site in need of immediate attention or does it face imminent destruction?
- **Viability:** Is there a workable solution to save a site by removing a threat, through advocacy or with financial or technical assistance?

The 2004 Selection Committee

Chairman: HENRY CLEERE is a consultant to the International Council of Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), for which he serves as an advisor on cultural heritage to the UNESCO World Heritage Committee.

GIOVANNI BOCCARDI, an architect by training, is chief of the Arab states unit at UNESCO's World Heritage Center in Paris.

GIOVANNA BORTOLASO-SIEGEL, a specialist in stone and metal conservation, has worked on projects around the globe. Most recently, she has assisted the Austria-based ARCH Foundation in its projects in Croatia.

JAROSLAV KILIÁN, a practicing architect and president of the Slovak national committee of ICOMOS since 1990, was recently appointed a member of the Europa Nostra Awards scheme jury.

JOE KING, an architect and urban planner, is a senior project manager at the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM).

Sites meeting these criteria are then presented to an independent panel of internationally recognized experts in the field of preservation who make the final selection of the 100 sites.

Since the first list was published in 1996, a total of 399 sites have been included, selected from some 1,500 nominations. Ideally, WMF hopes to remove sites from any given list within a two-year period, knowing that their issues have been addressed and that they are making significant progress toward a sustainable condition. Some sites are relisted if the panel believes relisting is necessary to ensure their long-term preservation.

Supporting the Watch

Since 1996, WMF has made some 315 grants totalling more than U.S. \$26 million to 157 Watch sites in 62 countries. These funds have leveraged more than U.S. \$59 million from other sources as a result of the momentum created by inclusion of sites on the Watch list. In addition to support provided by American Express—a commitment of U.S. \$10 million through 2005—WMF raises funds from corporations, foundations, and private donors to conserve sites included on the Watch list. For information on how you can support the Watch program, please contact the Development Department, World Monuments Fund, 95 Madison Avenue, New York, New York 10016.

ELIAS MUJICA is the deputy coordinator of the Consortium for the Sustainable Development of the Andean Ecoregion (CONDESAN) and vice-president of the Andean Institute for Archaeological Research (INDEA).

JUDIT TAMÁSI, a specialist in cultural heritage management, is archaeological supervisor for town and country planning at Hungary's National Office of Cultural Heritage.

HERMAN VAN HOOFF is UNESCO's world heritage advisor for Latin America and the Caribbean.

TIM WHALEN, director of the Getty Conservation Institute, also serves on the board of the California Preservation Foundation and as an advisor to the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

GAMINI WIJESURIYA has been director for archaeological conservation for the Department of Archaeology, Government of Sri Lanka, since 1983.

Why Preservation Matters to Us

Eight years ago, American Express and the World Monuments Fund joined forces to launch the World Monuments Watch[®], with our company as founding sponsor. We created the Watch to draw attention to the plight of the world's most endangered heritage, and to provide and attract funds to address the most urgent needs.

Although American Express and the World Monuments Fund had collaborated in the past, taking on a project of this magnitude was a leap of faith for both of us. Would the world preservation community respond with nominations to the World Monuments Watch? Would the cause resonate with American Express employees as well as with the general public? Would others join the company in supporting the cause, and would our intervention make a difference? These were all unknowns.

We have been immensely gratified by the response to the Watch. Site nominations have come in from around the globe, and each list of the *100 Most Endangered Sites*, including this newest one, has brought home the extraordinary range of the world's endangered heritage—from the most famous and familiar, such as the Great Wall of China, to the unexpected and remote, like Shackleton's Hut in Antarctica.

Early on, American Express employees everywhere embraced the Watch and made it their own, knowing from their own experience the powerful hold that historic sites can have on people's imaginations. They also understood that historic sites, as a key motivator for tourism, also contributed to local economies and to our industry as a whole. For seven years running, our sister publication *Travel + Leisure* has offered an advertising supplement to raise funds for the Watch, and American Express has complemented those efforts with a benefit golf tournament at the annual congress of the American Society of Travel Agents.

American Express has committed a total of \$10 million over ten years to the Watch, through 2005. To date, we have made 125 grants in more than 50 countries. Since 1996, Watch sites have received some U.S. \$85 million, many contributions coming from our colleagues in the travel industry. Most encouraging has been the progress that has been made to help save listed sites.

American Express is proud to be associated with the extraordinary work and dedication of the World Monuments Fund staff and the preservation experts around the world whose task it is to safeguard these silent witnesses to our shared past. We are happy to add our company's voice to the urgent call to protect the world's endangered heritage, and we encourage others to join us in saving individual sites and in the Watch program as a whole.



KENNETH I. CHENAULT

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer,
American Express Company





WWW/TIMBERY JOURNEY

BUILT IN THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY, GHANA'S LARABANGA MOSQUE HAD BEEN THE VICTIM OF INAPPROPRIATE RESTORATION—A LAYER OF WATERPROOF SAND-CEMENT HAD BEEN APPLIED TO THE ENTIRE BUILDING, TRAPPING MOISTURE IN ITS RAW EARTHEN WALLS AND WEAKENING THEM. NOW STRIPPED OF ITS CRIPPLING CEMENT, THIS SPLENDID EXAMPLE OF SUDANESE ARCHITECTURE, WHICH APPEARED ON THE 2002 WATCH LIST, IS BEING RESTORED USING TRADITIONAL METHODS.



WWW/PULFREDO CATALANIS [1]





AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST

WELLSPRING OF HUMANITY AND CIVILIZATION

Since the dawn of humanity so many millennia ago, the fertile lands of Africa and the Middle East have been the setting against which we have made some of the greatest advances in our human career—the harnessing of fire, the domestication of plant and animal, the invention of writing, and the creation of civilization. It has also been against this backdrop that we have witnessed the havoc wrought not just by time, but by famine, political upheaval, and religious intolerance.

Since the first edition of the *100 Most Endangered Sites* was issued in 1996, 29 sites in the Middle East and 41 in Africa have appeared on our Watch list—many well known, others obscure and remote. Yet, they bear a common thread. Each place, sacred or secular, has been brought to our attention by people whose lives are directly affected by its preservation or loss. We have been inspired by the tremendous progress made by so many of these sites—their success the result of a simple vote of confidence or a show of support through funds and technical assistance.

At the hilltop citadel of Aleppo in Syria, one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world, the breakdown of its ancient drainage system put many historical structures at risk. Following the site's listing in 2002, WMF, in partnership with the Aga Khan Trust for Culture, embarked on a host of projects in the ancient city, including the conservation of the thirteenth-century Ayyubid palace complex, now underway.

On that same list was Ghana's seventeenth-century Larabanga Mosque, which had undergone an inappropriate restoration that left the building on the verge of collapse. This jewel of Sudanese architecture has since been reborn, thanks to the work of CRA-Terre and a grant from American Express, which has encouraged a revival of the art of mud-plaster maintenance.

Today, the spirit of human innovation is reflected in the cultural legacy of this ancient land, not only in the glorious works of art and architecture that have come down to us, but in age-old traditions that are maintained to this day. Nowhere is this more evident than in the 2004 list, where the line between living cultures and the built environment is hard to discern, particularly in Africa where the two are often inextricably linked. The Dogon of the Bandiagara Escarpment in southern Mali and the nomadic Nama of the Richtersveld of South Africa are challenged to preserve not just their architecture, but societal values in the face of a modern world. ■

The Certificate of Exceptional Accomplishment Awards

This year, 77 sites that appeared on the 2002 Watch List were not re-listed in 2004. While there are a number of reasons why a site may not be re-listed, one of the most welcome is that of progress—where nominators and local communities have been able to take full advantage of Watch listing and have significantly reduced imminent threats to the site. Although these sites are not yet “saved,” they are well on their way to recovery.

In recognition of the exceptional progress made by 12 of the 77 sites included in the 2002 Watch list but not re-listed in 2004, we are awarding their representatives *Certificates of Exceptional Accomplishment* to demonstrate our continuing support of their work—a testament to the goals and success of the Watch Program.

Certificates of Exceptional Accomplishment AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST

Ghana, Larabanga Mosque

The seventeenth-century Larabanga Mosque is a masterpiece of Sudanese architecture. Although it has retained much of its architectural integrity, inappropriate restoration undertaken in the 1970s had severely weakened the structure. Following the 2002 Watch listing, a grant from American Express and technical assistance provided by CRA-Terre-EAG enabled the Ghana Museums and Monuments Board embark on a community-based restoration plan, hire and train local artisans, and develop a long-term management and maintenance plan for the mosque.



Certificate of Exceptional Accomplishment awarded to:

- Isaac N. Debrah, *Director, Ghana Museums and Monuments Board*
- CRA-Terre-EAG:
 - Wilfredo Carazas-Aedo
 - Hugo Houben
 - Thierry Joffroy
 - Sébastien Moriset

Yemen, Tarim

The role of Tarim as an entrepôt in the trade between east and west is reflected in its intricate and technologically sophisticated mud-brick palaces—their style a synthesis of southeast Asian, neoclassical, Rococo, and Hadrami elements.



Watch listings in 2000 and 2002 provided the impetus for the local and national government to take a closer look at the cultural significance of these buildings as a group. In January 2002, the nominator, a New York architect, embarked on a documentation project on the Ishsah place, providing training for personnel from Yemen's General Organization of Antiquities and Museums (GOAM).

Certificate of Exceptional Accomplishment awarded to:

- Mahfood S. Shammakh, *Chairman, Hadramout Welfare Association, Sana'a*
- Pamela Jerome, *Architect, Columbia University*



EDFU, EGYPT

Khasekhemwy at Hierakonpolis

Hierakonpolis was the Predynastic capital of Upper Egypt and grew to prominence in the mid-third millennium B.C. Dominating the site is an imposing structure built of unfired mud-brick, measuring 67 by 57 meters, with walls 5 meters thick and 9 meters high. Built by Khasekhemwy, the last ruler of Dynasty II

(ca. 2800–2675 B.C.) and one of Egypt's greatest builders and innovators, it is the oldest free-standing monumental mud-brick structure in Egypt.

The structural integrity of the building has been compromised by old archaeological trenches made in the foundations of the walls; wind and sand erosion continue to enlarge these openings. Rain has created vertical gullies running down many of the walls.

Since its listing in 2000 and 2002, the enclosure, along with the entire site of Hierakonpolis, has been declared a protected antiquities zone by the government of Egypt, and was accurately surveyed and photo-documented for the first time. However, the physical condition of the site is actively deteriorating in a significant way. Large holes have been dug by those seeking buried treasure; walls have been pillaged by locals for clay to make bricks. Although Watch listing has done much to advance the project and a masterplan has been proposed for long-term conservation, the site is in urgent need of emergency repairs.

Listed in 2000 & 2002



©WWF/RENE FRIEDMAN



©WWF/JOHNC SORBOUDAN AND E. JOHNSON

LUXOR, EGYPT

Mortuary Temple of Amenhotep III

The looming Colossi of Memnon on the West Bank of the Nile are no doubt the most visible remains of what was once the most richly ornamented of all Theban monuments, the mortuary temple of the New Kingdom pharaoh Amenhotep III, erected between 1390 and 1353 B.C.



Trial trenches and partial excavation of the site revealed abundant architectural remains, including stelae, columns, building blocs, and several colossal statues, all of which were left in situ without conservation.

Never fully excavated, the site is overgrown with vegetation and threatened by seasonal floods and agricultural development in the area. These problems are compounded by an increase in surface salts from rising groundwater, a by-product of the construction of the Aswan Dam. A grant from American Express in 1998 underwrote emergency conservation, cleaning and defoliation, documentation, and storage of visible remains, clearance of the western portico of the great peristyle hall, and planning of a long-range conservation program. However, several colossal statues are still lying in salty water and conservation of the entire temple has yet to be undertaken. Ancient Thebes was inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List in 1979.

Listed in 1998

CAIRO, EGYPT

Sabil Ruqayya Dudu

Considered among the most ornate eighteenth-century structures still standing in the historic center of Cairo, the Sabil Ruqayya Dudu, built in 1761, is a unique example of Rococo-influenced Ottoman-period architecture. The interior has a painted wooden ceiling bearing numerous inscriptions, both sacred and secular. The exterior facade is distinguished by its wooden canopy, segmented arches, *muqarnas*, or stalactites, its use of Turkish ceramics, as well as abundant geometrical and floral ornamentation engraved in the stone. The sabil was constructed in memory of Ruqayya Dudu, a daughter of Badawiyya Shahin and the prince Radwan Bek.

Due to the lack of funds and absence of an adaptive reuse program, little conservation work has been done, save for a few repairs made early in the twentieth century by the Committee for Preservation of Arab Monuments. The lack of maintenance and of public awareness of the importance of the building have resulted in its decay. The sabil is in dire need of emergency repairs and a long-term conservation plan. The historic district of Islamic Cairo was inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List in 1979.



**ERBIL, IRAQ****Erbil Citadel**

Settled more than 8,000 years ago, Erbil Citadel is one of the longest continuously inhabited sites in the world. The citadel, which rises some 25 meters above a surrounding city of 750,000 inhabitants, boasts a plentiful supply of groundwater, which sustained Erbil's population through millennia of enemy sieges. Alexander the Great defeated the Persian king Darius III on Erbil's surrounding plains in 331 B.C., in one of the most famous battles of antiquity. During the Islamic period, Erbil was home to important Muslim poets, historians, and scholars, and later served as a cultural and administrative center in the Ottoman Empire.

Today, as capital of Iraq's Kurdish region, Erbil remains very much a

living city. Decades of civil unrest, however, have taken their toll on the ancient citadel's outer wall and the buildings within it, many of which lack electricity and proper drainage and sanitation systems. The recent developments in Iraq bring with them an opportunity under which conservation work and repair of the citadel might begin. However, funds and technical assistance are critical to the future of the city of Erbil as a whole.

Listed in 2000 & 2002

**NEAR MOSUL, IRAQ****Nineveh and Nimrud Palaces**

More than 2,700 years ago, two Assyrian kings—Sennacherib (704–681 B.C.) and Assurnasirpal II (883–859 B.C.)—recorded their successful military campaigns on the walls of their palaces at the ancient sites of Nineveh (modern Mosul) and nearby Nimrud. Depicted in the reliefs are marauding troops in foreign lands, rendered in a style marked by lively action and attention paid to topographic and ethnographic detail. Although Western museums mined the palaces for sculptures in the mid-nineteenth-century, many had remained in situ, revealed only recently during renewed excavations, and left in place as on-site displays. Twelve years of UN sanctions, which drastically limited the effectiveness of the Iraqi Department of Antiquities to control looting, resulted in sculptures from both sites appearing on the art market and major damage or destruction to some 50 percent of the sculptures at Nineveh. Further looting and vandalism have followed as a result of the 2003 Iraq War.

Reducing the market for sculptures through publication of site inventories and stabilizing, conserving, and protecting archaeological remains are critical steps in protecting these sites. A major international assistance program for the site of Nineveh was announced by the government of Italy before the war, and it is hoped that this program may now be carried out.

Listed in 2002



© JOHN MALCOLM RUSSELL

**HERZLIYA, ISRAEL****Apollonia-Arsuf**

Built on a cliff overlooking the Mediterranean Sea some 15 kilometers north of Tel Aviv, the recently excavated settlement of Apollonia-Arsuf was founded by the Persians in the late-sixth to early-fifth century B.C. and occupied

well into the thirteenth century A.D. Among the site's architectural remains are a second-century A.D. Roman villa and a thirteenth-century Crusader castle. The site takes its name from the Canaanite-Phoenician god of war and thunder, Reshef, who was identified as Apollo during the Hellenistic period.

While Apollonia-Arsuf has survived for a thousand years, the site—namely the Crusader castle—is now at risk due to geological instability of the cliff face and a pounding surf. For the site to be preserved, extreme measures must be undertaken to shore up the cliff face and construct a protective breakwater.



IMAGE: STEPHEN OKONGO

**KILIFI, MTWAPA, KENYA****Mtwapa Heritage Site**

With its monumental architecture, vast archaeological remains, abundant wildlife, and idyllic location, the ancient port of Mtwapa is one of the most important sites on Kenya's Swahili Coast. Occupied between A.D. 1100

and 1750, the site, some 25 kilometers north of Mombasa, covers approximately eight hectares. Collectively, its remains provide an important window on the evolution of town planning and the commercial development of coastal Kenya.

Since the site's abandonment more than two centuries ago, its perimeter wall has cracked in numerous places and is on the verge of complete collapse. Coral used in the construction of the building walls has suffered from exposure to the elements, a situation aggravated by the growth of moss. Perhaps the greatest threat to the once thriving port, however, is real-estate development as Mtwapa has become one of Kenya's fastest growing beach resort areas. The National Museums of Kenya have employed and deployed a number of officers to the site to protect its remains and have prepared a preliminary management plan, which includes fencing of the site, vegetation removal, documentation, and ruins consolidation. Resources for its implementation, however, have been limited to nonexistent.



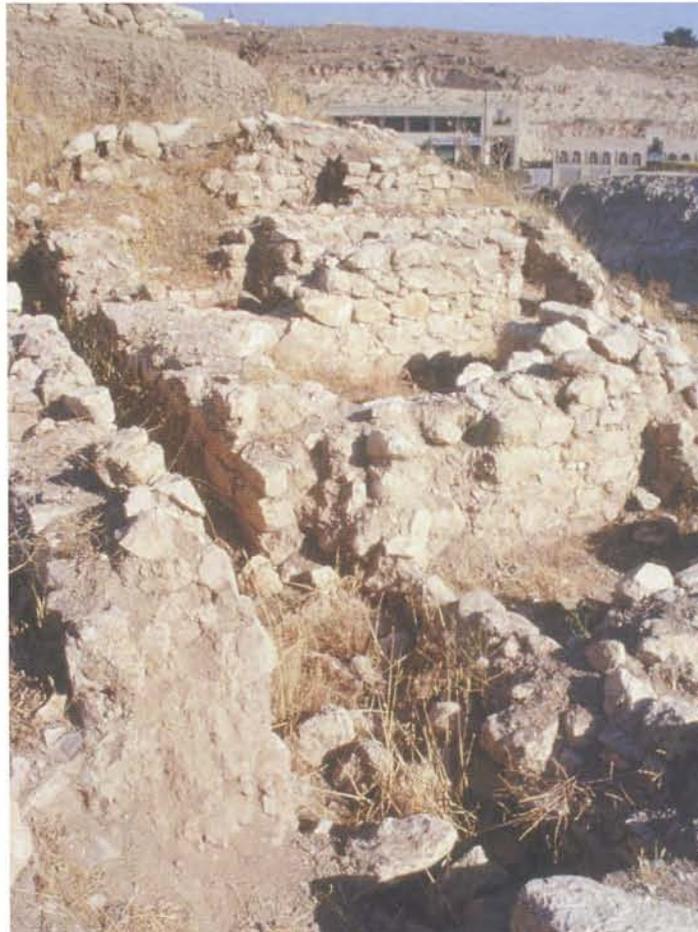
© HANF/GARY O. HOLLESON/D

AMMAN, JORDAN

'Ain Ghazal

Considered among the most important pre-pottery Neolithic sites in the whole of the ancient Near East, the 9,000-year-old farming settlement of 'Ain Ghazal (Spring of the Gazelles) first came to light during road construction on the outskirts of Amman in 1974. In the decade that followed, numerous finds were recovered from the 30-acre site, the most extraordinary of which were a suite of large, lime-plaster statues and funerary masks found in two caches beneath the floor of an abandoned building. Some 30 in all, the statues had faces tinted with red ochre and eyes inlaid with bitumen; the funerary masks had been modeled on human skulls.

Today, the site, which straddles a seasonal river, suffers from erosion. However, its most pressing threat has been damage wrought by urban development. At present, only a portion of 'Ain Ghazal is protected. The Jordanian Department of Antiquities hopes to preserve the entire site as an open-air museum.



OUMM EL' AMED, NAQOURA, LEBANON

Iskandarouna-Naqoura Cultural Landscape



With a settlement history spanning some 1,200 years, the cultural landscape of Iskandarouna-Naqoura, including the site of Oumm el-'Amed, is rich in archaeological remains and natural resources. Among the visible remains at the site, which was occupied from the Phoenician through early Byzantine periods (seventh century B.C.–fifth century A.D.), are a number of

temples with Doric capitals, Phoenician stelae, and a Byzantine church with mosaics.

With no efforts to protect them, the site's archaeological remains have suffered as a result of war, unsympathetic development, steady erosion, structural collapse, and vandalism. A paucity of resources in the region has thwarted any preservation effort. Recently, however, representatives from the United Nations Environmental Program and the Lebanese Ministry of

Environment have been working with the local municipality to develop a general coastal area management plan that takes into consideration the significance of the cultural landscape and its preservation needs. The plan, however, has yet to be drafted and it may be years before any implementation takes place.

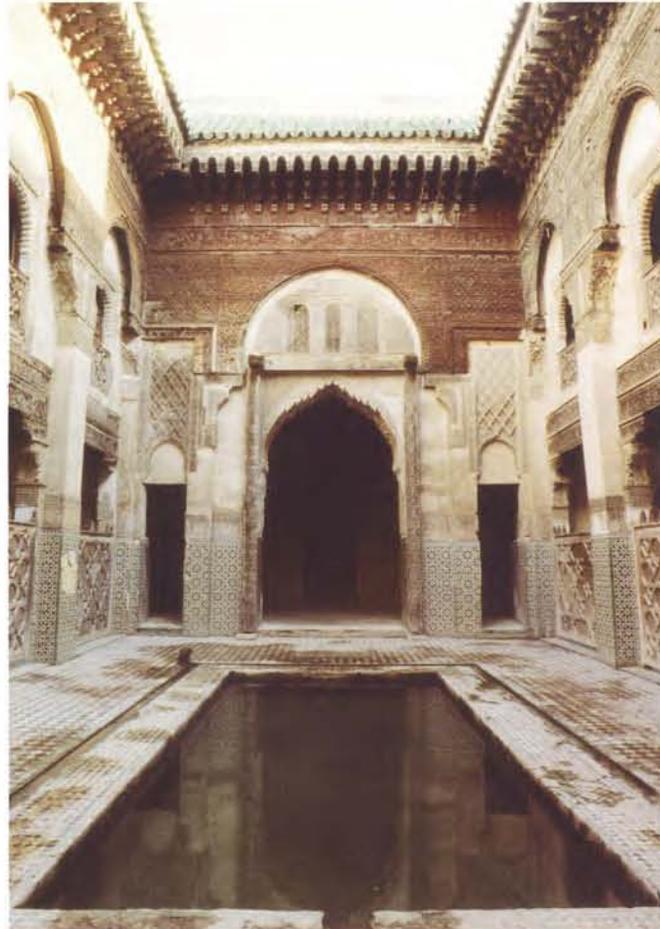
FEZ, MOROCCO

Sahrij & Sbaiyin Madrassa Complex

Symbols of dynastic piety and power, the Sahrij and Sbaiyin Madrassas were commissioned in 1321 and 1323, respectively, by the Merinid Crown Prince Abu al-Hassan. The madrassa complex served as a boarding house where scholars lived, studied, and prayed in close proximity to the Andalus Mosque, one of the most important religious centers in the Fez Medina.



Today, the complex is plagued by mold and vegetation growth, a result of poor drainage and ground water infiltration. Frequent seismic tremors have spread floors and separated walls. Masonry columns buckle precariously into the central court of the Sahrij, destroying the veneer of decorative plaster and carved wood clinging to their surfaces. While the Sahrij still houses a few dozen scholars, the Sbaiyin is sealed to keep out squatters. Debris covers the marble floor; rusted scaffolding supports the sagging rooftop terrace. A feasibility study for the restoration of the buildings is underway. Following restoration, the Sahrij Madrassa will continue to function as a school while the Sbaiyin Madrassa will be used as an exhibition space.



Bandiagara Escarpment Cultural Landscape



A bedded sandstone ridge that rises some 500 meters above the parched sands of southern Mali, the 150-kilometer-long Bandiagara Escarpment has served as a cultural crossroads for more than 2,000 years.

Considered one of West Africa's most impressive sites, the escarpment was first settled by the Tology in the third century B.C. In the eleventh century A.D., the Tellem, a Sub-Saharan pygmy group took up residence in the lower caves that dot the extraordinary geological formation. Sometime in the fifteenth century A.D., the Dogon people came to the area, quite possibly from the Nile Valley. Today, some 30 Dogon villages, composed of mud-and-thatch dwellings, occupy the lower reaches of the rock face, barely discernible from the surrounding landscape.

With their tight-knit social structure, the Dogon have been able to maintain their rich traditional way of life. But this is beginning to change. Encroachment of the modern world and uncontrolled tourism are taking their toll on both Dogon culture and the escarpment itself in the form of inappropriate development. The Cultural Mission of Bandiagara, established by the Malian government in 1994, has worked tirelessly to preserve the area, but does not have the resources to create a comprehensive management plan for the escarpment. The mission wishes to create an awareness campaign and develop a strategy to ensure sustainable development of the area that is in keeping with traditional Dogon cultural values and in harmony with the fragile landscape. The Bandiagara Escarpment was inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List in 1989.

**BENIN CITY, NIGERIA****Benin City Earthworks**

The Benin City Walls consist of a set of inner and outer interlocking rings originally built to delineate the royal precinct of the Oba, or king, from the surrounding area. Numerous other walls were erected in the surrounding countryside to mark the

agricultural boundaries around distinct settlements. Built to an original height of more than 18 meters, and a length of 1,200 kilometers, the earthworks attest the development of urbanization and the rise of state societies in Subsaharan Africa, a process that began in the seventh century A.D. and culminated in the founding of the Benin Kingdom in the fourteenth century.

Ravaged by the British in 1897, portions of the Benin City Walls have gradually vanished in the wake of modernization and large segments have been cannibalized for the construction of new buildings. However, significant stretches of the walls remain, enclosing innumerable red-earth shrines and elite architecture with red-fluted walls. Though the walls and moats have been protected by national legislation since 1961, a management plan and public awareness campaign were developed for the site only after it was listed in 2002. Emergency conservation work is still desperately needed.

Listed in 2002

**BEIT WAZAN, PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES****Al-Qasem Palace**

An outstanding example of “throne village architecture,” the four-story Al-Qasem Palace was built in 1820 as the seat of the Al-Qasem family sheikdom, one of 24 such political entities that ruled the central highlands of Palestine from the eighteenth to the early twentieth centuries. This semi-feudal family produced an urban piece of architecture in a rural context as a mark of its importance and status.

Following the collapse of the Ottoman rule in 1916, the sheiks of Al-Qasem Palace fled from Beit Wazan to Nablus. An earthquake in 1927 caused substantial damage to



the structure, which was later occupied by the German army during WWII. Although the palace is still owned by the Qasem family, it has been abandoned and is deteriorating quickly. An-Najah University has negotiated a long-term lease with the Al-Qasem family to preserve the house and reuse it as an

architectural conservation center; however, funds and technical assistance are needed for this to succeed.



Tell Balatah (Shechem or Ancient Nablus)

Located just east of the modern West Bank town of Nablus, Tell Balatah has long been associated with the ancient city of Shechem, mentioned throughout the Bible and in numerous Egyptian documents. An influential commercial center, the city prospered from trade in locally produced grapes, olives, wheat, and livestock from the Middle Bronze Age into the Late Hellenistic Period (ca. 1900–100 B.C.).

Archaeological excavations have revealed that the city was destroyed and rebuilt 22 times until its final destruction in the second century B.C. Among the city's visible remains are a series of defensive walls and gates, a palace or governor's house, a residential quarter, as well as fortified Canaanite temple, and a portion of a temple to Zeus commissioned by the Roman Emperor Hadrian in the second century B.C.

In addition to overall current civil unrest in the West Bank, the main threats to the site are lack of conservation and maintenance as well as vandalism and encroachment of agricultural fields and urban development. Heavy rains have taken their toll on the mudbrick architecture. Collapse of earlier excavations' baulk zones and squares is evident. The site is in desperate need of a management and conservation plan, a public awareness campaign, as well as a comprehensive documentation of finds recovered during excavation.



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RICHTERSVELD, NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE, SOUTH AFRICA

Richtersveld Cultural Landscape

For thousands of years, the Khoesan peoples of South Africa and southern Namibia maintained a pastoral way of life, tending their flocks of goats and sheep, gathering firewood, and collecting wild honey. Following the discovery of diamonds at the mouth of the Orange River in the 1920s, however, prospectors began moving into the region, establishing towns at Alexander Bay and Port Nolloth, a process that accelerated the alienation of traditional land that had begun early in the colonial period. Under apartheid,

remaining pastoralists were encouraged to abandon their traditional lifestyle in favor of village life. Today, the Richtersveld district of South Africa's Northern Cape is one of the few places where old ways survive. Here, the Nama still move with the seasons and speak their ancient tongue, one of the vanishing Khoesan, or 'click', group of languages. The traditional Nama dwelling—the *Jharu oms*, or portable rush-mat covered domed hut—is a reflection of a nomadic way of life, offering a cool haven against the blistering heat of the sun, yet easy to pack and move if grazing lands become scarce.

In 1991, a portion of Namaqualand, home of the Nama and other Khoesan peoples, and one of the last true wilderness areas of South Africa, became the Richtersveld National Park, famed for its extraordinary collection of succulents. In December 2002, ancestral lands, including the park, were returned to community ownership and this past winter, the governments of South Africa, Namibia, and Angola embarked on the development of a transfrontier park along the west coast of southern Africa that is to absorb Richtersveld

National Park. While much is being done to preserve the region's fragile ecosystem—and encourage eco-friendly tourism—little is being done to preserve its vanishing culture. Only through the adoption of a cultural heritage management strategy will traditional Nama ways survive in the coming decades.



WWW.ANDREAS VOIGT

AMRIT, SYRIA

Amrit Archaeological Site



Founded in the early second millennium B.C., the ancient religious center of Amrit is the site of the only surviving Phoenician temple in the Near East. The site's remains, though fragmentary, reflect an architectural style heavily influenced by the Achaemenid Persians. For most of its occupation, the site was

under the domination of the island power of Arwad, located just three kilometers offshore. In the third century B.C., under the Seleucids, Amrit made an attempt to free itself from the domination of the Arwadians, to no avail. The Arwadians had no hesitation in destroying the town which had served them for more than 1,000 years. Among the visible remains are two towers—one pyramid-shaped, the other phallic in nature—under which burial vaults had been carved out of the rock. These monuments are surrounded by a number of tombs and other significant remains.

The site of Amrit, especially the temple, is rapidly deteriorating as a result of high humidity and exuberant vegetation. Although the site is open to visitors, there are no signs identifying the remains and no measures have been taken to protect the site from vandalism. The site is in desperate need of documentation, conservation and restoration, and a plan for training local personnel in its care.



BOSRA, SYRIA

Bosra Ancient City

The ancient city of Bosra rose to preeminence in the first century A.D. when it superseded Petra as the capital of the Nabataeans. Its importance was further enhanced when it became the capital of the newly founded Provincia Arabia, following the Roman conquest of the fertile region of Hauran in A.D. 106.

The glorious past of this ancient city is evident in its abundant archaeological remains, which rival those of Jerash, Palmyra, and Apamea. Among its most important remains are a magnificent second-century Roman theater, several early



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Christian churches, and a number of early mosques within its walls.

For all of Bosra's cultural importance, it has not been afforded the protection it needs. The site has suffered from vandalism and neglect, and there are, at present, no comprehensive plans for its preservation. Financial and technical resources are sorely needed for the development and implementation of a conservation master plan for this classical wonder. The ancient city of Bosra was inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List in 1980.

KAMPALA, UGANDA

Kampala Historic Buildings



In just over a century, the Ugandan city of Kampala experienced change on a scale rarely seen in an urban context. From its beginnings as the seat of a powerful kingdom in the 1880s, the city witnessed colonial domination, subsequent independence, decades of civil unrest, and, most recently, a period

of relative calm, each period bringing with it waves of immigration. This colorful and sometimes turbulent history brought with it a diversity in the city's inhabitants that is reflected in the variety of its architectural legacy—a rich fabric of chiefly vernacular structures, often of great character and individual appeal.

Although many of Kampala's most interesting and important historic buildings have survived, many have deteriorated considerably due to lack of maintenance. However, Uganda has now

entered a period of increasing prosperity that has brought with it sweeping change in the city's urban landscape, most notably in the demolition and "improvement" of historic buildings. In such a climate, ignorance of the value of Kampala's architectural heritage is the most serious threat to the city's future. If present circumstances persist—with no official register or effective planning control—Kampala's historic urban assets will soon be decimated. Lack of financial resources and insufficient profile have limited the influence of preservationists on those who are developing the city's land and properties for private gain.



NEARLY 1,000 YEARS AGO, THE PAQUIMÉ, OR CASAS GRANDES PEOPLE, BEGAN BUILDING ELABORATE EARTHEN DWELLINGS WITHIN A SUITE OF ANCIENT GROTTOES ETCHED INTO THE CANYONS AND FOOTHILLS OF THE WESTERN SIERRA MADRE MORE THAN A MILLION YEARS AGO. TODAY, THESE ADOBE STRUCTURES ARE BEING RESTORED USING INNOVATIVE METHODS AND TRADITIONAL MATERIALS.



PHOTOS COURTESY INSTITUTO NACIONAL DE ANTROPOLOGÍA E HISTORIA





THE AMERICAS

A FUSION OF OLD WORLD AND NEW

From the architectural wonders of the Prehispanic New World to engineering marvels of the twenty-first century, the Americas have long been a land of innovation. Nowhere is this more evident than at sites such as the Inca fortress of Machu Picchu high in the Andes or in New York's Lower Manhattan, where the evolution of the skyscraper is chronicled in stone and glass. Both of these sites have appeared on our Watch list since it was launched nearly a decade ago. While the future of Machu Picchu is far from secure, we are pleased to report that the fourteenth-century mountaintop site is now the focus of a major initiative sponsored in part by the World Bank. Working in partnership with the governments of Peru and Finland, the World Bank is developing a management strategy for the whole of the Urubamba River Valley that seeks not only to improve conditions of archaeological sites along the Inca Trail, but the lives of those who live in the shadows of these exquisite ancient monuments.

Historic Lower Manhattan, listed in 2002, faces new challenges in the wake of the terrorist attacks of 9/11—namely the preservation of some of its most iconic landmarks as New York heals and rebuilds the former World Trade Center site. Their future remains uncertain until final decisions are made on what is kept and what is razed to make way for new construction in the area around Ground Zero. For this reason, Lower Manhattan remains on our list. Still other previously listed sites have made a more than remarkable recovery, among them San Francisco's famed Conservatory of Flowers, which was partially destroyed in a storm in 1995 and has been completely rebuilt, and the Madera Caves in Mexico's western Sierra Madre, which, one by one, are being granted new life.

In all, 121 sites in North and South America have appeared on our list since 1996, and from these trends are beginning to emerge in the sites at risk. As this list illustrates, we are seeing more and more groups of sites—places of similar age, function, and construction, united in the nature of their preservation problems. Such is the case with the Guaraní Missions, a suite of doctrinal institutions on the border of what are now Argentina, Brazil, and Paraguay, built by Jesuit missionaries in the seventeenth century, and the 1,500-year-old Maya sites lining the Usumacinta River. Rather than examining each site in isolation, we have chosen to treat these areas as a whole, addressing their collective problems and formulating holistic solutions. Like the architectural legacy of the Americas, our approach to conservation must bear the mark of innovation. ■

Certificates of Exceptional Accomplishment

THE AMERICAS

Cuba, National Art Schools

Commissioned in 1961, Cuba's National Art Schools, built on the grounds of the exclusive Havana Country Club, reflected the country's blend of African and Hispanic artistic traditions. By 1965, however, Soviet-influenced members of Cuba's centralized Ministry of Building Works abandoned the project halfway through construction, rejecting their sinuous forms for the standardized forms of their new-found ally, the Soviet Union. Over time, the buildings fell into ruin—neglected, overgrown, and vandalized. The past decade, however, has brought a renewed interest in the buildings. Since listing in 2002, the Art School site has been declared a Protected Area by Cuba's National Council of Cultural Heritage, and the Ministry of Culture plans to implement a comprehensive restoration, completion, and new development project with the participation of the original architects—Garatti, Gottardi and Porro—that will reestablish the schools as an important monument in Cuban architectural history.



Certificate of Exceptional Accomplishment awarded to:

- Marta Arjona Pérez, *President, Consejo Nacional de Patrimonio Cultural, Cuba*
- Isabel Rigol, *President, ICOMOS Cuba*
- John Loomis, *author of Revolution of Forms: Cuba's Forgotten Art Schools*

Peru, Los Pinchudos

These thirteenth-century burial monuments of the ancient Chachapoyas, or "cloud people," are perched high on a cliff in the northern Peruvian rain forest. The ornate clay and stone burial chambers, topped with wooden roofs and decorated with colorful patterns, also feature well-preserved wooden anthropomorphic sculptures. Seismic activity, exposure to the elements, and vandalism brought this World Heritage site to the verge of collapse. In 2000, WMF sponsored a conservation and structural stabilization project implemented by an expert team, who, working under extreme conditions, was able to arrest the threats to the site.



Certificate of Exceptional Accomplishment awarded to:

- Ricardo Morales Gamarra, *President, Instituto de Conservación Ambiental Monumental, Trujillo*

USA, San Esteban del Rey Mission Church at Acoma Pueblo



This seventeenth-century church, commissioned by King Charles II of Spain, was built atop a 120-meter-high mesa amid the pueblo settlement of Acoma, the oldest living community in the United States. Drainage failure and exposure to the elements resulted in a deterioration of the sanctuary's thick adobe walls and wooden roof. Cornerstones Community Partnerships, a preservation organization based on community participation and training, has developed a comprehensive conservation plan including emergency stabilization, structural monitoring, and roof restoration. The work will be implemented with support from WMF and Save America's Treasures.

Certificate of Exceptional Accomplishment awarded to:

- Acoma Pueblo Nation
- Donna Vogel, *Executive Director, Cornerstones Community Partnerships*

For a description of the Certificate of Exceptional Accomplishment program, please see page 10.

VALLEGRANDE AND SAIPINA, BOLIVIA

Vallegrande Rock Art Sites

With their extraordinary paintings and petroglyphs dating from possibly 6000 B.C. to A.D. 1950, the Andean rock art sites El Buey, Toro Muerto, Palmarito, and Paja Colorada are among the most significant of their kind in Bolivia. Palmarito is still revered as a place of pilgrimage by the local community.

Although El Buey and Palmarito remain in relatively good condition, both Toro Muerto and Paja Colorada have suffered from vandalism. All four sites are threatened by uncontrolled tourism. The local municipalities would like to include these sites within a tourism circuit, but at present there is no plan for either their preservation or protection. The Bolivian Rock Art Society has begun working with the municipality of Vallegrande to address the problem; however, time is of the essence. The sites are in desperate need of a professional survey, education campaign, and training program, as well as security precautions and visitor services.



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OLINDA, BRAZIL

Convent of San Francisco

The Convent of San Francisco, in continuous use by the Franciscans since its founding in 1585, was the first convent built by the order in Brazil. Rebuilt in 1631 in the Portuguese-Baroque style following its destruction by Dutch invaders, the convent is famed for its unique Portuguese tilework, polychrome murals, seventeenth-century fountain, and rare book collection.

Today, the complex is plagued with structural problems and damage from landslides brought on by regional geotechnical instability, rising damp and salt efflorescence caused by a high water table, and biological growth and condensation on polychrome finishes caused by extreme humidity and heat. The convent is in urgent need of structural stabilization, masonry work, and restoration of its interior finishes. Despite the inclusion of the Historic Center of Olinda on UNESCO's World Heritage List in 1982, which has resulted in increased tourism, funds for conservation of the city's monuments, including the Convent of San Francisco, have been close to nonexistent.





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SÃO NICOLAU, BRAZIL



© WMF

SAN IGNACIO MINÍ, ARGENTINA



© WMF/MARIA GLORIA GONZALEZ CACERES

LA SANTÍSIMA TRINIDAD DE PARANA, PARAGUAY

ARGENTINA/BRAZIL/PARAGUAY

Jesuit Guaraní Missions

In the late seventeenth century, the Society of Jesus founded a series of 30 missions in a rainforest region at the junction of what are now the nations of Argentina, Brazil, and Paraguay, to indoctrinate the nomadic Guaraní, as well as to manage Spanish economic interests in South America. For all of the inadequacy of the Jesuit mission system, it served as an important catalyst in the preservation of the Guaraní language and culture. The missions themselves exhibit a combination of Spanish baroque



architectural forms and indigenous religious symbolism.

Following the Guaranítica War in the 1750s and the expulsion of the Jesuits from Spanish lands in 1767, the missions were abandoned. In the decades that followed, many of the missions were destroyed; others were exploited for building materials or left to fall

into ruin. Today, vestiges of three of these missions—San Ignacio Miní in Argentina, São Nicolau in Brazil, and La Santísima Trinidad de Parana in Paraguay—survive albeit in a perilous state, overgrown and in varying states of decay. The only way to preserve these relics is to treat them as a whole, assessing their individual needs and developing a comprehensive conservation and site-management program.

Soon after San Ignacio Miní's inclusion on WMF's 1996 Watch list, American Express provided a grant for the restoration of the church portal—work that is nearing completion. In the fall of 2002, WMF conducted a workshop aimed at addressing the conservation needs of all the missions. Although several pilot projects are currently underway, full implementation of workshop recommendations is far from complete. The missions of San Ignacio Miní and La Santísima Trinidad de Parana were inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List in 1983 and 1995, respectively.

San Ignacio Miní listed in 1996



LUNENBURG, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA

St. John's Anglican Church

Shortly after midnight on Halloween 2001, the 249-year-old St. John's Anglican Church in Lunenburg, Nova Scotia, was ravaged by fire of unknown origin. While the church was equipped with sprinklers and the well-trained fire brigade arrived in moments, the church was soon engulfed in flames. Only a blackened shell was left of what was once one of the most remarkable examples of the Carpenter



Gothic style. The church was designed in 1754 as a simple wooden meeting house. It was "Gothicised" in 1840 and expanded in the latter part of the nineteenth century.

Although 50 percent of the building was destroyed, the site

did not lose its historic landmark designation and it was ruled that there was ample fragmentary evidence to replicate St. John's lost interior finishes and restore the historic church. Parishioners and the local community have shown committed support for the project, volunteering time and making generous financial donations. Government sources have assisted in funding some of the preliminary phases of the project to restore the church to its pre-1910 appearance, and a restoration team has been assembled. Project organizers are campaigning to leverage greater financial support for the restoration of St. John's and to enhance the international profile of Old Town Lunenburg, which was inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List in 1995.

IQUIQUE, CHILE

Humberstone & Santa Laura Industrial Complex

The rusting hulks of machinery and the deserted ghost towns of the Humberstone and Santa Laura mining complexes are among the last vestiges of the company towns of Chile's saltpeter industry. The Atacama Desert, one of the driest deserts on Earth, is a natural source of sodium nitrate, used for fertilizer and in the manufacture of explosives. The nitrate industry enriched Chile, ushering in an age of wealth and splendor unparalleled in its history. The nitrate boom continued until 1929 when the Great Depression paralyzed the industry, which never recovered when synthetic alternatives to nitrates became available.

Today, the derelict industrial sites of Humberstone and Santa Laura, built in the 1870s, are considered national monuments in Chile and are managed by the Niter Museum Association, which seeks to preserve the industrial complexes for public use. Humberstone retains not only its refining machinery and warehouses, but its own town, complete with a theater, church, and hotel. A masterplan has been developed to restore the sites; surveys of the existing buildings have yet to take place, however. Public support, bolstered by government and private funds, is necessary if these remnants of Chile's industrial age are to be preserved.





HAVANA, CUBA

Calzada del Cerro

A rare example of urban planning, the nineteenth-century Calzada del Cerro in Havana, Cuba, is a sinuous colonnaded street that stretches more than three kilometers from Old Havana to the barrio of El Cerro, a one-time summer retreat for

Havana's Creole aristocracy. Well into the 1920s, the elite built classical-styled mansions along the thoroughfare, each more Italianate than the next.

In the 1930s the area began to fall into decline. The rich moved out; poor families, even groups of families, began to move in, unable to afford the upkeep, much less maintenance. By the 1970s many of the buildings had fallen into ruin while others had collapsed beyond repair.

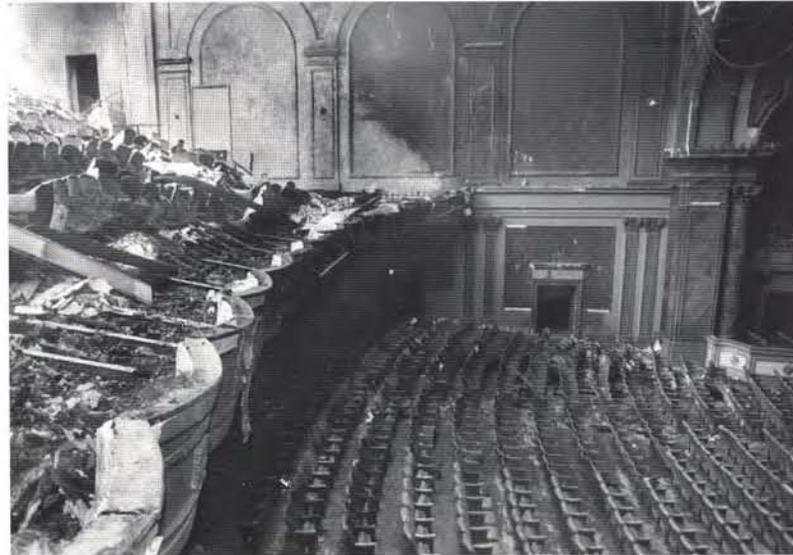
In spite of this extreme deterioration, jewels of this bygone era remain, including the old Palace of Santovenia, now occupied by a home for the elderly. The National Center for Conservation, Restoration, and Museology, with help from the Havana School of Architecture, has undertaken a study of this historic area and has developed an overall plan for its restoration, including the Calzada. The scheme calls for maintaining existing houses and eliminating activities contributing to their further decline. It is hoped that Watch listing will harness international support for a long-term restoration campaign.

QUITO, ECUADOR

Bolívar Theater

The Bolívar Theater, Quito's most opulent movie palace and premier performance venue, had only been open two years after a complete restoration when a fire broke out in August 1999. Large portions of the roof and mezzanine level were destroyed, closing 70 percent of the theater. Built in 1933 by the famous American theater architects Hoffmann and Henon, the Bolívar Theater was designed in a lavish eclectic style incorporating Art Deco with Spanish and classical motifs, and had played host to several luminaries from the world of music and ballet, including Leonard Bernstein and the New York Philharmonic Orchestra in 1958.

After the disaster, the Fundación Teatro Bolívar became the new owner of the site and set out to raise money for the restoration. Their fundraising campaign has been hindered by the economic situation in Ecuador. Meanwhile rain, snow, and volcanic ash filter through the temporary roof structure, further damaging the interior. Looting has also been a problem as scavengers have removed chandeliers and decorative elements. The most immediate need is the construction of a permanent roof so that fire and safety systems can be installed. When this occurs, the 2,200-seat theater can be brought back into use as a vital component of Quito's cultural life.





GUAYAQUIL, ECUADOR

Las Peñas

The historic heart of Guayaquil, a neighborhood known as Las Peñas is perhaps best known as the site of the epic meeting between Simon Bolivar and José de San Martín,

which sealed the fate of South America on its road to independence. With the largest concentration of historic houses and structures in the city, the barrio retains much of its eighteenth-century colonial character with wooden houses, winding streets, and traditional plazas.

In the two decades since Las Peñas was declared a national cultural heritage site, the Ecuadorian government has tried to carry out a preservation program in the area. However, the majority of their initiatives have been thwarted by a lack of funds and technical assistance. Undaunted by the challenge, the mayor of the barrio is pushing for a regeneration of the area through the restoration of many of its monuments, including the wooden houses of Numa Pompilio Llona Street and the Santo Domingo Church. However, an assessment of the current conditions of the historic structures and a masterplan for their restoration is sorely needed.

PANCHIMALCO AND HUIZUCAR, EL SALVADOR

San Miguel Arcángel & Santa Cruz de Roma Churches

The eighteenth-century adobe churches of San Miguel Arcángel in Huizucar and Santa Cruz de Roma in Panchimalco are among the few surviving buildings of the colonial era in El Salvador. While rather humble on their exteriors, inside the sanctuaries boast a number of exquisite Baroque wooden altarpieces and coffered wooden ceilings of a type seen in Andalusian *mudijar* buildings of the period. In the 1970s, both churches were declared national monuments of El Salvador.



Although time had taken its toll on the buildings in the centuries since their construction, a series of earthquakes struck the region in January and February of 2001, severely damaging the churches. Following the earthquakes, the Consejo Nacional para la Cultura y el Arte, the institution that oversees the sites, surveyed the damage and undertook emergency repairs. However, a lack of economic resources has stalled the development of a conservation program for the sites as well as efforts to protect the buildings from further degradation wrought by seismic activity and other external agents. Technical assistance and financial support are critical in preserving these sacred spaces.





ANGEL D. LOBO/WMF

FALMOUTH, JAMAICA

Falmouth Historic Town

Laid out in a grid pattern in the 1770s with fine stone buildings, the Jamaican port of Falmouth grew to challenge the colonial capital Kingston in its importance as a center for trade in rum and sugar, which was manufactured on the plantations of Trelawny Parish. Falmouth possesses one of the largest concentrations of Georgian colonial architecture in the Caribbean, but the town was severely battered when Hurricane Gilbert swept through the port in 1988, damage from which is still evident.



Falmouth has survived relatively intact; however, harsh environmental conditions and lack of

maintenance have taken their toll. Although the town is nestled between the tourist meccas of Montego Bay and Ocho Rios, Falmouth sees little benefit as the town lacks any tourist infrastructure. The site was made a Jamaican National Historic Monument in 1996 and listed on the Watch in 2000 and again in 2002. These designations resulted in the development of a pre-feasibility study funded through the Organization of American States, which stressed the development of a heritage-based tourist industry. Further government studies and local conservation training have succeeded in raising civic pride and generating a greater appreciation of the town's historic resources. The Georgian Society of Jamaica, a leader in local preservation efforts, now intends to launch and raise funds for a more ambitious program, The Market Street Restoration Project, to restore four significant Georgian buildings and continue the regeneration of Falmouth.

Listed in 2000 & 2002



PETÉN, GUATEMALA/CHIAPAS, MEXICO

Usumacinta River Cultural Landscape

Set within one of the world's richest zones of biodiversity, the Maya sites of Yaxchilán and Piedras Negras were settled in the first millennium B.C. Rising to preeminence on the banks of the Usumacinta in the sixth and seventh centuries A.D., the sites reached their apogee in the mid-eighth century when most of the temples, palaces, pyramids, and

ballcourts we see today were constructed. In antiquity, the Usumacinta, which now separates Guatemala and Mexico, served as a commercial highway for dugout canoes laden with exotic goods moving from the highlands of Guatemala and Chiapas to the Gulf of Mexico. Ancient kingdoms prospered from, and often competed for, control of the lucrative riverine trade in salt and cacao; cotton for clothing; obsidian for knife blades; and jade, feathers, and shells to make jewelry and royal headdresses. By the eighth century A.D., the growth of Piedras Negras and Yaxchilán resulted in the development of numerous smaller archaeological sites and landscape features, such as masonry agricultural terraces, which formed a continuous cultural landscape stretching more than 60 kilometers along the Usumacinta and its adjacent valley.



Both Yaxchilán and Piedras Negras have been threatened by looting, erosion, exposure to the elements, exuberant vegetation, and, in the case of Piedras Negras, the outmoded excavation techniques of the early twentieth century. Smaller sites with monumental architecture such as El Cayo, La Pasadita, Texcoco, and Tecolote have been threatened by pervasive looting. The removal of sculpted architectural features has resulted in the destruction of numerous vaulted buildings, many of which contained painted murals. In addition, the entire cultural landscape is threatened by the proposed construction of a hydroelectric dam on the Usumacinta, which could result in the destruction of these two ancient cities—and more than a dozen sites between them that have yet to be fully documented. Such construction will take an enormous toll on the natural and cultural landscape that embraces the sites.

Since listing, WMF commissioned a study of the potential impact of dam construction on sites located on the banks of the Usumacinta in hopes of averting a cultural heritage disaster. At press time, proposed plans for the hydroelectric dam had been scaled back considerably, reducing the potential impact on the sites. Nevertheless, this project and the subsequent development it will foster will greatly increase the environmental pressure on known sites and will damage many unknown sites. WMF is working with a multinational team to develop a comprehensive, long-term management strategy for the entire region.

Yaxchilán listed in 2000 & 2002, Piedras Negras listed in 2002



CHILAPA, GUERRERO, MEXICO

Oxtotitlán Paintings

Oxtotitlán, in the Mexican state of Guerrero, is one of only two known cave sites that contain polychrome murals rendered by the Olmec people more than 2,700 years ago.

Among the most impressive of the images is that of an enthroned figure wearing an elaborate bird costume, painted in such a way as to reveal a human face beneath his mask. Painted high on a cliff face overlooking a suite of fields, the figure is thought to have been connected with the arrival of seasonal rains and agricultural fertility.

Discovered in the 1960s, the paintings are in relatively good condition; however, they are beginning to show signs of deterioration—the result of exposure to the elements, exfoliation of stone surfaces, microbiological activity, and vandalism. The cave site has become a favored tourist destination in recent years.

More important, the cave continues to function as a religious site for the local population, its walls blackened by soot from bonfires and torches.

Mexico's Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia has prepared a conditions assessment and conservation plan for the site, which seeks to raise community awareness of its cultural importance, and begun to undertake emergency conservation, including the removal of graffiti and the consolidation of damaged areas.



SONORA, MEXICO

Pimería Alta Missions

Built by the Jesuits between 1687 and 1692, and occupied by the Franciscans following the expulsion of the Jesuits a century later, the Pimería Missions were established to indoctrinate the indigenous, seminomadic peoples of the Pimería

Alta, a region that straddles what are now the Mexican state of Sonora and the American state of Arizona.

The surviving missions can be divided into two groups: those that are little more than archaeological ruins and those that are still in use by their local communities. The first group has suffered the most, having fallen prey to vandals. Little is left of their architectural and decorative elements. The sanctuaries still in use suffer problems ranging from inappropriate interventions to damage caused by insect infestation, water infiltration, and neglect as their communities lack the resources to maintain them.

Unfortunately, the missions have been overlooked in statewide conservation efforts. Collectively, however, these buildings represent an extraordinary range of architectural styles and chronicle the doctrinal history of the region that is worthy of preservation.



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TEOTIHUACÁN, MEXICO

Quetzalcoatl Temple



No doubt one of Mexico's most impressive sites, Teotihuacán, or the City of the Gods, was founded ca. 100 B.C. Its main thoroughfare is the Street of the Dead, a broad avenue anchored on its northern end by the magnificent Pyramid of the Moon, whose form echoes the looming mountain of Cerro Gordo in the distance. The

southern end is flanked by the Great Compound and the Temple of Quetzalcoatl, the feathered serpent, god of rain, and the site's patron deity. Constructed ca. A.D. 150 and adorned with fanged stone masks, the talud-tablero-stepped Temple of Quetzalcoatl is the site's third largest structure.

For all of its fame, the Temple of Quetzalcoatl has suffered severe deterioration of its magnificent sculptural elements, particularly on its west facade. Here, exfoliation of the stone has been compounded by rising damp caused by poor drainage in the adjacent citadel complex, and by tourist impact. Early attempts to arrest the decay involved the application of a layer of cement rather than controlling the cause of the damage; deterioration has increased dramatically over the past decade.

Several years ago, Mexico's National Institute of Anthropology and History (INAH) began monitoring the situation, going so far as to establish a Temple of Quetzalcoatl Conservation Project. However, efforts to improve environmental conditions and undertake necessary conservation have been thwarted by lack of funds. Teotihuacán was inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List in 1987.

TZINTZUNTZAN, MICHOACÁN, MEXICO

San Francisco de Tzintzuntzan Convent

Begun in 1525, the Franciscan convent of Tzintzuntzan was completed 71 years later under the direction of Vasco de Quiroga, the first bishop of Michoacán. As a result of his appointment, the convent church became the first cathedral in the region. De Quiroga commissioned several *huatáperas*, or hospital complexes, for the Purépecha community. Such "hospital complexes" provided health care as well as religious training and served as gathering places for local communities. The Tzintzuntzan complex includes a large atrium, two open chapels, two churches, a cloister, and a hospital.

The site is in poor condition as a result of earthquake damage and lack of maintenance. Parts of the complex have been abandoned and some walls and roofs have collapsed. Although a preliminary conservation plan and adaptive reuse strategy have been drafted, they have yet to be implemented for lack of resources.



METZTITLÁN, HIDALGO, MEXICO

La Tercena



A rare example of early sixteenth-century civic architecture, La Tercena in Metztlán, Hidalgo, boasts a combination of indigenous and European architectural elements, including a portico with columns decorated with

latticework and fruit motifs and a gargoyle with an eagle's head of Prehispanic design. Preserved inside is an extraordinary suite of polychrome murals.

One of the few surviving buildings of its kind in Mexico, this unique architectural gem, which is currently owned by the federal government, is threatened by cracks caused by seismic activity, vandalism, and a lack of community interest in its preservation and reuse. The building will be lost without a conditions assessment, emergency stabilization work, and the implementation of security measures and a long-term conservation plan.



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PANAMA AND COLON PROVINCES, PANAMA

Panama Canal Area



The Panama Canal, built between 1882 and 1914, stands as one of the world's greatest and most enduring engineering achievements. Eighty kilometers in length, the canal cuts through a cultural landscape of colonial ruins, planned towns and parks, sweeping vistas, and dense tropical jungle. Since repatriation from U.S. control in 1979, the region has undergone a process of integration with surrounding urban areas. The resulting rapid physical change—evidenced by large infrastructure projects, the construction of new transportation hubs, the expansion of

the ports, and real estate sales and concessions—has resulted in the destruction of landscapes, forests, historic buildings, and public amenities. Development pressures, combined with the privatization of real estate and the lack of an adequate regulatory framework, pose significant short- and long-term threats to the site.

A proposal has been developed to preserve a network of identified sites, including architectural and engineering works, built and natural landscapes, industrial artifacts, and cultural monuments that together illustrate the delicate interrelationship of built form and nature that defines this unique cultural landscape. However, such a plan can only succeed if it is developed as a community-based, participatory process.



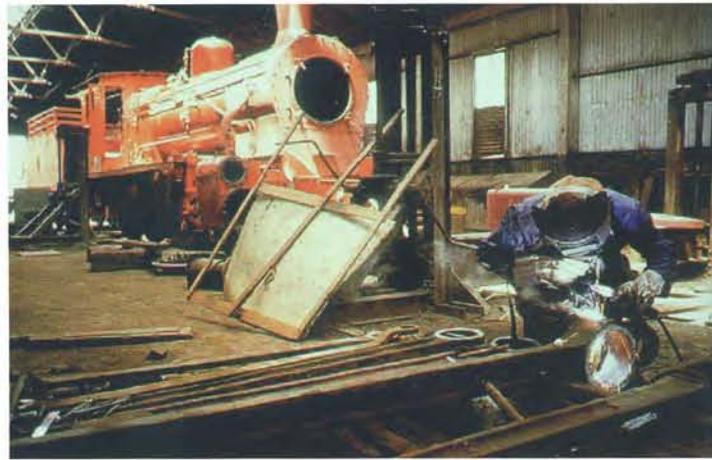
© ELLIOTT KAPLAN/WWF

ASUNCION TO SAPUCAY, PARAGUAY

Paraguay Railway System

As the last steam-powered train of the Paraguay Railway came to a halt at the Sapucay train yard in 1999, an era came to an end. Paraguay's steam-powered railway system played a significant role in the modern development of the country. Although no longer in service, the company has a unique collection of wood-fired and steam-operated locomotives, six of which date to 1910 and are still operational. The system includes several nineteenth-century railway stations, wooden box cars, turntables, and steam-powered maintenance workshops.

Although the Asuncion Station was restored with the help of Spanish funds a few years ago, the rest of the system has been maintained by a skeleton crew. The rail line itself, however, has deteriorated due to neglect and vandalism. A proposal has been put forth to return the trains to service for the purposes of tourism, running groups from Asuncion to the Ypacarai Lake Resort and the Sapucay train yard, where an industrial museum may be developed. However, greater support for the initiative is needed if this witness of Paraguay's past is to be preserved for future generations.



ANGASMARCA, LA LIBERTAD, PERU

Angasmarca Temple

One of the unexpected cultural and artistic offshoots of the Conquest, the "mestizo baroque" was the architectural expression of the commingling of European and Native American cultures. In 1615, Italian architect Carlos Antonio Vianni sought to bring the glories of the baroque and rococo to the Andes in the parish church of Angasmarca by using indigenous artists and builders. What emerged was extraordinary. The adobe church's interior was an encrusted symphony of color and form, statuary and symbol, a full flower of aesthetic fusion. The church's facade would later be altered to reflect classical tastes in the eighteenth century by Native American architect Don Juan Calipuy, before finally undergoing considerable reconstruction during the nineteenth century when it was rededicated to Our Lady of the Assumption.

The combined effects of age, improper maintenance, and climatic conditions such as heavy rains have created a host of problems for the 350-year-old church. Structural cracks on the tower and nave have damaged interior finishes and threatened the church with collapse. The original roof was replaced by one of corrugated iron, which has allowed water to infiltrate the structure, causing damage to the decorative plaster. In 1993, a conservation study was undertaken, but emergency repairs and stabilization have yet to be done.



GUADALUPE, LA LIBERTAD, PERU**Our Lady of Guadalupe Monastery**

Located in the Department of La Libertad on the north coast of Peru, the early seventeenth-century Augustinian complex of Our Lady of Guadalupe was built over the ruins of the native sanctuary of Pakatnamú as a statement of the triumph of Christianity over indigenous religion. As centuries passed, the Late Gothic-style

sanctuary became the focal point of the newly established town of Guadalupe. In 1941, the Our Lady of Guadalupe was inscribed as a national monument.

Our Lady of Guadalupe was seriously damaged by an earthquake in 1970. Since then, some emergency repairs have been made, but without a comprehensive conservation plan. Structural problems have been compounded by a rise in the local water table as a result of El Niño, as well as a lack of funds, neglect, and insensitive additions. Although a preliminary conditions survey has been undertaken, the building desperately requires a comprehensive conservation plan if this historic structure is to survive.



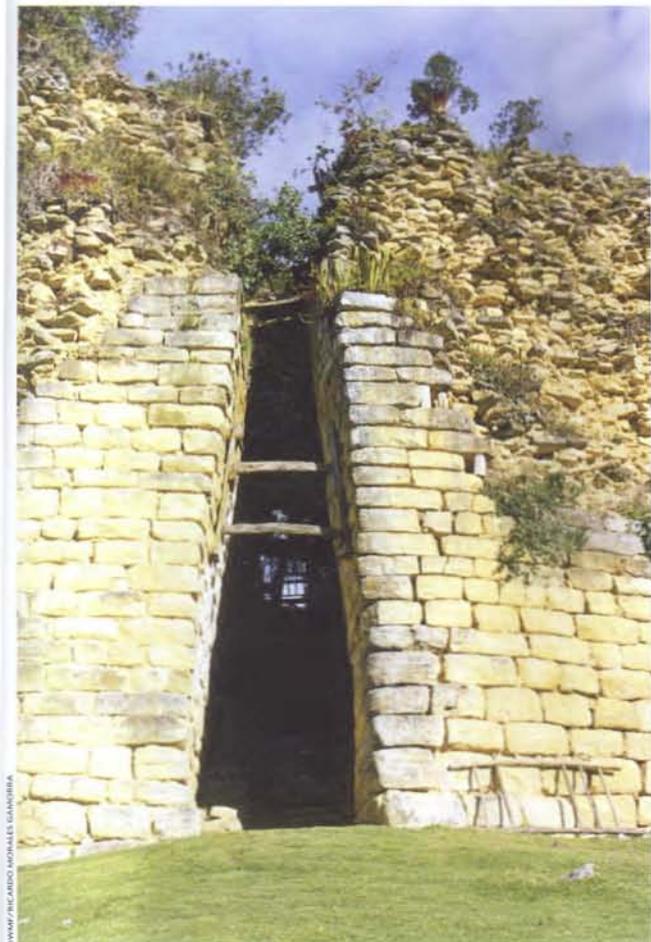
WWW.PATRICIA NAVARRO-GAU

KUELAP, AMAZONAS, PERU**Kuelap Fortress**

Located at 3,000 meters above sea level in the northeastern Andes, the fortified city of Kuelap served as an administrative capital of the Chachapoya people until their conquest by the Inca in the beginning of the fifteenth century.

Surrounded by rainforests, the site boasts some 420 circular buildings of stone and mud-brick adorned with geometric designs executed in high relief. The whole of the site is encircled by monumental limestone walls some 20 meters in height.

Kuelap is threatened by forest fires and structural destabilization caused by seasonal rains, weak construction, wind erosion, exuberant vegetation, and poor drainage. The site has also suffered from inappropriate archaeological reconstruction. Although a few emergency repairs have been carried out, the ancient fortress is in dire need of conservation and stabilization, as well as a tourism management plan.



WWW.PICARDO MONALES IGANDORA



LAMBAYEQUE, PERU

Túcume Archaeological Complex



Constructed entirely of mudbrick in the lower La Leche Valley, the imposing site of Túcume on Peru's arid North Coast was in use for nearly a millennium, being built by the Lambayeque at the beginning of the tenth century, conquered by the Chimú in 1375, and subsumed into the Inca Empire in 1470, under which it flourished until the arrival of the Spanish in 1532. The site,

which is spread over more than 220 hectares, boasts 26 enormous adobe pyramids, most of which were constructed in stages throughout the site's occupation.

Eroded by centuries of El Niño southern oscillation events, Túcume's monuments are today a mere shadow of their creators' architectural vision, yet the archaeological remains they contain make the site one of the most important in northern Peru. The fragility of the construction, aggressive climate, and lack of economic resources, however, have resulted in a pattern of progressive deterioration of the site. The most significant losses, from heavy rains and strong winds, have been in the areas of building volume and painted murals.

The Túcume area has been slated for tourism development in Peru; however, concerns have been raised over the development of the site without proper care to conservation. It is hoped that with its inclusion on the Watch list, development plans will include conservation of the archaeological remains.



WARD OF SIPARIA, TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

Banwarie Trace Archaeological Site

Dated to 5000 B.C. Banwarie Trace on the island of Trinidad is the oldest Archaic site in the West Indies. Discovered in 1967, the site, essentially a rich shell midden, is some 30 meters in diameter and has yielded abundant human remains and stone and bone tools that would have been used for fishing, food processing, and canoe building. The site has provided a wealth of information on the migration of Archaic peoples from mainland South America to the Lesser Antilles between 5000 and 2000 B.C.

While the area is "bushed" on occasion and plans have been discussed to fence its perimeter, the site currently lays unprotected under a layer of moderate to heavy vegetation. The archaeological committee that oversees the site has worked to keep it clear of vegetation and squatters, however, it does not have the resources or capacity to develop and implement a proper cultural resource management program. It is hoped that listing will help garner the financial and technical support necessary to properly survey, document, preserve, interpret, and protect the site.



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LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, USA

Ennis Brown House

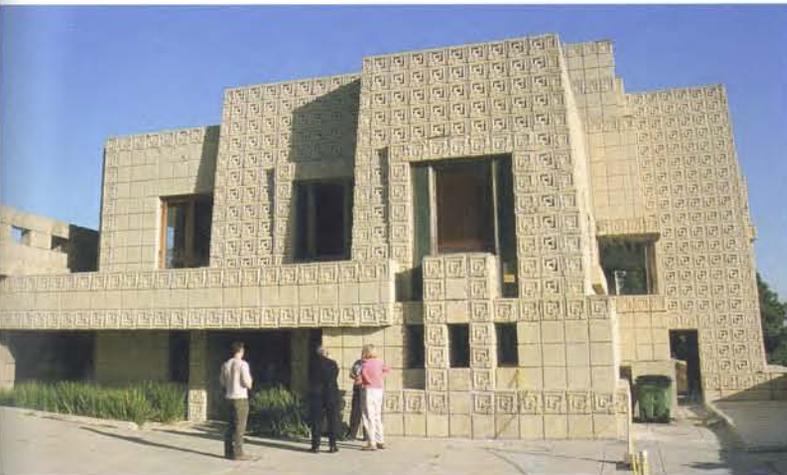
Frank Lloyd Wright's theories of organic architecture prescribed that buildings should draw materials from their natural environments. In Los Angeles, this translated into the creation of four textile block houses, the largest of which is the Ennis Brown House, built for Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ennis in 1924. Wright utilized decomposed granite from the site so that the blocks forming the house's exterior matched the color and texture of the surrounding hills. Wright also designed 27 art glass windows for the house, all of which remain in situ. The house was purchased by Augustus Brown, who donated it to the newly created Trust

for Preservation of Cultural Heritage.

It has become clear that the very materials Wright used to build the house have contributed to its deterioration. These issues were compounded as a result of the 1994 Northridge Earthquake,



which caused structural damage to the house and its retaining walls. With support from local foundations and state funding, as well as federal emergency funds, the trust has been able to secure the services of Eric Lloyd Wright and a team of specialists to address issues pertaining to the house's structural rehabilitation and the preservation of its weakened concrete blocks. A great deal more is needed to complete seismic retrofitting and to stabilize the house.



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NEW YORK, NEW YORK, USA

Historic Lower Manhattan



With more than 65 landmarks in six historic districts reflecting a continuum of over 378 years of American history, Lower Manhattan is arguably the most important cultural landscape in the United States. From its founding in 1625 as the farming settlement and fortification that was the Dutch colony of Nieuw Amsterdam, the area has served as

a focus of American life, having served as the nation's first capital, its primary port of embarkation, and, more recently, the nerve center of the financial world. Following the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, Lower Manhattan became America's most hallowed ground.

Only weeks after Historic Lower Manhattan was placed on WMF's 2002 Watch list, a consortium of prominent preservation organizations established the Lower Manhattan Emergency Preservation Fund to take up the task of safeguarding historic sites in the area through grants to stabilize, renovate, and restore buildings damaged in the attacks, and to ensure that historic preservation had a place at the table as the reconstruction process took shape. Today, some 200 historic and architecturally significant buildings near Ground Zero are at risk, threatened with demolition to make way for new transportation centers, retail corridors, and urban spaces. It is hoped that relisting will help maintain pressure on those charged with revitalizing the area to take preservation into account as rebuilding begins.

Listed in 2002

MOUNT LEBANON, NEW YORK, USA

North Family Shaker Site

Once the spiritual and physical center of Shaker society, the village of Mount Lebanon, New York, at its height in 1860, covered some 6,000 acres and had more than 100 buildings. A Christian sect, the Shakers believed in celibate, yet communal, living, eschewing marriage and the traditional family structure. Their communities were self-sufficient and developed new approaches to the design and manufacture of goods based on function, simplicity, and beauty—aesthetics that survive to this day. They were given the moniker “Shaker” after the distinctive ecstatic dances they appear to perform while in prayer.

With the relocation of the last Shakers in 1947, the Mount Lebanon village dwindled to 72 acres and less than 40 structures. Today, ten buildings comprising the North Family Site are among the few surviving remains of the once vital village, yet they are all in a state of advanced decay. The Great Stone Barn, the largest of its kind in the U.S., fell victim to fire in 1972. Save America's Treasures recently funded a feasibility study to determine if the site could be preserved and reused as a new home for the Shaker Museum and Library, whose preeminent collection is currently housed on a non-Shaker site nearby. While the redevelopment of the North Family Site has been well conceived, its most pressing need is funding to carry out immediate stabilization of the remaining buildings and to develop a long-term preservation program. These vestigial remains of the Mount Lebanon Shaker community have been on the National Park Service's List of Endangered Sites since 1993.

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CUMBERLAND ISLAND, GEORGIA, USA

Plum Orchard Historic District

Among the coastal islands of Georgia, Cumberland Island is a natural paradise of forests dripping with Spanish moss, marshes teeming with wildlife, and expansive beaches untouched by development. Once the private preserve of the Carnegie family, the island boasts several great late nineteenth-century mansions that were built on former plantations, among them Plum Orchard, the residence of Andrew Carnegie's nephew George Lauder Carnegie. With 30 rooms spread over 22,000 square feet, Plum Orchard, the centerpiece of a 600-acre estate, was designed in the Classical Revival style by Boston architectural firm Peabody and Stearns.

In 1972, the Carnegie family donated their island property to the National Park Service to be incorporated into a newly established Cumberland Island National Seashore. In the decades that followed, however, the house fell into decline due to neglect, bureaucratic conflicts over its management, and exposure to the region's heavy rains, hurricanes, and humidity. Although the Park Service carried out an exterior restoration of the house in 2001, its future remains uncertain. A Cumberland Island Wilderness Management Plan, currently being drafted, has put forth a plan to lease island properties to groups dedicated to their preservation—a notion that is attracting financial commitments. However, the Park Service has yet to find an appropriate lessee for Plum Orchard to ensure its preservation and maintenance.



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO, USA

Iglesia San José

With its extraordinary ribbed vault system and maritime-themed murals, the sixteenth-century Iglesia San José in Old San Juan has been hailed as the oldest surviving and

first significant work of architecture in Puerto Rico. The church is also considered one of the earliest extant examples of Gothic-influenced architecture in the New World.

Iglesia San José has been closed for five years due to structural problems. Falling plaster, water infiltration, rising damp, and differential settlement have caused structural cracks and significant damage to painted finishes. Inappropriate interventions such as filling of voids in the Gothic vaults with cement, removal of original finishes, and the use of incompatible materials have compounded the structural problems. The church is in dire need of a conditions assessment and long-term conservation plan.



WWW.JAGANNATHG.PANTEL.PHD

BROOKLYN, NEW YORK, USA

St. Ann and the Holy Trinity Church



Completed in 1848, the church of St. Ann and the Holy Trinity in Brooklyn Heights is considered one of the finest American masterpieces of the Gothic revival style. Architect Minard Lafever designed the church with an elaborate interior, which included a soaring nave crowned by a vaulted gothic plasterwork ceiling, illuminated by more than 650 square meters of

stained glass by William Jay Bolton, depicting the "Jesse Tree" of Christ's ancestry. Bolton's organ loft window is on permanent exhibition in the American Wing of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The church was closed in the 1950s due to a political struggle and remained closed until the intervention of the New York Landmarks Conservancy in 1979. Their involvement led to the saving of the church and the founding of the St. Ann Center for Restoration and the Arts in 1983 with the intention of restoring the church.

Since 1993 the center's record of success has included the restoration of the chancel window and the restoration of the exterior fence. A conditions survey was carried out and matching funds were made available from the New York State Bond Act to restore the roof and put up protective netting. Regrettably, unresolved issues between the church and the Center led to its departure from St. Ann's in 2000. Soon afterwards, structural problems led to the closure of the church. Since then little conservation work has occurred and church wardens have taken over the project. They will need help if the restoration of St. Ann's is to continue.



VARGAS, VENEZUELA

La Guaira Historic City

Located on the Caribbean Sea, La Guaira was founded in the sixteenth century as the main port for Caracas and one of the most important ones in the whole of the Caribbean, a role the city maintains to this day. Although the port had been substantially fortified to protect it from invasion, it was nevertheless sacked by English pirates in 1739 and 1743.

A number of buildings constructed during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and considered national historic monuments have survived in the old part of the city, including San Pedro Apostle Cathedral, the Carmen Chapel, the Guipuzcoana Company building, and the house where the painter Emilio Boggio (1857–1920) was born. However, many are in a perilous state, being no match for the wrath of the torrential rains and resulting deadly mudslides that struck the region in December 1999.

The Venezuelan government has worked diligently to reestablish basic services and restore the historic core of La Guaira. However, a masterplan has yet to be developed for the region. Even if it had, funds for its implementation would still be needed for the task ahead.





WWW.GUZZARDI.COM



ARAYA, VENEZUELA

Real Fuerza de Santiago de Arroyo

Warmed by gentle Caribbean breezes and surrounded with beaches lapped by azure waters, the Real Fuerza de Santiago de Arroyo's languid setting reveals little of its tumultuous history. One of the great prizes of the legendary Spanish Main, the fortress was the target of pirates and privateers, eager as they were to access the Salinas of Cumana, which abounded in pure salt, an essential ingredient for the preservation of foodstuffs at sea. Built between 1622 and 1631, the fortress was designed by Bautista Antonelli, military architect of Felipe II, as part of a series of fortifications throughout the Caribbean from Havana to Portobelo.

Heavily damaged during an earthquake in 1684 and made redundant after the flooding of the local salt mines in 1725, the fort was partially demolished by the Spanish in 1760. Since then, the ruin has deteriorated due to neglect and erosion from rainwater infiltration, and has suffered from inappropriate interventions carried out without proper supervision. New coastal construction has begun to encroach on the site, threatening the integrity of the fort's historic and idyllic landscape. Due to the financial realities and political turmoil of the country, the Venezuelan Institute of Cultural Patrimony, despite institutional efforts, has not had the resources to undertake a much needed conditions assessment, develop a masterplan, or implement a preservation program. Until then the fortress will continue to surrender to its newest foe, the sea.

ANTARCTICA AND AUSTRALIA

NEW FRONTIERS IN PRESERVATION

The 2004 list marks a major milestone in the Watch Program—its expansion into Australia and the frozen wonder that is Antarctica. While humanity's colonization of the Land Down Under dates back tens of thousands of years, its first forays into Antarctica are far more recent—American sealer Captain John Davis being the first to land on the continent in February 1821.



480 ANDERSON COURTESY ANTARCTIC HERITAGE TRUST

CAPE ROYDS, ROSS ISLAND, ANTARCTICA

Sir Ernest Shackleton's Expedition Hut

Built in 1908, Sir Ernest Shackleton's Hut at Cape Royds is one of only a few intact wooden buildings remaining on Earth's southernmost continent, dating from the heroic age of Antarctic exploration. The

building, which was used as an expedition base and laboratory for scientific research, was designed to withstand extreme weather conditions only for the duration of Shackleton's expedition.

Nearly a century of Antarctic blizzards later, the building still stands, and is in surprisingly good condition. The artifacts inside and outside the hut, however, have decayed considerably and are in need of urgent conservation. The main threats to the site are environmental degradation, microbiological infestation, and increased and uncontrolled visitation,

which have resulted in damage and pilfering of precious material.

While conservation work has been undertaken sporadically beginning in the 1960s, it was not until 1987 that a regular program of conservation was introduced. The New Zealand-based Antarctic Heritage Trust was created for the sole purpose of preserving Shackleton's hut and other relics of exploration, namely buildings associated with the expeditions of Robert Falcon Scott, who reached the South Pole in January 1912—a month after it was attained by Norwegian Roald Amundsen. Although the trust has drafted a comprehensive management plan for all the buildings and completed a conservation plan specifically for Shackleton's hut in March 2003, preservation of these fragile relics will require strong conservation advocacy and financial support to succeed.



Dampier Rock Art Complex

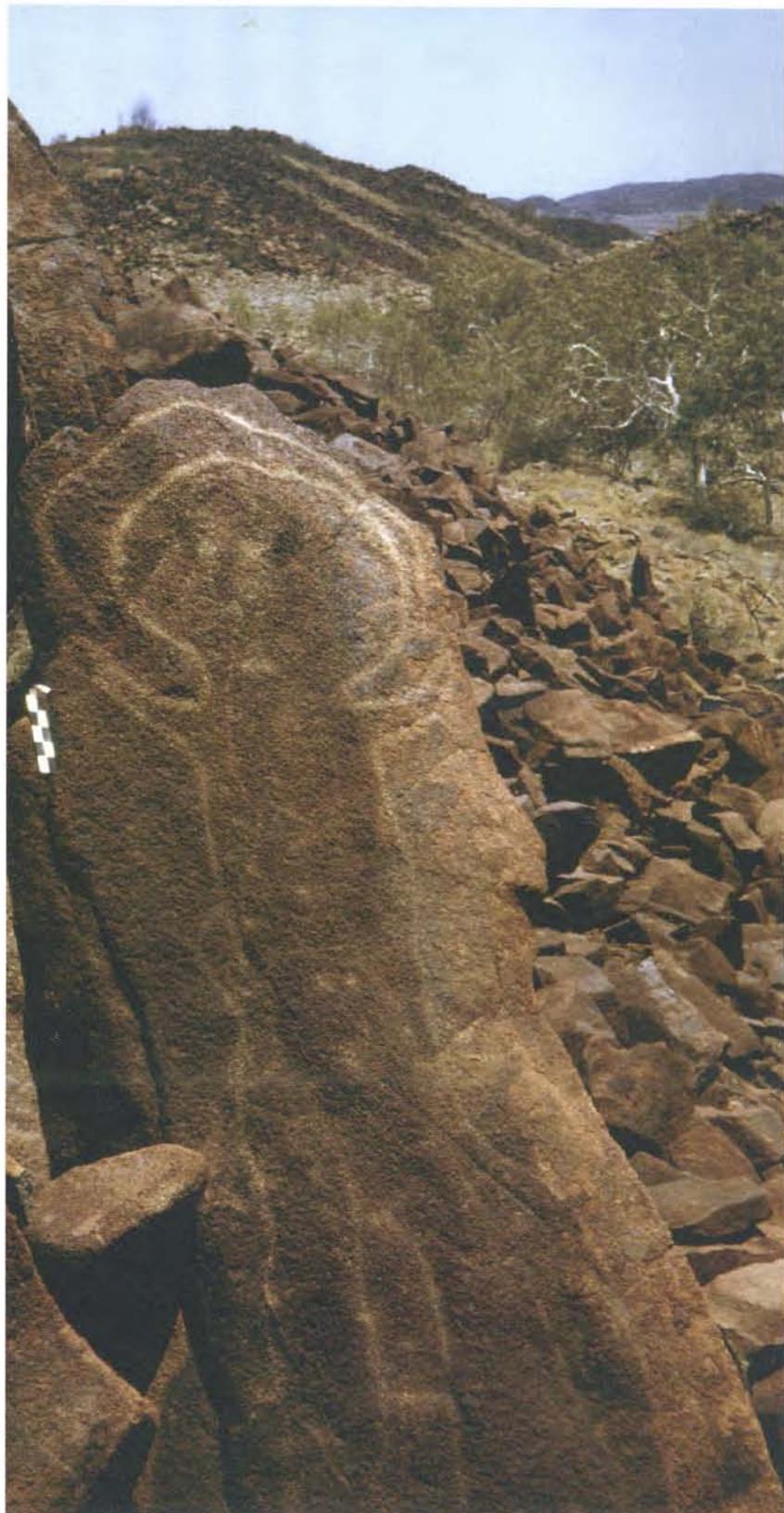


For more than 10,000 years, the Aboriginal peoples of the Dampier Archipelago in western Australia carved petroglyphs into the region's numerous rock faces and outcroppings. Collectively, these ancient renderings

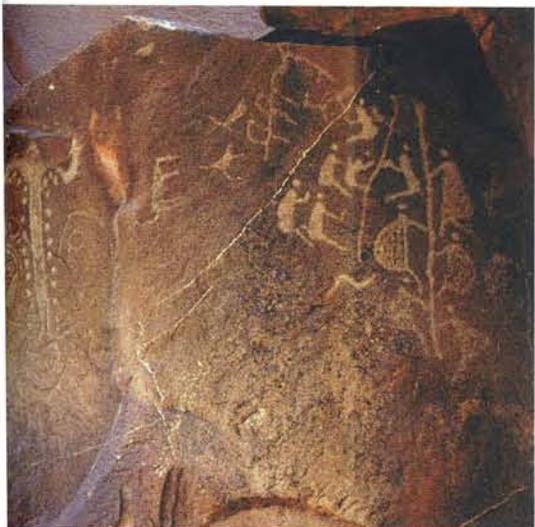
constitute the largest corpus of rock art in the world.

Over the past four decades, however, Australia's premier cultural heritage site has been subject to a host of petrochemical pollutants generated by a major industrial complex on the nearby Burrup Peninsula. Construction work alone has destroyed an estimated 20 percent of the renderings so far. Although Dampier has been designated an endangered site by the National Trust of Australia, the government has authorized the expansion of the industrial complex, a move that will certainly compromise that which has not yet been damaged.

The Australian Rock Art Research Association and the International Federation of Rock Art Organizations are lobbying for the relocation of the industrial development and are seeking to have the Dampier Rock Art Complex designated a national park to be managed in partnership with local Aboriginal custodians. As a result of their efforts, the government commissioned a study on the deterioration of the rock art in October 2002. The results of the study, however, are not expected before 2006. In the meantime, petrochemical development in the area proceeds.



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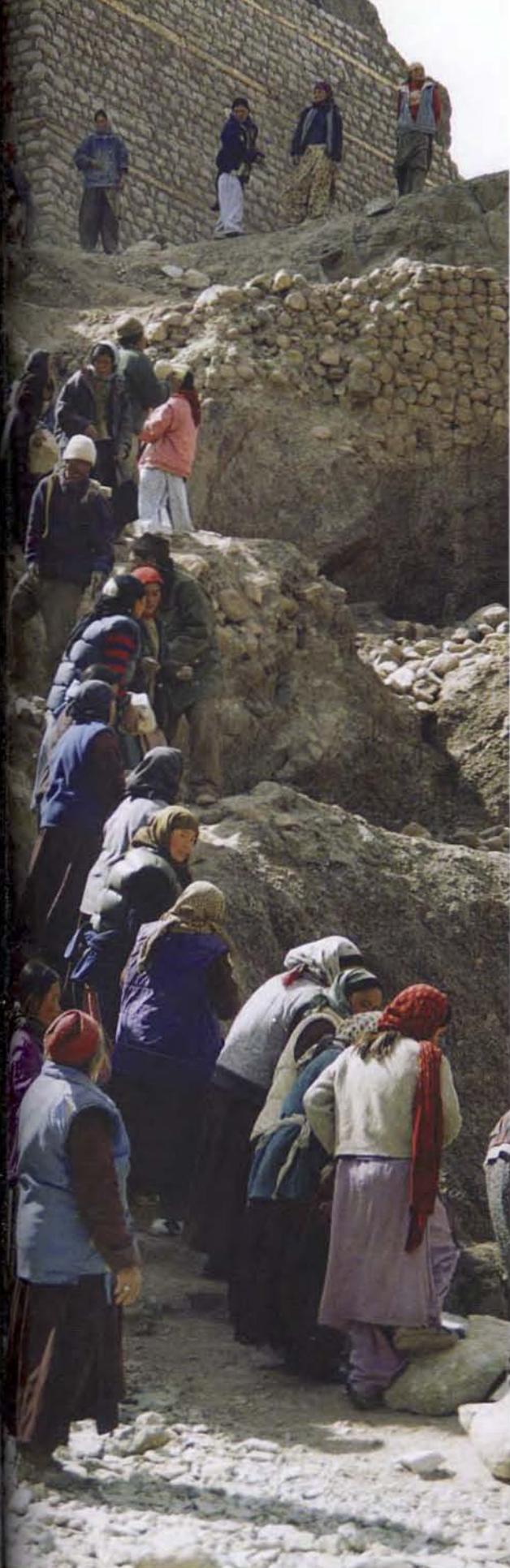
WMF/PUBLIC

WHEN A SUITE OF TEMPLES BUILT DURING THE SIXTEENTH AND SEVENTEENTH CENTURIES WITHIN THE WALLED FORTRESS OF BASGO GOMPA, LADAKH, FIRST APPEARED ON OUR WATCH LIST IN 2000, THEY WERE IN AN ADVANCED STATE OF DISREPAIR, WITH FAILING ROOFS, SAGGING FLOOR JOISTS, AND CRUMBLING PLASTER. TODAY, THESE TIBETAN BUDDHIST WONDERS ARE BEING RESTORED WITH GRANTS FROM WMF SO THAT THEY MAY RESUME THEIR VITAL ROLE IN THE SPIRITUAL LIVES OF THE LOCAL PEOPLE IN THIS TINY HIMALAYAN KINGDOM.



WMF/PUBLIC





ASIA

CROSSROADS OF CULTURE

From the birth of Buddhism in India to the construction of the Great Wall of China, Asia has been the setting for some of humankind's greatest achievements in religion, philosophy, art, and architecture. Yet, recently, the continent's history has been a story of ancient monuments and traditional ways of life giving way to the promise of modernity with ever-increasing rapidity. As a consequence, the historic resources of many Asian nations, especially urban heritage, are being allowed to crumble or simply be demolished to make way for the future.

The 2004 Watch list highlights these challenges. From the courtyard houses and temples of Tianshui and Cockcrow Postal Town in China to the grandeur of Dalhousie Square in Calcutta, urban architecture from vernacular to colonial is under threat. As the world moves on, traditional communities such as those on the island of Nias in Indonesia and Jungshe in Taiwan have fallen behind, preserved only by poverty and now threatened with abandonment. Other significant and palatial ensembles such as the Quila Mubarak and Bhuj Darbargadh in India and the Tamansari Water Castle in Indonesia exist as crumbling reminders of glories past within the context of bustling urban communities. Now more than ever the Watch is needed to help decelerate this process by illustrating to the Asian and international public that the price of disregard of a nation's historic resources is the loss of its history and its identity.

Eighty-five Asian sites have appeared on our Watch list since 1996, among them some of the world's most famous monuments—the Great Wall of China and the 800-year-old Khmer wonders of Angkor in Cambodia. While Beijing officials have recently adopted legislation to protect the famed portion of the Ming wall, just outside the capital city, the rest of the monument remains under siege from vandalism, exploitation, and unchecked tourism. For this reason, the site remains on our list. At Angkor, WMF's involvement has resulted not only in the stabilization and consolidation of two exquisite temples, but in the training of a new generation of Cambodian conservators who will be charged with carrying out work at the site for years to come. No less striking has been the ongoing rehabilitation of a suite of mud-brick Tibetan temples built during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries in the tiny Himalayan kingdom of Ladakh. The sanctuaries, which appeared on our 2000 and 2002 lists, are resuming the vital spiritual role they have played for more than five centuries thanks to a community-based restoration effort. ■

Certificates of Exceptional Accomplishment

ASIA



China, Shaxi Market Area

A one-time waystation on the Tea and Horse Caravan Trail that linked Tibet with Southeast Asia, the Shaxi Market is the only surviving example of such an entrepôt, complete with an intact theater, guesthouses, a temple precinct, and protective gates. The market area fell into decline after WWII. Mountainous and inhabited primarily by the Bai, one of China's larger ethnic minorities, the area has become increasingly poverty-stricken. Subsequent to the press conference held in Kunming to publicize the 2002 Watch listing, attention was raised at local and national levels and Jianchuan County and the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) in Zurich agreed to join forces to develop and implement the "Shaxi Rehabilitation Project." A complete preservation plan has already been issued and restoration work and fundraising efforts are successfully ongoing. Ultimate goals are the implementation of a comprehensive plan for the whole Shaxi Valley, that will ensure its sustainable use, and a poverty alleviation and local culture preservation program to improve living conditions and strengthen the local identity.

Certificate of Exceptional Accomplishment awarded to:

- Jianchuan County Government, Yunnan Province
- Jacques P. Feiner, *Project Director, Kunming Training and Research Project, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Zurich*

Malaysia, George Town Historic Enclave

Established as a British trading port in 1786, the city of George Town, which boasts one of the largest ensembles of pre-war buildings in Southeast Asia, was placed on the Watch list in 2000 due to the threat of repeal of the Rent Control Act, which promised to open the door to widespread redevelopment and loss of traditional communities. The act was repealed and the site was re-listed in 2002. The nominator, Sustainable Penang Initiative & Penang Heritage Trust, has used the Watch listings to advocate tirelessly for the preservation of George Town, mobilizing community organizations and corporate funders and has implemented a large range of programs. In spite of their efforts, the government has been slow to put conservation laws, heritage guidelines and local planning in place. Efforts are ongoing and the trust is currently working on identifying a suitable building to be restored as the Penang Heritage Trust premises.

Certificate of Exceptional Accomplishment awarded to:

- Khoo Salma Nasution, *Sustainable Penang Initiative & Penang Heritage Trust*



For a description of the Certificate of Exceptional Accomplishment program, please see page 10.



GHAZNI, AFGHANISTAN

Ghazni Minarets

Rising out of the barren landscape like sentinels before the snowcapped mountains of the Hindu Kush, the minarets of Ghazni are among the last

vestiges of the great Ghaznavid Empire, which ruled an area from the Caspian Sea to the Ganges Delta during the eleventh and twelfth centuries A.D. Commissioned during the reigns of Masud III (A.D. 1099–1115) and Bahram Shah (A.D. 1118–1157), the flanged towers are built of fired mudbrick faced with elaborate terracotta decoration, which form sinuous designs and Koranic verses. The towers soar 20 meters above the ground and at one time were even higher; the upper portion of the tower of Masud III was lost in an earthquake in 1902.

While the minarets today are structurally sound, the intricate terracotta decoration and Koranic inscriptions are rapidly deteriorating. Exposure to the rain and snow has accelerated this process. Limited conservation had taken place in the past, such as the installation of sheet metal roofs in the 1960s, but continuous war and civil unrest over the past two centuries have prevented regular maintenance. The towers are also adversely affected by the proximity of a road and are subject to periodic flooding. New copper roofing for the minarets will greatly reduce water infiltration and basic security measures will prevent vandalism. The future of the site, however, will hang in the balance as long as Afghanistan remains politically unstable.





BEIJING, CHINA

Great Wall of China Cultural Landscape



One of the world's most famous monuments, the Great Wall is the most recent of China's many walls built to protect the country from nomadic invasions from the north. Constructed during the Ming Dynasty, the Great Wall was begun in 1368. By the time of its completion in 1644, it stretched more than 6,300 kilometers across the Chinese landscape, creating one of the most extensive cultural landscapes on Earth.

The Great Wall has long been a popular tourist attraction for both international visitors and Chinese nationals, particularly along its most majestic stretch at Badaling, 70 kilometers from Beijing. However, less protected areas far from the Chinese capital, known as the "Wild Wall," and its surrounding landscape have come under ever-increasing pressure from uncontrolled tourism and commercial development. Since listing in 2002, the plight of the Great Wall has received increased media attention—responsible, in part, for recent legislation passed by Beijing officials to protect those sections of the wall nearest the capital city. However, significant portions of the wall remain unprotected, at risk of damage wrought by age and exploitation.

Listed in 2002

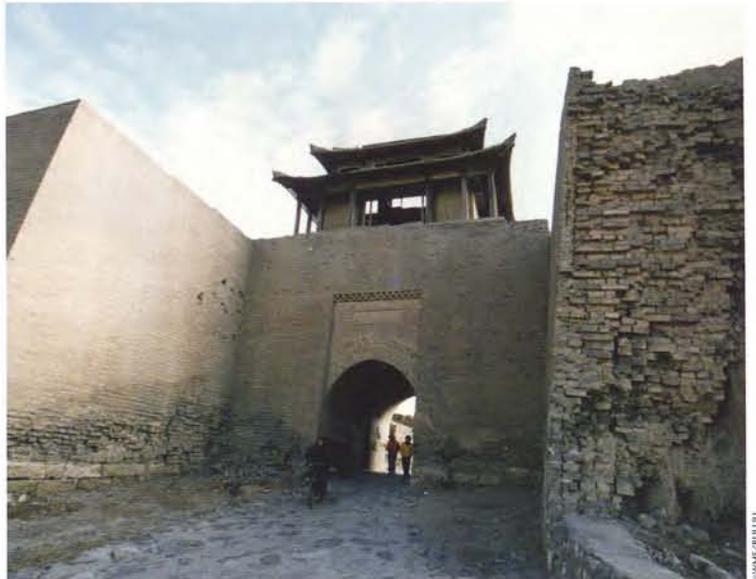
COCKCROW, HEBEI PROVINCE, CHINA

Cockcrow Postal Town

The traditional market and postal towns of China are disappearing at an alarming rate. The Ming-period Cockcrow Postal Town, located approximately 145 kilometers northwest of Beijing, is the largest postal town of its kind in China, and the only surviving example of its era. The town was constructed in 1420, during the reign of Emperor Yongle, to protect the military and public post station serving the northwest region of the Chinese empire. The

town suffered during the Cultural Revolution; however, locals managed to preserve a number of aristocratic houses as well as carvings and wall paintings within temples by covering them with mudplaster and newspaper.

Cockcrow remains a functioning town with temples, offices, schools, and a wealth of courtyard houses, all within a massive and well-preserved rammed earth and masonry town wall. The brick surfaces of the town wall have begun to decay, exposing its clay inner structure to damaging rains. Seven out of 17 remaining original temples in the town are in danger of being lost. The government so far has provided little funding or solutions to these problems. The Hebei Province Institute of Urban Planning in conjunction with Tsinghua University has developed a masterplan for the site, which would include removing plaster from murals and carvings as well as several major pilot restoration projects, yet without outside support, these projects are unlikely to materialize.



©WANG FEILIU

SHANGHAI, CHINA

Ohel Rachel Synagogue



The Ohel Rachel Synagogue in Shanghai is one of the few remaining buildings attesting the long Jewish presence in China, which can be traced back at least 13 centuries. Shanghai holds particular importance as its open door policy made it a haven for 17,000 Jews from Central Europe fleeing the Holocaust. It also

hosted a prosperous Iraqi Jewish community, which built Ohel Rachel and many of the city's landmark pre-WWII buildings.

Today the Ohel Rachel Synagogue is the only one of seven synagogues built in Shanghai that remains intact. While the building survived the Cultural Revolution, its windows, chandeliers, and interior finishes were damaged. In 1993, Ohel Rachel was declared a historic landmark by the city of Shanghai, granting it some protection; however, it was used for storage and office space until 1998. The building has suffered from lack of maintenance, water infiltration, and vegetation growth, all of which have taken a toll on its structural integrity. Representatives of the local Jewish community hope to restore it for use as a synagogue as well as a museum commemorating the long relationship between the Jewish and Chinese people. Since listing in 2002, project managers have raised sufficient funds to document the building and prepare a masterplan. However, monies fall far short for its implementation; the structure continues to deteriorate.

Listed in 2002





CHENGDE, HEBEI PROVINCE, CHINA

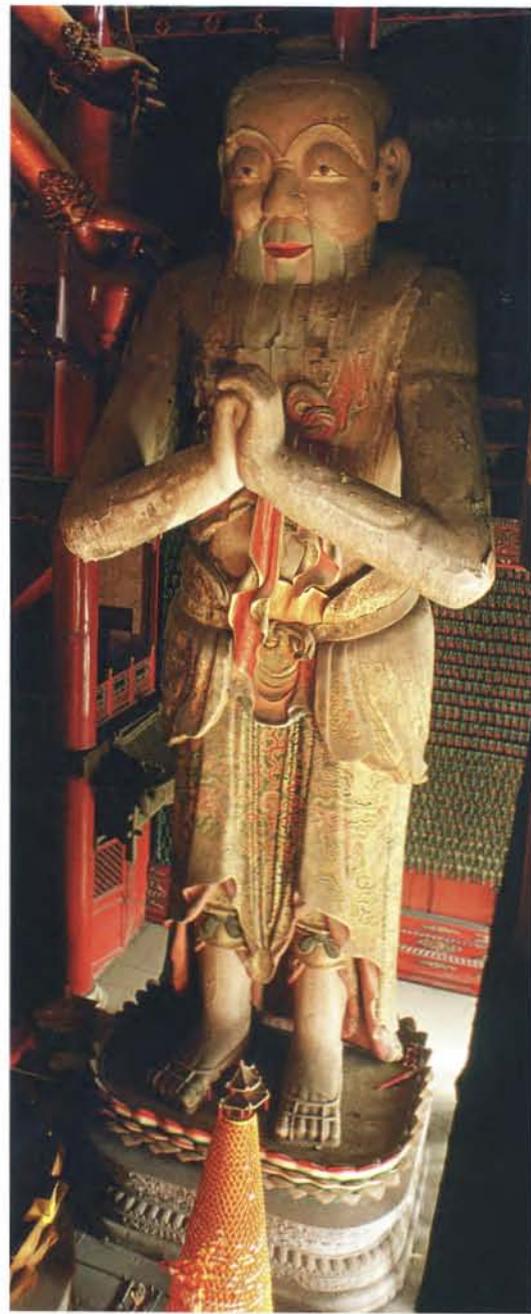
Puning Temple Statues

Puning Temple at Chengde in Hebei Province was built in 1755 to commemorate the victory of the Chinese emperor over the Zonggar people of northwest China. Named "The Temple of Universal Peace," it was constructed as a gesture of goodwill between the Qing Dynasty rulers and the conquered

minorities of the region. The temple combined the architectural styles of the Han as well as of Tibet and India.

The central pavilion of the temple contains the wooden statue of the Avalokitesvara, "the lord who hears/looks in every direction," which is covered with thousands of hands and eyes. The statue, 22 meters high and 15 meters wide, is said to be the tallest wooden statue in the world. It is flanked by the two smaller statues, each some 15 meters high, which are the actual focus of the nomination.

The statues have endured 250 years of neglect and exposure due to the adverse effects of temperature changes, dust accumulation, and heavy visitation. Although funds from the local government and religious organizations have been raised to restore the great Buddha, none have been earmarked for the two smaller statues, which are in desperate need of conservation.



TIANSHUI, GANSU PROVINCE, CHINA

Tianshui Traditional Houses

According to legend, the town of Tianshui in Gansu Province was founded long ago when a crack opened in the Earth from which poured sweet water, creating a lake and springs that would never run dry. Today Tianshui, whose name means “water from heaven,” is a city distinguished by a collection of historic courtyard houses built in traditional styles. Built between 1644 and 1949, the 55 surviving houses are characterized by their superbly carved wooden gates and screens, and by the fact that each contains multiple courtyards linked by corridors.

Since 1949, the number of historic houses in Tianshui has been reduced by more than 50 percent. Confiscated by the communist government, many of the houses, which have been subdivided for multiple family housing, have fallen into disrepair. Modernization has been the greatest threat as many of the houses are simply demolished to make way for wider roads and new concrete buildings. Although Tianshui was declared a “Historically and Culturally Famous City” in 1994, only ten of its 55 surviving historic structures are landmarked. Recent developments have been encouraging as Gansu provincial authorities, in concert with preservation groups, have worked to document and identify the remaining structures and even provided limited funds for restoration. Their efforts, however, are insufficient if a more ambitious program is to be undertaken.



WWW.YU WANG



JONAS PERKINS/GETTY IMAGES

BHUJ, GUJARAT, INDIA

Bhuj Darbargadh

The walled city of Bhuj was the capital of the princely state of Kutch in the Gujarat. The *darbargadh*, or palace complex, within the city was begun by the princes of Kutch in 1548 and was added to over several centuries, reflecting the artistic and cultural development of the city and principality. The *darbargadh*'s most significant interiors and structures date from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, such as the last palace, Prag Mahal, which was built in red sandstone and white marble in 1868 under the direction of British architects. The oldest portions of the palace were vacated in the nineteenth century and, following independence, the palace complex became a privately owned museum.

A major earthquake in January 2001 seriously damaged the *darbargadh*. Buildings collapsed and floors caved in; intricate architectural details and window screens were destroyed and structural cracks developed throughout the complex. The Indian National Trust for Arts and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) immediately identified the Bhuj Darbargadh for emergency restoration and engaged government and private groups to prepare a pilot conservation project—a partial restoration of one palace building, the Aina Mahal. INTACH now wishes to expand the work, carrying out emergency stabilization and restoration.





WWW / MUKESH CHAKRABORTY

**CALCUTTA, INDIA****Dalhousie Square**

During the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, Calcutta reigned as the capital of the British Raj in India. At the heart of the city stood Dalhousie Square, a two-

square-kilometer area that functioned as the center of the political, financial, and social world of the Indian Empire until its capital was moved to New Delhi in 1911. Following independence the square was renamed Binoy, Badal, Dinesh Bagh after three national leaders who were killed during the struggle for independence.

Today, Dalhousie Square is one of India's few remaining colonial city centers that has retained a great number of period buildings. Yet, the square has suffered decades of neglect—

many of its buildings, which chronicle the evolution of the city from 1695 to independence, have been lost in the march of time. Local preservation efforts, however, are beginning to gain momentum, bolstered by grants to document Dalhousie's surviving historic structures. Architects and students from Jadavpur University are working on a detailed inventory of 50 buildings. However, a strong government commitment to the preservation effort and funds to undertake emergency repairs and develop a conservation strategy for the square are needed if this vestige of colonial India is to endure.

HYDERABAD, ANDHRA PRADESH, INDIA**Osmania University College for Women**

Built between 1803 and 1808, the British Residency which now houses the Osmania University College for Women is one of the most important Anglo-Indian structures still standing in India, both for its architectural merit and the critical role it played in the development of nineteenth-century Hyderabad. The building, on the north bank of the Musi River, was commissioned by Colonel James Achilles Kirkpatrick, the British Resident at the court of Hyderabad between 1797 and 1805. It was designed by P. Russel of the Royal Engineers and financed by the Nizam of Hyderabad. Following a mutiny in 1857, the building was fortified with high walls and bastions.

Surrounding the residency are a number of bazaars attracting bankers and traders to the area. The Residency Bazaar, as it came to be known, soon became the financial center of the city. After India gained independence, the building was handed over to the Osmania University, which in turn housed the first women's college in the state of Andhra Pradesh. With 3,000 students on campus, the college stands as a positive adaptation of a colonial legacy.

While Osmania University College for Women is one of the earliest and finest classical revival buildings in India, it has decayed considerably over the past two decades due to heavy use of the building, poor maintenance, and inappropriate repairs. Since listing in 2002, a restoration plan has been drafted for the building. While an engineering assessment is now underway, emergency repairs have yet to be made.



WWW / MARK WEBER

Listed in 2002



WWW.FOODGOURMET.COM

PATIALA, PUNJAB, INDIA

Quila Mubarak

Designed around the idea of coexistence of the religious and secular, a core principle of the Sikh faith, the Quila Mubarak remains the most rare and outstanding example of Sikh palace architecture throughout the Punjab and India. Begun by the great Sikh ruler Ala Sing in 1763, the royal residence was embellished over a 150-year period—its five buildings marvels of Mughal and Rajput design. One of the buildings, the Quila Androon, holds a sacred flame brought from the Himalaya. Local lore holds that, as long as this fire burns, the city of Patiala will continue to flourish.



After years of inappropriate additions and use as government offices, Quila Mubarak was vacated in the 1960s. Since then, it has fallen into a slow decline. Rising damp, improper replacement of the roof, and structural instability have accelerated its decay. Although the Chief Minister of Punjab recently made some positive moves towards conservation of this site, including the initiating of an action plan based on a public-private partnership, more support is needed to attract the funding necessary to conserve this rare Sikh palace.



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©WWW/ELGAWA.WIDATAMA

YOGYAKARTA, INDONESIA

Tamansari Water Castle

Tamansari, which means “perfumed garden,” was built in 1758 as a pleasure palace complex for Sultan Hamengku Buwono I of the Kingdom of Yogyakarta. The 59-building compound included a mosque, meditation chambers, swimming pools, and a series of 18 water gardens and pavilions surrounded by ornamental lakes. The palace complex fell out of use following an earthquake in 1867, which destroyed several buildings and drained the famous water features. Over time, squatters began to inhabit the site, living among the deserted pavilions and building homes in the former lakebeds. For more than a century the buildings fell into a slow decline, until 1970, when five structures were restored to prepare Tamansari as a tourist site.

Today, Tamansari is home to some 2,700 residents, a community that distinguishes itself through its craft traditions in batik and traditional painting. The “perfumed garden” is experiencing a revival, becoming a venue for the performing arts, tourism, crafts, and festivals, all of which



have improved appreciation for the site. Most of the site’s remaining historic structures, however, are plagued by structural problems, and support is needed for a comprehensive management plan to coordinate private and public efforts to improve the site, set guidelines for conservation and restoration, and to begin the process of controlling development within Tamansari.

Omo Hada

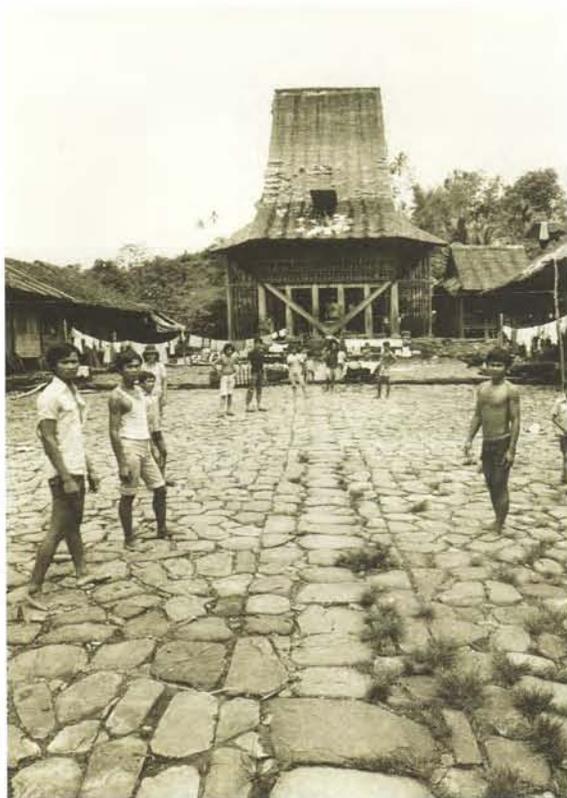


The early nineteenth-century Omo Hada, or traditional chief's house, in Hilinawalö Mazingo Village is one of only five surviving buildings of its type on the island of Nias. Erected on stilts and towering more than 20 meters above the ground, the house, which served as both a royal residence and community meeting house, has steeped pitched roof and skylights, and is adorned with some of the finest wood carvings known in

Indonesia. Built six generations ago by Sihola Bulölö, whose descendants still occupied the dwelling until 1979, the house stands on a terrace facing the village's street. It is the first house in the village to receive the morning sun. Consequently, it is also the first house the commoners see when they wake up. Its location is a reflection of the revered status of the chief, whose title, *si'ulu*, means "the one who is upstream."

Although the chief's house has survived for nearly two centuries, it is in desperate need of conservation, having fallen victim to merciless sun, tropical rains, insect infestation, and neglect. Moreover, the traditional methods of construction have been for the most part forgotten, concrete having displaced wood as the island's preferred building material. Economic hardship in the region compounded by a shortage of timber on the island has thwarted restoration efforts. Without funds and technical assistance, as well as an advocacy campaign to increase awareness of this elegant wooden building and others from the period, we are certain to lose an exquisite, yet vanishing, vernacular form.

Listed in 2000 & 2002



MALAN YERO



FUKUYAMA, JAPAN

Tomo Port Town



Sited on a dramatic, yet slight, stretch of land between the mountains and the sea, the Edo-period (A.D. 1603–1867) port of Tomo still retains much of its original character—townhouses, temples, and shrines line narrow lanes and

paths, while port facilities such as a lighthouse, docks, and warehouses provide a window on the history of Japanese maritime transportation between the seventeenth and nineteenth centuries.

Today, however, this small trading hub is threatened by the construction of a landfill and bridge that will radically alter its waterfront, increase traffic within the city, and adversely affect its inhabitants' way of life. Although the historic center of Tomo was declared a historic district in 2000, the port area was not included in the landmark designation.

Listing of the site in 2002 applied pressure on the local government and increased public awareness of the threats to Tomo as it hosted a national convention for the preservation of the historical environment. Recently, Tomo became the subject of study by students at the Nihon and Tokyo Universities. Although local opposition has temporarily stymied the bridge project, it has not eliminated it, and the threat to this traditional Japanese port city remains.

Listed in 2002



© SHARON SHARON/SARINER (2)



ULAANBAATAR, MONGOLIA

Geser Sum Monastery

Founded in the late nineteenth century during the time of Manchu dominance over Mongolia, the Geser Sum Monastery was built with donations from Chinese merchants. As a result, planning of the complex is stylistically Chinese, but the architecture and sculpture identify the site as a unique fusion of elements of Mongolian Buddhism, indigenous

shamanism, Chinese Buddhism, and Taoism. Geser Sum is the only monastery and associated sacred landscape as yet unaffected by urban development in the capital. This fusion of religious and cultural traditions reflects the larger history of Mongolia as a crossroads of differing cultures. As the government took possession of Geser Sum in 1933, and used it for the Border Army Song and Dance Ensemble, it escaped demolition during the suppression of the Buddhist monasteries and later became a functioning temple again after the cessation of communist rule in 1990.

However, lack of maintenance, theft, and the threat of nearby development have negatively affected the site. A partnership between the post-communist government and the Buddhist community has led to a new initiative to restore Geser Sum. While the planning phase of the project, including a training program for Mongolians, has been financially supported by the Alliance of Religions and Conservation, the Getty Grant Program, and the World Bank, the project has managed to raise only limited funds to carry out actual restoration.





PENGHU, TAIWAN

Jungshe Village

Located on an island off the coast of Taiwan, Jungshe Village is the result of three centuries of Chinese immigration and cultural development. Jungshe was first settled by the Han people from

mainland China about 300 years ago. Attracted by the climate and setting, which offered limited crops but ample resources for fishing, the settlers designed the village in a style that reflected the architectural forms and urban traditions of Chinese culture.

Relatively untouched by the modern world, the village boasts a remarkable collection of historic structures including 151 traditional courtyard houses, temples, fish-cooking stoves, kilns, cowsheds, water wells, and wharves.

Until recently, Jungshe had managed to preserve its traditional way of life. Today, however, the village is suffering from depopulation, evident in its rows of derelict houses. Only 40 of the houses are occupied as permanent residences and maintained, while the others are left to the elements. Of these, a third are in serious condition. Although the local government is trying to improve Jungshe's infrastructure, the preservation of its houses is proving difficult. Only with the combined support of government, national institutions, and local residents can such a campaign hope to succeed.



WWW.PHOTOENCLIN



WWW.THEIRY JOURNEY AND SEBASTIAN MORSET

BAGIR SETTLEMENT, TURKMENISTAN

Old Nisa

With its ancient tell surrounded by high defensive earthen ramparts, and its impressive palace complex, the ancient Parthian city of Old Nisa is one of Turkmenistan's most significant cultural sites. Once considered a rival of Rome for control of the Near East, Parthia flourished between 300 B.C. and A.D. 300.

Although the archaeological excavations of Old Nisa over the past 70 years have considerably enriched our understanding of the ancient Parthian Empire, they have been detrimental to what remains of the city, since excavated elements of the site have been left exposed to erosive rains without any conservation effort.

The National Department for the Protection, Research and Restoration of Historical Monuments, the Turkmen governmental agency that controls the site, is working with CRATerre-EAG (the International Center for Earth Construction) at the Grenoble School of Architecture to consolidate and preserve the already exposed elements, and persuade archaeologists to take conservation into consideration as they continue to excavate.





© W&A / JOHN STUBBS

COMMISSIONED BY CATHERINE THE GREAT, THE LATE EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY ALEXANDER PALACE AT TSARSKOE SELO HAD WEATHERED THE RAVAGES OF TIME AND SUBSTANTIAL ABUSE AS A NAVAL INSTALLATION. FOLLOWING THE SITE'S LISTING IN 1996 AND 1998, WMF, WITH SUPPORT FROM AMERICAN EXPRESS, UNDERWROTE A RESTORATION OF THE ROOF TO ARREST FURTHER DAMAGE. TODAY, WORK PROCEEDS SO THAT THIS IMPERIAL WONDER WILL REGAIN ITS RIGHTFUL PLACE IN THE CANON OF RUSSIAN ARCHITECTURE.



© WMF





EUROPE

UNITY IN DIVERSITY

In August 2002, as the floodwaters of the Elbe and Vltava rose with increasing speed, the world held its collective breath as the historic centers of Prague and Dresden were evacuated—museum galleries feverishly emptied of their contents while low-lying historic monuments stood helpless before raging waters. For the preservation community, it brought back memories of the flood of 1966 when the Arno breached its banks and inundated central Florence; many great artworks were lost forever. This time, lessons learned translated into international cooperation and swift action that prevented significant losses.

Since 1996, the World Monuments Watch has been a witness and participant in the growing collaborative response to the issues that threaten the historic resources of an ever-united Europe, with 199 sites having appeared on the list. Although an economic disparity remains between the post-Soviet republics and the states of the European Union, challenges to heritage transcend these distinctions. From Panticapaeum on the shores of the Black Sea to the Roman Villa of Rabaçal in Portugal, archaeological sites once excavated to unlock the secrets of our past now lie exposed to the elements, slowly vanishing before our eyes. Scores of churches, synagogues, and mosques, once centers of community and faith, today struggle to preserve their historic integrity while adapting to new uses. Even iconic architectural masterpieces, such as Horace Walpole's Strawberry Hill in the United Kingdom, languish from poor custodianship and apathy.

At first glance these challenges present a daunting portfolio, yet regardless of location or circumstance their problems are rarely unique. In case after case, the correct combination of exposure through advocacy, local commitment, and perseverance has resulted in successful solutions. These solutions, in turn, add to a widening pool of knowledge to which other sites in crisis may turn. The greatest promise of European integration with regards to heritage protection is undoubtedly intra-European cooperation. Never before has the opportunity been so great for cross-sector partnerships between governments, national institutions, and conservation organizations. WMF has taken advantage of this dynamic environment by fostering public-private partnerships, encouraging technical exchange, and providing incentives. Even with WMF's unmatched record of success, the 33 European sites on this year's Watch list serve as a stark reminder that many monuments are still at risk. The Watch can sound the alarm, but Europe must respond. ■

Certificates of Exceptional Accomplishment

EUROPE

Bosnia & Herzegovina, Mostar Historic Center

Mostar once a picturesque and thriving town, long admired for its religious tolerance, was reduced to ruin in the Balkan Wars of the early 1990s. In 1997, WMF initiated a project—supported by its Wilson Challenge Program in cooperation with the Aga Khan Trust for Culture, the Stari Mostar Foundation, and the local Preservation Institute—to conserve the Old City. The World Bank, UNESCO, and the Istanbul-based IRCICA foundation joined this effort, focusing on the reconstruction of the city's Stari Most Bridge, which is slated for completion in 2004. Forming a consensus between two ethnic communities has been critical to the development of a sustainable municipal conservation program for this ancient city.



Certificate of Exceptional Accomplishment awarded to:

- Zijad Demirovic, *Director, Institute for Protection of Cultural Historical National Heritage of Mostar*
- Amir Pasic, *Mostar 2004*
- Stefano Bianca, *Aga Khan Trust for Culture*



Italy, Cinque Terre

The picturesque landscape of Cinque Terre encloses the terraces buttressed with stone walls carved in the thirteenth century on the steep wooded hills above five

Mediterranean villages. Though Cinque Terre has long been renowned for the quality of its wine, only part of the landscape is now under cultivation due to its near abandonment by the winemaking industry. The University of Genoa used two consecutive Watch listings to advocate for the preservation of the site and to raise funds. A multidisciplinary study has been produced, which will be the basis for planning that should ensure self-sustainability of the site.

Certificate of Exceptional Accomplishment awarded to:

- Mariolina Besio, *University of Genoa, POLIS*

Ukraine, Chersonesos

With its well-preserved archaeological remains dating from the fifth century B.C. to the fifteenth century A.D., Chersonesos is one of the most important sites of antiquity. With Watch listing in 1998 and 2002, the Institute of Classical Archaeology at the University of Texas and the National Preservation Tauric in Chersonesos have made great progress in their preservation effort. Property claims at the site have been resolved; the government has nominated the site to the UNESCO World Heritage List



and an NGO "Support for Chersonesos" was founded to manage funds raised for the site.

Certificate of Exceptional Accomplishment awarded to:

- Leonid Marchenko, *Director, National Preservation Tauric, Chersonesos*
- Institute of Classical Archaeology, *University of Texas: Joseph C. Carter, Professor, Asele Surina, Program Coordinator*

Georgia, Art Nouveau Buildings

An incredible array of Art Nouveau buildings can be found throughout the Republic of Georgia. Unfortunately the owners of these buildings have let them deteriorate. Nestan Tatarashvili, head of the Georgian Art Nouveau Preservation Pressure Group, has campaigned for their preservation. The April 2002 earthquake, which caused the loss of several of these buildings, did not stop the dedicated group, which has continued to use the 2002 Watch listing to lobby local television stations into featuring threatened sites. The Group has also showcased some of their documentation work in an international photo exhibit entitled *Art Nouveau in Tbilisi*.



Certificate of Exceptional Accomplishment awarded to:

- Nestan Tatarashvili, *Georgian Art Nouveau Preservation Pressure Group*



Russia, Viipuri Library

Built between 1927 and 1935 and located in Vyborg on the Karelian Isthmus, which Finland lost to the Soviet Union during WWII, Alvar Aalto's Viipuri Library features an

inner rectangular space, massive undecorated façades, and a curved, textured wooden ceiling. Successive Watch listings in 2000 and 2002 have helped to raise the profile of this important building and to promote joint conservation efforts between Finnish and Russian Restoration Committees.

Certificate of Exceptional Accomplishment awarded to:

- Finnish Committee for the Restoration of the Viipuri Library, *Helsinki: Eric Adlercreutz, Chairman, Majja Kairamo, Architect*
- Markku Lahti, *Director, Alvar Aalto Foundation, Helsinki*

For a description of the Certificate of Exceptional Accomplishment program, please see page 10.



KORÇË, ALBANIA

Voskopojë Churches

Nearly 370 square meters of vibrant murals depicting an array of scriptural and religious scenes cover the ceilings and walls of the churches of Voskopojë. The five orthodox churches named, respectively, for the archangels Michael and Gabriel, Saint Athanas, Saint

Nicholas, the prophet Elijah, and the Dormition of Notre Dame were built between 1630 and 1780, and are all that remains of an original collection of 26 churches. Voskopojë, during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, was one of the most important Christian centers in the Ottoman-dominated Balkans. Over time the majority of these churches were destroyed by war and earthquakes, leaving only the five standing today.

With limited resources with which to maintain them, the churches along with the small, impoverished village, its ancient paved streets, and two bridges are in a desperate state. The murals are particularly threatened as these treasures have suffered due to dampness, a result of water infiltration through walls and roofs. The government and the Albanian Orthodox Church would like to promote appropriate tourism in the area as a means of gaining financial support to ensure their restoration and long-term preservation. Voskopojë has become the centerpiece of a regional redevelopment effort, and limited funds have been allocated for emergency conservation. A formal collaboration between the Albanian Institute of Cultural Monuments and Patrimoine Sans Frontières has defined priorities and provided professional project planning; however, funds are still required for implementation.

Listed in 2002

VIDIN, BULGARIA

Vidin Synagogue



Built in 1894 in the neo-Gothic style, Vidin was Bulgaria's second largest synagogue, a testament to the wealth and pride of the local community

that had flourished for more than five centuries after its arrival from Spain in the fifteenth century. The synagogue contained a narthex, prayer hall, and lofts, all of which were decorated with a combination of classic architectural forms and ancient Jewish decorative symbols, illuminated by stained-glass windows.

Today, the Vidin Synagogue with its four towers stands as a ruin, roofless and forlorn. Seized by the communist government in the wake of WWII, the synagogue was subsequently appropriated by the state. During the 1970s the Ministry of Culture and the National Institute of Monuments developed a plan to restore the building. Work began in 1983 and continued until 1989, when the collapse of the communist regime led to the abandonment of the project, just as workers had removed the roof. Exposed to the elements for more than a decade, the synagogue is now a ruin. Complete photodocumentation of the synagogue and its interiors took place prior to the restoration attempt and could be used as the basis for a new restoration program. The Bulgarian national Jewish organization, now the owner of the site, wishes to see the building restored as a concert hall for use by the community, and also as a monument to its forebears.



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CHOTESOV, CZECH REPUBLIC

Chotesov Monastery

Founded in the twelfth century by Magifico of Hroznata to administer to a scarcely populated region in the Bohemian borderlands, Chotesov Monastery was at the epicenter of religious conflict for much of its existence. Sacked and

burned three times by Hussite and Protestant forces, yet defiantly rebuilt each time, Chotesov stood as a bulwark against the tide of the reformation. Chotesov's final baroque transformation in the mid-eighteenth century signified the triumph of Catholicism in Bohemia, after which the monastery reached the apex of its wealth and power. In 1784, Emperor Joseph II, attempting to break the church's power in his dominions, ordered the closure of monasteries, including Chotesov, which later became a school.

Occupied again throughout the latter half of the twentieth century by German, American, and communist forces, Chotesov is now in poor condition due to lack of maintenance. Since 2000, a major re-roofing project has been carried out on the convent building and emergency repairs have been implemented with government funding; however, the structure still lacks windows and doors, and is in need of emergency repair.



PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC

St. Anne's Church

Architecturally significant churches abound throughout the Czech Republic, yet adaptive reuse solutions that respect the historic integrity of the site while fulfilling a modern use are difficult to achieve. Although St. Anne's

Church in the Old Town district of Prague has been used as a warehouse for the past two centuries, the church has preserved its original structure and most of its genuine fabric. The interior still retains a cycle of Gothic, Renaissance, and Baroque murals, and its original Gothic roof timbering. During its use as a warehouse, the church underwent alterations such as the introduction of multiple floors, whose joists damaged the frescoes and the Gothic truss system built in the 1370s.

A conservation plan has been developed for the site, which focuses on the preservation of the wall paintings, internal and external repairs, and the restoration of the extraordinary wooden trusses, as well as its adaptive reuse as a performance space. However, only limited funding has been provided by the government and private sources. Monies and technical assistance are needed if the project is to move forward.

HELSINKI, FINLAND

Helsinki-Malmi Airport

With its acclaimed functionalist architecture, Finland's Helsinki-Malmi airport is a representative example of airport development in Europe in the early days of commercial aviation. When the airport opened

in December 1936, its huge hangar could accommodate six Junkers 52 aircraft, making it the second largest in Europe.

Helsinki-Malmi Airport is one of a number of surviving sites built to serve the 1940 Helsinki Olympic Games, which, due to WWII, were postponed until 1952. During the war, the airport played a key role in the air defense of Helsinki. Today, Helsinki-Malmi is the second busiest airport in Finland and by far the most important pilot training center in the country. It is the sole general aviation airfield in the capital region, where almost 20 percent of the Finnish population lives.

Although the site has two landmarked buildings, the city of Helsinki has proposed the demolition of the airport to make way for new housing to accommodate up to 10,000 people. Current airport operations would be dispersed to other airfields some 100 kilometers away. The threat of demolition has galvanized the owners and operators of Helsinki-Malmi Airport, as well as local residents and citizens, to form the Friends of Malmi Airport Society to campaign against the destruction of the site and seek its preservation as a fully functional national and international cultural treasure.



JYRKI/ISTOCK/ALAMY



TIMOTESUBANI VILLAGE, BORJOMI REGION, GEORGIA

Timotesubani Virgin Church



Rendered just prior to the Mongol invasions of the thirteenth century A.D., the mural paintings in the Virgin Church at Timotesubani are among the most extraordinary examples of Georgian medieval art. Painted between 1205 and 1215, the frescoes—and the church in which they are housed—are associated with the reign of Queen Tamar, considered the golden age of Georgian art and culture.



While the fresco cycle had survived for nearly eight centuries, a lack of maintenance during the post-Soviet period of the early 1990s resulted in substantial deterioration of the paintings due to water infiltration. With grants from the Samuel H. Kress Foundation and support from the Georgian Glass and

Mineral Water Company, the Georgian Arts and Culture Center has been able to develop a masterplan for the conservation of the church and to undertake emergency repairs to the roof, walls, and drainage system to arrest further decay. However, the paintings themselves have yet to be stabilized and conserved. The church is part of a monastic complex managed jointly by the Regional Orthodox Patriarchy and the State Department of Protection of Georgian Monuments.


RIZOMYLOS & ELIKI, ACHAIA, GREECE

Helike Archaeological Site

In 2001, archaeologists discovered the first traces of the long-lost site of Helike, a classical Greek city buried in an alluvial plain on the southwest shores of the Gulf of Corinth. According to ancient sources and modern field research, an earthquake in 373 B.C. destroyed and submerged Helike in the waters of a coastal lagoon. Nearby, archaeologists also found an Early Bronze Age site dating from 2500 B.C. and a Roman road built in the Augustan period that connected Corinth with Patras and Olympia.

Destroyed once by nature, Helike is now threatened by man. The Greek National Railway plans to lay a new rail line connecting Athens and Patras, the path of which is slated to bisect the sites. As construction is due to begin in 2005, the rail line will destroy the sites before systematic excavations have revealed what is there, while rendering inaccessible one of the most valuable undeveloped archaeological sites in the entire Peloponnese.

The local mayor and ecological organizations have appealed to the central government with no apparent success. The Helike Society in Greece and the Helike Foundation in New York are supportive of the Helike Project, which carries out the excavations, and seek to purchase the land in question to protect it. Raising public awareness of the site, it is hoped, will focus attention on this ill-conceived railroad plan and convince the Greek National Railway to consider an alternative route for the tracks.


PALAIKASTRO, CRETE, GREECE

Palaikastro Archaeological Site

Located on the eastern shore of Crete, Palaikastro is the only Minoan city to have survived intact—its harbor, outlying settlements, and sanctuaries preserved under 2,000 years of sediment. According to legend, it was here that the Diktaian Zeus, the Cretan equivalent of the Greek god of wine, Dionysos, was born and where he built his holy city. Evidence of his worship includes a rare 3,500-year-old statuette of the god in gold and ivory, and the recent discovery of what may be a temple dedicated to his cult.

Natural erosion and the rise in sea level have plagued this coastal site. Last winter, heavy rains brought down the remains of a temporary shelter erected in 1990 to protect a particularly fragile building. The site's most pressing threat, however, is that posed by the development of a tourist complex at Cape Plako, an area that includes Minoan quarries. An access road to reach the resort area is planned through the ancient city.

Listing in 2002 convinced the current mayor and governor of Crete to be more supportive of on-site preservation efforts. However, to protect the site into perpetuity, measures must be taken to stem coastal erosion, shelters need to be installed to protect exposed remains, and a public advocacy campaign must be launched to minimize the impact of tourism development in the area.


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Listed in 2002

TURONY, HUNGARY

Turony Church

Originally built as a single-nave masonry church in the thirteenth century, Turony Church, in a village just south of Pecs, is among the earliest surviving structures that represent the first period of Hungarian statehood.

The church is in poor condition due to fires and deferred maintenance over the years. Structural weakening of the walls and timber roof framing due to prolonged water penetration is further threatening the stability and integrity of the church. Heritage officials have been active over the past two years, replacing the roof, reinstating the drainage system, rebuilding the wooden nave ceiling, and re-plastering the bell tower, and state funds have been allocated to complete the restoration of the tower and replacement of the steeple. However, far more needs to be done to complete restoration of the interior of the church and its grounds.





KENNICHAUS THE HERITAGE SERVICE



ATHASSEL, IRELAND

Athassel Abbey

Set in an idyllic landscape of verdant green rolling hills along the banks of the River Suir, the ruins of Athassel Abbey stand as a romantic symbol of Ireland's legendary past. Dedicated to St. Edmund, the abbey was founded in 1192 by William Fitz Aldem de Burgo, a Norman aristocrat, for the Augustinian Order. Athassel grew to become the largest medieval priory in Ireland and a force in local politics. Unfortunately, this led to friction with the local ruling family, the O'Briens, who put Athassel to the torch in the mid-fifteenth century. Surviving features include the chancel with its lancet windows, multiple carved elements, the remains of the cloister, and the bridge with its associated gatehouse.

Although the site is recognized by the government as a national monument and protected structure, Athassel suffers from many of the problems associated with ruins. Exposed to centuries of Ireland's constant rains and brutal winters, the rate of deterioration is accelerating. The effects of natural aging, water penetration, and vegetation have been compounded by cattle grazing about the monument. Seasonal flooding of the site further exacerbates these factors. To date, a conservation plan has yet to be developed and a comprehensive solution involving all of Ireland's heritage bodies is required to secure Athassel's future.



KELLS, IRELAND

Headfort House

In the early 1770s, Thomas Tylour, the first Earl of Bective, commissioned Irish architect George Semple to build Headfort's "big house,"

which he designed in a severe, unadorned neoclassical style and built with austere grey-brown local granite for Tylour's Co. Meath estate. Headfort's principal rooms were designed by Scottish architect Robert Adam, who integrated his plans into Semple's earlier work. Adam's influence on the domestic architecture in Britain and Ireland during the eighteenth century was immense, and history has given his name to the distinctive design style he created. The principal rooms at Headfort with their historic Adam-designed fixtures and furnishings are the only commission of Robert Adam's office to survive in Ireland.

Headfort House remained the private residence of the Tylour family until 1949, when the family removed to one wing, leasing the central pavilion to the newly formed Headfort School. When the house was finally acquired by the school in 1996, the building was experiencing the effects of long-term deferred maintenance, such as severe water infiltration from leaky roofs and defective internal drainage, all of which were adversely affecting the basic structure of the house. While funds have been raised for planning and conditions surveys, further funds are needed for a new roof and drainage system, prerequisites for any further conservation work.



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FIUMICINO, ITALY

Port of Trajan Archaeological Park



The largest and one of the best-preserved Roman ports in the Mediterranean, the Port of Trajan actually comprises two harbor facilities near the Tiber River, linked together by an impressive second-century A.D. building, the so-called Imperial Palace. The town of Portus grew up around the harbors and by the early fifth century was enclosed by a city wall. Portus remained the principal port for ships bound for Rome and an important trading hub until its abandonment in the ninth century due to a change in coastline that rendered it inaccessible.

Most of the port's ancient structures are in ruinous condition, due in part to nineteenth-century "excavations" by treasure-seekers. The loss of marble facings and displaced mounds of earth within the Imperial Palace have caused decay and the collapse of much of its masonry core. In the late 1980s, the area became state property and a program of restoration began, funds for which have remained scarce.

Since the site's first listing in 2002, the Soprintendenza per i Beni Archeologici di Ostia has continued excavation and conservation of the palace. Topographical and geophysical surveys of buried structures that began in 1998 have now been completed. Vegetation has been removed so that conservators have full access to the structure and can begin to address issues of stabilization and consolidation of surviving remains, and repair the building's drainage system and main access road, which were damaged by repeated flooding in 2002.



PITIGLIANO, SORANO, MANCIANO, TUSCANY, ITALY

Tuff-Towns and Vie Cave

Set against an azure blue sky or a crimson sunset, the legendary hilltop towns of Tuscany have inspired artists and travelers for centuries. Etruscan in origin, the

towns of Pitigliano, Sorano, and Manciano are perched at the summits of enormous hills of tufa, or tuff stone. The towns, as well as the historic Vie Cave—an extensive network of deep trenches connecting Etruscan sacred sites with a necropolis—are steeped in history, abundant archaeological remains left by the Etruscans and Romans, and numerous buildings dating to the medieval and Renaissance periods.

Over the centuries, the region's soft volcanic tufa has gradually eroded, destabilizing cliffs and hillsides. The town of Sorano alone has lost an estimated ten percent of its area since the eighteenth century as a result of landslides, two buildings being destroyed as recently as 1997. Although some preventive measures have been taken by local authorities, there is no comprehensive program to address the erosion problem. Until a comprehensive environmental strategy can be developed and implemented, the hilltop towns of Tuscany and the Vie Cave will remain in jeopardy.



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LUBLIN, POLAND

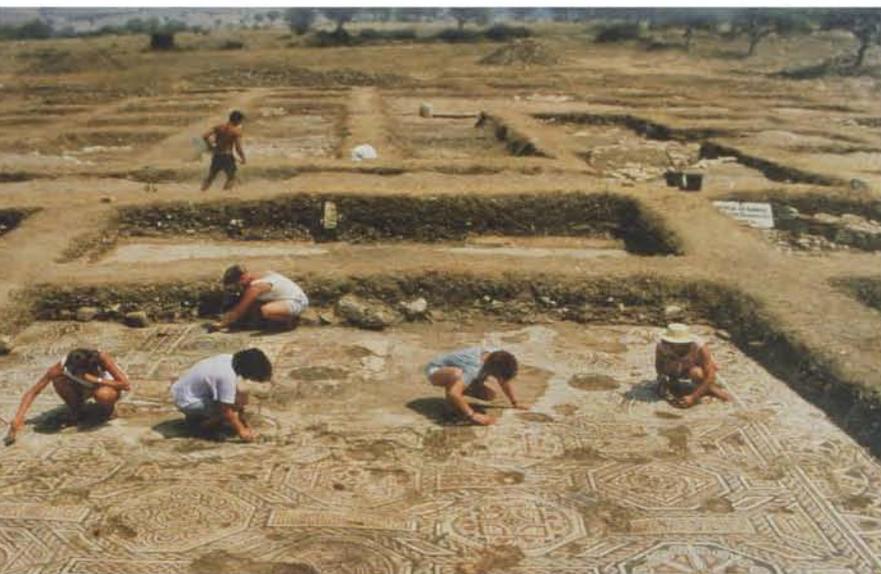
Old Lublin Theater

Built in 1822, the Old Lublin Theater was designed in the neo-classical style by its first owner, Polish architect Lukasz Rodakiewicz, to host local and traveling performances for the entertainment of local citizenry. For more than 150 years, the theater served the city as a venue for plays and opera, then as a cinema and a theater museum.

In 1981, the theater was closed, having succumbed to poor management and lack of maintenance. A fire in 1993 severely damaged its interior and compromised the structural integrity of the building, while its damaged roof exposed the interior to the elements. In 1994 the Galeria na Prowincji Foundation purchased the property in hopes of saving the theater and transforming it into an international arts center. Although this architectural relic has found new life as an artist's workspace in recent years, it receives no support from the city or the Ministry of Culture. Without funds for emergency conservation and a public awareness campaign to bolster support for its preservation, one of Poland's oldest public theaters is certain to fade from the Lublin cityscape.



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RABAÇAL, PORTUGAL

Roman Villa of Rabaçal

The ancient town of Conimbriga, in the Roman province of Lusitania, was elevated to the rank of municipium during the reign of the Emperor Vespasian (A.D. 69–79). This designation led to an extensive campaign of civic building projects and the proliferation of magnificent private townhouses and country villas. The Roman villa of Rabaçal, in the municipality of Penela in west-central Portugal, is perhaps the most important Roman site of ancient Conimbriga. This late-Roman villa features a series of mosaics whose high-quality motifs and figures are influenced by the Near East and are considered unique among other Roman sites in Portugal.

Two decades of excavation have left the foundations, walls, stucco revetments, and various decorative features exposed to the elements. The association Friends of the Villa Romana, the Penela Municipal Council, and the site museum are now challenged with the issue of how to protect and maintain the site while providing access to an increasing number of visitors. A protective covering for the mosaics is now being considered as the first component of a site conservation plan that would also address restoration treatments and improved site interpretation.



MOSCOW, RUSSIA

Narcomfin Building

Behind the Narcomfin apartment building's austere bands of double-height windows unfolds a six-story blueprint for communal living as ingenious as it is humane. Built between 1928 and 1930 by architects and engineers led by Moisei Ginzburg, a member of the post-Revolutionary Union of

Contemporary Architects, the apartments range from small dwellings—a living room with kitchen and bath 'cabins' and a split-level bedroom above—to capacious three-over-two plans that include imposing double-height rooms. The building, erected to house employees of the Ministry of Finance, consists not only of private living quarters, but of communal facilities—an open terrace on the second floor and solarium and garden on the building's flat roof. A four-story annex housed a fitness center, kitchen, public restaurant, library, recreation room, and day nursery. These facilities made the building a successful "house-commune," unique in Russia and in the whole world, intended to divide household chores among the inhabitants while preserving privacy. Bauhaus-inspired color schemes and built-in furniture remain as evidence of the architect's utopian vision.

Today, the basic fabric of this reinforced-concrete structure is deteriorating. Collapsed walls render a number of units uninhabitable while malfunction of heating, water, and drainage systems have caused leaks that have led to dampness, fungi, and wall decomposition. Listed in 2002 with encouragement from concerned local enthusiasts and scholars, this monument of Revolutionary Rationalism still languishes from lack of government support, which has placed a low priority on conserving modern monuments, regardless of their significance.

Listed in 2002



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LOMONOSOV, RUSSIA

Chinese Palace at Oranienbaum

With its great elliptical palace in the "Petrine Baroque," Prince Alexander Menshikov's estate at Oranienbaum outshone even the palaces of his master Peter the Great. Upon Peter's death, the estate was seized and Menshikov was sent into exile. During the reign of Catherine the Great, numerous follies and pleasure pavilions were added to the estate. For her private retreat, the czarina commissioned the great Italian architect Antonio Rinaldi to build a lavish Rococo-style, Chinese-inspired palace. The Chinese Palace, including its extravagant chinoiserie interiors, survived the revolution of 1917 and miraculously escaped destruction at the hands of the German army during WWII.

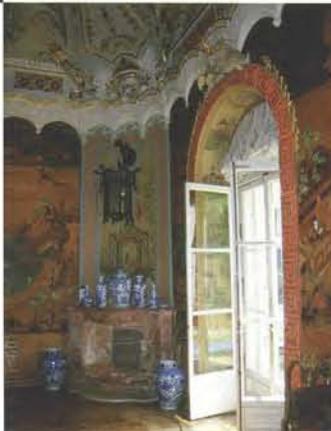
Today, this monument to eighteenth-century Russian court architecture is in a fragile state. Since the site's listing in 2000 and 2002, funds have been

raised to repair the roof of the Chinese Palace and begin work on the building's drainage system to arrest further water infiltration. The building must dry out before any interior restoration work can take place. An investigation is now underway to identify problems and prescribe solutions related to the high water table at the site. Significant funds are needed if there is to be a full restoration of this exquisite imperial jewel and other important buildings on the estate.

Listed in 2000 & 2002



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PERM REGION, RUSSIA

Perm-36

Instituted in the early years following the Bolshevik Revolution, the gulag system of prison camps constitutes one of the darkest chapters of Soviet history. Millions of Soviet citizens were arrested and interned in gulag camps throughout the USSR, where they performed forced labor under extreme conditions. Perm-36, the only intact gulag camp surviving in Russia, operated from 1946 until 1987, during which time it housed "enemies of the state," as well as common criminals. All of the camp's timber buildings were built by the prisoners themselves.

Although Perm-36 in the western Ural Mountains warrants preservation as a potent reminder of political oppression and as a memorial to those who died in its confines, the site suffers as a result of poor construction and lack of maintenance. Many of the buildings have deteriorated and are in need of immediate attention. Nominators of the site hope that listing will generate the international interest necessary to preserve this potent reminder of humanity's darker side.



VIPAVA, SLOVENIA

Lanthieri Manor

The Counts Lanthieri ruled over the Vipava Valley from the sixteenth to the twentieth centuries, establishing the extensive vineyards for which the valley is known. The counts also left their architectural stamp with the construction of a town palace at their seat in Vipava. Originally built in 1669, the palace went through a series of renovations, culminating in its present baroque appearance in 1762, reminiscent of the villas of the Veneto, a reflection of the family's Longobard origins. With its extensive outbuildings, the palace also formed the center of a great axis that connected natural and man-made landmarks to create a harmonious and picturesque urban landscape.

Used as a military headquarters for most of the twentieth century, the palace has suffered from years of neglect and inappropriate use, leading to its poor state of conservation. Intermittent flooding has contributed to chronic dampness, causing further decay. Work is currently underway to ensure protection against flooding, and unsympathetic modern outbuildings are being removed. In addition, significant baroque wall paintings are being uncovered and stucco is being restored. Much more is needed to implement a wider conservation program and to prepare the palace as an exhibition space.





CHURCH OF STS. COSMOS AND DAMIAN



BODRUZAL, LUKOV-VENECIA, TOPOLA, SLOVAKIA

Three Greek Catholic Churches

The Greek Catholic Church of Eastern Slovakia has always battled for its survival. Orthodox in tradition, yet aligned with the Pope, the church faced persecution and even dissolution while maintaining a unique cultural and religious tradition for its followers. These traditions were reflected in the

architecture of their houses of worship, which exhibit a fusion of Byzantine and Western architectural styles. Three such churches—the churches of St. Nicholas, Sts. Cosmos and Damian, and St. Michael the Archangel—constructed of timber between the mid-seventeenth and early eighteenth century, represent some of the most highly developed examples of this unique sacred architecture.

These churches suffer from a host of wood-related problems, ranging from biological attack in the form of fungi and wood beetles to water infiltration and structural damage due to wood rot. Without the replacement of roofing materials and floors, and shoring up of failing structural elements, the churches, with their rustic baroque interiors filled with carved altarpieces and icons, could be irreparably damaged and subsequently closed to parishioners and the public. Diocesan representatives and national preservation authorities are preparing a public awareness campaign in an effort to increase appreciation of these monuments. What is lacking, however, is a comprehensive solution to the conservation issues facing the buildings as a distinct group, and the problems unique to each structure.



CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL



CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS



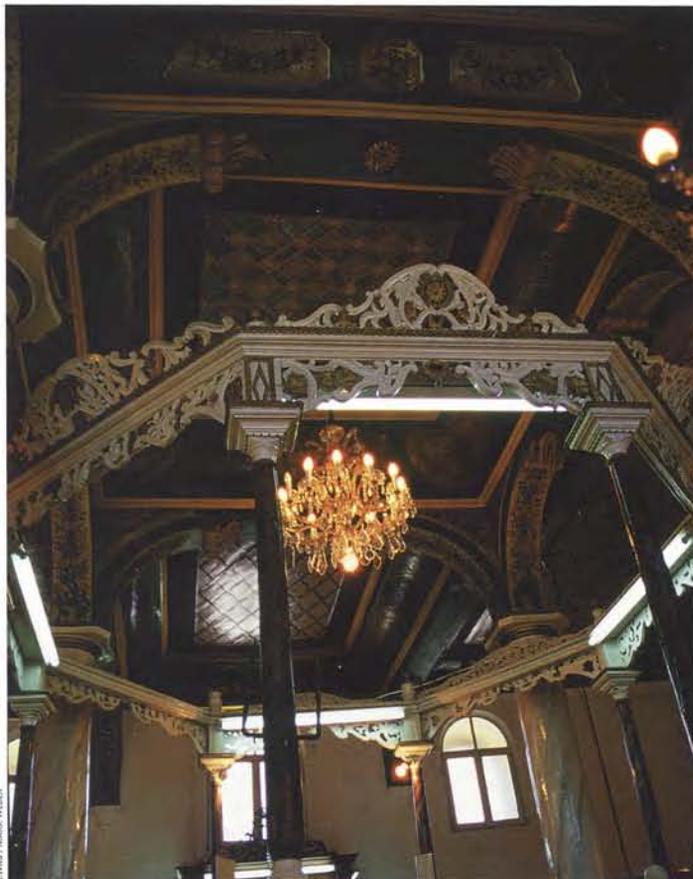
MONTERROSO, SPAIN

Pazo de San Miguel das Peñas

Set among the hills in northwestern Spain, the Pazo de San Miguel das Peñas chronicles 12 centuries of architectural development in Galicia. The oldest portions of the villa, including the great hall, date back to the

seventh century and reflect the early architectural traditions of the Swabians and Visigoths who conquered the region following the fall of the Roman Empire. Over time, a church and defensive tower were added to the structure; during the eighteenth century, the building became a *pazo*, or manor house, for the Marquisate of Camarasa. The *pazo* is thought to be the only remaining seventh-century secular building in the region. It also contains the most significant Renaissance mural paintings in Galicia and the only known example of scraffito decoration in the province.

Many of the walls have been seriously damaged as a result of vandalism and neglect. Missing sections of the roof have allowed water to infiltrate the building, saturating floors and walls, which has led to the loss of fresco and scraffito decoration. Some emergency measures have been carried out in recent years, including the installation of temporary supports to brace floors and what remains of the roof structure. However, a new use for the site has yet to be found. Its current owner, a private foundation, is hoping to attract support for the restoration of this jewel of Spanish architecture and find a use for the building that respects its illustrious past.



IZMIR, TURKEY

Central Izmir Synagogues



Faced with expulsion from Europe, Jews fleeing Spanish oppression sought refuge in the dominion of the Ottoman Empire. During this period many refugees settled in the city of Izmir, forming one of the largest communities of

Jews in Asia Minor. For more than 500 years the two communities coexisted in peace, each respecting the other's religion and way of life. During the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries the community reached 50,000 people, mainly centered in and around the old and traditional city center known as Kemeralti.

Modernization and the creation of Israel resulted in a serious decline in the Jewish population, leading to the neglect and abandonment of many of the community's buildings. At present, the local community is represented by some 2,000 people. The degraded Kemeralti, with its host of urban and economic woes, has added pressures, which have led to the further deterioration of the already battered historic resources of the Jewish quarter. Of the nine remaining synagogues in the area, two have collapsed. While the government has plans to restore one synagogue, the others languish along with numerous important buildings at the heart of this once-vital Jewish center.



SELÇUK, TURKEY

Ephesus Archaeological Site

Impressed by the city's Hellenistic allure and magnificent monuments, the Romans referred to Ephesus as "the first and greatest metropolis in Asia." Among the city's monuments was one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, the Temple of Artemis, a renowned pilgrimage destination built entirely of marble and larger than the Parthenon. Ephesus gained further

fame during the early Christian period as the legendary refuge of the Virgin Mary following Christ's crucifixion, an event that would be celebrated centuries later with construction of the Basilica of St. John under the Emperor Justinian. Ephesus was ravaged by earthquakes in the third and fourth centuries, which destroyed its harbor and led to the city's slow decline. The Seljuk Turks built the last monument in Ephesus, the fourteenth-century Isa Bey Mosque, marking the ancient city's transition to Islam. Tragically, the once-great city was ravaged in 1403 by the armies of Tamerlane. Ephesus never recovered and soon fell to ruin.

The first excavations at Ephesus began well over a century ago. Although several buildings such as the Library of Celsus and the Temple of Hadrian were restored for tourists, much of the exposed remains were never conserved and thus are in urgent need of protection and consolidation. Preservation problems are being compounded by unregulated tourism and development adjacent to the site. There is an urgent need for a comprehensive site management plan to balance the demands of tourism and the conservation needs of this "first and greatest metropolis."



ISTANBUL, TURKEY

Kariye Museum

The Kariye Museum—originally Church of Christ in the Chora Monastery—houses a wealth of mosaics and frescos commissioned by the statesman and scholar Theodore Metochites (ca. 1316–1321). The extended iconographic programs of mosaics in the narthexes are devoted to the lives of Christ and the Virgin Mary, while the fresco cycle of the *pareklesion* (funeral chapel) offers themes related to salvation, including unique representations of the Last Judgement and Resurrection. Following the Ottoman conquest of Istanbul (1495–1511), the church was converted to a mosque—the Kariye Camii—at which time the frescoes were partially covered. Brilliant and pristine following a comprehensive cleaning and restoration initiated by the Byzantine Institute of America between 1948 and 1958, the exposed frescoes dramatically altered

international perceptions of Byzantine art.

The building's conservation is now long overdue. Notably, changes in the levels of humidity and rising ground water have resulted in the weakening and deterioration of plaster surfaces, which is exacerbated by the leaching of salts that have left destructive efflorescence on the frescoes. Without immediate intervention, the unique artistry of the Kariye *pareklesion* will be diminished or lost. While an independent study of the conditions has been made, minimal government action has failed to stem the tide of deterioration.



ISTANBUL, TURKEY

Little Hagia Sophia Mosque (Küçük Ayasofya Camii)



Sited near Istanbul's southern city wall on the shores of the Sea of Marmara, the Küçük Ayasofya Mosque was commissioned by the emperor Justinian as the church of Saints Segius and Bacchus upon his accession in 527 A.D. Following its conversion to a mosque in 1504, a half-century after the Ottomans came to power in Istanbul, the interior of the sanctuary was



modified and a Turkish portal was added on the west. In 1870, the city's main rail line was laid between the mosque and the adjacent sea wall. Küçük Ayasofya remains the oldest surviving Byzantine monument in Istanbul and continues to be used for religious purposes to this day.

Küçük Ayasofya has developed severe cracks in its dome and vaults as a result of

differential settlement of the soils beneath the mosque caused by powerful earthquakes, vibrations from the nearby railway, and alterations to the sea wall carried out by the city. Since listing in 2002, conservation specialists and the two organizations that control the property, the Municipality of Istanbul and Istanbul Regional Directorate of Pious Foundations, have come together to discuss an action plan for the preservation of the building; this fall, engineers from Istanbul Technical University will be analyzing the building's foundation and surrounding subsoils to develop recommendations for proper stabilization and restoration treatments.

Listed in 2002



ANKARA, TURKEY

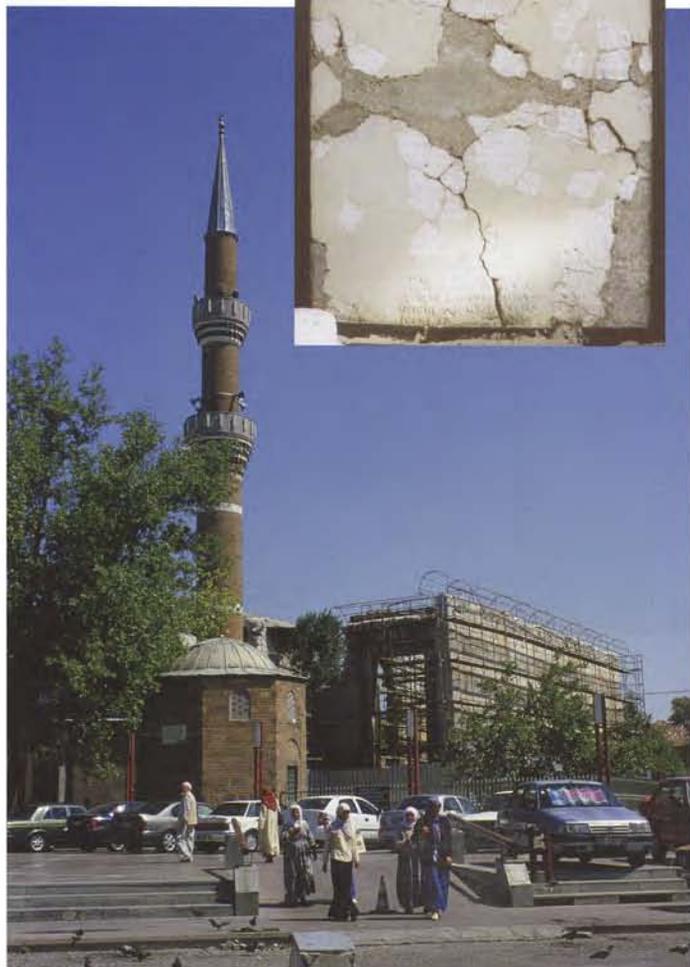
Temple of Augustus

Upon the death of Augustus in A.D. 14, the *Res gestae Divi Augusti*, or glorification of his deeds, composed by the emperor during his life, was engraved on two bronze pillars at the entrance to his mausoleum in

Rome. While the original has been missing for centuries, a bilingual copy of the *Res gestae* remains inscribed on the decaying marble walls of a once-magnificent temple erected around 25 B.C. in Galatian Ancyra (modern Ankara) to honor Augustus and the goddess Roma. A Latin version occupies the interior walls of the pronaos, while a Greek translation is inscribed in 19 columns on an exterior wall of the cella.

Over the millennia, air pollution and seismic activity have taken their toll on the inscriptions and the temple. Some years ago, conservators embarked on a program to restore the temple, going so far as to erect scaffolding to protect the building while work was undertaken. However, the project never got off the ground due to lack of funding; the scaffolding left behind has begun to deteriorate, compounding preservation problems and forcing the Ministry of Culture to close the site to visitors. Today, a provisional metal enclosure is the inscription's only protection against the elements. Since listing in 2002, the University of Trieste, Italy, and the Turkish Ministry of Culture have entered into an agreement to restore the site. A team from Middle Eastern Technical University in Ankara has recently joined the project to coordinate the development of a comprehensive conservation plan that addresses both the inscription and the temple.

Listed in 2002





KERCH, CRIMEA, UKRAINE

Panticapaeum Ancient City



Once the capital of the Bosporean Kingdom, the largest political state in the region of the ancient Black Sea, the ruins of the city of Panticapaeum contain evidence of settlement dating back to 2600 B.C.

Over its long history the site has been occupied by Greeks, Scythians, and Sarmatians, evident in the art, architecture, and Kerch-style ceramics of the Bosporean Kingdom. More recently, Panticapaeum was the site of the oldest Christian church in Ukraine, the tenth-century Church of St. John the Baptist. For archaeologists, who

began excavating the site at the close of the eighteenth century, Panticapaeum is unequalled in the Black Sea region in its richness of ceramics, jewelry, sculptures, and other artifacts. Since 1826, the site has been under the auspices of the Kerch Museum of Antiquities.

Some site security was provided during the Soviet period due to Panticapaeum's proximity to naval bases. More recently, however, Panticapaeum has been plagued by looting and vandalism, and the site is now riddled with looters trenches, which have destroyed walls and ancient frescoes. This damage has been compounded by natural factors such as rain and erosion, combined with unregulated tourism and local development.



BELGOROD-DNESTROVSKY, UKRAINE

Tyras-Belgorod Fortress



For centuries the fortress of Tyras-Belgorod has watched over the calm waters of the Dniester Estuary. Founded in the sixth century B.C. as the Greek city of Tyras, the site was mentioned by

Strabo, Ptolemy, and Pliny. The ancient site encompasses the preserved remains of houses, paved stone streets, gutters, headquarters of a Roman garrison, and fortifications built of massive limestone plates unknown anywhere else in the classical world. Built in the Middle Ages, the fortress functioned as a military post for Byzantine, Moldavian, Turkish, and Russian forces until the early nineteenth century. With three gates, 20 towers, a defensive wall, and a moat, Tyras-Belgorod is the only remaining medieval fortress in southwestern Ukraine.

Since 1940, Tyras-Belgorod—now part of the modern city of Belgorod-Dnestrovsky—has been a designated national monument in the care of the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine and the Ukrainian State Committee for Architecture, Construction, and Housing Policy. Over the past four decades, restoration work has been carried out on the site's Greek remains, including the insertion of concrete supports along the estuary to protect the crumbling bedrock from further erosion. Due to lack of funds, however, an assessment of the physical condition of the entire site has never been carried out, nor has a comprehensive plan for shoreline stabilization been developed. Without these, it will be impossible to arrest further decay.





LONDON, ENGLAND, UNITED KINGDOM

Battersea Power Station

The four great chimney stacks of Battersea Power Station, built in 1932, have become an indelible part of London's skyline, terminating vistas along the Thames and commanding road and rail approaches to the city. The building's celebrated exterior was

the work of prominent architect Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, famous for his monumental creations such as the Liverpool Anglican Cathedral and the Bankside Power Station (now the Tate Modern). The Art Deco interiors by J. Theo Halliday, most notably the Control Room and Turbine Hall, are among the finest public works interiors of the era. More recently, Battersea Power Station has achieved international fame through exposure in popular culture, in particular as the cover shot of Pink Floyd's celebrated 1977 album, *Animals*.

The building has been abandoned since it was decommissioned in 1983, and the boiler house roof was removed during a brief period of redevelopment work in 1988, rendering the structure vulnerable to decay. Attempts by a second developer from 1993 to convert the building into a mixed use leisure center have so far proved unsuccessful. The building remains derelict with structural steelwork exposed and the possibility of corrosion jeopardizing the stability of the main structure. Recent newspaper reports suggest that the project has stalled, although the developer maintains that work will begin in 2005. The Battersea Power Station Community Group is campaigning for stabilization measures and staged rehabilitation work to commence as soon as possible, while the long-term future of the building is reconsidered.



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GLASGOW, SCOTLAND, UNITED KINGDOM

St. Vincent Street Church



St. Vincent Street Church is the sole survivor of a trio of churches designed for the city of Glasgow by the renowned Scottish architect Alexander "Greek" Thomson, and later described by the American architectural historian Henry Russell Hitchcock as the three finest Romantic Classical churches in the world. Thomson practiced an almost abstract

form of classicism following Greek models, yet integrating Egyptian and oriental motifs. Commissioned in 1856 and dedicated in 1859, Thomson designed the church as a temple in the Ionic order, placed upon a colossal plinth that forms an undercroft with an attached tower. The tower is Thomson at his best with its base as one line of unbroken stone, erupting into an explosion of detail with Grecian busts, Egyptian doors, and an Indian dome. The vibrant and richly decorated interior was last altered in 1904 with the addition of a very large, marquetry-fronted organ, which fills the eastern end of the church.

Poorly maintained for half a century, the church was placed on the 1998 Watch list. It appeared that listing had done its job, resulting in the launching of a first phase of restoration that included extensive repair of the stone tower, work funded in large part by WMF. The building, however, remains at risk as its present owner, the city of Glasgow, has made no progress in finding a revenue-producing use for the extensive undercroft, nor produced a plan for the overall long-term care of the building. More dangerously, the city has not installed basic fire protection despite offers by others to pay for it.



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STOWE, ENGLAND, UNITED KINGDOM

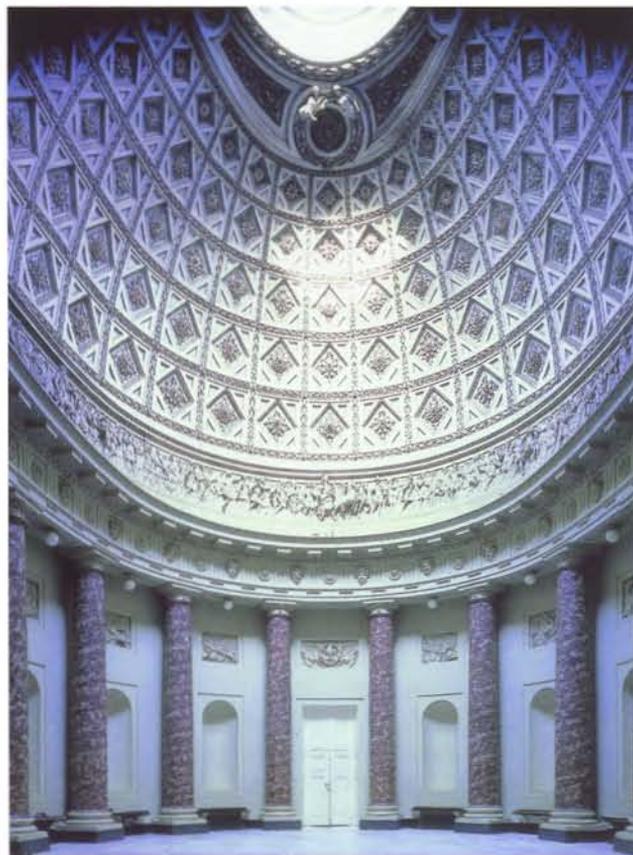
Stowe House



Stowe is one of the most important estates in the United Kingdom, having been expanded and modified over two centuries by some of Britain's most famous architects, among them Sir John Vanbrugh, James Gibbs, William Kent, Robert Adam, Thomas Pitt, and Sir John Soane. The palatial seat of the Temple and Grenville families, who shaped British politics throughout much of

the eighteenth century, the house continues to serve as the monumental focal point of the pleasure ground and park, redesigned in large part by Lancelot "Capability" Brown between 1741 and 1750. The gardens contain some 30 other structures, ranging from neoclassical sculptural works to Asian- and Gothic-inspired temples.

Unfortunately, the house has received little attention since the 1860s, as major repair work was beyond the means of its owners, including the Stowe School, which owned and maintained the property between 1923 and 1997. In 1998, the house was included on the English Heritage Register of Buildings at Risk. Stowe is now in the hands of the Stowe House Preservation Trust, a nonprofit organization that has embarked on a six-phase preservation program. The first phase of this herculean task began in 2000 with the restoration of the north façade and extending colonnades. The trust is currently raising funds to restore the roof and south façade of the central pavilion, and the interior of the Marble Hall. While these achievements indicate success, much more work remains to be done before Stowe's future is secured.



STOWE HOUSE PRESERVATION TRUST



LONDON, ENGLAND, UNITED KINGDOM

Strawberry Hill



Horace Walpole—commentator, historian, and collector—was one of the great tastemakers of eighteenth-century Britain. His greatest passion, however, was his home, Strawberry Hill in

Twickenham, which he turned into the most important and influential building of the early Gothic revival with the help of a succession of amateur and professional architects. Strawberry Hill was pioneering in its use of antiquarian and archaeological sources in its design. Its Gothic interiors, created to display Walpole's famous collections, pioneered the idea of furnishing with a mix of fine art, curiosities, and important antiquities. The gardens and grounds, early examples of picturesque planning in the manner of William Kent, were essential to the effect of the house. The fame of the house, grounds, and collections was established by the *Description of Strawberry Hill* (1784), the earliest fully-illustrated account of any British house. The house was extended in the 1850s by Lady Waldegrave and again in 1925 for a teacher's training college, but the essence and most of the fabric of Walpole's villa remains intact.

While many great monumental houses were saved from dereliction by educational institutions in the years following WWI, the cost associated with maintaining an important historic structure is not sustainable for most educational institutions. As a result, the Renaissance enameled-glass windows, one of the finest collections in the world, have not been repaired for many years and the eighteenth-century interiors are in need of repair. At press time, negotiations were in progress to transfer the ownership of the property from the college to the Strawberry Hill Preservation Trust to allow funds to be raised solely for the conservation of the house, and to secure and increase public access.



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PRIZREN, KOSOVO, YUGOSLAVIA



Prizren Historic Center

The most important historic town in Kosovo, Prizren was the regional seat of the Ottoman Empire in the Balkans from 1360, when Sultan

Murad I extended the empire into Europe. Built on an Ottoman town plan, Prizren's architecture reflects both Christian and Islamic traditions, with Orthodox monuments dating from the thirteenth century and Ottoman sites from the sixteenth century onwards, including the seventeenth-century Sinan Pasha Mosque and numerous *hammams* (Turkish baths). In 1881, as Ottoman power in the Balkans waned, Prizren became the capital of a league that loosely united Albania and southern Kosovo.

While Kosovo was later integrated into Yugoslavia, Prizren never regained its preeminence, and, as a result, was untouched by official building programs. It was also spared during the Balkan War of 1999. However, as government conservation policy has focused largely on Orthodox monuments over the past several decades, a lack of maintenance of Islamic sites has placed these structures at risk. Many are of *bondruk* construction, built of mud-brick and wood, and suffer from water leakage, humidity, and mold. Brick and stone Orthodox buildings, on the other hand, have been damaged by cement "restorations" undertaken in the 1970s. A plan for the preservation of the historic center, listed in 2002, is now being developed by the Department of Culture and the Council of Europe, with United Nations support. Funds and international technical assistance are needed for its implementation.



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