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WORLD MONUMENTS FUND ELECTS AMBASSADOR W. L. LYONS BROWN AS NEW CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

For Immediate Release—New York, NY, June 29, 2007 . . . Bonnie Burnham, president of the World Monuments Fund (WMF), announced today that WMF’s board of trustees has elected W. L. Lyons Brown as its new chairman, effective immediately. Mr. Brown, who served as the Ambassador of the United States to the Republic of Austria from December, 2001, to October, 2005, succeeds Marilyn Perry, who has chaired WMF’s board since 1990.

“We are very pleased to welcome Ambassador Brown as our new chairman,” said Ms. Burnham. “He brings a wealth of business acumen along with great experience in international diplomacy. I look forward to working closely with him as we look to the future, helping to shape WMF’s course over the next decade and beyond. I would also like to thank Marilyn Perry for her extraordinary leadership, staunch support, and, most especially, her great friendship. We are very happy that she will become our Chairman Emerita, continuing to share her valuable insights with us.”

“I am honored to take on the role of board chairman of the World Monuments Fund,” said Ambassador Brown. “WMF has grown into a leading force in the field of historic preservation, with successful projects in more than 90 countries around the world. I feel privileged to follow Dr. Perry, who has so skillfully led WMF to become the influential voice for heritage preservation it is today, and I look forward to helping to expand WMF’s global priorities in the coming decade.”

Ambassador Brown is the former chairman and chief executive officer of Brown-Forman Corporation, a consumer products company, in Louisville, KY. He also was a member of the President's Advisory Committee for Trade Policy and Negotiations, to which he was appointed by President Reagan in 1988, and reappointed by President Bush in 1990 and 1992 and by President Clinton in 1994.

Ambassador Brown is a member of the Honorary Committee of the Spanish Riding School, Vienna, Austria; Chairman and Trustee Emeritus of the Winterthur Museum and Garden, Wilmington, DE; Chairman and Trustee Emeritus of the J.B. Speed Art Museum, Louisville, KY; Honorary Trustee of the American Austrian Foundation, New York, NY; and a member of the Chairman's Council of The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY.

Ambassador Brown was a member of the Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia from 1987-1995. He served as chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Winterthur Museum, Wilmington, DE; chairman and president of the J.B. Speed Art Museum, Louisville, KY; a member of the Board of Trustees of the Thomas Jefferson Foundation (Monticello), Charlottesville, VA, and the Trustees' Council of the National Gallery of Art. The honor of *Chevalier de L'Ordre du Merite Agricole* was conferred on Ambassador Brown by the French government in 1974; he was appointed an honorary consul of France in 1975 and served in this capacity until 1990.

Ambassador Brown graduated from the University of Virginia with a B.A. in History in 1958 and from the American Graduate School of International Management in 1960 with a B.S. in Foreign Trade. He is married to the former Alice Cary Farmer and they have two sons, one daughter and eight grandchildren.

“Between leading the World Monuments Fund and guiding the Kress Foundation, I have probably had two of the best jobs in the world,” said Marilyn Perry. “It has been enormously satisfying helping WMF to grow into such a highly respected organization, one that has become the foremost nonprofit dedicated to cultural preservation across the globe. And, with the new leadership of Ambassador Brown, I am confident that WMF will become even stronger.”

From 1984 to 2007, Dr. Perry served as President of the Samuel H. Kress Foundation in New York, administering a distinguished program of philanthropy for the greater understanding and enjoyment of the art and architecture of Europe. She served as Executive Vice President from 1982-1984. Dr. Perry has been a trustee of The Burlington Magazine Foundation since 1987, a member of the Executive Planning Committee of the Bard Graduate Center for the Decorative Arts since 1997, a member of the Villa I Tatti Council since 1983, and a member of The Century Association since 1991.

Dr. Perry has received numerous honors, including the Honor Award for Service to the Humanities from the American Academy in Rome in 1993 and a honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from the Pratt Institute in 1992, and was named Trustee

Emerita by the National Building Museum in 1993. The author of *The Basilica of SS. Maria e Donato on Murano*, Venice, 1980, and *The Kress Collection, A Gift to America: Masterpieces of European Painting from the Samuel H. Kress Collection*, 1994, Dr. Perry has also written numerous articles for a wide range of publications, including *Apollo* magazine, *The Burlington Magazine*, and *Connoisseur*.

Dr. Perry received her B.A. in Literature and History and her M.A. in Education from Stanford University, her M.A. in History of Art from the University of North Carolina, and her M. Phil. in Combined Historical Studies and her D. Phil. in History of European Art from the University of London. A writer and lecturer on art and architecture, she lived in England and Italy for fifteen years before joining the Kress Foundation in 1981. She has maintained a home in Venice for over 30 years.

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