Welcome to the 2013 edition of *A Year in the Field*, which provides a snapshot of the work of The Getty Conservation Institute's Field Projects Department for 2013. The department’s purpose is to advance conservation practice worldwide through the development and implementation of model field projects that incorporate strong research, planning and educational objectives. In all projects, the GCI works with local partners to build knowledge, skills and experience and ensure sustainability.

Over the course of another busy year, we advanced work on twenty-four projects. This year site work at Taourirt in Morocco and Bulla Regia in Tunisia involved survey and detailed investigation work. The Conserving Modern Architecture Initiative project hosted a colloquium which brought together over sixty experts to discuss needs and priorities for conserving modern architecture. We also entered a partnership with the Salk Institute for Biological Studies, where we are working to address problems related to deterioration of the teak – a major architectural element of Louis Kahn’s 1965 masterpiece.

Our long-term effort to conserve, protect and interpret David Alfaro Siquieros’s *América Tropical* was recognized by the Los Angeles Conservancy President’s Award in May.

I would like to acknowledge the generous support we received for a number of our projects over 2013. The GCI Council continued to support our work at Herculaneum, the Eames House and the site of Bulla Regia, enabling us to advance the conservation efforts on these three important projects. The Friends of Heritage Preservation provided support to initiate conservation work on the Church of Kuño Tambo in Peru. The Dunnard Foundation provided a generous grant for the external repair works to the Eames House. We are extremely grateful for this assistance.

Many thanks to all our partners and colleagues who have worked with us over the past year. It is with a sense of pride that we celebrate what we have all achieved together.

Susan Macdonald
Head of Field Projects
Project Activities

**Conservation and Management of the Tomb of Tutankhamen**

Treatment implementation began on the tomb’s wall paintings including flake readhesion, plaster stabilization and reduction of non-original surface coatings. Designs for the interior presentation (walkways, viewing platform, ventilation, and lighting) were completed and approved by the Ministry of State for Antiquities. All further site work has been temporarily suspended due to the unsettled situation in Egypt.

**Conservation and Management of the Valley of the Queens**

Designs for the interior presentation and a plan for the conservation of tomb 55, constructed for a son of Rameses III, were completed and approved by the Ministry of State for Antiquities. All further site work has been temporarily suspended due to the unsettled situation in Egypt.

**Earthen Architecture Initiative: Seismic Retrofitting Project, Peru**

Numerical modeling analysis, static and dynamic testing and retrofitting strategies were finalized for all prototype buildings. As part of the implementation phase, the project supported the design of the temporary protection of Kuño Tambo Church implemented by the Ministry of Culture of Peru. In collaboration also with the latter, the project carried out the condition assessment of the church wall paintings and started the process for the development of the church construction documents for retrofitting. Negotiations were carried out to develop the project documents for Ica Cathedral and El Comercio.

**International Course on Stone Conservation**

The 18th International Course on Stone Conservation took place in Rome from April 10 – June 28, 2013 with participants from nineteen different countries. During the twelve-week course, the participants learned theoretical and practical methodologies for stone conservation and carried out full conservation treatment of seven historic tombs at Rome’s Non-Catholic Cemetery.

**China Principles**

The GCI and the Dunhuang Academy co-organized an international colloquium at the Mogao Grottoes on visitor management at World Heritage Sites in China. The GCI continued to work with the State Administration for Cultural Heritage on revisions to Principles for the Conservation of Heritage Sites in China (the China Principles), first promulgated and applied in 2000.

**Heritage Values, Stakeholders, and Consensus Building**

The project is preparing a publication of the proceedings of a GCI workshop focused on promoting the application of consensus building and dispute resolution methods to the practice of heritage site conservation and management.
**Conservation of América Tropical**

Following a successful opening of the site in October 2012, the project team began post-treatment monitoring of the mural at six months and one year, and an evaluation of the shelter was undertaken. The GCI continues to work with the City of Los Angeles to structure a management plan for the mural and interpretive center, and will continue monitoring for ten years. The papers from the international symposium *The Siqueiros Legacy: Challenges of Conserving the Artist’s Monumental Murals*, organized by the GCI in October 2012, were published online on the GCI website. The project received the Los Angeles Conservancy President’s Award for 2013.

**Herculaneum: Casa del Bicentenario**

The project team completed condition recording, continued trial treatments on the wall paintings in the Tablinum of the Casa del Bicentenario, and developed pilot climate improvement strategies based on environmental monitoring carried out during the project. In July 2013, members of the team undertook a sitewide survey of figurative scenes at Herculaneum, and recorded fifty-two scenes from thirteen houses.

**Injection Grouts for the Conservation of Architectural Surfaces: Research & Evaluation**

The project team continued working with international colleagues through a Réunion Internationale des Laboratoires et Experts des Matériaux, systèmes de construction et ouvrages (RILEM) technical committee to draft guidelines for conservation practice of injection grouting, including selection, evaluation and testing. This follows on research and testing that the GCI has been doing in this area. The GCI published a manual for the evaluation of injection grouts as an online and print-on-demand publication in October 2013.

**Mosaikon: Bulla Regia**

A rapid condition survey and assessment of all the currently exposed mosaics on site was completed, and a conservation plan for the over 350 mosaics is in progress. A topographic survey of most of the site was completed as well as a metric survey of the site’s mosaics for inclusion in the Geographic Information System (GIS) being developed for Bulla Regia. The GCI-trained technicians based at the site completed the stabilization of mosaics at the Maison de la Chasse, the first step in conserving and presenting the architectural remains of the house.

**Mosaikon: Conservation and Management of Archaeological Sites with Mosaics**

Planning began for the second regional training course for the southeastern Mediterranean region which will begin in April 2014 at the site of Paphos, Cyprus. Sixteen to twenty site managers and conservators from throughout the region will attend.

**Mosaikon: Regional Technician Training**

The third and fourth training modules of the course were carried out at the sites of El Jem and and Bulla Regia. The third session was dedicated to the subject of in situ mosaic stabilization treatments and preventive conservation measures such as reburial. The final session at El Jem focused on the maintenance of detached and relaid mosaics on reinforced concrete. Site directors and trainee supervisors from Morocco, Algeria, Libya, and Tunisia visited the training worksite at Bulla Regia to witness firsthand the content and results of the training and to discuss the trainees’ role in conserving mosaics at their sites.
MOSAIKON: Shelters for Archaeological Sites and Mosaics

In 2013 a literature review was published and an international symposium on sheltering archaeological sites and mosaics was held in Herculaneum, Italy. Over thirty heritage professionals attended the September symposium which covered a range of issues from deciding to shelter to evaluation and monitoring.

Southern African Rock Art Project

In 2012 an exchange program was set up with the Australian National University in Canberra, whereby a group of rock art experts and managers from Kenya, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, South Africa, and Botswana visited Australian rock art sites, notably in Arnhem Land in the Northern Territory. A reciprocal visit to South Africa was organized in August 2013.

Wall Paintings at the Mogao Grottoes

A continuing problem of flaking of wall paintings at the Mogao Grottoes is being investigated through a research program that seeks to confirm the role of previous treatments dating from the 1970s and later that employed impervious film-forming consolidants. Field work in 2013 included detailed documentation of conditions and noninvasive examination of the paintings and analysis of painting samples to identify treatment materials and to show the influence of fluctuating environmental conditions on the deterioration of the wall paintings.

Integrated Conservation Plan for the Earthen Ksar and Kasbah of Taourirt in Southern Morocco

The project continued its first phase with the finalization of the architectural drawings of the kasbah, the design of the emergency shoring and protection of the Caid Residence, and the architectural survey of the open spaces of the Ksar. It also included the training of CERKAS personnel in documentation techniques for earthen sites and the preparation of an exhibition about the project for the local community.

Organization of World Heritage Cities (OWHC)

The GCI held the 2013 Mayor’s Workshop, a core component of the biennial Organization of World Heritage Cities Congress in November 2013 in Oaxaca, Mexico.

Urban Conservation in Southeast Asia

After being mentored by course instructors, participants from the first course (2012) were reconvened in Kuala Lumpur for three days in January 2013 to discuss how the course had impacted their work. The second iteration of the course occurred in October 2013, in Penang. Fifteen Malaysian planners and architects attended this course, along with six participants from Myanmar.
**Conserving Modern Architecture Initiative (CMAI)**

The CMAI hosted a series of public lectures and carried out an initial research phase which culminated in a colloquium in March 2013 that gathered key experts in the field to assess current practice to identify priorities and how to address them. A special issue of the GCI Newsletter on the CMAI was published in May 2013. A second field project, the Salk Institute for Biological Study, aims to develop long-term conservation strategies for the teak wood fenestration system. Investigation and scientific analysis of the teak wood will be undertaken in 2013-2014 to assess its current condition and evaluate conservation treatments for the future.

**Eames House Conservation Project**

Research undertaken in 2013 continues to focus on climate assessment, to aid in the environmental optimization for the interior of the house and its collection. Work to the house included repair of the wooden spine wall and metal window repairs. The project team is developing a conservation management plan, which brings together historical and documentary evidence, as well as physical analysis of the existing fabric and knowledge on its performance to inform a long-term strategy for the care and conservation of the house.

**Contemporary Architecture in the Historic Environment**

In May 2013, the GCI hosted an international symposium, “Minding the Gap: The Role of Contemporary Architecture in the Historic Environment,” at the Getty Center which was moderated by architectural critic Paul Goldberger and featured architects Rafael Moneo, Denise Scott Brown, Juergen Mayer H., Thomas H. Beeby and Richard Rogers speaking about their different approaches to designing new buildings in the historic environment. The results of the symposium will inform future GCI work, such as the development of tools to guide the design of such interventions and assess their impacts. Video of the symposium can be viewed on our website.

**Arches: Heritage Inventory and Management Systems**

In November 2013 version 1.0 of the system was released. The project partners held an Arches community meeting in England with participants from a number of UK and European heritage government authorities and research institutions to receive feedback on development to date and to promote the growth of an Arches open source community. The partners launched a project website to serve as a platform for this community at www.archesproject.org.

**Los Angeles Historic Resource Survey**

The City of Los Angeles completed field surveys in three Community Plan Areas—Brentwood-Pacific Palisades; Bel Air-Beverly Crest; Westchester-Playa del Rey—and began survey work in four new areas—Silverlake-Echo Park-Elysian Valley; Westlake; Mission Hills-Panorama City-North Hills; Arleta-Pacoima. Survey reports for all completed survey areas are now posted on the SurveyLA website (SurveyLA.org). The GCI and the city also are preparing to customize the Arches information system for use by the city to manage and publish online data collected through the survey.

**Middle Eastern Geodatabase for Antiquities (MEGA)—Jordan**

The Jordanian Department of Antiquities continued to make regular use of the MEGA-Jordan system, which is online at www.megajordan.org. GCI staff also authored an article about the project in the University of Pennsylvania journal *Change Over Time.*


———. “Integrating Conserving Modern Heritage in the Continuum of Conservation Practice.” Paper presented at a Colloquium to Advance the Practice of Conserving Modern Heritage, Getty Conservation Institute, Los Angeles, California, 6-7 March 2013.


———. Modern Metals Finishes Workshop, Association for Presentation Technology, Columbia University, New York, 11-12 October 2013. Planned and facilitated a two-day training workshop.


———. “Shared Approaches in the Conservation of Modern Heritage.” Keynote presentation at Miradas Convergentes, 18th Colloquium and Seminar for the Conservation of Cultural Patrimony, Institute of Aesthetic Research, UNAM, Mexico City, Mexico, 6-8 May 2013.


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Los Angeles City Council
Libyan Department of Antiquities
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University College London
World Monuments Fund

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