



WORLD MONUMENTS WATCH 2021
Commemorative Edition



**WORLD
MONUMENTS
FUND**



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Cover: Angkor Wat at sunrise.

Opposite page: A detail of the *takienta*, an earthen dwelling made in Koutammakou, Land of the Batammariba—a 2020 World Monuments Watch site.

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World Monuments Fund's work couldn't be done without you!

Our teams at Angkor
Archaeological Park—and all
around the world—are standing
stronger than ever.



50
YEARS

Dear Friends,

World Monuments Fund brings together those who see in places and monuments extraordinary examples of human achievement and are inspired by their potential to contribute to more inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable communities everywhere.

For the past fifty-five years, WMF has turned this inspiration into action, completing more than 700 heritage projects around the world to safeguard the globe's irreplaceable cultural sites and to help turn them into a source of enrichment for local communities and mutual understanding between people around the globe.



And there is so much more we have yet to accomplish. As our planet and its inhabitants face dramatic and unparalleled change, multiple threats are taking their toll on the world's cultural treasures: climate change, economic and cultural globalization, rapid urbanization, conflicts, natural disasters, mass tourism, and, underlying them all, the loss of traditional techniques and the inexorable passage of time.

WMF must adapt to these challenges. We must strengthen our global presence, finding the right balance between local empowerment and global impact via an expanded network of affiliates and partners. We must choose field projects that present local solutions to the most pressing global challenges facing historic sites. We must continue to raise awareness and encourage others to join us on our mission.

Marked by an unprecedented global pandemic, 2020 was a year of unique challenges. The suspension of on-site work spread uncertainty and sometimes hindered our ability to move forward. Occasions for celebration, such as the completion of our projects at Chancellerie d'Orléans, Qianlong Garden, and the Ta Som Temple, were delayed. In the face of these headwinds, it was truly inspiring to see our team come together, fighting for the values of WMF and determined to continue its efforts. From the support we provided to staff around the globe in moments of need to the development of our Bridge to Crafts Careers and Stonemasonry Training capacity-building programs, the expansion of our digital programming, and the completion of projects in Nepal and Sierra Leone, among others, the breadth of our accomplishments this year is a testament to our ability to overcome.

As our inability to travel and adequately communicate contributes to the sense of disconnectedness that is feeding the rise of nationalism and isolationism everywhere, our mission is more important than ever. By connecting the present with both the past and the future, our work has the potential to help create a better world—a world where people can interact with each other's cultures and histories, learn from them, and find in them a source of opportunity. A world where communities around the globe grow together, safeguarding our shared accomplishments while also building empathy and understanding.

So, stand with us in these difficult times. For this 55th anniversary, which also marks my first year at WMF, I am filled with confidence for our future. Together, we will tackle 2021 with more courage and strength than ever.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Bénédicte de Montlaur". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Bénédicte de Montlaur
President and CEO

55 YEARS

1965



World Monuments Fund, then called International Fund for Monuments (IFM), is founded by Colonel James A. Gray, inspired by the challenges facing the Leaning Tower of Pisa.

1978

WMF's first project in Asia begins at the Gokarna complex in Kathmandu.

1985



Colonel Gray retires, Bonnie Burnham is appointed as Executive Director, and IFM becomes World Monuments Fund.

1988



The Jewish Heritage Program is established with support of Hon. Ronald S. Lauder. Since 1988, WMF's Jewish Heritage Program has supported conservation work at nearly 60 diverse sites in 27 countries, including France, Greece, Hungary, India, Lithuania, Morocco, and Poland. Major support was also provided to the Endowment by Mrs. Joyce Z. Greenberg.

1993

A WMF affiliate is established in Portugal and begins work on the Tower of Belém.

1995

WMF launches the Watch, a biennial selection of at-risk cultural heritage sites that combine great historical significance with contemporary social impact, with American Express as founding sponsor. The first Watch is released in 1996.

1966

WMF begins a preservation project at Lalibela, Ethiopia, its first in Africa.

1985

A conservation program is launched for earthquake-damaged 20th-century murals in Mexico City.

1989



WMF's first mission to Angkor in Cambodia, where WMF is the first Western organization to survey temples since the 1950s.

1995

A WMF affiliate is established in Britain, supported by the Paul Mellon Fund for Architectural Preservation in Great Britain. The restoration of the Small Concert Room at St. George's Hall in Liverpool is WMF Britain's first project.

1967



The Easter Island Committee is formed with the Chilean government. Tours to raise awareness begin.

1988



The Hadrian Award is established to honor international leaders who have advanced the understanding, appreciation, and preservation of the world's art and architecture. The first recipient is Carlo De Benedetti. Subsequent honorees include His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales (1990), His Highness The Aga Khan (1996), and Phyllis Lambert (1997), among many others.

1992

A WMF affiliate is established in Spain.

1996

In December, the landmark judgment of the Supreme Court of India on the Taj Mahal in the case of *M.C. Mehta vs. Union of India & Others* noted that the Taj was threatened by deterioration caused, in part, by environmental pollution, quoting WMF's designation as an endangered site in its judgment. M.C. Mehta nominated the site to the first World Monuments Watch as one of the 100 most endangered sites of 1996.

“
WMF is an organization that follows up on its promises. Once we commit to a monument, you can trust a positive change will happen to it.

- HRH Doña Pilar de Borbón

1999

The Robert W. Wilson Challenge to Conserve Our Heritage is created, providing more than \$100 million to nearly 200 heritage sites over the next decade.

2002



Work begins at Qianlong Garden, in Beijing, China, in partnership with the Palace Museum.

2002

Work begins at Stowe House (1680-1780) in Buckinghamshire, Great Britain.

2003

The Paul Mellon Lecture series begins, supported by the Paul Mellon Education Fund.

2005

Following Hurricane Katrina, post-catastrophe preservation programs are established in New Orleans.

2007

WMF begins work at Babylon in partnership with Iraq's State Board of Antiquities and Heritage (SBAH) with the support of the U.S. Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation (AFCP). The AFCP has since awarded 50 grants to support WMF projects worldwide.

2007

Global climate change is recognized for the first time as a major threat in the 2008 World Monuments Watch.

2008

WMF launches the World Monuments Fund/Knoll Modernism Prize to raise awareness about modern preservation success stories. The first prize is awarded to Brenne Gesellschaft von Architekten mbH, headed by Winfried Brenne and Franz Jaschke, for their restoration of the Bauhaus-designed ADGB Trade Union School in Bernau, Germany.

2011



WMF launches CRAFT (Conservation Resources for Architectural Interiors, Furniture, and Training), an educational program designed to meet critical conservation needs in China. The program sprung from the conservation project that WMF began with the Palace Museum in 2002, working on the Qianlong Garden in Beijing's Forbidden City.

2010



WMF moves into its current office space in the Empire State Building in New York City.

2011

WMF begins work to preserve cultural heritage sites damaged in the tsunami that was caused by the Great East Japan Earthquake.

2014

A WMF affiliate is established in Peru.

2015

WMF launches the Bridge to Crafts Careers program (B2CC) to provide underrepresented young adults with hands-on technical training in masonry restoration and the opportunity for placement in a stable career.

2015

A WMF affiliate is established in India.

2016

World Heritage Sites in Nepal are added to the 2016 World Monuments Watch following the massive earthquake on April 25, 2015.

2017



A capacity-building training program launches in Mafraq, Jordan. This is WMF's first capacity-building program designed for refugees.

2017

WMF launches *Watch* magazine, an annual publication celebrating success stories and progress at our project sites around the world.

2018



WMF collaborates with Google's Arts & Culture platform to highlight Iraqi heritage and the challenges faced in preserving it.

2018

Lisa Ackerman, longtime WMF Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, is named Interim Chief Executive Officer.

2019

WMF, in partnership with the AAACRHS and the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute, launches *Voices of Alabama*, an oral history project illuminating 20 Civil Rights sites—included on the 2018 World Monuments Watch—through storytelling.

2019



WMF celebrates 30 years of conservation work at Angkor Wat Archaeological Park in Cambodia.

2019

In the face of increasing threats from climate change, natural disaster, human conflict, and more, WMF establishes the Crisis Response Program to provide resources for early recovery actions so that heritage sites can help build community resiliency, create economic opportunity, and strengthen social cohesion in the wake of disaster.

2020



The *Relief Fund* is established in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Funds raised helped support teams of conservators and preservation workers at Shwe-nandaw Kyaung in Mandalay, Erbil Citadel in Iraq, Osmania Women's College in Hyderabad, and Angkor Archaeological Park in Cambodia.

2020

The third edition of WMF's capacity-building training program designed for refugees launches in Tripoli, Lebanon.

2020

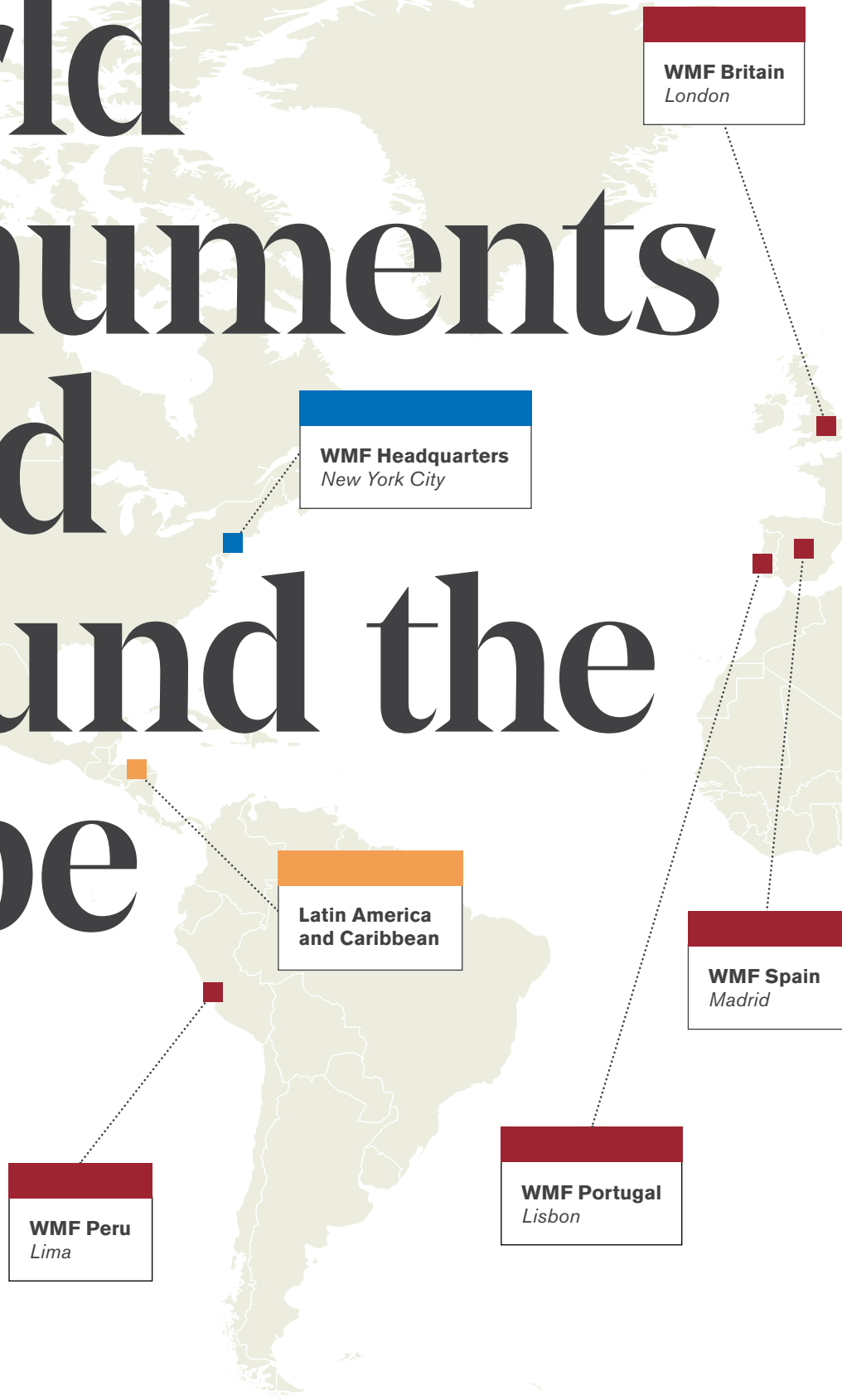
WMF's Bridge to Crafts Careers program expands to include landscape training in addition to stonemasonry.

2020



WMF celebrates 55 years of excellence in cultural heritage with its first-ever virtual gala that will take guests on a tour of WMF sites around the globe.

World Monuments Fund Around the Globe



■ **Affiliate Office**

■ **Regional Representative**

For more than 55 years, World Monuments Fund has applied proven and effective techniques to the preservation of more than 700 cultural heritage sites in 112 countries around the globe.

Headquartered in New York City, WMF's network of professionals in China, Japan, the Middle East, Africa, Southeast Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, and its affiliate offices in Britain, India, Peru, Portugal, and Spain, currently oversee 63 active projects in 40 countries.



An example of Antoni Gaudí's work at The Güell Pavilions in Barcelona's Pedralbes neighborhood, a 2014 World Monuments Watch site.





WMF

Spain (Est. 1992)

Board President: Juan Carlos Fierro Jiménez-Lopera

Executive Director: Pablo Longoria

In October 1979, *El País*, one of Spain's most influential newspapers, reported World Monuments Fund's first involvement in the country. Then known as the International Fund for Monuments (IFM) and represented by Colonel James A. Gray, WMF committed \$10,000 toward the restoration of seven 15th-century choir chairs in the Oviedo Cathedral. Three years later, the same newspaper reported on the inauguration of 28 of the historic choir chairs, all restored by WMF.

Colonel Gray visited Spain multiple times in the following years, collaborating with Franklin Murphy and Marilyn Perry from the Kress Foundation to develop projects at the Toledo Cathedral and supporting the Salas family's restoration of the Convento de la Coria in Trujillo. Eventually, World Monuments Fund established the European Preservation Program, and projects were implemented across Spain, such as the restoration of the temple, gardens, and cloister of the Royal Monastery of Guadalupe in the Villuercas Mountains of southwestern central Spain.

The official establishment of WMF Spain in 1992 led to collaborations with both local and international companies, as well as Spanish governmental institutions, to restore numerous monuments throughout Spain, such as the Santa Maria la Mayor in Toro, the Roman Theater in Málaga, and Santa Cueva in Cádiz.

Important restoration projects have continued to develop thanks to support from the Robert W. Wilson Challenge to Conserve Our Heritage Program and American Express, the most recent being the Courtyard Houses of Axerquía, which were included on the 2020 World Monuments Watch.

As WMF Spain's work continues with the precautions necessitated by the ongoing pandemic, 2021 will bring exciting new projects, such as the restoration of original paintings at the Church of Santiago de Peñalba, a unique example of 10th-century architecture in El Bierzo, León. Reviving these paintings will support tourism in this quiet region of rural Spain.



ALHAMBRA (2011-2020)

Throughout 2020, WMF continued its collaboration with Alhambra, supporting its conservation work at the palace of Alhambra, in Granada, as well as in the historical neighborhood of Albaicín, where WMF supports Alhambra's initiative to restore monuments and promote sustainable tourism in the city.

Between 2015 and 2017, WMF restored the Oratorio del Partal, a 14th-century private mosque for Sultan Yusuf I, in partnership with the Council of Alhambra and the Robert W. Wilson Challenge. In 2019, the project received the Europa Nostra Grand Prize in Conservation for the outstanding quality of the restoration. World Monuments Fund Spain is the only private organization with a seat on the Alhambra Council, with which it has maintained a close partnership since 2015.

Clockwise from top left: Alhambra Arrayanes Garden; Façade of Santa Paula; Paleolithic cave art at La Garma; Alhambra Oratorio del Partal.



MONASTERIES OF SEVILLE (2015-Present)

A unique, historic set of cloistered structures built between the 13th and the 17th century, the Convents of Seville remain inhabited to this day. Often referred to as hidden cities because of their size and secluded collective life, they are suffering from a decreasing monastic community resulting in a loss of funds and lack of proper maintenance.

With an initial donation from the Annenberg Foundation, WMF started conservation at the Convents of Seville with the restoration of the Monastery of Santa Paula's Niculoso Pisano Portal entrance in 2015. A year later, the Convents were included on the World Monuments Watch, a biennial selection of at-risk cultural heritage sites that combine great historical significance with contemporary social impact. With funding from American Express, WMF is currently working with local institutions to support preservation efforts including restoration work and fire preparedness studies. Thanks to a donation by the Danny Kaye and Sylvia Fine Kaye Foundation, the courtyard fountain of the Monastery of Santa Isabel la Real in Granada will also be restored.

LA GARMA CAVE IN CANTABRIA (2017-Present)

Since 2017, World Monuments Fund Spain has collaborated with the Stuart Weitzman Foundation to preserve the Cantabria Prehistoric Caves, unique archaeological sites dating back to the Paleolithic age. The cave of La Garma, part of the world-renowned network of karst caves located in Cantabria in Northern Spain, was sealed by a landslide around 15,000 years ago and contains some of the best-preserved Paleolithic rock art and archaeological remains of its kind.

La Garma's unique microclimate and microbiology, in addition to its large collection of rock art and archaeological remains, make it too fragile to be open to the public. In order to allow the public to explore the cave's interior, the Stuart Weitzman Foundation, in collaboration with WMF, funded the production of a virtual reality tour of the cave. Last January, *Forbes* magazine included *Memoria: Stories of La Garma* among the 50 top VR experiences of 2019.







WMF

Portugal (Est. 1993)

Board President: Gustavo Guimarães

Vice President: Isabel Cruz Almeida

One of World Monuments Fund's most emblematic projects and a Portuguese national symbol, the Tower of Belém provided the impetus for the establishment of WMF Portugal in 1993. The importance of the site as a cultural icon made it an ideal inaugural project for the affiliate. WMF Portugal's work at the Tower of Belém irreversibly changed the way stone conservation practice was done in Portugal, defining new methodologies and producing scientific data that was later used as a reference for other projects. The intervention gained international recognition and received the Europa Nostra Prize in 1999. WMF's work at the Tower of Belém was supported, in part, by the Robert W. Wilson Charitable Trust, as was Jerónimos Monastery and Church, which was also supported by the Annenberg Foundation.

Over the years, WMF Portugal has continued to focus its efforts on conservation projects that can serve as models for future interventions of the same nature. Thanks to the support of a permanent Scientific Committee, WMF Portugal has published works on every significant project that it has completed, thus contributing to the evolution of conservation practice in Portugal and Europe.

Looking to the future, WMF Portugal is currently considering a series of potential projects with an eye toward geographic, typological, and chronological diversification, as well as the three global challenges to cultural heritage: climate change, mass tourism, and unrepresented heritage.

**Jerónimos Monastery and
Church in Lisbon.**



TOWER OF BELÉM (1993-1998)

Lisbon's Tower of Belém was commissioned by King D. João II to guard Lisbon harbor and was completed during the reign of his successor, Manuel I, between 1514 and 1519. The tower's cream-colored Lioz limestone walls are embellished with sculpted balconies and ornaments, alluding to a time when Portugal was the first commercial and maritime empire in Europe.

In 1994, WMF Portugal started systematically mapping deterioration and alterations found on each stone. Although the tower was stable, years of air pollution and weathering caused by the harbor winds created significant problems. Exposure had deteriorated the base of the turrets, and lichen and black crust plagued the tower's outer stone surfaces. Water ingress posed the most crucial conservation issue, as the Lioz limestone is vulnerable to the erosive components of pollution. Despite these challenges, work at the Tower of Belém was successfully completed in 1998.

Clockwise from top left: Tower of Belém after conservation; a view into the courtyard at Jerónimos; a before and after view of the exterior walls around the courtyard; a detail of the stone carvings at the Tower of Belém.



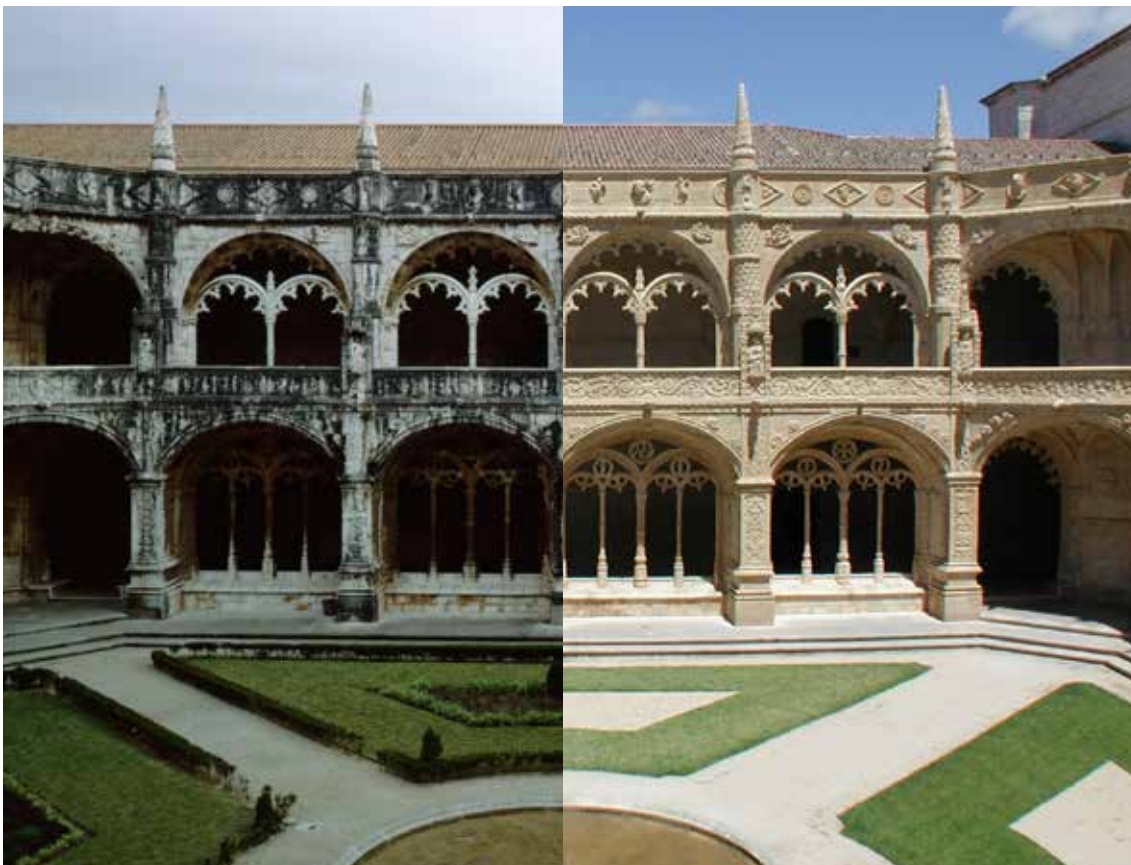


JERÓNIMOS CLOISTER AND CHURCH (2000-Present)

A unique example of Portuguese late Gothic architecture, the 16th-century Jerónimos Monastery was commissioned and built under the reign of King Manuel I for the Order of Saint Jerome. The monastery's vaulted ceilings and sophisticated ornamentation are characteristic of the ecclesiastical and royal commissions of its time. Today, it is the most visited historic site in Portugal.

WMF Portugal's first significant intervention at the Jerónimos Monastery took place in the Cloister between 2000 and 2002, shortly after the completion of the project at the Tower of Belém. Since 2012, when fragments of falling mortar and stone signaled the advanced state of deterioration of the vaulted ceiling, WMF Portugal devised and implemented a ten-phase conservation program of the church in partnership with the Directorate General of Cultural Heritage. The program's fifth and latest phase was completed in December 2019.

In parallel, WMF Portugal restored stained-glass windows and put in place protective measures to improve drainage and prevent water infiltration at the site. WMF also performed an extensive condition survey of the monument's exterior and commissioned research documenting the building's history and significant changes made to it over time. In order to explore the impact of mass tourism on the interior microclimate of the church, WMF and the New University of Lisbon supported the publication of a Ph.D. thesis and two scientific papers on the subject.







WMF

Britain *(Est. 1995)*

Board Chair: William J. Loschert

Executive Director: John Darlington

In 1990, World Monuments Fund presented His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales with its annual Hadrian Award in recognition of his efforts in advancing the conservation of world architecture. In his acceptance speech, HRH called attention to the plight of St. George's Hall in Liverpool, describing it as "one of the finest neoclassical buildings in the world."

Supported by WMF, which opened its London affiliate office in 1995 with a gift of \$1 million and a bequest from the late Paul Mellon to create the Paul Mellon Fund for Architectural Preservation in Great Britain, the restoration of the Small Concert Room at St. George's became WMF Britain's first project.

Since 1995, WMF Britain has completed projects at over 40 UK sites and established partnerships with many more on the World Monuments Watch to provide on-site conservation, educational resources, training, and advocacy. In recent years, the UK office has worked more frequently outside of the UK and, thanks to the British Council's Cultural Protection Fund, has carried out projects in Jordan, Iraq, and Yemen, supporting heritage projects within communities impacted by conflict.

WMF Britain's 25-year track record illustrates a wide range of successful conservation projects in the UK and further afield, complemented by meaningful engagement with local communities and global supporters. For the future, there is significant potential to expand WMF's presence in the United Kingdom, and London in particular.

St. George's Hall in Liverpool.



**STOWE HOUSE
(2002-Present)**

Stowe, in Buckinghamshire, is a Georgian ducal palace renowned for its extraordinary architecture and beautiful landscape. The site was shaped by the finest talents of the time, including Sir John Vanbrugh, William Kent, Robert Adam, Sir John Soane, and Lancelot “Capability” Brown. The restoration of this magnificent 18th-century mansion is one of the largest heritage projects ever undertaken with WMF support in Britain.

Stowe was featured on the Watch in 2002 and 2004 after the deterioration of its stonework and fine interiors had reached a critical point. World Monuments Fund joined private donors and others in a £10 million challenge to preserve Stowe House and enable much broader public access to the mansion.

WMF Britain’s work focused on the restoration of the public rooms, including the Marble Saloon, North Hall, and Great Library, and supported the creation of a visitor center to facilitate and increase access to the site.

Clockwise from top left: Stowe House South Front; the conserved roof at Moseley Road Baths; a stonemasonry student in Mafraq, Jordan; Marble Saloon in Stowe House.





MOSELEY ROAD BATHS (2016-Present)

Open for 110 years, Moseley Road Baths is the oldest of five Grade II Listed swimming baths operating in Britain, and the only one outside London still open to the general public. Elaborately decorated, the baths contain unique original fixtures and fittings.

The baths' "First Class" Gala Pool closed amid safety fears in 2003, followed by the slipper baths in 2004. Despite over ten years of intense local campaigning led by the Friends of Moseley Road Baths, Birmingham City Council planned to permanently close the baths in July 2017.

After placing the baths on the 2016 Watch, and with support from American Express, WMF joined a coalition of partners including the Friends, Birmingham City Council, Historic England, and the National Trust, which successfully deferred closure until spring 2018. By then, an alternative business model was found, and the new Moseley Road Baths CIO charitable body took over the baths. A critical intervention at the Gala Pool roof started, helping sustain the building's future. The coalition is currently developing plans to secure the baths' long-term future, and in 2021, WMF will support the elaborate brick and tile façade's restoration.

TRAINING SYRIAN REFUGEES IN CONSERVATION STONEMASONRY (2017-Present)

In 2017, WMF Britain started a program to train Syrian refugees and local Jordanians as conservation stonemasons in Mafraq, Jordan. Supported by the British Council's Cultural Protection Fund, the program was developed to address the destruction of architectural heritage in the region and the conservation skills gap left behind by war. The program aims to give people the capacity to restore their own heritage and provide them with a livelihood.

After over a year of training, 45 novice students successfully completed the course. Many were capable of producing extraordinarily sophisticated carvings. After a second year of advanced training for a smaller group, five trainees entered the job market as conservation stonemasons and are currently employed.

In August 2020, WMF launched the program in Tripoli, Lebanon, an area which faces similar challenges.







WMF

Peru *(Est. 2014)*

Board President: Juan Carlos Verme Giannoni

Vice President: Martha Zegarra

A call to develop the conservation and urban rehabilitation plan for a twelve-block stretch in Cusco's Historic Center first brought World Monuments Fund to southeastern Peru in 1997. Three years later, a group of prominent local figures, led by Marcela Temple founded the Committee for Conservation of Peru's Heritage Sites, to support WMF's growing involvement there. Its inaugural project at Huaca de la Luna was supported by a \$1 million grant through the Robert W. Wilson Challenge to Conserve Our Heritage. In 2014, the Committee became WMF Peru, establishing WMF's affiliate office in the region.

Over the years, WMF Peru has carried out important recovery projects for historical and archaeological monuments including the Huaca de la Luna Archaeological Site, the San Pedro Apóstol de Andahuaylillas Church, and the Chankillo Archaeological Site. Through these projects, the affiliate has established partnerships with public, private, and academic sectors and the surrounding communities of each project where it works, especially those in rural areas.

On the occasion of WMF's 55th anniversary, WMF Peru will initiate three site-recovery projects, two of them related to commemorative celebrations of Peru's Bicentennial of Independence in July 2021. These projects include the restoration of the Lima Art Museum's façade with a grant from the European Union, and the landscape design and renovation proposal of the Parque de la Exposición, made possible by real-estate company Centenario's donation to the Metropolitan Municipality of Lima.

A mural depicting Moche myths in the ceremonial plaza at Huaca de la Luna.



CHANKILLO ARCHAEOLOGICAL COMPLEX (2010-Present)

The archaeological complex of Chankillo in Casma was recognized in 2007 as the most ancient and important solar observatory in the Americas. 2,200 years old, it is shaped by a fortress with three circular defensive walls and thirteen stone towers which allowed their keepers to keep time using accurate determinations of the solstices and equinoxes.

After Chankillo's placement on the 2010 Watch, WMF partnered with the Instituto de Investigaciones Arqueológicas (IDARQ) and Peru's Ministry of Culture to support the Chankillo Revalorization and Sustainable Development Project thanks to the contributions of French Institute of Andean Studies (IFEA), British Peruvian Cultural Association (Britanico), Antamina, and OHL, leading to Chankillo's inclusion on Peru's Tentative List for inscription on the World Heritage List in 2013.

With support from the U.S. Department of State's Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation and the Selz Foundation, in 2017 WMF helped stabilize the thirteen stone towers and develop a conservation management plan in partnership with the Municipality of Casma, essential to Chankillo's nomination to the UNESCO World Heritage List. In 2019, a second phase of work was conducted on the site thanks to support from the Selz Foundation.





HUACA DE LA LUNA (2002-2011)

Built between the 1st and 8th century CE using millions of adobe blocks, Huaca de la Luna (Temple of the Moon) was once part of northern Peru's ancient Moche capital. After the temple was abandoned in the 16th century, exposure to the elements and vandalism eroded its adobe structures, which lost their uppermost platforms.

From 2002 to 2015, WMF supported an extensive project of research, conservation, and site management with the Backus Foundation. Considered a model for integrating archaeology, conservation, and sustainable tourism, Huaca de la Luna was named one of Iberian-America's ten best managed sites by Spain's Tourism Secretary and received the Reina Sofia Award for Conservation and Restoration.

In 2009, a \$1 million grant through the Robert W. Wilson Challenge to Conserve Our Heritage funded a three-year conservation, interpretation, research, training, and site management program. In 2011, conservation of the temple's façade was completed, and the first phase of a new tourist circuit was opened.

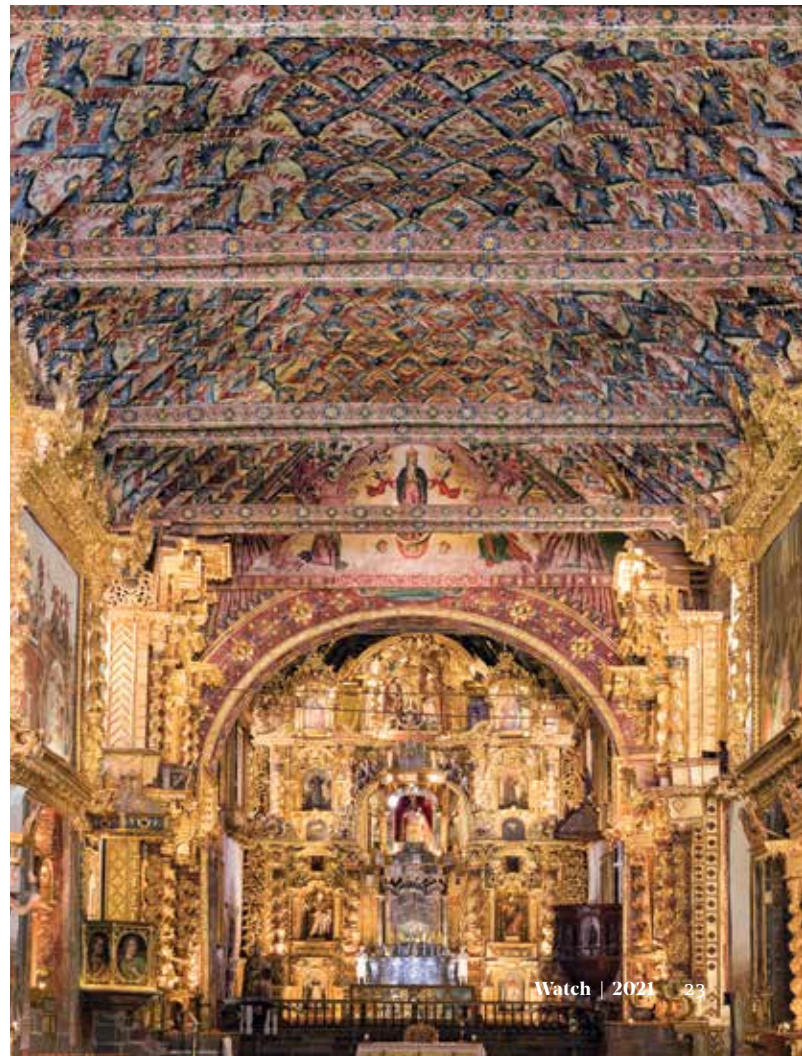
Clockwise from top left: View of the Thirteen Towers of Chankillo; debris and sand removal of the north façade of Huaca de la Luna in 1999; conservation of murals at Huaca de la Luna; nave of San Pedro Apóstol de Andahuaylillas Church; aerial view of the Fortified Temple of Chankillo.

ANDAHUAYLILLAS CHURCH (2008-2016)

Built by Jesuits between 1570 and 1606 over a pre-Columbian huaca, the San Pedro Apóstol de Andahuaylillas Church is considered the Sistine Chapel of the Americas for the beauty of its Luis de Riaño murals and Mudéjar-style gilded wood ceiling.

After the church's inclusion on the 2008 Watch, WMF funded a project focusing on restoration of the main façade, choir, and chapels; conservation of the sanctuary, nave murals, canvas paintings, and coffered ceiling; artwork documentation; and installation of an alarm system, in partnership with REPSOL, ENDESA, the Peru-France Counter Value Fund, the Ministry of Culture, Fundación Backus, the Parish of Andahuaylillas, Asociación SEMPA, and CCAIJO.

In 2012, WMF completed a bilingual publication detailing the history of the town, the church, and the restoration process for the cathedral's reconsecration. The publication included a chapter on a three-year youth heritage program designed to promote local awareness of cultural heritage conservation, which won a 2012 Global Vision Award from *Travel + Leisure*. The second edition of the publication is expected to be printed by early 2021. Since its restoration, Andahuaylillas has experienced increased tourism and economic opportunities for locals, including the creation of two gift shops which offer products from communities in the region. Supporting this development, WMF helped create the Andean Baroque Route, which welcomes around 140,000 visitors per year.







WMF

India (Est. 2015)

Board Chair: Shri Gaj Singhji

Executive Director: Amita Baig

In December 1996, the landmark judgment of the Supreme Court of India on the Taj Mahal in the case of *M.C. Mehta vs. Union of India & Others* noted that the Taj was threatened by deterioration caused, in part, by environmental pollution, quoting WMF's designation as an endangered site in its judgment. M.C. Mehta nominated the site to the first World Monuments Watch that year. Thus began the work of the World Monuments Fund in India.

In 2015, WMF India became the most recent entry to the World Monuments Fund family of affiliates, established under India's Companies Act, following the country's policy to include heritage conservation in corporate social responsibility programs.

Spearheaded by Maharaja Gaj Singh of Jodhpur, a 2006 Hadrian awardee, WMF India quickly established a significant presence in the country. Alongside its conservation work, WMF India has partnered with the Telangana government to host an evening of music and a book reading with William Dalrymple to raise awareness about the historic Osmania Women's College, currently under restoration.

More recently, WMF India participated as knowledge partner at the International Conference on Women in Design held in 2020 in Mumbai, which brought together women leaders in design from around the world. WMF India has also supported the Khasgi Trust in repairing the Ahilya Temple and Chhatri and Ghats. Funds raised through American Express India and the Interglobe Foundation have helped to further expand WMF's footprint throughout India.

In the years to come, WMF India will continue to develop its leadership in conservation and critical thought in multiple areas. The conservation of historic water bodies will be a key focus as WMF India tackles the challenges of climate change and lack of access to potable water in large parts of India, in line with the Indian Government's intention to restore historic water systems.



**OSMANIA WOMEN'S COLLEGE
(2003-Present)**

Included on the Watch in 2002 and 2004, the Residency Building of Hyderabad, part of Osmania Women's College since 1949, was the focus of a multi-pronged study culminating in a Comprehensive Management Plan. Conservation began in 2014 when the west wing's roof collapsed, requiring emergency repairs.

The 200-year-old British Residency Building has a towering Palladian-style porch, its pillars rising up to 41 feet. The immense Darbar hall dominates the building's space, with a patterned roof that has been restored over a two-year period.

The challenge in WMF India's conservation work at the College has been carrying out extensive structural repairs while preserving the building's historic elements and maintaining the structure's rich detail. An Interpretation Center, scheduled to be completed in 2021, will highlight these elements, detailing the conservation process while also telling the building's story over the centuries and underscoring its cultural significance in the city.

Clockwise from top left: A government ceremony at Osmania Women's College; a face carving at Lal Bagh; interior Council Room at Lal Bagh; exterior details of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Stadium; a historic view of the grand staircase at Osmania Women's College.





SARDAR VALLABHBHAI PATEL STADIUM (2020-Present)

WMF India is excited to start a new project at the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Stadium in Ahmedabad this year. Designed by Charles Correa and completed in 1966 with engineering designs by Mahendra Raj, the stadium was cutting edge at the time. Over the years, as the needs of international stadiums grew in scale, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Stadium lost its primacy. Today it functions as a facility for schools and colleges and a much-needed green space. Thanks to support from the Getty Foundation, WMF is currently preparing a Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan for the stadium which, once restored, should have state-of-the-art technology, making it a vital resource for the city. Other 20th-century buildings in Ahmedabad will also benefit, as the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Stadium conservation effort will assert a new model for the cultural and economic importance of the restoration of modern architecture.

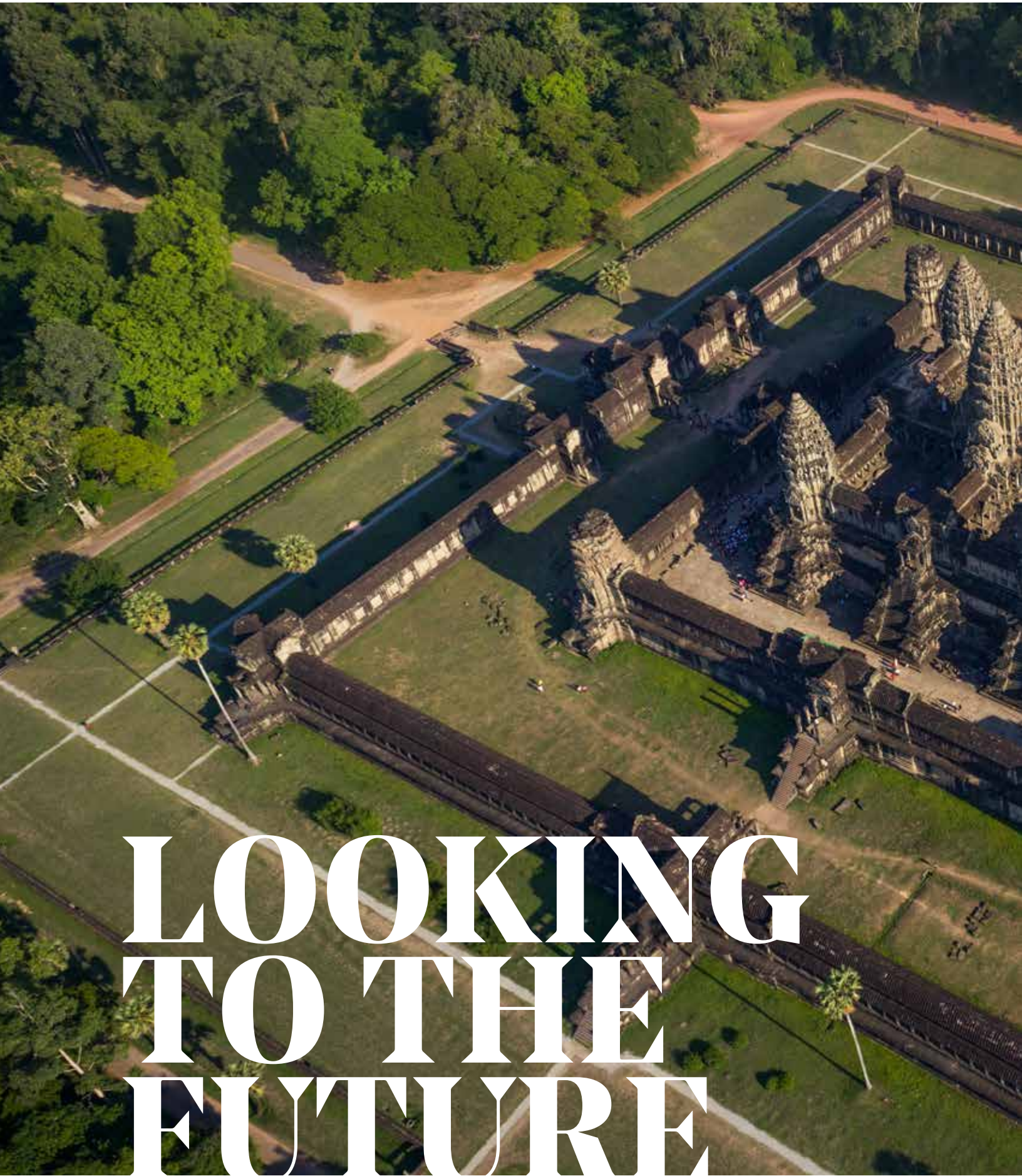


LAL BAGH (2011-Present)

The seat of the former Holkar Maharajas, Lal Bagh is considered one of the finest garden palaces in Central India. Built over a hundred years ago in the Italian Renaissance Revival style, the palace's interior illustrates the Maharajas' transition from building forts as their residences to European-style palaces, a transition encouraged by the British colonial government.

Occupied until the seventies, the palace interior is decorated in the French Baroque style, with fine paintings, gilding, and tapestries. WMF India partnered with the Madhya Pradesh government over eight years to prepare Conservation Plans for multiple sites, Lal Bagh among them.

WMF India has partnered with the Interglobe Foundation to support the restoration of these classical interiors. Sections of the Palace suffering from extensive fire and water damage will be repurposed into a cultural center, while the 70-acre grounds surrounding Lal Bagh are set to become a public park.





Global Challenges to Cultural Heritage Preservation

As World Monuments Fund celebrates its 55th year, we proudly take stock of our cumulative impact over these past five and a half decades and consider how best to enhance our efforts protecting and supporting the world's most incredible cultural landscapes, architectural marvels, and places of shared significance. After decades working to underscore, preserve, and rehabilitate key cultural heritage in countries around the world from Albania to Zimbabwe, our commitment to our planet's monuments of cultural expression and human ingenuity is as strong as ever.

*by Jonathan S. Bell,
Vice President of Programs*





From left: An empty San Marco Square in Venice; Bennerley Viaduct.

We must, however, recognize that the global challenges facing the cultural heritage we endeavor to protect have changed and created a new landscape across which World Monuments Fund must operate and demonstrate relevance. The global pandemic that has plagued the world through most of 2020 has drastically changed the way we all work and play.

Since the international recognition of the novel coronavirus at the beginning of this year, we have witnessed unprecedented changes to the interactions between people and places of significance. With fewer visits to historic buildings and archaeological sites resulting in a dramatic loss of revenue for these places and their adjacent communities, the critical link between tourism and local economies has become painfully apparent. At the same time, significantly diminished travel and sparse crowds have led the way to cleaner air and waterways, welcomed frolicking wildlife into the

world's urban centers, and replenished the sense of place and idyllic beauty once enjoyed by local residents without the canopy of mass tourism.

Amid the throes of this pandemic, continued police violence toward people of color in the United States and the effective organizing of the Black Lives Matter movement sparked an unprecedented worldwide recognition of painful histories embodied in the statues and monuments erected in public squares and before town halls around the world. Spurred on by social media networks and covered by traditional media, the groundswell call to remove these monuments associated with historic injustice has helped showcase that celebrated heritage often represents privilege. Some stories are told in stone and bronze for the world to see, but many others lack recognition and remain unseen and unheard.

While our relationships with our cultural heritage evolved over the

past year, changing rainfall patterns, intensifying storms, and rising temperatures continued to pose challenges. The pervasive nature of climate change means that no building, landscape, archaeological site, or adjacent community is spared the need to adapt and develop solutions to this invisible and unpredictable force. Tied to changing weather patterns is an increase in disasters from flooding, sustained high winds, unusual temperature extremes, and drought, all of which present distinct challenges for the places and communities where World Monuments Fund works.

As we consider the events of this past year and our priorities for the future, we recognize that World Monuments Fund must act as an agent of change. We remain committed to working with local partners and communities to protect the world's most important places; this is our mission. Additionally, we must ensure our impact is not only measured in finished projects, but in the cumulative effect of outcomes on some of the world's most pressing challenges. By curating our portfolio of projects such that multiple places can develop viable mitigation and adaptation strategies to similar challenges and threats, World Monuments Fund can employ a multiplier effect that has widespread and lasting impact.

To this end, we have identified three global challenges that will help shape our portfolio of projects, focus our resources, and coalesce our individual efforts into far-reaching solutions. By helping partners develop sound local and regional tourism strategies, we will work to mitigate the negative impacts and harness the economic and social potential of imbalanced tourism. In strengthening our commitment to work with unrecognized heritage places and integrate diverse perspectives, we will bolster the role of underrepresented heritage in global discussions and preservation decision-making. Through developing site-specific solutions to changing weather patterns, we will underscore the threat that climate change represents and contribute to adaptation strategies around the world.



Imbalanced Tourism

The adage that “tourism is a double-edged sword” is well known to preservation professionals, since the field has long struggled to promote patterns of visitation that can sustainably support heritage places with adequate revenue and minimally impact the physical fabric or sense of place. As many of us have experienced, popular destinations are quickly overrun and the visitor experience significantly diminished by large crowds that leave their mark on the monuments, exasperate the local community, and support the local economy with mixed results. For some places, the promised economic development never comes, as visitors are few or inconsistent and revenue may be funneled to external entities or local powerbrokers through prepaid packages and foreign tour operators. At other locations, tourism leads to rampant growth that gentrifies neighborhoods, encourages new development, and forever changes the composition of local communities and the character of the heritage.

One strategy lies in developing and coordinating a wide array of visitation opportunities at a regional scale, as opposed to focusing on individual sites. Such an approach requires working closely with local and regional authorities, resident communities, and site managers to coordinate decision-making and tourism promotion. World Monuments Fund is developing this approach at 2020 Watch sites Bennerley Viaduct (UK) and Canal Nacional (Mexico), working closely with local community-based organizations to enhance and highlight incredible infrastructure that shapes the landscape and provides a wide variety of recreation and tourism opportunities. In the Jewish Mahalla of Bukhara (Uzbekistan) and the historic neighborhood of Axerquía in Córdoba (Spain), a similar approach at the neighborhood levels will help strengthen interest in and visitation of traditional houses and streetscapes that epitomize the local vernacular architecture and culture.

Another tactic that has flourished throughout the pandemic is digital tourism—experiencing the world’s cultural treasures from the comfort of your own home through the marvel of technology. World Monuments Fund is integrating digital documentation and the development of virtual experiences to raise awareness about the places we work and share the wonder and rich history with a broad audience. We have already developed interactive online experiences for places like San Pedro Apóstol de Andahuaylillas (Peru), as well as an award-winning virtual visit to La Garma cave (Spain). This approach not only allows larger numbers of

but also provides for a richer and more fulfilling visitor experience. World Monuments Fund will continue to work closely with our partners and stakeholders on the ground to develop viable visitor management strategies that distribute tourism at a regional scale and help reach new audiences and supporters of cultural heritage. A commitment to balanced tourism enhances our efforts to support the places we work.

From left: The remains of Mam Rashan Shrine, destroyed by ISIS; the Coral Mosques in Maldives, threatened by climate change.



people to “visit” these incredible places, but contributes to their protection by preventing high-volume tourism that could be detrimental to their survival. Altogether, these approaches support the development of a more sustainable tourism that not only bolsters destinations and resident communities,

Underrepresented Heritage

As the debate over monuments this year has clearly demonstrated, power and privilege are often tied to celebrated cultural heritage. The architectural marvels of the past that regale throngs of visitors with stories of pageantry and conquest frequently embody

rarely recounted stories of servitude, subjugation, and exclusion. These are the stories of the disempowered communities whose land was stolen, who labored as enslaved people, or who paid oppressive taxes to fund the opulence and splendor of many feted destinations. The artistic achievement is lauded, but the associated sacrifice is often ignored. Despite recent efforts at historic sites to interpret these stories and provide a richer narrative, diverse perspectives and stories of injustice are rarely integrated. Moreover, there are many places of significance that do not appear on any sanctioned list and lack broad support for protection because they have been sidelined for generations. These heritage places hold incredible importance for the communities that value them and often represent unique facets of human ingenuity, creativity, and artistry that are otherwise unrecognized. Their demise would be an irrevocable loss for humanity.

Encouraging inclusion of diverse perspectives and narratives is a crucial path forward to recognizing and protecting humanity’s rich heritage. The most iconic historic places comprise countless unheard stories and unrecognized contributions by disenfranchised communities. World Monuments Fund renews our commitment to the heritage of underrepresented groups exemplified through previous work in Essaouira (Morocco) and with *Voices of Alabama* (United States). In these projects, the narratives of minority communities were recorded and disseminated to raise awareness of the significant role their heritage plays in local identity. Current projects at the Woolworth Building in San Antonio (United States) and the Mam Rashan Shrine in Sinjar (Iraq) underscore the wealth and distinctiveness of so many underrepresented heritage sites and the threats they face, ranging from lack of recognition to targeted destruction associated with genocide.

World Monuments Fund will continue to engage a wide variety of stakeholders and capture divergent perspectives as an essential component of our work. Through close collaboration with

local communities, we commit to highlighting the wonder of humanity's rich accomplishments while denouncing past and current injustice. Ensuring that recognized cultural heritage embodies our diversity and portrays the complexities of history enhances its relevance for communities everywhere.

Climate Change

Our built heritage has always contended with the elements. Crucial components of local architecture, sense of place, and even cultural mores have developed over centuries in response to climate. In recent years, we have seen weather patterns change around the globe such that temperatures are shifting, sea levels are rising, and storms are intensifying. Communities and the places of importance that help nourish them must adapt to survive. Despite the concept of the monument as a beacon for the ages, extreme temperatures, violent winds, and excessive or inadequate rainfall represent new threats to their longevity. Year after year, increased flooding and wildfires damage and even destroy historic sites in countless nations around the world. The global nature of our changing climate underscores the need for pragmatic, replicable strategies to safeguard our cultural heritage.

A principal approach lies in the development of adaptation strategies that provide historic and cultural resources with the ability to withstand climatic changes: shed and drain larger volumes of water; withstand stronger winds; tolerate more extreme temperatures; and endure drought. In many cases, traditional natural resource management and building techniques already provide the answers and simply require renewal and strengthening. World Monuments Fund's past projects in Kilwa (Tanzania) and current project at a 2020 Watch site in Vijayapura, Karnataka (India), integrate rehabilitation of traditional land and water management systems as a strategy to protect and revitalize the historic sites. In other cases, such as Wat Chaiwatthanaram (Thailand), modern engineering solutions and drainage plans have been implemented to protect

this Buddhist temple complex from flood events exacerbated by a changing climate.

Cultural heritage is also emblematic of the urgency of climate change—iconic places are dramatically swallowed by the sea or destroyed by gale force winds. Places of importance can serve as rallying cries for global coordination and commitment to the climate crisis. With our projects at Blackpool Piers (United Kingdom) and the Coral Stone Mosques (Maldives), World Monuments Fund has aimed to highlight the plight of our heritage in the face of climate change and work closely with local stakeholders and international institutions to develop strategies to save them.

We have the duty to protect the world's cultural heritage from the immediate effects of climate change and the opportunity to emphasize the need for action through work at these places. World Monuments Fund is committed to playing a key role in both arenas, working closely with local and international partners to find solutions to immediate needs and to contribute to long-term mitigation. Our approach is to learn from our work and disseminate the lessons of successful strategies and failed tactics alike to improve our global capacity to safeguard our places of greatest significance and the communities that turn to them for affirmation, solace, and the promise of cultural resilience.

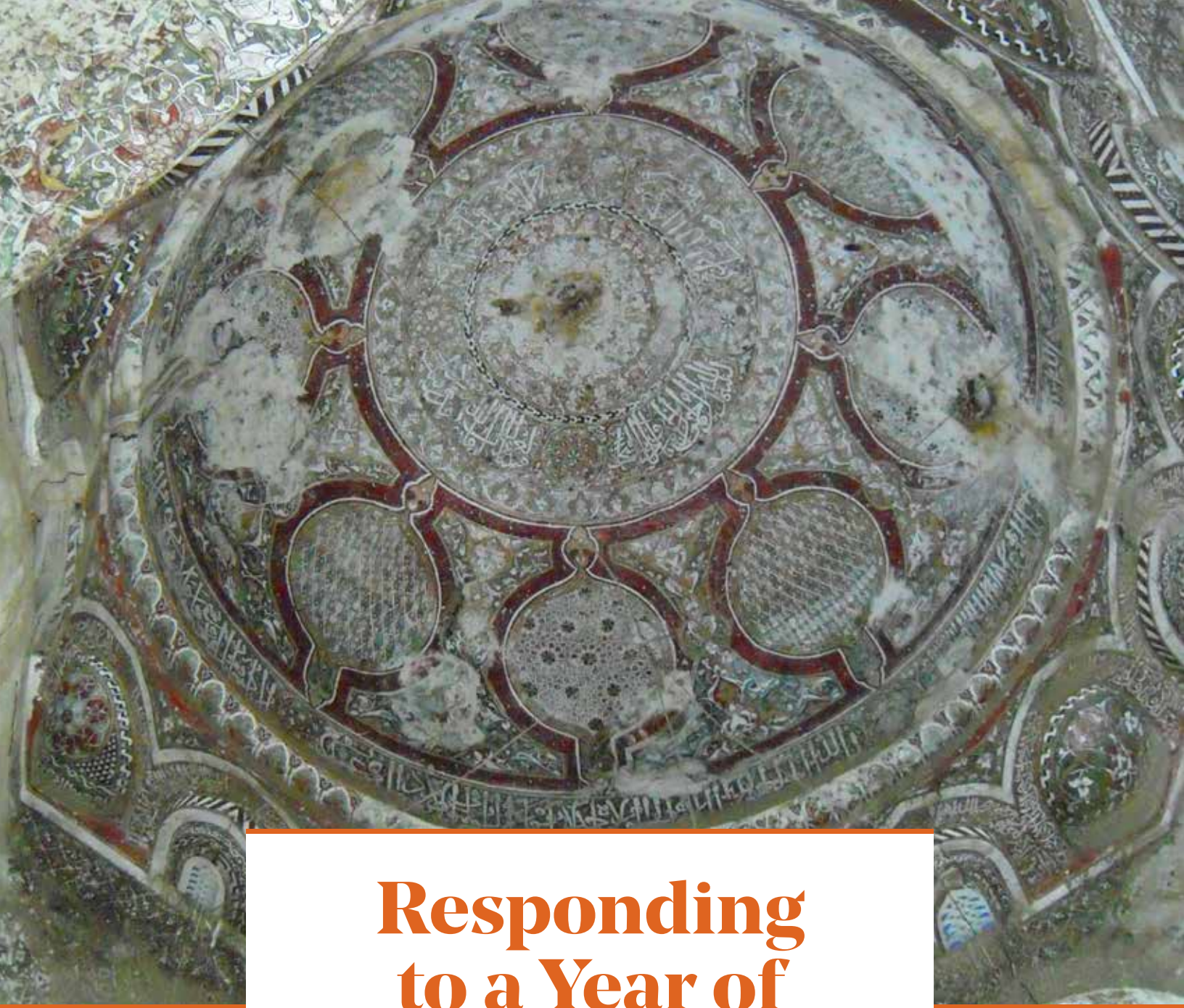


This Year at WMF

Explore project updates, events, and notable highlights from the past year.

Right: A student learns preservation landscaping techniques at WMF's Bridge to Crafts Careers Program at Woodlawn Conservancy in the Bronx, NY.





Responding to a Year of Extraordinary Challenges

*In the face of a global pandemic,
WMF strengthened its international response
and deepened its internal bonds.*

Heritage preservation is difficult at all times. There is no doubt, however, that 2020 marked one of the most challenging years yet.

Existing hurdles were exacerbated by the collective shutdowns caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Many ongoing projects were paused, and we were faced instead with new, difficult situations. Workers were either stranded on-site or unable to reach their place of work, trainees had to find new, digital ways to develop their conservation skills, and fragile sites were left unguarded, at the mercy of any and all threats. Inauguration festivities for projects slated for 2020 completion were also postponed, including Osmania Women's College in Hyderabad, India; the Chancellerie d'Orléans in Paris; the Khmer Temple of Ta Som at Angkor in Cambodia; and the Qianlong Garden at the Forbidden City in Beijing.

In order to combat the impact of this unprecedented state of affairs—not only on the integrity of monuments, but also on the livelihoods of those who depend on them—WMF was pushed to think flexibly and creatively, finding alternative ways to move forward on its projects while ensuring the safety and economic security of its staff and consultants around the world.

In April, the *Relief Fund* was created—and received support from the International Alliance for the Protection of Heritage in Conflict Areas (ALIPH), among others—in order to assist WMF teams worldwide facing challenges due to the pandemic. We drastically reinforced digital

communications between international and local teams to maximize the efficiency of our response and developed online trainings to overcome social distancing and lockdown measures. Our internet presence, likewise, was reformatted and amplified.

And alongside a devastating pandemic, 2020 continued to reveal new crises for WMF to confront. The tragic explosion at the Port of Beirut in August and its devastating aftermath brought the entire heritage protection community together in a swift effort to move forward on the arduous road toward recovery. Heavy flooding in late August, compounded by severe political and humanitarian crises, continues to threaten Yemen's historic architecture.

Several sites, such as the flood-ravaged Hitoyoshi Ryokan in Japan's Kumamoto Prefecture, benefitted from WMF's Crisis Response Fund, designed to provide resources for early recovery actions and help heritage sites become vectors of community resiliency, economic opportunity, and strengthened social cohesion in the wake of disaster.

If there is one silver lining to this challenging year, it is the strengthening and deepening of the bonds within our WMF community. Together, we found new ways to work efficiently and stand with our staff and partners all over the world, taking care of present difficulties while also preparing for the post-COVID world, all anchored in the belief that cultural heritage is necessary and enriches people's lives everywhere.



Clockwise from left: Threatened architecture in Yemen's Old City of Ta'izz; a conservator at Wat Chaiwatthanaram observes COVID-19 safety precautions; citizens of Myanmar cope with flooding; a mural from Chancellerie d'Orléans.



A Community Unites to Rebuild Char Narayan Temple in the Wake of an Earthquake

Opposite page, from top:
The remains of Char Narayan Temple after the 2015 earthquake; the remaining plinth after the debris was cleared.

The shaking began shortly before noon on April 25, 2015. By the time the initial shock of the 7.8-magnitude earthquake had finished, debris from collapsed, or partially collapsed, buildings littered the entire streetscape of Kathmandu Valley. Two large aftershocks followed, and within 48 hours, nearly 2,000 lives were lost to the earthquake.

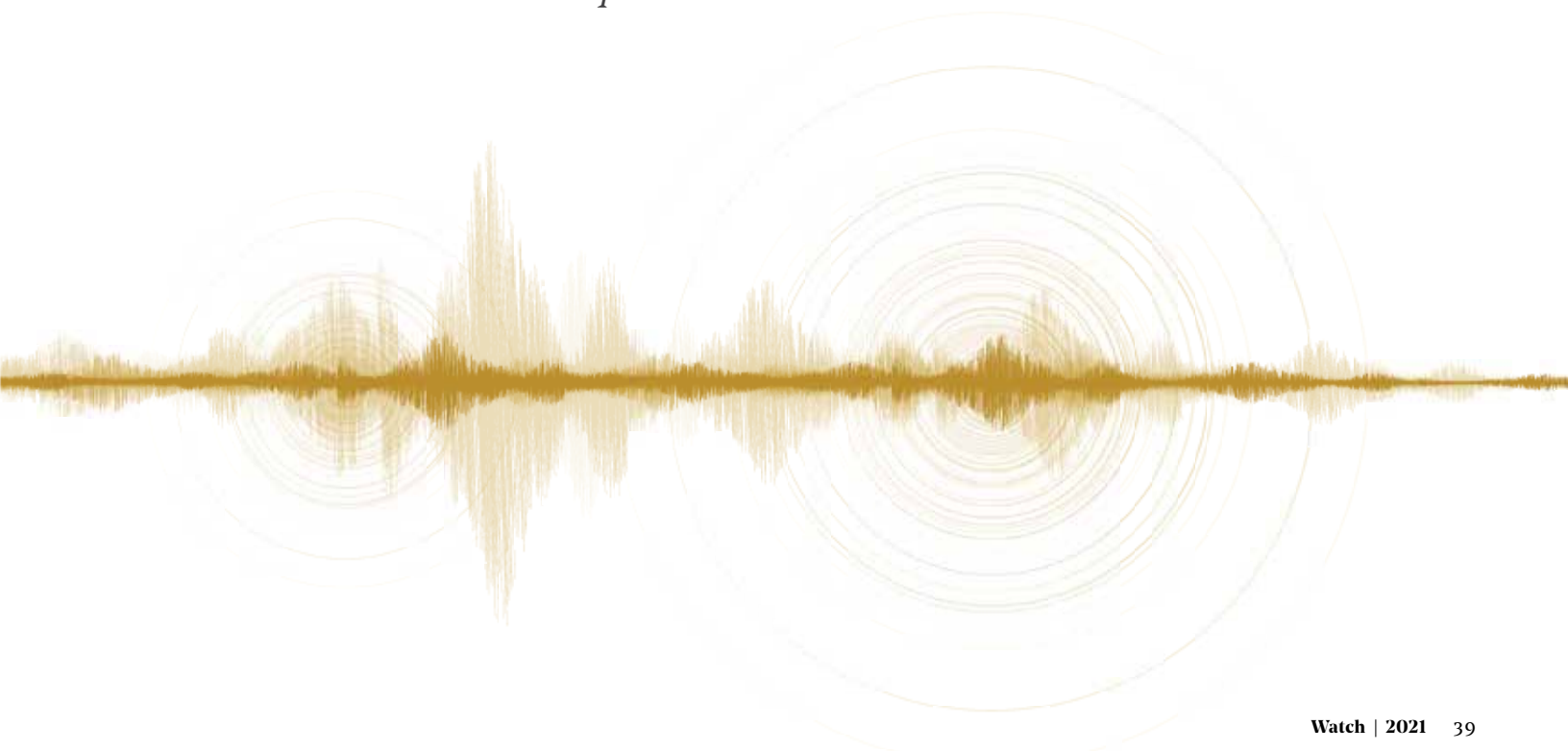




PHOTO BY MAU HENNA



40 wmf.org

Nepal is not unfamiliar with earthquakes. As one of the most seismically active countries in the world, its rich heritage would not have survived over the centuries were it not for painstaking reconstruction efforts.

The 2015 earthquake's impact on places of heritage was immediately apparent throughout the valley, home to hundreds of sacred Buddhist and Hindu sites. In the historic city of Patan, now known as the Lalitpur Metropolitan City, locals carefully emerging from their houses and shops after the quake were greeted with clouds of dust and rubble.

Among the earthquake's casualties, the 16th-century Char Narayan Temple in the center of Patan's Durbar Square had completely collapsed. Dilendra Raj Shrestha, a local resident of Patan, joined forces with local youths to ensure the integrity of the Durbar Square temples.

“We feel proud as the Patanite people, and proud of our artisans and craftsmen involved in the reconstruction work.”

- Dilendra Raj Shrestha

Moments of crisis and confusion are when the threats of pillage and artifact theft loom the largest. Aware of this fact, Dilendra and his band of young volunteers spent the following day and night guarding the metal and wooden materials hidden in the rubble, until the responsibility was passed over to the Nepalese police and army.

In the days that followed, the Nepalese army and police worked with community members to salvage and secure fragments of Char Narayan, including hundreds of pieces like historic carved door and window frames, decorative carvings, lintels, walls, aedicules, colonettes, and stone pavings. “We did not only hope,” Dilendra told us, “we were committed to rebuilding the temples.”

Dilendra’s family has lived in Patan for more than seven generations. “The Patan Durbar Square used to be our playground,” he confided. “Growing up, I started realizing the architectural and historic value of its monuments.” Considered “living heritage” in Patan, the temples on Durbar Square serve as a local gathering spot for the community, beyond their role as places of worship.

The importance of the temples for local tourism and development became obvious to Dilendra when he opened his restaurant just behind Char Narayan Temple, the oldest temple on Durbar Square. After it was destroyed, there was no doubt in his mind that Char Narayan would be an integral part of Patan’s recovery.

But healing after any crisis is difficult, and the road toward it is long. This is especially true when a crisis of this nature—sudden, with little to no time to react—takes place. In the summer of 2016, World Monuments Fund committed to work in the Kathmandu Valley with a mission in mind: to accurately reconstruct Char Narayan Temple using salvaged materials while concealing carefully designed seismic reinforcement measures to protect the temple from future seismic activity.

Thanks to support from American Express and the Robert W. Wilson Charitable Trust, and in partnership with the Kathmandu Valley Preservation Trust (KVPT), WMF undertook an extensive project in pursuit of this mission. After Char Narayan’s remaining pieces were all collected and brought to a palace courtyard for protection from theft and monsoon rainfalls, a painstaking effort to label, identify, document, catalog, clean, and store these pieces took place.

For the reconstruction phase to be truly sustainable, however, WMF and KVPT needed to think ahead to future earthquakes and focus on preparedness. While it was an earthquake that pulled Char Narayan down, it was the temple’s disconnected foundations that, by allowing its walls to move independently from one another, pulled the entire structure apart.

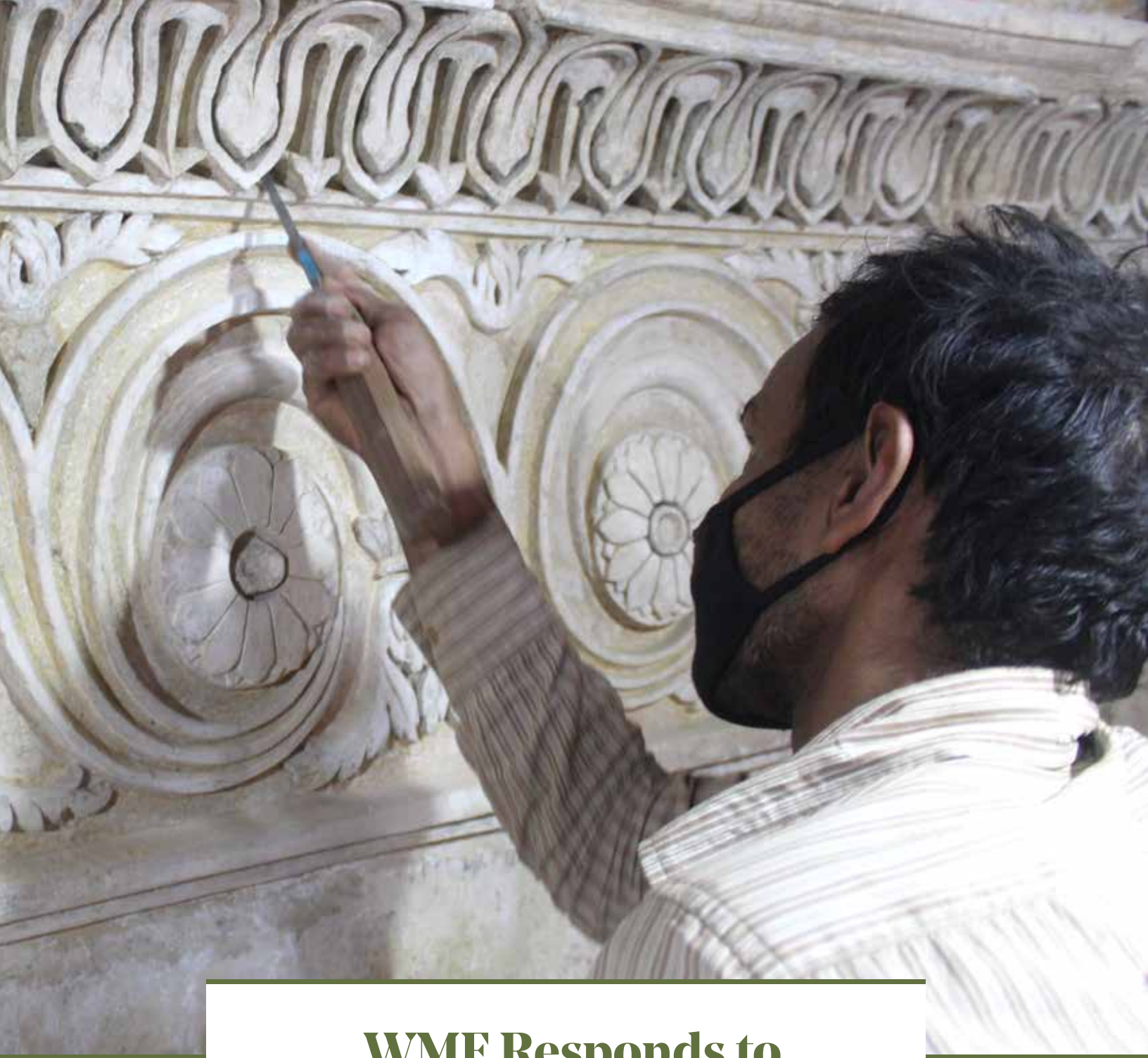
By connecting Char Narayan’s inner and outer brick masonry foundation walls and concealing a steel frame in the rebuilt structure, new seismic

reinforcement measures would allow the temple to survive future earthquakes relatively unscathed. The design for these measures drew from WMF and KVPT’s past work in the Kathmandu Valley, which protected multiple sites from the quakes that destroyed Char Narayan.

In January of this year, nearly five years after the earthquake, a ceremony was held to celebrate the completed reconstruction of the temple. “We feel proud as the Patanite people,” Dilendra told us, “and proud of our artisans and craftsmen involved in the reconstruction work.”



Clockwise from top left: The fully restored temple; salvaged pieces that were integrated into the reconstruction; soldiers assisting in the efforts.



**WMF Responds to
Unanticipated Challenges
at Osmania Women's
College in Hyderabad**

On March 25, 2020, in the face of growing concerns about the COVID-19 pandemic, India announced a country-wide lockdown. Movement between states was suddenly and strictly prohibited. The abrupt nature of the announcement left many across the country with no time to react.

At the time, WMF's conservation work was in full swing at Osmania Women's College in Hyderabad. With the lockdown, WMF's team of technicians found themselves stranded, with no way to return home. "We had a huge team of about 62 people on site and we had hoped to complete the conservation work by July or August 2020," explained Amita Baig, Executive Director for World Monuments Fund India. "And then, with the COVID-19 pandemic and the global lockdown, we were suddenly faced with this enormous problem of having people at work, government closing down work, and we had to intervene with government officials across Telangana. We spoke at length with the Vice Chancellor's Office, the Department of Heritage, the College Principal's Office, and they were very helpful." It took several weeks of tireless negotiations, but WMF finally succeeded in returning the team safely to their families. Those who preferred to stay worked under strict safety measures, with necessary social distancing.

With many sites around the world facing similar issues, WMF acted quickly, creating the World Monuments *Relief Fund* to assist teams on the ground to ensure that the needs of WMF field staff around the world are being met and to guarantee adequate support and on-site supplies, including food, while making sure social distancing measures are implemented. Osmania Women's College was one of several projects to receive

funding from this program, along with sites such as Erbil Citadel in Iraq.

The first institute of higher education for women in the former state of Andhra Pradesh, Osmania Women's College was originally built as an official British residency in the early 19th century and represents one of the first examples of the classical revival style in India. The building's original inhabitant was Colonel James Achilles Kirkpatrick, the British representative to the court at Hyderabad from 1797 to 1805. Kirkpatrick commissioned the building from Lt. Samuel Russell of the Madras Engineers during a period of critical economic and military importance for Hyderabad.

By the end of the 20th century, heavy traffic, poor maintenance, and faulty repair work had left the building in a poor state. A section of the southern façade collapsed due to additions and alterations overloading the balcony. Subsequent smaller collapses resulted in the offices and classrooms being moved out of the building.

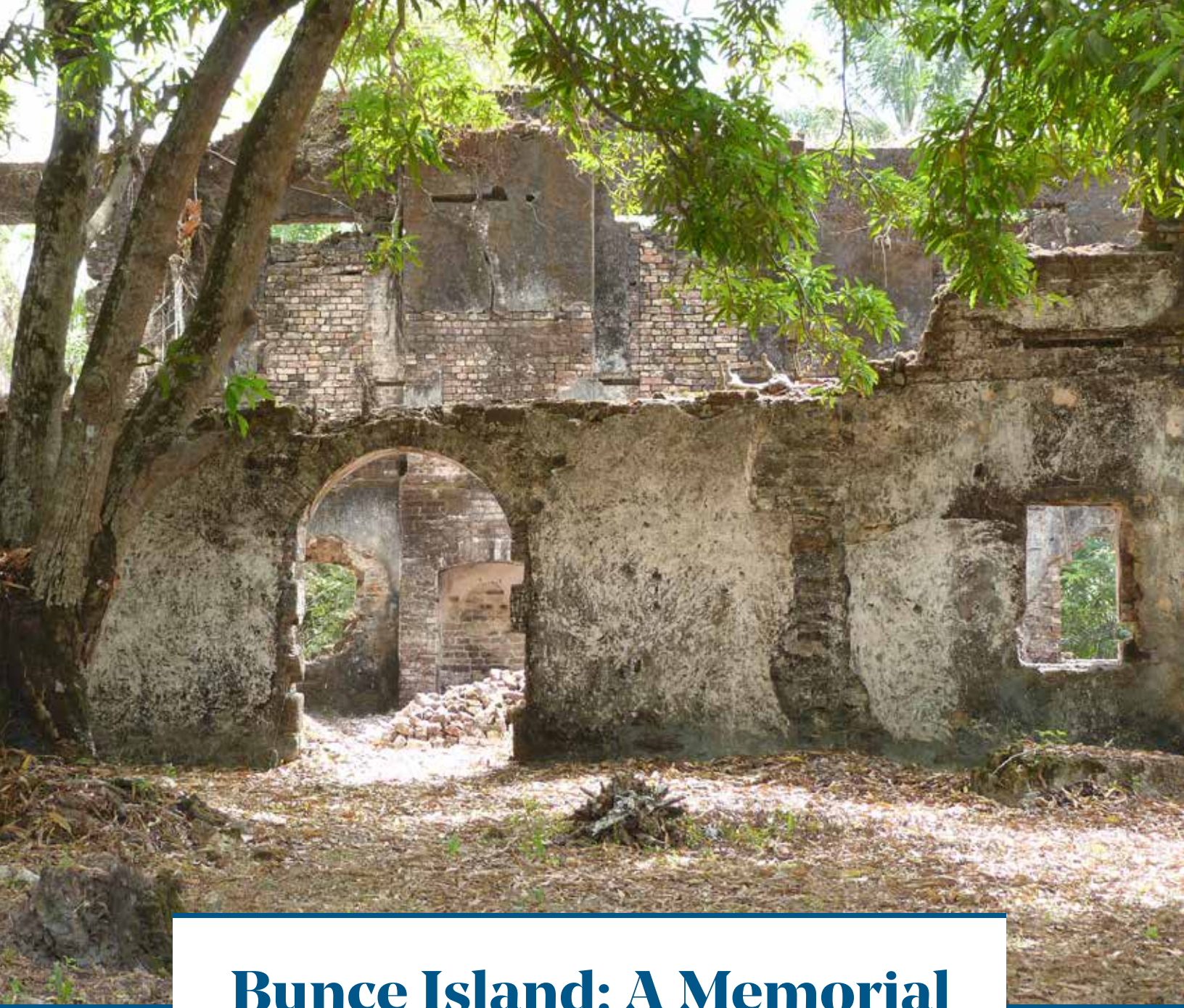
Included on the World Monuments Watch in 2002 and 2004, the building became the focus of a multi-pronged study culminating in the preparation of a Comprehensive Management Plan for the entire college, including the historic gates, gardens, and cemetery. Public attention to the building and a High Court order resulted in the State Government recognizing it as a historic monument in 2008. Then, in 2013, following a major collapse of the western portion of the building when huge timber beams crashed through two floors, WMF stepped in to do emergency repairs in collaboration with the National Culture Fund.

Since 2014, in partnership with the College and the Department of Heritage, and with funding from the Robert W. Wilson Charitable Trust and American Express, WMF has gradually begun restoring the building to its original elegance. The immense scale of the building has been challenging but the restoration is nearly complete. WMF will also install an Interpretation Center that will showcase the rich narratives of the many people who have worked and studied there.

The inauguration of Osmania Women's College was one of a handful of milestone events originally planned for the second half of 2020. If the situation improves, a celebration will take place in January 2022.



Clockwise from left: A conservator cleans the detailed carvings inside the college; other conservators repair damage to the exterior.



Bunce Island: A Memorial to the Dark History of Man's Inhumanity

Clockwise from above: The remains of the slave fort; an aerial view of Bunce Island; a technician cleans the stone.

“Bunce Island is very important as a memorial to the dark, dark history of man’s inhumanity to man, and as a site of memory.”

- Isatu Smith

A few miles north of the port city of Freetown, rising from the waters of the Sierra Leone River, a small, uninhabited stretch of land silently carries a built testament to one of the darkest periods in humankind’s history. Besieged by overreaching tree roots and invasions of wild grass, empty, stone-brick shells of old buildings double as remnants of one of the most lucrative slave trading operations in West Africa.

Between the late 1600s and 1807, Bunce Island’s fortified British trading post and ancillary buildings, known collectively as a slave castle, served as an international trade center and the pass-over point for commercial ships transporting enslaved people to the West Indies and North America. The island housed merchants’ quarters, a gunpowder magazine, a slave house, a cookhouse, and an office tower. The Chief Agent’s residence at the center of the castle stood in front of a “slave yard,” where captive men, women, and children were held before being loaded aboard commercial ships by the hundreds.

Located along the “rice coast” of West Africa, Bunce Island was considered a privileged access point for slave trade operations targeting individuals from rice cultivating areas to sell to rice plantation owners in South Carolina and Georgia. Bunce Island captives were also sold in Northern colonies such as New York, Rhode Island, Connecticut, and Massachusetts. Over more than a century, an estimated 30,000 people were sent to slavery from Bunce Island.

“Thousands of Africans passed through Bunce Island’s doors on their way to a life of captivity in the Americas.” Isatu Smith, former Head of the Monuments and Relics Commission of Sierra Leone (MRC), was WMF’s Project Manager

at Bunce Island during its three-year project there in partnership with MRC, launched in October 2017 and completed in July 2020. “It is very important as a memorial to the dark, dark history of man’s inhumanity to man, and as a site of memory.”

Bunce Island stands as a testament to a transformative and traumatic period in local and regional history whose impact on the Atlantic world continues to this day. Its unique historical and social significance transcends national boundaries, giving us insight into how our built environment, passed down from generation to generation, bears witness to the truths of the past and the present.

The urgent need to recognize the history of the Atlantic slave trade and its lasting effect on our lives was made clear this summer when massive protests swept across the United States, calling for social justice in the name of Black Lives Matter and demanding acknowledgment not only of the systemic racism pervading society but also of its deep roots. Roots which extend all the way across an ocean, back to Sierra Leone.

WMF’s work at Bunce Island, supported by the Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation, secures the survival of one of the most important heritage sites in West Africa which, despite its significance, remains underrepresented. A new visitor infrastructure, including an interpretation center, pathways, and information signs, will help tourists engage with the site and raise awareness of Bunce Island’s role in the Atlantic slave trade and its legacy.

Organized trainings for tour guides focused on a detailed history of Sierra Leone and the relationship between the United States Gullahs, descendants of enslaved people from the rice coast, and

Sierra Leoneans. “I cannot underscore enough the importance of Bunce Island and especially Sierra Leone’s role in the transatlantic slave trade,” Isatu Smith, who headed the trainings, explained. “It’s very important that this place is preserved so that descendants of captives who were taken will come back to visit this place as a pilgrimage to their ancestors who were enslaved.”

WMF’s work at the site, stabilizing a large section of standing ruins, raising awareness through educational outreach and community engagement, and training local craftspeople, will, in line with the objectives of the MRC, encourage the development of a national consciousness surrounding the history of slavery in Sierra Leone. It will also ensure Bunce Island lives on as a unique cultural memorial of Africa’s intersection with the United States.





Kesennuma and the Great East Japan Earthquake: A Story of Resilience and Recovery

On March 11, 2011, almost 30 kilometers below sea level, in the depths of the Pacific Ocean off the coast of Japan, the earth started shaking. It was the beginning of what came to be called the Great East Japan Earthquake, one of the largest in the history of Japan. Reaching a magnitude of 9.0 on the Richter scale, it was one of the four biggest earthquakes in the world since 1900. It shook so hard that Japan's main island, Honshu, was displaced by up to four meters and the entire planet was physically shifted on its axis by more than ten centimeters.

The quake produced waves 40 meters high that crashed onto the Japanese coast, claiming over 18,000 human lives and robbing nearly half a million people of their homes. Of all the impacted areas, the Miyagi prefecture was hit hardest, accounting for 60% of all casualties.

The damage was particularly severe in Miyagi's coastal city of Kesennuma. There, the earthquake and its aftermath claimed over 1,400 lives and endangered the historic townscape. "The water damage was far beyond what I had imagined. It looked too serious to restore," remembers Mitsuo Inagaki, WMF's regional representative in Japan. Kenzo Onodera, owner of the Onoken Store, which was later restored by WMF, described how the extent of the damage took a toll on morale and hope. "After the disaster, I started to give up on preserving the Dozo [the storehouse], even though it had been handed down over generations," he said. Owners of cultural properties across the city expressed similar feelings.

The tsunami was especially devastating to the bay area, which lost many historic structures. In a city that had worked hard to overcome the loss of its urban district to fire in 1929, becoming one of the leading commercial fishing port towns in Japan, the 2011 earthquake was a particularly painful blow to the community.

After the disaster, Kesennuma was included alongside other towns in the area as part of the East Japan Earthquake Heritage Sites on the 2012 and 2014 Watch. WMF designed the Kesennuma Historic Cityscape project to help restore and revitalize the bay area as a driver of local economy and

community spirit. “The preservation of cultural properties is really supported by a feeling of caring for others,” explained the late Satoshi Yamato, then Councillor on Cultural Properties. “I’d like to be engaged in this community rebuilding effort until the end.” Seiko Takeyama, owner of the Takeyama historic building, said it was through calls for support to save the site that he discovered its value as “a treasure for many.”

In collaboration with the Kesennuma Kazamachi Cityscape Preservation Association for Community Recovery (KKCPA), WMF focused on the restoration of six historic buildings including *machiya* (traditional townhouses) in the inner bay area. The six buildings, all nationally registered Cultural Properties, were unique in appearance, culturally important, and at the greatest risk of collapse. Furthermore, each of them was continuously owned by the same family since construction. This contributed greatly to the owners’ determination to save the sites. “People want to experience Kesennuma’s history and culture in their daily lives,” explained Mitsuo, who led the WMF project implementation, “not just use its cultural heritage as tourism assets.”

Using as much of the original materials as possible, the historic houses were slowly rebuilt in parallel with broader disaster risk reduction initiatives. All but one have now been restored, with the final house set to be completed by the Great East Japan Earthquake’s tenth anniversary in 2021.

WMF is grateful to The Freeman Foundation and American Express for their support of our work. We also recognize the support of Hermès in helping to rebuild the community. All six historic townhouses are now used partially as public spaces and host an art gallery, a museum of Kesennuma’s fishing history, and a community event space. “This building was built by my grandfather and loved locally,” explained Takeshi Chida, owner of Chida House, one of the sites restored by WMF. “If I had the chance to preserve it, I thought it must be something I should do in return for the support I got from the community. It would be great if we could rebuild the community with preserved heritage.”

The city of Kesennuma and the KKCPA plan to unite the machiyas into a collective Kesennuma Heritage Museum. The community’s rebuilding has also had significant effects on Kesennuma’s activity and economy. The city’s fishing industry recovered by 80% and tourism numbers are back to pre-earthquake levels, with about 2.5 million visitors a year. “How buildings could be used to rebuild our community is not necessarily known yet,” concluded Yoko Takeyama, Seiko Takeyama’s daughter, “but we want to join forces and move forward. Step by step.”

Clockwise from left: Kakuboshi façade restored; signage recovered from debris; salvaged materials used in restoration; a restored machiya; the restored façade of Otokoyama.





From left: Prince Aynn Aga Khan, Lorna B. Goodman, Anthony V. Thompson.

A YEAR IN EVENTS

Lectures, celebrations, and award ceremonies brought together new friends and dedicated supporters to champion the world's most treasured places.



From left: HRH Princess Dana Firas, Bénédicte de Montlaur, Dr. Thomas S. Kaplan.

2019 Hadrian Gala Honoring HRH Princess Dana Firas and Dr. Thomas S. Kaplan

World Monuments Fund held its annual Hadrian Gala at the Rainbow Room in New York City to honor two extraordinary leaders in the field of cultural heritage, HRH Princess Dana Firas and Dr. Thomas S. Kaplan, with the 2019 Watch Award and the 2019 Hadrian Award, respectively. Guests were treated to a special introduction to the 25 sites included on the 2020 World Monuments Watch, presented by WMF's new President and CEO, Bénédicte de Montlaur. Tim McClimon, President of the American Express Foundation, founding sponsor of the Watch, spoke of the important role the program plays in safeguarding the world's cultural treasures. The night included a special recognition for Lisa Ackerman, WMF's former COO and interim CEO, with a special token of appreciation for her 12 years of contributions to the organization.



The Untold Stories of the Jewish Quarter of Essaouira, Morocco

In February, WMF welcomed guests and supporters to our Empire State Building offices for *The Untold Stories of the Jewish Quarter of Essaouira, Morocco*, an evening to celebrate and discuss the pluralistic legacy of the historic Jewish Quarter of Essaouira, a 2018 World Monuments Watch site. The event included a discussion between WMF project partners Yousef El Miadi and Laura Brandt, moderated by Jason Guberman-Pfeffer, Project Coordinator of Diarna, partners in the project, and was supported by the David Berg Foundation.



Protecting Our Cultural Icons from Fire: Lessons Learned from Notre-Dame and Beyond

In April, we held our first-ever virtual public event, in partnership with the American Institute of Architects, New York, on the occasion of the one-year anniversary of the fire that ravaged the iconic Notre-Dame of Paris. Welcoming nearly 400 viewers, WMF President and CEO Bénédicte de Montlaur introduced speaker Chris Marrion, who gave an in-depth presentation on how stewards of historic buildings can better protect their shared cultural heritage from fire-related damage.



Reimagining the Roles of Monuments at the 2020 Paul Mellon Lecture

In March, WMF welcomed artist and activist Vinnie Bagwell, Professor of the History and Theory of Architecture at MIT Mark Jarzombek, and Director of The Chinati Foundation Jenny Moore for a panel discussion at the annual Paul Mellon Lecture hosted at the Museum of the City of New York and made possible by the Paul Mellon Education Fund. The evening's conversation, moderated by Erica Avrami, Ph.D., reframed the "monument" in contemporary society and explored the role communities play in decision-making about past and future sites.



A Virtual Spring Spotlight supports the World Monuments Relief Fund

The third annual Spring Spotlight took place in May, held for the first time in a virtual setting. The event raised funds for the World Monuments *Relief Fund*, established in response to the impact of the global pandemic on WMF sites. Hosted by WMF President and CEO Bénédicte de Montlaur, the conversation delved into the role heritage sites will play in the months and years to come as the world recovers from the pandemic. Joining the conversation was Director of the Victoria & Albert Museum Dr. Tristram Hunt, Fukuoka Prize winner and Pakistan's first female architect Yasmeen Lari, and scholar and curator Barry Bergdoll.



JOIN US

*Help us save the
world's irreplaceable places.*

A traditional Chinese painting depicting a garden scene. In the foreground, a large, ornate circular gate made of bamboo or wood frames a view into a courtyard. Inside the gate, a white crane with black wings and a red crest stands on a patch of ground with pink and white flowers. In the background, a traditional Chinese pavilion with a green roof and red pillars is visible. The sky is light blue with a few birds flying. The overall style is characteristic of traditional Chinese ink and wash painting with vibrant colors.

BECOME A MEMBER

*Make a lasting difference for
cultural heritage.*

World Monuments Fund members help ensure a future for civilization's greatest achievements. Members are a part of an international network of advocates that protects our cultural treasures, preserving them for future generations to enjoy and defending them against daunting threats.

As a member, you'll enjoy exclusive events, insightful presentations, and other special benefits—all designed to bring you closer to the remarkable places your membership protects.

MEMBER BENEFITS

Your tax-deductible gift of \$25 or more entitles you to:

- Email updates from WMF sites around the world
- Priority access to register for WMF public programs
- Invitations to virtually attend select conversations and lectures
- Complimentary mailing of *Watch*, WMF's annual magazine

LEVELS

\$25 / \$50 / \$100 / \$250

All benefits listed above

\$500

All Member benefits, plus:

- Recognition in *Watch*, in appreciation of your leadership support*

\$1,000

plus:

- Annual member's breakfast briefing with our President and CEO to update you on our projects

\$2,500

plus:

- Invitation to an annual day trip
- Access to pre-sale tickets for our annual Spring Spotlight and Hadrian Gala

JOIN OR RENEW
wmf.org/donate

For more information about membership and ways of giving, please contact us at 646 424-9594 or membership@wmf.org.

**If you make a one-time gift of \$500 or more, or if your recurring gifts total \$500 or more during the fiscal year, you will be listed in *Watch*, WMF's annual magazine in recognition of your leadership support.*

Left: An elaborate crane mural at the Qianlong Garden.



More Ways to Give

ANNUAL FUND

Your fully tax-deductible donation to the Annual Fund will help World Monuments Fund sustain its commitment to humankind's greatest treasures—and those who devote themselves to their survival, ensuring cultural heritage sites are safeguarded and recognized by people around the world, now and in the years to come. Make a gift today in honor of WMF's 55th anniversary.

RECURRING GIFTS

Donations can be charged directly to a credit card according to a schedule designated by you. If you choose to make a recurring monthly donation of \$25, your next donation of \$25 can be automatically charged to your credit card every month. Many donors enjoy the convenience of a recurring gift. You can cancel your recurring gift at any time. For questions or to set up a recurring gift, please contact us at [646 424-9594](tel:6464249594) or membership@wmf.org.

If you make a one-time gift of \$500 or more, or if your recurring gifts total \$500 or more during the fiscal year, you will be listed in Watch, WMF's annual magazine in recognition of your leadership support.

JEWISH HERITAGE PROGRAM

Hundreds of synagogues and other Jewish cultural sites around the world are in danger of disappearing forever, threatened by conflict, abandonment, neglect, inappropriate reuse, public apathy, or a simple lack of resources. Jewish synagogues and cultural sites embody a long and rich history. Join us with your tax-deductible gift today and help ensure a vital future for important Jewish heritage sites.

CRISIS RESPONSE PROGRAM

Our most significant places—and the communities they anchor—face increasing threats from climate change, natural disaster, human conflict, and more. The Crisis Response Program provides resources for recovery actions so that heritage sites can help build community resiliency, create economic opportunity, and strengthen social cohesion in the wake of disaster.

Clockwise from top:
Erbil Citadel central court
during conservation; the
painted ceiling inside the
Juanqinzhai Pavilion at
the Qianlong Garden.

The Junior Board

Engaging the Next Generation

World Monuments Fund (WMF) is thrilled to introduce the creation of a Junior Board, an international group of approximately 20 philanthropists and cultural heritage enthusiasts between the ages of 21 and 39 years old. Members identify as global citizens and represent the diverse backgrounds and cultures that WMF seeks to preserve while possessing a spirit of intrigue, adventure, and innovation.

The Junior Board will work closely with WMF staff to support the mission and projects of the organization by raising awareness, offering financial support, facilitating relationships, and

providing meaningful resources to contribute positively toward cultural heritage preservation. By sharing fresh perspectives and original ideas, Junior Board members help foremost to shape and implement WMF's strategy to engage the next generation of cultural preservation leaders.

Members have opportunities to learn about WMF's most important projects, to engage first-hand with cultural heritage and preservation experts from around the world, and to travel globally for behind-the-scenes tours of restoration projects and personal meetings with international scholars, architects, and philanthropic leaders.



ANNIE LIANG-ZHOU
JUNIOR BOARD CO-CHAIR



HENRY ISEMAN
JUNIOR BOARD CO-CHAIR

International Council

A Constellation of Global Supporters

On the occasion of our 55th anniversary, World Monuments Fund (WMF) is re-introducing its International Council, a prestigious circle of philanthropists and heritage enthusiasts from around the world who receive unparalleled access to our conservators, sites, and programs—and help us chart our global strategy.

Sustained by a love of history, art, and architecture, International Council members learn first-hand about WMF's most important projects, traveling with President and CEO Bénédicte de Montlaur and WMF Trustees to sites around the world where WMF is working to preserve and protect important monuments. These *Monumental Journeys* include behind-the-scenes tours of restoration projects; meetings with international scholars, diplomats, architects, and philanthropic leaders; entrée to private collections; and more. Members enjoy dinners hosted in the homes of our international supporters, as well as luxury accommodations, and the finest cuisine.

Upcoming trips include a three-day *Escapade* to Paris in spring 2021 to celebrate the opening of the painstakingly restored and reassembled interiors of the Chancellerie d'Orléans (also known as the Hôtel de Voyer d'Argenson), a famous 18th-century rococo townhouse, and, in October 2021, Council members will travel to Beijing for the inauguration of the Qianlong Garden and its new Interpretation Center, designed by architect Annabelle Selldorf, in partnership with the Palace Museum.

A centerpiece of the Council's activity is the annual WMF *World Summit*, where heritage experts, activists, policy makers, thought leaders, and WMF leadership come together to engage with today's most pressing issues. The inaugural *World Summit* will take place in New York City in October 2021 and eventually travel to other WMF global hubs. The *Summit* will include an exciting program of exclusive special events including scholarly lectures, lively dinners, expert-led site tours, and other private visits.



Join the International Council

MEMBER - \$5,000

- Access to *Monumental Journeys*, WMF's exclusive travel program
- Invitation to the annual WMF *World Summit*, a multi-day program of scholarly lectures, site tours, and receptions
- Invitations to special events in New York, as well as events hosted by WMF affiliates in the UK, India, Peru, Portugal, and Spain
- Invitations to special inauguration celebrations for completed WMF projects across the globe
- Complimentary private tours of select WMF sites around the world with conservation experts (advance notice necessary)
- Invitation to an annual day trip in the New York City area
- Priority ticketing and reserved seating at all WMF public programs
- Invitations to online programs featuring virtual tours of WMF projects
- Recognition in the annual *Watch* magazine and on the WMF website

CHAMPION MEMBER - \$10,000

All benefits listed above, plus:

- Invitation for two to VIP dinners following events in New York and London
- Invitation for two to a privately hosted reception held in conjunction with the Hadrian Gala and *World Summit*

LEADERSHIP MEMBER - \$25,000 and above

All benefits listed above, plus:

- Opportunities throughout the year to attend exclusive Trustee events in New York, as well as those of WMF affiliates in the UK, India, Peru, Portugal, and Spain

International Council members also have the opportunity to become a Project Partner by making a transformative gift to a select WMF project site. Project Partners enjoy the ultimate insider look at every phase of a conservation project, and its impact on the surrounding community, and may accompany WMF's President and CEO or leadership on working trips with special access to sites, as well as meetings with our partners, local officials, cultural heritage authorities, and other dignitaries.

For more information about the International Council, WMF's travel program, *Monumental Journeys*, or becoming a Project Partner, please contact Karaugh Brown, Vice President of Development and Partnerships, at 646 424-9594 x229 or kbrown@wmf.org.

Left: The rock-hewn churches in Lalibela, Ethiopia.

LEGACY SOCIETY

55 for 55 Bequest Challenge

LEAVING A LEGACY WITH WORLD MONUMENTS FUND

WMF ensures a future for the cultural heritage of the past. For 55 years, we have been the global leader in restoring, conserving, and advocating for sites that tell stories and teach lessons. It is our responsibility to ensure that these sites remain for future generations.

Since WMF's founding, individuals have demonstrated the importance of creating a sustainable future for cultural heritage by leaving a bequest in their wills. Such gifts contribute to the financial security of WMF and help provide critical support for our diverse programs, conservation projects, scientific studies, and research.

On the occasion of our 55th anniversary, we are launching the 55 for 55 Bequest Challenge to inspire our friends to make bequest commitments. With your support, we hope to welcome 55 individuals into our new Legacy Society, a community of forward-thinking supporters who enjoy special benefits and access throughout the year and will be acknowledged in future editions of *Watch*.

TO QUALIFY FOR THE CHALLENGE, YOU MUST:

- Name World Monuments Fund in your will, living trust, or as a beneficiary of your retirement account, life insurance policy, or financial account

GIFTS THAT QUALIFY FOR THE 55 FOR 55 BEQUEST CHALLENGE:

- Leave WMF a bequest in your will
- Name WMF as a beneficiary of your IRA, 401(k), 403(b), or other retirement plan
- Name WMF as a beneficiary of your life insurance policy, savings, or investment account
- Name WMF as the beneficiary of a charitable lead trust or charitable remainder trust*

**These forms of trusts are generally set up during the process of estate planning when benefactors wish to reduce tax liabilities for inheritance beneficiaries. Please check with your financial institution or financial planner to see if this option is available to you.*



“Visiting World Monuments Fund sites around the world over the years, and talking to some of its dedicated staff, has enriched my life enormously.

While WMF’s primary mission is to restore some of the world’s great cultural heritage, it designs its work to serve broader purposes. For example, WMF projects aid the economic recovery of countries that have suffered from war or occupation.

I have seen, first-hand, how they integrate themselves into diverse cultural contexts, always sensitive to local communities’ needs and environmental concerns.

Simply put, WMF touches many of the issues I care about and that is why, when creating my will, I made WMF a major beneficiary. I am proud to be a donor to WMF during my lifetime, and it gives me great pleasure that I can continue to be part of its important work even afterward.”

- Ambassador Jenonne Walker (retired)

We would like to thank you for your generosity, make sure the purpose of your gift is understood, and recognize you as a member of our Legacy Society. For questions about an existing commitment with WMF or for more information about remembering WMF in your estate plans, please contact Karaugh Brown, Vice President of Development and Partnerships, at 646 424-9594 x229 or kbrown@wmf.org.

You may also notify us of your intentions with the enclosed reply envelope.

Left: An iconic Moai at Rapa Nui National Park in Chile.

Thank You to Our Supporters

World Monuments Fund's transformative work at cultural heritage sites and within communities around the world is made possible by the remarkable support of dedicated individuals and organizations. With deep appreciation, we recognize the generous supporters listed on the following pages who gave gifts of \$500 or more between July 1, 2019, and June 30, 2020. We also gratefully thank the many supporters who made contributions up to \$500 in this period. Thank you for all you do for irreplaceable sites around the world.

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We make every effort to ensure the completeness and accuracy of these lists. In the event of errors, omissions, or other questions, please contact the Development department at 646 424-9594.

A complete version of the World Monuments Fund financial statements and Form 990 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020 is available at: wmf.org/finance

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Right: Walls of the penultimate and antepenultimate buildings on the patio with rhombuses showing the face of the "mountain god" at Huaca de la Luna in Peru.





