Welcome to the second issue of the Getty Conservation Institute's Field Projects Department's *A Year in the Field*, which summarizes our work over 2011. The department’s purpose is to advance conservation practice worldwide through the development and implementation of model field projects that incorporate strong research, planning and educational objectives. In all projects, the GCI works with local partners to build local knowledge, skills and experience and ensure sustainability.

The addition of four new projects in 2011 brings our current project number to 19 spread over 11 countries. Our new projects include work in southern Morocco to conserve and sustain the earthen Kasr of Taourirt and the urban landscape, the conservation of the Roman mosaics at Bulla Regia in Tunisia, and the conservation of significant wall paintings at Casa del Bicentenario at Herculaneum. We also began to develop the Conserving Modern Architecture Initiative, a major new area of work to be launched in 2012.

Many thanks to all our partners and colleagues who have worked with us over the past year to contribute to the advancement of conservation practice. We look forward to working with you in 2012.

Susan Macdonald
Head of Field Projects
Project Activities

**Los Angeles Historic Resource Survey**

Year One field surveys were undertaken by the City of Los Angeles in Sunland-Tujunga, Lake View Terrace, Shadow Hills, East La Tuna Canyon, Hollywood, West Adams, Baldwin Hills, Leimert Park, South Los Angeles, and Southeast Los Angeles.

**Historic Cities and Urban Settlements Initiative**

Research continued on key documents, including a bibliography and a literature review on the role of public-private partnerships in conserving historic urban areas.

The development of a training module for decision makers on their roles and responsibilities for heritage conservation was undertaken in advance of its presentation in late 2011 at the Organization of World Heritage Cities Congress in Sintra, Portugal.

**Conservation of Earthen Urban Settlements in Southern Morocco**

The GCI began work on a pilot project to conserve the Ksar of Taourirt in southern Morocco in fiscal year 2011.

Using a section of the Kasbah Taourirt currently being considered for rehabilitation as a case study, the project aims to develop a methodology for the documentation, emergency stabilization, and rehabilitation planning of the earthen Kasbah Taourirt that can be applied to similar structures in the region.

**Conserving Modern Architecture Initiative**

In 2011 we began to conceptualize the Conserving Modern Architecture Initiative (CMAI) which seeks to identify and address conservation challenges particular to modern architecture through a comprehensive research and implementation program. The initiative will be launched in 2012.

Under this umbrella, we began to work with the Eames Foundation to develop approaches to the conservation of the house of Charles and Ray Eames (1949) in Pacific Palisades.

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

Despite cancellation of the winter 2011 field work due to the political situation in Egypt, the QV project was advanced through completion of revisions to the tender documents for flood control, architecture and engineering interventions, further development and testing of designs for presentation of the tombs, testing for repair mortars for wall paintings and rock stabilization in tombs, and planning for conservation of the Roman and Coptic remains of the Dier el-Rumi site.

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

Although field work was curtailed in 2011 due to the political situation in Egypt, scientific work continued, including investigation (now nearing completion) of the brown spots that appear on the tomb walls.

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

The Jordanian Department of Antiquities began the nationwide implementation of the MEGA-Jordan system, which is online at www.megajordan.org.

**Iraq Cultural Heritage Conservation Initiative**

The GCI and the World Monuments Fund met with colleagues from the Iraq State Board of Antiquities and Heritage (SBAH) to review a prototype of the Middle Eastern Geodatabase for Antiquities (MEGA)–Iraq, following which the SBAH began use of the system in Iraq.
CONSERVATION OF AMÉRICA TROPICAL

Construction began on the shelter and viewing platform in 2011 for the América Tropical mural in Los Angeles. Planning commenced for the in situ conservation to take place in 2012, and suitable retrofitting techniques for the mural wall were developed.

MOSAIKON : BULLA REGIA

In fiscal year 2011 a conservation planning and implementation project commenced at the site of Bulla Regia, Tunisia, which is designed as a model for the conservation and management of similar sites in the region which contain a large number of mosaic pavements.

INJECTION GROUTS FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ARCHITECTURAL SURFACES: RESEARCH & EVALUATION

Laboratory and field test procedures were finalized and the publication schedule for dissemination of these procedures progressed with the completion of the manuscript.

CHINA PRINCIPLES

In June, the GCI organized a workshop in the US for Chinese colleagues involved in the revision of the “China Principles.” The multiyear carrying capacity study for the Mogao Grottoes and presentation of Cave 85 were completed and a plan for the conservation and presentation of Cave 148, to be implemented by the Dunhuang Academy, commenced. Planning began with the Getty Museum on a collaborative exhibit on the Mogao Grottoes to be held at the Getty in 2015-2016.

HERITAGE VALUES, STAKEHOLDERS, AND CONSENSUS BUILDING

The GCI initiated a focused field project to conserve flaking paint on the figurative scenes of the wall paintings in the Tablinum of the Casa del Bicentenario, Herculaneum, Italy. A survey of figurative scenes across the site has been developed, and the diagnostic investigation of the painted scenes and medallions in the Tablinum is well underway. Concurrently, environmental monitoring of the room is being carried out.

EARTHEN ARCHITECTURE INITIATIVE: SEISMIC RETROFITTING PROJECT, PERU

During the reporting period, four prototype buildings for study were selected, investigated and a methodology was established to assess their structural systems and condition. The final assessment report was finished and delivered to Peruvian authorities.
Cancino, C. 2011. Damage assessment of historic earthen sites after the 2007 earthquake in Peru. Advanced Materials Research Vols. 133-134. Part of the selected, peer reviewed papers from the 7th International Conference on Structural Analysis of Historic Constructions, SAHC, October 6-8, 2010, Shanghai, China.


Maekawa, Shin, Conrad, Ernest, "Conservation-Focused Climate Control System for an 18th Century House Museum in the Forbidden City, China," R4-T536-OP04, 10th REHVA World Congress, Clima 2010, Antalya, Turkey, May 2010


**Conference Presentations**

Claudia Cancino and Sara Lardinois presented the first phase of their work on the Seismic Retrofitting Project in Peru at the ISCARS AH (International Scientific Committee on the Analysis and Restoration of Structures of Architectural Heritage) workshop on Earthquakes and Hurricanes – Response and Preparedness in Havana, Cuba.

David Myers presented at the California Preservation Conference on The Getty Conservation Institute’s and World Monuments Fund’s Middle Eastern Geodatabase for Antiquities (MEGA), a Web-based, open source GIS created to inventory, monitor, protect, and manage archaeological sites at national and regional levels.

Emily Macdonald – Korth gave a presentation at AIC, “Speed, precision, and a lighter load: Metigo MAP 3.0, a great advancement in condition mapping for large-scale projects.”

Leslie Rainer presented on the conservation of David Alfaro Siqueiros mural, America Tropical to a group of stakeholders in Los Angeles

Lori Wong presented, "Testing the performance of a traditional Chinese adhesive for the conservation of Qing dynasty painted architectural decoration at Shuxiang Temple, Chengde" at ICOM-CC in Lisbon.

Gail Ostergren chaired the California Preservation Conference program committee for 2011.


Tom Roby presented posters at the ICCM conference on the Mosaikon Bulla Regia Project and Site Management Training project.

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