



ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE *of* AMERICA  
**SITE PRESERVATION**





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DID YOU KNOW?



In 2010-2011, the Site Preservation Program spent 85% of its operating budget on programming and only 15% on administrative costs. The AIA received an excellent report from Guidestar due in part to the Institute's low overhead expenditures.

 Join us on facebook!

AIA Site Preservation Program

- Site Preservation Committee
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The *ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE of AMERICA's Site Preservation Program* works to safeguard the world's archaeological heritage through direct preservation; outreach and education that raises awareness of the threats to cultural heritage; the spread of best practices that are being employed to save archaeological sites; and advocacy for the protection and preservation of our past.

WHY THE AIA?

Initiated in 2007, the AIA's Site Preservation Program is an important component of the Institute's commitment to protecting the world's archaeological resources and cultural heritage for the benefit of current and future generations. The program's main tenet is that site preservation is achieved not only through direct preservation, consolidation, and conservation of archaeological remains but also through raising local and global public awareness of the issues surrounding the destruction of archaeological sites. The program actively encourages and educates local communities to get involved in the preservation of their cultural heritage and supports endeavors that benefit both the site and the local community.

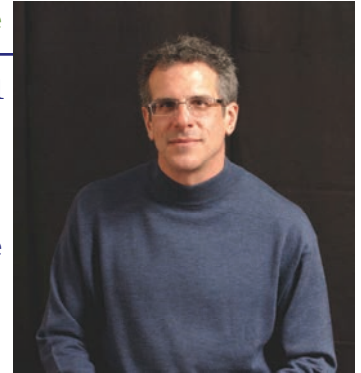
The program's unique and innovative approach to site preservation combines direct funding for preservation with outreach, education, and advocacy. The AIA promotes site preservation through its important and well-established outreach tools:

- A **membership** of nearly 250,000 individuals comprised of both professionals and interested members of the public;
- Popular **programs**, including a **National Lecture Program**, **Archaeology Fairs**, and an **Annual Meeting** for professionals and scholars, that reach tens of thousands of people every year;
- **Websites** that currently reach over 2.5 million unique users annually;
- The Institute's award winning **publications**, including **ARCHAEOLOGY** magazine, with a readership of over 750,000 per issue, and the **American Journal of Archaeology**, the leading scholarly journal dealing with the archaeology of the Classical world;
- AIA Programs and Site Preservation are featured in "Dispatches from the AIA," a regular section of **ARCHAEOLOGY** magazine;
- Over one hundred **local societies** that reach out to their communities through lectures, field trips, local tours, symposia, film festivals, study groups, and more throughout the United States, Canada, and abroad;
- **Advocacy** of behalf of issues supporting the preservation of archaeological sites and cultural heritage;
- The creation and dissemination of **educational materials** for people of all ages, including K-12 students.



PAUL RISSMAN, Archaeologist, Site Preservation Committee Chairman, AIA Trustee

April 2011



## Dear friends of site preservation,

It is my pleasure to present to you the second annual report of the AIA Site Preservation Program. We have achieved a great deal in the past year, and I am excited to detail some of our accomplishments in the following pages.

With the help of many of the Site Preservation Program's most ardent supporters we currently support twelve projects on five continents. Two of the three projects selected last Spring were funded through a special appeal at the 2010 AIA Gala in New York City. I am proud to say that through that appeal we enabled the Umm el-Jimal Project in Jordan to directly contribute material to the national educational curriculum and archaeologists in Belize to develop new ways for tourism revenues to stream into the local community.

This past January a group of AIA Site Preservation Committee members, trustees, and staff visited the Gault site in central Texas, recipient of an AIA Site Preservation Grant. I would like to share the following testimonial from Clark Wernecke, the Executive Director of the Gault School of Archaeological Research (GSAR):

*The programs made possible by the AIA [Site Preservation] Grant have been a great success. GSAR doubled the number of students reached by our programs, hugely increased the numbers of teachers contacted, and doubled the number of people taking tours of the site itself. The AIA [Site Preservation] Grant enabled us to expand local awareness of what archaeology is, does, and why it is important. Establishing the importance of studying the past, especially the importance of context, is a big step towards effective site preservation.*

The AIA's unique approach to preserving sites through outreach, education, and local development gives us an edge in that we are promoting something sustainable that will not crumble away with the passing years.

At the beginning of this year, Sebastian Heath, the AIA's Vice President for Professional Responsibilities and a fellow Site Preservation Committee member, had the honor of presenting the first-ever Award for Best Practices in Site Preservation to Giorgio Buccellati for his work at Tell Mozan (Read more on this on p. 6). This award was created as a way to support the best preservation projects in the world and as the first recipient, Dr. Buccellati has set a very high bar.

We continue to increase our advocacy efforts. This year several of our members attended State Department public hearings to advocate for the protection of sites in Italy and Greece and hundreds of AIA members joined in our letter writing campaigns.

We are proud of our achievements, but we also want to expand our future activities. To this end, we are beginning to plan country-specific endowments and a heightened international profile.

The AIA Site Preservation Program is making great progress towards our goal of a sustainable future for our finite shared heritage, but we need your help. Please join us in this effort by reading this report, getting involved in our mission, and contributing as you are able.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Paul Rissman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Paul" being more prominent.

P.S. For the convenience of smartphone users, there is a scanable barcode on the back cover that allows you to make an instant donation to the Site Preservation Program!

## GRANTS

A major initiative of the Site Preservation Program provides grants of up to \$25,000 to innovative projects that preserve archaeological sites through conservation efforts and also emphasize outreach, education, and community involvement. Grant winners work to preserve sites and create a positive impact on the local community, students, and the discipline of archaeology as a whole. The AIA also works with grant recipients to raise public awareness of the significance of their archaeological sites and the threats they face, to implement and disseminate best practices, and encourage increased public participation in preservation efforts. The AIA currently supports twelve projects on five continents.

### HOYO NEGRO

**New in April 2011!**

Hoyo Negro is the final resting place of what is believed to be among the oldest human remains discovered in the Americas. The skeletal material, discovered in an underwater cave in Mexico by a team of divers from the Tulum Speleological Project, was found in association with mastodon remains and could exceed 14,000 years in age. The association of preserved mastodon and human skeletal material is unprecedented in any context.

A \$3,000 grant will fund a project to protect the site through the construction of a secured entrance gate, fencing, and signage, and to improve access for researchers by building a road, stairway, and dive platform. These protective measures will pave the way for the first-ever comprehensive and coordinated study of a submerged Pleistocene (2.5 million years ago to 12,000 years ago) deposit on the Yucatán Peninsula.



*Project Director: Dominique Rissolo*

### THIMLICH OHINGA

**New in April 2011!**

A \$24,000 grant will support a community-based conservation project at Thimlich Ohinga, a 500-year-old stone monument in the Luoland (named for the Luo ethnic group of which Barack Obama Sr. was a member) in southwestern Kenya. The magnificent monumental construction, built with unshaped stones and without mortar, was used for centuries as a fortification and urban complex.



The project, strongly supported by the National Museums of Kenya, aims to attract community participation in the conservation and management of the site. Thimlich Ohinga currently serves as a research and educational facility, and is the only museum in this region of southwestern Kenya. The site is part of a developing area that blends archaeology with nature to create a one-stop tourist destination where visitors can experience eco-, cultural, and wildlife tourism opportunities.

*Project Directors: Edward Luby and Isaya Onjala*

### LOD

**New in April 2011!**



Lod Community Archaeology Program in Israel was given a \$10,000 grant. Once a major commercial center on the main route connecting Cairo to Damascus, Lod was almost completely demolished in the 1948 war. Today it is inhabited by an impoverished mixed Jewish-Arab population, many of whom are recent immigrants. As one of Israel's poorest and most neglected cities, Lod has also become a hub for criminal activity.

The community archaeology program brings Arab and Jewish residents closer to the history of Lod as it raises awareness of the importance of preserving the city's heritage. The program, for elementary school students throughout the city, offers weekly archaeology enrichment lessons; holds joint encounters for participating schools where Jewish and Arab children learn together; and provides local children with an opportunity to excavate at Khān el-Hillū, one of only ten remaining pre-1952 buildings in Lod.

Recently, Khān el-Hillū, an ancient roadside inn, failed a safety inspection by Israel's Antiquities Authority and without emergency conservation measures, excavation will not be allowed to continue there next year. The grant will help fund the stabilization of the site.

*Project Directors: Yuval Gadot and Taufic Dea'dle*



**PAYNES CREEK****Funded by 2010 AIA Gala Pledge Drive**

The only known Classic Maya (A.D. 250 to 900) wooden structures are located in Paynes Creek National Park in Belize. A \$25,000 grant will help protect these underwater wooden structures.

Generally wood from this period does not survive in the archaeological record; however, the waterlogged environment at Paynes Creek created unique preservation conditions, giving us a rare glimpse of how the ancient Maya used timber. The three-year grant supports the construction of an observation platform—tourists will be able to observe the underwater archaeological site through a window in the platform without damaging the fragile remains; a series of workshops and talks in the region that raise awareness of the site in conjunction with an exhibit; and a website for archaeological tourism with educational information for schools, tour guides, and the public.

*Project Director: Heather McKillop*

**UMM EL-JIMAL****Funded by 2010 AIA Gala Pledge Drive**

A grant for \$25,000 will be used to ensure the long-term preservation of Umm el-Jimal, Jordan, through education and outreach that increases awareness of the significance of the site and fuels development efforts. A major initiative of this program will be the creation of a virtual museum and education center.



Umm el-Jimal, continuously occupied from the 1st through 9th centuries A.D., was a prosperous agricultural town on the frontier of the Roman, Byzantine, and Islamic empires. The site is currently threatened by neglect, looting, a lack of community involvement, and few economic opportunities for residents. The project will create a virtual museum and education center as the foundation for future education, outreach, and development opportunities for the site. The online center will include a virtual site tour and exhibit as well as an educational curriculum that will be integrated into Jordan's national school system.

*Project Directors: Bert de Vries and Paul Christians*

**BANTEAY CHHMAR**

With \$23,100 in grant funding, Heritage Watch enters its second year of providing community development and educational programming for local residents and encouraging their participation in promoting and preserving the 12th century temple site of Banteay Chhmar.

One of the goals of the program is to ensure that the benefits of tourism are filtered back into the local community. Local residents are receiving English language instruction and being trained as tour guides. Outreach programs open to the entire community are increasing awareness of the significance of the site both as a part of the regional cultural heritage and as a source of economic opportunity. Educating people about the benefits of protecting the site will secure the long term protection of this Cambodian gem.

*Project Director: Dougal O'Reilly*

**AIA Site Preservation Projects**

## PROJECTS COMPLETED

### ASSOS

A \$112,000 grant was awarded for the restoration of the 2,500-year-old Temple of Athena at Assos in Turkey. The funding was also used for the re-creation of temple reliefs to be displayed on site.

The project preserved the temple's original remains and made this important archaeological site more intelligible for visitors.

*Project Director: Nurettin Arslan*

### EASTER ISLAND

Easter Island is famous for its nearly one thousand giant head sculptures (*moai*). A \$94,000 grant was awarded for a conservation project to protect the rapidly deteriorating monoliths at Easter Island National Park.

*Project Director: Jo Anne Van Tilburg*

### KISSONERGA

A \$7,000 award was used in Kissonerga, Cyprus, to create physical and virtual 3-D models of architectural components and artifacts associated with a prehistoric roundhouse. Funds were also used to film the construction of a replica roundhouse. Through this project, the prehistoric archaeological sites in Cyprus became a more tangible component of the island's prehistoric narrative.

*Project Director: Lindy Crewe*

### GAULT

A \$16,000 grant supported the Gault School of Archaeological Research's public outreach and education programs that reach thousands of people annually to inform them about the archaeological and his-

torical significance of Gault and the importance of site preservation. Gault's outreach programs instill a sense of stewardship within visitors and are instrumental in curbing looting at this artifact-rich site in central Texas.

*Project Director: D. Clark Wernecke*

### SAN JOSÉ DE MORO

The AIA's Site Preservation Program financially supports the Sustainable Preservation Initiative (SPI).

SPI awarded its first grant in March 2010 for artisanal and touristic development around the Moche cemetery site of San José de Moro, on the north coast of Peru ("Moro"). The Moro development plan included a crafts workshop, store, and exhibition area.

*Project Director: Luis Jaime Castillo*

## AWARD FOR BEST PRACTICES IN SITE PRESERVATION

### New in 2011!

The AIA's *Award for Best Practices in Site Preservation* is presented to projects and people recognized by their peers for doing outstanding work in the field of site preservation and conservation. Each year the Institute selects a recipient that exemplifies the mission of the AIA Site Preservation Program and presents them with an award of \$5,000 for furthering their activities and programs. Nominations for the award are submitted by professionals in the field and winners are selected by a committee of archaeologists, conservators, and heritage specialists.

The first award was given in January 2011 at the 112th AIA Annual Meeting in San Antonio, Texas to Giorgio Buccellati. Buccellati received the award for his exceptional conservation work at Tell Mozan (ancient Urkesh—a royal palace built in ca. 2250 B.C.) in Syria and particularly for his efforts in the conservation of mudbrick—a notoriously difficult material to preserve.



Buccellati developed an innovative method of covering the mudbrick walls to protect them from the elements. By doing this, Buccellati's team preserved the integrity of the excavated remains while simultaneously allowing for the display of the walls. The covers are low-cost, renewable, locally constructed, and easily removed to allow for inspection of the walls. This approach of combining archaeological research with creative preservation solutions and Buccellati's ability to work with the local community, providing training and income, ensure a local commitment to the project that is critical to the long-term preservation of the site.

## THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

Utilizing the AIA's network of professional archaeologists, the Site Preservation Program works with private foundations and other organizations to identify sites and regions for archaeological conservation support.

In Summer 2010, the Site Preservation Program completed a project for the J.M. Kaplan Fund, Inc. to provide information about sites in the Mediterranean region.

## ADVOCACY

The AIA utilizes its membership of nearly 250,000 individuals to advocate for the preservation of sites at a national and international level. Last year, AIA advocacy efforts included: members testifying in Washington D.C. to the U.S. Cultural Property Advisory Committee, letter writing campaigns, participation in the Cultural Resources Preservation Coalition (which brings together groups with similar interests to share information and maximize advocacy efforts), and the creation of web materials to explain many preservation related legislative issues to general audiences.



In 2010, the AIA led initiatives to send hundreds of letters to the Cultural Property Advisory Committee in support of bilateral agreements with Italy and Greece that restrict the import of archaeological materials from those countries into the U.S. In January 2011 the bilateral agreement with Italy was renewed and we expect to hear news about Greece in the coming months.

## RESOURCES

The Site Preservation Program creates and distributes resources to diverse groups from tourists to professionals who encounter site preservation issues in a wide variety of circumstances. All of these materials are available on our website at [archaeological.org/sitepreservation](http://archaeological.org/sitepreservation).

### Heritage, Conservation & Archaeology



An original series of essays published on the AIA's Site Preservation website, *Heritage, Conservation & Archaeology* brings together preservation specialists from many disciplines in a forum for professional discussion. This unique series gives authors the opportunity to write critical pieces, raise concerns, share experiences, and provides readers with the opportunity to comment and discuss. Visit [archaeological.org/sitepreservation/hca](http://archaeological.org/sitepreservation/hca) to find out how you can subscribe to Heritage, Conservation & Archaeology for free!

### Other Resources

- **Tourism Guidelines** [archaeological.org/tourism\\_guidelines](http://archaeological.org/tourism_guidelines)
- **Outside Funding List** [archaeological.org/sitepreservation/outsidefunding](http://archaeological.org/sitepreservation/outsidefunding)
- **Heritage Protection & Law Enforcement** [archaeological.org/sitepreservation/HPLE](http://archaeological.org/sitepreservation/HPLE)

## OUTREACH AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS

The AIA strongly believes that the future of our archaeological heritage rests with an informed public. To achieve this we create and present outreach and education programs for people of all ages and interest levels.

### Children and Families

The AIA designs site preservation themed activities for children and families. In January 2011 the AIA recruited young advocates for the protection of archaeological sites at the AIA 11th Annual Archaeology Fair in San Antonio, Texas. Children made bumper stickers with slogans such as, "Give a Hoot—Don't Loot" and "Save Our Sites," while learning about different threats to archaeological sites. Attendees also learned about the importance of proper archaeological excavation by participating in hands-on activities in the AIA's Context Corner.

### Troop Lectures

This AIA program sends lecturers to U.S. bases that deploy troops overseas, especially to Iraq and Afghanistan. The lecturers provide information about ancient cultures in the areas troops will be deployed to and give advice as to what to do when cultural resources are encountered. To date, the program has reached over 10,000 troops.

### Workshops

In May 2011 the Site Preservation Program will be a sponsor for the UMass Amherst Center for Heritage & Society's "Why Does the Past Matter?" Conference.

Our next workshop, at the **2012 AIA Annual Meeting** in Philadelphia, will highlight AIA Site Preservation Grant supported projects and Best Practices in Site Preservation Award winners. Topics addressed in the workshop will include preservation and conservation through public outreach and community involvement, economic sustainability and opportunity, and the use of innovative technology.



# Every Donation Matters—Where your Money Goes

**\$25** Daily vehicle rental for conservators in Kissonerga, Cyprus

**\$50** Daily wage for a restorer in Assos, Turkey

**\$75** Weekly wage for an English teacher providing language training for tour guides in Cambodia

**\$100** Accommodation for a lecturer speaking to U.S. Troops prior to their deployment

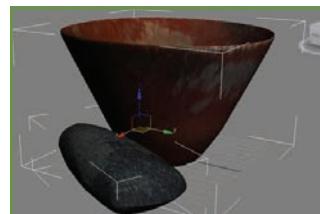
**\$250** Site preservation activity at an Archaeology Fair

**\$500** Workshop for local community members on stewardship

**\$1,000** Expenses for a 3-day teacher conference in Texas

**\$2,000** Graphic design for creating a virtual 3-D roundhouse and associated artifacts in Cyprus

**\$5,000** One AIA Best Practices in Site Preservation Award (see p. 6)



**\$25,000** One Site Preservation Grant (see p. 4)

## THE AIA SITE PRESERVATION PROGRAM WOULD LIKE TO THANK

**President's Council** (\$25,000+)  
The J.M. Kaplan Fund, Inc.

**Inner Circle** (\$10,000+)  
Michael Ambler  
Elizabeth Bartman  
Paul Rissman  
Charles Steinmetz

**Benefactor** (\$5,000+)  
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